Wrong Table 1591

Chapter 1591

As Mackenzie stepped onto the beach, she was taken aback to find Shane

and Frederick chatting with Beatrix, who looked adorable in her swimsuit.

“Hey, Mackenzie, you made it!”

Beatrix and Samantha had arranged to meet at the beach, so when they

spotted Mackenzie and the rest, they hurried over, beaming with smiles.

Shane couldn’t take his eyes off Beatrix in her swimsuit. Those peaches look

ripe for the picking.

“Look at you, pervert, you’re drooling!” Frederick gave Shane a smack on the

head.

Grinning, Shane playfully ruffled his hair. “You know, I’ve got a thing for petite

girls. Frederick, you’re tall and dashing, unlike me. You should aim higher and

find a stunning, taller lady. I wouldn’t be able to find someone like her again!”

“Yeah, right!” Frederick wasn’t going to fall for it. “You used to say you wanted

a taller wife in the future to balance out the genes for your kids. Why the

girls. Frederick, you're tall and dashing, unlike me. You should aim higher and

find a stunning, taller lady. I wouldn't be able to find someone like her again!"

"Yeah, right!" Frederick wasn't going to fall for it. "You used to say you wanted

a taller wife in the future to balance out the genes for your kids. Why the

sudden change?"

'You just want to pick a fight, don't you?" Shane got fired up, warning, "Don't

say I didn't warn you. I've been secretly practicing the Thirty–Six Surefire

Ways to Pick Up Girls' guide! You don't stand a chance against me!"

"We used to have this ongoing bet about who'd be the first to bring their girlfriend back to the village. How am I picking a fight?" Frederick refused to back down. "Your 36 ways of picking up girls, I bet they're nothing but empty flatteries. Let me tell you, I'm miles ahead of you when it comes to girls. Why?

Because I have love experience, and you don't!"

The two were at each other's throats.

Beatrix, on the other hand, ignored their banter, having gotten used to it.

Mackenzie sighed inwardly at those two. I feel sorry for those two. They keep

vying for Beatrix's attention yet are unaware that Beatrix's heart has always belonged to Emmanuel.

She didn't want to bother herself with their relationship matters. However, I do

wonder what will come out of it in the future.

"Hey, isn't that Aunt Hannah?" Beatrix exclaimed, pointing towards the beach

in astonishment.

Mackenzie, Samantha, and the rest turned their heads, spotting Hannah

arriving on a seaplane with a man, zooming towards the shore, likely just

back from the sea.

Both were drenched, with Hannah donning a sizzling bikini. Despite being in

her forties, her physique was well–toned, and her skin flawless, resembling at

woman half her age.

Beside her was Bernett.

As they got off the seaplane, Bernett boldly looped his arm around Hannah's

As they got off the seaplane, Bernett boldly looped his arm around Hannah's

chest.

The Quillen family women had different reactions to this sight.

Beatrix gaped in surprise while Mackenzie furrowed her brow.

The three Quillen aunts felt a tad irked; they'd been trying to make plans with

Hannah, even inviting her this morning, but she always claimed to be busy.

Turns out she's busy with a man!

Samantha simply stormed over, shouting, "What is the meaning of this,

Hannah?"

At the sound of the firm voice, Hannah trembled slightly and lowered her

sunglasses. "Samantha?"

Having been under Samantha's care since childhood, Hannah always

heeded her words. Now, seeing Samantha's anger, she couldn't help but feel.

flustered.

"We've been asking you to join us for the Grand Martial Showdown, but you

keep turning us down. And last night, you didn't even join in cheering for the

Quillen family!

"Today, we all agreed to spend time with Mackenzie, and yet you're absent

again. We thought you had something important to do, but it turns out this is.

what you've been doing." As Samantha chided, she pointed at Bernett's

inappropriate hand placement.

Ever since she was young, she was always full of justice. She wasn't against

getting into relationships, but some level of decency had to be observed!

Especially when it was her own younger sister. Of course, she would get mad

over this.

Only then did Hannah pry away Bernett's hand. "Samantha, I can explain!"

"Go ahead, I'm listening!" Samantha stood with her hands on her hips, waiting

for Hannah's explanation.

Chapter 1592 Hannah's Betrayal

But Hannah stammered, unable to come up with an excuse.

tit

Mackenzie asked sternly, “Aunt Hannah, the radioactive device at the Hadley factory, was it your doing?”

“What?”

This revelation left everyone present, especially Frederick, stunned. The deliberate evasion of surveillance cameras suggested that the culprit was someone from within the Quillen family. Until now, they had been unable to uncover the mastermind behind it all.

They never thought Mackenzie would point fingers at Hannah.

“W–What are you talking about, Mackenzie?” Hannah’s face fell. Lacking the courage to meet Mackenzie’s gaze, she averted her eyes.

Felicity had spilled the beans to Mackenzie about this.

Even though Felicity had previously resided in Yeringham, she had always kept a close watch on Mackenzie’s situation. Knowing about the radiation crisis affecting the Terence Group, she took it upon herself to dig deeper.

While she couldn’t divulge much, being a member of the Lenoir family and now part of the Quillen family through marriage, she still had her connections in the business world.

Upon learning about the model number and related details of the radiation device at the Hadley factory, she promptly launched an investigation..

As it turned out, the same device had been sold in Yeringham, with Hannah revealed as the buyer!

Initially skeptical and unwilling to accept such a revelation, Mackenzie felt her heart sink upon witnessing Hannah’s minute changes in expression. A mix of heartbreak, disappointment, and intense fury inundated her.

“How could you do this, Hannah?! Why?” Samantha, who had unwavering faith in Mackenzie and knew Hannah inside out, couldn’t look the other way when the truth was unfolding before her eyes.

“Samantha, I don’t understand what you’re saying. I’m making a move!”

Unlike Gautier, a double dealer, or Magnus, a master actor, Hannah struggled to improvise. Overwhelmed by guilt, she immediately tried to leave with Bernett.

On the other hand, Bernett was cool as a cucumber, gracing the Quillen women with a smile. “My beautiful, elegant, and ever–youthful ladies, we shall say farewell here.”

“Stop right there!”

Before Mackenzie could make a move, Samantha’s austere voice pierced the air. The next second, she grabbed Hannah and delivered a hard slap across her face with a smack.

Samantha’s action caused the atmosphere in the room to become silent.

Samantha, a mix of sorrow and anger etched on her face, glared at Hannah clutching her cheek, admonishing, “Hannah, you should know better than this! I can tolerate just about anything, except for betrayal and disloyalty to the Quillen family. You stood by my side to deal with Felicity in the past, so why

betray us now? Why betray the Quillen family?”

The other Quillen aunts were incredulous and glared at Hannah.

“Are you alright, Hannah?” Following Bernett’s portrayal of a gentleman, het

swiftly took Hannah into his embrace and sternly warned Samantha,

“Quillens, are you trying to harm my woman?”

“Your woman?” Samantha shook with anger. Since when did my sister

become your woman?

“I smell an impending fight. Need my help?” Witnessing this tense exchange,

Shane stepped forward, eager to showcase his strength to Beatrix.

Unexpectedly, an elderly man, who couldn’t stand Shane’s audacity,

emerged from behind Bernett and delivered a swift strike to Shane.

Shane’s eyes widened in fear. Such power! That’s impossible!

Pow!

Shane didn’t even get the chance to retaliate and was sent tumbling into the

sed.

“Shane!” Frederick rushed to his aid.

Beatrix was in the midst of seeking assistance from the shore.

Samantha, although furious, found herself powerless against the betraying

Hannah.

Hannah came out of Bernett’s embrace, still holding her stinging cheek.

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Taking a hard gulp, she bellowed, “Samantha, you’ve got it all wrong! You

should’ve slapped Mackenzie, not me!”

What? The Quillen women were left in shock.

Mackenzie wore an icy expression as she looked at Hannah, whom she had

known for over 20 years, feeling incredibly distant.

“She’s blind to the truth and insists on marrying that commoner, Emmanuel.

These two would just cause the Quillen family's ruin. I am simply expediting

its downfall!" Hannah stated confidently.

Mackenzie was about to approach her and quarrel with Hannah.

However, Samantha placed a hand on Mackenzie's shoulder to stop her. She

then glared at Hannah. "You're pregnant, Mackenzie. You can't afford to

jeopardize the baby's well–being. I'll te@ch Hannah a lesson on your behalf!"

Chapter 1593 Disowned

Their faces were nearly touching each other.

Despite lacking any fighters to back her up, Samantha displayed no signs of

fear.

"Hannah, what's making you hold onto your bias for so long?

"In the past, you judged Emmanuel because of his background, but now he's

defending Mackenzie and made it to the top 32 of the Grand Martial

Showdown, representing us, the Quillens!

"If he clinches the championship, he'll be our new guardian. So, why do your

still look down on him?”

Samantha was merely skimming the surface with all these points.

Mackenzie pursed her lips, holding herself back. Her aunts and Felicity had already accepted Emmanuel. But why does Aunt Hannah still look down on him?

“Haha! Samantha, since when did you become so naive?” Hannah sneered.

“The Quillen family’s new guardian? Is he worthy? Does he possess the ability?”

Then, she gestured towards the elderly man who had just sent Shane flying with a palm strike, boldly stating, “You see this man? He’s Nigel Evans, representing the Finch family. His strength is undeniable, rated as a top S-fighter by the organizers. The odds of him clinching the championship are much higher than Emmanuel, an S- fighter! If anyone’s taking the title, it’s the Finch family, not the Quillen family!”

Hannah's words left Samantha speechless momentarily before she said,

"Even so, don't forget that you're a Quillen. You should cheer on your family!

Why must you stir trouble on purpose?"

"My family? Don't make me laugh. Hannah continued sneering, her gaze

sweeping over her three sisters behind Samantha with disdain. "Are you all

still clueless at your age? No matter how remarkable a woman may be, she'll

never be able to support her family!

"Ever since Dad slapped me for the sake of a lowly servant, I realized that

despite being Quillens, this family isn't our true home. We women are meant

to marry and become someone else's wife!"

Her words resonated with the Quillen sisters deeply, leaving them feeling

overwhelmed.

"Samantha, do you see this sea in front of you?" Hannah suddenly shifted the

topic, looking at the sea beside her, spreading her arms wide. She boldly said,

"You and Emmanuel are just frogs on the shore, having never ventured past

this vast sea! All you think about is that small piece of land in Yeringham! You know nothing about the world! You're destined to never reach greater heights!"

Then, she grabbed Bernett's arm, her expression filled with genuine pride. "But Bernett's different. He hails from a noble family in Zovince. He's got a flying start the moment he was born, destined to surpass you all in vision and status! By marrying him, I believe I can reach greater heights with him!"

Seeing the prideful glint in Hannah's eyes, Samantha felt a twinge of something unexpected.

Could it be that Hannah's right?

Samantha, who initially aimed to defend Mackenzie, found herself at a loss for words in the face of Hannah's argument.

For the first time, she couldn't refute Hannah's words.

While Samantha once held a higher status than Hannah, in this moment,

Hannah had outdone her with an even loftier status!

“That’s enough, Aunt Hannah!” Mackenzie finally spoke up. Her voice wasn’t loud, but it was filled with confidence.

Her eyes, neither humble nor angry, held a hint of indifferent disappointment.

“It’s understandable for you to prioritize the Finches after marrying into their family, but betraying your own family is unacceptable. As the head of the Quillen family, I cannot condone this.

*Since you’re placing your bets on the success of the Finches, I wish you the best. However, from this day forward, you’re no longer considered a part of the Quillen family. If you ever oppose us again, don’t expect mercy from me.”

Hannah, once proud and now visibly trembling, had fear and despair reflected in her eyes.

This turn of events caught her completely off guard.

However, she knew Mackenzie’s character well enough to understand that she wasn’t joking.

Beatrix also grasped Mackenzie's decision; anything less would have been

out of character for her.

"Let's go," Mackenzie declared, her interest in the vacation vanished as she

turned and departed.

Samantha and her sisters wore downcast expressions.

Chapter 1594

Despite how heavy–hearted they were feeling, no one tried to persuade

Mackenzie.

Hannah had it coming after all she did. She sided with outsiders to go against

her own family.

"Pah! That malicious wench!" Shane had been rescued. Although he got a

little injured, he didn't fear the Finch family. Boldly, he threatened, "Just you

wait! Emmanuel's going to defeat you!"

Nigel looked unconcerned, standing with his hands behind his back, sneering.

"You're so weak yourself. How strong can this Emmanuel be? I held back

earlier because I didn’t want to kill anyone, or you’d be dead by now!”

Frederick gritted his teeth. This pompous old man!

Shane refused to back down, and he smirked. “What if I told you your palm

strike merely scratched an itch for me?”

“Say what? You must have a death wish!” Nigel’s killing intent surged.

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“Don’t stir trouble, Nigel. Let’s go!” Bernett stopped him in time. If they were to

fight in public, things might spiral out of control, and they could get.

disqualified from the competition. It would be a huge loss for them.

Not only was he skilled in charming women, but he also had wits. Otherwise,

he wouldn't have manipulated Hannah so easily.

"I'll defeat this Emmanuel on stage. Let's see how arrogant you can be then!"

Letting out a snort, Nigel left proudly.

*Dream on! There's no way you can defeat Emmanuel! Prepare to get beaten.

to a pulp!" Shane uttered one last threat.

After the Finches left, Beatrix approached Shane. "Here I thought you were

just a greedy, lazy, daydreaming liar, Shane. I didn't expect to see that side of

you. You showed your courage.

"Why, of course! I'm Shane Murphy, a fearless hero!" Shane was over the

moon to receive Beatrix's approval.

Frederick quickly reminded him, "Can't you tell, Shane? Ms. Beatrix isn't

praising you; she's reprimanding you."

"Who? Me? No way, I'm a courageous hero!" Shane looked baffled.

Frederick rolled his eyes. It must be great to be this gullible. He automatically

filtered out all the negative things about him.

Mackenzie ignored the others and went back to the hotel under Sage's escort. But as soon as she entered her room, Beatrix, Shane, and Frederick followed after her.

"Why isn't Emmanuel out yet? The competition's tomorrow! Ah, I'm so

Mackenzie ignored the others and went back to the hotel under Sage's escort. But as soon as she entered her room, Beatrix, Shane, and Frederick followed after her.

"Why isn't Emmanuel out yet? The competition's tomorrow! Ah, I'm so

nervous!" Beatrix paced back and forth outside the room.

Frederick couldn't help worrying. "What if Emmanuel misses the competition because of this, Ms. Quillen? Should we go in and check on him?"

"No!" Shane interrupted. "If he gets disturbed during isolated cultivation, it can lead to deviation! The consequences will be disastrous!"

Mackenzie couldn't decide either.

With less than two hours until the competition, they needed to get ready to depart.

“Mrs. Lowe, how about you gently open the door and see what’s going on with Emmanuel?” Sage suggested respectfully.

Suddenly, Beatrix turned suspicious. Since when did Sage become.

Mackenzie’s bodyguard? And the way he addresses Emmanuel, is Emmanuel actually more important than he appears?

Hehe. I knew Grandpa and Mackenzie had a good eye. Can’t believe they kept this from us.

“Okay then. Settle down, all of you.” Mackenzie nodded and gently opened the door.

When she saw the scene inside, her heart skipped a beat.

Emmanuel looked like a dead man.

Although his eyes were slightly open, they didn’t blink for a long time. There was also no sign of breathing coming from him.

Outside the room, Frederick and Beatrix, too, widened their eyes. They nearly

let out a gasp.

Shane wanted to cover their mouths, but Sage was one step faster. He

Chapter 1595 Sparks Flying

covered Beatrix's mouth before reluctantly covering Frederick's mouth.

Mackenzie turned back and glanced at Sage and instantly caught the hint.

Sage had never witnessed Emmanuel in this state before either. He was

unsure whether they should touch Emmanuel or not.

Just then, Beatrix's eyes widened, and she pointed at Emmanuel.

Puzzled by Beatrix's reaction, Mackenzie turned around and saw Emmanuel

taking a deep breath and standing up.

Everyone was taken aback by Emmanuel's disposition.

They couldn't point out what had changed, but there was just something

different about him. He looked energetic and full of vigor, and he even

exuded an air of extraordinaire.

“Emmanuel, have you succeeded?” Mackenzie asked tentatively.

“I managed to achieve the second level. Everything’s smooth sailing so far.”

Emmanuel smiled and nodded before he saw everyone standing at the door.

“What’s going on? Why the big gathering?”

A moment later, he looked out at the sky, asking, “What time is it now?”

“It’s past 6 p.m. We have only two more hours before the second day of the

competition commences!” said Mackenzie.

“Oh, is that so?” Emmanuel looked somewhat shocked.

It feels like a long time has passed, and yet it has only been less than a day

This scripture from the old Godfather truly is magicall

Mackenzie asked in concern, “Would you like me to get you something to eat?

You haven’t eaten anything all day.”

“Oh, uh, you don’t have to. I don’t feel hungry at all. Come on, let’s head to the

arena.” Emmanuel got ready to depart, smiling at Mackenzie and asking,

“Luckily, we’re still on schedule. I didn’t miss out on anything, did I?”

Upon hearing this, Mackenzie sighed. “Actually, you did. A lot, too.”

Eh? Really? Emmanuel was a little taken aback. But I only isolated myself for

less than a day.

Emmanuel and his group headed to the arena.

On the way there, Mackenzie briefed Emmanuel on the events that

happened during his isolation, including Zaiden and Althea’s tragic death,

Gautier taking over the Tanner family of Onza’s forces, the letter from Quintus,

as well as Hannah’s betrayal of the Quillen family.

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Every single one was a significant event.

In comparison to Hattie, who had everything arranged using her own

resources, Mackenzie and Emmanuel's group accepted the organizers'

arrangements and traveled to the arena in the vehicles provided, so

Emmanuel didn't have to drive.

Inside the car, Mackenzie handed Quintus' letter to Emmanuel.

"You haven't opened the letter yet?" Emmanuel looked a tad surprised.

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Mackenzie smiled. "I didn't have the time, so I was planning to wait for you to

read it together."

After thinking it over, Emmanuel didn't open the letter and handed it back to

her. "You hold onto it for now, Mackenzie. I'll wait until after the competition

ends before opening it."

Apart from the inconvenience of reading the letter here, he figured Quintus

letter wouldn't likely contain anything urgent.

Unless it's from Claudette!

"Sure." Mackenzie wished not to burdes Emmanuel with additional matters on

her. "You hold onto it for now, Mackenzie. I'll wait until after the competition

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letter wouldn't likely contain anything urgent.

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#

"Sure." Mackenzie wished not to burden Emmanuel with additional matters on

the eve of the final, so she chose to keep the letter for the time being.

Soon, the group entered the arena, with the seating arrangements differing from the previous day due to half of the participants being eliminated. The Quillens were sitting closer to the front now.

As soon as they settled in, Nathan, Angela, and many others came over to cheer Emmanuel on.

While expected, Emmanuel and Mackenzie were surprised by the presence of many unfamiliar faces, some of whom they didn't recognize. These newcomers introduced themselves, and some even offered gifts!

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While expected, Emmanuel and Mackenzie were surprised by the presence of many unfamiliar faces, some of whom they didn't recognize. These newcomers introduced themselves, and some even offered gifts!

Mackenzie didn't ask them to leave, though, considering the Quillen family's

need to amass support, which in turn would help them secure the position of president of the Nuthana Chamber of Commerce. So, regardless of the loyalty of these newcomers, as long as they leaned toward the Quillen family, they would be welcomed with open arms.

Sure enough, after paying their respects to the Quillen family, these newcomers made their rounds to the Finch family and other factions. Before visiting the Quillen family, they all made a stop at the Silverbane family of Eshal.

As Mackenzie's group observed them, their proximity to the Finch family's seating area this evening allowed for eve contact between the two factions.

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As Mackenzie's group observed them, their proximity to the Finch family's seating area this evening allowed for eye contact between the two factions.

Sparks were flying between Hannah and the Quillens, but Shane paid no heed to that. He went up to Emmanuel, pointed an angry finger at Nigel, and huffed, “Emmanuel, if you happen to face off against that old man, feel free to beat him up. Not only did he humiliate me today, but he also threatened to kill you!”

Emmanuel glanced at Nigel.

Nigel unexpectedly taunted him with a cutthroat gesture.

“The hell?! You see that, Emmanuel? That old codger must be tired of living!”

Shane was about to blow his top.

Emmanuel, however, remained composed. Mackenzie had already filled him

Chapter 1596 Revote

Emmanuel, however, remained composed. Mackenzie had already filled him

in on the beach incident. Since Hannah disparaged both him and the Quillens, he had no intention of showing mercy to the Finch family, even if

Shane didn’t bring it up.

The match was at the round of 32 and round of 16 at the moment, but

Emmanuel wouldn’t be facing the Finch family, unfortunately, based on the

previous advancement of matches.

Suddenly, the host invited Joe to go on stage and address the audience, who

had guessed that his first announcement would be about Yosef’s

advancement qualification from the previous night. This was also what all the

forces were most concerned about.

Yosef had become too powerful after going into deviation. So, anyone who

faced him was bound to fail.

“Ladies and gentlemen, I understand everyone can’t wait to know the status

of Onza Tanner’s representative, Yosef Harper’s, qualification!”

But the audience erupted into a clamor before he could reveal the results.

“There’s no point in discussing this. The Tanner family of Onza has done so

many wrongs. They’re even under investigation by the Chanaean institution.

They shouldn’t exist anymore!”

“Indeed, since the family he represents is no more, he isn’t eligible to

compete according to the rules!”

“Exactly. Especially considering how cruel he is. Such a person doesn’t

deserve the title of Grandmaster!”

The forces in a clamor were mostly those who had advanced from the lower

half of the bracket the previous night. However, those from the upper half of

the bracket remained silent. Although they were also afraid of Yosef, they

had wished for him to help wipe out the lower half of the bracket to reduce

their competition. As for the final round, they would get rid of Yosef based on

the situation.

“Allow me to address the pressing question that has been on everyone’s

minds!” Joe gestured for silence and announced to the audience, “The Onzal

Tanner family has done various evil deeds, and their patriarch has taken his

own life out of fear. The family no longer exists. However, their business was acquired by the third Silverbane family yesterday, and Yosef Harper has agreed to represent them. Therefore, there is no issue with him not representing a family."

"What?!" The audience was taken aback by this revelation, and eyes turned toward the third Silverbane family sitting area.

Raphael Silverbane was Stanley's third son. However, as he was also developing his influence in Onza, they used the third Silverbane family to differentiate him from the main family. In addition, Susan was Raphael's daughter.

She proudly linked arms with Gautier when she felt the astonishment in the audience's eyes. Meanwhile, Emmanuel and Mackenzie were conflicted as they watched the scene unfold.

It was especially so for him. Gautier even helped me out the last time. I can't tell whether he's a friend or foe from his MO.

On the stage, Joe continued, “After discussion, the organizing committee has decided to allow the other competing forces to vote on Yosef Harper’s participation in the interest of fairness and justice.”

This announcement sparked another round of discussion, and opposing voices quieted down. Even those in the lower half of the bracket believed that not many would want Yosef to continue competing. Even if there were, they would be in the minority.

However, Blake suddenly stood up and shouted, his powerful voice resonating throughout the room without needing a microphone, “Wait! I have an objection! Voting is fair and just, but shouldn’t the matchups be rearranged if Yosef is deemed eligible to compete? Wait. Even if he can’t compete, it seems unfair to allow a contestant to have a bye. But if he’s lucky and happens to receive a bye, then I’m sure everyone won’t have qualms about it.”

He expressed himself eloquently, “I’m sure everyone is here to witness the emergence of a new Grandmaster. If someone takes advantage of this and becomes the winner, it won’t convince everyone, right?”

It was unclear whether he intended to say this or if Hattie prompted him to do so. However, the crowd began shouting their support as soon as he finished talking. They just wanted to see a sensational fight and pay their respect to the new Grandmaster. They didn’t wish the competition to be the result of any form of power manipulation behind the scenes.

Since it had come to this, Joe didn’t hesitate to answer, “Certainly. Regardless of whether Yosef can compete or not, the pairings for the top 32 will be rearranged by computer. Luck also plays a role in one’s strength. Therefore, I hope there won’t be any objections then!”

People received his announcement much better, and the voting process commenced as the dissenting voices quieted.

Voting was made very convenient in the modernized arena. Mackenzie and

Emmanuel exchanged a few words and decisively selected the support

option to allow Yosef to continue competing.

Chapter 1597

Emmanuel wanted to rise where he fell.

“The results are 17 to 15, with 17 forces supporting Yosef to continue

competing. Hence, Yosef Harper qualifies!” Joe announced, sparking another

uproar in the arena.

The votes were distributed based on the players‘ standings. The Eshal

Silverbane had two contestants within the top 32 players. So, they received.

two supporting votes. The Quillen family, the Zelinsky family, and the

Chapman family also showed their support.

Different forces had their agendas, but the outcome was less than desirable.

Regardless of whether the major forces were satisfied, the result was set in

stone.

“Next, the matchups will be randomly arranged by the computer. To ensure

fairness, we'll first use the computer to generate the matchups from 1 to 32 randomly, and then have the players draw numbers backstage to avoid any manipulation," Joe continued to expla

This arrangement was well–received by the audience, and Emmanuel had no objections as well. The only issue that he had was his alias within the Chapman family. Fortunately, Nathan learned from the Onza Silverbane incident and was prepared to provide a stand–in for Luna.

Since the Badlands Arena prohibited the audience from bringing in electronic devices, the contestants wouldn't know the matchups generated by the computer in the arena as they were drawing numbers backstage.

Yosef didn't participate in the draw as the last number was implicitly his.

In the end, Emmanuel drew the number 17, leaving the number 18 as the last number that would belong to Yosef.

What is this fate? Emmanuel couldn't help but laugh at the prospect of facing

Yosef in the first round as a result of rearranging the matchups. He wished that the computer wouldn't change the matchups.

Although he hadn't achieved Enlightenment, he was quite confident that he could defeat the deviated Yosef.

However, fate had other plans for them. Upon arriving at the arena as number 18 was set to compete in the first position in the upper half of the matches while number 17 was the last in the lower half of the matches.

In other words, unless Emmanuel and Yosef both entered the finals, they wouldn't have the chance to fight against each other.

However, the alias Emmanuel used, Luna, was the last contestant in the upper half of the matches. If everything went smoothly, Emmanuel could still face Yosef in the semi–finals.

However, upon closer inspection of the matchups, Emmanuel had to defeat Wyatt in round 16 before facing Yosef. This could be a challenging task for him.

Emmanuel thought to himself. It's fine. Whatever will be, will be.

After practicing the Art of Adaptability, his state of mind improved. He

became calmer and more composed and understood the laws of nature.

"Oh My God!" Blake exclaimed in frustration when he saw the final matchups.

He had drawn number 1, and his first opponent was Yosef, who was number

16.

Seeing the crestfallen look on his face, Emmanuel couldn't help but tease,

"You've always wanted to avenge your son. Well, here's your chance!"

Blake replied with a bitter expression. "Yeah, right!"

Indeed, he had planned to do that before the finals began. They had a few

matches and couldn't decide on a clear winner. So, he was determined to

settle the score with Yosef on the stage. He wanted to brutally teach the

arrogant Yosef a lesson to avenge the unconscious Liam. However, he didn't

expect Yosef to suddenly go into deviation. His confidence was shattered

after witnessing Emmanuel's battle with Yosef.

“Why don’t you surrender then?”

Emmanuel advised, “His dagger is powerful. It might break into your Ironclad

Fabric!”

“Don’t underestimate me!” Blake retorted, “His dagger isn’t even a sword. Why

should I fear him? I don’t think he can harm me without using weapons.”

After uttering a firm statement, Blake mumbled, “Except for you.”

Emmanuel couldn’t help but chuckle at him as he deflated his own image

with a single sentence.

“It’s up to you. But don’t push yourself if you can’t do it,” Emmanuel kindly

advised.

Regardless of Hattie’s true intentions, she and Mackenzie were allies. So, he

should be working together with Blake, too.

“Maybe Yosef is feeling the after–effects after going into deviation. I’m going

to wait for the right time and take his life with one punch!”

Chapter 1598 Why Provoke Them?

Blake fancied crude things and resorted to gambling as a form of entertainment. To avenge Liam, he was more than willing to take a bet.

Emmanuel bobbed his head in agreement. He acknowledged that those who had slid into deviation were indeed unstable and subjected to vulnerability at any time! As such, he wouldn't persuade Blake to spare Yosef's life when needed since it wasn't equitable.

After the talk, Blake and Emmanuel prepared to take the stage as well.

Emmanuel was about to head back to the Quillen family's viewing area, but Luna approached him quietly and whispered, "Mr. Chapman said that as long as you can defeat Wyatt on behalf of the Chapman family, the final result doesn't matter."

Emmanuel simply grunted in response. In fact, he was uncertain of Wyatt's strength. His opponent from the previous night was weak, so he didn't exert his full power. He would have to wait and see.

“Emmanuel, you’re finally back! The Finch family is so full of themselves!”

Since Emmanuel spent some time speaking to Blake, Nigel had already

returned to the Finch family’s viewing area by the time he returned to the

Quillen family’s viewing area.

“What’s the matter?” Emmanuel furrowed slightly, noticing the tense

atmosphere among the Quillen family members.

“Bernett and Hannah swung by.” Beatrix couldn’t contain her anger and

answered him, “They asked Mackenzie to sell the Heart of the Sun to them,

saying that they’d buy it for tens of billions. But the price won’t be this high

when you lose to Nigel!”

Emmanuel frowned. He didn’t expect Bernett to be so haughty. To be honest, he had never paid much attention to Nigel, who was just a mere old man of S- Level. He could easily crush him with a strike if he wanted to. But he had concealed his strength before and kept a low profile. So, it made people walk

all over him and ridicule him.

It was only then did Emmanuel carefully examine the match–up chart and

realize that his first opponent for the night was Austin. If he moved to the next

round, he would face Nigel in the round of 16.

At that moment, Nigel motioned a throat–slitting gesture toward the Quillen family, provoking Shane and the others.

“Bernett, why are you doing this?” Hannah asked Bernett, who was beside her, in confusion. “What’s the purpose of deliberately provoking the Quillen family like this?”

“Hannah, don’t you know?” He replied confidently, “If you cannot control your temper and are too eager to win in a battle, it might backfire and expose your vulnerabilities!

“Emmanuel’s opponent, Austin, poses a significant challenge for him. If he becomes impatient, the likelihood of losing is high. Even if he wins, he will undoubtedly lose to Nigel in the next round!”

Hannah seemed to understand but exclaimed, “But the Quillen family might not want to sell the Heart of the Sun to us with us provoking them!”

Although she resented certain members of the Quillen family, she didn't wish to become mortal, enemies with them either! However, Bernett held her waist firmly and smiled. "Don't want to sell? Once we kill Emmanuel, no one in the Quillen family can protect the Heart of the Sun.

"Don't you know the significance of top–tier fighters for leading forces? At a certain level, so–called laws and authorities are no match for these exceptional fighters!"

Hannah seemed to grasp the idea, but her expression was slightly troubled. She understood that by aligning with the Finch family, she was drifting further away from the Quillen family.

"I hereby declare the Nuthana Grand Martial Showdown's round of 32 has now began! Enjoy!" After Joe concluded his announcement, the whole arena became lively once again.

Emmanuel's attention was also fixed on the arena, and they paid no attention to the Finch family.

“Mr. Yosef!” Prior to stepping onto the stage, Gautier summoned Yosef.

Yosef’s eyes, although filled with a sense of desolation, weren’t as clouded as

they had been when he fought Beowulf the day before.

The Eclipse Yin–Yang Art represented a distinctive martial arts style.

Essentially, when the body’s energy surged, it induced a drop in body temperature, disrupting normal brain function and leading to confusion. Consequently, actions were driven solely by the subconscious mind’s innate instincts. This wasn’t akin to the mystical cultivation methods depicted in

novels, let alone the absurd notion of immortality cultivation. Modern

medicine provided a comprehensive explanation for this state.

At present, Yosef wasn’t expanding his energy, hence his mind remained

entirely clear. Yet, his body exhibited signs of profound fatigue, presenting

him as rather worn–out.

Chapter 1599

“Blake’s Emmanuel’s mate now. So, watch out!” Gautier walked over, smiling.

He gently gave Yosef’s shoulder a pat. “I’m your buddy now, Yosef. No matter

what happens, I’ll fight alongside you!”

However, Yosef stared at him. Even if Gautier didn't say that to him, he would

still kill Blake. If it weren't for Blake, Emmanuel would have tasted the

bitterness of losing a loved one. Why must I endure the agony of losing my

beloved while Emmanuel revels in Mackenzie's affection? Simply because his father was a hero and mine a killer? No! There should be fairness in life.

Gautier grinned from ear to ear as he watched Yosef, exuding a murderous aura, step out of the passage and onto the stage.

"Hattie, you used to look down on me and expected me to kneel before you like a dog. But soon, I'll turn the tables. You'll be my pet, crawling and barking on command. No matter how degrading the task, you'll obey. Just wait and

see!"

As soon as the two S Rank fighters entered the stage, the atmosphere in the

arena burst into flames.

The fervent enthusiasm emanating from the audience felt potent enough to

set the world ablaze.

"Shane, who're you betting on?" Frederick had learned his lesson, realizing

Lady Luck shone more on Shane than him and desiring to leverage on that.

“Of course, I’m betting on Yosef. I’m going all in!” Shane didn’t hesitate even

though the odds for Yosef were ridiculously low at 1 to 1.1 compared to Blake’s

odds of 1 to 9!

After some thought, Frederick decided not to listen to him. If he wanted to win

100,000, he just needed to bet a little over 1,000 on Blake. So, it wouldn’t be a

big deal even if he lost. However, he would need to bet 1 million on Yosef to

win 100,000. Then he would be screwed if Yosef lost!

Besides, Frederick felt the odds of Blake defeating Yosef weren’t low.

What if Yosef suddenly went into deviation and died? After some

consideration, he decided to place a small bet on Blake.

The bell, indicating the commencement of the match, eventually chimed.

Yet, rather than launching into combat right away, the two fighters opted to

exchange stares.

“Yosef, looks like we’re at it again for the third time! You had the upper hand

with that dagger in our previous encounters, but now, without it, let's see if

you can keep up with me today. I'm ready to see what you're made of."

Blake liked to boast before a fight. What's the fun of starting without saying

anything?

However, Yosef ignored him.

"Here's the deal. Kneel and apologize to me now to repent for what you did to

my son. Then, I'll spare your life. How does that sound?"

Blake chuckled heartily. "Haha! Nowadays, there aren't many fighters who

possess both a broad mind and handsome looks like mine. You should

appreciate me!"

Yosef remained unmoved, his gaze indifferent as if watching a clown

perform. And the qudience suddenly fell silent.

"Damn it! You're asking for it!" Feeling humiliated, Blake saw red and threw a

punch at Yosef.

His intention had been to provoke Yosef, inciting Yosef to enter deviation.

Then, he would exploit Yosef's vulnerabilities using the defense of his Golden Bell Ironclad Fabric and swiftly defeating Yosef. Much to Blake's surprise, he found himself provoked instead!

Lamenting the failure of Blake's tactics, Emmanuel, Mackenzie, and Hattie almost shook their heads at the same time.

Whoosh!

Yosef deftly sidestepped and evaded Blake's metal–like fist. The wind from the powerful blow even tousled his flowing locks. Despite going into deviation, Yosef still insisted on washing his hair with Pantene every night to keep his long hair smooth and silky.

After avoiding Blake's punch, he swiftly raised his knee and delivered a forceful blow to Blake's midsection.

Frederick and other supporters of Blake were immediately alarmed. Aren't they both S Rank fighters? How could he be struck so effortlessly?

However, in the next instant, Blake smirked and tightly hugged Yosef.

He had no fear of the unarmed Yosef's martial skills. Since he had grabbed

Yosef and fought at a close distance, he effectively neutralized Yosef's

signature moves, which gave him the upper hand.

Chapter 1600

Smack!

The next moment, Blake executed a ground–fighting move and slammed

Yosef heavily onto the ground.

"Yes!" Frederick stood up excitedly with his fist clenched.

If Blake defeated Yosef, he wouldn't just help Emmanuel solve a major

problem and earn some money; most importantly, he would also restore his

own dignity and shed the reputation of being a jinx.

The audience below them sighed in admiration as they witnessed the battle

between two formidable fighters!

Although they had seen Yosef demonstrating his strength the day before,

they were still surprised by Blake's resilience. It seemed that the odds of this

fight weren't as one–sided as they had expected.

However, Blake swiftly leaped up the next moment only to look down and see

blood gushing from his thigh, which instantly colored the arena red.

"W–What's going on now?" The audience was shocked.

They were puzzled as to how Blake had been injured. His wound seemed to

be caused by a sharp weapon, but Yosef was unarmed.

"Sh*t. That's a sharp sword!" Blake cursed through gritted teeth, realizing that

Yosef outsmarted him. When he seized Yosef, the Golden Bell Iron Cloth was

still inactive, which meant that Yosef would've maimed his entire leg had he

reacted slightly slower.

"Indeed! It just shows that even you, a tough guy, can be reckless in your

defense while being on the offensive!" Yosef swiped at the blood from the

corner of his mouth as he slowly got up with a slightly smug expression.

Although he had taken a hard fall, it didn't matter, considering that Blake was

more severely injured.

Blake was close to losing sensation in his leg. Without the advantage of

agility, he was defenseless in front of Yosef.

“Just surrender, Blake!” Hattie quickly got hold of Dominique to yell. Now that

she was distant from the Zelinksy family for Magnus‘ sake, she did not wish to

see her strongest fighter, Blake, down.

“Do you think I’ll give you the chance to surrender?”

Just as Blake shot a glance at Hattie, Yosef’s killing intent surged like a dark

tide. He leaped into the air and brandished his hand blade at Blake like a

madman.

Clang!

Clang!

Clang!

Although the two were fighting unarmed, the audience could still hear the

sound of a blade hitting a stone. This battle had exceeded their imaginations as it was something they had never witnessed before. If it weren't for the Nuthana Grand Martial Showdown, many people wouldn't have realized the

abundance of talented people in the world.

Yosef struck again. His hands emitted a faint white light.

Emmanuel knew the extent of the power of the sword energy powered

internally and the damage it could inflict. But he also knew the defensive

strength of Blake's Golden Bell Iron Cloth technique.

He was well aware that even if Yosef's sword energy couldn't cut into Blake's

flesh, it would still cause immense pain. It would feel like a dull knife cutting

into an ordinary person. That would still be painful.

"Why isn't Blake surrendering yet?" Dominique was getting anxious.

In her eyes, Blake was a pragmatic person. If he had known he wouldn't win

or wouldn't have a high prospects of success, he would definitely withdrew.

What's going now? Why would he continue to fight with such a bad leg injury?

If Emmanuel had to be honest, he was also caught aback by Blake's

determination. This isn't the Blake whom I know. I never knew the paternal

love he had for Liam was this deep.

Like everyone else, the battle left Mackenzie captivated and thus becoming

nervous. She was the only one among them who had seen Blake's interaction

with Liam. She had no idea the extent of Blake's love for Liam, but she noticed

the bright, content smile he had whenever he was with Liam. It was a 180

from his usual, slightly lecherous smile.

Having overheard Magnus and Blake having a conversation, Hattie was the

only one who knew the reason behind Blake's persistence.

Magnus had once brought it up. "I don't get it. Why would you maim yourself

to practice this weird martial arts only to flee at the sight of a skilled fighter?

In that case, what's the point of practicing so hard?"

"you don't get it, Magnus. Blake chuckled. "Men learn martial arts for a

meaningful fight to the death. I'm only working for you for the money. Why

would I risk my life dying in a match?”

That caused Magnus to snort. The man believed the crude Blake’s reason to