

The Shining Star Above The Heaven

- Chapter 845 - 845: Almost Done?

Chapter 845 - 845: Almost Done?

[1,509 words]

Swish!

The spear swept across the assassin's neck. The assassin, unable to even shout because of the spatial lock, could only feel the spear pass through his neck. A split moment later, the spatial lock was released by the avatar, and the head separated from the body as both collapsed to the ground.

The other two assassins were also being taken care of by the avatar. The avatar teleported to one of them and slashed with the intent to kill. The assassin, already tense, instantly evaded the surprise attack, but he could not move too far before the avatar used another spatial lock.

Before the avatar could deliver the finishing blow, another assassin appeared beside him. It looked like the other assassin had abandoned his opponent to help his comrade fight against him. The assassin attacked the avatar, but the avatar evaded by teleporting nearby. The spatial lock was also released the moment he teleported, allowing the assassin to move again.

The two assassins did not pursue the avatar and instead watched him solemnly. They truly did not understand how a pseudo immortal establishment stage cultivator could be so powerful. They finally understood what had happened to those who had been killed by Sir Ferix.

The thing that trapped them was a kind of trapping technique based on space laws, and it was actually a strong technique of space laws. Precise control of space was needed to make what the avatar did possible.

Deep comprehension was also required, and for the space to be powerful enough to trap them, pseudo immortal stage cultivators, the avatar must have comprehension at least at the same level as middle pseudo immortal stage cultivator.

How was that possible when they sensed that the avatar's cultivation was only at the low pseudo immortal establishment stage?

Looking at the situation, it seemed they were left with two choices—escape or suicide. The escape option was impossible because the barrier was still erected, so the choice was obvious. But they were not confident that their sacrifice would achieve anything at all.

What if this person before them suddenly did something similar to what happened to the other two assassins who had already committed suicide? Their deaths would be in vain.

As they kept thinking about how to face Aldrian and complete the mission, they saw the avatar's body suddenly crackle with lightning. The sudden appearance of lightning made them break into goosebumps as they sensed that its power could kill them. This man had also comprehended lightning laws strong enough to kill them.

They decided to turn into their shadow forms and escape from the area first. They needed to reorganize with the others to face this man and Sir Ferix. Since they knew that the avatar could sense their movements, they split in two directions.

They could only hope that their shadow forms would not be affected by the lightning. Their shadow bodies could ignore elemental attacks, after all. That was what they had always experienced as assassins.

Rumble!

However, before they could get far, the lightning actually caught up to them. They had no time to look back when the lightning suddenly struck their shadow bodies. They could only feel scorching pain and the surge of electricity for a few seconds before everything fell into darkness.

The lightning that caught their shadow bodies turned them corporeal again. Their bodies became human-shaped charcoal before crumbling like burnt ash.

Their shadow forms were useless against lightning infused with death laws, as the death laws corroded their shadow bodies. In front of the death laws, everything was meaningless. Anything that came into contact with them would be affected.

After clearing the assassins, the avatar looked at Sir Ferix. He then approached him, touched his shoulder, and teleported them elsewhere.

The people watched in silence as the avatar and Sir Ferix disappeared. Their eyes turned to the battle area, staring at the fallen assassins. They had done little, and the problem had been taken care of by those two figures.

Although they were surprised by Sir Ferix's strength, they were even more shocked by his guardian. The avatar was truly powerful, and this was the first time they had seen someone like him. A man at low pseudo immortal establishment stage could unleash an attack capable of killing low pseudo immortal stage cultivators.

The technique used by the guardian was both mysterious and terrifying. They had never seen anyone utilize space laws like that, and it was also the first time they had sensed such terrifying lightning.

The blackish lightning stirred dread deep within their minds and even their souls. They knew that if they ever touched that lightning, they would die, there was no other outcome.

"All of you, don't just stand still! Go help in the other areas. There are still some assassins lurking and fighting within the manor grounds!" one of the elders shouted.

They snapped out of their shock and quickly rushed toward the direction of the other battles. At this moment, sounds of fighting still echoed from several parts of the manor grounds. The number of assassins kept decreasing, but they had already killed many people, including some of their main targets. Those who were still alive were mostly saved by Sir Ferix and the avatar.

Sir Ferix and the avatar continued to help eliminate the remaining assassins wherever the sounds of battle could still be heard. After several teleportations, they finally located the last area where fighting was still raging.

The avatar then teleported to the final site with Sir Ferix. They arrived near the building where Munez was being treated, standing atop one of the trees hidden under the shadows.

From their position, they could see many cultivators from the Barevisk family trying to enter the area where the building stood. However, several assassins were blocking their way.

Those assassins were strong and persistent, preventing any cultivators from barging into the building. Fortunately, with the battles in other parts of the manor already finished, reinforcements could now come to support this area.

From within the building, the avatar also heard the sound of clashing and guessed that the leader of the Silent Reaper might be inside, targeting Munez personally.

The avatar narrowed his eyes. The situation seemed to have reached a stalemate, with both sides locked in combat. The avatar did not see Grand Elder Javier among them, so he assumed Grand Elder Javier was inside the building facing the leader directly.

He then looked at Sir Ferix beside him. Sir Ferix could still fight and nodded to himself. As for the avatar, more than half of his energy had already been depleted. He could feel himself growing weaker. Even under normal circumstances, he would not be able to contend with the leader of the Silent Reaper, much less now.

But the avatar was not discouraged. He had one hidden card in mind to take down the leader of the Silent Reaper. A card the leader himself would never expect.

Inside the building, which was already a mess with destroyed rooms and even half of it gone, three figures faced each other—Grand Elder Javier, another grand elder of the family, and Pedro, the master of the Silent Reaper.

The two grand elders gasped for breath as they tried to steady themselves. Sweat dripped from their faces; they had been fighting Pedro since the beginning of the chaos. No, calling it a battle was too much for what had actually happened. Their actions were more of a defense, protecting the unconscious Munez so that Pedro could not break through the barrier and kill him.

Pedro's main target was the patriarch, and he constantly tried to bypass them, launching powerful attacks toward Munez. If not for the barrier protecting Munez's bed, he would have already died several times over.

Sometimes, they also had to defend against Pedro's counterattacks as he tried to get rid of one of them, especially the grand elder beside Javier. They were forced to join hands to shield themselves from his strikes.

The barrier protecting Munez's bed, which had already taken several hits, was weakening and would shatter with one or two more attacks. They had to hold on until reinforcements arrived so they could deal with this legendary assassin together.

However, even just holding him off was overwhelming, and they could see that Pedro was not even going all out. His eyes behind the mask remained calm, and they guessed that if he had targeted them from the start instead of focusing on the patriarch, they would not be left merely exhausted.

Fortunately, they were able to guard each other despite the dire situation, preventing themselves from being killed by Pedro.

Pedro was truly a terrifying assassin, just as his legend described.

Pedro looked at them calmly. He sensed that more and more people were gathering near the area. He knew something had gone wrong with the mission, as many people were closing in on this place.

From the explosions and the fact that his targets were still alive, he sighed.

"It looks like I still have to do it myself," he said suddenly.

The two grand elders readied themselves for whatever Pedro was about to unleash.

But then—

Zung!

Suddenly, darkness covered their sight. At that moment, the entire manor grounds were swallowed by darkness.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 846 - 846: The Hidden Card

[1,514 words]

Darkness covered the entire floating land, shocking everyone within it. The absolute darkness caught all the people on the manor grounds off guard, as none of them were prepared for it.

This darkness was not an ordinary one where light simply could not reach. Its very properties were suffocating, restricting everything within. The cultivators inside found their senses dulled, and this did not only apply to their spiritual sense.

Their sight was completely obstructed in the darkness, their hearing sensitivity greatly reduced, and their sense of direction thrown into chaos. Their capabilities were severely limited here.

This was the Domain of Darkness belonging to Pedro, master of the Silent Reaper. As a peak pseudo-immortal stage cultivator, his domain was naturally powerful. But Pedro stood out even among pseudo-immortal cultivators.

His comprehension of darkness laws and their derivative, shadow laws, was the strongest. Once he used techniques based on the darkness laws, he became extremely difficult to defeat. Moreover, his Domain of Darkness, which he named the Domain of the Dark World, was a truly terrifying domain.

The domain could greatly weaken any cultivator within it. Within his domain, he naturally became far more powerful.

There were even stories claiming that he was truly invisible inside it, and that once someone was trapped within, they could never escape or survive. Though those stories were questionable, since no one had ever seen his domain directly and their origins were unclear, many still believed them.

The size of the domain was immense, covering the entire floating land that spanned a thousand square kilometres.

In this world of darkness, he was both king and reaper.

The people trapped within the darkness fell into panic as they could not sense anything around them. Even someone standing right beside them could not be sensed. The only thing they could rely on was physical touch.

Some tried to light their surroundings with flames formed from their fire laws, but the light from the fire only illuminated their hands. It was as if the darkness itself blocked the light from spreading.

As for the pseudo-immortal stage cultivators, they could still do more than rely on physical touch. However, their capabilities were greatly reduced, as they couldn't effectively use their elemental techniques. The Domain of the Dark World caused all elemental energy within it to become corrupted by darkness.

The avatar looked at the darkness with a calm expression. Inside this darkness, his spiritual sense was indeed obstructed by an invisible force. He was truly like a blind and deaf person. He knew he would have to exert more effort if he wanted to break free from the domain's effects, which would consume even more of his energy that was already less than half.

However, despite the disadvantageous situation, he did not panic. Instead, he smiled.

'Well, let's use the hidden card,' he thought.

After creating his domain, Pedro could feel his energy depleting at great speed. This was the weakness of his domain. Although it seemed overpowered, there was always a price to pay for such power, and that was its immense energy consumption.

Even a normal domain already consumed a large amount of energy, but this one was special—it drained far more. Even as a pseudo-immortal stage cultivator, he could feel his energy being absorbed rapidly.

That was why he did not want to unleash his domain recklessly in battle. He would only use it when he believed there was no other choice. Once activated, he had to ensure

that he achieved his goal and escaped as quickly as possible, or he would be left drained of energy.

At that point, anyone could kill him easily.

'I have to finish this as soon as possible,' he thought.

He had to make sure that all targets were dead. At this moment he had no choice. The mission seemed to have gone wrong, and many of his men already appeared to be dead. It was a pity, but at least he was still alive, and his group could still stand in the future. As long as he remained alive, the Silent Reaper would endure.

If he went back now, the situation would become much worse.

Even Munez was still not dead.

Inside the darkness he could see and sense everything within his domain clearly. He used his senses to locate the targets that were still alive across the manor grounds.

But then, as he marked each target, he sensed someone approaching him.

He knew who was approaching, so he did not care. He thought the figure only wanted to gather beside him after he activated his domain. The figure could still move in the darkness and seemed to know where to go, but Pedro did not seem surprised.

The figure knew how to adapt inside the darkness, and was the only one he knew who could move without much trouble inside his domain.

He thought that he could order the figure to kill the other targets to shorten the time.

"I will kill Munez and the other targets on the northern and western sides, while you take care of the eastern and southern sides," he sent through voice transmission.

The figure was already standing beside him and replied softly with moving lips.

"Alright."

Stab!

"But I think you should be the one to go first," the figure added.

Pedro's eyes widened in shock as a dagger pierced straight into his heart. He could not comprehend what had happened, his trembling eyes slowly fixed on the dagger in his chest before he looked at the figure before him.

The domain Pedro had created trembled violently before shattering apart as he lost control of it. The people around were stunned once again when the darkness shattered, allowing them to see their surroundings. Confused, they looked around in disbelief, unsure of what had just occurred.

Realizing they were still in the middle of a critical situation, they quickly took up ready positions once more, preparing to face the assassins who had already disappeared.

"They must be hiding nearby when we lost sight of them in the darkness just now! Find them!" one of the elders shouted to the others. Without hesitation, the others scattered to search for the assassins.

Back in Munez's destroyed room, Grand Elder Javier and the other grand elder widened their eyes in astonishment at the scene not far from them. What they saw was Pedro being stabbed by what appeared to be one of his own men.

They did not know who this figure was, but from his attire, they were certain he was one of the assassins from the Silent Reaper. However, for Grand Elder Javier, it seemed he was already somewhat prepared for this scene, even though he was still in shock.

Aldrian the Great had already told him that he possessed a hidden card he could use, though he did not know what it was. The only thing he knew was that this hidden card would be useful if the Silent Reaper ever attacked the Baverisk family. Now, he finally understood that the hidden card was actually someone from the Silent Reaper itself.

The other grand elder who witnessed the scene also did not make any move, as he could not grasp the situation before him. How could there be a traitor within the Silent Reaper? This was the first time he had ever seen someone dare to betray the master of the Silent Reaper.

Pedro, whose heart had been stabbed by the figure, was already vomiting blood. It dripped from the gap in his mask and down his chin. Enduring the pain spreading through his chest, he opened his trembling lips.

"Luvier... what are you doing?" he asked with a strained voice and shaking body as he tried to grasp Luvier's hand. But Luvier did not answer. Instead, he drove the dagger even deeper into Pedro's heart.

"Uwokh..." Pedro vomited blood again, his breath growing shallow as suffocation set in. He could feel his strength leaving his body. He sensed that the dagger was laced with poison, making it even deadlier for him. At that moment, he knew his time had come.

He was going to die, and there was nothing he could do about it. He couldn't even end his own life, as the spreading poison had already crippled his ability to control energy.

"Why?" he asked one last time before his body collapsed, the poison spreading rapidly through his internal organs and even his soul.

The special poison that Luvier had prepared for this moment was a deadly toxin he had discovered long ago in the Poison Valley during one of his ventures.

There, he had found a small pond filled with a strange poison that possessed a lethal effect on both body and soul. He believed it to be a mutated poison formed by the valley's environment. He had taken it, thinking it would be useful for assassination missions.

Now, that same poison was claiming another victim.

Luvier watched as Pedro's body lay on the floor, his limbs convulsing violently. His breathing grew weaker and weaker until, after a few seconds, his body finally went still. His eyes turned lifeless as his soul departed from his body.

At that moment, one of the most feared figures in the Akares Star met an anticlimactic end—betrayed by the very person he trusted most within his own organization.

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Chapter 847 - 847: The Rumor Spread

[1,621 words]

Luvier looked at the corpse of his master without much expression behind his mask. At this moment, he felt nothing and thought that this was how it was supposed to be. This was the best course of action. He needed to kill his master at that moment. He just felt it was right to kill him.

He then turned his gaze toward the two grand elders.

"I give up. The battle is over. Master is dead," he said while raising both hands.

The two grand elders, who had finally realized who this person was, remained speechless. To think that the one who betrayed the master was actually his second in command, the vice master himself. The two grand elders looked at Luvier warily as they finally approached him.

The grand elder beside Javier immediately apprehended Luvier, holding his hands behind his back, while Grand Elder Javier stood beside the corpse of the master of the Silent Reaper. He was still in disbelief that one of the most feared men in this world had fallen like that—to be betrayed at the very end.

His gaze then turned toward Luvier. His mind began to think about how Aldrian the Great could make this man, who seemed to have great loyalty toward the master of the Silent Reaper, betray him. The assassins of the Silent Reaper were a tough group, and they always carried their loyalty to the organization until death.

For a long time, he had never heard of anyone from the Silent Reaper bending to any power or betraying their organization. Even if someone from that organization was captured, they would choose to die rather than betray it. No matter the pressure or the torture, they remained steadfast until the end.

So how could Aldrian the Great convince this one man—not just anyone, but the vice master himself—to betray the Silent Reaper?

He did not think too much about it and decided to remain silent while helping the other grand elder handle the aftermath of the attack. While they were dealing with the aftermath of their battle with Pedro, the avatar and Sir Ferix were hunting the assassins who had been hiding earlier.

These assassins took advantage of Pedro's domain of darkness to hide. Although they were also affected by the domain, the effect was not as extreme as it was for the others. That was because of the similarities in their cultivation techniques and the laws they had comprehended.

The avatar could sense the assassins' presence because he had also comprehended darkness laws and shadow laws. He spread his senses to sweep through the area, and whenever he found an assassin hiding, he would teleport with Sir Ferix to eliminate them. They acted the same way as they had earlier.

After more than fifteen minutes, all the assassins inside the manor were finally dealt with, and the Barevisk family began taking care of the aftermath of the attack.

The next day, the people of the city and even those beyond, were in an uproar after hearing the news. Several reports spread, but the main story was about what had happened last night. Everyone was shocked that the Silent Reaper had launched a surprise attack that killed many people in the Barevisk family's manor.

It was said that the Silent Reaper sent many of their strongest assassins for the assault, and the Barevisk family lost several of their elders. The people remembered the

explosion from last night and began to link it to the incident. That massive explosion resembled the self-destruction of someone at a high cultivation stage.

There was also news that the leader of the Silent Reaper had fallen that night. This was the most shocking part, as it was a truly significant event. The legendary assassin who had terrorized the continent for so long had finally fallen.

Some people still refused to believe it since they had not seen the corpse, but it was said that the Barevisk family was keeping the body for investigation. They planned to show it to the public once their investigation was complete.

Another surprising report was that the Barevisk family had managed to apprehend the vice master of the Silent Reaper alive. That was something few in the world could accomplish. Capturing anyone from the Silent Reaper was already remarkable, but capturing their vice master was an achievement that even the Valroy family might not have been able to achieve.

Usually, those assassins would choose suicide, and the vice master himself was also well-known in the assassin world. He was said to be the successor of the master of the Silent Reaper. Someone like that would never allow himself to be captured.

Another shocking story was about the younger brother of the patriarch, Ferix Barevisk. Those who knew what had happened at the manor said that Elder Ferix had truly helped and saved many people from the assassins. He displayed such brilliance that many were left in awe.

He showed everyone that he was a genius cultivator with the strength to kill a middle pseudo-immortal stage cultivator. He had already recovered from his strange illness and his cultivation had returned like in the past. If not for him and his guardian, the number of deaths caused by the assassins would have been far greater.

His guardian became another topic that shocked many people. Elder Ferix's guardian was still at the low pseudo-immortal establishment stage, yet he was able to kill someone at the pseudo-immortal stage. He displayed a powerful technique capable of fighting one major realm higher—a feat many had only ever heard of in the stories of Aldrian the Great.

Many truly wondered where Sir Ferix had found his guardian. Did the origin of his guardian have anything to do with his recovery? Had he received support from an unknown power?

The events last night, which resulted in so many surprising revelations, caused people to discuss the matter seriously. The gossip about the attack on the patriarch was still fresh, yet the last night incident added even more fuel to the rumors.

How could the Silent Reaper act so recklessly, or even desperately?

From the way the story spread, those assassins seemed to have acted outside their usual behavior. The attack last night seemed more like an initiative taken by the Silent Reaper themselves. There were conspiracies claiming that someone had paid them to do it, but many doubted that theory.

Just how much would someone have to pay to make so many assassins move, especially when the master of the Silent Reaper personally led the attack?

Moreover, all the assassins involved were said to possess high cultivation, at least at the middle pseudo-immortal establishment stage.

If someone had truly hired the Silent Reaper, why would they need that much power? Such strength would be enough to annihilate an entire family. Yet, from what people heard, those assassins seemed to target specific individuals, though the reason for choosing those targets remained unknown.

That was why many believed the Silent Reaper had acted on their own when attacking the Barevisk family.

The question was, why would they do that?

This became another hot topic among the populace, causing many to speculate and discuss the conspiracy behind the scenes.

By afternoon, the entire Akares Star had already heard and was talking about this matter. The event even overshadowed the discussions about Aldrian the Great.

That was understandable, since for them, this major news from their own world felt more relevant and impactful than news from another world.

However, unbeknown to many, the shocking news that spread that morning was only the beginning of what was to come. Later that evening, another piece of news spread, causing yet another uproar among the populace. It was about the truth behind the Silent Reaper's attack and the truth about Patriarch Barevisk.

That evening, rumors about the Silent Reaper and Patriarch Barevisk spread rapidly. The rumor claimed that Patriarch Barevisk had a close connection with the leader of the Silent Reaper, and that this was the reason behind the organization's attack on the Barevisk family. It was said that this information came from someone who knew the interrogation results of the vice master of the Silent Reaper.

The patriarch had a close connection with the Silent Reaper for a long time, and he was said to have used their services repeatedly. Some of the most famous assassination cases in the past were rumored to have him as the employer. This revelation shocked many, as those cases had remained mysteries. Although people had always known assassins were involved, they never knew who was truly responsible.

Another rumor that spread was about why the Silent Reaper attacked the Barevisk family. It was said to be related to Aldrian the Great. The moment people heard that name, chills ran down their spines.

Why was Aldrian the Great involved in this? How did the Barevisk family get entangled with such a powerful man?

That question was answered by the rumor itself. Patriarch Barevisk was said to have hired the Silent Reaper to assassinate Aldrian the Great. The moment people heard this reason, their hearts sank.

That was insane!

Many did not immediately believe the rumor, as they could not find any reason for Patriarch Barevisk to do such a thing. Why would he try to kill Aldrian the Great?

However, it was said that the reason the Silent Reaper attacked the Barevisk family was to hide from Aldrian the Great. It was also said to be their way of erasing their traces from the assassination mission, which they had supposedly canceled on their own.

The Silent Reaper could not kill Aldrian the Great!

They had retreated!

Aldrian the Great had discovered their movements, forcing them to act.

Then, when the moon was already high in the sky, the populace still had not calmed down, as another piece of rumor spread. A rumor that made many people furious, the past of Patriarch Barevisk had suddenly come to light.

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Chapter 848 - 848: The Chaos

[1,642 words]

The rumor about Patriarch Barevisk's past spread, and it made many people angry. It was a rumor that many found unacceptable, and although they still waited for confirmation, merely hearing it was enough to boil their blood.

The rumor claimed that Patriarch Barevisk had actually killed the previous patriarch, and that was the first thing that enraged many. The former patriarch was seen as a good leader with a noble character. Many believed he was the one who had kept the Barevisk family standing tall, even compared to the Valroy family.

That was why his death in the past had truly saddened many people. They had lost a leader with integrity. His successor, the current patriarch, was not as capable as him and had even made the Barevisk family seem more like the Valroy family's vassal.

This was something many pitied about what the current patriarch had turned the family into. But since the late patriarch had already chosen him as his successor, they could do nothing about it. They could only respect the former patriarch's decision.

That was why, once the rumor about what happened to the previous patriarch spread, many became angry because they felt they had been deceived. The thought that the late patriarch had not intended to give the successor position to the current patriarch made many fume with rage toward Munez.

Many also did not immediately believe the rumor because they did not know what had truly happened. But the thing was, that rumor seemed to fit the strangeness many had felt about the succession and about the current patriarch himself, how he led and how he had brought the family to this state.

There was no way the former patriarch would have chosen him if he had known the family would end up like this. Even though, at that time, Ferix Barevisk had already fallen from his status, the late patriarch would still never have given the successor position to Munez Barevisk.

All of this made far more sense, just as the rumor said. It fit perfectly into the puzzle, the current patriarch had killed his father and decided to make himself the successor.

Once the seed of doubt and conspiracy took root in their hearts, it became difficult to remove.

Then came another piece of the rumor—the current patriarch had connections with devils. This was the straw that broke the camel's back, and what was worse, out of nowhere, a recording spread, showing what had happened inside a devil's hideout.

The recording showed the current patriarch trapping his younger brother and his guardian on some kind of ritual platform.

The recording also showed the patriarch being interrogated by an unknown figure. Although many wondered who that person was, it did not matter. The patriarch's answers alone were enough to make him the most hated person in the family.

Patriarch Barevisk might have been attacked by that unknown person, which could be the reason he was left unconscious. This caused some confusion, since the earlier report had said that the patriarch was attacked by assassins from the Silent Reaper, but that no longer seemed to be the case.

Still, despite the confusion and inconsistency in the reports, the rumors and the appearance of the proof had already engulfed the people in fury, leaving them unable to think of anything else.

That was why, on the next day, chaos spread near the floating land. Many people tried to enter the floating land to demand that the patriarch be held accountable. Those who came were not only from the city but also from across the Barevisk family's territory.

The situation turned for the worse, as the Barevisk family had lost many elders and was still trying to recover from the Silent Reaper's surprise attack two days earlier. The patriarch still had not awakened, leaving many family members unsure of what to do.

With no clear order or direction, they could only try to calm the angry crowd.

But appeasing the furious people was not easy, especially after what they had seen in the recording. Even the grand elder had to step in to take control of the situation. Grand Elder Ricardo, the other grand elder besides Grand Elder Javier, was the one who tried to face the angry mob, but even he could do little.

The grand elder knew that the current Patriarch Barevisk was already finished. He would have to step down to appease the people and prevent the situation from worsening into a civil war they were certain to lose.

They had already lost many elders, all of whom were loyalists of the current patriarch, and with what little power remained, it was not enough to stand against the people's resistance. This did not even include the other powers that would undoubtedly meddle in the matter, making things worse.

He doubted that the Valroy family, who had stood behind the patriarch, would help him now. There was no way a family that valued its reputation would come to Munez's aid. Despite the patriarch having acted like their dog, the Valroy family would cast him aside without hesitation. The Barevisk family had been discarded once deemed useless.

They had lost their reputation, credibility, power, and now, all their dark secrets had been exposed.

Grand Elder Ricardo gritted his teeth as he stood beside the patriarch's bed in a newly prepared room inside the main manor. Munez still had not awakened, and the situation outside had already descended into chaos, with people still trying to enter the floating land.

They could still hold out for now, but he knew it would not last. As time passed, the situation only grew worse, and even a small spark would be enough to make many attack the Barevisk family without hesitation.

Grand Elder Ricardo was fuming as he placed the blame on Ferix and Grand Elder Javier. He believed all of this was part of their plan to destroy Munez. There was no way the situation could have escalated this severely and this quickly in just two days without Grand Elder Javier's influence. He was the only one with the connections to make such things happen.

Still, the person Ricardo hated most was Ferix himself.

How could he do this? He had been under the patriarch's surveillance the entire time, yet he had still managed to make all of this happen. How had the patriarch fallen into his trap and allowed this situation to unfold in the first place? And who was that unknown person in the recording?

There were many questions swirling in his mind, but when he confronted Javier, the man said nothing. Ricardo could not fight him, as that would only make the situation worsen even faster. Not only were their strengths roughly equal, but their faction was at its weakest after losing so many elders.

Their reputation was also at an all-time low. If he fought Grand Elder Javier now, he would gain nothing but the people's ire.

At this moment, there was nothing they could do except choose between two options—wait for their judgment or escape from this place. He believed that Ferix would most likely replace the patriarch. Even though Ferix did not have enough cultivation, this was a special circumstance, and he would likely be chosen.

With him becoming the patriarch, the only thing waiting for them was death. Because of that, Ricardo had already made his decision as his eyes glistened.

While Grand Elder Ricardo was deep in thought about his fate beside the unconscious Munez, in another part of the manor, Sir Ferix sat inside his pavilion with the avatar. In contrast to the chaos outside and the panic within Munez's faction, he was calmly enjoying tea beneath the pavilion in the middle of the pond.

The avatar sat across the table, also drinking tea.

After a few moments of silence as they enjoyed their tea in peace, Sir Ferix finally opened his lips.

"What a nice atmosphere. I feel so refreshed right now. How long has it been since I last felt this way?" he said with a smile as he looked at the beautiful pond surrounding them.

The avatar smiled at his words. "To think Sir Ferix would say something like that when the situation outside is truly chaotic and might even lead to civil war."

Hearing the avatar, Sir Ferix's smile widened. "Well, I can't help it. For so long, I've wanted to take revenge on Munez for everything I've gone through. Seeing everything he built crumble truly makes me feel refreshed. The burden in my heart fades with every passing second."

The avatar nodded before sipping his tea again. He could imagine it well. It was natural for Sir Ferix to feel satisfaction seeing his target suffer, even if it came at the cost of his own family's stability.

However, they had already prepared a plan to make sure the Barevisk family would not reach the point of collapse. There might be chaos, but they would not allow the family to fall.

Just as Grand Elder Ricardo had guessed, all of this could happen because of Grand Elder Javier's help. Thanks to his influence and connections, they were able to spread the rumor widely and quickly without detection.

There were also still many Sir Ferix loyalists whom they had already asked for help, and they too assisted in spreading the rumor.

As for the recording from the hideout, Aldrian had already altered some of the content to fit their plan's narrative. He blurred his figure in the recording so people would not know it was him, and he removed certain parts that implicated the Valroy family.

This made it seem as if the Valroy family's involvement was minimal and everything had been Munez's own decision. Although Valroy still suffered effects, the damage would not be nearly as great as it would have been if Aldrian had released the recording unchanged.

Now the only thing they could do was take advantage of the people's rage and make sure they controlled the flow of events from here on according to their planned course.

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Chapter 849 - 849: Discarded

[1,552 words]

"You bastards! Get that traitor out here now! Are you protecting the traitor who betrayed us for the devils?"

"You have all fallen too low if you must protect a leader who has ties to the devils. Your family deserves to fall!"

"Bring that bastard Munez out now! Let us see him!"

Many shouts resounded from the crowd near the teleportation formation in several places around the floating land. The remaining elders and many cultivators from the Barevisk family had already been dispatched to hold them off so they would not enter the formation.

As the crowd continued to grow, the cultivators from the Barevisk family became increasingly overwhelmed. With their numbers rising, the only thing preventing the situation from turning into a fight was that no one had started it yet. If someone crazy enough triggered the chain reaction, it could lead to a large-scale battle.

Fortunately, despite many anger and crowd, they could still holding back from triggering the bloodbath. They know that things will turn ugly if they just battle here. the power from the angry mobs are almost at the same with the cultivators from the Barevisk family that holding them off.

The other powers that came with the intent to visit the manor also joined the crowd, increasing both the morale and the strength of the people.

As the surroundings of the floating land grew more heated with chaos from the angry mob, an announcement finally came from above. It could be heard across the city, loud and clear.

"To the people of the Barevisk territory, I'm Ferix Barevisk. I have a few announcements to make."

The moment the people heard who it was, silence fell instantly. They wanted to hear the announcement, especially because the speaker could also be considered one of the victims of Munez's machinations. Before Munez was chosen as the successor, many had believed that Ferix was the only one worthy of becoming the next patriarch.

Now that he had returned, they wanted to know what stance Ferix would take.

"I already know about what my brother has done, and I want to tell you all that I am on your side. There is no place for traitors here, and whoever it is, even if it is my brother, I will let justice befall him," Sir Ferix said.

"Now, regarding this matter, I have decided to take it into my own hands. This is to prevent further chaos and to avoid any bloodshed. I will not let my family fall to traitors, and I will not let any of you die in a meaningless fight."

"With the support of the elders, I will assume the role of patriarch to stabilize the situation. I will conduct a full investigation into everything my brother has done in the past. I will bring the justice and judgment that my brother deserves."

Hearing that, the people felt satisfied and their anger calmed. These were the words they had been waiting for, to bring Munez and anyone involved with him to judgment.

"Second, regarding the attack by the Silent Reaper and their connection to my brother: I have already confirmed that the Silent Reaper received a mission from my older brother to assassinate His Majesty Aldrian the Great. The reason is still unknown because I could not question him; he is still unconscious.

"We have already established communication with His Majesty Aldrian the Great, and he does indeed know about this."

The people felt their hearts tremble. The rumor was actually true, and it made them uneasy. What would be Aldrian the Great's response? He would not take it lightly, right? His reputation alone already had a deterrent effect, let alone if he decided to act personally.

The Barevisk family could collapse in a single day. A long-standing family with a rich history would fall, and their fall would be a classic one—offending someone who should never have been offended.

"Fortunately, Aldrian the Great, in his generosity, has said that he will not take any action. Instead, he supports my decision and judgment. He will let us handle this matter ourselves."

The people released a sigh of relief. This was truly the best outcome. They could not help but praise Aldrian's generosity in this matter. Someone had tried to kill him, yet he chose not to pursue it personally. Instead, he entrusted the judgment to the family of the one who had tried to harm him.

However, the people also saw this as Aldrian the Great indirectly supporting Ferix Barevisk as the new patriarch. With Elder Ferix leading, he would finally take care of all the problems caused by his brother.

With the support of Aldrian the Great, Elder Ferix's position would become much stronger. Given the family's fragile situation, he would have greater authority to do whatever was necessary to fix the problems. Many even doubted there would be any opposition at all.

"Lastly, the Barevisk family will be closed to any visitors until we stabilize the family's condition and cleanse any remaining influence of my brother. I cannot promise how long it will take, but I will handle the matter as quickly as possible. We ask for your support and understanding regarding this."

"Please believe in me, and you will soon hear good news. Please return to your homes safely and in an orderly manner."

"That is all from me. Thank you for your attention, and have a good day."

After that, silence filled the air as Sir Ferix finished his announcement. The people understood that the situation had already been taken care of with his words, so they finally began to disperse. They still felt anger toward Munez, but they believed that Sir Ferix could restore the family.

Moreover, with Aldrian the Great behind him, there would be no problem.

A few hours later, in the Valroy family's manor, a middle-aged man sat in meditation inside his special training room. He was wearing a casual white robe designed specifically for training. He had long black hair and an unblemished face that could still attract many of the opposite sex.

His aura at the peak of the pseudo-immortal stage was truly intimidating as he circulated his cultivation technique. The space around him trembled slightly, and even his body floated a few centimeters above the ground.

A moment later, he took a deep breath as the energy surrounding him responded. The flow of energy gradually ceased, and his body slowly descended. A moment after, he opened his eyes. Blue irises, much like Aldrian's, shone calmly, his gaze radiated confidence, as if everything was under control.

This was the most powerful man in the Valroy family, the one who held the highest authority. The one and only patriarch of the Valroy family—Elliot Valroy.

He stood up and walked outside the room. The moment he stepped out, he was greeted by his butler, who was already standing beside the door.

"Good work on your effort, Master," the butler said as he handed Elliot a small white towel. Elliot took the towel and wiped the sweat from his face for a moment. After he was done, he looked at his butler.

"Is there anything I need to know after my seclusion this time?" he asked.

The butler nodded in response. "Yes, Master. In fact, during the month of your seclusion, many things have happened that you need to know. This also involves Young Master Randolph, and I must say, it is quite a serious matter. The detailed reports of everything that happened in the past month have already been placed on the table in your office."

Patriarch Elliot raised his eyebrows when he heard that. His son was directly involved? His curiosity rose, and he decided to take a look at the report first. He walked, followed by his butler, for a few minutes toward his office.

The moment he entered his office, he immediately saw several scrolls neatly arranged on his desk so he could read them comfortably and in order.

He did not waste any time and picked up the scroll on the far left to begin reading. As he read, his expression shifted from a frown to astonishment. Once he finished, he reached for the next scroll beside it. He continued in that manner until he had gone through all the reports.

After finishing, he frowned deeply and looked at his butler.

"What is Randolph's reaction? What move did he make regarding the matter with the Barevisk family?"

"Young Master Randolph has already sent word that we should not meddle in the Barevisk family's affairs. He instructed us to cut all connections with them and act as if we know nothing about what Munez has done. Fortunately, our involvement is still unknown to the public, so our image remains intact," the butler replied.

"With all those rumors, it would not be good to keep supporting Munez. Moreover, with Aldrian the Great involved in this, it would be bad for us to maintain any connection with Munez."

Patriarch Elliot nodded. In other words, they had to cast aside Munez and sever all their ties with the Barevisk family.

He agreed with Randolph's decision and could not help but once again feel proud of his son's judgment. This was the reason he had confidence in entrusting the family's authority to him during his absence, such as when he was in seclusion.

Still, he could not help but think about the recent events, those that also involved a man he already knew before his seclusion.

'Aldrian the Great... truly a terrifying man. Could Randolph handle him?'

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Chapter 850 - 850: The End of Munez

[1,543 words]

The next day, inside the room where Munez was kept, Sir Ferix and the avatar stood beside the unconscious Munez. His hands and feet were bound tightly with rope. They looked at the former patriarch for a moment before the avatar placed his hand on Munez's forehead.

He infused golden energy into him, healing the wounds in his soul, the very reason Munez remained unconscious until now. Aldrian's flick to his forehead back at the devils' hideout had shaken his soul greatly, leaving deep internal injuries.

If left alone, Munez would eventually have awakened after some time, but they needed him conscious now.

After channeling his golden energy for a while, the avatar withdrew his hand. Moments later, Munez's eyelids trembled before he suddenly opened his eyes wide.

He gasped sharply, breathing in deeply as his eyes darted around the room in panic. When he realized his limbs were bound and his cultivation sealed, his expression darkened. He was no different from an ordinary mortal.

When he recognized where he was and who stood beside him, he clenched his teeth tightly, glaring at the two figures.

"You sure slept well, brother. I thought you were already dead," Sir Ferix said. Munez knew his brother was mocking him.

"Don't be too arrogant, brother. You might have won, but this is not over for me—"

"No, it is already over, brother. You will be executed tomorrow. All you need to know is that the family is now in my hands. I have taken the position of patriarch and removed your influence completely. There is nothing you can do anymore."

Sir Ferix cut Munez's words short, and the interruption made him tremble.

"You, a patriarch? How long have I been unconscious?" Munez asked in a trembling voice.

"Not long, only a few days. In any case, we had to wake you so you could receive your punishment properly. You must stay awake, brother, and watch everything you have

built all this time crumble. I have already spread your past secrets to many people," Sir Ferix replied.

"Just look at the disgust on their faces when they see you tomorrow. I want you to remember every moment before your death clearly, brother."

Munez's expression went blank. It was truly over. He could not take his own life and he could not fight his way out. His life would end on the execution platform. His past glory would be forgotten and he would be branded a traitor forever.

The door to the room opened and Grand Elder Javier entered. He looked at Munez and raised his eyebrows. He approached Sir Ferix and stood beside him.

"All is done. We finished clearing the opposition faction. Some, like Grand Elder Ricardo, tried to escape, but we prevented them in time and locked them in the dungeon. We are still searching their residences for anything suspicious," he said.

Sir Ferix nodded.

"Thank you, Grand Elder, for your hard work. Without you, none of this would have gone so smoothly."

Hearing that, Grand Elder Javier smiled.

"I am just doing what was planned. All credit belongs to His Majesty, who made this possible in the first place. Without him, we would never have reached this point."

Sir Ferix nodded and looked toward the avatar, who was still staring at Munez. Thinking back, he felt that it was truly his fortune that Aldrian had paid attention and listened to his daughter's story. If Aldrian were not a patient or generous person, he could have simply killed his daughter and dealt with the Barevisk family as he saw fit.

But instead, he came to him and helped him escape his bad fate. A person as strong as Aldrian taking the time to make Munez face his judgment while also helping someone else was enough to show his character. Although Aldrian had his own interests in doing so, that did not change the fact that he had helped him and prevented a much more severe bloodbath.

Thanks to him, the Barevisk family would not collapse. The family that had been built through so much struggle by many generations of ancestors would not be destroyed in the hands of the unworthy Munez.

Sir Ferix's attention shifted back to Munez when he heard his brother sigh heavily. It was a sigh full of resignation.

"Well, congratulations, brother. You win and become the patriarch. That old man's wish has also come true. Do you know how he looked before he died, brother? The despair and powerlessness on his face before he—"

Whack!

Before he could finish his words, Sir Ferix had already punched Munez hard in the face. Blood flowed from his lips, but he remained conscious. Sir Ferix punched him again and again until Munez finally fell unconscious, his face swollen and bloodied.

"Oh well, you made him unconscious again, Sir Ferix," the avatar said with a smile and a joking tone, which made Sir Ferix sigh.

"My apologies, Your Majesty. I could not hold back. His words were truly infuriating."

Sir Ferix, of course, knew who Munez was talking about. It was their father. The only one who knew what had happened in their father's final moments was Munez. He did not know how Munez had managed to kill their father, the strongest cultivator in the family at that time, and he did not wish to know how he had done it.

Even so, he could guess that the Valroy family had a hand in it. He could not shake the thought that they were deeply involved in everything Munez had done in the past.

He truly wanted to see that family face judgment as well. They had brought so much destruction to his family during Munez's time as patriarch.

But he knew he could not do it on his own. The Valroy family, being the strongest family in the Akares Star, was not a title earned for nothing. A family with such deep history and power would be difficult to bring to justice, even if he gathered many forces to pressure them.

The only way to bring down the Valroy family was with the help of someone like Aldrian the Great. With his power, even the entire Valroy family would stand no chance against him.

Unfortunately, Aldrian the Great seemed to have his own opinion and plans regarding them. He appeared to have excluded the Valroy family from his plan to eliminate Munez. Sir Ferix understood his own position and was self-aware enough not to ask anything further. For now, he was already deeply grateful to Aldrian for his willingness to help him.

Leaving the unconscious Munez on the bed, Sir Ferix continued his duties as patriarch for the rest of the day.

The next day, a major announcement came from the floating land, drawing everyone's attention upward. On many sides of the floating land, massive screens facing the city displayed a live scene from the manor grounds.

On the screen, people saw a platform built for executions, with several smaller platforms prepared for decapitation. A few executioners stood beside them, and several figures were positioned behind the platforms. The crowd recognized those figures, especially one among them, which made their expressions turn to anger.

The ones shown on the screen were Munez, his son Diaz, Grand Elder Ricardo, and several other elders. Everyone knew that the time had come for these people to face their judgment.

A moment later, Sir Ferix entered the scene and addressed the masses.

"Thank you for all of your belief in me. With your understanding and support, we have solved a major part of the family's problems. Now, as you can see, these people are the ones mostly responsible for the Barevisk family's fall to this point, for putting the family on a path of humiliation and destruction.

"Now we have come to the time when these criminals will finally face justice for their crimes against everyone. Not only did they try to bring destruction to the family, but they also had connections with the devils. Their punishment is death. Whether they had direct contact with the devils or knew about it and stayed silent, I consider all of them involved.

"In front of you, I will show my resolve to punish those who betrayed and harmed us. Let this be a reminder to all of us, including myself, that this is the end for anyone who takes the same path as them."

Sir Ferix then turned to his men and nodded.

A few cultivators forced the death-row inmates to place their heads on the platforms.

Diaz, who normally showed a calm and confident expression, at this moment shed tears instead. There was no mockery or confidence on his face. Instead, he showed an expression never seen on him before, fear and desperation.

Still, there was no pity in the executioners' expressions or in the eyes of the people watching. The crowd's expressions showed excitement for the execution instead.

Sir Ferix looked toward his brother for a moment. Munez also met his gaze. There was no fear in his eyes, for he had already accepted his fate and loss. The years he had spent at the highest place of the Barevisk family were in vain, as he now stood at death's door.

The executioners lifted their swords. Sir Ferix, without hesitation, gave his order in a calm voice.

"Execute."

The executioners swung their swords. Moments later, the heads of several men rolled from the blocks onto the platform, signaling the end of Munez and some of his supporters's live.

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