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"I wasn't fooled," Leon shook his head and was about to explain when he was interrupted by approaching footsteps.

Penny hurried inside with a serious and shocked look on her face. "Gran dpa, something big just happened!"

"What is it?"

Patrick, Damian, and the others turned to look at Penny in confusion.

"I just received news that the Thompsons have announced via all communication channels that Cynthion Group will be selling their alchemical pills in their sales drive three days from now. On behalf of the Thompsons, Angus Thompson has invited all families in the southern region to participate," Penny explained.

She knew that Iris asked for Patrick's help to advertise the alchemical pills, yet the Thompsons got ahead of them before the Scammells could act

Confused, she immediately hurried back to inform Patrick about it.

"What?!"

The others were instantly shaken and silence fell over the living room.

Sometime later, Iris was the first to snap out of it and gasped. "Leon, so you have the Thompsons on board?"

"Yeah! I told you that I've arranged everything. You just won't believe me!" Leon shrugged.

"But how's that possible?!"

Both Patrick and Damian were stunned.

While Iris might not know who the Thompsons were, they knew that the Thompsons were the most powerful family in all of the southern region and they never expected a foreigner like Leon to be capable of gaining the Thompsons' support.

It was so surreal that they struggled to process it.

"Leon, what on earth happened? Why would the Thompsons decide to help you?" Damian recovered from the shock and asked.

It all sounded like a miracle and he wondered how Leon accomplished it .

"I ran into Mister Yuri Thompson this morning and found out that his sis ter was

dying from a Darkness Complex, so I helped to cure her," Leon explaine d the details of his treating Roanne.

"I see!" Realization dawned on Iris.

She already guessed that Leon called asking for the Ganoderma to treat s omeone. Her theory was confirmed that Leon saved the eldest daughter of the Thompsons and finally understand why the Thompsons offered to help with the advertisement of the sales drive.

"Leon, you sure are lucky for getting in the Thompsons' favor with your medical expertise!"

Patrick and Damian finally comprehend the situation.

Patrick, who thought that Leon was bragging, was proven wrong and for a moment, he felt ashamed.

"Whatever! Since the Thompsons are already helping, there's no place f or us Scammells to get involved!" Patrick sighed gloomily.

He thought that Leon needed to rely on the Scammells' help to expand h is company and was planning to use this as leverage to make Leon cut ti es with

Cynthia, Ruth, and Snow to focus on Iris. To his bewilderment, Leon ma naged to win the favor of the all—mighty Thompsons and did not need the Scammells' help at all.

The realization that he overestimated the Scammells' importance and un derestimated Leon's ability overwhelmed him with disappointment.

"Leon, there's never too much advertising. Since Grandpa has agreed to help, let's get the Scammells to help as well!" Iris said.

"Well, if it's not too troublesome, I'd appreciate it," Leon said.

"Forget it! The Scammells will stay out of this!" Patrick said coldly.

The Thompsons were the head of all powerful families in the southern re gion and since Angus already extended invitations to all families on beh alf of the Thompsons, no one would dare to ignore the invitation. Hence, there was no reason for the Scammells to get involved.

"Dad, don't say no to this just yet! I think that helping with the advertise ment will work in our favor as well. We might be able to establish a connection with the Thompsons through Leon," Damian said thoughtfully.

"Well," Realization dawned on Patrick in response to Damian's words.

The Scammells belonged to the middle class and they were hardly comp arable to other families in terms of strength and connections, so it would benefit the Scammells if t hey were to utilize this chance and befriend

the Thompsons.

"That's a good idea! We'll do that, then!" After a brief moment of thoug ht, Patrick made the decision.

He thought that a foreigner like Leon would be in desperate need of the Scammells' help, yet the tables were turned and it was the Scammells w ho needed Leon's help to get closer to the Thompsons.

Patrick felt slightly embarrassed but knew that he had to cast the embarr assment aside for the gain of his family.

"Leon, if there's a chance, I want you to introduce me to Angus or Yuri Thompson. It'd be ideal if the Scammells can establish some type of business partnership with them," Damian said with anticipation as he

looked at Leon.

"Sure. That's not a problem!" Leon said.

The Scammells were people he considered to be his family, so he was m ore than happy to assist if the Scammells wished to connect with the Tho mpsons.

"By the way, Leon, if the Thompsons are that powerful, do you think that they can help with getting the Angel's Fruit from the Martells?" Iris as ked.

Leon injured Charlie earlier, so it would no longer be possible for Patric k to

help with purchasing the Angel's Fruit. Thankfully, Leon happened upo n the opportunity to save Roanne's life and if the Thompsons were

willing to help, there would be hope in obtaining the fruit.

"Okay. I'll try talking to Yuri later," Hope rose within Leon.

He already decided to give up on the Angel's Fruit owned by the Martells, but Iris's advice sparked an idea in him. Though he did not pos sess the power

to get the Angel's Fruit from the Martells, it would be an easy task for the Thompsons.

"No!" Patrick shook his head and rejected Iris's suggestion.

"No? Why not?" Leon froze.

"You don't know this, but the Martells are connected to the Southern Bo ss! The Thompsons had some issues with the Southern Boss in the past a nd though the Martells don't have the guts to turn the Thompsons down, the Thompsons will pay quite a price for forcing the Martells to sell the Angel's Fruit to them!" Patrick explained.

"What? The Southern Boss again?" Leon was shocked.

Earlier that morning in the black market, he just got into a conflict with a subordinate of the Southern Boss,

the Black Gorilla.

To his bewilderment, Charlie, who he just injured, shared a connection with the Southern Boss as well.

According to what

he heard from Raphael, the Southern Boss was just as powerful as the T hompsons and it was not a good sign that he already had two different co nflicts with people connected to the Southern Boss.

"Again? What's that supposed to mean?" Patrick shot Leon a confused I ook.

"No, nothing." Leon sobered and shook his head.

"I guess we can't get the Angel's Fruit through the Thompsons, then! W hat should we do, Leon?" Iris asked worriedly.

"It's fine. We're in rush to find an Angel's Fruit. I'll figure something el se out," Leon consoled her.

Since they knew that obtaining the Angel's Fruit through the Thompsons was unlikely, he gave up on seeking Yuri's help.

There were other Angel's Fruits, so he could always search for another one even if he could not obtain the

one owned by the Martells.

It was getting late, so Leon bid his farewell to the Scammells and left wit h Iris and Snow.

Meanwhile, Charlie dragged his injured

body out of the Scammells Mansion and ran into Eugene when he walke d past the house where the second bloodline of Scammells resided.

Next to Eugene was Nigel, who was still in a wheelchair since Leon bro ke his legs.

Nigel was one of the brightest of his generation and saw Charlie multipl e times before since they were both elite members of society.

"Mister Martell? What happened to you?" Nigel was surprised by the state Charlie was in.

"Don't even ask about it! That Leon guy from your family injured me," Charlie snorted coldly.

Nigel was a direct descendent of the Scammells, and since Leon was a p art of the family, Charlie resented all the Scammells equally because of t he injury he suffered at the hands of Leon.

"Leon? How dare he hurt you? He must've gone mad!" Nigel was shocked.

The Martells were far more influential than the Scammells and even Nig el had to be careful around Charlie, yet Leon, a foreigner from Springfield City, dared to injure Charlie.

Leon's boldness shook Nigel to his core.

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"What? Do you have a grudge against Leon?" Charlie was slightly confused by Nigel's resentful tone when he talked about Leon.

"It goes beyond a grudge! He was the one who broke my legs. I'm dying to tear him to shreds!" Nigel said viciously as he pointed at his legs.

"I see!" Realization dawned on Charlie and since Nigel was also an ene my of Leon, the tension in Charlie's expression eased.

"Mister Scammell, Leon's far too young to be in the Peak Overlord State. Who on earth is he?" Charlie asked.

After the duel and what Patrick said to him, Charlie was misled to think t hat Leon was in the Peak Overlord State.

Among the younger generation of martial artists in Sky County, only the direct descendent of the most powerful family w ould be able to reach such a high power level.

Though he never heard of any family with the name of Wolf, nor if he e ver heard about Leon in the past, there were a total of five regions in Sky County and he did not know much about the other regions except for the

southern region. Hence, Charlie concluded that Leon might be a direct descendant of a powerful family in other regions of Sky County.

Fearing the potential force at work behind Leon, Charlie ran even when all Leon did was threaten him.

"He's from Springfield City," Nigel briefly explained Leon's backgroun d.

"What? How's he in the Peak Overlord State, then?" Charlie gaped in di shelief.

He knew about Springfield City and the martial artists there practiced wi th methods below the Power class, so there was a limit to their growth. If Leon was truly from Springfield City, he would never be able to reach t he Peak Overlord State.

"You may not know this, but Leon has a really powerful defensive tool. He managed to injure you with the tool's help, not because he's stronger than you," Eugene said.

Eugene was able to determine that Leon possessed a defensive tool since he last fought Leon. Though he did not know what level Leon was on, h e knew that Leon was far from reaching the Peak Overlord State and onl y managed to defeat him with the help of the tool.

"A defensive tool? I see!" Realization dawned on Charlie.

He was confused as to how Leon, who fell short in terms of speed and e xplosive power compared

to him, managed to injure him with a single blow. It was not until this m oment that he understood that Leon won by relying on a tool.

"Damn you, Leon Wolf. Just wait! I'll make you pay!" Furious, Charlie narrowed his eyes maliciously.

He thought that Leon was a direct descendent of a powerful family in ot her regions of Sky County and dared not cross him even when Leon injured him. Since he was informed that

Leon was from a small city and only managed to defeat him with the aid of a defensive tool, he did not intend on holding back from seeking

revenge.

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"By the way, why are you here, Mister Martell? Why would you be in a fight with Leon, to begin with?" asked.

"Well, Miss Young came to the Martells to ask for a medical herb and I fell for her at first sight," Charlie briefly mentioned how he came to offer a marriage proposal.

"I see! So, you are interested in Iris!" Nigel exclaimed and an idea began to form in his mind.

Nigel

"Mister Martell, to tell you the truth, my cousin Iris loves Leon deeply to the point that she'll never give up on him! If you want to take her from Leon, I'm afraid it's not possible, unless," Nigel paused purposefully. "Unless what?" Charlie asked.

"Unless you get rid of Loen, once and for all! Kill Leon in secret and tak e the opportunity to console Iris. That way, you will surely win her heart !" Nigel chuckled.

"That's a great idea!" Charlie's eyes lit up.

He resented Leon for injuring him and it would be ideal if he could eliminate Leon in secret and win Iris's heart at the same time.

"Thank you for the top, Mister Scammell! Once I recover in a few days, I'll make sure that Leon gives his life for what he did!" Charlie spat ruth lessly.

"That's great! Mister Martell, I wish you success in winning Iris's heart! "Nigel laughed smugly.

He was dying to seek revenge on Leon since Leon broke his legs. Howe ver, Leon had the support of Patrick and Damian and the second bloodli ne could not harm Leon without any consequence.

Seeing how Leon recklessly offended Charlie, Nigel decided to encoura ge Charlie to seek revenge so that Charlie would get rid of Leon on their behalf.

His plan would not require the second bloodline to get involved at all an d even Eugene shot him an impressed look.

Inside Leon's mansion, Cynthia and Ruth already returned home from w ork and were resting on the couch when Leon, Iris, and Snow returned h ome.

"Leon, how did the marketing scheme go?" Cynthia stood and hurried o ver to Leon.

"It's done," Leon smiled and proceeded to explain everything.

"That's great! You are brilliant!" Cynthia was overjoyed.

She thought that it would be good enough if Leon managed to convince Raphael and the Westwoods to help. To her bewilderment, Leon came u pon the opportunity to win the Thompsons' favor, and with the Thompso ns' help, their concern over the sales drive was resolved.

Cynthia was over the moon, and so was Ruth. The two went on to discus s all the details of the sales drive with

Iris and Snow.

"Iris, Cynthia, carry on with the discussion. I need to go outside to make a phone call!" Leon said, before returning to his room to make a video c all to Master Haslewood to ask him about the Dragon Corp.

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The call was soon answered and Master Haslewood's slender, yet power ful figure appeared on the screen.

"Why are you calling me, Leon?" Master Haslewood cut to the chase.

"Master, since I'm a member of the Dragon Corps, does that mean that I can seek their help if I'm in trouble? "Leon asked.

"Of course! You can always reach out to the Dragon Corps in the southern region. I'm in Springfield City, so why would you come to me instead?" Master Haslewood rolled his eyes, but then he seemed to recall somet hing and his expression darkened. "You've been in the southern region for some time now. Are you telling me that you haven't reported to the Dragon Corps there?"

"Well, I'll do it when I'm free," Loen smiled sheepishly.

Before Leon traveled to the southern region, Master Haslewood reminde d him that he

needed to report to the Dragon Corps in the southern region to start participating in missions even though Leon was not a core member.

It was his duty as a member of the Dragon Corps, but Leon was so occupied with his company that he did not do so just yet.

"Why you! You won't even make time to report to the southern region b ranch, and

now you remember about the Dragon Corps when you need help?" Mast er Haslewood mocked angrily.

"Master, that's not important! Let's discuss what I made this call for!" L eon immediately changed the subject.

"Go on then, what kind of trouble are you in?" Master Haslewood asked without teasing Leon any further.

"There are two things that I need the Dragon Corps' help with. First of al l, I need an Angel's Fruit. Can the Dragon Corps get their hands on one? "Leon said.

After the conflict between him and Charlie, it was unlikely for him to obtain the fruit from the Martells, so he turned to the Dragon Corps' help instead in the hope that they could secure an Angel's Fruit for him.

"Of course! Finding it'd be a piece of cake to the Dragon Corps!" Master Haslewood nodded.

"Really? That's great!" Leon was overjoyed.

He spent a lot of time

and effort in the search for the Angel's Fruit and never once thought that the Dragon Corps could help. If he knew about it sooner, he would have never wasted his time.

Before he could feel relieved, what Master Haslewood said next brought him back to reality.

"Don't get too excited just yet! It's not easy to obtain the fruit from the Dragon Corps either! There is no such thing as a free lunch!" Master Haslewood said in annoyance.

"Oh, I know. I can buy it from them at its market price! Leon said causal ly as money was not an issue for him.

"What good is money for us? The Dragon Corps have their own set of ru les and if you want something from them, you will need to exchange it w ith contribution points!" Master Haslewood scoffed.

The Dragon Corps was a national organization with the support of the go vernment, so they were never in

need of money.

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"Contribution points? What's that? How do I get them?" Leon was confused.

"Contribution points are the reflection of how much a member has contributed to the Dragon Corps. I told you to get missions from the Dragon C orps in the southern region, didn't I? That's one way to obtain contribution

points! With every mission you complete, you'll be rewarded contribution points per the difficulty level

of the mission! Once you accumulate enough contribution points, you can exchange them with anything you want, ranging from rare training met hods to valuable herbs!" Master Haslewood explained.

"I see!" Gasping the concept, Leon asked, "how many points do I get for completing a mission?"

"If it's

an ordinary mission, you get a few dozen of points," Master Haslewood said.

"And how many points will I need to obtain the Angel's Fruit?" Leon questioned further.

"Probably thousands," Master Haslewood said.

"What?! That many?" Leon was stunned.

If an ordinary mission would only earn him a few dozen contribution points, it would take over

a hundred missions before he could obtain the Angel's

Fruit from the Dragon Corps, and he did not have the time or energy for that.

"Master, is there any way that one can obtain these points at a more acce lerated rate? Maybe a mission that gets me more contribution points?" L eon asked.

"There are ways! Challenging missions offer more contribution points. The harder the mission, the more you get, but there are risks. Sky County has its criminal list filled with the most ruthless criminal. They are the targets of elimination for the Dragon Corps! If you can kill one of them, you will at least gain a few thousand contribution points!" Master Haslew ood explained.

"A criminal list?" Leon muttered thoughtfully.

He did not know what a criminal list was but learned about the Elite list, a list of super—

geniuses in the younger generation of martial artists in all of Sky County, in the central region ever since he became acquaintances with Yuri. He nce, he assumed that the criminal list contained criminals who committe d horrible acts in Sky County.

"Master, do you know what power levels these criminals are in?" Leon a sked hopefully. If he could eliminate a criminal as Master Haslewood m entioned, he would be able to obtain thousands of contribution points an d resolve the issue with the Angel's Fruit.

"They're all in the Peak Overlord State or higher," Master Haslewood sa id casually.

"What?!" Leon paled.

He was only

in the Peak Supreme State and did not even get to the Overlord State, so he was far from being a match for someone in the Peak Overlord State.

'It'll be impossible for me to eliminate any of the criminals listed with m y current power,' Leon thought, before remembering the two Potential E nergy Forces he

obtained from Master Haslewood. 'With the Potential Energy Forces, I might stand a chance!'

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Master Haslewood seemed to have read Leon's thoughts and deadpanne d, "Leon, the criminals on that list aren't as simple as you think they are! These are the supervillains with the most ferocious minds and formidable strengths. They won't hesitate to kill! If you run into them, you won't even have a chance to use the Potential Energy Forces I gave you before they kill you! It's extremely dangerous for you to challenge

them alone!"

The Dragon Corps' duty was to eliminate threats to maintain the order a nd stability of the society, and there were bound to be martial artists who went rogue when they were blinded by greed.

The less powerful criminals would often be captured and punished accordingly by the Dragon

Corps immediately, but the truly powerful ran free as they evaded the Dr agon Corps' effort in capturing them.

In response to that, the Dragon Corps established the criminal list so that all families would join forces to eliminate the criminals listed, which was proof of how strong these criminals were.

"Oh," Realizing how powerful the criminals were, Leon's heart sank.

"Don't worry, Leon! These people manage to escape the Dragon Corps mostly because they are good at hiding. If we can't find them, we can't p ossibly get rid of them! If you can discover these criminals' whereabouts and eliminate them with the help of other members of the Dragon Corps, you will be rewarded as well! You'll obtain at least half of the contribution points

to that mission and it's far better than risking your life by taking on these criminals on your own!" Master Haslewood consoled him.

He knew that Leon was still far too weak and challenging a criminal on t he list might be dangerous. However, if

Leon was only trying to discover the criminals' whereabouts, it would be easier and safer.

"Okay. I'll try my best." Leon nodded, feeling reassured that he could ob tain half the contribution points by providing leads.

Though he might not be

able to defeat the criminals on the lists, he could try his luck to uncover l eads. If he managed to find something, not only would he obtain a large number of contribution points, he would be doing society a favor.

"By the way, you said you were calling for two things, right? What else do you need to say?" Master Haslewood changed the subject.

"I want to learn how I can store my Potential Energy Forces. Can you te ach me?" Leon requested.

Ever since Nigel captured Ruth and Cynthia, Leon realized that Iris and the others were far

too weak to protect themselves when they were in danger. If he could lea rn how to store his Potential Energy Forces, he could store them in vario us items and hand them to Iris and the others as a safety measure. Leon knew that he was far from Master Haslewood in terms of power, b ut it was still better than nothing and the women might be able to escape dangerous situations with his Potential Energy Forces.

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"You want to learn how to store your Potential Energy Forces? Sure! A word of reminder, thoug h. This is an extremely exhausting process and you won't recover witho ut resting for some time, so be careful with when you use this!" Master Haslewood reminded him.

"Yeah, I understand," Leon said.

He was next to Master Haslewood when he stored his Potential Energy F orces and knew that it would consume one's core energy to a certain degree so they would not be able to reach t heir peak strength for a time. The effect was far milder than the Dragon Pill and Leon believed that he could withstand it.

On top of that, his physique was different from that of Master Haslewoo d. Ever since he inherited everything from his ancestors, it felt as though a mysterious force transformed his body a nd he would often recover from injuries or loss of energy quicker than or

dinary people. Hence, it would take him three days at most to recover from the loss of core energy even if he stored his Potential Energy Forces, so Leon was not at all concerned.

Master Haslewood proceeded to teach him the method of storing Potenti al Energy Forces and Leon listened attentively.

"Alright, now you know how to do that! Do you need anything else?" Master Haslewood asked.

"That's all! If possible, please send me the criminal lists in Sky County. I'll study it when I have time," Leon requested.

"Alright. I'll send it to you now." Master Haslewood nodded, before han ging up.

Shortly after, Leon received the list of criminals from Master Haslewood and he started studying the list.

Once he went through the list, he began to have a brief comprehension of the situation in Sky County.

The criminal list was not fixed and the number of criminals listed on it c ould vary from six to twenty.

Some of the criminals were already eliminated by the Dragon Corps, but since new ones emerged consistently, it was challenging for the Dragon Corps to get rid of all criminals at a time.

According to the record, there were a total of eleven criminals on the list two years ago. The

Dragon Corps eliminated six on the list, but another three criminals emer ged over two years.

Up until the present, there were a total of eight criminals on the list.

The higher the ranking of the criminal, the more powerful they would be. The criminals ranking in the top three were hunted by the Dragon Corps for years, but they remained standing and even caused the Dragon Corps the lives of a few powerful members.

"I guess it's not easy being a member of the Dragon Corps!" Leon shook his head with a bitter smile.

Back in Springfield City, members of the Dragon Corps rarely appeared in public eyes, so he assumed that it would be an easy job, only to realiz e that he underestimated the situation.

"Knock, knock!"

Just as he was absorbed in his thoughts, he heard knocking on the door a nd heard Iris's melodious voice from outside the door. "Leon, are you do ne with the phone call? Dinner is ready!"

"Sure. I'm coming," Leon said and cast the criminal list aside, before stepping out of *his room*.

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After dinner, Cynthia went to seek Leon's opinion on the sales drive. "L eon, now that the advertising issue is resolved, what do you plan to do w ith the following arrangement?"

"Well, I think you and Iris would take over the sales drive. I won't repre sent the company," Leon said thoughtfully.

"What? You're the chairman of the company, so how can you not make an appearance at such an important event?" Cynthia was shocked.

She meant to

copy what she did in Springfield City and increase the fame for both Cy nthion Group and Leon with the Energy Nurturing Pills.

To her bewilderment, Leon intended to keep his identity hidden and deci ded not to take charge of the sales drive.

"I've made a lot of enemies in the southern region lately and having me at the sales drive won't

benefit the company in any way," Leon explained while shaking his hea d.

He was involved in conflicts with multiple families ever since he arrived in the southern area.

There were plenty of witnesses when he obtained the Spiritual Pearl in the black market and if his name was known by all after the sale s drive, he would be drawing too much attention to him and Cynthion Gr oup.

Naturally, no one could harm him as long as he was a part of the Dragon Corps, but this identity only served as his last resort. The Dragon Corps would not interfere with conflicts between martial artists that easily, not to mention eliminating Leon's enemy for h is sake.

If he wanted to establish his force, he would have no one but himself to rely on.

Since he had no influence in the southern region at the moment, he felt t hat it was best for him to keep a low profile until he had the true strength to protect himself, or he would simply be drawing trouble for himself

and that was the last thing he wanted.

"But," Cynthia hesitated. She understood Leon's concern but was relucta nt to let go of the chance to make

Leon famous.

"End of discussion! My decision is final!" Leon said decisively.

He had plenty of

chances to increase his fame with Cynthion Group once he was powerful enough, so he saw no reason in rushing into it.

"Oh, alright, then." Cynthia nodded obediently since Leon seemed determined.

They were no longer in Springfield City, after all. If she copied exactly what she

did in Springfield City, it might come to harm Leon or Cynthion Group i n the end.

"Just be honest and say that this is all because we are too weak. If we are all powerful martial artists, we wouldn't have to walk on thin ice!" Ruth pouted gloomily.

As the eldest daughter of Collins and a rare genius in all of Springfield City, she always got her way in Springfield City. However, ever since th ey arrived in the southern region, anyone like Nigel could easily defeat a nd kidnap her.

Ruth felt helpless and her pride shattered in the face of reality.