

Unspeakable 2091

Chapter 2091

Leanna did not expect Matthew to refer to a homemade meal when he invited her to lunch. Not only that, he asked that she go grocery shopping with him.

On their way back from the store, he suddenly asked her, "How are things in the South?"

"Everything's fine... Sasha's looking after the properties under your name, and the Ten Greatest Families of Eastshire and Stonedale are helping out too. Businesses are running smoothly. Mr. Quincy is wholly in charge of the production of the Reconstruction Pill, so the production line is more established now."

She summed up the updates from Eastshire and Stonedale while they were walking.

She added, "You need to take good care of yourself in Bainbridge. If you mess around here, I'll go home and tell Sasha about it."

Matthew was relieved to hear the updates. "Miss Sandel, since we're on the topic, I should talk some sense into you. Aren't you tired of shouldering all the burden? You'll need a shoulder to lean on at the end of the day. Is there anyone you're interested in? I can matchmake for you with my reputation as the Lord of Eastshire."

She was incensed at the lecture and pinched his ear in anger. "You rascal! I came to Bainbridge to warn you about Fabien Blanc. How dare you school me in return!"

"Ouch, ouch, it hurts! Let go! Let go now."

They returned to Renew while joking around.

Unbeknownst to them, someone was already waiting for Matthew in the main hall.

When he noticed the Bane sisters, he quickly stopped Leanna's antics. "Miss Sandel, let go now! I have guests..."

Roxanne had visited Renew with the excuse of expressing her gratitude to Matthew; she also planned to get some clues about his relationship with Lola.

Before she had the chance to clarify her doubts, she witnessed him playing around with a different woman. On top of that, he showed up with bags of groceries in both hands. The two appeared like a married couple who had come home from grocery shopping.

What drove her mad was the fact that Leanna looked good with Matthew.

Judging from how they addressed each other, they were not married.

Huh? Does that mean he's picked up a new woman?

That made her blood boil.

Matthew placed the groceries on the floor, rubbed his ears, and went up to Roxanne.

“Miss Roxanne, it’s been a while. How do you feel? Are you fully recovered? You dropped by at the right time. Join us for a meal! We’re making lunch!”

There was nothing wrong with his speech, but Roxanne was irked by how he casually threw around the word ‘us’. To her, he was such an annoying married man.

To his surprise, the shy and introverted Roxanne ignored his friendly invite and scoffed.

Before he knew it, she stomped on his feet hard. “Hmph! You playboy! Join us for a meal? No, thanks!”

With that, she stormed out of the main hall.

What she left was Matthew looked on with a puzzled look.

What’s wrong?

Did I say something inappropriate when I invited her?

Does she not enjoy having lunch and hanging out?

Is that something to be angry about?

Standing beside him, Leanna had no clue about the relationship between Matthew and Roxanne, but as a woman, she was well aware of the reason behind Roxanne’s anger. She was probably jealous at the sight of us playing around.

Little rascal!

I told him not to flirt around, and the next second, a jealous woman popped out of nowhere.

It did not shock her too much, though, as she knew his good looks and friendly personality were chick magnets.

In the middle of the awkwardness, Eleanor walked up to her. “Leanna! Why didn’t you tell me you’re in Bainbridge? I could’ve thrown a welcome party for you!”

Chapter 2092

“Ella, what a coincidence! I didn’t expect to run into you here. I came to Bainbridge in a hurry. That’s why I didn’t tell you about it.” Then, the two women hugged each other.

By then, Eleanor finally connected the dots.

She previously thought that Matthew looked familiar during their first encounter. When she saw Leanna, she finally recalled that she had met him once at the Cloud Nine Cocktail Party in Eastshire that she attended upon Leanna’s invitation.

The memory had been buried in the back of her mind because she did not have a chance to interact with him.

At that time, Leanna had an ambiguous relationship with Matthew, so Eleanor found it amusing that Leanna followed him to Bainbridge.

After the realization, she looked at Matthew through a new lens.

At first, she had planned to get Roxanne to prod him about the number of Flaming Elysian Lotus Seeds in his possession. Although Leanna's presence had ruined her plans, she was not one to give up without putting up a fight. She believed she would have more opportunities to do so in the future.

Eleanor replied, "Sure, Leanna. Let's catch up when you're free! on, and forgive Roxy. She's been in a bad mood for days. Everything irritates her. Please don't take it to heart. I need to leave now, though. Bye!"

With that, she waved at Matthew and Leanna before rushing after Roxanne. There was no point staying on anyway.

Matthew was confused by the sudden visit and abrupt exit of the Bane sisters.

Shrugging, he asked, "What's wrong with them?"

"It's fine... Women have a few moody and angry days in a month." Leanna brushed over the topic with a lazy excuse, for she thought it would be difficult to explain the situation to someone as slow as him.

Sometimes, she wondered how he managed to get the lovely Sasha Cunningham's hand in marriage.

She recalled how he had entered the arranged marriage and settled down as a live-in son-in-law. He and Sasha got married first and fell in love later.

Everything made perfect sense to Leanna now.

At the same time, Matthew dropped his concern about Roxanne and headed to his residence with two huge bags of groceries.

Meanwhile, Salazar was enjoying a sunbathe on the lounge chair in the yard.

The outgoing and active crown prince of Mightwater was having too much fun with the new friends he made in Bainbridge. Had he not visited home once in a while, everyone would have thought he vanished from the surface of the earth. However, Salazar was different in temperament. He preferred a slower and

more peaceful life, evident from how he had spent his days with plants in the South. He also found great satisfaction in the company of a particularly thoughtful lad.

"Mr. Whitford, the tea's ready. I brewed it with the leaves of the Shrewsdon Valley's first harvest. Do you want a taste?"

Salazar accepted the tea and took a sip. Almost immediately, he felt that he had emerged from a sauna as his pores opened up and gave off a pleasant sensation.

Shrewsdon Valley was indeed the largest producer of herbs in Cathay. Even the tea leaves from the valley had their charm.

"Nice tea..."

Roland went up to him with a toady smile after receiving the compliment. “Mr. Whitford, I’m glad you like it. When I visit Shrewsdon Valley again, I’ll mail you ten pounds of tea leaves.”

That promise elicited Salazar’s eyes to light up. After all, the tea from the valley was more valuable than precious medicinal herbs and gold.

This chap is pretty decent...

“Oh, if that’s not too much of trouble, Roland, you’re too kind to me. By the way, you asked me a question yesterday about boosting one’s power, didn’t you? I haven’t explained it to you. Come here. I’ll walk you through the details...”

At the same time, Matthew sweated profusely as he watched the scene unfold.

On his way back from grocery shopping, he had been praising the hidden sect mentees in front of Leanna. He talked about their great potential and their love of learning, and at one point, he even described them as the future of Cathay’s medical field. However, he forgot about Roland, whose existence contradicted all his previous claims.

Chapter 2093

The stove was turned on in the kitchen.

Matthew had planned to make lunch and throw a welcome event for Leanna, but he caved in after her insistent request to cook for everyone. Feeling defeated, he helped her with the appetizers and some kitchen prep.

They busied themselves for an hour, and the feast was all set.

“Lunch’s ready! Enjoy Leanna’s garlic butter shrimp!”

The mentees from the hidden sects were all seated at the table. Ever since they had a taste of Matthew’s cooking, they were amazed by his culinary skills.

They sat in anticipation when they heard that he was preparing lunch.

Leanna laid the dishes on the table, and Easton hurriedly reached out to grab a shrimp with his bare hand. With a swift reflex, she slapped him on the back of his hand before he could touch the plate.

“No eating before you wash your hands!”

She was the second eldest in the group, just after Salazar. She sounded like a parent at the dining table, which added to the coziness and home-cook vibe at lunch.

When Easton returned from handwashing, he was heartbroken to find the plate filled with shrimp empty. Those who wiped the plate clean poked fun at his misfortune by praising the food to the heavens.

“Wow, Leanna. You make delicious food!”

“Right? The shrimps were so fresh and tasty. They were chewy too!”

“That was the best dish I’ve ever had!”

Seeing this, Easton was close to tears.

“Can you guys have some empathy? You don’t have to tell me how good it was. You crossed a line there...”

Everyone ignored him and continued taking food out of fear that the other dishes would be wiped out soon.

“Wait! Leave some for me!”

“Easton, if you keep talking, there won’t even be any soup left!”

He joined the fight for food at the reminder, and the lunch thus ended amid laughter and chit-chat.

Matthew brought Leanna to the foot of the hill behind Renew Pharmaceuticals with the excuse of going out for a walk.

The area was mostly deserted, and only Salazar and Roland would occasionally show up there to practice fighting.

“This is the latest drug I invented. It’s very effective on bruises and scratches. Look at this...”

Then, Matthew retrieved the rusty Bloodreaper and gently cut the back of his hand before the wound bled profusely.

Leanna was initially shocked by his sudden act of self-injury, but she witnessed how the bleeding stopped after he applied a pale green balm. More surprisingly, the wound completely healed when he cleaned up the ointment.

If it were not for the blood stain, one would not have seen any trace of the injury.

Within seconds, her expression had shifted from horror to shock.

How is there such a miraculous balm on earth?!

She would not have believed in its effect had she not witnessed it with her eyes.

After the demonstration, Matthew told her, “I plan to hand you the formula of the diluted version of this balm. The effects won’t be as miraculous, but it will still be miles better than the ones on the market...”

He did not mind sharing the original formula, but the powerful effect of the Auric balm might lead to a repeat of the Reconstruction Pill incident if marketed. Therefore, he diluted the content of the ointment.

Meanwhile, Leanna was puzzled by his generosity. “Why would you share the formula with me? You can produce this miracle balm on your own.”

As a longtime businesswoman, she immediately sensed the great potential of the Auric balm, even if it was a diluted version.

“No, that won’t work... You told me the Damrons are working with the Emsgate miracle doctors to take me down. If I produced the balm, they’d sabotage it. I don’t want to attract too much attention either.”

Chapter 2094

“You should take advantage of this period when the Damrons are focused on me to speed up the production of the diluted version and capture the market share. I’ve also converted the balm into a liquid state in the formula for easy production and sales.”

He had other considerations by handing Leanna the formula.

For one, he wanted to express his gratitude to her for traveling to Bainbridge to warn him. On the other hand, he intended to strengthen her business capabilities.

Creative Cloud Group was a fairly huge corporation in the South, an existence that rivaled the influence of the Sandel Family. However, the group could yet categorize as mid-tier on a national level.

Matthew had selfish considerations in his plan, he wanted to build a stronger Creative Cloud Group to back him up in the future.

After hearing his explanation, Leanna immediately went to work, understanding that time was of the essence. If she could not capture the market share before the Damrons found out about the Auric balm, she would be the target of their sabotage.

Right after she received the formula from Matthew, she swiftly instructed the group to prepare for production.

Leanna was indeed a slick businesswoman.

Two days later, a product named Creative Cloud Spray was successfully marketed. Convenient to carry around, effective, and cheap, the spray instantly became a hot product.

Due to its excellent product performance, representatives from major pharmaceutical companies fought to meet with her to negotiate product sales, and their orders were worth millions.

Naturally, she became occupied because of her booming business. She had to discuss the matters of purchase and distribution with major pharmaceutical companies, and she took charge of the production increase of the spray to ensure its smooth expansion.

Although she was exhausted, she enjoyed the success.

The spray pushed Creative Cloud Group to the height of popularity across the nation and expanded the group’s capabilities. Although the pharmaceutical industry was fast changing, most new inventions were unworthy of mentioning.

Only Creative Cloud Spray disrupted the industry by raising the bar for external medicines, whose impact was akin to throwing a giant rock into a tranquil lake, creating a ripple effect in the industry.

At the same time, the powerful families and their companies zoomed in on Leanna, albeit with a different motive than the pharmaceutical companies.

They did not care about the marginal profits from the orders but the joint-production agreement to maximize profits.

While things were getting heated up on Leanna's side, Roxanne was spacing out in the garden's pavilion, just like she always did when upset.

That day, the Bane Family welcomed a mysterious guest.

When her mind was wandering, a young man slowly approached her from behind. "Roxy!"

The sudden sound made her jump before she turned around as excitement crept in.

"Anthony, when did you come back? And why didn't you tell me? I could've picked you up."

The guest was none other than Anthony Harding, who stared dotingly at his adorable and chirpy niece.

"Well, your mom's birthday celebration is around the corner. That's why I'm back. You look different! I haven't seen you in a while, and you're a beautiful woman now."

Suddenly, his expression changed. "Roxy, did your breathing problem go away?"

Upon closer inspection, he realized she had a different air around her. The weak and depressed Roxanne in his memory was gone as she exhibited the vigor of youth.

Chapter 2095

However, at the mention of that, Roxanne withdrew her smile. "Yeah. It has been healed..."

After a brief explanation from her, Anthony roughly understood the whole situation.

As the Bane Family's precious granddaughter, her dyspnea worried the entire family. Hence, he was glad to hear that his niece had healed.

"That's great. Your body heals fast. I need to schedule some time to personally thank Dr. Larson..."

At the mention of Matthew's name, however, her face always carried a hint of sadness.

Although Anthony was only six to seven years older than Roxanne, he could tell at a glance what was wrong with her. Despite that, he knew his niece well. She might be introverted, but she had a stubborn character.

There's no point in badgering her into telling if she doesn't want to...

At that thought, he came up with a plan. "Alright, Roxy. I gotta go now..."

Given that her uncle had just arrived and hadn't spent much time with her, she told him to stay. "Huh, so soon? You rarely visit Bainbridge, though. Let me treat you to a meal, or Grandpa and the rest of the family will think I'm rude."

In response to that, Anthony offered Roxanne a smile. "I have a lot to settle during this trip. After completing all my tasks, I'll pay you another visit and treat you to a meal. Look, I came in such a rush that I didn't even bring you a gift."

After saying that, he spread his palms to show they were empty.

Seeing that, she decided not to make him stay. On the other hand, he left after hastily saying goodbye to her. Anthony did, in fact, need to take care of a few things while in Bainbridge.

First, he had to host a birthday banquet for Old Madam Bane, his aunt.

Second, he needed to visit Leanna Sandel to talk to her about the Creative Cloud Spray collaboration.

And, the third, the most important thing on his agenda, was to attend the re-election of the Martial League.

Though the Martial League and CAUMP were two different organizations, they sought to unite forces and maintain order. As an armed organization, the Martial League played a significant role in the military. Consequently, the re-election was important.

The military was present everywhere and consisted primarily of the Ground Force, Marine Corps, Armored Corps, Police Force, Inspection Team, and Undercover Team. They are pivotal figures in controlling and leading the organization.

The formation of the Martial League would inevitably involve members of the greatest families, some of whom were involved in the great war in the South. Some even resorted to outright plotting to advance their own goals. In the

meantime, some family members were using their influence in the organization to join the battlefield. After the war, the Martial League suffered heavy damage and lost some of its manpower.

The struggle for interests had always been bloody and brutal, but they eventually received the appropriate warnings and punishments.

Due to that, the families restrained themselves and resorted to silent wars instead of open battles. Hence, the combat power of the Martial League had been reduced to an unprecedented level.

As a result, the relationship between martial art practitioners and influential families was even more closely linked. It drove the launch of an era where martial art practitioners were respected and those with power were admired.

Ultimately, the Martial League was in charge of internal affairs, while the Armored Corps was responsible for external affairs. Due to the Armored Corps' role as a border defense force, the general populace was utterly subservient to the military and the country.

Without a doubt, it was also the bottom line. No matter how complex the power dynamics of powerful families become, they must always maintain the same dynamics. Moreover, it could provide a certain amount of assistance to talent transfer. After all, if children from powerful families were talented in martial arts, they could be nurtured.

Conversely, the Armored Corps usually stood guard at the borders.

They joined forces with the Marine Corps or other organizations to expand the boundaries. Hence, the re-election of the Martial League held great importance.

Chapter 2096

Since the Martial League had previously gone through serious turmoil, all parties involved were subject to severe punishments after the incident was settled.

Those who required execution were executed, while those who needed imprisonment were imprisoned. However, the organization couldn't possibly eradicate everyone who was involved.

These people were nothing more than scumbags. Even after years of continuous investigation, the masterminds behind the scenes were continually brought to light.

Nonetheless, four incidents made the Martial League wary again.

The first incident involved an interception team attempting to steal Matthew's recipe for Reconstruction Pill. Although the Martial League and CAUMP had issued a joint statement prohibiting the use of dishonest means to steal the secret formulas of others, unknown forces still plotted to kill Matthew. Though most of them were small-scale organizations, it was obvious that there was a primary mastermind behind them.

Second, it was due to the Thunder Clan of Emsgate attacking Renew Pharmaceuticals. Even though it was a conflict between dark forces, the Martial League acted slowly. In conclusion, someone was purposefully trying to cause chaos.

Thirdly, despite the distance, offenders had to be punished. The most apparent incident occurred when General Cobalt dispatched his men to escort Matthew to Bainbridge. At the same time, someone still tried to ambush Matthew along the way. Then, the Marine Corps was sent to kill six management-level seniors from the Thunder Clan.

On the other hand, the Baeddán Family made an undisclosed offer of mining rights to an island in exchange for Orlaith's safety.

Lastly, it was due to the news delivered by the Undercover Team.

In recent years, neighboring countries have begun aggressively developing military and medical talent training programs because martial arts and medical aspects were fundamental factors in determining a country's strength.

A perfect case in point was the attack on Renew Pharmaceuticals by the Thunder Clan. They might have been young, but their members included masters in martial arts and skilled medical practitioners.

Aside from the hidden sects, the proportion of Emsgate's young generation practicing medicine has increased year after year.

The re-election of the Martial League, which was only held once every five years, should not be delayed another two years. In addition, the four incidents mentioned served as a wake-up call to the military that it was time to bring in fresh faces to the Martial League to root out any unforeseen danger.

Although this was the time that was supposed to be the Holy Doctor Competition's preparation phase, the military decided not to delay the re-election of the Martial League.

At the moment, their priority was to strengthen the country's foundation. If they waited another two years, neighboring countries might have a chance to overtake Cathay.

The concept of being neglected if one fell behind applied to their situation. Moreover, the re-election this time would be different from the past. It wasn't just a process of seniors delegating tasks to juniors; the goal was also to recruit new members.

Concurrently, the military objective was to use the re-election as bait to bring the mastermind out into the open.

As soon as even the slightest clue was revealed, the military would mercilessly put an end to them.

Since time was of the essence, incompetent members of the Martial League had to be banished if the organization was to thrive rapidly and effectively.

In particular, the fields of martial arts and medicine were notably different from one another.

Medical practitioners relied on their knowledge and experience, making them more valuable as they aged. On the other hand, martial arts practitioners tend to experience a decline in their strength as they get older.

In the Martial League, no one could carry on the older generation's legacy if they were to retire. During this process, the next generation would be unable to maintain the knowledge learned from the older generation. Consequently, the development of the Martial League would likely be halted without a sufficient deterrent effect.

Ultimately, they could only watch the rapid growth of neighboring countries and how they would eventually overthrow Cathay.

On the other hand, the masterminds couldn't care less because they were only concerned with their own interests. Thus, recruiting new blood for the Martial League to encourage growth was also prioritized.

Even though Matthew was involved in three of the four incidents, it would be wrong to assume that the military took those actions due to his involvement.

They would make the same choice regardless of who was involved, whether they were a major or minor figure. Thus, it was simply a coincidence.

Following insider information about the upcoming re-election of the Martial League, great forces began to panic.

Chapter 2097

While hidden forces in the upper class grew steadily, the same could be said of the issues brewing in the lower class.

As the night deepened, dark clouds hovered around the moon. Soon, the sky plunged into complete darkness.

Under the lights, Fabien pulled out a refitted medicine box. After he took ten pills according to the order, his originally ashen face slowly turned rosy. Then, he placed a small porcelain jar on the table.

When he opened the lid and reached into the jar, he felt a movement in his sleeves.

Soon, a rainbow-pattern serpent as thin as a stick peeked its head out and hissed at him. Slowly, it climbed onto the flowerpot and into the jar. Then, it began enjoying the food inside.

After the serpent passed by the pot, the plant inside began to wilt at a rate visible to the naked eye. On the other hand, he watched the scene with satisfaction.

At that moment, the wind began to pick up outside the window, causing the leaves and branches to sway. Then, five figures slowly emerged from behind Fabien.

“Why are you late?” Sensing the movement behind him, he questioned.

Though Fabien’s voice was calm, the five people instantly fell to their knees.

One of them explained in a trembling voice, “Master, we were late because we were hunted down on the way...”

After hearing that, he scrunched his brows in dissatisfaction. “Why don’t you kill them, then? Do I still have to teach you such trivial matters after spending all my resources and energy training you? You should be well aware of my character after training with me for so long. I never waste time training useless trash.”

As soon as he finished his sentence, the serpent in the jar seemed to sense Fabien’s dismay.

Within the blink of an eye, it had slithered its way up to his owner’s shoulder and hissed at the other five people.

At the sight of the rainbow devil’s serpent, the five people felt their scalps turn numb. After years of training under their master, they knew how deadly the snake could be.

As long as he issued the command, the serpent could quickly eliminate all five. Instantaneously, they felt their palms begin to sweat.

Then, one of the women stutter-talked her way out of death. “M-Master, it’s not that we don’t want to kill, but the chaser was...”

Before she could finish her sentence, a rustle sounded from the windows.

“You don’t have to ask them. I was the one who hunted them down!”

Looking in the direction of the voice, they saw a beautiful figure standing on top of the windowsill. A gigantic sword was slung over her shoulders as she hopped down from the windowsill.

After landing on the ground lightly, she entered the house.

At that moment, Fabien grinned when the light shone on her face.

“Hi, Freya... Long time no see.” He eventually realized why his subordinates dared not counterattack.

Freya Green turned out to be the chaser, and she also used to be his junior who trained alongside him.

“How has Master Heath been lately? Is he still well?”

At the mention of the unrivaled swordsman, her expression sank. “You’ve long been expelled by Master Heath. Aren’t you embarrassed about calling his name?!”

Even though she didn't know why he was expelled, she disliked her senior, who had betrayed their master.

Freya recalled that Fabien was already one of Master Heath's disciples when she first joined. Ever since their first meeting, she realized that her senior had always looked sick.

From time to time, he would clutch his chest and cough violently.

What everyone didn't expect was that due to Fabien's appearance and illness, Master Heath valued him.

Among her seniors, Master Heath took bias in Fabien. He even publicly praised Fabien for having the most experience and qualifications in martial arts. Even more unsettling was that he was not only extraordinarily talented in martial arts but also possessed remarkable talents in medicine.

Chapter 2098

In the eyes of others, Fabien was just an ill man who wasn't worthy of his outstanding talent.

Based on their usual growth trajectory, he should be a master of both medicine and martial arts, an existence that no one could beat in the world.

One day, however, Freya overheard him quarreling with Master Heath. Even though she couldn't hear what they were arguing, she could tell Master Heath was enraged.

After injuring Fabien with a single blow, Heath warned him that he would no longer acknowledge him as a disciple if he continued his obsession.

Despite not knowing what they were arguing about, everyone assumed that Fabien would be forgiven as long as he apologized for his mistakes because of how much Master Heath adored him. Instead, everyone was taken aback when Fabien publicly announced that he was severing ties with Master Heath.

After that, he stomped away, and no one ever heard from him again. It wasn't until much later that someone discovered he was lurking in the Isle of Snakes, a forbidden place for living beings.

Although he was reprimanded by Freya, he did not present any look of gloominess.

Instead, he nodded with a smile. "Alright, alright. Let's not talk about that old man. Speaking of which, why are you hunting my subordinates down?"

Hearing that question, she exuded a murderous aura. "Hah! Your subordinates killed a few innocent people, so I tried eliminating them before they could harm even more people."

"Hmm? What happened?"

Hearing their master's question, his subordinates hurriedly explained the whole incident.

After receiving their orders from Fabien a few days ago, they left the Isle of Snakes as quickly as possible to make their way to Bainbridge. However, they happened to bump into a few passersby.

When the passersby saw their female companions' beauty, they became lustful and teased the two women. As they were cruel and merciless, Fabien's subordinates killed those who tried to tease them.

Their act was unfortunately witnessed by Freya, who happened to pass by.

After that, she started chasing and hunting the five of them. Putting aside their capability of killing her, they dared not fight back as they knew she was their master's junior.

On the other hand, Fabien did not demonstrate a significant reaction after hearing their narration.

They only killed some men! it's not like they committed a major offense!

I'll be furious if they don't kill those jerks!

"Hey, Freya, they merely killed a few jerks. Regard them as punishing the evil and promoting the good, alright? Can't you spare them, for my sake? I'm your senior, after all..."

After hearing that, she snickered at his plea. "Senior? A traitor is not worthy of mentioning those words. Anyway, I was on my way to find you, and these five people surely saved much of my time. You've betrayed the Unrivaled Swordsmen Sect, so you should return the Executioner's Sword gifted to you by Master Heath!"

Freya's request made Fabien shake his head. "I shall return the sword personally, but now is not the time. I have one more person to kill with that sword."

"Hah! Traitor! If you're not going to cooperate, I'm going to get it by myself! Anyway, I should eliminate any traitors on behalf of the Unrivaled Swordsmen Sect!"

Before she finished her sentence, she held her sword with both hands and slashed at him boldly.

Watching her actions, Fabien was shocked to find that Freya had mastered the art of the sword at such a young age.

Sure enough, there is no mediocre disciple under the guidance of the unrivaled swordsman.

Still, do you think that's all you need to knock me down?

With that thought, he shifted sideways like a fallen leaf and swiftly avoided her attack.

On the other hand, she wasn't even surprised when she missed her target. With a shake of her arm, she turned the blade around and aimed it at her senior. Then, she attacked him sideways.

Heh! He'd be cut in half if my blade slashed him!

Much to Freya's dismay, Fabien merely tapped his feet and distanced himself from her instantly as if he could fly.

Her expression darkened as she stepped forward and continued swinging the knife wildly. No matter how she attacked, he managed to avoid her like a loach. There was no way she could hurt him.

Chapter 2099

Freya became exhausted after a series of attacks, her sweat beaded on her forehead.

Seeing that, Fabien smiled. "Give up already, Freya. You have put in a lot of work practicing, but you are not yet my equal!"

Having trained under the same master, he was well aware of the pros and cons of the sword. Even though the sword was highly explosive and lethal, it was still a weapon that weighed one to two pounds. It required excessive physical exertion and lacked flexibility.

If his opponent faced off against someone as nimble as him, he would quickly wear them down physically.

Hearing Fabien's warning, Freya merely sneered. "That's not necessarily the case!"

As soon as she finished her sentence, the atmosphere around her changed instantly.

Her majestic sword skills exploded once again. With a determined gaze, she started attacking her senior.

"The same approach won't kill me!" Then, he offered her a wry smile and shook his head.

Suddenly, Fabien's expression changed drastically as he prepared to employ the same tactic to avoid her attacks.

He noticed the initially bulky sword instantly became flexible and swift in Freya's hands. Caught off guard, he barely avoided all her strikes.

With one hand on the ground, he did a few backflips to distance himself from her. "Mastered the ability to hold the sword as lightly as a feather?"

Instantaneously, a small cut appeared on his cheek. Before he could even react, the sword was aimed at him again.

Under the cold blades, he could only dodge sideways. He appeared to easily avoid them, but a closer inspection revealed that he was becoming increasingly out of breath.

Despite his knowledge of his junior's abilities, Fabien could not withstand the swift and sharp speed of the sword.

I can't be so passive anymore!

He avoided her attack once again after sighing inwardly. Then, as he stared at Freya's sword, he slowly gathered his aura.

From this point on, he was going to start taking things seriously.

When she was about to launch another strike, his body floated. Under the dim lights, a superimposed shadow appeared behind him. He was using the Phantom Technique!

On the other hand, Freya was unreconciled. Since taking the Godly Emergence Pill Matthew provided, she has not only increased her cultivation base but also learned to wield swords with the deftness of a feather. Her strength increased significantly as a direct result of that.

Still, she couldn't beat Fabien at all.

Unable to knock him clown, she couldn't bear to hold back anymore. Immediately, she activated her secret technique.

Feeling her nimbus surging, she grabbed the sword with one hand. She then gathered strong winds around her following the rise of her blade, fallen leaves drawn together by an invisible force.

In an instant, a vast vortex was formed.

Her secret technique was called the Meteor Technique.

At that moment, she swung her sword with such speed that the naked eye couldn't keep up. Though Fabien was mentally prepared to dodge her strike, the sword still cut through his chest. Soon, the coldness of the blade continued to abate.

In the blink of an eye, the two trees that stood grounded in the courtyard slowly coHapsed.

In the meantime, Fabien looked down at his bleeding wound. However, he wasn't upset at all. Instead, he looked at her with relief.

"I never expected you to improve this much, Freya..."

"Hah! I don't need you to remind me of that!" With that, Freya swung her sword once again.

This time, however, he didn't avoid her. With a slight movement of his body, he disappeared into thin air. When he reappeared, he was already standing beside her. Then, he attacked her with his palm.

However, Fabien's sudden attack caught Freya off guard because she did not anticipate him having any energy left after their fight.

At such a critical moment, she could only raise her sword to shield herself from the attack. However, when his palm collided with her sword, the expected impact did not happen.

"Watch out, Freya!" Following the warning, he activated the Bane Family's trick, which was the One Inch Punch. With the shake of his hand, a dark shadow flashed past and disappeared in an instant.

Freya was suddenly forced to retreat by a powerful force. After standing still, she felt her arm going numb.

At this time, Fabien finally withdrew all his attacks.

In a nonchalant tone, he remarked, "You've lost, Freya..."

"Who said that?!" she hollered as she raised her sword to attack him again.

Before she could take another step forward, she felt dizzy, and her limbs slowly turned weak.

"You used poison! That's unfair!"

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At this moment, Freya could no longer stand still. She would have fallen if the sword hadn't been driven into the ground to prop her up.

Seeing her condition, Fabien shrugged and commented, "Things are not as simple as you believe. I have obligations that I must fulfill. Ah! Forget about it, as I don't want to waste time explaining, so please leave..."

After saying that, he pulled a bottle from his pocket and tossed it at her. "The rainbow devil's serpent may not have bitten you, but you inhaled its poison. If you don't take the antidote in time, it will damage your foundation. Now go back. You shouldn't get involved in certain matters..."

After that, he entered his room without another word.

Soon, past events started popping into his mind when the matter was brought up again. Even though he was a Bane Family member and one of the family's central figures, he became their enemy after someone sowed discord between him and the family.

Fighting the entire Bane Family alone was a bit of an exaggeration. Therefore, after many rounds of fighting, he sustained numerous internal wounds.

Soon, Fabien started believing in rumors and gossip.

Someone claimed that as long as one could get their hand on the precious treasure of the South, one's cultivation base would soar to an all-time high.

He knew that he could destroy the entire Bane Family with that treasure. Therefore, he wavered upon hearing the rumor.

Despite suffering from internal injuries, he participated in the great battle in the South without hesitation. Unfortunately, after the war ended, he not only did not receive any benefits, but he also sustained additional injuries. In addition, the Martial League was enraged upon learning of it and decided to severely punish everyone involved.

Without that person's intervention, Fabien would have been taken into custody or executed by the Martial League. However, he was desperate to kill that person whenever he thought about the person who had begged for him. Unfortunately, he struggled to survive then and couldn't even consider seeking revenge.

In desperation, he could only escape Bainbridge with injuries. Later, he met Heath Solis, the unrivaled swordsman.

Heath cited Fabien's outstanding talent as an excuse to heal his internal wounds and even accepted him as his disciple.

Sadly, they could not eradicate the underlying cause of his injuries after he sustained new injuries while his old wounds were still unhealed, and treatment was frequently delayed. Due to that, he had to rely on drugs to suppress his internal injuries. Ever since Fabien joined the Unrivaled Swordsmen Sect, Heath trained him wholeheartedly.

After some time, Freya, who joined later, became his junior.

Fabien had a great time back then but was disappointed when he learned Heath planned to make him the heir to the Unrivaled Swordsmen Sect to control the Bane Family. He later confronted Heath about it, and his master admitted it willingly. He even promised that as long as Fabien could control the Banes, the Unrivaled Swordsmen Sect could nurture him into the best in the world.

Despite resenting the Banes, there was no way Fabien would allow himself to be used the second time. Whatever happened afterward was as per described by Freya.

Even though he decided to betray the Unrivaled Swordsmen Sect, it didn't influence his affection for Freya. Otherwise, whether it was the One Inch Punch or the rainbow devil's serpent, he could've easily used them to kill her if he wanted to.

On the other hand, Freya was still unreconciled while standing behind him. The reason she looked for Fabien was not just to retrieve the Executioner's Sword but also to ask him about what he saw in Cloud Cave back then.

The Bane Family was naturally confident as they could become one of the Ten Greatest Families of Bainbridge. Their secret location, Cloud Cave, gave them confidence.

According to rumors, the cave contained shocking secrets. Anyone who entered could be cleansed of sins and become a one-of-a-kind martial arts prodigy. Despite that, they were still rumors after all.

The mysteries of Cloud Cave have been kept hidden until now.

Fabien was one of the few people who knew about the truth inside.

Freya discovered him intended to go against Matthew based on her gathered information, so she had another plan. She planned to murder Fabien after completing the task assigned to her by her master.

Everything would be over once he was killed. Unfortunately, she didn't seem to be his opponent at all.

Glancing at the antidote in her hand, she frowned and gritted her teeth. Then, she took it out of the bottle and swallowed it. In an instant, the feeling of weakness dissipated.

"I heard you've entered the Bane Family's Cloud Cave before, so Master Heath sent me to find out what you saw," she asked.

Hearing that question, Fabien suddenly halted in his tracks.