"Why are you guys just... Staring at me? Answer the guestion!"

Levi rolled his eyes at the crowd.

Everyone remained silent on the surface. Internally, they were exclaiming, however.

Well, it's because you're the God of War! How can we not be scared?

"It's because he... "

Pewter almost exposed Levi's identity, but Burt reacted in time to halt his statement.

"Ms. Lopez, Mr. Garrison looks too much like our Mr. Tyrone. When we first met, we all thought Sir came!"

"Ah, yes. They look too similar."

No one could breathe easy in the room.

But Zoey alone accepted Burt's explanation without further thought. It sounded convincing enough- everyone met Levi for the first time and got intimidated merely because he resembled Tyrone. That was all.

"That makes sense. So, what do you want? I'm all ears."

Her tone was laced with apprehension- she did not have a good feeling about the party present before her. It felt as if they were up to no good.

Levi simply chuckled and said, "Honey, all they want is a meal with us. There's no need for so many questions."

Then, turning to the relevant people, Levi boomed impatiently, "Serve the dishes!"

The meal was practically a time of tribulation for the majority at the table, save for Levi and Zoey. The man was wolfing the food down while his wife picked out the nutritious dishes to keep her baby well-nourished.

Meanwhile, the rest ate in constant trepidation. Many were drenched in cold sweat while their minds wandered everywhere else.

Such was the feeling of eating with a beast that could snap anytime. They felt like they were being scrutinized, and that one wrong move would result in a fatal end.

The simple meal practically halved their lifespans by the time it ended.

"Hmm, the meal was delicious today. I look forward to more in the future," Levi said as he escorted Zoey out.

The lady was puzzled. This is it? Just a simple meal, and nothing else?

As if reading her mind, Levi pacified, "Honey, don't overthink it. They really did just want a meal."

He flashed her a smile.

At that moment, Zoey felt that her concerns were unnecessary.

Perhaps, Tyrone may become lenient one day. After all, they're still blood-related.

When Levi left, the company practically collapsed in relief simultaneously on their seats, heaving sighs of relief.

The meal was frankly more mentally exhausting than the hellish month of training that just passed.

They almost broke down on the spot.

"This is truly a moment of pride and disaster for the Garrison clan," Burt commented while sighing.

Right at this moment, a call came from the Garrison family.

Damien's voice echoed from the line. "Burt, tell me about how everything went! The family is very concerned. I heard that the training camp's instructor is a very extraordinary guy."

"Umm, that's right... "

Burt summarized the happenings to him.

Damien cheered, "Wow! That's pretty impressive. The family is proud of you guys!"

"And regarding the instructor... he is the God of War!"

It was not the first time Burt announced such a revelation to someone, but the reactions he received were always the same- pure shock.

The dumbfounded Damien fell into a long silence.

When he finally came to his senses, the excitement in his voice could barely be contained. "T-The God of War? You're all are so lucky! That means you guys are handpicked by the God of War into the Iron Brigade! The Garrison family is very proud! Tyrone will be giving a word of commendation on our next anniversary meeting."

These juniors are so capable and brought so much pride to the clan, he thought.

Burt was overjoyed by the response. A word of affirmation was always great, but receiving such commendation from Tyrone himself was the highest form of praise in the Garrison clan.

But recalling the ordeal that just occurred, Burt found his spirits dampened almost immediately.

"I have one more thing I wish to say... And hopefully, this can be conveyed to Sir..."

"What happened?" Damien's curiosity was evidently piqued.

"We just met Levi... "

Damien asked curiously, "What's wrong with meeting him?"

"Can you request Sir to restore Levi's status and bring him back to the Garrison family? This will bring immense glory to the clan."

Burt articulated every syllable seriously.

Damien's laugh echoed from the call as he replied, "Was Levi's charm so powerful that you all got subdued promptly? That's very disappointing of you guys. But anyway, I will convey your words to Sir."

When he proceeded to convey the information to Tyrone, the latter grew livid.

"What's wrong with these juniors? They're speaking up for Levi just because they met him once? What a bunch of letdowns."

"I heard that the God of War's first lesson to them was about respect. Maybe that's why."

That explained some things for Tyrone. "I see. I don't doubt the effectiveness of the lessons given by the God of War."

Then, his tone changed sharply. "But that's their military rule and has nothing to do with us. My personal philosophy is that I will only respect those who deserve my respect-someone like Levi won't earn it unless he shows me some true power."

Damien concurred, "You're right- even if Levi completes the challenge a year later, that's far from earning our respect. We can only at best accept him into the family."

The older man added agitatedly, "To earn my respect, he must at least have a strength that's on par with those on the top ten of the Saber Leaderboard. If he is really that strong, I will literally put him on a pedestal and parade him around town."

Tyrone knew the true strength of the top three well as they hailed from the Garrison family. They were people Tyrone respected. If Levi wanted his affirmation or wished to make regret his decisions, he should at least be at the level of the top three before speaking.

But he was only certain that Levi could never achieve that.

The said top three were the feared trio of Erudia. Any foreign power would quake in fear and double over in agony upon hearing their names.

There was a popular saying that went, "Those ranked on the Saber Leaderboard of Erudia can take down a battalion of ten thousand troops."

How can Levi ever be on that level?

But the biggest irony of all awaited him- Levi was the one ranking the Saber Leaderboard.

Damien grinned at Tyrone's sarcasm and added, "That's true- if Levi is on the same level as the top three, I will make him next in line for the title instead."

Speaking of that, Tyrone said, "I plan to officially name you my heir after the bet with Levi. There will be a handover ceremony held."

Damien was elated at the news.

Until now, although everyone knew that he would be the next Sir, there was no official handover ceremony held yet.

Now that Tyrone finally decided on a date, Damien was on cloud nine. He thanked the man profusely.

"Making it the same day as the duel... That's such a great date, Father!" Damien beamed.

"I want to show the world what my son is capable of, and to prove that not everyone can be as capable as you," Tyrone extolled with a cold laugh.

On the side, Olivia interjected, "Emma thinks her son would make her proud? I'm going to show the whole of Erudia that my son is stronger than hers."

She was confident of Damien, and could not wait for the day of the showdown to come soon.

When the news broke that the handover ceremony would be held on the same day as the duel, everyone knew that Tyrone did it intentionally.

Regardless of how Levi fared that day, he would compare him with Damien and showcase how superior the latter was as compared to the former.

Emma was visibly disappointed upon the news of the handover.

Nevertheless, she never hoped that Levi would be the next in line.

All she wanted was for his skills to be acknowledged by the Garrison family.

Her dejection was in full view of Zoey. She comforted, "Mother, it's fine. We don't have to compare ourselves with others. Let's just live our own lives peacefully."

Comparisons usually yielded nothing but a new sense of inferiority- especially if one was comparing themselves to the people of the Garrison clan. Zoey knew better to just focus on one's everyday life.

Her words seemed to have an effect on Emma.

Perking up a little, the lady acknowledged Zoey's wise words, "That's true, we're leading pretty happy lives right now. Let's just continue this way!"

Changing the topic, Zoey took the chance to ask for a group photo together.

The lady had taken an interest in documenting her everyday life and the changes that were happening. She had taken many photos as commemoration already.

"Levi, join in the photo too!" shouted Zoey.

If the lady asked, rejection was the last thing the man would do. Levi jogged over and joined the photo.

Zoey took a few snapshots and decided to upload the photos on her overseas social media account. All she wanted was to boast about her blissful family of four a little.

Otherwise, she usually did not have the habit to share her life online. Even if she did post, it would be on her overseas account, so that none of her close friends and relatives would see could see her updates.

This seemingly harmless decision to post today resulted in a global uproar.

Within ten minutes, the photos reached over ten million shares online.

And the numbers only grew and grew.

At this rate, the number of views would easily reach over a billion in just less than an hour.

The reason behind the ongoing virality was simple- Levi was in the photo.

In Erudia, all information about Levi was kept strictly confidential.

If a photo of him was uploaded within Erudia, it would automatically be censored.

But the same confidentiality did not exist out there.

As a result, when Zoey uploaded the photos, the outside world immediately recognized Levi.

News of his photos spread like wildfire, and it was not long before an international commotion erupted.

In particular, hundreds of countries and the underground organizations were in a frenzy over their new discovery- the almighty God of War had a pregnant wife.

It was shocking news to the whole world.

Levi was a walking legend ever since he suppressed the Eighteen-Nation Alliance.

The God of War was unanimously considered by hundreds of nations to be the worst nightmare ever to exist.

In fact, there was a saying that went, "As long as the God of War is present, Erudia cannot be attacked." In other words, as long as Levi was still alive, Erudia would remain impenetrable. The foreign powers could do nothing but cowering in fear of his ever-present wrath.

As a result, other nations hated him and countless people wanted him dead.

"Countless" was not an exaggeration- someone once did a tabulation and estimated that over ten million people wanted him to perish.

As a result, it was no surprise that Levi ranked top on the international hitlist with a bounty of hundreds of billions on his head.

While the bounty was extremely attractive, no one managed to complete it thus far. The reason was obvious- Levi had no weak points.

He was already used to assassination attempts. In fact, he was practically a target of an assassination every living second due to the sheer number of people interested in the prize money.

There were also many people who spent years trying to dig out his weaknesses, but all their attempts were to no avail.

In conclusion, Levi was simply too strong, too almighty. He truly lived up to his title as the God of War.

There's no way to kill him!

But everything changed on this day because of some photographs.

The all-powerful God of War had an Achilles' heel- his pregnant wife.

For the longest time, it was impossible to find any information about Levi. His family background and the people associated with him were all wiped clean from Erudia's database.

When people heard that Levi was an orphan, their despair only increased as that meant that they had no elderly parents to threaten him with.

As a result, there was no other way to defeat the invincible God than to become stronger than him.

However, now that Zoey's photographs exposed that Levi had a mother and a pregnant wife, everyone knew his fatal weaknesses.

The old saying now no longer stood. The rest of the nation finally found the opening to bring down Erudia.

Erudia's God of War, whose existence was the bane of hundreds of nations, had a line of weakness that everyone could not wait to exploit.

Amongst those people, the Eighteen-Nation Alliance, in particular, were in hysteria. Their long-awaited opportunity for revenge had finally come.

Another group of people who were equally riled up was those eyeing the incredible bounty.

The appeal only increased when the bounty reward shot up by tens of billions in a blink of an eye due to the contribution of multiple well-to-do individuals.

These contributors hoped to eliminate Levi as quickly and as mercilessly as possible.

Levi's existence had compromised too many people's interests.

Knowing that he had countless existing enemies who were blood-thirsty enough to take him down, they increased the bounty prize money to accelerate the momentum to take him out.

In other words, it was called striking the iron while it was hot.

In summary, the world was cheering for Levi's imminent death. The Eighteen-Nation Alliance was looking forward to the day when Erudia would fall into their hands. The other foreign forces were also interested in partaking in this attack. Many others could not wait for their own personal gains that would follow Levi's demise too.

Meanwhile, Zoey remained oblivious to the global commotion that her photos had ignited.

In conclusion, a revolution would happen the moment Levi fell.

That alone was a testament to the God of War's menace all this while. He might be just an individual, but he was capable of intimidating the entire world.

No one dared to lay a finger on Erudia because of him.

When Zoey finally checked her account, she almost flung her phone on the ground out of shock.

"O-Oh my, what on earth is happening? Huh? Why are there billions of likes, along with tens of thousands of shares and comments?"

She could not believe her eyes. Am I hallucinating? Are my eyes playing tricks on me?

A post on her account would typically garner at most about a hundred likes.

Why were her recent photos gaining so much traction?

Out of disbelief, she recounted the engagement numbers. Eventually, she concluded that her eyes were indeed well and functioning.

These engagement numbers probably broke some records on the platform, she thought.

What is happening?

Zoey double-checked the post once again, but the bizarre reality proved not to be a dream.

Amidst her confusion, there was one thing she could be certain about- these numbers had nothing to do with her or Emma. After all, the older lady was confined for almost thirty years.

That left her with Levi as the prime suspect for stirring up this commotion. The likes, comments, and shares could not have been for anyone else, she believed.

Does Levi hold so much influence overseas?

She rubbed her eyes and checked the numbers again.

Nothing changed from before.

"Oh right, there are many comments. Let me check them."

Opening the comments section, one comment caught her eye.

"The God of War of Erudia?" she muttered to herself.

Just when Zoey was able to continue reading the comment, it got deleted.

There was nothing else but a blank page reflecting on her phone screen.

Refreshing the page, she realized that all the other comments were gone too.

All the likes also disappeared.

It was as if nothing had happened and everything was normal again.

"Phew, it was just a system error! That was so scary... Those billions of likes...
Unimaginable." It was not uncommon to see such system hiccups- she had encountered them before in other software. The reflected engagement numbers similarly went completely haywire during the glitches.

The tension left her body as she heaved a sigh of relief and broke into an amused chuckle.

But the truth was far from what she assumed. What really happened was that someone from Erudia noticed Zoey's photos and immediately locked her account from further viewing by others.

Zoey conveyed the ordeal to her husband, telling him how the uploaded photos on her overseas account met with a system error, causing them to gain billions of likes and tens of millions of shares. "The comments were also really amusing- one read something like 'The God of War' or something..."

"What?" Levi froze on the spot. His expression turned increasingly strained.

Realizing the gravity of the situation, he immediately grew worried over the safety of Zoey and Emma. His concerns only worsened considering that his wife was pregnant.

He was aware of the forces they were up against- they were not simply just the wealthy ancient families, but also included the Eighteen-Nation Alliance, hundreds of foreign powers, and tens of thousands of organizations.

The combined forces were overpowering, and anyone could strike anywhere at any time.

A cloud of uncertainty loomed, and that was what really shook Levi's confidence.

He was not exactly scared for himself. Rather, he was fearful of this great unknown and how that might jeopardize his loved ones.

He knew he could protect Zoey as long as he was by her side.

But there could be times when he might not be able to be with her.

There were many things that could go very wrong, and he was not sure if he could be omniscient enough to come up with a fool-proof counterplan.

Levi grew increasingly vexed.

As he took a deep breath, his unusual countenance made Zoey both worried and curious.

"Darling, are you alright?"

Levi could only force a chuckle as he responded, "Billions of likes? Such a thing can happen?"

Internally, he made up his mind. Rather than waste all his energy worrying, he knew he had to be more drastic this time. Whoever dared to touch his loved ones would meet with a terrible fate.

Even if they tried running, he would hunt them down regardless. And when he managed to do so, he would not hesitate in killing them.

In other words, whoever was bold enough to offend him would be inviting in their own demises.

Zoey's voice snapped him out of his rumination. "The numbers were like that because there was a system error. I met such a thing before too! It's such a shame that I didn't read the majority of the comments... "

Her tone was laced with a tinge of regret as she wished she had read more of the comments before they were gone.

Meanwhile, Levi tried his best to change the subject. With a plastered smile, he replied, "Alright, don't fret about it. Take care of your body and when our baby comes, we can take as many photos as you like!"

Posting photos of one's newborn was the trend now, and Levi could already imagine how Zoey would be constantly doing so once their child was born.

His sole mission now was to ensure that nothing would go wrong until the day of labor came.

The undertaking would be challenging- he would have to nip every danger in its bud while keeping Zoey in the dark about everything.

Most importantly, he had to ensure that not only North Hampton, but the whole of Erudia would be an impenetrable place.

He would not tolerate any trouble.

At this point, he could not help but snigger at how insignificant Tyrone's bet was as compared to his current predicament.

While everyone thought that the Garrison clan was the greatest obstacle he had to overcome, the man knew better; the Garrisons were honestly not worth even a mention.

Instead, the current crisis deserved more of his attention right now. If this fiasco had not happened, he would have been more confident that no mishaps would occur during the pregnancy period. But what was done was done- he could only move on and prepare a contingency plan.

Springing into action, he found Azure Dragon and instructed, "The situation is pretty dire right now. We need to prepare early."