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Even though none of them admitted it, **they** all thought that Anson just tr ied to pick on Leon in retaliation for how he humiliated the Collins just now!

"Mister Collins is right! That fellow Leon possesses exceptional alchem y skills, what's to say he doesn't have any **way** of hiding one's true ener gy? I can prove it!" Jacob stepped forward **in** support of Anson.

"Me, too! I can prove it as well! I dueled with Leon in **the** past, and desp ite him having attained only Acquired states, he displayed skills that one could only see in **a** person with Peak Innate State! I **was** no match for hi m. at all!" Theodore, too, stepped forward.

Theodore and Jacob sounded genuine when making **these** statements.

They were telling the truth; they crossed paths with Leon not too long ag o, and lost out terribly to Leon in

battle!

However, none of them knew that Leon practiced the Sage Arts, and tho ught **that** Leon used **special tactics** unbeknownst **to** them **to** hide **his** tru e energy and power!

"What? Is that true?" The crowd was bewildered to hear this.

Considering how highly both Jacob and Theodore were perceived in the crowd's eyes, none of them believed **that** they would deliberately frame Leon in front of so many people.

"Could Harvey's attainment of Initial Supreme State be a hoax?"

"That sounds possible. This whole thing does seem a bit fishy."

Everyone's minds began to waver.

They all knew that Leon was the master alchemist behind the Shears, and was skilled in the art of alchemy that was lost to man, therefore, it would not be a stretch **to** say that he possibly knew of ways to hide or change one's true energy.

Besides, Harvey indeed took such a long time, and yet **came** through at t he exact right moment, to rouse suspicion.

Seeing that Anson successfully riled the crowd **up again**, Harvey began to get angry. "Anson, since you question my capabilities, why don't you and I duel?"

"Why not?" Anson scoffed **at this**. He was certain that **Harvey** faked this and thus did not think he would **lose**

at all.

"Well, you asked for it! I'll let you have a taste for yourself!" Harvey ca ckled as his energy surged and bubbled in retaliation. He intended to shu t Anson up once and for **all!**

"You're not scaring me, Harvey! You and I have always been on **par**, and if **you** can defeat me today, I'll change my mind about all this, but if you lose to me, both **you** and Leon will be dead meat!" Anson declared, sneering.

The crowd almost stormed Leon just now, and yet, Harvey ruined things at the last minute. If he could prove to everyone that Harvey faked ever ything, the **Shears** and Leon would pay the price for their deceit!

"Well, you two should duel! This will be a perfect opportunity for us to s ee whether all this is true or not!"

George said calmly.

He still fumed over Leon's rejection of him in public, and now that they were at a crossroads, *he was willing* to let his son take on Harvey. If Harvey turned out to be faking this, it would be a perfect *opp ortunity to*

prove that Leon was a crook and punish him for what happened!

However, at the same time, he was worried that on the flip side, Harvey could *be* telling the truth, *and in* order to avoid any accidents, he remind ed them that this was just a duel and not to take things *too far*.

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As for the Shears and Leon, there was no harm in letting Harvey take Anson on as **this** would prove Harvey's newfound abilities and dampen the crowd's worries.

Besides, it was clear that Anson tried to stir up trouble, and this would be a perfect opportunity for Harvey to

teach Anson a lesson.

With that, both Harvey and Anson got onto the stage, whereas Leon and Cynthia retreated to one side **so** that there would be adequate space for the duel.

"You can go first, Anson! Otherwise, I'm worried that you won't be able to even retaliate if I were to go first!" Harvey declared haughtily.

Because he attained a new level via the help of the True Energy Pills, he was not too stable **yet**, **and his** energy ebbed and flowed with every min ute, making everyone watching doubt **if** he truly attained Initial Supreme

State!

"What **a crook**! Well, since you **have** a death wish, **I'll** help you fulfill i t!" Anson scoffed. He, too, could sense that Harvey's energy **was** not too stable and was thus even more certain that Harvey deceived them. With **that**, he cocked his fist back and flung it forward at the **speed** of light, straight **in** Harvey's direction.

"Perfect!" Harvey did not defend himself **and** instead stepped forward to take Anson's offense.

"Thud!"

With a loud slam, Harvey's attack ripped the energy from Anson's **fist ri ght** apart and surged straight toward

Anson's chest.

Anson was shocked by this. He never thought that Harvey would **have** gotten so powerful **all** of a sudden, **and** he was so fast that Anson could not dodge in time.

Harvey remembered that they were just dueling and tried to take **his** ener gy **back**, but since he was still too immature and was yet to gain **full** con trol **of** his newfound force and speed, he did not manage to do **so in** time . By the time he wanted to **do** so, all his energy already surged toward A nson and struck him squarely **in**

the middle of his chest.

Anson was hurled into mid—air, and he spat out a mouthful of blood before **finally** landing on the ground in a

heap.

A surge of excruciating pain shot through his entire body. He seemed **to** have broken a few of his ribs.

"Anson, are you okay?" Ruth was utterly panicked by this. She and the r est of **the** Collins quickly helped

Anson up.

"All hail Mister Shear!" At **the** same time, a wave of cheers spread throu gh the Shears as they congratulated Harvey **on his** victory.

"How incredible!"

"Harvey defeated Anson with just one punch. It seems that he has indeed attained the Initial Supreme **State**!"

"That's right. This means that the True Energy Pills are true to their wor d **and** can indeed help fighters in the Peak Innate State reach the realm of Supreme Masters!"

The entire crowd erupted into a flurry of excitement, especially the youn gsters. They were all fixated on the pills in Leon's hand, their eyes **lit** up with **desire.**

After this duel, they finally understood the extent of the powers encomp assed by the realm of Supreme Masters, and **thus** fully believed in the Tr ue Energy Pills' power!

As for the rest, including the Collins, the Fields, and the Lowes, their fac es were dark with displeasure.

"Does anyone else dare to question my capability? If **yes**, challenge me! "Harvey swept his cold glance at Jacob and Theodore.

Anson was not the only one who riled the crowd up; Jacob and Theodore were involved in this too, Harvey deliberately tried to pick on them.

and

"Um," The color drained from their faces. Now that Harvey attained Init ial Supreme State, he was the first of them to do so, so how could they e ven match up to him?

They would not dare to take on his challenge it would be a death sentence!

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"Since there are no more doubts, we shall continue the sales drive." Leo n and Cynthia stepped forward.

"Wait a minute!" George scoffed at this, "Harvey, when you and my son were dueling, I've already made it clear that this is just a duel, yet you d eliberately injured him so badly! What's the meaning of this?"

George turned to shoot Harvey a cold, accusing glare.

"Elder George, I apologize for this. I intended to take my energy back, b ut because I attained a new level, I wasn't able to control myself that wel l. I injured Mister Collins by accident," Harvey apologized, knowing

that he was in **the** wrong for this.

"Just apologizing? How's this enough? I don't care whether you did it o n purpose or not, but you have to pay for this!" George let out an angry g rowl as his energy surged all around him, sending a wave of power that s uffocated Harvey.

"Get lost, Old Collins! There's no way to avoid getting hurt in a physical combat like this! Besides, this was a fair and square duel, your grandson lost, and the only thing to blame is his mediocrity!" Benedict sneered as he stepped forward to block George's threatening aura.

"My grandson? Mediocre? Well, well, I intend **to** see just how powerful your grandson is, then!" George

cackled.

"What? Are you intending to pick on someone smaller than your size? O ld Collins, the Shears will not stand down!" the color drained from Bene dict's face as **he** realized George intended to attack Harvey. With a wave of his hand, the masters of the Shear family immediately stepped forwar d **to** form a battle stance in front of

the Collins.

The entire atmosphere grew tense within seconds.

"Old Shear, don't worry. I wouldn't pick on someone younger than me! We're not that desperate!" George said coldly.

The major families always placed worth on their reputation and dignity. As a member **of the** older generation, **it** would not be appropriate for hi m to pick on someone younger than him in front of everyone. This would humiliate the family greatly and make them the laughingstock of the to wn!

He would never stoop so low!

Besides, the Shears were **not** to **be** underestimated; if he insisted on doin g so, it would not benefit the Collins

to get into a conflict with the Shears!

"What are you trying to do, then?" Benedict asked dubiously, unsure of what George tried to do.

"Well, you said yourself that one should pick on someone their size, so I 'll hand this over to the youngsters to settle this dispute!" George pause d, then turned to glance at his granddaughter. "Ruth, after what happene d to your brother, it's up to you to avenge him!"

"Don't worry, Grandpa, I'll do whatever it takes to make him pay for hu rting Anson!" Ruth nodded and stepped onto the stage amongst the look s of disbelief from everyone in the audience.

"Harvey Shear, I challenge you to a duel!" Ruth pointed at Harvey, her pretty face etched with a scowl.

"You challenge me?" Harvey pointed at himself with a look of surprise.

Even though Ruth was a natural talent, she was still a girl and thus did n ot like competing *in* battle. *She*

never took part in open combat, and rarely showcased the true extent of her powers to *people* outside her

family.

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Besides their immediate family, no one from the outside world knew the true extent of her powers, and thus

did not know that she already attained the Peak Innate State!

The only information that was known to the public about Ruth was that s he was one **of** the Four Beauties **in** Springfield City!

Her beauty was known far and wide, even more **so** than her talent in combat!

"How strange! Harvey already attained the Initial Supreme State, and he was the first out **of this** generation to **do** so. Not even Anson or Theodor e are matched for him, so why did the **Collins** send Ruth to challenge him? What's the meaning of this?"

"Who knows? Perhaps Elder Collins is too outraged by the humiliation t hat he sent his granddaughter to embarrass the Shears. Even **if** Harvey w on, **it** wouldn't be a righteous victory at all!"

The crowd was shocked by this sudden twist of events and exchanged gl ances of puzzlement.

None of them knew of Ruth's true powers, but even if they did, it would not change anything.

Even if Ruth was already **at** the Peak Innate State, Harvey attained the I nitial Supreme State, **and** thus, she

was no match for him at all!

However, Harvey was one of the best in **the** city, and he **was** about five or six years older than Ruth, even if he won against her, it would not be **a** proud win at all.

However, if he lost to Ruth, they would become the laughingstock of the city!

The truth was, nobody thought Harvey would lose. **Up** until now, no one could match up to Harvey's powers at all, much less defeat him!

"Grandpa, Ruth is only at the Peak Innate State. It wouldn't be a good id ea **to** send her up against Harvey," Anson murmured, clutching his chest

"Yes, he's right, Elder Collins. Let's **call** this off." The rest of the Collin s agreed.

Even though it would not be embarrassing for Ruth **to** lose to Harvey, th ey were far more concerned about Ruth being injured in Harvey's hands, like Anson.

"Don't worry. Ruth will be fine," George said calmly.

"But-

"the rest of them were about to say something further, but when they sa w how determined George was, they had no choice but **to** relent.

Meanwhile, onstage, Harvey sneered. "Miss Collins, you're no match for me **at** all, so I advise you to retreat while yo u can!"

Ruth **was** about the **same** age as his sister Cynthia, and by rough estimat ion, he guessed that she was probably on par with Cynthia, which was ab out the Intermediate Innate State.

With **his** newfound abilities, defeating her would be as easy **as** reciting t he alphabet!

"I'm willing to retreat, provided you break your arm in compensation fo r hurting my brother. **If** you do **so**, **I** might consider showing **you** mercy! "Ruth said coldly.

"Break my arm in compensation? Impossible!" Harvey was outraged by this.

"Well, so be it. We shall see who's laughing!" Ruth scoffed and, without a second's hesitation, got into her fighting stance.

"You-

"the color drained from Harvey's face. He knew just how badly the stak es were stacked against him; even if he won, it would not be a true victor y, but now that things

progressed *to* this, he could not call things off. This would be perceived as cowardice and reflect poorly on his family.

"You go first, Miss Collins! I'll let you take three offenses!" Harvey tuc ked his hands behind his back. There was no point trying to back down anymore. **To** allow Ruth three turns in advance would at least help preserve the Sh ears' dignity during this fight.

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Chapter 585

"What a gentleman! No wonder Mister Shear is one of the most capable youths in this city!" the crowd could not help but praise Harvey for his courtesy.

"Alright, you asked for it! Don't blame me for humiliating you, then!" Ruth smiled and with a quick dart, appeared before Harvey like a flash of lightning. Then, she cocked her fist back and brought it down hard, sending a flash of energy surging toward Harvey's chest.

Harvey, who underestimated her before this, offered to let Ruth start first because he did not think she would do much harm, but when he sensed the energy surging through Ruth's body, his face turned pale.

"Initial Supreme State!" Harvey was utterly shocked by this. He never thought, not even in his wildest dreams, that Ruth already attained the Initial Supreme State!

What was even worse was, since he underestimated Ruth's powers, he failed to dodge her attack, and by the time he realized this, it was too late.

Harvey's entire body lurched to one side to dodge Ruth's attack, but her energy followed his suit and landed squarely in the middle of his chest.

Harvey sputtered and, like Anson, spat out a mouthful of blood before his entire body was propelled backward by the impact. Even after landing on his feet, he staggered a few more times to catch his balance.

The entire crowd erupted into a flurry of excitement at this.

"The realm of Supreme Masters? I never thought that Ruth Collins, the only girl in the generation, could have attained the Initial Supreme State! This is unbelievable!"

"Yes, it's no wonder Elder Collins was so insistent on sending Ruth to avenge her brother. It turns out he knew all along!"

Everyone was shocked by this, staring at a valiant Ruth onstage with looks of disbelief. They did not mean to underestimate Ruth on purpose; however, not many girls were capable of practicing the ancient martial arts, and it was even rarer to see a woman having attained the Initial Supreme State!

However, Ruth accomplished this at such a young age, so one could only imagine how powerful and talented she must truly be!

"Harvey, that's only the first one! I still have two more to go!" Ruth scoffed and zipped behind him, sending another wave of energy his way.

Harvey almost jumped up in fright. After knowing that Ruth already attained the realm of the Supreme Masters, he did not dare to let her attack him once more and instead, braced himself in a position of offense

this time.

"Thud!" he sent a fistful of energy surging Ruth's way, but Ruth did not budge, not even one bit.

On the contrary, Harvey staggered backward weakly, feeling as though his organs were swirling within his body, and with another sputter, he spat out another mouthful of blood.

Even though both Harvey and Ruth were at the Initial Supreme State, he just attained this level and was yet to gain control over his newfound powers.

However, it was different for Ruth; she remained at the Peak Innate State for four to five years now and

recently broke through to attain the Initial Supreme State.

Since she had a natural talent for martial arts, it did not take long for her to improve significantly after that initial breakthrough.

It was clear who was at the upper hand here.

"Didn't you say you'd let me attack three times, Harvey? What's wrong? Can't stand it anymore?" Ruth

sneered.

"I-" Harvey's face flushed scarlet.

He was no match for Ruth at all, and on top of that, he sustained injuries from Ruth's first attack. *If* he continued to let Ruth unleash her wrath, it would be like a death sentence!

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Chapter 586

"Miss Collins, I admire your power and strength. It's certainly not easy for a girl to attain the realm of the Supreme Masters. I'm no match for you at all, and I admit defeat." Harvey sighed.

"So soon?" Ruth furrowed her brows in disappointment.

However, she already attacked Harvey twice, and it was more than enough to help avenge her brother's

defeat.

Considering Harvey was willing to admit defeat on his grounds, she did not think it appropriate to force him to fight, so she had no choice but to watch as Harvey alighted the stage.

Benedict and the rest of the family were utterly dismayed at Harvey's defeat. Not only did he lose by a landslide, but he was defeated by a young girl, which was even more humiliating!

Yet at the same time, they had to take it in stride. After all, there was no one else who was a better fighter than Harvey, and even he lost to Ruth, so there was no point trying to one-up her anymore.

"Rats!" Cynthia's entire face turned scarlet from rage. She, too, wanted to help avenge her brother as Ruth had, but unfortunately, she did not possess the same prowess as Ruth, and even if she were to take on the challenge, there was no doubt she would lose.

What an amazing feat!

Even Leon was utterly in awe at this and could not help giving Ruth a second glance as she passed.

He met plenty of good fighters and martial artists in both Springfield City and Seacove City, but he never heard of anyone having ever attained the realm of Supreme Masters.

Even Quinton did so with his help, whereas Ruth broke through on her own accord. This was an achievement that no one else could surpass!

"All hail Miss Collins!" a glorious cheer erupted among the Collins.

"What a magnificent fight! Grandpa, I didn't know Ruth attained the Initial Supreme State!" Anson said in excitement, finally understanding why George was so calm when sending Ruth to fight for her brother's

honor.

"That's right. She attained it just a few days ago, but I was the only person who knew about it and was yet to share the news with everyone else," George said, smiling.

"How glorious! Miss Collins attained the realm of Supreme Masters at such a young age. She is indeed one of the best that Springfield City has ever seen!"

"That's right! Not even Harvey was a worthy opponent. She's certainly the best among the best!"

"If she wasn't a girl, I'm sure the Collins would hand over the power to her, and she would no doubt rewrite history!"

"What a pity! Even though there are plenty of young, capable men in this city, not one can even match up to her power. How ironic!"

Everyone was utterly in awe of Ruth's demonstration of power and strength. At this moment, her capabilities far surpassed her pretty face, and she became the most capable young martial artist in the city!

George's smile grew even wider when he overheard the praises.

It was a pity that Leon turned down the Collins' offer. If he did not, Leon's master alchemy skills and Ruth's strengths in martial arts would undoubtedly make the Collins ascend to the top of the hierarchy *in* Springfield City!

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Chapter 587

However, what's most important was that Ruth was a girl; if she **was** a b oy and could thus inherit the family

name, he would not even care about Leon's alchemy skills at all!

Alchemy was just a useful complement, but could not overcome the importance of nurturing good martial arts!

"Come back, Ruth," said George, gesturing for Ruth to return to their sid e.

"Wait a minute, Grandpa. I still have something to do," she replied calmly.

"What is it?" George froze at this.

The audience was just as stunned, and all turned to stare at Ruth with loo ks of puzzlement.

"I want to take on Leon Wolf!" Ruth pointed in Leon's direction, scowling.

"What? Take on me?" Leon was utterly shocked by this. **He** thought this battle was already over, but he never thought that Ruth would want to c hallenge him.

"That's right! Leon Wolf, you rejected the Collins and humiliated us in f ront of so many people, so now, I will challenge **you** to a duel in honor **o f** my family's name!" She said curtly.

The Collins gave

Leon her hand in marriage in exchange for his collaboration, yet he turne d her down without hesitation **as** though she was not good enough for him.

because of this, Ruth secretly seethed with rage and wanted to punish Le on for her ignorance. She would. humiliate him in front **of** the public the same way he did for her!

George did not know how to react to this. He, too, was outraged by Leon 's rejection, but he refrained from trying to retaliate **out of** consideration

that he was a sensible man and the fact that Leon had plenty of people backing him up.

However, if Ruth wanted to **defeat him, this** would not be such a bad thing. This would even be the perfect opportunity to teach Leon and Cynthion Group a lesson!

Besides, since Ruth and Leon were of the same generation, the elders could not possibly intervene.

"How funny! Miss Collins, it's up to me to decide whom I want to colla borate with, and I didn't do **so just** to humiliate your family in public. Di d you expect me **to** take it, even **when it** wasn't what I desired in the firs t place?" Leon said in disapproval.

"Shut up! If you have the balls, you'd come to fight me. **If** you win, I can pretend as though none of that happened, but **if** I win, you have to apol ogize to me **and** my family in public!" Ruth declared.

"I don't accept!" Leon scoffed.

"You-

"Ruth was utterly stunned by this. She never thought that Leon would turn her down without even a

moment's hesitation.

"Leon Wolf, you're the president of Cynthion **Group**, of all things! How can you turn down a woman's challenge? Are you even a man?" Ruth s pat.

"I don't care. I don't intend to entertain your outrageous requests!" Leon waved his hand dismissively.

A sensible man would not choose to pick a fight with a woman. Not only that, but Ruth was far younger than him, even if he won, it would not be a glorious victory at all.

Why would he waste his time and energy fighting Ruth when he would n ot get anything out of it?

Murmurs and whispers spread through the crowd at this.

"That Leon Wolf sure can hold down a challenge. I can't believe even w hen his dignity is being questioned by such a beautiful girl, he was still a ble to turn her down!"

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Chapter 588

"Tsk, what else could he have done? Miss Collins is the best among the best, and no one could match her! If he accepted her challenge right then and there, wouldn't that just be asking for it?"

"Hmm, I guess you're right. It's far better to be a wimp than become the laughingstock of the town for losing to a woman!"

Jeers and taunts echoed

through the crowd. Everyone witnessed for themselves the extent of Rut h's powers; they did not think Leon could stand a chance against her at a 11!

"Did you hear that, Leon Wolf? Are you peeing your pants right now? s o be it, **if** you don't want to accept my challenge. If you get on your knee s and apologize to us right now, I might consider showing you mercy!" Ruth shot Leon a glance of disdain.

She hated cowardly men like this, and she felt nothing but contempt for Leon who did not even have the guts to fight her like a real man.

"What did you say?" a glimmer of malice flashed through Leon's eyes.

"I said, you can either take on my challenge or get on your knees and ap ologize to my family right now! It's up to you!" Ruth said haughtily.

"Alright then! I accept your challenge!" Leon burst into laughter. He kne w that Ruth deliberately provoked him and that he should not have boug ht into it, but men were dignified people, and Ruth's constant taunting. was no different from stepping on his ego!

No man would be able to stand this, and Leon was no exception!

"You do?" Ruth was surprised by this. She was certain that Leon was just a coward, and she was surprised by Leon's sudden newfound bravery.

"Do my ears deceive me? Did Leon just accept Miss Collins' challenge? He's sure got the guts!"

"Who knows what's happening? He knows full well that he isn't a match for Miss Collins at all, and yet he took on the challenge anyway. If this isn't stupid, I don't know what is!"

People were beginning to stare at Leon **in** contempt.

It was no cowardice to step down in situations that **did.** not benefit onese lf, and if

Leon held on despite **Ruth's** provocation, they would at least commend him on his patience.

However, sadly, Leon gave up halfway and bought into Ruth's taunts like any simple—minded fellow!

"Have you gone insane, Leon? Didn't you see how powerful Ruth is? no t even Harvey could stand a chance. against her! you're going to embarr ass yourself out there!" Cynthia said in despair, clinging onto Leon's ar m to stop him.

She witnessed Leon's powers a few days ago in Seacove City, and he was at **the** Peak Innate State at most. He **was** no match for Ruth at all!

From what she knew about Leon, he was always a humble and sensible man, so she could not understand how Leon fell for Ruth's trick so easily!

"That's right! Mister Wolf, please don't act rashly." Even Benedict and t he rest **of** the Shears agreed.

None of them ever witnessed Leon's fighting before and thus did not kn ow the true extent of his powers, but since he was yet **to** make a name fo r himself in the world of martial arts, one could only assume that he was not too good at it. Therefore, to take **on** Ruth's challenge would equate **t o** receiving a death sentence!

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Now, Leon and the Shears were like in **a** pitch; if Harvey and Leon both lost to Ruth, the Shears and ultimatel y Cynthion Group would be utterly humiliated!

"Don't worry, Cynthia. **I'll** be fine. She's just attained the Initial Suprem e State. I'll be able to handle her!" Leon smiled and patted **Cynthia's** ha nd in reassurance.

"But-"Cynthia and the Shears were just about to convince Leon otherwise, but before they could finish their sentence, Le on already turned and strode away.

He stopped a few feet away from Ruth. "Miss Collins, I accept your chal lenge! I'll let you take three first. Please feel free to start!" he said calml y.

He, like Harvey, thought that since Ruth was a girl, and younger than hi m, no less, he would allow her three times to initiate her offense out of c ourtesy.

"You, too?" Ruth burst into laughter at this, and even the Collins and the audience followed suit.

"Has this fellow gone insane? Just now, Harvey did so to demonstrate his courtesy without knowing the true extent of Miss Collins' powers, but now, everyone knows that she's attained the Initial Supreme State, yet he still wants to do the same. Does he have a death wish or what?"

The audience burst into laughter as they continued to stare at Leon like a circus monkey.

Even though Harvey did **the** same, he began **to** retaliate after the second time, after having realized how powerful Ruth was, yet Leon committed the same mistake! What **an** idiot!

"Are you sure about this, Leon?" Ruth asked, sneering.

"I'm certain! Please start!" Leon replied calmly.

"Alright, you asked for **it**! I'll fulfill your death wish!" With a smirk, Ru th brought out her fist again and darted toward Leon like a flash of lightning.

She would make Leon pay for this!

"Whoosh!"

Before anyone could even comprehend what was going on, Leon's body darted to the side, dodging Ruth's attack easily.

The audience was not the only ones confused; even Ruth **was** just as puzzled. She could not believe how easily Leon dodged her, considering she was confident she would strike him out.

"Take that again!" a dark expression crossed her face as she brought her fist back for another attack.

This time, she placed more force and speed into her punch, and the shad ow from her true energy immediately enveloped Leon's entire being, blo cking his way so that he could not run or hide.

However, Leon calmly darted in and out of the cloud of true energy, dod ging Ruth's attacks once more like an agile deer.

"I can't believe it! He dodged it again!" Everyone was speechless at this.

This time, they could finally make out what was going on; Leon was *so agile* and nimble that *it* was as *though* he could sense the weak point in Ruth's attacks before they even reached *him*.

"Wait a second! I don't feel any true energy coming off him at all. What 's going *on*?"

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Someone shrieked from amongst the crowd, which jolted everyone back to reality.

One could always sense a martial artist's true energy during combat, but during Leon's dodging, they did not. seem even a flicker of his true energy at all!

This was unbelievable!

Everyone was utterly stunned by this strange phenomenon.

However, everyone soon recalled Jacob and Theodore's claims, which was that Leon possessed a special ability to hide or change one's true energy.

This seemed to be the explanation; it was nothing special to be able to hide one's true energy, since it provided no use other than hiding the true extent of one's power, and thus no one took notice of it.

However, unbeknownst to everyone, this was not what Leon did at all. He did not know how to hide or change one's true energy, and instead, he practiced something that was far more powerful than martial arts -the Sage Arts!

If people found out about this, they would not cease to do anything to get their hands on this power, even if it meant lives were to be sacrificed!

This was why Leon was so secretive about his background all this while!

"One more left, Miss Collins!" Leon said, staring at Ruth calmly.

"Leon Wolf, you managed to evade me twice; that's impressive, but I was cutting you some slack. I didn't want to risk killing you if I showed you the true extent of my powers, but now, I won't hold back any longer! "Ruth scoffed.

After what happened the first two times, she did not dare to underestimate Leon any further. Instead, she concentrated all the energy within her body into her palms, getting ready to go in for the deathly strike.

"I'm all yours!" Leon smiled, clearly taking no notice of Ruth's threats at all.

"Say goodbye!" Ruth unleashed all the power she had in her body in a burst of energy that sped toward Leon.

Unlike the first two times, the energy was concentrated into a whirling ball of light that encompassed all her power!

"Swish-"

Leon retreated backward in an attempt to dodge Ruth's attacks, but this time, it was as though the ball of energy knew what he tried to do.

No matter how far he backed away, the energy seemed to follow him closely behind, mere inches away from touching his chest.

If he paused, even for just a fraction of a millisecond, he would be defeated!

"He's dead meat!" everyone shook their heads at this. They could tell that Leon began to exhaust himself, and if he slacked for even a second, he would pay the price!

No matter how powerful Leon was, he still possessed a living, breathing body that would be susceptible to any form of attack, whether physical or spiritual. Even if he managed to survive this, he would surely sustain significant injuries!

At the last minute, Leon turned his body sideways, pressing himself up against Ruth's palm and snaking all the way along her arm, until finally he dodged and slipped behind Ruth's back.

Ruth's energy lost its target and failed—if she were to attack him another time, it would be the fourth, and thus be against the rules!

"Rats! I can't believe you escaped!" Ruth stomped her feet in anger.

Now that she used up all three of her attacks, she had no choice but to stop.

"I can't believe it! He managed to dodge all three!" Everyone's jaw dropped at this sight.