

BloodLine 1121

Chapter 1121: The Mountain Earth Faction Warriors suffered a loss

From MC's Perspective:

Mission Hall Building,

Hearing the words of the Thunderflame Faction members, I shook my head before saying, "I'm targeting those who targeted our warriors. Let's not make things difficult for others."

The Thunderflame Faction Warriors were stunned. Then they nodded their heads.

"I agree with Senior Brother Zack!"

"Let's not involve innocent warriors!"

"Brother Zack is righteous. He doesn't care about fame."

The warriors spoke one after another.

Hearing that, my mouth twitched. I ignored their words before shifting my attention to the Mission Hall Building. I was wondering whether people would come after me.

I guessed at this point in time the warriors from all the factions should know about my whereabouts. I was even wondering whether warriors from the Dark Variant Faction would jump out.

For some reason, they were being low-key. But that didn't mean I was going to let down my guard. I strongly suspected that the incident that occurred at Shadow Border City had something to do with the Dark Variant Faction.

My strength was too weak to find out any truth. I could only rely on the elders. But if I became a powerful warrior in the future, then I'd attack the faction leader of the Dark Variant Faction.

Commotion!

Suddenly, a commotion occurred which brought my thoughts back to reality. I saw a group of warriors coming toward me. My gaze immediately fell on their emblem.

"Mountain Earth," I uttered.

"Hey, they have come!"

"Senior Brother Zack, I told you before. They wanted to challenge you," a middle-aged man among the members said.

"Harumph!"

"What? Mountain Earth!"

"They are going to get beaten too."

"Let's watch the show!"

The Thunderflame Faction members discussed in low tones. But it could be heard by others.

The Mountain Earth Faction Warriors who were coming here were furious. But they set their gaze on Zack Lockwood.

On the other hand, I revealed a small smile. I didn't have to do anything to attract attention. The Thunderflame Faction Warriors were doing this job.

Then I tried to see through the strength of the warriors. All of them were General Rank Peak Stage. A hint of seriousness appeared in my eyes.

There were six warriors from the Mountain Earth Faction who had come to challenge me.

“Zack Lockwood!”

“I heard you are beating people everywhere.”

“Don’t you think it’s too much?”

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The Mountain Earth Warriors said one after another.

I clenched my right fist before saying, “Stop talking. If you want a fight, then come at me together.”

Hearing that, the faces of the Mountain Earth Warriors changed drastically. Not only them; those who were standing by to watch the fun were shocked as well.

They didn’t expect Zack Lockwood to be this arrogant. On the other hand, the Thunderflame Faction Warriors were smiling ear to ear.

They had been watching from the beginning. Zack Lockwood had dealt with more than one group so far. They were confident in Zack Lockwood’s strength. They thought the results were going to be the same.

The outer hall elders, who were quite hidden, were shocked as well. As long as no one broke the rules, they wouldn’t intervene. But if anyone used their element to fight, then they would be punished.

So they were quite ready to take action.

The Mountain Earth Faction Warriors were furious. They felt their faces being slapped in front of everyone.

“Zack Lockwood, you are arrogant. We are going to teach you a lesson,” After saying that, the group leader ordered everyone to attack at the same time.

Then all six General Rank Peak Stage Warriors charged toward me. Those who were nearby backed away.

The Thunderflame Faction Warriors retreated to give a wide space for them to fight.

Swoosh!

Their leader got closer to me. I activated my perceptual ability. The next second, his movements became crystal clear in my eyes.

Boom!

I blocked his right punch using my left palm. The next second, a shockwave emerged. It began sweeping through the area.

The trees nearby shook from the force. Even the people who were standing at a distance felt the impact.

This all happened within seconds. The next second, I clenched my right fist and struck his chest.

Boom!

Their leader felt the power of the recoil effect before his body was sent flying back.

AAaahhhhhH!

He then crashed to the ground with a loud scream. Seeing that, the faces of the other five Warriors changed.

How could someone send a General Rank Peak Stage Warrior flying? Not only them, the onlookers were shocked to the core. Even the outer hall elders were dumbfounded.

“Are you guys scared?” I asked, looking at the five Warriors.

The faces of the Warriors turned red with shame. They understood the strength of Zack Lockwood. Their leader had been sent flying like that.

But they couldn’t retreat under the gazes of the crowd. It would be more humiliating for their faction.

“Zack Lockwood, die!”

One of them shouted before coming toward me. My perception caught every move of his. At the same time, the remaining five warriors started charging toward me.

Seeing that, my mouth curved into an arc. They understood that it was difficult for one person to defeat me.

Swoosh!

Then I started dashing toward them. It immediately startled them. Taking advantage of their surprise, I appeared in front of the nearest warrior and kicked at his abdomen.

AaaaahhHH!

The warrior's face changed before he collapsed on the ground.

Then I leaped forward to punch the next warrior.

Boom!

In the blink of an eye, I struck four warriors. Everyone rolled over the ground in pain. Their screams were heard by everyone.

"It's over," I uttered.

Then I swept my gaze across everyone. The faction warriors lowered their heads. From now on, no one would go after the Thunderflame Faction Warriors.

Even if their Inner Hall Members said so, they weren't going to do it. They couldn't appear here to save them. The Black Mark Warriors and above couldn't appear in the Outer Hall.

If they were found attacking someone in the Outer Hall, they would be severely punished.

"Let's go," I said to the Thunderflame Faction Warriors.

Then I started walking back to the faction. I didn't think people would cause trouble from now on.

Gasp!

The warriors exclaimed when Zack left with his faction members. They looked at the Mountain Earth Warriors with pity.

They had come here to challenge Zack Lockwood. Instead, they were beaten.

Soon, another new post appeared online. This time it was the miserable photos of the Mountain Earth Faction Warriors lying in front of the Mission Hall Building.

Someone even posted a short video of the duel, where Zack Lockwood could be seen punching and kicking them away.

No one was Zack Lockwood's match. The short video began to gain more attention. Not only the Outer Hall warriors were watching it; even the Inner Hall members were watching the miserable condition of the Mountain Earth Faction Warriors.

Inner Hall:

"Damn it," a Black Mark Warrior from the Mountain Earth Faction cursed out loud.

He couldn't help but think about teaching a lesson to Zack Lockwood. Then he immediately dismissed the thought.

It was their fault. The Outer Hall Warriors of the Mountain Earth Faction were weak and couldn't handle the punches and kicks from young Zack Lockwood.

Most of the Outer Hall Warriors were middle-aged. Yet they couldn't defeat a young man like Zack Lockwood.

Not only the Black Mark Warriors of the Mountain Earth Faction were furious. The other Black Mark Warriors of the Elemental Factions were angry as well.

They knew the ins and outs of the matter. Yet they were angry at themselves. In the Outer Hall, no one was left to defeat Zack Lockwood.

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Thunderflame Faction:

On the other hand, I returned to the faction. The next second, I was greeted with cheers. A hint of emotion flashed in my eyes. I really didn't want to stand out.

But the faction leader and main elders were taking care of me. At least I could do this to alleviate their worries and bring some prestige to the Thunderflame Faction.

Then I nodded to everyone before going toward the Golden Lightning Palace.

Soon, I reached the place. When I walked into the area, I was greeted with similar expressions. I could see smiles and relief on their faces.

Then I nodded to them before going toward the master's residence. I arrived at the place and saw Master Austin standing outside the residence.

"Kid, you have done something dangerous. If you had used elemental power, then nobody would have saved you from the punishment," Austin said in a serious tone.

Hearing that, I smiled and replied, "Master, I can still defeat them without using an element."

"I know. Come inside," Austin said with a smile.

Then I nodded to him before entering his house.

Master Austin sat in a chair. I sat opposite him.

"What did you find out?" Austin asked.

"The Bloodline Faction Warriors are staying low-key. The Dark Variant Faction Warriors are doing the same," I replied in a calm tone.

Chapter 1122: Part 1: Essence- General Rank- Mid Stage (Breakthrough)

From MC's Perspective:

Master and I discussed today's incident. He agreed with my actions, but he doesn't believe the problem will stop here.

"You have already sought justice for them. Hereafter, if the conflict occurs, let them handle it. Otherwise, they will never learn."

"Besides, the secret land opening is near. They will face much more difficulty there. So you should focus on reaching the peak state before the secret land opening," Austin gave the final piece of advice.

"Okay, Master. I'm going to the essence chamber facility." After saying that, I exited his room.

Austin let out a sigh. He wishes that the other warriors had this fighting intent as well.

Shortly afterward,

I came to the essence chamber facility and entered one of the available chambers. Today, I tested my brute force without using the red blood energy.

The Peak Stage General Rank Warriors can't withstand one move in my hands. It shows the terror of a powerful physique.

Then I turned on the chamber function. With a small noise, the pure world energy started filling the chamber room. I stepped onto the platform and sat cross-legged on the ground.

The matter of the secret land opening has given me a sense of urgency. Even the main elders are giving it importance. It shows that the place is not ordinary. Even in the ordinary secret lands under the university, I have come across lucky encounters.

I hope the same will occur at the powerful secret land.

Then I took the lightning fruit out before eating it. It was one of the essence resources brought by my Master Austin. Then I closed my eyes and started practicing the lightning method.

The lightning rune in my mind starts to flicker. The next moment, I began to attract the lightning energy into my body. As time passed, I started to guide the purple energy according to the method.

After circulating, the refined purple essence entered the dantian. It was then added to the purple essence liquid at the center of the dantian.

The purple lightning seed was absorbing some of the refined essence as well. It's also strengthening because of the refined purple essence.

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Meanwhile,

Dean Jeroen was in his office. He heard the update from the Purple Mark Guard. Dean Jerome wasn't disappointed at all. Rather, he was happy to see the competition when the secret land opening was near.

Those warriors who can do better in this competition can survive at the secret land opening. So he is not going to punish Zack Lockwood.

It didn't take long for him to receive various complaints from the Elemental Factions. They were dissatisfied with the actions of Zack Lockwood, who had walked sideways in the outer hall to defeat the Elemental Faction Warriors.

Dean Jerome ignored their complaints. In return, he ordered the elders and senior students not to intervene in the matter of conflicts between the juniors.

He replied not only to the faction leaders but also issued a statement. When the Star University Warriors saw the statement, they were shocked to the core.

The warriors understood that the matter was connected to Zack Lockwood. Someone must have angered Dean Jerome about the incident. Now Dean Jerome has shown his stance.

The faction leaders and the senior students won't be able to do anything. The Black Mark Warriors in the Inner Hall were taken aback by the news.

It was a forbidden rule that elders can't intervene. Now that the Dean has mentioned that senior students can't do anything, they can only watch the actions of Zack Lockwood.

Fortunately, after the Mountain Earth Faction Warriors' duel, Zack Lockwood seemed to have returned. There was no sign of him after that.

The elemental warriors have become unusually quiet. None of them wanted to anger Zack Lockwood.

Zack Lockwood's actions had surprised Ronnie Seth in the Dark Variant Faction. He didn't expect Zack Lockwood to have this much strength to defeat everyone with brute force only.

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This event has caused additional pressure on him. Already, he had been finding ways to narrow the gap. Now he has to work even harder.

He then didn't meet anyone before locking himself inside the essence chamber room to practice. People who were familiar with him weren't surprised.

Whenever the name of Zack Lockwood was discussed, the name of Ronnie Seth was mentioned as well. Because he was the only one who had dueled with Zack Lockwood from the Dark Variant Faction.

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Dark Variant Faction:

The Faction Leader Vince saw Dean Jerome's response towards the Elemental Factions. He was almost convinced that the Dean was planning to develop Zack Lockwood.

So he stopped his second thoughts and made up his mind not to take any action against Zack Lockwood. It's just that the Elemental Faction Leaders were fools who don't know the general trend.

The rise of Zack Lockwood is going to be unstoppable since Dean Jerome is behind his growth. It would be foolish to take any action against Zack Lockwood at this time.

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A few days passed by.

The commotion on the side of Star University has receded. But the undercurrents at Dark Shadow University are still surging.

They hadn't forgotten the humiliation. They wanted their Dean to end the seclusion and give them orders. But so far, there has been no response from him.

The main elders had decided to call him when the exact secret land opening was known. So until then, they can only be silent and bide their time.

On the other hand, the faction leader Ben has recovered from his serious injuries. He was afraid that the main elders would do something unfavorable.

But he was glad that everyone was waiting for the Dean's return. In the meantime, he can also plan for his revenge. Ever since that incident, he has employed several people to collect news from Star City.

He wanted to know about Star University's information. His goal was to find out what that hateful kid, Zack Lockwood, was doing.

He still hadn't given up his thoughts on the Red Mark Warrior Ring. If the news got out about other forces, their Red Mark Warriors would be tempted as well.

Chapter 1123: Part 2: Essence – General Rank – Mid Stage (Breakthrough)

From MC's Perspective:

Star University – Thunderflame Faction,

In the essence chamber, I'm using the lightning essence for practice. Last night, I felt the essence barrier to the mid stage. It took me a long time compared to the body practice.

But I'm happy that I have touched the barrier. Today, I'm going to attempt a breakthrough. As time passed, I started attacking the barrier with refined purple essence.

The barrier, which was solid, started to weaken slowly. The purple essence refined after using a powerful lightning treasure had this torrent of energy.

It continued to slam against the barrier. As time went on, the barrier further loosened up. As a result, cracks started to appear on the surface.

Seeing that, my hope reignited. I continued to attack the barrier. After some time, more and more cracks appeared. They extended over the whole barrier. Finally, the barrier shattered at one point.

Click!

Essence – General Rank – Mid Stage

The next second, a new flood of essence energy started to circulate in my body. I immediately felt the increase in strength.

The muscles, veins, meridians, tendons, bones, and inner organs were strengthening at a faster rate. The physique improvement had brought an increase in strength sometime ago.

Now, the essence breakthrough brought the same improvement as well. Compared to the red bones of the physique, the purple lightning of the essence practice had become powerful.

Not only were the changes happening in the body, but changes were also taking place inside the dantian. The purple essence liquid had become stronger and thicker. I can't imagine the power of the purple lightning right now.

It could easily kill Peak Stage General Rank Warriors.

The purple lightning seed is also absorbing its part from the new breakthrough energy. The process continued for another 30 minutes before coming to an end.

Next, I decided to spend a few hours stabilizing the new mid stage.

Time passed.

When nighttime came, I exited the essence chamber and returned to the residence. I decided to inform both masters in the morning. I had achieved mid stage in both physique and essence.

Next, I had to do something about the ancient healing method. I'm making slow improvements in that, but that small improvement was enough to save my life.

I'm not afraid of getting serious injuries anymore. The ancient healing method helps in healing the internal organs. If I could get some improvement in that, the healing process would be faster.

The following day,

I stepped out of the residence as usual. I was in a good mood today. There is only one stage left before receiving the inheritance. I think I'm at the point where I can discuss the inheritance with the master.

Besides, there is ancient inheritance hidden in my body. I don't know when its spirit will wake up. It has given me the task of strengthening my physique to a certain level so that my physique can bear the inheritance.

Because of the two kinds of practices, my physique is benefiting as well. I don't know if my current strength is enough for ancient inheritance.

Sigh!

A sigh escaped my mouth while thinking about the physique. Then I collected my thoughts before heading toward the Golden Lightning Palace.

Soon, I reached the place. The other members greeted me. I nodded to them before walking toward the Master's residence.

When I got there, I saw my Second and Fourth Senior Sisters, Leah and Lola, speaking to the master. My appearance caught their attention.

Austin turned around and saw Zack Lockwood.

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"Zack, what are you doing here?" he asked.

He knew Zack had been busy practicing inside the essence chamber.

"I have come here to tell you good news," I replied.

Austin's eyes lit up.

He said, "Come and sit."

Hearing that, I walked inside the room and greeted both sisters before sitting on the chair.

“Junior brother Zack, what’s the good news?” Lola Garvin asked with a smile.

Leah looked excited as well.

“I have reached Mid-Stage General Rank Warrior essence,” I replied.

I didn’t want to tell them about the physique because they didn’t know about it.

Austin was aware of it as well. He was delighted by the news.

“Good, you haven’t disappointed us,” Austin said.

“What?”

“Not only have you reached the mid stage, but you also defeated Peak State General Rank Warriors at your Early Stage,” Lola said with surprise.

“You are right,” I replied.

“But it was just a physical clash, not a proper duel,” I added.

“Even though you are impressive, it’s not easy to fight across ranks,” Leah remarked at this time.

She couldn’t remember anyone with this achievement. They themselves had struggled when fighting against cross ranks.

But Zack Lockwood was different. His record showed that he could easily defeat Peak Stage General Rank Warriors.

“Okay. Don’t overpraise him,” Austin interjected to change the topic. His other disciples didn’t know about Zack Lockwood’s other elements, and he didn’t want to let them know yet.

“Master, I’m leaving right now. I want to inform Master Ann,” I said in a calm tone.

“You can go,” Austin said.

Hearing that, I nodded to him and the Senior Sisters before leaving the place.

Then it didn’t take long for me to reach the Healing Palace. The healers there were surprised upon seeing me because I rarely came here.

More often, I’m using the facilities at the Golden Lightning Palace.

“Are you here for the Master?” a female warrior asked.

“Yes,” I replied.

Then she led me to Master Ann’s residence. Fortunately, she was there. Master Ann didn’t expect my arrival. She showed a bright smile upon seeing me.

“You wouldn’t come here unless something important was happening,” Ann said before dismissing her other disciple. She then asked me to sit.

I sat in the chair. When the female left, I looked at her and said, “I have reached Mid-Stage in essence. There is one stage left before the peak.”

Hearing that, Ann's face lit up. It was good news to her. She had been expecting this news for some time, but she didn't expect to hear it today.

Chapter 1124: Eclipse University

From MC's Perspective:

I told Master Ann about the breakthrough. She asked me about the ancient healing practice, hearing that my progress was slow.

She wasn't surprised. Instead, she asked me to practice continuously.

Then I spent half an hour in discussion before leaving the healing palace. I started walking back towards the Golden Lightning Palace. I'm going to use the practice room to control my new strength.

While walking, I couldn't help but think about going outside. Actually, my heart wants me to go outside for training.

But I have already offended so many people. Not only have I made enemies of the other elemental factions, but I also have enmity with the Dark Shadow University.

So I think it's wise to lie down until the secret land opening nears.

Shortly afterwards,

I returned to the Golden Lightning Palace. Then I went to the practice room to train. The other members were all surprised, but they didn't say anything.

Yet everyone understood Zack Lockwood had entered isolated training.

He probably won't appear outside unless there is a major crisis.

A couple of days later,

The elemental faction incident has mostly been forgotten by people. Next, all the major faction leaders are waiting for the secret land opening.

Because of this, they have stopped thinking about Zack Lockwood. They didn't know when the secret land opening was going to happen.

So they have called back all the important geniuses. The resources inside the powerful secret lands are plentiful. Just one trip to the secret land can transform many geniuses.

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Meanwhile,

Somewhere in the Tier-4 Region, a place close to the boundary—a boundary created by powerful existences above the Red Mark Warrior rank to isolate humans from danger.

Right now, changes are happening in that place. A powerful rift appears in the sky. The sudden appearance of the dark rift has caused the climate to change.

Right now, there is no human habitat near this boundary. This place is located at the very edge of the Tier-4 region.

As the days passed, someone noticed the phenomenon. It was an inspection team sent by the nearest force to monitor the boundary.

But the inspection team encountered a huge rift in the sky. They were extremely scared despite being Silver and Gold Mark Warriors.

Finally, the inspection team returned to inform their higher-ups. The force near this rift was called the Eclipse University.

Like the Star University and the Dark Shadow University, it's one of the 6 universities in the Tier-4 Region.

When they informed their higher-ups, the Eclipse University sent a new team made up of Purple Mark Warriors to inspect the rift.

The Purple Mark Warriors are the strongest existence next to the Red Mark Warriors in this Tier-4 Region.

So the inspection team made up of such warriors shows that the Eclipse University has taken this incident seriously.

They were worried that it was trouble related to the battlefield.

But when the Purple Mark Warriors went there to investigate, they found out that the rift in the sky was related to the powerful secret land opening.

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The discovery shook them to the core. Instead of informing their higher-ups, the Purple Mark Warriors tried to enter the place through the rift.

Boom!

When they tried to pass through the rift, their bodies exploded one after another because of the restrictions. None of them survived.

In the blink of an eye, the blood in the air dissipated.

The next day,

A huge commotion occurred inside the Eclipse University. The deaths of the Purple Mark Warriors team were verified by the higher-ups.

The Dean of the Eclipse University was an old woman. She is a Red Mark Warrior like Dean Jerome. Her name is Martha.

Dean Martha was shocked upon hearing the news.

Swoosh!

She herself went to check the place. When she arrived, she spotted the huge rift in the sky.

She knew that the deaths of the Purple Mark Warriors had happened here. This place is an isolated location at the border.

Apart from their university, there are no other forces existing here. In such a case, since their Purple Mark Warriors died here,

She could only think of the huge rift. She thought they must have tried to enter the place and ended up dead.

Her eyes flashed with anger. Her order was clear. She had sent the team to investigate, but not to explore the rift.

She then shook her head, removing the thoughts. She understood that greed had blinded their eyes.

Swoosh!

She then got closer to the rift. The next second, her heart palpitated. She is a Red Mark Warrior, yet the rift posed a danger to her.

Her eyes flickered with understanding. She realized that this rift might lead to the secret land. When this thought arose, her expression changed drastically.

The whole Tier-4 Region is waiting for the new secret land opening. She didn't know whether it was the same one or not.

If it's that one, then she can't keep the news secret. Her eyes bloomed with brilliance. She thought of sending another team to explore. This time it would be Black Mark Warriors.

If the secret land turned out to be small and new, then their Eclipse University could claim it.

But if it's the powerful secret land somewhat explored by forces from time to time, then she would have to inform other forces.

Swoosh!

After making the decision, she left the place. When she returned, she gave clear instructions to others.

That very day, a new team of Black Mark Warriors tried to enter the rift. But they were blocked by restrictions. This time they came prepared. When they felt the threat, they stopped.

Now, the Eclipse University can only send Black Mark Warriors and below.

Dean Martha was not happy to hear the news. Her suspicion grew stronger. She thought the new secret land likely led to the old powerful secret land.

Right now, the climatic phenomenon is not disappearing. It's been raining all day there. Dean Martha has to make the next decision to confirm whether the secret land is old or new.

Chapter 1125: The news was released to the public

Eclipse University:

Dean Martha returns to the university and convenes a high-level meeting. In that meeting, it was decided to take a few more days to investigate the huge rift.

If they still don't come up with an answer, then they can inform other forces as well.

Days passed.

Martha and the faction leaders had failed to find out the truth. They still don't know whether the huge rift in the sky connects to the old or new secret land.

In the end, they revealed the news to the world. The news begins spreading across the Tier-4 Region. It's causing a huge shock among the people.

Everyone thought it could be the old secret land that everyone was waiting for. There are 6 University Forces, bloodline and warrior families, and powerful business organizations.

Each of them can send a team to explore the reported place. Eclipse University has revealed a fact that only warriors below the Black Mark Warrior Rank can enter.

This restriction was detrimental to many forces that wanted to plunder resources from the secret land.

There are 6 University Forces. Apart from Eclipse, Star, and Dark Shadow University, there are Giant Tower University, Red Moon University, and Silver University.

These powerful universities have their branches in the inner Tier-5 region as well, because of the vast territory of the Tier-4 Region.

These forces rarely had interactions between them, unless there was a major event like the secret land opening.

Right now, the news has reached them. They would start preparing their teams to explore the secret land.

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Star University:

Dean Jerome was surprised to learn that a huge rift in the sky had appeared in the territory of Eclipse University.

The location of Eclipse University is far away from them. He needs to prepare a team to explore quickly.

He knows that only warriors below the Black Mark Rank can enter, so he quickly summons all the faction leaders for an emergency meeting.

Emergency meetings rarely happen, but during that time, all the faction leaders participate, from the top 10 factions to the smaller factions.

The warriors who can establish factions have always been strong warriors. So Jerome is not going to neglect them. He has given them one day's time.

Even if some went outside, they can return on time.

A day later,

At the administration building, people started coming. They are the faction leaders. It didn't take long for all faction leaders to be seated inside the meeting hall.

Dean Jerome entered shortly afterward. He immediately sat in the main seat and swept his gaze across everyone.

Faction leaders Clifford, Vince, Elmer Maddox, Francesca Ball, Bethany Sutton, and Elemental Faction Leaders have gathered as well.

“Quiet!”

The meeting room became quiet all of a sudden. No one dared to show rivalry here. Old man Clifford and Vincent were silent despite making some eye contact.

The Elemental Faction Leaders, whose warriors were beaten down by Zack Lockwood of the Thunderflame Faction, remained silent as well.

They know that it’s not the place to quarrel. Besides, they can’t interfere in the conflict among the warriors. Ultimately, everyone is working for Star University.

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So they are eager to listen to the Dean’s words.

Old man Jerome saw that everyone was serious.

He said, “As everyone knows, a new rift appeared in the sky in the territory of Eclipse University. That place is quite far away. We don’t have a teleportation facility available to that place.””

“I’m thinking of sending out warriors earlier prior to other universities. Each faction should select strong warriors under the Black Mark Warrior.”

“Then tomorrow we will conduct a match to select the top 30 warriors. This team will represent Star University to explore the secret land.”

Gasp!

Someone exclaimed in a low tone. Finally, the day has come for their warriors to explore the secret land. It's a pity that they can't enter the place because of the restrictions.

Then the faction leaders began to question one after another. The meeting lasted over an hour before ending.

The faction leaders all left the place.

Jerome returned to his room. He knows that similar competitions are taking place tomorrow everywhere else to select the warriors below the Black Mark Rank.

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Thunderflame Faction:

Clifford came back to the Thunderflame Faction. He then called for a meeting right away. All the main elders arrived within a few minutes, including the newly appointed main elder Rosie.

"Well, the time has come. The Dean is planning to send 30 warriors to represent us. The selection duel will be held tomorrow."

"But before that, we have to select strong warriors under the Black Mark Rank. Then they will participate in tomorrow's duel as well," Clifford said to everyone.

"My disciple Zack Lockwood will participate," Austin said with a smile.

Hearing that, no one had objections. Zack Lockwood is strong under the Black Mark Rank. It was acknowledged by everyone.

Then they had to select other warriors. It would be tricky. The main elders didn't know when anyone was hiding their strength.

They didn't want to simply recommend a name.

Old man Clifford saw through their thoughts.

"Why don't we ask that kid to participate?"

"As long as someone can withstand a few moves from Zack Lockwood, then they can participate," he provided an idea.

Hearing that, everyone understood the tactic. It was the best outcome. No one could complain if they got defeated by Zack Lockwood. Even the older students would remain silent.

"We don't have time to check each and everyone. Anyone who can defeat Zack Lockwood will be selected for tomorrow's round."

"Release the statement," Clifford said with a solemn expression.

"Ask Zack Lockwood to visit the duel platform at noon," he said to Austin.

"Don't worry, faction leader. I'll bring him there," Austin replied.

A few minutes later,

The meeting ended and everyone returned to their places. When the statement was published, the Thunderflame Faction warriors were shocked to the core.

They understood what a big opportunity had come. But they had to withstand a few moves from Zack Lockwood to get the spot for tomorrow's duel.

Chapter 1126: Riley (Another Stephen?)

From MC's Perspective:

Noon,

I was practicing inside the essence chamber when I received a call from Master Austin. Upon answering, he asked me to step out of the essence chamber.

I didn't know what was going on, but I agreed. I stood up and went to the console to turn it off. When the essence chamber returned to normal, I stepped out of it.

The next second, I found Master Austin standing in front of me.

"Master, what is it?" I asked.

"I came here for an important reason. I believe you must have heard about the recent growing rumors," Austin replied.

Hearing that, I was stunned. Then I recalled the rumor: a possible secret land opening had been found. It was rumored to be a sky rift in the territory of Eclipse University.

"Master, is this about the rift?" I asked.

"You spot on," Austin said.

Then he explained the content of the discussion that had happened in the meeting hall.

A few minutes later,

My eyes flashed with surprise. I didn't expect this to be an opportunity to visit that place.

“Those who can defeat you will be selected. They can participate in tomorrow’s selection with you,” Austin added.

“I’ll do my best,” I replied.

But Austin didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. He knew about his disciple’s strength.

It wouldn’t be easy for others to defeat Zack. It can’t be said that no one can defeat Zack Lockwood if he uses his full strength.

About 10 minutes later,

We arrived at the duel platform of our Thunderflame Faction. The duel platform was not that big; the area was smaller compared to that one at the Outer Hall.

Most importantly, not many people could enter this facility. I stepped inside the platform. Master Austin parted ways, as he was going to join the other main Elders.

I looked around and noticed that members of all the main elders’ palaces had gathered here. It was just that their personal disciples hadn’t come.

“I don’t know whether Cara has come,” I thought.

I knew that my senior sisters were not here; they had gone on a mission again. From their earlier interactions, I understood that they had their own problems as well.

I felt powerless to give advice.

“Has everyone gathered here?”

A deep male voice sounded the next moment.

Turning around, I saw the Faction Leader standing at the balcony of the first floor. The main elders were standing behind him, including both of my Masters and Elder Rosie.

The warriors standing near the platforms became serious as well. They knew the ins and outs because the main elders had informed them.

Old Man Clifford saw that everyone had become quiet, their attention focused on him.

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Seeing that, he nodded his head in satisfaction.

"I'm going to inform you all of the news once again. Tomorrow, Dean Jerome will conduct a selection match. The purpose of the event is to select 30 warriors below Black Mark Rank."

"These warriors will enter the rift to explore the place. It could be an old secret land or a new one. But it's definitely a great opportunity."

"I will select strong warriors from our Thunderflame Faction. They will have to participate in tomorrow's selection event."

"But in order to get that place, you have to defeat the warrior in front of you," his voice reached everyone's ears.

Gasp!

The warriors exclaimed in surprise. They had heard about the rumor, and the main elders had already told them it was true. Now, hearing it from the faction leader made it feel unreal.

But his last words choked everyone. The warriors' gazes the next second fell on Zack Lockwood. Some of them gulped their saliva in fear.

How could they forget Zack Lockwood? Who had defeated the elemental factions' warriors not long ago? Not one of them had defeated Zack Lockwood.

If Zack Lockwood used his lightning element, it would become even more impossible for them to defeat him.

Everyone wore a dreadful expression. How could they defeat this monster?

The main elders saw their reactions. They wore helpless smiles on their faces, understanding their thoughts.

"Cough!"

"Faction Leader, I don't think it will work. Zack is really undefeated under Black Mark Rank."

"Everyone has seen his fights before. He could easily defeat them without using the elements," Main Elder Leola said.

Hearing that, Old Man Clifford had black lines on his forehead. He thought there could be someone who could defeat Zack Lockwood below Black Mark Rank.

Now that he saw the expressions of the important warriors, he could only think of something else.

Then he said, "Alright, I can understand your worries. Zack Lockwood will not use his lightning element. But if anyone forces him to do so, they will be selected for tomorrow's event."

Gasp!

The warriors exclaimed before relaxing. Now the difficulty has reduced for them. They knew the strength of Zack Lockwood. He could pose a threat to them without using his element.

“Okay, who is going to step up first?” Old Man Clifford asked.

“I’m going,” a middle-aged man said before stepping onto the platform.

Seeing his face, everyone was stunned. Because the person was none other than a Senior Warrior from the Golden Lightning Palace. His strength was at the Peak Stage of the General Rank.

“He is Senior Riley!”

“He is going to challenge Zack Lockwood!”

“He and the hidden ace Stephen are peers. They entered Star University at the same time.”

“Now they are both suppressing their strength at the General Rank Peak Stage.”

The warriors discussed in low tones.

Gasp!

The new warriors exclaimed in surprise. They were hearing it for the first time. The name of the hidden ace Stephen echoed like thunder. Not long ago, he had challenged Zack Lockwood.

But for some reason, their duel hadn’t happened. Now, another warrior appeared in the same category. They were surprised and shocked.

Inside the platform, I looked at the Senior. I had seen him before, but I didn’t expect to hear a situation like Stephen’s. It looked like I had to be serious when dealing with him.

Chapter 1127: Riley was in disbelief !

From MC's Perspective:

Duel platform,

I'm observing Senior Riley. He is also looking at me. The Faction leader had announced that I can't use my purple lightning, but the opponent can use it. So I think it's going to be tricky.

"Start!"

Faction Leader Clifford's voice reached everyone's ears.

Boom!

Riley exploded with great speed and bolted towards Zack Lockwood. He is not going to use his element right away. As a senior, if he could defeat Zack Lockwood without using his element, then it would be best for him.

In the blink of an eye, he reaches Zack Lockwood and throws a punch at him. He is a Peak Stage General Rank Warrior. Over the years, he had done some training to improve his physique as well.

He thinks his brute strength is enough to defeat Zack Lockwood. But the next second, his pupil shrinks.

Opposite him, my mouth curves into an arc. I didn't expect Senior Riley to underestimate me. I simply blocked his punch using my right palm.

Boom!

A shockwave emerges. It spreads across the platform quickly. Both of us stared at each other. I could see disbelief in the eyes of Senior Riley.

If I had used Red Blood Energy, his right arm would have broken entirely.

Swoosh!

Riley retreated backward and returned to his spot.

Gasp!

The warriors around the platform exclaimed in low tones. Their eyes filled with excitement. They thought Senior Riley would use his element to attack Zack.

Instead, his brute force fist was neutralized by Zack.

The Faction Leader and the main elders on the balcony had knowing smiles on their faces. When the Faction Leader said Zack Lockwood can't use his element, he was not biased towards others.

But he knew about Zack Lockwood's physique strength.

Riley looked at his fist. His eyes narrowed. He doesn't think he is weak, but his attack was blocked just like that.

Swoosh!

He then dashed toward Zack Lockwood to try out some moves.

On the other hand, I activated my perceptual ability. Everything around me became clear in my mind. I could watch the subtle moves of the opponent.

Looking at his posture, I immediately guess that he is going to try out some moves.

Swoosh!

In the blink of an eye, he threw a fist at my face.

I sidestepped to avoid the attack. Then Riley immediately used his left leg to kick. Seeing that, I immediately used my right leg.

Boom!

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When both of our legs came into contact with each other, another booming sound was heard. Riley felt pain in his leg.

Argh!

He let out a muffled grunt before retreating. This all happened within seconds.

Gasp!

The warriors gasped in shock again. This time it was clearly registered that Zack Lockwood is overpowering Senior Riley.

Riley returned to his position. He could see the expressions of others. Even he was convinced that Zack Lockwood's physique is powerful as well.

He didn't know how. He didn't have time to think about it. He wanted to participate in tomorrow's selection. So he decided to use the lightning technique.

"Lightning Thrust!"

Riley extended his right hand. His entire arm was covered with golden lightning. He bolted out to attack Zack Lockwood the next moment.

Swoosh!

Seeing the golden lightning, everyone was shocked. The warriors thought that their duel was going to get serious now.

Even the Faction Leader and the main elders were interested to know how Zack Lockwood was going to resolve the trouble now.

Meanwhile,

I'm looking at the incoming attack. My perception was heightened. I could see he was aiming his lightning thrust at my heart.

He reached a few meters away from me. The golden lightning is weak compared to my purple lightning.

Since I can't use the purple lightning, I could only avoid it and strike him at the right time.

Boom!

I sidestepped. The next second, Riley's golden lightning palm hits the empty air. Taking the opportunity, I punched at him, at the area below his chest bones.

Whack!

Riley got hit right below his chest bones. His eyes bulged out in pain. But then he decisively retreated backward.

The golden lightning covering his right arm disappeared. He then turned towards Zack and looked at him with a serious expression.

Gasp!

The warriors around the platform were dumbfounded. What they had witnessed was something difficult to comprehend.

Senior Riley was super fast in his attack, yet he had failed and received a strike in his stomach. The warriors felt it was incredible.

The faces of the faction leader and the main elders were relieved. Austin sighed in relief. He was worried about how Zack would fight against a senior student, but now he was at ease.

He could tell that Zack Lockwood was not only blessed with three elements and super aptitude, but his combat awareness was powerful as well.

Main Elder Ann was feeling relaxed as well. She had been tense earlier but not now.

Inside the platform, Riley felt the trouble. He had really underestimated Zack Lockwood.

“No wonder the Elemental Faction students were defeated by him,” Riley thought.

Swoosh!

The next moment, he used the movement technique. He bolted away from his spot, leaving behind golden lightning bolts on the platform.

In the blink of an eye, he reached Zack Lockwood faster than before.

“Lightning Thrust!”

Once again, he used the lightning thrust to attack him.

My eyes flashed with a quick gleam. His movement technique surprised me. But still, things were under my control.

With my perception, I spotted the trajectory of the lightning thrust just as it was about to reach my body.

I controlled my body to move sideways. The gap was enough for evasion.

The next second, the golden lightning thrust went past my side and hit empty air.

Boom!

The booming sound was heard.

Riley's face turned dark before he could turn around and attack me.

Swoosh!

I slipped away and retreated to the edge of the platform.

"How?" Riley uttered, his expression incredulous.

I smiled at him.

Chapter 1128: Riley wins!

From MC's Perspective:

My perception ability was on high. I could feel that golden lightning was not ordinary. Senior Riley's "Lightning Thrust" technique was powerful as well.

If not careful, it would have burnt my skin.

On the other hand, Riley quickly suppressed his shock and disbelief. He understood that it's difficult to defeat Zack Lockwood.

So he decides to get serious and force Zack Lockwood to use his lightning technique.

"Bolt steps!"

Riley used the movement technique. He moved away from the spot the next moment. He is leaving behind golden bolts trails.

At the same time, I realised it was standing on the edge of the platform and decided to go to the center.

Swoosh!

In the blink of an eye, Riley rushes out towards me. I stopped and observed his movements. It's getting difficult to observe since he is using the movement technique.

My mind is working faster by monitoring every detail.

From outside, warriors could see that golden lightning bolts are circling around Zack Lockwood. But it was not a godown lightning bolt but Senior Riley.

He is using movement techniques to run faster. The warriors are totally glued to the duel platform. Zack Lockwood had evaded every attack.

This time the other Peak Stage General Rank Warriors couldn't catch Riley's movement. They were wondering how Zack Lockwood is going to solve the problem.

On the balcony, the Faction Leader Clifford raised his eyebrows in surprise.

He said, "Riley has found the trick. Zack can't match the speed. We can only wait and see whether Zack can react properly now."

"You are the right faction leader. It's not easy to catch an opponent's move while he is on the move. Here his lightning movement technique was fastest as well," Main Elder Leola said.

Elder Roise and Cathy supported her words. It's just the Main Elder Ann and Austin remained silent. Because Zack Lockwood is their disciple. How can they comment against him?

"Austin, Ann, what do you guys think?" Clifford asked.

"Zack has been doing well. Even if he was forced to use an element, the credit must be given to Riley. He is not weak," Austin said with a smile.

At the end of the day, Riley was a Golden Palace Member. If he is strong, then it's good for him and the faction.

"Zack is already fighting a disadvantage duel. The results don't matter," Ann said.

Her words conveyed that she didn't like one sided advantage duel.

"Looks like your words are going to come true," Cathy said, while looking at the platform.

Hearing that everyone turned towards the duel platform.

Inside the duel platform,

Boom!

Riley's fist punches at the empty air. As Zack Lockwood moved away his body at the last moment. But Riley was not giving up.

While using the movement technique. He continued to attack Zack Lockwood.

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Boom! Boom!

One after another booming sound was heard. Outside, the warriors could only see the sparks of the golden lightning bolts and Zack Lockwood's moving figure.

Meanwhile,

I'm getting a headache. I had never used the perception ability to such extension. I think my brain is going to get overloaded.

It's really unfair for me not to use the lightning technique. If the opponent's golden lightning touches me, then it would greatly harm me. Besides, I have other matches as well.

I can't get tired of fighting this one duel. Since it's a selection match for tomorrow's duel. I think Senior Riley was more than qualified.

I don't want to make things difficult for him and myself.

Whack!

Then I saw his fist coming at me. I circulated the Purple Lightning around my right palm before blocking my opponent's fist.

Boom!

The shock wave swept across the platform.

Argh!

A muffled grunt left Riley's mouth, as his fist was blocked by purple lightning palm. The purple lightning instantly destroyed the golden lightning and burnt his skin.

Swoosh!

He then retreated backwards.

At the same time, I withdrew my palm. The purple lightning disappeared from my hand. But everyone saw it.

Gasp!

The warriors exclaimed in a surprise. They didn't expect to hear such news. The next second, they started to cheer the name of Zack Lockwood and Riley.

"Riley is the winner. He will be participating as the 2nd member," Faction Leader Clifford's voice sounded.

Hearing that everyone cheered out loud again.

Riley sighed in relief. He then nodded to Zack Lockwood and others before stepping out of the platform.

“Then who is going to fight against Zack Lockwood next?” Faction Leader Clifford asked.

Hearing that I relaxed as well. Senior Riley was really a veteran. Then I don’t know who is going to come next.

Swoosh!

The next second, a female warrior stepped inside the platform. She is from the Black Flame Palace.

Upon seeing her everyone quieted down. This time one more veteran has appeared. This time she is a female warrior named Bethany from the Black Flame Palace.

“This time it’s your Black Flame Palace. What do you think about Leola?” Clifford asked.

Main Elder Leola smiled and replied, “Bethany is like Riley. She had been waiting to get powerful inheritance. She won’t break through unless she gets one.”

“So she has been focusing on the technique. Like Riley, she has powerful technique as well. Unlike the movement technique, she has a strong attack technique,” Leola said with a smile.

Hearing that Faction Leader and others smiled.

Inside the platform, I turned towards the female warrior.

From the surrounding conversation, I learned the name of the warrior. I heard about her name before. But this is the first time I’m seeing her.

She is also from the Black Flame Palace. She is likely a Black Flame Element Warrior. The same element as the Main Elder Leola. My eyes turned solemn.

The flames are as much as destructive as the lightning power. The black flames are known for more destruction. I don't know how strong the black flames of Senior Bethany are.

On the other hand, Bethany's expression was serious as well. She had watched the previous duel. She is not going to make mistakes.

Chapter 1129: Senior Bethany

From MC's Perspective:

The invisible dome covers the platform. I'm looking at Senior Bethany and analyzing her. At the same time, she is also observing me.

She watched the previous duel. I'm sure her attack will be severe.

"Start the duel!"

Faction Leader Clifford's voice sounded.

Boom!

Bethany bolted out from her spot the next second.

She raised both of her hands to attack Zack Lockwood. The next moment, both of her palms were covered in black flames.

Buzz!

The black flames are creating an irritating sound upon coming in contact with the air. In the blink of an eye, she reaches Zack Lockwood.

On the other hand, I wait for her. Upon getting a few meters close to me, she struck with her black flame fist. Her target was my face.

She was not hesitating at all. My eyes flashed with seriousness. With my perception, I watched her fist coming at my face.

Right before her flame fist could strike me, I moved my head at the right time. Her flame fist hit empty air.

Boom!

A hint of disbelief flashes in her eyes. She was sure that her attack had almost reached Zack Lockwood.

At the same time, using the opportunity, I kicked at her.

Boom!

My left leg flashed before her eyes before it struck her abdomen.

Argh!

She let out a muffled grunt before her body was forced to retreat a few steps backward. Bethany touched her stomach and looked towards Zack Lockwood with surprise.

She didn't even react to that kick. It happened within a fraction of seconds. She decided to observe more.

Swoosh!

She retreated to the edge of the platform and started looking at Zack Lockwood. She had watched the previous duel. Yet her calculations ended in failure.

At the same time, I returned to my previous position as well.

Gasp!

The warriors around the platform exclaimed in surprise. The black flames of Bethany amazed everyone. But then Zack Lockwood shocked everyone with his combat awareness.

No one could touch his dress, let alone hit him. The same had happened with Senior Riley. But later he used his powerful movement technique to force Zack Lockwood to use his element.

Now, they were eager to know whether Senior Bethany had any similar trump cards.

On the balcony, the Faction Leader and the main elders were enjoying the match as well.

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"Bethany is good. Her attack technique is fierce. But if she fails to hit Zack Lockwood with her attack technique, then she won't be able to win," Faction Leader Clifford said.

"Faction Leader, Bethany has just started. The duel is going to be interesting now," Main Elder Leola said.

Other Main Elders were interested. They could see Warrior Bethany was strong. She could really force Zack Lockwood.

The warriors around the platform were discussing as well.

Inside the platform,

Bethany continued to watch Zack Lockwood. She was coming up with a plan as well. Because there was no time limit, she could use the time to come up with a good strategy.

She knew Riley had used the movement technique and attacked at the same time. She chose to try out the same.

Swoosh!

“Flame steps!”

The next second, the black flames instantly covered her feet. She exploded with great speed and darted towards Zack Lockwood.

Swoosh!

On the other hand, I saw her covering the distance in one or two steps. My pupils shrank upon recognizing the movement technique.

Then I focused on my perception. Her movements slowed down in my eyes. Yet it's getting hard for me to predict her attacks.

Swoosh!

Instead of attacking Zack Lockwood, she started to circle around him. She was using the same tactics as Riley. While doing that, she was also looking for an opening.

She knew Zack Lockwood's reflexes were strong, so she was searching for the right opportunity.

Meanwhile,

The warriors around the platform were watching with bated breath. They were witnessing the same tactics used by Riley.

On the other hand, Riley didn't leave. He was watching the duel with his friends as well. Seeing that Bethany was using the same trick, his mouth curved into an arc.

During his duel, he understood a trick: Zack Lockwood wouldn't face the element attack head-on. That's how he was able to force Zack Lockwood to use his element.

Seeing that Bethany was using the same trick, he wanted to see how Zack Lockwood was going to defend.

Inside the platform,

I'm feeling a headache. My brain is getting overloaded. Bethany is not attacking at all. She is continuing her movement technique.

Boom!

At some point, Bethany drew her black fist at Zack Lockwood. Her attack was fast. If not responded to properly, her attack could injure him.

At the same time, I felt a sense of crisis. I tried to move my body away. Just as I thought, I was able to evade her attack.

Her black flame fist lightly touched my back skin.

Boom!

Her attack scorched my skin before hitting the empty air.

Swoosh!

Using the opportunity, I retreated to the edge of the platform. At the same time, I felt a burning sensation on my back.

The pain was so terrible that it caused veins to pop up in my forehead. But I controlled my emotions and looked at her. My heart was boiling with anger.

I had never received such a blow before. After a long time, someone managed to injure me. If not for the rules, I would have electrocuted her with my purple lightning.

“Snort,” then I gave a cold snort in my heart.

Bethany was surprised as well. Her attack had injured Zack Lockwood. But it was not enough to force him to use his purple lightning.

Then she smiled at him. Now that she found the trick, she was going to repeat it.

Meanwhile,

The Faction Leader Clifford and the main elders were surprised. They too understood that it was really difficult for Zack to defend against Bethany’s attack in such situations.

Chapter 1130: Bethany wins!

From MC’s Perspective:

My perception was active. I was observing her movements as she continued to circle around me.

She had found the same tactics as Senior Riley. But I wasn’t going to give up. It was challenging for me as well.

Boom!

Bethany drew her flame fist at Zack Lockwood's back. But her attack was seen through by me. I turned around to block her fist at the right time.

Her flames instantly covered my right palm.

Zzzzz!

The next second, the black flames began to burn my skin. If I wanted, I could use purple lightning to destroy the black flames.

But by doing that, I would concede the duel as well. I didn't want to do that. I wasn't going to make things easy for them.

I let the black flames burn my skin. At the right opportunity, I retreated backward to the edge of the platform.

Bethany was stunned. She was speechless. She was sure that her attack could force Zack Lockwood to use his purple lightning.

But he was enduring her black flames. Her expression grew serious. She knew Zack Lockwood didn't make things difficult for Riley. He was doing it against her.

"Why?" she thought.

Not only her; the warriors around the platform, the faction leader, and the main elders thought the same as well. Everyone thought Zack Lockwood was taking the duel seriously.

If this duel continued, then he might receive multiple burn injuries on his body.

On the balcony, the main elders' faces were serious. Even Austin didn't expect this from his disciple. On the other hand, Ann understood the competitive nature of Zack Lockwood.

In her opinion, Zack Lockwood didn't want to give up that easily. But still, she worried about the burn marks, which were unnecessary right now.

"Bethany has won the duel!"

Faction Leader Clifford said to everyone. Hearing that, the main elders behind him were stunned.

Not only them but also the two warriors inside the platform and the warriors surrounding the platform as well.

Inside the platform, Bethany widened her eyes in disbelief.

She had been worried about her chances seconds ago.

But she hadn't expected the faction leader to see through her difficulty because Zack Lockwood was purposely making things difficult for her.

For her, this was just a qualification match. There was no need to get serious.

"Zack Lockwood, there is no need to get injured. This is just a qualification match. Don't take it seriously," Faction Leader Clifford said.

Hearing that, Bethany felt she was right.

On the other hand, my mouth twitched. I wanted to enjoy the duel, but he stopped it. Then I turned around and nodded to him.

"Good, Bethany, you can go down. Who is willing to come next?" Faction Leader Clifford said.

Hearing that, Bethany exited the platform. She joined the list of Riley. They were going to participate in the main event tomorrow.

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Swoosh!

A slender-looking warrior entered the platform. His name was Craig from the Ice and Fire Palace.

Upon seeing him, Main Elder Cathy reacted.

She said, "He is another senior student like the previous two. His ice element is very strong. I don't know whether Zack can withstand the power of ice."

Gasp!

A low exclamation occurred below. All the senior students knew about Craig. He was middle-aged, but his physique was lean.

People might think he was a weak warrior, but his ice element could turn people into ice cubes.

So those who knew him had already predicted the result.

"Interesting," Riley, standing at the corner, commented.

Bethany, who was taking a rest, was speechless as well. She felt pity thinking about Zack Lockwood.

He had been attacked by golden lightning, black flames, and now this.

She was looking forward to seeing whether Zack Lockwood could take the attack head-on, like he had done to her.

Inside the platform, I was still feeling the pain from the burn marks. Now another guy had appeared. From the conversation around him, I learned that he was from the Ice and Fire Palace.

I doubted he could follow the same trick with his ice element. I sighed inwardly thinking about it because I hadn't heard of any movement-type ice element technique.

I collected my thoughts and started observing the person in front of me. He was a middle-aged man with a lean physique. His skin tone was fair.

From the people's conversation around me, he seemed to be another senior student who had suppressed his rank to gain powerful inheritance.

On the other hand, Craig was observing the opponent as well. He had watched the previous two duels. His elemental technique was ice.

Unlike the lightning and fire elements, he could freeze the opponent. He had decided to target Zack Lockwood's weak point, which was the head.

On the balcony, the faction leader, Clifford, revealed a smile on his face. He was satisfied with Craig's temperament.

He thought he would fight against Zack Lockwood right away.

Instead, he was taking time to think about a plan.

"Craig, he is a good warrior. What do you think, guys?" Faction Leader Clifford asked.

"Anyway, my disciple would be forced to use his purple lightning. Even if he doesn't, faction leader, you would announce the result," Austin said with a smile.

“Zack can use his full strength against other faction warriors. There is no need for a fight between us,” Cathy said from the side.

“She is right. Tomorrow’s duel is important,” Clifford said.

Other main elders agreed as well.

Inside the platform, Craig had decided to attack.

Swoosh!

He took the initiative to rush toward Zack Lockwood. He didn’t use the ice element at all.

Gasp!

The warriors outside exclaimed in a low tone. They thought Senior Craig would use the ice element, but he was going to attack with brute force.

Inside the platform, I raised my eyebrows in surprise. I thought this guy was planning to use his ice element in a tricky way, so I should be careful of him.

Then I used my perception once again. His movements had become crystal clear in my eyes.

Senior Craig appeared before me. Without any hesitation, he raised his fist to attack me. Seeing that, I didn’t know whether to laugh or cry.

No one competes against me when it comes to brute force.

Boom!

I simply blocked the fist, neutralizing the force. I looked at Senior Craig with a smile on my face.

But then he smiled in response. I immediately knew something was wrong.

Zzzzzz!

In the blink of an eye, both of our locked fists were covered in an ice block. Seeing my expression change drastically, I immediately used my left hand to strike the ice block.

Boom!

My left fist completely shattered the ice block. When my right hand became free, I retreated backward toward the edge of the platform.

Swoosh!

Craig was smiling before moving back to his previous position. He wanted to test Zack Lockwood's brute strength.

Now he could confirm that Zack Lockwood could destroy his ice blocks with brute force alone. If he wanted to win this duel, then he could only come up with a plan like the other two.

Gasp!

The warriors around the platform exclaimed in surprise.

The warriors from Ice and Fire had smiles on their faces. They didn't expect their senior to use such a trick.

If the ice element was powerful, then Zack Lockwood would have been forced to use his purple lightning.

Even the higher-ups in the balcony had smiles on their faces.

Unlike Riley and Bethany, they thought Craig was using his brain more than the others.

Swoosh!

Craig was moving again from his spot. He was darting toward Zack Lockwood.

This time he planned to do a sneak attack. Only a surprise element could force Zack to use his purple lightning.

On the other hand, I didn't know what to do. Should I deal with it casually? If I wanted to, I could use brute force to defeat him easily.

But Senior Craig seemed to be a powerful warrior like the others. He deserves a place in tomorrow's match up. I don't want to spoil his chance.

So I decided to go along. If he is powerful, then I will use the purple lightning against him.

Swoosh!

In the blink of an eye, he appeared before me once again. I thought he would use his fist to attack me.

But he has completely different plan in his mind. Before I could do something. He used his technique right away.

Zzzzz!

The powerful ice element covers the place in the blink of an eye. The freezing ice covers my whole body, before I could do something.

Boom!

I used the fist to break to break the freezing ice. But it's taking time. If I could use the purple lightning then the whole ice elements will be destroyed.

On the other hand, Craig is carrying smile on his face. He continues to use his ice element to cover the platform.