Triumph 221

Chapter 221

Adam has heard that the Currey family had been backing up Homer. Although Homer was unaware of Skylar's identity, he has seen him in action before. Once Homer observed Skylar's moves, he reported them to the Currey family.

The Currey family had thoroughly researched Skylar's background but to no avail. They did not fear a person's notorious past, but an empty one. The fear of the unknown was the most frightening of them all.

If no one could investigate Skylar's past, it can only mean that he had the status that could compete against the government. It was the reason that Adam had a sudden change in behavior after hearing his name.

A single reply from Skylar left Adam trembling on the spot, for he was the man that Homer had brought up countless times. The seemingly collected man that was seated at that moment had the power to annihilate Cloudtopia if he was provoked.

Harry Chase, Nicholas Wexler, Christopher Wexler, and Strickler Moody were the few people who had provoked Skylar in the past. None of them survived his wrath in the end. None from their respective families dare to seek revenge.

Moreover, Adam had heard from Homer that even Old Mr. Shepard displays the utmost respect whenever he interacted with Skylar. It was all proof that Skylar possessed incredible power.

Adam could not feel his legs after all those thoughts surged through his mind. He fell on his knees and uttered, "Mr. Stone, I apologize for the disrespectful things I said earlier! Please forgive me!"

"What happened to Mr. Currey?"

"Did he address Skylar as Mr. Stone and plead for forgiveness?"

"Has he lost his mind?"

The crowd was in an uproar. They were dazed to see Adam kneeling before Skylar.

Alex, Ash, and the others were unable to fathom the reason behind Adam's actions. Even Naomi did not expect Skylar to be able to instill deterrence.

"Could it be that Skylar has a different status?"

"He joined the military before graduating from high school. There's no way that he could achieve anything without a college diploma."

"Perhaps he reunited with his long-lost parents who had a wealthy background?"

"That could be the case. There's no way that a low-ranking soldier like him could ever earn the respect of Mr. Currey."

The crowd openly discussed their speculations. Skylar could not care less about that nonsense. He glanced at Adam and said, "Kneeling is making you look bad. Get back on your feet."

Chapter 222

Adam looked at Skylar to be sure before standing up. By the time his racing heart calmed down, his forehead was covered in a cold sweat and his back was drenched. "Mr. Stone, I would like to treat you to a meal as a means to apologize to you. This place is noisy and crowded. How about we have a change of venue?" Adam said.

Adam was aware of the crowd's reaction, but it had to be done. It would be beneficial if he could come to good terms with Skylar. Old Mr. Shepard did the same as well. Skylar was pleased by Adam's mannerisms and said, "My task tonight is to be my little sister's guardian, so she'll be the one making the calls."

Skylar glanced over at Naomi. Adam felt his heart racing yet again. He did not know that they were siblings. He was planning to approach her earlier. However, he no longer dared to do so. Naomi had her eyes on Adam, so he was left with no choice.

Adam said, "Ms. Naomi, would you like a change of scenery?" He did not dare to make eye contact as he asked. Naomi realized that there was no point in staying as Alex and the others were not fond of Skylar. She nodded and agreed to Adam's suggestion.

Adam was delighted by her response and uttered, "Mr. Stone, Ms. Naomi, this way please!" Alex stood up as he watched Adam leave. He asked, "Mr. Currey, what are you doing?" Adam had decided to treat Skylar to a meal as he left his honored guests unattended.

After hearing his question, Adam stopped and uttered, "Alex, I will now cancel all the collaborations we agreed on! From this day onwards, the Currey family will have nothing to do with the Fuller family."

Those words were directed at Alex, but it was also a means to clarify his standpoint to Skylar. Alex had offended Skylar; Adam was not idiotic to do the same. Alex was dumbfounded.

They had previously agreed on a collaboration to expand their business in Cloudtopia. Alex brought Noami along to meet Adam to seal the deal. Now that Adam pulled out of the deal, they will suffer a great loss.

Alex was furious and yelled, "Skylar, this is all your fault! Although your parents have a wealthy

background, you're nothing compared to Norman! Once he returns, you're done! The same goes for you, Adam. Now that you've pissed me off, you shall bear the consequences!"

Chapter 223

Alex felt his blood boiling. The only thing that was keeping him in check was the return of Norman the next day. Once Norman becomes the General's adjutant, the entire Currey family would be no match for the Fuller family.

The crowd finally snapped out of shock after hearing Alex's words. No one would be able to stand in their way when that moment came, be it Adam or Skylar. Their backgrounds would mean nothing against the General's adjutant. Those who felt bad for mocking Skylar regained their pride after hearing the news.

Skylar made a video call to Yulia before bed. "Daddy, when will you come home? I missed you," Lola said. "I'll be home after two more days," Skylar reassured her. "Daddy, did you miss me and mommy?" Lola continued. Skylar nodded and said, "Of course. I've missed you two ever since I left."

"You didn't go around and look at other women?" Lola asked. "What are you even talking about? I only have my eyes on you and mommy," Skylar replied. "Daddy is the best! You mustn't meet other women, or else mommy will be mad if she found out," Lola added.

"Alright. I can promise you that," Skylar replied. Yulia who was sitting beside Lola was blushing as if she had exposed her concerns. "It's past your bedtime. Time to say goodnight to daddy," Yulia said. She had to cut Lola short to prevent her from saying more embarrassing things.

"Okay. Goodnight, daddy. I'll be waiting for you," Lola said as she waved. "Goodnight, Lola." Skylar waved back. As Yulia was about to end the video call, Skylar waved and said, "Goodnight, darling!" Yulia blushed and replied, "Goodnight." Skylar was certain that she had accepted this title. He ended the video call joyfully.

It was the day of Norman's return, so the family reunion had been shifted to the afternoon. Naomi woke Skylar early in the morning. "Sky, Norman is almost here. Everyone is waiting at the gate. Let's go check it out," Naomi said.

"What's the big deal?" Skylar replied as he washed his face. His impression of Norman had never changed since they were kids. Whenever they returned to their hometown, Norman would bring the other kids along to annoy Skylar and Naomi. Therefore, they fought a lot when they were little.

However, Skylar did not hold a grudge against Norman as those were part of their childhood. He just took a trip down memory lane when Naomi mentioned Norman's name.

"I've heard that he's about to become the General's adjutant. I can't wait to witness the grand spectacle," Naomi said. "Does a grand spectacle mean he's a big shot?" Skylar asked as he dried his

hands.

Chapter 224

Naomi was dazed. She felt like she was getting something from Skylar's mysterious behavior. "Sky, Norman is no better than you, right?" Naomi asked. Skylar smiled and said, "Didn't you want to witness the grand spectacle of a big shot? Better get a move on."

Skylar walked towards the exit while Naomi swiftly followed suit. As they approached the gate, Skylar noticed that the surroundings were decorated with all sorts of ornaments. The gate was crowded.

Mr. Fuller was standing amongst the crowd under the hot sun as well. Beside him were his two sons, Spencer and Robert. Everyone was anticipating Norman's return. "Norman's position is nothing special, yet this reception sure is something," Skylar said.

Before Naomi could respond, complaints could be heard from behind. "Skylar seems like even Norman means nothing to you. You sure do know your place." It was Megan and Ash. Megan uttered, "You're just a corporal, yet you dare criticize Norman. You poor thing."

"Why don't you piss on the ground and take a good look at yourself? Where did you get the confidence to say that Norman's position is nothing special." Ash sneered. "Norman is the top student in military school. He has a bright future ahead of him. You don't even have a high school diploma. You'll never achieve anything in life," Megan added.

Skylar remained silent. Being the top student in military school means nothing if one had never been on the front of the battlefield. Norman's experiences were nothing compared to Skylar's. Even if Norman became a general, he would have to pay his respects to Skylar.

"Guess you have nothing to say. You're worthless yet you're great at criticizing others," Megan said. "That's right!" Ash added. Pearl's son approached them and said, "Seems like someone doesn't know their place just because they possess a little wealth. We don't even know where all that money came from."

"You're just a peasant in front of Norman!" Megan uttered. All of them held a grudge from the day before. They let it all out on Skylar knowing that Norman was about to arrive. "All of you better watch your mouths! Although Norman is impressive, Skylar will always be the best in my heart!" Naomi uttered furiously.

"Nobody cares about what you think." Megan and the others sneered. She added, "Didn't you see that Mr. Fuller is here to welcome Norman himself? The future of the Fuller family is in his hands. Skylar has nothing going for him aside from a little wealth. He's just a piece of trash!"

Naomi's blood was boiling. She turned to Skylar and asked, "Sky, how can you remain so calm when they ridiculed you to such extents?"

Chapter 225

"There are certain things that they will never have the chance to know," Skylar said with a smile. "Tch, cut the act!" Ash said. "It's here! It's finally here!" Someone amongst the crowd exclaimed. A military jeep drove by before the crowd. Nine more jeeps followed along forming a fleet that slowly drove into the scene.

Everyone was astonished by the spectacle before them. These military jeeps were much more eyecatching than any luxury car. The jeeps also had special military license plates which amplifies the sense of authority.

"Ten military jeeps escorted Norman back home! That's so cool!"

"Hurry up and take a picture. This is a historical moment!"

"The Fuller family is going all out! We'll be soaring to the top in no time!"

The crowd cheered on. Mr. Fuller's eyes were misted over tears by Norman's return. Spencer was feeling proud as well. However, Robert was feeling salty about it. He may seem friendly with Spencer, but he had always been secretly hoping to surpass him.

As Robert was about to achieve his goal, Norman's sudden surge in progress overshadowed his son, Alex's achievements. Now that Norman had become the family's hope, Robert could never surpass him anymore.

Naomi was also impressed by the arrival of Norman's fleet. "Sky, which rank does a person need to get escorted by a dozen military jeeps?" She asked. Skylar smiled in response. The jeeps pulled up in a straight formation.

A young man dressed in a military uniform stepped out from the jeep that was at the center of the formation. He proceeded to open the door of the rear passenger seat. Norman finally made his appearance.

"All of you may leave now," Norman said. "Yes, sir!" the young man replied. He bowed and entered the jeep. The formation swiftly dispersed and the fleet of jeeps was out of sight. The crowd was in awe of everything that had happened in a blink of an eye.

Norman approached Langston and the others. He greeted them sincerely. Norman was the first highranking military officer to have ever been born in the Fuller family throughout the generations.

"Norman, grandpa is proud of you. I'll be leaving the future of the Fuller family in your capable hands." Langston said. Norman replied, "Grandpa, if it weren't for your teachings, I would have never achieved all of this and become who I am today!"

Norman had his way with words ever since he was a child. Langston nodded and said, "Grandpa is glad

that you've retained your modesty despite your achievements. Let's head home and continue this conversation."

Norman did not follow along. He said, "Grandpa, you can head back and rest now. There'll be an honored guest arriving soon. I'll stay here and wait for his arrival."

Chapter 226

"An honored guest?" Langston turned to Norman. He thought for a while and asked, "Are you saying that the general is coming over?" Norman shook his head and said, "Grandpa, that's over the top. However, the guest that's coming over is the Secretary of Defense that the general is fond of."

"The Secretary of Defense? That means he's your future colleague?" Langston asked. Norman nodded and replied, "Yup, he's a colleague, but more so my senior. I still have a lot to learn from him if I want to get close to the general."

"Then I'll wait for him with you." Langston insisted. After hearing Norman's words, he was eager to meet the Secretary of Defense in person.

"Norman!" Alex called out as he approached Norman. He was hoping to get him onboard to help him kickstart a business in the crystal market. Norman nodded in response. Alex was disappointed by his indifferent response but he dared not to express it.

The other youngsters approached Norman and said, "Norman, you were looking awesome when you stepped out of the jeep. It was just like the military parade that we've seen on television when the jeeps drove by. I could feel the adrenaline rush!"

Megan and Pearl also approached Norman. "Norman, now that you're a big shot, don't forget about me!" Megan uttered. "That's right. Even the slightest treat from you will make us satisfied!" Pearl added.

Normal did not bother to respond to them. He had disliked his two aunts ever since he was little. Now that he had grown, he could not care less about them. Megan and Pearl could feel him growing distant but they still pressed on.

After chatting for a while, Norman noticed a distinctive figure amongst the crowd. He walked up to Naomi and said, "Naomi, is that you? You've become prettier since I last saw you." Ash and the others felt irritated to hear Norman compliment Naomi.

Naomi did not expect him to recognize her at first glance. She grinned and said, "That's right. I'm Naomi." As Norman was about to continue their conversation. He was interrupted by Alex. He asked, "Norman, do you recognize this guy next to Naomi?"

Megan, Pearl, Ash, and the others shifted their attention to them as they were expecting something bad to happen. Norman took a good look at Skylar and asked, "You're Uncle Charles's adoptive son, Skylar Stone?"

Alex gave a thumbs up and said, "Norman, you have a great memory! That's him right here." He continued, "Norman after you left this guy also joined the military. However, we've never heard anything commendable from him. Why's the difference between the two of you so far apart?"

Chapter 227

Alex raised his voice when he said his last line. "He's a nobody. There's no way that he could be compared with Norman!" a person in the crowd uttered. "That's right! Norman is the top student in military school!" another person added. A group of people sneered.

Norman sized up Skylar as he indulged in the compliments. He recalled the times that they fought when they were little. He looked down on him as he learned of their difference in status. Norman asked, "Which branch are you from? I don't mind greeting your leader."

"There's no need for that," Skylar replied as he shook his head. He was the King of the North, the God of War of the Nine Continents. The one that could be considered his leader was the one at the very top. Norman was just a measly adjutant; he was in no position to do so.

Norman did not expect Skylar to reject his offer without hesitation. Norman was trying to show off his status and mock him. However, Norman's reputation was tarnished as Skylar rejected him in front of everyone.

Megan noticed that Norman was offended and said, "Skylar, you've outdone yourself! Norman was trying to help you out. Did you fail to perceive that? Guess you'll be a petty corporal for the rest of your life!"

"Just look at his slender figure. Perhaps he's just there to entertain the others. Besides, he's incapable of doing anything useful. There's no way he could climb the ranks even if Norman helped him out. At least he's aware of that by rejecting the offer," Pearl added.

The crowd nodded as they agreed with Pearl. Ash shook her head and said, "I don't think that's the case. Perhaps his ranking is already well beyond Norman's. That's why he didn't need his help."

Norman frowned. Everyone remained silent as they wanted to hear Ash's thoughts. She continued, "Before Norman arrived, I heard that Skylar said that Norman's position is nothing special, yet the reception sure is something. Skylar, these were your words, right?"

Ash glanced at Skylar provocatively. Naomi glared at Ash and uttered, "Ash, you've crossed the line!" She did not expect Ash to lay out the words that Skylar said unintentionally. Although she was certain that Skylar was way superior to Norman, she was also worried that Skylar would suffer a great loss if he confronted Norman.

While Naomi was stressing out about the situation, Skylar grinned and said, "That's right. Those were my

words." The crowd was in an uproar. "No wonder he's still a corporal for six years. He doesn't know his place. Guess he has a death wish."

Although the crowd was taken aback, this was the scene that they had been anticipating. Since Skylar acted full of himself the day before, they were eager to see how long he would last against Norman.

"Whether my position is special or not, depends on who I'm up against. Were you trying to tell me that your ranking is on par with the general's?" Norman sneered.

Chapter 228

Norman approached Skylar after saying his words. Naomi, who was standing beside Skylar, felt immense pressure. She wanted to speak but failed to do so. The crowd could feel Norman's imposing wrath. A sense of danger lingered in the air.

Nathaniel and Winona were worried. They swiftly approached Spencer and said, "Spencer, Skylar is still young. He doesn't understand the severity of the situation. We'll be sure to lecture him when we get back. Everyone is watching. Could you please ask Norman to let him off the hook?"

"Skylar is still young? He's 25 years old. He's an adult and now he shall face the consequences of his actions! It doesn't matter if everyone is watching. It'll be a lesson that he'll remember for the rest of his life," Spencer replied.

Nathaniel was rendered speechless. He looked at Langston helplessly, hoping that he would step in and resolve the issue. However, Langston did not bother to do so as he was eager to watch Norman display his skills and teach Skylar a lesson.

Everyone was against Skylar, yet he remained unmoved. All this pressure was nothing to him, it was not even worth it to take matters into his own hands. He looked at Norman and said, "Whether or not my ranking is on par with the general is not a question that you're worthy to ask!"

Skylar's words had once again flabbergasted the crowd. Even Naomi gasped in shock. Skylar was adding fuel to the fire. Ash, Alex, and the others were excited to see how bad things would turn out for Skylar.

Skylar displayed no signs of backing out. Norman was running out of patience. He had arranged the fleet earlier to escort him back to flaunt his success. However, it was all ruined by Skylar. "It's not a question that I'm worthy to ask? Well, tell me what kind of position I should dare not to ask." Norman sneered.

He was only a step away from becoming the second Secretary of Defense. It was set in stone and he'll be promoted as soon as he returns to the military. That meant that he would be stepping into the core and obtaining unrivaled power. Only a few would be ranked higher than him, but he would have the authority to ask for assistance from the general himself.

"Norman, don't be mad. Perhaps his position is something that we inquire about." Megan said. Norman

frowned and asked, "What do you mean?" Megan smirked and continued, "You've just returned and there's a lot of catching up to do. I can assure you that

Chapter 229

"On the day of Naomi's wedding, Skylar gifted her a vintage necklace that's worth five million dollars. After that, he purchased a mansion for his father with twelve million dollars. Then, he heard that we were planning a grand reception for your return, so he purchased a luxury car that cost around eight hundred thousand dollars. Do you think a person that can whip out all that money is just a corporal?" Megan said.

Everyone knew where she was getting at. They speculated that Skylar obtained his wealth through shady means. Everyone glared at Skylar, especially Pearl as she held a grudge for the incident that happened at the parking lot the day before.

"Seems like you're not just on par with the general, but way beyond that. Now spit it out! Where did you get all that money from? I could go easy on you right now, but you know well of the consequences that you'll be facing when you return to the military." Norman said.

Spencer said, "Nathaniel, I've warned you about adopting a child. Just look at him! He made all that money through unjust means within the military. If we were in the past, our whole family would be hanged for that!"

"That's impossible! My son will never do anything illegal in the military," Nathaniel uttered. "Anything is possible. That mansion of yours must be comfy. Have you never thought about how Skylar obtained the money for that?" Spencer sneered.

He continued, "Norman is about to become the second Secretary of Defense, yet he does not make that much money. They prioritize honesty within the military. If someone managed to make a fortune, you know what that means."

Nathaniel was rendered speechless. However, Skylar remained collected after all of that. He smiled and said, "Well, go ahead and report it to headquarters."

"Alright, you asked for this! I don't care who you're working with, no one will ever get away with breaking the laws in the military! If I can't handle you, the general will. There's no way that you and your accomplice will have more authority than him!" Norman uttered.

"Cut it out with all that nonsense and get on with your investigation," Skylar said. He was getting slightly annoyed by all the fuss that everyone was making.

"Norman, I can see a military jeep coming our way!" someone exclaimed. Everyone shifted their focus to the road. The jeep gradually approached their destination.

Chapter 230

Langston glared at Skylar as he approached Norman. He said, "Norman, you have to keep your priorities straight. We must welcome the honored guest for now. You can deal with the brat later."

"Don't worry, grandpa. I know what I'm doing," Norman replied. He glared at Skylar once more before suppressing his anger. The jeep pulled up and a man dressed in a uniform stepped out. He seemed to be in his late twenties. Skylar was surprised to see him.

It was Milton, who was invited to the previous gathering by Greg. Milton was the first Secretary of Defense. That meant that the general Norman spoke of was Philbert. This unprecedented coincidence made the situation more intriguing.

"Mr. Wintringham, welcome to my hometown," Norman said with a smile. Milton nodded in response. His attire made him seem like he was about to give a speech on stage. Norman turned around and said, "Grandpa, father, this is the first Secretary of Defense, Mr. Wintrigham. It's all thanks to him for his guidance that I'm able to get close to the general."

Langston was moved and said, "Mr. Wintringham, I appreciate all the guidance that you've given to Norman. I hope that you'll be able to do the same in the future." Milton replied, "It's no big deal. I've only been with the general for three years."

Milton was attempting to flaunt his status, yet he froze as he looked into the distance. His pupils contracted in shock as he felt cold sweat coursing down his back. He saw Skylar amongst the crowd. Milton felt his head spinning yet no one else noticed.

Langston continued, "Mr. Wintringham, you're not just a high-ranking adjutant, you're also someone that greatly contributed to the Fuller family. You must be exhausted from all the traveling. Let us head inside and enjoy a meal."

He gestured to lead the way but Milton did not respond. As the crowd began to notice something was off, Milton began to move. Langston was dazed for a brief moment before he realized that Milton was making his way to Skylar.

"Mr. Wintringham knows Skylar?" Langston asked. "It depends. If they aren't friends, then they are enemies. Which one do you all think it will be." Ash sneered.

"It's dead obvious that Mr. Wintringham is about to settle a score with Skylar for what he's done."

"Now that Norman and Mr. Wintringham are after Skylar, he's certainly a dead man."

The crowd was certain of the events that were about to take place. However, they were astonished as the unexpected had happened. Milton stood before Skylar and bowed. "Mr. Stone, it's an honor to meet you here!" Milton greeted Skylar with the utmost respect.