#### EMPEROR 1331

## **Chapter 1331: Information About Ellia?**

It took only two seconds before Shirley shook her head.

"I don't know... all the majestic Fire Phoenix Immortal meant was for me to not lose my innocence, or I would become ineligible for the inheritance. Maybe the inheritance is different from a dragon's... I don't think the Fire Phoenix Immortal meant anything different, as I already confirmed that the Ice Phoenix Immortal said the same thing to your little sister Clara."

"Oh, it was also said to Clara...?"

Davis recalled that Clara hadn't said anything like that to him but then realized that this isn't something a maiden would easily share. It made sense to him, considering that Clara was already an introvert who does not speak about personal matters most of the time. Besides, there was no need for her to share this information as her marriage's topic hadn't been brought out yet.

Maybe, she might've already said this to their mother and father, but who knew?

Shirley nodded her head to his doubt, "I'm sure of that. I became rather good friends with your little sister after the trial. She's cute..."

Davis became taken aback, "You found her cute...?"

Was his little sister that easy to socialize with...?

"Of course!" Shirley appeared amused, "Every time I mention you longingly and compliment, her face slightly blushes as if it was her who is being praised. She adores you and looks up to you very much! I find it extremely cute!"

Shirley held her waist and shook her body as if embracing Clara.

Davis felt heartened, but at the same time, he wryly sighed.

He had taken so many women as his when he had taught her things like stick to one man in your life if you were ever going to marry the same way as he would like to stick to one woman. Since it was rather hypocritical of him to act oppositely, Clara would likely spit at him after learning about this, no?

Perhaps, she might even become distant.

When he thought about it, he couldn't help but feel sad.

"What's wrong...?"

Shirley noticed his wry expression.

"Nothing..." Davis shook his head as he came out of his reverie, looking at Shirley's beautiful red pupils.

They were like ruby gems adorning her face, making her look gorgeous and alluring, along with her long red hair that reached her waist like a lavafall. He felt a bit regretful for not taking this beauty as his wife in the past, but that would mean Evelynn would've become his second wife, so he erased that thought as soon as it came.

'Stop staring at me...'

Shirley's pale face became a bit red as she thought in a shy manner. She looked away, unable to receive his admiring gaze, and saw Esvele staring at them. She became even more conscious that she narrowed her eyes.

"Esvele, go play with Freya."

Esvele's expression became pale as she shook her head. That perverted female bird would defile her big bosoms while playing, making her feel strange, and ever since Freya became a King Beast Stage Magical Beast, she was unable to fight back.

"Don't worry. Freya won't tease-"

"Esvele, you have my thanks for taking care of my Shirley." Davis interjected as he clasped his hands, "I'll hope you'll continue to take care of her while I could possibly be away sometime later."

"Ah, no. It is what I should do...!" Esvele stood up from the sofa, clasping her hand in greeting.

Davis blinked as he imagined that this Esvele might really think of Shirley as her Mistress if she thinks that it's her responsibility.

"Why? Aren't you just another disciple?" He felt rather suspicious of her intent.

Esvele's black eyes shook before she lowered her head in shame, "That's because even though I betrayed senior sister Shirley once, she still forgave me and gave me a second chance. I want to reciprocate and prove my loyalty towards senior sister."

"Betrayed...?" Davis's brows instantly frowned.

The word he disliked the most was 'betrayal'.

"Even if it was a betrayal, she didn't do much at the end other than mop the floor like a woman who didn't know what to do. Davis, Esvele was merely sweet-talked by Schneider, who had probably garnered her weakness, her state of poverty, and invoked her greed. Nevertheless, I still knew and kept a close watch on her, and she didn't do anything, so I let her go. Then Schneider made a move against her, so I helped her. He's already dead while I saved Esvele. That's the end of the matter."

Shirley forcefully spoke while she looked at Esvele as if asking if she wanted to die?

Why go on about spewing the past that had closure in front of her man? Would he really leave a person who had betrayed once by his woman's side?

She thought it was unlikely!

"Oh..." Davis's frown receded, replaced with an understanding expression, "Well, if she didn't make a move, then that meant she hadn't really betrayed. I can see why you would give her a second chance, Shirley..."

Shirley's heart that thumped in worry of Esvele calmed down, "Yes... In the mini-realm, she even stood up for me and faced countless enemies along with me, having my back. She had fought against

Schneider in my stead while I was taking on a whole bunch of his lackeys, but we both were unable to match, so I no longer held back and killed them while also saving her using my Fire Phoenix Flames."

"She's the only innocent core disciple I found in this place ever since the recruitment. Many of them were already corrupted, so she is a gem that I picked up that got tainted a bit, but I managed to save her from drowning in the stain."

"I see..." Davis nodded his head with a smile to Shirley's analogy as he looked at Esvele, his eyes becoming oddly normal as he inwardly screamed.

'Alright, what the hell...! This woman, she...'

He remained flabbergasted as just a second ago, he saw the Karma Thread connecting Shirley and Esvele.

The thread was all blue, demonstrating that Esvele held intense, friendly and loyal emotions towards Shirley. However, there were also tiny patches of red, indicating that she had perhaps come to deeply admire Shirley and might even be willing to sleep with Shirley one day in the future. In other words, it was possible that she was beginning to love Shirley.

Davis kept his expression from becoming awkward from this realization.

Nevertheless, with Esvele being this loyal to Shirley, he didn't think that she would ever think of betrayal, making him calm down.

Esvele rather looked like a kid that was being protected by her mother from being berated by her father as her height was a bit short compared to the two. When her senior sister stood up for her, she felt extremely gratified.

"Fine, you can stay..." Shirley pursed her lips, realizing that Davis wasn't bothered with Esvele's presence. They can use soul transmission to speak about any content that is related to the Grand Sea Continent anyway.

"Thank you! Senior sister!"

Esvele brightly beamed, her face glowing in attractiveness.

Davis looked at Esvele, realizing that she was indeed growing to love Shirley bit by bit. He imperceptibly shook his head as he looked at Shirley.

"Shirley, you said that you cannot share much information about Ellia. Very well. At least tell me if she kept you safe or treated you wrongly?"

Davis's expression became solemn that Shirley realized he misunderstood her oath to Ellia.

"I swear! Ellia treated me well and kept me safe till I reached here. I merely wanted to reciprocate and said that I would not divulge information, specifically to you!"

"Hmm?" Davis narrowed his eyes, "Was that Ellia or her other incarnation?"

Shirley blinked as her mouth became agape, "You knew?"

"Merely a speculation on my part..." Davis answered before he nodded his head, "It must be Ellia's other incarnation who must have prohibited from divulging information about Ellia to me. Very well. If she wants to play hide and seek, I'll beat her at her own game and save Ellia."

Shirley blinked further at his speech that she couldn't help but wryly say.

"Davis, I don't think Ellia needs any saving, nor do I think she's hiding. She is rather overly powerful tha-"

"When I meant that I would save her, I meant I would save her from being forcefully swung around by her other incarnation. Tell me, Ellia might be powerful and safe now but is she happy?"

Shirley pursed her lips before she shook her head, "I don't know..."

Davis smiled.

Since Shirley wasn't sure if Ellia was happy, then that meant she should mostly not be feeling pleased about her situation. Ellia was nothing but a little girl in his mind, and yet that white-haired witch took her to do nothing but cultivate in a hardcore manner.

Nevertheless...

"Shirley..." Davis narrowed his eyes, "Do you really think that white-haired woman can beat me when my true prowess is near the Peak-Level King Soul Stage...?"

Shirley's mouth went agape once again, "!!!"

Esvele also looked stunned, her smiling face ultimately frozen like a frog stuck in a well.

The peak-level of what!?

She wasn't even able to follow their conversation about this person called Ellia and her other incarnation, which sounded cryptic to her, but then she heard an even more outrageous matter which left her deeply stunned.

On the other hand, Shirley came out of her reverie and understood that by nodding or shaking her head to this question, she could use the loophole to reveal Ellia's cultivation where he would be able to approximately find it.

Shirley both nodded her head and shook, making Davis know that she wasn't sure.

Davis was rather flabbergasted before he figured that it shouldn't be a surprise. That other incarnation was an old monster, a white-haired witch nicknamed by him for a reason. Whether she was using her knowledge, regaining her old prowess, or both, he didn't know but he was for sure looking forward to teaching her a lesson!

Nevertheless, Shirley truly wasn't sure about Ellia's current Soul Forging Cultivation as it was like Davis's rapidly growing. She was rather immensely doubtful of Davis's cultivation speed that she couldn't help but send a soul transmission.

"Davis, do you really have an immortal existence as your master?

Chapter 1332: Big-Hearted

"Oh...?" Davis became curious rather than offended, "What makes you say that?"

His bullshit would not work on people whose horizons were wide, and Shirley was someone who possessed a wide view of the world. And inversely, if he knew that beforehand, he can fool people who knew more as he could turn it against them like he fooled the Alstreim Family and the other hegemons into thinking that Isabella came from a Dragon Family.

Shirley knew that she was treading on a thin line here, but she still gulped and used soul transmission again.

"Because this abnormal cultivation speed and prowess of yours... It really doesn't make sense as there's no immortal existence here in the current Fifty-Two Territories. When I asked Ellia's other incarnation about your immortal master, she said that it was near impossible that an immortal existence could be present at the Grand Sea Continent and if there was, it would have to be an existence greater than an immortal, but I think that was also mere speculation on her part..."

"Oh, she said something like that...?" Davis's eyes became extremely curious, "Looks like I can learn more about this world when I capture her to interrogate her intentions."

Shirley frowned before she adorably pouted, "Personally, I don't want the two of you to fight because I consider the three of you rather close..."

Davis blinked before he smiled, "I would like the same, but it is unlikely that white-haired tyrant would listen to my words to let Ellia live freely, no...?"

Shirley bit her lips in ruefulness as she couldn't help but nod her head, "True..."

"That decides it... That white-haired witch needs a nice spanking to her butt. However, if she tries to kill me next time, I will reciprocate the same..." Davis's sapphire eyes flashed in a cold light.

Shirley blinked, "She tried to kill you...?"

"Yes, but who knows what that old monster was thinking?" Davis shrugged, "She left everyone there alive, including me when she took over Ellia, and that's the only saving grace that spared her from my killing intent."

"Nevertheless, that immortal master was just a lie for me to grow up safely. There's no use if I lie even after you've become mine, Shirley." Davis raised his brows as he smiled.

Shirley sighed before she smiled, "Figures... but don't worry. I won't pry into your secrets about your cultivation speed or those terrifying instakill talismans. I was just curious if there was really an immortal secretly roaming in the Fifty-Two Territories."

"I appreciate that..." Davis chuckled, glad that she was understanding.

He would be really put on a spot if she asked because he would have to lie or dodge the question.

As their soul transmission came to an end, Davis came to realize that a lot of time passed. It was about time for him to go back to Elder Karlheinz Strom's crimson palace and stay in his guest room, but he had already left a soul-body conjured from a portion of his soul force.

The Solitary Soul Avatar may be a soul body, but that doesn't mean that it can't produce a soul body because all it required from him to conjure a soul body was a single thing, that is, soul force.

There was the sub-requirement of soul essence to produce the soul body, but when his entire avatar was made from soul essence, it already fulfilled the condition. However, if he wanted to add soul essence to the conjured soul body, that was unnecessary because it was optional as it only served to strengthen the conjured soul body.

For ornamental purposes like fooling Elder Karlheinz Strom into believing that he was still in the room, soul force alone was enough unless he was scanned thoroughly or attacked. Then, it would become clear that he was a weak soul body, but his camouflage should work until then.

Davis knew that he could afford to spend a bit more time with Shirley when he suddenly thought of the Burning Phoenix Ridge's resources. He opened his mouth and asked.

"Shirley, do you think that there's a resource in the Burning Phoenix Ridge Treasury that could help me temper my lightning-attributed meridians to fire attribute? My Essence Gathering Cultivation is at the High-Level Law Manifestation Stage while my Body Tempering Cultivation is at High-Level Martial Master Stage if you don't know."

Shirley blinked at his rather high Body Tempering Cultivation compared to his age while Esvele also felt dizzy that she sat back on the sofa, lowering her head in mediocrity, feeling that she was in the presence of top powerhouses of the Fifty-Two Territories in the future. This was something they already knew, but when she learned that her senior sister Shirley's man was a near Peak-Level Soul King, she really couldn't help but feel that she didn't belong in their world.

It made her feel rather down, knowing that one day she couldn't be with her senior sister anymore.

"What a coincidence..."

\*Click!~\*

Shirley snapped her fingers that made the room instantly become sealed from leaking undulations. She deeply smiled as she took out a peculiar crimson fruit that had small s-curved wings. The surroundings instantly became hotter that Esvele felt comfortable as she breathed in essence, her essence energy automatically revolving in a greedy manner as it began to improve.

"I don't know if the Burning Phoenix Ridge Treasury has a resource that fits your criteria, but I do know that this Searing Winged-Flame Fruit would help you temper your meridians to fire-attribute."

Davis's eyes flashed as he became excited.

"Did you gain this from the mini-realm? Its aura is at the Peak-Level King Grade, not too strong, not too weak, perfect for me to temper my meridians!"

"Yes, I have one more, but I want to reward it to Esvele to improve her prowess while also appreciating her hard work. You don't mind, right?"

"Senior sister, no! I already received plenty in the mini-realm!"

Esvele shook her head and hands in a hurried manner.

"Shut up, Esvele. Obediently receive what I give you because you're going to be slaved around by me anyway..."

Shirley narrowed her eyes as she berated while Esvele stood up, increasingly moved.

Davis saw that Shirley had a similar style to him of giving out resources that he couldn't help but chuckle, "Thank you for asking, but I don't mind. You procured those resources, so you decide how to distribute them, but what about you?"

"Why would I need it when I would gain the Fire Phoenix Immortal's Blood Essence to temper my veins and meridians? Using this fruit might instead give me complications which is a drag to resolve afterward..."

Shirley wryly smiled before her lips moved again.

"I was asking if your other women needed it..."

"Actually, they do..." Davis nodded as he recalled Sophie, Niera while Tina Roxley also flashed past his mind before he shook his head, "There's two of them who train in Fire Laws, but they don't know you, and you don't know them, so you don't need to even consider them."

"What are you saying?" Shirley gawked at him, "I'm going to be sisters with them, and yet I can't meet them because of staying here. I will naturally escape from this place when I reach the Eighth Stage and return home, so until then, I cannot see them. The least I can do is gift them and make them know that I at least exist..."

"Moreover, I know mother-in-law trains in Fire Laws as well, so here are my gifts..."

Three more resources appeared as they spun around Shirley.

Davis's lips twitched as he recognized the three additional resources because of his improved knowledge in Alchemy.

Golden Asparagus Flame Shoot... Consuming it will allow one's fire law comprehension speed to increase by a few percent more than the cultivator's norm. It was verified by the ancient pill ancestors and was also used as the main ingredient to concoct a Peak-Level King Grade Pill that has the same yet bigger effect.

Unfortunately, Davis did not possess the recipe for that pill, but he still felt that this was suitable for Sophie before his gaze landed on the subsequent resource.

King Flame Floral Essence.

It was sealed in a hundred-milliliter vial, rumored to be produced by a Blazing Floral Flame Essence that was at King Grade in its floral bed.

It was similar to the Searing-Winged Flame Fruit in its ability to temper the meridians, but because of its low quantity in terms of drops, it wasn't as effective as the Searing Winged-Flame Fruit. Moreover, its grade was also lower, at the Mid-Level King Grade, meaning that it couldn't help him temper his meridians.

Davis felt that this was extremely fitting for his mother before he moved on to the final resource.

"...!"

It made him feel even more moved as he felt that it was apt for Niera, and even if he rotated the resources, it was still apt for the three!

"You know what these are...?" Shirley asked.

"Yes..."

"Great! Take them all then...!" Shirley appeared ecstatic.

Davis's lips kept twitching as he wanted to decline these gifts but looking at the advantageous effects that it had on his women and mother, he was really unable to say no to it, especially when it was one of his women who was giving these out like a tycoon.

"Come on, Davis. Don't feel shy and just accept them. I want to help them, okay?" Shirley spoke in a low, melodious voice as she pushed those resources towards him with a flick of her finger.

"Your harvests are rather bountiful, huh?"

Davis wryly smiled at her big heart as he scooped the resources into his spatial ring after keeping them in jade containers.

"Hmph! I obtained a few resources at Emperor Grade and above, but I had to hand them all over to the sect as it's an iron-clad rule. Instead, I was given points in exchange, those hateful fellows..."

Davis couldn't help but laugh, "Well, that's how a sect works..."

Shirley increasingly gritted her teeth as she fumed!

At the same time, her fiery essence energy undulations began to slightly revolve around her body, revealing that her cultivation was at the High-Level Law Dominion Stage!

## Chapter 1333: Not You Too~

Davis looked at Shirley's Essence Gathering Cultivation that became considerably apparent to him. While Shirley was in the High-Level Law Dominion Stage, Esvele seemed to be at the Peak-Level Law Dominion Stage.

This kind of growth was rather rapid for their ages which were probably below a hundred, and he could see that Esvele received many benefits from Shirley to enter the Peak-Level of Law Dominion Stage. He could see that her cultivation was a bit unstable. Moreover, inside her, there was a flame essence that he could sense at the Peak-Level King Grade, probably the Burning Phoenix Flame that all of the core disciples possessed.

He didn't know what kind of improvement Esvele made in all these years, but he could see that she was putting in a lot of effort to keep up with Shirley. Surely, with her cultivation and the beast flame essence, she could match top disciples with Peak-Level Law Dominion Stage Cultivation.

Perhaps, she was going to prove herself in the upcoming competition to become a genuine top disciple!

"Esvele, if you don't mind me asking, what's your age?"

Shirley narrowed her eyes while Esvele blinked in confusion before she answered.

"Eighty-seven..."

"Oh, eighty-seven? That's rather great for reaching this level of cultivation base..."

Davis nodded, but he could understand that only with Shirley's help was Esvele able to reach this cultivation base. As long as there are resources and they were not absolute trash or reached their potential limit, which requires further resources to break the bottleneck, cultivators would undoubtedly improve.

"Right, she came from a rather desolate place in this territory known as the Yelan Town. She diligently cultivated and made it here, becoming a core disciple before I snatched her for myself." Shirley giggled.

Davis blinked.

With that devilish body, how did Esvele manage to make it here? He felt that it was a miracle until he asked Shirley with a soul transmission that Esvele was the Yelan Town Lord's daughter while the Yelan Town Lord was a Low-Level Law Dominion Stage Cultivator. This made him understand that Esvele was like a princess in that Yelan Town and managed to stay clear of miscreants until her journey to this place.

Now that her background was clear, his cautiousness towards the dangers she could unwittingly bring had also finally dropped.

"Esvele, have your family abandon the Yelan Town and-"

"I already told her to do that..." Shirley interjected.

"Oh..." Davis smiled in satisfaction, "That's good... With this, the coast is clear for me to make a move. All I request of you two is to believe me in what I do."

Both Shirley and Esvele nodded their heads, but the former's lips moved.

"I will, but I have a better plan, Davis."

"Sure, let me hear it then..." Davis's eyes flashed in interest.

Shirley began sharing her plan as Davis interjected with his opinions while Esvele simply heard, blinking and fidgeting around as she felt a bit funny.

"..."

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Davis blinked, "Are you sure? Your plan is even more passive than mine..."

Shirley smiled oddly, "Of course. This is the best, most efficient way to kill them as we use the Burning Phoenix Ridge's rules to our advantage. I can claim self-defense while you can escape unscathed."

Davis smiled as he shook his head, his lips slightly moving to mutter, "We'll see..."

"I'll follow your plan as I don't want to disturb your cultivation here, but I also want you to give the reins to me in case the situation goes south. Is that agreeable?" Davis asked.

Shirley heavily nodded her head, "Just do what you want, but don't forget to inform me so that I can adjust and play along."

She took out a messaging talisman from her spatial ring, handing it over to Davis.

"Here, this Low-Level Emperor Grade Messaging Talisman can help us communicate even from six small-sized Territories away if needed."

Davis happily took it before he handed a spatial ring to Shirley.

"Here, there are a hundred thousand Peak-Level Spirit Stones in here."

"What!? This amount is even more valuable than what I gave! I can't take it..."

Shirley shook her head while Davis frowned.

"Are you trying to be the provider here? You must take it just as I took those resources from you. Otherwise, I'll re-"

"Fine!" Shirley raised her hand as she stopped him, "I'll take it."

She snatched the spatial ring from him and stored it in her spatial ring without checking, a silly smile appearing on her face.

"Thanks~ You have enough for yourself, right?"

"Yes, I have..."

Davis smiled as he imagined Grand Elder Valdrey crying in his stead. He was wealthy, but the wealth was all free, not really useful to him as he had the resources he needed, especially when Shirley had given him some already,

A few years later, she might already be at the Eighth Stage, returning to the Grand Sea Continent to clear the Immortal Grade Trial and be bestowed with numerous resources from the Immortal Treasury! It would be the same for Clara and Isabella!

Honestly, it was rather clear that at least the three of them will enter the Immortal Stage even if he doesn't, while the resources they would gain and be in possession of would make countless heads turn in envy, also guaranteeing him that it would be enough for all others in his family to enter the Ninth Stage without a problem.

Peak-Level Spirit Stones?

They weren't useful for him to procure resources that were earth or fire attributed in nature. He could still use these Peak-Level Spirit Stones to buy lightning-attribute resources, but with the Blazing Thunderlight Kirin's lightning that he had comprehended and wanted to improve, the lightning-attributed resources he could use were rather limited.

"...!"

"Well, time's up. I gotta go..."

Davis realized that Elder Karlheinz Strom visited him for a talk with his soul body double.

"Wait!"

Shirley abruptly jumped on him and hugged him, afraid that he would suddenly disappear like he appeared before. She closed her eyes and tightly held him as if energizing herself for three short yet long seconds before she separated from him.

"I would like to come with you, but probably, it wouldn't be allowed, and I'll get imprisoned here instead. I can successfully make the escape, but due to my importance, I will be searched for far and wide by the sect while they would not hesitate to use those mysterious Mystic Diviners and other trackers. I can't allow you to prematurely come into danger when that happens. We are still growing!"

"Moreover, I can't go back to the Grand Sea Continent right now as I'm still weak. Staying here and cultivating is far easier due to the environment designed for the Burning Phoenix, which is also useful for my Fire Phoenix Blood. Since the Sect Master is protecting me, the benefits outnumber the dangers."

"I understand, Shirley. You don't have to explain..." Davis shook his head as he smiled.

Shirley bit her lips as her eyes moistened.

"I'll make my escape when I reach the Eighth Stage. At that time, these people, regardless if they are Ninth Stage Powerhouses or not, would be suppressed by the intensity of my fire phoenix blood. They won't be able to stop me!"

Shirley solemnly spoke, her ruby-like red eyes gleaming with determination.

Davis gently smiled as he reached out his hand and patted her head, "Don't worry. I'll be back soon before you know it. No matter what problems you may face, just leave it to me. I'll take care of it for both of us."

Shirley smiled as she wiped her tears that were about to fall, nodding her head, "Mhm!"

She leaped into his embrace again for one last time before she let him go.

"See you soon, Shirley."

"Mhm..."

With a few parting words, Davis disappeared from their gaze, causing them to freeze at his concealment skill that appeared otherworldly.

A few seconds passed in silence when suddenly a sound echoed.

"Did that senior brother leave...?"

Esvele's teeth shuddered in anxiety as she didn't know if Davis was still here or not. She felt humbled and graced, but she also felt scared in front of a Soul King. That person could make her faint in an instant, meaning that he could also enslave her regardless of her will within a mere few seconds.

Although she was sure that her senior sister's man would not do something like that, that little bit of killing intent he lightly displayed when she said that she betrayed Shirley was almost enough for her to pee her pants.

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"Mhm... He left..."
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Shirley sadly spoke as she looked at the door that didn't open and close. A light smile hung on her face as she knew that he phased through with his soul body, that avatar.

She took a deep breath, retrieving her emotions to a state of calm before she looked at Esvele, a joyful yet teasing smile appearing on her face.

"You heard a lot that you weren't supposed to hear. I guess I have no choice but to make you my slave and tease you till you cry..."

Shirley's fingers teasingly danced while Esvele blushed a bit hard.

"Please don't call Freya..."

"Hoho, I won't."

"Really...?"

Esvele seemed hopeful, but her expression changed.

"I'm gonna punish these naughty mounds of yours for attracting his gaze from me so many times!~"

Shirley pounced on Esvele as she grabbed on to Esvele's big bosoms, her phoenix claws sinking into those soft mounds.

"Ahh!~"

Esvele moaned as she squealed helplessly.

"No!!!~ Not you too, senior sister!~"

Cries of being defiled could be heard inside the room that had its undulations and sound still sealed. However, it only lasted a few seconds before Shirley showed mercy upon being implored by Esvele many times.

# **Chapter 1334: Re-entering**

Davis was on his way back to Karlheinz Strom's crimson palace.

He thought back to the explanation Shirley gave about staying here and cultivating, making it more advantageous to her.

He also agreed as he felt that she could likely gain more compared to training in the sealed space where the lava gave birth to intense fire energy in the underground cave, since like Shirley said, this entire area was more accommodating to the people who bore the Burning Phoenix Blood or the blood of similar magical beasts like the Fire Phoenix and the Vermilion Bird.

After all, it was said that a Burning Phoenix was a descendant from the union of Fire Phoenix and Vermilion Bird.

However, this also brought him a question.

Did this mean that there was also another Fire Phoenix Immortal present somewhere, inherited in the ancient times, cleared out and the Fire Phoenixes all died, while the Fire Phoenix Immortal in the Grand Sea Continent was stuck, undiscovered?

'There should be... Otherwise, it doesn't make sense...'

Davis mused as he returned to Elder Karlheinz Strom's Crimson Palace.

He phased through the palace walls and saw his soul body chatting with Elder Karlheinz Strom.

"Haha! Sure! Sure! I was honored to show you around, and since you're leaving in the early morning, I'll show you the way out."

"Yes, I thank Elder Karlheinz for being receptive and welcoming."

They both clasped hands while the Solitary Soul Avatar superimposed with the soul body before the soul body seamlessly receded into him, replenishing a tiny bit of his soul force.

Elder Karlheinz Strom raised his brows as he felt that something was different, but he then inwardly shrugged as he couldn't find any anomalies.

Davis continued chatting, gradually knowing more about the Burning Phoenix Ridge and becoming interested in many topics such as the people residing here, their achievements, and so on. It was not long before dawn arrived.

"Ah... It's already morning... It's your cue, Feng."

"Right..." Davis nodded as they both stood up.

They left the crimson palace and flew through the Crimson Ridge Gate.

Saying their goodbyes, Davis left the Burning Phoenix Ridge, heading back to the Alstreim Family. It took him about an hour to make a round trip, giving the resources to the main body, who was still indulging in Evelynn's voluptuous body.

Davis knew that his High-Level Law Manifestation Stage Essence Gathering Cultivation had now increased by thirty percent with Evelynn's constant showering of her yin essence on him. It was unknown how many times he drank her sweetness. Her vitality was large, continually giving him more benefits than he gave her as she also converted his yang to yin before sending it to him.

Natalya was sincerely learning the Rapturous Soul Aroma Manual and the Physical Soul Superimposing Technique in it while Fiora was reading the Yin-Yang Merit Sutra for the first time after picking up a suitable Wind Elemental. It was unknown what their progress was as he hadn't checked yet, but if they finished or reached a satisfactory level, they would gradually come out looking for him.

Until then, Davis craved Evelynn as if his lust could never be satisfied, while the boost in Essence Gathering Cultivation he received from her was also great. It was more than what he could absorb and

digest from a spirit stone, and this also constituted a tremendous reason why dual cultivation was immensely popular.

Of course, they were one of the unique cases where both had high vitality. If not, their cultivation efficiency would be lower. Moreover, unless Davis reached the Law Dominion Stage, he knew that their dual cultivation efficiency wouldn't decrease by much.

Nevertheless, the Solitary Soul Avatar once again reached the Burning Phoenix Ridge's Crimson Ridge Gate.

"Greetings, fellow cultivators! I have been invited by Top Disciple Shirley to the Burning Phoenix Ridge. I wonder if anyone can call her here for her to invite me inside?"

"Who is this foolish person brazen enough to call one of our prized gems and even go far enough to daydream about meeting her...? Are you blind!?"

One of the four armored guardians stepped out from on top of the ridge gate, their cultivations blazing at the high-level of Law Sea Stage trying to cast an immense pressure on Davis!

\*Bzzz!~\*

Tremendous pressure surged from out of nowhere suddenly, instantly overwhelming their undulations as it pushed through, reaching their bodies in an instant as it tried to suppress them but dissipated upon contact!

"!!!"

The four guards all simultaneously had their heads creased, looking offended before their eyes shot wide.

"A Soul King!!!"

They simultaneously screamed as they became deeply shocked!

The red-haired guard who stepped out wasn't scared, but he no longer dared to slight the Soul King either! He clasped his hand and slightly bowed as he looked at the blue-haired youth who stood with an indomitable disposition, his sharp black eyes calmly looking at him.

"Greetings, fellow cultivator. That was rude of me to assume and provoke. Let me go get-"

"There's no need for that, seniors."

A female voice suddenly echoed far and wide, causing everyone to turn their heads and look at the incoming figure.

"Top disciple Shirley!"

The red-haired guard became astonished before he understood what was going on and retreated.

\*Vrmmm!~\*

The sound of flames searing suddenly echoed before a figure appeared out of nowhere. However, Davis saw that it was from inside the Crimson Ridge Gate.

A middle-aged red-haired man who looked wizened up appeared in between him and Shirley.

"Grand Elder Newgate..."

Shirley clasped her hands, giving a bit of respect as she articulated.

"Child, do you know this person? Not any Soul King can be allowed into the Burning Phoenix Ridge. You should know how easy it is to-"

"I am well aware, Grand Elder Newgate. However, I feel uneasy being the target of a false accusation ever since I came out of the mini-realm. I feel the need to privately defend myself and so, decided to ask this esteemed soul cultivator to protect me."

"Oh...? You hired a protector...?"

Grand Elder Newgate raised his brows before he gave a long look at the blue-haired youth. He couldn't garner the other party's Essence Gathering Cultivation, leaving him a bit dumbfounded. Moreover, the soul force he sensed had its prowess almost at the peak level, and yet it was different like he had never seen before.

He couldn't even realize that he had sensed a Supreme Soul Stage version of it just a day ago because he hadn't noticed much then.

"Why don't you just relay your worries to the Sect Master and ask for one of the Grand Elders to be your protector? Bringing in an outsider to protect yourself is dangerous, not to mention you are a woman. We will be unable to do anything in case this Soul King decided to scheme against you in your own crimson palace."

He couldn't help but advise Shirley using soul transmission.

"Thanks for the warning, Grand Elder Newgate. However, I trust this man over here more than any Grand Elder who could be assigned to protect me. Forgive me for my bluntness and rudeness, but Grand Elder must know that every single man here in the Burning Phoenix Ridge, regardless if they are Grand Elders or workers, sees me as something to obtain."

Grand Elder Newgate's expression became slightly ugly before he shook his head, "Isn't he a man, too?"

"A man without a greedy need for my yin..."

"Do as you wish, child."

Grand Elder Newgate closed his eyes. His legs moved while fiery flames appeared as he shot back into the ridge gate.

"..."

Both Davis and Shirley saw him retreating back before it disappeared.

Shirley felt a bit bad as she had just included Grand Elder Newgate among that list. Likely, Grand Elder Newgate felt that he had no face left after that, and it was her freedom to hire people to protect herself unless they were of the wicked path, so he decisively left.

Nevertheless, she didn't regret it as she looked at the blue-haired handsome man who had a different facial feature that sported a short black beard.

"Chu Feng, was it?" Shirley giggled.

"Indeed... It is I, Chu Feng..." Davis deeply smiled.

Shirley wanted to punch him in his gut for twisting the name just like that, but he advised her that it would create a double-layered identity protection for himself.

They might possibly suspect that he was Feng Chu who came in disguised with a Peak-Level Supreme Soul Stage Cultivation instead of another person, leaving them totally confused as to who he was at the end, creating an additional layer of protection.

Although Davis felt bad for Elder Karlheinz, when it came to his family and wives, he felt that he could sacrifice anything to protect them!

"Elder Chu Feng, please follow me..."

Shirley spoke with an alluring smile on her face before she turned, her back visible to him as she flew forwards. Davis appreciated the sight of her sexy outline visible ever so slightly as he followed her into the Burning Phoenix Ridge.

As he entered through the Crimson Ridge Gate, he could sense thousands of gazes directed at him and Shirley, full of envy and jealousy, even lust.

\*Bzzz!~\*

He directly released his Low-Level King Soul Stage soul force undulations that made ten thousand pairs of eyes shut close as they felt a bout of fear rocking their hearts, realizing that the one following top disciple Shirley was a Soul King!

Who was he? And why was someone like him here!?

These questions echoed in their minds as a few of them began to scramble to report!

Shirley saw several of them reacting strangely. She instantly knew that her man had already begun to punish other people, no matter if they may be men or women, for looking at her wrongly! It gave her a deep sense of satisfaction!

'How powerful...! Who is that Chu Feng!? His soul force's intensity is practically at the High-Level King Soul Stage!'

Grand Elder Newgate doubted his own senses before, but he could now clearly sense this protector's prowess.

'Wait... Chu Feng? Where have I heard this before...?' He descended into contemplation as he felt like he had heard this name somewhere.

**Chapter 1335: Shirley's Play** 

As Davis and Shirley continued to fly through the fiery pathway, the onlookers no longer dared to cast their pretentious gazes towards them.

"Stop! How dare you act unbridled in my Burning Phoenix Ridge!?" An angry voice echoed suddenly.

Shirley stopped, followed by Davis stopping behind her. They both looked at the newcomer while Davis became rather exasperated with the number of redheads here, making him momentarily think that before this was full of blonde-heads in the Alstreim Family.

"Grand Elder Claus, this man here is my new protector named Chu Feng."

Shirley seemed to respectfully clasp her hands as she spoke with grace.

"Protector?"

The red-haired man who had his long hair tied in a ponytail descended towards them from above. He cast a strange gaze at Davis before he looked back at Shirley.

"If it's your protector, then I'll let go of this provocation for once. Next time, unless someone openly provoked or attacked you, your protector can't be this unbridled, or there will be consequences."

"I understand, Grand Elder Claus."

"Chu Feng, no matter what trouble you may face, remember to protect our top disciple with your own life, but don't forget that you can't roam unbridled in my Burning Phoenix Ridge, just because you have status as her protector."

Grand Elder Claus retreated back the way he came after he said his piece, causing Davis to narrow his eyes as he saw his crimson-robed silhouette disappearing out of his view.

"These two Grand Elders are rather lenient in how they treat you...?" Davis asked in doubt with a soul transmission.

"They're Grand Elder Claus Strom and Grand Elder Newgate Stein. They're both on Sect Master's side, so of course, they're going to help me stay safe."

Davis nodded his head, but he became a bit astonished at Grand Elder Claus Strom.

Could it be that he was Elder Karlheinz Strom's father or grandfather, or perhaps, even an ancestral figure?

However, he didn't think much of it before he became rather suspicious of this so-called Sect Master.

What kind of benefit is there for the Sect Master to protect Shirley this much? Is there a deal between them, or was it purely expectations that Shirley would do something for the sect in the future or a two-faced plot that aids now and backstabs later?

Davis considered a few possibilities before he decided to ask after reaching Shirley's crimson palace. Once they reached, he asked.

"Oh, that..." Shirley wryly smiled back at him as she landed in her crimson palace, "The Sect Master already knows that I have the Fire Phoenix Flames..."

"...!?"

Davis blinked and squinted his eyes at her answer.

He didn't know how callous and naive she could be, but he didn't judge soon as he asked, "Aren't you afraid that you'll be plundered?"

"Hehe... I did my homework as Ellia; I mean, Ellia's other incarnation taught me many things to blend."

Shirley smiled slyly as her crimson lips moved at ease.

"Before entering this territory, the first thing I did was head to the All-Seeing Towers to garner information about the Fire Phoenix. Surprisingly, I found a lot of them, where the Fire Phoenix mated with a Golden Phoenix. Where a Fire Phoenix sat on a normal parasol tree and made it a Fiery Phoenix Parasol Tree, where the Fire Phoenix rested before making the region lush green from its manure, and every miscellaneous thing I could find from ancient times."

"There was even the ancient record of a Fire Phoenix Immortal Inheritance Site in Grand Viridian Beast Mountain Territory, which is one of the four large territories currently controlled by Magical Beast Clans."

"In any case, I didn't touch that but used the other sites to my advantage, making up a story that I luckily got a diluted blood essence of the Fire Phoenix Immortal that was sealed in a precious jade vial when I was noticed by Sect Master and confronted alone after I became a top disciple. That jade vial was also one of the diluted blood essences I got from the King Grade Treasury, so Sect Master really didn't doubt its authenticity."

"Furthermore, the Sect Master also confirmed that I had only minute amounts of blood essence mixed in, so I instantly became the number one top-rate talent to nurture in her care."

Davis felt that this kind of development was rather simple, even childish, that he couldn't help but ask with disbelief etched on his face.

"That female Sect Master let you in just like that without doing anything...?"

Shirley had no background to speak of and so could be played around.

Could it be that this Sect Master was that generous, magnanimous and righteous, not letting greed take over her?

Of course, unless they cruelly refined Shirley in a cauldron, it was doubtful if they could even get a single percent of her Fire Phoenix Blood Essence as it was mixed with her ordinary Ashton blood, but surely, she had other uses as a woman in the overview of the sect.

"Of course not..." Shirley giggled and shook her head.

"That vial only had a single drop of the Fire Phoenix Immortal's diluted blood essence, so in exchange for protection, the Sect Master took that away and used a Blood Soul Contract to assure me safety with no

strings attached on my end. However, the maximum she said and wrote on the Blood Soul Contract was that she can send three Grand Elders to aid me while she gave me a two-time use life-saving spatial talisman for direct aid."

"The moment I break it, I will be able to summon the Sect Master to my side for killing enemies as I please as long as they offended me." Shirley waved her hands, looking smug.

"One drop of diluted blood essence for all this while growing up?" Davis blinked in incredulity, "That's a bargain..."

"Right?"

Shirley giggled while Davis looked at her not being worried at all. He still held some doubts that he didn't let her go.

"What's the grade of the Blood Soul Contract?"

Shirley thought for a moment before she answered.

"I think Sect Master said that it was High-Level Emperor Grade, but I really don't know as I've never really interacted with a Blood Soul Contract before, and that's why I also don't trust the Sect Master that much. So far, she has been truthful to her words, but the reality remains to be seen, and eventually, the moment the tables are turned on me is when I would fall."

Shirley's smiling expression faded, replaced with a gentle smile as she pursed her lips.

"Fortunately, I was able to meet you before that could possibly happen..."

Davis couldn't help but stand there in the hallway, looking dumbfounded.

He specifically understood that cultivation is always risky. To roam the world, to gain resources comes with equal or even greater danger. It is always risky, so people who remained scared and stayed in their homes really couldn't make progress or immensely less as opposed to going out to train.

However, Shirley had a few drops of Diluted Fire Phoenix Blood Essence assimilated in her body, and even if she stayed in a single place, her growth would be smooth-sailing but would take a long time compared to if she went out to gather and absorb resources, training in a suitable and better environment like she is doing now.

Then there came the reason for her taking this risk instead of following the safe way, which was undoubtedly him. If it weren't for her determination to not be left behind while also wanting to be accepted by him, Shirley wouldn't have come here in the first place but would have instead chosen the safe route to develop her cultivation.

He was honestly angered yet moved because when he realized that she risked danger because of him, he really couldn't find any reasons to berate her, nor did he have any qualifications to berate her since he rejected her in the beginning.

However...

"Did the Sect Master threaten you for that diluted blood essence?" Davis's eyes flashed in a cold light.

"No," Shirley shook her head, "After Sect Master noticed my peculiarity, I acted rather nervous and handed it over by myself, and hence garnered her sympathy as well as her protection."

"I see... So you tried to garner her sympathy...?"

Davis wryly smiled, thinking that it was rather dangerous on her part, but it was a good move to reveal if the other party was somewhat truly righteous.

"Indeed..."

Shirley grinned, an odd light emerging in her ruby-like red eyes.

"The Sect Master is said to be celibate for cultivation reasons, and she's an alluring beauty like me, I think... because even I haven't seen past her opaque veil. You want her?"

"You dare to provoke me?" Davis laughed, "I'm no longer the same, you know? I might actually take your Sect Master if you dared me."

"Then have a good time getting poisoned by Evelynn and burned by me while stoned to death by Princess Isabella...! Pftt!!! Ahaha!"

"..."

Davis's smiling expression froze as Shirley burst into a fit of laughter by herself. A few moments later, he ruefully shook his head to her dark humor.

"Anyways..." Shirley stopped laughing as she shook her head, "I used the Sect Master's greed and sympathy to my advantage, at least I think I did and am currently in this situation right now. Although I wouldn't be able to suppress the Sect Master, that isn't a problem after I clear the Emperor Grade Trial. At that time, because of our similar blood, while I have the pure blood essence, the suppression effect would be more on the Sect Master if I'm not wrong..."

Davis became a bit flabbergasted, "Shirley, you're quite the scheming woman. However, you're treading on a thin line or equipped with a double-edged sword. It could work against you too..."

"Yes..." Shirley visibly sighed, "To rise up in the cultivation world, how could it be so easy?"

"You've changed..."

Davis felt heartened as he commented.

Last time, this woman was willful in doing what she wanted, but this time, she understood the consequences, cause and effects.

"I might have to thank Ellia's other incarnation for teaching me how to scheme..." Shirley wryly smiled.

"I get it. You three became good friends..." Davis nodded his head as he closed his eyes with complex feelings.

"Haha... I won't go as far as to say friends with Ellia's other incarnation but I look up to her for her way of doing things. She's not a bad woman. She's just a bit overcautious and is extremely ruthless and cunning, but that is what led us to be safe in this First Layer."

Davis blinked, feeling that it sounded quite familiar, as though Ellia's other incarnation was a female version of him. He felt a bit shameless, shaking his delusional thoughts away as he felt more suspicious about this Sect Master's intentions.

## Chapter 1336: A Bigger Bird

"Has your Sect Master told anyone about your uniqueness, or can you guess if she did?"

Shirley sighed and shook her head to his doubt, "Most likely not, as Sect Master hasn't revealed her own Fire Phoenix Flames to the public yet. Furthermore, she told me to not reveal it to others before the time was ripe."

"Ripe? Ripe for what?" Davis narrowed his eyes as he also didn't think there was a consensus between them.

Shirley's brows squinted as she carefully looked around, appearing rather overcautious as she sent a soul transmission.

"The three hidden Ancestors..."

Davis frowned as he adopted the same method of communication.

"I know that the previous Burning Phoenix Ridge Sect Master has returned to seclusion in old age but to think that there were two more..."

"What is their true cultivation base?"

"I don't know..." Shirley shook her head as she pursed her lips, "But I think the Sect Master fears them for the same reason that I remain careful of these men."

"After all, it is already a headache that the Burning Phoenix Ridge's women are coveted for their primal yin essence because it is said and proven that the Burning Phoenix Blood grants them a massive increase in lifespan. So if those old monsters hear about the Sect Master possessing the Fire Phoenix Blood, they'll go crazy for her regardless of their position or status."

"..."

"There's always a bigger bird to be afraid of..."

Davis amusingly smiled at this twist, unable to infer if Lea Weiss was truly a righteous or a wicked and scheming woman.

Scheming wasn't necessarily evil.

Schemes can be hatched for achieving good things as well, so he wasn't sure if Lea Weiss was scheming against Shirley or scheming to protect herself or the both of them from these three hidden Ancestors.

However, Davis felt like he had caught on to Sect Master Lea Weiss' plan.

"So Sect Master Lea Weiss indirectly told you to wait till she reaches the Peak-Level Law Rune Stage? At that time, she can take care of those three hidden Ancestors without having to be afraid of her chastity being taken?"

Shirley nodded her head solemnly.

"In a few years, was what Sect Master said after consuming the diluted Fire Phoenix Blood, but that is more than enough time for me to reach the Eighth Stage. I don't deeply believe the Sect Master. She or the others might always look where I went, check the surroundings, keep an eye on me to find anything related to the Fire Phoenix Immortal. So when I make an escape, it must be perfect so that they won't follow or be able to find me."

"Very good..."

Davis nodded at her thoughts and beliefs. If she trusted the Sect Master just because they were in the same situation, he would've been rather disappointed but not feel dejected as this was already too much for a woman who was just eight years older than his current age.

She was already doing extremely good compared to her previous mindset, making him immensely satisfied.

Therefore, he wanted to clear all doubts and significant inconsistencies that she could've missed, which could come back to bite her in the end.

"Is your Sect Master aiming for the fabled Immortal Stage?" Davis asked, "Otherwise, it wouldn't make sense for her to keep quiet about your uniqueness as she could make you a scapegoat in her stead."

"Everyone is aiming for the fabled Immortal Stage." Shirley smiled as she thought of Myria and the other people who were present here, "It is just, they don't dare to say it out loud as they know the reality is different, and when they fail to reach such a realm, the despair they might experience is enough for them to commit suicide or gain heart demons if they don't make it; despite such conviction."

"However, those old monsters who want to extend their lives as soon as possible and achieve the same would have to wait for me to grow while Sect Master's primal yin essence is already ripe..." Shirley said without the slightest bit of bashfulness as she raised her brows, "It is obvious who they would fight for first when they come to know about our uniqueness. If at all they targeted me against all odds, I can just threaten them with suicide while I suppress them with my bloodline."

Her eyes flashed with a persuasive glint.

"They won't be able to suppress me with their King Soul Stage Cultivations while I use my bloodline to suppress them. I am sure of that...!"

"I see but can't your Sect Master do the same?" Davis narrowed his eyes.

"Hehe, Davis... To cast bloodline suppression, one must burn the blood essence. Sect Master has only one little drop in her body. Do you really think that she'll sacrifice it when she could be aiming for the fabled Immortal Stage just as you mused?"

Davis couldn't help but nod his head as he momentarily forgot about this important fact. Isabella also had to burn a diluted drop of her blood essence to suppress the Aqua Flood Dragon. If it had such an effect on a real dragon that's an entire stage higher, then the effect on humans with inferior bloodline could be imagined even though it was low in quality.

With this, it was unlikely that Shirley would be targeted, and even if she was, she could still escape by burning, perhaps, all of her blood essences. She could just regain more back by clearing one of the higher grade trials, like the Emperor Grade Trial, instead of directly jumping to the Immortal Grade.

"Right... I'm proud of you for calculating this much, Shirley."

Nevertheless, Davis reached out his hand and patted Shirley, feeling rather proud that she thought out things this much instead of blindly jumping in while Shirley reacted rather cutely as she closed her eyes, accepting his praise as she giggled.

"Hehe, feel free to praise me more..."

"Regardless, what you did is dangerous..."

Davis twisted his hand and grabbed her chin, lifting it up as he aligned her eyes with his deep gaze.

"Don't do that again now that you're mine. I'll shoulder the danger, okay?"

Shirley's expression froze before she shyly nodded her head as her ruby-like pupils lightly shook, to which Davis smiled in satisfaction as he wouldn't accept no for an answer in this matter.

"Master!"

Davis and Shirley were just standing in the hallway when suddenly a female voice echoed.

They both turned their heads and saw the little Freya flying towards them with an angry expression on her face as flames blazed from her back, forming two phoenix wings.

"Wait, Freya! This is...!"

"Arghh!!!"

The little girl twisted mid-air, and her fiery crimson flames revolved around as if she was a flaming whirlwind that struck Davis!

\*Bang!~\*

The surface lightly shook from the impact of Freya's flaming whirlwind.

Shirley gritted her teeth as she knew that she was late, while Davis easily evaded as he adjusted his posture from the impact of the attack. He reached out with both of his hands, holding Freya's wrists in a lock!

Freya's red eyes became bloodshot as she surged with her magnificent King Beast Stage undulations when an angered voice echoed.

"Enough, Freya! He is my husband whom I told you to be careful in front of and treat with respect...!"

Freya shivered as her red eyes went wide. The whites of her eyes instantly moistened upon being berated, "But... but this man isn't blonde-haired and sapphire-eyed..."

Shirley sighed again, realizing that it was her fault, "Sorry, Freya. He is in disguise currently..."

Davis was rather flabbergasted at this magical beast which looked like a teenage girl.

Freya was a Low-Level King Beast Stage Magical Beast, so he understood that he couldn't match her with his avatar's corporeal body prowess. Moreover, because her Master was right beside him, she didn't release much power, or Shirley would've been injured. Either he would have had to move out of the way or fight against her using his prowess to protect Shirley.

He let Freya's wrists go, sizing her up with a content look before looking at Shirley.

"I don't remember marrying you before...?"

"...!"

"You kissed me, so you're already my husband..."

Shirley looked away as she shamelessly spoke, a blush filling her cheeks before she looked at the redhaired teenage girl.

"Freya, apologize to your other Master."

"No need..."

Davis interjected as he savored Shirley's embarrassed expression before he shook his head, reaching out his hand as he patted Freya with a deep smile on his face.

"Do the same to all men who approach your Master with bad intentions for me, Freya. Burn them alive..."

Freya's moistened eyes cleared up as she sweetly smiled, "Yes! I will protect Master!"

"Very good..." Davis smiled even more at Freya's enthusiasm as she appeared like a small child to him, "I'm counting on you."

"She's just five years old..." Shirley added as she smiled gently. However, her expression became awkward, "Am I being cruel for hastening her growth process with resources?"

"No, Shirley. Magical Beasts are different from us humans in how they're able to digest resources and improve in cultivation base. Their body will naturally reject resources if they're unable to take it..."

Davis advised as he shook his head.

"Then... I'm relieved." Shirley possessed a sweet smile on her face as she embraced Freya, holding her dearly.

Davis smiled looking at this scene. It seemed like Shirley treated Magical Beasts rather well, meaning that there was a chance she could accept Nadia more than anyone else.

Nevertheless, he threw that thought at the back of his mind and focused on something more important at the moment.

Sect Master Lea Weiss didn't kill Shirley to take out her liability. After all, with Shirley gone, the Sect Master could hide her uniqueness all she wanted and reveal it when she reached Peak-Level Law Rune Stage.

Did that make her a truly righteous individual, or was she plotting something else to trap Shirley?

This was the final question that hung on his mind and continued to irk his heart.

"...!?"

Davis turned around and looked towards the empty exit, his gaze penetrating through a few walls while Shirley noticed his odd movement.

"What's wrong...?"

Davis furrowed his brows before he revealed a rueful smile, "I didn't think that your Sect Master would be here so soon..."

Shirley's expression froze as the sweet smile on her face slowly receded!

## **Chapter 1337: Sect Master Lea Weiss**

"Why is the Sect Master here so soon...?"

Shirley uttered with a bit of incredulity.

"Of course, you hired me, a protector." Davis lightly shrugged, "I am an unknown cultivator in her field, so naturally, the queen would come to check what's going on in the board she has free reign over because she has presumably become uneasy..."

Shirley nodded her head, but she thought this event would come to a realization at least half a day later. However, to think that not even ten minutes had passed before the Sect Master already made her visit...

Did Grand Elder Claus Strom and Grand Elder Newgate Stein inform her? Or was it a coincidence?

Shirley was a bit nervous about how to face the Sect Master as she felt that it was unlikely that they would be able to fool her. Even she wasn't sure if she had managed to fool the Sect Master in the beginning, but fooling the Sect Master wasn't her goal. It was to make her stay her hand, hesitate to lay a hand on her, making her think that she might be a golden egg to nurture.

Davis cranked his head as he looked around the narrow hallway. He looked at the main hall in the distance and moved towards that place while Shirley followed suit. At the same time, they stepped into the main hall, a figure came into view from the same pathway that they came from.

A deep blood-red robe and a crimson veil draped on her magnificent figure and adorned her face, only revealing her crimson pupils that shone with a bit of calmness and indifference. Her eyelashes and brows, along with her long hair, were all crimson in color, making her look sexy and fiery as Shirley. However, her curves on both sides were big, adding an additional charm that many men would fail to take their eyes off on first look and keep staring in rudeness.

She was slowly floating towards them once she saw them, her two long legs floating in the air as she majestically descended towards them. However, her two feet paired with lovely high heels didn't touch the carpeted surface as she merely hovered, maintaining a distance of two meters from the three of them.

Her crimson pupils stared at Davis for two or three seconds before it fell on Shirley as a melodious voice that would melt numerous men echoed.

"To think that you hired a protector without even consulting me first..."

She shook her head as a crimson light slightly shone in her eyes.

"Explain yourself, Shirley..."

Shirley's heart clenched a bit, "I..."

"To intimidate one's own disciple using seniority..." Davis's voice suddenly resounded.

"What kind of Sect Master are you, Sect Master Lea Weiss?"

"Intimidate...?" Sect Master Lea Weiss slightly narrowed her eyes as she gazed at Davis.

"It is not like you don't know that she just tore my face apart. Hiring a private protector while she is in my care is a direct slap to my face! It is as good as telling the world that I was unable to protect her."

Davis inwardly grumbled at this another face-lover. Was all Burning Phoenix Ridge people like this? Their individual face and sect's reputation were their everything?

At the same time, a soul transmission fell on Shirley's mind.

"Shirley, are you insane? You brought a man with an unknown background to your house to protect yourself? It is not like you don't know the immense value you hold in yourself! What would happen if this man assaulted you in the name of protecting? For the same reason, I didn't allow any men, including Grand Elders, to enter your crimson palace to protect you and made them stay outside, but you, on the other hand...!"

The Sect Master's voice resounded in her mind angrily, with also a bit of disappointment that Shirley didn't know what to say all of a sudden.

Was the Sect Master really looking after her or not? She still could not see through!

"I won't deny that the sect rules allow a top disciple to hire protectors for themselves because top disciples are that important to us. We don't even know your background, and yet you want to be our uppermost top disciple's protector? Don't you think that you're pretentious? Who gave you the gall to trick her using sweet words?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss returned her gaze upon berating Davis.

"Shirley, relieve him of his position right now and have him leave the Burning Phoenix Ridge. If you do, I'll take it as if this matter never happened."

Davis looked at this voluptuous Sect Master run her mouth, although her fiery lips were hidden by her crimson veil, and even though her melodious and crispy voice was exceptional to hear like music, he had enough of it.

"Why does it matter where I come from when Shirley trusts me more than any of you, even you Sect Master. Isn't that right, Shirley?

However, since it looked like she didn't come to strut her powers off and provoke as her undulations were rather calm, he didn't become rude either.

"Yes, Sect Master. I trust Elder Chu Feng more than I trust anyone of you. This, I can swear that Elder Chu Feng won't harm me!"

"How naive...!"

The Sect Master's crimson eyes widened with a bit of anger as she stared at Shirley, "How can you be so gullible, Shirley!?

"Unless you tell me what makes you so trustful that this Elder Chu Feng won't harm you, I'm not going to let this matter come to a rest. Not only are you endangering yourself, but you are endangering the entire Burning Phoenix Ridge by bringing in a Soul King whose prowess is at the High-Level King Soul Stage by giving him the privileges of a protector!"

Both Shirley and Davis became flabbergasted as the latter felt like he couldn't understand this Sect Master's intent. He wouldn't be able to use Heart Intent as the chances of getting caught were more as he heard that the Sect Master Lea Weiss was a High-Level King Soul Stage Expert!

Therefore, he couldn't understand if Sect Master Lea Weiss wished to truly protect Shirley or isolate her for her own purposes.

"Uhm... Sect Master, Elder Chu Feng is... in his soul body..."

Sect Master Lea Weiss's head jerked as he looked visibly taken aback at Shirley's words before she looked at Davis, sizing him up again.

"S-Soul body...?"

She uttered in confusion while Davis's brows frowned a little, wondering why Shirley revealed it.

Had she already planning something?

"Yes..." Shirley nodded her head with conviction, "That's why, although I think Elder Chu Feng can attack my soul, I don't think he can assault me physically. What can a soul-body do to my chastity? Nothing unless Elder Chu Feng wants to just waste it... However, nothing would happen like that as I know and trust Elder Chu Feng personally!"

Shirley spoke with heartfelt words that seemed convincing, while Davis and Sect Master Lea Weiss became flabbergasted. Davis even saw that Sect Master Lea Weiss trembled a bit, almost looking as if she slightly blushed from hearing Shirley's crass words as her crimson brows trembled ever so lightly.

Nevertheless, to clear up Sect Master's doubt, he became transparent before returning to a corporeal state, causing Sect Master to believe that this Elder Chu Feng was really in a soul body. She didn't even realize it, making her rather embarrassed.

However, she became unable to say anything against Elder Chu Feng as Shirley's words became true. Unless this Elder Chu Feng wanted to simply waste Shirley's primal yin essence, it was unlikely that he would touch or harm her.

"You imbued your soul essence in this soul body to make it stronger?"

Davis nodded, "It could be considered so..."

"Are you from the Soul Palace?"

Sect Master Lea Weiss's brows furrowed.

"Perhaps..." Davis answered as he shrugged, "I don't want to reveal my background as I'm rather prepared to kill whoever makes a move against Shirley. Shouldn't you be the same? Or so I think from your previous actions, Sect Master Lea Weiss."

With a frown on her brows, Sect Master Lea Weiss replied, "Fine, you can be her protector. However, I'm still keeping an eye on you."

"Shirley, you don't mind if I assign one Grand Elder here to protect you now that you have a protector for yourself, right?" She asked as her eyes flashed with an odd intent that wouldn't take no for an answer.

'Suspicious of me, or does she still wants to control Shirley...?'

Davis smiled before he nodded, "I can protect Shirley against that Grand Elder, no problem."

"Alright, I accept..." Only then did Shirley answer with a wide smile on her face.

Sect Master Lea Weiss's lips twitched as she heard their answers.

Protect against that Grand Elder? How could it be possible for a High-Level Soul King to kill a Mid-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse while they also have King Soul Stage Cultivation?

Unless it was an assassination, an ambush, or a deadly preemptive strike, she really found it hard to believe this Elder Chu Feng's words. How can it be so easy to kill a Ninth Stage Expert? Was he going to poison the Grand Elder during a battle to protect?

Ridiculous!

However, just how much trust Shirley had in this Elder Chu Feng to listen to each other but not her?

Sect Master Lea Weiss's expression became a bit cold as she turned around and left.

"Do your best to make your name even more renowned in the battles tomorrow. I am rather looking forward to it."

Her melodious voice resounded, causing Davis to feel rather doubtful if it was over. That's all she came for?

To see if Shirley was safe or still in her hold?

He saw the Sect Master's back that disappeared from his gaze once she turned in the corridor.

Davis and Shirley stayed silent for a while before the teenage girl, who was silent all this time, hesitatingly uttered.

"Did that scary big sister leave...?"

Both Davis and Shirley cranked their heads to look at Freya, who had an anxious look on her face.

Chapter 1338: Breaking It Open

"Was it scary for you, Freya?" Davis asked with an amused smile.

Freya adorably nodded her head while Shirley interjected, "Sect Master is known to be the person with the most Burning Phoenix Blood Essence, and by most, I mean the quality of blood essence. Otherwise, she might turn into a fey or die."

"Therefore, it is natural that Freya would be scared of Sect Master as the quality of Burning Phoenix Blood that Sect Master possesses is more than herself."

"What about the other Grand Elders? Will Freya become scared of them too?" Davis pursed his lips in doubt.

Shirley smilingly shook her head, "They are not like Sect Master in consuming the Burning Phoenix Blood to their near limit. If they aren't able to turn into a fey, they will die after all."

Davis blinked, "Are there Feys here?"

Shirley nodded her head, "Yes... many, actually..."

"Oh, are they existing due to overdoes of blood essence or..." Davis raised his brows, believing that Shirley got his intent.

However, a blush appeared on her face as she looked away.

"Both, but although it is said that a progeny between magical beasts and humans are no longer capable of being born, it is said some still secretly make love with their Burning Phoenix Magical Beast Companion even though it is still frowned upon..."

"!!!"

Davis's non-existent heart almost leaped out of his throat as he recalled his Nadia. He couldn't help but ask.

"What do you think about them?"

"Disgusting..."

Shirley's lips moved as she instantly answered while Davis's heart gradually fell, but her lips continued to move.

"... is what everyone says, but I think as long as there is love between the two, whether it be a human male and a magical beast female or vice versa, I think it is lovely..."

However, she suddenly froze as she became sensitive to Davis's gaze. She quickly grabbed Freya.

"I mean... look at Freya... Even though she's a magical beast, look how human she is... the emotions she displays in her eyes and voice... It's the same as us!"

Davis blinked at Shirley's outburst as she became quiet and lowered her head.

"Am I wrong to think this way...?"

Shirley uttered with a bit of shame, thinking that she had messed up by revealing these needless thoughts.

"No...!"

Davis heavily shook his head.

His stiff face didn't reveal that much, but he was inwardly jumping in joy! He didn't think that a person from the Grand Sea Continent would say this! After all, the magical beasts there don't transform into humans as the Earth Rank Species present there were null!

In that place, relationships with magical beasts were considered taboo! And yet, Shirley, after coming to the First Layer and living in it for more than six years, had changed her preconceived notions. However, Davis also believed that she could think like this because she nurtured Freya all by herself.

"You're quite the romanticist, huh...?" Davis uttered with a heartened smile.

"Haha, everyone back home says that a lot..."

Shirley recalled her fun times back at her Imperial Palace while she relaxed seeing Davis accepting this viewpoint of hers. Otherwise, she might've been seen as a pervert by him for having a heretical opinion like this! It wouldn't have been suspicious if Davis thought if she belonged to the wicked path!

Because only the wicked path dares to openly act on their desires. Of course, there are wicked path people who don't like it as well, and if she thought it like that, the righteous and wicked path also has a similar view in this sensitive matter.

"Shirley..."

"Ah, yes..!" Shirley came out of her reverie as she looked at him.

She wondered what he was going to say about her as he looked like he was going to break something to her!

Could it be that he no longer liked her for having this half-hearted opinion?

Her lips began to quiver as she looked at his face, "What...?"

Davis had his lips pursed before he no longer hesitated.

"I love a magical beast as well..."

Shirley's crimson lips stopped quivering as she blinked.

"Her name is Nadia, and she's a Dark-Winged Twilight Wolf..."

Her mouth became agape as her face began to tremble.

"We've been together for more than five years already, and she's lovely and gorgeous that I was unable to keep my mind and heart away from her. I became conscious of her and fell in love, but we've only progressed to the point of kissing..."

Looking at Davis pour his emotions out; Shirley looked utterly flabbergasted. Two words escaped from her crimson lips as her expression changed.

"You pervert..."

Davis's expression froze.

"... is what Evelynn and the others would say, so you didn't say all this to them...?" Shirley asked as she pursed her lips.

Davis heaved a sigh, "Stop talking in intervals, Shirley..."

Shirley wryly giggled while Davis couldn't help but nod his head.

"Yeah, a pervert is okay as they already know that I am one, but I don't want them to see me as a deviant. I have no idea how I could change their preconceived notions. That crap is hard to erase, and I say this because I have many of them, and it remains troublesome to erase them at least until I'm beaten black and blue..."

Davis uttered with a helpless sigh as he held Shirley's shoulders, his black eyes gleaming with a sharp glint.

"Do you accept our relationship?"

"Of course, I do... Didn't I just say that...?" Shirley became rather flabbergasted at his forcefulness.

Was he expecting that much of an acceptance from her? From them, his wives? She couldn't help but smile as this made her truly feel that she was important to him. Otherwise, would he have asked for her opinion instead of doing as he liked?

She faintly licked her crimson lips, finding him cute as she opened her mouth.

"Do you want me to break it to them and convince them or vice versa?"

Davis blinked before he shook his head, "That's not the point. I've just made them accept Sophie and Niera, so before I tell them about Nadia, I think I need to leave them some space. Otherwise, I would've broken it to them long ago as they're rather understanding, or should I say, forgiving of me..."

He wryly smiled at the end of the sentence.

"I see..."

Shirley nodded his head, understanding his reasoning.

"I wish you become one with Nadia later, after me, of course..."

She widely smiled while Davis shook his head.

\*Crack!~\*

A sound of a vase suddenly breaking echoed as they turned their heads to look at the source and saw a newcomer.

"Ah! I didn't mean to intrude...!"

A melodious yet panicked voice echoed as Esvele saw Davis holding down Shirley as if he were going to kiss. She quickly pounced down and cleaned the surface with a wave of her hands, scooping the vase's broken pieces into her spatial ring. She was about to run away from the corridor when an amused voice echoed.

"Esvele, did you forget that this Chu Feng over here is a soul body? Don't worry, we won't do anything suspicious..."

Esvele froze as her bosoms shook along with her. She turned around, revealing an embarrassed expression, "Hehe... My bad..."

She walked towards them, looking at the blue-haired young man with sharp black eyes, but she knew that it was Davis as she had heard their plan before.

She arrived before them before she noticed Freya's wide smile that targeted her bosoms. She jerked before harrumphing.

"Hmph! Not today, Freya..."

Freya dejectedly lowered her head, appearing as if she was rejected.

"Hehe..."

While Shirley giggled at their bond, Davis's eyes flashed red for a moment.

'Wait a minute... Isn't the red patches on Esvele's Karma Thread connected to Shirley a bit more prominent than before...?'

Davis was a bit flabbergasted as to why it was growing...

Did something good happen yesterday? Perhaps, Shirley remained kind to Esvele and gave her resources again. However, he was unaware that Shirley ruthlessly assaulted Esvele for attracting his gaze away from her, fondling those big mounds to her heart's content.

'Fortunately, the color she has towards me is blue of friendliness and loyalty, mostly the latter, I guess...'

Davis inwardly sighed while he did not seem to be bothered by Esvele's ambiguous emotions towards Shirley. He didn't even perceive her as a threat. Moreover, both Shirley and Esvele were not the type to do that. He felt the red patches from Esvele would gradually disappear with time anyway, and even if it did not, he was not particularly bothered.

Women on women were something he did not dislike but had not particularly enjoyed either, although he appreciated the sight of it in his previous life as it was enjoyable.

"Davis, I find these moments extremely enjoyable. I hope you stay for a few years like this with me..."

"Isn't that why I am here?" Davis raised his brows, "Ellia is surely safe with her other incarnation's wits and ruthlessness, so I think I can wait until I finish the matters I'm busy with... Nevertheless, until then, this avatar would mostly be with you."

"Wonderful!"

Shirley trembled with excitement before she screamed.

"Then... tomorrow, see me battle! I'll be sure to make you proud!"

"Haha..." Davis chuckled at her enthusiasm, "Very well. I'll be watching you at a close distance as your protector. Use your powers as you please, except the Fire Phoenix Flames, of course. If you did, the Sect Master would be rather pissed off..."

Shirley nodded, "Yes, she already told me to not use it during the battles."

"However, if you feel the need to use it-"

"No, I won't use it." Shirley cut him short as she shook her head, "It's the same as throwing aphrodisiac in all the men's eyes here. If there ever came a situation where I would have to reveal it, then I'd have to make my escape..."

"I see..." Davis pursed his lips before he recalled something and sent a soul transmission.

"Wait a minute... Didn't you just pass the King Grade Trial that only awards a King Grade Cultivation Manual? How can you reach the Eighth Stage with it?"

Shirley's face blushed with a hint of bashfulness upon hearing his question.

"That's... The Fire Phoenix Immortal is already in favor of me inheriting, so it imbued my mind with the Low-Level Emperor Grade version of the manual that I know it by heart..."

"Oh..."

Davis became rather flabbergasted at the Fire Phoenix Immortal.

No, it could be said that he was exasperated with these Immortals. They acted as they pleased, and even the Blazing Thunderlight Kirin was lazy and carefree enough to award him just the complete manual. He wasn't finding fault with them but realized again that there was no fairness in the world.

Even though it was cruel, lives are not equal.

A baby is born in a mortal family could never be compared to a baby born in an Emperor Grade Family... They both have different resources to grow with, play with and interact with, so their lives could never be counted as equal or the same!

As for those who cried out for fairness when they could clearly see this analogy, they were clearly fools who would die first or suffer in the real world, especially the cultivation world!

"Davis, I've been holding back from saying this, but..."

"Can I go make a breakthrough now? I really want to show those people that they should not mess with me as well as make you awed by my figure..."

Shirley fidgeted as she spoke.

Davis blinked, slowly realizing that he was obstructing her cultivation. He felt that he should've realized! Her Essence Gathering Cultivation was already rather solidified that she was ready to break through to the next level, except she had been distracted by him from yesterday!

"Okay, okay... I won't disturb you anymore, but are you sure that you can finish breaking through before the competition begins?"

He had already wasted too much of her time that he couldn't help but feel bad.

"Mhm!"

Shirley nodded her head with a confident expression on her face.

"Just wait for me!"

Davis merely smiled as he saw her float as she flew away back to her room. When he looked towards the side, Esvele had already run away and disappeared from the hall, making him blink while the little Freya was looking at him curiously.

He grinned as he asked, "How are those big bosoms of your favorite Esvele?"

Freya raised her hand and gave a thumbs-up as she equally grinned, "Heavenly..."

"Right? My Evelynn's is also heavenly..."

Davis looked as if he found a woman of culture as he began to spend time chit-chatting with the little Burning Phoenix.

## **Chapter 1339: Top Disciple Battles**

A day passed while Davis remained in the hall, protecting Shirley while chatting with Freya. He waited for that Grand Elder that Sect Master Lea Weiss talked about, but no one came, leading to his confusion before realizing that perhaps it might be after the competition.

Esvele did not show up ever since she left while he mused that she was also cultivating.

Was she that scared of him? Or did she not want to have Shirley think that something might happen if she stayed with him?

Nevertheless, he wasn't bothered about it while Freya was talkative and adorable, making him feel entertained as he heard about Shirley's adventures. At the same time, he almost did not realize the passage of time until he saw that it was dawn again.

At this moment, when the sun rose outside, there was a low hum that came from Shirley's room while the undulations released were suppressed within the crimson palace.

'That was rather fast...'

Davis was quite impressed with her ability to quickly perform a breakthrough in the Law Dominion Stage when he mused that it would at least take a few months on average as she had just probably recently broke through, but it also said to him that the gains she had in the mini-realm in this sect were also tremendously fruitful for her cultivation to be moving past levels as if she were breezing through it.

No wonder she wanted to stay here despite all the odds she faced.

With the Sect Master looking like she wanted to protect Shirley even from him, Elder Chu Feng, he can undoubtedly see Shirley making use of that advantage given to her.

However, Davis also knew that she faced little to no bottlenecks because of her Fire Phoenix Blood and Burning Phoenix Blood. It was the same for him, Evelynn, Isabella, and even Natalya, who had the Earth Dragon Immortal's blood in their veins, except it vastly caused them to have little to no bottlenecks in Body Tempering Cultivation.

Of course, it was only till a certain level till the essence of the blood runs out or completely assimilates with no advantages to give any more in terms of bottlenecks.

Abruptly, the sound of footsteps could be heard in the distance.

Davis realized that Shirley was not flying but creating suspense as she walked with loud steps. He couldn't help shake his head ruefully at her childishness, but he could understand her enthusiasm.

Freya, who slept peacefully on his lap on the sofa at some time of them chatting, pricked up her ears and woke up, looking towards the pathway to Shirley's room as her crimson eyes widened in excitement.

Soon, a figure clad in crimson top disciple robes appeared.

The side of the crimson robes and the back was imprinted with the Burning Phoenix's wings while the body was fully yet tightly wrapped a bit, enhancing her curves.

Shirley walked with an expectant and shy smile on her pale white face, her cheeks covered with a bit of healthy blush. Her whole figure caused Davis to gulp his non-existent saliva, even when he knew that he saw the exact figure and dress yesterday. However, she had a bit of makeup on, making him notice the faint and dreamy features that made her look even more entrancing and special.

Davis stood up as he wildly stared at Shirley while she walked all the way and matched gaze with him before she could no longer take his fiery gaze and lowered her head.

"I really regret not coming here with my main body..." Davis uttered.

Shirley couldn't help smile deeply, satisfied by his answer as she raised her head, "That would become a bit... problematic..."

Her cheeks blushed even more as she uttered in an ambiguous tone.

"Oh... How problematic would it become?"

Davis raised his brows in a teasing manner.

'Enough to make me forget what is left and right...'

Shirley thought, but she grinned and shook her head, "I don't know... You tell me..."

Davis cracked a smile when his expression suddenly faded as he sensed her energy leaking out from her pores.

"Congratulations on breaking through, but are you okay? Your Peak-Level Law Dominion Stage cultivation is a bit unstable..." He frowned a bit in worry.

"Unstable as it may, I'm still stronger than my previous self." Shirley unhurriedly spoke, "My Essence Gathering Cultivation is a bit unstable despite me solidifying it with resources because I'm making rapid progress for my young age. It should take a day or two for my cultivation to reach stabilization before I begin solidifying it, but it should have the same effect if I battled today."

"Sorry, I messed up your plans..." Davis's shoulders drooped.

He thought that if it weren't for him, she would've already solidified her cultivation.

"Wha-? No, don't be..." Shirley's expression became angrier by the second, "If you're like this, I won't go participate in the competition. Screw that. I'll spend more time with you!"

Davis appeared flabbergasted at her outburst that he blinked, "Okay, I take it back."

Shirley's angry expression changed into a satisfied smile, "That's more like it."

She pursed her lips, looking at him with obsessed eyes.

"Davis, we'll leave if you want me to leave. I won't say no to it."

Davis couldn't help but chuckle, "I know, but this place is the best for you despite its dangers. I'll get rid of anyone who targets you, so you freely rule over this place like you did back in the Ashton Empire, my princess."

Shirley blinked before she smiled, "I almost forgot that I was a princess. Roaming around the world with Ellia and meeting all kinds of people sure did make my mouth crass while I also lost my bearings, but I like this more where I could freely talk."

"You didn't seem like you were holding back your tongue when you were a princess either..." Davis interjected.

"How rude...!"

Shirley bit her lip before she shook her head and smiled, reaching out her hands to hold Davis's.

"Come, the Grand Burning Phoenix Ridge's Top Disciple Battles is going to begin in an hour, or so I think. We wouldn't want to be late, or those Grand Elders who oppose me are going to needlessly find fault with me. I don't want to hear their lame excuses in trying to humiliate me..."

"Alright, lead the way..." Davis nodded his head.

Shirley returned the nod while Esvele appeared.

All of them then left the crimson palace and headed to a place while there seemed to be a whole congregation of disciples heading towards the same destination. The moment they spotted the utterly lovely-looking Shirley, who made her look herself even more beautiful for Davis, caused the whole crowd to fall into a stupor.

The female disciples fell into a trance while the male disciples silently turned away and began discussing amongst themselves.

Shirley, who noticed that they were rather behaving exaggeratedly, couldn't help but quickly wear a crimson veil that hid her face as she could not hide her embarrassment. Narrowing her eyes a bit, she glanced back at Davis and saw that he kept looking at her with a smile.

"You're definitely going to bring trouble..."

A soul transmission fell on her mind, causing her to feel bad, but the next soul transmission caused her to face to lit up.

"However, make much trouble as you can so that I can know who are all against you. Only death awaits them the moment they make a move against you, I assure you that..."

Shirley patted Freya as she rubbed on Freya's feathers in happiness that her man allowed her free reign.

Meanwhile, the teenage girl who flew in the skies had already turned into a Burning Phoenix with a mighty King Beast Stage aura that caused her to have her own followers. Freya was carrying the three of them on top of her back as she breezed through the skies, rushing past many disciples and even a few other Burning Phoenixes that looked at her in awe and envy.

Soon, Davis and the others arrived on a particular mountain as the fiery road along led to it while the disciples gathered. It possessed a flattened surface but on top of it was a sizeable colosseum-like structure. However, it was not crimson as one would expect but screamed pure white! The walls, surface, seating, and even the battle stage's surface were coated in pure white, causing him to rather narrow his eyes from the overwhelming luster.

It radiated a pristine glow under the sun's reflection, making him think that it was beautiful as the moon, while dusky orange skies added an otherworldly look to it. This kind of atmosphere made him draw a deep breath in admiration even though he was a soul body.

The number of people occupying this battle arena was many, while more were still on their way. It seemed that they were early, but the atmosphere remained boisterous with Burning Phoenixes flying around the battle arena, screeching in their bird language as if singing while a few other disciples displayed fireworks with their brilliant fiery flames adorning the skies.

Davis saw the fanfare, but his admiration was pulled back by the number of toads gawking at his swan meat. Even though he felt a bit irked, he didn't go and beat them up as it was rather unreasonable unless they stared at her with wretched intentions or made some unseemly comments, but he couldn't pick up any ill-intent with his soul sense as it was just full of admiration and envy.

However, he followed their gaze and saw that little or even half of them were gathered on Esvele's big bosoms, making him chuckle a bit. He couldn't help but think she and Evelynn had it truly hard.

## \*Whoosh!~\*

Just when they were about to enter the high-walled battle arena in one of the entrances designated for entry, a Burning Phoenix that was a bit bigger suddenly descended in front of them and screeched at Freya while a man was sitting above it, looking at them with a gentle smile on his face.

He wore a similar robe as Shirley, except it was made for men as the one wearing it undoubtedly was a man.

That gentle smile he wore on his handsome face quickly turned a bit odd as his lips moved.

"Fellow disciple Shirley, you look otherworldly today, but when are you going to marry me and perhaps, warm my bed?"

"...!"

Shirley's smiling expression froze.

Not because she saw the handsome red-haired man, but there was a burst of ominous intent from the back!

\*Boom!~\*

An explosion resounded while both the Burning Phoenix and the handsome red-haired man were sent flying as they spat blood from their mouths!

Everyone's pupils dilated as they saw the rumored Protector of top disciple Shirley attack another top disciple!

### Chapter 1340: Killed?

\*Pfft!~\*

The top disciple fell flat on the hard floor as he spat a mouthful of blood again while his mount was blasted away by an enormous force that came out of nowhere.

There was a moment of blankness in his mind before he became mortified, angered, and enraged as he stood back with a flick of his body and looked at the blue-haired man who dared to attack him with a soul force attack that didn't directly attack but launched the wind against them!

It impacted them with an immense momentum that their innards shook, but since his Burning Phoenix took most of the impact and was sent flying far away from him as it hit the hanging gate to the battle arena, he was not that injured.

"Ahahahaha!"

However, he burst out laughing like a madman as he pointed at the woman he craved and deeply desired.

"Shirley, you dared to attack me when all I did was exchange a few words with you! You have dared to defy the rules in the Burning Phoenix Ridge as if you own it! No one can-"

\*Paah!~\*

A resounding slap echoed as suddenly echoed as a head steeply turned to the right!

By the time Shirley realized it, Davis was already near the handsome red-haired top disciple, grasping the collars of the robe as he slapped!

"You!?"

The top disciple became mortified as he returned the gaze when a palm suddenly appeared in his vision again!

'No!' He inwardly screamed, but a resounding slap echoed!

\*Paah!~\*

"Who taught you to be so crass towards women?"

Davis coldly glared at the man, his stone-cold face not giving a shit about the consequences. His strength was tremendous while the top disciple saw the world spin around him for a few moments. When he came back to himself, he snarled as intense shame overwhelmed him.

"How dare you-"

\*Paah!~\* \*Paah!~\*

"Who taught you to act unbridled in front of the person I swore to protect?"

\*Paah!~\* \*Paah!~\* \*Paah!~\*

"Wait...!" He trembled, but a slap had one of his teeth flying towards the distance.

"Stop...!"

The people in the surroundings echoed as they began to close in.

Davis kept slapping as his right hand kept moving without a stop while he coldly stared at this handsome red-haired man's face swell in pain. There was immense anger swelling in the top disciple's eyes, but he could not do anything other than staying suppressed in Davis's hold.

He was unable to retaliate!

"The Sect Master is a woman too, and perhaps when you become a Grand Elder, you'll ask her like this to warm your bed as well?"

"W-What!?"

\*Paah!~\* \*Paah!~\*

Davis stopped with two more overwhelming slaps, looking at the battered face become ashen despite the swelling that had completely taken over, making him look resentful and fearful, his lips tightly pursed as if he refused to say anything in regards to the question he was asked.

The other disciples who had gathered and even a few elders who were witnessing this scene were ashen-faced. Some of them were even about to help the top disciple from getting beaten up.

After all, even if that top disciple may have been crass to another top disciple, it was still well within limits, and Shirley could've officially invoked a duel to reclaim her dignity, but the protector instead attacked, which was wrong or flouting the rules in other words.

However, the moment they heard the protector's last sentence, their own faces became pale! They didn't dare to move in support of the top disciple, afraid that this sentence alone might ruin their lives if they helped the top disciple even though it was clearly said by the protector!

Davis shot a glance around and saw how much of a deterrent his words were and couldn't help mockingly chuckle at them before his hand moved again in an arc.

\*Paah!~\*

A resounding slap echoed as if it was for the last time before Davis pushed him away, a cold light flashing in his eyes.

"Watch what you say next time, lest you be sacrificed to someone who couldn't control their anger..."

The top disciple held his swollen face as his body shook. He looked staggered, to say the least, as if he could not believe that his proud face was smacked more than ten times in front of his junior brothers and sisters just like that.

The humiliation increased manifold amidst the silence, making him increasingly tremble before his lips moved as he spat out his hateful words!

"Protector! Kill him...!"

\*Whoosh!~\*

The sound of a silhouette tearing through the wind suddenly echoed!

Many became taken aback by the rushing red-robed, hooded figure while Davis looked to the side and saw the aggressor. Killing intent brewed like a tide towards him, causing him to frown his brows while he sensed the strange undulations at the peak level of the eighth stage from this person.

He was absolutely sure that this person wouldn't unleash a devastating attack because of the disciples in the vicinity, but looking at the amount of essence energy gathered in his palms, his eyes narrowed while he simultaneously unleashed his immense soul force, casting the Soul Suppression Art!

\*Bzzz!~\*

It was instant, but the so-called protector of that swollen top disciple had also unleashed his attack from his two palms as a vivid, scintillating burning phoenix wing erupted from him as it shot towards them with a spectral screech.

"Ahhh!!!~~~"

Terrified sounds echoed from the surrounding disciples as they scrambled to escape while the swollen top disciple had already retreated to a safe spot.

Davis narrowed his eyes at the incoming attack that was wider and taller than a two-story building. It was amazingly condensed, capable of leaving utter destruction in its wake!

\*Bzzz!~\*

His soul force sprung again with a radiant white hue, forming a small oval barrier that covered him and Freya, causing everyone with him to be in his protection in an instant while the majority of the disciples were about to be lit up in flames when the deacons and elders made a move, blocking the attack with their own barriers while the other protector was appearing to be making a killing move again as he maneuvered closer!

#### \*Boom!~\*

The burning phoenix wings struck his soul force barrier, but it was unable to make a dent as the barrier just simply shook while the explosion faded away as it wasn't any powerful than a first stage attack. The aggressor's eyes went wide as he saw Davis's prowess, looking astonished before he instantly moved back to retreat.

However, Davis didn't look like he was having any of it as the languid suppression he was releasing became ten times as stronger abruptly as it completely suppressed the aggressor!

"What!?" A hoarse voice screamed, making it known that the protector with the hood was an old man.

Davis didn't know who he was but didn't care as he flicked his sleeves. A seal suddenly condensed out of his temples and shot towards the suppressed and helpless protector as it pierced into his forehead!

The protector fiercely trembled, looking ashen before his struggle died down, a dumbfounded look appearing on his face as he stared looked at Davis. He could not believe such a simple technique had actually managed to take over him before he blamed it all on the soul suppression. However, his reddish-black eyes became hopeless as his shoulders drooped.

Davis's eyes were abruptly narrowed as he realized something.

This man, this protector in front of him, was not a human or a magical beast but a fey!

"Who sent you to kill me?" Davis instantly asked.

"Master, I..." The fey found himself talking but hesitated when suddenly an intense, fiery beak pierced through him before he exploded altogether, the pieces of flesh from his body flung in different directions as blood splashed like a fountain!

Davis's corporeal body was stiff, but he managed to crank his head towards the floor and saw one incinerated wing of that fey that was hidden behind the robe he was wearing was still burning along with other parts of his body while his soul didn't even seem to have survived the sudden onslaught.

It happened so quickly that the enslaved fey was unable to even react.

Davis raised his head and looked towards the source of the unexpected, concentrated attack and saw a youth floating in a few hundred meters above mid-air, draped in grand crimson robes of a grand elder while looking towards the dead fey with a calm outlook before he turned his head towards the top disciple.

"Top disciple Lauren Zucker. You dared to use your sect-given protector to commit mass murder and even that within the sect. Do you accept your crimes?"

That Grand Elder's voice echoed far and loud, making the surrounding utterly silent.

"... No..." Top disciple Lauren Zucker's swollen face trembled in disbelief as he shook his head, "I just wanted to kill this protector who flouted the rules and attacked me first..."

"I see... But still, return to your crimson palace and await the verdict. Furthermore, you are removed from your rights to participate in this competition as you made a mess out of this beautiful day. If you do not comply, I will have to take severe action against you for the damages your protector has caused from your command."

Top disciple Lauren Zucker's whole body trembled before he lowered his head.

"Yes..." A meek voice came out of him before his Burning Phoenix landed beside him, looking rather fine other than having a few of its feathers a little incarcerated.

He hopped onto his mount and left without saying a word, yet the atmosphere remained glaringly silent.

Davis suddenly felt an immense pressure descend on him as that Grand Elder turned to look towards him. They both narrowed their eyes, seemingly not taking their eyes off each other as they glaringly sported an intense look before the Grand Elder lightly shifted his look towards Shirley.

"Top disciple Shirley. Your privately hired protector has already caused trouble for us. Still, I have gotten rid of the aggressor for your sake because you are too important to us as a sect because you have the capability of becoming a Sect Master. However, you still need to give a satisfactory explanation. Otherwise, even I would find it difficult to-"

"I thank Grand Elder Valerian..." Shirley interrupted with a frigid smile on her face, "However, my protector did not flout any rules and acted to protect me within the confines of the rules."

Grand Elder Valerian seemingly frowned in the distance.

"What nonsense are you-"

Shirley simply took off her veil, revealing her extremely alluring face that made the crowd slightly gasp and even seemed to have perturbed the Grand Elder. However, they all noticed a few drops of blood coming out of her two ears.

"!!!"

Everyone became stunned as they saw that Shirley was injured!