As Levi gazed at Tyrone in an attempt to size him up, the older man was doing the same with him.

Levi saw immediately that his father was a once-in-a-generation type of warrior.

He was subdued and detached, and an untouchable vibe radiated from his very body.

However, his movements also spoke of someone who was ill-tempered and capricious.

To kill one is a sin, but to kill ten thousand is a heroic feat.

That sentence described Tyrone exactly.

His very face lent him a look of arrogance and self-assurance that made him stand out from the crowd. He had the vibe of someone who was used to standing in the limelight at the applause of everyone.

After all, he was the future patriarch of the most prestigious ancient family in Erudia.

He had been bred for this very purpose.

Tyrone was a good fighter—there was no doubt about that.

Before this, Levi had instructed Phoenix to conduct a thorough investigation into Tyrone's background.

Levi did not do so early on because he was afraid that the people in Oakland City might catch on; that would have caused him a great deal of trouble.

However, his relationship with Tyrone had been one of the hottest topics in the city of late. Practically everyone already knew about it.

Given that development, if Levi wanted to look up Tyrone in his own capacity, no one would question it.

Tyrone was a cruel tyrant who had no qualms about doing whatever that was needed to get to the top.

He was willing to abandon everything that stood in his way.

Levi had taken a look at Tyrone's bloody and criminal history.

Indeed, Tyrone was someone who set his sights on big goals.

In the process of investigating him, Levi had discovered Tyrone's biggest secret—he had paralyzed his own brother in order to become his father's successor.

In order to ensure the prosperity of their clan, the Garrisons of Oakland City had established an ironclad rule.

It was also the most important one in their book of rules: kill not your own brethren. Those who violated it would be the harshest of punishment.

This rule had been established so that the Garrison clan would unite with each other rather than being divided by petty fights and jealousy.

Hence, the Garrison clan was renowned for their unity, which had seen them through over a thousand years. There had never been an instance of family members killing each other...until now.

This was also why the Garrison clan was so powerful.

However, Tyrone had violated this sacred rule in order to pursue his own selfish interests.

He had very extreme beliefs. To him, love, family ties, and friendships weren't important.

What was important, however, was the benefits he could reap.

One look at his father was enough for Levi to see him for who he was.

To Tyrone, however, Levi was just an arrogant and reckless troublemaker.

Tyrone had seen his share of this sort of youngsters.

A little taste of achievement was enough to send them into a downward spiral of haughtiness.

In the end, however, their wild ways would be tamed by the harsh reality.

There was nothing wrong with being arrogant, of course, but if one overdid it, the consequences would be extremely dire.

From his observation of Levi, Tyrone could tell that this b*stard son of his wouldn't last very long in the real world.

Compared to Damien, he was nothing but a small fry.

Damien was every bit as arrogant as Levi was, but at least he had talent and ability.

With the two most powerful ancient families in Erudia backing his every move, Damien's power was simply unimaginable!

Although the blood of the Garrisons flowed through Levi's veins as well, he wasn't suited to be Tyrone's son at all.

Tyrone would never acknowledge him as one of his own.

If Levi really wanted to become a member of the Garrisons, he had to first prove himself.

Otherwise, in no way would they accept him.

"Did you bring my mother along?" Levi asked.

"Don't worry, she's fine. She's very safe as well—I can give her a video call if you don't believe me," Tyrone replied.

Levi asked again, "Alright, then, what are you here for?"

Suddenly, Tyrone smiled and said, "I'm here for a very simple reason—I'm here to meet you. I wanted to see for myself how reckless and foolish the son of Emma Jones is. As expected, my men weren't exaggerating at all when they described you. You seem to be even more arrogant than I thought."

Levi grinned. "You aren't just here to see how reckless and foolish I am, are you? Why don't you tell me what you're really here for? Stop beating around the bush."

Levi refused to believe that heap of rubbish Tyrone was feeding him.

As if!

Tyrone has come here so secretly. Evidently, he doesn't want anyone to know he is in North Hampton.

Besides, he hasn't yet made a move to kill Mother.

Therefore, there is only one possible reason for his appearance—he wants to find out for himself if I know his secret.

Levi made up his mind immediately.

His mother had saved herself with that secret.

Tyrone's expression was rather unnatural. He looked pallid and nervous, and rather hesitant to open his mouth.

Finally, he decided to allude delicately to the matter.

Sighing deeply, he asked, "Has your mother ever told you anything about me?"

Levi continued grinning. "Yes, she has."

"Well, has she ever told you anything that she should've kept a secret?"

Tyrone held his breath and gazed intensely at Levi.

Levi smiled. "Of course she has! She has told me all sorts of secrets about you."

Seeing the damning smile on Levi's face, Tyrone felt as though he had been struck by lightning. His heart sank a little.

Levi had given him a very vague answer, but he had a nagging suspicion that the young man already knew about his secret.

However, he could not be absolutely certain of that.

What if Emma had told him other secrets about me?

Gritting his teeth, Tyrone asked, "What exactly did she tell you?"

Levi smiled. "Don't you know your own secrets?"

"Well..."

Tyrone was so nervous that sweat was beading on his brows.

He still couldn't confirm if Levi knew that dark secret of his.

To kill or not to kill?

That is the question.

Levi suddenly spoke up, his voice sending shivers down Tyrone's spine. "What? Are you thinking of whether you should kill me?"

Did Levi sense my intention?

"If you wish to kill me, do it! After all, you've never hesitated to do something when it comes to achieving your own goals."

Hearing this, Tyrone became certain that Levi already knew the damning secret he had been hiding for decades.

Now, he was afraid that Levi was going to use this secret against him for the rest of his life. What if he tries to threaten his way into the Garrison family?

This b*stard has no right to enter the Garrison family!

The Garrison family valued their honor over anything else, after all.

"I'll tell you this, Levi Garrison! Don't you dare use this to threaten me and force your way into the Garrison family! Even if the clan decides to punish me and my reputation takes a serious hit, I will never let you become one of us."

Tyrone made a very serious declaration.

He'd much rather have the clan find out about his secret than let this b*stard taint the halls of the Garrison residence with his filth.

There was no way Levi Garrison could become a member of the clan. Not for as long as Tyrone was alive.

Hearing this, Levi burst into laughter.

Coldly, he said, "Do you think I'll use this secret against you just so I could enter the Garrison family? How ridiculous. Tyrone Garrison, listen to me—I couldn't care less about a pathetic family like yours. Even if all of you come begging at my door for me to join the clan, I'll turn you down!"

Tyrone was so angry that he roared, "You—you're arrogant beyond belief! This is going to be the end of you one day!"

Levi laughed. "You came here to ask me if I know your secret, didn't you? Well, I know it, of course. But why would I bother to threaten you with it? I couldn't care less about a small fry like you."

Tyrone's breath hitched.

He really wanted to kill Levi on the spot.

However, he was afraid that Levi wasn't the only person who knew the secret.

For now, he had to find a way to seal Levi and Emma's mouths.

The expose would not matter anymore after he assumed the position of the patriarch.

"Alright, alright, I believe you! As long as you don't leak my secret, I promise not to lay a hand on your mother," Tyrone said.

He would tolerate it for a while longer.

In a few days, he would be the new head of the Garrison family.

After that, Levi would have no leverage over him anymore.

At that time, Tyrone would finally kill him.

Levi smiled coldly. "Let's move on, then. I still have some things to discuss with you."

"Firstly, release my mother instantly. Secondly, I will personally take revenge on the Garrison clan after my child is born. All of you will regret the sins you have committed against my Mom. Thirdly, I will kill Damien right in front of you!"
After Levi uttered these three threats, Tyrone stared at him in disbelief, feeling utterly

How outrageous!

He's simply being too absurd!

How dare he make such arrogant claims?

Kill Damien in front of me?

What a joke!

It is downright laughable!

"I have nothing to say about your first point. However, for your second point, did you say that you want to take revenge on the Garrison clan and make all of us regret it?"

Tyrone was utterly amused.

The Garrison clan is the most powerful ancient family in Erudia, with more than a thousand years of history.

Who has the ability to take avenge on the Garrisons?

A mere youngster in his twenties?

How is it possible that he's capable enough to do so?

"That's right. I'll fulfil my Mom's wish—that is to declare to all the Garrisons that you aren't worthy enough for my Mom! I want every one of you to drown in regret. I'll let my Mom declare to all of you that her son is the conqueror of the world!" announced Levi coldly.

"Hahaha! Just by yourself? Fine, I'll wait! And you want to kill Damien? It's impossible," said Tyrone as he laughed.

With me around, who would dare to touch Damien?

"Don't worry, you can never protect anyone whom I'm determined to kill."

A murderous glint flashed across Levi's eyes.

From the moment Damien appeared at his wedding, his fate had been sealed—he would die!

Levi did not throw away the coffin Damien brought to the wedding because he intended it to be meant for him.

"Very well! You've got guts. When will it be, specifically? I don't want to wait too long for you!" asked Tyrone with a cold smirk.

"Around a year after my child is born, I'll definitely attack the Garrison clan!"

"Fine! I will make a bet with you. One year later, if you can take even one step into the Garrison clan's residence, I'll sincerely apologize for what I have done in the past. I will even kneel in front of you and your mother in repentance! There's only one way to make me repent—by relying on your capabilities. Otherwise, even if you kill me, you will not even find a single shred of remorse within me."

A one-year pact was hence established between Tyrone and Levi.

In his opinion, regardless of how powerful Levi became, he would never be capable enough to even enter the Garrison clan's residence.

"Okay. We're agreed on this."

Levi nodded.

Smirking coldly, Tyrone said, "If you aren't capable enough to enter the Garrison clan's residence, don't blame me for being ruthless."

"Don't worry. If I'm not capable enough to do that, I'd die willingly!"

"That's settled, then. I'll wait for you at the Garrison clan's residence!"

After Tyrone made the bet, he left North Hampton.

Now, he was no longer worried that Levi would reveal the secret to others.

Through that short conversation, he had already figured out Levi's temper.

Although he seemed like an impudent man, he was, in reality, an extremely prideful person.

He would never make a huge deal out of Tyrone's secret.

For a prideful man like him, an act like that was tantamount to humiliation.

Furthermore, Tyron had suggested a one-year pact as part of his strategy to provoke him.

Hence, he was certain that Levi would not reveal his secret at all.

Chuckling coldly, he proudly declared, "This is the sheer difference between me, Damien and him! We never care about these insignificant things. As long as it's beneficial to us, we will certainly achieve our goal regardless of the methods used. After all, a man of great ambition does not bother about trifles. Levi, you will never achieve anything great! A year later, I will witness the sight of you pathetically groveling in front of the Garrison clan's residence."

Tyrone was quite accurate in his judgment of people.

Indeed, Levi was an extremely prideful person who would not deign to blackmail Tyrone with his secret.

If he wanted to resolve the matter, he would depend on only his capabilities.

This was the reason why Tyrone made the bet with Levi.

In his opinion, Levi only agreed on the bet because he was too young and impulsive.

Yet, unknown to him, Levi was completely aware of his tricks.

As "a man of his words", Tyrone released Emma and even spread the news of his bet with Levi around.

Now, everyone in Erudia knew that Levi made a pact with Tyrone.

The Garrison clan of Oakland City became even more famous now.

After all, they openly gave their illegitimate son a chance to challenge them.

This was an unprecedented move!

Logically speaking, any wealthy family would rush to hide such an illegitimate child.

They would often end up killed according to conventions.

However, the Garrison clan of Oakland City went against the norms.

Not only did they acknowledge the presence of an illegitimate child, but they also even gave him a chance to challenge them.

At the same time, they clearly showed how dignified they were as the most powerful ancient family in Erudia.

Tyrone, who established the pact, was praised by many.

Only someone with such dignity and ease like him was the most suitable candidate to lead the clan.

Even the high-ranking elders of the Garrison clan admired how Tyrone dealt with this matter, heaping him with praises.

No one expected that the appearance of Tyrone's illegitimate child would actually benefit him.

It proved exceptionally helpful to him in rising to the position as the head of the clan.

Even Tyrone did not expect that he could benefit from it.

This proved that seemingly unlucky events might not be completely bad—it all depended on how one dealt with them.

News of Levi's famous bet with Tyrone spread widely. Soon, all of the elites in the region knew about it.

Although everyone was now familiarized with Levi's name, they all thought that he was incredibly foolish.

Undoubtedly, he was fighting a futile battle.

What assets did he have to fight the Garrison clan with?

Did he not have an inkling of his chances of success?

A mere youngster actually dared to challenge the most powerful ancient family in Erudia.

It was a widely-known fact that entry to the Garrison clan in Oakland City was strictly controlled.

Only someone who wielded considerable power in the four domains of military, business, politics, and martial arts, would be recognized by the Garrison clan.

For the military domain, one must at least be a mighty general in the frontiers.

For the business domain, one must be at least a significant figure in the corporate world.

For the political domain, one must be at least a high-ranking officer.

For the martial arts domain, one must at least be capable enough of attacking the Garrison clan.

As long as one of those four conditions was fulfilled, the person could set foot in the Garrison clan's residence.

However, this was an incredibly challenging feat.

In everyone's opinion, Levi only had accumulated some success in the business domain.

However, a measly Morris Group was nothing to the Garrison clan.

He might stand a chance if he expanded his business by ten or twenty folds.

But, how could he do that within a year?

Hence, no one believed that Levi would succeed in challenging the Garrison clan and rely on his own capabilities to enter the clan's residence.

Yet, never in their wildest dreams would they expect Levi to actually be the weakest in the business domain.

Needless to say, his influence in the military and the political domain was unparalleled.

He was the Erudia's God of War!

His martial arts strength was undeniably matchless as well.

After all, he had trained himself by fighting in two thousand battles over a span of six years.

In fact, he could conquer almost everything!

As for now, he did not need to act personally.

There were too many skilled experts working for him now.

After Emma returned, she looked at Levi with an indecipherable look. "Levi, you shouldn't have done it! If you agreed to his bet, it means that you have fallen for his trick. He knows your personality, so he's using it to constrain you."

"Mom, it's going to be fine. It's true that this is a trap he set up for me. However, he doesn't know that I'm actually capable enough. Don't worry, I'll definitely fulfill your wish!"

This was a	a dream that	Emma	knew	was	absolu	utely	impossib	le.

Yet, she was content to just fantasize about it.

Hence, she named her son Levi, a name that signified harmony and unification. She hoped that he would preside over the world and let the Garrison clan realize their mistake.

"Okay, Levi. I'll look forward to one year later."

Emma smiled.

Regardless of what the outcome would be next year, she could still accompany Levi, Zoey, and the soon-to-be-born baby this year.

Life went back on track afterward.

The Lopez family and the Zhao family were extremely unhappy with Levi.

He could have chosen to kneel in forgiveness and remain content as a member of the Garrison clan.

However, he insisted on challenging them.

They were certain that he was crazy.

The Garrison clan of Oakland City also specified the conditions of the challenge for Levi.

In the military domain, he must surpass Hugh Garrison. He was the chief of the Gray Wolf Squad from the North. In fact, the God of War personally bestowed the title upon him.

In the political domain, he must surpass Finnick Garrison, a high-ranking politician of Oakland City.

In the business domain, his corporation must perform better than 5% of Damien's business. After all, Damien owned countless assets, with the Pinnacle Group alone strong enough to completely trump the Morris Group.

In the martial arts domain, he must be able to defeat Titus Garrison, one of the Garrison clan's youngest guards who had perfected his martial arts skills.

However, everyone clearly knew that these youngsters, who were used as benchmarks, were not the strongest of the Garrison clan—they were, at the most, considered average in the family.

It was evident how high the standards of entering the Garrison clan were.

If one did not want to rely on background, it was simply too challenging a feat to enter the Garrison clan through capabilities alone.

In fact, for the business domain, the standards were only 5% of Damien's business.

It was obvious how strong Damien was.

They purposely set the benchmark as 5% of Damien's business, intending it to be a constant reminder to Levi and Emma.

As quoted from Tyrone and Olivia, if Levi could not even achieve 5% of what Damien could, there was nothing for Emma to be proud of.

Everyone knew that should Levi fail in his challenge, his demise was certain.

"Do your best, Levi. I'm sure that you can achieve it within a year. Iris and I will assist you to develop Morris Group even further!"

When Zoey heard this bet, she gave Levi tremendous encouragement.

Right now, their only hope was Morris Group.

There was not much time left for them—they must accomplish everything within a year!

Otherwise, certain death awaited them.

On the other hand, Levi was overjoyed.

That period of one year was meant for the Garrison clan to have a breather before the battle ahead. It was not the case of the Garrison clan giving him one year to pathetically cling onto his meager chance of survival.

He was waiting for Zoey to give birth to their child.

Otherwise, he would have just attacked the Garrison clan directly.

Hence, Levi felt no sense of urgency.

For the following days, he stayed by Zoey's side constantly.

Zoey and her child were the most important priority for him.

As for the Morris Group, he left everything in the hands of Iris.

Although Zoey was unhappy about it, she was helpless to do anything.

"If Zoey's not pregnant with your child, we'd certainly have forced you to cut off all ties with her!"

Even though the Lopez family and the Black family were upset by this incident, they had no choice but to turn a blind eye.

Soon, it was time for the appointment of the next successor of the Garrison clan.

Tyrone was unanimously voted to become the head of the clan.

In order to maintain the clan's constant development, the head of the Garrison clan could only keep his position for a term of twenty years.

Tyrone's age was just right.

At this moment, Tyrone had finally achieved the highest position of the Garrison clan.

"Well, I have to you to thank, Levi!"

He was right.

Previously, there were many respected elders in the family who opposed Tyrone being the patriarch.

However, after his one-year pact with Levi, many people started looking at him in a different light.