

## **Out of Prison 331**

### Chapter 331 The Grand Sedan Chair

“Have you heard? Mr. Bloom just repelled Four Masters of the Swan Family, and even personally killed one of their family servants!”

“What? The Four Masters of the Swan Family? Is it sons of Edwin the Stick from one of the seven peaks of Chamber Mountain?”

“Among the ancient families of Chamber Mountain with the surname Swan, who else could it be other than the Swan Family?”

“Even the ancient warrior from Chamber Mountain, he can kill and dares to kill? Who on earth is this Mr. Bloom?”

“No wonder they say that Mr. Bloom is now the top person in Fatuma!”

Big shots from all over Fatuma gathered at Johnson Manor, discussing the newcomer Mr. Bloom, who became the number one in Fatuma.

Outside Johnson Manor, where luxury cars gathered, suddenly, another grand sedan chair with eight bearers arrived. It was eye-catching, attracting attention from all directions.

“Oh! A grand sedan chair with eight bearers! The person sitting inside must be extraordinary!”

“Yeah! Ordinary people don’t qualify to sit in a sedan chair carried by eight people, especially an official one!”

“There are very few people in Fatuma who can ride in such a grand sedan chair!”

Ordinary luxury cars, as long as one could afford them, he could ride. But this sedan chair, especially the number of people carrying it, had strict restrictions.

Even if one had money, they might not qualify to sit in one.

By regulation, civilian sedan chairs were carried by at most two people.

Official sedan chairs were either carried by four or eight people.

Officials with a rank of third grade or above ride in the “four–people–carried” in the capital and the “eight–people–carried” outside the capital.

While everyone was talking, the eight–bearer sedan chair came to the entrance of Johnson Manor. A young man followed beside the sedan chair, lifted the curtain, and said, “Grandpa Charizard, we’re here!”

An old man in traditional clothes bent over and stepped out. The moment he stood at the entrance, an aura of authority exuded from him, making people instinctively lower their heads.

“Oh! Isn’t this Mr. Charizard Jernigan?” Someone recognized him and exclaimed in surprise.

It was unexpected that the Johnson family’s banquet would even attract Charizard.

“I was wondering who had such status to ride in the eight bearer sedan chair. If it’s Mr. Jernigan, it all makes sense now!”

The one referred to as Mr. Jernigan was Charizard Jernigan, a world–renowned scholar with students and colleagues spread all over.

He was once an Imperial Academy Scholar and held a third–grade official position.

Although he was retired and lived in Fatuma, his status remained, and he had special permission to continue riding in the grand sedan chair.

Not only did ordinary people have to show respect when they saw him, but even the Barlow family of the Fatuma Police Station must respectfully call Charizard Mr. Jernigan.

Charizard stood outside Johnson Manor, accepting the reverent gazes from the crowd.

A young man beside Charizard asked with confusion, “Grandpa Charizard, why bother coming personally for a mere change in the Johnson family’s leadership? A simple congratulatory gift from us would suffice.”

Charizard shook his head. “You don’t understand. Under normal circumstances, a casual response would suffice. But this time, the new head of the Johnson family is an outsider with an extraordinary background.

“The business of the Johnson family spans across Fatuma and is of great significance. I must personally see who this person is!”

Charizard had heard various rumors about Leones and had even made special calls to his previous colleagues in Sherland to inquire about him.

He heard that Leones has deep connections with the cabinet, so out of curiosity, he came to see for himself.

“Oh my! Mr. Jernigan! What brought you here?” When the Johnson family found out about the visitor, the elders came out to greet him.

As a prestigious family in Fatuma, apart from Charizard, the Jernigan family had many younger members. They served in the cabinet, making it a genuine bureaucratic family.

The Johnson family's invitation naturally reached the Jernigan family, but they didn't expect retired Charizard to come.

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"Mr. Jernigan, we apologize for not greeting you sooner! Please come in!" The Johnson family members came to greet him.

Charizard nodded and said with a smile, "I heard that the Johnson family has changed leadership, so I came to join in the fun."

Surrounded by the Johnson family, the Jernigan family members entered the manor.

The

presence of Charizard certainly added prestige to the Johnson family's event. The atmosphere was harmonious and joyful.

But as Leones returned, the focus of the event shifted from the Jernigan family back to him. "Is this the Mr. Bloom?"

"Indeed, a young hero with an extraordinary demeanor!"

Seeing this, many people approached, introducing themselves and greeting Leones.

Watching the crowd gather around Leones like stars around the moon, the young man beside Charizard sneered slightly, murmuring, "Just so-so!"

Chapter 332 A Martial Artist

"Kristen, do not be impolite!"

Seeing his grandson develop a slight disdain and hostility towards Leones of the same age, Charizard quickly spoke out to stop his grandson.

Charizard was well aware that his grandson, who had been exceptionally intelligent since childhood and had become famous at a young age, had inherent superiority and pride, making it difficult to bow down to his peers.

Nowadays, seeing Leones, who was about the same age, and receiving such support from everyone, Kristen could not help but feel a bit hostile and even dissatisfied.

Charizard continued to speak out and scold, "You have grown up to this day, relying on the protection of your family and your own efforts. It can be said that everything you meet goes smoothly, and you have never encountered any setbacks.

"But you also have to understand the truth that there are even higher mountains beyond the mountains. You are powerful, and others are even more powerful than you! Although Fatuma is large, it is not as large as the Nine Continents! Now, Vericano is in its prime, with many talented people emerging. Don't underestimate anyone!"

Speaking of this, Charizard also secretly observed Leones' every move and couldn't help but nod slightly.

He had been in the officialdom for decades with countless experiences in identifying people, so

he had a vicious vision.

"At a young age, this guy was able to achieve such a great reputation when he first arrived. It can be said that he is truly worthy of his reputation! It's not just a false reputation!

"If only he could kill the infamous Vulture with one hand and eliminate harm for the people, it would be worth my coming today. I should toast him three times!

"I brought you here today specifically to let you make friends and acquaint with him. In the future,

if

you go to Sherland as an official, you will meet again, and perhaps you will need his help.”

Although listening to Charizard’s admonition, Kristen still felt a bit dissatisfied.

Especially when Kristen heard Charizard let him make friends with such kind of people, his heart was filled with disdain.

Thought about the Jernigan family, and what kind of family tradition did it have?

It was a scholarly family! In the Jernigan family, the people who talked and laughed were knowledgeable, and there were no ignorant or inexperienced people.

How could Kristen make friends with such vulgar people?

“Humph, what can he do to kill Vulture?” Kristen still refused, “He’s just a martial artist!”

Although the voice of this statement was not loud, as Leones walked in, it was still heard clearly by Leones and everyone around him.

Suddenly, Leones stopped, and the atmosphere remained silent.

Everyone looked in the direction of Charizard and found that it was the words of Kristen next to him. They then turned around and talked about other things.

Everyone thought, “These words came from the person of the Jernigan family. If someone else said it, how would it be?!”

“Stinky boy, what are you chattering and talking nonsense?”

At this moment, Chad, on the side, immediately stepped forward and asked Kristen, “Although you are a guest, you have no qualification to judge His Majesty secretly.”

“Besides, how much do you know about other people before you dare to make arbitrary conclusions?”

Although the evaluation of “a martial artist” was a neutral term, anyone could figure out the statement came from Kristen was full of contempt.

At this moment, Darius also stood up and snapped, “Hurry up and apologize to Mr. Bloom!”

Apologize!?

Upon hearing this, Kristen sneered disdainfully. As he grew up, the word ‘apology’ was not included in his experience of life.

In Fatuma, who dared to ask the members of the Jernigan family to apologize!?

“Misunderstanding, it’s all misunderstanding...” At this time, the butler of the Johnson family quickly came out to make amends and solemnly introduced the two men of the Jernigan family to Leones.

Charizard didn’t get up, just nodded lightly to Leones, and it was considered a return to Leones. Although just now, he was still admonishing his grandson not to be impolite.

At this moment, in the face of the conflict between the two, Charizard was unconventional and

did not intervene.

He also wanted to examine how both of them responded.

“Imperial Academy Scholar!? Mr. Charizard Jernigan!” After hearing the introduction, Darius couldn’t help but be surprised. He didn’t expect that there was such a great person in Fatuma. Even if Jeremy was here, he probably wouldn’t dare to provoke Charizard either.

No wonder Charizard’s grandson dared to be so rude.

“Did you call me a martial artist?” At this moment, Leones looked at Kristen with great interest and retorted, “Who are you then? What qualifications do you have to look down on a martial artist?”

Chapter 333 Unworthy of the Name

Seeing Leones speak up, it seemed like he wanted to confront Kristen.

Everyone around was startled at the sight, but no one dared to speak up and persuade Leones.

After all, it was a fight between powerful persons, so how could they get in the way?

Even Darius, on the side, after learning about the identity of the two men, also had the idea of concession, thinking about whether to persuade his master to give up and give Charizard a face. Darius had not yet spoken, but Kristen had already sneered out loud.

“You ask me who I am? Haha. Okay! That’s a good question! Then I’ll tell you who I am!”

As he spoke, Kristen stood up, raised his head and chest, and loudly said, “At the age of three, I can read. At the age of five, I can write poetry. At the age of seven, I can memorize books on various. subjects.

“At the age of ten, I passed the county and government high school exams twice and officially became a high school student.



“Later, I passed the government and state examinations one after another. At the age of fifteen, I achieved the highest score in Yingville and became a college student.

“At the age of twenty, I passed the provincial examination and got a master’s degree with the first place in the application of 100 thousand candidates across the country.

“I will enter Sherland next year to participate in the metropolitan examination and imperial examination. Doctoral and postdoctoral degrees will belong to me!”

Having said this, Kristen proudly raised his head and felt proud.

“It is me. Kristen, who is the first talented scholar in Fatuma!

“When I get the doctoral degree next year, the reputation of the world’s top talent will be none other than mine!”

Kristen’s self-introduction was actually familiar to local people in Fatuma.

Born into a scholarly family, he lived up to the cultivation of his family and grew up exceptionally well, worthy of the title of the first talented scholar in Fatuma.

Even his growth trajectory was the same as his grandfather Charizard’s path to fame back then. He became famous at a young age, got a doctoral degree, became the Imperial Academy Scholar, and became famous all over the world!

Upon hearing this, everyone nodded and exclaimed in their hearts, “To have a child should be like Kristen!”

After Charizard, who was once an Imperial Academy Scholar, the Jernigan family would have a young prodigy who would become a great master in the future, even surpassing his ancestors! At this moment, Charizard, upon hearing his grandson introduce himself, seemed to be looking back on the first half of his life, nodding slightly and smiling.

“Mr. Bloom... forget it.” At this moment, Darius whispered at the side, “The Jernigan family is a family of officials and scholars. In addition to the retired Mr. Charizard Jernigan, there are also many younger generations who hold official positions in Sherland.”

Speaking of it, Jeremy, Darius' father, along with many members of the Jernigan family, was an official in the same dynasty, and they also looked up and down at each other, so there was no need to deaden the relationship.

“This is all a misunderstanding.” Darius just wanted to show his identity and mediate.

At this moment, Kristen sneered again and asked, “Didn't you just threaten me to apologize? Why, now you've changed your face and said it's a misunderstanding?”

Darius smiled and couldn't recognize Charizard because he had been away from Sherland for

many years.

Kristen continued, “Now that I want to ask you what qualifications do I have to apologize to you?”

“What's wrong

with me saying you're a martial artist? You just killed a few mountain bandits, and what's the big deal? Even if you could take charge of the Johnson family today, you're just an ordinary being.

“All things are inferior. Only reading is high! And I, with my achievements and fame, am a postgraduate student, shining in my family!”

The so-called “master's degree” was already at a very high level in various levels of imperial examinations.

For example, there was a man who got a master's degree in his late fifties and was so happy that he went crazy. The attitude of the people around him was also respectful, and they dare not neglect

him.

After all, the social status and status of postgraduate students were very high, equivalent to having already entered the official career with one foot and even being able to sit on the same level as the county magistrate and not bowing in the court.

And Kristen was only twenty years old, and he got a master's degree. Although he was not considered a peerless genius, he was also proud enough to be unparalleled in Fatuma.

"Like me, it's just the name of the first talented scholar in Fatuma, and how dare you pretend to be the first person in Fatuma? It's a bit exaggerated!"

"Is it true that we have no one in Fatuma?"

Kristen's last few words were very impolite.

Especially on occasions like tonight, it was more like smashing the stage and not giving the host a face.

For a moment, the atmosphere became tense, and there was silence all around, with no one daring to respond.

Even Charizard did not stop his grandson's excessive remarks and instead looked curiously at Leones, wanting to see how he responded.

The simplest way to see a person's abilities was to look at their coping strategies when facing

trouble.

At this time, everyone's eyes fell on Leones.

On the side, Darius was even worried that his master would turn around and splash blood on the spot, which would be terrible.

"Are you the first talented scholar in Fatuma?"

At this time, Leones spoke calmly.

"Since you have questions about why I am the first person in Fatuma, do you dare to compete with me?"

Compete!?

As soon as this sentence was spoken, everyone was surprised again. They didn't know what kind of competition Leones meant.

After all, the fields that the two were good at are not comparable. One was a scholar, and the other was skilled in martial arts. Could the two be compared?

"What's up?" Kristen said with some displeasure, "You are angry and ashamed, so do you want to fight me?"

Kristen had been reading books of sages since he was young, and he had never been skilled in martial arts.

"Haha!" Leones said with a smile, "We gentlemen talk but don't do anything. Since we are competing, we will compete in what you are good at!"

Chapter 334 Four Competitions

“What I’m best at!?”

Kristen was stunned and immediately regained his confidence.

Just now, Kristen thought Leones was getting angry and ready to take action.

But when it came to what he was good at, he was afraid there was nothing that the other person could compare to.

“I have been reading books of sages since I was young, and I have written excellent moral articles! If you want to compete in literature with me, you are far inferior to me. Compared with these, I am incompetent!

“In addition to reading, I can engage in elegant activities. I know everything about music, chess, calligraphy, and painting. And verses, ditties, odes, and songs are easily accessible to me.”

Speaking of this, Kristen proposed, “Let’s compare the four skills, namely music, chess, calligraphy, and painting!?”

Music, chess, calligraphy, and painting!?

As soon as this statement was made, everyone couldn’t help but look at each other, thinking to themselves, “Isn’t this still difficult for Leones?”

Kristen was proficient in everything, but for Leones, a martial artist, wasn’t this casting pearls before swine?

They thought Leones would refuse.

After all, even ordinary people rarely dabble in these four arts, and it was good to be proficient in them all, let alone master them.

Unexpectedly, Leones didn't even think about it but agreed in one fell swoop.

"Okay!" Leones nodded. "Just follow what you said. Let's compare music, chess, calligraphy, and painting!"

What?

Upon hearing this, everyone looked at Leones in surprise, and thought that wasn't he crazy?

Was Leones competing with a young master from a scholarly family at music, chess, calligraphy, and painting? Wasn't this self-deprecating?

What was Leones comparing himself to Kristen?

However, Darius was on the side, and his eyes lit up,

It suddenly occurred to Darius that Leones, in the field of calligraphy, had extremely high attainments and could even achieve the level of confusing fake with real.

If they compared the 'calligraphy' in music, chess, calligraphy, and painting, it was undoubtedly

victorious for his master!

After all, when he was in the Antique World, Darius witnessed Leones with his own eyes and copied Eleanor's handwriting, magnificent and complete in one go. Leones was truly skilled in calligraphy, and no one could match him!

At this time, Kristen was also a little surprised. Unexpectedly, Leones dared to agree.

Who gave Leones the courage to compete with Kristen in music, chess, calligraphy, and painting? Kristen didn't think much either but thought, "Anyway, Darius agreed, and that was a fair

competition. I can show off my talent and let everyone open up!”

“Then you can choose any one of the four arts of ‘music, chess, calligraphy, and painting’, and let’s compete on the spot!” Kristen asked Leones to choose anyone at will, and he was confident in

comparing anyone.

Seeing Kristen let Leones choose, Darius was overjoyed and thought that Leones would choose calligraphy as a competition, and then he would have great success!

But Leones humbly said, “The visitor is a guest, so you choose it!”

“Hmm? I choose?” Kristen was stunned again and then said, “I’ve told you all that I’m proficient in all four arts, and I can choose anyone.”

“Me too!” Leones said calmly, “Why don’t we compete once? If so, you won’t be convinced if you lose.”

Upon hearing this, Kristen was almost so angry that he almost vomited blood.

Did the other party still want to win?

Was the other party afraid of Kristen not being able to afford to lose!?

“Haha!” Kristen sneered, “Since you are so beyond your means, let’s compete with each other in music, chess, calligraphy, and painting!”

Seeing this situation, everyone was also puzzled and didn’t understand what Leones wanted to do.

He was not good at one art, moreover four more.

The more he compared, the worse he lost!?

And Darius, on the side, was even more anxious for his master.

Compared to calligraphy was a safe bet to win. Why did his master do it all over again!?

At this time, Leones continued to speak shockingly.

“Music, chess, calligraphy, and painting, if you can win one of these four games, you will win!”

Chapter 335 Professional Level

What?

There was another uproar at the scene as soon as these words came out.

Everyone couldn't figure it out. Who gave Leones the courage to say these words?

Could he be good at these four arts?

Upon hearing this, Kristen was almost furious to death, because Leones rushed to say wanted to say.

It made him speechless instead, only to feel frustrated.

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“What qualifications do you have to say such things?” Kristen angrily said, “I am proficient in music, chess, calligraphy, and painting. How could I possibly lose to you? I won't lose anything!



“Today, I will make you convinced that you have lost and see who was the first person in Fatuma!

“Then let’s start with the music competition, shall we?”

As he spoke, Kristen looked around and saw that there was only a piano at the scene. He immediately arranged for someone to buy a violin from outside.

“Coincidentally, I have recently obtained a lost set of ancient music scores, and today I will play them on the spot!”

During his speech, Kristen sat down in front of the violin and pondered for a moment. His overall demeanor suddenly changed, as if the person and the violin were integrated.

After a moment, Kristen gently stroked the strings.

The curling sound of the violin, like a heavenly sound, stirred and turned in the quiet hall.

As soon as everyone heard the fairy sound, they were immediately immersed in it and couldn’t extricate themselves.

After finishing the music, the scene was completely silent.

Everyone lost themselves in it, unable to regain consciousness for a long time.

With the first person applauding, and then the applause thundered!

Everyone came back to their senses from the beautiful sound of the violin, vigorously applauding and cheering loudly.

Everyone was a layman, and they didn’t understand any music.

But the sound of the violin just now, like the sound of nature, was intoxicating.

Everyone was convinced and applauded continuously.

“He is truly a great talent of the Jernigan family! His violin skills are truly unparalleled!”

“Yes! Just now, accompanied by the sound of the violin, I felt like I was there, completely oblivious to myself. This is a feeling I have never felt before listening to any music! It’s amazing! It’s indescribable!”

“Undoubtedly, he is the first talented scholar in Fatuma, with unparalleled genius! I think... there’s no need to compete anymore, right? Haha...”

Kristen’s performance on the violin was so captivating that people even felt that no one in the world could play a piece of better music than Kristen.

At this moment, Charizard also nodded slightly. Unexpectedly, his grandson’s violin skill had made full progress again, and he was greatly relieved that it had not been delayed by the imperial

examination.

Next, Charizard looked at Leones again and wanted to see how Leones would respond to Kristen’s impeccable violin skills.

Should he admit defeat openly, or should he bite the bullet and perform a show of humiliation?

If it were the former, Charizard would respect Leones as an upright man. However, if it were the latter, Leones was just trying to imitate others, which made him laughable!

“Haha, it’s your turn!”

Kristen stood up, with a mischievous smile on his face, as if he was watching a good play.

And here, Darius and Chad looked at each other and thought, "This is terrible!"

They had no high expectations for Leones' violin skills.

But after listening to Kristen's playing, they were even more deeply in despair.

This was not just proficiency. It was just a professional level!

Darius even felt that there was no need to compare anymore. Even if a professional violinist was invited from Sherland, it might not be enough!

Just when all the guests thought that Leones would find an excuse to refuse and then admit defeat, Leones calmly came to the violin with his hands behind his back.

"As it happens, I also have an extinct ancient music score here called Mountains and Flowing Water. It's one of my masters who got from a famous treasure spot. Please listen!"

Chapter 336 Mountains and Flowing Water

Leones' 73rd master came from a famous family and was good at treasure hunting.

Even the world-renowned treasure spot had been discovered by Leones' master.

Leones' master acquired the extinct Mountains and Flowing Water and gave it to Leones.

As people all knew, the extinct Mountains and Flowing Water had become a masterpiece passed down from generation to generation. All of it was incomplete imitations, but the true one was at the hand of Leones.

Although the Mountains and Flowing Water had appeared again, it was a pity that his unlucky master fell directly into the law before he could sell the music score.

The already-famous Mountains and Flowing Water was taken to Zerino Prison by his master, almost leaving no successor.

In prison, Leones learned various musical instruments from the 64th master, the Six-fingered Musician Demon, and proficiently mastered the Mountains and Flowing Water.

With that said, Leones sat down and was about to play.

After listening, Kristen slightly cocked his mouth and muttered, “Oh, you know how to play the Mountains and Flowing Water? Don’t play it in a nondescript way later and then blame the incomplete music score?”

When the guests around heard this, they all laughed but didn’t speak, thinking that Leones was bragging. Moreover, they didn’t think that Leones could play better music than Kristen.

At this moment, Leones lightly touched the strings.

As the first piece of music was heard, the expressions of the crowd at the scene suddenly tightened, and the previously noisy scene immediately became completely silent.

In an instant, everyone felt that everything in front of them had changed.

From the bustling and noisy hall, it suddenly seemed like being in an environment of high mountains and flowing water.

And witnessed the beautiful scenery with his own eyes

Its music sounded like one wandering between mountains and flowing water.

Its meaning was towering and magnificent, with a natural charm and a high and low intonation, and its meaning was endless!

Everyone was immersed in it, meditating on it, unable to extricate themselves.

Until the end of the music, high mountains and flowing water disappeared from everyone's sight, and the sound ceased!

Accompanied by a burst of noise, the strings were breaking.

The surrounding guests were awakened from their recent illusion.

After regaining their composure, everyone suddenly realized that they had unconsciously shed tears.

They were at a loss whether they were infected by the music, by the magnificent scenery, or by both of them!

But no matter what, the completely immersive music experience just now was unparalleled and could not be described in words!

For a moment, the scene was silent, and everyone was still thinking about it.

"Oh my god... I was listening to the music just now, and it seemed like I saw mountains and flowing water!"

"Do

you also have this feeling? Me too! That feeling is too mysterious! It's simply indescribable! In short, it's a music experience that has never been before! Can music still be heard like this?" "Unexpectedly, there is such music in the world. It's just a fairy tune that has purified my ears! Compared to the music I used to listen to, it's all garbage! Forgive me for being blunt, including the one Mr. Kristen Jernigan played just now!"

Little did they know that Leones' master, the Six-fingered Musician Demon, was best at using music to deceive people, making them completely immersed in music, unable to extricate themselves, lose themselves, and gradually go crazy.

Others' music was healing, but her music was leading to depression.

In other words, others' music demanded money, while her music demanded life!

But at the end of Leones' music, he awakened everyone with a broken string. Otherwise, everyone present would be completely trapped in the illusion of high mountains and flowing water, unable to awaken themselves.

At this moment, everyone looked at Leones again with a look of awe in their eyes, and the previous teasing of disdain and even wanting to see a good play had all disappeared.

As the music ended, the strings of the violin all broke in response, completely drawing a perfect rest for this music called Mountains and Flowing Water.

Darius and Chad were also stunned by Leones' violin sound. They also did not expect that Leones could have such attainments in music.

"Mr. Bloom, you are so awesome! I want to know, what else can you not do?"

But Chad was uneducated, so he could only shout, "Awesome!" There were no other words to describe his mood at this time.

At this moment, applause rang out.

At this moment, Charizard was already in tears and couldn't help but take the lead in applauding.

"Great music! Great violin skills!"

"As expected of great music! The Mountains and Flowing Water is unparalleled in the world!" "Kristen, you didn't lose unjustly!"

Leones completely crushed Kristen, who was just a genius, both in terms of skills and music

scores.

The two played in tandem, and they were as different as clouds and mud!

"This... how could this be possible!?"

At this time, Kristen was completely stunned!

He never dreamed that he would lose and that he would lose completely!

Moreover, even he himself had been completely immersed in it just now and shed tears unconsciously.

Kristen thought, "Did I lose?"

No! I didn't lose!"

Kristen's life was not weaker than that of his peers. How could he easily admit defeat?

Not to mention, he lost to a crude martial artist he didn't like.

It was simply offensive!

“You just won on the score! Yes, it must be like this. If I played Mountains and Flowing Water, the effect would be better than yours!

“Besides, I have been busy with my studies recently and have neglected the violin. My fingers are also a bit rusty!”

Kristen made a hundred excuses for himself but refused to admit defeat.

Suddenly, out of the corner of his eye, he noticed a piano in the corner of the hall.

As if he had caught a life-saving straw, he pointed to the piano and said, “Let’s compare again!

“This time, let’s compete on the piano! Play the same music score! Do you dare to compete?”

Chapter 337 One Hand Is Enough

Kristen never imagined that Leones, a martial artist, could be elegant and good at playing the piano.

Immediately afterwards, Kristen grabbed the piano as a life-saving straw in an attempt to save the defeat.

Firstly, what Kristen was best at was piano, and he got a level 10 certificate when he was ten years old.

The reason why he played the violin just now was because he happened to have recently obtained a pair of ancient music scores and wanted to show off on the spot. Unexpectedly, he overturned. Furthermore, Kristen saw that Leones was proficient in the violin and had extraordinary skills, so Kristen expected that he would no longer be good at the piano.

Although they were both musical instruments, they were very different in terms of playing.



Seeing that Kristen can't afford to lose, did he want to continue the piano competition?

The guests around couldn't help but feel disdain at the sight, and the image of the talented person that was originally in everyone's minds had also collapsed.

Even Charizard, Kristen's grandfather, shook his head slightly and felt a bit disappointed with Kristen's unreasonable request.

However, Charizard remained silent and continued to look curiously at Leones, wondering how he would respond.

"Mr. Kristen Jernigan, didn't you say you wouldn't lose? Why don't you admit losing?" At this moment, Chad couldn't help but speak sarcastically. If others dared not say something, he dared to say, "What a shame!"

"Mr. Bloom, don't compete with him anymore," Darius said in a voice, "In the first round of the competition in music, chess, calligraphy, and painting, you have already won!"

In Darius' view, in these four rounds of competitions, such as calligraphy competitions, Leones was bound to win, and even if Leones was not good at the other two categories, he could at least draw in the first violin competition he won.

Being able to draw with the young master of the Jernigan family, who was known as the first talented scholar in Fatuma, in terms of talent, could be regarded as a victory.

"Whatever!" Faced with Kristen's challenge again, Leones was calm.

After all, he had a master, the Six-fingered Musician Demon, and Leones was proficient in more than one thousand musical instruments in the world.

No matter what instrument Kristen was competing on, Leones could accompany him to the end. "Okay!"

Kristen was overjoyed at the words and couldn't wait to sit in front of the piano, as if he was afraid that Leones would regret it.

› He read through pages and pages of music, and his eyes lit up. He chuckled ominously, "Let's try playing Flight of the Bumblebee!"

As he spoke, Kristen didn't wait for Leones to agree but instead took the lead in playing, wanting to play first.

In an instant, Kristen's ten fingers were agile, as if dancing gracefully on the keys of a piano. The beautiful music played from his fingertips.

The atmosphere at the scene also changed, filled with joy everywhere.

Flight of the Bumblebee was a cheerful piece of music.

At the same time, it was known as one of the fastest piano pieces in the world and was extremely difficult.

This was also the reason why Kristen chose this music. Firstly, he wanted to show off his skills, and secondly, to make things difficult for Leones.

It was such a fast melody that ordinary people simply could not play!

As the music passed halfway through, Kristen's playing speed became faster and faster.

For a moment, everyone felt a daze in front of them, as if there were three hands playing on the keys. It was so divine!

Such piano skills were breathtaking!

When Kristen dropped the last key, the piano also suddenly shook, and a wisp of white smoke emitted from the piano box.

It was as if the piano was overloaded by the playing just now, and it was already overwhelmed. After the music ended, there was thunderous applause.

Although Kristen's recent refusal to give up was somewhat discounted, he once again won the respect of the guests present after playing the piano piece.

"Bravo, Mr. Kristen Jernigan bravo. You can play the piano so well! You have the grace

master!"

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The guests generously praised the piano music played by Kristen with their praise! Even Charizard softened his expression slightly, and he couldn't help but nod secretly, thinking that Kristen had once again pulled the strings.

And he secretly thought, "Although Leones' violin playing was amazing, the piano music played by Kristen also has the style of a famous artist."

It was a tie between the two!

At this time, Darius and Chad looked at each other and couldn't help but swallow their saliva.

“He must have done it on purpose!” Chad said angrily, “He must have deliberately chosen such a fast piano piece to embarrass His Majesty!”

“If they were playing the same piece, I’m afraid Mr. Bloom wouldn’t be able to reach his speed...” Darius couldn’t help but shake his head secretly.

The guests at the scene, as well as the Johnson family, were not very optimistic about Leones and didn’t think Leones could surpass Kristen’s piano level.

At this time, some people could not help but call for, “Shake hands and make peace!”

However, Kristen looked at Leones with the attitude of the victor and said provocatively, “It’s your turn!”

Upon seeing this, Leones gave a faint smile, clearly indicating that Kristen had deliberately chosen such a fast song to make things difficult for him.

Leones thought, “If I didn’t show off my power, did one think I was a loser?”

Okay! Since it was about being faster, let me show you what a real piano player is!”

Then, under the gaze of everyone, Leones walked slowly to the piano with his hands behind his back and sat down gracefully.

For a moment, the surroundings were silent.

No one expected that Leones would dare to accept the challenge.

Could it be that his piano skills were as good as those of his violin just now!?

“Flight of the Bumblebee, please!” Kristen sneered, convinced that Leones was playing tricks and could not reach his own piano level.

At this moment, Leones lay one hand flat on his knee and slowly raised the other hand, calmly saying, “I can play the slow melody with one hand!”

Chapter 338 Defeat

What?

One hand!?

Upon hearing these words, the people present were all greatly shocked and thought that Leones. was just joking!

The Flight of the Bumblebee was known as one of the fastest piano compositions in the world. Playing it was a challenge for most people; they wished they had an extra hand to help.

And Leones dared to say he would play it with just one hand?

What a joke!

“Haha!”

Kristen couldn’t help but laugh too.

“If you can’t play, just admit defeat voluntarily. Why bother using this method to save face?”

Kristen thought Leones was looking for excuses. Even if he lost, he could still blame it on having one skilled hand.

Faced with the ridicule and disbelief of the crowd, Leones remained calm and began to play with just one hand.

As the music began, the crowd fell silent once again.

The crowd's mocking faces slowly shifted to calmness and then to looks of surprise.

Because Leones accomplished an identical result single-handedly, just like Kristen did before him, flawlessly.

Even better!

What happened exceeded everyone's expectations. How could it not be amazing?

Darius and Chad were extremely surprised, unable to close their mouths.

"No! This can't be..."

Kristen was shocked and kept moving back, with a look of disbelief on his face.

He never thought Leones could play the piano so well, let alone play it better and faster than him!

It was luck, definitely!

Leones played the Flight of the Bumblebee using just one hand.

Kristen's face gradually became grim.

He thought to himself, "Let's see how you handle the latter half with just one hand!"

The piece had a rhythm like a rollercoaster, it accelerated continuously.

Kristen struggled to play with both hands, so he couldn't believe that the Flight of the Bumblebee could be played flawlessly with only one hand!

As the music kept playing at its best, the performance picked up speed.

In a split second, it appeared as if Leones had become a master of replication, creating several copies of his hand in motion as if there were two hands at play.

Then, it was as if the two hands had multiplied into four, all playing in harmony.

When the music reached its climax, the speed was so fast that it seemed as though the entire

piano was filled with Leones' right hand, darting around at an astonishing pace, leaving everyone dazzled and unable to keep up!

Kristen was amazed, and his mouth was shaped into a perfect "O" unintentionally.

His face felt like it was on fire, as if every time Leones pushed a key, it punched him in the face. He kept getting hit over and over again, like bullets fired in quick bursts into his face.

Soon, in coordination with the rhythm of the music.

Once again, the crowd was instantly immersed in it, as if they had been transported to an endless grassland.

And before their eyes, there were swarms of wild bees, densely packed and coming towards them.

Accompanied by music that sounded like a rain of notes, the crowd, upon seeing this, were so frightened that they ran for their lives. The bee swarm chased after them at lightning speed.

The music in their ears grew quicker and more pressing!

And the bee swarm behind them was closing in faster and faster.

Even though they knew it was an illusion, that everything was not real.

But this immersive and intense excitement made people uncontrollably start racing against the bee swarm.

After another cup of coffee's time, the music neared its conclusion.

As Leones played the final note.

There was a resounding crash!

The entire piano instantly fell apart!

The people at the scene, one after another, gradually recovered from the tense and thrilling illusion they had just experienced.

One by one, they were panting heavily, drenched in sweat, their faces filled with astonishment! Some people even kept turning around, as if there were still swarms of bees attacking them from

behind.

"What just happened to me? I felt like I was being swarmed by bees... So exciting!"



“It’s that immersive feeling again! Does this Mr. Bloom possess such a magical power with whatever musical instrument he plays, creating this enchanting atmosphere?”

“Look! Oh my goodness, Mr. Bloom actually played the piano until it fell apart! This... this is truly unbelievable!”

“Mr. Bloom’s musical talent truly transcends time! It’s truly astonishing!”

Everyone immediately stood up and enthusiastically applauded Leones, unable to calm down for a while.

Leones amazed everyone by creating an immersive musical experience using only one hand, surpassing Kristen’s earlier performance.

“Incredible! Your Majesty is truly amazing!” Chad also applauded enthusiastically.

“Mr. Bloom, you are just too cool!” Darius also showed an admiring look in his eyes.

It was his first time seeing Leones play a musical instrument, and he didn’t expect that whether it was ancient or modern, different musical instruments could all display a master’s style in Leones’ hands.

“This boy... is extraordinary!”

Even Charizard couldn’t help but be shocked and awestruck, with a deep sense of amazement in his heart.

He had thought that his grandson had a natural talent for music, and if it weren't for the academic exams, he might have developed in that direction.

But he never expected that there would always be someone even more talented!

Leones' performances of Mountains and Flowing Water and Flight of the Bumblebee were both overwhelmingly impressive!

This not only left Charizard amazed but also dealt a significant blow to Kristen himself!

Looking at the broken piano, Kristen was also dumbfounded, finding it hard to believe.

In all of his years, he had never come across such a deep and unmistakable sense of urgency from anyone else.

He had been comprehensively defeated in both the violin and piano aspects!

If he hadn't experienced it firsthand, Kristen would have thought he was dreaming; no, even in a dream, this would be too absurd!

"What instrument do you want to compete with next?" Leones calmly responded, "You can choose any, and I'll stick with you until the end!"

Compete with other musical instruments again!?

Kristen's face twitched suddenly.

He didn't dare to compete anymore, and he didn't have any impressive musical instruments to bring forth.

A Level 10 piano was already his limit.

Moreover, seeing Leones so confident, if Kristen continued to argue over musical instruments, he would only lead to an unpleasant outcome.

“Alright!” Kristen gritted his teeth and said with difficulty, “As for piano, I admit defeat!”

In front of everyone, Kristen’s voluntary admission of defeat was more agonizing than actually losing.

But since things had reached this point, he had to bow his head and acknowledge his loss.

However, Kristen’s current admission of defeat was paving the way for winning back a game in the future.

Just as Kristen’s words fell, he continued, “Next, we should compete in chess!”

Chapter 339 Level Nine Master of Go

The order was music, chess, calligraphy, and painting, so the second round was chess!

Kristen couldn’t believe it. Leones, a mere martial artist, had unexpected skills in playing the piano. But in the realm of chess and cards, how high could his achievements be?

Playing musical instruments was just a matter of being familiar with one’s hands.

While playing chess and cards was the true test of intelligence!

Kristen was extremely talented and incredibly intelligent. No matter what the competition was, he must be better in terms of intelligence than someone who practiced martial arts. Especially when it comes to his achievements in Go, he reached level nine when he was just fifteen years old and could compete with top national players without falling behind.

If it came to chess, Kristen wouldn’t even know how to lose!

Of course, if the opponent chose chess, Kristen also had some knowledge and was competent enough to handle those games.

“What kind of chess do you want to play?” Leones asked calmly, letting him choose.

“Are you sure you want to let me choose?” Kristen raised an eyebrow, a slight smile on her lips. “I’m a level nine chess player! If I choose Go, will you dare to challenge me?”

“Alright! Let’s play a game of Go then!” Leones agreed without hesitation.

Immediately, Kristen was taken aback and repeated, “Didn’t you hear me? I’m a level nine Go player! Are you sure you want to play Go with me?”

“We’re playing your strongest game,” Leones said calmly, “so that there’s no room for excuses if you lose later.”

“You!” Kristen was so infuriated that he felt like he might spit blood. Did he think his level nine in Go was just for show?

“Don’t underestimate me. What’s your level in Go?” Seeing Leones’ composure, Kristen couldn’t help but feel a bit worried. What if the other party was also a level nine player?!

Even though the likelihood of that was extremely low!

“Me!?” Leones shook his head. “I don’t have a rank.”

“No rank?” Kristen was surprised again. “No rank, and you dare to play against me? Are you crazy?”

Leones smiled calmly and said, "Who says you can't play Go without a rank? Today, this player is going to defeat you!"

Upon hearing this, a wry smile tugged at the corners of Kristen's mouth. "Don't daydream!"

If a level nine in Go were to lose to a beginner, they might as well commit suicide.

Leones smiled and said nothing.

Even though he didn't have a rank, he did have a master!

His 87th master was once a generation's chess master, winning the International Chess Saint Championship for twelve consecutive years. If it weren't for his imprisonment, he might have continued his winning streak.

His self-created Center Control formation was like a dragnet that no one can break and no one can defeat.

Later, to inherit the Center Control, a small country in the East sent a beautiful chess player to use a beauty trick to get close to the chess master.

Truly, even heroes could fall before a beautiful woman. The former chess master fell into the embrace of this beauty and even left his homeland to be with her in the East, forgetting his own country.

When all the chess moves were learned by the Easterners, the beautiful chess player suddenly turned hostile and kicked him out.

The chess master, who thought he had found a kindred spirit but was deceived, became furious. and lost control. He killed the beloved female chess player with his own hands.

After multiple negotiations between the two countries, he was finally extradited back to his homeland and imprisoned in Zerino Prison.

Once the chess master entered prison and was free from the distractions of women, his chess skills soared. He even managed to decipher the Center Control he had created, naming one crucial move the Hand of God, capable of breaking any endgame in the world.

The chess master felt that there were no worthy successors, but luckily, he met Leones and decided to share all of his knowledge, including the Center Control, the method to decipher it, and the secrets of the Hand of God move.

Although Leones had limited knowledge of Go and no rank, from the moment he left prison, he was considered the living chess master, unmatched by anyone.

Seeing that Leones was obstinate and dared to challenge him in Go, Kristen decided not to say anything more.

He thought to himself, "Since you're underestimating me, I'll defeat you decisively on the chessboard!"

"Prepare a Go board!" Leones instructed.

Soon, the butler brought the Go board and the pieces.

The two sat facing each other.

In an instant, they attracted the attention of everyone present, and countless eyes were fixed on them.

"Who do

you think will win this time?"

“Needless to say, Mr. Kristen Jernigan must win! He is a level nine master! You don’t think that someone without a rank can beat a level nine master, right?”

“The piano skills that Mr. Bloom showed just now are amazing! Before he played, none of us could have imagined that Mr. Bloom would win in the end!”

“Each has their own specialty! We certainly acknowledge Mr. Bloom’s piano skills. But being skilled in one area doesn’t necessarily translate to being good at another, especially when Mr. Bloom himself admitted to having no rank, indicating that he’s not proficient in Go!”

For a moment, as the two began their game, after some discussion, most people didn’t have high hopes for Leones this time, believing it should be Kristen’s turn to win.

“Is Your Majesty without a rank?” Chad, standing behind Leones, could only silently pray for a miracle to happen.

“It’s alright,” Darius said optimistically, “Even if he loses this game, he can still win the next one in the calligraphy competition!”

After all, Darius had personally witnessed Leones’ calligraphy skills, and there was no doubt that he would excel in that competition.

However, when Kristen heard this, he couldn’t help but think to himself. “Comparing calligraphy with me? And expect to win? It’s absolutely ridiculous!”

From Kristen’s point of view, his calligraphy was as solid as his position in this chess game, and he was almost certain to win.

He had been reading and writing since childhood, and having good handwriting was the most basic skill. His ability to top the high school list was closely related to his excellent penmanship. “Hmph, next, whether it’s Go or calligraphy, I’m going to make you suffer a crushing defeat!”

Kristen was filled with determination, determined to prove his strength in the three upcoming

matches.

“Considering you’re a level nine player, I’ll give you a 12–stone handicap!” Leones, holding the white stones, suddenly spoke.

For beginners, it was common to give a 36–stone handicap.

And seeing that his opponent was indeed a level nine player, Leones didn’t want to be overly confident. So, he decided to give Kristen a 12–stone handicap to balance out the significant difference in their abilities, avoiding any accusations of taking advantage of the situation.

Chapter 340 Hand of God

Did Leones want to give Kristen a 12–stone handicap?

The crowd all looked at Leones in confusion, unsure if he was joking or not.

The crowd thought to themselves, “You, a beginner with no rank, giving a level nine Go player a handicap?”

What a joke!

“Pfft...” Kristen upon hearing this, also became furious and almost spat blood from anger.

Initially, Kristen had considered whether to give Leones a 10–stone handicap to demonstrate his level nine skills and ensure a graceful defeat.

To Kristen’s surprise, Leones said he would give Kristen a 12–stone handicap.

What audacity!



Kristen thought, "I didn't dare to give such a large handicap with my level nine skills, so why should he?"

Standing on the sidelines, Charizard looked at Leones with some surprise, not quite understanding what he was up to.

Even a top national player wouldn't dare to be so confident against a level nine player, right?

Moreover, he was just a beginner with no rank.

"Your Majesty!" Chad hurriedly whispered, "You should quickly say that you were joking and take back what you said earlier."

However, Leones shook his head slightly and said, "I'll take the white stones, and you can go first with a 12-stone handicap!"

"Mr. Bloom!?" Seeing Leones' serious demeanor, Darius was also greatly surprised and suddenly had a bold guess in his mind, "Could it be that... Mr. Bloom is also highly skilled in Go?"

But why did he say he had no rank just now? Could it be humility?

"All right!" When Kristen saw this, he no longer refused.

Kristen thought, "Since Leones was underestimating me and seeking trouble, he decided not to hold back."

With a grand gesture, Kristen began.

Kristen had placed twelve black stones on the board, advancing step by step, concealing a deadly strategy, and forming a siege.

Kristen sneered and looked at Leones. "I'll finish the game within half an hour!"

In a typical high-level match, it would take an average of six to seven hours, with no clear winner.

For amateur matches, it typically took around an hour to determine a winner.

But in the current situation, with Leones giving a 12 stone handicap, Kristen had an absolute advantage, and it was expected that the game would be concluded within half an hour.

Leones glanced at the board.

Indeed, the strength of a level nine player was evident. All twelve black stones were strategically placed, with each having at least three potential follow-up moves, making it a complex and dangerous situation!

However, Leones remained calm and proceeded systematically, waiting for the right moment to

make his moves.

Soon, the two of them began their fierce battle on the Go board.

Since Leones started with a 12-stone handicap, he was at a significant disadvantage and constantly on the defensive.

After a while, the situation had already reached a one-nine-move formation.

The odds of victory for Leones were probably less than ten percent, while Kristen had an absolute advantage.

He even felt that he could close his eyes and still win, not knowing how to lose.

Even the guests who didn't understand Go on the sidelines could easily see from the black and white stones' layout that black had taken the initiative and formed an encirclement.

"Well... It's not bad to hold on until now." Charizard stood behind his grandson and nodded in approval, acknowledging Leones' skills in Go.

He even felt that if it weren't for Leones' overconfidence and the 12-stone handicap, the outcome would be difficult to predict.

So, Charizard suggested, "For a fair competition, just play another game, but this time without a handicap!"

"Are you admitting defeat?" Kristen looked triumphant.

"Who said I lost?" But Leones remained calm. "I feel like the real match for this game is only beginning now!"

With that, Leones saw that the formation was set, and he played the Hand of God, a move that could kill in order to revive!