

## The Mans Decree Chapter 1996 -

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Seeing how the two remained motionless, Yuri had no choice but to snort coldly before moving on, leaving them to play catch-up. However, Yuri did not get far when she suddenly stopped dead in her tracks, her expression becoming grim.

Before Yuri could react, seven to eight masked men in black rushed toward her from both sides of the road, armed with katanas. The two behind Yuri immediately unsheathed their swords and charged forward when they saw what had happened. "Get out of here, Ms. Yuri!" shouted one of them..

Yuri was somewhat shocked since the Watanabe family was one of the top families in Xendale. Not many in the city would dare cross them. It was almost unthinkable that anyone would have the guts to attack a Watanabe in broad daylight.

Unfortunately, Yuri knew she had no time to waste after her subordinates were cut down mercilessly, so she hurriedly turned around and made a break for it.

Yuri's mind went completely blank as the men in black, who seemed hell-bent on capturing her, pursued her. After running for a distance, she suddenly bumped into someone, and it almost made her lose her balance. When Yuri looked up, she realized the person she had run into was Kai.

"You?" exclaimed both Kai and Yuri in unison, for neither of them thought they would see each other again so soon after parting at the airport. However, the men in black caught up before the two could say anything else.

Kai and Flaxseed were stunned when they noticed the men coming after Yuri. Didn't Kazuo just mention how powerful the Watanabe family was and how they controlled almost the entire Xendale? Why, then, is the precious heiress being hunted in broad daylight?

"If you value your lives, move away now," the men in black threatened Kai and Flaxseed. Grabbing Kai's arm tightly, Yuri looked expectantly at the man. "Help me. Please help me..."

Kai could not help but smile when he saw the way Yuri acted. "I'm more than happy to help a damsel in distress." When the men in black heard that, they immediately boiled with rage. "We'll kill you too if you try to be a hero!"

The men in black then charged forward with their katanas in hand, but they did not get far before Kai nonchalantly waved his hand to release a wave of aura. Suddenly, the men froze in place as though they had been turned into statues.

A brief moment later, blood began to ooze out of the men's chests before they all collapsed to the ground. Yuri was dumbfounded when she saw what had happened to them.

Even though she knew some techniques herself, she still stared at Kai as if he was an immortal being. Flaxseed chuckled secretly as he looked at Kai, wondering what would happen if he recorded the man's smugness and showed it to the girls.

When Kai sensed Flaxseed's snicker, he immediately shot the man a look. "That was incredible, Kai! You just saved my life! How about you come over to my place? I'm sure my father will reward you handsomely," uttered Yuri with admiration in her eyes. Kai shook his head in response. "That's not necessary. I have some personal matters to attend to."

Suddenly, he heard a cascade of footsteps informing him that a large group of people was heading his way. After Kai and Flaxseed exchanged looks, the two hurriedly fled the scene, leaving Yuri to stare affectionately at Kai's back. "Yuri! Yuri!" shouted Ryosuke as he ran toward his daughter, followed by a dozen men.

"Dad!" Yuri threw herself at Ryosuke the moment she saw her father, still terrified because of the ordeal. She could not imagine what would have happened had she not bumped into Kai.

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Ryosuke breathed a sigh of relief in his heart when he saw that his daughter was safe. When he turned to the corpses nearby, however, his expression took on a darkened hue. He asked, "What happened here, Yuri? Did you kill those people?"

"No," answered Yuri as she shook her head. She then gave her father a rundown of what had happened earlier. As he listened to her explanation, Ryosuke grew increasingly livid, and murderous intent swirled in his darkened gaze.

"You said your Chanaean friends killed these people and saved you, so where are they now?" he questioned. "They left the moment you came."

Instead of asking any more questions, Ryosuke turned to his subordinates and commanded, "Carry these corpses back to the mansion and investigate their identities."

Soon, the corpses were carried away, and Yuri was escorted home safely. Meanwhile, Kai and Flaxseed were hiding nearby and watching everything unfold before their eyes.

"You called me a pervert, but I think you're about the same as me, Kai. When you saw that Jetroinian chick, you couldn't control yourself either, right? I have to admit, she's quite hot." A teasing look flitted across Flaxseed's face as he tossed a glance at Kai.

"What the heck are you thinking about? I approached Yuri because I need an entry into the Watanabe family to dismantle them from within," Kai explained. Confused, Flaxseed asked, "Then why didn't you agree to return home with her? Why run away?"

"I'm playing hard to get. Ever heard of that before? If we had agreed proactively, Ryosuke would no doubt be wary of us. Let's just take our time and wait. I believe Ryosuke and his people will figure out a way to contact us." A faint smile played at Kai's lips as he spoke, showing how confident he was in his plan.

After some time had passed, Ryosuke was back in his mansion, staring at the corpses with a grim expression plastered on his face. Turning to his subordinate, he asked, "So? Did you figure out who they're supposed to be?"

"They don't have any identities, Mr. Watanabe. I can't figure out who they are at all." His subordinate shook their head. "The only person who dares to hurt my daughter in Xendale must be Asuka. He's gone crazy with his obsession to become the family head!" Ryosuke was well aware that no one else would have the balls to pull such a stunt aside from Asuka.

"All of these people died simultaneously from a wound in their chests, Mr. Watanabe. Whoever killed them must've been extremely powerful," the subordinate analyzed.

"I heard from Yuri that her Chanaean friend killed them all with a wave of his hand. Based on that alone, I assume he must be at least a Greater Martial Arts Marquis! He might be even more powerful than that. I want you to investigate who her friend is in secret and learn what kind of person he is!" ordered Ryosuke.

His subordinate nodded in understanding, then hurried off to carry out his duties. Immediately after the subordinate left, Ryosuke heard shouting outside, followed by a series of hurried footsteps.

"D\*mmit! Who dared to hurt my niece? In Xendale, of all places? They must have a death wish to injure a member of the Watanabe family! If I find out who did it, I'll skin them alive!" A middle-aged man in a samurai outfit entered the room with a pair of wooden clogs.

He was Asuka Watanabe, Ryosuke's little brother. A young man was trailed behind Asuka. Despite his gentlemanly appearance, there was a sharp, cold look in his eyes.

He was Asuka's son, Haruto Watanabe. Seeing his younger brother arrive in a panic whilst putting on a pretense was revolting for Ryosuke. "Have you caught the assassins

who threatened Yuri's life yet, Ryosuke?" asked Asuka the moment he stepped in. "They're lying on the floor." Ryosuke pointed at the corpses.

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Asuka was visibly stunned when he saw the corpses. Clearly, he didn't know they were already dead. Meanwhile, Ryosuke carefully and coldly observed the change in his little brother's countenance.

"Have you discovered their identities yet, Ryosuke? I can't believe someone has the nerve to attack Yuri. This is simply outrageous!" Asuka continued putting on act, pretending as if he was truly outraged by the incident.

"Their identities have been wiped clean. I can't find anything about them. Although, regardless of who's behind this, I'll snuff them out," Ryosuke spat, his tone ice-cold.

In response, Asuka avoided looking at his older brother and bobbed his head earnestly. "Yes, we must. I'm glad that Yuri's fine. In any case, I'll take my leave now."

Upon ending his sentence, he spun on his heels. and strode away with his son in tow. Just as he exited Ryosuke's home, Asuka snapped his sight to his son and shouted, "You b\*stard! Who the heck did you hire to do the job? What a bunch of useless trash!"

Haruto could do nothing but lower his head in silence. I don't get it. I sent so many people to kidnap Yuri, so why were they killed instead of succeeding? Yuri's definitely not powerful enough to defeat them!

When his train of thought ended, he offered an explanation to his father, deducing, "Maybe an expert is protecting her, Dad. That's why the operation failed."

"Are you saying Ryosuke has grown wary of us and hired a powerful bodyguard to defend her?" Asuka's eyes narrowed. "Yes. He must've noticed something. We must quicken our pace." The younger man nodded. After briefly contemplating his next move, Asuka ordered, "Tell Kazuo to meet me. I want to discuss the matter with him."

Haruto then left to fulfill his father's request. Meanwhile, Asuka spun toward and gazed at Ryosuke's mansion with a sharp look. "Just wait. One day, I'll live inside that mansion..."

Concurrently, in a slightly old tavern, Kai and Flaxseed sat at a table. Before them was a drunken old man guzzling a pot of alcohol. Staring at the old man, Kai asked resignedly, "Is this your old friend, Mr. Flaxseed?"

Flaxseed nodded. "That's him."

“Are you seriously telling me that this drunkard is as strong as, if not more powerful, than you? He’s drinking that alcohol as though his life depends on it!” After a brief pause in his speech, Kai flashed his companion a bitter smile. “Although, it makes sense that you two are good friends. After all, one’s a pervert, and the other’s an alcoholic.”

A hint of awkwardness flitted across Flaxseed’s visage as he leaned forward and snatched the pot away from the old man. “You’ve been staying in Jetroina for years, Fandor. Have you been drinking like this for all this time?”

Fandor Loufury raised his eyes and smiled faintly. “Life’s short, and drinking makes me happy, so why not?” Upon completing his sentence, he breathed in gently, sucking the alcohol in the pot within Flaxseed’s grasp directly into his mouth..

When Kai saw that, he immediately realized Flaxseed was telling the truth. I couldn’t sense any spiritual energy coming from Fandor when he sucked the wine into his mouth. He really is powerful!

After emptying the pot, Fandor rubbed his mouth with immense satisfaction and turned to Flaxseed. Then, he shamelessly requested, “Pay my tab, will you?”

Flaxseed grew incredibly furious upon hearing that. “I came all the way here to visit you, yet you’re asking me to pay for your alcohol instead of welcoming me? Unbelievable!”

Promptly, Kai stood and offered, “I’ll do it.” In response, Fandor sniggered. “Thanks. Well, since you’re paying, I suppose I’ll drink one more pot of alcohol...”

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As he spoke, Fandor ordered the waiter to bring another pitcher of wine. Kai gave him a faint smile and settled the bill. He then took out a wad of money, put it on the bar counter, and said to the waiter, “I’ll leave the money here. From now on, this gentleman doesn’t have to pay when he comes to drink.”

“Okay...” Upon noticing the wad of cash, the waiter immediately kept it away. Fandor laughed heartily. “What a steady young lad. You’re so much better than that stingy old man. Come, let’s go over to my house now.”

Fandor continued laughing and wrapped his hand around Kai’s shoulder. After shooting daggers at Fandor, Flaxseed left the bar with them.

Not long after leaving the bar, Kai felt like someone was following them from behind. When he was about to turn around to see who the person was, Fandor gently tapped his shoulder and warned, “Just keep walking...”

Kai heeded the old man's advice and kept walking, acting as if he was oblivious to the fact that someone was tailing them. Once they arrived at a secluded corner, Fandor stopped walking. His cloudy and hazy eyes suddenly lit up in an instant.

"Show yourself, or be prepared to face your death." Fandor's soft voice echoed with immense power, audible from several hundred feet away. After hearing Fandor's voice, two martial artists clad in samurai attire emerged from their hidden location.

"A bunch of good-for-nothings from the Watanabe family-how dare you follow me?" Fandor narrowed his eyes, and a murderous aura instantly shrouded the two samurai.

The two samurai were so terrified that they trembled and dropped to their knees. "Forgive us, Mr. Loufury. We didn't mean to follow you. We were just following him..." they explained, pointing a finger at Kai..

It was evident to Fandor that they did not have the nerve to stalk him. He questioned the samurai, "He's my friend. Why are you following him?"

The samurai exchanged glances, but neither of them was bold enough to break the silence. Fandor snorted before exhaling a cloud of mist that enveloped the two samurai.

"Ah!" The two samurai wailed in pain. One of them could not take it anymore and blurted it out. "Mr. Loufury, Mr. Ryosuke ordered us to investigate the man because he rescued Ms. Yuri. He wanted to know more about this man..."

Upon hearing that, Fandor waved his hand. casually, dispelling the mist. As the pain dissipated in a moment, the two samurai got up, trembling with fear.

"Now that you're aware he's my friend, go back and tell Ryosuke not to have any funny ideas about him," Fandor warned icily. "U-Understood, sir." The samurai from the Watanabe family ran away in fear. After they had left, Kai and Flaxseed looked at Fandor in shock.

They could not understand why the two samurai from the Watanabe family were frightened of that unkempt drunkard and even addressed him as Mr. Loufury. The Watanabe family is the most influential in Xendale, right? I thought no one dared to cross them. But it seems they're afraid of stepping on Fandor's toes.

"What's going on, Fandor? Why did the samurai from the Watanabe family call you Mr. Loufury, and why are they terrified of you?" Flaxseed asked, looking confused.

"Because they know I'll kill them if they annoy. me," Fandor replied with a faint smile. Just when Flaxseed wanted to ask further, Fandor interjected, "All right. I'll tell you more once we reach home."



Flaxseed and Kai continued walking with Fandor for another half an hour before arriving in a village in the suburbs. The village appeared peaceful, and Fandor's house was located right in the heart of it. The house, however, was extremely run-down. It was nothing more than a dilapidated wooden shack.

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Kai's and Flaxseed's jaws dropped when they stepped into the wooden shack and saw how shabby the house was. The room lacked decent furniture but was cluttered with empty alcohol bottles.

"Fandor, is this where you live? It's almost like you're living in a run-down doghouse. What kind of work have you been doing in Jetroina? It seems you can't even make a decent living out of it!" Flaxseed could not help but sigh.

Kai, too, was taken aback by what he saw. He thought Fandor would be living a better life than this, given the latter's capabilities. Fandor sighed and said, "It's not easy running a business these days. It's beyond my control..."

"What kind of business?" Flaxseed asked. Then came Fandor's response, uttered in a tone that was as calm as the sea. "I'm in the assassination business..."

"Assassination business?" Flaxseed did not understand for a moment. On the other hand, Kai immediately comprehended what Fandor was saying. He asked, "You're an assassin?"

Fandor bobbed his head in response, making it clear that he had no desire to hide the truth from them. "How did you end up living like this despite your strength? I'm sure people would be willing to hire someone as capable as you." Observing Fandor's current situation, Flaxseed figured he was not in high demand. Fandor shook his head. "It's not that no one wants to hire me. They just can't afford me..."

Once again, his words rendered Flaxseed and Kai speechless as they struggled to comprehend their meaning. "They can't afford you? How much do you charge? To the point that they don't have the money to pay you?" Flaxseed asked out of curiosity.

"Ten billion..." Fandor answered nonchalantly. Kai and Flaxseed were taken aback by his reply. Ten billion just to kill one person? No wonder he's out of everyone's price range.

"You've reached this point, and you're still insisting on ten billion for compensation? No one would be foolish enough to pay that astronomical amount for your services. Wouldn't it make more sense to lower your price and improve your living conditions?" Flaxseed could not understand why Fandor would continue to demand such an

exorbitant amount for an assassination project when the latter was clearly struggling to make ends meet.

“I may be able to survive without food or drink, but the price cannot change. Otherwise, I would be lowering the value of my skills,” said the old man with great pride.

Flaxseed did not know how to react to his remark. Kai, on the other hand, was curious to find out more. “Why were the samurai from the Watanabe family afraid of you? Is it because of the ten billion you demanded?”

“Of course not. It’s because I wiped out all the other assassins in Xendale to attract more business. That’s why they’re afraid of me. But now, no one wants to hire me, even though I’d gotten rid of all the assassins in the city...” Fandor explained with a tone of helplessness.

Flaxseed and Kai could not believe their ears. when they heard Fandor had wiped out all the assassins in Xendale just to get more business. Getting rid of all his competitors-only Fandor could come up with such an unusual business strategy!

While Kai was impressed with Fandor, Flaxseed looked at the latter with a bewildered expression. “Fandor, can you tell me more about the Watanabe family? I came here because of them,” Kai asked while looking at Fandor.

“You came here for the Watanabes?” Fandor was taken aback for a moment. Flaxseed promptly intervened and elucidated the animosity between Kai and the Watanabe family.

Upon hearing that, Fandor finally got a clearer picture of their relationship. He gradually spoke up. “I’ll tell you some secrets since you bought me drinks.”

As Fandor disclosed the secrets, Kai and Flaxseed became increasingly alarmed. The Watanabe family’s rise to power and influence in Jetroina, especially in Xendale, was attributed to the support they received from a particular shrine!

The people in Jetroina had great faith in the power of shrines, to the extent that some were willing to make sacrifices in order to please their imaginary divine beings.