

From Outcast to Overlord: The Unyielding **Heir Novel**

Chapter 221 She's the Spokesperson " He better pray he doesn't come near me again once we're off this plane ." Finished He said it like it didn't matter . Like Trevor was a problem someone else should worry about . He knew who the Levingtons were . Yes , their main base of operations was in Glenwick . Though he never talked to them before , he knew them . Their head of family , Thaddeus , was ranked fifteen on the Astria Power Index , and his signature technique was the Heart - Crushing Palm . In Glenwick , he reigned supreme , and his family was the de facto top dogs in this region .

Though intimidating to most people , families like the Levingtons were nothing but insects to Leander . That quiet confidence almost made Maeve smile . Almost . She only told him who Trevor was to enlighten the guy and stop him from starting another fight . She would rather nothing happen to this person she met on the plane . She studied him again . His clothes were plain , nothing fancy . His whole vibe felt low - key , like someone who stayed far from the spotlight . She figured maybe he just didn't understand who the Levington family really was .

So , she sighed and gave him the full picture . " You might not know them , but they're scary . The kind of scary that even politicians respect . They basically own Glenwick . Forty percent of the city's money moves through them . They're not just rich . They're powerful . " You're from Ravenridge , right ? You know the Halloway family ? The Levingtons are like that in Glenwick , maybe even worse . " The guy in charge is

Thaddeus . Trevor's his youngest son." She thought that would finally sink in . She expected his face to shift , even just a little . But it didn't .

Leander stayed quiet for a beat , then lifted his eyes and shrugged . " So what ? " His voice stayed steady . Not even a pause . " I don't care if he's Thaddeus ' son . Hell , I wouldn't care if Thaddeus himself showed up in front of me . He'd still have to show me respect . He'd bow his head like I'm the elder . Trevor wants to act big ? He can come back when he grows up ." Maeve stared at him like she'd just seen a ghost . 1/4 13:18 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 221 She's the Spokesperson Finished She had thought he was quiet , maybe even soft . But this ? This was something else .

He didn't just ignore Trevor's status . He looked down on it like it meant nothing . The Levington family in Glenwick held real power . With Thaddeus - one of the strongest martial artists alive - supporting them , even the Reynes had to stay a step behind . If her sister Emma hadn't joined the Tri - Peak Sect and become Yannick's personal disciple , their entire family wouldn't have stood a chance . They could've poured out everything they had and still fallen short . That was how overwhelming the Levington name truly was . But then there was Leander .

His words were so arrogant that they didn't even seem real . He brushed off the Levingtons like they were nobodies . He even claimed Thaddeus would show him respect and act like a junior in front of him . It sounded like something pulled out of a fantasy novel . There might be a few people in Astria who could make Thaddeus bow his head , but for him to step forward , show real respect , and greet someone with his

head low ? That kind of treatment was reserved for living legends - people who could shake cities just by walking through them .

Leander looked like he had just finished a college midterm . Maybe twenty at most . Maeve couldn't figure out how someone that young could say those things with a straight face . Honestly , just dealing with Trevor should've been enough to crush him . She watched him from the corner of her eye . He leaned back in his seat , looking like he didn't have a care in the world . That calm look made her shake her head . Leander wasn't just confident . He was blind . Anyone who walked through the world with that kind of pride was bound to trip - and fall hard .

If this mess hadn't started because of her , she wouldn't have lifted a finger to help . She would've let Trevor deal with him and walked away . But since it had started with her , she felt responsible . So , she decided she'd block Trevor just long enough for Leander to get out of the airport safely . She didn't want another scene . Still , whatever curiosity she had about him was gone . She had felt something earlier - just a flicker - but now it had vanished . What remained was frustration . That kind of blind self- confidence only made people harder to deal with .

Maeve wasn't interested in babysitting someone who didn't understand the weight of the world . The rest of the flight passed in silence . She didn't speak to him again . She had even thought about taking off her sunglasses earlier and letting him see her face . That thought disappeared . She didn't want to know him . She didn't even want to remember his name . And Leander ? He didn't seem bothered by her silence either . 2/4 13:18

Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 221 She's the Spokesperson He stayed locked into his phone , playing a game in flight mode . He didn't speak , didn't glance .

at her , and didn't react at all until the plane touched down in Ravenridge . As soon as they landed , Leander stood up and left . Behind him , Trevor made a move like he was about to follow , but Maeve stepped in and cut him off with a calm excuse . She didn't raise her voice , but she bought Leander the time he needed . She watched his back as he disappeared through the crowd . Her gaze lingered for a second , then she looked away . The only reason she'd paid attention to him at all was because , for one brief moment , he had reminded her of that person - the one she still couldn't forget .

But now ? Now she told herself he was just a stranger on the same flight . Just another passing face . She never would've imagined the boy who barely acknowledged her was the same one she had spent years missing . Once he got into Ravenridge , Leander didn't slow down . He headed straight for the Leandrix Tower . Even though the company had become a subsidiary of Jeff Enterprises , Frankie still liked to work out of the original building . It felt familiar , and he wasn't in a rush to leave that comfort behind . The moment Frankie saw Leander walk in , he grabbed a folder and hurried over .

" This is the final schedule for tomorrow night's gala ," he said , handing over the pages . Leander flipped through the papers , then gave a small nod . " You've done well . Everything looks tight . I knew you'd handle it . You've really got a head for business . " Frankie smiled but stayed humble . " That's all thanks to the team's effort . And your leadership , of course . " Then he paused , like something had just clicked in his mind .

He pulled out another folder . " Almost forgot . Here's the list of performers for the gala . And the celebrity we invited to be our brand ambassador ?

She just arrived in Ravenridge. I've already set her up at the Sky Hotel . " She'll perform tomorrow night and stick around for three more days to shoot a few ads for the Phoenix Essence Pill . " This is her file ." Frankie handed over a sheet and a few glossy photos . Leander took them . But as he read through the name , his brow twitched . His eyes narrowed 3/4 13:18 Wed , Oct 15 ... Chapter 221 She's the Spokesperson slightly , and something unreadable crossed his face . " Maeve ? " he muttered . " She's the one we hired ? " Send Gifts

Chapter 222 Troy Leander glanced at the photo and gave a soft chuckle . He tapped the edge of the slowly shook his head . " Maeve ... so it really is her . " Trished paper and He let out a long breath . Life had a strange way of looping back around . He had assumed she was just a brief encounter , someone who would disappear from his world as quickly as she entered it . But fate clearly had other plans . It kept pulling her back into his orbit , like gravity . " Mr. Leander , you know Maeve ? " Frankie's brows lifted , his voice lined with curiosity .

Leander's reaction had caught his attention , and it wasn't something he could ignore . He began to piece things together in his mind . Leander had always been calm , composed , and completely disinterested in women . Frankie had figured it was just because no one had managed to capture his attention . But now , seeing that look on his face , he wondered if Maeve had left a mark . Leander didn't offer much clarity . "

You could say I know her ... or maybe not , " he said casually . The vague answer only made Frankie more confused .

Leander set the photo aside and shifted back into business mode . His tone grew clipped and focused . " The gala looks fine . No big issues . You handle the finishing touches . Let the host improvise if anything comes up on stage . " Then his eyes turned cold and decisive . " Once the event wraps , I want you to gather our funds . We're moving Jeff Enterprises ' center of operations . " I want us in Highcliffe before the end of the month . " And bring me every piece of intel you can find on the Ashcroft family . Ten years back . The more thorough , the better . " Frankie stiffened .

His breath caught , and his chest felt tight . In just nine months , Jett Enterprises had surged to the top of the global economy . They were now ranked first in total assets , and only a few massive national conglomerates could even come close to competing . While their international growth had been explosive , their domestic expansion had always 1/5 13:18 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 222 Thoy Finished been measured and cautious . That had been the plan from the start . Frankie , Tommy , and the others had all agreed . But now , Leander wanted to break that rhythm .

He was heading straight into Highcliffe . And he had his eyes on the Ashcrofts . Frankie swallowed hard , the gears in his head spinning . " He's an Ashcroft , too . Could he have ties to the Ashcrofts ? " That single thought sparked like a live wire in his chest . If Leander moved into Highcliffe , it wouldn't be subtle . It would hit like a storm front . Meanwhile , in the presidential suite of the Sky Hotel , Maeve lay sprawled across a

velvet comforter , her bare feet tucked beneath her . The TV flickered in front of her , though she wasn't really watching .

A woman in a navy - blue suit stood near the bed , arms crossed , watching her with raised brows . She was in her late twenties , elegant and composed , her sharp eyes glinting behind a pair of slim glasses . " Maeve , what's up ? " she asked with a small grin . " You've been off all day . Something wrong with Jeff Enterprises ' setup ? " If you're not happy with it , I can call them right now . We were invited , not begged . You don't have to settle . With the kind of money they've got , they'll fix anything you want . " Maeve rolled over and propped her chin on her palm .

Her voice came out a little tired . " It's nothing like that , Heather . I'm just in a strange mood . " Then she reached out her hand and gave a faint smirk . " Anyway , pay up . You lost the bet . " Heather raised her brows in surprise . " Seriously ? Someone in Ravenridge didn't know who you were ? " Maeve gave a quiet sigh and nodded . Her eyes dropped a little . " Yeah . Some guy on the plane . I said my name and everything . He just blinked at me like I was a nobody . " Heather had managed Maeve for over a year .

This trip was supposed to be smooth - just a performance at a charity gala and a few promo shoots for Jeff Enterprises . Nothing unusual . Before they boarded , Maeve had teased her , betting that not everyone in Ravenridge would recognize her face . She had won the bet . But it didn't feel like a win . The fact that someone genuinely hadn't
13:18 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 222 They #Finished known who she was , hadn't even

reacted to her name - it left a hollow ache in her chest that she couldn't quite shake .
Heather chuckled and pulled five crisp hundred - dollar bills from her purse .

She spread them out on the bed like playing cards and shook her head with a wry smile . I mean , seriously . Who doesn't recognize our national sweetheart ? That guy must've grown up in the woods with no internet . " Maeve's gaze dropped for a moment as a familiar face flickered through her mind . Leander's cool , sharp features surfaced without warning . Out of everyone she had met these past few years , he was the only one who reminded her of him - that person she could never forget . But then she remembered how Leander had reacted when she brought up the Levington family .

His tone , that smug look in his eyes - it was all arrogance . The kind that pushed people away . Whatever spark she thought she saw in him had died right then . They talked a little longer until Heather's tone shifted . " By the way , Maeve ... Mr. Troy's flying in tomorrow . " Maeve stiffened . Her smile faded . " Troy ? What for ? " Heather caught the change in her voice and sighed . She moved closer and placed a hand on Maeve's shoulder . " Maeve , you've been engaged to him for a year . You know how hard he's tried . You've seen everything he's done for you .

" He really cares about you . " I know you still hold on to that man who saved you . The one you lost . But you need to see things clearly . Gratitude isn't the same as love . You can't put your whole life on pause for someone who isn't even here anymore . " He's gone . Maeve's shoulders jerked like something inside her snapped . Heather didn't let go . She held her a little tighter and kept talking . " We have to face reality . No matter

how badly we want to hold on , some people don't come back . Some feelings don't bring anyone home . " But Troy - he's right in front of you .

He's the eldest son of the Levington family . You know how powerful they are in Glenwick . And he's not just his last name . He's smart , driven , and good - looking . He made the cover of Economic Weekly at twenty - four . They named him Glenwick's top young entrepreneur . He's set to inherit the entire Levington empire . And with Thaddeus behind him , nobody would dare stand in his way . " You're the daughter of the Reyne family . You and Troy make sense . You're a perfect match . And he's never looked at anyone else . Why not just give it a try ?

" 3/5 13:18 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 222 Troy Finished Every word felt heavier than the last . Maeve stayed silent , her shoulders trembling . Her lips pressed into a thin line , but she didn't speak . Then , after a long stretch of quiet , she finally whispered . " Heather ... I get it . " I'll think about it . Just let me be alone for a while . " Heather nodded slowly . She pulled the blanket up over Maeve's shoulders , then left the room without saying another word . The moment the door clicked shut , Maeve's breath cracked .

A broken cry slipped out as tears rushed down her cheeks , soaking the pillow beneath her face . Her fingers moved without thinking , reaching into her robe . She pulled out a small wooden cube , its corners rounded from years of wear . She clutched it tightly to her chest , her body curled inward like she was trying to disappear into herself . " Ice Cube ... why weren't you there when I needed you most ? " You told me once that you'd

fix my eyes . You said we had so much to do together . You promised we'd chase down every last dream . Why did you leave it all behind ?

" She pressed the wooden cube close , burying her face into the blankets . That tiny box was all she had left of him . His last gift . The only thing he never took back . " What am I supposed to do now ? Just tell me what to do ... " At Ravenridge Airport , a sleek private jet rolled to a smooth stop on the tarmac . Trevor stood by the gate in silence , his suit pressed , his head held low . His hands were clasped in front of him , though his fingers kept tightening . As the jet door opened , a tall figure in a long coat stepped down the ramp .

The man walked like he didn't care who watched him . His steps were slow but heavy , each one landing with quiet force . " Troy ." Trevor dipped his head and bowed , his voice steady but laced with tension . There was respect in his posture , but there was also a hint of fear . Troy looked twenty - four or twenty - five . His face was sharp , almost too perfect , with cold , unreadable eyes . They moved like they could see through walls . His frame was tall and built , and his presence carried weight . He didn't have to speak to own the space .

This was Troy , the future leader of the Levington family , son of the Martial Sovereign , Thaddeus . People called him the Little Duke .

Chapter 223 Umbral Court " Trevor . " Troy nodded once , his face cold and distant . Finished " Did you stir up any trouble during the trip ? " His eyes swept over Trevor like a steel wire pulled tight . Trevor quickly dropped his shoulders stiff . gaze , his " No , never , Troy . I followed every rule you and Dad laid out . I wouldn't dare cross the line . "

He shook his head hard , almost frantic , and kept his mouth shut about what had gone down on the plane . Troy didn't say a word . He just kept staring at Trevor .

The silence stretched long and sharp , until Trevor started to shift his weight like the floor was turning hot . Only then did Troy turn his eyes away . " Good . Because if I find out you embarrassed the Levington name , you already know what's coming . " Trevor nodded fast , his face pale . Everyone called him the Levington family's second son , but deep down , he knew the truth . Thaddeus had taken him in , but he wasn't blood . He was just a shadow behind Troy . Troy was the true heir . The only son Thaddeus raised himself . Their roles were never equal . " That's enough . Where's Maeve ?

Did anything happen along the way ? " Troy's tone dropped low , clipped with command . " Nothing at all , " Trevor answered quickly . " She went to Listin , then flew from West Listin to Ravenridge . She's checked into the presidential suite at the Sky Hotel . " "

Good . You've done well . " Troy finally let a small smile crack through . He gave Trevor's shoulder a quick pat . " Want to see her now ? " Trevor asked , watching him carefully . Troy waved him off . " No. I told Heather I wouldn't arrive until tomorrow . I'll stick to that .

1/4 13:19 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 223 Umbral Court " I came mainly to make sure Maeve's safe . " # Finished His eyes darkened , his voice lowering again . " Last month , Winston ran into trouble while hauling cargo overseas . Some guys from another crew picked a fight . There was gunfire . Three of their men died . " One of them was the younger brother of a Golden Triangle drug boss . " That man posted a huge bounty on

the dark web . He wants Maeve dead . He wants Winston to feel the same pain he's feeling . " Trevor's breath caught .

He didn't know much about those underground bounty sites , but he'd heard of one . A place people only whispered about - a shadowed platform known as the Umbral Court . Once a target was listed and a contract was picked up , it meant serious business . No warnings . No mercy . The Umbral Court wasn't just for hired guns . It was a gathering of elite fighters . Some were said to be strong enough to take on Martial Sovereigns . " Dad just got the news . He saw the listing with his own eyes . Someone accepted the contract an hour ago . " That means a killer's already in motion .

They could be nearby , just waiting . Whoever kills Maeve gets the prize . " Trevor's chest felt tight . He had never imagined Maeve - someone always under the spotlight - would end up in something this dark . If Umbral Court had really taken the job , then she wasn't just in danger . She was on borrowed time . And even with him and Troy at her side , it might not be enough . " Troy ... that puts her in serious danger , " he said , voice low and stiff . " There's no need to panic , " Troy said evenly . " Umbral Court's rules give a twenty - four - hour delay after a contract is accepted .

That's the window . No attacks until then . " She's safe tonight . " I've already asked Dad to come in person . He'll be here by tomorrow night . " " And Yannick - the Sect Master of Tri - Peak - is probably already on his way . " Trevor's expression shifted fast . A sharp flicker of fear ran through his eyes . Their father , Thaddeus , and Yannick , the Sect Master of Tri - Peak , weren't just powerful - they were ranked Martial Sovereigns

on the Astria Power Index . Men like them didn't move without 2/4 13:19 Wed , Oct 15
Chapter 223 Umbral Court # Finished reason .

For both to step in and guard Maeve , it wasn't just protection - it was a mark of extraordinary weight and honor . Troy had finally let the pressure case off his shoulders . When he saw Maeve's name appear on Umbral Court's bounty list , it felt like a steel trap snapping shut . He'd gone straight to Thaddeus and pleaded for backup , then contacted Emma , who somehow got Yannick to join them . Now that those two powerhouses were involved , Troy could finally breathe . " Let's go , " he said . " We're heading to Jeff Enterprises .

We need to run this through their management ." He gave a wave and walked out of the airport with Trevor trailing close behind . " What ? Someone's actually planning to kill Ms. Maeve ? " Frankie looked stunned . He sat stiffly behind his desk in the Ravenridge branch of Jeff Enterprises as the brothers stood in front of him . upper " This is serious , Mr. Wainwright , " Troy said firmly . " We'll cover as much as we can , but there are gaps we can't close on our own . We need Jeff Enterprises to step up their security on Maeve .

If something slips through , it's going to be on everyone ." Trevor didn't speak , but he stood solid beside his brother , his face drawn tight . Frankie narrowed his eyes , clearly weighing the situation , then gave a slow nod . " Understood . I'll take this back to the board . We'll ramp up security around her and make sure everything is locked down . " He rose from his chair , then glanced at the clock . " It's getting late . You both should

head back and get some rest . I still have a lot on my plate tonight , so I'll need to cut this short . " Trevor's brows pulled together .

He bristled , ready to snap back . He wasn't used to being shown the door . But Troy raised a hand and stepped in front of him before a word could slip out . He smiled politely at Frankie and said , " We understand . Thank you for your help , Mr. Wainwright . Please send our regards to Mr. Ashcroft . " He turned and walked out , and Trevor had no choice but to follow On the way out , Trevor couldn't hold it in anymore . " Troy , who the hell does Frankie think he is ? " he grumbled . " He's just a manager . But he acted like we were some random nobodies . He actually told us to leave .

And you just let him ? " 3/4 13:19 Wed , Oct 15 A Chapter 253 umbral Court pierced His voice rose with every step . He wasn't used to swallowing his pride like this . The Levington brothers were VIPs everywhere they went . Most CEOs would trip over themselves to shake their hands . But Frankie ? That guy worked under Jeff Enterprises and acted like they were just more names on a list . It lit Trevor's temper . " Shut up , " Troy snapped . His eyes cut across sharply . " You ever stop to think who backs Frankie up ? " Trevor froze . He didn't speak . He didn't even breathe .

Then something clicked . His pupils tightened , and a chill ran through him . His mouth clamped shut . He didn't say another word . Inside Number One , Rivergate Heaven , Leander leaned back on the couch . He'd just finished a call with Frankie . The screen faded to black , and he dropped the phone beside him . " Umbral Court , " he muttered . He let out a dry , sharp laugh . It didn't reach his eyes . Not even close . Send Gifts 60

Chapter 224 Do You Know Who I Am Now ? (67) Finished Three days had passed since Leander returned to Ravenridge . And now , it was the day of the Jeff Enterprises charity gala . Yvette and Ginny had just come back from Glenwick after spending a full day with Madeline . Word of Leander's return reached Monica fast . She wouldn't take no for an answer and eventually dragged him over for lunch at the Sitwell estate . "

Leander , you and Yvette stay here and relax . Mr. Sitwell and I have some business to discuss ." After lunch , Monica gave him a cheerful smile and stepped out .

Linden followed behind her but didn't leave before tossing Yvette a long , suggestive glance . Then the front door clicked shut behind him . He used to avoid even looking Leander in the eye . But the moment he learned Leander was the chairman of Jeff Enterprises , everything changed . His tone softened . His posture shifted . Suddenly , he couldn't shove his daughter into Leander's life fast enough . If he could've built a shrine and bowed to it , he probably would've . The house had gone quiet after everyone left .

Yvette moved around the room with ease , washing the drinkware before setting a fresh pot of tea in front of Leander . " So , when are you heading to Highcliffe ? " she asked , tilting her head as she settled beside him on the couch . Yvette had always been quick . The day she found out about Leander's true background in West Listin , she knew it was only a matter of time . He would return to the Ashcrofts . He would go back to that family and demand the respect he had been denied . " One month , " Leander said as he lifted his teacup .

His voice stayed calm , but there was a sharp edge behind it . He had already told Frankie to start laying the groundwork for Jeff Enterprises ' move into Highcliffe . That would be the day he set foot in the city again . Yvette rested her cheek in her palm , unable to quiet her thoughts . She kept picturing the Ashcrofts ' faces - what they would look like when they realized the boy they had thrown out had turned into someone they couldn't even reach anymore . A boy they left to rot , now someone they had to look up to . They spent the whole afternoon at the Sitwell estate .

As evening crept in , Yvette offered to help Leander find something decent to wear for the Jeff Enterprises charity gala . 1/4 13:19 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 224 Do You Know Who I Am Now ? 273 Outside Ravenridge Central Mall , Leander sat in the back seat of Frankie's BMW . Shopping bags filled the seat beside him . Yvette had dragged him through store after store until she finally found him a handful of suits that looked good enough to silence a room . From the passenger seat , she turned toward him and said , " You really should care more about this stuff .

You're heading up the biggest company in the country . You can't walk into a charity gala dressed like you're grabbing takeout . " Leander barely reacted . He shrugged and leaned back . " Does it matter ? " he asked , sounding completely unbothered . " No matter how expensive the clothes are , they're just a disguise . What matters is the strength you actually hold . Everything else is just fabric . " Yvette raised an eyebrow and let out a small sigh . A few months ago , she might've found that attitude smug . But now , it came off almost charming . " Okay , okay , Mr. Serious . You win .

But let's eat before you end up late for the event . " She laughed and teased him as she turned toward the window . Leander gave her a sidelong glance . Something in him shifted . He didn't know when it had started , but it was there . A quiet awareness . A change in the way he saw her . She used to be just Monica's daughter . Someone he looked after from a distance . But ever since he brought her back from Listin , she had stuck around . She stayed by his side without trying too hard , without asking for anything . Somewhere along the way , that space between them had faded .

Yvette noticed him staring . She blinked and touched her cheek . " What ? Do I have something on my face ? " Leander looked away and shook his head . He was about to start the engine when a wave of shouting broke out near the mall entrance . Yvette turned toward the noise . A woman in a wide - brimmed hat bolted out of the building , running full speed . Behind her , a wave of people surged forward , shouting and pointing . It looked like a mob scene . Panic lit up the woman's face . She didn't slow down . She darted toward the BMW , yanked open the door , and jumped into the back seat .

She wore large sunglasses that covered most of her face , but she was clearly young . Her hands 2/4 13:19 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 224 Do You Know Who I Am Now ? shook as she looked at Leander . Finished " I'm sorry , " she blurted out . " Please just drive . Anywhere is fine . Just get me out of here . I'm begging you . " She glanced over her shoulder . The crowd was closing in fast . She had slipped out alone that day , trying to keep things low - key , thinking she could just shop like anyone else . But someone spotted her , and in minutes the whole mall had turned upside down .

She barely made it out . If those people reached the car , they'd surround it . By morning , every news outlet in the country would have her photo splashed across the front page . Yvette stared at the woman's face . Something about her looked familiar , but she couldn't figure out why . Leander , on the other hand , didn't even blink . He turned his head and looked at her with cold detachment . " You again . " The moment Leander turned , the young woman's eyes went wide . " You ? Seriously ? " Her voice jumped an octave , full of shock .

She clearly hadn't expected to run into him again , especially not like this . Behind her , the crowd poured out of the mall like floodwater , loud and frenzied . She had no time to waste . She pressed her palms together and pleaded , " We met on the plane , remember ? Please , just this once . If they catch up to me , I'm done for . Just hit the gas . Anywhere's fine . " Leander didn't even blink . His tone dropped cold as stone . " You've got the wrong idea . " This is my car , not public transport . I don't owe you anything . Get out . I have somewhere to be .

" He stayed still , completely unaffected . He didn't care even if she was the national sweetheart ; he wouldn't lift a finger to help . In his eyes , if you were a celebrity , then you should've known the risks before sneaking out like that . If things went sideways , that was on you . Yvette looked over her shoulder and almost laughed . The woman's face was mostly hidden behind oversized shades , but her looks still showed through . Stunning , clearly . Yet Leander 3/4 13 10 Wed , Oct 15 Du Nisu Krew Whb 1 Am Nm ? acted like she was invisible .

It reminded Yvette of the first time she met him . Same cold stare , same distant tone . For a split second , she felt like they were on the same page . Marve , on the other hand , was boiling . She had never been treated like this . In her world , people bent over backward to help her . One ride should've been easy . Just a drive . A simple favor . But Leander didn't even glance her way . " Just go ! I'll pay you ! Name your price , I don't care . Just get me away from here ! " Her voice cracked . Her chest rose and fell fast . The crowd was closing in . Her panic was rising fast .

But Leander's tone didn't change . It stayed firm , cool , unshaken . " Get out . You're in my way . " Maeve stared at his profile , stunned . In all her years of fame , no one had ever brushed her off like this . She wasn't just some starlet . She was a household name . A national icon . And yet , he looked right through her . She didn't want to believe it . Not this guy . She yanked off her sunglasses , revealing every inch of her flawless face . Her brows pulled tight , and her lips pressed together . She stared straight at Leander , unwilling to back down .

It was the first time she had revealed her real face in public like this . She didn't even hesitate . Because she was sure once he saw who she really was , everything would shift . Yvette turned her head , caught a good look , and froze . Her mouth dropped open as recognition hit . " Wait ... you're Maeve ? " Her voice came out loud and clear , breaking her usual calm . Maeve caught that reaction and smiled , proud and smug . She turned toward Leander again , eyes gleaming with satisfaction . Now he had to know . Now he had to react .

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Chapter 225 Emma , Again " Wait , you're Maeve ? " Firushind Yvette's voice cracked with excitement . Her cool composure shattered in an instant . Her eyes lit up like a fan meeting her idol in real life . Maeve caught it all and felt a surge of victory . Leander had ignored her over and over again . On the plane , just now in the car - like she was nobody . But now , the truth was out . She had shown her real face . And she knew it would land like a thunderclap . She refused to believe there was a man in Astria who didn't recognize her . He had to know her now . He had to care now .

But Leander's face didn't change . He stared at her . And his tone stayed cold . " What are you still doing here ? " Maeve's smile faded in a heartbeat . Her eyes widened like she had been slapped with a blast of cold air . She had taken off her hat . Her sunglasses were gone . And Leander still didn't recognize her ? " I'm Maeve , " she replied , almost breathless . " You really don't know who I am ? " Her voice wavered as she stared at him , waiting for a flicker of recognition . But there was nothing . Leander didn't even bother to look back . His voice stayed flat . " Am I supposed to ?

" Maeve blinked , stunned . The silence stretched as her confidence faltered . Yvette looked between the two of them , completely thrown . She turned to Leander and said , " Wait , you seriously don't know who she is ? " She pointed at Maeve , almost like she needed to prove something . " That's Maeve . The Maeve . Everyone knows her ! She sang ' Only You in My Eyes ' and ' Heaven Is Wherever You Are !. You've heard those , right ? " Leander let out a quiet laugh . " I've heard the name . She's famous , sure . " Then , he leaned back and gave a shrug . " But why does that matter to me ?

Just because she's a celebrity , I'm supposed to be her driver now ? " His voice tightened . His patience was running thin . 1/4 Chapter 225 Emma . Again (67) Finished " Ms. Maeve , you're holding me up . That crowd's closing in , and I've got somewhere to be . Get out . " Maeve sat stiffly in her seat . Her ears rang . She couldn't believe it . She had spent the last two years climbing to the top of the music world . Her voice and beauty had opened every door . She had won award after award and broken records left and right . They called her the youngest Gold Melody winner in history .

She was the voice of a generation . The press crowned her a goddess . She never chased praise , but she had grown used to the way people looked at her . They bent over backward just to get close . They smiled , complimented , offered her everything . CEOs , actors , socialites - everyone wanted her attention . But Leander ? He acted like she didn't even exist . Even now , after hearing her name and seeing her face , he still told her to leave . His coldness wasn't fake . It wasn't an act . It was real . He genuinely didn't care . Maeve sat frozen , her confidence cracked .

She had met men who pretended not to know her just to stand out , hoping to spark her interest . But Leander wasn't pretending . She could tell . For the first time , she felt completely powerless . She'd forgotten a crowd was still after her . Yvette noticed her dazed look and couldn't stay quiet . She turned to Leander , her voice low . " I know you don't care about celebrities , but Maeve's been my favorite since high school . Just this once , could we help her out ? " Maeve turned slowly . Her expression was blank , almost hollow .

She never imagined she'd be in a position where someone else had to plead on her behalf . She wasn't used to this feeling - of needing help , and not being able to ask for it herself . Leander gave Yvette a quick glance . He looked back at the mob that had almost reached them . He exhaled , hit the gas , and drove off . The crowd rushed toward the car , but it was too late . The BMW slipped away , leaving them staring , confused and disappointed . Inside , Maeve finally blinked herself back into the moment . She forced a smile and looked at Yvette . " Thanks , " she said quietly . " Really .

" She knew it wasn't Leander's kindness that saved her . It was Yvette . 214 13:19 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 225 Emma , Again พร Finished Yvette waved her hand , beaming . "

It's nothing ! Maeve , you look even better in person . I've been a fan forever . I have all your albums . Do you think you could sign something for me ? " Maeve nodded . She took Yvette's phone and , with steady fingers , scribbled her signature across the back with a practiced flourish . The two girls kept talking , and before long , their chatter slipped into an easy rhythm .

Maeve cast a sideways look at Leander , who sat behind the wheel like a statue . His eyes stayed glued to the road . He hadn't said a word since they left . She leaned closer to Yvette and smirked . " So ... is he your boyfriend ? " Yvette's eyes widened , and her face flushed . She stole a quick glance at Leander . He didn't react . He looked as if he hadn't even heard . The warmth in her smile faded , and she shook her head gently . " No. We're just friends . " Maeve caught the hesitation in her voice . It said enough . Her irritation with Leander kicked up a notch .

It was obvious Yvette liked him , but he acted like no one else in the car mattered .
Maeve couldn't wrap her head around it . A guy that cold and stuck - up didn't deserve attention from a girl like Yvette - quiet , graceful , and way out of his league . Before she could say anything else , Leander steered the car toward the side of the road . The tires crunched over the gravel as he eased to a stop . " We're far enough from the mall . You're clear now . You can get out . " His voice was dry . There wasn't an ounce of kindness in it . Maeve's smile tightened .

She hadn't expected to be dropped off like an inconvenience . " This is good . Thanks , " she replied , forcing her tone to stay polite . She grabbed her hat and sunglasses , slid them back on , and reached for the door . Just as she cracked it open , the deep growl of an engine broke through the quiet . A silver Mercedes shot up from behind and cut across the front of Leander's BMW , tires humming as it stopped at an angle . From the driver's seat stepped a woman in a figure - hugging silk dress . Her stride was long and
3/4 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 225 Emma . Again steady .

Her legs moved with the poise of a dancer , and her face was cold , elegant , and impossible to ignore . Even the breeze seemed to give her space . She fixed her eyes on Maeve and spoke in a calm , sharp voice . " Who told you to run off like that ? " Finished Maeve froze , then blinked . Her lips parted in disbelief , then curled into a grin as recognition dawned . She rushed forward and threw her arms around the woman's waist . " Emma ! I can't believe you came ! " It was Emma - one of the most powerful women in Astria's martial world .

Compared to the last time she'd crossed paths with Leander , she looked even more fierce . Her beauty had only grown sharper , and her whole presence felt untouchable . As soon as Maeve wrapped her arms around her , the ice in Emma's face softened . She let out a breath and hugged her sister close . " You never learn , do you ? " she asked gently . " Running off without a single guard . What if something happened to you ? " She reached out and tapped Maeve's nose with one finger , the way an older sister scolded but never meant her words . " I know , I know . I won't do it again .

Don't be mad , " Maeve pleaded , clinging to her arm and rocking it playfully . Emma sighed . Whatever anger she had was already gone . But before they could get another word in , a flat voice cut through the air like a cold breeze . " Are you moving the car , or do I need to do it for you ? " She turned . Her eyes landed on Leander , who stood by the BMW with one hand on the door . His face was calm , but his tone made it clear - he wasn't asking twice . Her chest tightened . Her gaze locked on his face , and for a moment , she didn't breathe . Why him ? And why is he with Maeve ?

Did they already reconnect ? The thought hit fast and hard . Her eyes darkened as her heart dropped . Send Gifts 。

Chapter 226 The Breaking Quiet Finished Emma stepped out in a sleek dress , radiating elegance with a touch of frost - far more poised and untouchable than when she'd first crossed paths with Leander . Her expression stiffened the moment she laid eyes on him. A subtle shift, then her whole demeanor turned cold . " Why are you with Maeve ? " Her voice sliced through the air , sharp and demanding answers . Last time

she visited Ravenridge with Elias , they'd pushed Leander to end things with Maeve .
Emma had assumed that chapter was closed .

So , seeing him now - especially showing up beside Maeve in the same car - set off alarm bells . Leander didn't flinch . He kept his cool , flicking a glance at the silver Mercedes AMG in front of him . " Since when do I need to check in with you about who I hang out with ? " He then pointed at the car . " Move it . You're in the way . " Emma looked like she was about to throw another jab , but Maeve suddenly piped up , her tone playful . " Whoa , Emma ... you two know each other ? " That caught Emma off guard . Her brows pulled together slightly as she turned to face Maeve .

Something about Maeve's clueless expression stirred a different concern . Emma assumed Leander had already confessed and reunited with Maeve - after all , they showed up in the same car . Clearly , that wasn't the case . Maeve didn't even recognize him . Recovering quickly , Emma gave a dismissive shrug . " Oh , no . Thought he looked like someone I used to know . My bad . " Without another word , she climbed into the car and motioned for Maeve to follow .

The Mercedes AMG pulled away moments later , leaving behind a heavy silence - and a final glare from Emma that hinted at more than just disapproval . Back in Leander's car , Yvette turned to him with curious eyes . " Was that Maeve's sister ? Do you guys go way back or something ? " Leander shook his head casually . " Only met her once . That's about it . " He kept his eyes on the road , heading toward Maplebrook Manor without offering more .

1/4 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 226 The Breaking Quiet Finished Meanwhile , Maeve sat in the passenger seat of the Mercedes AMG , replaying Emma's behavior in her head . That's weird . Emma definitely knows the guy - anyone can see it . So why was she acting like he was just some random stranger ? And the weirdest part ? She didn't even say a word to him after that . It just doesn't sit right . Before Maeve could make sense of it , Emma broke the silence . " So , where'd you disappear to today ? Since when do you just hop into random guys ' cars like it's no big deal ?

" Maeve cringed a bit , guilt bubbling up . She ended up telling Emma the whole story about what went down at the mall . Emma listened without much reaction , nodding here and there . On the outside , she stayed calm . Inside , she was already putting the pieces together . This run - in is just a fluke . Maeve clearly hasn't connected the dots - she doesn't even realize that guy's the one who saved her . And Leander ? Of course , he kept quiet . Emma let out a quiet breath and muttered , " At least the guy knows his limits .

" She remembered the last time she saw him - barely scraping by in a shabby rental . Sure , today he was driving a nice car and had clearly polished himself up a bit . Still , in her eyes , it wasn't enough . Maeve was practically Astria's sweetheart . Her face was on posters from one end of the country to the other . She rubbed shoulders with heirs to powerful families , sons of top officials - people with serious clout and endless money . Whatever success Leander had now , it didn't stack up . Not even close . " Emma , are you sure you don't know him ? " Maeve asked again .

Emma didn't miss a beat . " Positive . He just reminded me of someone , that's all . "

Maeve nodded , then tilted her head . " Didn't you say you were locking yourself away at Tri - Peak Sect for a while ? What made you come here all of a sudden ? " Emma's expression flickered for just a second before she smiled . " I finished my training early this round . Had some time , figured I'd swing by since I heard you were in town .

" She added , " I'll stick around Ravenridge for a bit before heading back to prep for the Martial Sovereign training . " 2/4 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 226 The Breaking Quiet
Maeve smiled , totally unaware that danger was inching closer by the hour . 2 #Finished
They arrived at Maplebrook Manor not long after . Maeve headed off to fix her makeup for a party later that evening . Emma , on the other hand , slipped into a private lounge where two young men were lounging , sipping drinks and chatting like old friends .

One was Troy , the eldest son of the Levington family - basically the poster boy for wealthy heirs , dressed to impress in a tailored trench coat and striding in as if the place were his . The other was Elias , Tri - Peak Sect's golden boy . He'd tangled with Leander before , so the name was sure to ring a bell . Emma stepped in , and both guys turned to greet her . " Emma , did you find her ? " Troy asked quickly . " Yeah , she's backstage now , fixing her makeup , " she replied , then paused for a beat . " We've got about three hours before the Umbral Court makes their move .

Until then , we should be in the clear . " She gave a respectful nod to both men . " Thank you for stepping in like this . My family's in a tight spot , and you didn't hesitate to help . The Reyne family owes you . " Troy waved her off with a smile . " Come on , Emma . Maeve and I are getting engaged soon , and I already see her as my wife . If

someone tries to come after her , I'm not just going to sit back . " Elias shot Emma a warm glance , his voice low and easy . " Hey , we've trained together - you don't have to thank me . Maeve's your sister , so that makes her practically family .

I'll do whatever it takes ." The truth was , he'd always had a thing for Emma . Jumping in to help wasn't just about keeping Maeve out of trouble - it was also his shot to show Emma he wasn't just another name in the sect . He wanted her to see him as someone she could count on . On top of that , he'd been itching for a real test . Word was , the Umbral Court sent only the deadliest , exactly the kind of fight that could push him into the spotlight in Astria's martial world . " Thanks , really . " Emma gave them both a nod , her tone shifting to serious .

" Maeve's not exactly low - profile - everyone knows she's tied to the Levington family and Tri - Peak Sect . You'd think anyone with a shred of sense would back off . " Yet the Umbral Court still took the hit . That kind of confidence ? Means they're sending in someone serious . " 3/4 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 226 The Breaking Quiet L Troy leaned forward , frowning . " The Umbral Court's been around for over a decade , and they've only gotten gutsier . No way they've lasted this long without serious backing . We might not have names , but that doesn't mean we can let our guard down .

" Elias stayed quiet . Despite his strength , the thought of facing off against the Umbral Court made even him uneasy . The three of them were top - tier in Astria's martial world - Martial Grandmasters , each one . Emma , especially , was one of the legendary Nine Geniuses , on the brink of breaking into the Martial Sovereign level . Even so , the Umbral Court's shadow loomed large . None of them knew what was coming . None of

them felt safe . Ravenridge wasn't just a city on edge anymore . It was a ticking clock , and time was running out .

Send Gifts 60 4/4 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 From Outcast to Overlord The Unyielding Heit

Chapter 227 Who Really Runs Ravenridge ? Flanked " Emma , you don't need to carry all this weight on your own . " Elias noticed her tense expression and jumped in quickly , " Master's already on his way , and the Levington patriarch isn't far behind . With two top - tier Martial Sovereigns on our side , even the Umbral Court will think twice before doing anything stupid . " Troy chimed in without hesitation , " Exactly . With my dad and Mr. Garland both stepping in personally , it's hard to imagine anything slipping through the cracks tonight . " Emma finally let out a slow breath .

Just thinking about it made her feel a little steadier . They weren't just sending backup - they were sending legends . Thaddeus was ranked 15th on the Astria Power Index , while her master , Yannick - better known as Spearstorm - held a dominant spot at seventh . With those two around , even the Umbral Court wouldn't dare make a reckless move . Across town , in one of Eastvale's high - end duplex apartments , a group of sharply dressed individuals sat around a table in heavy silence . At the center sat an older man who clearly commanded the room .

His iron ring , carved with the faint outline of a skull , glinted under the lights as he tapped the table slowly . " Everyone accounted for ? " His eyes moved to the man seated on his left . " Yes . Mr. Ziegler . All the Twelve Talons are in position . We're good to go the moment you say the word , " the man replied . No sooner had he spoken

than a younger man leaned forward , looking puzzled . His gaze flicked between the group and the man wearing the skull ring . He asked , " Dad , I still don't get it .

With the kind of people we've got in the Umbral Court , why bring in all Twelve Talons for something like this ? We're talking about a celebrity , not a general . " In the Umbral Court's chain of command , the Six Wraiths stood at the top - cold - blooded , elite , and lethal . Just one of them showing up meant something - or someone - was getting wiped out . Right below them were the Twelve Talons , highly trained killers with spotless records . Each one held the rank of Elite Grandmaster and was feared throughout the Astria martial world .

When a mission was handed to a Talon , it never missed . They didn't fail . Ever . Which was exactly why the kid was struggling to understand . All twelve ? Just to take out a famous actress ? It didn't add up . The iron - ringed man , Norman Ziegler , turned to his son - Bruce Ziegler - with a look that was half disappointment , half warning . " How many times have I told you ? You don't take a job 1/4 whom ligging in the details You don't just look at the target - you look at who's standing Bruce finches , his expression sinking Nurman continued , voice steady but firm .

" The girl's name is Maeve Reyne . She's the younger daughter of the Glenwick Heynes " He leaned back in his chair . " Her older sister ? Emma Reyne ? Bruce blinked , his mind catching up . " Emma Reyne ? You mean the one from Tri - Peak Sect ? One of the Four Beauties ? " " That's her his father confirmed . " She's not just fumous for her looks . Emma is the brightest rising star in Tri - Peak Sect , already ranked among the

Nine Geniuses . She's more valuable to that sect than even their golden boy , Elias Sebastian . So , what do you think she's going to do if we target her sister ?

" Bruce didn't have an answer . His father went on , " It gets deeper . Maeve's engaged to Troy - the patriarch's eldest son of the Glenwick Levingtons . If something happens to her , they will jump in without hesitation . " Bruce's face paled . What he thought was a routine hit on a celebrity was actually a minefield . The Glenwick Levingtons alone were a force to be reckoned with in the martial world , led by none other than Thaddeus a full - blown Martial Sovereign . Throw Tri - Peak Sect into the mix , along with Yannick ? That wasn't a job . That was suicide , Bruce finally spoke up .

" So ... why are we even doing this ? It's not worth the payout - not when the girl's got the Glenwick Levingtons and Tri - Peak behind her . We're basically poking two Martial Sovereigns in the eye . How is that a good idea ? " Even as he said it , Bruce couldn't stop the thoughts spiraling in his head . That bounty on the Court's site - sure , it's the biggest we've ever posted . But come on , we don't take jobs for the cash Not really . Not when the price is going toe - to - toe with two of the most dangerous names on the Astria Power Index . No gold makes that worth it .

And Dad knows all of this . He knows exactly who's protecting Maeve ... and he still took the job anyway . None of it adds up . Not even close His father gave a thin , chilling , smile , " You're right . Under normal circumstances , we wouldn't touch this job with a ten - foot pole . " He leaned forward again , voice dropping slightly . " Thing is , this hit isn't about the money . It's not even about Maeve , She's just the bait . The real target ...

is Yannick ." 274 13.20 We DVT 411 Bowce Winked uued Wal - core trying to lure our Yummit Why ? The thought for him hard that can't be right .

Dad may lead the timbral Court and is definitely povi Ai Ayota Marta Noviem Case Agar tempore like Yannickr That's not just raky That's a death with even with all Twelve Torbay Acton Are Mix bathher modded slowly " Helax , Bruce . I'm not the one who's going to fight him . The guy's ranked seventh on the Astria Power Index I'm not stupid " His tone was calm to calm . " The second he shows his bice , someone else will handle it " " Wait - you A chill instantly ran through Bruce's chest . His eyes widened , then his voice shot up . " Wait don't mean the Nix Wrath are here too !

" We His father didn't say a word . The look in his eyes said everything Before Bruce could and again , a ghost like figure drifted through the open window . His bice was drawn and pale , his skin stretched right over his bones . It was the Marrow , one of the Twelve Talons His voice was barely above a whisper , thin and hollow like wind through a grave . " I've got confirmation Vamicle's left Ti - Peak Neet . He's headed for Raveridge " He paused . " Thaddeus is also on the move , " Norman smiled , slowly running a finger along the edge of his ring . " Perfect .

Both of them are walking into om trap . His tone dropped , cold and deliberate , " Thaddeus ? He's irrelevant . Just a footnote . Yannick's the real target He paused for a beat . " I Thaddeus gets in the way , we'll also take him down . This is the moment the Umbral Court rises again - loud enough for all of Astria to hear . " A low murmur swept through the room . The energy shifted . Something big was coming , and everyone

knew it The Umbral Court had been quiet for too long . People had started forgetting their names .

That was about to change Taking down a Martial Sovereign would send shock waves through the entire Astria martial world and they knew it . Around the room , the Twelve Talons exchanged looks . Their faces were hard , their eyes lit with fire . This wasn't just another job . It was the chance they'd all been waiting for a shot at proving themselves against a true powerhouse . 4/4 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 22 ? Who Really Run Raventidge ? A:L 19 Finished Even if they couldn't seal the kill , it didn't matter .

The Six Wraiths were already in place - silent , deadly , and far more terrifying than the stories said . If things went off track , the Six Wraiths would finish what the Twelve Talons started . This was more than a mission . It was the Umbral Court's moment to rise . If they pulled it off , the Umbral Court wouldn't just be remembered - they'd be the name on everyone's lips across Astria . Norman snapped his fingers , the sharp crack bouncing off the walls . He went quiet for a second , eyes narrowed in thought - then his voice dropped low and firm . " No loose ends.

Maeve and Yannick both need to go . Get in . Get out . No noise , no mess ." Marrow scoffed from the corner . " Come on , Mr. Ziegler . With the strength we've got now , who cares if we stir things up ? The authorities can't do a d * mn thing to us . So why all the caution ? " Before he could say more , Norman whipped around and slammed his palm down on the table , causing splinters to fly as the wood cracked under the hit . " Are you stupid ? You really think I give a d * mn about the authorities ? " he barked . His voice cut through the room like a blade .

" This has nothing to do with laws or rules . You're missing the real question here - who actually owns Ravenridge ? " The room went silent . Everyone stopped moving . Just one name flashed through everyone's mind - the guy sitting at the very top of the Astria Power Index . Everyone was thinking it , but no one dared to say it . Until finally , someone broke the silence . " Jeff Ashcroft ? " Send Gifts 。 60 4/4 13.20 wea , uct 13

From Outcast to Overlord The Unyielding Heit

Chapter 228 Wait You ?! " Jeff Ashcroft ? " 420 -ned The second that name slipped out , the entire Twelve Talons meeting froze . These people weren't exactly new to killing - they'd taken down targets without flinching - but true power ? They knew what that looked like - and this guy had it . All eyes drifted to Norman at the center of the room . He didn't speak right away , just gave the table a slow tap with his skull - ringed finger . Then came the nod , heavy with meaning . He spoke , " Mornwick's Legend , Jeff Ashcroft . That's where the stories started - right here .

" He leaned in , gaze sharp . " He hit number one on the Astria Power Index before he even turned twenty . First in the history of the Divine Loom to do it . " The room held its breath . Norman's voice dropped to something rougher , more serious . " The Six Wraiths told me themselves - if there's one name in Astria we never cross , it's his . " Then came the real kicker . " Two days ago , he showed up in Listin . Took on seven Pre - Transcendent elites from the Arbitration Office ... and wiped the floor with them . " " What ?! " someone gasped , like they'd been sucker - punched .

A few jaws dropped . Nobody moved . The tension hit like a freight train . Leander already had a solid reputation . People were still buzzing about that time he single-

handedly took out Grayson and Tsaric on Glidewing Mountain . That fight alone was legendary . Now , Norman was saying Jeff faced off against seven top - tier enforcers - and made it look easy ? That was straight - up insane . Sure , the assassin guild weighed the underworld . People usually didn't pick fights with them unless they had a death wish . Yet the Arbitration Office ? That was a whole different league .

They were shadowy , elite , and untouchable . Three centuries deep and never once knocked off their perch . Their roster wasn't just full of killers - it was stacked with monsters . The kind that didn't just break rules - they rewrote them . And Jeff ? He took on seven of them solo . Not just survived but won . 1/6 13:20 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 22n Wait Your A Finished Those seven weren't your average powerhouse types either . Each one was a total mystery , with abilities no one could fully figure out . For Jeff to stomp through all of them like it was a light workout ?

The battle at Glidewing Mountain was starting to feel like amateur hour . " Word is , one of the seven pulled out some secret move - awakened the Doomlight , and he hit Transcendent Realm mid - fight ." He looked around, his voice quiet now . " Jeff still dropped him with one punch ." The silence hit harder than anything said before . Everyone in the room knew what that meant . Reaching the Transcendent Realm wasn't something that happened every day . Most Martial Sovereigns spent their entire lives chasing that level , only to die without ever getting close . Jeff , though ?

He faced someone who hit that level mid - fight and still came out on top . Even Norman looked rattled . As one of the Six Wraiths , he was supposed to be among the best of the best . Yet in that moment , even he couldn't keep up the tough facade . The look on

his face said everything . The reality was clear . The guy sitting at the top of the Astria Power Index wasn't someone to mess with unless he was out of his mind or had nothing to lose . Jeff had already flattened seven Pre - Transcendent elites . One of them even broke through to the Transcendent Realm during the fight .

It still didn't matter . He went down like the rest . So really , what chance did the six of them have ? Just a handful of Martial Sovereign elites clinging to old titles , standing in the shadow of someone who had already left them behind . Norman let out a slow breath . " Let's not kid ourselves . If things go sideways , none of us wants to be in the same zip code as that guy ." He swept his eyes across the room , locking eyes with every face . " Targets are Yannick and Maeve . We cannot afford screw - ups. If Jeff gets wind of this , we're toast .

Even all Six Wraiths couldn't handle him if we tried . " No one argued . Not even Marrow , who normally ran toward danger like it owed him money . Norman checked the time . His tone shifted back to sharp and precise . " Two hours . We move 2/6 ... wed , fumptes 20P Wad Yo !! then . " #Forened Later that evening , Leander pulled up to Maplebrook Manor just as the last bit of daylight slipped behind the trees . He got out of the car , with Yvette close behind , both of them heading toward the front entrance .

They weren't even halfway there when a guy came sauntering out with a girl hanging on his arm like she was some kind of trophy . Leander didn't spare him a glance . He wasn't here to start anything . Unfortunately , trouble didn't need an invitation . A hand suddenly shot out , blocking his path . " Well , well ... look what the wind dragged in ." Leander turned . Of course , it was Trevor Levington - the same clown who tried to

cause a scene on the plane . That smug grin on his face practically begged for a punch . Trevor scoffed . " You sure had a lot to say back on that plane , huh ?

I was ready to teach you a lesson after we landed , but it seems you were smart enough to disappear . Thought that was the end of it ? Guess not . Small world , huh , bro ? "

Yvette shot Leander a puzzled look . Leander just raised an eyebrow and let out a quiet chuckle . He tilted his head . " Wait ... you're still not over that plane thing ? What now - you want to settle it here ? " Trevor wasn't the type to let things go . Anyone who crossed him paid for it - eventually . He stepped in close , eyes locked on Leander . " D " mn right I do .

If there's even a bit of spine in you , let's see if your fists can cash that mouth . " He cracked his knuckles like it meant something , jaw tight as the memory played back in his head - Leander standing tall , threatening to toss him off that plane like trash .

Leander didn't flinch . " You ? Want to fight me ? " He shook his head , unimpressed . "

Yeah ... not seeing the point . You're not even worth it . " 3/6 1321 Wed , Oct 15

Trevor's face twisted , but he held back a snap and instead let out a low laugh . His fist raised slightly , poised to strike , when a voice called from nearby .

" Mr. Trevor ? Why are you still outside ? " A graceful woman walked up , smiling lovingly . She hadn't seen Leander's face yet - he still had his back to her . Trevor perked up instantly . " Oh , Autumn . No big deal . Just ran into that guy from the plane . Thought I'd remind him where he stands . " Autumn offered a curious smile . Back in Glenwick , she knew Trevor fairly well - well enough to tease him without hesitation . As

soon as she heard what he said , she laughed lightly . " Seriously ? Who'd be brave enough to mess with you , Mr. Trevor ?

" She turned to look , then froze the moment she spotted Yvette standing beside him . Her smile vanished in an instant . As her eyes landed on Leander's face , the color drained from hers . Her voice wavered , barely a whisper . " Leander ... Mr. Leander ? " It had been nine months since the battle at Glidewing Mountain . She'd witnessed it herself- watched the chaos , the power , the impossible . And now , out of nowhere , that same legend was standing just a few feet away . Leander glanced at her , lips curling into a half - smirk . " What do you think ? Did I mess with the wrong guy ?

" Autumn swallowed hard , completely thrown off . Words caught in her throat . She had no idea what to say . In Glenwick , Trevor was considered hot stuff . People gave him space - sometimes out of respect , primarily out of caution . Even heirs from prominent families didn't seek trouble with him . Yet Leander ? Leander was in a league of his own . Trevor might've been a big fish in a well - kept pond . Leander was the ocean . And Autumn knew it . 4/6 13:21 Wed , Oct 15 Wait you ?! EX It's kind of weird . Autumn's Frankie's favorite - always the one in the spotlight , always above the rest .

Most of them aren't even on her radar . Yet here she is , greeting this guy with actual respect . No sarcasm , no cold shoulder . Just ... polite . This guy's not just rich . He's something else . D * mn ... did I mess this up ? Trevor wondered , trying to make sense of it . Just then , three more people stepped out of the manor behind him . Two men and a woman . All of them dressed sharp , confident , and impossible to miss . The second

they appeared , the atmosphere shifted - they drew attention without even trying . As soon as they spotted Trevor , they headed over .

One of them spoke up , voice firm and direct . " Trevor , what is it this time ? Starting trouble again ? " Trevor quickly straightened up , turning with a forced smile . " No , Troy . Just bumped into someone I know . That's all . " The three were Troy , Elias , and Emma . Troy didn't look convinced . His gaze slid past Trevor and landed on Leander . No reaction or acknowledgment . He simply kept walking , like Leander wasn't even there . Emma and Elias , on the other hand , saw him right away .

Their faces shifted - part surprise , part tension , and something else they didn't care to admit . Emma stepped forward first , her tone sharp and cold . " I thought I made myself clear in Ravenridge . Why are you still hanging around Maeve ? " she stated coldly . " Maeve ? " Troy frowned . " Emma , who is this guy ? " Emma didn't answer immediately . She leaned in and whispered a few words . Troy's whole face changed . His eyes locked onto Leander , this time filled with something colder -intensity , maybe even jealousy . " So ... you're the one Maeve hasn't stopped thinking about ?

" 5/6 13:22 Wed , Oct 15

Chapter 229 Surrounded by Swagger Troy's stare burned with something sharp and territorial , like a predator locking eyes on another in his territory . Finished Ever since his engagement to Maeve , things hadn't gone the way he imagined . She kept her distance , barely acknowledged him , and treated the entire relationship like a formality . He'd done everything to win her over - gifts , gestures , soft words - but nothing ever got

through . Eventually , he couldn't take it anymore . In private , he asked Emma what was going on . That's when the truth landed hard . There was someone else .

Someone Maeve couldn't forget . Now , that guy was standing right here . Troy sized Leander up quietly . Nice suit . Clean lines . Stands like he owns the place . I'll admit it - he looks more polished than I do tonight . Even has that easygoing charm that turns heads without trying . Still , he brushed it off . So what ? Looking good doesn't mean anything in the martial world . What matters is presence and strength . The kind of weight that enters the room before the man does . His mind flashed to men like his father , Thaddeus , or Yannick from the Tri - Peak Sect .

Those guys don't need to say a word . The air just shifts when they walk in . That's what real strength feels like . He glanced at Leander again and thought , But this guy ? Nothing . No pressure . No edge . Just standing there , all calm like he's got it all figured out . Sure , there are those rare masters who keep everything bottled up - who look ordinary on the outside but are monsters beneath the surface . But him ? Come on . He's way too young to be one of them . No chance . Troy clenched his jaw slightly . So , what is it ? What the hell does Maeve see in this guy ?

Why can't she let him go ? The questions stuck in his chest like a splinter . He always thought he was leagues ahead of Leander - more qualified , more capable . Yet Maeve kept him at arm's length like he didn't matter . 1/4 13:23 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 270
Surrounded by Swnoget The jealousy was eating him alive , burning hot just beneath the surface . Finished Meanwhile , Leander didn't even glance his way . He looked over

the gathering of young elites , as if observing artwork in a museum , distant and bored .
Emma stepped forward , breaking the silence . Her tone was cold and controlled .

" Leander , it's time we stop dancing around this . " She locked eyes with him . " My father and I told Maeve you were gone . Dead . Out of the picture . " Her voice sharpened . " I warned you at Ravenridge to stay out of her life . That engagement was void . You even gave me your word - you said you'd leave her alone . You're supposed to be a grown man . Stop acting like some clingy fool . " She pulled a card out of her purse - the same one she'd tried to hand him before . " This was supposed to help you move on . You said no and made a speech about dignity . Now look at you .

Showing up with her , riding in her car , tagging along like nothing happened . What's your plan ? Pick up where you left off ? " " Leander , get real ." She gestured to Troy , who stood beside her like a sculpture . " This is Troy Levington - eldest son of the Glenwick Levingtons . He's Maeve's fiance . I know you're doing alright now , driving your BMW , flashing some cash ... but do you honestly think that puts you on her level ? " " Let me break it down - ten more years of grinding still wouldn't close that gap .

You're miles behind , not just from Troy , but from everyone else lining up for Maeve . " " If you've got an ounce of self - respect , stay out of her life . You're not the prince in some fairytale . No one's handing you a crown ." She scoffed . " And if you're still dreaming about marrying into the Reyne family ? Wake up . You don't have what it takes . Not now , not ever . " Troy finally spoke , voice calm but firm . " I've heard what you did for Maeve - saving her eyesight , saving her life . I respect that . I really do ." He nodded once . " Still , let's get one thing straight .

I'm the one by her side now . She's my fiancée - my future wife . If you're looking for thanks , say the word . I'll make sure you're rewarded . " 2/4 13:23 Wed , Oct 15

Chapter 229 Surrounded by Swagger #Finished His eyes darkened slightly . " But if you think that means you can take her back ? You might need to think twice before making a mistake you can't walk away from . " Elias let out a sharp breath and sneered . " Last time I saw you , you didn't look like much , but you held your ground . I gave you that . " He tilted his head . " This time , though ? You came crawling right back .

Honestly , I don't even know why we're wasting breath on you . " They kept coming - Emma , Troy , Elias - like they'd rehearsed the whole speech ahead of time : all that arrogance , all that fake concern layered over real resentment . Trevor , off to the side , stood frozen entirely . He'd expected Troy to yell at him for clashing with Leander earlier . Instead , the three of them had turned all their energy on Leander , and Trevor was left blinking in confusion . Autumn stood a little apart from the chaos , her expression unreadable . Are they seriously doing this ? That's Jeff Ashcroft .

The guy they call Mornwick's Legend . And they're talking down to him like he's some lovesick nobody ? Acting like he's not even in Troy's league ? What a joke . With everything Leander's accomplished , even a thousand Troys wouldn't add up to him - not on their best day . They really think they're putting him in his place ? That's just embarrassing . Through all their speeches , Leander didn't flinch once . No reaction . No words . Until he finally looked at Troy and spoke , " If she's yours , maybe try looking after her better .

Letting her hop into someone else's car isn't a great look ." His voice was calm , steady enough to be unsettling . He paused just long enough to let that land . " As for the consequences ? I'd actually love to see you try ." Then his eyes slid over to Emma . " You know , there are plenty of self - important women out there , but you ? You've got a real gift for fiction . Honestly , it's impressive . " He tilted his head , like he was trying to remember something . " Maeve ? She's just someone I happened to help . That's all . I don't have the slightest interest in chasing her around .

" 3/4 13:23 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 220 Surrounded by Swagget A. 13 Finished He smiled , just a little before adding , " As for being the Reyne family's son - in - law ? I wouldn't marry into your family if you paid me . Honestly , I could flick ten of your households away like dust . " With one hand in his pocket , he strolled past Emma like she wasn't even there and said , " I'm here for the charity gala . That's it . Whatever you've got going on ? Has nothing to do with me . " He didn't even look back . " I let your nonsense slide tonight .

Try it again , and I won't be nearly as polite ." His voice had dipped lower , calm , but ice - cold . " Don't take my words as a joke . " The group stood stunned . None of them expected Leander to push back , let alone throw a warning right in their faces . While they were still reeling , he was already making his way toward the hall entrance . At the door , he glanced back over his shoulder one last time . His voice stayed calm , but his eyes told a different story .

" Emma , if I'd seen this coming , I wouldn't have even bothered ." Then he turned and walked in , leaving Emma stunned and speechless in place . Send Gifts 60 .

Chapter 230 They Finally Showed Up Finished Leander slipped into the hall without another word . After exchanging a quick greeting with Autumn , he continued forward , Yvette following closely behind . The rest of the group just stood there , silent , frozen , still trying to wrap their heads around what had just happened . Emma especially looked thrown off . What the hell was that supposed to mean ? ' If I'd seen this coming , I wouldn't have even bothered . ' She scoffed under her breath and shook her head . Seriously ? He thinks he gets to decide who's worth his time ?

I'm the core disciple of the Tri - Peak Sect , for crying out loud - one of Astria's Nine Geniuses . Since when have I ever needed saving - especially from someone like him ? Even if I did , what exactly does he think he can do ? She clicked her tongue , pulled her gaze away , and muttered coldly , " Waste of time . " Without saying another word , she turned to Troy and Elias . They regrouped quickly and began reviewing their security plans for the event . She had no idea - the man she just dismissed so casually was the same one who'd saved both her and Elias during that Jesund ambush .

Meanwhile , Trevor flashed his usual smug smile and turned to Autumn . " Miss Little , care to join me ? " A moment ago , Autumn might've humored him - taken his arm just to be polite . Now ? She didn't even slow down . Autumn breezed right past him , not sparing a single glance . Her expression was blank and icy , like he didn't exist . Trevor blinked , caught off guard . Okay ... what was that about ? Her switch - up was sharp enough to sting , though he didn't show it .

With a shrug , he followed the crowd into the hall , still clinging to the socialite on his arm like nothing had happened . 1/5 13:25 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 230 They Finally .

Showed Up Inside the hall , the atmosphere was a whole different world . Chandeliers lit up the grand ballroom like a galaxy of stars . Rows of round tables lined the floor , each draped in fine linen and arranged with gold - trimmed name cards . Red carpet rolled from the main entrance to the stage like a runway for the elite . Tonight was a show , and everyone knew it .

Leander took his seat at a reserved table near the center , one that Frankie had arranged personally for him . While the other tables buzzed with celebrities , politicians , and business moguls , his was quiet . It was just him and Yvette . Yvette leaned toward him , her curiosity already peeking out . " Be honest , what's the deal with you and Maeve ? " she asked , half - smiling . " You saved her , didn't you ? She clearly doesn't know it was you ." Leander took a slow sip of his drink , eyes scanning the crowd casually . " It wasn't some big heroic thing . I just happened to be there .

Right place , right time . " He paused , then added , " She reminded me of ... well , me . We'd both lost something back then . So , I stepped in . She couldn't see back then , so yeah - she has no idea it was me ." Yvette tilted her head , frowning slightly . " So , why not tell her now ? " Leander raised a brow . " Why would I ? " He turned toward her , voice low and steady . " That moment passed . We were just two people crossing paths . I saved her , then I moved on . That's it . She's got her life . I've got mine . We're not part of each other's story - never were .

Honestly , that's probably for the best . " Yvette's brows drew together as old memories stirred . He saved me more than once ... but to him , I was never really there . Every time he stepped in , it was for Monica , not me . He didn't even want me to know it was

him . That kind of quiet kindness - unspoken , unseen - cut deeper than she ever expected . Now , Maeve was caught in that same place , completely unaware she was being protected by someone who wouldn't even let her see it . Watching it play out from the sidelines , Yvette felt a flicker of sympathy rise in her chest .

She stared at him for a beat . " That's pretty cold , you know . Still , she deserves to know the truth . 2/5 13:25 Wed , Oct 15 ... 66 Chapter 230 They Finally Showed Up Finished You gave her something huge - her sight , her life back . She has a right to know who did that ." Her voice softened , almost breaking . " I've felt that kind of pain before . Not knowing ... It eats you up . " Leander downed the rest of his drink and leaned back in his seat . His eyes were calm , but there was something hollow in his tone . " She doesn't need to know . It wouldn't change a thing .

" You heard what they said - she thinks I'm dead . Her family made sure of it . Her sister , her father ... they fed her that lie . To her , I'm just some ghost from the past . " He exhaled slowly . " Let her keep it that way . It's cleaner . " Yvette sat back quietly , her expression shadowed with thought . She knew how he operated - always distant , always one foot out the door . Even when he saved Maeve , he never stuck around long enough to be remembered . It was just how he was built . Still , thinking of Maeve ... It stung her . At exactly 8:30 p.m.

, the lights dimmed across the ballroom . A hush fell over the guests , followed by a single beam of white light cutting across the room toward the stage . Frankie stepped forward with a bright , practiced smile and a mic in hand . " Good evening , ladies and gentlemen ! On behalf of Jeff Enterprises , thank you for joining us tonight for this year's

charity auction ." He gave a quick , respectful bow . The applause came fast and loud . Jeff Enterprises no longer needed an introduction . Their reach was global . Just being present at their event was a status boost for everyone in the room .

Frankie straightened and continued , " Tonight's event is split into two main segments : performances and the auction . " " To kick things off , we've invited a very special guest ." The spotlight shifted . " Please welcome the nation's sweetheart - Miss Maeve Reyne ! " The beam of light landed on the side of the stage , and the crowd drew a collective breath . 3/5 13:25 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 230 They Finally Showed Up Finished Maeve walked out slowly , dressed in a sleek , floor - length gown with simple lines . Her hair was tied back , and her makeup was barely noticeable .

She didn't need it . She smiled and waved to the crowd . " Hi , everyone ! " The room erupted . Applause thundered across the hall . Fans - some young , some not so young -cheered like they were at a concert . Maeve was more than just a rising star . She was the voice of a generation , already being called the next international sensation . Her presence had that magnetic pull - the kind that turned heads the second she stepped into a room . Even Astria's elite weren't immune . Plenty of them looked just as dazzled as the fans in the back rows .

Besides , this crowd wasn't made up of casual admirers . These were heavy - hitters - top - tier tycoons , political families , and high - society names . Each of them knew who Maeve was and where she came from . Their admiration wasn't surface - level . It came with weight and deep respect . Maeve spoke with warmth , " I'm so honored to be here tonight . Thank you to Jeff Enterprises for the invitation , and thank you to everyone who

has supported me along the way . It means everything . " She bowed lightly , and the crowd roared again .

Troy sat quietly at his table across the room , flanked by Elias and Emma . His eyes never left Maeve . To the rest of the world , she might've been Astria's shining star . To him , she was more than that . She was his fiancée , his future , and his whole world . He glanced sideways at Leander , seated calmly in the crowd , sipping his drink without a care in the world . A flicker of something passed through Troy's expression . He never saw Leander as a real threat . Not at first . Yet , deep down , he knew if Maeve ever found out Leander was alive , she'd go to him without hesitation .

She wouldn't look back . That thought alone was enough to twist something inside him .

4/5 13:25 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 230 They Finally Showed Up 66 Finished Troy clenched his jaw , a cold determination settling in . That can't happen . No matter what . Once this whole underworld mess is dealt with , Leander's got to vanish - for good . Across the room , Leander casually rolled his glass between his fingers . Then , his hand stilled . His posture shifted just slightly , his gaze sharpening .

Twelve unfamiliar auras had just crossed into the outer perimeter - fast , precise , locked in on the hall . He set his glass down gently , a faint smile tugging at his lips . He murmured , " Looks like they finally showed up . " Send Gifts 。 60