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"I... My phone's not with me..." Rowan stammered with a ghastly face.

To that, Sean pointed to his brother's pocket and asked, "What's in your pocket. then?"

"It's not my phone..." Rowan blurted, causing everyone to burst into laughter.

'Sure, it's not your phone!'

"Rowan, what do you take all of us for? Idiots?!" Sean roared in anger, looking grim. "I'll say it again, hand me your phone, or I'll take it from you!"

Rowan was apprehensive, for his chat history with Gregory was still stored on his phone. If they got to his phone, then all his misdeeds would undoubtedly be exposed.

Though panic-stricken, he tried to buy himself some time while feeling the centipede's movements, as of now, his only hope was on the invisible centipede. However, the creature was far from taking over Sean, and the issue got him on the verge of flipping out.

There was absolutely nothing he could do if the invisible centipede wouldn't take over.

Meanwhile, when he saw how Rowan was stalling for time, Sean couldn't help but bellow angrily, "Hurry up!"

Spooked, Rowan shuddered and dropped his phone to the floor by accident, which Tristan grabbed in two shakes and handed to her father.

Sean unlocked the phone, only to be rendered livid with rage after scrolling through it for a while.

"Rowan Cosby, of all the things you could've done!" Sean thundered while shuddering in rage, causing Rowan to nearly sh*t his pants.

Meanwhile, the other members of the Cosby Family came up and saw Rowan's text history with Gregory at first glance. At that, there was no way Rowan could deny his misdeeds anymore.

"What else do you have to say for yourself, Rowan?!" Though Atticus was condemning, he was elated deep clown, for this was the perfect opportunity to get rid of this nephew of his, and without Rowan, Sean's influence would drop notably.

Once Wilfred was gone, he would be able to overthrow Sean and take over the Cosby Family!

However, Atticus wasn't the only one with the notion. While everyone echoed Sean in reprimanding Rowan, they were secretly elated as well. Ever since Wilfred's injury, the members of the family had long been in dissension and discord.

Who would care about Sean and Rowan's bond when everyone was only thinking of how they could gain more?

Meanwhile, Sean looked at his brother with utter disappointment, feeling heartbroken. To think his own brother wanted his daughter dead!

Hell, they were both his closest kins!

Who wouldn't be upset by the revelation?

"Why did you do this. Rowan? She's your niece, for heaven's sake! How... How could you do that to her?!" Sean asked with indignation.

"Why?" Rowan suddenly looked up, gritting his teeth. "You're asking me why? Let me ask you this, then. Why do you keep defending others instead of your own brother when I was defeated by Phoenix? When I was being bullied by others?! Why did you make me apologize to Matthew when he had been rude to me?! I am your brother, Sean, I am!"

"Have you ever considered my feelings?!"

Sean frowned in response and retorted solemnly, "Are you even listening to yourself, Rowan? How have I not stood up for you? How am I supposed to help you this time when you're clearly the one in the wrong? Also, I kept reminding you on this trip to Stonedale not to stick your nose in other businesses but only seek a doctor home..."

"The feud between Neverland and Cunningham had nothing to do with our family, but you insisted on getting yourself involved in it. How am I supposed to help you when it's your fault that everything happened?"

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"Why do you think I got myself involved in it?!" Rowan caterwauled. "It was all to ask Gregory to come and treat Dad's illness! What nerve do I have to ask him to come with me when I've just sat back and done nothing?!"

"But how are you so certain that Gregory's medical skills are higher than Matthew's?" Sean retorted coldly.

"Have I not repeatedly told you not to haphazardly make a stand before you're certain of certain things?! Have you ever listened to me, though? Not only that, you even caused such a ruckus. Who else is to be blamed for it?"

To that, Rowan waved his hand dismissively. "That's enough, Sean. To you, I'm always in the wrong no matter what I do."

"How can you be so unreasonable, Rowan?! This incident was indeed your fault!" Sean retorted angrily.

"My fault?" Rowan sneered. "If Gregory hadn't lost to Matthew this time, I would've been our family's hero. It's a shame that I chose the wrong person. Just because Gregory lost to Matthew, I'm now our family's villain, aren't I?!"

"Huh, right and wrong, my a*s! A thief always passes for a gentleman when thieving has made him rich!"

Sean frowned in response. "Rowan, are you still going to be unrepentant when things have now come to this?"

"Repent? What's even there to repent?!" Rowan retorted.

"You're a Cosby too, and Tristan's your niece! How can you do such a thing?!" Sean huffed, only for Rowan to snort disdainfully in response as he looked at his brother.

"Don't talk to me about family! What do you, the high and mighty patriarch of the Cosby Family, know?! Do you know what people refer to me as out there?! Barely anyone knows who Rowan of the Cosby Family is. They always introduce me as the brother of the Cosby Family's patriarch!"

He continued, "To outsiders, I'm just your brother or even just your dog! Our family will only ever make fun of me instead of helping me whenever I've been bullied. Why is that?! We share the same parents and even grew up together, but why am I treated so differently from you?!"

"Just because you're a few years older, I'm forever damned to let you walk all over me?! I'm forever damned to be your shadow, damned to be looked down upon?! You're not me, Sean. You'll never understand how I feel!"

Stumped, Sean fixed his eyes at his brother and enunciated, "Rowan, you're my brother and my closest family. I never thought about walking all over you, nor have I ever looked down upon you."

"Enough of your bullsh*t!" Rowan waved his hand dismissively. "Family, huh? If I really am your closest family, why didn't you stand up for me when I was bullied in Stonedale?!"

"We already told you that this is your fault!" Sean reiterated in exasperation. "Are we not supposed to do things according to standard rules and reasoning?!"

"F*ck you and your rules and reasoning!" Rowan roared.

"Since you won't help me, then I will seek vengeance on my own!"

Meanwhile, Atticus smirked as he watched the scene develop. "You're a madman, Rowan! Guards, take him down!"

At that, a few people charged forward and encircled Rowan. Sean, on the other hand, didn't stop them but only looked at his brother disappointedly.

The only thing they could do at this point was to take him away and let him cool down. Besides, as the patriarch of the family, he wouldn't be able to reassure the others if he didn't punish Rowan for what he did.

Pfft!

Rowan burst out laughing. "You want to capture me? Dream on!"

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Rowan's words got Atticus elated, for he needed an opportunity to get rid of the former.

If Rowan yielded, they could only restrain him and couldn't off him right there and then, but things were different since Rowan was resisting. They could kill Rowan by accident during the melee, thereby undermining Sean's power.

With that, he shot his sons a hinting gaze, to which they understood.

One of them instantly snapped, "How can you still be unrepentant when things have come to this, Rowan?! Need I remind you where we're at?! How dare you act disrespectfully in front of our ancestors! Yield, or we won't play nice!"

"Play nice?" Rowan cackled. "Ha! Who do you think you are to talk rudely in front of me?! Have you forgotten that I am from the senior branch of the Cosby Family while you guys are from the cadet branch?! You have no right to tell me what to do!"

"You arrogant fool!" The man hit the roof. "Guards, take him down!"

While ordering, the man clenched his fists, getting ready to smite Rowan during the commotion. Meanwhile, the men surrounding Rowan closed in on him, getting ready to strike.

Suddenly, Rowan cackled. "Brother, are you going to just watch them bully me?!"

The others were rendered stumped, wondering why the man would still say something like that at a time like this, and lo and behold. Sean's face blanched the next second.

He seemed to have fallen into somewhat of a trance for a moment while a small bump gradually protruded on his forehead. Then, as the bump receded, Sean's gaze gradually turned dull, and it seemed like he had lost his soul.

Meanwhile, the few men had already begun attacking Rowan, who continued to bellow, "Sean, are you not going to do anything?!"

Atticus' son, who snapped at Rowan earlier, cackled in response. "Do you think your brother will save you, Rowan?! You..."

Before he could finish his words, a figure charged into the circle, leading Atticus to widen his eyes with disbelief, for the man was none other than Sean himself!

As the patriarch of the Cosby Family, it shouldn't come as a surprise that Sean was mighty. It had only been a moment since he stepped in, and those who encircled Rowan were booted away.

Seeing so, the crowd burst into a tumult, for no one had expected Sean to help his brother.

"Just what do you think you're doing, Sean?!" Atticus growled, his face grim.

Being controlled, Sean's countenance was stiff, and it wasn't after a while that he spoke up. "Rowan's my brother. I can't sit back and watch you people do this to him!"

"So what if he's your brother?!" Atticus frothed at the mouth.

“He allied with outsiders to kill one of us. That in itself is already a violation of the Cosby Family’s rule! Also, he’s acting disrespectfully in front of our ancestors. Why are we not allowed to take him down?! Do you think you can make excuses for your brother just because you’re now the patriarch?!”

“Rowan isn’t entirely in the wrong,” Sean retorted. “What he said was right. He ultimately had the family’s best interests at heart, and his starting point was good. You guys can’t treat him like this!”

Everyone was rendered flabbergasted at once, and Atticus flew into a rage even more so. “Have you gone mad, Sean?! You’re the one who denounced him first, and now you’re sticking up for him?! As the patriarch of the Cosby Family, how can you go back on your words like this?!”

Tristan, too, grew anxious. “Dad, what are you talking about?! He nearly killed me!”

However, Sean remained unmoved, bellowing, “Don’t think I don’t know you want to use this chance to kill my brother, you old codger! You want to get rid of my brother and me so that you can seize the patriarchal position. I will never let you have your way! Cosbys, kill this old codger! Kill anyone that gets in the way!”

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Everyone burst into a tumult again upon hearing the order, for Atticus was one of the few remaining elders of their family and also Wilfred’s younger brother. Naturally, he had extremely high precedence in the Cosby Family. Thus, Sean’s order to kill the man was one that was unprecedented.

“Dad, what’s up with you?!” Tristan couldn’t help feeling anxious. “H-How can you say something like this?!”

Likewise, someone stepped in. “You can’t defend Rowan like this, Master Cosby! You’re the patriarch of our family. Your decisions reflect on our entire family. H-How can you act so impetuously?!”

The others tried to dissuade Sean as well.

“How dare you make such orders, Sean!” Atticus flew into a rage. “What right do you have to be the patriarch of the Cosby Family when you failed to distinguish your rights from wrongs?!”

"You're finally showing your true colors, huh, you old codger?" Sean taunted.

"Do you think I am unaware that you want to take over my place as the patriarch? Guards, kill him!"

However, no one made a move, all only exchanging glances.

At that, Sean pulled something out of his pocket with a deadpan face and roared, "Kill him! This is an order!"

Everyone's countenance turned for the worse upon seeing what it was, and Atticus' face blanched in an instant, for Sean had pulled out the supreme House Order Tag, an item that represented the Cosby Family's highest authority.

Any orders under the tag's presence were deemed the House Order, and it transcended everything, even Wilfred couldn't say otherwise. All in the Cosby Family had to obey the order.

They could all go against Sean's order earlier, but now that he had pulled out the House Order Tag, they could no longer oppose him.

While many exchanged glances, some had already turned their gaze to Atticus.

"Sean, w-what are you doing?!" Sweat beads gathered on Atticus' forehead as he panicked. "I'm your uncle. H-How can you do this?! How are you going to convince everyone when you're making such decisions?! Am I right, guys?!"

While only a scarce few responded, most kept quiet, for they could only follow orders when the House Order Tag had been presented.

Meanwhile, Atticus' face blanched further, seeing that many began surrounding him. Many among them held authority within the Cosby Family, and they were all formidable men. Surely, he wouldn't be able to escape the onslaught if all of them attacked!

While he was panic-stricken, it hit Atticus that he had walked right into the trap this time. Meanwhile, Rowan rejoiced covertly as he had successfully seized control of Sean using the invisible centipede. All that Sean had said after his eyes turned dull was actually Rowan's doing.

The patriarch was now a mindless puppet, doing whatever Rowan wished. Also, their family assembly this time was one that he instigated Sean into holding, for he wanted to use this opportunity to control Sean and annihilate the likes of Atticus.

Atticus and his followers were the most powerful bunch of people among the Cosby Family and also the ones coveting the patriarchal position. Only by annihilating these people could Rowan successfully take over the position without any worries.

Though Tristan returning alive had disrupted his plan, the ultimate outcome was still within his control, for he could still grasp everything when the invisible centipede took over Sean's mind, allowing him to control the latter.

As the others inched closer to him, Atticus roared in panic with a ghastly face, "Are you trying to instigate an in-fighting, Sean?! Do you really want to become the villain of our family before our ancestors?!"

To his dismay, Sean kept silent, and the others continued to inch closer while Atticus' men were forced to back up as they were stuck in the middle of the circle.

Seeing that a melee would take place at any second. Tristan dashed over and stood in front of Atticus and his followers.

"Dad, you can't do this!" Tristan implored anxiously.

Meanwhile, everyone stopped at once. She was Sean's daughter, after all. However, the mindless patriarch only enunciated with a deadpan face, "Anyone that gets in the way will be killed!"

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As soon as this statement was made, everyone present was instantly in an uproar.

Then, a man turned his head to look at Sean. "Master Cosby. s-she's your daughter!"

Sean's facial expression remained unchanged as he said each and every word coldly, "None shall stand in my path, even if that person is my daughter!"

As if he had dropped a bombshell, everyone looked at each other in bleak dismay. In fact, the heartless words that escaped Sean's lips were so shocking that it even stunned Atticus and his men.

"Has Sean truly gone insane?"

"How can he even think of killing his own daughter?"

However, everyone could neither defy nor even question Sean as the House Order Tag was in his possession. Therefore, everyone could only turn their heads to look at Tristan helplessly. Shortly after, one of them whispered,

"Tristan, move out of the way! Your dad possesses the House Order Tag, so we can't defy his order."

Tristan's face was ghastly pale. Even so, she didn't back off. Instead, she turned her head and shouted, "Matthew, please help!"

Everyone couldn't help but be dumbfounded at Tristan's reaction.

'What the hell is going on?!

While everyone was still in a puzzled state, a voice suddenly came from behind the cabinet at this moment. "Okay! Here I come!"

As soon as the voice stopped, a figure swiftly rushed out of the cabinet and showed up in front of Sean in the blink of an eye. Before everyone could figure out what was going on, the man immediately poked 3 silver needles on the top of Sean's head.

Rowan, who stood on the back, finally had a clear look at the oncoming person.

At once, his facial expression changed drastically as he called out stridently, "Matthew Larson?!"

Following Rowan's cry, everyone also saw that the one who intervened earlier was indeed Matthew. This stunned them all.

'What the hell is going on?!

Matthew, on the other hand, put on a faint smile before saying, "Rowan, we meet again."

Fuming with rage, Rowan roared, "You still dare to set foot into the Cosby Residence?! Very well! I shall let you die an ignominious death today! Kill him!"

Rowan controlled Sean's movements at the same time as he roared because he was trying to slaughter Matthew. However, this time, the situation suddenly took a turn.

For some reason, Rowan seemed to have lost control of Sean as Sean wouldn't budge at all, no matter how he urged the invisible centipede that he had planted inside Sean's body

"Stop wasting your energy. I have sealed the invisible centipede in his body. So, you can't control him at all now!" Matthew snickered.

in an instant, Rowan's facial expression abruptly changed.

A fear gasping look appeared on his face as he trembled, “W-What are you talking about?”

Everyone present was stunned too. Just then, Atticus asked anxiously, “I-Invisible centipede? What’s that?”

After hearing that, Matthew replied, “Don’t you guys think it’s strange that Sean’s temperament suddenly changed so drastically to the point that he even wants to kill his own daughter? Tell me, does his behavior seem normal to you guys?”

Like a shot, realization hit them, and everyone looked at each other in bleak dismay. Meanwhile, Atticus was getting all worked up. “I knew it! I have long felt that there was something wrong with Sean! If that’s the case, what exactly is happening?”

Once again, Matthew enlightened them. “That’s because Rowan had implanted an invisible centipede inside Sean’s body. An invisible centipede is also known as a puppet curse. Once a person is infected by this curse, they will lose control of their mind, and the one who poisoned them with this curse will have full control of that person, whether it’s in terms of behavior or speech.”

Everyone looked at each other in bleak dismay, for none of them expected that there would be such an incredible cursed bug.

Suddenly, Atticus pointed at Rowan and reprimanded, “Rowan, how dare you poison Master Cosby with a cursed bug! Death is the only punishment you deserve!”

Rowan’s facial expression became excruciatingly flustered as he denied in defiance, “H-He’s spewing nonsense... I’ve never cast any curse on Master Cosby... He just says whatever comes to his mind!”

Seeing Rowan strongly denied his action, Matthew sneered, “Oh, really? What is this thing then?”

As he spoke, Matthew suddenly tapped on Sean’s forehead.

Within minutes, everyone saw something suddenly bulged from the spot where Matthew tapped. It was as if there was a living thing inside his forehead.

Matthew grabbed hold of the bulge. Then, he took out the dagger that he was carrying and immediately cut off the flesh of Sean’s forehead.

Instantly, a stream of blood gushed out, and a centipede-like worm that was still wriggling appeared in Matthew’s hand at the same time.

Pricking the centipede-like worm on the ground with a silver needle, Matthew then looked at Rowan and explained, “The invisible centipede consists of both the mother

worm and the child worm. The one in my hand is the child worm, and whoever possesses the mother worm will be able to control the one who's infected by the child worm..."

"Rowan, do you dare to tell everyone that you don't have the mother worm of this invisible centipede with you right now? Do you dare to let us do a body search on you?"

When Rowan heard Matthew's words, he instantly collapsed to the ground.

Like what Matthew had said, the mother worm was indeed with Rowan.

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Atticus and his fellows were overjoyed when they saw this.

In addition, Atticus even immediately came forth and shouted aloud. "How dare you, Rowan?! How dare you use this kind of nefarious voodoo to control Master Cosby and issue the House Order Tag! What you're doing now is simply using the House Order Tag without authorization! Are you even aware that your action means capital offense?! Somebody come and help me execute this b*stard based on the Cosby Family's rules!"

However, everyone just stared at each other. They were clueless on what they should do for a moment.

After all, Sean was the one who was really in charge of all affairs in the Cosby Family now. Sean still held the House Order Tag in his hand, so no one dared to say anything, considering that he had yet to announce his decision.

In the meantime, Rowan was already trembling with fright as he collapsed to the ground. He was too scared to utter a word.

The invisible centipede was both his last resort and his final trump card. He knew that he was over now that even this trump card was lost.

Seeing that no one was taking action, Atticus immediately gave several people around him a look, signaling them to kill Rowan.

Now was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Atticus to kill Rowan, for it was only through Rowan's death that he could greatly weaken Sean's power.

In a swift, Atticus and several of his cronies launched their attack. One after another, they charged toward Rowan in an attempt to kill him.

Rowan counterattacked with all his might. Still, with his average strength, he was no match for these people at all. As a result, Rowan was knocked to the ground within minutes with both his arms fractured.

Meanwhile, Atticus' eldest son stood behind Rowan and secretly launched his attack. In split seconds, he struck Rowan's spine with a heavy blow.

Screaming in pain, Rowan immediately fell to the ground. He spat out blood and could no longer get up.

When the others saw this, they also wanted to attack Rowan. However, a weak voice abruptly sounded just when they were about to take action. "Stop!"

Everyone was startled after they heard the sound of the voice. One by one, they looked up.

At that moment, they saw an old man with gray hair standing by the entrance. He was walking in with the help of someone.

Instantly, Atticus' facial expression changed. While cupping his hands, he immediately greeted the old man, "Wilfred, w-what are you doing out here?"

Likewise, the rest of the Cosby Family were looking at the old man with respect when they saw him. One after another, they bowed and respectfully called out in unison, "Old Master Cosby!"

The old man was none other than Wilfred Cosby, the most prestigious figure in the entire Cosby Family as well as the true commander of the Cosby Family!

Even the arrogant Atticus who dared to confront Sean instantly cowered when he saw Wilfred. Wilfred's prestige in the Cosby Family was completely far beyond their reach.

With the help of several people, Wilfred walked to the middle of the inner courtyard with much difficulty.

Rowan collapsed to the ground while spitting blood out of his mouth. His face was totally scrunched in pain as he looked up at Wilfred with much difficulty, a pleading look filled his eyes like he was seeking mercy from God.

"Dad, s-save me..."

After his spine was fractured, Rowan basically lost his mobility.

In the meantime, the ones who injured Rowan earlier all had a slight fearful expression on their faces. They were worried that Wilfred would prosecute them.

Standing beside Wilfred, Atticus whispered, "Wilfred, what Rowan did was simply outrageous and profane..."

Before Atticus could finish saying his words, Wilfred waved his hand and sighed. "Need not say further. I know what happened. He has no one but himself to blame for his tragic ending today, so he deserves such a punishment for everything he has done!"

After hearing that, Atticus breathed a sigh of relief. For a moment, he was still worried that Wilfred would pursue this matter.

Then, Wilfred walked up to Rowan and sighed in disappointment.

"Rowan, you said that Sean doesn't want to avenge you, but did you even realize that Sean has his own difficulties that he's reluctant to mention?!"

"Sean is the head of the Cosby Family. That means he eventually has to take the overall situation into consideration for each and every action he takes. You were wrong to forcibly stand up for others in Stonedale in the first place. Don't tell me that you're planning on making Sean get even with Phoenix for the sake of this matter!"

"Because if you really do, than first off, not only will you get everyone into trouble with Phoenix, you'll even offend Levi. Secondly, if this spreads to the public, they will only condemn us the Cosby Family for being arrogant and unruly like a lawless barbarian..."

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Collapsing on the ground, Rowan whispered with his face flushing in embarrassment, "Dad, i know I was wrong. I... I will never dare to do it again..."

Hearing that, Wilfred sighed again. "I hope you really know your mistakes this time."

As soon as those words escaped his lips, he made his way to the main seat and sat down with the help of the people next to him. After looking at the crowd present, his gaze finally landed on Sean.

“Sean, how many times have I told you that you are the head of the Cosby Family? You must take the overall situation into consideration first, no matter what you do! How can you act on impulse and let the situation get to this point?!”

Wilfred reprimanded.

At this moment, Sean gradually regained his senses.

Feeling ashamed, he uttered under his breath, “Dad, I know I was wrong. I just couldn’t think straight because it involved Tristan...”

Waving his hand, Wilfred said, “I know you were heartbroken when our men returned with news about Tristan’s death. But, did you think I’m feeling any better than you?”

“Like you, I was heartbroken too. Sean, even if you were heartbroken, you still have to remember your position regardless of what! You must remember that you are the head of the Cosby Family. No matter what action you take, you must take the thousands of members of the Cosby Family into consideration, for that is your responsibility!”

“It’s fine for you to do anything that you wish to do, as long as you’re not the head of the Cosby Family. That’s not the case, is it? Are you aware that everything you do represents the dignity of the Cosby Family?”

Looking ashamed, Sean lowered his head and reassured, “Dad, I understand. I’ll definitely pay attention to my behavior and actions in the future!”

In the meantime, Tristan, who stood on the side, looked a little ghastly.

She didn’t blame Wilfred for being merciless. It was like what Wilfred had said, taking up the position as the head of the household simply meant that Sean had to be responsible for the entire Cosby Family. However, it was precisely because Sean was the head of the Cosby Family that she had never felt the warmth of any family love in these few years.

Later, Wilfred looked at Atticus and his fellows again. He sighed softly, “Atticus, things must’ve been hard for you, considering your thoughtfulness for the entire family. After all, Sean is still too inexperienced. So if something ever happens, I still have to rely on you to keep an eye on him...”

Atticus couldn’t help looking a little flustered. Deep down, he knew very well that Wilfred was verbally giving him a slap in the face even though it sounded like Wilfred was discussing the matter with him.

To put it bluntly, the sole reason Wilfred said that Atticus was being so thoughtful of the Cosby Family was simply because he knew that Atticus wanted to take over the reins of the family.

“Wilfred, we, too, are being impulsive this time. Don’t you worry. I’ll never make such a mistake again in the future!” Atticus promised while cupping his hands.

Smiling and nodding, Wilfred then said softly, “That’s good. We’re a family after all, and getting along harmoniously is the most important practice in a family. Think about it: won’t our family be a laughing stock for the outsiders if we started quarreling among ourselves first?”

At once, everyone present looked absolutely ashamed. Despite each of these people having their own ulterior motives, they still behaved themselves in front of Wilfred.

No one in the Cosby Family dared to disobey and disrespect Wilfred, who had led the Cosby Family to its triumph through decades of ups and downs.

After that, Wilfred spoke a few words before beckoning the crowd to leave.

Finally, only a few people were left in the inner courtyard. Only then did Wilfred look at Tristan. Traces of tenderness surfaced in his eyes as he looked at her.

He beckoned, “Tristan, come here and let me take a look at you?”

At once, Tristan walked over to him.

Wilfred only heaved a sigh of relief after he’d carefully checked on her for a long time.

“Thank goodness you’re fine!”

The words that escaped his lips were enough to express the joy in his heart despite sounding simple. Realization hit Tristan as her eyes were teary.

‘Ever since I was a child, I’d always thought that Sean and Wilfred didn’t like me. But it’s only now that I know I’d misunderstood Dad and Grandpa all these years... It’s not that they don’t love me. They’re just not good at expressing their love for me... This is the most affectionate family love one could ever ask for! This is the strongest and most powerful affection in the world!’

At this moment, Wilfred finally shifted his attention to Matthew and asked, “You must be Dr. Larson from Eastshire, right?”

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Matthew didn't dare to rise when he faced an old man with great virtue and high prestige like Wilfred.

He quickly bowed and said respectfully, "Old Master Cosby, it's a great honor to meet you. I'm Matthew Larson..."

Waving his hand, Wilfred beckoned with a smile, "Dr. Larson, you're too polite. I should thank you. After all, you have saved me from death twice. I would've been six feet under if it weren't for you. Dr. Larson, your medical skills are so remarkable that they even impressed me greatly!"

After hearing that, Matthew hurriedly said, "Old Master Cosby, you have overpraised me."

Wilfred, too, expressed his gratitude toward Matthew after a brief exchange of polite remarks. Later, he asked Tristan to take Matthew to rest first as he would like to hold a welcoming dinner for Matthew in the evening. However, Matthew didn't leave with Tristan.

Instead, he looked at Freya, who was on the ground. Hesitating a little, he finally asked, "Old Master Cosby, may I know how you plan to punish Freya?"

Closing his eyes slightly, Wilfred then answered, "Since my granddaughter is alive and well, she certainly need not to face death. However, she may be exempted from death penalty, but she still needs to receive some punishment. After all, whoever wants to kill the members of the Cosby Family must pay a price!"

In the meantime, Freya's facial expression was stern and cold. Only a sneer was shown on the corners of her mouth. It was as if she didn't care about her own life or death at all.

Taking a deep breath, Matthew suddenly bowed and requested, "Old Master Cosby, I have a presumptuous request that I wonder if I can ask you."

Hearing that, Wilfred said, "Of course, Dr. Larson. Feel free to ask away."

Matthew nodded before continuing. "Old Master Cosby, forgive me for my boldness, but I want to ask you for a favor to let Freya go."

At once, Wilfred's eyes widened in shock. Sean and Tristan, who were next to him, were also stupefied.

Coming back to her senses, Tristan voiced her objection anxiously, "Matthew, why are you helping her? She was the one who tried to kill you, remember?!"

"Freya is malicious and ruthless. A person like her simply deserves to die! She'll definitely come after you in the future if we let her go this time. If so, aren't you setting up a formidable enemy for yourself?"

Even Freya looked at Matthew in astonishment.

Frowning, she solemnly added, "Larson, you don't need to intercede for me if it's because of me sparing last time. Like I said, that time was the only time I spared you from death. You don't have to thank me. Besides, I won't appreciate your kindness even if you helped me today. I'll still kill you the next time I meet you!"

Matthew waved his hand and said, "I'm not interceding for you because you spared me last time. I'm interceding for you on behalf of those children you'd rescued!"

Unknown to Freya, Matthew had received the news that Freya had wiped out all the human traffickers in that city. In addition, he also knew that she even rescued the kidnapped children.

She was stunned, for she didn't expect that he would actually help her because of this matter.

After listening to Matthew's reasoning, Wilfred stroked his palm and smiled. "Dr. Larson, you have truly impressed me more and more. As an ordinary person, you are full of compassion... As a doctor, you have a benevolent heart. To be honest, I haven't encountered a young man like you for many years!"

"Hahaha! This is wonderful! Wonderful indeed! Dr. Larson, I might not let her go if you intercede for her because of other matters. But for this matter alone, I will show you admiration today no matter what. Sean, untie her and return her belongings to her. Also, ask Baldrick, our family's subordinate, to personally lead the team and escort her out of the Southeast State. Remember, protect her well."

Despite the slight unwillingness painted across his face, Sean still nodded and received Wilfred's order, "Yes, Dad..."

With a wave of his hand, he beckoned a few of his men to go over and untie the ropes on Freya's body.

Standing up, Freya scoffed coldly. "Just return my sword to me. You don't need to send someone to escort me! I'm Freya Green! I don't need anyone's escort!"

Sean couldn't help but get furious when he heard Freya's statement. "Don't you dare go too far. Freya! My dad showed you his hospitality because you have too many enemies. He's afraid that you'll die in the Southeast State! Otherwise, do you honestly think we're willing to escort you?!"

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Once again, Freya scoffed with disdain. "I don't need your kindness."

Sean's face was livid with anger. Yet, he couldn't do anything to her.

At this moment, Matthew came over to her. Taking out a porcelain bottle, he handed it to Freya and said, "Freya, this bottle of medicine has a miraculous effect on wound treatment and can help people regain their strength as soon as possible too."

Just as Freya was about to reject him, he immediately added, "Don't worry. This bottle of medicine isn't for you. It's for Raven. I'm not someone who will go back on my words. And since I've promised to cure him, I will carry out what I've promised."

Looking at Matthew, she then looked at that bottle of medicine. In the end, she reached out and took it.

Wilfred, who was looking at this from behind, smiled. Then, he asked someone to pass Freya her sword before he allowed Freya to leave the Cosby Residence's compound.

Immediately after he had finished dealing with these matters, Sean anxiously looked at Matthew. "Dr. Larson, thank you very much for intervening and helping me with the incident this time..."

"Actually, I planned to make a trip to Eastshire in person to invite you to come and treat my dad in the first place. Little did I know that you've made your visit here to the Southeast State this time. Please forgive me for not welcoming you properly," he said humbly.

To put it bluntly, he just wanted to request Matthew to cure Wilfred's illness.

Matthew gave a faint smile upon hearing that and said, "Don't worry. I'd promised Young Ma... Uh... Miss Cosby. I'd promised Miss Cosby a long time ago that I would cure Old Master Cosby's illness, so I definitely won't break my promise."

Sean was overjoyed when he heard Matthew's words.

While cupping his hands again and again, he expressed his gratitude toward Matthew. "Thank you so much, Dr. Larson. Thank you so much! Dr. Larson, should I have

someone bring my dad's examination report and his previous medical treatment formula over for you to have a look?"

However, Matthew merely waved his hand and replied, "No need for all that trouble. Old Master Cosby's illness isn't critical, anyway. He fell ill because of the accumulated internal injury in his body. In addition, with the Cosby Family's rather unique internal energy cultivation technique, this caused his inner energy to surround the extravasated blood in his body and prevent it from being discharged. He'll recover as long as we drain these extravasated blood out."

At once, Sean's eyes widened in surprise. Next to him, Wilfred's eyes lit up too after he heard Matthew's statement.

Many doctors had come to treat Wilfred prior to Matthew's arrival. However, most of them only pointed out that Wilfred's sickness was due to the accumulation of the extravasated blood in his body.

Those doctors tried with all their means, yet none of them was able to drain the extravasated blood from Wilfred's body.

Later, they also invited the famous doctors from the Six Southern States. However, even those genius doctors were at their wits end at Wilfred's condition. Moreover, these people together couldn't figure out the real cause of Wilfred's illness.

They only knew that Wilfred fell ill because the extravasated blood in his body couldn't be drained. Yet, they didn't know why it couldn't be drained.

To be honest, both Wilfred and Sean knew very well that Wilfred's illness was the result of the Cosby Family's internal energy cultivation technique.

The Cosby Family's internal energy cultivation technique was a completely different cultivation technique from the other internal energies. The force exerted was extremely strong and overbearing. However, the downside of such a cultivation technique was that it was extremely easy for the practitioners to smolder their inner energy in their bodies. Even the members of the Cosby Family themselves had to be cautious when they practiced this cultivation technique.

It was precisely because Wilfred was injured by someone that there was extravasated blood in his body. Coincidentally, his inner energy was smoldering near this lump of extravasated blood. As a result, his injury never healed. Moreover, Wilfred had practiced the arts of combat for many years. Therefore, his inner energy was extremely strong. As his inner energy had gathered around the extravasated blood, it was difficult to drain the blood using ordinary methods.

Since those so-called genius doctors in the past couldn't even drain the extravasated blood, they naturally couldn't cure Wilfred's illness.

The Cosby Family tried their best to prolong Wilfred's life by temporarily supplementing him with blood ginseng. However, blood ginseng was a herbal remedy that could send the body into overdrive.

The consequence resulting from the long-term intake of blood ginseng was grave despite it saving lives, and the reason why Wilfred's health was gradually deteriorating. For that reason, the Cosby Family had to seek genius doctors in various places just to save Wilfred's life.

Sean and Wilfred were utterly surprised when they saw that Matthew could actually pinpoint the crux of Wilfred's illness at a glance. It was something that the other genius doctors couldn't do.

The other genius doctors couldn't even spot the source of the problem even after they rummaged through the test results.

'This Is it! We've finally found it! Forget about those so-called genius doctors! Matthew is the real genius doctor here!'

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Sean exclaimed, "Dr. Larson. how can we remove this congestion?"

Matthew walked toward Wilfred and said, "Old Master Cosby, you can lie down first..."

Right after receiving Matthew's instruction, Wilfred immediately lay down on the couch next to him.

Sean followed Matthew closely while watching him take out a silver needle bag. Then, he couldn't help but ask, "Dr. Larson, do you need me to bring the test results over? We've taken a few pictures of the bruises and the areas where my father was injured."

However, Matthew immediately rejected the offer with a wave of his hand. "There's no need!"

This left Sean stunned for a moment, 'Huh?'

Tristan also intervened in a low voice, "Dr. Larson, the place where my grandfather was injured and the location of the blood clot are different."

"I know," Matthew replied. "He was injured on his left rib while the bruising is under his lower abdomen."

Sean immediately looked at Tristan, who was surprised as well. She shook her head, indicating that she had never mentioned this to Matthew at all.

He was surprised. "Dr. Larson, h-have you studied my father's injury before? Did other doctors bring it up with you?"

"No," Matthew answered.

Such a response left Sean even more confused, "Then, how did you know where he got hurt and where his bruise was?"

"The internal energy of your family is different from most. Generally, the internal energy stems from the hara before it circulates throughout the body. The Cosby Family's internal energy is stored in the five main organs and spread across the body through the meridians..."

"That means that for the Cosby Family, your five main organs are the strongest while your hara would be the weakest. It'd be done for if you don't cultivate your energy enough. By then, your internal energy would be blocked within your entire body. However, with enough practice, your internal energy will be powerful, and it will be difficult for it to be blocked..."

"But for Old Master Cosby's case, unless all five of his organs are injured, the chances for his internal energy to be blocked are low. Therefore, his injury should be near his chest. And seeing that his left side is slightly sunken, coupled with his weak voice, it is obvious that his hara is blocked..."

"So, based on a comprehensive judgment, he must have injured himself around his left rib while the bruise would be around his lower abdomen, near the hara."

Matthew's explanation caused those people who were gathered in the Cosby Residence to widen their eyes. Even Wilfred looked at Matthew in disbelief.

After a long time, Wilfred put his hands together and paid homage to Matthew, "Dr. Larson, you're a god!"

Sean was even more amazed. "Dr. Larson. You're amazing! You blew my mind! It seems that those so-called miracle doctors are nothing compared to you!"

Hearing all these, Matthew just smiled humbly. "It doesn't matter how high or low their medical skills are. As long as they can cure diseases and save lives, they are still considered doctors!"

This made Wilfred cast a deep look at Matthew while nodding his head and saying, “Dr. Larson, there are very few people that I admire, but you are an exception. You’re the first young man that showed me you are someone worthy of my admiration from the ground up! Compared to you, my life over the past few decades has been in vain!”

As Wilfred spoke, Sean kept nodding his head. He felt the utmost respect for Matthew. Tristan, on the other hand, had her eyes fixated on Matthew as well. At this moment, she felt like he was exuding light behind him that shone brightly.

Wilfred’s compliments made Matthew smile. “That’s too much, Old Master Cosby. Take a deep breath... I’m going to start acupuncture...”

Wilfred nodded before relaxing his body onto the couch.

In the past, when doctors were treating him, he was always filled with a sense of anxiety. He was worried that the Cosby Family’s internal energy might cause a backlash against the healer. However, this time, under the care of Matthew, Wilfred felt unprecedentedly relaxed.

Matthew took out 13 silver needles and handed five of them to Tristan. “Hold them for me first. Leave your hand like this. Once I’ve put in the first eight needles, I need to pierce these five needles within five seconds. There is no room for error!”

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