

From Outcast to Overlord: The Unyielding Heir Novel

Chapter 271 Did You Make A Mistake ? # Finished Leander stood several yards from Sawyer , his voice cold and steady , each word cutting through the air loud and clear . No one had expected much from him . He was , after all , practically a stranger to their circle . Yet here he was , showing shocking strength . With barely a moment's warning , he had seriously injured Ronald . And now , he was openly rebuking Sawyer , dismissing both him and the entire Locke family as unworthy of Madeline . In all of Cranfordale , no one had ever seen a young man this bold .

Even Martha from the Shire family wouldn't have dared challenge the heirs of Cranfordale's top clans . But Leander ? He didn't hesitate . Behind him , Madeline's eyes shimmered with emotion . She didn't exactly love the way he'd called her " my sister , " but her heart still fluttered . He was still someone who would stand up for her . " What did you just say ? " Sawyer's face darkened , his eyes practically spitting fire . He had booked this private room to get closer to Madeline .

Everything was going perfectly- until Leander barged in , beat Ronald half to death , and had the gall to come after him too , calling him petty and unworthy of her . He had never been humiliated like this in public . " You arrogant b * stard ! You think you can look down on me and insult the Locke family ? You've got a death wish ! " Blinded by rage , he slammed his palm against a button in the room . The door burst open . A dozen men in black rushed in - each one built like a tank . " Break both his legs ! I'll take the heat ! " Sawyer didn't waste another word .

He pointed at Leander , and the men surged forward , fists flying . " Hmph ! " A smirk tugged at Leander's lips , his eyes gleaming with disdain . No one could track how he moved - but within a few steps , the room echoed with the sound of dull thuds . One by one , the hulking men dropped to the ground , all unconscious in an instant . 1/5 14:05 Wed , Oct 15 VOLJ Did You Make A Mintake Finished Shock rippled through the room . If Leander's earlier blow to Ronald had stunned them , this one - man takedown of trained fighters was downright terrifying . A sharp glint flashed in Sylvia's eyes .

Among everyone present , she was the only one who had truly tracked Leander's movements . Every punch , every kick - precise and fluid . His strikes moved with seamless efficiency , a flawless display of complete control over his body strength . So , he's a master of body - strengthening ! She gave a subtle nod , her opinion of Leander rising once again . Martha , on the other hand , blinked in disbelief , awe flashing across her face . Just then , Leander's gaze shifted to Sawyer , who remained frozen in place . " I was going to let you crawl back to the Locke family .

But since you wanted to break my legs ... I'll return the favor - with interest ! " " One of yours is already down . I don't mind adding you to the list , " Leander said coolly . He stepped forward - and for the first time , Sawyer felt bone - deep fear . He stumbled back , panic contorting his face . " Stay away from me ! Don't come any closer ! " But there was no mercy in Leander's eyes . He moved again - swift as a flash . Before anyone could react , four sharp cracks of breaking bone echoed through the room . Sawyer crumpled to the floor , his limbs twisted grotesquely .

It was clear that both his arms and legs had been completely shattered . " You ... you broke my limbs ... ? How dare you ! " Sawyer howled in pain , forcing out a furious roar as he clung to the

last of his pride . Leander looked down at him with icy detachment , towering over him like a judge delivering a sentence . " Consider this your warning . If you've got a problem , send someone after me , " he said coldly . " Want to compare family background ? Power ? Influence ? Fine . I'll take whatever you throw at me . " I'll be at the Shire Estate tomorrow for Old Mr.

Shire's birthday celebration . If any of you want revenge , don't waste the opportunity ." His voice was flat , emotionless , With that , he turned and strode out of the room with Madeline at his side , leaving the wreckage behind . 2/5 14:05 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 271 Did You Make A Mistakes 200 Finished Joshua and Rhea stood frozen , their faces blank with shock . They had personally picked up Leander and Madeline at the airport . At first glance , Leander had come across as a polite , well - mannered academic .

They never imagined that behind that gentle demeanor was such terrifying strength . He had effortlessly crushed the two most powerful heirs in all of Cranfordale , taking them down like rabid dogs . Joshua finally snapped out of his daze and turned to Martha , his voice low and shaken . " Martha ... what do we do now ? " Martha's eyes darkened as she collected her thoughts . After a brief pause , she spoke , her tone grave . " Get some people over here . Take Sawyer and Ronald to the hospital . We'll handle the rest back at the Shire Estate . " Joshua nodded and rushed off to gather help .

Martha turned toward Sylvia , and after a long silence , let out a quiet sigh . " Leander ... has stirred up a hornet's nest ! " Meanwhile , after leaving Waterfront Court , Leander strolled through downtown Kaldia with Madeline , utterly relaxed - like nothing had happened at all . But back at the Shire Estate , chaos reigned . Franklin Shire - the eldest son of the family and

Madeline's uncle - stared at Martha and the others in disbelief . His expression shifted again and again as he struggled to process what he was hearing . " You're telling me ...

Hazel's adopted son , Leander , seriously injured Ronald and shattered all four of Sawyer's limbs ? " If Martha hadn't said it herself , he would've thought it was some kind of sick joke . Sawyer and Ronald were two of Cranfordale's most powerful heirs . Their families wielded enormous wealth and influence . Most people wouldn't even dare cross one of them . But Leander ? He didn't just cross one - he took on both . If it had been just a minor scuffle , maybe they could've smoothed things over .

But with Sawyer's limbs shattered and the chance of him ever walking again uncertain , this was a political earthquake that would send shockwaves through all of Cranfordale . Lily Shire - Martha's mother and the eldest daughter of the Shire family - had always been known as the strategist of her generation . She was brilliant , composed . 3/5 Chapter 24 Out You Make A Mistake Inished But now , even she had gone pale . Her usual calm was cracked " Leander went too far , " she muttered . " He hurt them far too badly .

Even if we try to smooth things over , do you really think the Locke and Quigley families will let this go ? " She shook her head , feeling like there was nothing they could do . The rest of the Shire family's second - generation elites remained silent , each of them deeply unsettled .

Watching their reactions , Martha sighed quietly . Leander hadn't just crossed a line - he'd ignited a full - blown disaster . Messing with either the Locke or Quigley family was already asking for trouble . Going after both ? That was a death wish .

And from what they could see , Leander didn't even have anyone backing him . Even if he had hidden connections , going this far was enough to get him killed . In all of Astria , only a handful

of ultra - elite families in Highcliffe had the kind of power to shrug off a joint retaliation from the Lockes and Quigleys . So , what made Leander think he could pull this off ? Unless ... he was part of the Ashcroft family from Highcliffe ? Martha sighed again . Deep down , she knew that was just wishful thinking . Franklin pondered for a long moment before finally speaking , his voice like ice .

" It was bad enough that Leander injured them - but then he had the audacity to invite revenge ? That kind of arrogance is unreal . " He'll be here tomorrow for Dad's birthday celebration . If the Locke and Quigley families show up looking for blood , we'd better figure out our response now . " The room fell silent . Leander was , technically , a guest of the Shire family . If trouble came knocking , they would have no choice but to take a side . " If you ask me , " said Frederick Shire , the fifth eldest , his voice low and gaze steely , " we hand him over . Let him face the consequences .

" Franklin tapped his fingers thoughtfully on the table . " Turning him over like that ... might be a bit too heartless . " " Exactly , " Lily chimed in . " Leander is Hazel's adopted son . She died so young . If her spirit's watching us from somewhere and sees us treat him like this , how could she ever rest in peace? " 4/5 14:05 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 221 Did You Make A Mistake ? ** Finished With the two most respected voices of the second generation speaking up , no one dared object . A heavy silence blanketed the room . Just then , a dry cough echoed from the doorway .

Clement slowly stepped inside , leaning on his iron cane . " Dad , " Franklin began , ready to explain the situation . But Clement raised a hand , cutting him off . " I've already heard everything . Go get some rest . A decision will be made tomorrow . " The

Shire siblings exchanged uneasy glances . Clement had always been a man of swift , decisive action . For him to wave this off so calmly in the middle of such a crisis ... It wasn't like him . Still , he had spoken . They could only leave , heads full of unanswered questions . Clement took a seat at the head of the room .

The living room was now empty , save for him and one guard . " Wait at the gate , " Clement said . " The moment Leander returns , let me know . " The guard nodded and left to carry out the order . Clement settled into the high - backed chair , his sharp gaze flickering with thought . Mornwick's Legend ... CEO of Jeff Enterprises ... Quite the title . But if you think that's enough to face the Lockes and Quigleys head - on , you're still falling short . He exhaled slowly , his voice a whisper . " Leander ... this time , did you make a mistake ? " Send Gifts

Chapter 272 A Meeting Behind the Door Clement sat at the head of the room , turmoil swirling behind his eyes . Finished When he found out that Leander was both Mornwick's Legend and the CEO of Jeff Enterprises , he was completely floored . Regret hit him hard as he recalled what he'd said back in the study . All that talk about Leander being unworthy or out of his league felt ridiculous in hindsight . Leander , not even twenty yet , had already taken control of Mornwick and built a vast empire worth nearly a hundred billion .

No one could even come close to matching what he'd accomplished - not even Sawyer , the top heir of Cranfordale , or Ronald , with all his military backing . Everything Sawyer and Ronald had was handed to them by their fathers . But Leander ? He built his empire

from the ground up , took charge of all of Mornwick , and commanded a fortune worth billions . Even Sawyer and Ronald's fathers would envy what he'd accomplished . The fact that Madeline had such a close connection with Leander was a huge advantage . Maybe they'd grow even closer - maybe even end up as a couple .

If that happened , Clement would have a grandson - in - law from the most powerful younger generation in all of Astria . No - Leander might already be the most powerful of them all . But what he'd said to Leander earlier in the study must have left a bad impression . It could've even stirred resentment toward the Shires . Clement's heart sank with regret . He let out a long sigh as he thought about everything Leander had done tonight . If he'd known Leander's true identity sooner , maybe he could've stopped this mess . Things didn't have to spiral so far out of control .

With over a dozen witnesses to Sawyer's shattered limbs and Ronald's serious injuries at Leander's hands , the evidence was undeniable . The Locke and Quigley families would no doubt see him as their top enemy , and they'd stop at nothing to get revenge . If the two families joined forces , it would be like a tidal wave crashing down . Even the Shires , with all their military connections , would have to tread carefully and might even be forced to back down . That was what worried Clement the most . The Shires had practically secured a powerhouse as a future grandson - in - law .

Even if Leander and Madeline weren't a couple , he was still Hazel's adopted son . All they had to do was keep the 1/4 14:05 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 2 A Meeting Behind the Door relationship strong , and the Shires would have gained a formidable ally . Together , they could've soared to even greater heights . 63 Finished But because of his own

carelessness , Leander had ended up in direct conflict with two powerful giants - the Locke and Quigley families . And now the situation felt hopelessly tangled . Clement could only drown in regret . Just then , his guard strode in and gave a subtle nod .

" He's back ? " Clement's heart stirred . He rose to his feet and stepped out . " Let's go , " he said . " Time to meet the CEO of Jeff Enterprises . " Leander had just returned to his guest room at the Shire Estate and was getting ready for bed when a knock came at the door . He opened the door to find Clement standing outside , an iron - faced guard behind him . " Old Mr. Shire . " Leander wasn't the least bit surprised . After publicly shattering Sawyer's limbs and leaving Ronald badly injured , word was surely spreading like wildfire through Kaldia . Clement showing up at his door ?

He'd been expecting it . Leander turned and walked back into the room , Clement and the guard following close behind . Clement and Leander sat across from each other at the round table . After studying him for a moment , Clement suddenly extended his hand in a respectful gesture . " Mr. Ashcroft , it was foolish of me not to recognize your true worth . I spoke out of turn . Please forgive my ignorance . " It was the first time Clement - former commander of the Thundercliff Army - had ever bowed his head to someone of a younger generation . The moment Leander heard " Mr.

Ashcroft , " he knew Clement had uncovered his true identity . He reached out and gently clasped Clement's hand . " There's no need for that , Old Mr. Shire . You're Ms. Shire's father . By seniority , I should be calling you Grandpa . " Clement lowered his hand , a complex mix of emotions rising within him . Even now , sitting 2/4 14:05 Wed , Oct 15 harter A Meeting Behind the Boot Finished face to face with Leander , it was

hard to believe this unassuming young man was the one commanding Mornwick and a fortune in the billions .

" You're Hazel's adopted son , " Clement asked politely , his voice softening . " You don't mind if I call you Leander , do you ? " Leander nodded , and the tension between them quietly eased into familiarity . Clement , ever the seasoned general , didn't dwell on small talk . After a few polite exchanges , his tone grew serious . " Leander , what's your plan after what happened tonight ? " he said , his concern weighing in his gaze . " You crippled Sawyer and left Ronald seriously injured . Their fathers aren't the kind of men to let that slide .

With their sons hurt , they'll stop at nothing to get revenge ! " The Lockes rose from a minor county clan to one of Cranfordale's top three powerhouses in just over a decade . Sawyer's father , Bradley , isn't someone to underestimate . " His company , Everleaf Global Trading , controls major waterways across three provinces . His business spans the entire country and even reaches overseas . He's well - connected with high- ranking officials . But more importantly , his brother - in - law is Cornelius Hartman . " He paused , letting the name sink in .

" That man is none other than the provincial governor of Cranfordale . " " As for the Quigley family , " Clement went on , " Ronald's father , Michael , is a fourth - tier officer with the Cranfordale Military Command . He's got real power - deeply respected , deeply entrenched in military circles . " Word is , he's set to be promoted to major general within the next two years . Some even say he could climb higher within the decade . His

future is wide open . " He didn't have Ronald until he was forty . His son is everything to him .

If anything happens to Ronald , Michael will stop at nothing to get justice . He may even mobilize military resources . If those two families join forces , even our family will struggle to hold its ground . You acted too rashly tonight ." Leander listened silently , mildly surprised . He hadn't expected the Lockes and Quigleys to have such deep , interwoven networks of power . On one side , a fourth - tier officer expected to make major general within two years . On the other , a provincial governor ruling over all of Cranfordale .

That kind of pressure could crush just about anyone in Cranfordale . Clement watched Leander's face , waiting for some dramatic shift - shock , worry , anything . 3/4 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter Menting Behind the Door However , Leander just gave a quiet laugh . h CAT Finished " A provincial governor and a future major general ? " he said , calm and dismissive . " So what ? " His gaze remained steady . " If they want revenge , they're welcome to try . I'll be ready ." Clement's brow furrowed . He'd laid all this out to warn Leander , to help him prepare .

Yet , Leander treated those two titans like nothing more than a minor inconvenience . It unsettled him . In Clement's eyes , Leander had been riding high ever since he swept through Mornwick and took over Jeff Enterprises . He was young and successful - and with that , arrogance was bound to follow , clouding his grip on reality . Clement's tone hardened . " Leander , I came here tonight to talk real business . Tomorrow is my

birthday celebration . The Lockes and Quigleys will be sending people , and they will definitely come after you there . " I'll be blunt .

We can handle one of them for you . But the other ... you'll have to face it on your own .

What do you say ? " When he finished , a flicker of surprise crossed Leander's face .

Even the usually iron - faced guard behind him looked visibly shaken . This wasn't what

Leander had expected - Clement was actually choosing to take a stand for him .

Leander's gaze deepened . His respect for Clement rose a notch . Given the situation ,

the safest move for someone in Clement's position would've been to stay neutral and let

the three sides wear each other down .

Backing the weaker party meant risking the Shires ' own interests . Thus , Clement's

decision to stand with Leander meant making enemies of both the Lockes and the

Quigleys . Leander hadn't expected a man nearing seventy to still have the courage to

stake everything on him . Send Gifts 60

Chapter 273 The Storm Approaches Leander was slightly surprised . Fight Clement continued , "

Leander , I know this may feel sudden , but I'm putting the entire Shire Family in your hands .

Our family used to be respected as a military clan . I once led the Thundercliff Army . But I

stepped down over ten years ago . Now , the so - called ' Martial House of Shire ' is just an empty

title . " " Most of the younger generation went into business . Few joined the army or politics ,

and even those who did hadn't gone far . We only have influence because of the connections I

built in Cranfordale .

But once I'm gone , the Shire Family will fall apart . " Even if it doesn't collapse overnight , it eventually will . Our former glory will disappear . " Leander nodded slightly . Clement wasn't wrong . The family's strength came from his old ties- comrades , allies , and favors owed . That was why the Shire name still mattered in Cranfordale , but those connections were personal . Once Clement was gone , the rest of the family wouldn't be able to carry on . The path ahead would only grow harder . " So , what are you trying to say ? " Leander asked , though he already had a guess .

Clement looked him in the eye . " I'm betting everything - everything the Shire Family has - on you . " The air turned tense . Even the guards standing behind him felt a jolt at those words . Clement pressed on , " You're young , and yet already a dominant figure . You control a massive group worth hundreds of billions . Your future is limitless . Connections , power , and wealth- you have them all . Most importantly , you have time . " Give it ten years , twenty years - your achievements will be beyond imagination .

If the Shire Family has your support , we could stand strong for another hundred years . That's why I'm all in . I'll use all of my resources to help you through this crisis . " At the very least , I'll make sure you survive the attacks from the Locke and Quigley families . " At that moment , his eyes gleamed with resolve . His aura was overwhelming , like he had stepped out of a bygone era of battlefield glory . Even Leander was briefly moved .

This was the former commander of the Thundercliff Army- a man who had held up the entire Shire Family on his shoulders , placing it at the top of 1/5 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 273 The Storm Approaches Cranfordale's hierarchy . He was truly a legend . Finished " Leander , " Clement added seriously , " have you made your decision ? We'll protect you with everything we

have . But in return , I want your word - one day , you'll help the Shire Family stay at the top . "

Leander didn't respond right away . He calmly poured himself a cup of tea , took a sip , then slowly put it down .

A grin appeared on his face . " Old Mr. Shire , with your health , you've got another ten years in you . The Shire Family won't fall anytime soon . " Flicking his fingers , Leander added , " As for Locke and Quigley families , don't worry . This is my problem . I'll handle it . There's no need to drag your family into this . If something is my doing , then I will bear the consequences . " No matter how powerful they are , I will face them alone . " His voice was steady , brimming with confidence - almost arrogant . Clement frowned .

After a moment , he advised , " Leander , this isn't the time for pride . You've crushed your rivals in Mornwick and lead a massive corporation . I'm not questioning your strength , but Locke's Everleaf Global isn't far behind Jeff Enterprises . " And both families have deep ties in politics and the military . You can't face them alone . " Indeed , Leander was at the top in Mornwick , but that status rested in the shadows . Publicly , he was only the chairman of Jeff Enterprises .

Neither Bradley nor Michael would be afraid of a mere corporate figure , but Leander remained calm , his tone still unchanged . " Don't worry about it , Old Mr. Shire . No matter what they want to fight for , I'm ready to face them head - on . The Locke and Quigley families mean nothing to me . It's your birthday tomorrow , just enjoy yourself . Leave the rest to me . "

Clement wanted to say more , but looking at Leander's calm and confident face , he held his tongue . This young man has risen so far , so fast - it's clearly not just luck .

He must have something hidden , some kind of power or backing I can't grasp , he deduced . But what could give him the confidence to stand unshaken before the Locke and Quigley families ? Even if my Shire Family gave everything we had , I'm not sure we can pull it off . 2/5 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 273 The Storm Approaches 800 Forsher " Fine . Since your mind is made up , I won't say more . The Shire Family will remain neutral tomorrow . You'll be calling the shots . " Leander nodded , after which Clement stood and left the room .

Back in his study , one of the guards couldn't help but ask , " Old Mr. Shire , isn't Leander being too arrogant ? He's going against the Lockes and the Quigleys . That's like challenging a provincial governor and a future major general . Can he really do it ? " Clement gently shook his head . He didn't answer . He stood in silence for a long time before finally picking up the phone and dialing a number he hadn't reached out to in years . That night , the Shire Estate was quiet . However , the same couldn't be said for Kaldia and its surrounding areas - the upper class was in chaos .

Half of Cranfordale's elite had already heard the shocking news - Sawyer , the " Stock Genius " , had his limbs broken , while " the Wreck " , Ronald , was seriously injured . And the perpetrator ? A young man from out of town . The news hit like a bombshell . Cranfordale's elite were stunned . Countless wealthy and powerful people couldn't help but feel curious . Who is this young man who dares to take on the two most powerful families in the area ?

Many people had a strong feeling that a storm would break out , shaking the upper class of the entire province , when the sun rose the next morning . Inside the intensive care unit , two hospital beds were placed several meters apart . On those beds lay Sawyer and Ronald . Sawyer's arms and legs were all broken . As he had been given anesthesia , he was now unconscious . As for

Ronald , he had eight broken ribs , suffered internal bleeding , and had a serious brain injury . He was still in a coma and had not regained consciousness .

3/5 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 273 the Story Approar he Outside the hospital room , a group of people - appearing to be the family members and close friends of Sawyer and Ronald stood silently " That by stand ! How could he do this to my son ?! " Nawyer's mother cried out in grief . She suddenly turned around , grabbed the collar of a middle - aged man , and stared at him with eyes full of hatred . Bradley ! I don't care what it takes , I want Leander dead with no grave , torn limb from limb ! The man she grabbed was none other than Bradley Locke , Cranfordale's wealthiest man .

He gently embraced her , whispering words of comfort , but murderous fury danced in his own eyes . Sawyer wasn't his only son , but he was Bradley's favorite . And now , with his body shattered beyond repair , even modern medicine might not restore him . He could be left with at permanent disability and might not be able to have a normal gait . How could Bradley not be furious ? " Don't worry , I've already contacted Michael . He's setting up a new training base for Wyvern Blade in the southern area . He'll be here first thing tomorrow .

" Sawyer's mother calmed slightly , but the hatred in her eyes remained . Just then , someone walked over and quietly gestured at Bradley , who eventually followed him down the hallway . " Mr. Locke , we've finished the investigation . That man , Leander - his real identity is Mr. Ashcroft from Mornwick . He's the hidden chairman of Jeff Enterprises , " came the man's report . Bradley's eyes widened in shock at that , and he quickly took the documents from his hands . As he perused the information , his face grew more serious and surprised . " He's the Mornwick's Legend ?

" His hand trembled slightly . He felt relieved that he had taken the time to investigate before taking any action . What he discovered was far beyond what he had expected - Leander had a powerful and shocking background . Just knowing that Leander was a powerful figure in Mornwick would have been enough to make Bradley cautious . However , to find out that Leander was the secret force behind Jett Enterprises ? Bradley had to admit that it was intimidating . Although there was hesitation in his eyes , he was not fearful .

4/5 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 273 The Storm Approaches : Finished After a few seconds of silence , a cold , twisted smile formed on his lips . " So what if he's Mornwick's Legend ? So what if he owns Jeff Enterprises ? He hurt my son , and I'll crush him without mercy . " He flipped through the documents again , and his cold smile grew sharper . " Mr. Ashcroft , is it ? You might be powerful , but you've burned too many bridges . You crushed Elric and Adrian during your company's recent celebration . Not only do my family and the Quigleys want revenge , but your enemies do too !

" Bradley slowly clenched his fist , the room around him thickening with a cold , deadly pressure . " I will crush you beneath my feet this time , Mr. Ashcroft , " he continued . " You'll never rise again once I'm done . It doesn't matter that you were once the most feared figure in Mornwick ! " Send Gifts 。 60

Chapter 274 Are You Here to Thank Me ? 62 Finished Overnight , half of Cranfordale's high society was thrown into chaos. Leander's name spread across the city like wildfire . Almost every socialite heard the same story . Leander had gone against both the Locke and Quigley families .

He even dared them to come for him . Everyone was eager to find out if this bold kid was actually some kind of monster . By morning , the rich and powerful from all over Cranfordale began flooding into Kaldia . Many had never spoken to the Shire family before . Still , they came to wish Old Mr.

Shire a happy birthday . What they really wanted was a front - row seat to the drama . Everyone knew what kind of people the Locke and Quigley families were . There was no way they would let this go . Since Leander had said he'd be at the banquet , they knew where to find him . Guests arrived one after another . Martha was in charge of greeting them , but her face showed no joy . Worry kept building in her heart . The more important guests showed up , the more obvious it became . A storm was coming , and it was coming for Leander . The banquet was in full swing .

Leander sat with Madeline in a corner , chatting and laughing like nothing had happened . He didn't even glance at the new guests . It was as if last night had never happened . Martha clenched her teeth at the sight . She walked up to him and spoke in a low voice . " How can you still laugh ? " Look around . They're all here because of you . Every single one of them wants to see you fall . Did you even stop to think about what would happen after what you did last night ? " Do you think just because you can fight , you can take on Sawyer and Ronald like that ?

What are you going to do when the Locke and Quigley families strike back ? " Leander sat at the table with Sylvia , Linden , Rhea , and a few of the younger Shire family members . Sylvia's eyes flickered . She looked at Leander and gave a small shake of her head . She looked troubled . Even with her status , if she had crossed both the Locke and Quigley families at once , she would have to call in every favor she had with the Stonepeak Sect just to stay alive . If she had crippled Sawyer and badly hurt Ronald , her master , Master Friedel , would have to step in himself .

Even then , she would still need to apologize and offer gifts as compensation . 1/4 14:06 Wed ,
Oct 15 Chapter 274 Are You Here to Thank Me ? 63 Finished Leander had pushed both families past their limits , yet here he was , sitting with Madeline , joking like it was nothing . Madeline didn't look worried at all , like those two men meant nothing . Sylvia couldn't understand it . What kind of power did Leander have backing him ? What gave him the courage to go head - to - head with two of the most feared families in Cranfordale ? What gave him the guts to provoke them ?

" What was there to think about ? " Leander calmly said . " If they want to come after me , they'd better be ready to pay the price . " They tried to crush my hand and beat me down . I just gave them a taste of their medicine . What's wrong with that ? " Martha shook her head . Her voice turned cold . " So what ? I told you not to come to this banquet . Why didn't you listen ? " Now look at the mess you've made . Who's going to protect you ? " She had to admit she respected his courage . Beating those two like the sc * m they were had taken guts . However , the aftermath was another story .

She knew the Quigley and Locke families would never let this go . That morning , she had gone to Clement to ask if the Shire family could help . His answer was clear . They would not get involved . In a place as ruthless as Cranfordale , if even the Shire family wouldn't help , who else would dare step up ? " I've never needed anyone to protect me , " Leander coolly said . " I'll face whatever comes my way . " He spoke with ease . Nothing about him looked worried . To him , the Locke and Quigley families were just clowns .

If it really came down to it , he was ready to handle them by force and exterminate them .

Madeline sat beside him , a little uneasy at first . However , her nerves soon faded . Even if both

families teamed up , how could they stand against the Iron Sovereign , the man who once crushed the martial world of Astria ? " Well said . Whatever comes your way , huh ? " Martha snapped . Her temper boiled over , though she didn't even know why . " You and that giant ego of yours are going to land yourself in jail , or worse . Do you think this is all a joke ?

" 2/4 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 24 Are You Here to Thank Me ? Finished She waved her hand and turned away , her face like stone . She sat down next to them and didn't say another word . Leander leaned back in his chair and placed his hands behind his head . He didn't explain anything . His eyes drifted to the entrance of the banquet hall . Just then , a loud voice rang out . " From Everleaf Global Trading , Mr. Locke ! " The moment those words echoed through the room , the mood changed . Faces turned stiff . Conversations dropped to whispers . The Locke family had arrived .

At the door stood Bradley . He wore a long trench coat , looking like an old - school gangster from the Shanghai Bund . His eyes were sharp and cold . As he stepped in , several younger members of the Shire family rushed over to greet him . Franklin stepped forward and gave a respectful nod . " It's an honor to have you here , Mr. Locke . " Bradley smiled and shook Franklin's hand . " Today is Old Mr. Shire's birthday . It's only right to show some respect . " He turned to Clement and gave a small bow . " I came to wish you a happy birthday . May your years be long and full of blessings .

This is a small gift . I hope you'll accept it . " His secretary stepped forward and held out a gift box . It wasn't large . However , with Bradley's wealth , no one doubted its value . " You're too kind , Mr. Locke . Please , have a seat . " Clement nodded and motioned for Bradley to sit . Bradley didn't move . The smile on his face faded . " Old Mr. Shire , I won't sit just yet . There's

a matter I need to settle first . I hope you don't mind . " His tone dropped . He turned his head and locked eyes on Leander . " Mr. Ashcroft .

Last night , you broke my son's arms and told the Locke family to come find you . Well , here I am , " he said . 3/4 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 7 Ave You Here to Thank Mr ? The room froze . Every eye followed Bradley's gaze to Leander . 162) Finished " That's him ? That's Leander ? The guy who shattered Sawyer's bones and sent Ronald to the hospital ? " He's so young ! He has no idea who he's messing with . " " Sure , beating them up must've felt great , but he's about to pay the price . This is going to be good . " Whispers spread fast . All eyes were fixed on Leander .

Martha's gaze flickered . She let out a quiet sigh . The storm had arrived . All they could do now was watch Leander get torn apart . Clement sat at the head of the table , still and calm . He said nothing . He simply watched . Beside him , an old man took a slow sip of tea . He studied Leander with growing interest . The rest of the Shire family stayed quiet . No one said a word . With everyone watching , Leander pulled his chair forward and crossed one leg over the other , leaning back with ease . " You're Bradley , then ? " he asked . He lazily glanced over , a smirk tugging at his lips .

" I went easy last night by only breaking a few bones . You're here today to thank me , aren't you ? " The room fell dead silent . Everyone stared in disbelief . Send Gifts

Chapter 275 Pressure from Three Families . The hall fell silent . No one spoke .

Everyone was stunned . # Finishert Even now , Leander still had the nerve to speak like that . It was clear Bradley had come for revenge , yet Leander claimed he was here to

thank him . It was either pure arrogance or complete madness . Martha and Sylvia exchanged a glance and pressed their hands to their foreheads . They both felt that Leander was beyond saving . For some reason , Bradley , one of Cranfordale's top tycoons , didn't lose his temper . He gave a low , cold laugh .

" You're saying I should thank you , Mr. Ashcroft ? " he asked in a sharp and cold voice . His eyes narrowed . " You broke my son's arms and legs . That was you going easy ? What if you hadn't held back ? Would you have killed him right then and there ? " Anyone listening could hear the anger building . It sounded like a storm just waiting to break . However , Leander didn't react to that anger . He took the drink Madeline handed him and took a slow sip . " You've got it wrong , " he calmly replied . He raised a finger .

" If I hadn't held back , I wouldn't have just killed your son ." He looked Bradley straight in the eye . " I would've wiped out your entire family ." The moment he said it , everyone in the hall went stiff . Eyes widened . People stopped breathing . He broke a man's limbs yet called it mercy , then he claimed the only other choice was killing the whole family . Who would say things like that ? This wasn't just ruthless . It went far beyond that . No one could understand where Leander found the nerve . Everyone in the room knew the Locke family stood near the top of Cranfordale .

Their power 1/5 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 275 Pressure from Three Families Finished matched the Shire family . How could anyone be so casual when talking about destroying them ? Bradley let out an abrupt laugh . " I've heard a lot about you this past year , Mr. Ashcroft from Mornwick . You're said to have crushed every rival and taken

the top seat . Young , fierce , and arrogant . I thought it was just a rumor . However , now that I've seen you , it looks like the stories were true . Maybe even an understatement . " Gasps rippled through the room . " What ? He's that Mr.

Ashcroft from Mornwick ? " Martha , Sylvia , Joshua , Rhea , and the younger Shire family all turned toward Leander with shock in their eyes . 'He was that Mr. Ashcroft ? ' they all thought . Over the past year , Mornwick's rising star had become the talk of the region . Even Cranfordale's elites knew the name . Mornwick was just nearby , and word about Leander Ashcroft had spread far and fast . They said he ruled Mornwick's underworld . That he rose almost overnight . That his power rivaled even the richest tycoons and strongest families in the province .

Even in Cranfordale , few could match him . Martha's eyes flew wide . She stared at Leander in disbelief . Since the day they met , she hadn't thought much of him . She had even warned him not to provoke Sawyer and his group . However , it turned out Leander had been hiding his true strength all along . To him , Sawyer and Ronald were nobodies . In fact , only their fathers barely counted as equals . Sylvia stared at him with a frown . She was just as shocked as everyone else . However , when she heard the name " Mr. Ashcroft from Mornwick , " something stirred in her memory .

A feeling she couldn't place . It tugged at her mind . " That's your ace , " Martha muttered , her lashes trembling . She had thought the Locke family could easily crush him . Now that his identity was out in the open , she realized he was strong enough to defend against them . Even so , a sliver of worry crept in . He might be able to deal with the Locke family . However , if the Quigley family joined in , things could get dangerous .

215 14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 275 Pressure from Three Families Finished Leander took another sip of his drink and gave a slight nod . " Oh ?

You did your research before coming . I didn't expect that , " he commented . He looked Bradley over with a calm gaze . " I'll give you this . Rising from some small place to become one of Cranfordale's top players ... that takes skill , " he continued . Bradley pushed his glasses up and gave a strained smile . " Not skill . Just caution . With someone like you , Mr. Ashcroft , I had to be careful . " You're young and powerful . You don't just run Mornwick . You also control Jeff Enterprises , that giant of a company . You're the one behind it , and its assets are worth hundreds of billions .

Compared to that , I'm just a local businessman trying to keep up . I have nothing but respect . " Another wave of shock swept through the room . " What ? He's the chairman of Jeff Enterprises ? " Dozens of eyes turned to Leander . It was as if they were staring at a legend . Jeff Enterprises had started in Mornwick and expanded across Astria . It then reached the global market . In just nine months , it ranked among the world's top ten companies . Its rise had shocked the business world . Every major corporation tried to work with them . All were turned away .

Its top product , the Phoenix Essence Pill , had taken the world by storm . Even the government backed it . It became a symbol of Astria's power . Leander was the one running it all . That made him even more terrifying than being Mornwick's ruler .

Martha's heart raced . She realized she had completely misjudged him . She thought he was just another face in the crowd . Now , with everything laid bare , she saw the truth .

He wasn't a nobody . He was a diamond hidden in plain sight . Strength had always captivated her . She loved hearing stories of powerful men . Now , here was Leander .

He was the leader of Mornwick , the founder of Jeff Enterprises , and the strongest man she'd ever encountered . With those two titles , he had more than enough power to stand against both the Locke family and the Quigley family . 3/5 14:06 Wed , Oct 15

Chapter 275 Pressure from Three Families Just then , Bradley's eyes turned cold . His voice dropped low . 63 Finished " Mr. Ashcroft , you may be powerful . However , does that give you the right to hurt others as you please ? " This is Cranfordale , not Mornwick . You attacked my son . Today , I'm here to settle that score .

" Do you really think we're the only ones who came to see you ? " The moment he finished , a voice rang out from the entrance . " Mr. Smith of Reginald Enterprises ! " A few seconds later , another call followed . " Mr. Luth of Luth Global Holdings ! "

Everyone turned in shock . Reginald Enterprises and Luth Global were both top - fifty companies in Astria . Each led by a titan in the business world . Reginald Smith and Maxwell Luth both had assets in the hundreds of billions . They were on the same level as Bradley . Clement and the rest of the Shire family frowned . This made no sense .

Reginald had long been based in Sundale , where he controlled the inland ports .

Maxwell lived in Cragspire . Neither man had ties to the Shire family , so why had they come today ? Clement looked at Leander . A sense of unease crept into his heart .

Even the white - haired elder beside him lost his usual calm . His expression turned serious . At the entrance , Maxwell and Reginald walked in side by side . A few

bodyguards followed behind . Both men wore sharp suits . Their eyes were sharp and cold . Their presence matched Bradley's step for step .

They walked across the hall and stopped beside him . Both men stared at Leander with cold fury . Reginald gave a bitter smile . " You killed my only son in Ravenridge , Mr. Ashcroft . You also killed Maxwell's son . Did you really think we wouldn't come for payback ? " he asked . Maxwell's voice was cold . His gaze locked on Leander . 4/5
14:06 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 225 Pressure from Three Families 163 Finished " You kill without mercy . You act like the law means nothing . Well , today , we're here to make you answer for it . You won't walk out of here unharmed , " he declared .

The room fell silent again . The Luth family , the Locke family , and the Smith family . Three giants . Each one powerful enough to shake the city . Now they had come together for one reason . To bring Leander down . It was undoubtedly a lot of pressure .
Send Gifts 。 60

Chapter 276 The Titans Arrive Finished He was Mornwick's Legend . The chairman of Jeff Enterprises . Most people wouldn't even dare to dream of titles like that . Leander had both . At first , many were green with envy . A lot of the younger guests felt jealous . However , that envy didn't last . In just a moment , it turned into pity . The Locke family , the Luth family , and the Smith family were powerful , each backed by a top fifty corporation in Astria . Their reach stretched across three provinces .

If those three joined forces , even a powerhouse like Mornwick's underworld king or the head of Jeff Enterprises would be crushed like an insect . Clement's eyes shifted . He glanced at the

elderly man beside him . The old man gave a small shake of his head and smiled with a hint of bitterness . This man had been Clement's friend for years . In his prime , he had served as the highest official in Kaldia . He once held great power and mentored many . Though now retired , his name still carried weight across the province . Last night , he and Leander had talked about the risks .

Leander said he didn't need the Shire family's help . Even so , Clement had asked this old friend to come , ready to step in if needed . However , this ? Even he hadn't expected it . Leander had not just angered one family . He had gone up against the Smith family , the Luth family , and the Locke family . Any one of them could rival the Shire family . Together ? Not even the Shire family dared to face them . Even with his old friend here , it changed nothing . The man was willing to help , but not to throw himself into the fire . It was clear now . The three families were out for blood .

If the Shire family got involved , it would put them directly in the crosshairs . The Shire family had already been in decline for years . Their younger generation was weak . If they went against these three now , once Clement was gone , the Shire family would be picked apart . They'd be nothing but meat for the slaughter . " Oh , Leander ... How many enemies have you made ? "

Clement let out a long , quiet sigh . Even he , once the proud commander of the Thundercliff Army , was ready to give up . Martha and the others were shaken . Their faces darkened with shock .

1/4 14:07 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 276 The Titans Arrive : 63 Finished Leander was strong enough to face the Locke family . However , with the Luth family and Smith family joining the fight , the odds had completely turned . Only a handful of heirs from Highcliffe might have the power

to stand against that kind of force . " Tch , Mornwick's Legend and chairman of Jeff Enterprises . Impressive titles . However , he got ahead of himself . " " Right ? He's young and hot - blooded . It's normal to be rash . If he had only crossed the Locke family , maybe he could've handled it .

Going against all three , though ? He's done for . " " What a pity . He's not even twenty and has already made it to the top . If he had just stayed quiet and kept his head down ... Give it ten or twenty years , and no one in Astria could touch him . " " Now , it's too late . " All around , the elite of Cranfordale whispered to each other . Some sounded smug . Some sounded regretful . However , everyone agreed . Leander was finished . " Mr. Ashcroft , " Maxwell said , voice cold and sharp . " When you threw your weight around at your own party , did you think this wouldn't have consequences ?

Any regrets now ? " Leander calmly raised his glass and emptied it in one gulp . His face stayed the same . " Regret ? Don't be ridiculous , " he replied , his voice relaxed . " I've always done things my way . What's there to regret ? " Your two useless sons tried to throw me out of my own event . They even hired thugs to cripple me . If it happened again , I'd do the same . No second thoughts . " As for Sawyer ? That one I do regret . I should've done more than break his limbs . I should've culled him . " A wave of murmurs filled the room . Many people shook their heads .

Even with everything falling apart , he still refused to back down , clinging to his pride . Martha , the pride of the Shire family , let out a quiet sigh . She couldn't help but think he was being foolish . He had a head start that most people never get . Young and already in control , he had a bright future ahead of him . Yet all he did was make enemies . Even with death closing in , he

still wouldn't keep quiet and kept provoking the other party . It was reckless . All it would do was push the three families to hit harder .

2/4 14:07 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 276 The Titans Arrive 63 Finished " Teh , Ashcroft . You're this close to death and still running your mouth . " Today , we'll erase the so - called king of Mornwick ! " Reginald proclaimed , his face turned cold . The three families had made their choice . They were here for Leander's life . " Hmph . You still think you can fight back , Mr. Ashcroft ? Don't tell me you think a few ties to the Halloway family will save you ? " Bradley asked with a mocking smile . " The Halloway family ? The ones from Crestgate ? " Maxwell turned to him .

Reginald raised a brow , too . When Bradley nodded with a smirk , both men quietly laughed . They clearly didn't take it seriously . In his prime , Old Mr. Halloway had been a legend . He ranked third in Mornwick's elite circles . Only one or two others could match him . After he got sick , he stepped aside . The Halloway family slipped . Still respected , but mostly for their business roots . In name , they stayed at the top . In strength , they lagged behind the Luth family , the Smith family , and the Locke family . Leander's friendship with the Halloway family meant little .

At best , it might make the three families hesitate for a moment . It was not enough to stop them . Even if the head of the Halloway family came here in person , it wouldn't change a thing . Leander would still be torn apart . " Mr. Ashcroft , the Halloway family might be big in Mornwick , " Sawyer said with a sneer , " but this is Cranfordale . Their influence ends at the border . " You broke my son's limbs . Ronald is still hurt . Plenty of people saw what happened . You won't talk your way out of this .

In Cranfordale , there are people who can put you in your place ." Sawyer's eyes went cold . He took a step back . Just then , the doors to the parlor swung open . A man in a neat , old - fashioned suit stepped inside . He looked calm and refined , like a scholar . As soon as he appeared , the room fell silent . Even Clement's face changed . He stood up right away . " Mr. Brooks ? Why are you here ? " He hurried forward , clearly surprised . This was Gavin Brooks , the secretary of the provincial governor , Cornelius .

He was always by 3/4 14:07 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 276 The Titans Arrive the governor's side . In many ways , Gavin spoke for him . A 63 * Finished His appearance meant only one thing . Cornelius was watching . This was no longer just a private dispute . It had become official . Gavin gave Clement a polite smile . " Old Mr. Shire , today is your birthday . Cornelius couldn't leave his work , so he sent me in his place . He asked me to wish you good health and long life ." Though Gavin's tone was warm , his words were measured . Every move showed restraint . He knew the weight he carried .

However , no one in the Shire family was offended . In fact , they were honored . This man represented the highest authority in the province . After a few kind words , Gavin's smile faded . " Cornelius heard that someone in Cranfordale has been using violence to hurt others without cause . He asked me to deliver his wishes , yes . However , also to uphold justice . " His eyes turned sharp . He looked straight at Leander . " And from what I've heard , that thug ... is you . " The room went silent . Even the highest authority in Cranfordale sent a representative .

How could Leander possibly turn this around now ? Send Gifts 60

Chapter 277 Scared Out of Their Wits Clement stood beside Gavin , stunned and shaken to the core . Finished He knew Bradley had connections to Cornelius from the provincial office . However , he never thought Bradley would bring someone of this status . It was clear the Locke family wasn't holding anything back , ready to completely crush Leander . Gavin had shown up on Cornelius ' behalf . That was as good as Cornelius being here himself . No one would dare go against him . Not even the Shire family would stand in the way . Bradley adjusted his glasses with a calm and confident look .

He knew Leander wasn't some nobody . Whether it was being the Mornwick's Legend or the chairman of Jeff Enterprises , Leander had power and influence too . Since they were coming after him , they had to make sure he would never recover . If Leander bounced back , he would definitely come after the Locke family . That would make him a dangerous enemy . Bradley wasn't going to let that happen . That was why he had brought in one of the strongest people from the province . He wanted to end it in one strike .

" I don't care if you're Mornwick's Legend or the chairman of Jeff Enterprises , " Gavin coolly said . " In Astria , everyone must follow the law . You attacked people in public and left them permanently disabled . " I want to hear it from you - where do you think Astria's legal system fits into this ? " He carried himself like a gentleman , calm and refined . However , after years working under Cornelius , Gavin had dealt with real power , even leaders from Highcliffe . It left him with a natural , commanding presence . As soon as he spoke , the banquet hall went completely silent .

No one dared to speak . Every eye turned to Leander , " I broke the law ? " Leander raised an eyebrow and mockingly smiled . He had no intention of showing respect to Cornelius ' envoy . He sneered and coldly asked , " You know I broke Sawyer's limbs and injured Ronald . However , do you even know why I did it ? " You blindly believed what others told you and came here to point fingers without checking the facts . I really wonder what kind of secretary Cornelius has hired ." Leander spoke with clarity and force . Everyone watching was left stunned .

That was the top provincial secretary , and Leander dared to talk to him like that ? Was he 1/4 14:07 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 277 Seared Out of Their Wits fearless or just out of his mind ? . : . 63 Finished Bradley , Maxwell , and Reginald all smirked . Gavin was only supposed to be their support . They were the main players . However , now that Leander had insulted him , Gavin would not hold back anymore . He would make sure Leander paid the price . " How arrogant ! " Gavin snapped , his expression tight . " You attack people in public and think an excuse will fix it ?

Who gave you that kind of power ? " Leander lightly chuckled . He turned and poured himself a drink , like Gavin didn't even matter . That only made Gavin's face darken , his eyes burning with rage . " Mr. Ashcroft , " Bradley sharply said , " you used ruthless tactics to take over Mornwick . Yesterday , you broke my son's limbs . That shows you're nothing more than a mere thug . If you want to settle things with force , then I'll play that game too . " Bring in Mr. Steele ! " He raised his voice . A commotion started at the entrance . A man entered , full of presence .

His hands rested behind his back . The sound of his the hall . steps filled Broad and heavyset , he looked carved from stone . His hair spiked upward , his eyes round and fierce like copper bells . Just one look felt like a mountain had fallen on your chest . He had the presence of an angry war god . He stopped before Bradley and the others , his eyes flicking toward Leander with sharp focus . Gavin greeted him with a respectful nod and smile . That alone said enough . This was someone with real standing . Even Gavin had to show respect . " Is that ... Mr. Steele from the Cloudveil border ?

" someone whispered . Some of the guests recognized him right away . He was the head of the Steele family , one of the Great Seven Martial Clans of Cloudveil . They lived near the province's edge , but everyone in Cranfordale and even all of Listin had heard of them . There were rumors that he could tear metal with his bare hands and punch a car into pieces . He could run up walls with ease . People spoke of him like he was part legend and part nightmare . Once , a noble family's son from Highcliffe had offended him . Mr.

Steele hit him with a punch from several meters away that nearly killed him . The family didn't dare complain . 2/4 14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 277 Scared Out of Their Wits They packed up and fled Highcliffe instead . 63 J Finished This man had a violent temper and acted without warning . If he didn't like someone , he would beat them bloody on the spot . People said even Cornelius greeted him as " Mr. Steele . " Clement froze the moment he saw him . " Dominic Steele ? He's here too ? " Clement had trained in martial arts . He wasn't strong , but he had heard of many top fighters .

Being from Cranfordale , he knew all about the Steele family . Back when he was commander of the Thundercliff Army , foreign pirates had taken over half of Cranfordale . However , no one dared cross the Cloudveil border . That was thanks to the Great Seven Martial Clans of Cloudveil . Each of those clans had a Martial Sovereign . One of them could match an entire battalion . No one dared mess with them . Dominic was one of those martial sovereigns . He ranked among the strongest in Astria . If someone like him had shown up , Clement already knew what Leander was facing .

Sylvia's eyes flickered . She could hardly believe what she was seeing . As one of the top martial talents herself , she knew all about the martial sovereigns . Right now , she truly believed Leander had no way out . There was nowhere to run . " Ashcroft , " Maxwell said with a smirk . " I know you've got some skill . That's why Mr. Locke brought someone to handle you . However , I didn't come empty - handed either . " As he finished speaking , another man appeared at the entrance , He wore a long robe embroidered with pythons . It looked like something from a period drama .

In a flash , he jumped ten meters from the door and landed silently next to Maxwell . The whole room gasped in shock . Sylvia's eyes narrowed again as her entire being went stiff . " The head of the Levingtons of Glenwick ... Thaddeus Levington ? " Dominic and Thaddeus were both top - tier martial sovereigns . Just one of them could kill Leander . Now both had arrived . How could he survive this ? 3/4 14:08 Wed , Oct 15
Chapter 277 Scared Out of Their Wits : 62 Finished She let out a quiet sigh . She felt a flicker of pity . Leander was strong .

However , the Locke , Luth , and Smith families were stronger . They had brought in real power . At this point , even ten Leanders wouldn't be enough . He had no choice but to surrender . " Oh , it's Thaddeus , " Dominic said with a light laugh . He cupped his fists toward the other man . " This wasn't worth my time . However , I owed the Locke family a favor . " I didn't expect you to show up either . Let's sit down for a drink when this is over . " Thaddeus smiled and returned the gesture . " Of course . You're the host . I'll follow your lead . " The two of them talked like old friends .

They ignored everyone else . No one dared to interrupt . Dominic ruled the Cloudveil border and looked down on both provinces . Even though fewer people knew Thaddeus , anyone who could speak to Dominic like an equal had to be just as terrifying . Around the room , people looked at Leander with pity . They had all heard of the Mornwick's Legend . Now they watched him surrounded by monsters . Some even found themselves enjoying the show . Dominic and Thaddeus finished talking . They followed Bradley and Maxwell's gazes and turned to look at Leander .

From the start , Leander had his back to them . He had been pouring himself a drink . He filled his glass , picked up a piece of osmanthus cake , and slowly turned around . Dominic and Thaddeus had felt a strange sense of familiarity the moment they saw his back . Once they saw his face , they both froze . That one look was enough to scare the souls right out of them . Send Gifts 60

Chapter 278 He is Jeff Ashcroft Clement shook his head helplessly , a bitter smile tugging at his lips . He never imagined that Leander would stir up such a mess . All these powerful figures had shown up just to deal with him ! Earlier , Gavin had arrived

representing Cornelius , a senior official from Cranfordale's state . government . They stood for the power of the state . Meanwhile , the Lockes , the Luths , and the Smiths had joined forces . Everleaf Global Trading , Luth Global Holdings , and Reginald Enterprises behind them represented the power of the business world .

Now Thaddeus and Dominic had shown up too . They represented the power of the martial world ! This time , the Lockes , the Luths , and the Smiths had joined forces with the government , the business world , and the martial world to confront Leander . They were clearly intent on crushing him , leaving him no chance of rising again . Every figure they brought in was a powerful titan in their own right . Together , they were capable of stirring storms across all of Astria . Dominic and Thaddeus - two Martial Sovereigns renowned throughout the martial world - were among them .

With a lineup like this , even if the Shire family were to go all out to help Leander , he would still end up getting crushed on the spot . Worse still , the Shire family themselves would likely be doomed alongside him , never to recover . " Oh , Leander . How did you manage to have so many enemies ? " Clement looked up and let out a long sigh . He had thought the Shire family had gained a formidable ally in Leander - someone who could propel them to new heights in the future . But now , before Leander had even reached his full potential , he was being hunted like prey in a trap .

To Clement , it all felt like a cruel twist of fate . Martha's beautiful eyes were filled with deep concern . Leander was a formidable and powerful figure , but she hadn't expected Bradley to assemble such a terrifying lineup just to deal with him . Now , Leander had stepped into what seemed like a death trap . With this kind of lineup , even the elite

families in Highcliffe might not dare face them head - on . She dared not imagine what awaited Leander next . Worried , she glanced anxiously at Madeline .

1/5 14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 27 tie is Jeff Ashcroft Finished Madeline was close to Leander . Martha figured she must be overwhelmed with nerves right now , unsure of what to do . However , when she looked over , she found Madeline completely calm . That stirred a sense of confusion within her . Not far away , Sylvia was frowning slightly , her gaze locked firmly onto Leander , as if piecing something together . But no one seemed to notice that the expressions on Dominic and Thaddeus had changed entirely .

The moment they got a clear look at Leander's face , it was as if they'd seen a monster from their worst nightmares . Fear filled their eyes . Dominic was the head of the Steele family , a renowned elite clan in Cloudveil . He was a seasoned martial arts master who had long stood unrivaled in his realm . He agreed to come today partly due to business ties between the Steele family and Bradley , Cranfordale's richest man . Another reason was that Bradley had begged him repeatedly . It was only under such pressure that he agreed to step in for the Locke family .

As for Thaddeus , he only agreed to help because he had some business dealings with Luth Global Holdings . Maxwell had used that connection to pull him in . But before they came , neither Bradley nor Maxwell had told them Leander's true identity . Both Dominic and Thaddeus had assumed they were just here to deal with some young punk who happened to know some martial arts . They never imagined that the one they'd be facing ... would actually be Leander ! If they could turn back time , they wouldn't have agreed to Bradley's or Maxwell's request - even if it meant offending them .

They wouldn't want to make an enemy out of Leander ! The two of them were frozen on the spot , their expressions sour , yet Bradley and the others remained completely oblivious . " Hmph ! " Bradley stepped forward with a sneer . " I went through hell and back to invite Mr. Steele here - just so we could deal with a local thug of Mornwick like you ! " You think just because you know some martial arts and have extraordinary brute strength , you can do whatever you want without consequences ? 2/5 14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 278 He is Jeff Ashcroft : (62 Finished " Let me tell you , Mr.

Steele is a true martial arts master , unmatched in Cloudveil . One hand is all he needs to crush you ! " Just then , Maxwell also spoke up , his eyes burning with hatred . " Mr. Levington is another martial arts legend I invited all the way from Glenwick ! " You call yourself the Mornwick's Legend , huh ? Today , I'd like to see what kind of storm you can stir up ! " Reginald said nothing , but his eyes gleamed with wild excitement . He believed that with Dominic and Thaddeus present , even ten Leanders would be crushed like ants .

The three wore the same smug expression , believing they held the upper hand . However , Leander simply chuckled and shook his head , a mocking smirk curling at the corners of his lips . " You brought these two to fight for you ? You might want to ask them first if they even dare lay a finger on me . " Bradley and the others didn't flinch . In fact , they were puzzled - how could Leander still remain so composed in this situation ? In fact , his tone had grown even more arrogant than before . Dominic and Thaddeus were both titans in the martial world .

Why wouldn't they dare go after some small - time Mornwick thug like him ? At that very moment , Dominic and Thaddeus moved , striding straight toward Leander . Bradley , Maxwell , and Reginald were elated , thinking the two were about to make their move against Leander . Their eyes gleamed with excitement . At the very next second , their smug grins froze . They weren't the only ones who were taken aback . The entire hall fell into stunned silence at what was happening before them .

Dominic , the reigning force of Cloudveil , and Thaddeus , the overlord of Glenwick , bowed to Leander with their fists clasped in salute , like disciples greeting their master . " Sovereign ! " Both Dominic and Thaddeus greeted Leander . In that moment , the atmosphere seemed to solidify . A profound silence swept across the hall , as if time itself had ceased . Not a single person moved . 215 14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 278 He is Jeff Ashcroft 62 Finished Bradley , Maxwell , and Reginald were completely dumbfounded , as if they'd just witnessed something utterly unbelievable .

Dominic and Thaddeus were the reinforcements they had invited and were supposed to be their trump cards . So why were the two now bowing to Leander , treating him like some respected figure ? The rest of the crowd couldn't make sense of it either . Dominic was one of the overlords of Cloudveil . Even a provincial governor would treat him with courtesy and caution . With his status , even someone like Bradley , the wealthiest man in Cranfordale , had to show him due respect .

As for Thaddeus , he was the head of the famous Levington family , and he himself commanded assets worth tens of billions . In Glenwick , his influence was near - absolute , his authority on par with senior state officials . Either of these men held a

status far beyond what everyone present could collectively match . Sure , Leander might be the famed Mornwick's Legend and the president of Jeff Enterprise , but how could that compare to them ? And yet , what now unfolded before their eyes was unfathomable .

Dominic and Thaddeus , two titans in their own right , had bowed deeply to Leander , showing him the utmost respect . Everyone was stunned . Watching from a short distance away , Sylvia's delicate frame shuddered . Then , as if a puzzle had fallen into place , she gasped in realization . " So , it's him ! " She finally realized why hearing phrases like " Mornwick's Legend " and " chairman of Jeff Enterprise " struck her with a strange sense of familiarity . That legendary man who was hailed as Mornwick's Legend ...

That peerless figure who stood at the very pinnacle of Astria's martial world ... He , too , bore the surname Ashcroft and came from Mornwick . " Sylvia , what are you saying ? What do you mean by ' it's him ? Who is he ? " Martha turned toward her , utterly shocked and confused . Sylvia's gaze lit with reverence . She raised one slender finger and pointed at Leander , her voice soft yet filled with awe . " He is Jeff Ashcroft ! "

Chapter 279 Just Who Was He ? " That's Jeff Ashcroft ! " When Sylvia uttered those words , Martha's expression shifted again . " Jeff Ashcroft ? " Finished The name was once very unfamiliar to her , but Sylvia had mentioned the name repeatedly recently , in an almost obsessive manner . According to Sylvia , Jeff Ashcroft was an invincible existence . He was capable of dominating over anything - a supreme force who

defeated two mythical figures , slayed the previous top- ranked martial arts practitioner , and defeated the top seven Arbitrators of the Arbitration Office in one move .

She had heard these stories so often that she could recite them by heart . In her mind , he was an untouchable divine being who stood high above - the God of Martial Arts - someone so far beyond her reach that she thought she would never meet in her lifetime . Yet Sylvia was saying the elusive legend was actually Leander ! " What are you doing , Mr. Steele ? " " Mr. Levington , that's the man who killed my son ! Why are you bowing to him ? " Both Bradley and Maxwell frowned deeply . Wasn't Leander just " Mr. Leander " of Mornwick , the chairman of Jeff Enterprises ?

When did he suddenly become the Sovereign ? However , Dominic and Thaddeus ignored the others . They did not dare to speak . Standing with their heads lowered , they trembled slightly as though they were under tremendous pressure . How could the others have known the pressure those two were experiencing at that moment ? When Leander first killed Tsaric Dubois - Briggs and Grayson Shire at the peak of Glidewing Mountain to take the number one spot on the Astria leaderboard , they were only slightly intimidated by him . It was not enough for them to revere his existence .

After all , they were Martial Sovereigns too . Even if he was stronger than them , they were still peers . There was no need to show such reverence . But his later

achievements changed everything . After he single - handedly defeated the top 1/5

14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 279 Just Who Was He ? (62 Finished seven Arbitrators of the Arbitration Office and even killed an individual who had reached the Transcendent

Realm , they became fearful of him . The gap between the Martial Sovereign and the Transcendent Realm was immeasurable .

If he was able to defeat someone in the Transcendent Realm , then they were nothing more than ants before him . It was no wonder that they regarded him with reverence , not daring to offend him in the slightest . Leander calmly leaned back in his chair , a faint smile on his lips . " Are you two here to help these three families ? " " Forgive me , Sovereign ! " Thaddeus immediately shook his head and apologized . " I did promise Maxwell to help , but I had no idea it was you ! " Dominic echoed , " If I had known it was you , I would never have dared to come !

" The sight of the two men scrambling to apologize left everyone else in stunned disbelief . Both Dominic and Thaddeus were so strong that they could easily crush the ten overlords of Mornwick without breaking a sweat . Yet here they were , apologizing to Leander like frightened children . It was unbelievable . Could Leander , in addition to being " Mr. Leander " of Mornwick and the chairman of Jeff Enterprises , have some other astonishing identity ? Leander merely smiled and poured himself a drink in silence .

At this point , even Bradley and the others had come to realize that something was amiss . A sense of dread settled over them . " Mr. Steele , what- " Bradley glanced at Dominic questioningly , but Dominic suddenly turned and lashed out at him with a palm strike . " Shut your mouth ! " Dominic's strike shattered the sandalwood table beside the three men into dust . The residual force was so strong that they were knocked to the

ground . Even Gavin , who was standing nearby , turned pale and stepped back in fear .
The three men struggled to their feet , looking disheveled .

Their expressions shifted constantly in confusion , unable to understand the reason behind the sudden attack . 2/5 14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 279 Just Who Was He ? F :
62 Finished " You fools ! Who gave you the guts to challenge the Sovereign ? "
Dominic's expression darkened as he snarled in a bone - chilling voice . He pointed at Leander and continued , " Do you know who that is ? " Bradly glanced at Leander in bewilderment . " Isn't he just the Mornwick's Legend , the chairman of Jeff Enterprises ? "
" " Hmph ! " Dominic scoffed coldly . " That's what you know about him .

But did you know ... he also goes by the name , Jeff Ashcroft ? " As soon as those words came out , the room went silent . Many wealthy elites looked puzzled . The name " Jeff Ashcroft " was unfamiliar to them . They had never heard of such a powerful figure in Cranfordale , Listin , or Mornwick . A wealthy businessman from Listin exclaimed in shock , " Jeff Ashcroft ? " Isn't that the person who crushed the Walsh family in Listin ? "
Hearing that , those who knew of the incident quickly recalled the event . " That's right !

A young man supposedly squashed the Walsh family in Grove last month . After the fall of the Walsh family , the top forces of Listin , such as George Bolton , Donald Johnson , and Oscar Duffy , were said to have joined forces to retaliate against him , only to be utterly defeated instead . " Even Luca Carter , who was recruited to help them , had to bow down to him ! " In the end , Alfie Walsh was completely destroyed by that young man . The Walsh family even had to compensate him heavily as an apology . I think that young man was called Jeff Ashcroft ! " " I remember now !

That incident originally caused a huge sensation in Listin , but the Walsh family quickly suppressed the news and declared that Alfie Walsh had died suddenly due to illness . It's obvious that they didn't dare to offend Jeff Ashcroft again . " Don't tell me ... are the Mornwick's Legend and Jeff Ashcroft actually the same person ? " Many among the crowd began chattering about the incident . Bradley , Maxwell , and Reginald naturally heard everything clearly , The Walsh family was a name known to all . As the most powerful family in Listin , they ranked far above everyone else .

The second son of the Walsh family was also rumored to be the third most powerful individual in Listin . There was no doubt they possessed immense influence as a 3/5
14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 279 Just Who Was He ? family . 62 Finished Yet , they were single - handedly shattered by a mysterious young man . Not only were they beaten and humiliated , but they were also forced to concede their wealth and power . What's more , they didn't even dare to entertain any thoughts of revenge. Now it seemed that the mysterious figure in question was none other than Leander himself .

The three men widened their eyes in fear , their hearts slowly sinking with a despairing feeling of dread as the situation dawned upon them . None of their families could compare with the Walsh family in terms of power . Though Leander had publicly humiliated the Walsh family and killed Alfie Walsh , the heir of the Walsh family , in front of countless people in Listin , the Walsh family had not dared to retaliate . In fact , they even had to apologize and compensate him for the incident . It was hard to imagine what identity he possessed for them to be so afraid of him .

If even the powerful Walsh family was forced to swallow their anger against Leander , then what fate awaited the three men for trying to avenge their sons ? " You're crazy to have challenged the Sovereign , Maxwell ! " Thaddeus stepped forward with a cold glare at Maxwell . " Back when your father was building his empire in Glenwick , he was killed just as he was about to become the richest man in the region . His wealth was stolen . overnight , too . Do you remember that incident ? " Maxwell's gaze darkened . He had never forgotten that incident .

His father had been one of the ten greatest entrepreneurs in Glenwick - on the verge of becoming the richest man in the region - until he was assassinated one day . Even his massive wealth was stolen in the process . Though Maxwell knew the person responsible for the incident , he had never dared to seek revenge . That was because the culprit belonged to the most notorious assassin organization in Astria- the Umbral Court , where murder and robbery were common behavior !

Even though he currently headed one of Astria's top fifty enterprises , he was still nothing more than an insignificant ant before them . He did not dare to provoke them , much less seek revenge for his father's murder ! In any case , he did not understand why Thaddeus was mentioning his father at such a time . 4/5 14:08 Wed , Oct 15
Chapter 220 Just Who Was He ? Finished Thaddeus continued , " An incident just took place in Ravenridge a few days ago . Mr. Leander practically wiped out the Twelve Talons and the Six Wraiths of the Umbral Court by himself .

" Even the leader of the Umbral Court had to come forward and apologize to him in person , just to stop him from completely exterminating the entire organization ! " Now ,

do you understand what kind of person he is ? " Upon hearing that , Maxwell's expression froze . He was so scared that he was incapable of speech anymore . The Umbral Court was the name of a notorious assassin organization that struck fear in the hearts of countless wealthy businessmen . Many would willingly spend a fortune just to appease them .

Among the members of the organization , the Twelve Talons and the Six Wraiths were considered the elites . They were the most ruthless of assassins . Yet , Leander had single- handedly destroyed them . He even forced the leader of the Umbral Court to come forward and apologize in person ! A collective gasp ran through the crowd as everyone processed the information . Most of them were wealthy businessmen who often employed various unsavory means to eliminate their competitors . So , they were not unfamiliar with the Umbral Court .

After hearing what Thaddeus said , they turned to look at Leander with eyes full of awe and fear . Just who is this young man ? Send Gifts

From Outcast to Overlord The Unyielding Heir Chapter 280 Twist After Twist : All eyes turned toward Leander , some filled with shock , others with disbelief or awe . 62
Finished When Dominic and Thaddeus had bowed to Leander , the crowd had been stunned . Then they learned that Leander had once taken down the entire Walsh family in Listin , along with several of the region's top power players . That alone was chilling enough . But now , hearing that he had crushed the underworld and forced its kingpin to apologize publicly , this revelation left everyone completely shaken .

The underworld was ruthless and infamous . Even the world's wealthiest tycoons wouldn't dare provoke them . Yet Leander had driven them into a dead end , eliminating the Twelve Talons and Six Wraiths as if they were nothing . What kind of power and fearlessness did that require ? No one could comprehend it . Just who was this calm , seated young man ? What kind of terrifying strength and background did he possess ? Clement scanned the room , still trying to process it . He couldn't believe his eyes . Earlier , the Locke , Canary , and Bolton families had joined forces to crush Leander .

Even the region's top political figure had sent his aide , Gavin , to support them . And with Dominic and Thaddeus arriving shortly after , it had looked like a perfect trap . Leander was surrounded . No way out . But then , one name had reversed everything . " Jeff Ashcroft . " Those two words carried unimaginable weight . As a martial artist himself , Clement knew exactly what they meant in the inner combat world . He had never imagined that Leander would bring such a shocking twist .

Even less could he have guessed that the orphan his daughter had once saved - her adopted son - would grow into a living legend , a peerless emperor who stood above the strongest fighters in the world . When Leander's true identity came to light , Clement shook his head and sighed . Even if the highest - ranking official in the country walked in now , they wouldn't be able to suppress him . Bradley , Maxwell, and Reginald were frozen in place , their hearts pounding in dread .

Bradley , in particular , had done the most legwork investigating Leander's background , digging 1/4 14:08 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 280 Twist After Twist into every lead . And yet he had overlooked the most critical detail . One misstep had cost them everything . 1 (

62) , Finished He had sensed the danger the moment Dominic and Thaddeus bowed , but now he felt the full weight of that threat . If Leander could suppress even the underworld , then what couldn't he do ? Panicking , Bradley turned to Gavin Brooks , the provincial secretary - his last possible lifeline .

But Gavin now stood silent , his brows drawn tight in thought . He knew exactly who Dominic and Thaddeus were . In the martial world , they were the equivalents of provincial governors , if not more . And both had bowed to Leander . That could only mean Leander stood even higher . Gavin had been sent by Cornelius , a top regional official , to back Bradley . They had assumed Leander was just a backwater warlord - easy to control , easy to break . But now ? Leander had flipped the table and taken control . No one had seen this coming .

Even Cornelius wouldn't lightly offend men like Dominic or Thaddeus . And Leander stood above both . Years of political experience had taught Gavin one thing well - how to read the room . He knew this wasn't a battle worth fighting . Charging in now would be suicidal , so he had to reassess . Bradley felt his final hope slipping away . Gavin had lost his nerve . There would be no help from him now . Their side was falling apart , while Leander's support was only growing . With Dominic and Thaddeus firmly behind him , what chance did they have ?

From the beginning , Leander had done nothing but sip his wine , calm and composed . Meanwhile , the board members looked pale , trembling , and overwhelmed by panic - knowing what Leander was capable of . If they didn't crush him here and now , the retaliation would be devastating . 214 14:09 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 280 Twist After Twist

62) Finished Just as despair settled over the room , a disturbance erupted at the door . This time , there was no host announcing arrivals . Instead , the sound of heavy boots thundered through the hallway .

A dozen armed soldiers stormed in , rifles raised , uniforms crisp . Leading them was a man with two gold stripes and four stars on his shoulder - a senior officer , no doubt . His jaw was square , his expression hard and cold . His eyes were sharp as blades . Behind him , the troops stood at full attention , awaiting orders . " Michael ? " Bradley gasped . His voice trembled with desperation . It was as if he'd spotted the last life raft in a sinking storm .

The man was none other than Michael Quigley of the Cranfordale Military Command - father of Ronald Quigley , and a rising star in the military . Michael cast a glance toward Bradley , his voice low and dangerous . " Where's the one who hurt my son ? " The entire hall fell into a hush . Michael was infamous for his fierce loyalty to his family . He held real authority and had the power to mobilize small tactical units . Still , no one expected him to go this far - storming a banquet with a fully armed squad . Bradley didn't dare speak Leander's name .

He simply turned his head slightly in Leander's direction . Following the motion , Michael locked eyes with Leander . His expression darkened . " So , you're the so - called Mornwick's Legend ? What nerve you have there ! " A nobody from the outskirts thinking he can strong - arm his way through life ? People like you are nothing but a stain on this country . Today , I'm taking you in . Be grateful if you make it out alive . "

Michael wasn't here without a strategy . By labeling Leander a violent offender , he could arrest him under official pretense .

As soon as he finished speaking , he raised a hand . The soldiers took a synchronized step forward , guns raised and aimed squarely at Leander . " Take him down . If he resists , shoot to kill . " Dominic and Thaddeus exchanged a glance . Both looked cold . Martial artists had their pride . Masters like them - especially someone like Leander - would never tolerate having weapons pointed at them . 3/4 14:09 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 200 Twist After Twist C62 Finished Sure enough , a sharp glint flickered in Leander's eyes . Today was supposed to be a celebration , Clement's birthday .

He hadn't planned on making a move . But now he was reconsidering . Just then , someone rushed in from outside . It was Alfred Reed , the Shire family butler , his face full of panic . " Sir ! Something's happening ! " Clement frowned . He had been thinking about how to de - escalate the conflict with Michael . Now , this abrupt interruption took him by surprise . " What is it , Alfred ? Who's outside that's got you so worked up ? " Alfred swallowed hard , visibly shaken . " It's a military convoy , sir . From Crestgate Military District . " Send Gifts