

BloodLine 541

Chapter 541 Duel Challenge?

Tower City:

After getting valuable information from the inner house elder. Jonathan knocked him down unconscious. He doesn't want to kill him right now. It would alarm the Giant Tower Academy.

Now that he knows that one person was behind the whole scheme. Jonathan decided to infiltrate the academy.

But before doing that he thought about contacting Zack. Because of his covert operation. He closed off his communication networks.

Now that he has a clue. He knows where to start. After coming to the living room, he sat on the sofa and activated his sci-fi watch.

Right after he received a lot of notifications. He ignored everything except the message from Zack Lockwood.

He wasn't surprised by the message. Before coming here, he had assured Zack. Next, he opened the message to read it.

After reading the message, he knitted his eyebrows further.

"Carlos Kent," He muttered to himself.

"Young master seems to be targeted by this person," He muttered. But from the interrogation. He didn't hear anything about Carlos Kent.

Jonathan was intrigued. The situation doesn't seem to be simple. Why is the Special Faction Head behaving strangely?

"No!"

"If there is an inner spy, then the young master's life would be in danger," Jonathan said to himself.

He is starting to regret his hasty decision. He. Should have checked that academy first. But because of the master's prestige. He thought there was nothing wrong with that academy.

But now his heart is telling him to go to the young master's side. After gaining some clarity, he decided to leave. He wants to check what's wrong with the person named Carlos Kent.

Then he sent a message to the young master about his departure.

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Giant Tower Academy:

"Spineless "

"Wait for my plan to succeed. I will eliminate the dissent voices," The Giant Tower Headmaster cursed out in his cabin.

The matter of the disappearance of resources in the treasurer vault was learned by other elder factions.

Now they are demanding an explanation from him. But he had sent those resources to Carlos Kent for his breakthrough.

Now he knows that Carlos Kent has succeeded. It will be a matter of time before Zack Lockwood dies under his own hands. He is just waiting for a positive answer from him.

But these hostile elders are protecting us. He doesn't want them to convince their supreme elder. The supreme elder is turning a blind eye lately.

It doesn't mean that he wasn't aware. He knows some big man is giving me orders. If he succeeds not only will he cement his position. It will be many times beneficial for the Academy.

Beep!

A loud notification broke his imagination. When he saw the contact name. His mouth curved into arcs. The call is from Carlos Kent.

After attending the call, he asked, "How long are you going to delay the task?"

On the other side of the call, Carlos Kent was not angered. But he answered politely, "Have you heard about the uneven mountain canyon?"

The Head Master's eyes flickered with a slight glint. "Don't tell me you are going to use that place?" He asked.

"Ha...Ha...ha., that's right"

"That place was located far away. There will be no variables. I can kill them and bury them silently in that gorge." Carlos Kent responded.

"Bury them?"

"Are you going to kill your other 2 students?" The headmaster asked out of curiosity. He didn't think that person was ruthless.

From the other side of the call. He heard an arrogant voice.

"What students?"

"Do you want me to leave behind the traces?"

"I have made up my mind to slip away after killing them," Carlos Kent said in a dissatisfied tone.

The Headmaster's eyes lit up with joy. The more talented warriors die from the Saw Scale Viper Academy, the more the better.

Anyway, it doesn't hurt their interest. But it will bleed their enemy academy.

"Good"

"Good"

"I'm waiting for your news, don't disappoint me," The headmaster replied.

Then after speaking for a few minutes. He ended the call. But the next moment, a ruthless glint flashes in his eyes.

"Carlos Kent will become a liability. I hope the esteemed one will take him out sooner," He said in his heart.

The esteemed one in his heart was none other than the middleman. Who was the actual mastermind behind the scenes? Now he knows the next course of action.

His job is to update the information to his boss.

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From MC's perspective:

The following day,

When I woke up. I wanted to go back to sleep. But Carlos Kent's scheme did not make me do that. After getting out of bed. I started to do my morning routine.

Several minutes later,

I entered the training room to practice. There are still some monster cores left in my storage ring. Though my mood is down. I don't want to stop my training because of this person.

I walked to the middle and sat cross-legged down the platform.

I brought the monster core and held it in my palm. Then I started to run the blood element method.

Right after the blood rune in my consciousness started to flicker. Then I slowly started to absorb the energy from the monster's core.

When the energy entered my body. I guided the energy according to the blood element method. The energy began to flow through my meridians.

But right after the circulation the red blood light appeared above the blood and started to absorb these energies.

The absorbed energies are converted into white energies. Then the white energies began to drill into my skeleton.

Right after, I started to feel the heart-wrenching pain. The senses become numb after a few seconds.

I started to repeat the process.

The red color in my skeleton starts to expand.

Time passed in a blink of an eye,

After a few hours, I opened my eyes. The monster's core crumbles into pieces. Feeling the improvement in strength. A hint of satisfaction flashes in my eyes.

Then I walked out of the training room and went to take a bath.

Several minutes later,

I changed into a fresh set of clothes. After getting ready, I exited the room.

When I reached the dining hall. I saw them again. Ernest and Laverne talking to each other. But after seeing me I stopped talking.

This scene was so familiar. But I'm glad that their complexion was better today.

Walking up to them, I asked, "Have you guys made up your mind?"

Ernest nodded his head and said, "We are not going."

Laverne added further, "You are right Zack. It's unnecessary to take risks. Since we know something is wrong with the mission. It's better not to go there."

Hearing that, a bright smile appeared on my face. I'm glad that they are not dumb. But when we entered the dining hall,

Some people are already waiting for us. Surprisingly, they are not male warriors. But the female warriors from the RainWater Faction.

"This?" Laverne was surprised to see them. Because she knows some of them.

"What are you guys doing here?" She asked.

One of the female warriors stepped forward and asked, "Sister Laverne, we are here for warrior Zack."

"Warrior Zack?" Laverne uttered in surprise.

Ernest seems to guess something. Yesterday, Eurice Frye's appearance made a lot of noise in the academy.

And it was not surprising to see them here. Maybe they are here for a challenge. Ernest then turned to Zack.

At the same time, I don't know whether to laugh or cry. I thought they would take a few days to learn about me.

But it looks like the person behind them is quite confident in her strength. Then I saw the good-looking woman turn toward me.

"Zack Lockwood, we came here on behalf of our senior sister. She wants to fight you," She said.

"Fight me?" I uttered. An amusing smile appeared on my face. I looked at Ernest and Laverne.

Initially, I didn't take it seriously. But the timing is quite right. Since we made a decision not to go for the mission. We should come up with a good reason to convince Carlos Kent.

I was wondering what to do about this. But fortunately, the solution came to my door. I revealed a bright smile on my face before saying, "Well, I agree with your request. But the duel will take place this weekend."

Ernest and Laverne looked at each other. They weren't surprised by Zack's answer. But why this weekend?

The female warrior and her faction members are happy with my response. Then after thanking me, they swiftly left the place.

"Zack, why did you postpone the duel date?" Laverne asked.

But I looked around. Our conversation with Rain Water Faction Members is not secret. So people are starting to gossip about it. It will be a matter of time before it floods the social media site.

"Let's discuss this in detail," I answered before walking to the food counter. We received the food plate one by one before finding the empty seats to sit down.

After taking the seat, I looked at them and said, "This duel will give us reason to avoid going to the mission. Besides, I don't have lightning essence. So I have to make some preparations. It will take some time."

Ernest and Laverne nodded their heads in understanding.

Chapter 542 Part 1: Meeting Jonathan

Saw Scale Viper Academy:

Soon the news about the Rain Water Faction's Challenge began to spread like wildfire. The name Eurice Frye was popular. The name attracted the attention of other elemental factions as well.

Already the Flame Faction & the Metal Faction genius are defeated at the hands of Zack Lockwood. So this time everyone is looking forward to it.

Dean Office,

Rebecca received the message from the Rain Water Faction Head. After knowing that another student is going to challenge Zack. She felt a headache coming.

She knows Zack's circumstances. He doesn't have lightning essence in his body. Even if the duel happens, it would be like a handicap match.

But if Zack decides to fight using his body strength then the outcome is uncertain. She also knows about Eurice Frye.

She is a talented water elemental warrior and her techniques are exquisite like her Faction Head.

So the duel will be worthwhile to watch. Thinking about Zack, her eyes flickered with complex glints. Normally, she used to directly contact him for any matter.

But after Carlos Kent's issue, there was a gap. Zack is starting to have trust issues. She can't initiate a conversation like before.

Sigh~

She let out a deep sigh. Then she accepted the duel request and allowed it to happen. The coming weekend the duel arena will be filled with students.

Special Faction Head Cabin,

When the news reached Carlos Kent. His expression turned ugly. For a moment, he doesn't know whether it's a coincidence or not. He knows that Zack and his friends are suspecting him.

Maybe they even try to avoid the mission. But it was unlikely to happen. It's like breaking the rules of the academy. Unless there is a strong reason, they can't disobey his instructions.

That's why he thought it was their scheme for a second.

Shaking his head, he muttered, "It may not be their scheme." Because he knows that RainWater Faction Warrior ended her retreat recently.

So it may not be their plan. He also knows that the Rain Water Faction Member took the initiative to request the challenge.

Thinking about the challenge date. His eyes flickered with killing intent. He gave them 7 days of reporting time.

But the duel will be taking place on the 7th day. Which means Zack can't go for the mission outside. And he has to wait for next week.

A blue vein begins to pop up on his forehead. "How unfortunate?" He said to himself. His heart tells him to strangle him right now.

But he knows the supreme elder might be watching everything. His odd behavior already made them wary. He doesn't want to make any mistakes.

It's just that he arrogantly spoke to the Giant Tower Headmaster the other day. If he knows the current situation, then he would make fun of him.

Then he loosened his fists. Now he has no other choice other than to wait for the weekend to finish.

Or he can pull up some tricks for Zack's duel. If Zack dies in the duel, it would be better. But the women behind the RainWater Faction are righteous. She won't allow any trickery to happen.

What about that girl? Carlos Kent tapped his fingers on the table. It's not easy. There are still a few days left for the duel. He decided to collect the information first.

If that girl Eurice is narrow-minded, then she will be helpful for his plan.

RainWater Faction Head Cabin,

A beautiful woman in a white dress is sitting behind her desk. She looked at the blue-haired girl in front of her. The blue-haired girl is none other than Eurice Frye.

Eurice Frye has long silky blue hair and a pair of blue eyes. She was dressed in the academy uniform. Her skin tone was fair. She stood 5.8ft tall in height.

She met the gaze of the Faction Head without worrying.

Feeling the Peak Elite Stage Pressure in her body. The Rain Water Faction Head smiled like a chrysanthemum.

"Eurice, you did well."

"Looks like your isolation practice went well," She commented.

"Elder Alice, thanks for your support," Eurice replied.

The name of the RainWater Faction Head is Alice Brown. Her students call her Elder Alice.

After hearing from her students, she waved her hand. But the next second, her expression turned serious.

"The dean permitted the challenge duel," Alice said.

Hearing that Eurice's expression lit up with joy. She was worried that the dean wouldn't give permission easily. But now the worry in her heart disappeared.

Alice saw through her thoughts. She shook her head in response.

"Eurice, are you confident?" Alice asked. It's not like she underestimates her student faction. But a few days ago, she heard the shocking news. Which was known only to bigwigs.

The bedrock city's incident shocked her heart. She knew Zack Lockwood was the target of hostile forces.

But his performance against the rogue warriors overturned her view. "That kid killed Super Elite Warriors without using any technique," She said in her heart.

At first, she thought it was absurd. But the news was confirmed by another faction head as well. So there is no doubt that Zack can fight across ranks.

She doesn't know whether Alice can withstand his attacks.

At the same time, Alice's expression turned dark. She didn't expect to hear this question from the elder. She was confident that's why she issued a challenge.

Then looking at the elder she said, "Elder, I made this decision after learning about him. I believe my technique can restrain him."

Hearing her confident tone, Alice sighed inside. She doesn't want to bring the topic of bedrock city to her. Because it would hit her confidence.

Maybe this duel can become a learning experience for her.

"Okay, I believe you. Go and prepare well for the duel. And don't underestimate your opponent," Alice said with a smile.

Eurice regained her confidence. Then she left the room.

Alice Brown knitted her eyebrows. She is not feeling good about this. Both the Flame and Metal Faction have failed to defeat that kid.

Now they are going to join this line. A bitter smile appeared on her face. She hopes that Eurice will learn something.

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From MC's Perspective:

The following day,

Noon:

After coming from the gravity chamber, I entered the bath to clean myself. I changed into a fresh set of clothes a few minutes later.

Then I sat on the sofa and started to access the social media site. Right after, several messages popped up.

Not surprisingly, many of the online posts are about the duel. Seeing that my mouth curved into an arc. People have already started discussing it.

Then after scrolling down a few pages. I decided to focus on something else.

Beep~

But before I could do that my sci-fi watch lit up with notification. When I saw the contact name. I stood up from the sofa.

"Jonathan!" I uttered in joy.

Then I opened the message to read it. As expected it was an encrypted message. I started to decipher it.

When I read the message. My eyes gleamed with a twinkle.

"Jonathan is in Viper City?"

"What is he doing here?" I mumbled under my breath.

Then after calming down my heart, I began to get ready. After changing back to the academy uniform, I hurriedly left the dorm building.

On the way to the monster facility, I came across other faction warriors. Apart from scrutinizing, none of them hinder me.

Ignoring everyone, I hurried to the monster transit facility. When I entered the facility, I registered for a monster carriage.

Shortly after, I sat down on the back of a giant falcon. The Giant Falcon is a Class-3 Monster. But its speed is exceptional. It quickly crossed several miles in a few minutes.

One hour later,

The Giant Falcon enters the air space of Viper City. Then the monster immediately slowed down its speed.

When the falcon lands on the platform. I stepped out and exited the facility. Jonathan seems to be staying in the inn.

But a trace of doubt flashes in my eyes.

As far as I know, he doesn't like to expose himself. Then shaking my head, I head straight towards the inn.

Shortly after, I arrived in front of the Black Pine Inn. The inn looks normal with fewer customers. Then I walked to the counter and booked the room.

After getting the code, I walked upstairs. When I found the room. I entered the access code.

Creak~

The door opened.

After entering inside, I sent a message to Jonathan. I thought he was waiting for me in this inn.

Swoosh~

Before I could think further. A figure appeared in front of me. The person is none other than Jonathan.

Seeing him in my presence, I felt a huge weight lifted off my shoulder.

"You are back?" I uttered.

Jonathan nodded before saying, "Young master, are you alright?"

Sigh~

I let out a huge sigh before sitting down on the bed.

"The Special Faction Head is targeting me," I replied.

Hearing that Jonathan didn't reply instead he sat on the chair.

Chapter 543 Part 2: Meeting Jonathan

From MC's Perspective:

Jonathan didn't expect to hear the name again. He heard the name of Carlos before. Because the young master had mentioned it previously.

"What did he do this time?" He asked. From Zack's look, he can tell that something might have happened recently.

At the same time, a complex glint flashes in my eyes. I don't know whether Jonathan believes me or not. But I will feel better if he finds out the truth.

Then looking at him, I started to recount the recent events. Starting from our first meeting to the bedrock incident. Then to our latest mission.

A few minutes later,

The atmosphere turned solemn.

Jonathan didn't doubt the words anymore. Initially, he had some doubts. But after hearing the mission about an uneven mountain canyon.

He was sure in his heart that a person named Carlos Kent had ulterior motives.

He didn't expect someone suspicious to appear in this Academy. After figuring out the ins and outs, he turned toward Zack.

"Young master, don't worry. I will look into this matter," Jonathan promised. He can see that Zack was stressed about this matter.

Hearing that I felt a huge weight being lifted off from my shoulder. With Jonathan's assurance, I can sigh in relief.

The next moment, I recalled my current situation.

"Jonathan, is there any place here where I can cultivate lightning essence?"

"I have a duel this weekend," I asked him. Since the issue of Carlos was settled. Now I'm concerned with my cultivation.

Jonathan was surprised for a moment. Then he asked, "Don't you have purple essence left in your dantian?"

I shook my head and revealed a helpless smile in response.

Jonathan was startled. He knows his master has pinned heavy hopes on Zack. It has a lot to do with the lightning element.

Then he probed Zack's base. Then he saw the Mid-Elite Stage Cultivation. It's not slower but for Zack's talent. The improvement should be higher.

Jonathan failed to recognize Zack's difficulty. If Zack won't have any progression, then his life would be difficult in the Inner Post.

"I think there are places here where lightning gathers. But I don't know whether it's suitable for lightning practice," Jonathan said.

"What?" A hope rekindled in my heart. Finally, there is some good news. I heard many times from Dean Rebecca. In the end, even she can't find the correct place for me.

"Where is it?"

"Can you take me to that place for cultivation?" I asked.

Jonathan nodded his head before saying, "It's good. Since the duel was scheduled for the weekend. You can take this time to cultivate well."

After getting the affirmation, I asked, "Where is the place?"

"The nearest one is the uneven mountain canyon. I heard that the highest peak on that mountain is bombarded with lightning all year around," Jonathan said casually.

"Uneven mountain canyon," I said in my heart. I had spent time looking into the information. But I haven't found anything related to lightning.

Jonathan saw through his thoughts. It was not surprising that information is controlled here. Secrets were only available to strong and influential people.

"You can't find some information on the internet," Jonathan commented.

Hearing that a look of understanding dawned on me. I don't know whether I can get a breakthrough opportunity in the coming days.

It's been some time since I have reached the Mid-Elite in lightning essence. It's time to see some improvement in essence cultivation.

"Young master, what's your cultivation level?" Jonathan asked all of a sudden. He saw through the young master's base as usual. But he asked out casually.

He was aware that Zack has a treasure artifact to cover his strength.

"Uh?" My thoughts returned to reality. Jonathan's question made me realize that there is a pendant hanging around my neck.

But it was more of a keepsake from Granny Park. "Is it hiding his senses?" "No way?" I muttered in my heart.

As far as I know, it can block the prying eyes of Elite Warriors and below. I don't think the pendant can block the powerful eyes of SS-Elite Warriors and above.

The more Jonathan acts weak in front of me. I always felt that he was hiding his true strength. Otherwise, my teacher won't have him by his side.

Also, he is someone from the inner post. His true strength should be higher than the dean. I don't know why he is hiding his strength in front of me.

But I don't plan on exposing him. Now I'm thinking about the cultivation spot.

"Can we leave now?"

"I want to practice as soon as possible," I asked.

Jonathan was stunned for a moment. He suspected the young master saw through him instead. Shaking his head, he decided to leave as well. Any longer he would embarrass himself with these questions.

"Alright, young master. I'll take you to that place," Jonathan said.

Hearing that I stood up and said, "As far as I know that place is located at the border. It would take a day or two to reach there."

To that, Jonathan smiled mysteriously instead of answering. Then he replied, "Exit the Viper City. I'll be waiting outside." After saying that he disappeared from the spot.

"Harumph," I snorted in dissatisfaction. Jonathan appears and disappears whenever he wants. Which shows that he is truly powerful.

Even the Special Faction Head who was said to be the strongest second to the dean. His name couldn't even scare Jonathan.

From beginning to end, Jonathan was calm. Well, I can't order him around. He is my senior. He only listens to my teacher. So I should be grateful that he is helping me out.

After gaining some clarity, I walked out of the room and exited the inn.

Then I head straight towards the city wall. Compared to before, my mind was a lot more relaxed. Maybe this is the effect of having powerful backing.

A bright smile appeared on my face. Then I increased my pace a little.

Meanwhile,

Some shopkeepers recognized the face of Zack Lockwood. Because some children of local families are admitted to the B, C & D-grade institutions of the academy.

From their children's mouths these people long since heard of the lightning warrior. Especially circulating online post images made the image of lightning even more popular.

But none of them dare to step forward to meet. It's normal for students to go outside of the city for a mission. So they didn't want to disturb Zack even if they recognized the person.

A few minutes later,

I entered my data into the City wall's monitoring system. When the information was verified. A metallic door opened between the walls. It's the gateway to the outside.

Seeing that I didn't stop and walked through the opening.

When I walked out of the gate. I pick a direction filled with trees. I know Jonathan must be watching from the shadows.

So I moved in that direction. Right after I got far away from the City.

Swoosh~

I felt someone touching my shoulder. The next second, I disappeared from the spot. Before I could think I found myself traveling mid-air.

A strong wind brushes against my face.

"This?" The sudden change in the situation startled me all of a sudden.

"Steady!"

The next second, I heard Jonathan's voice.

After hearing that, I calmed down. Then I saw someone turn right next to me. Jonathan is still touching my shoulder.

But he is moving at breakneck speed. The speed was so fast that I couldn't even catch the passing views.

"For your sake. I'm moving at a slow speed. So stabilize yourself. We will soon reach the destination," Jonathan said without turning back.

Hearing that I almost choked up. This is called slow speed. Apart from getting hit by the heavy wind, I couldn't even look outside properly.

Now I understand Jonathan is making fun of me. That's why he is acting weak in front of me.

Time passed,

Before I knew it, we arrived at the desolate environment. Jonathan has slowed down his speed. So the environment here becomes visible. The world's energy seems to have dropped as well.

Soon I saw the long stretching mountain. There are many towering peaks in it.

"Is it here?" I asked.

But I didn't see any climate change. There were no dark clouds and purple lightning as well.

"It's not here," Jonathan replied. Then we continued to fly across the long stretching mountain.

After crossing the mountain, we came across another mountain. But this time my eyes shone with bright light.

A mountain seems to be cleaved by a vertical sword leaving behind a narrow canyon. I don't know how deep the canyon is.

But my eyes are attracted by the towering peak. The dark clouds are gathered above this particular peak.

When we got closer to the mountain. I saw it was raining heavily down here. "What a strange place?" I mumbled under my breath.

Then Jonathan dragged me toward the top of the mountain.

Thunder~

A thundering sound reverberated through the place.

A purple color of lightning flashed before my eyes. As I got closer to the place. I felt the purple essence after a long time.

Chapter 544 Part 1: Eurice Frye's Decision

From MC's Perspective:

Jonathan dropped me on the ground. Then he erected a barrier around me. So that the powerful lightning can't damage my body. At first, I thought that lightning strike was not a problem.

But only after getting down here. I feel sudden heart palpitations. Thankfully the barrier was erected in time.

A violet color thunderstruck the barrier. But the barrier didn't even make a noise. It successfully withstands the direct brunt of the lightning attack.

"Practice peacefully. I'll stand here to guard"

Jonathan's voice reached my ears. Hearing that I let go of the unnecessary worries. Then I sat cross-legged on the ground and started to run the celestial lightning scripture.

Right after, the lightning rune in my consciousness started to flicker. Slowly, I felt the abundance of purple essence around me. All of this coming from the lightning strike.

Then I concentrated on absorbing the energy. When the energy entered my body. I guided the energy according to the scripture. The purple essence began to circulate in my body.

After circulation, the energy settles down in the dantian as the final destination. Seeing that dried up dantian finally welcomed the pure purple essence. I felt relaxed after a long time.

Then I continued to repeat the process. I want to make use of this opportunity well.

Saw Scale Viper Academy:

Ernest and Laverne wanted to meet Zack. But none of them were able to contact him. Well, this was not the first time it happened. Both thought he was busy preparing himself for the upcoming duel.

On the first day, everything went normal. Even the dean Rebecca didn't take the initiative to contact Zack.

But things changed two days later. As Zack didn't appear for breakfast in the dining hall. Ernest and Laverne couldn't sit still. They contacted me again. But to their disappointment, the call was connected.

Finally, both let it go. But it was not the same case with others. Especially the Special Faction Head Carlos was pissed off by the sudden change in events.

He was staring at Zack Lockwood's information. Even he was surprised by Zack's closed practice. Past two days, he has been looking for ways to convince Eurice Frye.

As long as Eurice Frye agrees to his terms. Then he can use her to kill Zack Lockwood during the duel.

But the problem he was facing was Alice Brown. If he tries to contact Eurice Frye, she will know.

The reason he is going this far is because of the intel he had collected. As per Intel, the girl, Eurice Frye is not a good woman. Though she is talented in cultivation. But her character is troublesome.

The girl seems to be opportunistic. But because of her strength, there are opposite voices in the Rain Water Faction.

Because of this Carlos Kent was waiting for the perfect opportunity. At this point, he didn't even suspect Zack. He still thinks Zack is training in private.

But things changed during the afternoon. Eurice Frye and her followers went to Viper City to participate in the auction.

As this news reached Carlos. He didn't wait for a second. What is the best place to contact Eurice Frye other than Viper City? So Carlos doesn't want to miss out on this opportunity.

Meanwhile, the rainwater faction head Alice Brown doesn't have any clue regarding what's going to happen.

Viper City,

Many influential people came for the auction. Most of them have relations with the academy. As more people are studying in B, C, and D-grade institutions.

Their chances of getting resourced are low. The auction is one of the ways where they can get good resources. So many of them bought tickets to participate.

The auction was run by the Viper city management. People behind the scenes are related to the Academy. An auction is one of the ways to distribute resources and maintain relationships with influential families.

The academy doesn't mind sparing some resources for distribution.

12 p.m

At this time many warriors in academy uniform are entering the circular building. But the badges on their chest shows which institution they came from.

B-grade institution warriors attracted a lot of attention. Followed by C-grade institution warriors. No one glanced at D-grade institution warriors. As they have joined the Academy by using money.

But these low-level warriors came here for entertainment.

Suddenly, people gathered in front of the circular auction building alarmed by the commotion.

The crowd suddenly gave way to the coming warriors. The coming warriors are female warriors. But their luxurious academy uniform and glistening badge instantly struck fear in everyone's mind.

"A- grade institution!"

"What top institution warriors are doing here?" the crowd started to murmur. People are amazed by the momentum. None of them dare to disturb the scene.

The raindrop symbol inscribed on their badges instantly gave away their identity.

The leading blue-haired girl especially attracted the attention of the people. The normal shopkeepers and workers failed to recognize their identity.

But among the crowd, some people have connections with influential families. They know the famous names of the warriors studying in the A-grade institution.

Among the names, Eurice Frye is popular. Someone immediately recognized her face and started to shout her name.

"Eurice Frye!"

"She is Eurice Frye from the Rain Water Faction."

When someone shouted the name. The crowd began to boil. Some of the eyeliners appointed by the families are alarmed greatly.

They began to send back the message to their families. Usually, there will be competition after the end of every faction. Though no one will act directly.

But the families will act secretly to support their descendants. But this time their plan fell apart. Appearance of the Eurice Frye broke their calculations.

Eurice Frye and her followers ignored everyone's exclamations and entered the auction building.

"I never thought the secret water pill would appear here, "Eurice Frye muttered in her heart. Initially, she didn't want to compete. But the secret water pill can give her slight improvement.

Which will be helpful during the duel. She was not naive. She has also collected information about Zack Lockwood. It's indeed a fact that Zack can fight across ranks.

So she decided not to take any chances and was fully prepared for the duel. She and her followers were guided to the V.I.P. room.

She doesn't know that there is one more person who appeared silently in front of the building. The person is none other than Carlos Kent.

After sensing the presence of Eurice Frye. He sighed in relief. He decided to wait for the auction to finish.

Time passed,

After 15 minutes, the auction started. The warriors from other institutions were seated as well. But they are disturbed by the presence of Eurice Frye.

They feared that Eurice Frye and her followers would want every resource.

But when the auction started nothing short of that happened. She and her followers didn't bid for the starting auction items.

Others sighed in relief.

Time passed,

When it's time for the last auction item. The secret water pill was introduced. The secret water pill can help Elite warriors to purify their essence further.

Which will be helpful to execute strong water techniques.

As the pill appeared. Everyone turned their gazes to the V.I.P section. No doubt people are aware that Eurice Frye came for the final auction item.

Though the secret water pill was attractive. None of them dared to bid right now. They want Eurice Frye to leave this place. So they can continue with their lives.

Eurice Frye immediately bid for the item. Not surprisingly, no one bid for the pill. So the secret water pill was sold for the base price.

Eurice Frye bought the item and left it with her followers. But when she and her followers entered the monster transit facility.

Eurice Frye was abducted in a split second. Even her followers are clueless. The action was taken by Carlos Kent.

He brought Eurice to the outside of the Viper City.

Tud~

He dropped Eurice Frye on the ground. And hid himself from her sight.

Meanwhile, Eurice was petrified. She was standing in the monster facility a few minutes ago. Now she is standing in the middle of the open land.

No doubt someone was behind this.

"Eurice Frye"

Before she could think further. She heard someone uttering her name. The next moment, she shuddered in fear.

"Who are you?" She said in a low tone.

She knew some terrifying existence was watching her. Her heart tells her to contact the elder Alice. But she doesn't know whether the person is the enemy or not.

If it's the enemy then she won't survive for a second.

"Don't worry, I'm not going to hurt you."

The voice again reached her ears. After hearing that her complexion turned better. "That's right, the person captured me for a reason. I will survive," She consoled herself.

But the next words stumped her.

"I heard about your duel against Zack Lockwood. I want him dead."

Eurice widened her eyes in disbelief. Now she is sure that person is from the hostile faction.

Chapter 545 Part 2: Eurice Frye's Decision

Outside of the Viper City:

Carlos Kent's mouth curved into an arc. He knew the girl was in a state of shock. So he gave her some seconds to digest the words. After seeing her, she calmed down.

He again said, "I want you to cooperate with me to kill Zack Lockwood. If you do that, I'll give you free resources."

"With that, you will have no problem reaching the SS-Elite Stage," He added further.

Eurice Frye is again dumbfounded. "SS-Elite!" She was shocked to the core. It's not easy to become an SS-Elite. You have to cross countless resources to reach that rank. One of them being the rare resources.

After a few seconds, she calmed down. She then recalled the unknown powerhouse's demand. "Killing Zack Lockwood?" Her eyes flickered.

For a moment there was silence.

She doesn't know whether the powerhouse will allow her to leave if she says "No"

Her heart was in a state of conflict. The next second, she shook his head in denial and answered, "If I kill Zack Lockwood in the area, then I would be met with the same end."

"The Special Faction Members won't let me go. Especially their faction head will hunt me down. People say that the Special Faction Head is stronger than other Heads."

"I don't want to take a risk," After saying that, Eurice closed her eyes. She is ready to face her end.

Carlos Kent's mouth twitched. He never expected himself to be hindered by his plan. But he was pleased by her words. His deterrence is still affecting the minds of the warriors.

With a proud smile on his face, he answered, "You don't have to worry. Their faction head won't act during the duel. He will turn a blind eye to your actions."

"What?" Eurice felt she heard something wrong.

Carlos saw through her thoughts.

"Don't worry, no one will take the risk for a dead genius.," he said again.

Eurice hesitated for a moment. She was right, the words are not imaginary. The powerhouse is talking to her.

After knowing that the Special Faction Head won't act, her fear was reduced to some extent. Then she finally began to consider the proposal.

To reach SS-Elite rank and above is her dream. Now someone is offering free resources just to kill one person. Her heart wants to accept the proposal.

But her mind was in a state of conflict. She also knew Zack was a special student in the academy. He hadn't attended the classes so far.

Even the teachers and other elders turned a blind eye to this. Which shows that person has the backing of either the Special Faction Head or the dean.

A quick glint flashes in her eyes.

"I'm happy to cooperate but what about the dean?"

"If she finds something wrong then it would spell trouble," Eurice cautiously asked the powerhouse.

Carlos Kent sneered. He didn't care about the aftermath. After witnessing Zack's death, he plans to leave the academy. He doesn't want to confront the dean yet.

But he can't say that to this girl. So he replied, " She will not act without evidence. I will give you a poison pill and antidote. Just crush it during the duel. "

"The poison pill doesn't have any smell or taste. It's colorless. Once Zack inhales it, he will be slowly poisoned to death. "

Eurice Frye shuddered in fear. Poison pill? She heard about it before. But not this specific colorless one. After hearing about it, she felt a lot more relaxed.

"If it works then I can escape without causing any suspicion," She muttered in her heart.

Finally, the greed for free resources overwhelmed her heart. Even if she works hard to compete for resources. There is no way she could complete resources.

As long as she kills Zack, she will get resources. She can enter seclusion to cultivate and consume their resources.

When her heart and mind come to the decision. Her demeanor completely changed. A cunning glint flashes in her eyes. She didn't consider Elder Alice who taught her.

"Ha....Ha...ha...,"

Carlos Kent laughed out loud.

"Good"

"Good".

"If you don't take risks, you won't achieve big things in your life.," Carlos applauded her.

Earlier he wanted to convince the girl to kill Zack on the fighting stage itself.

But after looking at her cautious mind, he changed his plan. Consuming poison pills is the safest method. Which also gives him time to escape as well.

Then he brought a pill bottle before him. Inside there are 2 poison pills. One is enough to take Zack's life. But he doesn't want to take any chances. Using 2 poison pills will be overkill. But he doesn't mind.

He waved his hand as the pill bottle appeared before Eurice.

"There are 2 pills in it. I want you to use both during the duel. And here is the antidote for it.," Carlos said.

Then another liquid bottle appeared before her. Eurice placed both bottles in her storage ring. The liquid bottle is a medicine bottle containing an antidote.

Eurice hesitated to ask for resources.

Carlos saw through her thoughts. Then he thought for a moment before taking out one storage ring. The storage ring contains resources for the breakthrough Super Elite Stage.

The storage ring appears before Eurice. She immediately caught it and put it inside her storage ring.

"The Storage ring contains resources for Super Elite rank breakthroughs. The remaining resource will be sent to you after completion of the task."

Eurice heard Powerhouse's words. She paused for a moment before saying, "I will make no mistake."

"Good," Carlos commented before grabbing her.

In a blink of an eye, he dropped her at the monster facility. Where her friends are searching for her.

Eurice Frye stood in the spot in a daze. She felt the conversation was unreal. Then she used her consciousness to check the items.

Seeing the poison pill and antidote liquid. Together with another storage ring. Her heart skips a beat.

"Eurice, are you alright?"

"Where did you go?"

Suddenly, she heard her friends' voices. She quickly recovered her emotions before acting as usual.

Meanwhile,

Carlos Kent arrived at his home. His face was full of smiles. He didn't think that girl would backtrack. Because he saw the same greed in her. The same longing and hunger for resources.

For some people, talent is there but they lack resources. Even in this blessed academy not everyone can have full resources. Forget A-grade institutions, other institutions are scrambling for resources.

The higher the rank, the higher will be demand for the resources. Now he is not worried about Zack's status. He will come for the duel. And that day would be his last day.

....

Dean Office,

Rebecca is busy with her work. But don't know why? Zack's current status affects her concentration. She doesn't know what he is doing?

Usually, she will get the news about Zack. Including the day-to-day updates. If Zack goes to the cafeteria or monster zone, she would eventually know.

But now it is completely void. There was no day-to-day update.

"Don't tell me he is cooked up in his room.," She said in her heart. She also knows about Zack's lack of essence. She thought he would come to her and ask for help.

"Is he going to win it by using his abnormal physique?"

Doubt appeared in her heart. Zack's performance in the bedrock city was vivid in her mind.

"If he thinks his body strength would help him, then he is underestimating the opponent," She said to herself.

She knows Alice taught strange water techniques to Eurice. Her water essence might affect Zack's body. Thinking about it, she decided to remind Zack.

Initially, she wanted to stay neutral. But Zack's position is disadvantageous. His lack of essential practice is something to do with her. She had promised him to find a suitable place for lightning cultivation.

But this challenge duel came in between. Then she contacted Zack. But the call was not connected. She frowned. Why is he not attending the direct call?

Then she tried again but the result was the same.

"Let's summon her friends.," She mumbled. She thought they might know something.

Then she instructed Ernest and Laverne to appear in her office.

A few minutes later,

Ernest and Laverne entered her office.

"Dean"

Both of them greeted her.

"Sit," Rebecca said.

Seeing that both of them sat down comfortably.

She went straight into the topic.

"What is he doing these days?" She asked.

Ernest and Laverne looked at each other.

"Dean, are you asking about Zack?" Laverne asked back.

Rebecca nodded her head before saying, "He is not answering my call. I don't know what he is doing right now. Did he tell you, guys, anything.?"

Ernest and Laverne are surprised by Dean's words. The same thing happened to them as well.

....

(From MC's Perspective)

Days passed,

On the uneven mountain peak, I have been cultivating hard without minding day and night. Constantly, my essential strength is getting improved these days.

And I have a feeling that I will touch the limit in a few hours. Once it happens, I will use the remaining days for the breakthrough.

Chapter 546 Peak-Level-Elite(Lightning Essence)

Dean office,

"Dean, he didn't even attend our call as well," Ernest answered. He can see that the dean wants to talk about the challenge duel.

But Zack closed off all modes of communication.

Rebecca frowned. This has never happened before. When another faction member had a duel with Zack. He didn't react seriously to them before the duel.

Did he know about Eurice Frye? Rebecca thought to herself. Then she decided not to disturb him in the end. Eventually, Zack will appear in the match duel.

Then everything will be cleared. Ernest and Laverne left the room.

...

Uneven mountain canyon:

A day before the duel,

Thunder~

The thunderclap sound reverberated throughout the mountain.

Sitting cross-legged on the ground. I continued to circulate the purple essence inside my body. As I had guessed earlier. I'm starting to feel the limit.

A few minutes later,

The invisible barrier became clear. I can't circulate anymore without breaking the barrier. With just a little more effort, I can cross the bridge.

So I didn't take a break and focused on breaking the barrier. I guided the essence of energy and started to attack the invisible barrier.

When the energy collided with the barrier. Like always it remained unscathed. It will take a few more attempts to crack.

Seeing that I continued to repeat the process.

Time passed,

After 2 hours, I'm starting to get results.

Cracks~

Cracks appeared on the invisible barrier one by one. After a few minutes, the barrier broke into pieces.

The next second, as the floodgates opened. Changes start to take place in my body. The space inside the dantian began to expand.

The inner organs, veins, and meridians are getting strengthened under the breakthrough. I carefully circulated the purple essence to maximize the benefits.

The feeling of getting stronger is more apparent this time.

The space expansion inside Dantian comes to an end. Leaving the space for more purple essence storage.

Peak level elite (Lightning essence)

Several minutes later,

The changes stopped and I looked inside my dantian. The purple essence is more refined and powerful than before.

Seeing that, I really can't wait to use the attack power but before that, I need to stabilize the base.

Then I closed my eyes and started to cultivate again. After a breakthrough, I can perceive the changes. The essence was powerful compared to before.

A few hours later,

After stabilizing the base, I opened my eyes. Then I started to draw out the purple essence from my body. A single strand of purple essence appeared on top of my finger.

Seeing that I continued to draw out. Until a small purple ball appeared on the tip of my finger. The next second, I shot the lightning ball at the nearby rock.

Boom~

The rock was destroyed into pieces. It's not even a technique. But the domineering power of the lightning element.

Suddenly a bad smell attacked my nostril. Then I saw the surface of my body was covered with black impurities

"Small cleansing," I uttered in delight.

This usually happens when I break through. Now that my essence is one step behind my body strength.

I believe when I broke through Super Elite in essence. There will be major changes in my body.

Outside,

Jonathan noticed Zack's powerful essence. This shows that Zack succeeded in reaching the Peak Elite Stage. He was glad that he brought Zack here.

"For the Super Elite breakthrough, it will require more purple essence," Jonathan said to himself. A careful look appeared on his face.

Zack broke through not only because of his hard work. But also because of the unique environment here.

The thunder and lightning here brought great benefits to Zack. But it's a pity the place is far away from the academy.

Jonathan made up his mind to eliminate the threats first. Then only Zack can safely travel here in the future.

"Are you ready to go back?" Jonathan asked.

"uh?" Jonathan's words reached my ears.

"Yes, but I want to clean myself first," I answered.

Jonathan then took the back barrier before dragging me towards the small running stream at the foot of the mountain.

Seeing that I didn't hesitate to go down to clean myself.

Several minutes later,

I changed into a fresh set of clothes. Then Jonathan took me back to Viper City.

When we appeared in Viper City. It was already sunset. After turning on the communication, I realized that the duel day is tomorrow.

"Jonathan, what are you going to do next?" I asked.

We are standing in the private courtyard of someone else. Hardly anyone is walking by here. Which gives us small privacy.

Jonathan thought about the Giant Tower Academy. He doesn't mind sharing the news with Zack.

"I already got some clues. The Giant Tower Academy is internally divided. The headmaster of that academy is targeting you for some reason. But he didn't have the support of other elders," Jonathan answered.

"What?" My heart was shocked to the core. I thought out of academy rivalry they are targeting me. Then why?

Jonathan saw through Zack's thoughts.

"Don't worry, I'm close to the truth. I'll find out what he is planning?" Jonathan said.

Hearing that I shook my head. More than the Giant Tower Headmaster. I'm worried about the Special Faction Head.

"What about Carlos Kent?"

"I'm getting uneasy these days," I said.

A quick glint flashes in Jonathan's eyes.

"Okay, I will be there tomorrow," He replied.

I sighed in relief. Then after speaking for a few more minutes, I parted ways with him. Jonathan is going to stay here tonight.

And he will come tomorrow to watch my duel. Soon, I found the bird monster in the monster facility for the return journey.

2 hours later,

The falcon birds drop me at the academy transit area. After handing the bird monster to the staff, I walked out.

Instead of going to the dorm room. I went to the training room. It's necessary to control the new strength. I plan to use a little amount of lightning essence for training.

Since it was evening time, no one paid attention to me. A few students are walking by.

Soon I entered the training room. There were metal puppets. After changing the settings for puppets to stationary.

I brought the black sword outside and held it tightly. Then I decided to use the Sword Divide technique.

I put the sword forward and started to charge the sword with a small amount of purple essence.

As I started to use the technique. A small amount of purple essence moved from dantian and it followed the route to gather at the palms.

When the purple essence appeared in my palms. I drove energy towards the sword. The sword absorbed the essence and right after the black blade flickered with a purple glint.

"Sword Divide," I shouted.

The next second, I discharged the lightning attack from the sword. The purple sword beam shot at the target in a blink of an eye.

Boom~

The metal puppet broke into pieces from the impact. Seeing that a hint of joy appeared in my eyes. The sword divide move is better than before.

A small amount of purple essence is enough to charge the sword. Peak Elite purple essence was stronger and I don't have to consume more purple essence for any of my lightning techniques.

Not only for tomorrow's duel. For future challenges as well. The Sword Divide testing alone gave me enough confidence.

And I don't want to test the Lightning wheel technique. Which will be more destructive.

Before going back, I want to test the Lightning finger technique. I feel I will be using this technique tomorrow more in the duel. The finger technique usually consumes less amount of essence.

So I'm looking forward to it. Then I changed the setting and a new metal puppet appeared in place of the previous one.

I raised my hand and pointed the finger at the metal puppet. I started to run the 1st stage of the lightning finger technique.

A small purple ball gathered on top of my finger. I took a moment to observe the purple ball. The purple ball looks a lot denser and thicker.

I already tested the single strand of purple essence at an uneven mountain peak. Then I shot the purple ball at the metal puppet.

Swoosh~

In a blink of an eye, the purple beam reached the puppet. When the power comes in contact with the puppet.

Boom~

A terrible sound reverberated inside the room.

A massive chest size hole appeared on the metal puppet. Seeing that my eyes shone with bright light. The impact was greater than before.

And it was only the 1st stage in the lightning finger technique. What about the 2nd stage?

The worry about duels is not anymore. Earlier, I planned to rely on body strength. Now there is no need to worry about exposing the body's strength.

I believe the lightning attacks will be enough to defeat her. "Eurice Frye," I mumbled under my breath. My eyes flickered.

I heard she was not an ordinary genius. I believe people have already started comparing us. If I access social media, then I can find relevant topics.

Chapter 547 Duel Day

From MC's perspective:

After going through several posts. I realized that the opponent is not an easy target. But I have confidence in my lightning element. It will be enough to deter her.

Then I exited the training room and started walking back to my dorm room.

A few minutes later,

When I returned to the dorm building. The neighbors immediately recognized my face. Though we didn't have contact before.

After simply nodding at them, I entered my room.

When the door was closed. Others started to gossip. Tomorrow is a duel day. So they are discussing it. Unauthorized betting will happen.

These friendly neighbors are already weighing the pros and cons.

In the room,

Seeing the dust all over the room. I thought work was cut out for me. Because of the breakthrough, I didn't feel tired at all.

So I started cleaning the room.

An hour later,

After cleaning the room, I lay down on my bed.

...

In the female dorm room,

Eurice Frye is looking at the antidote and the poison pills. She is going to make a huge bet tomorrow.

If it succeeds, then she will get the rest of the resources. Then there will be no problem with becoming the next RainWater Faction Head in the future.

She is confident in her ability. Since she had made up her mind to accept the task. She was no longer concerned with the actual duel tomorrow.

She is focusing on how to implement the task. It is not easy to take out a random pill in the middle of a duel.

For that, she has to carefully come up with a plan. So that no one can know. She feels fortunate that the duel is going to take place in the duel arena.

Where the faction head and other elders will be seated in the spectator area. It would be impossible for them to spread consciousness and notice the changes.

After gaining some clarity, her eyes flickered.

...

The following day,

I woke up earlier because of the duel day. After completing the morning routine. I entered the training room to cultivate body strength.

There are a few monster cores left in my storage ring. Past few days, I didn't have the opportunity to practice the blood element method.

So after taking out the monster core. I held it in my palm. And started to run the blood element method in my mind.

The blood rune in my consciousness started to flicker. Right after, I started to absorb the monster's core energy.

When the monster's core energies entered my body. I started to guide the energy according to the blood element method.

After circulation, the red light power appears in the bloodstream. It started to absorb these energies and convert them into mysterious white energies.

After the appearance of the white energies. They immediately started drilling into my bones. Right after, I felt the heart-wrenching pain.

Enduring it, I continued the process.

Slowly, the tip of my right-hand bone fingers is turning red.

A few hours later,

I opened my eyes when the monster's core was crumbled into pieces. Then I closed my eyes and started to inspect the inside of the changes.

Then I saw the right-hand bone fingers are red. Seeing that I realized. The lower body transformation is over.

Now it's starting to happen for the upper body. I don't know what's waiting for me in the end. After pushing down these thoughts, I opened my eyes and stood up.

Seeing the sweat and small traces of impurities all over my skin. I exited the training room and went to take a shower.

Several minutes later,

I changed into a fresh set of clothes. After getting ready, I walked out of the building. And started heading toward the dining hall.

On the way, I heard surprised gasps from others. I wasn't surprised. Nobody knows that I was out of the academy for the past few days.

When I reached the dining hall. I saw Ernest and Laverne standing in the same place. A complicated emotion flashes in my eyes.

These 2 of my seniors are caring.

When I started to walk up to them. They saw me coming.

"We knew it," Laverne muttered.

Hearing that I asked, "What?"

Ernest took the opportunity to intercede. He said, "We tried to contact you several times before. But after seeing you are busy, we gave up eventually. But we knew you would appear today."

Hearing that I chuckled. If I tell them about my adventurous short trip, they will be shocked to the core.

Then shaking my head, I said, "Let's go inside. I'm hungry."

Ernest and Laverne laughed. pandas `n?v? | com

Our appearance attracted the attention of others. Especially me! I feel a lot of gazes on me. Like they can't wait to see through my strength.

But the dragon pendant hanging around my neck is covering my breath. These people won't be able to see me.

Then after receiving our food plate from the counter. We found an empty place to sit down and eat.

When I sliced the piece of monster meat. I found Ernest and Laverne looking at me fiercely.

"What?" I asked.

"How confident are you for today's duel?" Laverne asked.

I revealed a small smile on my face before asking, "Why?"

"We are going to place a bet on you," Ernest answered.

A quick gleam flashes in my eyes.

I almost forgot about this small business.

"Then place a bet on my behalf as well," I answered.

Ernest and Laverne looked at each other. My answer is enough to convince them. Both of them saw my body's strength during the bedrock city incident.

So they are quickly convinced.

"Alright, I hope you don't disappoint us," Ernest said before starting to eat.

Soon we finished our food. After walking out of the dining hall, we started walking toward the arena. The duel is going to happen in 2 hours.

But we decided to enter the arena and wait there. At the same time, I'm thinking about Jonathan. Hope he comes to watch the duel.

...

Carlos Kent is currently getting ready in his house in Viper City. But the constant call from the Giant Tower Headmaster is disturbing his peace.

He didn't tell him about the recent change of plans. He doesn't know why? But the plan kept changing. If he tells the truth, the Giant Tower Headmaster might jinx it.

So he was avoiding the call all this time.

But Carlos doesn't know that someone is already in his room, observing him in secret. The person is none other than Jonathan.

After separating from Zack, he quickly found the trails of Carlos Kent. Jonathan coincidentally spotted Carlos in Viper City.

But after that, he followed Carlos to his house. After a full night's observation, Jonathan found suspicious activity.

Because he saw Carlos searching for poison. It might have been random. But Jonathan felt bad about it. He also saw the SSS-Elite Stage Power level.

But apart from that he didn't find any other evidence directly connecting to Zack. There was not even a call or meet-up with the person.

Jonathan thought one-night observation won't give any results. Just as he decided to give up. Something new happens.

Beep~

Carlos, who was combing his hair, notices the call. Seeing that the person was the Giant Tower Headmaster. He gave a cold snort in his heart.

But right after he saw there was an unread message.

In curiosity, he opened the message to read it.

"He dares," The next second, he started scolding.

The message was from the Giant Tower Headmaster himself. In that message, he advised Carlos to attend the call. If not, he will send someone to Viper City in search of him.

Carlos showed killing intent in his eyes.

Jonathan, who was hiding in the shadows, muttered, "Interesting."

Carlos then immediately started contacting the Giant Tower Headmaster. He didn't know this very attempt would spell doom for him.

When the call is connected. Carlos impatiently uttered, "I'll contact you when the work is finished."

But from the other end of the call. The Giant Tower headmaster started threatening him.

A few minutes later,

Once again, Carlos promised him. Only after that, he ended the call in relief.

"Harumph, he dares to order me around," Carlos said to himself.

This conversation got the attention of Jonathan. Jonathan feels if he observes further, he will find something.

...

Dean Rebecca received the reports from the eyeliners. "Zack was seen in the dining hall," She said with a smile. As she had guessed, Zack had indeed spent time in isolated practice.

For a second, she thought about summoning him. The next second, she shook her head. She saw the duel time was getting near. So she changed her mind.

Anyway, Zack Lcokwood has strong body strength. She doesn't think he will get hurt that badly.

Meanwhile,

The students start coming to the duel arena. Not only from the 'A' grade institution. But the students from B, C, and D grade institutions also.

The duel between Zack Lockwood and Eurice Frye got so much attention compared to the previous few official duels.

Chapter 548 Part 1: Fighting Against Eurice Frye

From MC's perspective:

10:45 A.M

A few minutes before the duel, I entered the registration office along with Ernest and Laverne.

Before the duel, the participants have to sign the agreement. When we reached the room. There is a staff member already waiting for us with documents.

After signing the papers, I turned to Ernest and Laverne. I said, "Alright, I'm going."

Ernest nodded his head and said, "We will be cheering for you from the spectator spot."

"Be careful of her," Laverne said.

Hearing that I nodded at them before walking to the entrance.

When I walked out, I spotted a massive crowd at the gallery. All of them are warriors and elders from all the institutions.

Gasp~

A commotion broke out right after my appearance.

Ignoring everyone, I started walking toward the duel stage. There are still 15 minutes left before the start of the duel.

After arriving at the duel stage. I stopped and looked at the referee. A quick gleam flashes in my eyes.

The elder is from the Flame Faction. I hope there won't be any tricks.

Meanwhile,

Carlos Kent enters the academy. He then started moving toward the arena in mid-air. He wasn't aware that someone was already following him.

That person is none other than Jonathan.

Suspicion about Carlos has already deepened in his heart. He is a little away from catching him red-handed.

Jonathan also keeps Zack's duel in mind. Since he is already following Carlos. Using this opportunity he decided to watch the duel.

At the same time, the other faction elders are already waiting in the spectator area.

Franklin Madden, the Vice Dean, was standing together with the Flame Faction Members.

From time to time, he is looking toward the Rain Water Faction direction.

"Where is her student?" He muttered to himself, looking at Elder Alice.

When he first heard about the duel. He didn't believe that a water elemental warrior would be any different from the flame elemental warrior.

But the girl Eurice was different compared to her peers. She had learned a lot from Elder Alice. So he is thinking it might do the trick.

On the side of the Metal Faction,

Marcus Lin is observing the person on the duel stage. He doesn't know how far Zack has improved from the previous duel.

Because he wants to encourage the Metal Faction Warriors to come forward. The remaining genius warriors are still in retreat.

He fears that Zack will break out before they end the retreat. When it comes to the current duel. Like Franklin, he is too looking forward to watching Elder Alice's disciple's duel.

Similarly, the Rock Earth Faction Head and the Gale Wind Faction Head are seated in their seats. Unlike other factions, their warriors are yet to fight against Zack.

It's not like they didn't have genius warriors among them. But they are smart compared to their hot-headed peers. So from the current duel, they will be learning from them.

On the other hand,

"Has everyone come?" Rebecca muttered to herself. She then looked at the time. Seeing that 10 minutes left for the duel.

She decided to go five minutes later.

The academy's social media site is live-streaming the event.

So those who can't go to the arena can also watch duels.

Some students are currently staying with their families in Viper City. Through their accounts, their family also has a chance to watch the duel live.

Similar scenes are taking place everywhere. But compared it to the "A" grade institution factions. The people from other institutions are polite and silently looking forward to the duel.

They also want to witness the gap between them and "A" grade institution warriors. So somewhere it's also become a prestigious event for the "A" grade institution.

By conducting the duel in the area before everyone. They can showcase their talent before everyone. Which in turn justifies their recruitment policy.

5 minutes later,

Dean Rebecca silently appeared above the stadium. Next, she saw Zack standing on the dual stage waiting for the opponent to appear.

"Where is he?" She muttered, noticing that there was no one to support Zack in the Special Faction Area.

Including, the Special Factio Head Carlos Kent.

"That guy seems to be low-key after getting beaten up by me," She said with a smile.

She then thought no one could feel her presence.

But down below Carlos Kent's pupil shrank. He purposely avoided looking above. He knew Dean Rebecca had come to watch the duel.

If he shows any movements she can see through the duel.

So he is trying to remain unnoticed among the crowd. For that, he didn't even go to their Special Faction Area.

Hiding in the shadows, Jonathan observes everything with an amusing smile on his face. He also saw Carlos Kent's acting and Rebecca's sudden appearance.

Looking at Rebecca, Jonathan frowned. "I thought this woman was smart," He said in his heart.

He can tell that Carlos is trying hard to hide his flaws. Carlos wants to be less seen. This tells Jonathan that Rebecca wasn't aware of everything happening in the academy.

Now seeing everything with his own eyes. He believes in Zack's words right now.

On the other side,

Ernest and Laverne found a good spot to watch the duel. As they are 2 members from the Special Faction, they didn't go to their faction area. Because there was no one there.

In the fighting stage,

Cheer~

Eurice Frye made an appearance. Seeing her the crowd broke out in cheer. Almost all water elemental warriors are cheering for her. It doesn't matter whether it's an A grade or not.

Eurice is represented on behalf of water elemental warriors.

After appearing on the duel stage, Eurice saw her opponent for the first time.

"So he is Zack Lockwood. Nothing seems great to me," Eurice said in her heart. Her eyes are looking for a weakness.

But she couldn't see through Zack's strength.

"What?" Her eyes lit up with surprise. Then she understood he was using some kind of artifact.

Then she shook her head. She had made up her mind to use that poison pill. So it doesn't matter whether he has safety artifacts or not.

As long as he inhales the poison powder, he will be poisoned. Before coming to the arena, she took time to consume the antidote.

That's why she was late. But the antidote didn't show any reactions so far. After confirming it, she felt relieved.

Meanwhile,

I stood cross-armed and looked at her. Don't know why? I'm getting a little uneasy. Then I removed the messy thoughts and got ready to duel.

The referee set his gaze on the timing. When the clock hit 11 a.m. He gave the signal.

Swoosh~

Eurice released her scythe attack. When she cut. A strong water-blue arc shot at me.

My eyes flickered. I sidestepped to evade the attack on time. But when the water blue attack hits the empty stage near me.

Ssshhh~

I heard the scorching sound.

"Steam," I uttered in surprise. It's not a single attribute of water elemental power. She is using hot water attacks. It was in contrast to the ice attacks I have heard of.

A hint of amazement flashes in my eyes. Now that I know where the uneasy feeling comes from. She perhaps has mutated the water element. Which gives her steaming ability.

I don't know how it works with techniques.

Gasp~

The crowd let out a huge gasp. Most of them are watching on the screen. The hot water attack left them speechless.

Eurice Frye is not your average water elemental warrior. Where they are considered weak against other elements.

She has a record of beating Fire Elemental Warrior in a duel last year. Some of them started to recall that particular match.

Ernest and Laverne's expressions turned solemn. "Here we go, her elemental power is going to trouble him," Laverne commented.

Ernest is quietly observing the duel. Both of them are aware of her elemental power. After witnessing Zack's confidence, they didn't mention it before.

On the Rain Water Faction side,

Alice Brown revealed a small smile on her face. Behind her, the female warriors are cheering hard for their friend.

If Eurice manages to defeat Zack, then it would be a great achievement. Not only they can stand together with Special Faction Warriors shoulder to shoulder.

They can also set records of defeating Zack before the Flame Faction and the Metal Faction.

On the Flame Faction side,

Franklin's mouth twitches. Seeing the hot water attack, he believes the result won't be one-sided. There is a good chance for her to win.

If she overcomes the domineering lightning power, then it would be an easy win for her. He didn't know about Zack's circumstances.

In mid-air, a trace of worry flashes in Rebecca's eyes. This was the exact thing she wanted to remind Zack the other day.

She doesn't know whether Zack can engage in close combat before her attack reaches him.

At the same time, Carlos is grinning ear to ear.

"It's time to end him," Carlos muttered to himself slowly. But he doesn't know that his words are heard by Jonathan.

Jonathan raises his eyebrows.

Chapter 549 Part 2: Fighting Against Eurice Frye

From MC's perspective:

In the duel stage,

I pointed my finger at her before releasing the 1st stage of lightning finger technique. A purple ball shot at Eurice Frye.

In a blink of an eye, it reaches the target.

Eurice Frye showed surprise before counter attacking by using her scythe.

Just before the purple beam got closer to her. Her scythe released a blue color counter attack.

When the two energies come in contact with each other.

Boom~

Explosion occurs. The stage was filled with smoke.

Eurice Frye's eyes flickered. She immediately took out the poison pills and crushed them. She crushed both the poison pills on the spot.

After doing that, she pretended to be in a defensive position. She never expected the opponent to give her an opportunity.

"Now he is going to be poisoned," Eurice said in her heart. She is not worried about the outcome of the duel. All she cared about was the task.

Now that she is fulfilled. She felt a huge weight lifted off from her shoulder. Right now, she wants to let out successful laughter. But this will expose her.

So quickly calmed down her nerves.

At the same time, I twitched. Her mutated water element is strong. It even counteracted the lightning element.

There is no need to delay. After figuring it out, I brought the black sword outside. I brought it forward and started to charge the sword with lightning essence.

When the smoke cleared. My Sword blade is flickering with purple light.

"Sword Divide," I discharged the lightning beam the next second.

Thunder~

With a thunderclap sound the lightning attack shot at the target.

Eurice Frye's pupil shrank. She hurriedly brought her scythe forward to defend. In order to counteract, she poured the mustard water essence to her scythe.

But this time the sword beam travels faster than the lightning finger technique. Even before she completes circulation.

The lightning beam hits her.

Boom~

A terrible sound reverberated throughout the place. No one was expecting such a move from Zack.

This all happened within seconds.

Tud~

Eurice Frye flew backward like a broken kite from the impact. Because of it, she lost the grip of Scythe. Which dropped on the ground.

Gasp~

The crowd gasped out loud. From the start Eurice was holding well. She was gaining momentum. But what happened now?

Above,

Dean Rebecca widened her eyes in disbelief. At first she thought it was her imagination. Now she clearly sees it.

"When and where did he recover the purple essence?" She said to herself.

She knew Zack had been cooked up in his dorm all this week. There was no news of him going out.

On top of it, she didn't tell him any places. So how? Her eyes flickered. But when her eyes scanned Zack's body.

"Peak Elite!" She uttered in surprise. Which means Zack had a breakthrough recently. Her mood worsens a little bit.

It's one thing to cultivate daily. But for breakthrough a warrior needs a large amount of resources.

When it comes to Zack. He has to use the lightning element presence in the atmosphere. So a breakthrough wouldn't have happened, if he stayed in the dorm room.

"Where did he go?" Rebecca muttered. Now she wants to interrogate Zack. The Mountain Peak of Red Moon Tower was prohibited.

No one can go there without her permission. So Zack must have visited some other place.

Gloominess covering her face.

On the other hand,

Carlos Kent was stunned as well. For a second, he didn't even look at Eurice. He is observing Zack.

"How did it happened?" He questioned himself. Like Dean, he knows about Zack as well. Zack was helpless during the bedrock city incident.

So what happened in the past few days? Carlos was confused. But he was secretly glad that he gave 2 poison pills to Eurice.

If she uses 2 poison pills on the stage, it's not possible for Zack to remain unscathed from the poison.

Jonathan furrowed his eyebrows. His eyesight is far more powerful than these people. He ignored Carlos' mumbling and saw Eurice's actions clearly.

"She took out something from her storage bracelet. But didn't consume it in the end," Jonathan said in his heart.

But he wasn't able to see what it was?

On the side of RainWater Faction,

Elder Alice's face turned frosty. She was not pissed off because of Zack. She found Eurice was behaving strangely. Like she had given up.

She reminded her before. The lightning element was domineering. Eurice has to give her full strength to counter attack the lightning element.

But now Eurice has crashed to the ground. Elder Alice's eyes flickered with little disappointment. But she believes that Eurice will fiercely counter attack after this.

Apart from the scythe technique, Eurice has other attack techniques as well.

Franklin, Marucs Lin and other faction heads are surprised by Zack's outburst. They are lecturing their faction members to observe the duel in detail.

Especially these faction heads who were seriously noting down everything. They decided to share this detail to other genius warriors who are currently in seclusion.

The duel stage,

Seeing that she was smashed on the ground. I raised my sword to release another Sword Divide attack.

But when I charged the black sword.

Eurice Frye suddenly got up from the ground. She shot several water balls in quick succession.

When the purple beam hits her figure. The figure collapses on the ground like a massive water drop.

Then she appeared a few meters away from it.

"Water clone technique," I uttered in surprise.

Such an amazing technique. This was the first time I have witnessed it. But I don't have time to appreciate it.

I raised the sword again to release the attack. But my heart palpitates all of a sudden. What is this sense of crisis?

I stopped the attack in mid way. I saw Eurice was still looking at me. But the sense of crisis is increasing heavily.

Then I shook my head and pushed down these thoughts.

"I'm going to end it now," I muttered to myself. I have this vague feeling in my heart. If I delay any longer the crisis will be increased.

"Lightning phantom technique," I uttered.

The lightning power covered both of my legs. The next moment, I disappeared from the spot. And I dashed toward Eurice Frye at a breakneck speed.

·?0m This all happened within seconds.

But when I was halfway there, My heart tightened all of a sudden. I felt dizzy for a moment. "What's going on?" I shouted in my heart.

Unknowningly, the poison was inhaled by Zack.

I don't know what is going on? But if I stopped my movements now, then it would lead to my defeat.

At the same time, Eurice Frye's eyes widened in disbelief. "How could he move?"She said in her heart. She knows the poison is mixed with air.

Right now, the poisonous air must have covered the whole duel stage. But she didn't have time to think about this.

She hurriedly moved her scythe forward. Seeing that opponent is coming for her. She raised her Scythe to make a cut.

But she was a step late. Before she could fully mobilize her essence. I reached her.

"Lightning Wheel," I said.

The next second, a massive purple wheel appears around me. The wheel is filled with lightning power.

Seeing that Eurice Frye's face filled with horror. "What is this attack?" She uttered in desperation. She expected some kind of sword attack.

But this lightning attack blew her mind. When her Scythe comes into contact with the lightning wheel.

Boom~

The lightning wheel explodes coming in contact with the Scythe. The massive lightning power blasted away Eurice. She was thrown off the stage from the impact.

Seeing that I didn't react for a while. Because I'm not in the mood to be happy. Something is affecting my body. And I don't know what is happening?

"Zack Lockwood wins!" The referee made the announcement.

Cheer~

The crowd broke out in huge cheer.

They didn't expect this duel to be this interesting. Finally, Zack has won the duel with the finishing move. The noise was over the roof.

The Rain Water Faction Head Alice Brown stood up from her seat in disappointment. But the disappointment remained in her face for a moment.

She was surprised by Zack's finishing move. That lightning technique was different. It's an attack and defense technique at the same moment.

In the end, she can only say that her student's technique was not comparable to Zack's technique.

Franklin Madden, Marcus Lin and other faction heads are not much surprised by the results. Eurice had momentum in the beginning.

But she was pushed back by Zack. Then eventually she lost it.

Above,

Dean Rebecca's eyes shone with bright light. Her eyes never left Zack. Though she was surprised by Eurice's quick defeat.

It was soon replaced by confusion. She saw Zack was hesitating for some reason.

"What happened to him?" She said to herself.

Zack is sweating profusely instead of showing joy on his face. After taking a final glance at both of them, she disappeared from the spot.

Chapter 550 Black Dots

From MC's perspective:

The duel stage,

I'm feeling a tightening sensation in my chest. When the referee announced the result. I looked toward Eurice Frye. She gave me an evil grin before leaving the stage.

Seeing that I suddenly feel bad. She didn't have any regrets or disappointments. She looks happy and carefree.

This was not supposed to be her reaction. Looking at her disappearing back. My eyes flickered.

Then I left the duel stage. When I returned to the entrance. I saw Ernest and Laverne waiting for me.

Upon seeing them both walked toward me.

"Zack, you surprised us," Laverne said with a smile on her face.

Ernest said, "We didn't know that you recovered your lightning essence."

Both of them said one after another. But when they took a closer look at my appearance, They were shocked.

"What happened to your complexion?"

"You look sick," Ernest said.

A quick glint flashes in my eyes.

"I was fine before the duel. But something happened to me during the duel. I don't know what?" I replied.

Both of them looked at each other. Seeing their worries in my eyes, I said, "Maybe her strange element is affecting me."

"There is a possibility for it. Her water element is different," Laveren commented.

Ernest also showed a thoughtful look.

Seeing that I sighed inwardly. It's better to not bother them. And the problem is something I'm not sure of.

Then I changed the topic and started discussing something else.

Meanwhile,

People are leaving one by one. But one person is staying in the same spot with a happy expression on his face.

Carlos Kent is grinning ear to ear. His plan was a success. He noticed Zack's worsening complexion during the duel. Like someone was drained completely.

If not for Zack's quick decision, it would not have been easy to win the duel.

Especially when the poison inside the body is working fully.

Jonathan's eyes grew cold. He knew something happened to Zack during the duel. His eyes are far better than anyone else. And the behavior of the opposing girl also made him suspicious.

Like she had not participated in the duel to win in the 1st place. At this moment, Jonathan made the firm decision in his great.

His suspicion about Carlos Kent has also grown big. So when everyone left. He instantly appeared behind Carlos and knocked him unconscious.

From beginning to end, Carlos wasn't aware that someone had already caught his tail.

Like the Giant Tower Elder, Jonathan is going to lock him up in the basement. He knew the strength of Carlos. So he has some measures in his hands.

Before dragging away Carlos. Jonathan looked at Zack's direction. He strongly feels Zack is in some kind of trouble.

He decided to return after locking him up.

The result of the duel started to spread like wildfire. Though people have watched it live. Everyone is still discussing the duel.

Several minutes later,

I returned to my room after separating from Ernest and Laverne. We discussed the monster zone.

Seeing that my essence was recovered. They wanted to visit a difficult monster zone tomorrow. But I know my condition was not better.

So hurriedly came back to my room. After closing the door, I entered the training room. First, I want to see what's wrong with my body.

I walked up to the middle and sat cross-legged on the ground. After closing my eyes, I started observing my inner organs.

The next second, my heart set off storms. I saw black color dots all over my inner organs.

"What is this?" I muttered in my heart.

The inner organs seem to have weakened because of these black dots. No wonder, I felt so drained.

On top of that, I'm also a body cultivator. If not for the dual strength, I don't know what would have happened right now.

Then a sudden realization struck my mind. I should cultivate the wooden scripture. Maybe the healing elements might cure this unknown power.

When I started to run the wooden scripture. I began to absorb the green color essence in my body.

The Green color essence then started to show changes. They immediately began to attack the black color dots.

Seeing that I confirmed something in my heart. These black dots are poisons. Now the healing element is actively counter-attacking it.

But when did I get poisoned? I furrowed my eyebrows in confusion. I guess the person who poisoned me doesn't know that I'm a healer.

After removing the distracting thoughts, I started to focus on healing.

Meanwhile,

Jonathan brought Carlos Kent to Viper City several minutes later. He didn't go anywhere but straight to Carlos' mansion.

That place is best for the interrogation. There is no underground cellar in that house. But there is a large training room.

Jonathan used Carlos' I.D. to enter inside. After dropping the body on the ground. He looked around.

The training room was built with rare metals. It can withstand the attack from the SS-Elite Warrior.

After taking a glance at the room. Jonathan turned to Carlos Kent. Right now he wants to go back and check Zack Lockwood.

But there is a chance that Carlos will wake up after a few minutes. A quick glint flashes in his eyes.

He takes out a liquid potion from his storage ring. He normally used to drug the person before interrogation.

This potion will extend Carlos' sleep. He won't be able to get up for at least the next three hours.

Next, he opened Carlos' mouth and poured a liquid potion. After doing that he began to observe the changes.

A few minutes later,

He touched Carlos' heart to observe the changes. The heart was beating at a slow rate. With that, he confirmed that the potion is working.

Then without any hesitation, he took the I.D. back and left the training room. After leaving the house, he appeared in mid-air the next second.

And then started to fly toward the academy.

Meanwhile,

Eurice Frye went back to her dorm room directly. She didn't even bother to check her teacher.

Now she has to wait for the next part of the resources to appear. She accomplished the task.

She also saw Zack being affected by the poison. Which indicates that Zack will face death soon.

So she isn't worried about anything right now. It only matters when? The poison will do its job.

It's difficult to tell when it will work fully.

On the other hand,

Rebecca is sitting down in the chair. But her expression was not right. Her mind was in a state of conflict.

She thinks that Zack has gone outside without her permission. Other than that there was no other explanation for Zack's recovered lightning essence.

She thought for a moment before summoning the guardians.

Two shadow guardians appeared within minutes. They are none other than Zack's protector.

Looking at them, Rebecca asked them in a cold tone, "Have you watched the duel?"

Hearing that both nodded with solemn expressions on their faces. Both realized the reason for their summons.

Both of them are surprised equally after seeing Zack using his lightning attacks.

Sitting cross-armed, Rebecca asked again, "When did it happen?"

The male guardian stepped forward to reply, "Dean, you misunderstood us."

"We never left the academy," He added further.

A disbelief appeared on Rebecca's face.

"What do you mean by that?"

"It's impossible for Zack to leave without his protectors following him from behind."

"You two must have known about his recovered lightning essence," Rebecca asked.

The male guardian's face turned dark. He then turned toward the female colleague.

The female guardian shook her head before saying, "Dean, trust us. We kept our eyes on Zack. We thought he was staying in his dorm room."

"But right now both of us are confused as well," She added.

Rebecca frowned. She had thought both the guardians failed to report her. But it looks like it's not. Both of them were kept in the dark as well.

"How did he manage to do that?" Rebecca asked herself.

Both the guardians heard her mumbling. They too want to know the answer as well.

At this time, the male guardian asked, "Dean, you should summon Zack here. Only he can explain the situation."

Rebecca let out a small sigh.

"He must be tired right now. I'll ask him later, you guys can go back," Rebecca said.

Both the guardians nodded their heads before disappearing from the spot.

Rebecca then texted Zack to come to her office tomorrow morning. As the guardians said, only Zack can solve her confusion.

If not for Carlos' incident, she might have called Zack right now. But after that incident, she can tell that Zack is avoiding her.

A bitter smile appeared on her face. What can she do? The Supreme Elder is taking the side of Carlos Kent. She can't do much about it.

Rain Water Faction Head's cabin,

Alice Brown came back to her cabin. But her expression was not right. She was utterly disappointed by Eurice's performance.

She thought Eurice didn't give it her all. The opponent Zack seemed tired out during the late stages of the duel.

If Eruice had planned better, the results might have turned in her favor.