The Ex-Husband's Revenge By Dragonsky

Chapter 401-420

Chapter 401

"If we find out that the Energy Nurturing Pills you're selling don't work, **you'll** have no w ay but to end **all** this!" Jacob sneered.

The Shears invited a crowd of powerful individuals and would be resented if their pills w ere not **as** effective as they claimed. Should that happen, not only would Cynthion Grou p come to an end, the Shears' reputation would be on the ground as well.

"Whether the pills work or not is our business, and we don't need you to worry about it!" Harvey said coldly. "Is that so? Let's wait and see, then!" Jacob smirked viciously.

He did not believe that the pills could

truly accelerate the progress **of** martial artists and since he decided that it was merely a marketing gimmick at best, all he needed **to** do was to sit back and wait for the Shear F amily to embarrass themselves.

Anson felt the same and was silently plotting to add fuel to the fire should the Shear sibli ngs fail to fulfill the guests' expectations as revenge for what they did to him for Leon's sake.

Harvey could not be bothered with Anson and Jacob and turned his attention to Iris and Leon. "Miss Young, Mister Wolf, the opening ceremony will start soon. I'd like to invite y ou two to cut the ribbon. Will you do us the honor?"

"Um, sure." Iris hesitated for a moment, before nodding.

The Elegante Group was partnered with the Shear Family and she saw no point in decli ning the honor

of starting the opening ceremony. What she was not aware of was that it was Leon who m Harvey wanted to invite on stage.

Iris and Leon followed Harvey and Cynthia onto the stage.

To test Cynthia's capability, Benedict left all operational matters **to** Cynthia including det ails concerning the opening ceremony, while he remained behind the scene without inte rfering. However, he arranged for Harvey and a few other family members to assist Cynt hia to avoid any troubles.

The ribbon-

cutting ceremony proceeded smoothly on the stage, while a man below the stage glared ruthlessly at Leon.

The man's companion noticed the dark look on his face and asked, "Gordon, what's wro ng?"

"Mister Fields, that's the man who injured me in the ambush!" Gordon muttered resentfully.

"What? That's the brat that destroyed our plan?!" The other man gritted out.

The young man was none other but Theodore Fields, the eldest son of the Fields Family , one of the Four Major Families.

The Fields Family and the Shear Family were competitors and Theodore sent his subor dinate for an ambush to capture Cynthia to strike a deal with the Shears, only for his pla n to be destroyed by Leon.

Theodore was furious, to say the least.

"And here I thought

I'd have to go through a lot of trouble to look for him! Mister Fields, we've finally found hi m. We can't just let him go!" Gordon gritted out.

He was too careless and regretted giving Leon the chance to injure him. If given the chance to fight Leon

again, he swore to tear Leon into pieces.

Chapter 402

"I know that! But this is the Shears' territory. With so many people around, we can't do a nything to that kid **just** yet. Let's wait until after the opening ceremony to give him a proper greeting!" Theodore uttered darkly.

The failed ambush raised the Shears' suspicion that the Fields Family was behind it and they did whatever they could to oppress the Fields Family to seek revenge. As one of t he Four Major Families, the Fields Family managed to survive through the Shears' retali ation but paid an enormous price in doing so. In the **end**, the Fields Family had to make an official apology to the Shear Family and made certain compromises in their family bu siness.

Considering the fact that Cynthia **was not** harmed and that conflicts would not **be** benefi cial to the **Shear** Family as well, the two families finally decided to cease fire.

However, the event deepened the grudge between the two families, which was why the Shears extended their invitation for the opening ceremony to every single family in Sprin gfield City but the Fields Family.

The Fields Family did not intend on attending the ceremony without the invitation, but si nce the two

families. were competitors, the potential of the Energy Nurturing Pills was far too big a t hreat for them to stay away.

To investigate, Theodore decided to sneak into the event venue and remained in **a** dese rted corner, only to be surprised by the presence of the culprit that caused all the trouble s his family had to go through.

Time flew by and the ceremony ended. Leon and Iris stepped down the stage with big g rins on their faces, only to find Gilbert standing and glaring at them **in** a distance.

"Dad!" The smile on Iris's face froze **as** she instinctively bit her lip. She did not expect to see her father at the event and was caught off-guard.

Her relationship with her father was not all that harmonious, mainly because she despised her stepmother, Daisy. Since

Daisy had not accompanied Gilbert to the ceremony, Iris knew better than to completely ignore

her father.

"Hello, Mister Young. It's been a while." Leon's heart skipped a beat as he hurriedly gre eted the man before him. As Iris's boyfriend, Gilbert was going to be his future father– in–law and he had to remain respectful at

his best effort.

"The two of you? Very well!" Gilbert sneered coldly.

From the very first time he saw Leon, he was worried that Leon would somehow trick Iri s into dating him. After witnessing how close the two seemed to

be, Gilbert realized that they might have already started dating and was instantly enrage d.

"Leon, come with me. I need to speak to you alone!" Gilbert snorted and turned to walk outside.

"Dad," Iris muttered worriedly. She knew that Gilbert had a horrible impression on Leon and her father could not possibly mean well for calling Leon outside to talk. "Iris, don't worry. We were going to have to deal with this at some **point**, anyway. I'll go outsid

Chapter 403

Leon knew that Gilbert disliked him from the start, but he needed Gilbert's approval if he wanted **to** continue his relationship with Iris, and running away would not resolve any pr oblem.

He decided to give it his all for Iris's sake.

The **two** arrived at the silent corner outside the hall and Gilbert stopped once he confirm ed that there was **no** one else around them.

"Mister Young, what do you need to talk to me about?" **Leon** asked.

"Leon, let's just cut to the chase! I don't care why you approach Iris, but a word **of** advic e: Stay away from her, or suffer the consequences!" Gilbert warned.

"Mister Young, you've misunderstood. I don't have any motive," Leon said sincerely but was instantly interrupted by Gilbert.

"Enough with the act! Just tell me how much it would cost for you to leave Iris's side!" Gi Ibert roared.

"Mister Young, it's not a matter of money. I am in love with Iris with all my heart and I m ean it!" Seeing no point in hiding any longer, Leon summoned the courage to confess th e truth.

"What a joke! You're **a** divorced good-for-

nothing and an orphan with nothing to your name. Who are you to be Iris's man?" Gilber t questioned angrily.

"I know she's way out of my league and that I'm not a compatible match for her right now, but I'm going to work hard," Leon said hesitantly.

He wanted to inform Gilbert about Cynthion Group, but decided against it because the c ompany did not accomplish anything at the moment.

The Young Family was powerful and even if Cynthion Group managed to achieve **a** cert ain level of success, it would still be difficult to rival the influence of an entrepreneur gian t like the Youngs.

Leon knew that he would have to work even harder if he wished to obtain the Youngs' a pproval.

"I don't have the time to listen to your daydreams! **I'll give** you one last chance to leave Iris's side and promise that you will never show your face again, or I'm going to make yo u!" Gilbert snorted, as his **true.** energy oozed off of him.

"Woah!" Leon gaped. Though he could not detect the precise level of Gilbert, it was cert ain that Gilbert reached beyond the Realm of **a** Supreme Master.

There was a great gap between the **peak** of the Innate State and the realm of a Suprem e Master and the difference between the power levels was so enormous that Gilbert could crush Leon with ease if he wanted to.

"Well, Leon?" Gilbert sneered, the true energy that gathered in his palm intensified as h e dared Leon to refuse.

"I've thought it through. Mister Young, I love Iris and I will never leave her side. I know I' m not a good match for her right now, but give me some time. Two or three years at mo st and **I'll** fulfill your requirements so that I can marry her!" Leon gritted out.

Every man had something that they could never give up on and to Leon, Iris was his fort ress and he refused

to give up even when threatened by someone as powerful as Gilbert.

"Why you! You don't deserve to live!" Furious, Gilbert raised his arm as he desperately wished that he could kill Leon right there and then.

Chapter 404

However, he stopped at the very last moment when he recalled his father's words.

Leon saved Iris and

Elder Young in the past and Gilbert could not repay the debt by killing Leon.

"Leon, **I'll** give you one week to consider. Whether it's money or anything else that you want, just name your price, but you must leave or I'll show no mercy!" Gilbert snorted, b efore leaving without giving Leon the

chance to respond.

Though he could not deal with Leon directly, the Young Family's influence was vast and there were plenty of other ways to remove Leon from Iris's side.

'He's a smart kid,' Gilbert thought, 'he'll know what he needs to do eventually!'

Leon was drenched in sweat as he watched Gilbert disappear into the distance, terrified that Gilbert would attack. Should Gilbert lose control, Leon would be severely injured even if he managed **to** survive.

Fortunately, Gilbert decided against acting on his anger.

Leon returned to the hall and Iris hurried over. "Leon, are you okay? What did my dad s ay to you? Did he say something horrible to you?"

"I'm fine. Mister Young just told me **to** take good care of you. He didn't **say** anything hor rible." Leon shot her a casual smile without telling the truth as he did not want Iris to worry for him.

Iris blushed. "Come on. I know my dad. He isn't that easy-going."

"Don't worry. I'm fine. Trust me. I need three years **at** most; I'm going to get the approval of all **the** members of the Young Family and I'm going to marr y you!" Leon took Iris's hand with determination.

He needed time and within a few years, his medical skills and power level would reach t heir peak; along with the predicted success of Cynthion Group, Leon knew that he woul d satisfy the Young Family in the

foreseeable future.

When he achieved his goals, the Young Family would not stop him from being with Iris.

"Yeah. I believe in you." Iris nodded with a rosy blush on her cheeks.

She

witnessed Leon's connection and capabilities; Her father and grandfather would approv e of Leon so long as Leon continued to work hard and they would **finally** be able to be together.

Meanwhile, on the stage.

Harvey and Cynthia ordered their subordinates to carry all the alchemical **pills** onto the stage for display.

The official launch was about to begin!

"Allow me to introduce our products. These are the Energy Nurturing Pills that can be us ed to speed up the training progress for martial artists. There are two types of Energy N urturing Pills. The first is the first- grade Energy Nurturing Pills. This works best and we have produced about three thousand pills. The price is set at thirty thousand for each pill. Then, there are the second–

grade Energy Nurturing Pills. **We** have about seven thousand pills in stock for this and t he price is set at fifteen thousand for each pill."

Cynthia knew that most of the guests were drawn to the ceremony by the Energy Nurtur ing Pills and decided

to start with the introduction of the Energy Nurturing Pills.

The Energy Nurturing Pills required plenty of rare ingredients; the production cost for one first– grade Energy Nurturing Pill was twelve thousand and six thousand for a second grade E nergy Nurturing Pill.

Th

Chapter 405

The calculation excluded potential loss of the ingredient during the manufacturing proce ss and the time and effort required for Leon to produce the pills.

The Cynthion Group did not set the prices higher as a gesture of showing their sincerity.

"Also, these **pills** are the first products that we are going to launch **and** the second batc h will need time to be produced. There's a limited supply of the Energy Nurturing Pills of roughly over ten

thousand pills in total. Please make your purchase as soon as possible while the stock I asts!" Cynthia added.

"Who knows if the pills work?"

"That's right. You are **just** saying that it works and we don't know if that's the truth **at all** !"

Chaos erupted among the crowd after Cynthia introduced the products.

Though the prices set for the Energy Nurturing Pills were

affordable, most of the guests struggled to believe

the advertised effect of the pills and as some of the most powerful people in Springfield City, they refused to make a fool of themselves by falling for a marketing gimmick.

"I believe them! Miss Shear, I want all of the Energy **Nurturing** Pills!" Fane stepped into the hall with a sneer, followed by his subordinates.

"You want them all? Mister Poole, are you joking?" Stunned, Cynthia suspected what sh e heard for a

moment.

The other guests were surprised and confused as to what Fane was trying to do.

"I'm not joking! It's not like the pills are that expensive. I can buy them all!" Fane smiled.

He took an Energy Nurturing Pill from Leon before and knew just how effective the pills could be. **He** thought that such magical pills would cost fortunes, and did not expect the price to be so affordable.

"Mister Poole, thank you for your appreciation for our products, but I'm sorry to inform y ou that each customer can only purchase two hundred pills at most. We can't sell all of t hem to you." Cynthia shook her

head.

The Shear Family **and** Leon put countless efforts into the opening ceremony, aiming to advertise Cynthion Group's name by utilizing the launch of the Energy Nurturing Pills. If they sold all the pills to Fane, others. would not be able to test the pills.

"Just two hundred? That's so little!" The smile on Fane's face froze as he was taken **by** surprise by the purchase limit.

"Mister Poole, you can't take too many of the pills in one go. Depending on your power l evel, one would often only need to take one every two to three days. Even **if** you manag e to buy all **of** the pills, you won't need that many!" Realizing that Fane might not be fam iliar with the use of the Energy Nurturing Pills, Cynthia

reminded.

Fane recalled being advised the same **by** Leon and realized that he would have no use for all the pills Cynthion Group had to offer.

"You're right! There are ten thousand pills and I don't need that many, but two hundred i s still too little!"

Fane said hesitantly. His father had countless martial artists at his disposal and there were over thirty men

who could be considered some of the top-ranked martial artists in Springfield City.

Chapter 406

If there were only two hundred pills, each person would only be given a portion **of** eight t o ten pills.

"How about this, Miss Shear, seeing how we know each other, why don't you make an exception for me and

sell me a thousand? Is that okay?" Fane said, before shooting **a** glance at Leon, hoping that his friendship

with Leon would offer him more access.

He crossed Anson and Jacob at Xander's house to help Leon. Cynthia knew that Leon **and** Fane were friends and instinctively glanced at Leon to seek his approval. After all, Leon was the chairman of Cynthion Group and he had the final right to make a decision.

Leon nodded slightly and Cynthia immediately smiled. "Mister Poole, thank you for takin g such an interest. in Cynthion Group. I'll take you up on your offer, then!"

'That's great!" Overjoyed, Fane looked at Leon gratefully. He thought that Cynthia made an exception out of respect for Leon, not knowing that Leon agreed **to** it.

Fane made the payment for a thousand Energy Nurturing Pills and said, "Everyone, I've taken one Energy Nurturing Pill a few days ago and the effects have been amazing. I c an speak for Cynthion Group and prove that these pills work. You should all act quickly i f you need these pills, or you might miss your chance!" Fane laughed happily **as** he pro moted the alchemical pills.

"So these Energy Nurturing Pills can speed up the training progress for martial artists?"

"Probably. Fane Poole wouldn't have spent so much money to make such a bulk purchase if they don't work!

Members of other families discussed amongst themselves, their hearts wavering as the y considered **if** they should proceed with making a purchase as well.

"Don't listen to him! Fane and the Shear siblings are probably teaming up to put on an a ct! Don't

fall for it!" Jacob sneered, "Fane just admitted that he knows the Shears in person. May be the Shears invited him **to** pretend like he is making a big purchase!"

The others instantly came to a realization and became suspicious of what Fane said.

"What a joke! My father's a respected man and I don't need to plot with someone to acc omplish anything. I've said what I wanted to say. Whether you want to believe me **is** up **to** you!" Fane said darkly.

"Fane, stop lying! Did you think that we would believe you? Do we look like fools to you? " Jacob sneered.

"Jacob, what would convince you that the pills work?" Harvey asked calmly.

"That's simple. Just pick a few people to try the pills and see if they work!" Jacob's lips c urled into a smug smile.

"Mister Lowe's right. Just pick a few people to try the pills and we will know if they work!"

Many of the other guests nodded in agreement.

"That's a good idea! Allow my men to try them, then. I believe everyone should be okay with that, *right?*"

Theodore walked over with his subordinates.

Chapter 407

"We're fine with it!"

The crowd cheered. Everyone knew that the Fields Family and the Shear Family were c ompetitors, so Theodore could not be working with the Shears **in** secret; Hence, Theod ore's men would be the most reliable source in testing the effect of the Energy Nurturing Pills.

"Theodore, why are you here? You are not welcome here!" Harvey's expression darken ed as he eyed Theodore resentfully, itching to retaliate for the attack Theodore initiated t oward Cynthia.

"I don't care if you welcome me! What's important is whether you dare to let my men try the pills!" Theodore questioned.

"Why wouldn't we? However, others have to be selected as well to prevent you from pla ying tricks!" Harvey said coldly.

"Fine. I'm okay with that." Theodore shrugged.

He knew with certainty that the Energy Nurturing Pills would not be effective and it did n ot matter how tried the pills. Once it became clear that the pills were not as effective **as** t hey claimed, Theodore would only need to say a few words to destroy Cynthion Group.

"Fine. Let's start then!" Harvey said.

'Gordon, try the pill!" Theodore shot Gordon a look and Gordon immediately took a step forward.

Harvey selected two people from the crowd so that there would be a total of three people trying the Energy Nurturing Pills. The test was crucial to whether Cynthion **Group** could succeed and Harvey knew that h e had to act carefully. He ordered one **of** his subordinates to bring three first–grade Energy Nurturing Pills, before distributing them to the three men in front of him.

"I don't believe that there would

be pills **that** can help with training as a martial artist, **so** let me give this a **go**!" Gordon s neered and swallowed the pill.

The pill dissolved inside his mouth within an instant and transformed into **a** stream of tru e energy that filled. his body.

"Is this working?' Gordon froze and thought to himself as he noticed the pure energy hid den within the pill. If what he felt was right, not only could the **pill** speed up the training progress, it would help martial artists in breaking through the bottleneck of their training.

"Gordon, how is it? It doesn't work, right?" Theodore asked smugly, confident that he was right about the alchemical pills.

Both Jacob and Anson stared **at** Gordon intently, preparing to support Theodore **in** his e ffort of condemning the Shear siblings once Gordon claimed that the pill did not work.

"Mister Lowe," Gordon opened his mouth to speak, but could not decide what to say. He knew wha Theodore wanted and saying that the pills worked would humiliate Theodore ; However, if he lied and said. that the pills had no effect at all, the other two men who to ok the pills would claim otherwise and Gordon would be accused of lying as well.

Just as he contemplated on his next move, the pure energy flowed into his core and beg an to become one

with his true energy. Gordon flushed at the chaotic storm of energy surge within his bod y and without much time to think, he sat on the ground and began to focus on the circulation of his energy.

Chapter 408

Both Theodore and Jacob were shocked by the sight and instantly jumped to a conclusi on.

"Harvey Shear, look at what you've done! Not only does the pill not work, but it's also ca using my man to lose control over his power. You're going to have to answer me today!" Theodore roared.

"That's not possible! The Energy Nurturing Pills we produce work perfectly fine and sho uld not **cause**

anyone to lose control over their power! Something's wrong!"

Both Harvey and Cynthia

were stunned and confused by the situation. Harvey started to suspect that Gordon

was putting on an act to support Theodore's claim.

"Harvey, the truth's staring us all in the face! What else do you have to say for yourselves?"

'That's right!"

"We're all seeing this. Your pills have issues and **can** cause martial artists to lose control over their powers!"

'Those aren't pills. They're poison! Are you trying to kill us all?!"

Jacob **and** Anson leaped into the conversation and accused Shears of scamming all the families. Startled by the sight, the other two who were selected to try the pills froze out of fear that the same thing would happen

to them.

"How dare you, Shear?!"

The crowd was enraged as everyone thought that Gordon lost control of his power.

"Baam!"

Gordon's jolted dramatically and his true energy exploded, sending him to the Advanced Innate State from

the Intermediate Innate State.

His power level stopped at the Intermediate Innate State for **years and** did not come acr oss the opportunity for a breakthrough. The first–

grade Energy Nurturing Pill held a pure form of energy and under its guidance, he mana ged to break past the bottleneck and reached the Advanced Innate State.

"How? How's that possible?" Theodore gaped.

Every person in the hall, including Jacob and Anson, froze in shock as they struggled to comprehend that instead of losing control, Gordon was merely breaking through the bott leneck of his training.

It was

extremely challenging for martial artists to work past the bottlenecks in their training and despite not showing any sign of progress, Gordon had **a** breakthrough immediately afte

r taking the Energy Nurturing. Pill and anyone could tell that the pill was the reason why it happened all of a sudden.

"How?" Theodore stood dazedly. He thought that the pills would not have any effect at all, only to be completely wrong.

The Energy Nurturing Pill effectively helped with Gordon's power.

proven

Jacob and Anson were shaken by the effect of the Energy Nurturing Pill as well and could not react at all.

"The Energy Nurturing Pills work! It can help martial artists past the bottlenecks in their t raining!"

"Are we dreaming?!"

The crowd slowly recovered from the initial shock and became extremely excited at the effect of the Energy Nurturing Pill.

They would have remained skeptical if anyone else was selected to test the pill.

Chapter 409

However, it was a member of the Fields Family who tested the pill, and given the two families' history, Gordon could not have been bribed by the Shears.

"Everyone, calm down. Let the two of **us** try the pill as well."

The other two men sobered and swallowed the pills in their hands without hesitation.

The pills melted in their mouth and transformed into a pure force of energy that replenis hed their bodies.

Both men were martial artists who rivaled Gordon in power, so they immediately sensed the pills functioned **as** advertised.

Since Gordon was on the edge of a breakthrough, he managed to reach the next power level by luck; while the other two were not blessed with such opportunities. However, it was enough to prove that the Energy Nurturing Pills were effective.

"How do you two feel?" The others turned their attention to the other **two** men who took the pills.

"Yeah, we can say for sure that the Energy Nurturing Pills work to aid martial artists' training."

"I'm sure that it'd be beneficial if the pills are taken in the long term."

The two men expressed their thoughts sincerely.

'That's great!"

"Mister Shears, I want a thousand pills!."

"Miss Shears, I want a thousand as well!"

Excitement boiled within the crowd as they darted forward. Though they all mocked Fan e earlier, they finally

realized how wise Fane was.

Even Gilbert, who remained at the back of the crowd, could not contain his excitement.

In the beginning, he

felt the same as Theodore **and** the others, so he **had** no expectations for the Energy Nu rturing Pills. He stood at the back of the hall to observe the crowd, hoping to determine what the Shear Family was plotting. However, as soon as he witnessed the magical effe ct of the Energy Nurturing Pills, he instantly recognized its importance in aiding the grow th of martial artists.

"The Young Family will take a thousand firstgrade Energy Nurturing Pills!" Gilbert stepped forward and

shouted.

Most of the guests in the hall were third generations of various families, but as Gilbert w as the leader **of** the second generation **in** the Young Family, he was far more respected than most and the others instantly cleared a path for him.

"Mister Young, I'm so sorry. Like I've mentioned earlier, each customer can only purcha se two hundred pills from this batch," Cynthia said.

She knew that

Leon was in love with Iris and seeing how Gilbert was Iris's father, Cynthia simply did no t want the Young Family to have what they wanted. Most importantly, there was **a** limite d

supply of first- grade Energy Nurturing Pills and she only made an exception for Fane b ecause he showed support for

Cynthion Group and Leon right from the beginning. If she made yet another exception fo r the Young Family, it would not be fair to other customers.

Next to her, Leon stood hesitantly.

He considered Gilbert as his future father-in-

law and wanted to allow an exception for Gilbert as well, but Cynthia went ahead to refu se Gilbert's request.

In the end, Leon decided to keep his opinion to himself.

Chapter 410

"Two hundred, then!" Gilbert said with a scowl.

There were over thirty skilled martial artists in powerful families such as the Youngs and two hundred pills would be consumed within a blink of **an** eye. However, since it was the rule set by Cynthion Group, Gilbert could only obey.

"I want two hundred first-grade Energy Nurturing Pills, too!"

"Me, too."

As Gilbert claimed two hundred firstgrade Energy Nurturing Pills, the others swarmed toward the stage.

There were only approximately three thousand first– grade Energy Nurturing Pills and since Fane and Gilbert took a thousand and two hundr ed **of** them, there were not many left for the rest.

Fane was right that anyone who hesitated would lose their chances of purchasing at all.

"Wait! Starting from now, every customer may only purchase a hundred firstgrade Energy Nurturing Pills and a hundred secondgrade Energy Nurturing Pills, which adds up **to** a **total** of two hundred pills per customer

Knowing that the first-

grade Energy Nurturing Pills could not be distributed among all customers, she reacted i mmediately to adjust. Even so, there would be plenty **of** families who failed to obtain bot h first and second–grade Energy Nurturing Pills, but this was the best that she could do.

"I want a hundred first-grade Energy Nurturing Pills and a hundred secondgrade Energy Nurturing Pills."

Both Anson and Jacob joined the others in fighting over the pills.

"Me, too. I'll take a hundred first-grade Energy Nurturing Pills and a hundred secondgrade Energy Nurturing Pills as well." Theodore gritted out.

Though the Fields Family and Shear Family were rivals, the Energy Nurturing Pills woul d aid martial artists tremendously and Theodore was determined to prevent his family from falling behind.

"I'm sorry, but the Cynthion Group **isn't selling** anything to the Fields Family!" Harvey s aid.

"What? Harvey Shears, are you serious?" Theodore was furious.

"I'm serious! We didn't even invite you to the opening ceremony and you were just trying to cause trouble over the Energy Nurturing Pills! Since you came to destroy us, we don' t see the point in treating you with respect! We don't welcome you here. Go home!" Har vey smirked in contempt.

"Why you! Very well. Harvey Shears, I won't forget about this! Let's go!" Theodore snort ed, before storming

out of the hall.

"Mister

Shears, are you going to refuse to sell the pills to us as well?" Both Jacob and Anson be gan to panic. The two crossed the Shears siblings from the conflict with Xander recently and were worried that **they** would be denied access to the Energy Nurturing Pills as we II.

Knowing that the two were Leon's enemies, Cynthia snorted. "Of course, I'm not selling-

Before she could finish, Harvey interrupted her and said, "Cynthia, calm down!" He pull ed at her arm and

shot her a knowing look.

The Collins Family and the Northern King were two of the major forces in Springfield City and with the Fields Family as their enemies, t he Shear Family would not benefit from crossing the Collins and the Northern King

as well.

Cynthion Group was merely a pharmaceutical firm and must prioritize profit above all; a cting wilfully over small matters would only affect how much the Shear Family and Leon gain in the end.

Cynthia pouted but decided against protesting for the sake of the company.

Chapter 411

"Mister Collins, Mister Lowe, so long as you're willing to make **a** purchase, Cynthion Gro up will allow it," Harvey said with a smile.

"Good." Both Jacob and Anson relaxed.

Within a blink of an eye, the first and second-

grade Energy Nurturing Pills were soon emptied from the shelves and since there was a limited supply, most people only ended up with the second–

grade Energy Nurturing Pills and **for** some of the people who were standing toward the end **of** the line, they failed to purchase anything.

Jacob was not able to make any purchases for the first-

grade Energy Nurturing Pills and only managed to obtain two hundred second– grade Energy Nurturing Pills, which was still considered fortunate compared to many ot hers who remained empty–handed.

Fane came close **to** bursting into laughter at the sight of the crowd fighting over the pills . As the others. fought over the first–

grade Energy Nurturing Pills, he purchased one thousand pills. He credited his success

to Leon as he was the one who informed Fane about the launch ahead of time.

"Sir, you're brilliant!" Fane's men fawned over him.

"Of course! Here are a few dozen first-

grade Energy Nurturing Pills. Take them! Remember to work hard on your training and make me proud!" Fane tossed **a** small flask that contained thirty to forty pills **to** his men.

"Thank you, Mister Poole."

Fane's subordinates were overjoyed. Other families had to fight for the first– grade Energy Nurturing Pills and while those who were considered lucky could purchas e a hundred pills, those who were not as fortunate ended up with none at all. Yet, Fane offered his subordinates the pills without hesitation.

"Sir, should we go back now that we have the pills?" One of the men asked.

"There's no hurry. Let's stick around! The Energy Nurturing Pills are gone, but Cynthion Group is selling Beauty Pills, Life–

Prolonging Pills, and Nurturing Pills. I need **to** get some Beauty Pills and Like– Prolonging Pills for my sister and parents," Fane said with a smile.. "You're so considerate, Sir! I heard that Cynthion Group is launching the Styptic Pills and Circulation Pills that can be used for injuries as well. Martial artists often get int o fights with one another and we can buy some of those for safekeeping!" Another one of Fane's men suggested.

"Yeah, that's right. I'll get a little of everything later." Fane nodded.

Hearing the conversation between Fane and his men, the others soon came to a realiza tion that if the Energy Nurturing Pills were so effective, the other alchemical pills that Cy nthion Group was selling had to be of the same quality.

Within an instant, everyone in the hall decided to follow Fane's lead to purchase every s ingle type of pill.

"Thank you for your support on our Energy Nurturing Pills! And now, we shall move on t o the other alchemical pills." Cynthia clapped her hands and signaled a few hostesses t o carry the other alchemical pills

onto the stage.

Apart from martial artists and heirs **of** countless powerful families **in** Springfield City, many of the high-

born ladies were invited to the opening ceremony as well.

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Chapter 412

All the businessmen and high-

born ladies came for **the** sake of alchemical pills such as the Beauty Pills and Life– Prolonging Pills and since the testing of the Energy Nurturing Pills helped to build a foun dation of trust toward Cynthion Group's products, the crowd instantly started fighting ov er the remaining pills.

The rest of the alchemical pills were not as costly as the Energy Nurturing Pills and wer e sold for a few hundred to

a thousand for each pill. Since Leon worked ahead for mass production, the other pills would not face the same issue with a supply as the Energy Nurturing Pills. Even so, the launch of the remaining pills pushed the crowd toward the peak of excitement.

At the back of the crowd, Gilbert remained standing and stared at the stage with a dark expression.

The Four Major Families were always competitors, with every one of them trying to be **o n** top and the Youngs were no exception.

In recent times, the talk of the city has been the new cosmetic product line launched by t he Elegante Group. Advertised with high-

end quality and affordable **prices**, Elegante **Group** profited tremendously, showing uni maginable potential for future growth

Elegante Group was under the Young Family and they were already beginning to surpa ss **all** other families in terms of financial capabilities, only for the Shears to launch Cynth ion Group out of the blue.

Considering what Cynthion Group managed to achieve in a single day during the openin g ceremony, it was inevitably going to out– fame Elegante Group, which was hardly good news to the Young Family.

Gilbert could already imagine how the Shear Family could defeat the other three Major Families with the help of Cynthion Group.

"Damn it! Where'd this Cynthion Group come **from?** If the Shears have the recipes for a II these magical alchemical pills, why didn't they launch it before? Why now? This is too strange!" Gilbert clenched his fists in

frustration.

The Young Family was so close to becoming the top **of** the Four Major Families, only to be caught up by the Shear Family.

Meanwhile, Anson was staring at the crowd darkly as well.

Though Elegante Group made its mark earlier, Anson did not pay much mind to it, as m erely an economical advantage was **not** sufficient in shaking the cores **of** the other thre e families. Even if the Young Family plotted to become the top Family in Springfield City , it would not be easy.

However, the situation with the Shear Family was different. The potential that Cynthion Group showed surpassed Elegante Group in many ways, and the Energy Nurturing Pills they cold would soon become crucial to every martial artist in the city; which meant that all forces would have to fawn over the Shear Family in the future.

It was foreseeable that the Shear Family would soon become the most powerful family a nd no one would be able to change it.

Anson and his farmily wished for nothing less, but he could not help it unless other famili es obtained ways in producing the alchemical pills as well.

The opening ceremony for Cynthion Group arrived at its end, and Cynthia shot Leon a look, signaling him to follow her backstage.

Chapter 413

Harvey and

the others were still busy selling the alchemical pills on stage and there was no one els

backstage.

"Cynthia, what do you need?" Leon asked,

"You're the chairman **of** this company so I figured that I should let you know how much we've profited today. I did a rough calculation and we have made a sale of over 260 milli on and over 130 million of sheer profit." Cynthia beamed and said.

Though the Shear Family held properties **worth** billions and a mere profit of a hundred million did not mean much, it was Cynthia's first attempt at running a business and she was overjoyed that her company with Leon made such an impressive profit on the very f irst day.

"What? Over

130 million of sheer profit? T- That much?!" Leon was **both** stunned. Like Cynthia, it was his first attempt **at** starting a business and its success guaranteed him **a** lifetime worth of fortune.

Leon was over the moon.

The total sum of assets owned by the Four Major Families added up to no more than a hundred billion and if Cynthion Group could make a sheer profit of millions within one da y, the company would soon become the most powerful force in the city.

Realizing that Gilbert and the Young Family would have no excuse for disapproving of h is relationship with Iris, Leon grinned from ear to ear but immediately sobered from the e xcitement at the next instant.

Cynthion Group only managed to achieve such success because of the Energy Nurturin g Pills, which required countless rare ingredients including wild Panax and fleece flower root that grew for over a hundred years.

He already exhausted the Shear Family's stock of those ingredients to produce ten thou sand Energy Nurturing Pills and if they failed **to** find more

raw ingredients, they would struggle to proceed with mass

production, and achieve **the** same kind of **success** over **a** day would be almost impossi ble.

It was still too early for them to celebrate.

Seeing the concern on Leon's face, Cynthia consoled him and said, "Don't worry, Leon. We didn't know that those ingredients can be used to make Energy Nurturing **Pills and** we didn't have much saved up. We will start sourcing for the ingredients and get started on the second batch of the Energy Nurturing Pills **as** soon

as possible."

Despite what she said, Cynthia knew that the ingredients needed for the Energy Nurturi ng Pills were far too rare and what little supply they might secure would not be sufficient to satisfy the need for the pills in all families **of** Springfield City.

It was determined that the demand for the Energy Nurturing Pills would surpass its supp ly, but that would only work toward Cynthion Group's advantage.

The rarer the Energy Nurturing Pills became, the more influential Cynthion Group would become. It would only be a concern if there was an abundant supply of Energy Nurturin g Pills and Leon understood this.

He discussed with Benedict in length and decided that Cynthion Group would focus mainly on selling ordinary medicines and alchemical pills w ould only be one of the many products.

Though it would require time and effort, the company would only need one to two years to reach the same level of financial stability as the Four Maj or Families as long as it continued to grow.

"That

way,

I can be considered a proper match for Iris and I'll get to marry her!' Leon thought to him self.

Chapter 414

This was his greatest wish.

"Leon, one more thing. We have kept a thousand first-

grade Energy Nurturing Pills to ourselves and here's half of them. My grandfather asked me to hand

this over to you." Cynthia took out a few jade flasks and handed them to Leon.

The Premium energy Nurturing Pills that Leon produced were limited and the Shear Fa mily was given two hundred and seventy pills **in** total. Since it **was** far from enough to s upply the need **of** the martial artists in the Shear Family, Benedict reserved a thousand f irst–

grade Energy Nurturing Pills in private. However, since the Shear Family and Leon were partners with one responsible for supplying ingredients and the other responsible for m anufacturing the pills, Benedict decided that Leon was entitled to half of the pills he rese rved as well.

This was Benedict's **way** of running a business.

"I-" Leon already had enough Premium Energy Nurturing Pills and had no use for firstgrade Energy Nurturing Pills. He wanted to decline the offer, but soon changed his mind when he remembered that the Young Family seemed to require the Energy Nurturing P ills.

"Alright. I'll take them, then." He accepted the pills with a big grin, all the while plotting to gain Gilbert's favor by offering him the Energy Nurturing Pills since this would only be b eneficial to his relationship with

Iris.

Just then, they heard footsteps approaching and Harvey walked backstage with a smile. "Mister Wolf, Cynthia, what are the two of you talking about?"

"Nothing much. I'm just telling Leon about how much we've profited today." Cynthia expl ained.

"Mister Shear, it's good timing that **you came**. There's something I need your help with," Leon said.

"What is it?" Harvey asked in confusion.

"I need a wild Panax or wild fleece flower root that **has** grown for over five hundred year s. Will it be possible for the Shear Family to track it down as soon as possible?" Leon re ached the peak of **the** Meditation Phase.

and would move into Foundation Phase soon.

A wild Panax or wild fleece flower root that grew for over five hundred years could be us ed to produce Spiritual Energy Pills and one pill was all it would take for Leon to reach the next stage of his training.

The Foundation Phase **was** equivalent to the Realm of Supreme Master for martial artis ts and if he managed to reach such a level, he would be as powerful as **a** martial artist **in** the Intermediate State **of** the Realm of a Supreme Mas ter.

Leon would then become one of the most powerful men **in** his generation and would ev en rival martial artists **of** the older generation; hence, the production and consumption of the Spiritual Energy Pill were

crucial to him.

"Mister Wolf, why would you need that? Do you intend on making an even better version of Energy Nurturing Pills?" Harvey asked in excitement.

Leon told Harvey that he could make Energy Nurturing Pills with a more powerful effect with **a** wild Panax or

wild fleece flower root that grew for over five hundred years, and Harvey did not forget a bout it.

"I suppose. If you

can find what I'm asking for, I guarantee that you are going to reach the Realm of a Sup reme Master!" Leon nodded.

The Spiritual Energy Pills were the deepest secret of sage art and Leon knew better tha n to share the information with Harvey. Naturally, he was not lying either, as the Pure E nergy Pills had far better effects compared to the Energy Nurturing Pills.

Chapter 415

Harvey was at the peak of the Innate State and one Pure Energy Pill would help him ac hieve the Realm of a Supreme Master.

"That's great!" Harvey was excited at first **but** calmed slightly when he realized that it wo uld be extremely difficult to find wild plants that grew for five hundred years or above.

"Mister Wolf, to **tell** you the truth, **this** is incredibly hard to come by, even **for** us Shears, but don't worry. I will send my men to the neighboring cities to ask around and I'll let you know as soon as I find something!"

"Sure. I'll be waiting for good news from you, then," Leon said with a smile.

After discussing matters about the ingredients, Leon took some Beauty Pills and Life– Prolonging Pills, before returning to the hall.

When Leon returned, Iris asked, "Leon, I didn't see you anywhere in the hall just now. Where'd you go?"

"Oh, I went to buy some of the pills. This is called the Beauty Pill. It works best for wom en and **can** preserve your beauty." Leon pulled out a flask of Beauty Pills and handed it to Iris. "Thank you." Iris accepted the pill happily. Though the Beauty Pills would only cost a hundred, she was still pleased that Leon specifically bought something for her.

"So long as you like **it,** you don't have to thank me," Leon said with a smile and reached for Iris's hand.

Iris flushed. She just agreed to be Leon's girlfriend and was still too shy for intimacy, es pecially in public where there were people around them.

Worried that someone might see them, she pulled her hand away from his grip and said , "Leon, the ceremony is ending soon, so let's go home."

"Yeah, sure." Leon nodded and the two proceeded to leave.

Gilbert stared darkly **as** the two left, chatting and laughing along the way. He hesitated, before following the two with a few of his subordinates.

Outside the hall of Cynthion Group, Leon and Iris arrived at the parking lot and were ab out to get into the car when they heard someone snorting behind them.

"Brat, I've been waiting for you for some time now!" Theodore strode over with Gordon a nd a few other men.

"Who are you?" Leon

scanned Theodore up and down in confusion. He saw Theodore arguing with Harvey du ring the ceremony, but did not know who he was.

"Leon, this is Theodore, the

eldest son **of** the Fields Family," Iris explained warily, as she wondered if Theodore was coming after her **or** Leon.

"Eldest son of the Fields Family? I don't think I know you. What do you want with me?" L eon asked.

"Stop playing dumb,

kid! You destroyed Mister Fields's plan the last time and we are going to make **you** pay! "Gordon roared and took a step forward.

"You! You were the ones who attacked Cynthia!"

Chapter 416

When Leon saw Gordon, he instantly realized why Harvey seemed so resentful toward Theodore.

Behind the group, Gilbert

stood with his men and observed as Theodore ambushed Leon and Iris.

"Sir, Miss Iris is in trouble. Should we interfere?" One of the men asked

"It's fine. Theodore seems **to** be after Leon, so I don't think he would do anything to Iris. Let's sit back and observe. If Theodore dares to lay his hands on Iris, we'll stop him," Gil bert said hesitantly.

The Young Family and the Fields Family were not direct competitors and Theodore wou ld not be foolish enough to harm Iris.

'As for Leon Wolf,' Gilbert thought to himself, 'that brat dares to pursue my daughter!'

Gilbert despised Leon and would only be pleased if Theodore helped to teach Leon a le sson. It would be ideal if his daughter managed to realize how useless Leon truly was af ter this and decide to stay away from him.

The opening ceremony for Cynthion Group ended and people were beginning to leave; with all the cars in the way, Leon, Theodore, and the others did not notice Gilbert from t he distance.

"Theodore, what do you want?" Iris asked.

"Iris Young, this is between me and this kid. Stay out of it. I don't want to hurt that pretty face of yours!" Theodore smirked devilishly as he scanned Iris's enticing features and s eductive curves greedily.

Like Anson, Theodore was one of the infamous playboys in Springfield City and was kn own to be as despicable as Anson.

As the most beautiful woman in Springfield City, Iris

was the dream woman of all men and Theodore was no exception. Out of consideration of Iris's status as **the** eldest daughter of the Young Family, he knew better than to act o n his impulses, but always secretly fantasized about having a taste **of** Iris.

Apart from Iris, Cynthia was yet another breathtaking beauty and he could only imagine the pleasure of making the two women his.

"Theodore, I don't care if you have any personal grudge against Leon. He's my boyfrien d and you'll have **to** get past me **if you** want to hurt him!" Iris gritted out with determinati on, hoping that Theodore would

retreat.

"What? He's your boyfriend?" Shocked, Theodore's

eyes darted between Iris and Leon, consumed by envy that Leon managed to capture the interest of the most beautiful woman in Springfield City.

In a distance, Gilbert's expression darkened when he heard Iris admitting to her relation ship with Leon.

He was worried that Leon would fool Iris into falling in love with him, and did **not** expect the two to become a couple in a matter of months.

chapter 417

It happened too fast and went beyond his expectation.

Instantly, Gilbert's resentment toward Leon deepened. If he **was** merely hoping that The odore would teach Leon a lesson earlier, he decided that he wanted Theodore to kill Le on after all.

"Iris, others might be afraid

of the Youngs, but I'm not! I don't care if he's your boyfriend. He destroyed my plan and I'm not about to let him go today. Stay out of the way, or I won't show you any mercy!" T heodore said coldly.

It did not matter who Leon was and even if he was the **son**–in– law of the Young Family, he would merely be Theodore's equal in terms **of** status.

"I won't g-" Iris said, but **was** interrupted before she could finish.

"Iris, I started this. Let me handle this." Leon took a step forward and shielded Iris behin d **his** back.

"But Theodore's strong," Iris muttered worriedly. Though Leon was not entirely helpless, Theodore was the eldest son of one of the Four Major Families and one **of** the most ski lled martial artists in the younger

generation of Springfield City; Leon did not stand a chance of winning.

"Don't worry. I'm a guy. I'm supposed to protect you, not the other way around. Besides, so what **if** he is the eldest son of the Fields Family? I don't care!" Leon said calmly.

He already

crossed Jaco and Anson from previous events and he did not care if he added another enemy to the list. If both Jacob and Anson failed to defeat him, Leon had nothing to fear toward Theodore.

"How arrogant!" Theodore roared in rage.

"Mister Fields, this kid attacked me and injured me from the time before. Please let me fight him! I seek revenge for what he did to me!" Gordon said viciously.

From his previous encounter with Leon, Gordon noticed that while Leon had no true ene rgy flow, his strength was equivalent to a martial artist at the Initial Innate State.

Gordon was at the Intermediate Innate State and with the help of the Energy Nurturing Pill he took from the opening ceremony earlier, he reached the Advanced Innate State, and killing Leon should be effortless for

him.

"Fine. Teach him a lesson for

me. Go all out. There's no need for mercy. Just make sure he doesn't die and I will take responsibility for anything that happens!" Theodore commanded coldly.

He learned from Gordon that Leon was in the Initial Innate State and knew that Gordon was more than

capable of defeating Leon.

Theodore was not bothered by the relationship between Leon and Iris and decided that he could simply plot to make Iris his once he destroyed Leon.

"Brat, prepare to suffer for what you did!" Gordon roared as he pointed at Leon.

"Leon, they outnumbered us. Don't get ahead of yourself." Iris took Leon's arm but was i nterrupted before she could finish her sentence.

Chapter 418

"Iris, don't worry. I'll be fine. Trust me!" Leon consoled her, before stepping forward.

Iris fell into silence with resignation. The situation escalated beyond control and she had no other option but

to believe in Leon.

"You probably didn't see **this** coming, **did** you? You snuck behind my back and injured me, causing me to stay in bed for over half a month! You will bleed today for the humiliation **you** put me through!" Gordon glared daggers at Leon.

"Be grateful, old twat! I spared you and that's the only reason why you managed to esca pe with your life! You won't be as lucky this time!" Leon said calmly as he stared at Gord on in the most condescending

manner possible.

"Bullsh*t! Die, you brat!" Enraged, Gordon launched himself toward Leon, aiming his fist at Leon's chest.

"Leon, watch out!" Iris shouted.

Having started her training as a martial artist as well, she could sense how powerful Gor don's true energy was despite not being able to read his level precisely; on the other ha nd, there was no true energy flow at all in Leon's body and the difference between the t wo was too obvious.

Her heart raced and threatened to leap out of her chest.

"This kid's too arrogant!" Theodore and his men sneered as they stared at Leon like the y were looking at a

fool.

Leon was merely in the Initial Innate State and it would be suicidal for him to provoke G ordon.

Meanwhile, Gilbert felt more or less the same.

Leon was an orphan who was married once and was hardly even **as** capable as an ordi nary man, whereas Gordon was a skilled martial artist who could easily destroy Leon wit hout moving a single muscle.

"That's exactly what I want!' Gilbert thought, 'Gordon better kick some sense into that br at or I will!'

"You dare to show **off** when that's all you can do?" Leon snorted as his fist darted forwa rd as well.

"Baam!"

Followed by a deafening noise, the energy of Leon's fists exploded on Gordon's chest.

Gordon was instantly sent flying

like a broken doll, slamming hard on the ground after bumping into one of the cars park ed behind the group.

Both Gilbert and Theodore were stunned. None of them expected Leon to defeat Gordo n with a single move **and** silence fell over the parking lot.

"How? How's that possible?" Gordon covered his chest with disbelief. He was certain th at Leon was in the Initial Innate State from their previous encounter, yet Leon defeated him within a split second.

"Gordon, you told me that this brat **is at** the Initial Innate State. What's going on?!" Theo dore's expression

darkened.

He

did not sense any flow of true energy from Leon's attack and had no means of detecting Leon's power

level accurately.

Chapter 419

However, if Leon was capable of defeating Gordon, who was at the Advanced Innate St ate, it would not be possible that Leon's power level stopped at the Initial Innate State.

"Mister Fields, I can assure you that he was only at the Initial Innate State before this! H e must have used some kind **of** dirty trick." Gordon glared at Leon. He had a taste of ho w sly Leon was from the time before and suspected Leon **of** using certain tricks, or he w ould not have been able **to** defeat Gordon with **such** ease.

"Enough! The **two of** you were in a proper fight, so what tricks can he possibly use? Ev en **if** he did, we would've seen it!" Theodore roared impatiently.

"But," Gordon was instantly rendered speechless.

"Mister Fields, Gordon has just broken through the bottleneck of his training. He's probably still adjusting to it. Please allow me to fight this brat!" Another man suggested.

"Forget it! Something is off with this kid. I'll do this myself! I don't want to send you all ou t only for you **to** embarrass me!" Theodore snorted as he stepped forward.

The most powerful subordinate he had was at the Advanced Innate State like Gordon a nd **if** Gordon failed to defeat Leon, there would be no point in sending the others.

"Kid, I don't care what tricks you pulled. Consider yourself unlucky for running into me to day! I shall teach you what despair truly **feels** like!" Theodore sneered as he unleashed his true energy that pierced through the air like a sharp blade.

Iris struggled to withstand the waves of power and paled as she backed away.

"The peak of the Innate State!" Leon's expression darkened. While he stood a chance a gainst martial artists at the peak of the Innate State, the possibility of winning was slim a s he was at around the same level of strength as Theodore.

Theodore had **a** group of martial artists at his disposal and **if** they decided to utilize their advantage in numbers, Leon would be sure to lose.

"You're right! Take this!" Theodore sneered and charged toward Leon.

Facing an enemy of equal strength, Leon dared not to move recklessly and dodged the attack, or

only for Theodore to launch yet another attack. Instantly, the two were throwing fists and kicks at one another.

Leon knew that he was outnumbered and considered ways **of** winning as he countered Theodore's attack.

For the time being, the best solution was to defeat Theodore before Theodore's men de cided to swarm **him**. Once Theodore was defeated, the others would crumble.

Leon slowed his motions as he dodged Theodore's strikes, which Theodore saw as an opportunity to intensify his assault. Soon, Leon was left in a defensive position.

"So, you're at the Advanced Innate State. You're quite close to **the** peak. It's no wonder that you manage to

beat Gordon!"

Chapter 420

"But you have no true energy, so you're just someone who's trained in external power! External power, however powerful at the start, isn't built to last. Let's see how much longer you can take this!" Theodore sneered, deciding that Leon was a fighter trained **in** external power since Leon showed **no** sign of true energy

flow.

Theodore never heard of anyone reaching the Advanced Innate State through external power alone, and was impressed that Leon managed to achieve such an accomplishment. However, without the support of **true** energy, external power would not last in prolonged battles and as Leon **was** slightly weaker than Theodore, The odore was certain that he would be able to defeat Leon soon.

As he anticipated, Leon paled and began to back away under Theodore's relentless atta ck.

"It's over, Brat! Stay down!" Seeing an opportunity, Theodore launched **a** punch toward Leon's chest at the speed of lightning, knowing that Leon would be severely injured even if he survived the impact.

"Yes!"

"Mister Fields, destroy him!"

Theodore's men were all martial artists and all realized that Theodore was close to winn ing. They cheered,

while Iris stood worriedly as she observed the fight, looking **as** pale **as a** ghost.

"We don't know who's going to win just yet! You're getting ahead of yourself!" Leon smirked and stilled for a moment, b efore striking.

'Something's wrong!' An ominous feeling overwhelmed Theodore when he saw the stra nge smile on Leon's face. 'No, I have nothing to worry about. I'm stronger **than** him and if we **both** strike at the same time, he's going to be the one who gets hurt!'

"You're so dead, kid!" Theodore sneered and sped up **as** he threw his fist at Leon.

"Baam!"

A tremendous wave of energy exploded from Theodore's **fist** and swarmed toward Leo n, while spiritual energy radiated off of Leon's fist, barely countering Theodore's power.

Theodore was shocked that Leon was capable of withstanding him at full strength.

Leon was obviously beneath him and was not able to counter his attack directly, yet dis played equal strength

at the very last moment.

Though caught by surprise, Theodore regained his composure almost immediately.

Leon was at the same level as him at best and while he might not be able to defeat Leo n, Leon would struggle

to defeat him as well.

The reality struck cruelly as Theodore did not know that Leon had **both** spiritual energy and true energy.

Once he fended **off** Theodore's attack with his spiritual energy, Leon fired up his true en ergy **and** struck

again.

"The Advanced Acquired State?" Theodore was utterly stunned when he finally sensed t he true energy flow

from Leon.

Theodore would have been able to defeat a person at the Advanced Acquired State wit h ease, but with his true energy completely sealed by Leon, he was defenseless toward Leon's true energy.

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