

## R Cultivator 246

### Chapter 246: Serena's Heart Replacement

"What the heck?" Tyler murmured, narrowing his eyes.

The situation had taken an absurd turn, and even Tyler, found it hard to wrap his head around the chain of events.

The reason behind the sudden chaos was surprisingly simple. The cloning facility from the nearby country, had abruptly halted operations.

Word had spread that their boss's husband had sold off their family museum in another country. Their boss the chief doctor went to look for him. She also gave all the staff an unexpected paid leave

"Why did things turn out like this?" Hawk muttered, her voice laced with irritation. Her mouth twitched as she tried to process the absurdity of it all.

What Hawk didn't realize, however, was that the mysterious buyer of the museum—the one indirectly responsible for this domino effect—was none other than Tyler himself.

Tyler looked up at the sky. The moon was really bright today.

Lily looked up at the sky. It was noon.

The sun was scorching.

He could not understand why Tyler was staring at the sun. Didn't his eyes hurt?

"Alright... let's go to another one," Lily said quickly changing the topic. The continent has many cloning facilities. Even their academy has one. But because of vice principal, they decided not to go there.

Hawk, hovering behind Tyler and Lily, nodded and activated the Waypoint Terminal. The device hummed with energy as it opened a glowing portal before them. The swirling gateway shimmered, showing a way to their next destination.

As they prepared to step through, Hawk glanced at her wristwatch, which doubled as the control mechanism for the Waypoint Terminal. A small crack on the watch's surface caught her attention, but she dismissed it as minor damage. It happens sometimes.

The portal closed behind them as they entered, leaving no trace of their departure.

Tyler, Lily, and Hawk emerged on a small, lonely island surrounded by nothing but endless seawater. The sky above was clear, and the salty breeze carried the sound of waves gently lapping against the land.

"This isn't right," Hawk muttered, immediately scanning the surroundings. Her watch emitted faint sparks before going completely dark.

"Someone sabotaged the terminal," she said grimly. "We've been sent to the wrong place."

Tyler glanced around, his sharp instincts already on edge. "How bad is it?"

Hawk inspected the broken Waypoint Terminal watch, her expression darkening. "It's over. I don't think I can fix it. We need to find the nearest city or settlement."

Tyler wasn't paying attention to Hawk's complaints. Instead, he was focused on the ground beneath his feet.

She checked her communication watch, hoping for a signal. The screen remained blank. "No signal either. Great."

Lily stood still as well, her gaze locked on the land. Her usually playful demeanor had turned somber.

Hawk noticed their behavior and frowned. "What's going on? What are you two thinking?"

Something felt off.

"What happens if a Sea Titan wakes up?" Tyler interrupted, his voice calm but laced with tension.

"If Tyler could save only one of us, would it be me or you?" Lily added, her voice unnervingly light given the situation.

Hawk blinked in confusion. "What are you two talking about? Sea Titan? Where—"

Then she noticed it.

The "island" they were standing on wasn't land. The surface beneath them was rough, uneven, and warm. Patterns resembling massive scales stretched out in all directions.

Her heart dropped. "Oh no."

The realization hit her like a tidal wave. They weren't standing on an island. They were standing on the back of a Sea Titan.

Tyler crouched down, placing a hand on the "ground." He could feel the faint, rhythmic vibrations of the Titan's breathing.

"It's sleeping," he said quietly.

"For now," Lily added, her voice equally hushed.

A few minutes later, Tyler and his companions carefully paddled away from the Sea Titan in a small, rickety rowboat they had hastily constructed. The sound of each oar slicing through the water felt unnaturally loud in the stillness of the sea.

The decision to avoid using any advanced transportation vehicle wasn't made lightly. They knew any sudden burst of energy or noise could risk waking the colossal creature. None of them were willing to gamble with their lives, not after the terrifying sight of the Titan stirring beneath their feet.

Tyler kept his focus on the horizon, his arms steady as he rowed. Hawk and Lily mirrored his movements in silence, the tension hanging heavily in the air. Only when they reached what Tyler deemed a safe distance did he pause and let out a long breath.

"Alright, that should be far enough," he said, looking back at the faint outline of the Titan, now barely visible against the vast ocean.

Tyler stood up and reached into his storage device. A faint glow surrounded his hand as he accessed the spatial tool, its unique design allowing him to retrieve objects of considerable size.

With a swift motion, Tyler pulled out a massive flying boat, its sleek, elegant design shimmering as it materialized above the water. The craft gently descended, its advanced arrays humming softly as it floated just above the surface.

Hawk's jaw dropped. "You've got to be kidding me," she said.

Lily crossed her arms, a mischievous grin spreading across her face. "Show-off," she teased.

Tyler ignored the comments and climbed aboard, motioning for the others to follow.

As they ascended to the boat's deck, Hawk couldn't help herself. "Okay, seriously. Why do you have almost everything in your storage device?"

She gestured dramatically at the flying boat, the rowboat they had just abandoned, and the numerous gadgets Tyler had pulled out in the past. "Is there anything you don't have in there?"

Lily chuckled. "It's Tyler. I wouldn't be surprised if he had a floating fortress hidden in that thing."

Hawk turned to Tyler, her curiosity only growing. "Also, what's the size of your storage device? It's got to be massive to hold something like this."

Tyler smirked but didn't answer. He couldn't tell them the truth—that his storage device was custom-made using rare, ancient arrays and materials. It wasn't something you could find in the market, and its capacity was so vast it could store multiple flying boats.

Tyler and the others arrived at a small island as the sun dipped below the horizon, casting an amber glow over the sea. The island, though modest in size, was bustling with activity, with flickering lanterns lining the streets and the faint hum of a teleportation hub audible in the distance.

"Finally," Hawk sighed, stretching her arms. "Solid ground again. No Titans underfoot this time, right?"

Tyler chuckled but didn't reply. He was already reaching for his communication watch as it buzzed on his wrist.

The caller is Mathilda. After informing about what happened to Mathilda, Tyler ended the call.

Tyler, Lily, and Hawk headed straight to the teleportation hub. The facility was surprisingly efficient, and the attendants processed their request quickly.

"This time, no sabotaged teleportation, right?" Hawk said, eyeing the equipment cautiously.

Tyler gave her a reassuring nod. "We're good. Let's go."

In a flash of light, a faint hum resonated, the trio teleported to their intended destination—a sprawling city with towering spires and bustling streets. They didn't waste time, heading directly to the cloning facility.

By the time they returned to the hospital, the cloned heart was safely stored in a preservation capsule. The doctor met them in the lobby, his expression shifting from surprise to relief as he saw Tyler gently placing a precious cargo.

This one is filled with arrays and runes. No matter what happened outside, the inside will stay stable.

The surgeon also arrived. Everything was set.

As the heart was prepared for the procedure, the trio reflected on the earlier sabotage.

"Why would someone go through so much trouble to sabotage the teleportation terminal?" Hawk asked, still irked by the ordeal.

"They were probably trying to delay us," Lily speculated. "If we had taken too long, the Time Stopper capsule might have run out of fuel, and we wouldn't have been able to keep her stable."

"But they underestimated something," Tyler said, his voice steady.

"What's that?" Hawk asked, looking at him.

Lily smirked, crossing her arms. "They underestimated Tyler's wealth."

Tyler chuckled at her comment but didn't argue. "Well that's my biggest strength."

As the medical staff worked to transplant the cloned heart, Tyler, Lily, Mathilda, Hawk, Silvia, Darla and Astrid waited in the hospital lounge. The atmosphere was tense but hopeful.

Hawk leaned back in her seat, her mind still on the events of the day. "I still can't believe we made it through all that. From Sea Titans to sabotaged portals... it's like something out of a nightmare."

Lily nodded, her expression softening. "Yeah, but it's over now. And the important thing is, we got what we needed. She's going to make it."

Two hours later, the surgery room opened.

The doctor came out with frustrated expression.

"The Surgery failed..." The doctor sighed.

#### Chapter 247: Reunion with Mana

"We can only keep her alive inside the capsule until we find another solution," Tyler said gravely.

The group had already returned to the Elite Academy of Magic and Technology, where Serena's condition remained dire. Inside the Time Freezing Capsule, Serena floated peacefully, her life preserved for now by the machine, which was powered by both Aura and Prana Stones.

Tyler handed a storage device filled to the brim with the stones to GG, his expression unreadable.

"Your only task is to take care of Serena," Tyler said. His tone left no room for negotiation, though GG didn't need any convincing.

GG accepted the device with a solemn nod. She understood the gravity of her responsibility. Serena's current suffering was, after all, partially her fault.

When GG opened the storage device, her eyes widened in shock. The sheer number of Aura and Prana Stones inside was staggering, far exceeding her expectations. Even with her divine sense, she couldn't gauge the full extent of the wealth it contained.

Tyler didn't wait for her reaction. He turned and strode out of the room, his mind already on the next steps.

Behind him, A formation activated around the room, totally concealing it.

Waiting for him outside was Professor Ellen, a middle-aged woman wearing a veil with an air of authority and a presence that turned heads. Her figure, especially her ample chest, only added to her commanding aura. She had been one of the interviewers during admission interview, sitting alongside the Principal and Vice Principal.

Ellen had the third-highest authority in the academy, teaching both Technology and Elements. Her dual expertise made her an invaluable figure within the institution.

"Thank you for your help, Professor Ellen," Tyler said, bowing respectfully.

"It's nothing," Ellen replied with a warm smile. "You're a friend of Elowen, after all. Helping you was the least I could do."

Tyler blinked in surprise. "You know Elowen?"

"She's my daughter," Ellen said casually, enjoying the momentary shock on Tyler's face.

Elowen is the witch in the south, who studies Stars and Planets. Elowen helped him to form a contract with Mathilda to keep her from leaking the secret.

"You're her mother?" Tyler asked, his surprise evident.

His gaze slightly shifted to her breast.

'Yub she is not kidding.' He thought.

Ellen chuckled softly. "I am. But let's not dwell on that. I didn't do much to help you today. The real credit goes to the Principal. He's the one who restrained the Vice Principal. I was merely escorting you all."



Tyler's curiosity got the better of him. "If the Principal has always been able to keep the Vice Principal in check, why did the Vice Principal try to kill Serena now?"

Ellen's expression darkened slightly. "It's because of you."

"Me?"

"The Vice Principal harbors a deep grudge against Serena's family," Ellen explained. "Years ago, during Project T, her father accidentally caused the death of the Vice Principal's son. It was a tragic accident, but the Vice Principal never forgave him. He's been waiting for an opportunity to see Serena's family suffer."

"Serena only survived this long because the academy is protected by Immortal-Level Arrays. Those arrays made it nearly impossible for him to act openly. But now, with you involved, she might get enough funding to continue her project. That's why he acted now."

Tyler absorbed the information in silence, his expression thoughtful.

"So," Ellen said after a pause, "what are you planning to do next?"

Tyler's gaze was steady as he replied, "First, I'm going to rebuild this academy's facilities. Then, I'll find a way to bring Head Serena back to consciousness. I won't stop until she's on her feet again."

Ellen's eyes gleamed with interest. "There might be a way to help her walk again. But... it's not a cure."

Tyler leaned forward, his curiosity piqued. "What's the solution?"

Ellen smiled knowingly, her confidence unmistakable. "Don't forget—I'm a Professor of Technology, too."

She crossed her arms under her chest, emphasizing her assets. The motion caused the two "giant things," as Tyler privately referred to them, to jiggle slightly.

For a brief moment, Tyler's eyes flicked downward, unable to resist the distraction. Ellen noticed but said nothing, her mischievous smile growing wider.

"W-what is the solution?" Tyler asked again.

"Hmm... Call me after you've renovated the academy," Professor Ellen said, her voice laced with mischief. "I'll bring those devices. Oh, and don't forget—you have to pay for them."

With a wink, she turned and left, her confident stride echoing through the corridors.

After sending off Ellen, Tyler wandered back toward the lab. As he walked, his eyes caught on scattered debris along the way.

"Hmm? Where's the canteen?" he muttered, scratching his head in confusion.

It was odd—he had clearly remembered the canteen being nearby, but now it seemed like the space had been entirely demolished during the academy renovations.

Shaking his head, he decided to head back. Inside the lab, Darla was busy preparing dinner. The aroma of freshly cooked food filled the air as Zuzia, in her adorable cat form, sat beside her like a well-behaved kitten. Her folded wings added an extra touch of charm.

Tyler joined the girls at the table, and they ate together in comfortable silence.

"Looks like it's time to focus on expanding our business on the continent," Tyler announced after they finished dinner.

Lily raised an eyebrow, then leaned back in her chair. "Ah... It's been a year since we joined the academy," she mused aloud, her voice tinged with nostalgia.

Tyler nodded in agreement. "Yeah... We need to finish everything we can this year because once the third year starts, we won't be able to leave the academy easily."

He wasn't wrong. The academy's curriculum for third and fourth years was entirely different. During those years, students were thrust into specialized environments designed to teach them everything. Leaving the academy grounds would become nearly impossible.

"It's been a year... So that means..." Mathilda began, her voice trailing off.

Tyler smiled faintly, knowing exactly what she was getting at. "That's right. Our merchant ship should be reaching the continent soon. And it's time for me to go back and pick up Mana."

A month passed swiftly. The academy was bustling with activity, as renovations were in full swing. Construction crews worked tirelessly to restore damaged facilities, while others expanded the academy grounds.

It wasn't just the academy itself that saw changes. Tyler had discovered that the vast desert surrounding the academy also belonged to its jurisdiction. Deciding to make full use of the land, he hired professionals to transform the barren expanse into a sprawling garden, complete with streams, lakes, and lush greenery.

The project was ambitious, but Tyler spared no expense. His vision was clear: the academy would become a sanctuary of both knowledge and beauty.

Once the major groundwork was underway, Tyler decided to leave the academy for a brief trip. His destination: Cedar Island.

Arriving at the island, Tyler stepped out of the teleportation hub and immediately felt a rush of wind. Before he could react, a large figure leapt toward him and enveloped him in a warm hug.

It was Mana—in her true form.

Her hands spread wide, casting a shadow over him, while her radiant smile lit up her face. She held Tyler tightly, as if afraid to let go.

"Welcome back," she said, her voice soft yet filled with emotion.

Tyler couldn't help but smile back. "I'm back."

#### Chapter 248: Crossing the Boundaries

"What is this? It tastes amazing," Tyler said, savoring the crisp and refreshing taste of the cool drink.

"Taka made it," Mana replied, her voice sweet and lively as she lounged nearby in her usual loli form.

"When Taka first drank a carbonated drink, he became inspired," she continued. "After experimenting for a whole year, he perfected this recipe."

Tyler took another sip, his curiosity piqued. "What's in it? The flavor is so unique."

Mana grinned, clearly eager to share. "It's made from mineral water sourced from under the snowy mountains. This water is tempered by thousand-year-old volcanic rock. It's filtered through the earth for centuries before emerging as a cold spring, pure and refreshing. The honey comes from bees that collect pollen from a rare spiritual flower called the 'Ice Heart Flower.' It's known for enhancing concentration and promoting a sense of calm."

Tyler raised his eyebrows. "The lemon flavor is a nice touch."

"Ah, the lemons," Mana said, her eyes sparkling. "They're from a strain cultivated for over a hundred years. Through precise control of temperature and light, Taka managed to grow the perfect lemons."

"Alright, alright, I get it," Tyler interrupted, holding up a hand to stop her barrage of facts. "So, does this mean you're planning to start a cool drink company?"

Mana chuckled, a mischievous glint in her eyes. "You're right. Mana is thinking of launching it as a premium product. It'll blow everything else out of the market."

Tyler leaned back, amused. "What about the revenge plan you were so focused on? Weren't you staying on this island to take down the Woodcutter Association?"

Mana waved dismissively. "Oh, that's already in motion. You underestimated Mana, Tyler. The Woodcutter Association is suffering huge losses."

She smiled smugly as she explained her strategy.

A year prior, Tyler had invested in some of the most expensive arrays available—advanced magical tools designed to accelerate cedar tree growth. Using his legendary copper pot, he replicated the arrays in bulk, creating a surplus of tools for Mana to use.

Mana implemented the arrays to cultivate cedar trees at an unprecedented rate, selling them at half the price of the Woodcutter Association's usual rates. Unable to compete, the association began losing clients to Mana's operation.

To make matters worse for the association, their own growth arrays mysteriously broke down on multiple occasions, sabotaging their efforts.

The head of the Woodcutter Association, Qiao Fu, was livid. He had sworn to find and destroy whoever was behind the sabotage. Unfortunately for him, Mana was untouchable.

Before leaving the island, Tyler had hired Grandmaster-level adventurers to protect Mana and her operations. With such powerful guards watching over her, Qiao Fu couldn't act rashly.

"Well," Mana admitted, "we're in a bit of a deadlock now. They're hanging on, but only barely. Situ and his wife have been a great help. Mana made him the manager of the business."

"Situ got married?" Tyler asked, surprised.

Mana nodded. "Yup. He married Crystal."

"And he didn't invite me to the wedding?" Tyler muttered, feigning offense.

Mana laughed. "There wasn't a wedding, technically. Crystal... uh... knocked him up at a drinking party. A few weeks later, she told him she was pregnant, so they decided to tie the knot quickly without a big ceremony."

Tyler sighed and shook his head. "Women are scary."

As they talked, Tyler noticed movement out of the corner of his eye. A grey-skinned girl was peeking at him from the edge of the room, her gaze shy yet curious.

"Isha," Tyler called out.

The girl stepped into the room, her movements graceful and deliberate. She wore a maid's outfit, and as she approached, she bowed politely to Tyler like a proper servant.

"You trained her as maid?," Tyler whispered to Mana, impressed by Isha's demeanor.

Mana chuckled. "Not really. She just wants to be useful. She's surprisingly good at managing business matters. Probably because she used to sell weeds in her village before joining us."

Isha blushed. After seeing the business at this scale. She felt Mana is teasing her.

Tyler nodded. He recalled how Isha brought him to her home and displayed all the weeds.

"Isha, close the door," Mana said suddenly, her tone playful yet commanding. "Since it's been so long since we've seen Tyler, let's 'eat him up.'"

Isha's eyes lit up, her shyness vanishing in an instant.

Without hesitation, she darted to the door, shutting it with startling speed. Before Tyler could react, the lock clicked into place.

And then, as if she had teleported, Isha appeared right in front of him. Her lithe frame moved with fluid precision, and before Tyler could say a word, she was on top of him, her lips pressing firmly against his.

Mana smirked, watching the scene unfold with amusement. "What? It's been a while. Don't act like you don't enjoy the attention."

Isha, unperturbed, leaned in again, her gaze unwavering. "Master Tyler," she whispered, her voice soft but resolute, "I've missed you."

Tyler's mind raced.

Mana stood silently for a moment, then smiled mischievously and began to remove her dress. The silken fabric slipped from her shoulders, pooling at her feet, revealing her petite frame.

"Huh... Can you change back into your adult form?" Tyler asked, his voice carrying a mix of surprise and exasperation.

Mana tilted her head playfully. "Then you do the same," she whispered, her tone sultry.

With a faint sigh, Tyler activated the Phantom Mask. The mask activated, transforming his appearance into that of his 18-year-old self, tall and lean with sharp features.

Satisfied, Mana closed her eyes, her small figure shifting and growing. In moments, she transformed into her true form—a stunning, statuesque woman with a mature elegance.

"You have grown a little." Tyler said and looked at breast.

"If you want Mana can be in Petite body with this same breast." she whispered.

Tyler gulped and said, "well we can try that later."

When they turned to face each other, the air between them grew heavier, charged with anticipation.

For the first time, they realized how monumental this moment was. Though Mana had used her mouth to satisfy Tyler many times before. This time, they both decided to step beyond the boundaries they had danced around for so long.

The room was dimly lit, the air thick with warmth and the lingering hum of magic.

Isha lay sprawled on the floor nearby, her breathing uneven as she tried to regain her strength. Her grey skin was flushed, and her limbs felt like jelly.

"Ah... They're still going..." she murmured weakly, glancing toward the bed. Her voice was barely audible, tinged with disbelief and exhaustion. Moments later, she succumbed to sleep, unable to keep her eyes open any longer.

On the bed, Mana and Tyler finally began to slow. Their energy, once boundless, had finally waned as the night crept closer.

As the first faint streaks of moonlights filtered into the room, Tyler and Mana lay entwined, their bodies pressed close. Both were bare, their forms illuminated by the soft glow.

Mana shifted, turning to face Tyler. Her expression was one of pure contentment, a smile playing at the corners of her lips.

"You're awake," she said softly, brushing a stray lock of hair from his face.

Tyler's eyes fluttered open, and he smiled back. "You're the one who moved first," he teased, his voice warm with affection.



For a moment, they simply stared at each other, the silence between them comfortable and intimate.

Mana tilted her head, her hair shimmering faintly in the moonlights filtering through the curtains. "So, what happened on your side?" she asked, her voice carrying both curiosity and amusement.

Tyler sighed, leaning back against the headboard. "It's been a busy year at the academy," he began, recounting his experiences. "I've been working on multiple projects, renovating the academy facilities, and dealing with troublesome people like the Vice Principal. That aside, I've started planning a major expansion for our business. There's no time to waste if we want to grow."

Mana listened quietly, her playful demeanor giving way to genuine interest. She nodded occasionally, her eyes focused only on him.

"Now that I'm here, I need your help," Tyler continued, his tone more serious. "We need to deal with Qiao Fu and the Woodcutter Association. Let's finish this within a week."

Mana raised an eyebrow at his confidence but didn't question it. She knew Tyler's capabilities well enough to understand he wasn't bluffing. Instead, she offered a sly smile and shrugged. "If you say so. Mana will help. But Mana got the information that you were fooling around with new girls."

Tyler mouth twitched, "Who is the snitch?"

"Tsk... No one... Mana lied. You just confessed." Mana smirked.

"..." Tyler was speechless

## Chapter 249: Mana's Bodyguard

The sun rose, casting its golden light across the trees and buildings of Cedar Island, transforming the misty morning into a vibrant canvas. The shimmering rays, however, failed to elicit the usual awe from Tyler White.

Standing in the balcony, Tyler's lips twitched as he observed the sunrise. Ever since he learned that this sun was a mere projection of the real one from the distant North, the allure of watching it felt hollow. It was beautiful, yes, but artificial, like admiring a masterpiece painting and knowing it wasn't the original.

His gaze lingered a moment longer, the soft golden hues reflecting in his deep-set eyes, and then he turned away. The growing desire to venture further North burned within him, a flame that no imitation could extinguish.

Today, however, held other plans. Tyler and Mana were heading to the Cedar Garden, a sprawling forest cultivated specifically for its unique, mystical Cedar Trees.

According to Mana, this garden was their property where they cut matured Cedar Tree for production

As they approached the dense, verdant expanse, Tyler turned to Mana, curiosity piqued. "So, what makes these trees so different?" he asked.

Mana, walking gracefully beside him in her adult form, offered a cryptic smile. "You'll see soon enough. But let's just say they're not your average Cedar Trees."

The pair was accompanied by three bodyguards—adventurers whom Mana had recruited to ensure their safety. They kept a vigilant watch on their surroundings, their postures tense yet disciplined.

The first was Hart, a towering giant of a man standing over seven feet tall and weighing nearly 500 pounds. His broad shoulders and tree trunk-like limbs gave him an imposing presence.

The second was Reva, a petite elf with a mischievous glint in her emerald eyes. Though small in stature, she carried herself with a confidence that suggested her size was far from a limitation. A small, circular shield rested on her back, its surface etched with intricate runes.

Finally, there was Gru, a strikingly handsome man with perfectly sculpted muscles that seemed to belong more to a legendary hero than a humble adventurer. A massive sword was strapped to his back, its hilt gleaming ominously in the morning light.

Tyler had only recently met these three. Mana had recruited them while he was away at the Academy. Though they treated him with deference, they were clearly curious about him. After all, their boss Mana had introduced him as "the Big Boss" and hinted that he was absurdly wealthy—a fact that elicited both respect and skepticism from the trio.

As they ventured deeper into the forest, the Cedar Trees came into view. Towering and majestic, they appeared at first glance to be no different from ordinary trees. Their thick trunks were covered in rough, dark bark, and their branches spread wide, creating a dense canopy above.

Tyler stopped, his gaze fixed on one of the trees. A small bird fluttered down from the sky, landing delicately on a branch. The moment its tiny claws made contact, the branch moved.

"Wait—what's happening?" Tyler muttered, narrowing his eyes.

The branch twisted unnaturally, its bark-like surface splitting to reveal vine-like tendrils that lashed out, ensnaring the bird. The tendrils constricted with frightening speed, crushing the helpless creature into a mist of blood and feathers.

Tyler slightly suprised . "That... was unexpected," he said, his voice carefully neutral.

He understood that these trees are forming as demon.

Mana chuckled softly, her tone far too casual for Tyler's liking. "They will be harvested in few days. These trees are a bit temperamental. Don't worry, though—they're not dangerous to people."

Reva, the elf, stepped forward with a confident grin. "Exactly. They only react to small animals and birds. It's perfectly safe as long as you're—"

Before she could finish her sentence, one of the trees behind her sprang to life. Its branches extended like serpents, snaking toward her with startling speed.

"Ahhh!" Reva let out a startled scream as the branches wrapped around her, lifting her off the ground.

"..."

"..."

Both Tyler and Mana were speechless.

The branches extended like Tentacles and tore her dress. Her legs were opened forcefully and one of the branches entered her pants.

"aaan...." She moaned.

"..."

"..."

Suddenly a fireball flew and blasted the branches.

"Ouch... I forgot that these trees likes to suck blood when they are hungry." Reva murmured.

Tyler blinked slowly, his expression shifting from confusion to incredulity as he stared at Hart. The giant man, built like a fortress, grinned sheepishly.

"I'm the mage of this group," Hart said, as though it was the most natural thing in the world.

Before Tyler could process that, Gru, the swordsman, stepped forward. With a fluid motion, he unsheathed his massive blade, holding it aloft. A faint white glow surrounded the weapon, and in an instant, a wave of soothing energy washed over Reva.

The petite elf, still sitting on the ground with her tattered clothes and pale complexion, gasped as the spell took effect. Her injuries disappeared, and the color returned to her cheeks. More impressively, the drained sensation caused by the tree's blood-sucking branches vanished, leaving her feeling revitalized.

Gru gave a confident smirk, resting the sword on his shoulder. "I'm the healer," he said simply, as though that explained everything.

"... You're the healer?" Tyler repeated.

Gru nodded. "That's right. My sword channels healing magic. Pretty cool, right?"

Before Tyler could respond, Reva jumped to her feet, brushing herself off. Despite her clothes being shredded in several places from the tree's attack, she stood tall, her chest puffed out in a gesture of defiance.

"And I'm the close-combat warrior!" she declared, patting the small shield strapped to her back. "My shield can block almost anything, and I'm excellent at protecting others. So don't worry, Big Boss, I've got you covered."

Tyler's eyes darted between the three of them—Hart, the oversized mage; Gru, the healer who wielded a blade large enough to cleave mountains; and Reva, the pint-sized elf who served as the group's tank.

"So let me get this straight," Tyler said slowly, his voice laced with bemusement. "The guy who looks like he should be a tank is a mage. The guy with a sword is a healer. And the petite elf is the tank."

Reva gave an enthusiastic nod. "Exactly!"

Adventures have different roles in their team. But this is the first time Tyler adventures like this. You really can't judge a book by its cover.

Meanwhile inside the Cedar Garden,

"The targets are here..." Some people wearing black clothes said.

Behind them the woodcutter Association head Qiao Fu and his wife is also among them.

"Today we will definitely kill that Bi-tch." He sneered.

## Chapter 250: Battle at the Cedar Garden

"For the past year, that Bltch has tormented me in business. Even though they're not making any profit by selling at half the price, they've taken all our customers!" Qiao Fu, the head of the Woodcutter Association, growled through gritted teeth, his fists clenching tightly.

"Let's kill her in this garden and feed her to these blood-sucking cedars," he continued, his voice filled with venom. The men around him, clad in black cloaks, nodded silently. There were at least twenty of them, all Grandmaster-level warriors and mage. Their cloaks were enchanted to conceal their presence, blending seamlessly into the surrounding environment. Even to the naked eye, they were nearly invisible, their camouflage rendering them like shadows in the night.

"How many targets?" Qiao Fu's wife asked, her voice soft yet commanding. She appeared to be in her mid-twenties, her charm undeniable. Her striking features and graceful figure contrasted starkly with the situation at hand.

"Three Grandmasters," one of the cloaked men replied. "There's also another individual whose strength is concealed by an artifact. We can't determine his level."

"Tsk," Qiao Fu sneered. "Even if he's a Grandmaster, it doesn't matter. We have twenty on our side. Let's see how he can escape."

"Understood, sir. We'll wait until they reach the ambush point," the cloaked man affirmed.

The group remained silent, hidden among the cedar trees. Moments later, the faint sound of voices reached them. Mana and Tyler were chatting as they strolled through the garden.

"How do you plan to deal with Qiao Fu?" Mana asked casually, her tone light but her gaze sharp.

"At first, I thought about seducing his wife and poisoning him," Tyler said with a sigh. "But we don't have time for that."

"..." Qiao Fu, hidden in the shadows, froze, his eyes narrowing in fury.

Qiao Fu's wife stiffened, unsure how to react. She turned her face away, her expression caught between embarrassment and unease.

"Why are you sighing?" Mana asked with a small smile.

"Well, let's be honest. His wife is stunning, sexy and he looks like..." Tyler paused for dramatic effect before continuing, "...an animal ?. It's like giving a garland of flowers to a Monkey."

Mana couldn't help but chuckle, her laughter light and melodic. The bodyguards nearby also stifled their amusement. Even Qiao Fu, despite his rising anger, let out an involuntary snicker before his rage took over.

Qiao Fu's wife unconsciously laughed a little.

Slap!

Qiao Fu's hand came down hard across his wife's face, leaving a visible red mark on her pale skin.

"What are you laughing at, you useless slut—!" he barked, his voice dripping with cruelty.

His wife covered her face, tears brimming in her eyes. This wasn't the first time she had faced his wrath, and she knew it wouldn't be the last.

"Enough waiting! Let's kill them!" Qiao Fu roared, unable to contain his fury. His men surged forward, their cloaks fluttering as they emerged from the shadows.

"Oh... Looks like the taunt worked," Tyler said, smirking. Mana had already detected the intruders earlier, alerting Tyler through divine sense. Guessing it was Qiao Fu, Tyler had deliberately provoked him.

As the black-cloaked men advanced, Tyler and Mana remained calm, standing still. They didn't move a muscle, leaving the fight to their bodyguards.

Reva stepped forward, her small shield strapped to her back suddenly expanding into a massive, glowing orange barrier. It floated before her, shimmering with magical energy. She grasped the shield's handle with both hands and lunged forward, vanishing in a blur of motion. In an instant, she reappeared in front of three attackers, her shield crashing into them with a deafening boom. The last thing they saw was the brilliant orange glow before they were sent flying into the trees.

Another cloaked figure appeared to Reva's side, his blade raised to strike. Before he could react, a searing blue fireball exploded against his face, hurling him backward. Hart, stood at a distance, his wand glowing faintly as he prepared another spell.

Meanwhile, Gru, a towering swordsman— no, the healer who heals with sword, raised his blade high. Light radiated from its edge, illuminating the area and dispelling the cloaks' enchantments. One by one, the hidden enemies were revealed, their forms shimmering back into visibility.

Surrounded by so many Grandmaster-level opponents, the bodyguards felt a momentary pang of fear.

"Well, well, well. Looks like we've got some trapped rabbits here," Qiao Fu sneered, his voice dripping with mockery.

Tyler, however, didn't respond. His attention wasn't on Qiao Fu at all—it was on the striking woman standing behind him. His calm demeanor further enraged Qiao Fu, who had been expecting fear. He didn't expect him to oolge at his wife in front of him.

"You dare ignore me?" Qiao Fu's voice rose, and his mask of composure shattered. Fury took over, and he bellowed, "Kill them! Attack at once!"

The mages accompanying him immediately began casting spells, unleashing a barrage of magical attacks. The warriors followed suit, their weapons gleaming under the faint moonlight as they charged forward.



Tyler's bodyguards—Reva, Gru, and Hart—stood their ground, forming a protective line in front of Tyler and Mana. They didn't move an inch, ready to counter. But the expected explosion or clash never came.

A faint hum filled the air, and a shimmering barrier materialized around Tyler's group, deflecting the onslaught of spells and weapons effortlessly.

"An array...?" Gru muttered, glancing at the glowing runes etched into the ground.

"Hmph! Let's see how long that will last!" Qiao Fu scoffed. He motioned for his men to continue attacking. The warriors struck the barrier with relentless force, while the mages chanted incantations to overwhelm it.

The cracks began to show after a few minutes, thin lines spreading across the transparent shield. Qiao Fu's lips curled into a triumphant smile. "It's breaking! Push harder!"

But just as the array shattered, Tyler calmly reached into his storage device and retrieved another Array Disc. Without a word, he activated it. A fresh barrier sprang up instantly, replacing the broken one.

Qiao Fu's victorious expression froze. "Another array?" he hissed.

"Attack again! Break this one too!" he shouted, his frustration growing.

The cycle repeated.

Ten minutes later,

When the second barrier was on the verge of breaking, Tyler pulled out another Array disc and activated it without so much as a glance at the attackers.

Half an hour passed, and Tyler deployed yet another array.

The battle dragged on.

Five hours later....

The situation had shifted dramatically. Qiao Fu's warriors and mages were drenched in sweat, their movements sluggish, and their breaths labored. They had poured every ounce of their strength into breaking the barriers, yet each time, Tyler simply replaced them without batting an eye.

Meanwhile, inside the protective dome, Tyler, Mana, and the bodyguards were completely at ease. They sat around a small table, sipping tea and playing cards. Mana leaned back with a smirk, casually tossing a card onto the pile.

"Your turn, Tyler," she said, glancing at the exhausted attackers outside the barrier.

Tyler chuckled, drawing a card.

"Boss, lunch is ready," Hart announced, setting down a steaming plate of dumplings.

Before Tyler could respond, Mana darted forward and snatched a few, stuffing her mouth without hesitation.

"They're not going anywhere, you know," Tyler said, raising an eyebrow.

"Mmmm mmm mmh," Mana mumbled something unintelligible, her cheeks puffed like a chipmunk's.

The scene drew amused glances from Reva and Gru, who shook their heads at her antics. Despite the tense situation outside the barrier, the relaxed atmosphere within was almost surreal.

Tyler picked up a dumpling, savoring the bite before nodding in approval. "Hart, your cooking skills are wasted as a bodyguard. These are excellent."

Hart grinned, taking a seat. "Glad you think so, Boss."

Nightfall came, casting an eerie glow over the battlefield. Outside the barrier, Qiao Fu's men were visibly drained. Their repeated attempts to breach the arrays had taken a toll. Even their explosive charms, was no use because Tyler seems to have Unlimited protection array.

Inside the barrier, however, Tyler and his group remained undisturbed. They had even moved on from cards to discussing plans for the next day, the soft hum of the active array providing a sense of security.

Tyler finally stood, brushing off his robes. He reached into his storage device—a seemingly bottomless trove—and retrieved a stack of array discs. Handing them to Reva, Gru, and Hart, he spoke calmly, "Activate these when the barrier starts to break. No need to rush; let them waste their energy first."

Reva took the discs with a smirk. "Got it. Let's see how much more frustration they can handle."

Outside, the attackers were at their limits. Sweat dripped from their faces as they unleashed spell after spell, only to see another barrier replace the previous one. The futility of their efforts was beginning to sink in.

Qiao Fu's face twisted in frustration. His carefully orchestrated ambush had devolved into a humiliating slog. He clenched his fists, his anger simmering beneath the surface.

"Boss, should we... retreat?" one of his subordinates dared to ask, his voice trembling.

Qiao Fu glared at him, but the suggestion struck a nerve. He could see the exhaustion in his men's eyes, the way their movements had slowed.

His gaze shifted to Tyler, who appeared completely unbothered, as if the entire ordeal was nothing more than an inconvenience. The sight infuriated him, but he couldn't deny the reality.

Gritting his teeth, Qiao Fu made a decision. "Fall back," he growled reluctantly.