

TECHNOLOGY 1031

Chapter 1031 - The Cinderella Trap

"Good.

I'll talk to mother first.

All of you should get lost."

"Yes, mistress."

With that, the hidden guards, whom the lady referred to as 'Clouds,' quickly disappeared in a flash.

With that, the young lady had her meal deep in thought.

Who was she?

Well, she was none other than the 3rd Daughter of the famous Count Madison, born to the Count's 2nd wife.

Her name was Ezenia Madison, who many had described as the beauty with many faces.

It's said that her every expression was like poetry in motion.

Almost everyone who saw her was deeply fascinated by her.

After the beauties of the royals, she was ranked as the 5th beauty in the Capital.

Of course, her reputation was also boosted all the way up because right from birth, she had been engaged to Ulrich Tudor, the former crown prince of Deiferus.

She was just one step close to being queen.

But out of nowhere, a dark horse came in and ruined all her plans.

Henry Tudor!

The fool she had once picked on and even tried assassinating to help her fiance was now Monarch of Deiferus.

Dammit!

She had never been slapped in the face so hard in her entire life!

The portrait she had been looking at, was one that showed a dashing image of Henry on it.

That's right.

It took 2 entire months for her to brainwash herself and possessively take Henry as her man.

For her, it was all a matter of time before she had him l.i.c.k.i.n.g her feet.

Of course, she had also planned a prince saves beauty scene in order to trap him.

But who could tell her where her man had gone?

Her men said he was nowhere to be found, with no one knowing whether he was still in the Capital or not.

Rumours even said that he went away to get his lover over to the Capital.

Never!

Over her dead body would she allow someone to take her position as queen.

It was hers!!!!

.

The competition was fierce, and several casualties were already noted.

That's right.

With the backing of their families, the daughters and ladies of these prestigious Clans and families were all killing themselves for the throne.

All her plans should've worked.

But sadly, no one knew how His majesty Henry moved.

From the moment he took over, no one... Not even their spies whom they sent into the palace knew how or when he moved.

It was like he could disappear and appear at will.

So all their plans typically boiled down to luck.

Others tried falling into ponds during public ceremonies, hoping that he would jump on to rescue them.

The water would make their clothes somewhat see-through, and the fact that Henry touched them, even if he was saving them, was seen as intimacy that should only exist between married couples.

So if Henry had jumped in, then it would have to marry them by force.

They could also claim that he squeezed something he shouldn't have, and everyone would believe it.

At that point, their families, who were hiding and watching, would come out and force him to marry their daughters.

But even with all their scheming, who knew that Henry wouldn't follow the script?

He, who seemed to be walking alone in the gardens, didn't even bat an eye at them drowning.

He even began instructing them and teaching them how to swim.

There was a time when he even sat on one of the benches and took out a chocolate bar from his c.h.e.s.t pocket as if watching some show.

These ladies didn't know whether to laugh or cry at his brutality.

In the end, they even swam out of the ponds themselves.

What a joke. They weren't ready to die yet, alright?

Again, how could they give up so easily?

So decided to come out and have him look at their somewhat visible n.a.k.e.d bodies, but once again, Henry was one step ahead.

The moment he saw them trying to get out, he made like the wind and took off before they even got out of the pond.

Just like that, this guy had been avoiding all sorts of damsels and traps around the Capital.

Because of his movements, families paid huge amounts of money for information guilds and assassin guilds to gather his schedule.

Such info was like gold to them right now.

And even to this day, Ezenia had no clue where her future husband went.

Just like Cinderella, the clock was ticking, and if by midnight she didn't find the Prince, it would be game over.

Someone other b**ch would take him.

No? She had to ensnare him in her web no matter what it takes.

Only she could be queen.

.

Ezenia ate her meal quietly while slowly running her hands across his portrait.

Yes. She was desperately trying to brainwash herself into believing that she loved him.

She didn't want him to detect any form of lies or doubt when she met him.

Only in this way will her plan truly work.

This was also very beneficial because her heart already belonged to another.

Soon, there was a knock on the door.

~Knock. Knock. Knock.~

"Enter."

With that, a maid quickly walked in: "Young lady. The 2nd wife is currently on her way."

"Hmmm. Stand outside and open the door for her when she comes in.." Ezenia said before continuing her meal in silence.

"Yes, young lady."

And not too long after the maid left, she heard the sounds of uneven footsteps, slowly making their way towards her bedroom chambers.

~Tap. Tap. Tap. Tap. Tap~~

The footsteps grew louder and louder until her door suddenly opened.

"Daughter, How are you today?"

Chapter 1032 - Hot Cake Henry!

~Bam!

The doors opened wide, and in came a beautiful middle-aged woman with a warm smile on her face.

"Daughter, how are you today?"

Countess Avery majestically walked in alone, keeping her maids and guards outside the room.

Of course, she had also ensured that the door was shut tight before advancing in.

Ezenia smiled at her mother and couldn't help appreciate the woman.

It was not for nothing that she had this face.

The woman who birthed her was a show-stopper as well.

For them as nobles, they had never worked a day in their lives, just maintaining themselves and looking good.

That's why almost all noblewomen were seen as extraordinarily beautiful compared to the peasant or slave women who worked and began haggard with so many wrinkles and veins showing on their skin.

It was a must to do so after every meal.

And, they also had to watch what they eat.

That's why they had specific meals and meal times too.

Everything was strictly monitored by the kitchen staff, ensuring that their meals and everything else was brought over on time.

The things they were allergic to would also be noted down as well.

Men were allowed to be fat, but women weren't.

So as the standard rules for noblewomen, if they ate beef, geese, duck or any other meats, they would pair it with something very light or a meal only made with vegetables, apples, or raisins.

And if they ate fish, clam or any other seafood, they could go heavy like yeast-made products, rice, and oats.

Milk was taken 4 times a week, eggs were taken daily, and desserts were taken once a week.

Of course, cheese and beans could only be eaten just twice a month because they didn't want to feel too gassy.

It was a taboo for a noble lady to fart accidentally or even in the midst of their maids.

Many philosophers concluded that Noblewomen couldn't fart... Except during childbirth.

They claimed that noblewomen evolved, growing some hidden body parts that didn't make them fart.

So those who slipped a fart and got caught were associated with frauds.

A true noble lady wouldn't be able to fart.

That was what a bunch of men sat together and theorized.

If it did happen, it would be better to go into the woods and live there as savages till they die.

How uncultured.

If anyone asked Ezenia if she had ever farted in her life, the answer was obviously no.

Please. They didn't have it in their system, alright?

.

The stunning Avery calmly sat by her daughter and smiled broadly when she saw Henry's portrait.

"Daughter. I see you can't wait to meet your future husband. Don't worry. Everything is going according to plan."

Ezenia smiled cheerfully for a bit before suddenly turning stiff: "Mother, then... What about Ulrich?"

"What about him?!!"

Avery twisted her face in disdain when she thought of the former crown Prince Ulrich.

If she had known that he would be so useless, she would never have pushed for her daughter to get betrothed to him from birth.

She and Ulrich's mother were 'friends.'

It was more accurate to say that she was the woman's lackey.

This, through her scheming, she found a way to engage both children.

At that time, she felt like there was no way that she would regret it.

After all, Ulrich's mother was the most ambitious woman she had ever seen in her life and the most cunning.

For decades, she kept all women in check and ensured that her son was the crown prince.

So who would've known that the person she thought was the most probable to succeed would end up failing?

No one saw this coming.

Not even the late Julius Tudor could've seen it coming.

If he knew that his throne was taken by the son he hated the most, he might never rest in peace.

The most annoying thing is that the woman dared to ask for her help to rescue her son from Heaven knows where.

Right now, her main focus was to catch the next big Fish, A.K.A Henry.

Of course, she only did things in secret so as not to incur the wrath of Ulrich's maternal clan.

Only when she had succeeded would she come out and mock them.

For now, she was keeping things on the low and still smiling with their supposed 'In-laws.'

.

Ezenia thinned her lips somewhat unwillingly: "Mother... What if I've already fallen in love with Ulrich?"

"Never!!!

I forbid you to love someone who is now no different from a slave!

Daughter... I don't want you to bring someone who is like your father.

You see that Ulrich fellow... He's exactly like your father, who has repeatedly failed to firmly control the Clan.

Instead, he allowed his bastard little brother to keep beating him over and over again.

What a disgrace!

Do you know that all these years, he kept telling me that things would get better?

And I, as an idiot, fully believed him, only for me to wait all these years and get no results.

Now, the 3rd son's family is the one running the clan.

While he, the eldest son, can only bow his head like a fool.

Daughter, don't you see how they snob and look down on us?

Our monthly budgets get cut every time the butler sends it over.

Not only that... but even when talking, our opinions don't matter.

I loved that man called your father, and what did I get in the end?

Years and years of bullying!!!"

The more Avery spoke, the more her blood boiled in rage!!

Even 6/10th of the Clan businesses and stores were all controlled by the 3rd son's family, while they only controlled 2/10th

To peasants, it might seem like they were living rich.

But here, even their food, clothing, carriages and horses weren't as lavish as that of the 3rd son's family.

F***! She had been enduring this for decades now.

What was funny was that the 3rd son's family had engaged their daughter to the former 2nd Prince, Winston Tudor.

They wanted a person they could easily manipulate and were ready to help him all the way.

Now, with all princes down, everyone wanted Henry!

She would be damned if she allowed the 3rd son's family to get him.

Not on her life!

.

Avery looked at her daughter coldly.

"Stupid girl!

You better give up your thoughts about love.

CAN IT BE EATEN?

DO THEY EAT LOVE?

Who has love ever helped?

You listen well, and listen good.

You will get married to him, and that's that!

So you better keep looking at his portrait day and night

Because that man right there, will be the 'Love' of Your Life!!!!"

Chapter 1033 - A Good Woman

Ezenia's heart stopped when she heard Avery's reply.

Her breath became deeper and rapid the more she thought of her beloved

She clenched her fists and lowered her head in pain.

Why?

Why did it end up like this?

Secretly, she blamed Henry for Ulrich's downfall.

Her eyes shone with a dark light when she thought of Henry.

Yes!

IT WAS ALL HIS FAULT!!!!

Right now, she was more or less looking at his portrait to make herself into falling for him.

And once she won his loyalty and trust, she would then marry him and slit the bastard's throat on the wedding day.

She would take the throne and use all forces in the empire to rescue Ulrich, her one true love.

But that plan was the last option.

If she could save Ulrich now, she would.

Her mother would never understand her pain!

Ezenia thinned her lips unwillingly: "Mother, why don't we first try getting Ulrich out? What if he can still make a comeback?"

"Puii! If that idiot can make a comeback, then I'll cut off my right arm and feed the fish!"

"But... "

"Shut up!!!!

You better keep quiet if you have nothing good to say.

I want to believe that I raised you to have something upstairs in your head and not just water.

After everything I said, you're still talking about love? Does love exist?

If your father loved me, then why didn't he give me a better life?

I want you to marry a man who will be able to give me gold every time I sneeze.

In fact, I want the man to be able to reserve an entire street and shopping area whenever I'm about to shop.

I want a capable man, and here you are talking about love.

What does love have to do with marriage?

Daughter. Any man that marries you automatically marries me!

Yes! Just assume my husband is dead.

So if any man tells you that things will get better in future, just carry yourself and run in the opposite direction!

I want you to get married to a Monarch, and here you are, talking about being in love with a former Prince.

Do you want to settle for less?

Those people that get married to Monarchs... were they born with 2 heads instead of one?

Are they any different from you?

So why is it so difficult for you to marry one?"

" "

—

...

Avery spoke so much that she almost had a heart attack.

Who has love ever helped?

She would be damned if she let her daughter fall into the same hole or trap she did.

In future, she, Avery, would be Queen Mother, and nothing less!

She was done picking after the 3rd Son's family.

Now it was her time to shine.

Ezenia smiled calmly while quickly hiding her emotions away: "Mother, I was just asking... Don't worry. I'll do what you've said. I too, have needs. So stop stressing. You know it's not good for your heart."

"It's good that you understand.

Soon, you will sit on the throne as Queen.

So I just want you to know that poverty is non-negotiable here.

Don't ever mention love to me again!"

"Yes, mother."

Seeing her obedient disposition, Avery relaxed and put away her fangs, calmly rubbing her divine daughter's back.

"It's good that you know that your mother is doing this all for you."

Ezenia almost threw up at her mother's shameless statement.

Her heart boiled in rage when she heard Avery's words.

If she didn't know the woman well, she would really believe her.

The woman before her was a shameless old Hag!!!

Indeed. Just like the woman had said, any man who married her was indirectly marrying her mother, IN ALL SENSES!

Yes! That's right!

She was fed up with her husband and had entered the sinful nature of sleeping with youngsters secretly

If people found out, they would burn her mother alive!

Just within this estate alone, there were more than 3 boys who p.l.e.a.s.u.r.ed the old Hag!

She loved the feeling of thinking she was still young... (Even though she was, in earth's standard, since she was just 36).

These boys made her feel youthful. At the same time, she also had wealthy noble lovers.

Of course, everything was kept on the low, and she, Ezenia, also did her best to clean up her mother's acts.

Why?

Because it would hinder her plans if it ever got discovered.

Her tramp of a mother, would never know how much she had done to clean her behind.

That's when she discovered that the b**ch even went as far as trying to reduce Ulrich, not once, not twice, not thrice... But 11 TIMES!

Heavens! She had wanted to slit the skank's throat so many times before.

Now, hearing her mother indirectly admit that whoever she married would also marry her mother, how could Ezenia not understand?

The Women intended to reduce Henry to get benefits!

What a whore!

The woman felt like her husband had wasted her youth.

But what did it have to do with her?

Ezenia had no love for this 'public toilet' that called herself her mother.

For the sake of her plans, she would keep everything hidden... especially from the 3rd son's family.

After that, she, herself, would strangle her mother and give her the taste of betrayal.

Just looking at the filthy floozie made her want to scratch the whore's face until there was no flesh on it.

'You cheap b**ch!... Tramp!... Scarlet woman!

You'll pay for what you've done!!'

.

Ezenia adjusted her emotions, giving off a very obedient demeanour, which in turn made Avery pleased.

Her daughter's things were also hers.

She didn't see anything wrong with that.

Yes.

How was it her fault that all the men wanted her and found her irresistible?

If anyone should be blamed, it should be the men!!!

These men couldn't control themselves around her.

And out of pity, she decided to satisfy them.

Tch!

Should she have said no and let them suffer?

No way! That would be wicked!

So as a good woman with a good heart, how could she see someone in need and not help out?

She was just a good woman!!!

Chapter 1034 - Stranger Danger!

Looking at Avery made Ezenia feel like puking.

But she resisted the urge while inwardly cursing the cheap whore.

Meanwhile, Avery had already started thinking of how to get Henry to do her bidding.

After her daughter had latched on to him a bit, she would then make her move.

Oh dear, what should she wear?

She looked at Ezenia and smiled broadly.

"Daughter.

As of now, we'll wait for his majesty Henry to arrive at the Capital.

The moment the spies send word, you'll have to make a move on him fast before that sl** in the 3rd son's family makes her own move too.

Trust me... There are too many people looking at a good powerful man like King Henry.

So for mother's sake, you have to do your best!"

Ezenia inwardly scoffed in disdain: 'You would like that. Wouldn't you b**ch.'

"Yes, mother. I'll do my best."

Avery grinned merrily: " Good. Good. Good. You just do your best! Soon, it wouldn't be long before you have him wrapped around your middle finger. Just remember that his majesty Henry is the only one suitable for you and not the disposed Prince Ulrich. Daughter, I hope you understand your mother's words. I won't accept any man other than him."

"Hmhm... Daughter understands. I think he's the best match for me." Ezenia said shyly, with a hint of blush on her face.

Seeing this, Avery knew that she could rest her worries peacefully: "Alright. Look at the time? I'll leave you to your meal. So just keep looking at that portrait and thinking of our future. Soon, you will be Queen, and I will be Queen Mother!"

With that, Avery stood up and left the room, closing the door shut.

~Bam.

~Ting. Ting. Ting. Ting.~

The entire room was silent, with only the sounds of Ezenia's cutlery and dishes singing softly.

She ate for a while, slowly chewing her food and drinking the Baymardian can juice.

She had to admit that even though she found these Baymardians to be nosy busy-bodies, she had to admit that their products were top-notch and damn tasty.

After opening a can of orange juice and pouring it into her glass, she slowly sipped on it, enjoying the explosive party of flavours taking place in her mouth.

Astonishing!

The taste almost took away her pain and registration from earlier on.

As expected of a product that was highly recommended by the 'Society Ladies.'

In short, it was an open society created to show off people's daughters and wives.

Many picked future daughters-in-law through the event.

And this was also how they could rank the most beautiful, gifted and so on.

A noble lady who didn't attend was akin to a nobody.

She had to admit that all the Canned orange juice they recommended was too tasty and spectacular.

To her, it was even better than the apple juice she tasted earlier on.

After eating calmly for a while, one of her Clouds soon appeared yet again.

"Mistress. She's gone."

"Hmmm," Ezenia responded before suddenly getting up and pushing all dishes to the ground fiercely.

"Bloody B**ch!

Just seeing her face makes me want to rip it out with a knife!!!!"

~Crash! Crash! Crash! Crash!!!!~

The loud earth-shattering sounds startled the maids standing outside the door, making their hearts skip a beat.

Sweat quickly formed on their forehead as their legs turned to jelly.

F***! Their young lady sure was scary.

~Crash!

Thinking of everything, Ezenia couldn't help blaming Henry as well.

It was all that son of a b**ches fault!

And now, Ulrich was taken to some faraway place that she had no clue of.

This year was supposed to be their shining year.

They were so close to tasting victory.

But the bastard ruined everything!

If she had known, she would've killed him herself all those years back.

What a f***ed up situation!

Standing amidst the pile of broken items, Ezenia ran her fingers through her hair with a cold glint in her eyes: "Clouds!!!"

~Swish!

"Yes, mistress."

"I've changed my mind.

We can't wait any longer.

Tell Former Queen Lilian that I'll do it.

Now go!!!"

"As you wish, mistress."

With that, her hidden bodyguard vanished, passing through the balcony door and shutting it again.

Ezenia picked up the only cup she hadn't thrown to the ground and continued enjoying her orange juice.

Before the Summer of next year, King Henry will fall!

...

The entire room soon regained its former quiet.

But suddenly, there was a loud bang on her balcony door.

~Bang!!!~

Who?

Ezenia tightened her grip on her glass and swiftly turned her head, and squinted her eyes coldly at the balcony door.

Wait... Something wasn't right!

She slowly backed away, with her eyes still on the wooden balcony door while deep in thought.

One of her Clouds had just left through the balcony to deliver her message to Ulrich's mother, former Queen Lilian.

So it definitely wasn't him.

Her Clouds would never knock.

Again, this was her balcony on the 2nd floor that faced the private garden area within the courtyard.

So not just anyone could be around here.

That still begs the question.

Who?

Who was it?

Was she in any danger?

"Cloud 2, go check it out!"

~Swish!

Like that, another Cloud stealthily maneuvered towards the balcony doors vigilantly.

He opened the doors and rolled out on the terrace, looking left, right, front, back, up and down at all times, hoping to see anyone.

But sadly, not a single shadow was at sight.

And after observing for a bit, he was just about to go back in when he suddenly saw something that made his pupils dilate.

A letter?

Someone had definitely been here!!!!

Chapter 1035 - T.O.E.P

Someone has been here!

Very quickly, the hidden guard took the envelope and hurriedly stepped back into the room before locking the door and handing the envelope to Ezenia.

"Everyone, come out."

~Swish!

6 more clouds appeared from their hiding positions and went down on bended knees: "Mistress."

"Stand."

The rest joined the 7th Cloud and waited calmly at the side.

Seeing the envelope, Ezenia's heart sank in uncertainty.

"So you couldn't detect the person? "

"No, mistress.

Whoever dropped it off was too good.

It might be my imagination, but I don't think such a person with those skills can belong to any assassin guilds within Deiferus.

The guilds here are unworthy of such a skilled person."

Ezenia's pupils dilated at what one of her Clouds had said.

The person talking was amongst the top 18 highest-ranked assassins in Deiferus.

.

Assassins!

The profession alone was as popular and serious as being a knight.

So the number of assassins dying daily was a lot.

But just like in any occupation, there would be people terrible, others slightly better than being terrible, others normal, others somewhat better, some great, some geniuses, some powerful, and so on.

That said, there were more than 30,000 assassins of different ranks and positions all around Deiferus.

And her men just happened to be amongst the best of the best.

Don't look at her like some weak chicken.

Unbeknownst to her mother and many, she was a powerful secret boss who commanded 14,000 men.

This was a secret between her maternal Grandfather and herself.

That's right.

From the moment she got engaged to Ulrich at birth, her grandfather had already started making plans.

For sure, there were always opposition parties here and there.

But she had been secretly working alongside Ulrich to clear his path.

She had already professed her love for him ages ago, and they both agreed on their next plan of action.

She was always to lay low and become his eyes and ears when he wasn't in the Capital.

She knew that she loved Ulrich more than he loved her.

At times, he would seem very disinterested in her.

But so what?

That was a risk she was willing to take.

She firmly believed that it was his constant fighting for the throne that made him sometimes disinterested.

That was one of the things that motivated her to work harder.

She controlled the men her maternal grandfather gave her and even took in more over the years.

And now, she controlled 19,000 knights within her secret bases.

Of course, she never made her move on anyone here... Not even the 3rd son's family.

She didn't want any chance for her strength to be revealed.

.

Anyway, earlier on, she had lent 16,000 of her men to Ulrich to use and fight for the throne.

But who would've known that he would lose, crippling her power?

Of course, she would never blame Ulrich for anything. That's why the blame all fell on Henry.

This was too small!

She couldn't even rescue Ulrich, even if she wanted to.

That's why she had been focusing heavily on recruiting, kidnapping and training more men fast.

Over the months, only about 80 people had been kidnapped.

Dammit! With the new protection laws for these peasants and former slaves, things were getting harder.

Again, this number was too low and ridiculous!

She couldn't do anything with the number.

So she had no choice but to beg her grandfather for men.

She should've been sitting on the Queen's throne by now.

The more time she wastes, the more time her enemy has to grow stronger.

She needed help, and she needed it fast!

.

Hearing that the person who dropped off the envelope was so skillful, everyone couldn't help but fall into silence for a bit.

The air grew tense, as everyone's eyes fell onto the beautifully designed pale brownish envelope that had a golden stamp on it.

The stand had the image of two daggers crossing one another.

And under that were the letters: 'T.O.E.P' on it.

Again, on the other side of the envelope was her name, written with very beautiful strokes that seemed to mesmerize her.

The writing itself was like a work of art.

Holding the envelope, Ezenia felt like it suddenly weighed a ton.

Who dropped the strange envelope?

And what did they want?

Her heart drummed chaotically as she stood motionlessly staring at the envelope in her hands.

T.O.E.P... T.O.E.P...

She had never heard of that abbreviation or name before.

What was going on here?

Ezenia took a big whiff before carefully opening up the envelope.

Instead, were 5 letters with numbers written on them: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Looking at it all, she decided to open up the letter with the number '1' on it.

.

[Dear Miss Ezenia K. Madison.

You have been accepted into The Order Of Extraordinary Power, as per recommendation from a member.

Your acts over the last 7 years have fallen in the eyes of our Order.

Join us, and you will get immense power, respect and riches that will satisfy your eldest dreams.

Whatever you d.e.s.i.r.e, we will grant all members one Novice wish after acceptance.

Of course, the wish has to be in line with the rules in letter 5.

Miss Ezenia... Should you accept, follow the instructions in letter 3 and send in your reply the same way you got your letter.

We will be waiting.

---T.O.E.P----]

Chapter 1036 - Power!!

Ezenia read through the first letter and stood there in a daze.

What??!!!!

She just couldn't believe that she, of all people, would get chosen to join some elite organization.

The letter did say that someone close to her had recommended her into the organization.

Apparently, the person's identity will only be revealed to her if she decides to join the organization.

Could it be her grandfather?

Apart from him, she didn't know anyone else who wanted to give her power.

Her maternal grandfather had always loved her and given her more attention than any of his grandsons.

Maybe it was because he thought she would be queen or something.

Because since her birth, her maternal grandfather used to teach her secretly.

She was also sure that the man had no love for his daughter (her mother).

Over the years, the old man had been too disappointed and disgusted whenever he stared at the woman's face.

What sort of mother was she?

Heh. Seeing that she liked men so much, they both allowed her to do the thing and had even said and sent to her bed.

They preferred to send in men who they could easily clean up than have potential spies around.

Their people would also inform them of her every move.

Again, by nature, Avery was a very nosy woman.

So with the way Ezenia moved, that woman would've noticed a few things here and there.

But since they allowed her to be swimming in honey-coated fantasies with men who kept telling her she was beautiful, the woman didn't care much about Ezenia.

Men begged Avery for love and even shredded a few tears begging for her attention.

And the stupid woman had forgotten about her daughter.

Now, even though they lived in the same massive Madison estate, her mother only saw Ezenia once or twice a month.

It was ridiculous, but it worked in their favour.

Thus, over the years, her grandfather's men had been sneaking her out for assignments and training.

Make no mistake, this was still Deiferus, where the men went through rigorous training and couldn't show their emotions.

Of course, the women also went through specific educations that were a must to Deifer women.

.

He was also a member of an integer council that punished warriors that were forgiving in training or battle.

In fact, her grandfather was a prominent person.

Nonetheless, he allowed his daughter to marry into this Madison Clan because they were higher on the social ladder and hence powerful than he was.

Well, at least, that was how everyone always saw things.

But she begged to differ, always thinking that the old man was hiding something.

He had strength and people, so why did he always seem to position himself in a weaker stance?

Since young, she had been on to him.

But he always brushed her suspicions off.

His enemies would sometimes die accidentally or face some disastrous incidents that seemed to have nothing to do with him on the surface.

After all, it would be too suspicious if all his enemies kept facing disaster upon disaster with him being okay.

At times, he borrowed a 'knife' to get rid of his foes.

All in all, her grandfather should be stronger than those in the Madison clan.

So why had he been acting the way he was for decades?

She knew something was right with that old man!!

Seeing the letter, she had a hunch that it was his work.

Or, it might just be someone else.

Who knows...

.

She had been accepted to an elite organization called The Order Of Extraordinary Power... Or T.O.E.P for short.

From the first letter, it was the most powerful organization in the world that even had members such as the Morgany Monarchs.

How cool was that?

F***!

No wonder they couldn't detect the assassin that brought in the letter.

As expected. Assassins from Morgany were far different from those in Pyno.

Just look at that level of skill?

This was too magical, right?

She handed the first letter over to her men, who then fidgeted and trembled with excitement.

This was the dream of all assassins here.

To learn and study in one of the top assassin guilds in Morgany!

Not everyone could get in.

Even those assassins who were high up in Deiferus hadn't been summoned or called in.

So the competition was tough.

And yet, such an opportunity landed in their l.a.p.s.

So how could they not get excited?

Their hearts drummed loudly, and their jaws tensed in suspense as they looked at their mistress impatiently.

They urgently wanted her to accept the offer now.

"Mistress. I think you should accept it now."

"That's right! Just do it!"

"Mistress. Isn't this what we've been waiting for?"

"Mistress. This is a blessing from the heavens!"

"Mistress. Why don't you just accept? I will work without pay for the next few months if you do."

....

Art the Clouds almost went crazy with excitement.

The letter said that if she accepts, she should place her reply outside anytime.

So did this mean that if she placed it now, someone would take it away?

The letter did give her a deadline to think about it.

And after that, the offer would be void.

As hidden guards were always expressionless with nothing rippling their hearts, today's matter made them act like anxious fans.

At least, this was a step closer to them visiting Morgany.

So how could they be willing to let it go just like that?

Thinking about the person who dropped the letter not too long ago, they had mad respect for him.

Dammit!

Would it be a crime if they tied their mistress to a chair and forced her to reply?

(>°□°)

....

Ezenia opened the 2nd letter, read it for a bit and massaged her chin thoughtfully: 'So I've been accepted as an Ergatis?... Interesting.'

Chapter 1037 - An Ergatis

'So I've been accepted as an Ergatis?... Interesting.'

Ezenia massaged her chin curiously with a hint of excitement in her eyes.

She quickly looked at the hierarchy pyramid of power shown in the 2nd letter, and immediately understood her position.

The hierarchy pyramid itself blew her mind silly when she realized that there were so many classes within the Order.

What's this?

There were a total of 10 different power classes. And each class had 5 or 7 steps or positions to surpass if they wanted to rank up to the next class.

Even though she had been accepted as a member, she wasn't even accepted as a lackey or placed to work directly under people with power.

No... Her position was way lower than that of a lackey.

She wasn't even qualified to be a lackey.

From what she saw, lackeys were 4 classes ahead of her.

And even getting to that position would be tremendously hard... It could take people 10~30 years just to rank up.

So one shouldn't look down on any of the positions or classes because just climbing to the top was a daunting task.

Of course, Ezenia was sure that there were also those who did climb high and were too abnormal.

As with any group, there were always those who were geniuses at what they did.

They were ruthless, smart and manipulative.

They command a room and grow an army in a short time if given a chance.

They had more blood on their hands and had sacrificed much more than others to rise fast.

Ezenia tapped her pen against her mouth while looking at the class assigned to her.

Obviously, her class was 'Ergatis.'

To rank up, one would have to carry out different assignments for the Order in exchange for power and wealth.

For sure... because the moment she became a member, she would have several perks that even some powerful nobles here would kill and beg to get.

For starters, she would be given several entry passes into Morgany with no disturbances from pirates.

And she could stay longer than most?

F***!

Just thinking about it already blew her mind silly.

With how tight-locked Morgany was, it having such an advantage could make many here cry.

So imagine her getting several free passes to go in and out just like that?

This was just too awesome!

.

Of course, apart from getting a specific number of entry passes, there were also ridiculous bonuses that would mysteriously get sent to each member bi-yearly based on their class.

Again, another perk was that she could train her men in Morgany for a maximum of 7 months every 3 years.

And, she would get to make more connections and influential friends who could assist her if anyone dared to come at her.

The circle was huge, and this was her chance to make herself known.

In short, there were just too many perks that would make even the monarchs here look at her with envy.

After all, she wasn't even sure that any of the Monarchs here were in this Order.

After all, it hasn't been long before many like William, Henry, Penelope, Sirius, and Landon ascended the throne.

In fact, the only one who went ascended yet was Astar, who, according to rumours... would succeed his father, Micheal Parcely, next Fall.

All these Monarchs are new bloods and had only stayed baby years on the throne.

So she highly doubted if any of them were members of this Order.

With what they preached and stood for, she didn't think it would be possible.

.

"My lady, if we can train there as the letter says, then no one in Pyno will be our match."

"Hmm... I was thinking the same thing.

We need a stronger force going forward.

And Pyno's standards won't cut it.

We need an unbeatable force!"

The Clouds all nodded in agreement.

The next few years were going to be their toughest ever.

So they couldn't afford any slipups.

The letter did say that if their lady accepted the offer, then she would get a chance to train her men in Morgany for 7 months every three years.

That meant that if she accepted the offer now, she could very well send her men onto Morgany now.

Maybe the person who dropped the letter will leave some identification she could use as hers.

Well, this was just their guess since they didn't know how these things worked.

But they felt like the man who dropped the envelope would definitely have another envelope with him, which he should only give out once she agrees.

She had till January 15th to reply.

Who would wait till then?

They had a hunch that it wouldn't even be up to a week before their mistress sent in a reply.

Time waits for no man.

.

The Clouds were indeed right.

The moment Ezenia saw a point on the letter, she immediately threw caution to the wind and decided to send in her reply today.

Out of everything she saw, maybe the most powerful thing she saw read was that everyone who entered the Order, no matter the class or position assigned to them... would be given what they called a Vengeance-Slip.

In a nutshell, the Order will do any request they ask for so as to help them take revenge or settle their personal businesses.

This Vengeance slip could only be used once, so they had to use it wisely.

Some people would ask for their mother's murderer to be killed.

While others asked for revenge about heaven knows what.

But seeing this chance, she knew that the help she was praying for had finally come.

Yes!

She knew what she wanted.

She wanted Ulrich back on the Throne!

Ezenia smiled cruelly: 'Henry, Henry, Henry... Let's see how you and your Baymardian friends will be able to handle this.'

Chapter 1038 - The Rules

And so just like that, Ezenia had joined the T.O.E.P... The Order of Extraordinary Power!

In future, she would know just how rare it was for a woman to become a member.

Some strong female Pirate Captains were also within this organization as well.

And, there were a few noblewomen from Veinitta and Morgany who made the cut too.

Yup!

Even though people in this era didn't trust women to do any serious jobs better than men, throughout history, there were always women who outshone the men.

Unfortunately, in these murderous times, it meant that the lady's cruelty had far surpassed most men in these dark times.

Like the Order had said, they had been observing her for the past 7 years.

Her deeds impressed them.

Many wouldn't know, but behind the great Ulrich Tudor was an even blood thirstier woman who did unspeakable things to clear the path for him too.

The girl had the face of an angel but the heart and mind of a demon.

Of course, she wasn't all that dark inside since someone like her could fall in love and treasure something.

She didn't know it yet, but Ulrich would become her weakness.

And, just like any dangerous association, the Order would use this weakness to make her bend.

For an organization as mighty as theirs, everyone within it had already sacrificed something valuable, whether they knew it or not.

Kindness was something impossible for them to believe in.

Maybe they believed in it when they first entered the Order.

But later, their mindsets changed.

There was a hidden rule that all members would be told upon initiation.

Every 3 years, a certain window opens, and the top 3 classes in the Order allow an all-killing period for everyone to let loose.

Meaning everyone below the 3rd class could kill each other, and there would be no consequences.

One should remember that there were 10 classes on the pyramid power hierarchy.

One could also look at it as the classes here in medieval times.

There were the slaves, the peasants and so on.

If a class was a Noble class for example, one could find lesser nobles, ordinary nobles, etc.

In short, each Class had different positions that one would have to climb up to before ascending to the next class.

And in this window of opportunity provided by the Order, those from Class 4~10 could kill each other for 2 months.

And anyone who kills after the killing window would be killed by the Order too.

.

Anyway, during the killing window, many used it as an opportunity to rank up.

Why?

Because if a lesser class killed a class higher, then to the victor goes the spoils.

So they would automatically take over the class position that the dead member occupied.

And they will also take 50% of the person's wealth too, sending the other percentage to the Order.

Again, if someone with a higher position kept fending off a person with a lower position for the entire 2 months without killing them, then the 2 will have their positions swapped.

Meaning the higher one would become the lower one and vice versa.

Generally, the Order hated good-for-nothings.

So just because one was a member, didn't imply they could slack off.

Everyone was always expected to be power-hungry, or else they would die without even knowing it.

That's why before the killing window, members in classes 4~10 try getting as much information as they can about each other.

Be it their weaknesses, what they loved or anything else.

To be a member meant that they had to be smart, sneaky and use their heads at all times.

Only after ranking up to the 3rd power Class will they be able to relax a bit.

One should know that one's weakness wasn't always the people they loved.

For Nopline, his strength was also his weakness as well.

He was too power-hungry and always got impatient when he heard of any good opportunities.

Knowing this, the members that came after him usually staged this 'good opportunity' for him, only to reveal their claws, trying to hack him to death.

These were just some of the things that the Order did to make its members sit up.

Look. They were even kind enough to offer the chance for each member to train their men.

So if one didn't take advantage of this, then they only had themselves to blame.

Lastly, to show their loyalty, all new members must complete a certain personal task given to them.

And what they picked would be what they needed to do.

Everything would be left to faith.

Some people had cut off the hands of the person they loved the most, while in other people's cases, they were asked to make themselves bare... Hence, indirectly offering their generation to the Order.

Of course, some requests were nothing, like the task of killing a hangol with one's b.a.r.e hands and bringing it over.

Yes. It was tough, but it was better than killing the person they loved the most.

Their fate all depended on what they picked.

Ezenia was smiling now, but she had no clue of the true essence of the Order's brutality.

For them to come in her most desperate time meant that they knew exactly what they were doing.

The moment she accepted to join the Order, there was no going back.

And if she dared to refuse to comply or do anything they requested, then she would be hunted forever!

They covered the entire seas and had members just like her, who also had their subordinates too.

So, where would she run to?

Ezenia, who didn't know how deep the waters were, quickly wrote her reply, only thinking of how she would put Ulrich on the throne.

She didn't even know that next year Fall, the killing window would begin!

Indeed. Love was a beautiful thing.

Chapter 1039 - Another Anxious Day!!

Days passed by in a flash, and before everyone knew it, snow began falling in Pyno

The roads, homes, mountain regions and everywhere else was already coated with snow, and the birds had long flown away for the season.

The trees were b.a.r.e, and the cold had already kicked in at full force.

People all around the continent had already started making plans for the season by repairing their roofs and burning enough warm items.

In some regions, the snow had started earlier and had buried its inhabitants in heaps and heaps of snow.

And in other regions, the snow only lightly coated the regions.

Yes. Winter had already begun!

But even with all the harshness of winter around Pyno, Baymard was still as lively as ever.

The roads were constantly cleared, giving everyone an illusion that the winter hadn't started yet.

Every place was adequately cared for... Even the roads within the new territories were properly maintained regularly.

Everything looked peaceful and quiet.

Well, at least that's how it looked on the surface.

Why? Because today was the day that the world would usher in its first Manga series.

That's right. Today, Hunter X Hunter, Vol. 1. Chapter 1~2, as well as Inuyasha Volume 1. Chapter 1~2 was finally out!

.

"Oh my God! I can't believe I'm just waking up now. My alarm clock rang, and I kept snoozing it over and over. Dammit! Why does fate seem to be against me?"

"No!!!... Looking at the time, the line should be crazy long by now. I heard some of my friends say that they would go there by 6 A.M., so what chances do I have if I go there now?"

"Ahhh! The heavens are against me today. Just look at the time? Now that we've finished our exams and are on holiday, I've grown lax. And my attentiveness is no more. So now, I'm waking up late! Damn! I blame the school for this."

"Hey. We can still make it. Brother, let's go! Let's go!!"

"Then what about breakfast?"

"F***! What about it? In this situation, what would Gon do? Don't you want to know how Gon's Hunter journey begins? Forget breakfast, and let's go!!"

All around Baymard, several people were crazily rushing towards the stores and lining up restlessly.

They rushed to the store, ready for war!

That's right.

They knew that once the doors opened, these mangas would sell out fast!

So, as they say, the early bird gets the worm.

Everyone had rushed over with their battle gear, feeling pumped to claim their prizes.

Meanwhile, back in the palace, another war was being fought.

"Big Brother Landon, why is it so hard for you to be early just once in your life?"

"If we don't get there fast, everything will get sold out!"

"Yeah. Big Brother Landon, if I don't know what happens to Kagome after she falls into the hole, I won't be able to sleep well at night!_"

That's why I have to get Inuyasha volume 1 today!!!"

" "

Landon looked at the duo, who had turned themselves into his alarm clock and didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Why did these 2 always think that he was always late?

He was already up 2 hours ago, alright?

Well, he couldn't blame them.

After all, as an Otaku, he, more than anyone else, knew the excitement he felt whenever he was waiting for his favourite manga to get updated.

Before today, they had only allowed Chapter 1 of both Inuyasha and Hunter x Hunter to get sold out in stores.

That's right.

And flash forward to now, almost everyone now knew what Mangas were.

.

In fact, after reading the first chapters, many people were going crazy in anticipation.

They almost rioted and sent in messages saying that the author was cruel for keeping them in suspense for this long.

What's funny is that he was the author, and these people didn't care, almost chewing him to bits, begging him to give in.

What nobility?

If given a chance, they would definitely threaten him to realize more.

Even the visitors who had already left were very unwilling to go back without more.

Without a doubt, many merchants had already gathered large numbers of the first volume to see out in different empires.

Many people would come back daily to request more chapters, and might even cause a war if no more chapters and volumes were produced.

In a way, Landon felt bad for the merchants and store owners who were the middlemen in all this.

If they didn't sell more, many people would lose it!

.

A plain example of people losing it were little Momo and Linda, who had hurried him to produce more chapters almost every day.

He left them in the good part, which made many obsessed with manga.

Seeing the images while reading the dialogue, created a new reading experience that they had never felt or seen before.

It was as if everything was happening right before their very eyes.

Their minds seemed to get submerged into the manga as they created voices for how the characters would speak in their minds.

Yes. They had only seen one chapter. But so what?

That chapter alone had kept them up at night.

F***!

They wanted to scream and yell with all sorts of emotions when they saw their now-favourite protagonists go about their lives.

Little Linda had already fallen in love with Kagome in Inuyasha, while Little Momo liked Gon.

Plus, he wanted to know how the Hunter Exams would go.

The duo gritted their teeth, rolled up their sleeves, looked at each other and nodded as if talking telepathically.

From there, they wasted no time and rushed Landon out of bed.

Hmph!

The nerve of this guy!

Why was he always so slow?

Could it be some curse?

Chapter 1040 - Otakus Are Born!!

Landon raised his hands in defeat and allowed them to do as they pleased.

What else could he do?

Speaking of mangas, ever since he completed his last main mission in October, he had already been working on a few like Hunter x Hunter, One Piece, Dragon Ball, Code Geass, FullMetal Alchemist and so on.

And since he knew that he would be out of Pyno for a while, he made a list of chapters and volumes that needed to be released 2 or 3 times a week.

Of course, we're would be some that would be released just once a week instead.

He had already thought of everything else.

So all they had to do was follow his release plan, and it should be enough until he got back and continued his series.

At least, that was the plan.

One should know that during these past months, he had also been teaching everyone else how to draw Manga, as well as how to create animated movies.

The first animated movie was scheduled to be released this January and was a famous Disney animated movie back on earth.

Yup. It was Beauty and The Cinderella.

With enough practice and understanding, they would definitely be able to create their own original works too.

.

Just like that, Little Momo and Linda quickly rushed Landon up and pushed him out of his bedroom and into his bathroom that was the size of an entire room.

And while pacing his room and tapping their legs impatiently like people who were waiting for a child to get delivered or something.

"Little Momo, it will be alright, yeah?"

Momo quickly sat down and patted her back patiently: "Of course it would be alright. Even though he's not all that reliable, shouldn't we trust our diligence and our careful upbringing all these years?"

"Sigh... Sometimes, I feel like we went easy on him and spoiled him."

Momo thinned his lips and forced a convincing smile out: "Don't worry. He will come out. Have more faith in him."

Linda held Momi's hand like an old lady and nodded: "Yes... You are right. Even though he has caused us so many headaches in times like this, we always managed to make it somehow. So it should be fine."

[Landon, who just stepped back in]: "_"

Landon looked at the sky and prayed for patience.

Would the system punish him if he murdered these fools?

"Finally! You're out!"

The moment the duo saw him all dressed up, they didn't even give him a second look and dragged him away.

What a joke!

He had already wasted so much time in showering and getting ready, so why waste time standing around again?

No way!

The duo rushed him hastily.

And with that, they were off.

~Vrrrrrrmmmmmm~

The gang drove towards the largest Bookstore named 'Pages.'

And on the way, the duo were still tapping their feet and looking at the traffic anxiously.

It wasn't long before they started muttering underneath their breaths.

"Come on, come on, come on."

"Move. Move. Move. Move."

~Tap. Tap. Tap. Tap~

The duo tapped their feet anxiously.

Landon looked at their anxious expressions and chuckled.

He was pretty sure that they weren't even aware of their actions right now.

Their minds constantly wandered from time to time, and their eyes also darted around like suspicious criminals.

To them, their journey to Pages seemed like it took a year for them to get there.

And the moment they saw the large sign above the building, they almost seeded tears in joy.

"We made it! We made it! We made it on time!!!"

"Hahahhaha! I said it! Even if he's not reliable, at least he always somehow managed to get us where we wanted on time... Even though it was thanks to our efforts."

"Yes! Yes! You're right! We made it!!

(^V^)

.

Now, the duo had finally put down a few of her worries, without a care in the world for the speechless Landon.

" "

Forget it.

Why did he even bother with them?

As they drove in, Little Momo and Linda kept looking at their surroundings as if looking for something.

And soon, their eyes lit up in glee when they saw their friends gathered in the rendezvous spot.

They all planned to go in together, because in times like this, it was boring to go alone.

They had a mighty battle ahead of them, so they dared not delay.

Landon dropped them off and quickly left to do his own thing.

As the author, he, of course had his copy, so why should he go fighting to grab copies alongside others?

He might as well give that opportunity to someone else who wanted it.

Now that he had dropped off these ungrateful brats, he could finally go about his own things.

As for how they would come back, they could simply use the trains, buses or even call a cab.

Little Momo and Linda typically bung out with their friends after such events.

They would go somewhere and chill together.

Sometimes, they would go to the skating rink, and other times, they could go to the Arcade center, bowling alley and many other fun locations instead.

So they would come back right after that.

As of now, their curfew was 7 P.M... Unless they were already with one of the Landon, Lucy or anyone else staying in the palace.

Of course, even at this moment, their secret bodyguards were always around, tailing them at a not so obvious range.

Hey. They were Royalty too.

So no matter how chilled and lax the environment around them seemed, if anyone dared to make a move on them, then they would only have themselves to blame.

.

With Landon gone, Little Momo and Linda meet a few of their friends in the rendezvous spot before looking for another friend of theirs who was already on the line.

Those on the line were keeping 'space' for them.

Thus, the gang reunited on the line and waited patiently while discussing the first chapter of both Inuyasha and Hunter x Hunter.

And soon, it was their turn to step in.

Their blood boiled in ecstasy the louder their hearts drummed against their c.h.e.s.ts.

~Bubuum! Bubuum! Bubuum!~~

This was it.

This was what they had been waiting for!!