

The Crafts 285

Chapter 285 : Mr Jermaine

The first lap was quickly completed by the two vehicles and they had driven into the second lap. Although the Viper clone, which had the Destroyer under its hood, was taking the lead, there was not much reaction from the vestige-smith crowd, but the same couldn't be said about the VIPs.

"Your shuttle doesn't seem to be doing too well." One of the stakeholders said to Orvel with a smile.

The stakeholder was a middle-aged man with purple-black hair and royal azure blue eyes. He wore minimalist styled outfits, but the value of any one of them could easily afford to feed and provide for a family of six for a half a year, and this was just his dressing alone. In fact, the middle-aged man —despite his looks— was already in his seventies, but he spent a lot of money on skin rejuvenation serums to maintain a healthy appearance.

As the two were at different locations within the arena, they communicated using virtual projections. On the seat beside the man sat a virtual projection of Orvel Feurd. The latter was actually sitting on the viewing platform in the middle of the circuit.

"Mr Jermaine, you misunderstand something but I presume that's because you're not a vestige-smith. However, to judge the winner of a five lapped race by the results of just one can only be described as ridiculous." Orvel replied with a smile.

Jermaine was the shareholder with the fourth largest stake in the team equivalent to eight percent (8%). Apart from Lucas and Vienna, no one else held a double digits stake in the Versoa team, so eight percent was actually large. Apart from that, there were inside rumours that he was apparently trying to buyout the stakes in the hands of another, finally bringing his to double digits. That would then make him the third largest shareholder of the Versoa team.

However, none of these warranted Orvel's behaviour. After all, Orvel was a man said to not show any sign of respect to the other stakeholders except Vienna and Jermaine.

Vienna was explanatory as her background was something he couldn't even compare to. Although the title of a high rank Tier 1 Master vestige-smith seemed luxurious, as long as she was willing, it wouldn't be impossible for Vienna to find a replacement for Orvel. Even if she

couldn't, she could definitely get two mid rank Tier 1 Master vestige-smiths which was almost good enough. As such, Orvel had to be respectful towards her.

But Jermaine was different. Jermaine's background wasn't on par with Vienna, so logically, he shouldn't be able to warrant the same respect as she did. However, the middle-aged man had an insane amount of wealth and a lot of connections. He had even done business with the Cardoso family, who were the rulers of Trundel City.

One should know that to be able to mingle or have any sort of interaction with the Cardoso family, your worth has to be impressive, especially your financial prowess. Even having money or fame was still not enough as one needed to be able to stand out from the others, so as to approach or be approached by the Cardoso family. After all, even though it was a few generations ago, the Cardoso family was still a branch of the royal family, the Oklo Dynasty. They wouldn't just hang around with any Tom, Dick or Harry, simply because you were rich and famous.

It was all due to this that no matter how much of a prideful and stubborn man he was, Orvel had to tuck his tail properly around Mr. Jermaine.

The middle-aged man, Mr Jermaine, didn't take Orvel's words offensively and simply smiled.

Seeing this, Orvel continued,

"The L2.13o is a state-of-the-art creation. Ignoring the fact that I am the one who headed its design and construction, every member of the Versoa team played a valuable role in creating it. It is the gem of the team and our masterpiece for competing in this season. Naturally, it has all our latest achievements in vestige-smithing built into it. There's no way it would lose to the rushed work of a human." Orvel sneered.

While the current situation might seem different from what he said, there was an explanation for it.

The drivers of the two racing shuttles were Racers in default mode, and unlike humans, they needed a period of time to adjust and analyse the best strategy to win the race. Due to this, it wasn't uncommon for the performance of a default-mode Racer to improve over time.

The original Viper racing shuttle with the L2.13o engine, there were two transmission systems built into it. Because of this, depending on the terrain, the driver would have to manually switch

the shuttle's transmission to the most suitable system. An automatic switching mechanism was available, but it wasn't necessarily as fast or efficient as a manual, depending on the driver's skills.

For the moment, the Racer's timing with the switches wasn't the best, which led it to being overtaken by the Viper clone at sharp curves.

As the first lap was just completed, the details of the map and the performance of the racing shuttles had been recorded by the Racer. The stellar processor fixed within it could now calculate the best strategy to use to finish each lap faster. With the Racer having already memorised the track, it would know when to use a particular transmission system and time its switching properly. This meant that its performance for the next few laps would be considerably better than the first.

Finally, the Linear drive system of the L2.13o was still slightly better than the linear transmission effect created by Lucas' Triquetra-shaped chamber engine. There were only twelve or so sharp bends on the circuit, with the rest of the track consisting of narrow roads and straight paths, which was the shining area for a linear transmission system like the Linear drive system. Hence, no one on the Versoa team was worried about the current situation.

As if to prove this point, the fifty metres gap between the two racing shuttles was soon closed down to thirty metres. The first sharp turn was closely approaching and the spectators would finally see whether the Racer had adjusted to the track yet.

Pressure waves blasted from behind the two racing shuttles as their speed had already long surpassed 420km/hr (261 mph). In the top third tier league, the K1 league, this speed could easily allow one end in the top ten places. But in the top-class second tier league, the Nadire Underground League, this was the entry value for the top fifteen spots.

The first bend arrived and unsurprisingly, the Viper clone made a smooth turn and conquered the bend, while only dropping just a few digits in speed.

The original Viper was up almost immediately, and unlike before, there was no noticeable decline in speed. It moved through the bend almost as smoothly as the Viper clone. Even a mid rank Tier 1 Elite vestige-smith would have a hard time spotting any difference.

At this point, Orvel smiled as if expecting this, which he, in fact, had.

If the original Viper with the L2.13o engine had such an obvious flaw in bends, it wouldn't have been able to become the team's main engine or even help bring them to eleventh place.

"Mr Jermaine, you're about to witness why we are one of the best teams in the league and also the difference between a human and a hyuman." Orvel said.