

BABY MAFIA 701

Chapter 701 - "Paul's Special Ability"

Paul couldn't be blamed for thinking of destroying the Sloan Family's main mansion or cripple the Sloan Family's military power.

After all, their Naran Family had lost too much from this siege alone, and even if they won the tournament as a part of the ten winners, they might not be able to show a power worthy of being a high-ranking mafia family.

On the other hand, right now, the Sloan Family wasn't as affected as their Naran Family.

In fact, the two families shouldn't be compared.

The Naran Family was really only barely qualified...the mafia council themselves didn't think that the Naran Family could snatch the top ten spots.

Compared to other more qualified families, the Naran Family was really mediocre.

They passed the drug relay round by relying on their vast connections while passing the preliminary round through sheer luck.

They were indeed lucky enough to have many mid-ranking families as their friends, thus earning their protection at the bloody banquet more than a month ago.

Still, the Naran Family didn't want to be eliminated in the second round.

If they could enter the third or even the fourth round, their family could befriend many more strong forces!

The tournament wasn't broadcasted live to protect the defender team's privacy, but other forces had the means to probe about the second round's result.

If the Naran Family won against the favourite candidate, the Sloan Family, they would also become famous...

Good, good!

Paul was even more determined to inflict as much harm as he could to the Sloan Family. Thus, when he entered the mansion, he would destroy anything that he saw.

After all, his special ability was one of the unique abilities among others– the power of destruction.

This power was really vague but had one of the strongest offensive attacks.

He's only a dual ability user, with one of them being a mere ordinary daily-life ability– knitting.

Super knitting. He could knit many clothes or anything that he could knit. But he mainly used this power to create traps and such. It wasn't as powerful as his other ability.

The reason why he became the heir was slowly because of his power of destruction. He could practically destroy everything as long as he had enough special power.

Of course, he was still at the core-nurturing realm, the same realm as Ainsley's. He hadn't even filled all the realm's 7 stages for both of his abilities...

Well, he had never bothered to strengthen his knitting ability and only strived to strengthen his power of destruction, but it took years just to reach the fifth stage of the core-nurturing realm.

He's not a genius like Ainsley who awakened her abilities at the age of three. He actually awakened his first ability, the power of destruction, when he was thirteen.

He wasn't talented enough to join the Elton Worldwide Academy...he could only join a local academy at the capital.

He spent two years finishing the five stages of the core-condensing realm, where he perfected his awakened ability...

Then, he spent five years reaching the fifth stage of the core-nurturing realm.

On the other hand, Ainsley passed the core-condensing realm in one go because she awakened her abilities in early ages.

She was even fast enough to reach the peak of the core-nurturing realm in less than a year!

Paul couldn't be compared at all, and that's why he knew he couldn't destroy the barriers outside using his current ability.

At most, he could only destroy buildings or weak non-combat abilities belonging to solo ability users.

But now that he's inside the mansion, why would he let go of this chance to destroy a part of the mansion?

Even when the mansion itself had countless defensive measures from the inside, some of the vulnerable ones eventually crumbled under Paul's power.

Seeing how he managed to make a mess of the Sloan Family's mansion, which would surely cost tons of money to repair, Paul felt a bit better than before.

Good! As long as the Sloan Family suffered losses too!

And so, on the way to the connecting hall, Paul and his small group of elites continued to destroy rooms and other facilities.

The Sloan Family members inside the building immediately tried to stop them.

Unfortunately, Paul's small group had someone with a group-stealth ability, making it hard for the Sloan Family members to locate them.

Not to mention that the five buds were busy outside because more and more enemies breached the barrier.

The generals were protecting the mansion from outside, the elders as well. Only half of the generals and the elders stayed inside the mansion.

Of course, these people instantly noticed the anomaly and one of them, Elder Daniel, immediately notified Ainsley.

"Family head, I think the enemy's commander is here. Our rooms are destroyed, and there are more wounded members...."

Paul's group had fifty people, and one of them had the group-stealth ability with the maximum people they could cover up to fifty-five.

Usually, this ability was useless unless it was used in assassinations because it only hid a group of people from others.

Stronger ability users could have been able to locate these vaguely people—for example, the rest of the elders who were staying inside the mansion.

The other elders were flying above the mansion without going out of the boundary also could detect these people's movement, albeit only through instinct and feelings.

Thus, the elders reported to Ainsley about Paul's group movements and their predicted location.

"Their group will arrive at the connecting hall in minutes. The guards can't pinpoint the enemies' location, so they can only attack blindly. But I think it's not helping much."

Sadly, Ainsley didn't have any members who could counter this kind of stealth ability!

Chapter 702 - "Paul's Hidden Trick"

Well, Ainsley could counter this group-stealth ability if she used the neutraliser crystal, but Ainsley didn't want to use her trump card so soon.

Somehow, she thought that Paul would also have a trump card that he hadn't used yet until the last day.

If tonight's battle was a failure for Paul, he would definitely use his trump card, and Ainsley wanted to save the neutraliser crystal for that moment.

Thus, even after knowing that Paul was heading this way while destroying her mansion, Ainsley was relatively calm.

"Don't panic. We can still rebuild those destroyed rooms. Anyway, the things or areas that he destroyed aren't that important."

Ainsley paused before murmuring through the AirPods.

"Summon Nouvan and Marietta here. Find three generals to assist me too. As for the seven elders, I only need Grandpa Yofan. The rest of you should block the enemies outside."

Ainsley ordered Elder Daniel and the old man immediately obeyed. He called all the people Ainsley needed, and soon, those people arrived using Grandpa Yofan's teleportation ability.

Thankfully, none of the enemies had this kind of super-rare space-related ability. If not, their defence would have been breached a long, long time ago.

Once Grandpa Yofan reappeared with the members that Ainsley requested, Ainsley welcomed the new reinforcement with a smile.

"I think with this many people...we don't need to worry about Paul's elite force. Grandpa Yofan alone is enough to fight them, right?"

Ainsley giggled as she looked at Grandpa Yofan on her right side and Elliana on her left side.

Grandpa Yofan's black hole ability was really overpowered, and even a speck of it could kill countless ability users.

A pity...Ainsley didn't want Grandpa Yofan to use it inside the building. Otherwise, he might affect their sides too or destroy the mansion from the inside.

An indoor battle is actually more dangerous than an outdoor one where they could unleash their abilities without restraint.

Unfortunately, the mafia council did say that the defender had to place the flag inside the mansion...else, they would have buried the flag deep in the yard or something.

Hearing Ainsley's casual remarks, Grandpa Yofan chuckled.

"Yeah. This battle isn't as dangerous as the Aretha Battle, the Roid Valley raid, or the Mausoleum War. I think we can definitely win."

Grandpa Yofan was confident in this aspect.

After all, they had resisted the Aretha Family's joint attack with other high-ranking families and tons of mid-rank or low-rank mafia families when their family didn't install a 7-layered barrier yet.

Compared to the Naran Family's attack...really can't be compared. It was like an ant versus an elephant.

Thus, after resolving the poisonous fog attack a day ago, the Sloan Family was much more relaxed. They were actually waiting to see what kind of dirty tricks Paul would use.

"In terms of military power, our family is way stronger than them. After you bring many flying-type beasts and monsters, our air force is now better than Naran's."

Grandpa Yofan stood straight with his hands clasped behind his back as he continued to analyse their situation for Ainsley.

"From the Naran Family members list, I can see that they have no unique ability users with an ability to threaten us. We really only have to worry about Paul using a dirty trick or something."

Indeed, they are confident that they can beat Paul and his people when the group arrives, but he's worried about Paul's sinister way of fighting.

He released countless corrosive liquids earlier, and they needed priests to cleanse the effect.

The second time, the Naran sent countless poisonous fog...

The fog's residue was still inside the mansion too. Many fell victim to this trick, dying just like that.

The number of healers wasn't abundant enough to save everyone. They had to sacrifice the lower-level members.

Some members survived by the antidote Ainsley prepared before, but that's only because they're lucky.

They held on against the poison even after fifteen minutes, thanks to the antidote, but then they got the healers' help to detoxify the poison.

Without the healers, they would die too.

Many more members would become victims if Ainsley didn't prepare filtering masks for them and the members were fast enough to reach before they were affected.

Now...after the poisonous fog trick..what kind of trick Paul would use?

Grandpa Yofan looked at Ainsley with eyes full of worry.

"Ain, no matter what happens, your safety is our priority. If you stay alive, you can protect the flag with your strength. We believe in you."

Grandpa Yofan's words sounded so ominous until Ainsley had to frown.

"Don't say that. We will all be fine, grandpa. We have many trump cards...I don't believe the Naran Family can crush us that easily."

If that's the case, the Sloan Family would have long gone under the Aretha Family's joint attack back then.

They had passed through the most significant hurdle with the most limited strength...how could they not be able to defeat the Naran Family?

"Worse comes to worst...we should kill that Paul guy before he can do anything." Ainsley's eyes flickered with a savage light.

She won't hesitate to kill if it's to protect her people. She had long tempered her mind for the past few months, and killing wouldn't burden her mind anymore.

Sometimes she would still be haunted in her dream and would still have some psychological burdens, but if it's related to her family's survival, she didn't mind becoming the devil.

She was no longer that ordinary college girl who never killed anyone. She is now the head of the Sloan Family, with countless people's lives on her shoulders.

Right after Ainsley said those words, her 3D map detected Paul's group in the corridor.

They're here!

Chapter 703 - "Connecting Hall's Great Battle"

Ainsley immediately notified her people in the Connecting Hall.

"Paul's group is already in the corridor. The guards stationed there didn't see them coming because this time, Paul didn't destroy anything."

Ainsley's radar ability was already upgraded, and so, she could detect Paul's group despite the group-stealth skill.

At the same time, she could still maintain her 3D Map even when she was talking and not moving her mouth to match the radar rhythm.

After all, the sound wavelength already automatically spread out of Ainsley's mouth as long as the radar ability was still active.

There's no pyak pyak noise anymore, which was something Ainsley had to thank Zev for. Finally, the system wasn't messing around with her anymore!

With Ainsley's reminder and detailed explanation, the people in the hall could imagine Paul and his group's location, along with their number.

Around fifty people wanted to cross the corridor at the same time...only four people could walk side-by-side, considering the corridor's width.

But since the corridor was quite long, it could definitely fit fifty people including the twenty-or so guards stationed at every checkpoint in the corridor.

Since the Naran Family wasn't going to alarm the guards, they should be moving in two or three people...

The one at the front looked like a tanker, while those at the back looked like the long-range attackers.

Melee combaters were right behind the tankers while Paul was safe and sound at the center of the long-line formation.

Thanks to Ainsley's 3D map, she could accurately pinpoint Paul's position and ordered her people to get ready for a close battle.

The connecting hall was indeed huge, but it wasn't as huge as the main hall. Fifty or so people would instantly crowd the hall, pressuring the Sloan Family's side.

But Ainsley had prepared many elite members all around the hall. Some even floated in the air, riding their small flying-type mount.

All sides were ready for combat...and Ainsley felt that Paul would try to steal the flag without alarming her.

If that's the case...

Before the first enemy could enter the connecting hall, Ainsley had already ordered her elite elemental ability users to move.

"Candea, use your marble-manipulation ability and create walls to block the enemy."

"Marietta, prepare your vines to catch any intruders. They will be invisible and hard to detect, so just let your vines go wild. Just don't attack your comrades."

"Fiska, prepare to put a barrier around the flag. Just a small barrier will do."

"Elliana, you can burn whoever slip through Candea's marble wall."

"Nouvan, standby to heal the injured. Don't go anywhere and stay near me."

"Axel, I'll tell you the group-stealth ability user's location later. Quickly kill them with your ability."

"The others, if Axelle hasn't killed the group-stealth ability user after five minutes, listen to my command to locate the enemies' location and quickly finish them."

Right after Ainsley finished sending a string of commands to her people in a low voice, her 3D maps blinked slightly, showing the first enemy entering the connecting hall.

However, before the first batch of four people could walk further, Candea already waved her hand, and the marble floor in front of the four people instantly shot up.

BANG!

The marble floor stood straight, forming a wall to block the four intruders. The wall even had thorns, injuring the four people who were caught off guard.

Paul and the others, who were not so far behind the four people, instantly reacted.

[The enemy found us! I don't know how, but they somehow discovered our presence. Commander, what do we do?]

The group-stealth ability user used his friend's telepathy skill to contact Paul through their minds.

The telepathy ability user was in charge of silent communication between the members, and she could actually act as a connecting line, enabling others to use telepathy with her as the medium.

When Paul received the message, his face instantly darkened.

How the heck did the enemy find us this fast? We didn't even alarm the guards in the corridor, and even the surveillance camera couldn't catch us.

The group-stealth ability user was really an elite that could make others invisible, plus erasing their presences and auras.

They wouldn't be discovered even with detection machines!

Only detector or scanner ability users in the same strength realm as the group-stealth ability user could detect them.

But the Sloan Family clearly didn't have those kinds of ability users!

Unfortunately, Ainsley's radar ability was categorised as a scan or detection-type ability user, which was even more advanced than the usual type.

Relying on a special sound wavelength to create an image of the target, including capturing their voices, Ainsley's radar ability was naturally a unique ability that one couldn't find easily.

Even though Paul was shocked that Ainsley's people somehow could detect his people's presence, he didn't lose his composure.

He immediately asked the long-range attackers to attack the marble wall while still retaining their stealth state.

Even if the Sloan Family could sense their arrival, it would be hard to attack something invisible, had no presence, aura, or whatsoever.

The group-stealth ability user could even block noises from leaking out, not letting the enemy hear their footsteps, breathing noises, or anything.

It was perfect!

Yes, it was perfect. Even Ainsley's radar ability didn't catch any noises from these people!

But...the Radar ability's soundwave still hit their bodies and accurately showed their movements to the little boss.

While Paul's side was attacking the marble wall, Ainsley's side didn't do much and was preparing to catch the intruders instead.

Marietta's green vines already created a complicated and tricky terrain for the enemies but were friendly to Ainsley's people.

The vines seemed to be alive as it shook slightly, waiting to catch the intruders!

Chapter 704 - "Keep Pretending"

One of Marietta's special abilities was nature control, but because she's a multiple ability user, she wasn't a weak manipulator who needed existing plants or flora to be her weapon.

She could create plants and flora using her energy to be manipulated as she wished!

The type of plants and flora she could create depend on her knowledge of plants and flora.

If she could comprehend a unique plant or flora's basic structure, she could even use the flora or the plant's unique characteristics.

For example, poisonous flowers, plants that could attract monsters, plants that could transform into puppet woods, and so on.

Coupled with her earth manipulation ability, the two abilities matched well, pushing Marietta to become one of the respected five buds with only three special abilities.

Nature manipulation ability users weren't rare, but most of them could only control plants or flora, not both.

They also could only control one type of plant or its body part such as the trunk, the vines, the leaves, and so on.

However, Marietta's ability was clearly not limited to those things.

Her ability could be counted as a unique ability thanks to the wide range of control, plus the power to create plants and flora just using her energy and then manipulate them.

Right after Marietta finished setting up the traps, the enemy had also managed to destroy the marble wall, and Candea did not rush to create more walls from the marble floor.

Clearly, her type of ability was only to manipulate and not to create from scratch, unlike Marietta's.

Thus, if she continued to use her ability, the Connecting Hall's marble floor would be gone in minutes.

However, because the entire marble floor was advantageous for her, Ainsley used this person's unique ability to control the battle flow.

Imagine when you're running around, and the marble floor suddenly becomes thorns and stabs your feet or something.

The marble floor could move on its own, saving allies but killing enemies...

She could create a hole for the enemies, could shift the floor to save the allies, could do many things as long as there were marbles!

Candea was really battling in her own turf. With Candea's ability, the enemy's speed slowed down, and they couldn't rush into the hall all at once.

They could only silently creep along the walls and tried not to get too far from the group-stealth ability user because there's a range limit.

The enemies thought that they could bypass Ainsley's people by pressing themselves onto the wall and silently moved to the flag's location without getting attacked anymore...

Alas, the wall was full of cyan vines, the same colour as the wall itself. The vines blended perfectly along the wall, only looking like a decoration or something.

But...appearance could be deceiving.

The moment three or four intruders touched the vines on the wall, before they could even retract their hands, the vines already slurred to their wrists and waists, instantly capturing them.

The vines were so strong that the intruders couldn't break free no matter what!

They couldn't even scream or use their abilities because the next moment, the vine's sharp edge stabbed their necks or hearts without producing any noises.

Spurt.

Blood trickled down the vines as the four intruders' corpses dangled to the thick vines, instantly alarming Paul and his group.

[Mayday, mayday! Don't touch the wall at all! There are weird vines there. It must be Marietta's nature control ability!]

The vice commander in the group hastily reminded everyone.

Ainsley's people truly couldn't see or sense them, but those vines could easily detect them as long as there was skin contact.

The vines seemed to be connected to Marietta's senses and she reacted so fast to eliminate the intruders!

Paul and his vice commander knew a lot about the five buds, so they recognised Marietta's ability in less than seconds.

Truthfully, if those people didn't suddenly die in front of them, they would also ignore the slight bulging 'decorations' on the wall, thinking that it's the wall's unique design.

The Connecting Hall itself was a round hall with seven doors on each side. The biggest door in the hall was the large golden gate behind the tall flag.

Paul didn't know what's behind the golden door or other doors, but he reminded his people to get away from the doors too.

What if there were beasts or troops hiding behind the door, ready to ambush them?

Thus, after the death of the four intruders, the rest of the group tread around the hall carefully, not wanting to touch the wall.

They even looked down at the floor, afraid that the marble floor would suddenly become walls or something.

After all, they almost died by the marble floor's sudden movement!

Paul's group could see the Connecting Hall was full of people and there were even those in the air.

If they didn't have the group-stealth ability, how could they even approach the hall?

However, they believed in the stealth ability.

They all believed that the marble floor case earlier was just an accident because Candea's sixth sense was strong or something.

Alas..they didn't even realise that Ainsley is purposely luring them to enter the Connecting Hall, wanting to kill them all at once or little by little!

Of course, right now, the baby was busy looking around in panic because of the sudden commotion.

"What's going on? Candea, why did you build that marble wall? And Marietta! What's with those four corpses? Where did they come from??"

Ainsley's face was pale as she pretended not to sense the intruders' arrival.

Marietta and Candea were both smart, and when they heard Ainsley's words, they instantly knew what she wanted to do.

Pretend. Keep pretending!

Chapter 705 - "Ready To Hunt"

Since Ainsley wanted her people to pretend to not know anything, Marietta and Candea were quick to respond. Both of them looked at Ainsley with a serious look.

"I think there are intruders, boss. But maybe there are only those four intruders that I just killed. My vines haven't detected any living beings after that case."

Marietta was really skilful. Her acting skill was comparable to Ainsley's Oscar-worthy performance.

Even Candea also tried to adjust.

"Same here, boss. The people I blocked using the marble wall should be the four that Sister Marietta just killed. I don't sense any other intruders..."

Hearing this, Paul and the others let out a sigh of relief.

See? That must be a coincidence, indeed. There's no way the Sloan Family could see our location or sense our presence.

As long as we are careful not to touch the vines, we will be alright!

Alas, when Candea made the marble wall before, she was already sure that there was a group of intruders, and their number should be more than just four.

Thus, she connected her ability to the connecting hall's entire marble floor. It means that when the intruders stepped onto the floor, she already knew their numbers and location.

It's just that she didn't bother to tell the others because they're pretending not to know. She's also sure that Ainsley already knew the intruders' existence.

If not, why would she ask them to be prepared for a battle early on? The boss must have a scan or detection-related ability!

With the duo playing dumb, the rest of Ainsley's people in the hall also played dumb.

They couldn't sense the intruders nor see them, but from Candea and Marietta's words, they believed that there should be more than four intruders.

If so, they only had to stay vigilant and wait for the boss to issue a command. After all, they thought that Ainsley already sensed the intruders' presence and had even tracked their every movement.

Even though she looked like she was busy looking at her tablet to monitor the surveillance camera's footage all over the mansion, in fact, she must be tracking the intruders' movement, right?

Indeed. Ainsley was currently watching the live 3D map floating in front of her eyes.

From what she saw, Paul's group mainly consisted of stealth-type ability users, some defence-type and offence-type ability users.

The rest were support-type ability users.

Ainsley couldn't determine which one was the group-stealth ability user or which one had an important role to play, but she could guess some people's role in the party.

The one at the front should be defense-type ability users, the tankers. Those behind should be close combat ability users, and those at the back should be long-range combat ability users.

As for the supporters...are they the ones surrounding Paul? Hummm...

Ainsley was a bit amused by what she saw through the 3D map. So far, Paul didn't make use of the group-stealth ability to assassinate her people.

She could throw a wild guess that there must be a range limit to the group-stealth ability, and it didn't cover the entire Connecting Hall.

If it covered the entire Connecting Hall, they wouldn't stay close together like that and would have gone to kill some of her people in silence.

After all, they're currently invisible and have no presence or aura. Even the sounds of their footsteps, breathing, and heartbeat were gone.

This is definitely a good thing. Ainsley didn't need to worry about her people getting assassinated.

Of course, even if the group-stealth ability could cover the entire Connecting Hall, she could still protect her people thanks to the radar ability's 3D map display.

Thinking again...her decision to evolve her keen hearing into sound-type radar ability plus upgrading the power was a good decision.

While Ainsley patiently watched the intruders through the 3D map's display, Paul and the others were already close to the flag's location.

The fifty people, excluding Paul, were currently divided into ten groups.

Each group had five members consisting of two offence-type ability users; close and long-range, one defence-type, one support-type and one assassin-type.

Each group moved around two meters from each other, creating a long line of people.

Of course, they didn't dare to get too far from the group-stealth ability user who was currently right beside Paul, on his left side.

On his right side were the group-telepathy ability user and his vice commander right in front of him.

The vice commander seemed to be a tanker type, looking at his large build. In this case, Paul acted as the offensive long-range ability user.

The other two, the group-stealth and telepathy ability users, were assassin-type and support-type, respectively.

It seemed that the vice commander acted as a close combat-type ability user too.

Seeing the group slowly surrounding the flag behind her, Ainsley curled the corner of her lips.

Hum, hum. We should let these people touch the flag first before tackling all of them in one go.

Ainsley was busy sending messages through her AirPods without the intruders hearing her.

After all, she lowered her voice until it only sounded like a non-audible whisper akin to a mosquito's annoying buzz.

None of Paul's people had enhanced hearing sense, so they didn't hear a thing.

The group, who were still approaching a flag a few meters behind Ainsley, didn't know that the guards in the hall were already glancing their way.

Yes, Ainsley told her people Paul group's rough location and now, Candea and Marietta were already prepared with their marble floor and vines hidden beneath the marble floor itself.

Countless camouflage vines also slurred around the intruders, with some dangling from the ceiling yet looking transparent and hard to detect.

The hunter is ready to hunt the prey!

Chapter 706 - "Candea Debut Performance"

Ainsley didn't say anything, but when Paul's group was already right behind the flag, just about to use a long-range attack to rip it off the pole, Ainsley snapped her fingers.

Snap!

Almost instantly, the marble floor underneath Paul and the others' feet rose fast, and in the blink of an eye, the marble floor rose.

Four marble walls as tall as the flag's pole instantly appeared, surrounding the group of people.

The floor manipulation made it possible to push the intruders into the same area, so that none could escape from the attack.

In just a few seconds, before the intruders could sense what's going on, the marble walls already trapped the group.

The marble walls created a huge marble box and perfectly detained the fifty people in the room!

Paul's group had just lost their footing, their sense of balance, everything...and hadn't even reacted when countless vines slipped inside the huge marble box.

This time, when the group trapped inside the marble box saw the vines, they knew that they were doomed.

Paul's face turned ashen as he shouted to his people, who were either behind him or in front of him.

"Break the marble wall! Break it! The others, destroy the vines! Be careful of vines!!"

The inside of the marble box was quite dark, but through the gaps here and there, one could still receive the crystal lamp's light, helping them to see the vines around them.

Paul's people, no matter how weak they were compared to Ainsley's people, were still considered elites.

When they saw the vines, they sent the melee team to combat the vines while the rest destroyed the marble wall created from the marble tiles.

"Destroy!" Paul hastily used his power of destruction to destroy one side of the marble wall, and he did destroy the wall, creating an opening to escape.

However, the blast affected those inside the box, and some debris even injured the people fighting the vines.

"Agh!"

"Ugh!"

"Barrier! Barrier! Protect us from the debris!"

While the people inside the broken marble box were shouting for help here and there, Paul grabbed the group-stealth ability user and his small team of four to run.

"Go, go, go! Go out!"

Paul ignored the other people who were entangled with the vines and immediately ran away from the marble box, thinking that with the group-stealth ability, he could still run unscathed.

The marble box and the joint vines assault incident must have happened because of the marble-manipulation ability user!

That Candea girl sensed their movements through the footsteps they left on the marble floor. It means that she had connected her senses with the entire marble floor...

If they didn't steal the flag now and run, even Paul couldn't be confident that Candea wouldn't be able to find them.

No, no! The group-stealth ability is superb. Even if that Candea girl sensed our movement again, as long as we are out of the marble floor area, we will be safe!

Indeed, Paul and his small group of five had left the marble floor and landed on the stage where the flag and the throne were placed.

This way, Candea couldn't sense them anymore and could only focus on those still in touch with the marble floor.

Thus, Paul didn't hesitate to leave behind the people who were fighting the vines.

They couldn't escape Candea's marble floor as long as they were still standing on the floor, anyway.

The vines were many, but because there were fifty people or so, with each person battling the vines, the vines couldn't catch up with whoever ran away from the box.

It was precisely this situation that Paul used to the fullest.

He pulled the long-range attack ability users to climb the stage while sacrificing the melee ability users to delay the deadly vines from chasing after them.

"Long-range attack ability users! Rip that flag off the pole! Hurry!"

Paul eyed the throne in front of the flag vigilantly, knowing that Ainsley must have noticed the commotion.

Indeed, the baby was shouting to Candea and Marietta, the two people who could somehow sense Paul and the others' movement.

"Candea! How many intruders do we have? You said there were only four!"

Candea didn't look at Ainsley as she was busy controlling the marble floor. But she did have time to reply to Ainsley's seemingly innocent question.

"A lot, boss! A lot! I just connected my senses to the marble floor and found around thirty or more intruders. They're trapped inside the marble box!"

Candea had created another marble box for the people who couldn't escape in time.

Because of this, the floor was in a mess. The marble tiles were gone, showing the foundation beneath.

But Ainsley didn't blame Candea. If anything, she immediately ordered the others to assist Candea to kill the intruders trapped inside the huge marble box.

"Go, go! Assist Candea! Don't let the intruders run away! Quick! Quick!"

Ainsley's members couldn't see the intruders at all, but blindly attacking anyone inside the marble box should be good enough to kill the intruders.

Around twenty people were still trapped inside the box. Ten people died from the vines' attack, and the other twenty were already on the huge stage where Ainsley's throne and the flag's pole were placed.

When Paul and the twenty survivors saw how their comrades were trapped inside the box with many of Ainsley's people blindly attacking, they felt a chill down their spines.

Oh, God! If we didn't run fast enough...we would have died tragically.

Paul's remaining members instantly felt fear toward Candea, the one who caught them in the first place.

Fck. We didn't have her data at all! She's not on the list of Sloan Family elite members!

Chapter 707 - "Go For A Kill"

Paul broke in a cold sweat as he recalled the data he gathered before the siege. He was sure that the Sloan Family didn't have a member like Candea before...

So she should be a new recruit that was especially recruited to fight indoors?

While Paul and the twenty people were trembling from fear, Elliana and the others already surrounded the marble box and finished whoever was still trapped inside.

Blood and body parts scattered on the grey floor without marble tiles, looking especially terrifying for Paul and the others.

They hurriedly looked away and did their best to attack the flag instead.

However...Nouvan was there near Ainsley, and the healer had four abilities, including his healing ability.

Ice, fire, healing, and...barrier.

Yes. A barrier protected the flag.

When Paul's long-range attack ability users tried to rip the flag using their elemental abilities, their abilities hit the barrier and either vanished or got repelled!

Paul and his twenty people felt their blood turning cold.

Damn it! Is this a trap?! A barrier protects the flag! A strong one too!

Nouvan had four abilities, so his barrier ability was naturally not as weak as the non-multiple ability users.

His barrier even had a mix of fire and ice, creating both offence and defense.

Nouvan's fire and ice manipulation ability weren't that powerful, it was just a normal fire and ice, but Nouvan could create the elements using his energy.

He didn't need to find fire or ice to be manipulated to his heart content.

Furthermore, the ice manipulation ability let him freeze some weaker abilities, especially those abilities from dual or solo ability users.

Seeing the fire and ice element dancing around the flag, Paul and the twenty people knew that they had fallen into a trap.

Damn it. That Candea girl must have known their location from the moment they stepped onto the marble floor, but she pretended not to know.

She must have informed Ainsley somehow, but Ainsley also feigned ignorance.

Yet the Sloan members inside the hall were already aware of the Naran members' existence...

It was why they could move so fast to finish those trapped inside the sturdy marble box.

That marble box was really tricky. Only strong elemental ability users or those with highly destructive attacks could break the marble wall like Paul did.

But the marble tiles arranged to be marble walls forming the box weren't that simple. The tiles were actually special marble tiled with an effect to absorb 50% of damage caused by ability users.

It means that those inside the box were weakened considerably.

It would be hard to destroy the thick marble wall if they didn't have highly destructive power like Paul's.

Even Paul wasted almost all his energy to create a hole in the marble walls. He couldn't completely destroy the marble wall even when his destructive ability was quite good!

Paul and the others instantly regretted not sending more special hackers to steal the mansion blueprint.

If they knew that the Connecting Hall had this kind of marble floor...and if they knew there was someone like Candea who could control the whole Connecting Hall's floor...

They wouldn't have fallen into this trap, damn it!

When Paul and the others first saw Candea controlling the marble floor to block them, they didn't think much of her because she looked young.

They thought that she could only control some marble tiles but not the entire tiles in the hall, okay?

How could they know that Candea actually had another ability called 'amplify', which could strengthen her marble-manipulation ability?

Candea was the only dual ability user who got accepted into Ainsley's elite troops because of her second ability– Amplifier.

The ability could even help other ability users near her, but only one person.

Of course, she used her amplifier ability for herself to control all the tiles in the hall and also helped Marietta so that the woman could mass-produce more unique plants.

Without Candea's amplifier ability, it was hard for Marietta to cover the whole hall with strong vines like that, even sending some vines dangling on the ceiling.

Paul and his people were finally desperate. They kept attacking the flag's barrier, but they couldn't destroy it when fire and ice suddenly shot whoever attacked the barrier.

From the attack's projectiles, one could guess the attacker's position, and that's how Nouvan used his fire and ice ability to attack those who attacked his barrier.

Even when Paul's people tried to attack Nouvan first, Elliana and Kyuseli were there with Nouvan.

Yes, Kyuseli, the head accountant, was also a barrier ability user, and he's in charge of protecting Nouvan! Elliana, on the other hand, was busy attacking those who attacked Nouvan.

Even when the assailants were invisible, just from looking at the elemental abilities they used to attack Nouvan, it was easy to determine their rough location.

At the same time, Ainsley had finally found the person who had the group-stealth ability.

After making sure that the person was the one who always stayed by Paul's side but wasn't wearing a formal military uniform, Ainsley pressed her AirPods on her ears before whispering.

"Axel, I found the target. The coordinate is...yes, that. He's constantly moving, so I will guide you. Just lock the target first before you use your corrosive ability."

Ainsley looked back at the chaotic battlefield behind her and crouched on her throne.

"Can you use your corrosive ability within a distance? You can? Okay, okay, stay there, don't move. We don't want to alarm the target."

Ainsley locked gazes with Axelle before nodding her head and waving her hand.

Start now!

Axelle immediately flicked his finger, and black liquid stealthily flew to their target.

We go for the kill!

Chapter 708 - "A Demon"

Axelle's black corrosive liquid flew so fast that amid the chaotic battle, almost no enemy noticed the flying liquid with sizzling noises.

And Axelle's control over the liquid was also so good that he didn't let even a drop of it fall onto the others.

With Ainsley guiding Axelle in real-time, Axelle managed to locate the group-stealth ability user perfectly, and without a word, he immediately dropped the liquid on top of the target's head.

He couldn't see the person nor sense the target, but he believed in Ainsley's judgement.

When Ainsley said, "Now!" Axelle didn't hesitate to drop the corrosive liquid that he produced.

Tzzzzzz.

An intense sizzling noise sounded before the group-stealth ability user's scream pierced his friends' ears.

"AHHHH! It hurts! Ahhh! Ah!"

The corrosive liquid was ten times stronger than the one the Naran Family used to destroy the barrier. When the liquid touched the target's head, the head dissolved in no time.

The target could only scream for a second before his screams got drowned in the intense sizzling noises.

The next few seconds, the target became a pool of blood with bits of flesh scattered here and there. Even that soon became nothing as the corrosive liquid did its work.

The corrosive liquid was so powerful that after melting the target, it continued to drill the floor, almost collapsing that area.

If Axelle didn't immediately control his corrosive liquid, Ainsley would have to renovate the Connecting Hall's interior more than just replacing the marble tiles.

All of this happened so fast that Paul and the others only noticed what was going on when the group-stealth ability user screamed on top of their lungs.

However, they didn't have a priest, and it was too late to save their companion since his body melted from his head to his toe, not the reverse.

Once the group-stealth ability user died, the group-stealth ability casted on Paul's people automatically vanished with no traces, leaving the dumbfounded intruders alone.

Since the ability was gone, the survivors lost their invisibility effect, and even their presences couldn't be hidden anymore.

Just like that, twenty or so people 'popped out' of thin air on the stage, definitely alarming Ainsley's people.

They didn't know that their enemies were already on the stage, about to steal the flag!

At the same time, the corpses of those who died inside the marble box were also revealed.

There were many corpses who either died from the marble floor's malicious attack or from the various vines' sinister attack.

Anyway, Paul's fifty people were slaughtered until only the twenty on the stage remained.

When Paul realised that he's now not invisible anymore and had lost his greatest support to stay hidden, he almost peed his pants.

Impossible! How did the group-stealth ability user die?! There's not even a stray attack or something...someone is purposely targeting that person!

But since all of us stay hidden, how come someone is able to discover that person's exact location? Enough to kill them with an unknown ability...

Paul's head was ringing. His people were still attacking the barrier around the flag even after getting their cover exposed, but Paul himself stood still in disbelief.

This is not a coincidence. Someone here must have the ability to use scan or detection, and it's even a high-level one...yes.

All of this...must be a trap.

Paul was no idiot and he finally realised that he fell into a trap. The flag was real, he's sure of it, but those guarding the flag was the real problem.

Look, those people didn't even get Elder Yofan to help, and more than half of his people were already killed.

The marble floor's timing to become a marble box was just too precise...and the vines' actions too...

It was as if someone had known their position all along, and it wasn't just Candea.

After all, Paul and his twenty people were on the stage.

The marble floor was blocked by the stage, and Candea couldn't connect her sense to the stage since the stage wasn't made of marbles.

Then, who had the scan or detection ability? Someone who looked as if they were looking at something or sensing something...

Paul had a hunch, but he was too scared to admit it. He knew that there should be only one person with such a bizarre strong detection ability in this hall.

Isn't it...the Sloan Family head?

Ainsley Sloan, right?

Paul broke into a cold sweat as he watched Ainsley's people surrounding the stage. At the same time, Ainsley turned the throne around with Grandpa Yofan's help and was now facing Paul.

Sitting on the big throne that was clearly too large for her petite body, Ainsley put her left elbow on the armrest to support her titled head, crossed her leg elegantly, and put her right palm on the knees.

She curled the corner of her lips and looked down at Paul with her shining blue eyes.

The baby was still wearing the signature pink uniform that she always used in official events such as war and other things, and it naturally looked cute on her.

But Paul couldn't say that the baby looked cute. The person with her slightly dark purple hair, the symbol of the Sloan Family's hair, undoubtedly looked like a demon in his eyes.

The baby also had two tiny braids tied with blue ribbons with the same colour as her eyes, looking harmless, just like your usual baby.

But the more Paul looked up at the person sitting on the tall golden throne with a crimson padding seat, the more he felt like dying.

This baby...she...she is tricking me all this time.

Paul's eyes blackened.

Ainsley Sloan...you are a demon!

Chapter 709 - "Thank You For The Praise"

The demon that Paul mentioned in his heart was currently stroking Cellino's fur.

The cat was sitting on the throne, right next to Ainsley since there was still so much space on the huge throne.

Paul swore that the cat was still fighting outside, but he didn't know since when the cat was already back. Maybe when he didn't look at Ainsley...when he was busy attacking the flag...

Now, he couldn't even steal the flag because the damn barrier protecting the flag was sturdy. He did try using his destruction? ability, but the barrier kept regenerating.

Plus, Elliana was attacking whoever attacked the flag, and her aim was accurate. Her purple flame was frightening enough to burn careless people to ashes.

Ability users may look like a superhero, but their bodies weren't that powerful to withstand some of the special abilities' effects, especially the strong abilities.

If not, how could Paul easily kill solo ability users by simply destroying their bodies to pieces?

Alas, he's still young and not strong enough to destroy the body of dual or multiple ability users...

If he had time to develop his power, he would surely become one of the strongest ability users thanks to his unique ability— destruction.

But who would wait for him to grow? Right now, the baby who was seventeen years old younger than him definitely wouldn't do so.

Just look at her!

Ainsley looked at Paul with a smile that didn't seem like a smile on her face.

"Good evening, Mister Paul. I think you're the Naran Family's one and only heir, right?"

Ainsley's voice was crisp and clear, really cute and pleasant to the ear. But for Paul, that voice sounded like the voice of a devil.

He shuddered from head to toe as he helplessly watched his people getting taken down one by one. Ainsley's people didn't stop capturing his people and killing them without mercy.

He knew that he's done for. He didn't have any secret artefact, item, or anything that could help him to escape without getting killed.

A space-related tool is expensive, you know? A family like the Naran Family, although not poor and quite wealthy, still couldn't afford it.

They could only buy the more common spatial storage since it had more supplies than other space-related items.

So...he couldn't teleport away to leave.

"Ha...good evening, Lady Sloan, " Paul finally looked at Ainsley and replied with a dry smile on his face.

He knew that he wouldn't get out alive, but...even if he died, he had to at least drag the Sloan Family down with him.

Thinking like this, Paul suddenly felt sorry for his father. His father was about to lose the heir that he painstakingly raised.

But looking at how their family could sell their children to form connections with other families...there should be a spare heir to replace him if he died, right?

Although his father undoubtedly loved him the most...and that's why he should really drag the Sloan Family with him as his last gift to his family.

Paul didn't think that he could survive, so he just let things flow. As a mafia family's member, death was something really close and would come anytime.

He's prepared.

Paul calmed his heart and nodded at Ainsley.

"I didn't think Lady Sloan would be this capable, though. I think I've lost, " Paul said his thoughts of Ainsley right in front of the person's face.

He really thought that this baby was a monster— a genius. Is she really only three years old? She didn't look like that at all!

Others would still be playing around when they're three. Even a genius would only start their education when they're five.

This baby...really...

Hearing Paul's words, Ainsley laughed merrily but didn't deny or reject his praise.

"Well, thank you for the praise, Mister Paul Naran. I also have to say that your little tricks still catch me off guard."

Ainsley was completely relaxed now that Paul was alone. Her people already finished Paul's people in the hall, and it was just a matter of time that the siege would end.

It hasn't even been three days.

But Ainsley didn't immediately kill Paul because she knew that Paul was still hiding something.

What if he died yet his plan already started and the only one who could stop it was Paul himself?

Ainsley is gambling, but she believed that even if she let Paul live for a few more minutes, it wouldn't matter.

Indeed, it wouldn't matter. After all, Paul had told his people that he left behind, especially that shaman, to do something in his stead if he didn't come back within three hours.

It has been two hours, and if he didn't come back to the troops soon...

Paul let out a small sigh as he looked at Ainsley. He was still standing beside the pole, but somehow, he felt like kneeling instead.

"Okay, enough with the chit chat, Lady Sloan. Just tell me why you still haven't killed me. You know that I can't even win against all of you, anyway."

His destructive ability was only good enough to kill solo ability users with one special ability.

Against Ainsley, who had more than two abilities, even when the girl was still just a tiny baby, he wasn't confident that he could immediately kill her.

No, he was even sure that Ainsley was well-protected inside an invisible barrier and the moment he chose to attack Ainsley, he would only be courting death.

If he could live for a little longer, why would he seek death?

At Paul's question, Ainsley squinted her eyes and got straight to the point.

"I want you to tell me what other petty tricks you're hiding."

Chapter 710 - "Unraveling The Trump Card"

When Paul heard Ainsley's question, he immediately knew that Ainsley kept him alive because she was sure that he still had a hidden trump card.

Indeed, it was a trump card, but one that would bring mutual destruction after he was sure that he would die.

But Paul wanted the trump card to be a surprise for the Slown Family. If he confessed everything now, would it be a surprise?

Alas, he peeked at Marietta and recalled one of the woman's special abilities.

It seemed to be...hypnosis? Couldn't she do that to extract information from him too?

Paul realised that he had to execute his trump card plan immediately. After all, Ainsley would know about his trump card earlier than he expected.

Thinking like this, Paul touched the gold-crimson ring on his right ring finger, which was a unique form of communication to send a signal to someone who also wore the ring.

And the one entrusted with the other ring was the shaman, the only shaman the Naran Family had.

Right after Paul poured his energy into the crimson ring, the ring on the shaman's finger suddenly flashed with a red light before turning dim.

It was a one-use ring created in the case of emergency, and now, it became Paul's way to send a signal to his people.

When the shaman saw the ring flashing for a second, he instantly knew that Paul wanted them to carry out the plan immediately.

It means that Paul's team failed to retrieve the plan, and they wouldn't live for long.

Seeing the signal, the shaman had a sorrowful expression on his face before he looked at the fifty or so people behind him, the people who were the crux of their trump card plan.

Each of them had a syringe with an unknown substance inside, and all of them wore black robes that covered their skins from head to toe.

All of them had precautions so as not to suffer from their own plan, but the clothes still seemed to be necessary. A second layer of protection, maybe.

Seeing how the group of fifty people seemed to be ready for their mission, the shaman cleared his throat and waved his right hand.

"Go. You guys remember what you have to do, right? Remember. Only choose those who are weakened and unconscious."

"Yes, sir!"

The fifty people clearly looked trained to do their mission. It seemed that the Naran Family had prepared for them a long time ago, even before the tournament started!

Maybe even before they knew that this year's advancement method would be through a tournament.

"Good. You guys can depart now. The others— protect these people."

The shaman mobilised more people from their Naran troops to protect the fifty people to do their mission smoothly.

After the shaman gave his command, the fifty people immediately entered the yards and scattered all over the battlefield.

There would be at least two ability users on their side, acting as their bodyguards or something.

At the same time, Ainsley was still trying to make Paul talk on his own.

Unfortunately, Paul only looked at Ainsley and shook his head.

"It's impossible. I can't tell you anything about my trump card."

Ainsley raised an eyebrow at his response. "So you admit that you still have a trump card?"

"...yes." Paul didn't deny Ainsley's probing and generously admitted it. After all, he knew that Marietta would use her hypnosis on him sooner or later.

He just tried to prolong his life for a few more minutes or so.

Ainsley seemed to understand Paul's way of thinking, and she immediately beckoned Marietta to come forward.

"Let's not waste our time with this useless chit-chat. Marietta, use your hypnosis ability and ask him what kind of trump card that he's hiding."

Ainsley felt that asking Paul once more would be a waste of time. Of course, she didn't think that trying to ask Paul first was a waste of time.

In the end, she knew that Paul honestly had a trump card, and she wouldn't be using Marietta's power needlessly.

At Ainsley's order, Marietta immediately looked into Paul's eyes while she opened her mouth.

"Look at me. Listen to me. Do not tell a single lie."

Marietta's voice became strangely pleasant to the ear, even more so than before. It seemed to carry a certain type of magic that made people want to listen to her voice and obey her.

But it's not a type of audio charm...it should be a relaxing voice that makes people lower their guard instead of showing their affection to the voice's owner.

Paul soon fell under Marietta's mysterious gaze and her relaxing voice.

He subconsciously nodded at Marietta while his pupils became slightly confused and murky.

Seeing Paul's response, Marietta nodded in delight. "Good. Now, tell me, what kind of trump card are you hiding? Don't lie. Tell me the truth."

Under Marietta's hypnosis, Paul subconsciously frowned, wanting to struggle for a while. He clearly wanted to tell a lie or not speak at all, but in the end, he gave up.

Paul slowly opened his mouth with his gaze seemingly wandering around, not knowing where to look.

"Trump...card...it is...a...virus. A unique virus...will kill ability users below the core-splitting realm..."

Paul's words came like a bomb. For a moment, everyone in the Connecting Hall could only look at Paul with wide eyes. Their faces were full of horror as they broke in a cold sweat.

What?? Virus that can kill ability users below the core-splitting realm?

Two-thirds of the Sloan Family mafia members and even the family members were all below the core-splitting realm!

Doesn't this mean the so-called virus would wipe out two-thirds of their entire family?!