

BloodLine 1451

Chapter 1451: Draw Fight

Battlefield 4

I could feel malicious dark energy inside my body. But when the healing force came in contact with the dark energy, the dark energy began to be destroyed.

However, the process was slow.

Seeing that, I sighed in relief. I had been worried that the new dark energy could be more powerful than before.

Though the process was slow, the healing force was destroying the dark energy bit by bit. I then shifted my attention toward the horned humanoid creature.

The horned humanoid creature was still looking at me with a gleeful smile.

I put the black sword away into the storage ring and clenched my fists.

My perception fully covered the horned humanoid creature. In particular, my gaze was fixed on the black runes covering its body.

Swoosh!

The horned humanoid creature disappeared from the spot.

I used the purple lightning force to cover both of my fists. Then, I punched forward. It happened in the blink of an eye. The horned humanoid creature's claws came in contact with my punch.

Boom!

I immediately felt a terrible, overbearing force tearing at my fist. The purple lightning force confronted the dark energy of the enemy. My body strength aided the purple lightning force.

The horned humanoid creature was surprised.

Swoosh!

It disappeared in a flash and attacked from the side. My senses kicked in. I side-stepped to avoid the attack.

Boom!

The claw struck the empty air. The horned humanoid creature missed the target. At the same time, I moved my right fist forward. The punch tore through the air.

Swoosh!

When the fist attack was about to land, the horned humanoid creature evaded the attack in a flash. My right hand missed the target.

Swoosh!

The next second, I continued to use fist moves against the horned humanoid creature. Time passed.

The horned humanoid creature was evading the attacks easily. The body of the humanoid creature was still covered in black runes.

In order not to cause any suspicion, I covered my body in lightning power. Purple lightning bolts flashed here and there. To others, I may have seemed like a lightning man.

My attacks continued to miss over time. The horned humanoid creature was not counter-attacking.

It carried a sly smile and wasn't doing anything to react. It was enjoying the fight; the human warrior was not able to touch it.

On the other hand, I was using the "Purple Lightning Move." My body moved in a zigzag manner, yet I still couldn't touch the body of the humanoid foreign creature.

Meanwhile, the warriors and the humanoid foreign creatures were watching from a distance. They were shocked and didn't dare to get closer.

They saw that the fighting was intense, but they only saw a blur in front of their eyes. If they got closer, they could be attacked by the combatants.

The warriors were shocked to see Zack Lockwood's strength.

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Hidden Space (Foreign Creature Side)

The tall foreign creature with multiple eyes was watching the battle. It began to rate the target high on the kill list.

Everyone had underestimated the target. A warrior who could go toe-to-toe against an elite race member was no ordinary human warrior.

They were a genius among geniuses. After the end of the battle, the tall creature would report to the higher-ups.

It didn't think there would be a winner. Since they were going head-to-head, the battle would probably end in a tie.

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Hidden Space (Human Warrior Side)

Supervisor Melody had been standing from the beginning. She couldn't sit still. The battle was amazing. She could see that Zack Lockwood was going for a tie, which was already great news.

If the news were to be released, it would shock the entire Tier-4 region. She couldn't wait to tell Dean Jerome about the battle.

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Battlefield 4

My fist continued to miss the target. My speed seemed to be a bit lacking. The horned humanoid creature was enjoying the fight.

A hint of seriousness appeared in my eyes. I saw the horned humanoid creature was smirking, and anger appeared in my heart.

On the other hand, the horned humanoid creature thought it had had enough fun. It was time to attack.

Swoosh!

It disappeared in a flash. The next second, monstrous claws rained down on the human warrior. I felt a sense of crisis and tried to move away, but the claw struck my left side.

Boom!

The next second, I felt a terrible impact force. I was caught off guard, and my body once again crashed to the ground.

Searing pain appeared once more. Before I could even realize it, I felt a sense of crisis again. I shifted sideways.

Boom!

The huge leg of the horned humanoid creature landed next to me. The shock force spread across the ground.

Kick!

Using this opportunity, I swept my leg across the creature's leg.

Boom!

It happened fast. The horned humanoid creature felt the kick, lost its balance, and fell to the ground.

"Lightning Cage!"

A purple beam was released from my palm. In a shot, it landed on the body of the foreign creature.

Boom!

A terrific explosion occurred. The lightning power blasted against its exposed back.

Shriek!

The horned humanoid creature let out a roar. The purple lightning power continued to harm it. Seeing that, I stood up after some struggle.

Then, my perception picked up something: someone was attempting a sneak attack again. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw it was another foreign creature.

"Lightning Drop!"

I launched another attack. The purple lightning drop landed on the foreign creature that was about to attack me.

Boom!

A deafening noise occurred. The ball exploded, and the foreign creature took the full impact.

Tud!

Lightning struck the creature. It flew backward before crashing into the ground.

At the same time, the horned humanoid creature was already back on its feet. It moved to sneak attack the target.

A sense of crisis appeared again; my senses screamed at me. Once again, I retreated just in time.

Swoosh!

The horned humanoid creature's sharp claws cut through the air, missing the target. The horned humanoid creature was enraged.

Alarm!

Right at this moment, the battle alarm sounded. Hearing that, everyone heaved a sigh of relief.

Chapter 1452: Dean Jerome's shock

Battlefield 4

After hearing the battle alarm sound, the horned humanoid creature looked disappointed. At the same time, I retreated to widen the gap.

I didn't want to give an opportunity to the horned humanoid creature. I could see it was pissed off.

The horned humanoid creature gave a last look before going back. It gave up; it had no choice. The other foreign creatures were shocked.

The fight ended in a draw. It was huge news. The foreign creatures couldn't wait to share it.

Here, the human warriors were equally shocked. The planted spies among them were scared. They felt fortunate that they hadn't made a move.

Someone had tried to make a move earlier, but he was dead. They didn't have time to think about it.

Then the warriors started returning to the barrier to enter the teleportation platform. One by one, they passed through the barrier.

Seeing that, I gave a similar last look at the horned humanoid creature before moving towards the barrier.

In the blink of an eye, I passed through the barrier. Then I reached the platform and stepped inside.

The other warriors stepped inside. The teleportation platform activated next.

Swoosh!

We disappeared from the spot. It didn't take long for my feet to touch the ground. Only then did I put my heart at ease.

I walked out of the teleport platform. I walked through the barrier and appeared outside.

Gasp!

A huge exclamation occurred outside. Everyone's gaze fell on me. I avoided their piercing gazes and rushed towards my room.

After reaching my house, I went inside.

Phew!

I heaved a sigh of relief. Today's battle was tough. I didn't expect the horned humanoid creature to have more than one trump card.

I recalled the black runes that covered the body of the horned humanoid creature at that time. It was a terrible power.

It had increased the strength of the horned humanoid creature many times over.

Fortunately, I was not defeated. My physique aided me during the fight in the end. It was close. I hadn't exposed my other inheritance powers.

Knock!

The next second, I heard a knock at the door.

Hearing that, I recovered my thoughts. I stood up and walked to the door. I could guess who was standing outside.

Creak!

I opened the door. I saw Supervisor Melody standing outside.

"Supervisor," I said, then I greeted her in the room.

Supervisor Melody looked excited. She looked at me, observing me from top to bottom.

She saw there were no serious injuries; I was fine. She sighed in relief.

She then asked, "How did you do it?"

Hearing that, I was taken aback. Then I connected the dots. I understood she had watched the duel.

"The horned humanoid creature was strong. Thanks to my lightning power, I survived in the end," I replied.

Melody completely believed it. She had seen the whole battle.

She said, "You are going to become famous. From now on, you have to be careful. I saw one of the planted spies try to sneak-attack you."

"There could be more attacks," she added.

"I will take care of myself," I replied.

She talked about a few more things before leaving. She was going to inform Dean Jerome.

Once she was gone, I shut the door. If she hadn't mentioned it, I would have forgotten.

There are planted spies here. They could take action next. I pushed down the negative thoughts and went to the bathroom to take a shower.

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Star University

Dean Jerome got the call from Supervisor Melody. He began to hear the report from her. At first, his expression was calm.

But when he heard Zack Lockwood had tied the battle against the Elite Race Member, he was surprised.

He asked whether Zack Lockwood did anything unusual. Melody responded that Zack Lockwood only used lightning force.

During the end of the battle, he had fought using his fists. This time, Jerome raised his eyebrows in surprise.

He had thought Zack Lockwood used other inheritance forces to tie the battle against the Elite Race Member.

But he was wrong. That kid did something incredible. Silence filled the call.

"Melody, protect Zack Lockwood. I don't want the planted spies to attack him. If possible, find them and eliminate them silently," Jerome said to her.

Melody was taken aback. She then understood the gravity of the situation.

"Yes, Dean. I'll protect him," Melody replied.

A few minutes later, he ended the call. Then he stood up from his seat. He walked to the wall behind him and pressed one of the tiles.

Creak!

A pathway to a staircase appeared. Dean Jerome entered, and the door closed behind him.

He took the stairs to reach the secret chamber.

In the middle of the secret chamber, a secret treasure rested on a black pillar. It was a black rock with blue runes all over it.

The rock was the size of an adult human. Jerome appeared in front of it. If other faction elders and main elders saw it, they would be shocked to the core.

It was the most powerful artifact of Star University. Jerome took something from his storage ring. It was a mirror-like artifact.

He wrote something on it before placing the mirror on the rock. The next second, something happened.

The text on the mirror disappeared. It appeared on the rock surface the next second. Seeing that, Jerome relaxed.

He had been worried that it might take time to work. Under his gaze, the text glowed blue before disappearing. Jerome once again relaxed.

A smile appeared on his face. Now he had to wait there to get orders from the higher-ups. Dean Jerome believed the higher-ups would find it interesting.

Meanwhile, the Tier-4 region was going to boil. The warriors who were injured in Warrior Camp 4 were returning to their homes.

Even the warriors from Star University returned to the campus. Everyone had watched the battle.

Upon returning, they started spreading the news. At first, when they shared the news among the members, no one believed it.

Like the previous time, they needed confirmation from multiple sources.

Chapter 1453: Part 1: Secret Land Training

Star University

Warriors returning from Camp 4 were spreading the news. Those who felt the news was exaggerated had started to confirm the reports from multiple sources.

The news reached the ears of the faction elders and leaders. They, too, felt the news was unbelievable.

A Silver Mark Warrior managing to draw a battle against a Gold Mark Level Foreign Creature was no joke.

Especially since the foreign creature was an Elite Race Member.

The faction leaders and the main elders had to call other forces in the Tier-4 region to confirm the facts.

The other warriors who were returning to different parts of Tier-4 confirmed the fact as well.

The person who was most disturbed and pissed off was none other than Faction Leader Vince. He had plotted to kill Zack many times, but his plans didn't work.

He had been hearing about the continuous growth of Zack Lockwood from time to time.

At one point, he even exposed his intentions in front of Dean Jerome.

Because of Dean Jerome's threat, he backed away. However, he had been providing information to others, especially to the Dark Shadow University.

Right now, Vince was frustrated. The Dark Shadow University's killers were laying low in Star City.

It didn't take long for the news to leak. The public started hearing the news from the media channels. The whole Tier-4 region was boiling.

How long had it been since someone fought against an Elite Race Member to a draw? Most of those fights ended in one-sided deaths.

After a long time, someone managed to get a draw against an Elite Race Member. It was something to celebrate.

The name of Zack Lockwood was becoming famous. The people who didn't know about Zack Lockwood earlier were learning more now.

When more information was brought to the public, people were shocked to learn that Zack Lockwood was not originally from the Tier-4 region, but from a Tier-5 region.

It was a great shock because the Tier-5 region is considered backward compared to the rich Tier-4 region. Resources and world energy were lacking in the Tier-5 region; not many warriors with top talent were born there.

A few make it out and are able to join one of the organizations in the Tier-4 region, but even then, they are usually at the bottom level.

The experiences of Zack Lockwood were staggering to them.

Yet, the public didn't know everything; they only had access to the information available to them. There is secret information known only to the top forces.

For example, Red Moon Tower, Giant Tower, and Silver Academy knew for a fact that Zack Lockwood was from the outermost, the most remote region of the world.

Most of the public in the Tier-4 region didn't know about the remote regions.

Only the forces in the Tier-5 regions knew about them because they were the ones controlling the meagre resources of the remote regions called outposts.

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Red Moon Tower

The Red Moon Tower University had always maintained a neutral standpoint.

They didn't have hatred against Zack Lockwood or Star University, so while they were shocked by the news, they didn't plan to take any action.

However, Dark Shadow, Giant Tower, Eclipse, and Silver Academy were different. They harbored hatred against Star University.

They had tried to kill Zack Lockwood in the Tier-4 region itself.

Knowing that the same kid was able to tie a match against a Gold Mark Level Foreign Creature and an Elite Race Member, they were shocked.

Zack Lockwood's growth was beyond their control. Dark Shadow University had even used powerful assassins, but they failed.

In the end, they were forced to use Purple Mark level warriors. Right now, the Purple Mark warriors are hiding in Star City, waiting for Zack Lockwood to appear.

When this news spread, the other four universities acted swiftly. They dispatched their forces as well.

They wanted to send their men to Star City, but they knew Dean Jerome had full control of Star University and its territory.

If they tried to sneak Purple Mark level warriors into Star University territory, they would have to send experts.

The four universities decided to stop the growth of Zack Lockwood. If they didn't do anything right now, Zack Lockwood would only grow stronger.

Then, Star University would have another strong warrior who could become a powerful Purple Mark Elder.

But the deans and the higher-ups of the universities didn't know that Dean Jerome's evaluation was even higher.

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Star University

Jerome was still waiting inside the hidden chamber. He was looking at the rock when, suddenly, the blue veins in the rock lit up. Glowing text appeared.

Seeing that, Jerome's eyes flickered. He waited for the text to complete and then began to read it.

"Give secret land trials to Zack Lockwood. We don't have much time. He needs to become stronger," Jerome read out loud.

Jerome turned serious. He knew the outside world might have learned about Zack Lockwood's duel already.

He believed that no one would have rated Zack Lockwood higher than him, but still, he needed to increase the safety of Zack Lockwood.

He looked at the rock artifact, which had already dimmed, then closed the hidden chamber before returning to the room. He returned to his seat and sat down, beginning to ponder.

Since the higher-ups had given permission, he thought it was time to tell Zack Lockwood that he needed to grow faster.

He should use the opportunity in the secret lands to become a Gold Mark Level warrior soon.

He then phoned and informed Supervisor Melody. He told her to send Zack Lockwood back; Zack Lockwood had done his best already.

If he stayed there for another battle, the foreign creatures, including the Elite Race Members would come with a dangerous plan.

Melody agreed to do that. She was happy in a way because she was under pressure as well.

Jerome then ended the call and summoned a Purple Mark guard. He told the guard to pick up Zack Lockwood.

The Purple Mark guard could face dangers ahead. Dean Jerome knew some fish had escaped the encirclement; they could be waiting to attack Zack Lockwood.

Chapter 1454: Part 2: Secret Land Training

Warrior Camp 4

I was in the stone house. I received a sudden call from Supervisor Melody. When I answered the call, I found out that she was waiting for me outside.

A quick gleam appeared in my eyes.

I didn't know what it was about this time. I got up and walked to the main door. I opened the door and looked outside. Supervisor Melody was standing there.

"Supervisor, what happened?" I asked her.

"Dean Jerome called you back. You had a draw in your fight against the elite race member. The next battle could be dangerous for you. It's time for you to leave," Melody said in a serious tone.

Hearing that, I was not surprised. I nodded to her. Then I packed my things and left with her.

It didn't take long for us to reach the teleportation platform. I thanked Supervisor Melody for her support.

Then I stepped inside the teleportation platform. Supervisor Melody nodded her head and activated the platform.

Swoosh!

The next second, I disappeared from the spot. I opened my eyes a few minutes later. My feet touched the ground.

I walked outside. What greeted me was a dark forest. I was outside one of the teleportation platforms. My gaze swept across the place. I didn't know where this was.

I activated my perception. My mental power covered the whole area. I didn't see signs of others. I believed Dean Jerome might have sent a Purple Mark Guard to pick me up.

But he had not arrived yet. I wondered what happened. Suddenly, my perception caught something. I saw someone coming toward me. He was moving through the sky at high speed.

Seeing that, I immediately knew I was in danger. The enemy found my location.

I tried to sense the strength of the person. My senses screamed at me; the danger level was alarming.

I had experienced danger from Purple Mark level Warriors before.

"Sh!t," I cursed under my breath.

Then I circulated my shock force and purple lightning force. I knew the purple lightning force was not enough to face a Purple Mark Warrior.

Swoosh!

In the blink of an eye, the Purple Mark Warrior appeared in front of me. Then I saw the face of the person clearly. The person standing in front of me was an old man.

"He... He... He..."

"I was right. You would be here. Finally, I can complete the mission given by the Dean," the old man with crooked teeth said.

A sense of crisis gripped my heart.

Swoosh!

I immediately felt a sharp wind force from the old man. The old man didn't use any special moves, but it was clear that he was a wind element warrior.

The next second, I saw a blur in front of my eyes. The old man came at me. His fist was about to land. Fortunately, my senses were active, and I barely avoided the attack.

I used the lightning move.

"Lightning Wheel!"

A dark purple lightning wheel appeared the next second. The old man's body came in contact with the dark purple lightning wheel. The wheel had a mix of gold and silver power.

Upon contact, the wheel exploded. The old man was caught off guard. He faced the full brunt of the attack, but he used wind force to block it. The purple lightning power didn't touch his skin.

But the impact forced the old man to retreat.

He took a few steps backward. The old man's clothes were torn apart. He looked disheveled.

He was completely stunned. He didn't expect to be attacked by a Silver Mark Warrior. But the force released by Zack Lockwood could hurt him. The old man felt threatened as well.

The next second, his eyes filled with killing intent. He turned to attack Zack Lockwood.

On the other hand, I moved away from the spot. I created a gap to observe the old man. The old man was dangerous.

Swoosh!

In a flash, the old man disappeared. He used the power of the wind element. His movement speed became much faster.

I didn't even see a blur.

Boom!

The next second, I felt something land on my chest. I felt searing pain. The pain went through the roof. My body rocketed backward before crashing into the ground.

The old man smiled. He didn't want to kill Zack Lockwood quickly; he planned to toy with him.

In a flash, he appeared before Zack Lockwood. He saw that Zack Lockwood was struggling to get up.

Boom!

A terrible wind force was released from his palm.

On the other hand, I felt the searing pain. It was really affecting me. But somehow I stood up. The next second, wind blades brushed past my face.

Pfff!

A small cut appeared on my face. Blood was spurting from the wound.

I immediately used another lightning wheel move. The purple wheel appeared around me. Right at this moment, the old man attacked. His fist came in contact with the wheel.

The wheel exploded. The purple lightning once again struck the body of the old man. The old man had expected the attack already. He used wind force to offset it.

It took him a couple of seconds. Using the opportunity, I moved backward. I began using healing force to cure my internal injuries.

A few seconds later...

The aftermath settled. The old man remained unscathed. He cracked a wide grin. He was right.

"This inheritance force could hurt me," the old man said to himself.

Now he understood why the Dean of Shadow University wanted him to eliminate the kid.

Even if a talented Gold Mark Warrior took action against Zack Lockwood, they would end up dead.

That's why many Purple Mark Warriors were sent here. He collected his thoughts.

He decided to kill Zack Lockwood before others arrived. He appeared in front of Zack Lockwood.

Boom!

A huge wind tornado appeared. He wanted Zack Lockwood to be shredded by the wind blades.

On the other hand, I switched to the purple lightning force and used the purple lightning movement to flee.

Seeing that, the old man let out a laugh. He was not worried about anyone else catching up soon.

Chapter 1455: Slaying the Purple Mark Warrior

Unknown Forest

I used my movement technique to widen the gap. To my surprise, the old man was not in a hurry at all. He wore a wide grin on his face.

The next second, the old man released another tornado attack toward me. The force of the wind uprooted the green vegetation and everything else in the surroundings.

Swoosh!

I felt a sense of crisis again. As the tornado's force was about to reach me, I put my entire focus on the lightning movement technique.

In a flash, purple lightning bolts covered both of my legs. Before the tornado's wind force could hit me, I moved away from the spot.

Boom!

The tornado missed its target, but the ground was overturned by the wind. Sand and green patches were swept away by the sheer force of the air.

Right at that moment, I felt a change. The lightning rune in my mind flickered. I felt my understanding of the Lightning Phantom getting better.

My Lightning Phantom technique was already at perfection; now, it was improving even further. I focused entirely on the movement technique.

My speed was faster than before. In the blink of an eye, I increased the gap between the old man and me. I knew the old man would get serious now. I couldn't hesitate anymore.

I immediately circulated the bright blue water force and shock force through my body.

Since I was going to use another inheritance force, I had to kill the old man at any cost. Even if I defeated him, it wouldn't be enough; he might leak my secrets to the outside world.

Swoosh!

The old man was stunned. He didn't expect the kid to evade the attack again. He could tell the boy was improving during the battle.

The old man felt something was wrong; if he kept delaying, the kid could use a trick to escape.

His eyes flashed with killing intent. He extended his right hand.

Boom!

A wind blade appeared in his hand. He grabbed it, and the next second, the old man disappeared from the spot. He reappeared before me a moment later.

"Kid, I'm tired of playing with you. Now, just die." After saying that, the old man raised the wind blade to stab me.

I felt an extreme crisis again. My senses screamed at me. I instinctively moved my body.

Puchak!

The wind blade stabbed through my body. I felt searing pain the next moment. The old man grinned.

He had aimed for my heart, but since I tried to evade the attack, he missed the vital organ. However, he still managed to land a hit.

"Now that you are caught, I'm going to riddle your body with blade wounds," the old man said.

"Aahhh," a muffled grunt escaped from my mouth.

The old man's face was close to mine. He was wearing an evil grin. My eyes turned icy cold. My index finger filled with shock force and bright blue water force.

I mixed the two types of force. A bright blue water ball, mixed with golden and silver light, appeared at the tip of my index finger.

It happened within seconds. While the old man was enjoying stabbing my body, I decided to strike.

Puchak!

The old man grinned before thrusting the wind blade again. The blade tore further into my body. He wanted to cleave me apart.

A torrent of blood gushed forth from the wound. I was losing a massive amount of blood. Right then, I attacked.

I pointed my index finger toward the old man's eyes.

Swoosh!

In a shot, I released the ball from my index finger. The ball traveled in a straight line before striking the left eye of the old man.

Boom!

The old man was caught off guard. It was too late for him to do anything at such close quarters. He could only watch helplessly as the attack penetrated his eye.

Boom!

The bloodline and shock force erupted. The power ruptured his eye and exploded inside his head.

Puchak!

The old man's eyes filled with horror before his head burst into pieces like a watermelon. Blood and brain matter splattered across the ground.

The headless body dropped a moment later. Only then did I feel relieved.

It was the first time I had killed a Purple Mark Warrior. Earlier, I had killed a foreign creature Supervisor, but this kill felt different.

This person was an expert, but I killed him in the end by forcing him to lower his guard.

But the cost was huge. The open wound was gruesome, and the blood loss was severe. I tried to circulate my healing force.

The searing pain was somewhat reduced, but it was not enough. If this continued, I would lose consciousness.

I took out my device and checked the connection.

Seeing that the signal was strong, I typed a text message saying I was injured and needed urgent help. I sent the message to Master Austin and Ann first.

Then, I sent the message to Faction Leader Clifford as well. The image of Faction Leader Francesca came to my mind.

We shared the same bloodline; if the Dean and others were tied up with something else, she might be able to help me. I texted her the same message.

After doing that, I relaxed and tried to stop the bleeding. I quickly found a nearby shade tree, sat down, and leaned against it.

I fought to stay awake. I checked my storage ring, took out several useful items, and consumed them one by one.

I didn't know how the Purple Mark Warrior was able to find the teleportation platform.

There was a possibility that others could find it as well. I was still at risk. I wouldn't be safe until I returned to Star University.

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Meanwhile,

The Purple Mark Guard was fighting against the enemies. There was not just one, but ten Purple Mark Assassins.

They were hiding in Star City and the surrounding territory to find Zack Lockwood.

They somehow knew about him. Right after seeing him, they teamed up and attacked.

The Purple Mark Guard was a half-step Red Mark Warrior. Because of his strength, he was able to hold his own against them.

While fighting, he began discerning their identities. Some of them were planted spies, while others were intruders from other universities.

Chapter 1456: Timely rescue

Star University

Faction Leader Clifford and the Main Elders were busy. When Main Elder Austin and Ann received the news, they were outside of the campus.

As soon as they got the word from Zack Lockwood, they dropped their work and immediately rushed back.

They didn't know exactly where Zack Lockwood was trapped at that moment.

On the way, they consulted with Faction Leader Clifford, but he only brought more bad news: Dean Jerome was not at the university either.

If they wanted to find out the whereabouts of Zack Lockwood, they would have to do it on their own, but it would take time.

They didn't know which teleportation platform he had used because the information was confidential; it was only known to Dean Jerome and the Purple Mark Guard.

They had to mobilize the power of the Thunderflame Faction to find the culprit. Austin and Ann were worried.

They knew that Zack Lockwood could fight across ranks, but they didn't know what type of crisis he was facing.

If there were only Silver and Gold Mark Warriors, Zack Lockwood could handle it. If not, his life was in real danger, and they had to be very fast in finding his location.

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Meanwhile

Faction Leader Francesca saw the message as well. She was shocked; she hadn't expected Zack Lockwood to face a crisis so soon. She knew his strength well.

"He has not one, but two inheritances. One is an Ancient Inheritance and the other is a bloodline inheritance," she thought.

Still, the fact that Zack Lockwood had sent her a message meant he was truly in danger. She left Star University immediately to look for him.

Unlike the others, she could use her bloodline to sense Zack Lockwood, but for that, she had to get closer to his approximate area.

Upon leaving the campus, she rushed toward the known teleportation platform locations.

Swoosh!

When she arrived at the location, she heard a deafening sound in the sky. Her expression changed drastically.

"Someone is fighting out there," Francesca said.

She felt a powerful presence, which included several Purple Mark Warriors. She knew no one dared to fight inside this territory because it was strictly banned.

This meant enemies had likely invaded. She darted toward the source of the sound. In the blink of an eye, she reached the spot.

She saw the Purple Mark Guard surrounded by ten Purple Mark Warriors. Her eyes turned icy.

Boom!

She pointed her index finger toward them. A blue streak of light shot from her finger. In a flash, the light struck one of the Purple Mark Warriors in the back.

"Aaahhhh!"

The assassin let out a blood-curdling scream; he was deeply hurt.

Boom!

One after another, the blue light struck their exposed backs. The light was her bloodline power, the power of boiling water.

It scorched their backs one by one. They lost their concentration due to the sudden sneak attack.

Furthermore, the attack was delivered by a powerful half-step Red Mark Warrior.

The Purple Mark Guard was someone who had only recently broken through and was nowhere near the level of Faction Leader Francesca.

Using the opportunity, the guard broke free from the encirclement.

He didn't hold back and began brutally attacking the others. Seeing this, some of the assassins tried to flee, but they were all blocked by Francesca.

She simply pointed her finger toward the void, releasing blue light that struck the fleeing assassins one by one. None of them could stop or evade her.

"It's the Ball Family bloodline!" one of the assassins recognized.

Unfortunately for them, it was too late. They were all struck down.

Puckak!

Their backs were pierced, and a torrent of blood gushed forth. If they took a second hit on the same spot, they would die for sure.

A few minutes later, she appeared before the Purple Mark Guard.

"I couldn't believe you were blocked by them," she said in a serious tone.

"Their coordination was perfect. As assassins, they knew how to escape; I had been chasing them from the nearby territory," the Purple Mark Guard replied.

Currently, all the assassins were injured, but she had made sure they weren't dead.

"I got a message from Zack Lockwood. The kid is injured and requested help. It appears someone got to him before you did," she said.

"What? It's impossible," the Purple Mark Guard replied, knowing the information was confidential.

"There's no time to delay. You go and rescue him. I'll take care of these people here," Francesca ordered.

The Purple Mark Guard thanked her before rushing off. Once he was gone, her eyes gleamed.

"So there are spies in our elder circle as well," she thought.

Otherwise, it would have been impossible to reach Zack Lockwood before the Purple Mark Guard.

She suspected someone had leaked the location of the secret teleportation platform, or the enemies had been monitoring it and found Zack by coincidence.

Her gaze fell back on the assassins. To be honest, she had been downplaying the situation to the guard. These were not ordinary Purple Mark Warriors; they were experts.

Their profession made them even more dangerous, and the guard was right, their formation was impressive.

She was shocked that these people were able to enter Star University territory so easily.

Meanwhile

The Purple Mark Guard rushed to the location. He was already close to the teleportation platform.

Ten minutes later, he found Zack Lockwood in critical condition. Zack was unconscious, his body soaked in blood.

The Purple Mark Guard's expression changed drastically. He appeared in front of him and checked his vitals.

Seeing that there was still life in him, he breathed a sigh of relief. There was still a chance to save him.

He picked Zack up and turned to leave, but right before he could depart from the platform, he spotted a headless body on the ground.

He stopped and thought for a second. The corpse bore the markings of lightning power. He placed the corpse into his storage ring and left the area.

Chapter 1457: Getting Treatment

Star University: Medical Facility

Purple Mark Guard and Faction Leader Francesca stood outside the treatment room.

The elders had administered an advanced medicinal liquid to Zack Lockwood to cure the wind-elemental blade wound on his body.

Since the advanced liquid was highly effective for Purple Mark Warriors, they believed that Zack Lockwood would be cured.

Inside the room, I continued to circulate the ancient healing technique. The advanced medicinal liquid was working as well.

Two types of energy flowed through my body, making the healing process more efficient. I focused on the blade wound on my chest.

The old man from earlier had almost cleaved my body in two; fortunately, the internal organs were not that damaged. They are healing now.

Then, I checked my foundation. The foundation had not been damaged in the battle. Seeing that, I sighed in relief.

I had been forced to use my bloodline power to kill the enemy. Furthermore, it was a sneak attack; if I hadn't done that, the old man would have escaped. I did well by eliminating him.

I didn't know what had happened to the others. I sensed Faction Leader Francesca earlier. She might have seen the text message as well.

But what about Faction Leader Clifford and the main elders? After pushing those thoughts aside, I fell asleep.

Outside the Room,

Faction Leader Clifford, Main Elder Austin, Ann, and other elders arrived a few minutes later.

When they saw the Purple Mark Guard and Faction Leader Francesca, they were all surprised. Immediately upon seeing the Purple Mark Guard, old man Clifford confronted him.

"Elder, where is Dean Jerome? We have been trying to contact him," Clifford asked.

The Purple Mark Guard knew where Dean Jerome might be, but he did not want to tell the others without permission. "It's confidential. I can't tell you," he replied.

Hearing that, the old man was taken aback. He didn't expect to hear such an answer, but it was not the right time for them to fight.

"Where is Zack?" Clifford asked.

"He was given treatment. He is resting inside now," Francesca said.

Hearing this, Clifford, Austin, Ann, and the others walked into the room. Main Elder Leola, Cathy, and Rosie were there as well.

They saw Zack Lockwood resting on the bed. Clifford and the others spotted the massive blade wound on Zack's body.

Gasp!

A small exclamation escaped them. Cathy, Rose, and Leola stared at the wound. Their expressions changed drastically; they were shocked that Zack Lockwood was still alive.

Austin and Ann saw the wound as well. Austin's eyes filled with killing intent, his heart boiling with anger. Ann felt the same, she couldn't imagine who had caused such a severe injury.

Old man Clifford's heart was stirred. From the nature of the blade wound, he understood that the attacker must have been a Purple Mark Warrior.

He had never seen a Silver Mark Warrior escape the attacks of a Purple Mark Warrior before. Even for a Gold Mark Warrior, the chances would be slim.

Zack Lockwood was only a Silver Mark Warrior. Clifford was curious how he had survived. He then glanced at the door, thinking that the others must have rescued Zack.

That would explain things; otherwise, it was impossible for Zack to survive.

Unfortunately, the old man didn't know that Zack Lockwood had actually killed the Purple Mark Warrior himself.

If he had known the truth, old man Clifford would have been shocked to his core.

Not only him, but Austin and the other main elders thought the same. They believed that the Purple Mark Guard or Faction Leader Francesca had rescued Zack.

"Alright, let's go. He needs rest," old man Clifford said.

The others nodded and exited the room. Once outside, Clifford confronted the Purple Mark Guard again.

"Who attacked the kid? What happened to him?" he asked.

"He is dead," the Purple Mark Guard replied.

He chose not to mention that Zack Lockwood had killed the person. He decided to conceal the news because it was far too shocking to hear.

Francesca, hearing this for the first time, assumed the Purple Mark Guard had killed the enemy. The others thought the same before leaving.

The Purple Mark Guard assured them that he would remain there to protect Zack. Francesca decided to return to the Bloodline Hall.

A Few Minutes Later

The Purple Mark Guard was left alone, pondering deeply. He recalled the event: he had been attacked by ten Purple Mark level assassins, while Zack Lockwood was attacked by a Purple Mark level warrior as well.

It showed that their whereabouts had been leaked.

He didn't know who had leaked the news. It was possible the enemies were monitoring the known teleportation platforms.

However, there were many hidden teleportation platforms; it would be impossible for the enemies to know about them unless someone leaked the information.

In either case, the involvement of a spy was likely. This was why he concealed the information from the others; he wanted to discuss it with Dean Jerome first.

Meanwhile, Dean Jerome was inspecting the secret lands of the Star University Territory one by one. That was why he didn't know what was happening outside.

Ever since he received orders from the higher-ups, he had decided to focus on Zack Lockwood's training.

He believed that the higher-ups had acknowledged Zack's strength. He was right to invest in such a talent. He also knew the dangers posed by the foreign creatures.

If Zack Lockwood became a Gold Mark Warrior, he would finally have the strength to protect himself.

Since no Red Mark level foreign creatures had entered their territory so far, Zack would be safe once he reached the Gold Mark rank.

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Foreign Creature Planet

As time passed, news of Battlefield 4 spread across the foreign creature leadership. They learned that a human race warrior had fought to a draw with an elite race member.

The news was too shocking for everyone. All the powerful figures learned about Zack Lockwood.

They discovered that Zack Lockwood's name was on the kill list, yet they had failed to kill the target many times.

Now, the target has grown stronger. He was able to challenge an elite race member. The elite race members were furious; it was a massive loss of face for them.

If they didn't act soon, the target would grow even further and might kill an elite race member next time.

Chapter 1458: Big Bounty!

Dark Planet

The foreign creatures were enraged. In particular, the higher-ups felt they had lost face. It had been many decades since a human warrior managed to force a draw in battle.

They didn't want that warrior to escape. They decided to offer a great bounty. The rewards would be enough to make even the Purple Mark Warriors move.

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Tier-4 Region

The following day, the news shook the Tier-4 Region. All the major forces received a bounty proposal. If they were interested, they could take up the task.

When the bounty proposal was released, the whole Tier-4 region was boiling. It was a bounty proposal to kill Zack Lockwood.

The news had reached every household with a decent powerhouse in the family. It meant anyone could take on the task.

As long as they finished the mission, they would receive rewards in the form of rare treasures, treasures that could even move the higher-ups of the University.

If such a treasure were obtained by a medium-sized powerhouse, they would become a strong powerhouse within a few years.

If the top forces were to attain the treasure, they would become even stronger. However, those forces were apprehensive. They didn't entertain the idea.

They knew that Dean Jerome of Star University was a strong Red Mark Level Warrior. He was so powerful that no other deans were a match for him.

That was why everyone listened to Star University and rarely caused problems for them.

But there were criminals and underworld organizations who were interested in the bounty. Specifically, the criminals in Star University territory had become active once again.

Once they got the treasure, they could become half-step Red Mark Warriors. It was tempting for those who had exhausted their potential and were very old.

This reward could be the last chance for them, so they were ready to take the risk. Some of them left their families; they did not intend to return until they succeeded.

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Star University

Dean Jerome returned to his office. He had completed the inspection of the secret land. He had already planned which secret land needed to be opened first.

He was going to send Zack Lockwood alone.

Then, he collected his thoughts and summoned a Purple Mark Guard. He gave him the task of picking up Zack Lockwood.

A few seconds later, the Purple Mark Guard appeared.

"Dean," he greeted him immediately.

"What is he doing right now?" Jerome asked.

He didn't even bother to check the online news or read reports. He wanted to hear it directly from the Purple Mark Guard.

"Dean, Zack Lockwood was attacked by a Purple Mark Warrior. There is a deep injury on his chest. He was treated and is currently taking rest in the clinic," he added.

Jerome was taken aback. His eyes narrowed. The next second, he stood up from his seat. He left the office and headed to the medical clinic.

A few minutes later, they both arrived in front of the treatment room. He knocked on the door before entering.

Inside the room, I was awake. When I saw Dean Jerome and the Purple Mark Guard entering, my eyes gleamed with a twinkle.

"How are you doing?" Jerome asked.

"Dean, I'm doing good. The injury is almost healed," I replied.

"I had gone to inspect the secret lands, so I was not here. To think someone attacked you during my absence... it really pisses me off."

"Don't worry about it. I'm going to send you to the secret land. Once you become a Gold Mark Warrior, you can handle a Purple Mark Warrior yourself," Jerome said.

Hearing that, my heart was stirred. I didn't expect him to go to the secret lands for me. The resources in the secret land could help me become a Gold Mark Warrior.

"Thank you, Dean. When will I enter?" I asked.

"Once you have fully recovered, you can enter the secret land. So be ready." After saying that, Jerome decided to leave.

Both of them returned to the office. Jerome sat down in his seat while the Purple Mark Guard stood in front of him.

Dean Jerome's whole demeanor had changed. His eyes were filled with killing intent.

"So, who attacked him?"

"Was he caught?" he asked.

The Purple Mark Guard expected the question, but he didn't know how to explain it. It was unbelievable.

"Dean, the Purple Mark Warrior who attacked Zack Lockwood was an old man. He was beheaded by Zack Lockwood," the Purple Mark Guard said.

"What?" Jerome asked in confusion.

At first, he thought he had heard incorrectly. Then, the words sank in.

"How did it happen?" he asked.

The Purple Mark Guard took the corpse from storage and placed it on the ground.

Dean Jerome came over to inspect the corpse. With his sharp eyes, he found traces of bloodline power and traces of another ancient inheritance force.

"He used other inheritances to kill him. There is only a small trace left. The attack was directed at the head. The old man must have been caught off guard."

"He couldn't block the attack and died in the end," Jerome said.

The Purple Mark Guard thought the same.

"Did you tell anyone?" Jerome asked.

The Purple Mark Guard shook his head.

"Good. He already has a target on his back," Jerome said.

...

Room

I lay down on the bed and continued to run the ancient healing technique. There were some injuries left. As the healing force flowed through my body, the injuries continued to heal.

A few hours later, I stopped the practice. I took my device out and started watching the online news. My gaze fell on the breaking news, which immediately made me sit up.

"What's going on?" I asked myself.

[Big Bounty on Zack Lockwood's Head]

[The Rewards are Rich. Can Anyone Do It?]

I read the headlines before clicking the articles. I began to go through the text, and my eyes turned cold not long after.

I didn't expect the foreign creatures to release a bounty on my head. They are truly restless. Fortunately, I had already left the warrior camp.

Otherwise, they would have come up with a sinister plan. Now I know why Dean Jerome wanted me to enter the secret land. Only in that way can I become a Gold Mark Warrior.

Dean Jerome can't protect me all day. I have to take care of myself.

Chapter 1459: Outer Circle Elder makes a move!

Star University

A few days later, I was completely healed and discharged from the medical room. I returned to the Thunderflame Faction residence.

Right now, I'm waiting for the call from Dean Jerome. He told me that once I was recovered, I could go to the secret land for training. I will be safe from assassination here.

Knock!

The next second, I heard a knocking on the door. At first, I thought I was imagining it. The knocking sound continued to increase.

I got up from the sofa and walked up to the door. I was sure that no one had seen me coming; only the Dean and the Thunderflame Faction higher-ups knew. They wouldn't be disturbing me.

I reached the door and opened it. The next second, I saw an old man standing outside.

Looking at him, I was surprised. He was a Purple Mark Warrior, one of the outer circle elders. Outer circle elders are in charge of business outside the campus.

I had never been in contact with the outer elders before. I collected my thoughts and walked up to the gate.

As I got closer, an unknown feeling gripped my heart. My intuition is never wrong. I turned on the function and opened the gate.

"Elder, what brings you here?" I asked.

The old man didn't say anything. Instead, his expression changed drastically.

Boom!

He showed his real face. He rushed forward to attack, his right arm covered in black fire. The black flame looked like it would destroy everything.

My perception caught every detail. My eyes saw the expression on the old man's face; he was going for the kill. In that case, I didn't have to hold back.

I circulated the bloodline and shock force. A bright blue and golden-silver force drop formed at the tip of my index finger. This all happened within seconds.

Before the old man's black flame could reach me, I shot the water drop at his right eye.. It was the same method I had used against the previous enemy.

Swoosh!

At close quarters, the old man was caught off guard. Just as his black fire fists were about to touch my body...

Boom!

The water drop pierced his right eye the next second. The old man was stunned. He stopped, his hands pausing just a few inches from my neck.

Boom!

The water drop blasted away the internals of his head. It burst into pieces like a watermelon. Blood and organs splattered across the ground as the headless corpse landed.

I looked around before anyone could come and collected the corpse into my storage ring. I couldn't do anything about the blood traces in such a short time.

Swoosh!

Someone appeared before me. The person was none other than a Purple Mark Guard. Seeing him, I was not surprised; he seemed to have marked the place. The Purple Mark Guard sees everything.

"Come with me," he said.

I nodded. He grabbed my shoulder the next moment, and we disappeared from the spot.

A few minutes later, we were in front of the Dean's room. We walked inside to find Dean Jerome behind his desk. Jerome saw us coming and raised his eyebrows in surprise.

"What happened?" he asked.

"He killed another Purple Mark Warrior," the Purple Mark Guard said.

Dean Jerome's eyes turned serious. He shifted his gaze toward me.

"An outer elder tried to attack me. He seems to be from the Black Flame Palace. If I hadn't attacked, his strike would have taken my head," I replied.

The Purple Mark Guard had already guessed as much. Dean Jerome's eyes filled with anger.

"I didn't expect rats to be hidden inside the campus itself. I can't delay it anymore. I'm going to send you to the secret land right now," Jerome said.

I agreed. Then, the three of us left the Dean's office. The secret land is located within the campus territory, and the entrance is only known to the Dean.

Shortly afterwards, we arrived in front of a cave-like structure. We walked inside and came to a black door.

"The secret land inside has ten times gravity. It is a semi-desert, but it's an excellent place for isolated training. You won't find any monsters inside," Jerome explained.

Hearing that, I was surprised. It was better than nothing. Dean Jerome then used a key to open the door.

"You will be thrown out three months from now. Try to achieve Gold Mark Level in that time period," Dean Jerome said.

"Okay." After saying that, I stepped through the door. The next second, I was descending toward the ground. The door closed automatically.

"You will guard this spot," Dean Jerome told the Purple Mark Guard.

The guard agreed, and Jerome left the place. He needed to deal with the aftermath of the killing.

He suspected Faction Leader Clifford would be visiting him any second. A killing had taken place inside Clifford's territory, and he hadn't even known.

When Jerome returned to his office, he saw the Faction Leader waiting for him. He was not surprised and shook his head before inviting him inside.

"Dean... someone killed an outer circle elder," Clifford said in a serious tone.

Jerome looked at him and said, "He was killed by the Purple Mark Guard. The elder tried to assassinate that kid a few minutes ago."

"What?" Clifford was dumbfounded.

He was speechless for a second. Then, he connected the dots. There was a bounty on Zack Lockwood's head placed by foreign creatures.

The threat of planted spies was everywhere, and the bounty offered had tempted many dying powerhouses. He had told Zack not to go outside unnecessarily.

Zack's return had not been made public, yet Clifford couldn't believe an elder from their own faction dared to make a move.

He was glad that Dean Jerome had assigned a Purple Mark Guard to monitor him. If not for that protection, Zack Lockwood would have died.

There was also oversight on Clifford's part; he truly didn't expect an outer circle elder to move against a student. He decided to investigate immediately and left the Dean's office.

When he left, Jerome grinned.

"This kid was able to kill a Purple Mark Warrior again. If the news were made public, the foreign creatures would definitely send their killers to this planet directly," he thought.

But he was serious about the training. The order from above was clear: Zack Lockwood needed to become a Gold Mark Warrior as soon as possible.

Chapter 1460: Practical Secret Land

Secret Land

I was descending toward the ground. Before I knew it, my feet touched the earth. I looked around and found that Dean Jerome was right: the land was barren.

The next second, I felt tremendous pressure acting on me. Gravity was different here. At first, I couldn't move; then, I slowly adjusted to the pressure.

The effect of gravity was palpable. My bones and organs were experiencing the tempering. I sat cross-legged on the ground.

I began to observe the changes in my body. How long had it been since I felt this much pressure acting on me?

I tried to lift my hand to see how fast I could move, but it was difficult. If it were easy, the dean wouldn't have sent me here.

I lowered my hand and decided to run the "Blood Method." The Blood Method strengthens the body, and I wanted to see whether it could help me withstand the pressure.

I closed my eyes and started practicing. Since the secret land had no monsters, I could be at ease. The blood-ring-type rune in my mind began to flicker.

Shortly afterward, blood force power from the surroundings started gathering toward my body. It entered me, and I began guiding it.

The blood force went to the bloodstream before it could enter the bones. Then, the power conversion happened. The blood force was turned into a white, mysterious force by the blood light.

Next, the white force entered the bones. It caused terrible pain, but I endured it. I am now a Silver Mark Warrior, yet the pain feels terrible every time.

Slowly, the dark red skeleton absorbed the white force. I could feel a small surge in strength. The weight pressing me down became lighter.

Seeing that, I repeated the process.

Time passed.

Once I reached my limit, I ended the practice. I stood up and tried to move. This time, it was better; I could take one step at a time.

It was better than before, yet I needed a few hours for this. In order to train here, I needed to adapt to the place faster. Then, I would be able to run around this place.

I thought for a moment before taking out my staff.

I tried to move the white bone staff, but it felt heavy. I decided to perform the staff basics first, then I would practice my staff techniques.

I didn't forget the words spoken by Dean Jerome. He wanted me to become a Gold Mark Warrior within this three-month period.

I decided to follow a strict schedule. After I was done with the staff training, I would resume the method practice.

Time passed.

At first, it was hard to move the staff, but it improved over time. When my arms felt tired, I put away the staff and sat down.

The ten-times gravity was still acting on me. I didn't start practicing right away; instead, I began to rest.

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Tier-5 Region

The news about the draw had reached every household. Those who didn't know about Zack Lockwood had started to learn more about him.

The news didn't stop there; it reached the forces of the Tier-5 region. The news was eventually learned by Zack Lockwood's Master, Lowell McClain.

Lowell McClain was shocked. It was unbelievable to him. Zack Lockwood had reached heights beyond his imagination.

He was now being compared with warriors from famous families. It didn't take long for him to receive a call from the Federation.

Federation Head Ben got the news as well. He wanted to confirm it with Lowell, to which Lowell replied that the news was true.

His disciple, Zack Lockwood, was doing great in the Tier-4 Region, so much so that foreign creatures were after his life.

Federation Head Ben and Elder Robbie played important roles in Zack Lockwood's growth as well. When Zack Lockwood was still in the Tier-5 Region, they protected him from his enemies.

Obviously, they were worried about the foreign creatures. They knew the pressure faced by Zack Lockwood, but they believed in Star University.

Zack Lockwood's talent was recognized by Star University. They wouldn't let the enemies take advantage. Dean Jerome would protect Zack Lockwood from both internal and external enemies.

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Meanwhile

The dean and the higher-ups of other universities learned some things from the warriors who returned from Camp 4.

Everyone saw Zack Lockwood facing hundreds of foreign creatures alone. It was no exaggeration; they saw Zack Lockwood eliminating all those foreign creatures.

Now, the foreign creature side confirmed the news that an Elite Race Member had drawn a match against Zack Lockwood.

It made them think deeply about Zack Lockwood. They had to re-evaluate him. Even the neutral forces wanted to know about Zack Lockwood's current strength.

They could imagine that Zack Lockwood would become a powerful Purple Mark Warrior. If that happened, it would be a huge advantage for the human side and a threat to other forces.

The influence of Star University was already high, and because of Zack Lockwood, it was going to become even higher.

None of the disciples of the faction leaders or the main elders had this much traction.

Yet, Zack Lockwood's name had become a household word. The name had become famous on the foreign creatures' planet as well. The other elite race members wanted to wash away the shame.

They were waiting for Zack Lockwood to enter the battlefield. It didn't take long for them to verify the fact that Zack Lockwood had returned from Camp 4.

When the news reached other universities, they wanted to confirm it through their spies. However, none of the people in Star City or on campus had seen Zack Lockwood.

Even the Main Elders wanted to confirm the news, but the people of the Thunderflame Faction were tight-lipped. One of the outer circle elders had been killed not long ago.

They didn't want another person to cause problems. Among them, Leader Francesca got an idea. She thought Dean Jerome might have sent Zack Lockwood to the secret land.

Because it had happened before, she thought it was truly the safest place for Zack Lockwood to stay. Anything could happen outside.

Francesca was making efforts to find the planted spies. They were enemies to the human side.