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Kill Me If You Want To

“Who are you?” Shane was baffled.

“Seeing as you’re about to die, I’ll be kind and tell you. I’m the third elder of the Crescent Sect. The recently missing girls were all my doings. What can you do about it?”

The master laughed maniacally.

Shane’s expression darkened at his confession. He never thought the third elder of Crescent Sect would impersonate a diviner in a temple. The sect’s abilities had far surpassed the Department of Justice’s prediction.

The elder’s ability was much stronger than him. Shane couldn’t annihilate the entire Crescent Sect even if he possessed immense talent. There were also the four elders and the head of the sect.

He couldn’t understand why Theodore would send him to annihilate Crescent Sect. With his skills, he couldn’t have completed his mission.

Theodore wasn’t putting his hope on Shane but on Jared for the task. The general was sure Jared could obliterate the organization if he made a move.

Shane had no choice but to grit his teeth and hold on. He unleashed his energy to the limit and continued to fight with the third elder.

No matter how hard Shane tried, he lost.

Boom!

The third elder exerted a punch toward Shane’s chest, rendering him backward, crashing into the window. The glass from the window shattered into a million tiny shards.

Blood sputtered from Shane's mouth. He wanted to get up but couldn't even after numerous times. His subordinates were all lying on the ground. They were dead or severely injured.

"I quite admire the bravery of the Department of Justice to send a mere Senior Grandmaster to pick a fight against Crescent Sect. Are you underestimating us?"

The third elder reached Shane's side and stomped on the latter's chest.

"Stop talking and kill me if you want to."

Despite his defeat, Shane didn't display even a bit of fear in his eyes.

"I have heard about the brave men of the Department of Justice. It looks like that rumor is true. However, I'm not going to let you die so easily."

The third elder sneered and stomped on Shane's chest again, cracking a few ribs this time.

The excruciating pain had Shane sweating bullets, yet he gritted his teeth and withheld from making any sound.

Megan paled at the sight and turned her head to the side. She didn't want to watch what would happen next.

Before departing from the hotel, she disliked, even hated Shane, but at that moment, she hoped he would pull through.

Her warning of Shane's bloody calamity earlier that day wasn't to rile him up. It came true. Alas, she couldn't predict her own adversity.

At that time, Jared had walked out of the resort, following a stream into a deeper part of Crescent Sect where there were fewer tourists. In the end, there was no one around but him. The two towering mountains beside him had blocked the sun's rays, enshrouding the canyon in darkness.

Jared continued to study the terrain around him and searched for any spiritual energy pulses in the surrounding. Most of the members of Crescent Sect were mages. They would have faint spiritual energy pulses within them. Jared would sense it if any of them were in the vicinity.

It would be great if he could find the base, but he knew organizations like Crescent Sect were secretive. They wouldn't set up their base at a spot that tourists could easily stumble upon.

He continued his trek deeper into the canyon. After a long walk, he sensed a few spiritual energy pulses heading toward him. He set back his lifted foot onto the ground.

Looking around the empty canyon, Jared flicked a ball of spiritual energy from his fingers. It traveled a few inches, then slammed into a barrier of sort and flashed red. The flash of red spread out around the barrier like a spiderweb then was gone the next second.

"They even set up an array here."

Jared smirked at that knowledge, then spun on his heels and left.

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The Main Enemy

Within the temple hall, the ego of the third elder of Crescent Sect inflated, looking at the poor state Shane was in.

"It looks like my divination skill has improved. Even Dante's physiognomy is no match for me," the third elder cackled. Glee and excitement filled him with both Tristan and Megan in his grasp.

"You better let us go, else the Baileys of Jadeborough won't let this matter slide. The Baileys could annihilate a mere Crescent Sect," a pale Tristan threatened with murderous intent shining in his eyes.

"Do you think I'm scared of the Baileys? I was aware of your identity, and still, I captured you. I want to exchange you for heaps of herbs from the Herb Palace. The ability of the Crescent Sect would then rise to another level," the third elder taunted with a cruel grin.

Tristan couldn't manage a retort and merely glared at him to express his anger. He couldn't do anything since the gap between his and the third elder's capabilities were too wide.

Megan's entire body was trembling as she leaned closer to Tristan.

"Since your divination skill is that good, can you predict your death?"

A dispassionate voice came from outside the hall.

"Mr. Chance!"

Hope blossomed within Tristan at Jared's voice.

He knew they had a chance to live with Jared there.

"Who is it? Come out!" shouted the third elder with a displeased frown.

Jared slowly appeared at the door. The sunlight shone on him, casting a long shadow in the hall.

"You are?" The third elder narrowed his eyes at Jared, feeling the latter was familiar. Then, his eyes widened when he recalled. "You're Jared Chance?"

"I didn't expect you to know me." Jared was surprised that an elder from Crescent Sect would know of him.

"You have killed numerous elites of the sect. Of course, I know of you. I never thought you would dare to step foot in here. You're digging your grave for coming here, for hell awaits you."

The third elder unleashed his aura instantly, and his subordinates quickly surrounded Jared.

Every member of Crescent Sect knew of Jared. He was their main enemy.

"Well, I will go wherever I want to, even Hell."

As the last word came out of his mouth, he disappeared.

Without catching a glimpse of him, the men surrounding him fell to the ground.

The third elder was stunned. Even Shane, who was lying under his foot, was staring wide-eyed at Jared. The third elder hadn't expected a young man in his twenties to possess such a terrifying ability.

Fear engulfed the elder. Jared's ability had surpassed his expectation. He had a glimpse of Jared's true abilities back in Tayhaven Town's arena. However, the latter's abilities had risen again in less than a month.

"The Crescent Sect's abilities are nothing much. Aren't you shameless for calling it hell?" Jared taunted and strode toward the third elder.

"Don't come any closer, or I'll kill him."

The third elder's eyes were filled with fear as he stomped on Shane again as a warning toward Jared.

If he exerted more force, Shane would die with a hole in his chest.

"What does it have to do with me if you kill him? I'm not a member of the Department of Justice. Kill him if you want to."

Jared continued to approach the third elder with an indifferent look.

"Don't come any closer! I'll kill him! I'll do it!" the third elder screamed at Jared with reddened eyes and a shivering body.

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No Regrets Dying

"Mr. Chance, kill him and end the Crescent Sect. I don't have any regrets about dying!" Shane uttered determinedly.

"Did you hear that?" Jared smiled. "He has no qualms dying."

"Ahh!" Elijah let out a crazed shriek. Immediately, he raised his foot, prepared to deliver the final blow that would end Shane's life.

Bang!

Before Elijah could stomp down, Jared darted forward and slammed a hand into the former's chest. In an instant, Elijah's entire body was thrown backward before he collided against the statue, turning it into smithereens.

Shane closed his eyes, ready to face his impending death. But for the longest time, nothing hit him. Hesitantly, Shane opened his eyes, only to realize that Elijah had vanished. Instead, Jared now occupied the space where the elder once stood.

"Can you still stand? If you can, stop playing dead," Jared said as he glanced at Shane.

Gritting his teeth, Shane fought against the pain as he struggled to his feet. I can still move despite my broken ribs.

Similarly, Elijah pushed himself to his feet from the wreckage. His face had turned deathly pale, and crimson blood spilled out of his mouth.

The corners of Jared's lips upturned into a cold smile. "It's time to send you on your way. No matter how good your divination is, you failed to predict your death today."

Thump! Elijah fell to his knees in front of Jared.

"Please don't kill me! Fabian implanted the parasite in me, leaving me with no choice but to obey his orders. Please spare my life. I can help you infiltrate the Crescent Sect if you do so. I know how to avoid and disable its traps," Elijah begged fervently as he groveled at Jared's feet.

"How could those flimsy traps stop me? You are of no use to me," Jared replied as he raised his fist, prepared to deliver the killing blow.

"Don't kill me! I know where the abducted women are being held. I can free them all. If you dawdle any longer, it might be too late to save them!" Elijah added hastily.

At that, Jared knitted his brows together. If I kill Elijah, those women might die...

Upon noticing Jared's hesitance, a look of delight flitted across Elijah's gaze. Seizing this opportunity, he scrambled toward Megan.

Elijah's sudden advancement caught Megan entirely off-guard. Immediately, Tristan moved to shield her behind him and glared at Elijah distrustfully.

"Ms. Simmons, please help me. I had no choice! Fabian forced us to do his bidding by using the parasites, and we couldn't even retaliate. If it weren't for that, I would have never betrayed your father!" Elijah pleaded. He hoped to gain Megan's sympathy.

"Betray my father?" Megan's eyes grew twice as large. "What do you mean?"

"Ms. Simmons, we used to be Mr. Simmons' subordinates. It wasn't until Fabian overthrew your father that he took over the Crescent Sect. We had to obey him because of the parasites he implanted in our bodies. Furthermore, Fabian recently hatched a plot against him. Hence, he wanted to abduct you and use you as leverage against Mr. Simmons," Elijah explained.

"Y-You're lying..." Megan was instantly dumbstruck. She glared at Elijah and spat, "How could you lot be my father's subordinates? You are all bad men. Besides, isn't the Crescent Sect a holiday resort? When did my father become the leader of a sect?"

In truth, Dante had kept all of this from Megan in hopes that she'd be able to lead an ordinary life. He didn't want his daughter following in his footsteps.

He even took the necessary measure to send her all the way to Jadeborough to pursue her studies.

"Ms. Simmons, the Crescent Sect is an organization. The holiday resort was merely a ruse to hide it from the public eye. The real Crescent Sect lies within the resort. Mr. Simmons was the founder of our sect," Elijah added.

"How is that possible? Why did my own father lie to me? What else is he hiding from me?" Megan demanded. Never in her wildest dreams did she expect her father to be the leader of an organization.

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Growing Suspicion

“Stop blabbering on. Bring me to the women so I can free them,” Jared said icily.

“All right.” Elijah bobbed his head in agreement. Without any further delays, he led Jared to the back of the chapel.

Shane clenched his jaw and followed suit. Similarly, Tristan helped a stricken Megan along.

Behind the chapel loomed an enormous cliff. Its towering height would cause one to feel a sense of foreboding.

Elijah walked to the cliff and rapped his knuckles against it three times. Once he finished the sequence, the cliff wall slid open to reveal a secret door.

Inside the hidden room was a large prison cell that held several young women within it. The moment the cell doors swung upon, the women instantly cowered in fear.

When Elijah stepped closer, piercing screams filled the air.

Upon seeing this, Jared grabbed Elijah by the collar and gave the latter a furious glare.

“I-It wasn’t me! Fabian made me do it,” Elijah blustered when he locked gazes with Jared.

Megan, who was still in a daze, jolted in shock when she caught sight of these women. Though they appeared similar in age to her, their clothes were in tatters, making them look like pitiful beggars.

Slowly, Megan walked over to them. Upon noticing that Megan was of the same sex, the women calmed down.

“What a bunch of animals!” Megan cursed under her breath. How could the Crescent Sect treat them this way?

With Megan’s help comforting the women, they managed to free them all. The moment they stepped foot out of their cell, the women took off in all directions, afraid that they’d be captured again if they lingered around. Before Jared and the rest could react, all of the women had vanished into the distance.

Initially, Jared wanted to enlist some help to send these women back to their homes. Nevertheless, with them all gone, he shifted his attention back to Elijah. "Bring me to your headquarters now!"

Though Elijah hesitated, he eventually nodded in agreement.

"If you try to trick me, I'll give you a fate worse than death," Jared threatened when he noticed Elijah's hesitancy.

"I won't!" Elijah waved his hands. "The problem lies with the parasite in my body. With it, Fabian can keep track of my precise location. If I return right now, he might get suspicious."

"I'll remove the parasite then," Jared replied.

"Fabian himself obtained this parasite from Mapleton. It's been in my body for years now. All this time, it has fed on my blood, and we have merged as one. It would be impossible for you to extract it." Elijah shook his head, unconvinced by Jared's statement.

"Give me your hand," Jared instructed.

Although Elijah didn't know what Jared intended to do, he still stretched his arm out.

When Jared waved his fingers, a red glow emanated from his fingertips. Jared then pointed at Elijah's palm, sending the light into Elijah's body.

Immediately, Elijah began to convulse as his face contorted in a grimace of pain. The glow inside of Elijah's body moved around erratically as if chasing after something.

"Ahh!" Elijah screamed in anguish. Promptly, he spat out a red-colored worm. The moment it came into contact with sunlight, the worm shriveled up, and a peculiar red mist rose from its corpse.

Elijah's eyes nearly bulged out of his head when he noticed the dead parasite. He could hardly believe his own eyes.

"All right, the parasite is gone. You can move freely now," Jared said nonchalantly.

When realization dawned upon him, Elijah collapsed to his knees and bowed before Jared.

All these years, he'd done many unspeakable things while under the influence of the parasite. Despite being haunted by his guilty conscience, Elijah was forced to obey Fabian's orders, or he'd have to pay the price with his life.

"I didn't remove your parasite to save you. Whether you live or die depends on your performance," Jared uttered.

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Shameless Women

"Understood," Elijah replied, nodding in acknowledgment.

Elijah ventured deeper into the Crescent Sect's lair with Jared and the rest in tow.

Meanwhile, in the grand hall of the Crescent Sect, Fabian and Liam, the oldest elder, were engrossed in a game of chess. It was Fabian's favorite pastime.

"It's time for us to get our hands on the secret scroll and destroy Dante. You need to hurry up and capture his daughter. I've caught wind that she has returned to Jadeborough," Fabian said to Liam.

"Elijah is on it. We'll receive news of his efforts soon," Liam replied respectfully.

Suddenly, Fabian thought of something and asked angrily, "Also, so much time has passed. Is it really so difficult to find twenty young women?"

"Mr. Quillen, I've asked about it before. You know how progressive our society has become these days. Although Elijah managed to abduct many women, only a handful of them were virgins, hence the slow progress," Liam explained.

Fabian scoffed and moved one of his chess pieces forward. “Women these days are so shameless!”

At that moment, the clay vessel beside Fabian clattered loudly. It seemed like one of the parasites within it had suffered a tremendous shock.

Startled, Fabian opened it. Immediately, all blood drained from his cheeks.

“Mr. Quillen, what’s the matter?” Liam asked when he noticed Fabian’s ashen face.

Carefully, Fabian reached into the clay vessel and took a large parasite out. Furrowing his brows, he said solemnly, “Elijah is dead...”

“What? Elijah died?”

“This is his parasite. Since it died, it means that Elijah has also lost his life. Who on earth killed him?” A dark expression loomed across Fabian’s face.

“Could it be someone from the Department of Justice? Recently, we slaughtered quite a few of their men. Maybe they decided to get revenge for what we did,” Liam suggested.

“That’s possible.” Fabian nodded, signifying his approval of Liam’s hypothesis. “Bring the other elders with you and investigate this murder. Don’t make any sudden moves even if the Department of Justice was behind this, okay? We’d have a lot of trouble on our hands if Theodore himself committed this murder. Right now, we are no match for the Department of Justice. Instead, we need to be cautious and avoid provoking them at all costs.”

“I got it.” Liam jumped to his feet and rushed out to carry out Fabian’s instructions.

“Just wait until I master the Five Poison Technique. The Department of Justice won’t stand a chance!” A dangerous glint gleamed in Fabian’s eyes as he spoke.

In the meantime, Elijah, Jared, and the rest had already made their way out of the holiday resort and headed deeper into Crescent Sect territory. Jared had been here once and knew that there was an arcane array right in front. He assumed it was to serve as an alarm that there were intruders.

“Mr. Chance, there’s an arcane array in front that will alert Fabian once intruders trespass it. Let me remove it.” With that, Elijah moved toward a stone wall nearby.

“There’s no need to go through so much trouble.” Jared flicked his finger, and a red beam shot out toward the trap.

When the light came into contact with the arcane array, it spread rapidly. In mere seconds, the trap vanished into thin air.

Once the array was disabled, Jared beckoned at the group. “Let’s go.”

On the other hand, Elijah was stunned. After recomposing himself, he continued to lead the group further inland.

At the back of the group, Shane felt his cheeks heat up when he witnessed Jared’s powers. All this time, I’ve thought of him as nothing more than a sheltered individual used to having his way. Contrary to my expectations, the might of his strength is beyond my wildest dreams.

Shane finally understood why Theodore instructed him to get in contact with Jared. Theodore must be confident in Jared’s abilities, so much so that he dared send me and the men here to destroy the Crescent Sect.

The deeper they traversed, the darker it got. Furthermore, the temperature around the group began to plummet. It felt like they were moving through a frigid mist.

The cold draft prompted Megan to button up her collar. Seeing this, Tristan hugged Megan under the pretense of warming her up. Nevertheless, Megan did not reject his advances.

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Are You Threatening Me

Out of nowhere, a cold voice echoed in the air. “Who dares to trespass on the Crescent Sect’s base?”

Following the voice, three elderly men stepped out of the shadows. Their unique auras distinguished them from each other.

“Liam!” Elijah called out.

“Elijah?” Liam gasped in shock. “Aren’t you supposed to be dead?” Earlier, Fabian claimed that he had died. Moreover, I also saw the dead parasite with my own eyes. How is he here?

“Liam, I didn’t die. Let me explain-” Elijah broke off as he rushed toward Liam.

Afraid that Elijah was planning to fool him, Jared followed closely behind him. He came to a halt only a few inches away from Elijah. If he tries anything funny, I’ll kill him with a single blow.

When Jared tagged along with Elijah, the three elders instantly caught sight of the former.

“Jared Chance!” Immediately, the elders settled into a fighting stance.

“Liam, Lucas, Jasper, don’t attack him! Let me explain.” In haste, Elijah moved to block the trio’s path.

“Liam, I didn’t die. Mr. Chance extracted the parasite from my body. It died the moment it came into contact with the sun. Hence, the parasite in Fabian’s clay vessel perished too,” he explained.

Despite his explanation, Liam remained unconvinced. “How is that possible? The parasite has been feeding on us for years. It has fused with us into a single entity. How did he manage to force it out?”

“Liam, can’t you see that I’m right here? It’s all true. We don’t have to live under Fabian’s control anymore. Besides, Mr. Simmons’ daughter is here with me too.” As Elijah spoke, he pointed at Megan.

Following Elijah’s gesture, the three elders glanced at Megan. Immediately, a troubled look crossed their faces as they were at a loss.

“Liam, we helped Fabian commit atrocities because he threatened our lives. Did you forget how Mr. Simmons treated us like his sworn brothers? Now that we have a chance to be rid of the parasite’s control, why should we continue to serve Fabian?” Elijah continued, seeing that they remained silent.

Deep down, Elijah also knew that they were no match for Jared as the latter was in a league of his own.

Liam was conflicted. In order to survive, they'd spent years serving under Fabian's rule. Although Elijah was offering their freedom on a silver platter, he was hesitant to take the offer. If things went wrong, Fabian would hunt them down to the corners of the earth, and their vicious cycle of slavery would begin once again.

"I'll take your offer!" While Liam was still occupied with his thoughts, Jasper stepped forward. "Jared, if you can remove the parasite from my body and free me from Fabian's control, I will set aside our rivalry. However, if this turns out to be a lie, don't blame us for doing things the hard way."

Jared's tone was icy. "Are you threatening me?"

"I suppose you could see it that way."

"What choice do you have but to listen to me? I can't believe you think you're worthy enough to threaten me." Casually, Jared waved his hand.

Suddenly, Jasper lost all control of his body as his legs propelled him toward Jared. Without warning, Jared seized Jasper's throat in an iron grip.

This sudden turn of events left everyone shell-shocked. Amongst all of them, Jasper was the one most affected. After all, he didn't even have the time to react before he found himself trapped in Jared's clutches.

"Mr. Chance, please calm down!" Elijah cried out as he tried to stop Jared.

"Jared, what do you think you are doing? Let Jasper go!" Liam and Lucas roared in unison as they unsheathed their weapons.

Earlier, they couldn't even react to Jared's astonishing speed. This sudden attack demonstrated the vast difference between their prowess and Jared's.

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Vigilance

“Going forward, I hope no one will threaten me again because I simply hate it.”

The moment Jared released his grip, Jasper dropped onto his butt with a thud.

Turning pale after having a brush with death, Jasper couldn't even get back on his feet.

Elijah hurried to help Jasper up. “All of you should just listen to me! I'm not lying.”

When Liam saw that Jared had let Jasper go, he sheathed his weapon. Having been convinced, he replied, “Fine, we're willing to listen to Mr. Chance. I hope you will be able to force the parasite out of our bodies.”

“Stretch out your hand,” Jared instructed calmly.

When Liam was stunned, Elijah quickly explained, “Liam, Mr. Chance wants to help you expel the parasites!”

After he understood what Jared was going to do, Liam extended his hand at once. With a tap of his finger, Jared sent a red ray of light into Liam's body. The next moment, Liam struggled in excruciating pain. Finally, he opened his mouth wide before a blood-red worm burst out from it.

The moment it landed on the ground, it slithered into the shadows to avoid the sunlight.

When Jared saw that the parasite was still alive, he stomped his foot on it to squash it to death.

Meanwhile, the elders were dumbfounded by what they saw. They had not expected Jared to be able to force out the parasite.

Thump! Thump!

Lucas and Jasper dropped to their knees in front of Jared. “Mr. Chance, we beg you to remove the parasites from our bodies too!”

After living on the edge for so many years, they had had enough of it. After all, no one was willing to have their lives held in the hands of others, where a simple change in mood would result in their deaths.

“Give me your hands,” Jared plainly instructed.

After Lucas and Jared stretched out their hands, Jared used the same method to expel the parasites from their bodies.

At that moment, the four elders were ecstatic and thanked Jared profusely.

Meanwhile, in the grand hall of Crescent Sect, Fabian was feeling distinctly ill at ease. A bad feeling rose in him as if something terrible had occurred.

“Men!” Fabian shouted.

One of his subordinates approached at once. “Yes, Mr. Quillen!”

“Has Liam brought his men to investigate the matter?” Fabian asked.

“He took Lucas and Jasper with him,” his subordinate replied.

“Mmm-hmm.” Fabian waved his man away.

Right after the subordinate left, Fabian noticed a violent disturbance within the clay vessel, which had never happened before.

Startled by the development, he quickly opened it and saw that three of the biggest parasites inside were dead.

“H-How is that possible?” At first, he was shocked, but that quickly turned into rage.

“Who? Who dared kill the four elders?” he bellowed into the air. His scream was so loud that it reverberated throughout the entire valley.

In fact, Jared, who was approaching the Crescent Sect base, could even hear it.

Pausing briefly, Liam then explained to Jared, “Mr. Chance, after crossing this icy lake, you will find the place where Fabian is located. However, you have to be careful, as the lake contains many of the venomous or poisonous creatures he keeps. If you are bitten by them, you will die instantly from their venom. Also, these creatures do not attack those with parasites inside their bodies. Now that we had ours removed, we won’t be able to get across anymore.”

“In that case, do you usually traverse it in a boat?” Jared asked curiously.

“That’s right. We usually cross it in small boats. Nonetheless, I heard that there are stone columns within the lake that one can step on to cross. Unfortunately, no one other than Fabian knows where they are,” Liam elaborated.

“It appears that he is an extremely vigilant man,” Jared commented with a smile.

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This Will Be Your Grave

When the group arrived at the lake, they could feel the drop in temperature. Geographically, the lake separated the valley into two. Anyone who wanted to get to the other side had no choice but to cross the lake.

As a cold mist emerged from the lake, the entire surface was covered by fog. With visibility being very low, one could only see a few small boats floating by the shore.

“Mr. Chance, look.”

Just as Liam spoke, he threw a rock into the middle of the lake.

Alongside the splashes that resulted, a few dark figures emerged from the water before quickly disappearing underneath the surface.

“Those are the poisonous creatures Fabian keeps. He obtained them from Mapleton. Also, I heard that he is somehow involved with the people there,” Liam continued.

“Regardless of who he is involved with, today is the day he dies!” Jared’s face was filled with conviction. “All of you, wait for me here. I’ll go over alone.”

With that, Jared leapt into the air and landed on one of the small boats. Suddenly, he noticed a group of people on the opposite shore. All of them had boarded their boats and began moving in Jared’s direction.

The moment he saw the person on the first boat, Liam exclaimed, “Fabian, it’s Fabian!”

After being under his control for so many years, Liam was inherently terrified of Fabian.

At that moment, Fabian too had noticed the presence of Jared and the four elders. He furrowed his brows in response.

“Aren’t the four of you supposed to be dead? What’s going on?” Fabian questioned indifferently as an icy glint flashed in his eyes.

As the four elders exchanged fearful glances, none of them dared to utter a word.

When he saw what was going on, Jared looked at Fabian. “Are you Fabian Quillen, the leader of the Crescent Sect?”

“That’s me. Who’s asking?” Fabian scrutinized Jared with a solemn expression.

“I’m Jared Chance!”

The moment Jared announced his name, Fabian’s body jerked. It was then followed by a sudden burst of boundless hostility rushing through him.

“So, you’re the one who killed my men!” After giving Jared a scowl, he shot the four elders an inquisitive look. “What’s going on with the four of you? The Crescent Sect’s enemy is standing right in front of you. Why are you just standing there instead of taking him down?”

Nevertheless, none of the elders dared to move a muscle, for they had seen for themselves how powerful Jared was. In fact, the four of them combined were still no match for him at all.

When Fabian realized that the elders weren’t carrying out his orders, he narrowed his gaze in response. “I didn’t expect my parasites to be eliminated. No wonder the four of them are disobeying me. In spite of that, this valley will still be your grave.”

“This valley will still be your grave...”

“This valley will still be your grave...”

Fabian's resonant voice echoed throughout the entire valley.

Suddenly, the water in the lake began to gurgle, as if the water had begun to boil. The phenomenon struck so much fear into Tristan and the four elders that they retreated by reflex.

With a sparkle in his eye, Jared stared at Fabian. "It's still too early to determine whose grave this place will be!"

The moment he finished, Jared leapt into the air and landed on a small boat. With a gentle wave of his palm, the boat sped in Fabian's direction.

"Mr. Chance, be careful! You cannot fight on the lake with him," Liam warned Jared at once.

"You traitors! I'll tear all of you up, limb from limb."

In a fit of rage, Fabian pushed his palms forward suddenly. The massive force formed a whirlpool in the water that turned into a giant wave sweeping in Jared's direction. At the same time, the poisonous creatures living in the lake were hurled into the air in the direction of Tristan and the four elders.

"Retreat!" Liam thundered the moment he sensed the impending danger.

The next second, all of them backed off as swiftly as they could.

In response to the attack, Jared leaped into the air and backpedaled at once. While he was doing so, he thrust his palms forward to push the wave back with an equally tremendous force.

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Extremely Annoying

The moment the lake recovered its calm, a wave suddenly curled up. Like an arrow, it flew in Fabian's direction, seeming to split the lake in half.

When he saw the attack, Fabian jumped into the air. The boat beneath his legs was instantaneously shattered into pieces.

Even though he had evaded the attack, the same couldn't be said of the subordinates behind him. After they were thrown overboard by the large wave, their limbs were severed from their bodies, as if they had gone through a grinder.

The moment the poisonous creatures smelled blood, they swarmed the bodies that fell into the lake and devoured them.

As for the remaining members of the Crescent Sect, they fled to the shore after witnessing the gruesome sight.

"You truly are something. No wonder the four elders have betrayed me," Fabian sneered in mid-air as his body gradually landed on the surface of the water, where he stood still.

If Liam hadn't informed Jared of the stone columns in the water, Jared would've assumed that Fabian was so powerful that he could actually walk on water.

As Jared's body descended at the same time, he landed on a piece of floating wood. Even though he was capable of standing on water, it would consume a significant amount of spiritual energy just to sustain himself. Now that the lake was littered with pieces of broken wood, Jared could save a lot of energy by using them as support.

Giving Fabian a look of disdain, Jared declared, "I'm surprised you're unashamed of accusing others of betrayal after doing the same. You're nothing but a joke."

Fabian was briefly shaken before he broke into a wide smirk. "I didn't expect you to have met Dante. Nonetheless, you shouldn't believe everything he says. After all, he is an equally crafty man. Do you really think that he founded the Crescent Sect for a noble purpose? He's just relying on his ability to read someone's face to go around cheating others! Considering how young and powerful you are, why don't you join me? I can definitely elevate your strength to the next level. It's certainly more attractive than helping Dante. After all, he is just using you."

"Are you saying that you won't hold me accountable for killing the Crescent Sect's men?" Jared asked mischievously.

“Haha, the men you killed are nothing but pawns within the organization, no different from the parasites I raise. Since you have killed them, so be it. Given that you were able to expel my parasites, it means that you possess a good understanding of them. As long as you collaborate with me, I can recommend you to the Poison King of Mapleton so that he can teach you techniques that use poison. How about that?”

Fabian burst into laughter as he continued to offer Jared an olive branch.

The power that Jared had demonstrated was enough to entice Fabian into recruiting him.

“Do you know the people of Mapleton?” Jared asked curiously.

“More than that, for the Poison King is my godfather. The reason I disfigured myself and joined Crescent Sect was just to secure its resources. Soon, the Crescent Sect will be controlled by Mapleton!” Fabian gloated.

“Looks like if I kill you, there will be bad blood between Mapleton and me. This is a f*cking pain.” Jared sighed as he furrowed his brows.

Given how busy he was, he had not managed to find time to continue his training despite the impending arrival of the fifteenth of July. Even though he had achieved Foundation Phase, he still wasn’t confident enough, especially after Dante told him that he would be faced with a calamity on that fateful day. Consequently, Jared wanted to strengthen himself to face whatever that was coming.

“What did you say?” Fabian’s expression turned grim. “You actually think you can kill me? This is nothing but a joke.”

Just as he spoke, Fabian tapped his foot on the water and leaped into the air again. Throwing his palms out, he caused the lake to boil and unleashed another giant wave in Jared’s direction.

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A Man Like None Other & The Mans Decree Chapter 540

Is This All You Got

The speed and power of the wave were as powerful as the one Jared had unleashed. Just like a speeding truck on a highway, the giant wave charged rapidly in Jared's direction.

Shaking his head slightly, Jared clenched his fist as a sword formed from water appeared in his hand.

"Break it apart!"

With a wave of his sword, Jared split the giant wave in half, causing it to pass him by on both sides.

Boom!

As the residual halves of the wave crashed onto the shore, they shattered the huge boulders there into pieces. Evidently, the power of the giant wave was extremely devastating.

When Tristan and the others saw what unfolded, they grew nervous and broke out in a cold sweat on Jared's behalf.

If Jared were to be defeated, none of them would be able to escape alive.

"Not bad. Let's continue!" Fabian bellowed as he fell back down and launched a forceful punch onto the water surface.

The massive impact unleashed shockwaves across the water while the droplets that were thrown into the air were so numerous that they covered the sky. Subsequently, they shot at Jared as if they were bullets.

Now that he was being attacked from above and below him, Jared cracked a smile as he leaped into the air. Raising his arms as if he was spreading his wings, the water below him was pulled upward to form a defensive barrier in front of him.

As the shockwaves beneath his feet missed him, the bullet-like water droplets hit the water barrier before falling back into the lake.

The moment the shockwaves hit the shore, the entire valley shook with a gentle rumble.

"It appears that you're more powerful than I thought!"

Jared narrowed his gaze, as he could feel elements of spiritual energy within Fabian's attacks. Even though mages generate spiritual energy when they wielded their attacks, it would only be at minuscule levels. Furthermore, mages seldom cultivate internal energy as it was very difficult for them. Therefore, once their magecraft was broken, they would become utterly defenseless.

However, Fabian not only knew magecraft, but his body also emitted an aura so powerful that it was close to that of a spiritual energy cultivator. In fact, it was even stronger than that of Bruce from Mount Hickoria.

"You will never be able to imagine the depths of my power," Fabian sneered as he gently landed on the water and gave Jared a confident look.

As for Jared, he too supported himself on a floating piece of plank.

"Is that so? Show me the true extent of your power then!"

Suddenly, Jared grabbed something from the water and threw it in Fabian's direction.

The moment he swung his hands, a water column emerged from the lake. It looked as if Jared was holding a steel whip which he cracked in Fabian's direction.

The water column, which was tens of meters long, glistened with an icy sparkle. Responding to the attack, Fabian slapped his palms on the water to generate a giant wave, forming a protective barrier in front of him.

Bam!

When Jared's giant water column struck Fabian's barrier, a thunderous sound rang out.

Subsequently, Fabian retreated in shock when the water barrier began to crack. Upon impact on the surface of the water, the long water column caused a giant splash that was more than ten meters tall.

Even though Fabian had managed to avoid the strike, the martial energy embedded in it managed to sting him on his chest and even blow holes in his clothes.

“Is that all you got?” Jared smirked in response.

Fabian’s face darkened. “I have yet to show you my true power. Have you forgotten that I’m the godson of the Poison King of Mapleton?”