

Chapter 2609

Meanwhile, Darryl stayed on The Legendary Island of Dragons all night. Early in the morning the next day, Sheryl was ordered to make Darryl and Jewel leave the island.

Phew!

A few hours later, Darryl stood on the ruins of the Chaotic Mountain Range and looked around at the dimly lit Wild Deserted Secret Region. He could not help taking a deep breath, feeling like it was ages since he stepped on the mainland.

Finally, he was out of the island. He thought he was going to die on The Legendary Island of Dragons.

Chirp.

Jewel was next to Darryl and she was very excited. As a young dragon, she could not speak, so she cried cheerfully.

Darryl cracked a faint smile when he noticed how cute Jewel was. He picked her up and put her in the enchanted beast pouch. He wondered what had happened to Zhu Bajie and the Carter family.

He quickly left the ruins and rushed back to The Nine Continents. As he approached Black Water Town, he was stunned by the scene before him.

There was a huge battle stage built in the valley through Black Water Town and thousands of cultivators were gathered there discussing something.

The cultivators wore clothes embroidered with logos. They were members of various mercenary teams from all the continents.

‘There are so many mercenary team members. What are they doing here?’ he muttered to himself.

Then, his gaze suddenly turned to one side and he saw a slender woman in a red leather suit, standing in the corner of the battle stage. She was very sexy and charming.

It was Lillian, the leader of the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team.

"Darren?" Lillian noticed Darryl and she was taken aback.

Enthusiasm and excitement were written all over Lillian's face as she said in a soft tone, "Darren, what are you doing here?"

Half a month ago, Darryl helped Lillian. How could Lillian forget the kindness Darryl showed her? She had not realized that Darren, who had helped her, was actually Darryl, the Elysium Gate Sect Master. He was famous in The Nine Continents.

Darryl smiled. "I happened to be passing by. By the way, why are there so many of you gathered here?"

Lillian smiled bitterly, looking rather helpless. "All the mercenary teams in The Nine Continents are participating in a ring match to choose a leader. All these mercenary teams are clashing and suffering, so we have to be reunited from now on."

Suffering? How could these mercenary teams be suffering when they traveled between the Wild Deserted Secret Region and The Nine Continents to kill the enchanted beasts and obtain their inner cores? Weren't they making big bucks?' Darryl frowned.

Darryl saw that the battle stage had completely blocked the passage through the valley and he would not be able to make it through the passage for the time being. He went with Lillian to the battle stage to watch the exciting event.

The battle was about to begin.

As soon as they arrived at the battle stage, someone mocked them, "Tsk. Tsk. Lillian, can't your Blood Thorn Mercenary Team recruit better people? Haha, why do you just take anyone?"

A man in a white gown approached Lillian with a smile. It was Jamie White, the leader of the Giant Elephant Mercenary Team.

The Blood Thorn Mercenary Team led by Lillian often obtained a lot of inner cores from the Wild Deserted Secret Region, so many other mercenary teams were jealous of them. The Giant Elephant Mercenary Team was one of the teams that envied Lillian's success. These teams always looked for opportunities to beat Lillian.

Jamie looked at Darryl with a smile and continued, "Where did you get this scum from?"

Darryl was in tattered clothes. He would bring shame to the mercenary teams if he were one of

them.

His comment cracked everyone up.

"Haha! You must have picked him up from a group of beggars."

"I think the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team will disband very soon."

Darryl merely frowned and ignored the jeering remarks thrown at him.

'Oh, well. These guys think I'm on Lillian's team,' he thought.

Chapter 2610

Lillian's face flushed, enraged.

"Darren, ignore them," Lillian bit her lip and said to Darryl gently.

All her team members had gone to the Wild Deserted Secret Region to hunt down the beasts, leaving only herself to participate in the tournament. She was the target of ridicule, but she did not want to entertain the people around her that talked nonsense.

Lillian was a little angry when Darren was being misunderstood.

Darryl shook his head and smiled, indicating that he was not bothered at all.

Suddenly, a middle-aged man with a unique temperament slowly walked toward the center of the battle stage. "Everyone, be quiet!"

He was not loud, but his voice echoed throughout the valley. His inner energy must be powerful!

All eyes were on him.

Lillian noticed Darryl looked puzzled and she explained softly, "Darren, this is Harris Yammer from the Thunder Mercenary Team. The Thunder Mercenary Team is the largest mercenary group in The Nine Continents and they have great influence."

Darryl nodded silently, his eyes fixed on Harris.

'He's a Level Five Martial Emperor. He's quite powerful,' he thought.

Harris looked around and said, "Everyone! You know the purpose of this tournament. Yellow Sky Trading has monopolized the trade of all inner cores and treasures in every black market and trading market. The inner cores and treasures that we risk our lives and work hard to collect must be sold through Yellow Sky Trading.

"However, Yellow Sky Trading has been asking for more and more commissions these days. It has seriously infringed our interests. So, in this tournament, we must nominate a leader and stay united in order to fight against this unfair treatment. Moreover, this is not just to deal with Yellow Sky Trading. Once we form an alliance, we can come up with better solutions to other problems in

the future."

'So, that was what happened.' Darryl nodded secretly when he heard Harris explaining the situation.

There were loud cheers around the battle stage.

"Yes, after we form an alliance, no one will bully us."

"Haha! After our alliance is established, I'm afraid that those famous sects would have to treat us with respect."

"Let's get started. I can't wait."

Harris smiled and looked at the audience. "Well, it seems that many people can't wait to begin. The tournament will begin soon. Before we start, let me explain the rules first. To be fair, each mercenary team can send only two people to participate in the tournament and the participants must not exceed 40 years old."

Then, he raised his hand. "Well, the tournament has started! Whoever wants to be the first to take on the challenge, please come up."

"I'll go first!" a voice shouted, then a figure appeared on the stage. He had thick eyebrows, big eyes and a formidable aura.

The man saluted with his hands held together. "I'm Laird Jenmic from the Red Leaf Mercenary Team. Which one of you will come up for a match?"

After a short silence, a thin man smiled faintly and stepped onto the stage. He smiled at Laird.

"I'm Gareth Jenkins from the Feather Mercenary Team."

All eyes gathered on the two of them; everyone was extremely excited.

Darryl waited and watched quietly. The two challengers on the stage were about Level One Martial Emperors. Their strengths were equal and there was no way to know how the match would end.

Buzz!

The two people on the stage had started fighting. Their figures passed across each other during the fight and there were excited shouts from below.

However, Darryl's mind was not on the stage. Instead, he turned around to look at Lillian. "Are you going to compete later?"

"I—" Lillian bit her lip and was about to speak when she was interrupted by Jamie, who was next to her.

"Lillian."

Chapter 2611

Jamie looked at Lillian, smiling. "The Blood Thorn Mercenary Team only has a few people. You can't even call yourself a team. Why don't you forget about the tournament?"

Jamie looked at Lillian salaciously and continued, "Moreover, you are so beautiful. It would be a pity if you got hurt on stage. When I win first place and become the alliance leader, you should just bring the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team and join me. I'll make sure you enjoy prosperity and wealth."

Jamie's gaze made Lillian feel very uncomfortable, so she said angrily, "Thank you for your kindness. You don't need to worry about the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team and our future plans."

Initially, Lillian did not plan to compete in the tournament, but she felt compelled to do so after Jamie taunted her mercenary team.

At the same time, the match on the stage had ended. Gareth was the winner.

Lillian did not hesitate. She leaped and landed gently on the battle stage like a butterfly. She looked beautiful.

Many men among the audience stared at Lillian, admiring her beauty.

She was worthy of being the goddess of the mercenary teams. She had beautiful long hair, exquisite features and a perfect figure. Her gorgeous features would attract any man.

Darryl smiled. Lillian was too competitive.

Gareth looked at Lillian with a lecherous smile as he said, "Tsk. Tsk. It turns out the beautiful Lillian from the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team is my opponent. I might hurt you accidentally during the match. Why don't you give up? I can't bear to hurt you."

Slap!

Before Gareth could say anything more, Lillian appeared in front of Gareth instantly and slapped him across the face!

Lillian was tough. Gareth was rude to her in front of so many people and she was not going to let

that slip.

Pitter-patter.

Gareth was sent staggering back by the slap. He almost lost his footing as he yelled, "You brought this onto yourself!"

Then, he urged his internal energy and charged forward. In the blink of an eye, the two fought fiercely.

Lillian was a Level Four Martial Emperor; she was much stronger than Gareth. Within a few minutes, Gareth got a palm attack on his back and was sent flying. He landed outside the battle stage.

The audience was in an uproar as many men looked at Lillian, excited and admiring her.

Lillian was expressionless. She merely looked around. "Who wants to challenge me next?"

After winning the match, Lillian looked indifferent, but she was very excited on the inside. If she won first place and became the alliance leader, the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team would be famous.

Everyone looked at each other when they heard a voice shout, "I'll do it!"

Then, a burly man rushed onto the stage, excited. However, Lillian beat him easily after a few rounds.

In an instant, the entire valley went into a frenzy. All the men present became excited and they wanted to go on stage to conquer the beauty.

For the next half an hour, five or six powerful men from the mercenary team took the stage one after another to compete against Lillian, but none of them was a match for her.

Darryl was very happy for Lillian, but he was also a little worried. After all, Lillian was not the strongest person in the audience.

"Awesome! She's amazing indeed!" a faint voice said.

Then, a man in white jumped onto the stage and looked at Lillian with a smile.

He was the Vice-leader of the Thunder Mercenary Team, Shaun Gilmore!

Lillian furrowed her brows when she saw Shaun and became solemn all of a sudden.

As the goddess of the mercenary world, Lillian had many suitors. Among them was Shaun. Shaun had tried all his might to pursue Lillian and she had grown tired of his tactics.

However, she never expected that she would meet Shaun on the battle stage.

Chapter 2612

Shaun looked at Lillian and said with a smile, "Lillian, we've known each other for a long time. You aren't my opponent. Just give up, will you?"

Lillian was very unhappy to hear that. "Don't be so cocky, I won't admit defeat."

As the Blood Thorn in a blink of an eye Mercenary Team leader, she was representing her entire team on the stage. How could she command a mercenary team had she admitted defeat easily?

Sigh!

Shaun sighed and smiled. "Well, since you insist on fighting, let's make one more rule."

"What rule?" Lillian frowned slightly.

Shaun smiled and said confidently, "If you lose today, you'll have to be my woman. If you win, I won't pester you ever again. How about that?"

"You..." Lillian's face flushed, enraged.

'Shaun is really shameless and despicable. How could he say something like that in battle and in front of so many people?' she thought.

Shaun smiled when Lillian did not respond. "I'll take your silence as a 'yes'. Ladies first. You may make a move first."

He waved to Lillian.

Buzz.

Lillian wasted no time. She flipped her wrist and sent a palm attack!

"Tsk, tsk. Your speed doesn't work. It seems that you are destined to be my woman," Shaun said.

Shaun was a Level Four Martial Emperor and he was one level more powerful than Lillian. Therefore, he was very relaxed and comfortable when fighting against her. He even had time to tease Lillian.

Lillian was both embarrassed and angry. She made her shots faster and faster, but it was of no avail. Shaun easily dodged every single attack.

Darryl frowned secretly as he watched the match from the audience.

Shaun was a well-known figure among the mercenary teams. However, he verbally teased a girl on stage and his remarks were becoming more and more explicit. It was simply shocking to hear his remarks.

At the same time, the surrounding audience also frowned secretly. Shaun was the Vice-leader of the Thunder Mercenary Team. He had a powerful background, so no one dared to provoke him.

Lillian and Shaun had been fighting for more than a dozen rounds, but Lillian had never hurt Shaun! She was shocked, angry and anxious!

Finally, Lillian bit her lip tight. Her jade-like hand flipped and she drew out her long sword.

Shaun did not panic at all when he saw the long sword in Lillian's hand.

"Not giving up yet? I've been playing with you for a while now, we should just get this over with. The match has to go on," he said, smiling.

Shaun summoned his internal energy from his energy field. Instantly, tyrannical energy swept across the audience! The next moment, he sent a palm with full force!

When Lillian saw the palm attack coming her way, her eyes flashed and she commanded coldly, "Astounding Snow Moon."

In an instant, Lillian thrust her long sword and stabbed Shaun! The speed was astonishing!

The battle had finally become exciting! Many people in the audience started talking.

Everyone thought that Lillian's move was powerful and that she had a high chance of winning, but Darryl secretly shook his head. Shaun was clearly luring his enemy deeper into a trap and Lillian was confirmed defeated.

Shaun managed to avoid the fierce sword attack and raised his hand to pat Lillian's wrist.

A metal sound reverberated. Lillian could not hold the sword firmly in her hand and her long sword almost flew out of her hands as she staggered a few steps back!

"Lillian, you lost," Shaun said with a smile.

He was beaming. He quickly stepped forward and grabbed Lillian's thin waist.

Chapter 2613

Lillian was anxious as she subconsciously moved to avoid Shaun's hand. However, she had almost exhausted her internal energy, so she could only watch Shaun's hand rest on her waist.

"Let me go!" Lillian grunted, feeling flushed.

However, Shaun did not let go of her. He was admiring Lillian up close and he said with a smile, "Lillian, now that we've got the result, you will be my woman from now on."

Lillian was embarrassed and angry. "Who is your woman? Let go of me now!"

She was upset and she could not believe what Shaun was doing to her openly on the stage. When the news spread, her reputation would be ruined.

"The loser will have to fulfill the winner's demand. You won't deny it, would you?" Shaun teased.

"I didn't make a bet with you at all. It was you who were passionate about it." Lillian was riddled with anxiety.

Everyone around them could no longer hold their tongue.

"Shaun, could you pursue the beauty privately? Don't affect the progress of the match!" someone shouted as many people nodded in agreement.

Shaun looked around coldly and said, "Why are you all panicking? The bet was made on this battle stage. How does it affect the match? If you don't like it, just challenge me."

As soon as Shaun said that, Jamie from the Giant Elephant Mercenary Team added, "That's right. Shaun and Lillian are a natural pair. What are you guys talking about?"

Jamie had a good relationship with Shaun, so he was obviously on Shaun's side and spoke for him.

At that instance, the battle stage was silent. No one dared to talk any more nonsense.

Although Shaun was not the most powerful man, the Thunder Mercenary Team was not to be trifled with.

Shaun smiled with satisfaction when he saw everyone's reaction.

"Well, no one will bother us now. As long as you are willing to be my woman, I promise that no one will dare to look down on the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team in the future," he said as he tried to grab Lillian's wrist.

Lillian tried to dodge his hand and she said, displeased, "Shaun, please be respectful. If you mess up with me again, I'll make you pay for it."

She appeared angry on the surface, but she was actually nervous. She did not expect that Shaun would behave in such a way publicly, but no one stopped him.

"Tsk. Tsk. You'd make me pay? We've just competed against each other. I know very well how powerful you are. Besides, your angry look is really sexy."

Lillian's scolding did not make Shaun restrain himself. Instead, she stimulated his interest. He held Lillian's waist and pulled her closer to him.

Then, he dived into Lillian and sniffed her. He looked like he was enjoying himself. "As expected of the goddess of the mercenary teams, you smell so sweet. Haha! Don't be afraid, I'll love you very much in the future."

Shaun laughed and slowly moved his lips up.

Knowing that she could not get out of his clutches, Lillian gave up on struggling and closed her eyes in despair.

She thought that she could use the tournament to make the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team well known. She never expected to encounter a despicable rascal like Shaun.

She could not express the grievance in her heart. Her eyes were red and tears rolled down her cheek as Shaun breathed heavily on her face.

Everyone at the battle stage watched the scene with mixed emotions.

It was unfortunate that Shaun targeted Lillian. She was such an outstanding beauty, but there was no way out. Shaun was too powerful for her.

Whoosh!

Seeing that Shaun was about to kiss her, a figure appeared on the battle stage with lightning

speed and pulled Shaun's hand away.

It was Darryl.

Initially, Darryl did not want to be nosy, but Shaun's approach to Lillian was too much.

Lillian was a noble girl, but Shaun was so rude and lawless around her.

Chapter 2614

"Who the hell are you?" Shaun cursed at Darryl, feeling irritated that his plan was disrupted.

"Who is this?" Everyone at the battle stage was surprised as they stared at Darryl.

They could see that the man was dressed in ordinary clothes and he seemed to have average strength. How dare he meddle in Shaun's affairs.

'Does he want to die?' they wondered.

No one knew that the person in front of them was the Elysium Gate Sect Master, who was famous throughout The Nine Continents and Darryl had deliberately hidden his strength.

"Darren?" Lillian opened her eyes and was stunned when she saw Darryl. "Why did you come up?"

Darryl smiled and motioned for her not to panic.

Shaun looked at Darryl up and down. "Who are you?"

Darryl glanced at Lillian and said, "A member of the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team."

Darryl did not want to reveal his identity. Since he was on the battle stage, he should pretend to be a member of Lillian's mercenary team. Otherwise, he would not be qualified to get on the stage.

Shaun smiled contemptuously and jeered, "Oh? What? Are you upset that your leader just lost to me? Are you trying to save the reputation of your mercenary team? Or do you want to be a hero and save the beauty?"

"Let her go." Darryl spelled out clearly. His gaze was extremely cold.

"You must have just joined the mercenary team and you probably have no idea who you're talking to. How dare you meddle in my business? Get out of here!"

Shaun was too lazy to talk nonsense and charged forward.

Everyone observing the event wore a conflicted expression. Although they all looked down on Darren, many people did not want him to be ousted. They all knew it was probably wishful

thinking. After all, Shaun was powerful and very few people were able to beat him.

"Darren, go down quickly. Don't cause any trouble!" Lillian kept shouting at Darryl, becoming even more anxious.

She was grateful that Darren had helped her several times. However, she could not allow Darren to defend her from Shaun.

Shaun was incredibly powerful.

However, Darryl did not seem to hear her pleas. He stood there quietly, looking at Shaun charging at him. His face remained stoic and as stable as Mount Tai.

Lillian was panicked. She was about to rush forward, but it was too late.

Bang!

Suddenly, they heard the vibration of aura permeate the scene. Then, Darryl and Shaun fought each other fiercely.

Lillian trembled as she was dumbfounded to see the turn of events. Everyone else was also equally stunned!

Darryl was very relaxed in the face of Shaun's attack. He looked like a father facing his naughty son as he completely crushed Shaun.

Lillian stared at the scene blankly, her mind going fuzzy.

'This...How could Darren be so powerful?' she thought.

The last time he was in Yellow Sky Trading, he took out many Martial Emperor's inner cores to help her pay off her massive debts. She thought that he was just lucky to have collected so many inner cores. It turns out he is a hidden master.

Lillian stared at Darryl blankly, her heart beating fast.

Bang!

In less than half a minute, Darryl slapped Shaun with his palm. Shaun yelped and staggered backward before he finally fell on the ground, looking extremely embarrassed.

‘What? Th-this kid beat Shaun?’

The entire battle stage was pin-drop silence. Everyone was stupefied.

‘How on earth is the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team recruit so powerful?’ everyone wondered.

Chapter 2615

"You!" Shaun struggled to stand up as he raised his finger at Darryl, his eyes blood-red.

He was enraged, but he only managed to say one word. His eyes went dark and he passed out unexpectedly.

Darryl's internal strength was powerful and Shaun could not stop him at all.

Everyone in the Thunder Mercenary Team was shocked as well as Jamie. They rushed to bring Shaun down from the battle stage and yelled at Darryl at the same time.

"Hey, kid. Do you even know the rules? Who told you to come up here?"

"You sabotaged the tournament."

Jamie looked disdainfully at Darryl amidst the yelling. "Hey, kid. Shaun and Lillian's match wasn't over. What are you doing up there? Don't the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team understand the rules?"

'Rules?' Darryl was so angry he laughed helplessly at Jamie's unreasonable claims.

"You're telling me the rules? This battle stage was originally set up to choose the alliance leader, but Shaun disrespected my leader in front of everyone. He even laid his hands on my leader. None of you even stepped forward to stop him. In fact, you were condoning this behavior with your silence. How ridiculous!" Darryl said.

His eyes looked dangerous like electricity when he looked around coldly.

Many people were shocked to sense the aura that filled Darryl's body. They shut their mouths and stopped protesting.

Lillian was moved to see Darryl protecting her from Shaun. She said softly, "Darren, thank you."

Darryl smiled. "Go down and rest. I'll help you with the tournament."

His voice was not loud, but he sounded determined.

Lillian bit her lip as she hesitated before finally nodding. Darryl was not a member of her

mercenary team and he had no obligation to help her with the tournament. However, the situation in front of her was out of her control.

She was afraid that it would be even more troublesome when everyone found out that Darryl was just her friend and not her team member.

Jamie looked at Darryl with a smile and said coldly, "Hey, kid! Since you want to continue fighting on the battle stage, we'll give you a chance. You look confident, so let's change the rules. There will be no limit to the people who can challenge you. How about that?"

Jamie was a little shocked by Darryl's strength, but he calmed down quickly.

'This kid must have won by luck. Shaun probably lost because he underestimated his enemy. If this kid is a peerless elite, how come he isn't well known?' he wondered.

In any case, Jamie wanted to avenge Shaun.

Many members of the Thunder Mercenary Team echoed loudly.

"Yes, since you can fight so well, let's have more fun."

"You've defeated Shaun, so you're certainly not afraid of us joining forces against you."

While discussing, their eyes flashed with excitement and coldness.

Like Jamie, they also believed that Darryl only beat Shaun by luck.

Lillian was annoyed. "You want to join forces and fight against Darren alone? Do you think this is reasonable?"

The group of people talked about the rules, but in fact, they were the most unruly people. The more Lillian thought about it, the more anxious she became. She had to pull Darryl down. A battle like this would not be worth their time and efforts, so it was better to give up on it. After all, Lillian did not feel lost for losing such unruly allies.

However, Darryl signaled Lillian not to be flustered.

He looked around with a slight smile. 'These people are so despicable. They want more people to challenge me on stage.'

Darryl asked Lillian to rest. Then, he looked at the audience and said, "You can challenge me

however you want. Anyway, I'm the only available member from the Blood Thorn Mercenary Team now. Whoever wants to challenge me, just come up."

He was not loud, but his powerful voice spread throughout the valley.

Darryl was not acting on a whim. He noticed that the mercenary teams combined as a whole could be a powerful force. If he could win first place and become the leader, he could use the force to counter Zhang Jue.