It was said that the Garrison clan ancestral compound used to be a small palace more than a thousand years ago. The size of it was comparable to a small village.

Levi was standing at the top of a mountain overlooking the Garrison clan ancestral compound in all its glory.

He had to admit the compound was built in a prime location. With a large range of mountains behind and beside it, it ensured that any enemies would only be able to attack them from the front. It would be easily defendable.

He sighed, "No wonder they're the most powerful ancient family in Erudia."

"Who dares to trespass onto the Garrison clan's forbidden grounds?"

An old man's voice suddenly called out.

Levi acutely detected someone's breathing and strong aura rapidly closing in on him.

A few seconds later, an old man with a head full of snowy white hair appeared behind him.

Judging from the old man's outward appearance, Levi guessed he was at the very least eighty to ninety years old. Maybe even over a hundred.

But from their close distance, Levi could sense how the old man's blood was still pounding through his veins powerfully. He could almost hear the roaring of it. When the old man shuttered his eyes, it was like the faint rumble of thunder.

He's definitely a very formidable fighter! In fact, I think he might even be on par with Bloodking and his Four Bloodmasters! He's probably the oldest person in the Garrison clan.

"Who are you? You don't look like one of the Garrison clan members," the old man questioned.

Levi grinned and replied, "No, I'm not part of the Garrison clan."

The older man shooed, "Then get out of here, little boy! You shouldn't be here. This is the forbidden grounds of the Garrison clan! Even most of the Garrison clan members are not allowed here!"

Glancing down at the sprawling buildings, Levi sneered. "Isn't the Garrison clan ancestral compound down there? Don't tell me this mountain belongs to you too? This is part of Erudia, a free country. I can go wherever I like. Where I go is none of your business."

He was absolutely furious.

How ridiculous! These people are too used to getting their way and being such tyrants! How can this entire mountain range be considered as part of their clan's forbidden grounds?

The old man bellowed, "What nonsense are you talking about, little boy? Let me be clear with you. This is the forbidden ground of the Garrison clan. Nobody is allowed to trespass here! Anyone who does so will be punished by death!"

Levi chuckled in response. "Oh really? Well, I'm clearly intruding here. What are you going to do about it?"

"You asked for it!" the old man roared before thrusting a palm out toward Levi.

His strike looked weak but there was an undercurrent of energy to it.

Even boulders would shatter underneath the force of this blow. If it were to land on a human, the human would be absolutely annihilated.

With a snort, Levi's fist flew out like a cannonball to meet the old man's palm.

Boom!

The fist and palm collided together, causing a thunderous boom to ring out.

The crashing sound was so loud that down at the Garrison clan ancestral compound, they thought the skies were cracking open with thunder.

"Urk!"

The old man was no match for Levi's punch. Blood sprayed out of his mouth as he went flying back several meters before slamming into the ground heavily.

Disbelief flashed through his eyes.

How can a punch that looks so normal contain such power? And from a man as young as him? It's unbelievable!

The old man stared at Levi with shock.

He was no ordinary old man.

His name was Teneb Garrison, the Guardian of the Oakland City Garrison clan.

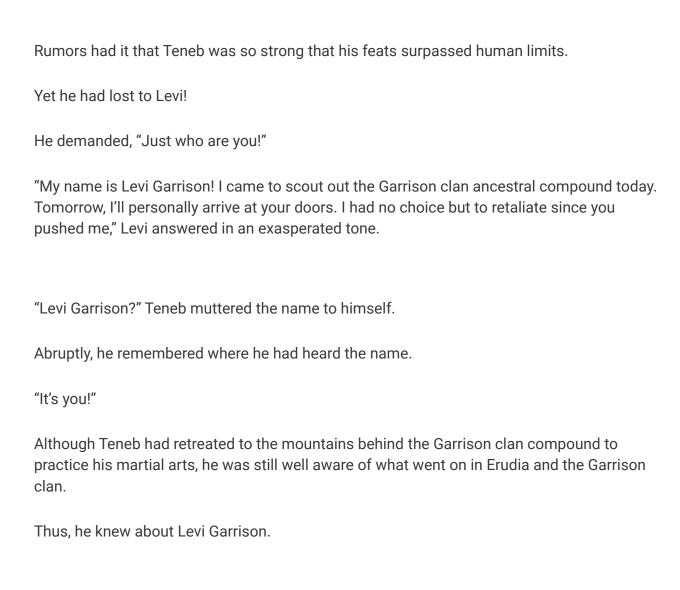
He was the oldest and most powerful person in the clan.

Everyone in the clan referred to him as a living god due to his advanced age – he was 130 years old!

He had experienced the rise and fall of several generations and was respected by all. In the Garrison clan, what he said, went.

Not only that, but he had also been the one who cultivated Damien to be the man he was today. In fact, the top three fighters on the Saber Leaderboard had been trained by him as well!

The most powerful men from the younger generations of the Garrison clan had been taught by him.



Recalling what he knew of the younger man, he could not help but sigh silently.

Damien was known by all to be a genius.

However, when compared to Levi, he was practically nothing.

Just what did the Garrison clan lose out on?

"Alright. I'll be coming over again tomorrow. I hope you won't interfere then. Otherwise, I'll have no choice but to kill you!"

With that said, Levi left.

Meanwhile, the Garrison clan ancestral compound was in an uproar.

Due to the earlier commotion, they realized that something must have happened at the forbidden grounds.

Tyrone and Damien hurried over to see what was wrong.

Tyrone asked, "Elder Teneb, did something happen?"

Instead of actually answering them, Teneb ordered, "Go home!"

Tyrone and Damien exchanged bewildered looks.

Just what was going on?

Something big seemed to be stirring in Oakland City as strange occurrences were happening everywhere.

There were rumors that the imperial family and royal families had gathered together and done something huge.

However, despite being one of the ancient families, the Garrisons had not heard anything about it.

Then there was the fact that Conrad Garcia had been crippled. Unfortunately, they were unable to find any clues about who did it either.

Now, even Teneb was acting strangely...

"Since you're okay, Elder Teneb, we'll be taking our leave."

The father-son pair departed from the forbidden grounds.

Damien felt unease welling within him. "Father, I think something bad is going to happen. I can feel it in my gut!"

Tyrone's expression was grim as he replied, "I get the feeling it's going to be something to do with Levi! That damn jinx really does bring misfortune with him wherever he goes! Only bad things have happened ever since his appearance! I even heard that he's coming here!"

Damien nodded in agreement. "Supposedly, he's coming here tomorrow!"

"Okay then. I'm definitely going to get rid of that damn brat once and for all!"

A murderous glint flickered through Tyrone's eyes as he said that.

On the other side of things, Levi had not gone far from the Garrison clan compound when he suddenly tasted something salty and metallic in his mouth.

The next thing he knew, blood was dribbling from the corner of his lips.

I'm injured?

He had not realized he had been hurt.

That old man really is quite powerful. Luckily, he's only a little stronger than the Bloodking so I can still handle him relatively easily. But how did I get injured?

After a moment of thought, realization dawned on him.

The Bloodking's poison! It must be acting up again!

Cough cough!

At that moment, a wave of weakness washed over him, leaving him feeling extremely feeble.

It was even worse than that hit from Jerry Gott last time.

His earlier fight with that old man had taken more out of him than he thought. He had actually put quite a bit of power behind that punch.

Once again, he forcefully suppressed the poison's toxicity.

After a short while, his body returned to normal.

Since the poison did not seem to be harming him directly, he put the matter out of his mind.

That night, Kirin reported to him, "Sir, the items you requested have already arrived in Oakland City!"

"Alright. Get everything ready. We're going to the Garrison clan ancestral compound tomorrow!"

Early the next morning, Levi brought Emma with him to the Garrison clan ancestral compound.

He also made sure to call Zoey and have her go there as well.

Dale stated in a cold voice, "Fine! Let's go over too. I would like to see him explain all this!"

Thus, Dale brought Zoey and the Lehman family council members to the Garrison clan ancestral compound.
Not only him, the head of the Garcia family, Zed, also brought his council members with him there.
Flynn Hurst, the head of the Hurst family, also went with his council members. The Hursts were another ancient family.
All eight of the ancient families of Oakland City were heading for the Garrison clan ancestral compound.
From the Stuart family, Azure Dragon led his family members there.
The Preston family.
The Meyers family.
The Cuvier family.
In fact, it was like a mass exodus as all the powerful families flocked to the Garrison clan's ancestral compound.
All the imperial, royal, quasi-royal and prominent families were gathering there as well.

Oakland City was in an uproar.

Luxury car after luxury car raced down the streets, all heading in a beeline for the Garrison clan compound.

It was incredibly likely that there would be more than ten thousand people gathered at the compound today.

This was a turnout that the Garrison clan had not expected.

How was it that someone like Levi could manage to cause so many people to arrive?

At the Garrison clan ancestral compound.

Last night, Teneb had sent out an order to all the family members. The members from the Oakland City clan were all to return to the compound within the day. There was something important he had to announce to them.

The entire Garrison clan was in turmoil over that message.

What was even stranger was that even Tyrone had no idea what was happening. This was an order from Elder Teneb himself. Even he, the head of the clan, had to obey the older man.

So all the Garrison clan members had to return to their roots.

Even though it was still morning, most of them had already arrived. The rest were on their way.

"Father, I just received news from Edward. Uncles Yancy, Lyle and Micah are back!" Damien stated.

Tyrone was absolutely delighted at this news.

Yancy, Lyle and Micah were his brothers.

They were also the top three fighters in Erudia's Saber Leaderboard.

Together with Tyrone, they were usually called the Four Dragons of the Garrison clan. They were also the most powerful men in the second generation of the Garrison clan.

Damien held the utmost respect for his three uncles. They had been trained by Elder Teneb himself and learnt everything from him.

Was it any wonder that they had managed to become the top three on the Saber Leaderboard?

That was the dream of countless warriors in Erudia!

Every single fighter thought it an incredible honor to even get onto the leaderboard!

Damien continued with a smile, "Brandon, Greg, Herbert and Hayner are here too!"

Those four men were all from his generation and were each incredibly powerful fighters in their own right. They all had a spot on the Saber Leaderboard as well.

Burt and Lincon, who had been selected to join the Hidden Dragon Soldier King Training Camp, had also returned for the occasion.

However, the last two were not worthy enough for Damien to remember so he did not bother bringing them up.

Tyrone had a puzzled expression on his face. "I wonder what Elder Teneb wants to announce that he needs everyone to come back?"

Furrowing his brows, Damien suggested, "It must have something to do with what happened last night!"

"Then it should be something good, right? Maybe Elder Teneb wants to bring out the family heirloom!" Tyrone guessed.

With how prominent the Garrison clan was right now, there was no way anything bad would happen to them.

Especially since it was the Guardian of the Garrison clan, Teneb, that was making this announcement.

"Yeah, exactly! It must be something good! There can't possibly be anything bad to say!" Damien agreed wholeheartedly.

Tyrone added confidently, "It must be an auspicious occasion for the clan! Is the Elder going to hand something to me? After all, everyone's seen how much I've worked to help this clan prosper!"

Just then, one of the servants rushed inside to inform Tyrone, "Sir, for some reason, there's a lot of people from the other families assembled outside! And their numbers just keep increasing!"

In response, Tyrone grinned happily. "Well, it's normal that the other families will want to be here to witness this wonderful occasion!"

"But that jinx, Levi Garrison, is coming too!"

At the mention of Levi, Tyrone's expression darkened.

How very unfortunate! This is supposed to be a blessed day for the Garrison clan yet that blasted brat is still coming!

A scornful look crossed Damien's face as well.

To him, Levi was a nobody, not even someone worthy of being called an opponent.

Yet he was coming here today of all days!

Damien proposed to his father, "Chasing him away now would only humiliate us before the other families. Perhaps we should see what he wants to do first?"

"Yes."

From his higher position, Tyrone could clearly see the plaza outside the gates. Presently, it was filled with a sea of vehicles and was even expanding as he watched.

He shouted, "Do you see that? This is how powerful the Garrison clan is! More than ten thousand people are here because we're having a major event!"

All the members of the Garrison clan thought everyone was here because of their worship of the Garrisons.

Little did they know, most of the families were not actually here for them.

After a while, all the members of the Oakland City Garrison clan arrived.

"Is Elder Teneb here yet?" Tyrone questioned.

Damien, who had only just returned from the forbidden grounds, replied, "He says he'll appear when it's time."

"Okay! If that's the case, we might as well head outside and deal with Levi first!"

Hence, Tyrone led the council members down to the plaza in front of their gates.

At that moment, the plaza was crammed full of people from all the families. From the ancient families down to the prominent families, every single family came with their representatives and council members. The initially huge plaza was packed tight with the massive crowd.

In truth, most of the people there were completely in the dark about what was happening.

What were they doing here? Was something going to happen here today?

Humans tended to be like a herd of sheep, following what the rest of the flock did.

Since they had heard the other families were coming, they decided to join in too.

The eight ancient families were here to see what Teneb would decide. The Lehman family had a second reason to be there because they wanted to hear Levi's explanation.

Those who knew Levi's true identity were here to support him, of course.

Thus, the crowd could be roughly separated into four groups.

Everyone glanced at each other in confusion.

Tyrone had initially thought these people were here to worship the Garrison clan.

But upon stepping into the plaza, he got the feeling that something was off.

Even he was clueless as to what to do.

"Mr. Garrison! Where's Levi Garrison?"

Dale was the first to break the silence.

Tyrone froze briefly before answering, "Mr. Lehman, Levi is not coming!"

Furious, Dale roared, "You mean that brat tricked us? He's not even going to come?"

Zoey was visibly upset at that.

Bewildered, Tyrone gueried, "Huh? Mr. Lehman, what do you mean by that?"

He was getting more and more confused.

What are these people doing here?

He was oblivious to the fact that Teneb's announcement would have something to do with Levi and that was the reason why everyone was here.

"That brat said he would give my goddaughter an explanation today here at the Garrison clan ancestral compound! That's why we're here!" Dale retorted loudly.

Tyrone snapped back furiously, "But Levi isn't here! I think he probably lied to you. There's no way he dares to come here! If he does, I'll make sure he won't be able to leave this place alive!"

"Hahaha!"

Suddenly, the sound of cheerful laughter rang out.

"Levi Garrison is here!" someone shouted.

Like the Red Sea that parted before Moses, the crowd split down the middle to allow a path for Levi.

Levi strode forward with a tense Emma close behind. Kirin and the other four were also following Levi.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

The ground seemed to tremble under everyone's feet.

The cause for the mini earthquake was Black Tortoise, who was carrying a coffin and a gravestone on his back.

Thump! Thump!

He threw the coffin and the gravestone on the ground before the Garrison clan compound's gates.

Then, it was clear these were the exact same coffin and gravestone that Damien had sent to Levi previously.

Levi was returning them to him!

Everyone was shocked by this sight.

Just how outrageous and arrogant must Levi be to bring a coffin and gravestone to the home of the most powerful ancient family in Erudia?

This was a deliberate provocation!

Damien's eyebrows twitched as his face reddened in fury.

He recognized those two items.

Does he mean to return them to me? Insolent b*****d!

Tyrone was even more enraged.

He had thought Levi was here to beg him, but it was obvious now that the younger man was here to cause a scene.

How dare a bastard child like him taunt the most powerful ancient family in Erudia?

Thousands of pairs of eyes were focused on Levi.

Zoey's emotions were all over the place at seeing him again.

Even though she had not gotten an explanation from him yet, the fact that he had come here already proved his courage.

"Wow, it's so lively here! It's even more crowded than last year during our bet!"

Tyrone guffawed before asking, "Levi Garrison, what are you doing here?"

Levi did not answer the man. Instead, he turned to his mother and stated, "Mom, I brought you here today so you may get an explanation from Tyrone and the Garrison clan! Ask them! Ask them why they abandoned you back then!"

Emma jerked at her son's words before trembling. Her eyes were shining with tears as various emotions played across her face.

The day she had been wishing and praying for so many years had finally arrived!

Next, Levi turned to look at Zoey. "Zoey, I promise I'll give you a satisfactory explanation today! I definitely won't be like Tyrone Garrison and abandon my wife and child!"

"Levi..." Zoey murmured softly while tears trailed down her cheeks silently.

At last, Levi fixed his gaze on Tyrone and Damien. "Today, I, Levi Garrison, will destroy the Garrison clan. I'll show everyone just how weak and powerless the so-called most powerful ancient family in Erudia is before me!"

The moment those words left his lips, everybody present burst into loud, mocking laughter.

The Garrison clan members even threw their heads back as they roared with laughter.

They were utterly astounded that Levi thought he could take them on all alone!

As they had said before, the Garrison clan had more than a thousand years' worth of power and resources behind it. It had gotten to its position today due to generations worth of hard work!

Was it possible that they would lose to Levi?

There was a small chance.

However, it was like a one in a million chance.

"Hahaha! Interesting! How very interesting!"

Tyrone had always been amused to see people he deemed as insignificant trying to act tough before him. It was like an ant saying it was powerful before a dragon.

"Emma, I'm eager to see just what kind of ability your son has today!"

With that said, Tyrone's expression chilled. "Titus?"

"Yes, Sir?"

Titus, one of the Garrison clan's youngest guards, stepped forward.

He was also one of the challengers for last year's bet.

"Defeat him!" Tyrone ordered.

Boom!

Titus instantly stomped his feet on the ground, leaving two deep imprints.

Leaping into the air, Titus threw a vicious punch at Levi.

The force behind his punch caused the wind to whistle past his fist. Everyone could distinctly feel the heat generated from it as it felt like razor blades slashing at their faces.

Being able to achieve such power at a young age, Titus was a true genius when it came to martial arts.

"Too weak!" Levi commented softly.

Wham!

His leg flashed upward to land a kick into Titus' abdomen, sending the man flying back.

Thud!

After more than a dozen meters, Titus finally crashed into one of the stone lions guarding the gates. Slumping to the ground, he did not get up again.

Everybody was utterly dumbfounded!

None of the Garrison clan members had expected Levi to be a martial arts expert as well!

Even Emma had not known that.

"T-This..."

The expressions on the Garrison clan members' faces were grim.

"He's too weak! I want to fight your strongest!" Levi hollered at Tyrone while staring straight into his eyes.