

The Crafts 336

Chapter 336: Versoa Versus Red Dog

Currently, Yovahn's team was at third place whereas the Versoa team was at thirteenth place, ten places away. The difference between the two sides couldn't be more pronounced. Despite that, Yovahn was interested in Vienna. Whether his feelings for her were real or not, it was for a fact that this young master had his eyes on the mysterious Vienna.

Yovahn was the son of the chairman of Ivana Group, a large company with several other companies in different industries. Like every other multimillion corporation, Ivana Group had interests in both the vestige-smith and desolate beast material industries. It was a company that has spanned three generations and quite close to the billion federal coin value, making it an extraordinary company.

As for the racing team under him, Red Dogs, it was founded by his father more than ten years ago. It has started out as an underground street racing team, but with the evolution of the unofficial drift racing leagues, it became the current successful team, Red Dogs. Its managing company, Red Dogs Ltd or RDL for short, controlled not just the drift racing team but also a beverage company that produced sodas, energy drinks, nutritional supplements and much more. They were also into the real estate business, but this was as of recent. Naturally, as a drift racing team, they also had a vestige-smith store for racing shuttles and hover cars.

With such an incredible background, those in the upper class, who were aware of Vienna's identity, thought the two to be a perfect couple. Even Yovahn's father was in support of the relationship and had tried to create opportunities for the two.

Rumours even say that the reason the Red Dogs team was still in the Nadire Underground League, instead of qualifying to the Exo Rally despite being capable of such, was because Yovahn wanted a legitimate reason to come in contact with Vienna more often. This was because Vienna was a hands-on chairwoman, unlike other racing team owners who sat behind and had someone run the business. With such a character, it was likely that one would find her attending a couple of the races.

There was, however, a more rational explanation for the Red Dogs team avoiding qualification, but the public preferred the above reason.

"Is this your new majority shareholder?" Yovahn scanned Lucas with his eyes.

'Black hair, nonchalant appearance. Should be him.' Yovahn thought.

Truthfully, he wasn't supposed to be in attendance for the race today. Yovahn's home was actually located in Belfargos City, but he came over in person to spectate it. This might not seem like much and many might mistake it as an owner showing his support, but it was actually fuelled by jealousy.

Recently, Yovahn has been hearing rumours that Vienna has a boyfriend; a man she was willing to lay off three departments just for his sake. The rumours even got more exaggerated by saying that the two were in a secret relationship for a long while and even had a child together.

After investigating, Yovahn did discover that Vienna was indeed taking care of a young child, although it was a stretch to call the little girl her daughter as it turned out to be his rival's little sister.

The reports of the investigation went on to claim that the man in Vienna's life was nothing more than someone who had saved her once and she had done all of that to repay him. However, Yovahn wasn't satisfied with that explanation.

Forty percent ownership in a drift racing team for a stranger? Paying Lucas thirty thousand federal coins should have been more than enough instead. It was even more unbelievable that after compensating the young man, she still hung around him. Yovahn wasn't a novice to the relationship between men and women. It was clear that "his woman" was about to be stolen right in front of his eyes.

Unwilling to let that happen, Yovahn had attended the race after a tip that the duo were showing up today. He had even investigated the exact place Vienna would prefer to sit.

"He is." Vienna coldly replied with furrowed brows, wondering what he was up to.

Her background might be higher than Yovahn, but it didn't mean that she could ignore him or brush him away. Also, Lucas was a nobody in Belfargos city-state. The anti-murder laws might keep him alive but it wasn't enough to keep him safe.

"Hello there, nice to meet." Yovahn waved at Lucas politely.

Vienna and Melissa sat in between them with Lucas on the extreme right and Yovahn on the left hand side. the closest person to Yovahn on his right was Vienna while on Lucas' left it was Melissa.

"Sure." Lucas nodded his head and didn't reply.

Usually, he didn't like socialising especially in this world where humans were basically second-class citizens. From how Vienna had treated him, it was obvious that both her and Yovahn were on opposite grounds. In that case, there was no reason to act nice with him.

Yovahn frowned briefly but relaxed his expression as he stared towards the track.

"Today's race would be pretty fun, don't you think so?"

"I guess so." Lucas nonchalantly responded.

"Yeah. The Infinite Eight Circuit is known for its complexity and intense bends. Eight lemniscates connected to each other, with four of them located within the mountain and the other four on it. The engineering required to build this track was incredible and the expenses were enough to build at least two standard tracks." Yovahn said.

"Do you know what's most interesting about this circuit? It's the stats. Less than eight drivers manage to complete it a minute after first place, and it also appears in the rankings for the most number of accidents, taking third place if I recall correctly. To be able to complete this track safely, most drivers avoid moving at top speed, as even a superb reaction speed might not save you."

Lucas didn't say anything as he pretty much knew all of this. Previously, Lucas had asked Helnord for every information regarding the Infinite Eight Circuit before he simulated it in the simulation room. Whether it was the recorded experience of other drivers, the official layout in drift racing sites and so on, Lucas was aware of them all.

As if sensing his confusion, Yovahn finally laid out his thoughts.

"Are you confident in your driver? Or to be specific, your racing shuttle."

Vienna could sense where this was going but before she could say anything, Lucas responded.

"Of course." Lucas promptly responded.

Since the question was aimed at the racing shuttle, which albeit wasn't entirely his design, had been modified according to his intentions, it was impossible to say no. This was because admitting a lack of confidence was the same as admitting his skills weren't up to par.

In truth, there was another response Lucas could have given, which was to clarify that the Viper was actually a shuttle designed by Orvel Feurd —the previous head of the Designs and Energy department. However, Lucas could already see where Yovahn was going with this and he was quite interested ,to say the least.

Yovahn smirked, seemingly glad Lucas fell into his 'trap'.

"Why don't we make a bet then?"

"Stop being absurd, Yovahn." Vienna interrupted.

"The Viper isn't Lucas' project, and there's no way it can compete with the Red Dogs' Mastiff. What kind of bet could possibly exist between the two?"

There were four unofficial rankings in each major vestige-smith ranking in a tier: low, middle, high and peak rank. Even though the Eretran Vestige-smith League (EVL), the association overseeing the majority of vestige-smiths on the planet, didn't accept this ranking system, it was widely used in the vestige-smith community. This was because it added further emphasis and differentiated the more skilled ones from the average characters.

The Mastiff was the official racing shuttle for the Red Dogs team this season. Unlike the Viper, which was designed by a high rank Tier 1 Master vestige-smith, but the Mastiff was designed by a peak rank Tier 1 Master vestige-smith. Based on this, it was quite obvious that the Mastiff was a better vehicle than the Viper.

Even if Lucas had remodelled the racing shuttle, due to the Nadire Underground League's rules, he couldn't do much to it and could only improve the shuttle without changing its core components or philosophy. So in truth, the current Viper was still the same as the original one, just with some minor yet vital changes that improved performance.

"Of course I know that," Yovahn proudly smirked as if he was the one who had made the Mastiff.

"But that doesn't mean we can't have some fun now. Tell me, are you interested or do you plan on hiding behind a woman?" Yovahn turned towards Lucas with a provocative smile on his face.