

The Crafts 282

Chapter 282: The Bet

A repetitive life might seem boring for many, but to Lucas, it was the best thing ever, so long as he was focused on what he loved most.

Soon enough, three days went by in what felt like a flash. Including the first day Lucas began working on the new engine, only four days had passed and it was now the fifth day. Even though the modified bet was set for five days—which meant that Lucas would be given five days to work with the test on the sixth—Lucas still achieved his goal in the original time. He only spent four days working on it and set the date for the confirmation of the bet on the fifth day.

In front of him, on the workbench, was a brand new racing shuttle engine, complete with all the important parts. The entire contraption was so big, that Lucas had to modify the original workbench and make it larger.

The new engine was developed with the Viper racing shuttle in mind just like the L2.13o. It could easily be switched in to replace the latter with only a little bit of effort.

"So cool." Melissa's eyes glittered as she stared at the engine.

Having been raised for a couple of months by Lucas, Melissa had gotten exposed to vestige-smithing early and she found it amazing. To her, those piles of metal that most children her age would find unattractive were better than the teddy bear cushions and princess dolls sold in children's stores.

"Of course it's cool. It's made by your big brother." Lucas smirked proudly. Me too. Mm mm.,

It was only beside Melissa he would fool around as she reminded him a lot about himself during his early life.

"What's the name?" Melissa asked with interest.

"It's a cool name. One I took quite a bit of effort thinking up." Lucas boasted.

As it was made to put down the pride of the vestige-smiths of the Versoa team and also to win a bet, Lucas had named it 'Destroyer'. That's right, it had a tacky name as once again, Lucas' unique naming prowess was put to action.

Melissa was speechless once he told her this and she couldn't help studying Lucas.

Despite the fact that she was only eleven years old, Melissa was quite smart and mature for her age. Even she could see that the name was really...childish.

In the magic-smith society of Lucas' first life, there were numerous unexplained mysteries and conundrums that could not be solved, answered or explained. As such, they were termed as the 'Twelve Great Mysteries'. Most of these mysteries were related to magic-smithing, whether they be techniques, concepts or materials; however, one mystery stood out from the rest. It was called the Mystery of Yohan.

The Mystery of Yohan wasn't some ecliptic question about why Yohan was so talented as a magic-smith or what his upper level would be. Instead, it was a question brought up in an attempt to understand why Lucas was so bad at names.

Apparently, when others used cliché or childish names, Yohan behaved just like everyone else and would spot how horrible the names were. However, it was ironic that he did the same as well, but wouldn't see a problem in it. At first, many thought that he was being a hypocrite, but after some of the magic-smiths closer to him queried Yohan or spoke to him about it, they realised that he wasn't a hypocrite; Yohan truly saw no issue in his naming sense as he did with others.

The concept of innate dual perception wasn't uncommon with regular humans. It had been recorded quite a few times; situations where someone perceived the same idea or situation differently depending on who was involved. Most times, people do this purposely—which was then called hypocrisy—but there were some recorded cases where individuals simply had their brains programmed to do so, hence the idea of innate dual perception. For instance such people, they truly saw nothing wrong with their actions. Take for instance with Lucas, where whenever someone used a bad name, he found it problematic, but ironically, he did the same but never noticed it.

The problem however, was that occurrences of innate dual perception were common in regular individuals and not magic-smiths. In fact, it was logically impossible for a talented magic-smith to have a mental disorder as it would affect their progress. Hence, the fact that Yohan was a

victim of a mental disorder, yet was an amazing magic-smith, became a mystery —the Mystery of Yohan.

"Go and get dressed. We're heading outside." Lucas ruffled Melissa's head.

The little girl's face immediately lit up and she ran out from the work-station to her room upstairs. While she might like vestige-smithing, Melissa was still a child and was quite adventurous. Although she didn't complain, Melissa didn't fancy staying indoors for a long time. She preferred going out with Lucas and taking in the sights of the city.

After a short while, the sibling duo departed the shop. The Destroyer was naturally stored in Lucas' system inventory. Earlier during the day, Lucas had already sent a message to Helnord, Lerman and the other vestige-smiths. He stated that the engine was completed and he wanted to be done with the bet as soon as possible.

Fifteen minutes went by quickly and Lucas —together with Melissa— arrived at the Versoa team's headquarters in Bailin province.

When they arrived, Helnord was already present and led the way to the designated test site which was the mini circuit. Gathered here were not just the core members of the Versoa team, but also three representatives of the various stakeholders —one more than during the previous meeting.

The reason for this was simple; the existing shareholders had heard about the newcomer, most especially his bet with Orvel. As such, some of them became interested in it. No matter which side won, they would not suffer a loss. However, if by some miracle Lucas came out on top, the Versoa team would be capable of climbing up the ladder by replacing their current engine with his. This was because the condition for winning was to create a better engine at least twenty percent more efficient and powerful than the L2.13o.

If Lucas could pull this off, there was no reason to why the Versoa team wouldn't switch to his engine. The stakeholders themselves would even push for this.

Even though the Verso team's 11th place was good, anyone would want to place higher as the difference between a top ten and one not in the top ten was vast; whether it was the resources, the rewards or the glory.

Excluding Lucas and Vienna, there were five other stakeholders of the team. With three of them alongside Lucas, there would be four stakeholders present in this event. The power wielded by Lucas alone was already the greatest in the team, and with the added voice of three other stakeholders, it would be easy to switch the Viper's engines even if Orvel didn't want to do so. This was on the condition that Lucas wins.

"You know you still have an extra day left. You could have showed up tomorrow for the tests instead." Helnord stared at Lucas with a confused expression.

From the day the bet was made, only four days had elapsed. Today was the fifth day. Logically, Lucas could still have spent this day making extra adjustments to the engine. It was currently still 9:30am; there was lots of time for that. However, he had decided to settle the bet today.

Lucas was someone who was brought in by his boss, Vienna. This meant that the two were tied together in the eyes of the others. If Lucas performed badly, he would end up sullyng Vienna's reputation. As a result, Helnord was a bit displeased that he didn't utilise his advantages to the fullest.

"An extra day or less makes no difference to me." Lucas calmly replied.

Sighing, Helnord asked,

"How confident are you?"

Rather than giving a proper answer, Lucas replied,

"If I wasn't confident, I wouldn't have made the bet."

He then ignored Helnord and walked away.

The Versoa team headquarters had three main buildings, and one of them was the arena. Apart from the mini-circuit in the arena, there were also three secondary buildings located at the opening in the centre of the circuit. One of those buildings was a recreational spot with a viewing platform on the top floor.

Not a lot of people fancied this spot since it didn't give a comprehensive view of the track, but it gave a close up view which vestige-smiths found valuable. Hence, only the crew members of the team stayed here while the stakeholders were seated in the VIP section of the arena.

The other two buildings were the repair station and garage respectively. Currently, there were two Vipers in these buildings, one in each. The Versoa team's original Viper with the L2.13o engine was in the garage, while the Viper set aside for Lucas to use was in the repair station. The station was equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and devices, so it wouldn't be a problem for Lucas to install a new racing shuttle engine there.

"Where's your engine?" Lerman, the department head of the Vehicle manufacturing department asked with a confused expression.

A complete racing shuttle engine, which includes the energy unit, power transmission system and the core engine— was an incredibly heavy machine that weighed a few hundred kilogrammes. It was usually carried by a heavy-duty-class hover car. This wasn't to say that stellar practitioners couldn't lift it up, but to prevent any damage during the process, a machine was better trusted.

Lerman didn't see any hover car following behind Lucas, so he was wondering where the engine was.

"I'm with it." Lucas replied.

He didn't say any word more before walking towards a workbench and carefully retrieving the engine from his inventory. With the constant upgrades, the system's inventory was almost like a new limb that Lucas could control with ease. As long as he wished, he could carefully retrieve an item from it with raising even a speck of dust.

The engine appeared abruptly on the workbench, but it didn't even make a single sound. It was almost as if it had been there from the start. If he hadn't seen this himself, Lerman might have believed that to be truth.

"You..."

Lerman was stunned.

As a vestige-smith, he was aware of spatial storage devices known as spatial vaults. They were on par with Grade 4 vestiges but could sometimes be costlier. It all depended on the fixed space within them.

However, for a spatial vault that could contain a complete racing shuttle engine and handle its weight without destabilising, that was very expensive. It was the kind of expensive that didn't just depend on one's finances but also connections. This was because such spatial vaults could only be made by Tier 1 Grandmaster vestige-smiths and no one else. They were essentially the same value as Grade 5 vestiges.

'How could this kid have access to it? Who the hell is he?'

For a second, Lerman couldn't help but think that things might not go as everyone else thought.

Maybe, just maybe, Lucas would cause an upset.