

## Chapter 2511 The Final Psychological Battle

One wrong step led to another. If Baxter had shown more backbone when he was being held hostage, the situation might not have come to this. If anything, they might have already taken down Matthew at this point.

The second-in-command initially wanted to make another attempt, but the situation had grown too precarious for further probing. With Baxter's demise, they would truly lose everything if their forces were to be wiped out.

They didn't fear death. However, as their leader had stated, their lives weren't solely their own.

Casting an unwilling glance at Matthew, the second-in-command obediently obeyed Theron's command.

On Matthew's side, as he observed the enemy gradually regrouping and retreating, he suppressed the excruciating pain coursing through his body and calmly took a step forward. This seemingly simple movement confirmed Theron's suspicions—Matthew was indeed baiting them.

Recognizing the situation, Theron subtly signaled to his second-in-command. Consequently, the Shadow Guards expedited their retreat.

Matthew didn't let his guard down as every member of the opposing force disappeared into the woods. He pursed his lips and sighed in a self-reflective manner. "Shame I couldn't keep them all here. What a wasted performance."

While mumbling, he wiped away the blood from the corner of his mouth and nonchalantly dusted off his clothes. In a matter of seconds, his pale complexion regained its rosy color.

After all that, Matthew shook his head. "This Theron is indeed clever. If they had all retreated together, I would have pursued them no matter what. Nah, forget it. The Martial League's affairs are more important."

With that, he strolled into the driver's seat and revved the engine, departing the scene.

His caution wasn't unwarranted. Amidst the underbrush, a few figures lay quietly in ambush.

Theron clenched his teeth in frustration, watching Matthew's transformations throughout. "Just as I suspected, this guy is way too cunning. Luckily, we withdrew quickly."

Initially, he intended to feign withdrawal and observe Matthew's response. If he displayed signs of exhaustion, they would retreat swiftly, and Theron would lead his subordinates in charge. Now, it seemed apparent that this was a trap, an attempt to eliminate them all.

As the thought crossed his mind, he couldn't help but secretly rejoice at his decision to retreat. However, his cleverness backfired, for Matthew was indeed at the end of his rope now.

After driving a considerable distance, Matthew couldn't hold on any longer.

Cough!

Amidst violent coughs, Matthew spat out a mouthful of blood, staining the entire driver's seat. That said, he was relaxed.

"Dealing with an old fox like him is truly exhausting. I almost fell into his hands."

The entire time, both sides competed in brute strength, psychological maneuvering, and mutual calculation.

From holding Baxter hostage to the final act of sustaining his weakened body while taunting, Matthew waged a psychological battle.

Had Theron decided to lead his subordinates in one last charge, Matthew might have met his end on the spot. Fortunately, in this psychological duel, Matthew emerged victorious.

Yet, even so, there was a slight regret in Matthew's heart for not taking Theron's life. The man was not only highly skilled but also brilliant. Without the spineless Baxter, Theron's strategy of saving Baxter by charging toward Sasha would have succeeded.

In this battle, Matthew had a lot to thank Baxter for.

Moreover, the information he managed to extract from Baxter before his death revealed more of the Damrons' secrets to Matthew.