EMPEROR 1521

Chapter 1521 - Four Powers

In the Grand Wedding Hall, countless experts who sat and exchanged words with all kinds of smiles abruptly looked up and noticed that the dome's light faded. Two carriages stopped right above the dome before two people exited.

They looked at each other and held hands before they descended. The next moment, resplendent light fell on them, and they looked like an immortal couple descending from the heavens.

Many had their mouths agape as they saw the groom and bride. Most of their hearts palpitated, making them think that they could never create an entrance as grand as this!

Ancestor Dian Alstreim and Ancestor Tirea Snow moved towards the altar and sat on their two thrones. Their bearing and gaze told many that they were in love with each other, but why, they couldn't understand as it remained mysterious.

As for the entourage of the groom and bride, they entered from the entrance of the Grand Wedding Hall. They walked to the forefront and sat as part of the two powers being united by marriage. However, Davis moved away to another location that was to the back yet conspicuous.

While walking, he looked around and noticed the scale of this grand marriage.

The entire Grand Alstreim City was bustling with noise and fanfare. To the number of people who came, his marriage with Isabella could definitely compare. However, the quality couldn't.

Looking around, most of the people who occupied the front seats of their powers were Eighth Stage Experts! There were at least two hundred of them and still arriving to join in on the fun! To the back were the prominent youths of their powers.

He narrowed his eyes and identified all the characters.

Mystic Ice Sect's Bing Luli and Xia Yun, Vital Tempering Sect's Gong Kim-Il and Gong Hyun-Ki, Thousand Pill Palace's Krane Parasen, and Twilight Physician Hall's Kain Bloodlife.

Six powerhouses from four powers.

Except for the Towering Cloud Hall's Ancestor Xanbas Goldsky and Flowing Mist Sect's two Ancestors, at least one powerhouse from each of the other four powers of the Nine Western Territories was present.

They were all assigned palaces near the Purple Guest Palace, so Davis knew that some of them had already arrived yesterday and attended this grand wedding at this moment, along with the others who had arrived today.

He expected such a line-up but was still astonished that they had actually appeared.

'It's just... did they come to wish well or make trouble?'

Davis's lips curved as he arrived at a rather conspicuous location and sat beside Evelynn.

Evelynn was already seated with his other women. Natalya, Fiora, Sophie, and Niera had all surrounded him when he sat, wanting to be seated together.

"Congratulations to Ancestor Dian Alstreim. My horizons have been widened."

At this moment, a voice from the audience echoed.

It was none other than Ancestor Kane Bloodlife from the Twilight Physician Hall.

However, it sounded like it had a double meaning as if he wasn't worthy enough to marry Ancestor Tirea Snow. Nevertheless, Ancestor Dian Alstreim didn't care as he clasped his hands while he sat.

"Everyone, I thank you for your presence on this joyous day. Feel free to enjoy the banquet my Alstreim Family has prepared for you all."

A new round of sumptuous feast was brought in by the beauties of the Alstreim Family. They brought in huge six-meter wide plates, lifting them up with their soul force as they went around, graciously placing the dishes on the tables of the guests.

Everyone nodded with smiles on their faces. The beauties of the Alstreim Family had a certain charm to them and weren't any less beautiful than the maidens of the Mystic Ice Sect and Falling Snow Sect.

"Let me give you a toast, fellow powerhouse who managed to win a beauty's heart!"

Ancestor Krane Parazen from the Thousand Pill Palace took the cup from the table and toasted Ancestor Dian Alstreim before he drank, his lips puckering as he nodded to the exquisite taste.

"Ancestor Tirea Snow. I don't know if anything happened between you two to come to this, but if you need my help, you can visit my Mystic Ice Sect anytime."

Sect Master Bing Luli spoke as she toasted Ancestor Tirea Snow. The latter took a cup in respect and drank together with Sect Master Bing Luli and Ancestor Xia Yun before her lips moved.

"Sect Master Bing Luli, I have to thank you for hunting down that traitorous Elizar Yantra."

"No problem. As women, we have to look out for ourselves because the men who help us will do so with the intention of expecting something else. I was extremely angered when I heard that trash Elizar Yantra plotted against Ancestor Tirea Snow with Ancestor Xanbas Goldsky. Fortunately, it seemed like Ancestor Xanbas Goldsky managed to leak the Imagery Stone and spread it secretly without using his name. Otherwise, I wouldn't have known and wouldn't have been able to help."

"However, I don't understand why he didn't appear today, but it doesn't matter because today's main character is you."

Sect Master Bing Luli smiled sweetly behind her veil, causing Ancestor Tirea Snow to nod. Most of the people here, including her, already guessed why Ancestor Xanbas Goldsky didn't appear today.

They felt that Ancestor Xanbas Goldsky couldn't bear to see Ancestor Tirea Snow get married to someone else, so he didn't come under the guise of seclusion, but little did they know that he was enslaved by a certain person in this very hall.

Nevertheless, the people present were simply enjoying the melodious voices of the fairies, but when they imagined that one of them was already taken, their expressions became dejected.

"Luli'er. You talk too much." By the side, Ancestor Xia Yun indifferently spoke.

Sect Master Bing Luli simply smiled and didn't say anything while Ancestor Tirea Snow's eyes lit up.

"I heard that the three icy fairies of the Mystic Ice Sect have reborn into the world by breaking through to the Martial Sage Stage. Such joyous news, but to not show it off makes you all immensely humble and examples to learn from."

Ancestor Xia Yun's expression didn't have much of a change. She was as aloof as a heavenly swan. However, an imperceptible smile hung on her lips as she clasped her hands.

"Ancestor Tirea Snow's words are too praising..."

"Woahh!~"

The crowd was shaken when they heard Ancestor Tirea Snow's words. The news that the three icy fairies of the Mystic Ice Sect who were going to die have revived their fires of vitality were practically rumors and unverified intelligence to them, but after seeing Ancestor Xia Yun's countenance and hearing her words, they became astounded.

Doesn't that mean the Mystic Ice Sect currently had four powerhouses!? They surpassed the Thousand Pill Palace's three powerhouses and became the strongest power of the Nine Western Territories!?

Sure, the Thousand Pill Palace could hire a few powerhouses to boost their prowess, but the four fairies of the Mystic Ice Sect constituted immense power by themselves.

Who would dare to touch them in this era?

While the news shook the people attending this grand wedding, the fairies of the Grand Wedding Hall took the back seat at this moment while Ancestor Dian Alstreim conversed with the other powerhouses and received congratulations.

"... All was good until your Alstreim Family Elders decided to ruthlessly kill one of my core disciples. How are you going to answer to this mess and take responsibility, Dian Alstreim?"

Ancestor Dian Alstreim's brows narrowed as he looked at one of the two powerhouses from the Vital Tempering Sect.

It was none other than Ancestor Gong Kim-II.

Chapter 1522 - Interference?

Ancestor Dian Alstreim's eyes narrowed as he had little to no conversation with this powerhouse.

The atmosphere quickly turned tense.

Almost everyone who was already aware of the situation had their eyes illuminate in excitement over drama. On the other hand, Ancestor Dian Alstreim was practically clueless before a Grand Elder who stayed back informed him of that event with a soul transmission.

A Vital Tempering Sect's youth had been truly killed?

Ancestor Dian Alstreim's lips curved into a smile.

"Ancestor Gong Kim-II, can you tell me what your core disciple did before he died?"

Ancestor Gong Kim-Il's expression stayed frigid, "I was told that he was courting Jaisi Alstreim, whose name is currently renowned for her culinary skills."

Jaisi Alstreim, who was currently in the Grand Wedding Hall, abruptly trembled. She felt small in front of these powerhouses and was afraid to be called out. Nevertheless, she prepared herself.

"Is that so?" Ancestor Dian Alstreim coldly smiled before he harrumphed, "I was told that he tried to behave wrongfully and force Jaisi Alstreim to become his woman. If that's the case, then he deserves what he gets."

"How can that be!?"

Ancestor Gong Kim-II stood up as the table in front of them couldn't take the pressure and shattered.

"Do you think that a mere Jaisi Alstreim's life is equal to one of my core disciple's life? First of all, we don't even know if she's lying."

"We have witnesses." Ancestor Dian Alstreim interrupted, "Gong Kim-II. Today, I won't tolerate any kind of bullshit, so be wary of what you utter from your mouth."

"Ah! Look at that!" Ancestor Gong Kim-II pointed at him as he looked around, "Everyone, can you see the arrogance of this person? Not only does he think that he is big since he's marrying Beauty Snow, but he also dares to flout justice in front of you all, where six powerhouses have gathered to go out of their way and congratulate him."

"Nevertheless, since this is Ancestor Tirea Snow's long-awaited day, I'll give some face and wait for the Nine Western Territories to make a decision about my core disciple's death."

After he said his piece, he flicked his sleeve with a harrumph and sat down, snapping his finger for a replacement table and dishes.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim's eyes were narrowed as he saw Ancestor Gong Kim-Il's outburst. It was as if he was throwing a tantrum, but when he slightly looked around, he saw that guests had negative opinions. They had even started gossiping, making the atmosphere rather ambiguous, almost turning the public opinion against him.

'Oh? So they're trying to get the general populace to view me as a villain so that they could 'righteously' attack me?' Ancestor Dian Alstreim's expression became cold.

However, the fault thrown at him was not convincing, so Ancestor Gong Kim-II tactically retreated, saying that he would wait for the collective decision of the Nine Western Territories.

"Justice? The only justice when a man gets forceful with a woman when she did no wrong is death!"

At this moment, Sect Master Bing Luli's voice coldly resounded.

"True, we must investigate both parties of this incident before we can make a judgment."

Ancestor Krane Parazen from the Thousand Pill Palace echoed her voice.

"I think the injustice of that incident is already clear."

Ancestor Kane Bloodlife of the Twilight Physician Hall spoke with a smile before he drank wine. His statement was quite ambiguous, leaving the people to interpret it.

However, as he was from the Twilight Physician Hall, where their power saves lives, everyone thought that robbing a life in that incident was an injustice done. So it meant that the Alstreim Family was in the wrong.

The mood quickly became dragged towards the mud, with most of the people looking at the Alstreim Family with a bit of disdain.

Jaisi Alstreim had just relaxed with two Ancestors supporting her, but with this last statement, she became afraid that she would be called to the front to be investigated.

However, suddenly...

"Ahaha! Excellent! What a joyous and boisterous atmosphere! A wedding should be like this!"

At this moment, a booming voice echoed from the entrance.

Everyone turned their heads as their hearts skipped a beat and saw that four powerhouses stood near the entrance along with a dozen youths.

The one who spoke had his hands spread out and a wide smile on his face.

However, he was with three other powerhouses, causing Davis and many others to narrow their brows.

The announcer was practically trembling before them, having a fearful expression on his face. However, the lips of the four powerhouses seemed to be moving before the announcer gulped and announced.

"Ancestor Thorus Zlatan of the Zlatan Family, Ancestor Sarax Orcha of the Orcha Family, Ancestor Heztus Ike of the Ike Family and Ancestor Kyris Domitian of the Domitian Family has graced the Alstreim Family with their presence."

His voice boomed out despite the visible fear on his face.

"Ahaha!" Thorus Zlatan patted the announcer's shoulder as he chuckled, "You, little people, need to learn that we are not Ancestors. We are martial powerhouses, so when you address us, make sure you address us with 'Overlord'."

"Ah, yes..." The announcer's voice was so weak that even the others felt their hearts trembling.

The Dragon Families then walked forwards toward the front.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim felt annoyed, wondering why all of them were here when only Thorus Zlatan had invited himself?

As for the guests gathered, their brains trembled with numerous emotions.

Although they knew that they were guarding the Territory Gates for a certain special individual, they didn't think that they would interfere in their small world.

Nevertheless, the grandness of this marriage just went up a level, causing them to suck in a deep breath of cold air.

Once the Dragon Families arrived at the forefront, they clasped their hands and spoke.

"Congratulations to Dian Alstreim."

Ancestor Dian Alstreim's expression became cold. Despite what they said, their eyes were on his Tirea, looking quite taken aback and even l.u.s.tful. However, they didn't keep it up for long and smiled at him.

"I see you went speechless from the presence of all four of us, but no need to be so stiff. We have just come here for entertainment while we wait for our Dragon Queen to exit seclusion."

"Well then, take a seat. The spot of the Towering Cloud Hall seems to be empty, and you all brought only a few people, so why don't you all sit there?"

Ancestor Dian Alstreim smilingly spoke before he looked towards the side.

"Valdrey Alstreim, show them the place."

"Yes."

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim nodded and walked towards them. He clasped his hands and gestured for them to follow him, which they did.

Looking at their conduct, Ancestor Dian Alstreim hopefully mused.

'Maybe they haven't come for trouble after all.'

However, he wasn't worried. Not only was his own power adequate to battle them, but the current defenses of the Alstreim Family were also a far cry from its previous self, making it more difficult to crack than before.

As for the Dragon Queen, he felt like she needed to somehow make her escape along with Davis after this marriage ended.

Surely, these Dragon Family people can't just be here for the wedding, right?

The Dragon Families sat at the Towering Cloud Hall's space and were instantly served with tasty dishes and wine. However, they didn't seem to be impressed but had a large appetite that they kept on asking for seconds.

With them interfering with the previous problem, the atmosphere had returned to normal, turning amicable as the guests began to enjoy the banquet.

Everything proceeded smoothly, giving Ancestor Dian Alstreim peace of mind. Dancers came and brightened the atmosphere. Their moves and beauty left the guests awed and breath-taken. The elegantly dressed beautiful dancers even left them drooling, upon which they just stuffed food in their mouths to hide it.

However, this peaceful and passionate atmosphere only lasted for an hour or so before Thorus Zlatan's voice abruptly echoed.

"If this is a celebration, then there needs to be a kind of exciting atmosphere, right?"

"True, the dance of the Alstreim Family beauties is not lacking, but I prefer if it is more exciting."

Sarax Orcha deeply smiled before Heztus Ike smirked.

"How about we have the younger generation showcase their skills? Of course, my family's youth would not participate in it unless they feel like they met an opponent."

"Of course." Kyris Domitian laughed, "We are not here to bully the weak, after all. Haha!"

"Same here~"

The other three overlords commented while their youths grinned with utter disdain, causing the guests to be taken aback before the atmosphere peaked!

"Woah!!!"

It became instantly bustling with talks about having the younger generation fight for their entertainment.

Chapter 1523 - Why Not?

"Mhm. The Four Great Dragon Families have a point. A celebration is not complete without a battle."

Ancestor Kain Bloodlife gave a heavy nod.

"True. However, I think this battle should be a manipulation of essence energy, not physical might." Ancestor Krane Parazen added.

"Ahahah! You don't need to worry." Thorus Zlatan laughed as he mockingly cast a glance at the Nine Western Territories' youths, "When our youths battle, they will use their Essence Gathering Cultivation instead of their Body Tempering Cultivation which is way higher than all your so-called geniuses' Body Tempering Cultivation."

Ancestor Krane Parazen visibly heaved a sigh as if he was exasperated before he shook his head.

"No, it's because a contest between young experts is not complete without rewards. I am willing to take out a Law Tree Fruit for the ultimate winner of this contest."

"A Law Tree Fruit...!"

Almost everyone in the hall became frozen.

Wasn't that one of the confirmed rewards for the Nine Western Territories Young Expert Competition? Why is it being given out now?

However, the Mystic Ice Sect and Vital Tempering Sect were able to tell the reason because they knew why exactly the competition was postponed. With the new competition, the rewards must be elevated, and the previous rewards would be taken down anyway.

"Oh! Now you're talking!" Thorus Zlatan's eyes lit up before he shook his head, "However, such a resource, my dragon families can get it without a problem as we are wealthy and we are not attracted to such a resource either, so don't worry."

"Right, even if our youths ended up getting the first place after they first acknowledged an opponent in Essence Gathering Cultivation, we don't want it. You can just give that Law Tree Fruit to the one who won the second place."

'Yes! I know that! That's why I didn't want you all to have it.'

Ancestor Krane Parazen inwardly mumbled, but he didn't speak on it. He just wryly smiled, disliking the guts and arrogance of the Dragon Families, but since their arrogance was justified, he could only keep his mouth shut.

Suddenly, a melodious voice echoed.

"However, a contest between the younger generation only takes place with the permission of the host. If the host is against it, then I'm against it as well."

Sect Master Bing Luli gazed at him.

"What do you say, Ancestor Dian Alstreim?

"Why not? I'll allow it."

Ancestor Dian Alstreim made an annoyed expression when he heard the other powers speak on their thoughts before he finally acquiesced as if he was forced to, but inwardly, he was smiling like the devil.

"Is that so?" Sect Master Bing Luli smiled with a hint of confidence, "Then I'm willing to send my top disciple to battle in this contest. Let's make this a battle of challenges, but the powers get to decide who they send off to battle, and since this is a celebration, no one should make killing moves, and the weaker cultivator must know when to admit defeat. Otherwise, no one can blame someone else for deaths and crippling injuries."

"I agree, Sect Master Bing Luli."

Ancestor Dian Alstreim nodded as he inwardly laughed.

He was already of a mindset to showcase Davis's prowess to the world if the chance presented itself as he was aware the powers he invited might try to put him down this way.

He didn't even have to control the flow to make it happen.

Of course, he was only willing to show Davis's Essence Gathering Cultivation prowess and not Soul Forging Cultivation. His Body Tempering Cultivation's prowess at the Martial Sage Stage was already known to Dian, so he knew that no one would challenge him with that unless the Dragon Families brought powerful youths to counter him for that purpose.

With every power agreeing and wanting a battle, the scenery below the altar and the platform quickly changed, replaced with a platform that was kilometers long and wide.

The Grand Wedding Hall itself was ginormous; built to host hundreds and thousands of people with ample space, so placing a platform in the middle of the hall didn't seem to crowd the people. Instead, the youths even shuffled and picked their spots to sit and have a better view of the battle while the ones at the Eighth Stage and the Ninth Stage all flew above, making their own platforms out of thin air, getting their cushions and flying mats from their spatial rings.

Davis felt that it was absolutely phenomenal to look at. In a short five minutes, the entire seating arrangement changed as if they had practiced beforehand. It was something mortals wouldn't be capable of doing unless they practiced a thousand times or something of that caliber.

However, he was now seated with the younger generation, and surrounding him were naturally still his women. However, Mo Mingzhi sat beside him, holding his arm as she pushed her bosoms towards him.

"You little girl. How dare you use this confusion to your advantage?"

"Well, when life gives you lemons-"

"I know what comes after that, but seriously, you're low-key making me horny."

Davis's brows twitched as he tried to disgust her away.

"Really? That's what I'm trying to do. Yay!~"

Her reply made him feel helpless, but Mo Mingzhi widely smiled as she squealed, her expression looking shy while she also seemed to crave those words from him. However, her brows frowned as she looked around slightly.

She didn't like the attention she was getting from the youths even though she wore a black veil. Their intent was rather obvious, invoking her killing intent. However, her expression changed as he saw a person arrive in front of her. Her expression then became wry.

"That's my place..."

Natalya, who just returned after seeing her friend Tanya Frostblight narrowed her eyes.

Mo Mingzhi took her hands away from Davis and raised them in surrender, "I'm not here to take that place away from you."

She stood up and let her over, "I'm just looking for my own place in his heart."

Natalya coldly stared before her expression was replaced with a smile, "You can sit with us."

"Sure~"

Mo Mingzhi smiled as she sat beside Fiora.

Davis was left speechless by Mo Mingzhi's ability to gain approval from them like it was nothing.

'This is bad... She's becoming more attractive by the second...'

He looked away, abruptly matching his gaze with two familiar women before he smilingly nodded towards them. He then gazed away and wrapped and spoke with Evelynn and Natalya, discussing the powers and the youths from the other families.

His entire group of harem listened to him while looking at him.

"How good~~~"

On the other side, three voices filled with a bit of yearning simultaneously resounded out before their expressions froze when they heard each other. They looked at each other and saw that they sat in a triangle, but in those three, two of them recognized each other.

It was none other than Tanya Frostblight and Dalila Leehan. Their eyes were wide as they saw each other's expressions. Their cheeks instantly adopted a shade of crimson, but then, they were confused as they saw the third woman and simultaneously asked.

"Who are you?"

"Me...?"

A young black-haired woman with a black veil and a robe of the Twilight Physician Hall spoke.

"I'm called Lerissa, and I'm a core disciple from the Twilight Physician Hall, but none of that matters because I'm an avid follower of Davis Alstreim and his way of doing things. After all, he even dared to slap a Zlatan Family youth like it was nothing...!"

"Shh...! You're too loud...!" Dalila Leehan raised her hand to her lips as her lips twitched, "Do you want them to hear you!?"

"I don't care~" Lerissa shrugged.

Dalila Leehan sighed at this braindead follower before she cast a momentary glance at Davis.

"So he really is an Alstreim..."

"Well, no one is sure, but I think so."

"I think so too!"

Lerissa cheerfully replied as she smiled, appearing as if she was an innocent lady who fell for his vile charms.

Dalila Leehan and Tanya Frostblight looked at the current him. Previously, he only had two women, but now, how did it grow into six? If this was the case, doesn't it mean that they had a chance but failed to grasp it in the past?

"Dalila, you're here..."

Dalila Leehan abruptly turned to look back and saw her friend Nora Alstreim.

"What ... ?"

Her lips opened agape behind her veil before she looked at Davis and the woman who sat behind him and beside the woman called Sophie Alstreim. She then returned her gaze back to Nora.

Becoming speechless, she slightly pointed towards that person whose eyes and forehead appeared similar to Nora and asked.

"Who's that then ...?"

Nora's expression slightly faltered.

"Uh, she's kind of like my little sister."

"Oh, your cousin from some distant place...?"

"You could say that..." Nora wryly smiled as she sat beside her.

"I'm sorry~"

Dalila Leehan placed a hand on her shoulder, her eyes looking as if she was consoling while Nora's brows twitched.

'Could it be that she misunderstood that I went for Davis instead of his father, who never appeared on the scene?'

She always felt as if it was the case but basically confirmed it right now.

"It's fine..."

She could only let it stay that way because she was told not to make their existences public since it might reveal their origin from the Forsaken Phoenix Realm.

"Still, your Thousand Pill Palace is generous as always, giving away the Law Tree Fruit like that..."

Nora bit her lips. She wanted to obtain such a reward before for her grandpa, but it was unknown if she would even be called out to battle.

"Generous?" Dalila Leehan looked as if she had heard something incredulous, "Nora, it's obvious that we couldn't win battles as we concentrate on alchemy. So we give out rewards and show our wealth to talents. This is how we battle and attract talents to protect and grow our power, unlike you all who showcase your cultivation prowess to attract talents."

"Right..."

Nora wryly laughed when abruptly a familiar voice echoed out.

"Youngsters!"

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim spoke.

"This is your time to shine and obtain a Law Tree Fruit by showcasing your Essence Gathering Cultivation! The Vital Tempering Sect is allowed to use their Body Tempering Cultivation since it is their main, but in that case, they're not allowed to use their Essence Gathering Cultivation for fairness."

"The rules were already made clear before. No killing and no blaming in case something happens that also happens to be your fault. The youths participating must be within the age limit of a hundred, and since this is a challenger's struggle until the best appears, anyone can come forward and challenge a power! Now, please come forward and issue a challenge!"

He gestured to the Emperor Grade Platform that was actually pulled out of Thorus Zlatan's spatial ring and waited.

In a few seconds, the atmosphere became silent and expectant before a person from a certain power stepped forward and landed on the battle platform.

It was a youth from the Twilight Physician Hall.

"I, Bram Hisler, challenge the Alstreim Family to a fair battle!"

Everyone's expression became a bit amused.

As expected, some of the powers here wanted to humiliate the Alstreim Family and didn't spare any face, sending a top disciple in the first round to battle them!

Chapter 1524 - So Be It

Ancestor Dian Alstreim looked at the blatant provocation. Typically, one wouldn't challenge the host, especially not in the first battle. However, he openly scoffed as his voice echoed out.

"Haha! Seems like some powers think that it's easy to bully my Alstreim Family. Very well, I'll show you the difference between our family's youngsters. Davis, I'll leave these arrogant people to your arrogance. That's the best medicine they can get for their overfed ego."

"...!"

Almost everyone's head turned in sync. Suddenly getting all the attention to himself, Davis blinked.

Was Ancestor Dian Alstreim praising him or cursing him?

Nevertheless, he shook his head as he stood up. Evelynn and Natalya, who held his arms a bit intimately, let him go. They watched his back while he headed towards the battle platform.

"Wait!"

A voice abruptly echoed out, causing Davis to stop below the battle platform when he was about to fly up. He looked towards the source of the voice and asked.

"What is it?"

The one who interrupted was none other than Ancestor Gong Kim-II. He furrowed his brows to Davis's lack of respect but still spoke as he pointed at him and looked at Ancestor Dian Alstreim.

"First of all, what is this person's true identity? Is he an Alstreim or not? Just the blonde hair isn't enough to answer."

Ancestor Dian Alstreim furrowed his brows at that comment. He was about to reply harshly before a voice suddenly echoed.

"You don't need to worry."

Davis's lips curved, "I have the blood of the Alstreim Family, so I'm more than qualified to be battling for them. It's just I belong to the Dragon Queen's power, but it doesn't matter as long as I have their blood,

does it? After all, this power is named the Alstreim Family, and as long as I'm not exiled, I'm still part of the family even if I belong to another power."

"Huh?" Ancestor Gong Kim-II scoffed, "That not how it works..."

Davis's brows furrowed in annoyance. Looks like they knew of his abilities that they're rather scared to face him in a younger generation battle.

"Hngg! How dare they limit him!?"

On the spectator side, Dalila Leehan and Tanya Frostblight looked at Lerissa, clenching her teeth in anger behind her veil. They couldn't help but ask.

"How will your Twilight Physician Hall's Top Disciple Brim Hisler fair against Davis?"

"Of course, that Brim idiot would lose to Davis in an instant without a doubt!"

Dalila Leehan and Tanya Frostblight wryly giggled, not knowing whether they should believe this braindead follower or not. She even dared to call her own power's top disciple an idiot, making them wonder if she was fine in the head.

Could it be that she personally hated Brim Hisler?

Nevertheless, it was one thing if it was a battle of Body Tempering Cultivation or Soul Forging Cultivation, but for Essence Gathering Cultivation, how is it possible for Davis to win?

It was clear that he was exceptional in Essence Gathering Cultivation as well since he conjured a Superior Law Manifestation, but that was a matter that occurred just a few years ago.

Now, he was actually at the Law Dominion Stage.

Davis's transition into the Law Dominion Stage from Low-Level Law Manifestation Stage was just too quick in the eyes of the public.

It was just recently that he had revealed a Superior Law Manifestation, so how could he have a higher-tiered domain when he broke through so soon unless his law comprehension was not only good but also incredibly fast?

He was already extremely talented in Soul Forging Cultivation, so how could he be so monstrous in Essence Gathering Cultivation?

It just didn't make sense to them.

Davis couldn't help but laugh.

"Damn, you people are so scared of me winning this contest in a blink of an eye. I wouldn't be using my Body Tempering Cultivation, so why bother blocking me?"

"Hmph!" Ancestor Gong Kim-Il snorted, "Who said that we are scared of you? You can compete, but you must officially join the Alstreim Family. You are on the border of becoming eligible, so since your position is ambiguous, I must say that you lack the complete qualifications to enter the battle."

"So why can the Dragon Families join then? If I'm not capable of joining, then they shouldn't be able to join as well."

"That's..." Ancestor Gong Kim-Il's expression flickered, "That's because they declared that they don't want the Law Tree Fruit. As long as you say you don't want it, you'll gain the qualifications to showcase your skills."

"Ah, your greedy mind is after the Law Tree Fruit."

Davis nodded.

"So be it. I don't want the Law Tree Fruit."

"...?"

His reply made numerous eyes blink, even a few jaws drop. Ancestor Gong Kim-II was about to berate him for slandering him, but then he too became dumbfounded.

Ancestor Gong Kim-II gnashed his teeth as he spoke.

"Still, you only made this clear at this moment, so you would have to sit this one out and join the next battle."

They must absolutely have the first win in order to humiliate the Alstreim Family. He could not settle over any other decision.

"Heh, since it is clear that you are extremely afraid, I guess it's better for me to stay this one out until I find a better opponent who can at least struggle against me. After all, there's no point in bullying a weak cultivator."

"What arrogance...!" Ancestor Gong Kim-II clenched his fists in anger.

Davis merely chuckled, moved his gaze, and gave a good look at Brim Hisler, who coldly looked at him before Davis's smile widened even more. He turned around and raised his brows at Evelynn.

However, Evelynn shook her head with a calm smile.

"Husband, as much as I would like to battle, this isn't my place. Don't we already have two people who belong to the Alstreim Family who is more eligible to battle according to them?"

Her voice melodiously echoed, attracting the attention of the crowd while they blinked.

"Haha, right."

Davis kept his smile, becoming heartened. With this kind of lineup of powerhouses, Evelynn was absolutely unfazed. She would be scared as hell in the past, but now, there wasn't a semblance of nervousness in her face or heart. His gaze then moved behind her.

"Sophie, you heard your big sister. I think this is a good place to test your skills, no?"

"Me...?"

Sophie was not scared to showcase her skills as she had many times had to do so when she concocted pills and forged weapons, but in this case, where many powerhouses were present, her confidence hadn't reached such a level for her to allow to be unimpeded. She might experience nervousness, but that was it.

She stepped forward without saying another word and flew towards Davis, who stood below the platform.

He raised his hand to the side as if waiting to tag before Sophie understood as she clapped his hand and jumped onto the battle platform.

"Ahahaha! This is the first time I'm seeing a man letting his woman fight for him!"

Davis turned to look at Ancestor Gong Kim-II, who mockingly laughed at him before he condescendingly smirked.

"I'm sorry that my women aren't decorations like yours."

"Ahahah-"

A bunch of laughter echoed from the place where the youngsters sat before they hurriedly shut their mouths. However, there was still one girl laughing as she held her stomach.

Everyone's expression fell on Lerissa. Only then did she shut her mouth but still possessed that mocking smile on her face. Fortunately, it wasn't visible but everyone could see her eyes curving when one smiles.

Nora Alstreim, Dalila Leehan, and Tanya Frostblight were dumbfounded by this woman called Lerissa. Was this woman crazy?

Davis's women were also laughing, but they were his women, so they had the gall and justification to laugh, but her? She was courting death!

Ancestor Kain Bloodlife of the Twilight Physician Hall saw one of his core disciples still have a mocking expression on her face. He became angered but didn't say anything, thinking of dealing with her later, but on the other hand, Ancestor Gong Kim-Il's expression became disturbed as he felt quite a bit of humiliation burning his face.

"Kim-II, don't bicker with a child. You're the one who's going to end up wasting time in a standoff when there are so many other powerhouses present to protect him."

Ancestor Gong Hyun-Ki's voice echoed in his mind, making him clench his teeth from frustration.

Did this brat think that he was invincible just because the Dragon Queen was with him? If it weren't for the Dragon Families present here and their attitude towards him unknown, he felt like he would've outright killed him!

Chapter 1525 - Twilight Physician Hall's Top Disciple

"Hmph!"

Ancestor Gong Kim-II simply harrumphed and flicked his sleeves as he sat down in mid-air.

Brim Hisler looked at Sophie Alstreim as his brows narrowed.

"Just because you think you have reached Law Dominion Stage, you can challenge me? Ridiculous...! Even your family's best Nora Alstreim isn't my opponent!"

He hissed as if he was deeply offended by the Alstreim Family assigning a woman to battle him. However, he smirked and commented.

"It seems like the Alstreim Family's men are too scared to battle that they send off their women to fight their battles..."

"Ahahaha!"

The crowd burst into a fit of laughter while the Alstreim Family youths and elders felt their faces burn.

However, on the battle platform, Sophie's expression froze.

The small nervousness she had in her heart also disappeared with this insult. Only a cold light remained in her purple eyes that seethed with a bit of killing intent against this Brim Hisler.

Grand Elder Krax Alstreim appeared worried for his granddaughter. He couldn't understand why Davis would send her when she was weak with her ability to go on offense. He knew this because Sophie concentrated on support professions like blacksmithing and alchemy from a young age.

How could her battle skills be high? How could it be possible for her to match a top disciple of another power?

On the other hand, Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim, who acted as the referee, looked at Davis and confirmed that he was absolutely calm despite sending one of his women to battle. After all this time of being swung around like a twig, he knew better not to underestimate this brat's schemes and strength.

Just before he could raise his voice to echo the start of the match, a melodious yet cold voice interrupted.

"What does that mean, Brim Hisler? Are you telling us that we maidens can't protect ourselves?"

Sect Master Bing Luli's voice echoed.

Brim Hisler practically felt his heart skip a beat as Sect Master Bing Luli targeted him. He wanted to forcefully answer, but he found himself at a loss, opening and closing his mouth as if he was a clown from the sheer icy pressure he faced.

"Yes, without the gracious support of the Four Righteous Sects, you would not be able to protect yourselves as an exclusive power."

Ancestor Gong Kim-Il's voice echoed, considerably lessening the pressure on Brim Hisler. Hearing his words, Sect Master Bing Luli was just about to retort, but he continued.

"Tell me, is there any kind of female-only sect in the wicked path? No. Why? Because they can't protect themselves. The same way, without the Four Great Righteous Sects, you female-only sects truly can't protect yourselves. Like it or not, you need to become the strongest, or you need a man who is willing to give up his life to protect you."

"Luli'er, you know that's reality, so don't bother fighting against it just because you don't like it. Instead, become the strongest, as he said, and shut up their mouths. Getting to the peak of the cultivation world should be your focus."

Sect Master Bing Luli blinked before she agreed.

"Yes, Ancestor Xia Yun."

"Hehe, peak? If you could reach that, then your power wouldn't have been a Small-Sized Territorries's Hegemon. The moment you step out of your power to strengthen yourself is when you will meet your tragic demise or come under a man's rule. Your three Ancestors understood that, and that's why they failed to go out and strengthen themselves even after they lived for a long period of time."

Sect Master Bing Luli didn't reply. She ignored him as if she had regained her complete composure.

Ancestor Xia Yun nodded her head in approval for Bing Luli's silence.

The people who were expecting a drama were let down, but instead, they looked forward to the battle as there was going to be another drama after this woman called Sophie is going to be defeated in an instant. They sneered as they waited for the result.

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim looked around and made sure no one wanted to open their mouths again. He raised his hands and swung vertically.

"Let the match begin!"

Sophie readied herself as she posed, but she didn't do anything

Brim Hisler felt like he had been made a fool from his previous display of being unable to answer that question. His expression slightly contorted in humiliation, but when he heard the referee's voice, he took a blood-red spear out of his spatial ring.

Low-Level King Grade undulations spread from his spear and matched with his Low-Level Law Dominion Stage undulations!

"I apologize beforehand if I hurt you, young lady. Today, I think I won't be able to hold back."

"Of course, you had just been humiliated. I think it's understandable."

Sophie made it clear with her words as she smirked, causing Brim Hisler's expression to twist.

"I take that apology back. Do you know what our Twilight Physician Hall excels at?"

"Healing people?"

"Indeed, we excel at healing people, but that also means that we know where to strike the human body to make their injuries fatal, resulting in their death when it would be nothing more than a small wound."

Vring!~~~

Sophie was also caught at the edge of it. She looked at the scale and confirmed that it was a domain with a kilometer radius, making it an Impeccable Domain, the third-tier of domains. As soon as the light covered her, she noticed a peculiarity in her body.

"Ahahaha! You noticed!? My suppression-type domain suppresses all your meridians, making it so that you would find it hard to be able to circulate your essence energy and even martial energy. Do you now know how terrifying I am and why am I a top disciple while you're a lowly core disciple? This is the reason. As soon as my attack lands on you, you're finished! Now surrender before you get hurt!"

Whoosh!~

Brim Hisler's figure flashed with white light. It instantly became evident that he trained in Light Laws. The next moment, he instantaneously appeared before her, plunging his blood-red spear towards her shoulders.

At the same time, Sophie's hands surged with essence energy as she created a fiery polearm and a single-edged blade. She manifested a glaive out of her flaming essence energy and struck the blood-red spear.

Crack!~

The blood-red spear shattered like it was a wooden spear, causing Brim Hisler's eyes to go wide when a kick abruptly appeared to his face.

Bang!~

Flames caught on to his face while he was sent flying like footwear. His expression contorted while disbelief was still written over his face, wondering how this woman could use her essence energy to that level when he blatantly suppressed her as if suppressing her with his soul.

"Watch out!"

Just when he realized it was his Ancestor's voice, he felt a piercing pain over his shoulder.

Puchi!~

The flaming glaive pierced into his shoulder, hammering him down on the battle platform. However, the flaming glaive could not pierce through the Emperor Grade Platform but grazed the floor and flipped, which ultimately split open his shoulder into a blood fountain.

But before the blood could even splash on the white surface of the battle platform, it quickly evaporated from the searing heat of her flames.

Brim Hisler clenched his teeth as he felt intense searing and splitting pain over his shoulder. The flames practically burned his wounds in an instant, making him want to scream atop of his lungs. However, he did not scream like a pig being slaughtered, much less raise his voice.

He laid down, looking at another flaming glaive pointed towards his forehead as his pupils trembled in fear and incredulity.

"What did you say? 'As soon as my attack lands on you, you're finished!' was it? Well, you don't even have such a chance. Now surrender before you get really hurt~"

Sophie held a newly conjured flaming glaive at him while her expression was indifferent as she repeated his words, looking like she was about to make him swallow his own words.

The crowd stood up in shock as they looked at the scene in incredulity.

She defeated him without even using a domain!? Just how was that possible!?

Ancestor Kain Bloodlife had a mortified look on his face and almost stood up. He never expected his top disciple to lose on the first round, much less the first exchange!

Furthermore, Brim Hisler was the strongest disciple he had in his power, so he couldn't understand how he could lose like this to a mere core disciple-level character!

It was an utter disgrace to his face and his power, the Twilight Physician Hall!

Chapter 1526 - First Blood?

Davis looked at Sophie's stance against her opponent. Not deadly but ruthless enough to cast a humiliating wound against Brim Hisler. His lips curved, grinning as he knew that this was an overwhelming victory for his girl.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim was also deeply shocked. This kind of power... how did Sophie manage to attain it?

He didn't quite remember her being this powerful!

Casting a glance at Davis, he knew this was his work.

Previously, he didn't say anything to Davis's ambiguous statement of both belonging to the Alstreim Family but not being a part of it. Instead, he even acknowledged with a nod to that statement because when Davis needed to escape, the Alstreim Family could just say that he did not belong to them, playing word games with the Dragon Families.

How would they dare touch the Alstreim Family then?

Maybe they would inflict injury, but further than that, they wouldn't dare try anything as long as the Four Great Righteous Sects looked after them.

Davis's words were as silly as they could sound, but with each word, he could feel that there was an underlying intent that always carved the path forward to his next action.

Now, he could see that he wasn't merely playing with his women. He was actually strengthening them as much as he got stronger. He already knew he loved his women, but to concentrate on all of them?

He certainly didn't think it was possible, at least not for him, who only loved one woman in his life. However, this made him find a newfound respect for Davis.

'This brat... He's aiming for something more difficult than conquering the Fifty-Two Territories...'

Ancestor Dian Alstreim could only ruefully shake his head but he didn't dislike this kind of unpopular ambition. He only hoped that it didn't let him down.

"You... What kind of trickery is this?"

Top Disciple Brim Hisler hissed in pain, his eyes trembling in the realization of defeat and the humiliation of it.

"Trickery?" Sophie's melodious voice was frigid, "Trying to falsely frame me after losing the battle? Unfortunately for you, everyone witnessed that I defeated you fair and square. The flaming glaive that I conjured was through my own essence energy, enough to both break your weapon and burn your body into cinders."

"How could it be possible!?"

He screamed in reluctance while Sophie narrowed her brows.

"How miserable! Can't you see the glaive I'm holding?"

The glaive dispersed before she waved her hand and summoned the glaive again instantaneously, pointing it at him.

Almost everyone became wide-eyed at her actions.

Despite Brim Hisler being on the ground, he still had his Impeccable Domain active that suppressed Sophie Alstreim's meridians which would make her unable to conjure most of her energy out of her body as it would scramble her meridians.

However, she acted as if it didn't have much of an effect on her as she quickly conjured a flaming glaive, making them dumbfounded again.

Just who was this woman!? Was the Alstreim Family hiding such a gem in secrecy!?

"Did you see?" Sophie coldly continued, "It was not through some talisman or other treasures I've never heard of, much less illusions. Now, accept defeat, or I will stab you for the insulting words you let out of your mouth. However, don't worry, you won't die. Instead, I'll take my time stabbing you until you scream for mercy."

She removed her flaming glaive away from him as she took a few steps back, looking at him with a wide yet icy smile on her face.

In truth, she was completely pissed off with that comment that insulted not only her family but also her man. She felt that the kick to his face and splitting his left shoulder wasn't enough to let him know her anger.

Brim Hisler's black pupils trembled in rage and disbelief. His hands trembled while he tried to summon a weapon into his hands, but he felt like he had no winning chance as he had never suffered defeat like this, not even to other top disciples of the same level.

He was about to stand up, but then he abruptly saw the coldness seeping into her eyes, making him experience a sudden chill.

'This woman... she's trying to humiliate me more...'

As soon as this thought entered his head, his muscles relaxed, his expression appeared already defeated, both mentally and physically.

He had already sat up at this moment, holding his shoulder as his light energy began to heal his wounds.

Sophie stood there, just allowing it to happen as it wasn't her concern, but then he found out that he couldn't heal his burn injuries as quickly and as much as he thought he could!

His lips quivered as he looked at the ground.

"I... I admit defeat."

Sophie's expression froze.

Only after hearing this piece was she able to come out of her cruel intent to burn him more.

"If this weren't a contest, I would've killed you for the words you uttered against my family. You escaped death, didn't you?"

She coldly asked, looking at him with disdain.

Brim Hisler didn't dare to raise his head, but he could imagine the mocking expression on her face.

A heart demon abruptly encroached upon him, shackling his future advances unless he could truly accept this defeat!

Ancestor Kain Bloodlife's expression was full of rage, but he could only gnash his teeth, cursing both Brim Hisler for his ineptitude and Sophie for her abnormal power in his mind.

On the other hand, Grand Elder Krax Alstreim looked at his granddaughter who dominated the stage. He couldn't believe what he saw with his eyes.

Originally, he felt that Sophie would not hold on against a top disciple for a few attacks, much less win, but contrary to his expectations, she overwhelmed him as if she was fighting with an average Peak-Level Law Manifestation Stage Cultivator.

He couldn't believe the scene he was seeing, but with reality placed in front of him, he felt immensely proud. His gaze moved from Sophie to Davis, appearing to be even more proud.

His granddaughter's growth... Who other than Davis could be responsible for her current strength?

His mind trembled with this revelation!

Fortunately, he didn't interfere with this battle, nor did he plan to because, according to him, when a woman chose a man of her own volition, she chose that life for herself.

Sophie chose Davis, so he was in no way about to interfere with her personal life anymore. She belonged to Davis and tied her fate along with him. As long as she didn't face any life-threatening danger, then he didn't want to interfere in her new life.

Although she may not be married to Davis, he could see that she was a far cry from her previous self, and no stupid man would spend resources to strengthen a woman if he was not intent on taking her as his woman unless he had another motive or gratitude towards that said woman.

Davis possessed no gratitude towards his granddaughter, so he only wished that it wasn't some kind of devious and ulterior motive but genuine love he held for her.

While the crowd calmed down, Brim Hisler already left the battle platform with his head lowered.

"With Twilight Physician Hall's Top Disciple Brim Hisler admitting defeat, Sophie Alstreim has gained the victory, making the Alstreim Family win this challenge!"

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim declared with a smirk on his face.

As he expected, Davis knew what he was doing.

Hearing the referee's voice, Sophie turned around and walked towards her man with an expectant smile on her face.

However...

"Halt!

A youthful voice and a thud echoed behind her.

She turned her body, looking at the newcomer. His head was full of black hair flowing down till his waist while he wore the robe of the Vital Tempering Sect. Not only was he handsome, but he radiated a manly charm about his bearing.

"I challenge you, Sophie Alstreim of the Alstreim Family!" These words came out of his mouth, causing Sophie's brows to raise.

"Woah!!!"

It was Gong Kim-Jin, the strongest top disciple of the Vital Tempering Sect who was said to have the best chances to win the Nine Western Territories Young Expert Competition.

She moved her gaze and saw that most of the top disciples and even the core disciples gathered had entered the Law Dominion Stage.

"I find it weird that you're all at Law Dominion Stage. How-"

"Didn't you hear?" Gong Kim-Jin appeared confused, "The rules of the Nine Western Territories Young Expert Competition somewhat changed and have been made official. Law Dominion Stage Cultivators are also allowed, but the age limit is a hundred and ten, so the sooner you increase your cultivation level, the better you can obtain a better spot in that tournament. Instead, I'm wondering why your family's Nora Alstreim is still in the Law Manifestation Stage. So it turns out you people didn't know..."

"Such a thing... is ridic-."

However, Sophie stopped and quickly recalled that she stayed in the Purple Guest Palace, either finding time to be romantic with Davis or practicing cultivation. She didn't bother with the outside world at all.

On the other hand, she knew that Nora Alstreim was with her family, so the competition mattered less to her these days.

"Doesn't this mean I have a valid chance of entering the top five... no, the top three?"

Suddenly realizing the implications, Sophie's rosy lips curved in amus.e.m.e.nt.

Chapter 1527 - Strongest Youth?

"Top three?" Top Disciple Gong Kim-Jin laughed, "You mean you're third while I'm first, right? Of course, our Beauty Mu Bing would be second. Hehe..."

His words indicated that he acknowledged her power but still looked down on her. Nevertheless, Top Disciple Mu Bing, who was seated alone like a solitary figure, acted like she didn't hear his words.

People were taken aback by her beauty and bearing, immediately fantasizing about her.

"No, both of you aren't going to be in the top three. That's for sure."

Sophie giggled, causing Gong Kim-Jin to wryly laugh, looking not at all bothered. Meanwhile, she turned around as her voice resounded.

"My love, can I have this chance to prove that he's none the wiser?"

Davis didn't care about battling these weaklings. Instead, he turned his head to look at Niera but saw her shaking her head. He smiled and returned his gaze back to Sophie.

"Go ahead, sweetheart."

Sophie widely smiled as she received his permission. Moreover, he even called her sweetheart in the eyes of the public, making her feel enormously excited. Her whole body felt like it was overflowing with energy.

Looking at her tremble as if overreacting, Evelynn and the others giggled, but the guests were dumbfounded.

Just a while ago, some of the relatively young confident ones with Law Sea Stage Cultivation had set their sights on her, but her asking permission from Davis Alstreim clearly indicated her loyalty to him.

How many talented women did this bloke have!?

Such a talent was willing to become his woman even though he looked like he had many fawning over him right at this moment!?

Their eyes practically burned with fury and jealousy!

However, they became confused.

Was Davis Alstreim crazy? This was Gong Kim-Jin they were talking about!

Defeating him wouldn't be as easy as defeating Top Disciple Brim Hisler.

Hearing Davis and Sophie's exchange, Grand Elder Krax Alstreim nearly cried. It was now joyfully obvious to him that Sophie had successfully gained Davis's favor and became his woman.

However, on the other hand, Top Disciple Gong Kim-Jin's expression became a bit difficult, as if he found this scene hard to swallow. He could see that Sophie appeared to be Davis's woman, but did she truly cross that line?

He didn't know and wanted to try.

"Make her suffer. Don't care about the consequences."

A soul transmission fell on Gong Kim-Jin's mind, causing him to feel bad. He too began to have his eyes on Sophie Alstreim, but it looks like Ancestor Gong Kim-II wants Davis's woman to suffer and, as a result, humiliate the Alstreim Family.

He looked at the dome, sighed, and shook his head.

"I apologize, Ancestor. Originally, I came expecting a face-off with the Alstreim Family's men. Unless this woman had done something wrong, I wouldn't intentionally harm her."

He sent back a soul transmission and posed for battle as he heard Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim's voice echo to announce the start of the battle.

"You...!"

Ancestor Gong Kim-II trembled as he inwardly cursed.

How dare this child go against his wishes!?

Sophie wasn't aware of this exchange as she readied herself, but Davis and the other Ancestors were aware of their soul transmissions, although they weren't aware of the content. Nevertheless, Davis and the two Ancestors went into caution mode so as to not let Sophie be subjected to external harm.

"Miss Sophie. I have no wives, much less any woman who I'm willing to spend my life with unless I approve of her. Will you consider taking my hand in marriage if I win against you?"

"Nope~"

"Woa- What!?"

The audience was just about to explode from hearing this sudden confession before they were taken aback by Sophie's quick response.

Gong Kim-Jin had just seemingly confessed that he acknowledged Sophie Alstreim and wanted her as his wife, but he ended up being quickly rejected?

What the...!?

Even Gong Kim-Jin seemed to be visibly taken aback by Sophie's spontaneous rejection. He blinked before he sighed.

"Certainly, I could not match Davis Alstreim's physical prowess at the moment. No wonder I was rejected."

"You'll still get rejected no matter how strong you become, so don't go imagining that you have even the least bit of chance with me."

Sophie frowned as she continued, "Also, I'm warning you. If you ask about this again, then I will take it as an offense."

"I see, that's a pity. I didn't know that you have truly given yourself to Davis Alstreim, so I apologize."

Gong Kim-Jin relaxed his posture and clasped his hands in apology before he returned to his battle pose. Sophie also nodded, accepting his apology.

"Then, here I come!"

Whoosh!~

Gong Kim-Jin rushed towards her. He dashed halfway before he leaped, creating an immense momentum as he quickly closed the distance.

Sophie conjured the same flaming glaive from the palm of her hands. Looking at his incoming figure, she held the polearm with both her hands and raised it, blocking his fist.

The impact created a loud reverberation, but neither of them ended up moving an inch. The fist struck the polearm of the flaming glaive, but it seemed to be fine with no amount of burning damage inflicted on it.

Everyone became flabbergasted.

This kind of physical might.

Wasn't it at the Seventh Stage!? They momentarily couldn't understand!

"Oh?" Gong Kim-Jin became visibly impressed, "Your essence energy was able to withstand my physical might? Marvelous! You should then watch out for my martial energy!"

Whizz!~

His fist turned into a black shade of iron while metallic energy radiated around him. His fist pulled back ever so lightly before he instantaneously struck. That single punch carried immense force that was concentrated on a single point as it exploded onto its target.

Boom!~

The solidified essence energy flaming glaive shattered from the center while Sophie flew back elegantly from the force pushing her away before she landed, looking unharmed while the transparent veil she wore slowly swayed, revealing her beautiful face before it covered her again.

"What!? Gong Kim-Jin also entered the Martial Master Stage despite having a Law Dominion Stage Cultivation!?"

The crowd went buzzing in disbelief.

Wasn't Gong Kim-Jin said to be at the Sixth Stage in Body Tempering Cultivation!? How could he improve so soon!?

Wouldn't this make him an outstanding bi-cultivator!?

However, Gong Kim-Jin didn't stop following her. He was momentarily taken aback by her beauty when he was on the move, but he didn't stop his attacks. Although he said that he wouldn't intentionally harm her, he still had to win this fight, or else he knew that Ancestor Gong Kim-II, his great grandfather, wouldn't forgive him and whoop his ass!

His fist covered with his metallic martial energy reached her as he punched again.

Shhh!~

Sophie instantly created another flaming glaive and defended against his punch.

Boom!~

His fist struck her polearm again. However, it didn't break like before.

Moving the flaming glaive sideways to defend, Gong Kim-Jin's kick struck the polearm and shattered the flaming glaive. However, Sophie retreated using the momentum and landed without even experiencing so much as a single injury.

Whoosh!~

Gong Kim-Jin didn't let her gain much distance. He quickly followed suit and punched, but Sophie was quicker this time. She had instantaneously created that similar-looking flaming glaive and swung it down.

Clang!~

They clashed!

Flames and sparks flew from their clash, making their surroundings brighten up with a yellowish-orange glow! They moved back and swung once again, clashing with their fist and glaive.

Clang!~

Clang!~

Clang!~

Their weapons repeatedly met, creating metallic sounds that resounded throughout the battle platform and made them appear breathtaking to the crowd!

Sophie didn't use any battle techniques, but she did indeed use her movement technique to move spontaneously and gracefully at the same time. Her footwork left Gong Kim-Jin in the dust and let her have an edge, but as people expected, Sophie's flaming glaive from condensed essence energy broke again.

"Haha, see that? Even though this woman is exceptional, she still could not measure up to Gong Kim-Jin's fighting sense and skills, much less martial strength."

"Ah, I was hoping to see her defeat him. It would've become completely sensational..."

"What? How can it be!?"

A male youth and a female youth in the spectator seats spoke and argued, which kicked off a discussion about martial cultivators faring against essence-gathering cultivators, making them almost get into a fight before it was suppressed by their elders interfering.

Chapter 1528 - Testing Skills

Martial cultivators were different from essence-gathering cultivators.

Their attacking force was mostly superior when both sides were average at their cultivations. Their pure physical might sometimes even matched that of cultivators with average essence energy, while martial energy matched their highest concentration of essence energy, so what if martial energy was condensed and used to strike?

Wouldn't martial energy have the upper hand in a close quarters fight?

Considering Gong Kim-Jin's prowess, it was quite clear that he could even fight against a Mid-Level Martial Master Stage Cultivator and struggle for some time against a High-Level Martial Master Stage Cultivator.

If he combined his Essence Gathering Cultivation which was also said to be exceptional, with his Body Tempering Cultivation, then it was no doubt that he could battle with High-Level Seventh Stage Cultivators like core disciples and even kill them!

Compared to Top Disciple Brim Hisler, he was indeed exceptional.

The crowd couldn't help thinking that it was no wonder that Gong Kim-Jin was said to be the most expected and favored candidate to win the Nine Western Territories Young Expert Competition!

Clang!~

Crack!~

Clang!~

Sophie kept creating new glaives as she struck him and dodged his attacks simultaneously, battling him with grace and artistic movements.

Gong Kim-Jin seemed to have the upper hand despite Sophie's attempt to strike back. Each fist he made overwhelmed Sophie before she somehow managed to find her footing and defend against him, leaving him craving for more fight.

He had never met a peer who could exchange fists with him like this and still stand, moving gracefully like a heavenly swan.

But soon, he was starting to find her ridiculous.

With each flaming glaive he broke, she quickly conjured one again, making him both excited but annoyed. Yet, it seemed almost as if the flaming glaives were becoming stronger and stronger as time passed by, making him incredibly confused as to what the limit of her strength is!

Looking at her calmness, it could be mistaken as internal suppression of panic, and hearing the people jeering at her for acting pompous against him, he snorted at those fools.

Clearly, they couldn't tell that this woman hid her strength. But he, on the other hand, wanted to see the limit of her strength!

"Sophie Alstreim! Why are you holding back like this!? Am I not powerful enough to make you go all out!?

Gong Kim-Jin stopped attacking her as he stopped to ask, his voice resounding in the Grand Wedding Hall.

"What ... ?"

"Did he just say 'all out' to her?"

"Does this mean she is still holding back? I heard that she was a blacksmith and an alchemist and so didn't know any battle techniques, but it seems like..."

The youngsters were all taken aback before they began discussing this revelation. Even the Eighth Stage Experts appeared fairly taken aback, but the Ninth Stage Powerhouses looked solemn as if seriously considering Sophie's true power.

Sophie had already readied herself for another strike, but looking at her opponent stop and question her, she became confused.

"Huh? I'm testing my skills while battling against a top disciple like you, as my love asked me to, but then, why are you asking me to go all out? Even you are not qualified to face my true power. So why should I?"

Sophie's voice echoed, causing the expression of the guests to stiffen!

"Testing skills...?"

Gong Kim-Jin's lips twitched as he asked.

This woman... Her footwork was fine, but her skills in controlling the glaive were lacking. Is that what she meant by testing skills? She was practicing, randomly swinging, and defending against him with her glaive all this time while he seriously fought her, giving respect to her prowess, even almost falling in love at first sight?

He was actually a chivalrous person, but a vein popped out of his head at the moment, feeling himself become humiliated by her words.

"Fine, I'll show you who you're dealing with..."

He somberly uttered as his essence energy flared!

Blackish-brown energy began to swirl around him as he used both his essence and martial energy combined. His prowess instantly grew a lot more by the second before it stopped at High-Level Seventh Stage!

The closed mouths of the youngsters went agape!

Crossing two levels in the Law Dominion Stage wasn't easy at all.

Having an Impeccable Domain doesn't make them cross two levels but using it makes them cross two levels! But in this situation, without even using his domain, Gong Kim-Jin achieved the prowess of crossing two levels to fight!

Then what if he used his domain?

Their minds truly couldn't help but tremble while even some Eighth Stage Experts raised their brows in shock at his power.

"This energy..."

Sophie's eyes also went wide as she looked at Gong Kim-Jin. Her reaction allowed him to regain his pride and confidence, but then he saw her shake her head. He chuckled at her disbelief, about to show her what he was made of, when her voice echoed again.

"Truly weak. I still won't use my full strength."

"You...!?"

Three more stifled veins popped up on his forehead.

Gong Kim-Jin's expression was no longer amicable. This woman was blatantly humiliating him when she didn't have the strength to back it up.

Thud!~

Taking a step forward, he rushed towards her again, taking the same martial stance as he used his fist to punch!

Boom!~

The metal-like pounding sounds shook the hearts of many people while they watched the helpless woman freeze in its wake.

Many powerhouses narrowed their eyes at this moment, seemingly expectant to see Sophie's true power. After all, in their eyes, she wasn't helpless but calm, perhaps even confident.

The moment the brownish-black wave of metallic energy crashed onto Sophie, it engulfed her whole, seemingly erasing her entire existence.

The eyes of many characters popped wide open in disbelief.

Surely, she couldn't have been just standing there, willing to take it head-on like a fool!?

Just when Ancestor Dian Alstreim panicked that she might truly be put in a spot, that vicious and heavy-looking brownish-black wave abruptly had a hole blown through it as Sophie escaped.

In her hand was a two-meter long and one meter wide hammer, blazing with her flames. She quickly closed the distance and held the hammer with two hands, lifting it up all the way.

Gong Kim-Jin had just been full of smiles while looking at her being encased in his attack that would weigh her down and explode on her in intervals, causing her to be unable to defend against it with her meager skill, but she punctured a hole in it and escaped, towering above before she brought that hammer down on him.

His scalp turned numb at that exact moment, causing him to finally no longer hold back!

"Domain!~"

He screamed as a one kilometer radius brownish domain instantly engulfed her along with him! He raised both of his hands, sand and earth forming on top of his head when that flaming hammer finally landed on his head!

Bang!~

Gong Kim-Jin's knees caved in as his kneecaps shattered! The strength of Sophie's hammer swing was unimaginable to him as even his eyes were about to roll back from the sheer impact. Flames descended on him but with his earth essence energy protecting him, he remained unharmed but shaken.

Nevertheless, he managed to stay conscious and opened his mouth.

"Ahhh!!!!"

He screamed as he pushed her back along with her hammer, using up all his strength along with his domain's mountainous aura and strength to finally push her a few meters back. He swiftly took a deep breath and retreated to a kilometer away, looking at her in incredulity while his arms trembled, but it was unknown if it was from the impact or from fear.

Still, his expression was full of disbelief.

She... she was still using her Low-Level Law Dominion Stage Cultivation, and yet, how could her energy compare to his prowess that should've completely reached High-Level Seventh Stage!?

'She... has she conjured a Supreme Domain!?'

However, she hadn't even used her domain, so how could she be so powerful!?

"Well, a piercing and searing blade like my glaive can slice you like cutting vegetables. It would be bad, so this hammer should be enough to crush you a bit instead..."

Sophie grinned at Gong Kim-Jin as she waved around her flaming hammer, seemingly testing its might.

"Sophie, that's enough. I got bored, so finish him with your full strength."

Davis laughed, but inwardly, he felt that someone might use this situation to harm her, so he told her to finish this battle.

"Full strength!?"

Sophie's body froze as she turned to look at Davis.

"Yes, you can use your full strength. There's no need to hold back anymore."

Hearing his permission, Sophie felt crazy.

Was it really okay to reveal her full power? Wouldn't that make her vulnerable in the long run!?

"Don't worry. You're already being coveted, so go all out."

His voice echoed in her head, making her eyes go wide into moon-like saucers. She licked and moved her lips.

"Domain~"

Gong Kim-Jin had just taken a breather, feeling glad that Davis interrupted even though he had seen him as a rival, but suddenly, he saw a crimson world engulf him. Surrounding him were wisps of flames, swaying within the wind as if they were going to extinguish.

But then...

Swish!~

They all rose into flames, abruptly transforming into armaments in an instant.

First, he saw that damned flaming glaive, and then the hateful flaming hammer behind him. However, looking around, he saw them number in the dozens. That's not counting the hundreds of other armaments, ranging from spears to swords, poles, bows and arrows, scythes, daggers, and all kinds of weapons!

All of them were blazing with intense flames, ready to crush him into bits and burn him into ashes!

Gong Kim-Jin's black pupils trembled, deep fear and disbelief embedding into him as he felt like he was trapped in a life or death situation since the armaments around him all radiated peak-level seventh stage might.

No, even higher!

Chapter 1529 - Being Coveted

Crack!~

The brownish earth domain collapsed, becoming unable to sustain its presence after its conjurer stood dumbfounded without daring to do anything. His eyes only appeared to be staring at the silhouette of the proud swan above.

Sophie had her hands spread out while her domain covered the battle platform and her opponent, Gong Kim-Jin. She exuded a proud and imposing aura as her domain full of blazing armaments shattered his one kilometer radius Impeccable Domain and checkmated him.

Excluding Davis and his women, everyone in the Grand Wedding Hall almost had their eyes pop out as they saw the magnificent crimson domain that they had never seen in their lives, probably not even once except the Ninth Stage Powerhouses who had gone to the Large-Sized Territories to view the magnificence of their geniuses.

Even then...

"This... is a Perfect Domain!?"

Gong Kim-II stood up as he screamed atop of his lungs in incredulity when he recognized the size and the sheer prowess of it. Beside him, Ancestor Gong Hyun-Ki also had a similar look of disbelief. The other Ninth Stage Powerhouses also possessed similar expressions on their faces, appearing like they couldn't believe what they saw as they slowly stood up.

There was an unabated world of silence except for the blazing sounds of the thousands of armaments in Sophie's three and a half kilometer domain, threatening to strike her opponent in an instant.

"Well, are you going to surrender, or should I attack? Although, I can't guarantee if you will survive my perfect domain's onslaught."

Gong Kim-Jin came out of his reverie upon hearing her voice and s.u.c.k.e.d in a deep breath of cold air, but the air inside was searingly hot, almost making him cough.

"I admit defeat..."

He went on his knees, giving rest to his broken kneecaps while he stared at the ground.

Win or lose? It didn't matter to him at the moment, not when the opponent was so overwhelmingly powerful like this that he almost doubted if he was facing a Large-Sized Territories' genius top disciple.

"Good!~"

Sophie flicked her sleeves, and her Perfect Domain disappeared as the blazing armaments faded away. This time, she didn't stay but instantly flew back to Davis as if wanting to feel safe from the scrutiny or possible attacks.

Woah!~~~

The crowd jumped up from their seats as their voices went abuzz.

"She has a Perfect Domain!?"

"Perfect Domain!!? Heck! What's that?"

"Dammit! Go ask someone else! You have no idea what you chanced upon in this nowhere!"

People began to bicker or convey their knowledge to the others while the whole Grand Wedding Hall instantly became abuzz in discussions. Many still glanced at Sophie as they listened. The more they heard about the legend of the Perfect Domain, the more they became awed and felt desiring of her.

Just recently they heard that a top disciple in the Burning Phoenix Ridge had achieved that kind of prowess which made her become a part of grand and sensational news that echoed throughout the Fifty-Two Territories, but what of this woman called Sophie?

How did she become so powerful!? How was she unknown!?

They began to quickly investigate, sending their men to the nearby All-Seeing Tower.

However, Grand Elder Krax Alstreim broke down and went to secretly cry in some corner. Never in his life did he expect Davis to have so much concern and love for her that he made her create a Perfect Domain.

But, while the Alstreim Family became full of uproar for their new powerful youth who seemingly overwhelmed their current Young Mistress, there were people who were already plotting against her.

Some wicked path people disguised as righteous path cultivators in the Grand Alstreim City had their jaws drop as they watched the live feed displayed all over the city.

Previously, they were already tempted to make a move on Sophie in a secretive manner regardless of her man or the Dragon Queen, but after witnessing her Perfect Domain, they completely forgot about her instead of targeting her more because she was no longer on their level anymore.

However, they didn't know how the Dragon Families would move after this, so they continued to watch with eagerness.

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim was just about to announce the results when an imposing voice abruptly echoed

"Sophie Alstreim. My Zlatan Family is willing to welcome you into becoming a part of us."

"My Orcha Family is willing..."

"Same here with my Ike Family."

"Seems like we are all of the same thought. My Domitian Family is also willing to invite you and make you even more powerful."

Thorus Zlatan, Sarax Orcha, Heztus Ike, and Kyris Domitian spoke without a pause as they competed for Sophie Alstreim. It could be seen that their eyes held an avid glint, but on the other hand, the youths behind them had eyes full of l.u.s.t.

As they were waiting for Sophie Alstreim's reply, the crowd went into another uproar before an annoyed voice echoed out.

"What nonsense?" Ancestor Dian Alstreim appeared angered, "Sophie Alstreim belongs to my Alstreim Family. I will not allow her to leave, so please refrain from inviting or coercing her."

"Hmph!" Thorus Zlatan narrowed his eyes, "Believe me when I say that you are simply not capable of nurturing her one in a billion talent, much less protecting her."

"True..."

"You better give her up before 'they' kidnap her."

"We are saying this for the good of your power and Sophie Alstreim's well-being."

Sarax Orcha, Heztus Ike, and Kyris Domitian spoke as if advising.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim merely smiled at their so-called good intentions before he spoke.

"If it's the worry that I will not be able to protect her, then there is no need. I believe my Alstreim Family is more than capable of protecting her."

"What arrogance...!"

Thorus Zlatan clenched his fist as his Low-Level Martial Overlord aura heavily weighed on the surroundings, silencing the murmurs of the crowd.

"Seems like you won't understand without experiencing it. I can just leave it saying 'so be it', but who would be the one to suffer?"

"Sophie Alstreim, you tell us if you're willing to choose one of the four of us. Who would dare to touch the Four Great Dragon Families? Your protection, well-being, and cultivation is nothing but guaranteed and smooth sailing!~"

At this moment, Natalya had already given her space for Sophie to be seated beside Davis. When Sophie heard their demand that sounded like a request, she shook her head.

"I belong where my beloved belongs."

Thorus Zlatan's expression froze while the others looked the same, including the guests, whose jaws dropped.

She was actually giving up such a proposition for a dude with many women!?

Sure, Davis Alstreim did seem to be an excellent groom for her but was she not aware that the Dragon Families had more of him but better within their ranks, even unmarried, making her capable of having that man all to herself with her current talent?

Thorus Zlatan raised his hand to stop other Dragon Family Powerhouses from lashing out. Instead, he answered.

"Don't worry. That brat is also coming with one of us after our Dragon Queen Isabella returns with us. You just have to choose one of us."

"In that case, there is still time. I'll choose whichever power Dragon Queen Isabella chooses, and my beloved follows." Sophie innocently smiled and grabbed Davis's hand, revealing that she was deeply in love with him.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim looked extremely angered as if he was going to release steam from his head while witnessing Sophie's disloyalty to the Alstreim Family but couldn't do anything about it in the presence of the Four Great Dragon Families. But, inwardly, he was laughing like hell.

On the other hand, Davis looked at the four Dragon Families with a cold stare.

He was about to give them a harsh beatdown in words even if it led to a real beatdown, but looking at Sophie diplomatically dealing with these overbearing powerhouses, he became impressed at her courage.

Nonetheless, looking at these Dragon Families acting as if they already had the Dragon Queen in the bag, he finally understood their thought process. Looks like they really thought everything was smoothly meshing according to their plans that they chose to wait for her. They did investigate, but if he gave them false information through that spy he enslaved and more of them, then they were going to believe that it was okay for them to be a bit patient.

Still, he was getting extremely annoyed by these Dragon Families constantly targeting his women. There was a limit to which he could endure, and after that, it didn't matter to him if it was life or death.

"If any one of you wants to target Sophie or my other women, then you have to go through my dead body first."

He gave a sound warning that made Thorus Zlatan raise his brows in half-amus.e.m.e.nt and half-surprise.

"Why does it sound like a threat?" He laughingly asked as he looked around, garnering laughter from the guests.

"Because it's a threat."

"Aha!" Thorus Zlatan looked deeply amused, "Brat, being careless and daring is a wonderful part of being youthful, but don't let it get yourself killed. Having Dragon Queen Isabella at your back doesn't mean you can do as you please."

Ahaha!~

Davis merely shook his head at the jeering crowd. He had already given the warning. It was their choice to heed it or not.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim inwardly scoffed as he heard them speak.

Davis was careless and daring?

He might accept the second comment, but this brat was the most cautious youngster he had ever seen in his life!

Chapter 1530 - Another Challenge?

The people present in the Grand Alstreim City were deeply astonished.

The Dragon Families had officially invited Sophie Alstreim to their powers, but she chose to stay and follow her man instead. Some lamented her idiotic decision and even scorned it, but some others respected her loyalty.

However, they all had one thing in common, and that was jealousy and resentment towards Davis Alstreim.

How can he be so shameless, obtaining their talented women when he appeared as if he supposedly trained with the Dragon Queen in the Large-Sized Territories!?

This was plundering their resources!

On the other hand, Dalila Leehan, who was in the spectator seats, and a few certain individuals who knew about Sophie's talent were still dumbfounded. They didn't believe that she was such a talent, but they had only seen her talent in alchemy and forging. They never knew that she was this powerful in battles and were left confused about her true talent.

Was she hiding it so perfectly that it fooled their eyes? Or was she...?

Dalila Leehan's eyes were full of suspicion that it fell on Davis in incredulity.

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim saw that the crowd had quietened down considerably after the Dragon Families tried to claim Sophie Alstreim. He relaxed and moved his lips.

"Since Gong Kim-Jin has admitted defeat, Sophie Alstreim claimed victory. However, since Gong Kim-Jin used both his Essence Gathering Cultivation and his Body Tempering Cultivation, he was already disqualified."

"What nonsense!?" Ancestor Gong Kim-II snorted, "I don't remember agreeing to that rule."

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim's cheeks twitched as he low-key smirked.

Indeed, this rule was instantly created and anonymously agreed upon amidst their powers to stop the Dragon Families from overpowering them in this competition to a shameful level, but it ended up limiting the Vital Tempering Sect instead.

After all, Body Tempering Cultivation was the main cultivation path for the Vital Tempering Sect. If they managed to cultivate their Essence Gathering Cultivation to an equal level, then it was their privilege to use it, just like it would be for other powers who practice Essence Gathering Cultivation to use Body Tempering Cultivation if they managed to practice it to an equal level.

They didn't even bother about it when Gong Kim-Jin broke the rule because of the exciting battle, not to mention that they weren't conscious of such a stopgap made to stop the Dragon Families from using their Body Tempering Cultivation.

He made an indifferent face and spoke.

"Still, that does not change the fact that your strongest Top Disciple lost to my Alstreim Family's genius."

A vein popped up on Ancestor Gong Kim-Il's forehead. He clenched his fists, feeling his heart becoming stifled by this unexpected encounter with a never-before-seen female genius, and as much as he liked to invite her to his power, his power was lacking, especially when the Dragon Families had already invited her.

"First of all!" He abruptly raised his hand, pointing at Sophie Alstreim, "The Alstreim Family doesn't have the ability or the resources to produce a genius of this caliber! I fear that they may have been looting to obtain a character of that level!"

Everyone's eyes widened. Indeed, they were precisely confused about this matter, and no matter how they rocked their heads, they couldn't arrive at the answer other than concluding that it was Sophie Alstreim herself who was uniquely talented or enriched her talent through resources.

The latter became more probable when they heard the results from the All-Seeing Towers that she disappeared from the scene and headed to the Hundred Devil Thunder Archipelago of her own volition. Perhaps, she chanced upon a lucky chance that allowed her to become this powerful?

"Looting how?"

A female voice suddenly echoed out.

It was none other than Sect Master Bing Luli.

"I don't know!" He snorted, "They looted or cheated somehow! We would like to find that-"

"Don't point fingers while feeling jealous, Ancestor Gong Kim-II. It's not 'we'. It's you who lack the ability to nurture disciples of that caliber."

"You! What did you say!?"

Ancestor Gong Kim-II took a step forwards, acting irrationally as if he was going to pick a fight but, in truth, acted like that wanting to intimidate. Just before he could scoff and ask if she had the same ability, her melodious voice echoed out.

"Bing'er~"

From the spectator stands, an icy white-blue-robed woman stood up and flew toward the battle platform. Her feet landed on the white battle platform, making everyone blink, wondering why Top Disciple Mu Bing of the Mystic Ice Sect had entered the ring.

At this point, weren't the Alstreim Family youngsters invincible with Sophie Alstreim in their ranks? Even the Dragon Family youths looked both excited and hesitant to battle her. If it weren't for their powerhouses holding them back, it appeared as if they might want to challenge Sophie Alstreim to see how they fared against her.

Nevertheless. This Mu Bing... could it be that she was going to challenge the Vital Tempering Sect's Gong Kim-Jin?

Looking at his desolate silhouette, it could be seen that the loss became a setback for him. But...

"Sophie Alstreim, if I may, can I challenge you to a battle?"

"..."

"What!?"

"Is this woman lacking some knowledge of the moment? But she's obviously not blind..."

Most of the people appeared amused and pointed at her as they jeered.

Davis narrowed his eyes.

The Mystic Ice Sect...

In recent times, he had had his suspicions of this sect, starting from the time where he learned that its Sect Master broke through into the Law Rune Stage while also perceiving that Ancestor Wan Lanying regained her fires of vitality by breaking into the Martial Sage Stage. Then today, he learned that all three Ancestors of the Mystic Ice Sect had revived their fires of vitality.

What are the odds of all of them actually happening in a single year?

Moreover, the timing they sent this Top Disciple known as Mu Bing while knowing about Sophie's prowess made him even more suspicious.

"Of course~"

Sophie's voice echoed as she stood up. She admired someone who still had the gall to challenge her after she showed her prowess. As soon as she took a step forward, a soul transmission fell on her ears.

"Sophie, you may probably face a tough opponent. Are you willing to test your might?"

Sophie slightly slowed down, her expression flickering ever so lightly.

If her man had such an opinion of Top Disciple Mu Bing, then she must definitely be powerful! She was shocked for a moment before her composure returned.

"It's perfect. I was finding both Brim Hisler and Gong Kim-Jin lacking that I had no intention of using my domain until you gave me permission, but it seems like I finally have a chance to test the power of my domain."

Davis smiled as he heard her soul transmission.

Sophie arrived beside the battle platform before she gracefully flew over to its surface. Looking at Top Disciple Mu Bing, she felt that she already lost in terms of beauty, but this was not a beauty contest but a martial contest. She clasped her hands and spoke.

"I would be glad to oblige to your challenge, Top Disciple Mu Bing. However, against you, I think I won't be able to hold back."

Sophie dropped her hands, causing Mu Bing's eyes to widen before a glint of respect shone in her eyes.

"So you already know~"

The crowd instantly became flabbergasted as they misunderstood.

Did these two beauties have a feud or something?

Grand Elder Valdrey Alstreim looked at the two women, seemingly gulping in nervousness while he was unaware why he had gulped in the first place. The two women below him made him feel like he was put in between a burning cauldron and an ice-cold freezer.

Nevertheless...

"Let the battle begin!~"

As soon as his voice fell, a crimson light erupted from Sophie as it covered a part of the battle platform and even Mu Bing herself!

This time, Davis had a closer look at the size of Sophie's domain.

It had reached three and a half kilometers, just half a kilometer less than Shirley's, but it made for a significant discrepancy in power. The size of the domain denoted their essence energy's prowess. Therefore, Shirley was stronger than Sophie, but that was expected.

Not only Davis, but everyone had a closer look, their eyes protruding as if they wanted to etch this domain's intricacies into their eyes, trying to garner as much as they could from it. However, Davis had another thought.

'Sophie needs a change to her cultivation manual. The Alstreim Family's Essence Gathering Cultivation Manual really doesn't do justice to her current level of comprehension...'

He pondered that her current Essence Gathering Cultivation Manual was hindering her prowess.

However, as if space was contorting, a part of the crimson domain was superimposed by an icy-blue domain, seemingly capable of maintaining its balance against Sophie's Perfect Domain.

The crowd ended up dropping their jaws as they saw the radius of Mu Bing's Domain end up more or less the size of her opponent's domain.

"This... a Perfect Domain again!?"

Ancestor Gong Kim-II stood up as he screamed like an old hag in reluctance and envy!

Sophie's lips curved into a wild smile while Davis took a deep breath.

'As I thought, a Perfect Domain. It must be your doing. Isn't it, Ellia?'

He slowly turned to look towards the Mystic Ice Sect's group of maidens seated together, wondering if she was here as his heart palpitated.