

Bloodline 141

Chapter 141 - Cause Revealed

The fire didn't start slowly like most fires usually did, It exploded and spread across the vicinity in an instant.

But even with this, the explosion occurred from a particular point in the kitchen before spreading outwards and this particular point was where the force would be the highest.

When Gustav got to that place, in particular, he met about three people with missing body parts who had received the full force of the explosion.

One of the three people wasn't dead yet because they happened to be a mixed-blood but the other two died instantly. Gustav still brought their body out regardless.

Apart from this, the last two he found had been burnt beyond recognition. Even when Gustav fed them the regeneration pill, they still died in a matter of seconds after he brought them out of the building.

"Gustav, it's not your fault... You really did good in there," Boss Danzo said while squatting in front of Gustav and rubbing his hair.

"Hnm," Gustav nodded again.

"Boss Danzo what's go..." Before Gustav complete his sentence boss Danzo was called upon from behind.

Boss Danzo turned around to leave because it happened to be the three teachers who wanted an explanation on what had happened here as they waited for the fire department to finish their investigations.

Gustav sat underneath the tree with mixed feelings.

'I never knew I could still feel this way about something,' Gustav was surprised because this incident happened to touch him in ways he never thought was possible.

When he thought about it carefully, he found the answer.

This kitchen had been like a home to him. This was the first place that gave him the warmth his former household never had.

Even though he wasn't very close with the other workers like he was close to boss Danzo, he never had bad feelings towards anyone of them because they always treated him well.

No one had spoken to him with looks of contempt neither had anyone ever mentioned his low-grade bloodline so he happened to be very comfortable with them.

Now that this was happening to a place that he subconsciously saw as a second home he wasn't happy with it.

He hoped that with his new strength he would be able to save everyone but reality proved him wrong. At least five lives were lost to the fire and now Gustav was having mixed feelings about this like he had lost family members.

He knew for a fact that if his mother or father had died in a fire, he wouldn't feel this bad. He doubted he'd feel anything at all.

[Emergency Quest Completed]

[Side Quest failed]

Gustav stared at the notifications in front of him but didn't bother checking their information at the moment.

In front of the kitchen, boss Danzo was being questioned by the three teachers.

Two of them happened to be normal teachers while one of them happened to be from the disciplinary committee. One female and two males. The disciplinary committee teacher happened to be a woman.

-"What is your excuse for this mess Danzo!"

"Nobody knows how it happened, like I told you all before, it was an explosion,"

- "Eh? Danzo how come you're unscathed and have not a single burn on your outfit like the others?"

"I was saved by that masked man earlier, he got to me first so I wasn't harmed,"

- "Eh? You make it sound like the masked man was here from the start... You know that's impossible right?"

- "His statement sounds very fishy!"

- "Besides this masked man is not to be trusted since we don't know if he started the fire,"

"What do you mean by started the fire? That man was busy saving lives while you three were cooped up in your offices!"

- "What? Are you actually defending him now? Danzo must be an accomplice then,"

"What are you insinuating? Just because you're teachers doesn't mean you have the right to insinuate nonsense!"

"Let's all calm down here," The teacher from the disciplinary committee finally spoke after noticing that the conversation was getting heated.

"Danzo, you're right, we shouldn't be questioning you like this but at least tell us how it happened," She added.

"This is something no one knows... One minute we were cooking and the next the entire kitchen had gone up in flames," Boss Danzo replied.

"Hmm, let's wait for the fire department to finish their investigation then," The teacher from the disciplinary committee said with a profound look.

The workers who had gotten burning injuries that were higher than what healing pills could handle were taken to the hospital for treatment.

Some of them were burnt to the extent that they couldn't talk but only five died while Gustav managed to save about sixteen chefs in total.

Of course, everyone still wanted to know who the masked man was but when the cops arrived, the teachers told the cops that the masked man was a suspect.

The cops ignored them and also waited for the fire department to finish their investigation before making any moves.

It would turn out that the leader of the cops that arrived here was someone Gustav knew.

It took about thirty minutes for the fire department to finish their investigations. They came downstairs and gave a briefing of their findings to everyone.

Gustav also had to listen so he could understand how such a thing happened.

Surprisingly the cause was something they didn't expect.

According to the fire department, the explosion happened due to one of the cooking equipment getting overloaded from the minerals used to fuel it.

They said a different mineral was used to fuel it instead of the mineral compatible with the equipment which caused the overloading and explosion.

When the mineral was mentioned everyone was surprised because that happened to be the mineral used to power a car.

Immediately this explanation was given out, boss Danzo was on the receiving end of the blame.

The teachers accused him of not being able to supervise his workers well since such a rookie mistake was committed.

Even Boss Danzo was shocked at such a thing happening.

This mineral was never among the cooking materials purchased monthly so he couldn't understand how it got there.

Chapter 142 - Sabotage?

Boss Danzo tried to explain that the mineral wasn't included among the weekly purchases made to get the materials needed for the kitchen but no matter how hard he tried the three teachers debunked his claim and called him incompetent.

Even the other chefs tried defending boss Danzo but it still didn't change anything.

"Wait for the board's jurisdiction after they hear of this blunder," One of the teachers said as he left.

The other two teachers later took their leave after getting a detailed report from the fire department.

It turns out that the fire safety was faulty so it failed to activate when the temperature of the fire went above the threshold.

For some reason, the blast within the kitchen happened to be below the degree that would cause the fire safety to activate.

Gustav felt the whole situation was kinda fishy. Why would a mineral that wasn't purchased be among the minerals within the kitchen?

Some of the chefs felt that the person in charge of purchases must have made some kind of error and ended up getting the wrong minerals but even if that was so, whoever was using the equipment should have known that the mineral wasn't compatible with it. Which means it shouldn't have been made use of even if it was purchased.

"Boss Danzo let's check out the equipment," Gustav walked up to where boss Danzo was discussing with the cops and suggested.

"Hey Gustav," One of the cops called out to him.

"Officer Betty, good to see you again," Gustav nodded at the female officer sporting red hair and some white strands.

"Hmm, you too," Officer Betty replied, "Isn't it a bit too early for you to be in school by now?" Officer Betty asked with a look of confusion.

"He works with me," Boss Danzo chipped in.

"Oh," Officer Betty was a bit surprised to hear that but she nodded in understanding.

Officer Betty happened to be the same officer that arrived with her squad after the incident with the bloodwolf. She was also the one who helped deal with the mixed-breed that attacked the neighborhood while he was away.

Gustav was surprised to actually see her here and started wondering why her team would be dealing with situations here since it was pretty far from his neighborhood. It seemed as if the cops didn't have divisions or anything like that and this surprised Gustav greatly.

'Hmm, might the masked man be him? It looks like he's the only one powerful enough to pull something like that off among the workers but the description is way off,' Officer Betty wondered while staring at Gustav.

"Thanks for the last time," Gustav said with a grateful look.

"It's nothing," Officer Betty replied with a dismissive expression.

Boss Danzo and the workers around wondered what they were referring to but since Gustav and officer Betty didn't say more than that they decided to suck it up.

"We need to check out the equipment so we know who was making use of it," Gustav proposed with a look of suspicion.

"Hmm?" Officer Betty immediately sensed where Gustav was headed for with his suggestion.

"I don't know but if you guys are going to conduct an investigation, at the very least we need to know this," Gustav replied with a bold look.

"I agree with him," Boss Danzo chimed in. He was also finding the whole situation weird with the minerals stuff.

"Alright then, let's go in but you have to be careful because the floors are weak at the moment and could cave in when were walking on them," Officer Betty stated before turning around to start moving towards the kitchen with two cops beside her.

Gustav nodded at her and told Boss Danzo to stay beside him at all times.

They walked into the kitchen though the stairs had almost been burnt down completely.

Gustav activated God eyes as they walked on the kitchen floors.

He was able to know which part of the floors was weak and which parts were strong enough to hold both their weights.

The cops didn't need this since they had their helmets on which scanned the environment automatically and showed them the weak spots of the floor.

The entire view within the kitchen was that of destruction.

Scorched floors, fallen ceiling parts, cracked and broken down walls, burnt cooking pieces of equipment, a large hole in the roof, e.t.c.

The entire place reeked.

The floors didn't have as many openings as expected due to being strong but some parts were already weakened from the fire and only a little pressure would cause it to give way.

Gustav and boss Danzo moved forward for some seconds before turning towards the right to avoid a huge fallen debris from the ceiling.

The place was still had workers from the fire department moving around and making more investigations.

They moved for a bit more till they arrived at the middle right corner of the kitchen.

They stopped in front of the rectangular-shaped device that the two fire department officers happened to be inspecting at the moment.

This device used to be placed against the wall but now there was no wall beside it.

Woooshh!

The wind drifted in through the seven meters wide opening. It turned out that when the device exploded, the wall beside it paid the price.

The cops stopped here and turned to face Gustav and boss Danzo.

"This is the equipment responsible for this mess," Officer Betty said after taking off her helmet.

Gustav also turned to face boss Danzo before questioning.

"Boss Danzo, who used to be positioned on this side of the kitchen," He asked with a suspicious look.

He had no idea about how the boss Danzo shared the workers so he didn't know who managed this spot.

"This place is..." Boss Danzo looked around and pictured how the kitchen used to be before the incident.

"This is where Marilyn used to stay," Boss Danzo said immediately he remembered.

"Marilyn? She resigned some time ago right?" Gustav asked with a look of uncertainty.

"Yes she did," Boss Danzo confirmed.

"Which means... This is where Anu the new guy uses now," Gustav came to a realization.

"Hnm," Boss Danzo nodded in affirmation.

He remembered putting the new guy here after supervising his cooking for up to a week.

It only made sense that he would make use of this spot since this was where the previous worker used to man.

"Where is this Anu, we'll need to question him," Officer Betty asked.

"He should be down..." Gustav was about to reply when he remembered that Anu wasn't among the people he saved.

"I don't think I saw him among the chefs outside," Gustav said with a weird look.

Officer Betty and the rest of the officers stared at Gustav with a contemplative look after hearing that.

"Does that mean..." Officer Betty didn't get to finish her statement before boss Danzo interrupted.

"Before jumping to any conclusions, let's go check for him outside," Boss Danzo proposed.

They all went outside after that and called on the chefs to gather in one spot.

The workers were checked out one after the other.

After doing that, they noticed that Anu was nowhere to be found.

'There's only one more place to check before assuming that he's responsible,' Gustav said internally.

"Officer Betty the body detection procedure complete," One of the officers approaching from the left said to officer Betty.

This was the last step that Gustav had been waiting for.

"Mr. Danzo, Gustav, I need you both to come and check out the identities of these bodies," Officer Betty said after receiving the information.

Gustav and Boss Danzo nodded before following her towards the side where the burnt bodies were placed.

The body detection procedure was a process where the bodies would be examined and to figure out the identities of the unrecognizable victims on the spot.

They arrived at where five burnt bodies were placed on stretcher-like beds with a circular device floating above them.

This circular device was shooting out streams of light onto the burnt bodies that projected their looks before the incident.

Normally these bodies were burnt beyond recognition but when these lights hit them, the bodies became fresh once and right before boss Danzo's and Gustav's eyes were recognizable corpses.

These bodies didn't heal or anything, it was just the light projection on them that made them look this way.

This was how bodies were identified before the family of the victims were informed.

"Aria..." Boss Danzo had a crestfallen look on his face as he stared at the first body.

"Samuelle... Goro... Rondo..." Boss Danzo's eyes went from body to body as he called out their name.

Chapter 143 - Visiting Boss Danzo's Home

Trails of tears could already be seen on his face.

The last body happened to be the first one Gustav spotted.

"Anu," Gustav and Boss Danzo voiced out at the same time while staring at the dark-skinned male whose eyes were currently shut.

Officer Betty and the others heard that and immediately figured that this must have been the person in charge of that particular equipment that blew up.

"I guess this confirms that it wasn't a sabotage," Officer Betty said.

Gustav couldn't argue with that. At this point, it was obvious that this was just a rookie mistake.

Still, Gustav couldn't get rid of the feeling that this was planned somehow. How the mineral found its way into their supplies was still unexplained but at this moment Gustav was sure his credibility would be lacking so he didn't try to bring that up.

As far as the officers were concerned, there was a mistake in the buying of supplies and the rookie had no idea that the machine wasn't compatible with this mineral which eventually led to this incident.

Boss Danzo already explained that Anu was a rookie to them beforehand so they thought out the entire scenario.

Also one of the dead workers happened to be the one in charge of supplies so there was no way to question her.

"Officers please call their families and inform them," Boss Danzo said with a crestfallen look.

The officers nodded in response.

The sky was starting to brighten up since it was already seven in the morning at the moment.

The sun was rising but the atmosphere was extremely gloomy.

The officers of both the police and fire department did one last routine check-up before rounding up.

The ambulance took the bodies and some of the injured workers along with them and the place slowly returned to tranquility even though it was obvious that a lot had gone down already.

Boss Danzo was asked to head towards the board block.

This was where the principal, vice-principal, counselor, and some other higher-ups in the school stayed.

Gustav and the rest of the workers wanted to go along with him but he stopped them from doing so.

Gustav had no choice but to return to his class afterward.

The students started streaming into the school about thirty minutes later.

During the school hours, Gustav was very uneasy. He was very worried for boss Danzo, knowing how the school higher-ups were the type to make a matter seem worse than it was.

Well, in this case, the matter was already very bad, if word got out about this, it would take a toll on the school's reputation which meant they would definitely need a scapegoat.

'Why did this have to happen today of all days... His granddaughter's birthday,' Gustav sighed internally as he thought.

Even during the break period, he had to listen to the rants of the kids around him.

- "Did you hear about the kitchen fire?"

- "I heard about that, the entire place was burnt down!"

- "There was also a mysterious masked man that saved almost everyone,"

- "I wonder what caused it,"

- "What else if it isn't the incompetent chief, what was his name again... Something Zo,"

- "I hope he gets fired,"

Gustav nearly got pissed when he heard some of their conversations but he calmed himself down and waited for the day's activities to end.

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After the day ended Gustav walked out of his classroom and started heading towards miss Aimee's office immediately.

"Hey, Gustav,"

He heard someone call to him from behind while walking on the path that led to miss Aimee's office.

He turned around and noticed that it was an average height male student.

"Hmm?" Gustav exclaimed with a low tone.

"An old man asked me to pass this to you," The boy handed a folded sheet of paper to Gustav.

Gustav was surprised but he still collected the paper.

The male student turned around and left after giving the paper to Gustav.

Gustav opened it and noticed a handwritten message inside.

Paper was hardly used these days so he was surprised to actually receive a message instead of the usual device-to-device messages.

Address: 21 Aistery block, Durkin Industrial area.

Starts at four, don't be late.

-Danzo

Gustav read the message with a bewildered expression.

'Boss Danzo's message is so well written,' Gustav liked the handwriting which wasn't so much of an item these days.

He also knew how to write as it was a basic thing that was thought to them at a young age but along the line, lots of people forget how to write because these days it wasn't necessary to do so.

In classes, they had information storing lenses that recorded the teachings in the classroom so they could be replayed at any time.

Of course, Gustav never had one of these in the past. He always had to learn everything by seeing the teachings once without being able to store them anywhere except for his brain.

'Hmm, looks like the party is still holding,' Gustav said internally and turned around.

He wasn't having training with miss Aimee today but he still wanted to visit her office because of boss Danzo but now that he saw this message, he changed his mind.

Gustav turned around and headed out of the school.

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Twenty minutes later he arrived in a neighborhood that had different sizes of houses.

Unlike somewhere the sizes of all houses are similar, this one was quite versatile.

Gustav walked towards a house at the end of the street.

This house was a duplex that was shaped to look like two plates covering each other.

Gustav was surprised that this house happened to be the one in the letter boss Danzo sent him.

'Boss Danzo's house is more refined than I expected,' Gustav said Internally while chuckling.

It was obvious that it was built to look like the shape of two plates.

"Gustav," A short and stout middle-aged-looking man dressed in a casual outfit called out to Gustav from ahead.

"Boss Danzo," Gustav voiced out as he arrived in front of the man.

Both of them exchanged pleasantries again before boss Danzo led Gustav in as they discussed.

"Boss Danzo are you okay?" Gustav asked as they ascended the elevator.

"I'm fine," Boss Danzo answered with a smile.

He was smiling but Gustav could tell that the smile was just a cover-up for the way he was feeling deep inside.

"Don't mention what happened in school today to my granddaughter," Boss Danzo said with a pleading look.

"Uhm... sure but, Boss Danzo... What happened today with the board?" Gustav decided to ask.

"Hmm, nothing much, just some questions asked and how they're going to decide on what steps to take about the kitchen soon," Boss Danzo replied with a dismissive expression.

Gustav still wanted to ask more but they already arrived up.

Immediately they walked a few steps forward along the corridor, they arrived in the living room.

Oh it's someone's birthday

I'm giving you a fountain of my love

I want you to be full of joy

I've left some of the mund...

Classical music drifted into Gustav's ears as they walked into the living room.

Chatter Chatter!

Low chattering voices could also be heard as they walked in.

About fifteen people could be seen within the room discussing with one another. They were holding onto glasses with drinks in them as they laughed and discussed.

Their faces were full of smiles as they stared at Gustav and boss Danzo approaching.

-"You're back,"

- "Oh, is that the young man you were referring to?"

- "Welcome,"

Several of them voiced out at boss Danzo and Gustav.

Gustav exchanged pleasantries with them and started checking out the place.

The living room was large than his by at least four times and the materials used to decorate them were unique.

Golden colored sofas, a projection on the southeast side that displayed boss Danzo and a girl that looked no older than five years.

Beautiful artistry that depicted the art of cooking on the walls. There were different kinds of dishes, along with different imagery of chefs cooking.

It was obvious that Boss Danzo was affiliated with food in some kind of way once you see the interior look of the house.

"Gustav I'll be back, I need to check on the kitchen," Boss Danzo said and started walking towards the second corridor on the east side.

"Can I join you?" Gustav asked politely.

"No you don't have to worry, just make yourself feel at home," Boss Danzo replied before he continued walking forward.

Just as Gustav was about to say something, someone called out to him from being.

"Are you Gustav?"

He heard a small cute feminine voice turned around.

It was a beautiful and slim girl with an oval face shape. She wore a fancy pink gown sporting dark red hair and blue pop socks.

Her eyes looked extremely lively and she seemed overjoyed to see Gustav.

Gustav didn't need to be told before he knew that she was the celebrant.

"Yes I am," Gustav replied with a slight smile.

Chapter 144 - Gustav's Worry

It was a beautiful and slim girl with an oval face shape. She wore a fancy pink gown sporting dark red hair and blue pop socks.

Her eyes looked extremely lively and she seemed overjoyed to see Gustav.

Gustav didn't need to be told before he knew that she was the celebrant.

"Yes I am," Gustav replied with a light smile.

"Ah," Her eyes shimmered even more after hearing his reply.

"I'm glad to finally meet you, grandpa has told me so much about you," She voiced out with a look of excitement.

"Nice to meet you too, Mara," Gustav replied.

He remembered her name from when boss Danzo mentioned it earlier.

"Come on let's talk over there," Mara said with a delightful voice and dragged Gustav towards one of the sofas.

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Two hours later Gustav was returning home. His mind couldn't help but wander back to Mara's birthday celebration.

Mara was really the jovial type. She couldn't stop talking and making fun of lots of things. She mentioned some of Gustav's funny and embarrassing past experiences with boss Danzo and also how Gustav had to cook for her one of these days.

Mara really liked eating like Gustav but unlike him, she didn't have the talent for cooking so she focused on something else.

She asked Gustav lots of questions about himself. He answered some and ignored some but she didn't pry too much even when he answered.

Gustav felt she was a bit similar to Angy but Angy was more of a nice girl that couldn't make fun of anyone while Mara wouldn't hesitate to make fun of a lot of things.

He remembered she shoved a large palm-sized portion of cake into his mouth forcefully. She was very playful also.

Gustav couldn't deny that he had a wonderful time with Boss Danzo and Mara but he was still worried about boss Danzo because of what happened today.

He really hoped that boss Danzo would be okay.

Gustav got back to his apartment around six pm. His plan earlier was to get home by four pm so he would infiltrate the border once again, but he couldn't disappoint boss Danzo so he had to push that aside.

Now that it was six pm, he could only spend about an hour within the border before it was time for the night patrol.

He started hesitating on whether he should still go or not since he couldn't tell whether he'd be holed up in there for more than an hour or not.

Gustav was still contemplating while sitting on his bed when he heard a knock on the door.

Trrooiinn!

Rays of light shot out from the ceiling, forming a holographic projection in which a beautiful girl with two horns on her forehead was displayed.

This was one of the functions Gustav added after when he upgraded the security protocols in his apartment.

"Hmm, Angy's early," Gustav muttered as he stood up and walked out of his room.

He got to his living room and walked towards the door to open it.

"Hey, Gustav," Angy voiced out immediately she saw Gustav's face.

"Hey Angy, is something the matter?" Gustav greeted and asked.

"Hmm, no nothing is wrong, we're supposed to meet today," Angy said to Gustav with a reminding tone.

"Yes I know but it's still really early, we're not supposed to meet until an hour later," Gustav answered.

"Uhm, I thought you had something to show me, that's why... But I'll leave if I'm disturbing you," Angy said while turning around to leave after noticing that Gustav didn't seem to be in a receiving mood.

"Hold on," Gustav said while walking out of his apartment.

"Follow me," He added while walking down the corridor.

Angy stared at him with a curious look while following behind.

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Some minutes later, they arrived in the sparse forest region before Gustav came to a stop.

"Angy," Gustav called out while his back was still turned towards her.

"Yes, Gustav?" Angy replied.

Swwoosshh!

Gustav suddenly turned around and dashed towards Angy while swinging his fist at her.

Angy was shocked and reacted by moving a step backward while turning her face towards the side and closing her eyes.

Fwooom!

Gustav's fist stopped inches away from her face causing her to feel a slight touch of breeze on her cheek.

She slowly opened her eyes after noticing that no contact was made.

"Why didn't you dodge?" Gustav asked while still hanging his right fist in the air.

"Well... I... There's..." Angy stuttered as she tried to find an answer.

"Angy... You saw my fist approaching right?" Gustav asked.

Although there was no reply, the answer was already obvious from the look on Angy's face.

Angy was currently faster than Gustav so she definitely saw the attack coming but didn't counter or try to dodge.

"I want you to remember how you felt when that captain was beating you up," Gustav stated.

Angy's mind immediately went back to the exchange event and her face shone pain as images appeared in her mind.

She had truly gone through a traumatic experience at the hands of Zim and it was something she didn't want to experience again.

"If that experience was a truly painful one for you, I want you to remember it anytime someone tries to attack you and let your body respond in the way it wants to," Gustav said before throwing out his fist again.

Zwweeiiii!

This time his fist went towards her belly area with force. Images appeared in her mind again reminding her of the way Zim's palm slammed those stones into her body.

Gustav had purposely targeted one of the spots.

"No!!!" Angy voiced out as she swerved towards the left and pushed out both her palms to strike Gustav on his right side of his chest.

Bam!

Gustav slid thirteen feet backward after her palm made contact with his chest.

Sshhhsssh!

A trail of dust was formed due to that.

"Ah," Angy voiced out in shock as she retracted her arms.

"Gustav, I'm sor..." She was about to speak when Gustav interrupted her.

"Hmm, good job," Gustav said while straightening his body.

He started walking towards her.

"Uh?" Angy voiced out in surprise. She had used her full speed to dodge Gustav's attack and responded with an attack of her own but Gustav was hardly fazed moreover, he replied with, 'Good job,'

Chapter 145 - Tiring Angy Out

She didn't even use this much strength when dealing with the opponents in the exchange event because she didn't control her strength this time.

All she thought about was trying to prevent what had happened to her the last time so it was more of a subconscious action.

"That's it... Don't just stay in one place and become a person's punching bag, you must also respond unless you enjoy being on the receiving end," Gustav said as he arrived in front of her once again.

"Now Angy, I'm going to attack you several more times... I want you to fight back... I want you to hit back harder than you did earlier, don't be soft because being soft on the battlefield will only get you killed," Gustav said while moving dashing forward again and throwing out his fist.

Swooshhh!

Angy dodged it again by jumping towards the side before throwing out her right leg towards Gustav's left belly side.

Bam!

Gustav took another solid hit on his body and was pushed back by a few feet.

Angy was doing as Gustav said. Her mind would drift back to the scenery where Zim was beating her up whenever Gustav threw out his fist towards her.

Her body would react subconsciously because she didn't want to be subjected to such pain ever again.

Gustav didn't stop, he dashed out again and attacked her repeatedly, only for her to dodge them and send out attacks of her own which always hit Gustav.

She couldn't believe that she was actually doing this and wanted to stop but one look from Gustav made her rethink.

'I don't want him to cut ties with me, if this is the only way then I have to bear it,'

Although she was bothered by the fact that she was hitting a person especially when that person happened to be Gustav, Angy knew that backing down would only disappoint Gustav.

As they continued, Angy realized that her worries were for nothing. She would always hit Gustav but not a hint of pain would show on his face neither would he look disturbed in any manner.

She realized that all her attacks were doing nothing to him which further shocked her.

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About an hour later Angy laid on the ground while panting. She was out of breath and her face shown fatigue.

'How is this possible,' She wondered while breathing in and out profusely.

She turned her face towards the side to stare at Gustav who was sitting beside her without a look of discomfort on his face.

Gustav had tired her out. During their spar earlier her attacks were unable to faze Gustav even though they landed on his body.

As the spar continued, Gustav asked her to use more speed which she did.

She channeled her bloodline and grew out another horn which caused her speed to increase by almost four times.

Surprisingly this time when she tried attacking Gustav, he dodged all her attacks.

This came as a surprise to her since her previous attacks where she was moving with a slower speed had been connecting. She found it weird that Gustav was able to dodge her increased speed but was unable to dodge her slower speed.

She was only able to use that skill for a short time so she was quickly exhausted and returned to her initial state.

Throughout when form was activated, she was unable to touch Gustav even once.

What Angy didn't know was, when the first engagement began, Gustav had been purposely letting her make contact with him.

He planned to make Angy get used to the feeling of hitting a human body so when it was time for her to truly go against an enemy in the future, it would feel natural to her.

Angy was faster than him but thanks to perception, Gustav was able to see and predict the movement of people or things around him unless the gap in speed was astronomical.

He knew her attacks wouldn't harm him and also knew she would force herself to stop if she felt was harming him. The latter happened to be something Gustav could do nothing about since they both knew he wasn't an enemy so Gustav just decided to focus on her getting used to hitting a person for now.

When he asked her to use her highest speed, Gustav also made use of sprint so even though he wasn't as quick as she was, it was just like when both of them were making use of their normal speed.

With that high amount of speed, Gustav tested if she would be reluctant with attacking but to his astonishment she still attacked him with vigor just like he was aiming for.

Another reason why he dodged was, he would have taken damage had she managed to touch him while in that state.

After she exhausted her energy they both decided to take a break

'And this time I thought I would get him to reveal it but I still don't know what his bloodline power is... Maybe I should just ask him,' Angy stared at Gustav's face with a contemplative expression.

Gustav was thinking about something while staring into the distance so it was unknown whether he noticed Angy staring at him or not.

'Looks like I will have to make my visit by midnight after the neighborhood observation,' Gustav pondered with a solemn gaze, 'Another all-nighter for me then... Maybe this time I can manage to complete a goal,'

"Gustav,"

He heard his name being called from the side and turned towards his left to stare at Angy.

"Hmm, what is it, Angy? You've regained your energy already?" Gustav asked with a look of disbelief as he stared at Angy.

"No that's not it," She replied.

"Hmm? What's up then?"

"During the duel, that was you that appeared as Falco to save me, right? I want to know what your bloodline ability is?" Angy asked with a look of uncertainty while staring at Gustav.

"I heard them saying you're only F-grade... it doesn't matter to me if you are, but I've never seen an F-grade as strong as you are... Please tell me about your bloodline," Angy added with a pleading look

Chapter 146 - Bloodline Conversations

"I heard them saying you're only F-grade... it doesn't matter to me if you are, but I've never seen an F-grade as strong as you are... Please tell me about your bloodline," Angy added with a pleading look.

Gustav stared at Angy's eyes for a few seconds with a contemplative look before turning his face away.

"Why do you still believe that I appeared as Falco?" Gustav asked while folding his arms.

Angy moved her body closer to Gustav and grabbed his left arm.

Gustav was intrigued by her action but she wasn't done.

"I never told anyone but... I have a crazy sense of smell," Angy said before raising Gustav's arm and placing it close to her face.

Sniff! Sniff!

She sniffed twice before she continued speaking.

"So long as anyone has moved as close as two feet to me, their scent is one that I won't be able to forget for a long time... You have the same scent as the person who carried me out of the battle ring... you can't tell me, that's a coincidence," Angy stated white with an assured expression.

Gustav stared at her with a disbelieving expression, 'Is she an animal or something? How come I didn't notice that she was sensitive to smell and also able to master another person's scent?'

He had a thousand ways of telling her off but no matter what explanation he gave at the moment she would keep suspecting him because of the scent.

'The shapeshifting doesn't include body scent?' Gustav held his chin as he wondered.

'This might be a problem since someone with an ability similar to that might uncover me in the future... It's good that Angy is the one who figured it out this time, if it was another person, it would be a problem,' Gustav took note of this so he wouldn't be caught unawares in the future.

He decided he would check out more flaws that the shapeshifting ability had later.

'I guess this must be because of the levels, maybe when I max out the levels in the future, shapeshifting will become almost flawless,' Gustav's thoughts ran deep due to this blunder and he had nearly forgotten Angy was still waiting for an answer.

"Please tell me does your bloodline have to do with transformation?" Angy's voice brought him back to reality.

Gustav wasn't surprised by her deduction this time. Anybody with a brain would be able to tell that his bloodline had to do with transformation once they figured out that he was pretending to be Falco the other time.

'Well, it doesn't seem like there will be any harm in telling her about my original bloodline,' Gustav said internally as he came to a decision.

Angy was still staring at him when she noticed his skin changing color.

It went from being white to being dark, then from dark to pale white and some other different colors.

Angy was had her mouth wide open in shock.

"Initially I could only change my hair color," Gustav started speaking while his hair turned into different colors.

"But now my bloodline has improved after reaching the zulu rank so now I can do this," Gustav's body slowly transformed into a copy of Angy's.

Angy eyes widened even more.

"It's like staring in a mirror," She muttered subconsciously while staring at the horns on his forehead.

She couldn't find any difference between her looks and his current appearance except for the clothes that Gustav was wearing.

Gustav slowly transformed back into his original self and both of them stared at each other for several seconds.

"I've never seen someone with such a unique bloodline ability," Angy said with a look of astonishment.

"You can become anyone, you can infiltrate anywhere without anyone realizing," Angy added.

"Well you didn't get fooled and they're places that have advanced security that will immediately expose my disguise so it's not flawless," Gustav stated.

"True but it's still very fascinating," Angy said with a smile.

'But that doesn't explain his insane strength and how he's able to receive my attacks without taking damage,' Angy said internally while staring at Gustav.

"Are you truly F-grade?" Angy asked with a look of disbelief.

"Well, that was the result of the bloodline exams I had when I was six years old," Gustav replied while shrugging his shoulders.

'How can that be F-grade?' Angy still doubted that Gustav was F-grade.

"Are both your birth parents mixed-bloods?" Angy asked with a look of curiosity.

"Yes, they're mixed-bloods too," Gustav answered with a glance. He wondered where Angy was driving with this.

"What about your grandparents?" She asked once again.

"I never met them but I remember my birth parents spoke of them in my childhood days... Yes, they were also mixed-bloods," Gustav answered once again.

"Did you ever do a reexamination?" Angy asked.

"No, I've never done a reexamination since there's no point to it... Bloodline grades don't ever change unless you have enough money and connections to access the BED," Gustav replied with a dismissive look.

"You should do a reexamination," Angy advised.

"Why?" Gustav asked.

"You know about the theory where the combination of two mixed-bloods creates offsprings with special bloodlines?" Angy asked.

"Yes, I've heard of that but isn't my F-grade bloodline proof that this theory isn't always right," Gustav stated with a contemplative look.

"Hmm, true but remember my parents are scientists... They have gotten cases where mixed-bloods who have parents and grandparents who are also mixed-bloods, had their grade increased due to late-blooming or something like that... There was a term they called it... I can't remember," Angy had eyebrows furrowed while speaking.

"Either way what I'm trying to say is... Although it's only a 0.0003% chance, there is a possibility that a mixed-blood with parents and grandparents of mixed-blood's origins might have their grade increased later when they reach an older age," Angy stated.

Gustav never knew that such a thing was actually possible in the first place.

After hearing what Angy said he thought, 'If this is true there's a chance that I might be able to use this to my advantage in the future,'

Chapter 147 - Mysterious Observer

After hearing what Angy said he thought, 'If this is true there's a chance that I might be able to use this to my advantage in the future,'

"In other words, you're trying to say, my bloodline might have undergone this change," Gustav stated while staring at Angy.

"Yes, I've never seen an F-grade as strong as you are... For all we know you might be a B-grade or even an A-grade by now," Angy replied with a contemplative look.

"Haha, I really doubt that but I'll take your suggestion into consideration," Gustav replied with a light burst of laughter.

'This will be useful for covering up in the future but I have to make sure I act well so I won't arouse any suspicions,' Gustav said Internally as he rose to his feet.

"Now it's time for our patrol, I'll also use this period to give you more tasks to perform," Gustav said after standing.

"Hnm," Angy nodded and proceeded to stand up.

The sky was already darkening since it was past seven pm and a full moon had already appeared high up.

Swooshhh!

Gustav and Angy sped off in two separate directions. One moved towards the west while the other moved towards the east of the sparse forest region.

Whenever they patrolled together during the nighttime, Gustav's work was made easier.

Although he wouldn't be able to reveal a lot of his abilities in her presence, they'd still be able to cut the environment covered in half.

Gustav usually covered one half while Angy would cover the other half.

They had a way of communicating with each other so if anything happened, Angy would be able to inform Gustav immediately but Gustav had decided that he wouldn't inform her if he bumped into a mixed-breed.

This had never been a problem since Gustav had never met any mixed-breeds on the nights when he and Angy patrolled together.

After both of them had gone their separate ways something happened at their initial location.

The tree behind where they sat earlier suddenly started glowing bright red.

A door-like opening was formed within the tree and a figure in all black walked out from it.

"That boy seems to be the one who those footprints belong to... Hmm, did I misjudge his strength?" A husky male voice could be heard coming from underneath the black mask on this person's face.

"He doesn't seem to be a scout sent by them so how was he able to infiltrate the border?" The man sounded confused as he spoke.

"I need to observe him more before I can come to any conclusions," The masked man turned towards the left after saying that and vanished into red smoke.

-

By midnight Gustav decided to return to his apartment. He postponed his infiltration into the border after remembering that he had to train with miss Aimee the next day.

Since their training sessions were now shorter than they used to, Gustav wanted to be in his peak state when training with her.

The night had most certainly been a fruitful one. He killed a mixed-breed a day before so he and Angy didn't have to fight any mixed-breeds tonight, instead, he used it to train Angy even more.

He noticed that Angy really had a lot of fighting potential. Her body was flexible and if she put power into her attack along with speed it was enough to cause severe damage to Zulu-ranked mixed-bloods. She was not in any way weak. Her personality was the only thing holding her back.

Now that he was getting her to unwind little by little he believed that Angy truly had the potential to be really powerful in the future.

After taking a shower Gustav sat on his bed and today's event flowed into his mind again.

A big frown appeared on his face as images of the kitchen explosion streamed through his mind.

The feeling of distraught came back to him as he remembered the death of five of his colleagues within the fire.

'Who would do plan such a thing, and why?' Gustav pondered Internally but couldn't find an answer as to how the mineral found its way into the kitchen.

The staffs were all lovely and the only person he suspected was the new guy but the new guy also died. Even the person who was in charge of the kitchen purchases died within the explosion.

The rest were old staff and since none of them plotted such a thing in the past, why would they need to now?

Gustav felt really powerless thinking about this and it made him recall his days of being bullied. Now that he had been granted this power he never knew that he would ever feel like this again but he was wrong.

"On the bright side nothing has happened to boss Danzo yet," The fact that the school hadn't meted out punishment to boss Danzo gave Gustav a momentary form of relief on this matter.

Gustav kept racking his brain for ways to solve this situation when he noticed something.

"Hmm? I forgot to check it out throughout the entire day," Gustav's eyes moved towards the top right corner in his line of sight as he spoke.

There was a blue blinking light in form of an envelope. Whenever notifications appeared in Gustav's line of sight he would need to focus his sight on that notification for more information on it to appear. If he didn't do that the notification will end up disappearing after a few minutes and entered a kind of message box on the top right corner.

Whenever he wanted to he could decide to open it up and check on the information regarding that notification.

Gustav's eyes focused on the blinking box for a few seconds before the notifications popped up in his line of sight again.

[Emergency Quest Completed]

[Side Quest failed]

"Hmm," He remembered receiving a notification for failing a side quest also.

He already had an idea of what the side quest was.

[Emergency Quest Completed]

[Information: Save ten people from the kitchen fire]

Rewards »

<+100,000 EXP>

<New skill unlocked: Fire resistance>

<+5 points defense>

[Side Quest failed]

[Information: Save everyone from the kitchen fire]

Punishment »

<None>

Chapter 148 - Fire Resistance

"Hmm, fire resistance? Do I even need such a skill when I have the defense attribute?" Gustav muttered while holding his chin.

He felt this must have been because of the fire but he was somehow opposed to getting this skill since he had defense already and defense reduced the damage from the heatwave the last time he went against the solar worms.

Gustav decided to check out the details on fire resistance. Its explanation would determine if it was useful or not.

He opened the system interface and went straight to skills and abilities before focusing his eyes on Fire resistance.

»Fire resistance: Level 1

(Ability: Immunity to all high temperature attacks for five seconds)

Gustav stared at the notification with a look of surprise.

"It isn't actually useless," He muttered with a look of astonishment.

He remembered that defense only reduced the damage of the high temperature within the surroundings but didn't make him immune while this one had the ability to make him immune from high-level temperature attacks.

"This looks too good to be true," Gustav muttered with a low tone. Even though it could only last for five seconds, with his high stats he could activate numerous times.

"Oh wait... Doesn't the system always put some kind of limitations on these kinds of abilities," Gustav recalled that the system did this to abilities that seemed too powerful.

"I should figure out what this one is before I use it in a battle," Gustav said and proceeded to activate it.

[Fire resistance has been activated]

[-100 EP]

[5 Seconds]

He couldn't feel any different after activating it but he was certain that fire wouldn't hurt him right now so he wasn't bothered.

"Hmm, it has a high energy deduction but still I should be able to activate it more than fifteen times so it's not very limited," Gustav wondered if the system made a mistake or something.

[4 Seconds]

He couldn't understand why the system wouldn't put a higher kind of restriction on such a powerful ability.

[3 Seconds]

Once the timer had finished counting down he understood why.

[0 Seconds]

[Fire resistance has been deactivated]

[Fire Resistance has been placed on a one hour cool down]

"What the...? A one-hour cooldown?" Gustav stared at the notification with a look of surprise

He knew what a cool down meant but he wasn't expecting this since none of his abilities had cooldowns.

"A really big limitation... That means this ability can only be useful at specific times," Gustav held his chin with a thoughtful gaze displayed on his face.

After thinking about it for a few more seconds, Gustav closed the system interface.

He stared at the information regarding the failed side quest next.

"Save everyone... Hmm..." Gustav muttered with a crestfallen look.

He already had a feeling that the side quest had something to do with this and he wasn't wrong.

Gustav kept reading the rest of the messages.

"Looks like it only shows if they're punishments for failing a quest now rather than the rewards but there's seems to be no punishment for failing the side quest this time," Gustav noted.

After he finished checking this notification, Gustav contemplated on a few more things before going to sleep.

-Three days later

The last two days had been really eventful for Gustav.

He infiltrated the border twice after coming back before patrolling the neighborhood in the night.

Although no mixed-breeds had appeared in the neighborhood, Gustav's last two days were interesting nonetheless.

He infiltrated the border from the east the day after training Angy.

He made contact with some pretty interesting mixed-breeds.

Unlike the west side where the first mixed-breeds he met moved in groups, most of the ones he met here moved solo.

This made it easier for him to gather more EXP. He didn't try to use the explosion from the absorbed energy of the border this time since he was still learning the energy technique he got from the system.

Also since this was the same part of the border where the bunny mixed-breed he killed the other time appeared from, Gustav decided to tread with caution.

He didn't want to alarm whatever was responsible for the happenings so he investigated while farming lots of EXPs.

He wasn't able to gather any useful information in the past two days since no mixed-breed appeared in the neighborhood but he was able to farm a large number of EXP.

He had the chance to do this due to most mixedbreeds moving solo.

Still, the credits he gathered were far from being enough to purchase lots of things in the system shop but he decided to keep amassing credits in the meantime.

There was something he noticed though although he had no idea if he was just seeing things or not.

For a split second when he was fighting against a gigantic frog, he made use of God eyes and noticed a reddish human silhouette in one of the trees nearby but the next time he checked he couldn't find anything like that.

He felt it was probably his senses playing tricks on him.

Gustav was hoping he might find some energy crystals to absorb like the last time but he found nothing like that.

The border on this side seemed to be very different. A few of the mixed-breeds still moved in groups and had a turf of their own yet nothing like energy crystals could be found.

Gustav felt he must have gotten lucky.

Right now he was in school and it was noon.

He was contemplating about which part on the map he should visit next after infiltrating the border once again today.

The sound of the automatic buzzer rang out, signaling that it was time for break.

The students walked out of their classes and headed towards the cafeteria.

Gustav also headed out. Ever since the incident three days ago, the school had to call in a new set of chefs that prepared food on the go.

These were the kind of chefs that traveled about in their vehicles, cooked within, and sold food but these types were reliable. They had been selling food in the cafeteria while the old chefs were now on some kind of probation.

"Gustav."

A female voice called out to him when he was about to enter the cafeteria.

Chapter 149 - Miss Aimee's Refusal

"Hmm," Gustav turned to the side and noticed a beautiful girl with white long hair and a tall figure headed for him.

"Maltida," Gustav voiced out in a low tone.

"I'm also heading in, let's go together," Maltida said as she arrived in front of Gustav.

Gustav took another weird glance at her before proceeding to walk into the cafeteria.

They entered together and walked side by side causing the students within the cafeteria to stare at them with surprised looks.

- "Hey isn't that Maltida or are my eyes deceiving me?"

- "She's the one,"

- "Then what is she and Gustav doing together, I must be dreaming,"

_"They look so comfortable walking together, how is this even possible? Why would she move with someone like him?"

-"Have you forgotten that he became more popular after winning the exchange of knowledge event for the school,"

-"Still even with that we all know that a mixed-blood like him doesn't have a future so it makes no sense that Maltida will keep moving with him,"

The students discussed among themselves as Maltida and Gustav walked towards the stairs.

They climbed up to the second floor which happened to be less rowdy than the lower one but immediately the students within this floor saw Gustav and Maltida moving together, the environment became noisy.

The students here were also surprised to see Maltida and Gustav moving together for the second time and wondered if this was going to become a normal thing from now on.

Both of them walked towards the counter on the right side of the floor.

"Gustav have you considered my proposal," Maltida broke the silence between them as they arrived at the counter.

"Oh, that... I haven't made a decision yet," Gustav replied before proceeding to make orders for himself.

Maltida also made ordered her desired food before turning around with Gustav to get a seat.

Both of them sat around the back which happened to be Gustav's favorite spot.

Maltida had to seat here because Gustav would definitely not agree to sit elsewhere and since she wanted to be with him during break period she had to compromise.

The students within the Cafeteria had to turn their heads around several times to glance at the both of them.

"Why do you keep hesitating? The time of our graduation is close already," Maltida asked after downing a full spoon of food.

"Yeah one month away, I'll give you a reply when I'm ready to... Till then don't bother me about it," Gustav replied with a calm look and proceeded to shove food into his mouth again.

Maltida stared at Gustav's face with a confounded expression as he gobbled down his gracefully.

'Why doesn't he agree to my proposal... Does he have someone else to rely on within the camp... He shouldn't be thinking of turning me down or even taking this long to respond, he should have jumped at it right away... I can't see through him at all, I have no idea what he's thinking,'

Sigh~

A low sigh escaped Maltida's mouth as she reluctantly continued eating.

She was starting to get desperate due to the attitude Gustav was giving her.

They ate for a few minutes without another word exchanged between them.

After the meal, Gustav was about to stand up when Maltida placed her palm on his.

"I heard about the fire... Are you okay?" Maltida asked with a look of concern.

Gustav gazed at her with a contemplative expression for a few seconds before replying, "I'm fine thanks for asking," He said while withdrawing his hand from her grip.

He was about to turn around and leave when Maltida spoke again.

"You never exchanged device contact with me, how will I be able to communicate with you in the future after graduation?" Maltida asked.

"We might not need to contact each other," Gustav replied before turning around.

Maltida stared at his back with a look of conflict as he walked away.

Gustav got outside the cafeteria someone called out to him again.

"Gustav,"

It was a familiar voice. Gustav stared at the path ahead and walked towards the person.

"Boss Danzo," He voiced out as he arrived in front of the short and stout middle-aged-looking man.

After the school activities for the day ended, Gustav headed towards miss Aimee's office.

He got to the door and was about to knock when it opened up on its own.

"Come in," A firm feminine voice was heard from within.

From the wide-open doorway miss Aimee could already be seen seating on her couch which was placed against the wall in an elegant position.

She crossed her leg and held a book in her left hand and a glass cup of tea in her right.

Dressed in a purple tight fitted shirt and a dark red skirt miss Aimee looked elegant as usual.

Gustav walked towards miss Aimee and stood in front of her.

"Miss Aimee," Gustav muttered with a low tone.

"I need your he..." Before he could complete his sentence miss Aimee cut him short.

"He was fired, I know about it already," Miss Aimee muttered with her eyes still on the pages of the book she was reading.

"Em..." Miss Aimee interrupted him before he could get to say anything again.

"The answer is no," She voiced out before casually taking another sip from the glass cup she was holding onto.

'She didn't even let me ask before turning me down,' Gustav's face squeezed up as he thought internally but he immediately calmed down after remembering that miss Aimee was always like this normally.

"Why?" Gustav asked with a calm look.

"Because I don't want to get involved," Miss Aimee replied while her eyes were still focused on the book she was reading.

"Miss Aimee, please... I can't just let him get fired for unjustifiable reasons," Gustav said with a crestfallen look.

"My decision is final... I will not get involved," Miss Aimee replied once again.

"I'll be happy to indulge you if you want to train but something like this is none of my business... I don't go out of my way to help everyone," Miss Aimee sounded like her cold and usual self when she was teaching in class at this moment which really surprised Gustav.

Chapter 150 - Investigation Underway

Gustav looked down as his mind was plagued with inexplicable feelings.

From the start of their conversation till the end she didn't look up even once.

'It's fine I guess, I and miss Aimee are just going through a kind of partnership after all... I'll have to give something back to her in return for what she did for me, in the future,' Gustav turned around as he thought of this and started walking towards the entrance.

"I'm leaving miss Aimee," Gustav voiced out as he walked out of her office.

Few seconds after Gustav was gone, miss Aimee lowered her arm and placed the book she was reading on her lap.

Sigh~

She turned to face the door while sighing.

'He can't keep relying on me for everything or he'll never grow beyond having the capacity to handle only kids,' Miss Aimee said internally.

'I know he's not going to let go of this until he finds an answer... Still, it will be a good development for him to handle such a thing himself,'

Her initial emotionless face now shone worry.

She couldn't help but feel bad about the way she turned him down even though she had her reasons for doing so.

Gustav walked out of the building and headed for the kitchen area.

He arrived there in a few minutes and stood in front of the two storey building.

It had undergone reconstruction in the past three days and was now back to its initial state before the fire. Even though it had been rebuilt, it was currently empty.

The school board hadn't given the go-ahead for the former chefs to resume work yet.

Gustav remembered all the good and lively times he had spent within the kitchen, with boss Danzo and the others. He couldn't come to terms with the fact that it had ended.

He knew it would still end when he graduated and it was time for the MBO test to begin but that was supposed to happen almost two months from now. Even if it did end, he didn't want it to end this way.

He remembered when he met boss Danzo during break. Boss Danzo had explained to him that the school board decided to fire him after the kitchen incident was brought to light.

Echelon Academy was a well-known school in the city so there was no way the incident could be kept under the wraps.

Media outlets found out about it after news of it spread due to the students and the families of the victims.

It was even shown on the news channel of one of the biggest media outlets in the city causing it to spread even more.

Due to all these, the school decided to pin the blame on boss Danzo and fired only him.

The entire incident was pinned on him. If Gustav was someone who paid attention to the news he would have seen this already.

Boss Danzo's career as a chef was practically over at this point.

As the chief cook, such a thing happened in the place he was responsible for and now that it had spread, no restaurant or agency that dealt with cooking would want to hire him since it would be a stain on their reputation.

'I need to find a way to solve this... Some foul play is definitely involved,' Gustav said internally as he brought out a device from his storage button.

It was a triangular device with a crystalline color.

"Map," Gustav called out.

Rays of light shot out from the device and a map of the city was displayed in a holographic format before him.

Lots of different places were shown on the map with red blue and black dots.

"Pinpoint falcon's block," Gustav said once again.

The large map suddenly narrowed down on a particular location causing it to expand.

'I'll visit Mr. Fadril first then,' Gustav decided and started walking towards the school gate.

--

Three hours later Gustav had arrived back in his apartment.

He sat on his bed with a look of contemplation.

He had been trying to retrace the steps of the chefs. He wanted to see if he could get a hold of the list for monthly necessities so he could check if that mineral happened to be among the items listed.

If he could get it he would try to figure out where the list originated from but if the mineral happened to not be among the listed items then he would immediately conclude that the market they bought it from was to blame.

Solving the problem this way was easier said than done. Gustav had visited almost all the staff and none of them happened to go with the lady responsible for getting the items needed for the month.

It was a seemingly fruitless means of finding out the person responsible so Gustav was trying to think of another method of finding out who was responsible.

Gustav remembered a part of his conversation with Boss Danzo.

"Does someone hold a grudge against you boss Danzo?"

- "Grudge? My boy, so long as you live in this world, no matter how good of a character you have people will always hold grudges against you... I don't focus on people holding grudges against me so I can't tell if one or two people have ominous intentions,"

"That's..." Gustav was speechless for a few moments before he spoke again.

"Boss Danzo I understand what you mean but right now you have to think... Has there been anyone who showed a visible dislike or some kind of sign that they're not in support of an action you took?"

- "Erm... I'm not sure," Boss Danzo had a contemplative expression as he thought hard.

After a few seconds, his face shone an expression of realization.

- "I don't know if this is valid but..." Boss Danzo paused for a few seconds while still contemplating.

"But what boss Danzo?" Gustav asked with a look of curiosity.

"The disciplinary committee that was responsible for giving you the punishment of working in the kitchen were not satisfied with the way I treated you when you first started working here," Boss Danzo voiced out.

"Uh?"

