

BloodLine 1341

Chapter 1341: Spy movements

From MC's Perspective

The Volcanic Area,

Faction Leader Francesca was speeding. She was a Half-Step Red Mark Warrior. She quickly left the sphere of Star City.

On the other hand, I saw only a blur in front of my eyes. I didn't know how long it would take us to reach the volcanic area.

With the presence of a Half-Step Red Mark Warrior here, I was not afraid of the Klein Family.

Time passed.

An hour later, we came to the border. Even with the speed of a Half-Step Red Mark power, it still required an hour.

We landed on the ground covered in black soil. It was then that I was able to look around me. The surroundings were different.

All I could see was black soil and black hills. I could feel the temperature on the ground; the surface was hot.

My eyes flashed with surprise. I am a Silver Mark Warrior. I should not feel heat or cold, yet I was feeling it from the surface.

Francesca observed my reaction.

She smiled and said, "Don't underestimate your strength. If there were any Warriors below the Black Mark Level, they would have been scorched to death."

"Now, you are a Silver Mark Warrior. You can handle the temperature here," she added.

Hearing that, my eyes glinted with understanding.

"You can sit and practise anywhere here but don't go deeper. There is an active volcano ahead. It could hurt you," Francesca said in a serious tone.

"Okay," I replied to her.

"Then practice here. I'll be waiting outside. If anyone from the Klein Family appears here, I'll block them," she said.

Hearing that, I nodded to her and started walking around the place. The ground had no uneven spots.

It was a completely black, flat land. I found a random place and sat cross-legged on the ground. Then, I closed my eyes and started focusing on the bloodline method.

The Bloodline method was a visual method.

As time went by, I focused on the visual method. A bright blue water drop's image appeared in my mind. With the appearance of the blue water drop, the bloodline power in my body stirred.

I could feel the blue water drop rune in my mind throbbing. Feeling that, I knew the method was working.

I could feel the hot volcanic environment was helping me as well, because the blue water drop rune was getting denser.

But I didn't know how long it would take me to break through.

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Star City

The Purple Mark Guard completely locked down the five Purple Mark Warriors. They couldn't escape anywhere.

"You are not going to escape. If you don't want to die, then reveal your identities," the Purple Mark Guard threatened them again.

He was getting annoyed. The five Purple Mark Warriors were not saying anything.

One of them was an old man. He was sweating more than the others. The Purple Mark Guard's gaze fell on the old man. His gaze deepened.

"Old man, speak up. If you don't say anything, I'll call for reinforcements," the Purple Mark Guard said to him.

The old man broke out into a cold sweat.

He said, "Lord, forgive us. We are not from the Klein Family. But we belong to allied families. We were here to collect information about Zack Lockwood."

Hearing that, the other four Purple Mark Warriors' faces changed drastically. They didn't expect the old man to crack first.

The Purple Mark Guard smiled and said, "An allied family of the Klein Family."

"Then follow me to the campus. If anyone escapes, I'll kill that person," he added in a cold tone.

Hearing that, the old man and the others were terrified. They obediently started following the Purple Mark Guard.

Meanwhile

The Klein Family had other members in Star City. They were from the allied families as well, but they were not Purple Mark Warriors.

They had tried to contact the Purple Mark Elders, but they weren't able to do anything. They immediately shared the news with their allied families.

It didn't take long for the Klein Family to learn the news that they had lost the four Purple Mark Elders.

They knew they were exposed. The Klein Family had to lay low for right now. Dean Jerome must be staring at them.

On the other hand, Star City had spies not only from the Klein Family but from other families as well.

They were here for a big mission. Some of them were collecting information for various factions inside Star University.

But there were groups collecting information on Warriors who were on the kill lists of various forces, including the other universities.

Dean Jerome wanted to catch all the thieves. He knew that apart from the Klein Family spies, there were spies from other forces here as well.

He wanted to see if anyone else was coming out. But he would be disappointed soon. These spies had been working for the long term.

They wouldn't expose themselves easily.

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Campus- Infirmary

Ronnie Seth woke up. He was recovering from his injuries. He didn't expect to be assaulted by a Silver Mark Warrior earlier.

Creak!

The door opened the next second.

Old man Daniel and the staff from the Virtual Training Lab came in. They saw that Ronnie Seth was awake.

Phew!

Daniel heaved a sigh of relief. Now, they could talk to him about what happened. The staff were happy as well.

Ronnie Seth tried to raise his head. He could feel the bones all over his body hurting. He then saw old man Daniel and the others.

"Kid, you are lucky to be alive. I didn't expect that person to beat you this miserably," Daniel said in a solemn tone.

Ronnie Seth's eyes turned cold.

He said, "His name is Morton Redford. He was after brother Zack Lockwood. I don't know what Brother Zack is doing right now."

"I need to alert him," he added.

Daniel said, "Kid, don't worry about it. He already knows about your situation. He even came to see you, but you were unconscious that time."

Chapter 1342: Part 1: Master plan

From MC's Perspective

Volcanic Area

I was visualizing the bloodline method. The water drop rune in my mind was getting thicker and thicker. My doubts regarding the bloodline power were getting clearer.

I didn't know how long it would take me to break through.

Time passed by.

From time to time, Faction Leader Francesa would come to check on Zack Lockwood. Seeing that he was in deep focus, she would not disturb him.

That night, the blue water drop in my mind got thicker.

Click!

At one point, I felt some shackles in my body break. The next second, the blue water drop rune became denser.

Buzz!

Immediately after, a mysterious energy shot from the runes. It entered my mind, body, soul, and inheritance force.

My power was already at the Silver Mark Warrior level, but it started to increase again.

The inheritance forces were undergoing changes. My bones became wider and denser. My mental and soul power increased.

The space inside my dantian was large to begin with, but it gained even more space now.

I didn't open my eyes and continued to focus on the water drop. Unlike other runes, the shape of the water drop changed. It became sharper and denser.

However, I got no information about the second Chapter. The shape of the blood rune was simply different than before.

At that time, Faction Leader Francesa arrived at the spot. She saw Zack Lockwood and found changes in him.

Her eyes filled with surprise and shock. She had thought Zack Lockwood would take at least a few days.

But he didn't take more than one day. She had taken more than one day during her own breakthrough.

Francesa tried to recall whether any clan members from the Ball Family had created such records. But she could not remember anyone doing so.

She didn't know about the Ancestor's information, so she could only assume that Zack Lockwood was the first one to do this.

Francesa left the place and went to the border. After arriving there, she immediately texted Dean Jerome about Zack Lockwood's successful breakthrough.

Dean Jerome was surprised. He was genuinely stunned. He had also thought Zack Lockwood would take a couple of days to break through.

Yet, Zack Lockwood had surprised them again.

Dean Jerome then told her to bring Zack Lockwood to Star City. He would then tell them what to do next.

Francesa agreed and ended the call.

The Next Morning

Time went by.

The next morning, I opened my eyes. I found wonderful changes in my body. The Shock Force Rune, Sealing Rune, and Bloodline Rune all had successful breakthroughs.

The lightning rune had changed. Now, it was a brand-new lightning rune. I didn't know whether it had other Chapters or not.

However, the Thunder One Force Inheritance had Chapters up to the Red Mark Level. If it had further Chapters, I wouldn't be surprised.

So, I decided to concentrate on the brand-new purple lightning method.

Next, it was the bloodline method and the ancient incomplete healing method. Unlike the inheritance force, these two didn't have other Chapters. They could be practiced normally.

After figuring this out, I stood up. I started looking around and found no one inside. I didn't know where she was now.

Just as I was waiting for her, I saw someone coming in my direction.

The person was none other than Faction Leader Francesa. She appeared before me in the blink of an eye.

Francesa looked at Zack Lockwood. She found the bloodline power in his body had reached the level of Silver Mark.

She smiled and said, "You are now a Silver Mark Warrior."

Hearing that, a doubt came to mind.

I asked, "But I got no information about the next Chapter."

Francesa smiled and said, "Unlike other inheritance methods, the bloodline inheritance method is different."

"You must have gained a new bright blue water drop rune. You have to concentrate on the new rune until reaching the next limit."

"Once you break through, you will become Gold Mark Level," she added in a cold tone.

Hearing that, my eyes glinted with understanding.

Francesa then thought of something. Dean Jerome had told her what to do. They had to go to Star City next.

"We can leave right now. Dean Jerome told us to wait near Star City," she said.

I nodded to her.

The next second, she grabbed my shoulder.

Swoosh!

We disappeared from the spot and started heading towards Star City.

As time went by, we crossed many miles and covered a large distance.

I didn't know what Dean Jerome was planning right now. Faction Leader Francesa was not revealing anything.

We arrived at Star City before noon. We landed on the roof of one of the buildings.

"Leader, what's going on?" I asked her.

Francesa said, "Dean Jerome has some plan in his mind. We just have to follow it. Don't worry, no one can harm you."

I sighed inwardly. I wanted to find Morton Redford first.

Francesa then phoned and informed Dean Jerome.

Dean Jerome smiled. He wanted to find out the remaining rats first, so he told his plan to Faction Leader Francesa.

At first, Faction Leader Francesa's reaction was calm.

But her facial expression changed a few seconds later. She didn't expect Dean Jerome's plan to be this big.

Dean Jerome specifically told her not to inform Zack Lockwood until the plan was over.

After ending the call, Francesa turned towards Zack Lockwood and said, "Dean Jerome has a plan. But I can't say that to you. You have to wait for me here. Don't go anywhere or outside this hotel."

"You have to remain here until I come back," she added in a stern tone.

Hearing that, I was shocked because her voice sounded serious. She was not joking at all. I realized it must be some big issue.

So, I nodded to her.

Francesa was satisfied with Zack Lockwood's response. Unfortunately, she couldn't tell him because of Dean Jerome's order.

Swoosh!

She then disappeared from the spot. Now, I was the only one standing on this rooftop. I didn't know what this unsettling feeling was.

I hoped nothing would go wrong. After gaining some clarity, I turned and found a place to sit.

Chapter 1343: Part 2: Master plan

Dean Office

Dean Jerome received a call from Faction Leader Francesca again. He confirmed that she was not with Zack Lockwood.

"I'm going to release a piece of news in a few minutes. Faction Leader Clifford will join you. You guys have to capture the spies and other hidden Purple Mark Warriors," he said to her on the phone.

Francesca agreed. After the call ended, she began to wait for the news.

The spies from various forces had been rooted in Star City for a long time. During major crises, some of them revealed themselves, while others continued to stay hidden.

Unless they received orders from their higher ups, they wouldn't move. However, this time, the situation was different.

Dean Jerome decided to lure them out, and he had decided to use Zack Lockwood for that purpose.

He then called Faction Leader Clifford and told him about his plan. Faction Leader Clifford broke out in a cold sweat.

He was hoping Dean Jerome would protect Zack Lockwood, but he hadn't expected Dean Jerome to have such a terrifying plan in mind.

"He is going to lure out the spies," Clifford thought.

"This kid's name is on the kill list of almost every major force. I think the spies will definitely come out to find the kid."

"The Purple Mark Guard and Faction Leader Francesca are already there. Coordinate with them to capture these rats," Dean Jerome said.

Faction Leader Clifford agreed. He knew the threats posed by the spies were dangerous.

If their numbers grew, they could pose a huge threat to the city and the university. He understood that it was time to clean the city.

Dean Jerome then said a few things before ending the call.

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Star City

A few minutes later, breaking news started appearing out of nowhere.

No one knew where it started, but the people of Star City began hearing that the Thunderflame Faction star, Zack Lockwood, had come to Star City.

The people living here knew about every faction and their important warriors. The name Zack Lockwood was no different. They had long heard of his name.

The warrior families here were even more updated; they knew about the rumors regarding Zack Lockwood's breakthrough to the Silver Mark Rank.

These families were allied to different factions. They sometimes shared important news with them. This time was no different.

The higher-ups contacted the elders of the respective factions. The faction elders were surprised themselves.

They found out that there was no such rumor inside the campus; it was coming from Star City.

Some elders thought that someone might have seen Zack Lockwood in the city and that the rumors were spreading by word of mouth.

The faction leaders, for a second, thought that the news must be true, so they asked these families to look for Zack Lockwood.

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Meanwhile

Faction Leader Clifford came to the side of Faction Leader Francesca. Not long after, the Purple Mark Guard joined them.

The three of them knew about Dean Jerome's plan. The Purple Mark Guard came right after imprisoning the Purple Mark Warriors.

He didn't expect to get another big mission. The three of them discussed the situation and prepared to monitor each territory.

If there were multiple Purple Mark Warriors, the three of them could handle it.

Swoosh!

Faction Leader Clifford and the Purple Mark Guard left the place.

Faction Leader Francesca remained on the spot. Her eyes were serious. She knew many spies were hidden here. Who knew? The spies hiding outside Star City could come back.

As time went by

The Dark Shadow University, the Eclipse University, and the Giant University learned about the rumors through their spies.

They already had the name of Zack Lockwood on their kill list. Right now, it was a good opportunity for them.

If they could use their spies to kill Zack Lockwood, it would be excellent. Consequently, they activated all their channels.

For a second, they didn't even suspect that it was Dean Jerome's plan. They wouldn't have imagined that Dean Jerome would have thought of catching all of them.

As time passed, more and more spies came out of their hideouts and entered the city. They started looking for Zack Lockwood.

The identities of the spies were different. They ranged from Black Mark to Gold Mark Warriors.

It didn't take long for the Purple Mark Warriors to pay attention.

On the other hand, the Faction Leaders and the Purple Mark Guard were in shock.

They found a sudden increase in warrior activity. Their activities were suspicious, as if they were looking for someone.

Faction Leader Francesca decided to monitor the Purple Mark Guard first, as they were the most dangerous.

Similarly, the Purple Mark Guard was keeping an eye on high-profile targets.

He had learned from Faction Leader Francesca earlier that Zack Lockwood was staying on the rooftop of one of the buildings.

Faction Leader Clifford didn't spot the Purple Mark Warriors, but he found Silver Mark and Gold Mark Warriors roaming the streets.

He heard their conversations and confirmed that they were looking for Zack Lockwood.

His heart turned cold. He finally felt Dean Jerome was right. The spies had come out to look for Zack Lockwood. Clifford then decided to follow them.

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Campus

The rumors started spreading on the campus as well. The Faction elders asked members to find out about Zack Lockwood.

The Inner Hall warriors came to know about this. They were surprised. They wanted to confirm whether Zack Lockwood had become a Silver Mark Warrior or not.

The news reached the ears of Morton Redford. He was the most thrilled. He was looking for Zack Lockwood earlier.

He had even beaten Zack Lockwood's friend, Ronnie Seth, for it. Now, Ronnie Seth was admitted to the Infirmary.

He was wondering when Zack Lockwood would come out alone to meet Ronnie Seth, but to his surprise, he heard that Zack Lockwood was seen outside in Star City.

Morton Redford decided to leave. He walked out of the faction and went to look for Zack Lockwood.

Chapter 1344: Learned the truth

From MC's Perspective:

I paced back and forth on the rooftop. I wanted to go down, but I remembered the orders given by Faction Leader Francesca.

She sounded serious. She wouldn't react that way normally. It meant something serious had happened.

I didn't know what it was. I walked up to the guardrail and looked down. My eyesight could cover up to 500 meters, so I could observe the surrounding activities clearly.

As time went by, I noticed a few people going from building to building, door to door, inquiring about someone.

Seeing that, I didn't know what to make of it. I continued to observe the place.

After some time, I stopped looking at that spot. I went to the other side to observe. Not long after, I found another set of people going shop to shop to inquire about something.

This time, I raised my eyebrows. I could see their facial expressions clearly. They were looking for someone.

But they were not the same warriors. I thought of something and went to the front. After walking up to the guardrail, my gaze fell on the entrance and the area outside once again.

A hint of surprise flashed in my eyes.

A group of warriors were asking around among the people.

"What's going on here?"

"Who were they looking for?" I asked myself.

I continued to look down at them.

Meanwhile, Morton Redford arrived in Star City. Not long after entering the city, he found that the restaurants and other eateries were busy.

The people were talking about Zack Lockwood. He, too, found out that many people were looking for Zack Lockwood.

He immediately thought of the other factions. It was a known fact that the Thunderflame Faction had rivals: first, the Dark Variant Faction, and the other, the Elemental Factions.

He wanted to find Zack Lockwood before them and defeat them.

He started walking through the streets.

Time went by.

Faction Leader Francesca didn't wait long. She quickly attacked and disabled the Purple Mark Warriors. She then called Dean Jerome to tell him about it.

It didn't take long for the team from Star University to arrive. They were the elders. They took the captured Purple Mark Warriors.

The same thing happened with the Purple Mark Guard; she handed over the captured warriors. They would all be locked up in prison.

On the other hand, Faction Leader Clifford was after a group of warriors who were at the Silver and Gold Mark Level.

When he told Dean Jerome about it, the Dean told him to focus on the Purple Mark Warriors. So, Clifford changed his targets.

As time passed, I came across more and more warriors doing the same activity. Something was going on in the city that I didn't know about.

The suspense was too much. I wanted to go outside to learn about it. Maybe I could help them. So, I decided to go down despite the warnings of Faction Leader Francesca.

Coincidentally, Morton Redford arrived near the towering hotel. It was the same hotel where Zack Lockwood had been standing on the rooftop a minute ago.

I took the lift down to the first floor. In the busy hotel, no one paid attention to the people using the lift.

I walked boldly up to the door and stepped out slowly. I came to the main street. My gaze swept across the shops running along the other side of the street.

Specifically, my eyes were searching for those people who were looking for someone.

As I looked at the shops, my gaze spotted someone entering from another street. At first, I didn't take it seriously.

But his outfit and appearance seemed familiar. I continued to observe him, trying to recall. Like the others, he went to the first shop on the street and started inquiring about someone.

Suddenly, something clicked in my mind. I took my digital device out and opened the online forum where students posted stories.

I quickly searched for Morton Redford. The next second, several photos appeared featuring the same outfit.

My eyes flickered with coldness. To think I would see him here. I didn't know whether to say he was unlucky or not.

My gaze deepened further. I could see a Silver Aura exuding from him. It showed that he was a veteran Silver Mark Warrior.

I had beaten down a Gold Mark Warrior before my breakthrough. Now that I was a Silver Mark Warrior, I could kill a Gold Mark Warrior.

But Morton Redford was a Silver Mark Warrior. It would be easy to deal with him. But before that, I needed to find a location.

My gaze wandered around before settling on a narrow alley. Then I checked my storage ring and found an unused face mask.

I had used it a long time ago during a mission. I didn't expect to use it today. I wore the mask and started walking towards the shop.

First, I wanted to know who he was asking about. I didn't know whether he was sent here for a mission or if someone was being targeted by him.

Morton Redford moved on to the next shop. He didn't notice me. I went to the first shop and walked in.

Before I could ask the owner, I heard him talking to himself. It was nothing but a complaint.

"Damn!"

"Who is Zack Lockwood?"

"Why is everyone asking about him?"

"First it was the Black Mark Warriors. Now, a Silver Mark Warrior is asking about this person."

"They are ruining my day."

The shop owner was furious, complaining to thin air.

My heart sank. I turned around and exited the shop. After stepping onto the footpath, I started collecting my thoughts.

So the person they were looking for was none other than me. It appeared my whereabouts had been leaked.

They knew I was here in Star City. Star City was supposed to be a safe location. How come more people were looking for me?

I couldn't help but think of Faction Leader Francesca's earlier order.

Chapter 1345: Part 1: I set him straight

From MC's Perspective

After figuring out that these events could be related to me, I turned towards Morton Redford. He was still going shop to shop to inquire about details concerning me.

A sharp glint appeared in my eyes.

I could use this opportunity to lure him into an empty, narrow alley. Then, I'll teach him a lesson. I started walking up to him.

Morton Redford, who was coming out of a shop, was disappointed. He didn't know where Zack Lockwood was right now, and he wanted to find him before the others did.

Suddenly, he noticed someone coming towards him. That person was wearing a mask. Seeing that, he went on guard.

He knew that apart from him, there were many others looking for Zack Lockwood in this city. Even if anyone found him, they wouldn't tell the others.

On the other hand, I arrived in front of Morton Redford.

"I overheard your conversation. It appears you are looking for someone named Zack Lockwood. Am I right?" I asked him.

Morton Redford was stunned. He didn't expect someone to eavesdrop on his conversation with others, but he was not offended. If there were people there to help him, then he was fine with it.

"Yes, I'm looking for this person. By any chance, did you see him?" Morton asked.

Hearing that, I smiled and asked, "Can you show me the photo again?"

Morton Redford was convinced in his heart. The person in front of him could have some clues. So, he took the device out and showed the photos to the masked man.

I received the device and began putting up an act of going through it. Then, I raised my eyebrows and looked at him.

I said, "It's him. I just saw him walking into a narrow alley."

"What?" Morton uttered in surprise.

He was not expecting to find something this soon. He was faster than the others.

"So he found an empty alley to hide? That Zack Lockwood..." Morton said in his heart.

The Silver aura covering him intensified. As if he was ready to fight against him.

Then he collected his thoughts and said, "Thank you for telling me, brother. But I want one more favor."

I acted like I was hesitating.

Morton had already convinced himself. Now that he saw the masked man hesitating, he realized the other person might need something.

"If you want credit points, I can pay you," Morton said with a smile.

"How much?" I immediately asked.

"Ha... Ha... Ha..."

"You don't have any idea about the value of the information provided by you. I'll pay you 10,000 credit points; just take me to the narrow alley," Morton said with a sick laugh.

I got the urge in my heart to punch him in the face, but I controlled my desire. Instead, I showed a fake, greedy expression.

Morton Redford was even more convinced. Then, we started going towards the alley. If it were others, they would have shared the news with the faction warriors.

But Morton Redford was clearly selfish. He wanted to take the credit to impress the Klein Family. He had already started having wild imaginations in his mind.

He didn't think of Zack Lockwood as a threat. He didn't even completely believe the rumors of Zack Lockwood being a Silver Mark Warrior.

Even if there was some truth in it, he was confident of facing him alone and defeating him. He was a veteran Silver Mark Warrior.

Though he belonged to a medium-sized faction, he was once sought after by the top ten factions. But he had deliberately stayed in the medium-sized factions to get more opportunities.

It wouldn't be long before he reached the Gold Mark Stage.

At the same time, I was amused in my heart. I didn't expect this person to be so easily fooled. Since he had touched my friend, I would make sure that he ended up in the same situation.

My heart wanted to kill him, but my rational mind was telling me to be cautious.

Since I had offended the Klein Family, if I killed this person, I would face even more threats. It would create unnecessary problems.

I could already see that Faction Leader Francesca was up to something. Maybe she was conducting some operation related to me. So, I was not going to do anything to hinder them yet.

A few minutes later,

I brought him to the abandoned alley with rundown houses on both sides. This place was not remote, yet the abandonment had caused this place to be isolated.

Morton Redford boldly walked on the narrow road. His gaze scanned the dilapidated houses on both sides of the street.

He thought Zack Lockwood could be hiding in one of them. He wanted to find him as soon as possible.

Then he thought about the masked man. His smile disappeared. A wicked glint appeared in his eyes.

He found that the aura of the masked man was Silver Mark as well. He decided to scare him away. Next, he turned around and looked at him.

Boom!

He was greeted by a punch to his face the very next moment.

His body hurled into the air before going backwards like a projectile. Then his body landed on the road with a heavy thud.

The attack was so fast that it happened within seconds.

Puchak!

Morton coughed up blood after hitting the ground. His body still rolled over the ground due to the impact force.

When his body came to a halt and stopped moving, his heart set off storms. He didn't know what happened. It took him a few seconds to realize.

He was beaten by the masked man.

"You..." Morton uttered.

Swoosh!

The next second, I appeared in front of him and stomped on his face.

Boom!

Morton was hit hard again. The back of his head struck the ground. His body was thrown off by the impact force.

Puchak!

Blood spilled from Morton's mouth.

Seeing that, I didn't stop. I appeared at his side again and continued to kick his body with my legs. Morton didn't have any time to defend.

He didn't know why the masked man was attacking him. The strength of the masked man was stronger than he had thought.

He was forced to defend himself.

Chapter 1346: Part 2: I set him straight

From MC's Perspective

I walked up to Morton, who was still trying to get up. From beginning to end, I hadn't used any attack technique.

If I did that, he would die for sure. But I didn't want that. I wanted him to be bedridden just like Ronnie Seth.

Smash!

Just as Morton tried to get to his feet, I punched his abdomen.

"AaaHhhh!"

With a blood-curdling scream, his body was hurled into mid-air before crashing onto the ground.

Thud!

Once again, his body received a hard hit. This time, he screamed again as his bones were damaged.

Morton Redford was terrified. He understood that he had offended someone, but he didn't know the identity of the person.

"Forgive me..." Morton Redford tried to apologize.

Boom!

But he received another kick to the body. He flew backward before crashing onto the ground.

Puchak!

Morton Redford coughed up blood. His clothes were already drenched in it.

This time, I didn't continue the attack because I found that Morton Redford's breathing had become weaker.

Seeing that, I continued to assess him. He had injuries all over his body. I had only used brute force, yet it had broken his bones and caused internal injuries.

He needed immediate treatment. Otherwise, his internal injuries would worsen, and his breathing would become even weaker.

I glanced at him. At that moment, Morton Redford lost consciousness, his body lying limp on the ground.

Seeing that, I decided to give up and leave. Who knows? My next attack might end his life.

A hint of seriousness appeared in my eyes.

I gave him a last glance before leaving the place. The hotel was not far away, so I removed my mask and started heading toward it.

Just as I left the street and entered the next one, I found two Warriors heading in my direction.

When their gazes fell on me, their expressions changed drastically.

"Hey, he is Zack Lockwood!"

"Let's go and capture him."

The two warriors spoke one after another. They were Gold Mark Warriors. They were randomly walking around the street to collect news about Zack Lockwood, but they didn't expect to meet him here.

On the other hand, I was stunned. These two warriors were Gold Mark Warriors, and they recognized me as well.

They must have been from the University. After realizing this, I tried to change direction and enter another street.

"Wait!"

"Where are you going?"

I heard shouts from behind. My eyes flashed with a cold glint. I smelled trouble; these guys wouldn't go without a fight.

Swoosh!

Both of them appeared in front of me and blocked the path.

"Where are you going?"

"Follow us quietly."

The Gold Mark Warriors spoke to me, both grinning from ear to ear, as if they had succeeded in their task already.

I sighed internally.

I turned toward them and started to circulate the new purple lightning force. A dark purple force reached the tip of my forefinger.

“Lightning Finger Technique.”

Before the two warriors could realize what was happening, I shot two purple lightning fingers toward them.

Boom!

Two purple beams tore through the air. They swept across in a straight line before hitting the two warriors.

Boom!

The purple lightning beams struck their bodies. Both of them were blasted away from the spot, their bodies flying through the air before crashing onto the ground.

The next second, I wore the mask again and started heading toward the hotel.

A few minutes later, I returned to the hotel and removed my mask. In the busy lobby, I walked straight to the lift.

After entering, I pressed the button for the top floor.

Shortly afterward, the lift went straight up. It came to a halt a few minutes later.

Creak!

The lift door opened. I walked out and onto the open terrace. It was the top of the hotel building where Faction Leader Francesca had left me not long ago.

Phew!

I breathed a sigh of relief. Then I came to the guardrail and started looking down. I was sure the two Gold Mark Warriors were seriously injured.

My purple lightning force was strong to begin with. Now that I had become a Silver Mark Warrior, it was even stronger than before.

I didn't know whether they were alive or not. I hoped they weren't dead yet; otherwise, it could lead to an unwanted situation.

Meanwhile, Faction Leader Francesca continued to look for Purple Mark spies everywhere. They had already handed over the previously captured warriors.

If they didn't find other Purple Mark Warriors, they would move on to capture the Gold Mark Warriors and below.

On the other hand, Faction Leader Clifford was doing the same. It had been a long time since he had participated in such a mission.

They were able to find more Purple Mark Warriors in a day. All of them were spies. Most were spies belonging to their allied families, but they were working for others.

It was rare to see a spy from the outside living here. Most of the time, one of their own sold out their information.

Elsewhere, the Purple Mark Guard was doing the same. He was shocked because he did not expect so many spies to be hidden in the city.

Most of them turned out to be agents from allied families. He believed that after this mission, it would be hard for spies to appear in the city again.

Time went on.

The three of them captured and handed over more and more spies to the Star University Elders. The number of empty cells in the prison were getting reduced.

More and more people were getting locked up. It was just an earlier part. The interrogation was the most important part.

It will reveal more information to them.

The wizard families behind the spies were confused.

They weren't able to contact their warriors. They had sent their warriors out to collect information about Zack Lockwood.

They decided to wait and see. If the situation persisted, then they would know something had happened.

Chapter 1347: End of operation

From MC's Perspective

I continued to stand near the guard rail. I didn't have any problems for the time being. Unless someone came to the hotel to find me, I could safely stand here.

...

Meanwhile,

The two Gold Mark Warriors were dead. Dark purple lightning had taken their lives by scorching their internal organs.

Their bodies lay limp on the ground, looking charred and dark. It didn't take long for someone to appear on the narrow road.

It was an old man who worked at a nearby shop. He usually came to the empty alley to meet with his friends.

He arrived as usual today. As he walked further into the road, his nose twitched. He smelled something bad.

"Is there a house on fire?" he asked himself.

The old man started looking at the surroundings. His gaze then fell on two charred corpses.

His heart jolted awake the next second. Horror was written all over the old man's face. He couldn't believe what he was witnessing.

The smoke was coming from the charred corpses, not from a house fire. When the realization dawned on him...

"Aaahhhh!"

The old man turned around and started running frantically. He let out a scream while running.

When the old man entered the busy street, his scream alerted others and drew the attention of the large crowd.

Everyone turned towards the old man. The shop owners and the staff working in those shops recognized him.

They were stunned to hear his scream. They didn't know what had happened. Then, the staff came to the old man one by one.

The crowd gathered around him; they wanted to hear what was going on.

The old man looked at the crowd and the familiar faces around him. He relaxed a lot, and the fear on his face reduced a little.

He took a deep breath before looking toward the others. Then, he told them about the two charred corpses lying in the nearby empty alley.

Gasp!

Hearing that, everyone was shocked. A murder had happened near their street. They started walking towards the empty alley.

When they arrived at the alley, they saw the two charred corpses. The smell was overpowering. The faces of the people turned ugly.

They understood that the old man's words were true. The female warriors immediately left the spot; if they stayed any longer, they felt they might faint.

The male warriors were scared as well. They didn't know who had killed them. The shop owners immediately reported it to the authorities.

Shortly afterwards,

The authorities came to the spot. They saw two corpses. Their faces changed as well. They didn't know who had caused this murder.

The authorities immediately took the corpses back to the infirmary. They needed to identify them.

Meanwhile,

Morton Redford was spotted by someone. He was taken to the nearest medical clinic. From his clothes, his identity was clear.

So, he was given preferential treatment. His situation was reported to the higher-ups as well.

It didn't take long for members of his medium-sized faction to arrive. They saw that one of their members was admitted there.

They recognized Morton Redford and were shocked to the core. When they heard the news earlier, they hadn't believed it.

They knew Morton Redford was a Silver Mark Warrior. His family was a second-tier family allied to the Klein Family.

Even the warriors from the top 10 Factions didn't usually cause problems for him. Yet, he had been beaten to this state by someone.

They immediately took Morton Redford back to Star University.

...

Hotel

That night, I was still waiting at the top of the hotel. My gaze fell on the people walking down below. So far, no warriors had come to the hotel.

It showed that no one suspected the hotel.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, three figures appeared in front of me. The three were none other than Faction Leader Clifford, Faction Leader Francesca, and the Purple Mark Guard.

Phew!

Seeing them, I heaved a sigh of relief. I had been wondering where they were.

"It's time to leave," Faction Leader Clifford said with a smile.

"We have completed our task. There is no need for you to worry anymore," Faction Leader Francesca said.

She was worried that Zack Lockwood might have gone outside during their mission time.

But she didn't know that Zack Lockwood had indeed gone outside and taught a lesson to Morton Redford and the two Gold Mark Warriors.

The two Gold Mark Warriors had died as well.

The Purple Mark Guard was silent. He was observing Zack Lockwood's reaction.

He couldn't believe the kid had stayed silent and remained here at the top of the hotel.

On the other hand, I heard their words. I wanted to leave as well. I didn't know the status of Morton Redford or the two Gold Mark Warriors.

Swoosh!

Faction Leader Clifford grabbed my shoulders. Then, the four of us started leaving for the campus.

About 20 minutes later,

We reached the Star University campus. Faction Leader Clifford took me back to the Thunderflame Faction.

He dropped me directly in front of the residence.

I thought he would leave immediately, but Faction Leader Clifford looked at me.

"I know you have a lot of questions. We did a major operation today. You will know tomorrow." After saying that, he disappeared from the spot.

I stood there, stunned. "What major operation?" I asked myself. I was right; something major had happened. But I didn't know anything about it.

A hint of curiosity appeared in my eyes.

Then, I calmed my heart and returned to the residence. I immediately entered the bath to take a shower.

The bath lasted for 20 minutes.

Then I walked out and changed into comfortable clothes. I went to the bed and lay on it. I looked at the ceiling and continued to contemplate.

I didn't know what was going to happen tomorrow. But I decided to meet Ronnie Seth. I believed he must be awake by now.

If he learned about Morton Redford's situation, he would be happy.

Chapter 1348: Part 1: Specific assignment

From MC's Perspective

The following day, after getting out of bed, I began my morning routine. I spent an hour completing it before my attention shifted to the new purple lightning method.

I had already achieved breakthroughs in Shock Force Integration, Sealing Force, and bloodline power.

However, I had a feeling that the new purple lightning method was special, especially since it was derived from the Thunder One Force Inheritance.

It only contained Chapters up to the Red Mark Level.

My previous lightning scripture was not ordinary either. I believed the current lightning scripture must have further Chapters as well, so I decided to pay close attention to this matter.

About 20 minutes later, I left my residence and headed straight toward the Golden Lightning Palace. Upon arriving at the palace, I went to the essence chamber facility.

I entered one of the essence chambers, and the door closed automatically behind me. I activated the switch and walked to the center of the chamber.

World energy began to pour into the chamber. In the blink of an eye, the energy filled the room.

I sat cross-legged on the ground, closed my eyes, and began to practice the new purple lightning method.

The new dark purple lightning bolt rune started to flicker. As time passed, the purple lightning force from the surrounding world energy entered my body.

I guided the purple lightning force according to the new circulation route. Once circulated, the new force entered my dantian and settled onto the purple lightning seed.

The purple lightning seed was different than before; it now possessed a golden pattern. This was due to the treasure I had consumed back in the secret land.

The seed absorbed the new lightning force. Seeing this, I continued the process. As the new purple lightning force gathered around the seed, the seed began to make the force even stronger.

...

Star City

Star City appeared calm, but undercurrents were surging beneath the surface, stronger than ever before.

The warrior families were in conflict. They were unable to connect with several of their family members.

Some families didn't even know that these missing members were spies working for other forces.

Eventually, the families realized their kin were missing. They had vanished directly from the city. It wasn't just Black Mark and Silver Mark Warriors; even Gold Mark Warriors were missing.

This discovery sent shockwaves through the families. They immediately informed the authorities, hoping the higher-ups from Star University would intervene.

However, some families stayed silent because they knew the missing members were spies.

If Star University were to learn of their activities, the entire family would suffer. Consequently, a few of the families didn't even report the disappearances to the higher-ups.

Meanwhile

Forces outside Star University quickly learned that their assets had been compromised.

Their Purple Mark Warriors had been captured. These warriors were long-term investments, yet they had been taken, and their whereabouts were unknown.

Their long-term plans were destroyed.

The force most affected was none other than Dark Shadow University. They were reeling from the recent news, believing that Star University was behind the disappearances.

Similarly, Giant Tower University saw their assets captured as well, their whereabouts equally unknown.

The Giant Tower University leadership was unable to contact their spies, which sent chills through the higher-ups.

They tried to contact other assets embedded within Star University families, but they were unable to connect with them either. This sent an ominous signal.

Moments later, representatives from Dark Shadow University contacted them.

When the higher-ups answered the call, they learned that Dark Shadow University's assets had been compromised as well.

Both forces understood that Star University had captured and wiped out their spies. It was a massive loss for them.

Star University's actions angered both forces. They decided to hunt down Star University spies living within their own territories and capture them in retaliation.

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Star University

Dean's Office:

Dean Jerome was going through the reports. He was satisfied with yesterday's operation; almost all of the spies had been captured and imprisoned in their cells.

He thought Zack Lockwood could now freely roam the city, as there were no Purple Mark enemies left within the walls.

Suddenly, Dean Jerome paused. His eyes flickered. He still didn't know how many others were hidden in his territory.

He had cleared out the city, but he was uncertain about the areas outside the city.

Once again, his eyes flashed as a plan formed.

He was sure there was little chance of Purple Mark Warriors appearing immediately outside the city, but there might still be Gold Mark and Silver Mark level spies.

After some thought, he decided to extend the operation. He would use Zack Lockwood again. He would send Zack to all the important cities to retrieve reports and collect intelligence.

He had already ordered the Purple Mark Guard to be Zack's guardian. With the help of the two of them, he could clear the Star University territory.

He summoned the Purple Mark Guard. When the guard appeared, Jerome told him about the plan.

The Purple Mark Guard was stunned, realizing Dean Jerome was doing this for a long-term goal, but he agreed to the order.

"Bring Zack Lockwood here," Jerome said. "It's time for the kid to face some danger. We can't protect him day and night. He needs to face some challenges himself."

The Purple Mark Guard agreed.

Swoosh!

He disappeared from the spot. He arrived at the Thunderflame Faction, appearing above Zack Lockwood's residence in the blink of an eye.

He scanned the residence with his mental power and found that Zack was not there. He realized Zack must be at the Golden Lightning Palace.

Purple Mark Guard's eyes flickered. He doesn't want the Faction Leader Clifford to be alerted.

Dean Jerome had some plan in his mind. So he decided to wait for Zack Lockwood to come. He then hide his presence.

No one can find him. Unless, the Faction Leader Clifford used his mental power to scan the Thunderflame Faction. Then he would be exposed.

Chapter 1349: Part 2: Specific assignment

From MC's Perspective

That night, I exited the essence chamber and started heading towards the exit. I was right; the new purple lightning method appeared to have more Chapters.

The new lightning bolt rune was thicker than before. I believed the continuous practice would lead to a breakthrough.

After coming out of the Golden Lightning Palace, I started walking back towards the residence on foot. I didn't come across any members; they had left early.

Master Austin was not there, either. Otherwise, I would have met him already.

A few minutes later, I arrived at the residence. Just before I could open the door, I sensed someone appear behind me. It immediately alerted my senses.

I turned around and saw the person was none other than the Elder, the Purple Mark Guard. Upon seeing him, I was surprised, because he would not come here for no reason.

The Purple Mark Guard saw Zack was covered in the Silver Mark Warrior aura. He smiled and said, "The Dean wants to see you. Come with me."

"Right now?" I uttered in surprise.

"Yes," the Purple Mark Guard said before grabbing my shoulder.

Swoosh!

The next second, I disappeared from the spot. I found myself being taken away by force; we were traveling to the Dean's office.

It didn't take long for us to appear at the Dean's office. To my surprise, Dean Jerome was still there. We walked into the room, and I saw him seated at the desk.

Jerome's gaze fell on me. I had made him wait for so long, but he didn't seem offended. He seemed glad that I was still practicing continuously after the breakthrough.

He didn't pry into my condition right now; he wanted to talk about the mission right away.

"Kid, you must be curious about the operation in Star City," he said.

Hearing that, my eyes flickered.

"Yes, Dean," I replied.

The Purple Mark Guard remained calm and collected, but he perked up his ears to listen.

"I used your name to lure out the spies..." Jerome started explaining the special operation.

At first, my expression was calm, but it changed as the seconds went by. My heart was shaken to the core. I didn't know I had been the bait the whole time.

Then, I recalled the appearance of Morton Redford and two Gold Mark Warriors. I remembered there were warriors going from shop to shop for some purpose.

Now, I understand the whole thing. No wonder Leader Francesca had warned me not to leave the hotel.

"We have captured all the Purple Mark Level Spies..." Jerome continued.

My heart set off storms again. I had been so close to meeting the Purple Mark Warriors. If I had come across them, it would have meant certain death.

A few minutes later, Dean Jerome finished saying everything. He then started observing my reaction.

The Purple Mark Guard saw Zack was rather composed. He was surprised; if it were others, they would have shown some emotion.

On the other hand, my turbulent heart calmed down. There was nothing shocking left to hear.

Next time, if they said a Faction Leader came to take my life, I wouldn't be surprised, because I had heard all the shocking information just now.

"I'm glad the spies were all arrested and are now imprisoned," I said with a smile.

"Not all the spies," Dean Jerome said, dropping shocking information.

"What?" I uttered in surprise.

The Purple Mark Guard's eyes flickered.

"Yes, we have wiped out the spy nest in the city. But what about the places outside the city? I suspect there are networks in other cities."

"For so long, I didn't mind their presence. But the time has come to remove them," he said in a serious tone.

Hearing that, my expression turned serious. I had never paid attention to the territory outside Star City. I had only visited one or two cities previously for missions.

"I have decided to send you as a special envoy to these cities to lure out the spies. The Purple Mark Guard will be protecting you in secret."

"If any Purple Mark or Gold Mark Warriors target you, he will take care of them. But you have to deal with the rest of them," Dean Jerome said.

I didn't know how many times my heart had ups and downs. It was yet another piece of shocking news. If I became an envoy, it would be an open invitation for the spies.

They would try to target me. The Dean wanted to use the hands of the Purple Mark Guard to remove them. I was just being used as bait again.

"What do you think?"

"It's time for you to face some challenges. You can't always be under our protection," Dean Jerome said.

Hearing that, I felt something strike my mind. Dean Jerome was right. Ever since I came to the Tier-4 Region, I had only done one or two outer missions.

It was nothing compared to other warriors. The disciples of the main elders were still outside doing missions.

I had come across a few of their disciples some time ago. But before I could sort out my problems, I heard they had left for a mission once again.

It couldn't be helped. I needed to improve myself. If I couldn't go to the warrior camps, I had to complete the outside missions at least.

Then, I turned towards Dean Jerome.

"I will do it," I said to him. I had no hesitation whatsoever. I could handle the Silver Mark and Gold Mark Warriors.

As long as I didn't come across a Purple Mark Warrior, everything would be fine. Even if someone appeared, the Elder would take care of the person.

Dean Jerome observed me. He noticed that I had no hesitation, and he was satisfied with the answer.

He then turned towards the Purple Mark Guard and told him to protect me at all times.

If we came across any spies, we needed to first notify the people here so they could send backup. Then, we could take action together.

Chapter 1350: Red Ridge City

Dean's Office

"You guys can now leave for the mission," the Dean said.

"I will release the news shortly," he added.

Hearing that, I agreed. But I had a question in my mind. I didn't know whether it was okay to ask him or not, but since I was going to do the mission, it was better to be clear headed.

"Dean, I have a question. Are you going to reveal my name again?" I asked.

Jerome smiled and said, "Yes, I told you before. I will release the news that you were sent outside for a mission."

"I think it's enough for the hidden spies to come out," he added.

I sighed internally. Then, I looked at him and decided to leave.

"Okay, I'm ready." After saying that, I stood up from the seat.

Dean Jerome then looked at the Purple Mark Guard and said, "Take him with you."

The Purple Mark Guard nodded his head. He grabbed my shoulder, and we walked out of the office.

Swoosh!

In a flash, we left the Dean's place and arrived at the Star University entrance.

"Do you have anything to pick up?" the Purple Mark Guard asked.

Hearing that, I shook my head and said, "Elder, I have everything in my storage ring. We can leave."

"Okay, we are going to the closest city next to Star City," the Purple Mark Guard said.

"After reaching there, you are on your own. I will not show my presence. I will protect you in secret," he added.

My eyes glinted with understanding. The next second, the Purple Mark Guard grabbed my shoulder again. Then, we left the place.

Shortly afterwards,

We left Star University. I didn't know when we would return. It didn't take long for us to reach Star City.

The Purple Mark Guard was flying past everything; I could only see a blur. We left the city area within minutes. Now, we were heading towards the next city.

"Elder, what's the next city called?" I asked him.

"It's Red Ridge," the Purple Mark Guard uttered.

"Red Ridge," I thought.

I was familiar with most of the names, so I recognized Red Ridge as well. It was the city next to Star City.

However, it was actually located 50 miles away. I had never been to that city before; it was going to be my first visit. While we were moving in mid air, I started thinking about the mission.

A helpless smile appeared on my face all of a sudden.

I guessed I didn't have to do anything. Dean Jerome would reveal my whereabouts, and then the spies would come after my life.

I would have to capture those at the Black and Silver Mark level. The Purple Mark Guard would take care of the Gold Mark and Purple Mark Warriors.

About 20 minutes later,

We reached the city. He dropped me on the ground and disappeared from my sight.

"You don't have to hide your identity. You are a Star University Warrior and a member of the Thunderflame Faction."

"The City Lord and his authorities are responsible for Star University Warriors' safety. You can act boldly here," the Purple Guard's voice reached my ears.

Hearing that, my mouth twitched. At this time, I was convinced that I was being an open target, right? The special envoy? And the special mission tag? They were just extra words.

Since I had agreed to the mission, there was no backing down. I told the Purple Mark Warrior that I would take care of myself.

It was close to midnight. I should have been at my residence right now, but here I was in front of another city. I collected my thoughts and started walking towards the main gate.

The activity outside the gate was minimal. One or two people were standing here and there, and the city guards were standing in their positions.

But there were no queues in front of the gate. I guessed no one was going to enter the city apart from me. So, I arrived in front of the gate.

The two city guards were Black Mark Warriors. They were startled upon seeing me. I was a Silver Mark Warrior wearing the uniform of Star University.

Both of them recognized me.

The City Guards looked at each other. Their gazes didn't fail to notice the Thunderflame Faction Emblem.

Their hearts set off storms. Everyone knew about the top ten Factions. Seeing that a guy from one of the top ten factions was here in front of them...

They were shocked to the core. They opened the gate immediately. They didn't dare to ask for ID; they knew no one would dare to copy a Star University Warrior.

So, the person in front of them was real. I glanced at them before walking through the entrance. The few random people gathered outside were shocked as well.

Then, they looked at the Star University uniform. They were curious about what a Star University Warrior was doing here in the middle of the night.

It was not a surprise for Star University Warriors to visit the cities under the university, but the timing was surprising to them.

On the other hand, I walked inside. My gaze started scanning the place. I had a feeling that the Purple Mark Guard was right above me.

I took a deep breath before I started looking for a hotel. It didn't take long for me to find a towering building glowing in bright light.

I came to the hotel and saw the name. It was called Trent Hotel. I didn't know which warrior family owned it. I walked into the place and approached the hotel admin desk.

A middle aged man was seated at the desk, but he was sleeping. Seeing that, I raised my eyebrows. This hotel didn't have guards at all? It was totally unprotected at the front.

I coughed a few times to wake the staff.

A few seconds later, the middle aged man's sleep was disturbed. He was angry. He was about to have an outburst and lash out at the person disturbing him.

But when he opened his eyes, his gaze fell on the Star University Uniform and the Thunderflame Faction badge.

A hint of fear flashed in his eyes.

The next second, he deflated like a balloon and quieted down.