An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 876 -

Chapter 876

"Madam Edith!" The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples were shocked to see E dith collapse.

They surrounded her, trying everything they could to wake her up. But all their efforts were in vain due to the severity of her injurie

"Hurry up and get her a doctor!" Letitia commanded and got the disciples to carry Edith

outside.

"Injuries sustained from going to extremes in training are not something an ord inary doctor

can treat.

"Of course, if you admit to your mistakes and pay me five billion as a reward, I can consider saving Madam Parker," Dustin said impassively.

"What nonsense! Five billion? Why don't you rob the bank instead?"

Letitia glared at Dustin. "Edith is blessed and has luck on her side. Nothing will happen to her. "Even if she were on the brink of death, we will never beg for y our help!"

"Really? Good luck then." Dustin smiled.

"Let's go!" Letitia wasted no time. With a wave of her hand, she led the group out.

"Madam Edith!" Nikki struggled to approach them but was pushed to the groun d by Brittany instead.

"Get lost! You're no longer a Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciple. You have no right to come near us!"

As she spoke, she turned her attention toward Dustin.

"And you! You have angered me this time.

"I will strip you of your right to be my fanboy! I will make you regret this for the rest of your life!"

With that, she left in a huff.

"Idiot." Dustin spat out.

How could she still make it about herself at a time like this? She was indeed a lunatic!

"Madam Edith ..." Still kneeling on the ground, tears streamed down Nikki's face as she watched them leave.

She never expected the Jade Maiden Scripture to cause them to fight amongs t themselves and for her to be abandoned. For some reason, she had become the greatest sinner of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood.

"It's better to leave a guild like that sooner than later," Dustin consoled her.

Nikki was filled with sorrow. "You don't understand! You don't understand a thing!"

"Madam Edith saved me once and has shown me nothing but kindness. How can I leave before repaying her?"

"Your mentor doesn't care about you at all. Don't lie to yourself." Dustin shook his head.

It was good that she understood gratitude, but it was also important to conside r who she was showing it to.

Nikki bit her lip. "I owe her that much. I need to repay her."

"Do you want to return to the Jade Maiden Sisterhood?" Dustin frowned slightly.

"I'm returning no matter what it takes!" Nikki nodded firmly. Her gaze was unw avering despite her battered condition.

"Fine, I'll help you again for your brother's sake." Dustin felt helpless.

There was no turning back for this kid. She was determined to keep going.

"You? How would you help me?" Nikki looked doubtful.

"Only I can heal your mentor. I also have the complete Jade Maiden Scripture."

"I believe they will come again in two days. When that day comes, you'll be ab le to rejoin your guild again," Dustin said calmly.

"Really?" Nikki's eyes lit up.

"You'll find out for yourself soon enough. I just hope you won't regret it," Dustin warned.

"No, I won't... I will never regret it! Thank you!" Nikki lit up in joy and gave Dus tin a big hug.

Although it aggravated her injuries, and she grimaced in pain, the smile on her face never diminished.

To her, being able to return to the Jade Maiden Sisterhood was the only good thing among her misfortune.

Just as Dustin was about to say something else, his phone rang.

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Ruth's urgent voice quickly came through when the call connected.

"Dustin! Bad news! My sister is in trouble!"

"Trouble?" Dustin furrowed his brows.

"What happened?"

"The family treasury has been robbed. My sister is the prime suspect.

"They're going to use the house law on her!" Ruth exclaimed in panic.

"Try your best to hold them up. I'll be there as soon as I can!"

Without a moment to spare, Dustin hung up and swiftly headed to the Harmons' residence. with Cornelius.

Meanwhile, inside the Harmon's ancestral altar, a group of people blocked Natasha at the entrance. She was trapped with nowhere to go.

The elders of the family were angry and filled with righteous indignation. They scolded her nonstop.

"Natasha! How dare you conspire with outsiders to steal from the family treasury. You are truly an ungrateful daughter!"

"You have ruined our hundred-yearold legacy! How do you think you should be punished?"

"You b*tch! How could the Harmons have raised such an ungrateful brat like you?"

The group kept pointing fingers and criticizing Natasha. Amidst the anger, there were also strong feelings of resentment.

"I've explained many times. I did not steal from the treasury or conspire with outsiders.

"I have no idea what is going on!" Natasha frowned, her expression grim.

She had just laid down to rest not long ago. But a group of family elders suddenly barged in to her room without a word and brought her to the ancestral hall to be locked up.

For some reason, they accused her of theft and forced her to confess.

"You have no idea? What a joke!"

Dylan stepped up and said coldly, "Everyone knows there are only two keys to the treasury. One is with you, and the other is with Uncle Hector.

"With Uncle Hector not around, you are the only one who can access the treasury. That means

you're the one behind this theft!"

"Exactly! The key is with you, and now the treasury has been robbed. It must be you!" Kate a dded.

"Natasha! The family has always treated you well. Why would you do this?" Trent exclaimed.

"Uncle Trent, it wasn't me. I didn't do anything!" Natasha shook her head.

"If it wasn't you, was it Uncle Hector?" Dylan sneered.

"My father and I would never do anything to harm the family. This must be a misunderstand ing." Natasha's brows furrowed deeply.

"Natasha Harmon! Stop denying!

"If you confess and return the stolen treasures, there might be a chance to resolve this. But if you insist on being stubborn, we must enforce the house law!" Dylan threatened.

"Uncle Jacob, if someone steals while being the guardian and destroys the family's legacy, how do we deal with them according to the house law?" Kate asked sarcastically.

Jacob answered with a grim expression, "Gouge out their eyes, cut off their tongue, and bre ak off their limbs."

The crowds' expressions shifted when they heard that. If they truly enforced the house law, Natasha wouldn't survive.

"I haven't done anything wrong! Who dares enforce the house law on me?" Natasha yelled.

Her gaze hardened as she stared at the crowd without fear.

"Natasha, I'm giving you one last chance. Hand over the treasures, and I can pretend that no thing happened.

"Otherwise, you'll have to face the consequences!" Trent looked serious.

"Uncle Trent, I've been set up! Please don't fall for it!" Natasha reasoned.

"Still denying? You really need to be taught a lesson!!"

Dylan didn't bother wasting his breath further and commanded, "Guards! Enforce the house. law on her!"

As soon as he spoke, several muscular men approached Natasha with sharp gazes.

"Stop!"

Just then, Hector suddenly rushed in and shouted angrily, "What are all of you doing? Attempting a rebellion?"

"Uncle Hector, you came right on time." The corner of Dylan's lips curved up into a smile.

"Natasha conspired with outsiders to steal from the family treasury. As the family head, you should enforce the house law personally." His words carried a hidden meaning.

While speaking, he took out a knife and placed it in Hector's hands.

He clearly wanted the father and daughter duo to go against each other.

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"Nonsense!" Hector knocked away the knife offered to him.

"I know Natasha very well. She would never do anything like this! There must have been a mistake!"

When Hector heard that his daughter was in trouble, he immediately rushed home. He didn't expect to be met with such a hostile scene as soon as he stepped inside.

Were they going to enforce the house law? Who dared to enforce the house law while the h ead. of the family was away?

"Uncle Hector, it's impossible to know a person truly. Character is nothing in front of riches."

Dylan shook his head and continued, "The treasury was robbed, and only you and your dau ghter have the keys. If it wasn't Natasha, was it you, then?"

"Nonsense!"

Hector glared at Dylan and exclaimed, "As the family head, I consider myself upright and ho norable. I would never do anything that harms our family!"

"Well, that's certainly unusual. If it wasn't you or Natasha, was it a ghost who did it?" Dylan a sked sarcastically.

The crowd was doubtful upon hearing those words. Although Hector was selfless, it didn't n ecessarily mean that Natasha was innocent.

Since it involved his daughter's safety, even the most upright individuals would struggle to r emain impartial.

"Hector, the treasury theft is not a small matter. Someone has to take responsibility."

"Otherwise, it will be difficult to gain the trust of others!" Trent said sternly.

"Hector, I know you care about your daughter. But this concerns the fate of our family."

"You shouldn't make a judgment based on your emotions!" Jacob added. He was stern, too.

"That's right! Our ancestor's legacy must not be destroyed. Natasha betrayed and stole from us by working with outsiders. She must be punished!"

At that moment, a chorus of voices erupted in a clamor. Since they all had a share of the tre asures within the treasury, they were naturally furious that it was stolen.

"Everyone, calm down!"

Hector raised his hands to calm the crowd. "This matter hasn't been fully investigated yet. W e can't just come to a premature conclusion."

Dylan said, "Uncle Hector, the treasury cannot be opened without the keys. I'd like to ask, w here is your key?"

"Here."

Hector took out a pocket watch hanging around his neck. He opened the lid, revealing a spe cially crafted golden key hidden within. Since it was an important item, he always kept it

on him.

"How about your key, Natasha?" Dylan turned toward her and asked.

"I have it too, of course!" As Natasha spoke, her hands went toward her waist.

However, her expression soon shifted. The key hidden at her waist had disappeared!

"What's wrong? Can't find it?" Dylan smiled sarcastically.

"It should be in my room. I'll go back and look for it."

As Natasha was about to leave, Dylan extended his hand to stop her.

"No need for that. Your key is right here!" Dylan raised his hand.

A golden key was in his hands. Its design, pattern, and engravings were the same as the one in Hector's hand.

"What?"

Natasha was confused. "Why is my key with you?"

"That is a question you should be asking yourself."

Dylan sneered, "Right after the treasury was broken in, I immediately gathered a group of people to capture the thief. I foun d this key on the traitor."

"Bring that traitor in here!" Dylan shouted.

Soon, two guards entered, dragging an injured man in with them. That person was none oth er than one of Natasha's attendants.

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"What?" Upon seeing the man, both Hector and Natasha frowned.

They started to worry.

"Uncle Hector, you should recognize this man, right?"

Dylan walked around the attendant. "I caught this guy as he escaped with the treasures.

"After a thorough interrogation, he confessed and admitted to his crimes. The key to the treasury is the evidence."

"Hey! What are you still standing around for?

"Hurry up and tell us the truth. This is your last chance to redeem yourself!" Ka te stepped. forward and kicked the attendant.

"It's not me... I had nothing to do with it!" With a thud, the man fell to his knees before pointing at Natasha.

He groveled as he cried out, "It was all Miss Natasha's doing! She ordered me to do it.

"I was just following orders. I don't know anything.

"Please, I beg you, spare my life!"

"What are you talking about? When did I ever order you to do such a thing?" N atasha looked

serious.

"Ms. Natasha, we have been exposed. There's no point in denying it.

"You might even get a lighter punishment the sooner you hand over the treasu res," the attendant said mournfully.

"You sure got the guts! How dare you falsely accuse me like that?" Natasha's anger surged uncontrollably.

She didn't expect to be framed by her men. There was no way for her to prove her innocence.

now.

"Natasha, you can stop the act. We have a witness and evidence. Just confes s to your crimes!" Dylan looked at her with eyes full of hostility.

"This is your last chance. If you don't show remorse and continue to be stubborn, we'll have to enforce the house law!"

"Hector, you are the family head. You must enforce the house law, no matter personal reasons! "Trent said sternly.

"The family's interests always come first. Anyone who dares to harm the family's interests is

an enemy of the Harmons!" Jacob declared.

"Enforce the house law!"

"Enforce it!"

The scene turned into chaos with their chants.

At first, they were just suspicious. But now there was both a witness and evide nce; they were sure that Natasha was involved in the theft and had betrayed the family.

It was necessary to enforce the house law in response to such a crime as a warning to others. "Silence!" Hector thundered.

The instant sense of authority reverberated throughout the entire hall.

Instantly, the voices stopped.

"Hector, you are the family head. Will you stand against the law for personal r easons and protect a criminal within the family?" Trent asked.

"Hector, it is unwise to go against public sentiment. You should think this through carefully!" Jacob warned.

"Trent, Jacob, everyone..." Hector took a deep breath before picking the knife up from the ground.

He spoke loudly, "As the family head, I share an equal responsibility for the tre asury theft.

"As a father, I failed to teach my child. Therefore, I hold myself equally accountable.

"I understand that all of you are angered at the situation. That is why I will bear the punishment on behalf of my daughter as a response to your concerns!"

When Hector was done speaking, he suddenly raised the knife and thrust it int o his abdomen. three times in quick succession..

Instantly, blood surged out. It wasn't long before his clothes were stained red.

"What?" Everyone was shocked at the scene.

Nobody expected Hector to stab himself without hesitation. Moreover, he didn't hold back.

Each stab had pierced deep into his flesh and bones.

"Dad!" Natasha's expression shifted as she rushed forward.

However, Hector raised a hand to stop her. Even though he was bleeding prof usely from his abdomen, his body remained upright.

"Uncle Hector, I truly respect your courage. But these three stabs won't clear Natasha of her crime." Dylan narrowed his eyes.

"I understand." Hector nodded.

He

then stated calmly, "That is why I have decided that from this moment on, I will step down. as the family head and hand over all of my assets. I will be bearing all of the consequences!"

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"What? You're stepping down as the family head?" Hector's words caused the crowd to panic.

Since he became the family head, Hector worked diligently and tirelessly to manage the

family. He had kept everything in order.

While no one in the entire family dared to challenge his authority, they found it hard to accept. that he was stepping down.

"Dad! All of this happened because of me.

"I should be the one being punished, if ever. There's no need for you to bear the blame!" Natasha started to panic.

If Hector stepped down from his position and handed over all his assets, deca des of her father's hard work would be ruined.

After that, they would be left with nothing and no chance to turn the situation a round. "Shut it! It's not your place to speak!" Hector turned back and roared.

Power, status, and money were nothing to him compared to his daughter.

"Hector, are you sure about this?" Trent's eyes shone with delight before he re gained his composure.

"Hector,

resigning from the role of the family head is no small matter. You should think properly." Jacob stroked his chin, deep in thought.

"Since a mistake was made, I must accept the consequences. I've made up m y mind. There's no need to persuade me," Hector responded calmly.

"Your sudden resignation would leave us without a leader. This puts us in a difficult situation. "Trent looked troubled.

"Trent, you are both courageous and resourceful and the eldest amongst us. You are more than qualified to take on the role," Hector said.

"That doesn't seem appropriate. I'm afraid it will take time to gain everyone's trust." Trent faked reluctance.

"Trent, your contributions to the family are no less than Hector's. I believe you are very suited for the role!" Jacob showe d his support.

"That's right! Uncle Trent has wisdom and courage. His hard work and achievements are remarkable. He can be the family head," Dylan echoed.

"Dad, it will be hard at first. But since everyone is nominating you, why don't y ou accept it?" Kate said with a smile.

They had struggled this long all for this moment. Thankfully, their determination and efforts didn't go to waste.

Her father had finally risen to power.

"Alright. Since everyone is insistent, I'll try it for a few days.

"If a more suitable candidate shows up, I'll step down and let them take over," Trent humbly, said with a smile.

"With Trent leading the family from now on, I believe the Harmons will reach e ven greater heights!" Jacob took the opportunity to flatter Trent.

"Congratulations, Uncle Trent! Congratulations on becoming the family head of us, Harmons! "Dylan shook his hand.

"Congratulations, Mr. Trent!" The crowd exchanged glances and was quick to catch on.

They congratulated Trent loudly together.

Trent burst into laughter. "Hahaha... Alright! From now on, I will do my best for the family. I will not disappoint you!"

"Trent, congratulations on getting what you wished for. With the injuries I have, may I be excused?" Hector bowed slightly.

"Go ahead. Take good care of yourself." Trent smiled and nodded.

Since he was just appointed the family head, he was in a good mood.

"Hold on!" Kate suddenly called out as the father and daughter were about to I eave.

"Uncle Hector, even though you've taken the blame, it was ultimately Natasha's mistake. If we don't punish her properly, there might be others who would do the same in the future."

"What?" Natasha's expression turned icy.

"We've already surrendered all our assets. What more do you want?"

"By returning the goods that had been stolen, does that mean the theft never happened? Don't you think that would be letting you off too easy?" Kate cross ed her arms.

"Exactly! While we spared you from the death penalty, you must be taught a le sson to prevent you from doing it again!" Dylan stated firmly.

"Don't push it too far! You know very well whether I stole from the family treas ury!" Natasha raised her eyebrows in anger.

She had always been sharp—minded. After what happened earlier, she was sure this had been a

setup.

She was the bait, and her father was the prey. All accusations and schemes w ere planned to

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have Trent as the family head.

"What? The evidence is clear. Are you still going to try to argue your way out of this?" Kate sneered.

"Uncle Trent, you're the family head now. It's up to you to decide how to handle this," Dylan said.