

No. 1 Supreme Warrior chapter 2621 - 2630

Chapter 2621

At that moment, Rudy looked like he had ingested poison and awaited his passing. His entire body was trembling, which caused Jackie to frown. Rudy would have fainted if that persisted.

He reached out and pulled Rudy behind him. "Mr. Zayne, are you looking for me?"

Mr. Zayne nodded before he motioned to the door, indicating that they could not talk while they were outside. Jackie nodded before he left to the plaza in front of the hall with him.

Not wasting any time, Mr. Zayne immediately got to business after finding a secluded place. "There's a tournament that you have to go to," he spoke.

"A tournament?" Jackie furrowed his eyebrows as he looked at Mr. Zayne.

Mr. Zayne took a deep breath before he nodded seriously. "The situation is quite urgent. You'll know when you're there. You're the person most suited for the job right now. There's no one else we can look for, so you'll have to go..."

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After saying that, Mr. Zayne had a strange expression on his face, and it was as if he was holding himself back from saying something. After a few moments of silence, he finally spoke, "Did you cross someone?"

Elder Rick's face immediately came to Jackie's mind the moment Mr. Zayne spoke those words. He knew that someone must have sabotaged him, and Jackie had to admit, he was rather curious.

Whatever it was, he was not at the stage where he was mortal enemies with Elder Rick, despite their conflict. Jackie had been thinking about it, and he decided that he would forget the matter as long as Elder Rick stopped giving him trouble.

However, he never expected to be implicated in just such a short time. Nonetheless, Jackie nodded without stopping. "Did Elder Rick recommend that I participate in this? Is there a problem with this tournament?"

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Mr. Zayne raised an eyebrow, curious about Jackie's incredibly quick reaction. However, he was a carefree person and did not go around in circles with Jackie.

He sighed as he spoke, mild irk present in his tone, "You're right, Elder Rick was the one who recommended you. He said you were of the right age and even praised you a lot. Still, this looks like a death sentence to me.

"The tournament itself is fine. If you perform well, you'll get a lot of rewards, and the eastern elders will look at you better. If you fail to do well, you'll end up suffering."

Even though Mr. Zayne had not been too

clear about the contents of the tournament, Jackie could pick out a few key points from those words.

First was that he was at the right age. Elder Rick had probably claimed that Jackie was the best among those in his age group. Even though the tournament itself might not have a problem, it must involve something incredibly important.

If Jackie ended up failing of any kind, Jackie would end up becoming the subject of a lot of public criticism. That was probably why Elder Rick recommended him so strongly.

He wanted the other elders to look down on Jackie and roughen Jackie's path forward. Elder Rick would then be able to deal with Jackie easily without much opposition.

Chapter 2622

"The matter is already set in stone, and it cannot be overturned," said Mr. Zayne, the helplessness evident in his voice. He stared at Jackie seemingly sympathetically as he added, "In a while, the other two will come over. I'll introduce everyone."

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Jackie said nothing as he stood quietly, but Rudy struggled to remain calm. He pulled at Jackie's arm and whispered, "If that's the case, then you can't go. We both know this is a trap. We should avoid Elder Rick. He's so despicable, and we can't let him get what he wants!"

Jackie raised an eyebrow before nodding as he whispered to Rudy, "You're right, but he probably anticipated me rejecting to participate in this tournament, however. You'd be doing exactly what he wants."

Rudy was baffled at this, his eyes widening at Jackie's words. "What do you mean? If we

reject it, we'll still be doing as he wants?"

Jackie sighed in exasperation as he nodded slightly before saying, "If I reject them now, I'd be rejecting the higher-ups. Those people won't have a good impression of me

regardless. After all, I'm of the appropriate age and talent. No matter how you look at it, I have to give it a try."

Rudy's face soured as he heard that. He looked around anxiously as he scratched his head, trying to figure out a way to reject but to no avail.

It seemed like Elder Rick truly had trapped them with no room for escape, and whether they advanced or retreated, Elder Rick would still benefit from it.

Jackie reached out and grabbed Rudy. "Don't overthink it. No matter what, this warrants a try. Have a bit more faith in me. There are some things where the true victor can't be seen until the very last moment."

With that, Jackie said nothing more.

Mr. Zayne had been observing their conversation silently, not doing anything other than looking at Jackie meaningfully.

After Jackie and Rudy's conversation ended, Mr. Zayne cleared his throat before he piped in, "It hasn't even been that long and you've already offended Elder Rick. I always knew you weren't someone who is all that cautious. It seems like I wasn't wrong after all."

Jackie looked up at Mr. Zayne calmly. "I've always talked and acted upon the principles I've laid out for myself. I won't trouble anyone who doesn't trouble me. If Elder Rick hadn't tried to do something to me, I wouldn't have any problems with him."

Hearing that, Mr. Zayne let out a cold smile. "You're too overconfident. Don't think I don't know what's happened. Everything about you has started to spread, and everyone knows you're talented in every way.

"However, an elder is still an elder. He can't do anything to you publicly, but it won't trouble him whatsoever to bait and trap you behind the scenes, just like what happened today. If he hadn't recommended you so much, you wouldn't have been placed under the limelight."

Jackie nodded. Even if Mr. Zayne had not said that, Jackie understood the logic behind everything that had happened. He let out a small chuckle, but his composure never wavered.

"He can do whatever he wants to, but he needs to bear the consequences for anything he does," remarked Jackie, sounding awfully blunt.

Though Jackie was not trying to exaggerate, Mr. Zayne felt incredibly amused at those words. In the end, Mr. Zayne could not stop himself from laughing out loud.

Chapter 2623

Mr. Zayne laughed for a good while before he broke into a light cough, saying, "You're the most confident sixth-grade alchemist I've ever seen! In so many years, I've never seen a sixth-grade alchemist that would dare challenge an elder and even declare that he'd get back at them! Curious am I to know where all that boldness comes from."

Jackie did not answer, however, his lips curled into a smirk as he kept his silence. At that moment, Mr. Zayne would probably be amused if Jackie said he would even go against the world if needed.

After all, the elders were an unbeatable authority in Mr. Zayne's eyes. Mr. Zayne had been in Phoenix Valley for so long but had never managed to get that title.

He felt like Jackie was not going to be a match for an elder. Even though Jackie was talented, there were so many others with talent, too. In the end, how many of them would end up becoming an elder?

Mr. Zayne laughed for a long time before he stopped. He shook his head helplessly and said, "Since I was the one who brought you here, let me leave you with a reminder: you'd best not get too far ahead of yourself. After all...you're just a sixth-grade alchemist."

All of a sudden, they heard a series of footsteps, and all three men turned and spotted two men in green robes with seventh-grade alchemist badges on their chest walking toward them.

Mr. Zayne looked at the two of them and immediately composed himself. He let out a slight smile before he nodded at both figures.

The two of them bowed to Mr. Zayne and politely greeted him. Jackie narrowed his eyes. Even though the two of them had greeted Mr. Zayne, he could not feel much respect in their words. It was like the two of them did not think Mr. Zayne was that important at all.

Any regular alchemist would regard Mr. Zayne highly as a deacon, even though he had not become an elder yet, but the two of them were noticeably exceptions.

Of course, Mr. Zayne could tell that the two green-robed men were not that respectful, but he did not seem too displeased about it at all. He smiled as he introduced them to Jackie, "This is Claude Hodgins, and the one next to him is Benedict Malone. You'll be heading to Sky Peak Pavilion with the two of them and have a small tournament there."

Jackie nodded and greeted both green-robed men. The two of them nodded at Jackie as well, but their gazes were noticeably sharp.

They scrutinized Jackie and looked painfully inquisitive, much to Jackie's discomfort.

Nonetheless, Jackie understood their intent. Mr. Zayne had said that the tournament was limited by age, which meant that the two of them were about the same age as him. Being a seventh-grade alchemist at their age naturally gave them sizable pride.

After Mr. Zayne introduced the three of them, he did not delay matters as he brought them to a small vessel. They headed toward the aforementioned Sky Peak Pavilion.

Jackie did not ask where it was but was instead thinking of the kind of tournament they would be going through.

It made sense why Mr. Zayne thought that Jackie would drag them down. After all, the other two participants were seventh-grade alchemists. Their arrogance was palpable, so they were probably quite capable even among seventh-grade alchemists.

After ascertaining that fact, Jackie relaxed instead.

There were four people in the small vessel. Other than Mr. Zayne, who was steering the vessel, the three of them took up a spot by themselves to rest.

Chapter 2624

Jackie had no intention to befriend the other two men, while these two looked down on Jackie.

After everything that had happened before, Mr. Zayne was noticeably much more careful. As they advanced, he would regularly stop and study their surroundings for any signs of ambush.

Jackie and the two green-robed men merely closed their eyes and rested in the vessel.

Initially, they were still quite composed, but Claude started to lose his patience after a while. Claude looked up at Jackie and said, "I don't know what Elder Rick was thinking for praising you so much. We seventh grade alchemists are the leads here. Make sure you don't drag us down and disappoint Elder Rick!"

Claude talked like he was lecturing Jackie,

which made Jackie frown. He loathed anyone who spoke to him in such a manner, and Claude acted like he was far above Jackie.

If Claude had said anything else, Jackie might not have reacted so badly, but Claude's tone sparked Jackie's fuse.

He looked up at Claude and said, "The one thing I hate the most is those who speak without knowing the whole situation"; you're obviously that type of person.

"You've never seen how good I am before, but you've already judged me just by listening to what others have said. What a gentleman, you are. Elder Rick has a grudge against me; he was just praising me in an attempt to drag me down!"

Those words stunned Claude, while Benedict looked up from his seated position at Jackie with a strange expression. Elder Rick had a grudge against this guy? Jackie was recommended because of a grudge?

The two of them could not help but nod

after thinking about it. That made sense. After all, Jackie was only a sixth-grade alchemist, and a sixth-grade alchemist would not have the chance to do anything in this tournament.

They would have to rely on seventh-grade alchemists.

Jackie was only there to add to the numbers. Elder Rick might have said many nice words, but he had never claimed that Jackie would help them obtain victory.

"You're really something else... I heard that you haven't been in Phoenix Valley for that long, and you managed to get Elder Rick to hold a grudge against you and even try so hard to cause you trouble. You truly are commendable."

These words were minced with obvious mockery.

Jackie sighed. He had just regained his bearings when things started to act up again, and he never even wanted to exchange words with these two men!

Even if they were seventh-grade alchemists, Jackie did not regard them that highly at all. However, since the two of them said so, Jackie could not hold back.

Claude looked at Jackie in disdain as if it was all Jackie's fault that Jackie offended Elder Rick.

Jackie grunted lightly as he looked at Claude. "And what gives you the right to go on your merry way and give others snide remarks?"

"You don't even know what sort of relationship I have with Elder Rick, yet you can so boldly assume and imply that I'm the one at fault. Well, if you're ever killed by an elder in the future, it's definitely your fault!"

Claude widened his eyes, not expecting Jackie's temper to be so bad. He had just said a few words but was shot back so viciously.

"I've never seen a sixth-grade alchemist as brazen as you!" spoke Benedict, frowning when he did.

Chapter 2625

Jackie smiled as he turned to look at Benedict. "Well, I've never seen seventh grade alchemists like you who don't know how to mind your own business. The two of you look like you're just too bored and have nothing to do. Do you think that you can go around and cause other people trouble just because you're seventh-grade alchemists?"

Jackie had not even been able to finish his tirade when Mr. Zayne turned and shouted, "The three of you, keep quiet! We'll be at Sky Peak Pavilion soon. Don't embarrass Phoenix Valley!"

"Whatever will happen, you have to remember that you're from the same place. When you're outside, you represent Phoenix Valley, I don't care what you do inside Phoenix Valley, but when you're outside, you'll be punished for embarrassing the valley no matter who you

are!"

All three men fell quiet at Mr. Zayne's words. Nonetheless, Claude and Benedict's anger never subsided, and it showed on their face.

The two of them frowned as they glared at Jackie who merely shut his eyes and ignored them. Jackie shut his eyes, not wanting anything more to do with them.

Claude and Benedict, having known each other, would no doubt join hands no matter what happened.

After arriving at Sky Peak Pavilion, Mr. Zayne finally introduced the clan.

Sky Peak Pavilion was an eighth-grade clan, but they were not comparable to other eighth-grade clans. They had only been promoted less than two years ago, and Sky Peak Pavilion had just been a seventh grade clan before that.

Meanwhile, Unbreaking Pavilion that was

in conflict with the alliance was at the peak of eighth-grade clans, only one silver away from being a ninth-grade clan.

If Sky Peak Pavilion went to war with Unbreaking Pavilion, they would probably be decimated in less than a month.

After Sky Peak Pavilion was introduced, Jackie could not help but wonder...

What was the point of this tournament? They left for Sky Peak Pavilion and traversed such a large distance, so there had to be something important. What was so important? Jackie needed more time to figure it out.

Sky Peak Pavilion's elders were already waiting outside the mountain. When the vessel stopped, the elders got up to greet them. They exchanged many pleasantries with Mr. Zayne before the elders brought them into the Sky Peak Pavilion inner compound.

Sky Peak Pavilion might be an eighth-grade

sect, but their buildings were not all that impressive. They could not compare to Phoenix Valley.

Sky Peak Pavilion's elders brought them through a long path before they arrived at a spacious hall. There were quite a few people in the hall, but there were only two chairs in the center.

Jackie looked up at the two people who were sitting there. One of them had the special elder robes of Phoenix Valley on, and he was probably the elder from the east that Mr. Zayne had spoken about before.

The other one looked to be about in his late forties. He had a smile on his face, one that did not reach his eyes. He gave the impression of a scheming old fox.

Mr. Zayne bowed to the two of them. "Greetings, Elder Maurice, Master Forrest."

So that was Master Forrest from Sky Peak Pavilion. Looking at how respectful Mr.

Zayne was, Master Forrest most likely held a great position in Sky Peak Pavilion.

What followed was a string of empty pleasantries. They talked about how safe the journey was and asked about some things in Phoenix Pavilion. Mr. Zayne seemed quite familiar with these proceedings.

Jackie quietly stood by the side, not saying anything. It took a bit of time before they got to the main topic.

Chapter 2626

Master Forrest stood up as he waved at the three behind him and said, albeit with false humility, "These are the disciples the Sky Peak Pavilion has raised for many years. They can't compare to your disciples from the Phoenix Valley, but they are skilled in their own right. We brought them here today to hopefully show some of their skill."

Master Forrest continued to introduce the three. The man at the front was Conrad Suller, while the other two behind Conrad were Jameson Lagey and Bradley Cooper respectively.

Each of them was about Jackie's age and sported seventh-grade alchemist badges. After Master Forrest finished his introduction, Elder Maurice took the initiative to introduce his alchemists.

Elder Maurice walked forward and looked at

Claude and Benedict, both standing in front of Jackie, and he had a pleased expression on his face when he did.

However, his face froze the moment he looked at Jackie, especially at the sixth grade alchemist badge on Jackie's chest. He widened his eyes as his lips quivered slightly.

Thankfully, he was facing the Phoenix Valley representatives at that moment, and Sky Peak Pavilion's representatives did not see the change in his expression at all. Elder Maurice took a deep breath before he looked at Mr. Zayne with a questioning look.

It was evident he was asking why a sixth grade alchemist was there.

Zayne's lips froze. He knew before he came here that Elder Maurice would be enraged when he saw Jackie, but Zayne could not afford to offend either side, thus finding himself stuck in the middle.

No matter how versed Mr. Zayne was playing politics, there were some things he could not avoid. In situations like this where it was impossible to get on well with either side, he still had to perform his duties, regardless of how reluctant he was. The higher-ups were the ones who had arranged for him to do it.

Screwing up or offending either side were both incredibly bad scenarios for Zayne. Naturally, he did not want anything to go wrong.

Helpless, he pursed his lips as he returned Elder Maurice's gaze. There were some things that he had to make clear, or he would end up causing himself a lot of trouble.

It would be like telling Elder Maurice that the whole situation was like this because of him.

Mr. Zayne frowned and thought about it for a moment, trying his best to summarize his thoughts before he gave a simplified version of the explanation he had in mind to Elder Maurice.

Elder Maurice's expression darkened in the blink of an eye. At the start, Elder Maurice was merely shocked that a sixth-grade alchemist was brought over, but after understanding the situation, Elder Maurice immediately understood how terrible the situation was.

With a frown on his face, he whispered, "This is a disaster! Does Rick not know how important this tournament is? Doesn't he know what the consequences will be if we take the wrong step?"

Mr. Zayne was so afraid that he started to tremble after he heard that. "I don't know about that, but Elder Rick vouched and insisted on nominating Jackie for this," he answered helplessly. "He spoke of Jackie's talents so greatly, and Jackie is at the right age, so everyone eventually agreed to his recommendation."

Elder Maurice's face grew hot red in anger. His right hand trembled, and he would have started spouting curse words had the situation allowed him to.

He took a deep breath, composed himself, and tried his best to calm his voice.

"He's really out here trying to ruin things! If Jackie was at the peak of sixth-grade alchemists and only a hair away from being a seventh-grade alchemist, he might be able to get us some results in this tournament, but you told me that it hasn't been long since he advanced to be a sixth-grade alchemist. How could he carry such a heavy burden? We'll completely lose this tournament thanks to Elder Rick's meddling!"

Chapter 2627

"We've never interfered with his grudges, but he's been getting out of hand lately. He dares to use such an important tournament to deal with someone he doesn't like! It's practically an abuse of power! He's gone too far!"

Mr. Zayne inwardly agreed with Elder Maurice; Elder Rick truly did cross the line this time. After all, this tournament practically gambled the benefits Phoenix Valley could have gotten.

If they did not win the tournament this time, Phoenix Valley would have to pay a greater price to get Sky Peak Pavilion's help!

With that in mind, Zayne's expression darkened in his state of exasperation. He was a deacon with a certain level of power in Phoenix Valley, but against those elders, he did not really hold any weight.

He never voiced his opinions so casually when facing the elders, even if he knew he was correct. That was why there was nothing he could do other than feel helpless at that moment.

Elder Maurice struggled to regain his composure and maintain a normal expression, but the more he thought about it, the angrier he became. He wanted nothing more than to rush back to Phoenix Valley and challenge Elder Rick to a duel to the death.

Mr. Zayne glanced behind him and saw Master Forrest looking at them curiously. After all, they had been whispering to each other for a long time.

Zayne let out a slight cough and said, "Elder... Master Forrest has been staring at us."

Elder Maurice pursed his lips helplessly. After taking a deep breath, he finally suppressed the anger in his heart as he turned to look at Master Forrest.

"Some matters in the valley have arisen, so please forgive me, Master Forrest. There's been more and more troublesome matters popping up."

Master Forrest raised an eyebrow. Despite his mounting curiosity, Elder Maurice was still someone important, and he could not afford to make things too awkward.

Master Forrest let out a laugh before he nodded. "You'll be here for a few days anyway, so a bit of a delay is not an issue. You can have your conversation more privately for now."

Elder Maurice nodded and walked forward. He waved Jackie and the others over, and they nodded hurriedly. They followed closely behind Elder Maurice and arrived at the corner of the hall.

At that moment, Elder Maurice could no longer compose himself. He reached out and pulled Mr. Zayne toward him before hissing with gritted teeth, "I don't care what Rick is thinking, but if this thing ends up dragging us down, I won't let him off!"

Elder Maurice was already irate at that moment. He would normally never say something to a deacon, especially since Mr. Zayne was not that close to him, but Elder Maurice felt like he would die of frustration if he did not vent out his anger.

Zayne pursed his lips helplessly, knowing how angry Elder Maurice was.

There was no longer any way for them to change the situation. Jackie was already there, and they could not possibly make any last-minute changes. With that in mind, Zayne's gaze swiveled to look at Jackie.

Chapter 2628

During the entire exchange, Jackie never lost his composure as he merely stood behind them quietly. Even if he heard some of the things they have said, he barely reacted to them. It was as if they were not talking about him at all.

Claude and Benedict, on the other hand, could not contain how pleased they felt. After being pulled over, they managed to hear some of the conversations despite Elder Maurice trying his best to lower his volume. Of course, they knew why Elder Maurice was so visibly irked.

Claude smirked as he looked at Jackie, the nuisance he was. If it was anyone else, Elder Maurice would not have been so angry, and the matter would not be in such a mess.

The moment he thought back to how arrogant Jackie was in the vessel, Claude felt a build-up of fury within him. Jackie ought to know to choose his battles; whom he could offend and could not.

He raised an eyebrow as he deliberately leaned toward Jackie, whispering so none could hear him, "Do you hear that? Elder Maurice is furious thanks to you. Someone like you will only drag us down in this tournament."

Jackie pursed his lips in exasperation. Normally, he would ignore whatever people were saying, but Claude was like an annoying fly in his ears that would buzz to his ear, annoying him to no end.

He looked at Claude and lowly retorted, "Have you conveniently forgotten everything I have said before? You've never seen me in action before, so why are you setting that judgment on me already? You think I'll drag you down? I think you're just trash."

Jackie might have lowered his voice when he said that, but he was not as afraid of others hearing him as Claude was. Both Elder Maurice and Mr. Zayne had heard parts of it, even when they stood in front of them.

The two of them turned to look at Jackie at the same time, but Jackie's expression did not change at all when he felt their eyes on him—still calm as usual. Meanwhile, Claude's face had turned purple from Jackie's words, and he was so angry that both his fists trembled.

He noticed that nothing he was saying to gain the upper hand was working against Jackie; that man did not seem to care what he was saying at all. Jackie seemed to be willing to say anything back at him, regardless of the situation they were in.

Claude almost spat out blood in anger. If Benedict had not pulled him back, Claude would have started a fight with Jackie on the spot.

Elder Maurice narrowed his eyes as he appraised Jackie. Mr. Zayne frowned, obviously having something to say. However, with his cautious nature, he swallowed his words.

The atmosphere was suddenly incredibly quiet. Elder Maurice let out a small laugh as he walked toward Jackie. "You don't seem scared at all, are you now?"

Jackie stared straight into Elder Maurice's eyes. Even though he could not really hear everything Elder Maurice had said earlier, he knew where Elder Maurice stood.

As long as he was not on the same side as Elder Maurice, Jackie might have a bit more room to maneuver in the coming events. With that, Jackie sported a proud expression for the first time as he nodded slightly. "Of course not. If I were afraid, I wouldn't have come."

Elder Maurice raised an eyebrow at this, a curious expression etched onto his face.

After all, Jackie had a sixth-grade alchemist badge on his chest, but he spoke even more proudly than a seventh-grade alchemist.

Elder Maurice frowned as a thought sprung in his head. This kid before him must have been very confident in his skills, provided he was not just being overly proud.

Even though he usually met the latter, he was hopeful that Jackie was the former at this point. Elder Maurice took a deep breath as he said seriously, "You've had a rift with Elder Rick, haven't you?"

Chapter 2629

It might have been worded as a question, but Elder Maurice's expression clearly said that he knew what went down.

Jackie, not bothering to hide the truth, nodded. "Yes, we had some conflicts before. There was an alchemist who felt like I insulted him after I didn't give my task to him at the task hall, so he arranged for an assassin to kill me.

"After the matter was exposed, he tried to have Elder Rick speak for him, and to fulfill his promise to that person, Elder Rick twisted the truth completely. I exposed him in the end, however.

"The two alchemists who tried to have me killed are already locked up, leaving Elder Rick rather humiliated by the matter. Having lost whatever good things and benefits he had due to that stunt, he decided to trouble me."

Of course, Mr. Zayne had briefly gone through this matter with Elder Maurice, so Elder Maurice more or less knew what had happened.

After Jackie relayed his story, he suddenly raised his voice and said in a righteous tone, "Before I entered Phoenix Valley, I thought that the higher-ups would never resort to favoring anyone like this, even if there was some competition inside. It looks like I was far too naive.

"I feel like someone like Elder Rick doesn't deserve the position of an elder at all. His moral character isn't worthy, and I'll never acknowledge him."

The temperature dropped as he said that. Even Claude and Benedict widened their eyes and looked at Jackie in shock.

Truthfully, they shared the same sentiment, that Elder Rick did not deserve to be an elder. Regardless, Jackie actually dared to voice it out, which surprised them.

After all, Jackie was still an alchemist in Phoenix Valley, but he had just voiced his displeasure and even questioned the higher-ups.

He even questioned their moral compass, something no ordinary person would ever do. Even if Claude was downright vain, he would never question another elder in front of another!

Worse still, Jackie spoke so confidently, so boldly, and his entire posture reeked of pride!

Benedict frowned. "Jackie, how dare you? Even if an elder does something wrong, it's not your place to question them!"

Jackie raised an eyebrow as he turned to look at Benedict. "I've seen many dogs like you. Even if you continue barking, I'll never agree with you.

"Don't act all holier-than-thou when this doesn't even concern you. If it weren't for the evidence I had in hand, the attempt to assassinate me wouldn't have been cleared, and I would've been the unfortunate one!

"This doesn't concern you at all, so you obviously don't care about it. You can talk to that elder without a care in the world to suck up to him, but if you're trying to stop me with your actions, then that's the wrong move!"

After he said that, Jackie walked forward, forcing Benedict to take a step back. Benedict never expected Jackie to be so resolved. All of a sudden

"Well said!" spoke Elder Maurice affirmatively, which startled everyone present. Jackie, on the other hand, raised an eyebrow.

Well, it seemed like he had taken the right
gamble.

Chapter 2630

Elder Maurice was already infuriated by Elder Rick for meddling in his affairs. He was already planning on fighting back against Elder Rick, hence why he could boldly applaud Jackie's words.

Jackie had earned an ample amount of Elder Maurice's favor.

Elder Maurice looked up slightly. "Even though I think you're right, you still need the right to say those words. If your pride is just an empty tin can, your words are all meaningless without the power to back up your claims."

Elder Maurice put his hand on Jackie's shoulder as he added, albeit with a relatively firm voice, "If you do well this time, I'll make sure to support you. If you don't do well, you won't just have made an enemy of Elder Rick, but me as well."

Elder Maurice's words placed an invisible pressure against Jackie. Additionally, his words also sparked interesting expressions from the rest of their companions.

Claude felt like Jackie had gone overboard with bragging this time, and he might have just rocked a boat he should not have. Jackie could not possibly do well, so Jackie would ultimately disappoint Elder Maurice in the end. Moreover, Jackie had carried himself so haughtily before, acting like Elder Rick did not faze him.

With that in mind, he could not help but let out a cold laugh. Claude narrowed his eyes and looked at Jackie as if he was looking at an idiot.

Not only did Jackie's self-righteous words fail to get him out of his predicament, but they merely ensnared him into a deeper pit. If he did not produce any results, Elder Maurice would never forgive Jackie.

Claude and Benedict exchanged glances; it was obvious how happy the both of them were.

Jackie nodded. "I'll say the same thing as I've said. If I can't do it, I wouldn't have come."

Elder Maurice patted Jackie lightly on the arm. "Good! Very good! Remember what you said. Don't end up shooting yourself in the foot!"

After saying that, Elder Maurice no longer wasted any more time, turning and walking back toward the center of the hall.

All this while, Master Forrest looked like he had returned to his seat and was enjoying his tea, but his gaze had always been on Elder Maurice and the others.

After he saw Elder Maurice bringing the other four back, Master Forrest immediately put down the cup in his hand as he put a smile on his face, standing up to greet them.

At that moment, Elder Maurice had already

composed himself. He looked at the people from Sky Peak Pavilion and extended his hand forward to introduce those from Phoenix Valley.

There was nothing too special about Claude and Benedict, since both of them had seventh-grade alchemist badges on their chest. When it came to Jackie, however, a few of them suddenly had a meaningful look in their eyes.

In truth, they had already noticed Jackie before. After the introductions, their curiosity deepened. After all, other than Jackie, everyone else participating in the tournament was a seventh-grade alchemist.

Sky Peak Pavilion was a far cry from Phoenix Valley, and Phoenix Valley was a major camp of the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance.

Phoenix Valley had produced countless talented alchemists, but they had actually sent a sixth-grade alchemist, which greatly shocked everyone.

Feeling everyone's gazes, Elder Maurice's anger was triggered once more, but this time, it was aimed at Elder Rick.

Jackie was at the right age, sure, but he was just a sixth-grade alchemist. Phoenix Valley had so many alchemists, and it should not have been hard for them to choose three alchemists who were suitable!