## LORD OF THE TRUTH

Chapter 18

Sitting on his favorite couch in house 207, Robin stared at the Mute standing in front of him for a while then said, "I don't know how you got to the dark ruins and why you have stayed in such a dangerous place, but as someone who has learned the cultivation techniques and even reached the fifth level, you definitely have some decent background.

You see, I paid a lot for you and I am not ready to give you up, but I will make a deal with you... I will give you one month to finish any unfinished business you still have, then come back for me. but I will give you a warning in advance... If i don't see you in front of me within a month, I will report you to the authorities as a runaway slave and you will be pursued and killed, what do you think?"

His Mute eyes widened upon hearing this, he did not expect anything good from this new master of his... especially such generosity! Even if he was threatened to be reported to the authorities, this is still a very generous offer that most nobles would not choose, because the slave purchase contract is in his hand and the sale contract is still in the hands of the merchant. By filing a complaint with either of them he would be hunted down and killed by the armies around the world. This was a cross-border pact so that kingdoms and empires would keep the fruitful slave trade safe.

If the slaves can escape easily or they can revolt against their masters, this trade would not have existed until now. Strict laws from the governments and special forces from the armies dedicated to the slaves' hunt are the only reason such trade is still going. For example, if a slave kills his master, he and all the slaves of that master and their families will be killed by sitting on a wooden spike.

Without further delay, the Mute knelt with his hands on the ground and nodded in agreement, that was an opportunity he had dreamed of for so long that had never thought it would come after he had become a slave.

"Go, I expect you'll be in front of me in one month from today or you will suffer the consequences yourself." Robin waved his hand.

The Mute nodded again then turned and ran away before his new master take back his words.

"What do you think he will do during the month, Dad?" Caesar said while looking at the young man's nude back.

"I don't know, maybe he would meet his family or take care of the one who cut off his tongue. I just want his mind to be fully present with me when I start using him," Robin said without caring.

"What does his state of mind has to do with anything? Isn't he just here to help you with your research?" Caesar looked confusingly at Robin

"...It's none of your business! Secondly, I told you not to call me my dad! Not even when we're alone!!" Robin said as he jumped out of his seat to kick Caesar on the butt.

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Quickly, three weeks passed, during which Robin broke through to the second level of energy cultivation, at the same time he kept advancing in his studies on the major fire heavenly law, which began to bear fruit.

he had been trying to identify the reason behind the ever-changing patterns. for example, when the fire touches a completely dry wood, the patterns aren't the same as it touches wood that still contains a percentage of water or the trunks of plants that store the element of light in high concentrations. The fire path here doesn't burn the wood only, but it interferes and tries to burn the rest of those equal heavenly paths inside that piece of wood, This results in an overlap and distortions that appear in the patterns.

The question is... How can he produce a pure flame to study the major fire heavenly law from? There is nothing like an independent fire in nature... Fire has to depend on something to ignite, even fighters who use the path of fire must burn their inner energy to ignite it!

This puzzle was the current obstacle in his way.

While he was concentrating on making plans for research for the coming period, someone came through the door, a tall, handsome young man with long black hair, wearing short clothes, stained with blood all over and a trace of a stab clearly visible in the heart area on his shirt, but he himself was fine... it was clear that he took those clothes from a corpse.

Robin noticed the Mute's \*new\* clothes, but then he turned again to look at the burning flame in front of him , "I see you're done with your unfinished business."

The young man moved silently and went to stand behind Robin, expressing his approval.

"Do you have a name you want me to call you? You can write it down or point to things so I can know it," said Robin, starting to poke the grilled snake to change his position slightly.

Silent thought for a moment then shook his head... Robin didn't know if it meant he didn't have a name, or if he hated that name and didn't want it anymore.. but he didn't care, "Well, starting today your name will be... Theo!" Robin chose a name randomly.

"Go and get me a handful from every pile of wood outside. then go the kitchen you'll find papers and carcasses of animals and beasts there, cut them apart and throw them atop their likenesses in front of me, oh... bring me some salt while you're in the kitchen, This snake looks delicious..." Robin gave several orders in a row, but Theo remembered them all and went about his business.

After a few minutes everything was done and Theo stood behind Robin waiting for his new orders, but Robin looked behind him, "What are you doing here? I want some privacy!..Caesar, come here!" robin shouted

"What do you want, fath-... big brother?" Caesar said who jumped from the upper floor.

"Take Theo with you, give him a good bath then take him to the market, buy him clothes of his own and a weapon of his choosing. When it's done, teach him my cultivation technique and guide him personally to the next levels."

Both Caesar and Theo were greatly surprised... First of all, this is not a treatment that should be given to a slave. Caesar still thinks Theo is here to help his father in his research, so why would he want to train him!?

And Theo was surprised by this generosity, which he was not accustomed to before.. and more surprised from the fact that he asked a 12-year-old, level two kid to lead his training while he was older and more powerful!

"Why are you still standing there, clowns, haven't you taken your orders? scram!" Robin picked up a few pieces of burning wood in front of him, hold them with both arms in his chest then started throwing it at them one by one until they both disappeared from view.

but his simple act almost broke Theo's mind! That burning logs did not burn his master's hand, but did not even leave a mark on his clothes!!

When he looked next to him, he found Caesar laughing, not surprised at what he saw as if it was something normal... so he began to completely re-evaluate these two 'it seems that they are not just two children who want to brag about having a strong slave' Although the market was not far from the restaurant, Robin decided to take the long road and looked around it all the way, astonished by everything and anything, occasionally he stops to buy different fruits and simple items and examined them with excitement...

The restaurant and the walk to the market were just a chance for Robin to see more things with his new ability.

The two arrived at the central market about an hour later, and it was a one worthy of Bradley's Pearl city... many times larger than that of Jura's, filled with shops of various sizes and shapes, where guards and powerful experts were scattered like ants, the small merchants spread out sheets on the ground and shouted loudly for their merchandise, hoping that They collect enough money to rent one of those shops one day...

Robin also noticed that there are several huge platforms on which large numbers of humans of both sexes and different ages are stacked, stripped of their clothes, and in front of each group a person calls out their qualities and prices, "Come closer! Come to this site, I have everything you want! I have the most beautiful and ugliest of women! The strongest of men and the weakest of them, if you have a little or a lot of money, you will not walk from here without a slave the satisfy you"

... It was clear that these were the platforms of slaves.

Robin paused in front of one of the platforms for a while, looking at a boy a little younger than him, and mired in thought... Then nodded and walked, "When we get back to the institution, ask for me if we can bring slaves into our personal house, and if it's permissible, ask about the maximum number of slaves allowed for each student"

Caesar did not understand why would Robin ask about such a thing, they had been on their own all their lives and did not need anyone's help, much less something like slaves! but he nodded and did not try to argue.

Everything went smoothly, they found a huge store selling all kinds of wood, so Robin bought a little of each kind.. but the final quantity was mind-blowing, when the two of them stood in front of the large pile, Robin looked at Caesar in a meaningful way, Caesar's eyes widened and he took two steps back "OVER MY DEAD BODY! how the hell should I carry all of this? Do you want to kill me?"

Robin shook his head, "youth of these days are useless. uncle, I'll buy a wooden cart too. How much is your account?" Robin gave one gold coin and a few silver coins for everything, then he and Caesar, who was pulling the wooden cart beside him, left towards their house.

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Sitting downstairs in front of large amounts of different wood that Caesar had categorized into piles of each, Robin frowned, "Alright then, I will start looking into the major fire heavenly law as I train to the second level of energy cultivation at the same time, don't you dare come down and disturb me! ... unless the house catches on fire because of my research, you are allowed to come and help me put it out... or put me out.. well, I trust you will know what to do then, dismiss."

Caesar chuckled then went up to the second floor. when Robin knew he was alone at last, he brought a handful of wood from the first pile and set it on fire then sat.. and watched. Patterns of fire were evident in the flames and distributed in different degrees of intensity, the densest near the wood until it disappeared completely at the furthest. He did not move for a few days where he finished on the first woodpile, so he sighed from the wonders of the world and shook his head 'before, I was like a blind walking in a strange space' Then he went to get something to eat and came back to train for the second level so that Caesar would not be far ahead of him, he kept training as he consumed the energy stones for seven days, cutting about half the distance to the second level in one go, before returning to complete his research on the next pile of wood, which was more succulent than the previous one.

Robin decided to bring different types of wood for one purpose, which is to try out which type of wood will produce a flame with clearer patterns to make it easier for him to search, and if they are all the same, that's okay too..

But after he sat in front of the small succulent pile and lit it while eating a chicken leg... his features quickly changed from anticipation... to shock! 'The patterns..they're different!!' He shouted in his mind.

"No, no, that's not supposed to happen. What's going on here?!" Robin said as he got closer to the burning pile of wood.. Most of the pattern in front of him was identical to the one before it, but there were slight changes in several places.

How is it possible that the same law has several versions of patterns?! It is known that every path had numerous branches called minor laws, and these branches certainly had different patterns, but now he is looking at just pure fire.. not sparks, heat, melting or evaporation or..etc~ The pattern is not supposed to change for the same thing!

Or at least that's what he thought theoretically before he conducted the experiments... After a period of astonishment, he brought the chicken's leg in his hand towards the fire until the flames enveloped it, and as he expected.. the flame patterns around the chicken's feet have changed.

He quickly got up to pick out small batches of all the wood and put them separately then lit them all at once, fetched his bed-sheet, bread, papers, and a few other random items then lit them separately as well... and in each pile, the patterns were a little different!

"Impossible... it's Impossible for the Flame Emperor to have seen such a fundamental difference when he announced that he had mastered the fire major heavenly law! at the most, he gained some enlightenment from observing \*fire\* and its actions and truths for thousands of years. the problem is that the fire outwardly seems identical, but what I see now Denies that completely! does that mean...The fire major heavenly law that the flame Empire Built its foundation around... is incomplete?!"

'No! Not only that, What about the rest of the major heavenly laws that have been declared completed? Is it only relatively complete?' When Robin thought about this, he sat down and started to sweat... the sweating was Probably from the huge fire around him that reached the ceiling... But he considered the sweat a sign of tension and focus.

"Is this what the all-seeing big brother meant when he said that the planet is still nascent and that I take things slowly when I see patterns?

What a pressure... what a responsibility.... WHAT A THRILL!! Hahahaha I've got the whole world to explore with no strings attached, when I'm done with it won't be nascent anymore! HAHAHA" Robin said jumping excitedly as Caesar tried to rescue what was left of the living room.

## Chapter 17

After Robin finished his hysterical laughter, and Caesar put out the fire, the two of them went back to what they were doing. Caesar was busy trying to

break through to the second level before the end of the month, while Robin started lighting everything he saw in his way then sit and watch.

Caesar's routine has changed a lot since that day. Instead of training, eating and sleeping, it became training, putting out the house, buying supplies instead of the ones that were burned, checking on his father's mental and physical health..then eating and sleeping.

Robin's enthusiasm lasted for about two weeks... even his food was cooked by himself on top of different piles each day to see how the fire patterns would change under the different metals and if the food inside would affect the patterns!

but soon he realized that such a process would not end overnight, and began to set his dates better as he devoted a period of his day to energy training and increased hours of sleep.

A few days before the end of the second month of the academy, Caesar broke through to the second level, but this time he did not shout and try to brag in front of his father again, he just started his training towards the third level silently, because he knows that Robin has been busy all the time with the major heavenly law of fire that he is preparing for him.

At the beginning of the third month, Robin's voice was heard in the house, "Hey, Caesar! Did you like your room? Come, let us have a little chat." Caesar was amazed for a moment, but left the training and immediately went down

"What did you do in the assignment I gave you... regarding the topic of the slaves?" Robin said

"I asked one of the guards he said that each student can bring 5 slaves to his house within the institution, but he will be responsible for all their needs."

"Five? A little more than I expected.. How much money do we have right now?"

"We still haven't pulled out the 200 coins for this month that we can bring in at any time, and there are about 90 coins left from last month after subtracting the cost of all that stuff you burned..."

"...okay go to the treasury and get a hundred gold coins and leave the other hundred for training resources, I want you in front of me in ten minutes!" Robin said and then pointed to the door.

and indeed, within eight minutes Caesar returned with a bag of coins on his waist and another huge one of stones on his back. When Robin saw this, he got up from his chair and said, "Hmm, let's go!" Then he left the institution and Caesar is behind him.

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"Where are we going this time, Dad?" Although Caesar knew the answer, he asked anyway

"To buy a slave or two.."

"Why? We never needed slaves, I always take care of you, am I failing you lately?"

"I don't want you to take care of my needs anymore, focus on being strong! Did you forget our deal so quickly? You should protect me!... I just need someone to hand me pens and clean up what I break, that doesn't suit you, Sir Caesar." Robin laughed. In fact, there was another real reason for this, but he refused to reveal it before it was achieved so he wouldn't look like a fool if he failed... and not to frighten Caesar badly.

"..." Caesar didn't know what to say, those words touched his heart, and his resolve to become stronger increased again.

The two of them reached the slave platforms quickly, Robin began examining them one by one from the bottom of each platform. Some slaves even hid

their naked private parts automatically because of his weird glances, but he giggled and continued his slow pace.

Robin was using the Eye of Truth to find out a few simple things like age, level of training, and even the strength of the soul, things like this that should have been impossible unless he was vastly more powerful than the target, but it became too easy for him to know those things about anyone just by looking.

After he spent about an hour passing the slaves, he stopped in front of a young man.. muscular, deadly handsome with long black hair, but his body was full of scars, some of which seemed to be very near to killing him.

The truth said is that he is 17 years old, at the fifth level of energy cultivation, and has a normal soul strength... These stats are slightly above the general average in noble families, and considering that he's a slave, that's pretty good.

"Uncle, how much is this slave?" Robin asked the fat merchant who was calling for people to come atop the platform, the fat merchant turned his face around smiling at the potential customer, to find that he had been interrupted by two children in the first and second levels of energy cultivation... "Are you two lost? shoo~ Go away, or I'll put you next to the rest of the slaves!"

"You damn pig! I asked you politely and that's how you answer? Looks like you don't want your life anymore!" Robin shouted then quickly raised the badge which said he was affiliated with the Bradley's Army institution.

when the fat man was about to raise his whip to strike the big-mouthed boy he saw the badge and immediately knew what it meant.. 'This boy is either the son of a noble or supported by the power of a nobleman!'

Suddenly the fat man knelt down, "Oh, it seems that from my life with the slaves have made me become stupid, I couldn't see how great my young master is, how about I compensate you with a 20% discount," said the fat man, smiling and rubbing his hand.

"Just tell me about this guy." Robin pointed at the long-haired youth

"Uh, that? we call him the Mute, he's 17-years-old and he's a level five with his tongue cut out, an expedition to the dark ruins found him like that, and when they -tried to save him- he killed two of those at the fifth level and seriously wounded one of the sixths Before he is suppressed...

his characters make him qualified to work in almost everything and he can be used as a bodyguard for young nobles like you hehe, Ahem.. you see, this slave is very special and it cost us a lot for that, its price is 100 gold coins," said the precious smiling

Caesar couldn't contain himself, "A hundred what?! All the slaves are between five or ten coins, greedy pig, you're trying to scam us!"

"How dare I, young master? I swear to you, what I said is true. His fighting ability is very high, and we lost three of our men before subduing him. If I sold him for less than that, it would be a great loss for me. Of course, you can look at the rest of my collection and forget about this one..." The fat merchant said with a malicious laugh

Robin indeed had scanned the rest on the platforms but none was as perfect as this young man, he finally decided that he was worth investing in.

A bag containing 80 gold coins found its way to the face of the merchant, who accepted it wistfully 'that short bastard still remembers the discount!' but found no one to blame but himself.

Robin cut a piece of cloth from the furniture on the stage and threw it at the young man to cover his body, then looked at him in the eye and said, "You are mine now."

Sitting on his favorite couch in house 207, Robin stared at the Mute standing in front of him for a while then said, "I don't know how you got to the dark ruins and why you have stayed in such a dangerous place, but as someone who has learned the cultivation techniques and even reached the fifth level, you definitely have some decent background.

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