

Strongest Mage with the Lust system #Chapter 71

Hannah - Read Strongest Mage with the Lust system

Chapter 71 Hannah

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Max didn't speak and looked at him, waiting for him to continue. Butler George sighed. "Until 25 years ago, Your father and Count Wiley were best friends. Count Wiley and Your father were studying at the Royal Magic Academy at that time. When they had just become three-star mages, During a mission, they were heavily injured by a gang of bandits, and when they thought they would die, your mother came out of nowhere and saved them.

After this incident, the three of them became friends. Your mother's origin were unknown; she was living in a city near the Royal Academy by herself and would often meet up with them. Although your father and Count Wiley were married, they still couldn't resist her beauty and fell in love with her.

But when they both found out that they were in love with the same girl, they decided that whoever managed to steal her heart first would pursue her while other would give up so as not to affect their relationship.

Eventually, Your father won her heart, and by that time, he had been appointed as the Viscount of Claymore town after completing his studies in the academy. Then your parents married. Your father loved your mother so much that he gave her main wife status.

Your mother was a very kind and strong woman. She wouldn't abuse her powers like most people and would help commoners in need. I was also saved from death by her and appointed as the family's Butler. She would call me uncle just like you, and I also treated her as my own daughter." Butler George sighed.

"Then, she gave birth to you. Everything was well for a few years. But when you were only around ten years old, Count Wiley came to Claymore town to them his friends. Your father and mother welcomed him; he said that he wanted to relive his memories by getting drunk with his old friends. But after he got drunk, he tried to force himself on your mother.

Although your mother was kind to everyone but when she was angered, everyone would cower in front of her. I heard from your father that one time when you were only a little kid, she took you with her on a mountain to enjoy the scenery with your father. There they encountered five three-star mages who wanted to rob and ****.

They gave her disgusting and lecherous glances, but she didn't get angry and gave them all the money and jewellery she had on her so that they would go away.

But they didn't and wanted to do something with her; therefore, they fought with your father and mother. Your mother single-handedly fended off three peak three-star mages with you in her other arm while your father fought with the other two with much difficulty.

One of the bandits threatened to attack you, seeing that she treasured you dearly, but contrary to his expectations, your mother got furious and killed three of them with one attack and then killed the other two. Even after killing them, her anger didn't subside even after a long while.

And now that Count Wiley had tried this, her anger erupted, and she heavily injured him. If Count Wiley hadn't begged for mercy and he wasn't her friend before, she would have killed him. That day, Count Wiley felt he was humiliated.

A year later, when your mother was going somewhere. A group of mages attacked her. There were around ten three-star mages and two four-star ones. Your mother was alone with only a few Knights; she was the only one who had some fighting chance against them. After fighting for around two hours, she killed eight three-star mages and heavily injured one of the four-star mages." Butler George sighed ruefully and continued

"Unfortunately, She had exhausted all most of her mana by then and was overpowered. They didn't kill her and only captured her. When she wasn't able to move at all that B.A.S.T.A.R.D. came out of the woods. She understood that he was the one who hired those people and knew what he would do after. Therefore..." Butler George's eyes have become bloodshot speaking till here. He had no one in the world and was about to be killed when she saved him. Not only was she his Saviour but also his daughter, whom he loved as if she was truly his blood.

"She didn't want to be disgraced by an animal who she considered her friend and used her last bit of inner mana and destroyed her heart and died. We wouldn't even have known about this if not for a knight who managed to slip away during the chaos after getting injured. He saw everything, and when she was captured, he wanted to run and notify your father, hoping they wouldn't kill her, but before he couldn't turn, he saw Count Wiley come out with a hideous smile and your mother cursing and then suicide.

When your father heard that she died, he was furious. He led his troops to Vista City, where Count Wiley was lord over and had a fight with him. Many people were killed, but because Count Wiley had a few three-star mages to help him, your father returned with internal injuries and his mana core was also damaged, resulting in stagnation of power. Now he couldn't even break through.

He knew that he couldn't avenge your mother and wanted to die, but because he didn't want something to happen to you guys, he lived, but he swore that he would exact revenge or die trying."

"This incident wasn't small, and the Royal family soon heard about this and forbade them from having conflict again, or both would be killed. But Vista city is the governing

city of nearby towns, including Claymore town, and now Count Wiley has the supervision authority, and Every Viscount of these towns have to report to him. Now he can pick on Lord Viscount without fearing the Royal family. That's why this beast tide case was handled so poorly; otherwise, special squads are formed for these cases, and nobles like Lord Viscount don't have to go personally." He finished his explanation. His eyes were red now. It seems he really cared about his mother.

Max didn't speak for a long time. He just stared at his mother's painting. She looked happy, having him in her arms. But she died such death. This world was ruthless, even more than the Earth. At least people could get justice, even though it will be served late, but here, you can do what you want as long as you are strong enough.

"Uncle George, Do you know why that human garbage came here? What is that Count planning?" Max thought he calmed down, but when he spoke, his speech was coarse and faint, killing intent was emanating from him.

*The title *Hannah* is the name of Max's mother.

Chapter 72 Ashton's Return (2)

Butler George nodded to himself seeing Max's reaction. He was now completely sure that he didn't have to worry about him, and Lord Viscount could also rest assured and not worry about it.

Hearing his question, Butler George shook his head. "I don't know yet, but a few spies are working to find out. Young Master, you don't have to worry about anything. Although I know Count Wiley sent his son for some purpose, he won't be able to harm us without offending the Royal family."

Max just gave him a look and didn't say anything about it. He knew from his two lifetimes of experience that you can only rely on yourself. If he was strong, he didn't need to care about anything, but he wasn't strong enough yet. Although very few two-star mages could pose any threat to him, three-star mages or higher could kill him with ease.

"Ugh..." Suddenly he felt a faint pain assaulting his mind.

Butler George asked worriedly, "What happened, Young master?"

"It's nothing—my head is aching a bit. I'll go rest for a bit. Please keep an eye on Timon." Max waved his hand and excused himself. He got out of the room after giving one last glance at his mother's portrait.

Butler George was satisfied with Max. Although Max has suddenly changed completely and even achieved two-star mage realm at such a young age, he was still worried about him as it seemed he didn't have any knowledge about how the outside world works, but after talking to him, he knew that he didn't need to worry about him.

He gazed at Hannah's portrait affectionately and mumbled, "Child, you don't have to worry about your son. He has become a fine young man." After staying in the room for a few more minutes, he walked out of the room and closed the door.

...

Max walked towards his room with shaky steps. His headache was intensifying by the second. When he was in front of his room, his mind buzzed and it felt as if someone had struck him with a hundred-kilo hammer. Just as he took one step inside, he couldn't endure anymore and passed out on the floor.

...

...South of Claymore town, In the outer periphery of the Magical forest...

A group of five people walked through the forest. Most of them were injured, but it seemed their injuries were starting to heal as scabs were formed over the wounds.

"Haha! Madam Mari, the medicine you brought was indeed very potent. All of my wounds have almost healed in just one day." A bulky man laughed after seeing that his wounds were almost healed and looked toward a woman who had a pained expression on her face.

The irony was that she wasn't injured but still had such an expression. She glared at the bulky man, and he stopped laughing. The reason being that she had to give away her most valuable healing pills. It's been a few years since she got them after completing a mission for the royal family but had to give it to them if she knew it she wouldn't have brought them with her. She was already feeling vexed about it and this ape had to taunt her more.

Ashton was walking in front of the group and suddenly stopped. Madam Mari tensed up.

"There's another three-star beast two hundred meters ahead of us. It seems it's the one that managed to escape from Valerie. Quick it's going out in the town." Ashton yelled and ran forward. The rest of them followed.

Sigh!

Madam Mari sighed a sigh of relief and followed behind them. She thought Ashton would want to kill her because she was related to Count Wiley. When she was assigned to lead the team to hunt these beasts, She thought she was only a bit inferior to Ashton

in terms of strength, but after the last few weeks of hunting around the beasts, she realised that she wouldn't be able to put much of fight if they fought and it frightened her.

Just a few seconds they arrived at the location where a bull-type beast was lying and struggling to run away. Its legs were cut off and had deep lacerations all over its body. Ashton had condensed a two-meter crescent-shaped wind blade and cut its neck off without any resistance.

Madam Mari and others stared at this scene with surprised expressions, but their surprise subsided as soon as it came. Although this beast was a three-starred beast, it was already injured by them previously, and that was why it was trying to escape to the town.

Unfortunately, it chose to escape to the town and was found by them and lost its life. If it hid in the forest until they went away, it might have survived, but beasts aren't like humans and have low intelligence.

Of course, it was only limited to four starred beasts. As for stronger, they are a calamity for humans and other races. Beasts are innately stronger, and after surpassing the four-star boundary, they acquire intelligence on par with humans, which makes them very dangerous.

"Brother, I'm very shocked by your strength. I don't believe any three-star mages can fight against you on equal terms, let alone defeat you." The bulky man called Hangchi praised with reverent eyes.

"Yes, big brother, You are very powerful. I haven't seen anyone as strong as you in the three-star realm. Tell me how to become as strong as you." Valerie also giggled.

Others also nodded. Ashton turned to them and smiled. "I'm not that strong. There are many stronger people out there. You'll be stronger than me in a few years."

"Hah, I wish!" Valerie shook her head. She knew he was only being modest.

Hearing their conversation, Madam Mari thought, 'If they knew that he is this strong despite having a damaged mana core, I wonder what kind of expression they would make.'

She knew that Ashton's mana core was almost destroyed eight years ago. That's why she thought that even if he had recovered somewhat, she wouldn't be much weaker than him.

She didn't notice that she also started respecting his strength. However, it was very normal. If someone was strong enough, then even their enemies would respect them for their strength, let alone her, who didn't have any enmity with him. She was here

because of Count Wiley's order and because her superior was his enemy, she treated him differently, but now she couldn't do so anymore. That's why she stopped opposing his ideas related to the hunt and followed him quietly.

"If no one died from our team, it would have been perfect. Sigh!" Hangchi sighed, remembering the two who died during this mission. When they came, they were eight, and now only six were left.

Ashton walked up to him and patted his shoulder. "It's okay. They died for the sake of their people. We shouldn't mourn the brave."

He turned around and said, "Let's go back now."

Chapter 73 Lilly's First Kill

...Outside Cliove City...

A big carriage was going out of Clive City. There were a few Knights in greenish armours on the horses circling the carriage, protecting it. Soon they entered a forest. In most cases, if you want to go from one city to another, you would have to either cross forests and rivers or Mountains because there was very little civilised land, unlike earth.

Esther and Lilly were sitting inside the carriage. Both were quiet. Lilly was anxious to go and see Max, while Esther's personality was like that. She would only speak if it was something important or she wanted to. However, she knew that this little girl wasn't in the mood to converse with her. Therefore she also stayed quiet with her eyes closed.

This forest wasn't much dangerous because most of the beasts above two-star were killed. After all, many people had to travel through this forest daily to visit Cliove City and go from it to somewhere else, and if they wanted City to prosper, this danger had to be resolved.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

But just as they were halfway through the forest, their carriage suddenly stopped, and the sound of something falling was heard. Esther opened her eyes, a cold glint flash across her eyes. "These bandits are becoming very bold to even rob in daylight."

Lilly also came out of her reverie and asked worriedly, "Mother, is something wrong? Why did we stop?" She knew there was some problem; otherwise, they wouldn't have stopped so suddenly. She had a bad feeling about it. When she was treated as an enslaved person, she had seen all kinds of people and knew that in forests like these, some people group up and rob travellers.

Esther suddenly smiled, seeing Lilly's worried expression and said, "It's nothing. You just wait here." Then she paused and smiled mysteriously and said, "When I call you, come out." She stepped out of the carriage without waiting for her to react.

Lilly was confused by her words. Why did she tell her to wait if there was some problem? Wouldn't she be of help? After all, she was a one-star mage.

Although Lilly didn't quite understand what Esther meant, she obeyed her and didn't go out. She put one ear by the window and tried to hear what was happening outside.

Clank!

Thud!

Swishhh~

Suddenly, some sounds were heard, but in the next instant, everything went silent. Just as she was wondering what happened, Esther's voice sounded.

"Lilly, You can come out now."

Lilly got out of the carriage and wanted to ask what was all that about when she stared in front of her, surprised.

There were more than twenty people who were frozen and turned into statues, and only one was still unharmed, but he was looking at Esther as if he had seen a ghost.

...

A woman who looked around 40 years old was wandering in the streets of Clieve City. She wore a pure white dress and had white hair. Although she wasn't young and was only average looking, she gave off an oppressive feeling. Her brows were raised as if she was thinking about something. After walking around for a long time, she shook her head and disappeared.

A middle-aged man who was sitting in a restaurant was looking at this woman when she suddenly vanished in thin air. "What? How can someone disappear just like that?" He suddenly exclaimed, startling nearby people?

"What is it, old man? Why are you freaking out? Did you see a ghost?" A youth in his twenties asked. Everyone started laughing.

The middle-aged man apologised and wondered, 'Was she a King ranked mage? Why did it feel like I had seen her somewhere?'

The white-haired woman appeared outside of Clieve city and flew above the forest. She happened to notice Ice magic being used and flew down on a tree and saw Esther freezing all of the bandits except one and murmured herself, "She is not bad at using Ice magic, and her Ice element concentration is also above average. Sigh! she has passed the age threshold, or she would have been a suitable disciple."

She lost interest and was about to fly away when Esther called out to Lilly. As soon as Lilly stepped out, the White-haired woman froze in her place. She slowly turned around, and her eyes glittered as she looked at Lilly. She exclaimed, "100 percent element concentration!"

There was naked excitement on her face. She quickly calmed down and watched the happenings on the ground, but her eyes didn't move away from Lilly.

...

Lilly stated dumbly at the scene. Esther walked to her, patted her shoulder and said, "You want to accompany Max, right? If yes, then you'll have to kill sooner or later. Now that you are a one-star mage let me train you on this aspect. I know you are a very kindhearted girl, but this world is cruel to kind people. Go, Fight and kill him." She sighed and pointed at the remaining man, who wasn't frozen. She had left him on purpose to let Lilly experience her first killing.

Lilly wanted to shake her head as she didn't want to kill someone, especially if it was a living human being, but when she mentioned Max, she clenched her fist and breathed deeply. 'I've to do it if I want to accompany Max in future.' She told herself and walked toward the man.

Watching Lilly walking toward the man without her guard up, Esther shook her head but didn't say anything.

That man had heard what Esther said, and a cruel glint flashed across his eyes. He was also a one-star mage and wasn't some insect you can kill whenever you wanted.

'Do you think a girl like her can kill me? Hehe, I know I'm not going to survive past today, but before that, you'll have to pay for treating me like this with your princess's life.' He sneered inwardly and stood up. He had a dagger in his hand.

Chapter 74 Lilly's First Kill (2)

Lilly looked at him with guilty eyes. she really didn't want to kill someone, but she had to in order to not disappoint Esther and she knew that she had to kill sometime if not now than later.

The bandit looked at her guilty look and knew that she was a kindhearted girl and would hesitate to attack. He suddenly had an idea 'If I take this girl hostage, that woman won't dare to attack me and I'll be able to leave here safe and sound.'

He wielded his dagger and slashed at her chest as soon as she entered his attacking range. He didn't use any mana in this slash as he only wanted to injure and not kill her.

Slash!

Lilly was feeling conflicted and wasn't focused. Therefore, she couldn't react in time. Subconsciously, she raised her hand in a cross to defend against the attack and was slashed at her left forearm, leaving a deep gash. Blood flowed out uncontrollably.

The pain in her hand woke her up and she looked at her hand and then at the bandit who was already slashing at her again.

Seeing this she suddenly grew furious. Here she was thinking if she should try and persuade Esther to let him go and this bandit didn't even think before attacking. Most importantly he was now targeting her stomach.

She knew that this wound on her forearm might leave a scar. No woman would like that and Lilly was no different. She also wanted to look good, at least in front of her love. If he cut at her stomach and it left a scar there, it would look bad and Max might not like it. She knew that he loved her unblemished body so she couldn't help herself from being angered.

Ice shield!

She gathered her mana and formed a shield in front of her to block the attack. As the bandit hadn't used mana into this attack too, it could only damage her ice shield before being completely stopped by it.

Lilly didn't let him react after blocking his attack and cast another spell.

Ice thorns!

Tens of small ice shards materialised around her. She waved her hand and all shards shot toward the bandit. But he wasn't like her who didn't have any real battle experience. He quickly twisted his body and dodged most of the ice shards. Although his agility was very good, he couldn't dodge all of the shards and on five inch long shard pierced his right shoulder.

Arggh!

He was surprised to see that she had awakened an element at such a young age when she was only a one-star mage. However, seeing this, he didn't retreat instead chose to

attack her again. He knew that most of the elemental mages are usually long-ranged fighters and he was a close ranged fighter. If he fought in close range, then it would cripple her advantage of being an elemental mage and would be more advantageous to him.

But this time, he used his mana to empower his attack. Lilly could see that this attack was almost two times faster and deadlier than previous attacks.

She quickly formed another shield in front of her. This time she used more mana and made it sturdier.

Crack!

As his slash landed on the ice shield, a crackling sound was heard, and it was destroyed. But before he could rejoice his expression stiffened.

Sssss~

The point where his dagger had touched the ice shield was frozen and in a moment, the dagger and whole forearm was frozen with a thin layer of ice. He felt as if countless needles with stabbing in his forearm.

The pain was unbearable. He retreated in a hurry and used his mana to remove the layer of ice. It broke apart and fell down, leaving a numbing sensation. Just as he sighed in relief, his expression changed drastically.

"How is it possible?" The white-haired woman watching their fight had a look of disbelief. Esther on the other hand wasn't surprised at all.

Ice thorns!

Just as the bandit retreated, Lilly had already conjured up another hail of ice thorns and before he could react, she fired them at him.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The bandit was caught off guard and could only raise his hands to protect his head and chest. Ice shards pierced his legs, thighs, stomach and hands but no blood came out as it was frozen by the ice shards. After getting such an injury, his agility was reduced to a very low level and his hand felt stiff. He could barely wield his dagger.

Without a second thought, he turned around and ran inside the forest. Lilly was still angry and shouted, "You cruel person, do you think I would let you leave."

She used all of her remaining mana and conjured up tens of five-inch long ice shards and fired at him as fast as she could.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Before he could run around ten meters, almost half of the sharp ice thorns pierced his back and one shard pierced his head. He suddenly stopped in his tracks and fell down, dead. He looked as if he was a porcupine.

Watching him fall, Lilly sighed in relief. She finally killed him. "Kill?" She softly murmured.

She turned to look at Esther and pointed at him with shaking hands "I kill-killed him. I killed him. Ahhh, I killed a living person." He was frightened by the fact that she had taken a life with her hands. She suddenly stooped shouted and fainted on the spot.

Before she could fall, Esther appeared by her side and supported her. She sighed "I know it had been hard and would take some time to come out of this shock but you'll realise that it was for your good."

She then turned to the Knights and ordered "Destroy these ice statues and take your fellow Knights bodies with you. We will give them proper burial after returning."

Two Knights were killed in this bandit ambush before they could react. Other Knights quickly followed her order and destroyed the statues to clear the path and took fallen Kings' bodies.

Esther took Lilly inside the carriage, and their entourage continued their journey toward Claymore town.

...

The white-haired woman was staring at their carriage as they disappeared from her sight. She still had that shocked expression and kept mumbling something.

After some time she calmed down and looked towards the direction they had disappeared and looked up. Her expression become firm and she said "I didn't expect to encounter one of you in this remote land. Fate really plays with us. I'll protect this child, and when the time comes, she will have to decide for herself." After saying this, she also disappeared.

Chapter 75 Memories

After Max and butler George had gone out of hannah's room, a man covered in black from head to toe appeared in front of the room and used his mana to form a key. The key was the same as the one Butler George used to open the door.

Unexpectedly, as soon as he put the key in the keyhole, it turned into mana and was absorbed by the door. The black figure's expression changed drastically, and he tried to

move away but couldn't. In just a few seconds; all of his mana was absorbed, and a thin cracks started appearing on his mana core.

Whoosh!

Another figure appeared and took him away from the door. It stared at the door for a moment, and then it vanished along with the man who looked like a shrivelled zombie.

...

After what seemed a long time, Max woke up. He was covered in sweat, his breathing uneven. Just as he stood up from the ground, that splitting pain assaulted his mind again, and a flood of memories appeared in his mind.

"Huh? These are the original Max's memories." He muttered and dazedly walked to the bed, laid down and closed his eyes. After half an hour, the pain subsided and all of the memories settled in his mind. He then started reading his memories to see what kind of life he lived before dying.

He opened his eyes after looking at his memories. "Wouldn't it have been better if had these memories when I first woke up? It would have saved a lot of time I wasted in the library. Sigh!" He sighed.

After getting his memories back, he found out that what he learnt by spending a few weeks in the library and asking around for information was nothing compared to what his previous self knew.

"At least he didn't waste his time after knowing he was useless and couldn't accomplish anything in future. And his personality apart from a bit too much introvert was good." He nodded in satisfaction. After all no matter, if it was the previous host of this body or he, both were now the same person after he got his memories back.

After getting the memories, he no longer felt that he was in some alien body or place. He looked around his room and could feel the familiarity with everything here. After these old memories came back, it made hard for him to realise whether he was the Max from earth or the Max from this world. Everything 'this' Max experienced, felt as if he had experienced them too.

'No matter what. We both are one from now on. And I'll accomplish everything you wanted.' Although the original Max was was trash according to this world's standards, he was more ambitious than him. Now he too didn't much different from him. It seems he also inherited his ambitions along with his memories. 'It's fine too. After all I too want to become stronger.'

He got up and walked toward the wall which was right in front of the bed and pushed lightly. A rock fell and a small hole appeared. It was only large enough to put one hand

inside. He put his hand inside and found a pendant. It was a simple looking pendant which had a silky string attached to a blue stone. The blue stone was only around two inches and was egg shaped. He touched it, it was very smooth and hard.

Looking at the pendant in his hand, he recalled that this was something his mother gave him on his tenth birthday. He was very happy after getting this simple looking gift from his mother and would always wear it.

But when she died, he stopped wearing it because he wanted to suppress the pain of losing his most beloved person in the world, and this pendant would make him remember her every time he wore it.

Remembering his mother, his eyes grew misty. He shook his head and stopped thinking about it. There was no point in feeling sad over it as long as he remembered her.

Although he felt sad thinking about his mother after getting the memories back, at the same time he was happy too. In his previous life, he didn't even see his mother other than in photos and didn't have any memory of her. So he was happy after remembering 'his' mother and how much she loved him. He finally experienced the motherly love he longed for.

"Count Wiley, until I kill you, I won't rest easy." He gritted his teeth and clenched the pendant, remembering the reason why she died and this was one of the goals original Max wanted to accomplish as he also knew that his mother's death was related to him.

After a while, he calmed down and wore the pendant around his neck and then went to take a bath.

...

It was afternoon, and the sun was shining brightly in the sky when a group of six people appeared outside the Garfield manor. Their clothes were ragged and were stained with blood and dust.

This was Ashton's group. Ashton looked at his home and then looked at others behind him and said, "Let's enter. After you guys have fully recovered, we can go to Vista city together to report the mission's success."

Hangchi laughed "Haha, thank you brother Ashton for your invitation but I will go my town first. It's been more than two weeks and my family must be worried about me. As for reporting to Vista city, our generous Madam Mari can do it on our behalf."

Others also looked at Madam Mari and laughed quietly, remembering her expression when she handed out her healing pills.

Seeing this Madam Mari glared at Hangchi and then looked at Ashton and unexpectedly nodded "Yeah, I can do it alone. You guys don't have to worry about this and I'll also go back now as I've only superficial injuries."

Ashton nodded. "In that case, let me arrange for a carriage for each of you to travel and, in the meantime, wash yourselves." He pointed at the dirty clothes everyone wearing.

Hearing this Valerie impatiently said "Big Brother let's not waste anymore time here and go in. I can't bear this filth on my body anymore." Hearing her say this, Madam Mari and the other woman's eyes also gleamed and they nodded vigorously.

Ashton, Hangchi and the other man saw them being so impatient and smiled bitterly. 'Woman are strange creatures indeed. A while before they were calm and collected and as soon as they heard about washing themselves, they became so impatient.' They all thought this but no one commented, and Ashton quickly led them inside.

The guards noticed them coming and were about to stop them when one of them noticed Ashton and bowed down. "Welcome, my Lord." Others also quickly followed and bowed.

Ashton nodded and entered the manor. Just as he stepped a foot inside, he frowned and stopped.

Madam Mari and others also saw his frown and stopped. Even when they faced a group of ten three starred beasts, they didn't see him frowning. So they grew curious, and Hangchi asked, "Brother Ashton, what happened? Is something wrong?"

Ashton shook his head. "It's nothing. Let's go."

Chapter 76 White-Haired Woman

Timon was sitting on a chair. In front of him lay a man, who resembled a zombie, but the his faint breathing indicated that he was still alive. The head of guards was also standing in front of Timon.

"So can't even enter that room, huh. Well, my father did say that it would be a difficult task." Timon muttered and then suddenly asked, "What about the key? Can't we steal it?"

The head of the guards shook his head. "No, we can't, Young master. That butler George is very strong. Although he still hasn't awakened an element, with his peak two-star strength, he would easily notice me."

Slam-

Timon slapped the armrest of the stone chair and shouted, "Even with Ashton gone; we can't steal that thing. You guys are too useless."

The head of guards' expression changed and he sneered "Young master, I'm only in the initial stage of two star mage realm. How can you expect me to do this on my own? It might have been a different story if you could give me a magic artefact."

His name was Lou and originally he came from a noble family and his father held the position of a baron. But four years ago, his family was annihilated because his father mistreated a woman who turned out to be a Count's mistress. She felt offended and told the Count which resulted in annihilation of his family. Fortunately, he wasn't at home at that time and escaped death.

Lou didn't care about that and wanted to join a magic academy to become stronger because he had good talent and he wanted to live a good life. As for revenge, he didn't believe that without any support, he could reach the four-star realm and have enough strength to fight a count.

Fortunately, he managed to reach the two-star realm with the remaining resources of his family and awakened an Shadow element.

A two-star mage is always welcomed in noble families, let alone the one who has also awakened an element. Therefore when he arrived in Vista city, he was recruited by the Wiley family and became the head guard of Timon.

He did this job to gather enough resources to help him after he joined the academy. But he soon was annoyed by Timon but even so he ignored it and did his job.

When he reached the two-star mage realm, he was 22 years old and it has been three years since he became the head guard of Timon. Now that he had saved enough money, he didn't want to spend his life being a bodyguard of a useless young master and finally couldn't endure his insults so he talked back but taunted him by saying that he couldn't even get a magic artefact for this task and now he was blaming them.

Hearing him talk back, Timon grew furious and pointed at him "You-

Bang!

Just as he wanted to lash out at Luo for being insolent, the door to his room was opened and a guard came running in.

"How dare you enter without my permission?" Timon stood up and shouted at the guard. He was feeling vexed today. First he was beaten by Max then today he realised that he couldn't accomplish what he came here to do. Now that a mere guard dared to defy him, he was even more furious.

The guard quickly knelt on one knee and said "I apologise, young master. But it's urgent. Lord Ashton has come back and we still haven't finished the task yet. What should we do?"

"What he came back so quickly? Shouldn't it take them a few more days?" He exclaimed in surprise. Then quickly said "Hurry up and retreat to my room and don't leave any sign which can get us caught."

"Yes young master." The guard retreated.

Timon glanced at Luo but didn't say anything and sat down in frustration.

...

Ashton and others came inside the manor. Ashton ordered servants to prepare rooms for his guests and also to prepare clean clothing and hot bath. Servants quickly obeyed and, in just a few minutes, returned to lead them to their rooms.

Hearing that Ashton has come back, Amelia quickly came and after seeing that he was safe and sound she sighed in relief. Lacey, Layla, Eva and chloe also came and greeted him.

Noticing that Mina, Esther, Max and Lilly weren't there, he ask about it.

Amelia replied "Sister Mina had to visit her parents in Neim city as they have been sick for a few months now. Sister Esther took Lilly and went to Cliove city as she had some business with her friend. As for Max-"

Before she could speak, Max's voice sounded in the hall "I'm here father." He then walked into the hall.

Ashton nodded "Hmm, let me go and clean myself. After that we will feast together with our guests." After saying this he went to his room. But before he entered his room, he looked at the door of Hannah's room and sneered "That bastard finally couldn't sit still anymore."

...

When everyone gathered again, a sumptuous feast was prepared. Everyone sat around the dining table.

Timon also came with Luo and greeted Ashton, Madam Mari and others "Greetings respected Viscounts."

Ashton already knew that he was here and nodded plainly. Madam Mari forced a smile and others just nodded. Timon didn't mind it as their status was higher than him even though he was a Count's son.

Just as he was about to sit, Max asked "Are you okay young master Timon? Did you rest well?" Hearing his jeering tone, Timon gritted his teeth and nodded "Yes, young master Max." After that he sat down and didn't look towards Max. He felt fear toward him after yesterday's beating.

"Let's cheers to the successful hunt of the beasts." Hangchi raised his wine glass and said. Others also raised their wine glass in response.

After cheering they started eating their food while casually talking.

...

Esther and Lilly got off the carriage and walked inside the manor. When they entered the main hall and didn't find anyone. After asking a maid, they found out that everyone was gathered in the dining hall and were having a feast. They also went there. They didn't realise that someone has appeared behind them.

When they entered the dining hall. Everyone noticed someone entering and raised their heads and looked at them. Everyone, except Timon, recognised both Esther and Lilly. As for the third person they didn't recognise her but Ashton and others who were three star mages could feel the feeling of being suppressed as soon as she entered the hall.

Seeing that everyone was looking behind them with shock, Esther and Lilly also turned around to see a White haired woman standing behind them.

"Mm? Who are you?" Esther reacted quickly and pulled Lilly behind her as she raised her guard up. Ashton and others also stood up but they didn't react the same way Esther did and bowed slightly to the woman.

Ashton asked in polite tone "May I ask who you might be and why are you here?"

Max also stared at the woman. She gave him the same feeling Crimson monarch gave. He looked at her carefully and noticed that she didn't look at anyone after coming inside and just stared at Lilly.

Chapter 77 Ice Sovereign Mountain

'This woman is not ordinary. Could she also be a Monrach level mage? But why is she staring at Lilly like that?' Max frowned. He felt uncomfortable seeing that this white haired woman staring at his woman.

Lilly also noticed her piercing gaze and shivered. Others also noticed this and found it weird.

Max stood up and walked up to Lilly. Ashton, Amelia and others tensed seeing this. They were afraid that Max might offend this mysterious lady. Timon on the other hand, rejoiced.

Max didn't even look at the white haired woman and hugged Lilly. Lilly was feeling nervous with the woman staring at her. So, when Max hugged her, she buried her head in his chest and calm down.

Seeing this, the woman finally moved her eyes away from Lilly and looked at Max and frowned. She coldly asked "Who are you to her?" After saying this she released her aura.

Max, Lilly and Esther took a few steps backwards. Cold sweat was trickling down their backs. Max looked at her with a hint of fear in his eyes, he was now sure that she was a king mage at the very least. He had felt the same kind of supression from Crimson monarch. The only difference was that he wasn't blown back. But even so he stood in front of Lilly and Esther and said "Her husband. Who are you? And why are you here."

The white haired woman didn't speak and focused her aura on him. Max suddenly felt pressure rising on him exponentially. His teeth started clattering and large beads of sweat starting forming on his forehead. A hint on surprise flickered for an instant in her eyes.

Initially, Ashton was being cautious because he could feel that she was much stronger than him and if she wanted to kill them, no one would here survive. But now that she was torturing his son, he grew furious.

"How dare you treat my son like this in front of me?" The air around him trembled, his clothes started to flutter and he disappeared from where he was standing and appeared only a few meter away from the woman. Without any hesitation he shot out his crescent wind blade, aiming at her neck.

Swish!

Crescent blade cut through the wind and in blink of an eye, it was about cut her neck off. The white haired woman retracted her aura and casually swiped her finger. There was naked contempt in her eyes seeing him attack her.

Crack!

The terrifying wind blade which could cut through even a three starred defensive type beast's body like a tofu, was frozen before it could reach her neck. It fell down and broke apart.

Everyone stared at this scene in horror. Although Ashton and other three star mages present guessed that this woman was powerful, they didn't expect her to be this strong. She could even freeze a wind blade.

After the pressure was lifted, Max gasped for air. He felt helpless at this moment as he couldn't even handle the the pressure of her aura. He knew that he couldn't do anything about it if she wanted to do something to Lilly.

The woman glanced at Ashton and said coldly "Do you men never use your brains? If I had bad intentions, I would've already killed you all with lifting a single finger."

Although her words were infuriating, it was true. They were now clear that even if all of them ganged up on her, they would just die a meaningless death.

"If you don't have any bad intentions, why are you here and who are you?" Max asked trying to keep his voice calm.

"You don't qualify to know my name but I can tell you that I'm from Ice sovereign mountain. I happen to see this little girl fighting on her way here. I recognised her talent therefore i want her to go with me to cultivate in the mountain for a few years. I didn't want to take her away without her and her family's consent that's why I had to follow her here." The white haired woman said, her voice as cold as usual.

Max subconsciouy wanted to reject when he heard that she wanted to take Lilly away from him but his words stuck in his throat when he recalled that she said she was from Ice sovereign mountain. He looked at her in shock.

Esther who was standing behind Max looked at her, she was also shocked. "You- You are from Ice sovereign mountain?" She stutter as she asked.

"Oh? You seem to know about it." Then she glanced at Max and seeing his shocked expression she said "And you too. Then, it'll make things easier for me."

Ashton and Madam Mari were also shocked as they also knew what Ice sovereign mountain was. As for the rest of the people present, they had no clue about it.

The magic academies and other institutions which helped people to become strong and guide through their mage life were classified in different levels.

The magic academies that has at least one four star mage or lower were classified as lower graded groups. The academies that has five star mages or six star mages (King level mages) were in the category of middle graded groups.

Normally Common population find it difficult to join even lower grade academies due to their high requirements but one could still get in using some connections or authority. As for middle grade academies or institutions, Green leaf kingdom didn't have one. So the

difficulty level can only be imagined. But it is rumoured that only a rare few who has awakened their element and reach a certain power level before 25 or so age has chance to join.

Top graded institutions were very few compared to middle and lower graded ones. There wasn't much information about them.

There was a old legend that there are some institutions that surpassed the top graded ones in power but no one knew if it was true or not.

Ice sovereign mountain is said to be one of these legendary institutions. It is rumoured that the Ice sovereign mountain was established by an 'Ice supreme'. One can only be called supreme when he has transcended the monarch realm.

Supreme mage realm is the known limit of power one can achieve in this world. In the past tens of thousands of years, not even a single supreme mage appeared.

You can say that supreme mages are godlike figures who can do whatever they want with no one being better. Ice sovereign mountain was established by such figure.

Now that someone from Ice sovereign mountain was here to invite Lilly to become their disciple, it could be said that this was the greatest opportunity she could have in her entire life.

Max frowned and contemplated. He wanted Lilly to accompany him everyday but it would be selfish and foolish to decline such a good offer. He was feeling very conflicted right now. On the one hand, he wanted to be with her everyday and not get separated as they both were deeply in love with each other and on the other hand, he wanted her to be strong enough to protect herself regardless of the situation.

Seeing Max frown after hearing the woman's words, Lilly reached out her hand and pulled on his sleeves. She looked at him with her crystal clear eyes and whispered "I don't want to go. I want to spend every minute with you."

Max looked at her sweet face and those love filled eyes. He felt warm in his heart.

Chapter 78 On One Condition

Although Lilly only whispered. Esther, Ashton and the white haired woman heard it clearly. Ashton looked at Lilly approvingly while Esther just sighed 'I don't if her excessive love for him is good or bad.'

The white haired woman's expression twisted when she heard what Lilly said and she looked at Max hatefully. "You should know that her future wouldn't be any better than a commoner is she stayed with you and who know what might happen when you aren't even strong enough to protect yourself."

When Ashton heard this, his expression sunk as he remembered his wife's fate. She was right. If you are powerful enough, no one would dare to try anything dodgy with you. But when he looked at Max and Lilly to say something, nothing came out of his mouth. He knew what love is. In front of love no reasoning works. He also just sighed and didn't speak.

The white haired woman continued "If she goes with me, I guarantee that she will become strong. Stronger than this kingdom's Kings or even stronger than me. And while she is there she will be safe." This time her cold voice had a hint a pride.

Lilly heard this and suddenly thought 'If I can become this strong then I'll be able to live with him and accompany him everywhere without any problem.' She became excited as she thought this but her excitement vanished the next moment when she remembered that she will not be able to see him a least for a few years if she went with this woman.

Max took a deep breath and looked at Lilly and gently said "I think you should go with this woman and join the Ice sovereign mountain."

He finally decided that it would be best if Lilly became strong as soon as possible. A few years of separation doesn't matter if she could become at least four or five star mage and this Ice sovereign mountain must have the capabilities to raise their disciples to this level. If she doesn't go with her then she would always be weaker than him as he has the cheat system to become strong.

The white haired woman nodded slightly and thought 'At least he isn't as stupid and can use his brain.' But in the next moment expression become slightly awkward.

"No!" Lilly shook her head resolutely, her eyes become slightly misty. "I don't want to. I will join a magic academy with you and work hard. I can become strong there too."

Max sighed. He also didn't want her to go away from him but he knew this would be best for her. But seeing her firm attitude he was also helpless so he could only turn to the woman and ask "Can you give us time to discuss?"

The woman also noticed Lilly's reluctance and said plainly "I'll give you one day. Tomorrow morning I need her decision no matter if she wants to go with me or not."

Max was about to nod when he noticed that she has already disappeared, only leaving frosty air behind.

Max turned around and said "Father let's continue the feast. I will discuss this matter later with Lilly." Then he led her to the dining table and sat down with her.

Ashton also came to his senses and smiled at his guests "Friends, Let's continue the feast." Everyone nodded and started eating but their mind wasn't focused on it anymore only Hangchi ate with pleasure.

Timon had a twisted expression on his face. Although he didn't know what Ice sovereign mountain was but by studying Ashton and others' expression when it was mentioned, he knew it wasn't something ordinary. If someone from Garfield family made connection with it. His father may not be able to realise his goal.

After the feast, Madam Mari, Hangchi and others bade thier farewell and went to their respective destinations. Timon also went away with Madam Mari. He didn't dare stay there.

...

...Night time, Max's room...

Max and Lilly were lying on the bed. Lilly was leaning on his body with her head on his chest. Max caressed her hair and said softly "Lilly, I think you should go and join the Ice sovereign moun-"

Before he could complete his sentence, Lilly interrupted him and shook her head "No I won't leave you."

Max cupped her face and kissed on her forehead. "Let me explain something to you. After that you can decide, Okay."

"Mhm." She nodded and put her head on his chest again.

"Tell me, you haven't heard of Ice sovereign mountain right?" He asked and after Lilly shook her head he continued.

"The best magic academy in the Green leaf kingdom is The Royal magic academy even so, it is classified in the lower graded..."

Max took his time explaining what Ice sovereign mountain entails. After completing his explanation, he stayed silent for a few minutes to let her digest all the information.

He then asked "So what do you think about joining the Ice sovereign mountain now? You should know that even the emperor level mages aren't worth much in front of it. It's a heaven sent opportunity."

Lilly raised her head to look into his eyes and seeing that he was serious about sending her there, she said "I know it's very good opportunity but I-I don't think I can live without seeing you for years. Wouldn't it be better if we both join Royal academy, we can become strong there too. W-Won't you also miss me if I went away?" At the end, she was almost sobbing.

Max hugged her in his arms and wiped her tears. He raised his head and said "Of course I'll miss you. But I also know that without strength, I, you, all of us are like a

sheep in Wolf's den that can lose its life in the next moment without putting up any resistance.

He then looked at her and smiled "I need you to know that I also love you as much as you love me. I was prepared to go and join an academy with you and increase our strength slowly, but now you have such a good place to go and train in, so I want you go there." Seeing that she still wanted to say something he said in teasing tone "if you can become as strong as that woman in these few years, won't we be able to roam the world without any worry of being bullied and have fun all our life?"

Lilly closed her eyes. After a long while she opened them again and as she snuggled deeper in his arms she said in a faint voice "Okay I'll listen to you but on one condition."

Chapter 79 Good Morning Beautiful***

"Oh! Tell me." He asked, surprised. In his memory, this was first time Lilly wanted to ask something therefore he didn't even think twice before agreeing.

Seeing him agree, Lilly's neck turned reddish and her body started to feel hot. Max noticed this just as he wanted to ask something what was wrong, he heard Lilly's voice again.

"I want to s-spend the entire night with you." Her voice was very weak. But he heard clearly and was confused "Don't we always spend every night together-" Suddenly realisation struck him. He would be very dumb if couldn't understand her meaning seeing her turning redder and her body hot. He wanted to curse himself and just as he wanted to correct himself, Lilly said stuttering,

"I mean, can we d-do it, s...sex?" After saying this, she felt her face burn and felt very embarrassed. 'He must have done this on purpose to tease me, hateful. But what if he thinks I'm a lewd person?' thinking this, she felt even more nervous but she didn't dare to raise her head to look at him.

Although Max understood what she meant, he was still surprised but quickly understand that she wanted to do it one last time before her departure. Seeing that she was feeling embay about it, he made her lie on top of him and embraced her soft body tightly and said "Of we can. Even if you hadn't asked we still would have done it"

Lilly didn't speak and just hugged him back, smelling his manly fragrance. Max started caressing her back and as his hands reach her supple ass, his dick became hard as a rock and poked her abdomen.

Lilly felt it and felt tingling sensation between her legs. She didn't move her body and just lay on top of him without moving. Max gropped her ass chicks, his finger sunk in that soft sensation. After he was satisfied with his caressing, gropping and squeezing, he held her face between his hand and made her look at him

Lilly was turned on right now and stared into his eyes as he brought her face closer to his and planted a kiss on her lips. Lilly trembled in excitement and closed her eyes as she kissed back. Her lips parted as his snake like tongue slithered into her mouth. She also readied her pink little tongue to fight back the invader. In a few seconds both were intertwined and sucking each other of their nectar.

Lilly was feeling blissful at this moment. She tried to have such intimate time with him for the past few days but couldn't. Although she knew it was because they both had to train and didn't have time for it but still, she couldn't help but think because of subconscious fear of losing him that he might not be interested in her anymore and felt scared. But now all her worries were swept away by this deep kiss.

After savouring the taste of her sweet lips and tongue, Max broke the kiss and breathed heavily. Lilly was also panting but her excitement and happiness was evident from her sparkling eyes.

Max stood up and took off his clothes quickly and then helped Lilly even though she didn't need it. Both of them were naked in just a few seconds. His thick cock was throbbing in anticipation. Although he had sex with Eva, it was only because of mutual benefit and even though it quenched his lust to some degree, With Lilly the case was completely different. He loved her and because of that the feeling was completely different which made it more pleasurable.

Lilly lay on the bed with her legs closed and hands covering her two round globes of soft mass.

Max looked at her beautiful body and murmured "No matter how many times I see it, your body is always so stunningly enticing that I can't move my eyes away."

Lilly heard his murmur and felt pleased. She moved her hands away to let him see her beautiful breasts. Seeing her milky white breasts with pink buds adorning them, Max couldn't resist the temptation and groped them with both of his hands. He kissed her nipples, licked them and bit them softly every now and then which made Lilly cry out softly. After squeezing them to his heart's content, he kissed her again, making her pinkish red lips, bright red.

He then continue to kiss on her cheeks, neck, chest, abdomen and even on her clit making her moan. He then stimulated her clit with his fingers and then put the middle finger inside her.

Ahh~

Lilly moaned due to the sudden intrusion. She also wanted to pleasure him but her body became powerless and she could only accept her beloved's advances.

Max proceeded to put one more finger inside, stimulating her vagina to the max. After she was completely wet and ready to have his thick rod inside her, Max didn't hesitate and rubbed her juice on his cock to make it easy to go inside without giving her any discomfort.

He rubbed his cock on the opening of her vagina a few times and with a thrust, more than half of his rod was inside her.

Ahh! Haah! Nng!

As his thick cock went inside her, she felt the heavenly pleasure she longed for past few days. She moaned loudly, without caring for anything and lost herself in the joy being connected to her beloved.

Ohh~

Max also felt very good being inside her and feeling her warm and soft insides wrap around his rod tightly making him feel immense pleasure. He couldn't help but let out a moan and feeling her pulsating vagina that wanted him to continue, he started thrusting in and out of her in a rhythmic manner.

Smack! Smack! Smack!

Ohh~ Ahh~ Hnng~ Nng~

After a while only their moans and their flesh slapping into each other, resounded in the room.

...

...Next Morning...

For the first time Max woke up before Lilly who was still in his arms, sleeping peacefully. 'It seems was drained of energy yesterday.' Thinking the 'events' of previous night, his rod started to rise again. They didn't sleep yesterday until it was past midnight. It was when Lilly passed out, exhausted and satisfied, did he stop. He didn't remember how many times they did it but he could see that her little sister was swollen when they stopped.

After a while, Lilly squirmed in his arms and woke up. Max smiled at her as he fixed a few strands of her stray hair and said. "Good Morning beautiful."

Chapter 80 Lilly's Departure (1)

Lilly blinked her black eyelashes in a cute manner, then leaned toward him and gave a light peck on his lips and said in a lazy voice "Good Morning."

Max caressed her face lovingly "How was your sleep?"

"Mmm, Very comforting." She said as she snuggled into his arms and closed her eyes again.

Max looked at her acting like a spoiled princess, amused. "Shouldn't you wake up and get ready now?" As soon as he spoke, he regretted bringing this topic up just when she woke up. And as he expected Lilly's expression became sad.

He didn't know what to say now and could only hug her in silence. After half an hour, he finally broke the silence and asked "Should I refuse that woman?"

Lilly raised her head to look at him and shook her head "No, I know I should go and join that Ice sovereign mountain because it will be good for my future. But... But I don't know if I can live without seeing you for such a long time. I would miss you very much." Her eyes became tearful.

"Foolish girl! What if we won't be able to see each other for a few years? Would that make you stop loving me? Or would I not love you after a few years?" Max rebuked as he wipe her unshed tears.

"No, it-it's not that. I- " She stuttered when she tried to reply.

He flicked her forehead and interrupted "I know what you mean." He then took out his stone pendant and put it around her neck.

"This... Isn't this your- I can't take..." Lilly touched the stone pendant and looked at him in disbelief. At the same time by this gesture of his, she knew that he truly loved her.

Max nodded "Yes, this is the pendant my mother gave me before her death. Although I didn't wear it for a few hears now, it like part of my body to me. When you miss me, look at this and it will help you calm down to some extent and will remain close to your heart in my stead."

"But it's very precious and I can't take it." Lilly shook her head in frenzy. Even though this pendant looked very ordinary, she knew what value and place it held in his heart. Although he had stopped wearing this when his mother died, but every now and then he would take it out and stare at it for hours and sometimes cry in silence. There was a time when Lilly walked in his room when he was staring at it and when she asked, he told her what it was.

Max looked at her for a moment and sighed "How about you give it back when you return? Until then I want you to take it with you."

Lilly was still hesitating. She didn't want to take his most precious thing from him and at the same time, she felt loved that he would give it to her.

Seeing this Max kissed her and said "Don't think too much. Just treat it as a memory token."

"Mmm." She nodded and smiled brightly "Okay, now I should get ready. That elder will come soon." Then she got out of the bed and headed to the bathroom.

...

After Lilly and Max were ready, they came out of their room and went to dining hall for breakfast.

"Good Morning everyone!"

As they entered the hall, hand in hand Max greeted everyone present. Lilly also bowed toward them in greeting. Ashton, Esther and others were all present. They were the last ones to come. His sisters in law and Amelia greeted them back while Esther just nodded towards them. Ashton also nodded but his usual cheerfulness was nowhere to be seen. His brows were knitted in a frown and he looked angry at this moment.

Max sat down with Lilly around the table and asked "What it is father? Everything alright?"

Ashton sighed and waved his hand. A transparent mana barrier enveloped both of them. Max looked at the barrier in astonishment and then glanced at the others and understood that he didn't want them to hear their conversation and established a sound proof barrier. "It seems my enemies have become impatient and want to rob a precious thing from me."

Max didn't speak and just listened. Ashton had a hint of anger in his eyes when he said, "Do you know why that bastard's son came here and returned as soon as I came back?"

Max shook his head. "Do you mean to say that he was here to steal the thing you speak of?"

Ashton nodded "Right. His father sent him to locate that thing and if possible, steal it." He then sneered, "But those fools weren't able to open the door where that thing is kept and decided to break the formation which controlled the door. They had destroyed fifty percent of the formation but unfortunately for them, I came before they thought I would."

'So that's the case.' Max was already suspicious of Timon as he knew that a young master like him won't come to their small town with purpose. He was here to steal something and when failed, he returned with Madam Mari in case his father found out his intentions.

"Only if I knew, I would have captured him." Max said in frustration.

Ashton shook his head. "How would you have known if even Butler George didn't know even when he was keeping an eye on them? And even if you've captured him, it wouldn't have been of any benefit. As his father would have used it as a reason to wage war and accomplish what he wanted." He said, feeling helpless.

Max didn't say anything at this. He knew Butler George was more powerful than the current him. If even he was unaware, it was next to impossible for him to know. "It seems he brought some capable man with him," Max uttered.

Ashton shook his head, and just as he wanted to say something, he paused and looked to his side in shock. He hurriedly waved his hand again. "We will talk about it later."