

The Almighty Dragon General Chapter 1271

Chapter 1271

James did not want to pay too much attention to the Cadens' affairs. Although he was part of the Cadens, he had no affection for them.

In the entire family, the only person he cared for was Bennett.

However, Bennett's whereabouts were unknown, so it would be useless for James to continue staying in the Cadens' mansion.

All he could do was secretly inquire and investigate.

Callan followed James out of the Cadens' compound. Outside the mansion, Callan asked, "James, are you going back to Cansington?"

James stopped, turned around, and looked at the wrinkled Callan behind him. Then, he said, "Yeah. Although there are plenty of things for me to tend to in the Capital, many martial art sects and families encountered severe casualties after the Mount Thunder Sect Conference. They'll stay in hiding to heal and recover, hence things will be peaceful for the time being. I'm preparing to return to Cansington to recover from my injuries and make plans after the new year."

James knew that many more powerhouses were bound to appear in Sol. Those people would be strong beyond his imagination.

That was because the Spirit Turtle's core had been divided into eight pieces after it was killed.

Those eight fragments were enough to create eight terrifying, powerful martial artists.

He had to restore his strength as soon as possible to deal with the troubles coming his way.

Callan said, "I'll go with you. I'm getting old and have been meditating in seclusion all these years, but I ended up like this. I can't stay in the Capital. Lucjan knows I'm still alive, and he'll try to assassinate me after he returns. I think I'll only be safe if I follow you."

Callan knew that he would not be living long.

However, the longer one lived, the less one wanted to die.

He did not want to die and was holding on to the hope that James would recover and help restore his strength.

"By the way..." Callan remembered something and said, "After Yaakov knocked you unconscious, Lucjan sent people after you and Simon. Simon did his absolute best to protect you, which is how you survived."

"Mhm." James nodded.

He knew Simon, the Grand Patriarch of the Mount Thunder Sect.

He was the old man who offered wine to him when he first arrived at the Mount Thunder Sect.

He was indebted to the Mount Thunder Sect.

As for Lucjan, James originally intended to attack him during the Mount Thunder Conference and destroy the Gu Sect. Unexpectedly, Thomas had calculated the martial artists into his scheme and changed the outcome of the Mount Thunder Conference, which also messed up James' plans.

He had failed to kill Lucjan this time. His next chance to do so would not come easily.

Lucjan would surely take over the remaining of the Gu Sect after returning to the Capital.

Soon, he would have to have a confrontation with Lucjan.

However, he was frail at the moment.

As for Callan, he was definitely a powerhouse. Thus, James wanted to cure and restore his strength. If Callan could assist him, they would have a great chance of winning against Lucjan.

"Alright. You can follow me for now. However, I don't have the strength to protect myself, so if a strong member of the Gu Sect comes knocking on our door, I won't be able to protect you."

"Life and death are up to fate. If I'm not meant to pass this hurdle, then it's my fate," Callan replied softly.

"Let's go."

James did not say anything more. He turned around and left.

Instead of going to the airport, they headed to the military region.

"Emperor."

Along the way, the soldiers in the military region all greeted James respectfully.

James arrived at the military region office and called Henry.

He was unsure of the situation in the Mount Thunder Sect and wanted to inquire about it.

"Sorry, the number you've dialed is temporarily unavailable."

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Chapter 1272

James frowned slightly.

He looked at Thea sitting on the sofa with a black sword and asked, "Thea, what happened in the Mount Thunder Sect when you left?"

Thea was immersed in her thoughts when she was suddenly interrupted by James' question. She recollected herself and said, "The martial artists buried underground were rescued. As for what happened after that, I don't know."

Hearing this, James heaved a sigh of relief.

He thought perhaps he could not get through to Henry's phone because he was still around the Mount Thunder Sect without any signal.

James decided not to linger in the Capital anymore and left on a private military plane.

Meanwhile, Gloom returned to the Peace Mansion in the Capital.

His phone had no signal while he was around the Mount Thunder Sect, hence he could only give brief reports about the general situation, missing out on the details.

Now that he had returned, he explained the events that transpired in the Mount Thunder Sect.

"What?"

After hearing Gloom's report, the King's expression changed slightly.

"The Old King is still alive and appeared in the Mount Thunder Sect? He even participated in the battle against the Spirit Turtle? Sky, one of the four powerhouses alongside the Old King, also showed up?"

Gloom nodded and said, "That's right. This was a scheme set up by James' grandfather, Thomas. He'd been hiding and planning to slay the Spirit Turtle for decades. In order to achieve this, he deliberately led countless martial artists to the Mount Thunder Sect. After it was killed, a core appeared, but the core shattered into eight pieces."

The King asked with a solemn expression, "What are the casualties among this batch of martial artists?" "The casualties are very high. According to the reports, about three thousand out of the over ten thousand martial artists that headed to the Mount Thunder Sect survived. As for the stronger martial artists, there isn't any certain news yet. I don't know how many of them the combat aircraft killed."

The King inquired, "Who got their hands on the eight cores?"

Gloom shook his head and said, "I don't know."

Hearing this, the King fell into silence.

He never expected so many things to happen at the Mount Thunder Conference, nor could he have guessed it was Thomas' scheme.

"By the way..."

Gloom remembered something and said, "The corpse of the Spirit Turtle was blown into pieces. I sent some people over to obtain some broken turtle shells. Apart from that, there was nothing useful."

"Mhm." The King nodded calmly.

Things had played out beyond his expectations.

He could not predict what was going to happen next.

Gloom said solemnly, "King, what should we do next? I'm sure many powerhouses survived. They'll come to the Capital for revenge after recovering. We won't be able to withstand their wrath.

"Also, there are Mr. Lee, Sky, and the Old King to answer to. If they blame us for this..."

The King waved his hand and interrupted Gloom, saying, "The Old King will surely understand my decisions and support me. Don't worry about that for now. As for the other matters, leave them to James. Oh, right. How are things on James' end?"

"I just learned that he fought and defeated Yaakov. He showed mercy and let Yaakov live, but the other party launched a surprise attack. James was severely injured, and Bennett brought him back to the Cadens' mansion for treatment. I don't know the specifics on how he's doing."

"Send someone to the Cadens' mansion to check on him. No. You personally see to it," said the King.

"Understood." Gloom nodded.

"You're dismissed." The King waved his hand and leaned back on the sofa. He massaged his temples and fell into deep thought.

Gloom did not say anything more and turned to leave.

He left the Peace Mansion and drove directly to the Cadens' mansion.

"Stop."

Gloom was blocked from entering.

"I'm looking for James," said Gloom.

The guard at the Cadens' mansion looked at Gloom and said indifferently, "Wait here. I'll go and inform them of your visit."

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Chapter 1273

In the Capital, dozens of people were gathered in the meeting room in the Cadens' mansion.

Maxine sat in the lead.

She wore a golden robe, and her long hair was tied up, revealing her facial features. She had pearl and flower accessories in her hair and was wearing light makeup that made her look incredibly charismatic.

"Dear family members, the main purpose of gathering everyone here today is to discuss the follow-up matters of the Cadens. Bennett, our Grand Patriarch, has been attacked by our family head, Tobias, and their whereabouts are currently unknown. Next, we have two important things to do. First, find the Grand Patriarch, Bennett, as soon as possible. Second, find the family head, Tobias, to get to the truth of this matter as soon as possible."

Maxine's voice resounded.

Dozens of people were gathered in the meeting room, but no one responded to her.

None of these people accepted Maxine as their family head.

In their eyes, Maxine was of low status and considered a servant in their family.

Yet, she was now sitting in the family head's seat.

"Maxine, I personally think you're involved in this matter. No one saw the family head attacking our Grand Patriarch, and neither did you. You don't even have evidence for these things that you're suggesting. Are you perhaps colluding with Sir Lorenzo?"

Someone raised their doubts.

"I agree. Until this matter is investigated thoroughly, I won't recognize you as our family head."

"We've already gone to the Southern Ridge to invite Sir Luca back to take control of the situation."

Hearing this, Maxine frowned.

She knew no one would be satisfied with her as the family head. However, she did not expect them to not even take her words seriously.

At that moment, an old man walked into the meeting room.

He was the caretaker of the Cadens, Ryder Caden.

Ryder walked over with a cane and said respectfully, "Ms. Maxine, the King's personal bodyguard came to visit and said he's looking for James."

"Mhm." Maxine nodded.

She had known the house caretaker, Ryder, for thirty years. He was Sir Lorenzo's most trusted confidant. After Tobias took over the family head position, he continued as the caretaker of the Cadens and was in charge of all sorts of chores in the mansion.

Maxine stood up and said, "Since no one approves of me, this meeting is over. We'll discuss things after Sir Lorenzo arrives."

Then, she walked out.

Outside the meeting room, Ryder asked, "What's wrong? Is it not going well?"

Maxine replied bitterly, "How could it go well? I've always been of low status in the Cadens. Who would

ever approve of me as the family head?"

Hearing this, Ryder did not speak and continued following behind Maxine.

Outside the Cadens' mansion gate, Gloom was waiting for an update.

After seeing Maxine, he could not help but frown as he asked, "Why are you here? Where's James?"

Maxine looked at Gloom and said, "James has already returned to Cansington. If there's anything, you can just tell me."

"It's nothing much. I heard Yaakov injured him, so I came to check on him. Since he's fine and has returned to Cansington, I'm relieved. I won't bother you any longer."

After speaking, he turned and left.

"Wait a minute," said Maxine.

Gloom turned around and asked, "What? Is there anything else?"

Maxine thought for a few seconds and said, "Something has happened in the Cadens. Tobias sneaked up on our Grand Patriarch, Bennett, over the Spirit Turtle's core. We don't know where Bennett is or if he's even alive. Tobias was worried he would come back to settle the score, so he's fled from the Cadens as well."

"Oh?"

Hearing this news, Gloom was startled.

Maxine continued, "Sir Lorenzo showed up and appointed me as the new family head for the time being." "You?"

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Chapter 1274

Gloom was shocked by the news.

Maxine as the family head?

As the King's personal bodyguard, Gloom had a strong intelligence network in the Capital. Although he did not have complete information on the affairs of the major families in the Capital, he practically knew almost everything. Thus, he knew that Maxine was not blood-related to the Cadens.

He could not believe that Maxine was the family head.

After a momentary shock, he looked at Maxine and asked, "Why are you telling me all these things? Could it be that the Cadens are refusing to acknowledge you as the family head? Do you want to use the King's power to strengthen your position in the Cadens?"

Maxine smiled.

Dealing with intelligent people saved a lot of hassle.

"It'll be a mutually beneficial cooperation. As long as I remain the head of the Cadens, I'll stand by the King's side and become his most loyal partner." Maxine thought for a while and asked, "By the way, does the King have a candidate in mind for the new King for the next election in the following year?"

Gloom shook his head and said, "That is confidential information. How would a bodyguard like me know?" Maxine continued, "James has climbed the hierarchy incredibly fast. He's both the Dragon King and the Emperor. Is the King simply using him or deliberately training him?"

"I don't know anything about that." Gloom shook his head slightly, but he was genuinely startled by her question.

Rumor had it that Maxine from the Cadens was a legendary tactician.

Just from this one brief conversation, Gloom was surprised that she could say so much with so little. Maxine smiled and said, "If I'm the head of the Cadens, I'll surely grow the family bigger in the next few years. With the status of the Cadens in the ancient martial world, it won't be challenging to summon all of the martial artists worldwide. James' strength in the country is already at its peak, but I know him well. He isn't interested in the position of the King but is dedicated to serving the country's people. Thus, no matter who the new King is, he'll have fewer obstacles with my and James' support.

"If James could become the King, that would be even better. With my relationship with him..."

Gloom waved his hand and interrupted Maxine, saying, "I'll relay your words to the King when I return." After speaking, he turned and left.

Maxine watched Gloom leave with a faint smile on her pretty face.

Behind her, Ryder reminded, “Ms. Maxine, the Cadens have never involved ourselves in the outside world’s affairs. This has been a rule since ancient times. Throughout history, the governments have gone down the path of destruction, and despite having the chance to save them, the Cadens have never provided any help. Now that you’re talking about cooperation with the King, will it...”

“It won’t.” Maxine replied, “What era are we living in? It’s necessary to know how to bend the rules sometimes. No one in the Cadens obeys me, so I need external forces to suppress them into submission.” Her mind was clear.

Before, she had never thought about the position of the family head.

Now that it had fallen into her hands, she had to make plans for herself.

After speaking, she turned and left.

“Ms. Maxine, where are you going?” asked Ryder.

“Staying in the Cadens’ mansion is boring. I’m going out for a walk,” Maxine walked a certain distance away from the mansion before replying.

After leaving the mansion, she took out her phone and called Madelyn.

“Maxine, is there anything?” Madelyn’s voice sounded from the phone.

“Must there always be something?” Maxine chuckled.

“Cut to the chase. Just tell me what you want.”

“I need to see Mr. Gabriel,” Maxine said straightforwardly.

Yaroslav held a vital position in the Capital and was the representative of the Gu Sect in the official channels.

There was currently internal turmoil in the Gu Sect. The Supreme Leader, Callan, was attacked by the Deputy Leader, Lucjan. Now that she was following James, she had to make good use of Callan’s identity to pave the way for herself.

At Yaroslav’s courtyard house.

Yaroslav sat by the fire and warmed himself.

Madelyn stood aside and whispered, “Mr. Gabriel, Maxine is asking to see you.”

Yaroslav had been paying close attention to the events at the Mount Thunder Conference for the past few days. Thus, he was up to date on everything that had happened.

He asked with a frown, “Why does Maxine want to see me at this time? Could it be that James has arranged for it?”

"It's possible. Thomas is the biggest winner in the Mount Thunder Conference. James is Thomas' grandson and must've also received great benefits. Moreover, James has already grown so strong that he could defeat Yaakov. I believe he's planning something soon. I think it's best we meet up with Maxine."

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Chapter 1275

Maxine had never thought of becoming the family head.

Now that she was appointed, she had to start thinking about her way forward.

No matter what Lorenzo's purpose was in making her the family head, she had to do something to strengthen her position.

She headed to meet Yaroslav.

Meanwhile, James had already boarded a private military plane back to Cansington.

On the plane, Thea kept holding on to a black sword.

James frowned and asked, "Is this the Malevolent Sword that Grandpa mentioned?"

"Yeah." Thea nodded.

James continued, "Grandpa said that this was a wretched sword that would enchant a person's heart. It would control its wielder."

"No." Thea shook her head firmly.

Thomas said holding the sword would cause one to develop the desire to kill.

However, she did not have that desire.

Thea looked at James and explained, "Honey, it's not a wretched sword. Swords aren't alive, so how can they be wretched? What's wretched is the human heart. I'm holding the sword, but I don't feel anything."

"But..." James hesitated. He seemed to have something to say but ultimately decided to swallow his words.

"I know what you want to say. Nothing will happen if I control my emotions and stop using my True Energy. Moreover, if you give me a little more time, I'll be able to control the strange blood in my body." Thea wore a confident expression.

Initially, she had no memories of what happened when she first went through an Energy Deviation. Afterward, she could remember the events in the Johnstons' courtyard house and how she killed Kennedy. She was also able to restrain herself.

Back then, she would not have attacked Kennedy if he did not attack first.

However, Kennedy had a death wish and launched an attack on her.

“Mhm.” James nodded and did not say anything more.

“Honey, how’s your body feeling?” Thea changed the subject.

James replied, “I’m fine for the time being. Right now, I’m no different from an ordinary human since I can’t use my True Energy. If I try to use it, my meridians and organs won’t be able to withstand the overpowering True Energy and will be damaged instantly. It’d be troublesome to treat myself again if that were to happen.”

“That’s good.” Thea was relieved.

Callan had been sitting by the side and could not help but interject, “James, you should refine the Spirit Turtle’s core as soon as possible. After the Mount Thunder Conference, countless powerhouses will stay in hiding for some time, but hell will break loose soon. Even if you recover from your injuries and return to

your peak form, you won’t be powerful enough to turn the tide.”

James was well aware of what Callan was saying.

Even so, he had fought against an eighth-ranked grandmaster with all his strength, and it was already a miracle that he survived.

Even if he had the Crucifier, it would be difficult to recover his strength again.

“I’ll do my best,” said James.

“Actually, this era is quite nice.” Callan sighed.

He had lived more than a hundred years. In the previous eras, there were battles every year, and people had to go through deep suffering. Lives were lost in battles, and countless died from starvation yearly.

Now that the country and the people were in peace, death by starvation was almost nonexistent.

He also did not want another war to break out, as the commoners would be forced to suffer in the flames of war again.

The Owens of the three Gu Sect families were ambitious. Lucjan was also incredibly ambitious and would do everything possible to seize power.

Someone like him had to die.

James nodded and said, “Yeah, it’s pretty good. Everything we have now was bought with the blood of our ancestors. We must cherish this and prevent others from breaking this balance.”

Callan said again, "James, if you can restore my strength, I'll wholeheartedly help you and use the rest of my life to make up for the mistakes I made in the past."

James did not know about Callan's past but knew that he had led the Gu Sect to participate in the battle and win the war. However, he was defeated in the following battle, and even his family was taken away from him.

If that was the truth, then Callan had done nothing wrong at all.

Not only was he not in the wrong, but he was also a real national hero.

"Mr. Maverick, could you tell me about the past?" asked James.

James was eager to learn about this unknown part of history.

Callan nodded.

"The Gu Sect was a village. Within our village, there were three major families, namely the Mavericks, Owens, and Davises. Our families were also considered martial art families and relied on raising Gu for a living. Outsiders feared Gu. However, they aren't as scary as they seem. They can do harm but can also save lives.

"Thinking back, the Gu families were among the best in the world. Unfortunately, the Gu Sect was destroyed by internal conflicts and the interference of various external forces..." Callan began narrating what had happened in the past.

"If only I thought clearly and was more open to different opinions, this battle might not have occurred. Ultimately, I was too stuck in my own thoughts. If I had a broader perspective, I could have very well avoided the battle.

"Looking at the situation now, the King's development focus and strategies were indeed correct." James silently listened to him.

"Mr. Maverick, I don't think you did anything wrong."

"Haha..." Callan laughed loudly and said, "That's why you're destined to be a soldier and not a politician. An outstanding politician must consider the bigger picture. The world will never be at peace if everything is solved by military force."

James touched his nose and said with a smile, "True. That kinda makes sense."

"It's more than just kinda makes sense. This is the reason countries today are divided into military and political circles. The world would be a living hell if the military had absolute authority."

James smiled.

On the way back to Cansington, he chatted a lot with Callan.

They talked about various battles in the past and some governmental affairs.

Callan spoke highly of the Kings that led the country, saying that they made significant contributions to the development and construction of Sol.

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Chapter 1276

Before they knew it, they had arrived in the Cansington Military Region.

When James boarded the plane, the Capital Military Region had already contacted and notified them of James' arrival.

Before the plane landed, the Blithe King was already ready, waiting with a group of people.

The plane landed, the cabin door opened, and James' party walked out.

The Blithe King and his subordinates walked over.

"James..."

James heard the Blithe King's voice upon alighting the plane.

The Blithe King approached James and said with a bright smile, "Welcome back to Cansington, James!"

The Blithe King had also heard about the situation at the Mount Thunder Conference.

The situation was dire, and he thought James was in danger, but here he was, returning in one piece. "Yadiel, come quickly and meet Mr. Caden," the Blithe King called a young man behind him.

Behind him, a young man in his early twenties stepped forward and greeted respectfully, "Hello, Mr. Caden."

The young man, who was dressed in a military uniform, seemed about twenty years old. He was thin and pale as if he was ill.

The Blithe King introduced, "James, this is my son, Yadiel Blithe."

"Mhm." James nodded.

"The thing I mentioned to you last time..." the Blithe King looked at James eagerly.

Of course, James understood what was going on.

He glanced at Yadiel and then back at the Blithe King, and then he said, "Blithe King, I got injured during the Mount Thunder Conference and haven't completely recovered. I need to quickly recuperate and head back to the Capital to solve some issues. I'm afraid I won't be able to teach him for the time being."

"It's okay. There's no rush," the Blithe King said with a smile.

The Blithe King did not mind waiting a little longer.

As long as James was willing to teach his son martial arts and a cultivation method, it did not matter if they had to wait a little more.

“By the way, where’s Henry?” asked James.

The Blithe Army was also sent on the rescue mission, but the Blithe King and Daniel had already returned. Yet, Henry was nowhere to be seen.

The Blithe King looked at Daniel standing behind him.

Daniel immediately stepped forward and said, “Dragon King, the General got slightly injured while in the Mount Thunder Sect.”

“What? He was injured? What happened?” James’ expression changed as he inquired further.

“Umm...” Daniel looked at Thea.

Thea was confused and asked, “Why are you looking at me?”

Daniel thought for a while and said, “Thea injured him.”

“Impossible! When did I hurt him?” Thea retorted.

James asked calmly, “What happened?”

Daniel explained, “While in the Mount Thunder Sect, Thea suddenly erupted with terrifying energy, and the General was close to her. Thus, he was hurt by the sudden shock wave.”

Thea panicked and tugged James’ hand, explaining, “Honey, I don’t know. I really don’t know what happened.”

James waved his hand and comforted Thea.

He turned to Daniel again and asked, “How is he now? Where is he?”

Daniel replied, “His injuries were quite bad. He was taken to the Medical Valley by someone called Medical Saint to be treated. When I left, I asked the person who treated the General, and he said that Henry’s injuries were not light, but they weren’t fatal.”

James heaved a sigh of relief and said, “As long as he’s fine.”

“James, I’ve prepared a banquet for you,” the Blithe King said with a smile.

James slightly waved his hand and said, “There’s no need for a welcoming. We’ll talk some other time. I’ve some other things to deal with right now and won’t linger around for long.”

“Alright.” the Blithe King did not force it.

James did not stay long and left with Thea and Callan.

Yadiel did not speak until James left. Then, he asked, “Dad, is this James, the one that pretended to be the old man in Mount Littleroot and hurt our family head?”

James’ identity had been exposed.

Now, almost every martial artist knew that James was the old man that defeated Donovan on Mount Littleroot.

“Yeah. He’s a once-in-a-thousand-year martial art genius. He just keeps improving, and at a great pace. When I transferred to Cansington, he was only a physically strong man with good combat skills. He had not even cultivated his True Energy yet. Now, after less than six months, he’s already reached a terrifying level,” the Blithe King nodded and said with admiration.

Yadiel’s pale face was also full of admiration as he said, “It’s rumored that he entered the seventh rank and even the head of the Mount Thunder Sect, Simon, was defeated by him. It’s only been less than half a year. He’s indeed very overpowering.”

Outside the military region, James, Thea, and Callan walked outside.

Thea asked, “Honey, should we return to the Callahans’ or head to Cynthia’s place?”

James said, “Cynthia’s place first.”

“Okay.”

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Chapter 1277

Thea was slightly disappointed.

She could not understand James. These people were merely friends. Yet, instead of returning to the Callahans first, he would rather see them before anything else.

Although she was upset, she remained silent.

A military vehicle drove up to her, and a soldier got out. He saluted and shouted, “Dragon King, please get into the vehicle. I’ll send you back.”

“Mhm.” James did not refuse and got into the car.

The military vehicle sent James to the villa district where Cynthia’s villa was located.

Soon, they appeared at the door of Cynthia’s villa.

James rang the doorbell.

Soon, the door opened, and several women rushed out the door toward the gate.

The iron gate swung open.

“James!”

“James...”

Quincy, Tiara, and Cynthia looked at James with joy.

They thought James would not make it back for New Year’s and were worried about his safety.

Surprisingly, James returned before New Year’s.

“James, quick, come in.” Cynthia invited James into the villa.

James walked into the villa’s living room.

Tiara brewed several cups of tea, handed them over, and said, “James, Thea, Sit. Please have some tea.”

James accepted it, took a seat, and set it aside on the table. Then, he asked, “Did anything happen in Cansington while I was gone?”

Quincy shook her head and said, “What could’ve happened?”

“James, are you alright?” Cynthia looked at James with her big, bright eyes.

She was unsure of what happened in the Mount Thunder Sect but knew James had killed the Mount Thunder Sect’s leader to rescue them. Moreover, James even consumed poison made by a member of the Gu Sect.

James smiled and said, “I’m fine. The Mount Thunder Sect’s matters have come to an end for now.”

The women bombarded James with questions.

Thea silently held on to the Malevolent Sword beside them.

Although she knew James had good relationships with them, it still made her uncomfortable that he was talking to other women.

However, she forcibly suppressed her dissatisfaction and did not cause a scene.

James briefly explained the events during the Mount Thunder Conference.

He spoke lightly and calmly of the events, but the women listening were terrified by it.

They never expected so many things to happen in the past few days, nor did they expect James’ grandfather, Thomas, to be the mastermind behind it.

“James, show me the core!” Cynthia’s pretty face was full of excitement.

She was interested in the treasure that Thomas had spent decades planning to obtain from the Spirit Turtle.

James took out the core.

The core was red and in the shape of a ball.

Cynthia held it in her hand, feeling its warmth. She repeatedly inspected and examined it.

“This thing alone is enough to increase someone’s strength and make them immortal?”

James shook his head and said, “I’m not certain about that.”

Callan interrupted and explained, “Whether it can make one immortal is uncertain, but it sure can increase one’s energy.”

Hearing this, all eyes were on him.

Quincy could not help asking, “How so?”

She had experienced a lot during this period and watched Cynthia cultivate True Energy. She was incredibly envious of her.

Moreover, Thea also became a martial artist, a powerful one on top of that.

She felt slightly inferior.

All along, she thought she was better than Thea in every aspect. She thought she could always win.

However, Thea was now a martial artist, while she was just an ordinary person.

She was eager to learn more about the ancient martial art world.

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Callan began to explain the benefits of the core.

“Generally speaking, animals that live longer will grow biles. These biles are excellent tonics for martial artists. After consuming them, a martial artist’s strength will increase significantly.

“As for their cores, it’s much more beneficial than biles.”

“I haven’t come across an animal’s core before, but I’ve seen them in records.”

Meanwhile, a black vehicle drove slowly on the roads of the suburbs of Cansington.

“Finn, is this reliable news?” A voice sounded in the car.

A man in his forties leaned back in the passenger seat. He was wearing a black coat and had thick eyebrows and big eyes.

“Finn, this isn’t child’s play. We might die if we fail.”

The man leaning back in the passenger seat sat straight and replied seriously, “Whether it’s reliable or not, we have to try it. Over the years, the three of us have been constantly hunted down. It’s our chance to rise.”

As he said that, he looked at the man driving the car and asked, “Have you investigated?”

The man driving the car replied, “Yeah. I’ve thoroughly investigated everything and found that James will return to Cansington. He’s a sentimental person and has killed countless people for Thea. James also has quite a few women that he maintains good relationships with. He values these people and will do everything to help them if they’re in danger.”

Hearing this, the man in the passenger seat fell into silence. The three brothers were martial artists but were nicknamed the Three Wanderers.

The eldest was Finn Leo.

The second was Felix Leo.

The youngest was Harper Leo.

The three brothers belonged to no martial art family or sect. In the earlier years, they had committed countless crimes and were wanted by the Mount Thunder Sect. They hid from the public and did not attend the Mount Thunder Conference.

However, they spent a fortune buying first–hand information about the Mount Thunder Conference and knew what had happened.

They knew the Mount Thunder Conference was a scheme by Thomas and that he had gained great benefits from it. Thus, they were tempted.

The eldest, Finn, thought for a while and said, “We’ll have to devise a long–term plan.”

“By the way…”

The youngest, Harper, who was driving, said, “I found out Thomas brought a caretaker with him thirty years ago. His name is Newton. Apparently, Thomas has a lot of trust in him. Ten years ago, Thomas’ villa was burned down. None of them died, but Newton set up their graves, allowing Thomas to conceal the truth from the world. Newton has contributed a lot in his plans.”

Finn asked, “What are Newton’s martial art capabilities? What rank is he?”

“In the public eye, he’s just an ordinary old man. He has never shown any martial art skills in front of outsiders. Thus, I’m not certain if he’s skilled in martial arts. However, he’s Thomas’ caretaker and has been with him for thirty years. I’m guessing his martial art skills aren’t too bad either.”

“Finn, I know Newton has a granddaughter,” Felix, the second child, said from the back row.

“James probably doesn’t have anything good on him. The goods are most likely with Thomas. It might not be useful to capture James’ women. We should threaten Thomas instead, starting with Newton, his trusted caretaker.”

The three discussed Thomas, James, and the things that happened at the Mount Thunder Conference. The trio thought Thomas must have acquired one of the Spirit Turtle’s cores.

They planned to capture hostages and threaten Thomas to exchange the core for the hostages. The three of them began discussing the details.

After some time, they finalized their plan.

They decided to start with Newton’s granddaughter, Serena.

However, one person was far from enough.

A caretaker’s granddaughter might not attract Thomas’ attention. Apart from Serena, they wanted to capture Quincy, Tiara, and Cynthia.

As for Thea, they did not dare to touch her because of the news that Thea’s energy was enough to hurt other martial artists.

They had no confidence in capturing Thea.

Their plan was practically equivalent to digging their own graves. If they failed, what awaited them was death. After all, this was a battle against Thomas, who calculated all martial artists into his plans.

However, they could obtain the Spirit Turtle’s core and refine it if they succeeded. Then, they would no longer be hunted down and could even achieve great things.

Meanwhile, Callan explained the core to the group in Cynthia’s villa.

Even James listened attentively.

“From my understanding, ordinary animals will not produce a core. The core is an essence of animals, and only those that have lived for more than a few hundred years will grow one, but that isn’t absolute either.”

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Chapter 1279

Hearing this, Cynthia handed the core back to James. “You should have this back, James. It sounds precious. I can’t afford to break it.”

James took it and put it away.

"By the way, tomorrow is New Year's. Where are you planning to celebrate, James?" Quincy changed the subject and looked at James eagerly.

"My house, of course." Thea cast a glance at Quincy and took James' hand. She raised her head proudly as if she was announcing that James was her man and that Quincy should not even think about it.

James did not want to return to the Callahans because they were power-hungry.

"I won't return to the Callahans' mansion," said James.

"Why?" Thea was immediately displeased.

James said, "Regarding our official status, we're divorced, so it's unsuitable for me to return to the Callahans' mansion. I plan to look for Newton and spend New Year's with him."

James had plans to look for Newton.

The main reason was that he wanted to learn some inside stories from thirty years ago.

Newton had been following Thomas since thirty years ago. After Thomas was expelled from the family, he also left with him.

There was definitely more to this caretaker than what met the eye.

He was surely not an ordinary person.

How could an ordinary person be worthy of following Thomas?

"Honey..." Thea's face was sorrowful. "It's just a document. Is it that important? Or do you not have me in your heart at all?"

"You're misunderstanding me, Thea. I'd like to find out what happened thirty years ago. Newton must know a lot of details," James explained.

"You don't have to do it now. It won't be too late to ask after the New Year."

Quincy smiled and said, "James, Thea's right. It's your first year in the Callahans. You should join them." "I'm leaving tonight too. I'm heading back to the North. My Dad called me asking when I'm returning this morning," Cynthia said with a smile.

"I'm going back to the Capital too," Tiara also said.

"My parents are abroad, and you're all leaving. I'm going to be so bored." Quincy chuckled.

She turned to Thea and said jokingly, "Thea, how about I come to the Callahans with you to celebrate the New Year?"

"That...doesn't sound too appropriate." Thea looked troubled.

She would not hesitate if Quincy had asked this in the past.

However, she knew very well what Quincy was thinking.

She did not want Quincy to have a chance to approach James. It would be best if Quincy stayed as far

away from James as possible.

“I’m just joking.” Quincy smiled.

James remained silent because he was at a loss for what to say.

Whether Quincy or Tiara, he had let both of them down.

“See you guys. I’ll head back home too.” Quincy stood up, bid farewell, and left.

“Honey, let’s leave too.” Thea pulled James as she noticed something wrong with Tiara’s expression. She seemed hesitant to speak, which made Thea regard her with pity.

Even Thea felt slightly heartbroken for her as a woman.

She was afraid James would start making promises again. Thus, she quickly pulled him and wanted to leave.

“T—Then, we’ll go to the Callahans’.” James had a helpless expression.

“Cynthia, Tiara, I’ll leave first. We’ll get in touch soon.”

James bid farewell to them and left.

Tiara looked at James’ leaving figure, and tears welled up in her eyes.

Cynthia sighed and patted Tiara’s shoulder, saying, “I’ll head to my room to pack up.”

As the villa’s owner, she knew very well that these women only lived with her during this time because of one person—James.

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Chapter 1280

After walking out the villa gate, Thea held her sword in one hand and held on tightly to James’ hand in the other.

She was afraid that James would run away.

Behind them, Callan asked, “By the way, James, where do you plan for me to stay? You can’t seriously be bringing me to the Callahans’ villa, right?”

James stopped.

He had yet to consider where to arrange for Callan to stay because his identity was relatively unique. Callan was the Supreme Leader of the Gu Sect, and the Deputy Commander, Lucjan, was rebelling. Lucjan had secretly bribed most of the strong men from the Gu Sect.

The next step was to take over the sect completely.

Lucjan would not rest until Callan was dead. He would keep sending people after his life, or he might even personally take action.

James thought for a while and said, "You can follow me for now."

"Are you not afraid that Lucjan's people would come knocking at your door? He might even personally come after me."

James smiled and said, "You've gotten older, and your appearance has changed quite a lot. Now, there are only a few people that know of your identity. Lucjan would never imagine you to look so old, nor would he expect the old man blatantly following me around to be the Gu Sect's Supreme Leader."

Callan smiled and said, "That's true, but I shouldn't go to the Callahans' villa. You should arrange a place for me to stay."

"That'll do too." James nodded.

James said again, "Why don't you stay at Cynthia's place for a while until I recover my strength?"

"Okay." Callan did not refuse.

James turned back to the villa again to tell Cynthia about the arrangement.

"Sure!" Cynthia agreed without hesitation and was even delighted by the thought.

She did not know Callan's identity, but judging from his previous sharings, she could tell he was an old, experienced martial art senior.

"I—I've decided not to go back to the North." Cynthia's eyes were full of expectation as she stared at Callan. She smiled and said, "Sir, I've decided to stay in Cansington and use this opportunity to ask you for some pointers!"

Cynthia had cultivated her True Energy but had no experience in martial arts.

Having been given such a good opportunity, she was unwilling to let it go to waste. "Sir, don't stand! Please sit down."

"Young lady, you're a very decent person, and I really like you." Callan chuckled.

"Really? I like you too! How about you become my teacher?" Cynthia asked happily.

"Huh?" Callan was stunned.

He had only accepted one apprentice in the past hundred years and had never considered accepting another.

James, who was standing by the side, interjected, "Cynthia isn't as simple as she looks. She has a rare Frost Physique, and her body can continuously produce Cold Energy."

"Oh, is that so?"

Callan cast another glance at Cynthia.

Frost Physique

He had read about it in ancient records, and it was a very rare physique.

People with this type of physique were perfect for practicing martial arts. Learning martial arts would significantly improve their True Energy.

One year of training was worth ten years of that of an ordinary person.

"Yeah." James explained, "Ever since she was a child, her body would produce Cold Energy, and she had to take medication to expel it. Fortunately, she met me. Otherwise, she would have died from the coldness."

After getting James' affirmation, Callan laughed.

He carefully scanned Cynthia and said, "Come here. I'll check your pulse."

Cynthia stretched out her hand.