

M Genius 1931

Chapter 1931

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He had been inspired by the Demrons' use of fireworks as the signal and created one of his own as well.

Lord Voodoo's face contorted at the sight of the fireworks.

"Kill him!" he howled in fury. "Kill him now! Hurry up and kill him!"

Lord Voodoo's men immediately charged forward to attack Matthew on all fronts.

Matthew kept fending off their attacks as he kept an eye on the situation outside.

Soon, a burst of fireworks exploded in the air in the distance.

Matthew felt a burst of relief. Selezer had seen his signal and was responding to him!

"You went to kill me, huh? Let's see if you can!"

Matthew chuckled and took out an energy pill before chucking it into his mouth.

He didn't use it beforehand because its side effects were too disarming.

He could only use it when he had a sure chance of escape.

Otherwise, he would be doomed if he consumed the energy pill but failed to escape before his strength ran out.

Now that he knew Selezer was rushing over, he didn't have to worry anymore.

Plus, he knew very well that he had to consume the energy pill now.

Since he managed to send the signal for help, Lord Voodoo would surely be thinking of a way to flee.

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True enough, Lord Voodoo tried to flee as his men surrounded Matthew.

After consuming the energy pill, Matthew's strength snowballed.

Earlier on, these men around him managed to corner him as he couldn't overpower them.

However, he was now the one pushing them back instead.

With a series of blows, Matthew defeated all the men and rushed to stop Lord Voodoo, who had already reached the window.

"What's the rush? Didn't you say you wanted to make my life a living hell? What now? Are you giving up already?" Matthew sneered.

Lord Voodoo was red with rage as he tried to escape from Matthew.

Unfortunately for him, Matthew's strength was not the same as it had been in the past.

Previously, Matthew wouldn't be able to stand against Lord Voodoo at all, but now that he had consumed the energy pill, he showed signs of being even more powerful than Lord Voodoo.

Furthermore, Matthew wasn't trying to engage Lord Voodoo in a proper fight. He merely wanted to keep Lord Voodoo occupied to prevent him from fleeing.

It was nearly impossible for Lord Voodoo to get away from Matthew. He couldn't escape.

As for Lord Voodoo's men, they no longer posed any threat to Matthew, so their presence was of no consequence to the fight.

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The whistling sound kept drawing nearer, which made it clear that the person was rushing over at great speed.

Matthew recognized the sound. It came from Salazar.

Salazar was reassuring Matthew that he would be arriving soon!

Matthew laughed and commented, "Who is having the last laugh now, Lord Voodoo?"

Lord Voodoo was ashen-faced as he tried his hardest to escape, but his efforts were in vain.

Matthew made sure to block him. He had no chance of breaking away.

The whistling sound continued to come closer, and at last, Salazar jumped in from the window.

Salazar swiftly sent the men in the corridor crashing to the ground.

They weren't weak by any means, but they were helpless when facing off against Salazar.

He easily got rid of the others before charging over to Lord Voodoo.

Salazar sent his fist flying straight at Lord Voodoo without any hesitation.

Lord Voodoo was terrified as he tried to dodge the attack, but he couldn't, and Salazar gave him a heavy blow that landed right on his chest.

There was a loud cracking sound as several of Lord Voodoo's bones broke apart. He stumbled to the ground and coughed up mouthfuls of blood. He could no longer put up a fight!

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Chapter 1932

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After dealing the solitary blow, Selezer drew back and stood there with his hands behind his back. His expression was perfectly calm as if he had done something completely ordinary.

Matthew glanced at Selezer. Once again, he witnessed just how powerful Selezer was.

"How did things go over there?" Matthew asked.

Selezer shook his head. "I didn't catch up to that person. He was very crafty!"

Matthew nodded. He wasn't surprised.

Emsgate Warriors were experts in the art of concealment and launching sneak attacks. They were also incredibly skillful at escaping.

Although the Emsgate Warrior wasn't as powerful as Selezer, he wasn't all that much weaker either.

If he was hellbent on fleeing, then Selezer would not necessarily be able to catch up to him.

"It's fine that you didn't catch up to him. Lord Voodoo's here, so what he took was definitely not the Stergulf's fruit," Matthew said.

Lord Voodoo's expression changed. It was just as Matthew said.

He still had the real Stergulf's fruit with him.

Matthew didn't bother with Lord Voodoo. He walked over and hoisted up Edmund, who was unconscious.

Edmund's injuries were quite serious, but thankfully, he was still alive.

Matthew exhaled in relief. He would be filled with regret if Edmund died here.

He fed Edmund a few pills to ensure that Edmund would be alright.

After dealing a solitary blow, Solozor drew back and stood there with his hands behind his back. His expression was perfectly calm as if he had done something completely ordinary.

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"How did things go over there?" Matthew asked.

Salazar shook his head. "I didn't catch up to that parson. He was very crafty!"

Matthew nodded. He wasn't surprised.

Emsgata Warriors were experts in the art of concealment and launching sneak attacks. They were also incredibly skillful at escaping.

Although the Emsgata Warrior wasn't as powerful as Salazar, he wasn't all that much weaker either.

If he was halfhearted on fleeing, then Salazar would not necessarily be able to catch up to him.

"It's fine that you didn't catch up to him. Lord Voodoo's here, so what he took was definitely not the Stargulf's fruit," Matthew said.

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Lord Voodoo was leaning against the wall as he glowered at Matthew. "I'll admit that I'm unlucky enough to fall into your hands, Larson. Do whatever you want, be it torture or execution, but don't even think about trying to humiliate me! I, Lord Voodoo, will never bow down to anyone!"

Matthew snorted. "Is that so? Let me see how long you'll keep up with that stance!"

He took out his bag of silver needles.

Then, he retrieved a few silver needles and stabbed them into Lord Voodoo's acupoints.

Lord Voodoo howled in agony. The pain was unbearable.

"Just kill me if you have it in you, Larson! What kind of a man chooses to torment another like that? Kill me! Kill me now!"

Lord Voodoo roared at the top of his lungs and banged his head repeatedly against the wall. Soon, his head was completely covered in blood that kept on flowing down.

The pain was far worse than all the other pains in his body combined.

Matthew stood there calmly and remarked, "Where's the fun in killing you now? I finally managed to catch you after going through all that trouble. Why would I allow you to have a quick and painless death?"

Lord Voodoo was clutching the floor so hard that even his nails were bleeding.

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However, Matthew ignored them all and simply stared at him.

Lord Voodoo had been a part of the massacre of the Larsons, and he knew more than Gregory did.

Therefore, Matthew had to make Lord Voodoo submit to him so that he could get some answers about what happened back then.

The torment lasted for quite some time until Lord Voodoo couldn't take it anymore. He howled, "You just want the Stargulf's fruit, right? I'll give it to you, okay? It's in my left pocket. You can take it yourself. Kill me, please. I'm begging you. Just kill me..."

Matthew didn't move at all. It was as if he hadn't heard what Lord Voodoo said.

Just then, Salazar started moving.

He darted to the window and growled, "Who goes there?"

He jumped out the window as he said that and the sounds of a fight rang out immediately after.

Matthew's expression turned grim. Who is here at this juncture?

It had to be someone fairly powerful—powerful enough to duel Salazar!

At the same time, Lord Voodoo's eyes flew open with newfound hope.

"Save me! Save me!" he bellowed toward the window. "I don't care who you are! As long as you save me, I'll... I'll give you the Stargulf's fruit..."

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Chapter 1933

Clinging to his newfound hope, Lord Voodoo yelled as loudly as he could to the person outside. Clinging to his newfound hope, Lord Voodoo yelled as loudly as he could to the person outside.

Just then, Selezer shouted, "Watch out, Matthew!"

Matthew was startled. Why is Selezer telling me to watch out?

Amid his uncertainty, someone in black jumped in through the window and charged at him.

The person's arrival had been so sudden that Matthew hadn't noticed him at all.

However, Matthew was on his toes after hearing Selezer's shouts.

Therefore, just as the person tried to attack Matthew, he quickly rolled on the ground and narrowly avoided the blow.

He finally realized what was happening. This person in black was the same Emsgete Warrior who was previously with Mecon.

The Emsgete Warrior was in a terrible state.

Earlier on, he fell into Lord Voodoo's trap and had to deal with the poison.

Even though he was decisive enough to save himself by cutting off parts of his skin which the poison had come into contact with, he was still seriously injured.

He forced Matthew back, but he didn't chase after Matthew. Instead, he rushed over to Lord Voodoo and reached into Lord Voodoo's left pocket. He quickly retrieved a few bottles and stuffed them all into his pocket.

However, he didn't stop there and started searching all over Lord Voodoo. It looked as if he wanted to take everything that was on Lord Voodoo right now!

Matthew's expression changed. It was clear that the Emsgete Warrior wanted to snatch the Storgulf's fruit.

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Howavar, ha didn't stop thara and startad saarching all ovar Lord Voodoo. It lookad as if ha wantad to taka avarything that was on Lord Voodoo right now!

Matthaw's axprassion changad. It was claar that tha Emsgata Warrior wantad to snatch tha Stargulf's fruit.

It seemed that the Emsgate Warrior had realized that he made a mistake too.

Although he had taken a bottle from Lord Voodoo's double earlier on, with everything that happened after, he realized that what he took was fake, so he came running back.

But if the Emsgate Warrior's here, then who is Salazar fighting against outside?

Just then, a loud bang rang out from the other side of the window, and two people rushed in.

Matthew turned around and spotted Salazar, along with another person in black.

Both of them rushed straight toward Lord Voodoo.

Coincidentally, the Emsgate Warrior had also finished searching Lord Voodoo's body.

He gathered all the bottles and leaped out the window before disappearing into the night.

The person in black immediately went after the Emsgate Warrior. It proved that he was after Stargulf's fruit as well.

Salazar turned to Matthew. He was hesitant as to whether he should go after them.

"Go after them," Matthew said at once. "People from the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale will be here soon, so you don't have to worry."

Salazar nodded and jumped out the window before disappearing into the night as well.

Now that all three were gone, Matthew was brimming with vigilance.

Everything that happened tonight was beyond anything he could've thought of.

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Just then, a loud bong rang out from the other side of the window, and two people rushed in.

Matthew turned around and spotted Solozor, along with another person in black.

Both of them rushed straight toward Lord Voodoo.

Coincidentally, the Emsgate Warrior had also finished searching Lord Voodoo's body.

He gathered all the bottles and leaped out the window before disappearing into the night.

The person in black immediately went after the Emsgate Warrior. It proved that he was after Storgulf's fruit as well.

Solozor turned to Matthew. He was hesitant as to whether he should go after them.

"Go after them," Matthew said at once. "People from the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale will be here soon, so you don't have to worry."

Solozor nodded and jumped out the window before disappearing into the night as well.

Now that all three were gone, Matthew was brimming with vigilance.

Everything that happened tonight was beyond anything he could've thought of.

It seemed that the Emsgate Warrior had realized that he made a mistake too.

It was one thing for the Emsgate Warrior to show up, but there was now another person in black too.

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This black-clad person seemed to be on an even footing with Salazar when it came to fighting prowess.

Now that this person was trying to get his hands on Stargulf's fruit as well, things became a lot more complicated.

Matthew couldn't help but frown. He could tell that the effects of the energy pill were coming to an end.

He was almost completely out of strength now.

Matthew stared at Lord Voodoo who was slumped in a corner. He gritted his teeth and took out a few silver needles.

Then, he pierced the needles into a few of Lord Voodoo's acupoints.

As soon as the needles broke through, Lord Voodoo felt all his strength dissipating. It was flowing out through the needles.

At the same time, he couldn't sense any inner energy flowing through his meridians.

His eyes grew wide with shock as he asked in a trembling voice, "W-What did you do to me?"

"I destroyed your meridians!" Matthew announced coldly. "From now on, don't even think about practicing martial arts again. Even if you do have the Stargulf's fruit with you, it won't be of any use to you anymore!"

Lord Voodoo froze for a few seconds before howling furiously, "Matthew Larson!"

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Chapter 1934

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He slumped on the ground as the effects of the energy pill wore out. He no longer had any strength left in him.

Even so, he didn't panic as he heard the sound of vehicles outside. People from the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale had arrived.

They were on the same side as him, and since the families had sent their formidable fighters, no one could harm him now despite his lack of strength!

Upon hearing the footsteps coming closer, Lord Voodoo gritted his teeth and rose to his feet with the help of the wall.

Then, he slowly walked over to Matthew with a vicious look in his eyes.

A chill ran down Matthew's spine. He suddenly realized that he had made a grave mistake.

He wanted to keep Lord Voodoo alive so that he could ask him about the Larsons' massacre.

Thus, with his final bit of strength, he destroyed Lord Voodoo's meridians to remove his inner energy.

However, even though Lord Voodoo could no longer wield inner energy, he could still move.

On the other hand, Matthew couldn't even lift a finger right now.

If Lord Voodoo wanted to kill him, he had no means of fighting back at all.

As the footsteps drew nearer, Matthew's heart began pounding wildly.

He was safe as long as those from the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale got here in time!

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He was safe as long as those from the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale got here in time!

Lord Voodoo looked around. The nearest weapon was at least thirty feet away.

He hesitated. In his current state, even thirty feet was too far away.

He didn't have enough time to retrieve the dagger and kill Matthew.

Using any curses or poisons was out of the question as well.

In order to avoid getting found, he had gotten rid of all the curses and poisons he had with him.

Now, he was heavily injured and didn't have any inner energy. He couldn't kill Matthew with just his physical strength alone.

The footsteps were getting louder, and Lord Voodoo was getting more and more frantic.

He wouldn't have a chance to kill Matthew anymore once those from the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale came in to protect Matthew. Instead, he would fall into Matthew's hands and suffer a fate worse than death!

With this in mind, Lord Voodoo clenched his jaw. He made his mind up and spat out a tiny bottle from his mouth.

Then, he pinched Matthew's mouth open and poured the contents of the bottle down Matthew's throat.

Matthew didn't have the strength to fight back, and Lord Voodoo pinched his nose to force Matthew to swallow.

Just then, a roar rang out from the end of the corridor. "What are you doing? Let go of Dr. Larson!"

It was Tyson's voice!

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Lord Voodoo lay on the ground and spat out a mouthful of blood, but he was still wagging the empty bottle with a gleeful look on his face.

"Hahaha! Do you know what was inside this, Larson? It was the Stargulf's fruit, the very thing you were looking for! Didn't you want to take it from me? Well, I've given it to you now! How does it feel to swallow the entire Stargulf's fruit, Larson? It contained all of Falconn Damron's strength! You swallowed all the strength of a grandmaster in one go! Do you think you can handle it, huh? Hahaha! Come on! Come and take it! Come and snatch it from me! If I can't have it, then no one gets it! If I die, Larson, I'm taking you down with me!"

Lord Voodoo let out a burst of maniacal laughter as if he had done something that sent him over the moon.

Matthew couldn't be bothered with much else right now.

He knew very well what was about to happen to him.

The Stargulf plant had absorbed all of Falconn's strength, and now, Lord Voodoo had fed the entire Stargulf's fruit to him. This meant that all of Falconn's strength was in his body.

With Matthew's power and the state of his meridians now, that overwhelming amount of strength would end up taking his life!

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Chapter 1935

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The meridians were the channels that facilitated the flow of inner energy. Meridians became smoother with training, and the smoother they were, the stronger the inner energy they could allow through. Thus, the stronger the person would be as well.

Lord Voodoo could no longer use meridian arts because Matthew had destroyed his meridians.

Even if the body contained inner energy, it was pointless when there wasn't a passage that allowed it through.

However, Matthew's situation was the complete opposite of Lord Voodoo's.

By consuming Storgulf's fruit, it was almost the same as Folconn's strength had entered his system.

However, Matthew's network of meridians wasn't strong enough. Thus, if this strength passed through his meridians, they would burst, and he would die on the spot.

Even if he were fortunate enough to survive, he would be crippled for the rest of his life!

Lord Voodoo had struck a vicious, cruel blow.

He knew he had been crippled and couldn't take the Storgulf anymore, so he fed it to Matthew instead.

What he couldn't have, he wasn't going to allow others to have, either.

Most importantly, he could use the Storgulf's fruit to kill Matthew, so he was killing two birds with one stone!

Lord Voodoo leaned against the wall with a face streaked with blood, but he was still laughing his head off. "I took you down with me! It's worth it! It's worth everything!"

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Matthew's face twisted up in agony.

The Stargulf's fruit immediately began disintegrating as soon as it entered his system.

He could sense an overpowering strength swiftly gathering in his abdomen. It was so overwhelmingly strong that his body was on the verge of exploding!

He couldn't concern himself with Lord Voodoo anymore as he cried out at once, "Take out my silver needles, Master Rathbone!"

Tyson quickly brought out the bag of silver needles.

Matthew listed out a few acupoints and instructed Tyson to stab the needles into these points.

Tyson held the needles hesitatingly. "Dr. Larson, I-I never used these before... A-Are you sure that it'll be alright—"

"Don't think about that now!" Matthew shot back frantically. "Just stab the needles into the acupoints I told you! I-I can't hold out much longer..."

Tyson studied Matthew and saw that the veins along both his arms were bulging out gruesomely. It was as if the veins would explode at any time.

He dared not hesitate any longer as he quickly stuck the needles into the acupoints that Matthew mentioned.

Once the needles were in, Matthew exhaled, and his veins slowly flattened out.

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That was all he could get out before everything went black—he had passed out!

Tyson was visibly anxious. He quickly scooped Matthew up and instructed the others to deal with the situation before turning to Victor and saying, "Mr. Victor, I'm taking Dr. Larson back. Send someone to bring Dr. Ellis over!"

Victor didn't waste any time. He immediately sent people to find Dr. Ellis.

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Matthew slowly came to the next afternoon.

As soon as he opened his eyes, he saw Salazar sitting beside him.

Salazar was pressing his hands against Matthew's back to channel inner energy into him.

Matthew could sense a large amount of powerful energy being held within his hara and attempting to enter his meridian channels.

This was, without a doubt, Falconn's strength.

The strength was terrifying for Matthew.

He would die an ugly death as soon as it entered his meridians!

However, things weren't that bad right now.

Salazar was using his formidable strength to keep Falconn's strength caged up within Matthew's hara. Thus, the strength couldn't enter Matthew's meridians.

If it hadn't been for this, he would've been dead by now!

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Chapter 1936

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An old man was busily preparing medicine nearby—it was Dr. Ellis.

Everyone was overjoyed to see that Matthew was awake. They immediately came forward.

"You're awake, Dr. Larson!"

"How do you feel now, Dr. Larson?"

All sorts of questions flew about as the crowd expressed their concern with worried looks on their faces.

Matthew nodded to them with some difficulty. "I'm fine. Thank you, everyone!"

Dr. Ellis came over at this point and spoke up grimly, "How can you say you're fine? Do you know what happened to the acupoints you told Tyson to put the needles into? Your meridians would be destroyed if all those acupoints were stabbed. You'd lose all your inner energy! What were you trying to do? Were you trying to get rid of your ability to practice martial arts? Do you plan on being crippled for the rest of your life?"

Tyson's eyes went wide with shock. "What?! Is that true? Did putting needles into those acupoints mean he'd lose his ability to practice martial arts?"

"What do you think?" Dr. Ellis fired back. "He would've lost all his martial arts abilities if I hadn't got to him in time to repair those acupoints! Not only that, but he would never be able to practice martial arts ever again."

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Matthew waved his hand to stop Tyson from feeling remorseful. "You didn't make a mistake, Master Rathbone. I did tell you to put the needles in those acupoints."

Tyson froze in shock. "What? W-Why?"

Matthew shook his head and explained the situation with the Stargulf's fruit.

Lord Voodoo force-fed the Stargulf's fruit to him, which led to Falconn's strength dispersing into his body.

Matthew had no choice but to get Tyson to help him block off the meridians to prevent the strength from flowing through.

If he hadn't, then he wouldn't have made it out alive!

It was the only way Matthew could save his life at the time.

The possibility of losing his martial arts abilities was secondary then.

What was the point of being able to practice martial arts if he couldn't even stay alive?

Once he finished his explanation, the crowd finally understood what had happened.

Tyson sighed in relief. He had thought that he had made a mistake.

"I was so afraid that I'd made a mistake! Thankfully, everything's fine now. Dr. Ellis came in time to restore Dr. Larson's meridians. Dr. Larson won't lose his martial arts abilities now!" Tyson declared with a smile.

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Matthew waved his hand to stop Tyson from feeling remorseful. "You didn't make a mistake, Master Rothbone. I did tell you to put the needles in those acupoints."

Tyson froze in shock. "What? W-Why?"

Matthew shook his head and explained the situation with the Storgulf's fruit.

Lord Voodoo force-fed the Storgulf's fruit to him, which led to Folconn's strength dispersing into his body.

Matthew had no choice but to get Tyson to help him block off the meridians to prevent the strength from flowing through.

If he hadn't, then he wouldn't have made it out alive!

It was the only way Matthew could save his life at the time.

The possibility of losing his meridian abilities was secondary then.

What was the point of being able to practice meridian arts if he couldn't even stay alive?

Once he finished his explanation, the crowd finally understood what had happened.

Tyson sighed in relief. He had thought that he had made a mistake.

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Tyson was startled. "What now?"

Dr. Ellis turned to Matthew. "Alas, I didn't know what was going on with you at the time. I thought Tyson made a mistake, so I immediately restored your meridians for you. I only realized something was wrong later on. Fortunately, Salazar was here, and he used his inner energy to hold off your inner energy. Otherwise, I would've made a terrible mistake!"

Tyson's eyes widened again. "What on earth happened?"

Dr. Ellis eyed him and explained, "I did restore his meridians, but Falconn Damron's strength was still inside him! It would've rushed into his meridians. If it hadn't been for Salazar, who managed to quell Falconn's strength, Matthew's meridians would've exploded, and he would've died by now!"

"What?!" Tyson exclaimed. "Then... what do we do now?"

Victor spoke up frantically, "Does this mean the only way for Matthew to survive is to destroy his meridians and get rid of his martial arts abilities?"

Dr. Ellis chuckled bitterly. "That might've worked earlier on, but that's no longer possible now!"

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Chapter 1937

Everyone was thunderstruck and immediately began asking, "What do you mean by that?"
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Dr. Ellis explained helplessly, "His meridians are fragile now because they've just been healed. Even if they're blocked off again, they would still shatter if his inner energy leaks through. He is bound to die if that happens!"

The expressions of those in the room immediately turned to looks of shock and horror as they never thought the situation could get any worse.

"Dr. Ellis, is there... nothing else we can do?" Victor asked worriedly.

Dr. Ellis shook his head helplessly. "There's nothing more I can think of to do, but we should be asking Dr. Larson this. He's more of an expert in this area than I am!"

The crowd was finally reminded of the fact that Matthew was truly a miracle doctor.

Victor quickly turned to him. "What should be done to save you now, Dr. Larson?"

Matthew was about to respond when he felt Selezer pressing down on his back for a second.

A thought flashed across his mind as his expression became gloomy. He sighed, "The only option I have left is to destroy my here and get rid of all my strength for good!"

Everyone cried out in shock.

"Destroy your here?" Tyson exclaimed. "Dr. Larson, if your here is destroyed, then... then you won't be able to practice martial arts ever again! Your body will become extremely weak. You might not even be able to stand up again!"

Everyone was thunderstruck and immediately began asking, "What do you mean by that?"

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Matthew shook his head helplessly. "I know, but that's the only way for me to survive this."

Everyone exchanged glances with grave expressions on their faces.

"Is there truly no other way, Dr. Larson?" Victor asked as he clenched his jaw in frustration. "Why don't we wait until your meridians have been fully restored and then go through the whole process again to release the energy out of your system? Although your meridians would be destroyed, and you'll lose your martial arts abilities too, at the very least, you'll still be able to move around like a regular person. It won't be the same if you destroy your hara!"

The others nodded in agreement as they shared Victor's opinion.

If a person's meridians were destroyed, the worst-case scenario was losing one's martial arts abilities, but the person would still be able to carry on living normally.

However, the hara was the source of a person's strength and energy. If it were destroyed, then the person's body would lose all its strength, and the person might spend the rest of their life as a paraplegic.

Matthew was one of the greatest miracle doctors of his time. His life would be ruined if he could no longer move again!

Still, he sighed and explained, "The energy has already flooded into my meridians. I would've been dead by now if it weren't for Mr. Whitford's help in suppressing it. There's no way we can restore my meridians now. This is the only thing I can do to stay alive!"

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Everyone was silent as they lamented the situation.

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Dr. Ellis was beating himself up over it, too. "I'm so sorry, Dr. Larson. I was too rash earlier. If I didn't restore your meridians, you might've still been able to recover your strength once Falconn Damron's strength was taken out of you. I was too hasty... I-I..."

Matthew quickly assured him, "Don't blame yourself, Dr. Ellis. I'm so thankful that you came to help me. It was an incredibly complicated situation. I might've died already if it hadn't been for you."

Dr. Ellis sighed morosely. "Alas, I can't believe how vicious that b*stard Lord Voodoo is. How could he do such a thing?!"

Matthew waved his hand. "I got rid of his martial arts abilities, too, so he was ruined for good as well. Nothing that he does in response would be surprising. It's not unthinkable that a person will try to drag someone else down with him when he's on the verge of dying. I'm the one to be blamed for this. I was too careless and didn't knock him unconscious. That's why things came to this. Oh, right. Where's Lord Voodoo now?"

At his inquiry of Lord Voodoo's whereabouts, everyone in the room glanced around with awkward expressions.

Everyone was silent as they lamented the situation.

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Chapter 1938

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Metthwe's brows furrowed tightly.

He never thought this would heppen.

Lord Voodoo hed neither the Stergulf's fruit nor his mertiel erts ebilities. He wes crippled end could be considered completely useless now.

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"He's not dead," Tyson quickly clarified.

"What happened, then?" Matthew asked.

"I'm sorry, Dr. Larson," Victor started quietly. "We... We didn't manage to keep a hold of Lord Voodoo. Someone... took him away..."

"What?!" Matthew exclaimed.

Tyson sighed. "We were about to bring Lord Voodoo back when a person in black showed up and snatched him away. The black-clad person was too strong. We... couldn't put up a fight and had failed to stop him..."

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Under these circumstances, who would come and take him away? Why did they want to take him away?

After pondering these questions for a moment, Matthew waved them off and said, "Since someone rescued him, we can just forget about it. That old man is crippled now and won't pose a threat to anyone. There's not much he can do even if he survives. We'll just leave him be!"

He then acted as if he was exhausted and had everyone leave the room.

Salazar remained with Matthew because he still had to suppress Falconn's strength. Matthew was doomed if Salazar left!

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Ha than actad as if ha was axhaustad and had avaryona laava tha room.

Salazar ramainad with Matthaw bacausa ha still had to supprass Falconn's strangth. Matthaw was doomad if Salazar laft!

Once everyone was gone, Matthew eyed Salazar and gave him a signal.

Salazar didn't say anything. He waited for quite some time before murmuring, "Alright, you can speak now."

"What was going on just now?" Matthew asked quietly.

"Someone was nearby listening in on our conversation," Salazar replied.

Matthew's expression stiffened slightly as he probed softly, "Who was it?"

"It's most likely the black-clad person from last night," Salazar responded.

Matthew frowned.

Two martial arts experts appeared last night. One was the Emsgate Warrior that Macon had hired, and the other was the person in black who showed up all of a sudden.

The situation wouldn't have been as critical last night if it hadn't been for the appearance of that person in black.

However, no matter how hard Matthew tried to think things through, he couldn't figure out who that person was.

He could tell that the black-clad person wasn't in cahoots with the Emsgate Warrior.

As for last night, it made sense that Macon brought someone over.

After all, Macon did know about the Stargulf's fruit, and when Lord Voodoo leaked his supposed hiding place on purpose, Macon knew about it, too.

Thus, it wasn't surprising that he brought an expert over to snatch the Stargulf's fruit.

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Solozor didn't say anything. He waited for quite some time before murmuring, "Alright, you can speak now."

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Once everyone was gone, Matthew eyed Salazar and gave him a signal.

But why did that person in black show up?

But why did that person in black show up?

Matthew was certain that not many people knew about Stargulf's fruit.

Apart from Lord Voodoo, Gregory, and Macon, only he, Melvin, and Salazar knew about it.

Lord Voodoo and the other two wouldn't have let the secret out, while Melvin and Salazar were people Matthew had absolute faith in. He knew for sure they wouldn't leak it out either.

In that case, how did the person in black find out about the whole affair with Stargulf's fruit?

Matthew was deep in thought when Salazar handed a bottle to him. "By the way, Melvin sent someone to bring this over for you. He said it's some medicine that you left behind in Eastcliff. Take a look and see if it's of any use to you."

Matthew was startled. I didn't leave any medicine in Eastcliff, though.

Why's Melvin sending this bottle over now? What does he mean by this?

He took the bottle and checked the contents. There were indeed a few pills inside.

However, these pills weren't made by him.

He gave the pills a cursory glance and noticed that one of the pills looked a little odd.

He took it out and was taken aback to find that it was an empty capsule.

After breaking it open, he found a piece of paper inside with only one word written on it—Quirk!

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Chapter 1939

After seeing the word on the paper, Matthew and Salazar exchanged looks.

After seeing the word on the paper, Matthew and Selezer exchanged looks.

The same name immediately popped into both of their minds—Levi Quirk, who was also known as Master Levi, the King of the South!

Melvin wasn't trying to give Matthew any of the medicine in this bottle. He was giving him a message.

That being said, why did he have to use this method to convey just one word? He could've called Matthew, sent a text, or even had someone pass the message along in person.

Unless he couldn't use any of those methods.

Thoughts started whizzing across Matthew's mind.

Melvin appeared to be someone who was cynical and had a devil-may-care personality.

In reality, Matthew knew that he was incredibly meticulous in whatever he did.

There had to be a reason behind why he was passing a message like this.

Previously, Melvin sent someone to seek Selezer's help, and at the time, Levi sent an assassin to stop that from happening.

Matthew and his allies probably wouldn't have even had the chance to meet Selezer if that assassin hadn't underestimated Selezer's abilities.

From this alone, one could surmise the control Levi had over the South!

It could be said that he had absolute control over his jurisdiction.

If he were indeed the one pulling the strings from behind, then nothing would escape his notice, regardless of whether Melvin chose to give a call, send a text, or have someone pass the message along.

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Melvin had no choice but to pass a message to Matthew in this manner to avoid Levi's detection.

Matthew and Salazar eyed each other once more before glancing out the window.

If it were true that Levi was behind everything, then it was obvious who the black-clad person outside was.

"Is it him?" Matthew murmured.

He was asking whether it was Levi outside.

Salazar shook his head. "Probably not. The disparity in strength is too much, but it could be someone he sent over."

Matthew was shocked. Does Master Levi have other experts like these working for him, apart from Phoenix?

However, judging by Salazar's reaction, Matthew realized Levi's power was not quite what he thought it was. Thus, it was perfectly reasonable for Levi to have a few more martial arts experts at his disposal.

Matthew fell into thought again as he pondered over the current situation.

If Levi had truly been the one who sent the person in black, then Matthew could finally figure out what was going on now.

Levi had his eyes on the benefits of the Restoration Pills, so he wouldn't let the Damrons take Matthew away.

Although Levi couldn't get involved outright in the situation over Falcon's death, he would surely have made his move in secret.

The logical course of action was to have a martial arts expert keep an eye on Matthew and take him away if needed.

Melvin had no choice but to pass the message to Matthew in this manner to avoid Levi's detection.

Matthew and Selezer eyed each other once more before glancing out the window.

If it were true that Levi was behind everything, then it was obvious who the black-clothed person outside was.

"Is it him?" Matthew murmured.

He was asking whether it was Levi outside.

Selezer shook his head. "Probably not. The disparity in strength is too much, but it could be someone he sent over."

Matthew was shocked. Does Master Levi have other experts like these working for him, apart from Phoenix?

However, judging by Selezer's reaction, Matthew realized Levi's power was not quite what he thought it was. Thus, it was perfectly reasonable for Levi to have a few more mortal experts at his disposal.

Matthew fell into thought again as he pondered over the current situation.

If Levi had truly been the one who sent the person in black, then Matthew could finally figure out what was going on now.

Levi had his eyes on the benefits of the Restoration Pills, so he wouldn't let the Demons take Matthew away.

Although Levi couldn't get involved outright in the situation over Felconn's death, he would surely have made his move in secret.

The logical course of action was to have a mortal expert keep an eye on Matthew and take him away if needed.

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The black-clad person would have tailed Matthew as he searched for Lord Voodoo.

However, that person couldn't stay still after finding out about Stargulf's fruit. He appeared at once to snatch the fruit, which was how Salazar noticed him.

The thought of this sent chills down Matthew's spine.

Does that mean the person in black overheard the conversation I had with Gregory back in the forest?

Does that mean my secret's exposed?

If that's true, why did the person in black take Lord Voodoo away?

Why was he still eavesdropping here? What's his ultimate goal?

Matthew's brows furrowed tightly in thought. His mood was at an all-time low.

When Billy left, he told Matthew to keep his guard up against Levi.

As it was, Matthew had been keeping his guard up against Levi the whole time.

However, he never thought his secret would still end up coming out just like that.

Once Levi exposed Matthew's identity, he would be hunted down by countless enemies.

The people who massacred the Larsons back then wouldn't stop until they got rid of him too.

He would no longer be able to take his time and slowly rise in power and strength!

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Chapter 1940

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After seeing the expression on his face, Selezer spoke up abruptly, "Melvin asked me to tell you something."

"What is it?" Matthew asked.

"These people act solely for the sake of their best interests," Selezer said quietly. "Don't be caught up in the current situation. Don't let anyone else find out about your condition. Cope with the variability of the situation by maintaining the status quo."

Matthew was startled at the words of advice. He started mulling over what Melvin meant by these words.

Melvin said these people were acting solely for the sake of their best interests, but who was he talking about?

The first person that Matthew thought of was Levi.

There was no doubt that Levi did everything with his benefit in mind.

He sent the black-clad person to keep an eye on Matthew to prevent the Demrons from taking Matthew away. This was so that he could keep Matthew in the South, and thus, the benefits garnered from the Restoration Pill would stay in the South as well.

Even though the person in black now knew about Matthew's secret, he wouldn't expose it.

Firstly, Levi might not have been involved in the Lersons' incident back then.

Thus, he might not know about the Lersons' family heirloom, which was the jade pendant.

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For Levi, even if he knew Matthew was Shane's heir, that information was not as valuable as the Restoration Pill.

Therefore, even if he knew about this secret, he might not expose it.

Once word got out, those people involved in the massacre back then would come after Matthew now.

If that had happened, Levi would not be able to keep Matthew in the South to benefit from the Restoration Pill.

After figuring this out, Matthew's spirits improved.

He had been distraught over this earlier, but now, he understood just how unnecessary his concerns had been.

Melvin was right. He didn't have to worry about Levi at all.

Levi was even less keen than he was to see this secret exposed!

It had to be said that Melvin was a sly fox indeed.

Although he seemed to be unaware of the goings-on in general, in reality, he had a clear understanding of the forces at play around them.

Matthew couldn't help but feel thankful that Melvin was helping him the whole time.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to come this far.

Then, Matthew thought about the other thing that Melvin had said.

He warned Matthew not to let anyone else know about his condition. What did he mean by that?

In actuality, while Matthew's injuries were quite severe, his situation wasn't hopeless.

He was in a dire situation when he was forced to swallow the Stargulf's fruit.

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Under those circumstances, he had to get Tyson to stab the needles in his acupoints to ensure he survived.

He asked Tyson to send for Dr. Ellis so that Dr. Ellis could help him restore his meridians in time.

That way, when he woke up, he would have the time to slowly treat his injuries.

When Tyson and the others were asking about his condition earlier, Matthew was going to tell them he was fine.

However, Salazar gave him a slight nudge on his back, and he immediately changed his words. He claimed that his condition was hopeless.

He now knew why Salazar did that.

The person in black had been eavesdropping at the time, so if he had said that he could still be saved, then his true condition would be exposed.

There had to be a reason why Melvin told Matthew not to let anyone find out about the state of his injuries.

He knew that Melvin wanted to let Levi find out about his condition on purpose.

After all, if he were crippled, then in Levi's eyes, it would only make it even easier for him to control Matthew!

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