

Chapter 861 Forgotten People

Unknown Territory, within a hidden estate in a particularly well-known, vibrant, and prosperous city, a silhouette seemed to be enveloped in flames as it sat cross-legged in a hall, but it didn't seem like the flames were harming it. Instead, the scene was as if the figure was being sheltered around softly by the flames, like how the fabric would be wrapped around a baby.

The figure's chest protruded, making it curvy, and from this, it could be seen that the figure was a female.

In front of the female figure was a three-meter tall and two-meter wide cauldron that was inscribed with numerous tortoise patterns such as the Black Diamond Tortoise that possessed a shell that was made up of shiny black diamond. There was also a Scorpion Tail Tortoise, which had the stinging tail of a scorpion but was not poisonous, and even one of the Flame Essences known as the Earth Tortoise Flame was etched on the cauldron.

Underneath this cauldron was six flames that heated up and refined the ingredients that were in the cauldron into one. At this time, the cauldron continuously shook as if it were going to explode before it gave a low hum and settled down as the flames receded.

The female figure stood up as the flames covering her also receded, leaving her features out on the open, visible to the beholder's eyes, if any were present.

Amethyst pupils adorned her eyes and willowy black eyebrows, a small yet straight nose, and cherry lips appeared on her exceptionally sculpted face. Black hair draped over her purple alchemist robe, and it almost did nothing to hide her bountiful curves as they were unabated. Her entire appearance screamed mature, but she was also reserved and refined with a look of confidence on her face.

Drops of sweat ran down her forehead as she heaved a breath. Her bountiful bosoms also heaved along with her before she took a handkerchief to wipe off the sweat from her forehead. Her movements were elegant and pleasant to watch.

She opened the lid of the cauldron and saw that there were six to seven pills, with the seventh pill being charred. It was a trash pill. She threw it away along with the dreg that was at the bottom of the cauldron and took the six refined pills.

Four of them were Crude-Tier Pills, but at least they were better than that trash pill. Another one was a Normal-Tier Pill that made the female figure heave a sigh of relief. However, one of the pills was glowing brightly, and the female figure could discern that it was an Advanced-Tier Pill.

Observing the Advanced-Tier Pill put a smile on her face as she opened her lips, "The Two Cauldron Flames Technique, although it uses more essence energy, it truly allows the user to control the flames to a higher degree, making me capable of refining at least a single Peak-Level Sky Grade Pill whose quality is at Advanced-Tier."

At this time, there seemed to be two figures who walked into the hall that the female alchemist stayed in to concoct pills. They didn't stop to ask for permission and just walked in like they owned the place.

Looking at the approaching figures, the female figure didn't get angry, but her eyes lit up, and a wide smile appeared on her face, "Master!"

"Hahaha! You've truly reached the peak of what I could impart to you in alchemy, Tina!"

A middle-aged man with a slightly youthful countenance. Lush black hair fell to his neck. He wore an alchemist robe that possessed seven stars. The seventh star was incredibly dull, displaying that this person is a Low-Level King Grade Alchemist.

"No, I still have many things to learn from you, master!" Tina echoed.

This woman was none other than Tina Roxley of the Roxley Family, situated in the Xuan Empire of the Tripartite Alliance Territory.

The middle-aged man ruefully shook his head, "With just your Low-Level Law Manifestation Stage Cultivation, you managed to successfully concoct a Peak-Level Sky Grade Pill, and what's more, it is an Advanced-Tier Flame Advancing Pill that considerably increases your comprehension of Fire Laws to Level Three Intent. With this, you will be yet again successfully able to advance in the law comprehension of Fire Laws."

Tina Roxley happily yet hastily replied.

"This achievement is due to the Mid-Level King Grade Flame Essence, the Earth Tortoise Flame gifted by my master, or else, I wouldn't dare to take this achievement as mine completely. The Flame Essence raised my comprehension to Level Two Intent of Fire Laws, so it can only be said that my current achievements are due to master!"

"Stubborn child..." The middle-aged man reprimanded, "But don't worry. I, Brandis Mercer, your master is also improving in the unending and eternal profession of Alchemy."

A few static undulations spread from his body, but that caught Tina Roxley wide-eyed.

"Congratulations on breaking through to the Mid-Level Law Dominion Stage, Master."

"Sheesh, don't congratulate me. It's too embarrassing..." Brandis Mercer laughed.

Tina Roxley shook her head, "Since master has chosen the path of tri-cultivation, it is inevitable that you would lag in terms of higher cultivation base when compared to others of the same age."

"Ai, don't mention it. I know my real talent, and without the benefits and the achievements that I gained from alchemy and the Thousand Pill Palace in these two thousand and five hundred years of my old life, it would've been really difficult for me to reach Peak-Level Mature Soul Stage." Brandis Mercer looked quite humble, but his heart was proud.

Despite his slow progress, he had reached Low-Level Law Dominion Stage, Peak-Level Martial Ascendance Stage, and Peak-Level Mature Soul Stage. He followed the path of tri-cultivation from a young age where he had no one to rely on. All he could do was start from humble beginnings and climb up the ranks, slowly yet steadily, and just a while ago, he broke through to the Mid-Level Law Dominion Stage.

"Excuse me... You two, master and disciple, seem to forget that a Mystic Diviner is gracing your lowly statures!" Another middle-aged man with an arrogant demeanor suddenly interrupted.

His eyes and brown looked sharp, and he wore a white robe and a mantle that made him seem incredibly grand and pompous. His expression looked arrogant, but it relaxed before he laughed out loud.

"Ah!"

A fist landed on his gut, making him bend his waist as he looked at Tina Roxley, "Aiya, martial niece. You can't treat your uncle master like this..."

Tina Roxley giggled and took back her fist, "If I can't bully uncle master, then who can I bully?"

"Sigh, your uncle master has no choice but to suffer..." The white-robed man wryly shook his head.

"Brother Aurelius, you're too easy on my disciple..."

"Tch... Who are you kidding? You're the one who is pampering your disciple, Brother Brandis."

"Says the one who gave half the wealth I needed to get the Mid-Level King Grade Flame Essence for my disciple." Brandis Mercer harrumphed.

"Heh! Unlike you, my Mystic Diviner profession rakes me in wealth like no other! I have tons of Spirit Stones to spend!" Aurelius sneered.

"Stop, you two! As soon as there is something to disagree on, you two start to fight like wildcats." Tina Roxley reprimanded, and the two became silent before they secretly laughed.

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"I can't thank master and uncle master enough for the kindness that has been graced upon me." Tina Roxley suddenly bowed.

However, she was quickly caught by the shoulders by her master.

"What are you saying? You are like my own daughter. There's no need to be like this..." Brandis Mercer became emotional as he rubbed Tina Roxley's head, his eyes flashing with a nostalgic emotion.

He had a family once, but they all ended up dead when he made a mistake by offending a powerful family. Even though he had escaped and killed all of them, what is lost cannot be returned or taken back. From then on, life hadn't been the same for him. He was mindless for a time before he took on a dying alchemist and inherited that alchemist's will to reach the peak of alchemy one day, although, after some time, he had been forced to learn the discrepancy and the truth of the world.

It was just too difficult to improve in alchemy!

"Then... Can I call master, father?" Tina Roxley's eyes became moist.

Brandis Mercer became stunned as she looked at her feeble visage.

His only disciple, Tina Roxley, had poisoned and killed her own father to save herself and her little sister. Although she had no choice but to kill her father, it was inevitable. He felt that such a father shouldn't exist and didn't blame his disciple one bit.

Actually, he felt that it was his fault as well. If only he had taken action sooner. Otherwise, Tina Roxley wouldn't have to carry the burden of killing her own father.

He abruptly laughed, "What do you mean if you can call me father? Master or father, it's all the same! You can call me whatever you want!"

"Father..." Tina Roxley voiced out, her voice laden with thousands of emotions.

Her blood father had been a scum, but this father figure remained the best father she could ever have!

Aurelius smiled as he looked at his sworn brother, but he felt that it was finally time to bring it up, "Niece, it is actually strange."

Tina Roxley came out of reverie, and subconsciously replied as she smilingly teased, "What is strange? The way our relationships have become different now?"

Brandis Mercer and Aurelius were like sworn brothers when they were young. They each had their own path to follow, so they eventually split up before swearing to be sworn brothers when they meet again.

Around two thousand and five hundred years later, they reunited in the Xuan Empire, and even though their status was entirely different, the way they interacted didn't change at all.

That was how Tina Roxley was also familiar with Aurelius as she had seen him once with her master when she was around twenty-five years old.

"Not that... I meant your future. Oh, now, it is already the past." Aurelius chuckled.

"Even though my comprehension was lacking in Karma Laws around twenty-five years ago, I am confident that when I divined your future, it is more likely to happen. How can your fate be so derailed from the pathway that the heavens had decided for you?"

Tina Roxley descended into silence as the reflection in her pupils became chaotic.

She couldn't help but recall the time when her uncle master, Mystic Diviner Aurelius, had divined her future in the past, and in that future was also where she saw her fated one, the man she would choose to elope with, a youth hidden behind a mask.

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In the Thousand Pill Association of the Xuan Empire, Grand Elder Brandis Mercer's room.

After the reunion of Brandis Mercer who was the Grand Elder of the Thousand Pill Association and Aurelius, who is an unknown Mystic Diviner at that time, Aurelius bragged that he was a Mystic Diviner who is able to divine the past, present, and future of people, and Tina Roxley, who merely sat towards the side in an obedient manner became the scapegoat of the divination show.

"Stop! What if something happened!? Aren't Mystic Diviners know to be all scammers? How can I let you do something stupid to my disciple!?" Brandis Mercer raged.

"Calm down," Aurelius advised.

"With my skills, I can only divine people who are below the Fifth Stage. The more powerful they are, the harder it is for me to divine. Besides, divining isn't simple. One's own blood essence is the price to be paid. After all, not everyone can see through fate even if they possess the skill. The reason why I chose your disciple as it will require less blood essence to divine a person at the Revolving Core Stage."

"Besides, look at your disciple. Her face clearly says that she wants to know her future!"

Indeed...

Tina Roxley's face was lit up from the time that her uncle master was going to divine her future. His expression that was originally a bit desolate lit up as if it were a candle. It sparkled with a kind of hope that she previously never possessed.

Brandis Mercer looked became hesitant on looking at his disciple's expression. He knew that her mother and elder sister had a big impact on her life when they died. He also knew what kind of a man her father is, but he was helpless to intrude into the internal affairs of his disciple's rotten family.

Honestly, he was afraid that he would commit a massacre like the last time he did when his family was killed, and there were too many things to consider, such as his disciple's emotions, so he didn't make a move yet.

"What do you say?" Aurelius asked with a smile.

"Yes, please divine my future!" Tina Roxley replied with a determined expression on her face.

Aurelius's expression became solemn.

"A fair word of warning, martial niece. I will only be able to look into around twenty years into the future with my skills, but in these twenty years, if you witness your death or something else that is deeply impactful, it might even give you a heart demon that might twist your emotions, make your cultivation stagnate and bestow you with other worse outcomes."

"Despite possessing this power, I haven't looked into my own future as it is greatly harmful to me. However, it isn't the same if I divine others. Nevertheless, one's future shouldn't be easily looked into... Are you prepared?"

Tina Roxley became stunned. However, would her future be worse than her current situation? She wanted to see and form whatever countermeasures she could!

Her lips moved, "I am prepared! Even if I see my death, I understand that it is inevitable!"

"Alright." Aurelius nodded his head, "If you want the best results, then condense a drop of your blood essence for me to use. If not, it will be very difficult for me to divine your future, and the technique might fail."

Tina Roxley possessed an understanding expression on her face once she heard the last words since she understood that his request had something to do with using Karma Laws.

She didn't say anything and just lifted up her finger. She roused the blood from her heart and made a hole on her finger with the other hand. The blood from her heart traveled through her body before it shot out of the hole on her finger, coalescing into a tiny drop of blood that radiated an immense might.

"Very good! Your determination is commendable and has even spread to me, making me no longer hesitant!" Aurelius encouraged before he brought out a black rectangular basin that was filled with... water.

Chapter 863 Derailed Past - I

Tina Roxley blinked.

Water?

What the hell is spirit water going to divine?

Brandis Mercer narrowed his eyes before he became clear that the rectangular basin's contents were not spirit water but something else entirely. He possessed no idea as to what it was, and much less determine if it would harm his disciple in any way.

He took a closer look at Aurelius and thought to himself if he could believe him with his disciple's life. After all, even though they were sworn brothers, they had just reunited. He didn't know much of Aurelius's past, and what had he been doing all this time.

"Don't look at me like that..." Aurelius noticed his sworn brother's gaze before condensing his own blood essence in front of him, "I also have to sacrifice my own blood essence to perform this heavenly technique. It took a hundred years alone for me to learn this technique that I gained from an inheritance, which made me follow the path of becoming a Mystic Diviner. Don't look down on it, or even I will get offended."

Aurelius no longer bothered with Brandis Mercer and looked at Tina Roxley.

"Alright, drop your blood essence into the basin."

Tina Roxley looked at the suspicious water an instant. She only hesitated for a bit before she flicked her finger, sending the blood essence into the basin.

"That's the courage!" Aurelius's body rose to chuckle.

The blood essence fell on the suspicious water, and as if disappearing, it completely vanished in a second. It was like snow rapidly dissolving in the water.

Rumble!~

The room's space shook, the flow of time became erratic, and the unique liquid in the basin started to reverberate as layers and layers of ripples formed, being affected as if there were an earthquake!

Brandis Mercer blinked in disbelief, wondering how Aurelius was doing this, and he finally couldn't help but truly wonder if Aurelius is as he said, a fabled Mystic Diviner!?

Aurelius's expression was solemn. He held his hands together and seemed to be chanting something as his lips moved imperceptibly. He mumbled more and more before his voice became clear.

"I have spent five hundred years, comprehending the Laws of Time in Alternating Time Flow Valley, and four hundred years, comprehending Laws of Space in the Distorted Skies of Yonder and thousand years, comprehending the Laws of Karma by interacting and sowing seeds with countless people, only to reap it in the end."

"Using this Divine Heaven Mirror Water, I, Aurelius, will divine Tina Roxley's future!"

"Heaven's Divination - A Glimpse into the Future!"

Instantly, space stopped quaking, and the time became normal. The ripples and waves on the unique liquid receded before it became calm. However, an image formed on the mysterious water. It left Brandis Mercer and Tina Roxley feeling surreal, and disbelief.

The image actually formed a person. Judging by the build, it seemed to be a man who was around twenty years of age.

The first image that appeared was a masked man standing on the street looking at something, but even the mask's features were blurred, causing Tina Roxley to frown as she could not see the man's face.

"Who is this person?" She subconsciously asked.

"Oh? The fact that this masked person appeared first on your divination meant that this person has a big part in your future. Who knows? I wouldn't be even surprised if it were your man." Aurelius replied, but each of his nerves was taut, and his expression was pale.

It could be seen that he might've overdrafted his energy.

"My man!?" Tina Roxley exclaimed before she incredulously looked at the masked figure.

"I just said that it might be your man. We won't know before we see the end result of the divination. After all, in the end, he might be the reason for your death if you were to die in this divination."

Tina Roxley's heart sank.

However, Aurelius's expression became joyous.

"Still, the clarity of the projection that has appeared is beyond my expectations! So this is what would happen if the person being divined willingly sacrificed their blood essence!"

"Aurelius! You tricked her!!" Brandis Mercer shouted in rage.

So it was also for improving himself!

"Hey! Who is tricking who? Do you know the cost of single divination? It might not be worth your entire fortune! Besides, I've sacrificed two percent of my blood essence compared to Tina Roxley's five percent! I'm doing this because you're my brother. Don't waste my goodwill!" Aurelius laid down the facts and harrumphed in displeasure.

"Continue..." Tina Roxley suddenly uttered.

"Hmph! You don't even have the determination your disciple has..." Aurelius sneered and continued.

Brandis Mercer's expression twitched.

Normally, Tina Roxley would've not let this insult to her master pass, but thousands of thoughts were running on her mind. Only the projection of the divination was on her mind right now.

Although Brandis Mercer had many things to ask and say, he calmed himself down to see how this so-called divination would play out.

The projection changed, and it was now a scene that played out in front of their silent atmosphere.

The masked man walked into a particular building and encountered a female figure. It was none other than herself, Tina Roxley, in the distorted projection.

Tina Roxley became shocked to see herself, but she recognized the building, and she was greatly familiar with it since she was also the receptionist of this building, "It's the Roxley Auction House!"

"If I'm not wrong, this is where you two probably meet for the first time." Aurelius nodded his head.

He had divined many people, so he was somewhat knowledgeable about the sequence of the projection.

The image in the Divine Heaven Mirror Water changed again. Tina Roxley and the masked man seemed to be talking in a room while Tina Roxley held out a letter of sorts. It was not clear, and the other two weren't able to point out what it is, but Tina Roxley had seen this envelope many times before. It was the invitation letter to the underground auction of the Roxley Family.

It was unknown what had happened after the masked man grasped the letter from Tina Roxley's soft hands, but the projection changed again.

This time, the masked man once again entered the Roxley Auction House, but the scene changed again quickly and projected an alleyway. In the narrow alleyway, the masked man bowed and clasped his hand before saying something as his lips moved.

Tina Roxley seemed to shake her hands, her expression seeming to say that it was nothing, and it was fine.

The masked man bowed once again and clasped his hand as if thanking deeply before removing his mask.

A young face appeared in the Divine Heaven Mirror Water. Only his blonde hair and sapphire eyes could be differentiated from the slightly blurred projection, and as for his appearance, it warranted that the man should be below twenty years old.

The young man patted his chest before leaving the alleyway, seemingly leaving a conflicted Tina Roxley behind.

"What does uncle master think?" This time, Tina Roxley specifically asked Aurelius.

Aurelius shook his head, "I can't say for sure, but it seems that you helped him at the auction house and, in doing so, managed to gain his goodwill?"

Tina Roxley nodded her head as if she had conceived similar conclusions after seeing the divination's progress.

Chapter 864 Derailed Past - II

The divination projection images then started to change continuously, and the following three people appeared a little dumbfounded as if they were watching a movie with apt attention. It was more like Aurelius wasn't able to control the frequency of the projection anymore, hence, they viewed the divination trying take in as much as possible.

Tina Roxley and the young man started to meet frequently and interacted. It got to the point where their hands touched before they willingly grasped the hands of each other. It was like they seemed to develop feelings for each other.

Their relationship seemed to have even reached a point where Tina Roxley willingly kissed the young man and seemed to say something before embracing him.

The projections continuously changed, and the young man then introduced Tina Roxley to another woman. Purple hair, black eyes, and an extremely beautiful countenance that left seemed to leave the Tina Roxley on the screen dumbfounded.

It was unknown how much time had passed, but Tina Roxley in the projection seemed to become increasingly infatuated with the young man. The projections displayed a picturesque scene of her laughing and becoming cheerful in every event, displaying her emotions to be elated and satisfied.

Suddenly, the image abruptly changed, with Tina Roxley witnessing blood. Blood from the body of a woman who seemed to have slit her throat and died. Beside the dead body of that woman was a man, who seemed to be shamelessly shrugging at her, seemingly saying that it wasn't his fault.

The Tina Roxley, who was viewing the projection, became wide-eyed. Her fists subconsciously clenched, and she wanted to scream out, but since it seemed that the projection quickly changed again, she kept her silence.

The scene changed with her escaping out of a ruined mansion. She seemed so angry and sorrowful that she almost destroyed the Roxley Family Mansion. Numerous experts chased after her, including the man who seemed responsible for the death of that woman.

A man seemed to suddenly come to Tina Roxley's side and held her from plunging towards the ground, injured and battered, both physically and mentally. The scene changed with him facing the numerous chasers with his spear. The spear flew like a kite that had its string cut and finally seemed to pierce the man who was responsible for that woman's death.

After that, another expert appeared. He looked old.

Outside the projection, Tina Roxley's expression continuously changed as she watched the scene with bated breath.

That old expert was also seemed to be beheaded by a sword, except the one who held the sword seemed to be the purple-haired woman the young man introduced to her at that time.

After that, Tina Roxley seemed to have been taken away by the young man and the purple-haired woman.

The scene changed with Tina Roxley being consoled by the young man while they held each other's hands. They looked into each other's eyes as she willingly lay on the bed, and Tina Roxley closed her eyes, waiting for the young man to take her.

Rumble!~

"My Divine Heaven Mirror Water!" Aurelius looked dumbfounded.

The Divine Heaven Mirror Water in the basin exploded, bringing an aurora of blinding light and seemed to evaporate into the heavens.

While Aurelius was shocked as to why this unique resource would evaporate, Tina Roxley shed a tear without a change in her expression.

Perhaps, out of the three people who witnessed the projection, only she was able to know what kind of events took place precisely.

Her younger sister seems to have killed herself, perhaps out of shame. Her repugnant father was pierced with a spear by the man she seemed to have loved, and her detestable grandfather seemed to be killed by the purple-haired woman.

But...

In this, where is her master in all this? She turned to look at her master, and the moment she looked at his visage, she became horrified, "Master!"

"It seems that I've become blind?"

Blood seemed to seep out of Brandis Mercer's eyes as he spoke, but he possessed a smile on his face. It almost appeared as if he had seen too much to be punished by the heavens.

"Master uncle!? What happened!?" Tina Roxley screamed at Aurelius.

Aurelius, who was still at a loss at what happened, looked at his sworn brother before he shook his head, "This... I don't know..."

Other people have seen other people's divination before, but it never brought out a result like this, making him unable to comprehend what had happened.

Rumble!~

Rumble!~

Clouds seemed to rumble as thunder echoed. Arcs of lightning filled the skies, heralding calamitous news that threatened to throw them into the lightning punishment valley, trialed by the heavens.

Aurelius gulped as he became frozen while Brandis Mercer and Tina Roxley felt immensely pressured by the dark clouds above them in the skies.

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Tina Roxley remembered all of this before she heaved a sigh.

How could she forget all this? That was the day where fear was deeply etched in her heart upon seeing the calamitous scenery, but nothing seemed to go the way the divination predicted.

In the end, it was her master who saved her, and with the presence of the Mystic Diviner, Aurelius, the Roxley Family managed to avoid a bloodbath that would've otherwise occurred in the Xuan Capital City.

"Aurelius, isn't there a chance that you've made a mistake?" Brandis Mercer became hesitant, but he still asked.

Even though his eyes had been blinded, fortunately, it was just temporary because, after five years, he naturally regained his eyesight back.

Aurelius patted his chest, "No, I'm positive that my divination was sound and correct because it resonated with the heaven and earth energy, and practically even caused the heavens to be angered that dark clouds formed above us in a frenzy. Fortunately, it didn't transform into the mythical tribulation clouds, so we are able to keep our lives."

He heaved a deep sigh, recalling that day.

"In the end, I was able to comprehend more Karma Laws thanks to that divination. This enabled me to pass the Heaven Gazing Sect's recruitment exam and become an outer disciple of the Heaven Gazing Sect!"

Aurelius's eyes sparkled in proudness, even going as to mention the Heaven Gazing Sect twice in his sentence.

"That's right." He came out of his reverie, "Martial niece, what happened to that blonde-haired youth I divined to you about? You should have met him already. One, the auction house, and two, in that alleyway. Those two scenes were at least displayed in clarity."

Tina Roxley shook her head, "I did meet him."

"Oh? What happened?" Aurelius possessed an immensely curious expression on his face.

Even though he felt it was rude to ask about the past, he was confused about why his divination hadn't come true. He personally felt offended by himself, not because of Tina Roxley but because his divination hadn't come true.

It was the first time in his life he encountered the result of failure while he thought it was the best and reckless divination he had ever done. It was a resounding blow to his confidence, and he couldn't just let it slide by as a Mystic Diviner.

Besides, if it were any other person who was divined and they encountered another future altogether than the one they had seen, they might spread his name as a scammer. Fortunately, his sworn brother and martial niece did nothing of that sort, keeping his reputation intact.

Tina Roxley's lips trembled. She wanted to forget all of this and move on, but since it always stayed on her mind, never to be shared with anyone, she finally felt like pouring out all she needed to someone since she was asked.

She took a deep breath before she opened her mouth!

Chapter 865 Derailed Past - III

Tina Roxley opened her lips as she started to explain to Aurelius's question, "At first, we did meet in the Roxley Auction House. Sapphire eyes, blonde hair, and masked. There weren't many people who fit this appearance, so I was able to identify him. As I have seen before, I gave him the invitation to the underground auction and monitored him."

"However, it didn't seem like he needed help, causing me to become disappointed. It made me think that it wasn't him, but I still kept an eye on him. Surprisingly, my family sent assassins to deal with him, and I only learned about it later that it was from a low-level member. I interfered and put a stop to it, helping him, but he never came to meet to or even thank me."

"At this point, I was ninety percent sure that the young masked man in my future wasn't him. He didn't even seem to be with the purple-haired woman we saw in the projection, but he was with a black-haired woman whom he took away from the underground auction house."

"Initially, I was disgusted that he took advantage of an enslaved woman, but when the woman came out to procure supplies for what seemed to be like alchemy, I watched her happily humming as if she was content with her life. In any case, a year passed without almost nothing occurring, and I pretty much gave up that he was the one in my future."

"Surprisingly, the second time we met wasn't in the alleyway, but in the Thousand Pill Association. It was the time when I took the exam for becoming a Low-Level Earth Grade Alchemist."

"Hmph!" Brandis Mercer suddenly interrupted, "You already possessed the prowess to concoct Peak-Level Earth Grade Pills at that time with your Essence Gathering Cultivation, but you wanted to be low-key and concoct pills with your soul force that reached the Young Soul Stage."

"I didn't want attention to myself... Master..." Tina Roxley wryly replied, making Brandis Mercer sigh.

If Tina Roxley was shining and showcasing her talent in alchemy, it was possible that her tainted father would realize that his daughter Tina Roxley was no longer in her grasp and target her younger sister, Rina Roxley. He could understand her plight, but he was useless as well. Being blindsided by the heavens in the past by the form of tribulation clouds, he was afraid to interfere in her fate and only put minimal effort into protecting his disciple.

What could he do? He was a human as well, but after Tina Roxley poisoned her father and murdered him, he became emboldened enough to protect his disciple! Looking at her actions, it could be said that he no longer gave a crap about the consequences and fully supported her!

Tina Roxley continued, "In any case, I was surprised and confused to meet him in the Thousand Pill Association. The fact that he was also an alchemist confused me since we've never seen him in the alchemist garb before in the divination. I felt all of those pointed out that the young man wasn't him, but it all changed when I asked Elder Seylas to scan him with his soul sense."

"What? You did such a thing?" Brandis Mercer became astonished.

He suddenly remembered that his disciple wasn't this rude.

"I was at my wit's end..." Tina Roxley replied with a complicated expression on her face.

Brandis Mercer could only purse his lips in silence and shame. She had never said anything to him about her worries. He guessed that she had already seen through him in the past, where he was once afraid of the consequences of interfering in her fate.

"That masked man was truly the young man I was looking for, but..." Tina Roxley wryly giggled, "Other than the first time we met, nothing appeared to go as we saw in the divination."

"I would like to ask. What is the meaning of this, uncle master?"

Tina Roxley, who had bottled up her emotions for so many years, was unable to keep it suppressed anymore!

"I'm not sure either." Aurelius shook his head, "It is the first time I'm encountering a situation such as yours. I don't understand how it can be like this. Even if you know that your future would turn out to be like this, and even if you try to stop it, although the events might differ, the end result would be the same!"

"But something like that didn't happen!" Tina Roxley screamed as her eyes became moist, "That young man didn't even seem to be fated to me!"

Brandis Mercer and Aurelius became stunned at her outburst. It could be seen that the divination greatly impacted her psyche or... It was the disappointment that the young man didn't come to meet her.

Brandis Mercer sighed. He had investigated Aurelius and confirmed that he was an official Mystic Diviner. Aurelius had even helped the Tripartite Alliance deal with a certain matter. So, Brandis Mercer didn't doubt Aurelius's integrity as a Mystic Diviner.

Instead, he sighed for his disciple, his newly adopted daughter. Perhaps, the moment she witnessed the divination in the past, the seed of love had already been planted in her heart. It had sprouted by the time she met that blonde-haired man, but her feelings became like this in the end, unable to be reciprocated.

Nothing went as displayed by the divination.

In the end, Tina Roxley got to save her younger sister and safely exit the Roxley Family with Brandis Mercer and Aurelius's help. It all went well in her books except for the young man who seemed to have disappeared into thin air.

Tina Roxley, being unable to forget him or forgive herself for killing her own father, left a letter with Elder Seylas. Brandis Mercer didn't know what she wrote and didn't look into it either. Looking at her current expression, he mused that she sealed all her feelings within her heart, at least until now.

Tina Roxley shed tears, unable to squeeze this feeling out of her heart. Ever since she knew that there was man fated to her, she never stopped thinking about him. When she saw his sapphire eyes in the auction house, it looked so pure when compared to her father's, and it made her heart throb slightly due to the expectation she held.

Although he said something stupid initially and kept staring at her back for some time, it only served to increase her satisfaction, making her think that he was interested in her as well.

She hoped that it would be him, but she became increasingly disappointed, only to have her thoughts overturned when she has Elder Seylas uncovered his identity. Alchemist Scythe turned out to be the young man she was fated with as he possessed a great similarity with the person she saw in the divination, and she boldly asked him out for a walk.

Once she confirmed his appearance with Elder Seylas, she was glad and thought of pursuing him by her own will, but she became afraid, deeply afraid since the events started to occur more or less according to the divination. She didn't want to lose her younger sister, Rina Roxley, so she continuously monitored her father, but that instead caused her father to be unbridled towards her, leading her to poison him and finally kill him.

She had killed her father and had been saved by her master and master uncle from the Roxley Family's wrath, but so what?

Alchemist Scythe was no longer present in the capital by that time!

Chapter 866 Divining Once Again

Tina Roxley searched for Alchemist Scythe for a while, but she was unable to find him. Then, to pursue Alchemy and escape from being scorned as a father-killer, she had to leave. Besides, she didn't want to stay anywhere near the detestable Roxley Family anymore.

She had further told Elder Seylas to contact her if Alchemist Scythe ever appeared, but even till now, she has yet to receive any word. She was completely unaware that the young man had intimidated Elder Seylas into keeping his mouth closed.

She was unaware that even if she waited for a hundred years like this, she would still not be able to meet or hear about that young man.

"The only way to find out is to divine your future again!" Aurelius suddenly said, but his expression was scrunched up in hesitation.

Tina Roxley instantly asked, "Will I know what happened to that young man if I-"

"That depends on your future." Aurelius raised his hand.

Tina Roxley was about to agree when Brandis Mercer widened his eyes and reprimanded, "You can't! You will not use your blood essence again!"

"I have to!"

Tina Roxley retorted and cried as she clenched her small fists, "Otherwise, I would never be able to calm myself down."

Brandis Mercer became alarmed and enraged, but looking at her desolate expression, he was unable to become angry at her for becoming foolish. If he stopped her, he became afraid that she might manifest a heart demon.

A hand suddenly grasped his shoulders, "It's fine. My divination technique has improved, and it only requires three percent of her blood essence to divine right now. Her blood essence can be replenished with time as long as you can buy enough resources. If you're unable to purchase, I'm willing to help."

Aurelius said, causing Brandis Mercer to sigh, "Are you sure that the skies won't change colors again?"

Aurelius nodded his head, "Last time, we've seen too much. I got carried away as I've never been able to project too many scenes from the future, but this time, I'll end it with just a few. Don't worry, this time, there will be none of those mythical tribulation clouds. Heh, only the legendary Immortals are worthy of them."

Brandis Mercer nodded his head as he took a deep breath.

In a few minutes, everything was ready within the hall.

Looking at Brandis Mercer and Tina Roxley, Aurelius nodded his head before activated his technique.

The earth trembled, and space shook! The time flow became erratic before all the surrounding energy poured into the Divine Heaven Mirror Water!

"Heaven's Divination - A Glimpse into the Future!"

Boommmm!~

The rectangular basin exploded, and the Divine Heaven Mirror Water directly burst apart! Aurelius directly spat a mouthful of blood as he collapsed.

"Brother!"

"Uncle master!"

Brandis Mercer and Tina Roxley became aghast as they saw Aurelius collapse.

"What happened!?" Brandis Mercer echoed, panicked as he supported Aurelius from falling on the floor.

Aurelius held his chest while his eyes were wide. He looked at Tina Roxley incredulously before he shook his head, "Nothing, it's just a backlash. Something must have gone wrong."

"Enough, there's no need to divine anymore, just rest!" Brandis Mercer yelled.

"It's not like I can try it anytime soon with this backlash exhausting me..." Aurelius weakly smiled.

"Uncle master, I'm sorry. It's all because of me. It's my fault..." Tina Roxley bit her lower lip and whimpered.

"Sigh, it's not your fault. Your uncle master is just useless. I..."

"Don't talk anymore! You will rest and suppress your injuries!" Brandis Mercer urged.

"Then... I'll take you up on your offer..." Aurelius closed his eyes and fainted. It was as if he really could not handle the mental stress that echoed from the backlash.

Indeed, Mystic Diviners can also be called Suicidal Diviners. They often witnessed what they shouldn't and ended up dying because of it. Compared to them, Aurelius's case could be seen as a normal and harmless one.

Aurelius was carried away by Brandis Mercer. On the way, Aurelius kept his soul force undulations as stable as possible. Yes, he had not fainted! Instead, he was acting!

He was in absolute disbelief! He could not believe his own discoveries!

'Divergent! She's a Divergent!' Aurelius inwardly screamed.

He was in doubt how her path determined by the heavens could've changed. He had a vague inkling before, but with this, he had practically confirmed it! Otherwise, there was no way his divination would've failed before it even started!

It wasn't that the heavens didn't acknowledge his interference in divining Tina Roxley's future. It was that even the heavens didn't know what would happen to Tina Roxley, making her a divergent, greatly diverging from the fate that had been bestowed to her.

However, he still couldn't understand.

He had once been able to view her future, her fate. If that is the case, he should be able to view it again though it would require more sacrifice on his part. However, he was unable to even activate the divination technique on her.

The Divine Heaven Mirror Water is said to be in harmony with the heaven and earth energy, making Mystic Diviner able to communicate with the heavens to see one's future, past, or even the present affairs. If he was unable to activate such a divination technique on her when he was at his peak, it clearly meant that something had changed in Tina Roxley!

What was it that changed her fate, making her become a Divergent?

He didn't know, but he could guess with the current knowledge he possessed!

'She has a Fate Discarnate Soul!!'

Aurelius's soul almost fluctuated in greed! He knew this because of the inheritance he had chanced upon in his early years. He made an immense effort to become a Mystic Diviner. However, the inheritance he obtained was an unorthodox one. It contained evil and cruel methods to divine, one that just didn't use blood essence to divine.

However, it wasn't full of unorthodox methods and techniques. Otherwise, there was no way he would've been accepted into the Heaven Gazing Sect as an outer disciple.

Aurelius's thoughts churned.

Right now, he felt like he had hit the jackpot! He never even once thought that he would encounter the host of a Fate Discarnate Soul. He didn't know how Tina Roxley came to possess a Fate Discarnate Soul, but he felt something could've happened in the time he was away, causing her soul to mutate.

But how her soul mutated didn't matter to him!

In his inheritance, there was a method that enabled him to use the Fate Discarnate Soul in his divinations, effectively allowing him to get scot-free of the divinations he performed. It didn't matter if he divined a small matter or a greater affair that changed the whole world, he would still be able to get scot-free from heaven's retribution!

He would also be able to divine his own future and escape from heaven's retribution! After all, Mystic Diviner's weren't supposed to peer into their own fate since that would not end well. The chances are that they would easily die if they were to divine their own future.

Mystic Diviners often suffered from the retribution of the heavens for peering into the secrets of the heavens. Peering into people's fate is the same as peering into the secrets of the heavens since it is the will that has ordained the lives of people.

Hence, possessing something that veils him from the heavens, such as something discarnate, in this case, a Fate Discarnate Soul, will enable him to soar in the world of divination!

It was his dream!

Chapter 867 Fate Twisted

Aurelius became increasingly tempted at the thought of becoming the world's best Mystic Diviner. Perhaps, he could even eventually reach the top in the Heaven Gazing Sect and reign over the masses in the future!

However, the problem is, the Fate Discarnate Soul appeared on his martial niece, who now became his niece as his sworn brother had accepted her as his own daughter.

He began to feel conflicted.

If it were any other person, he would've robbed the other person's soul by now with his unorthodox methods and used it in his divination activities in the future, making him reign the profession of Mystic Diviner in the end.

Aurelius's thoughts rapidly churned in his 'sleep'!

By the time he came out of his reverie, he 'woke' up. When he opened his eyes as if he had just become conscious, he looked around and saw that he was sleeping on a bed in his room. Furthermore, a woman was taking care of him, gently wiping his forehead.

The soft white hand moved away from his sight, and he saw that it was none other than Tina Roxley.

He didn't know what and all happened around him. After all, he sealed his senses, not letting his heart rate fluctuate or soul undulations escape.

Tina Roxley lightly smiled and nodded her head as she took away the cloth and squeezed it above a basin that seemed to hold the dirt. Near that dirty basin was another circular basin that seemed to be filled with diluted medicinal liquid.

Tina Roxley kept the cloth on an empty silver plate and grasped a bottle which held a pill that seemed to radiate a unique medicinal fragrance, "Master said to take this medicinal pill once uncle master has woken up."

"Thank you..." Aurelius took the pill and consumed it without hesitation. He felt conflicted again, but it quickly disappeared.

"It is I who should apologize. I don't need divination anymore." Tina Roxley spoke while smilingly lightly.

Aurelius shook his head and sighed, "Leave it..."

Tina Roxley subconsciously nodded her head and descended into silence. It was unknown what she was thinking, but she felt a hand suddenly grasp her hand an unspecified time later, startling her. She looked at her hand, which was grasped before looking at her uncle master in confusion.

Initially, she thought that her uncle master consoled her for her not to worry, but feeling her hands be strangely caressed, she felt uncomfortable.

However, she didn't say anything critical but just brushed away her uncomfortableness and giggled as she took her hand away.

"Uncle master, if you want to feel good, weren't there many women courting you in this Thousand Pill City? You are still muddleheaded, so go after them sometime later."

Tina Roxley advised and stood up. She kept her smile as she left.

Aurelius looked at her back figure, disappear before his sight, leaving the room. He slammed down his fist on the bed, "Fuck!"

He silently cursed.

There were a few unorthodox methods to obtain Tina Roxley's Fate Discarnate Soul for using divination techniques. However, he was reluctant as they were all too cruel. He didn't want his niece to suffer such a fate; hence he decided on a particular orthodox method.

It was to get her to willingly let him use a part of her Fate Discarnate Soul, and the only way for her to let him do that is if they were to have a deep-rooted relationship!

If he was able to obtain her affection and make her his woman, then he would be able to use her Fate Discarnate Soul with her absolute willingness!

However, he had messed up big time, but it looked like Tina Roxley possessed a big heart. She knew that he was a womanizer since he always bragged about his 'adventures' to Brandis Mercer, so she didn't lash out at him and instead warned that he was muddleheaded and even advised alternatives.

Truly, he felt conflicted.

His pupils shook for a while, but his greed won out in the end as it flashed, 'Tina Roxley, I will become the greatest Mystic Diviner there is in the Fifty-Two Territories! Obediently become one of my women. Otherwise, I will have no choice but to forcefully rip out your Fate Discarnate Soul!'

=====

In a vast hall, a few people sat in a round table consisting of six chairs. Four women and two men occupied all six of these chairs. One man seemed to recite numerous passages for a while as everyone listened.

That man seemed to finish the story finally.

"... and that concludes the History of the Alstreim Family that I got from the Ethren Imperial Library. Mother, is it credible?"

This person was none other than Davis Loret. He wore an alchemist robe that made him look dazzling like a scholar.

"I am not sure since I didn't have time to study the history of the family. I preferred to cultivate till I fainted out of exhaustion. After all, I was focused on obtaining the Young Mistress position at that time." A woman shook her head.

The woman wore a mask that hid her features completely, including her purple eyes. The only feature that was visible in her hair was her blonde hair that reached till her waist. It remained silky smooth and fragrant. This woman was none other than Claire Loret.

She sat a chair away from Davis, and in between was Logan Loret, her husband.

"However, I still received some education about our history. The things you said didn't seem like a lie to me. It is true that the Alstreim Family only has a history of ninety thousand years. The Alstreim Family Founder was indeed a Mid-Level Law Rune Stage Powerhouse! He had massacred the previous hegemon to death and established the exceptional Alstreim Family a long time ago."

"It was rumored that the Founder was a descendant of half-human and half-spirit ancestor. However, no one is sure of the credibility of it, so I won't ponder on it."

'Half-human and half-spirit!' Davis's sapphire eyes lit up, but since his mother brushed it off, he remained silent.

"A few millennia later, the Alstreim Family had already produced four Law Rune Stage Powerhouses, entering a period of prosperity!" Claire's voice possessed a tinge of proudness.

"Then, is it true that the Alstreim Family had given birth to a total of thirteen Ninth Stage Powerhouses?" Another female voice echoed.

It came from beside Claire. She possessed waist-length purple hair, and her beauty was comparable to Claire. She was none other than Princess Isabella.

She wore a magnificent dark purple robe for this occasion. Her bosoms were swelling, similar to someone else's, making her look entirely feminine. Her robe was adorned with ornaments like gemstones, and it made everyone remember the Empress of the Ruth Empire she once was. If anyone who doesn't know her saw her, they wouldn't think that she was a beauty who killed people with her fists!

When she appeared in this dress for the first time, Davis repeatedly kept staring at her, causing her to blush in embarrassment yet become satisfied.

Besides Princess Isabella was Natalya, Evelynn, and then Davis. For this occasion, they dressed up a little glamorously but mostly conservative. However, their dazzling figures were not up to par to the level of Princess Isabella since she is the star of the occasion.

They all pricked up their ears to listen.

Claire nodded her head, "That's true. There were fourteen Law Rune Stage Powerhouses in the Alstreim Family's ninety thousand years of history, including the Founder!"

Chapter 868 Inside The Abode

Logan, Davis, Evelyn, Natalya, and Princess Isabella were awed to varying degrees. To be able to produce fourteen Ninth Stage Powerhouses in ninety thousand years, it could be said that their opinion of the Alstreim Family had improved.

But, wasn't it said that the Alstreim Family only possessed a single Ninth Stage Powerhouse at the moment?

What exactly happened?

Claire wryly shook her head at seeing their curious faces.

"When the Alstreim Family entered a period of prosperity ninety thousand years ago, possessing five ancestor-level powerhouses, it slacked off, and the number of talents regularly decreased.

"It took thirty thousand years for the family to rejuvenate after numerous bloodshed and reforms. Just when the remaining ancestor of the five who was present at that time was going to die, it successfully produced another ancestor before producing five more ancestors in the subsequent forty thousand years."

"However, whether if they reached the end of their lifespan, went away to other Territories, or gave their lives away for the family, they all ended up dying one way or another, and that much has been pretty much confirmed. But, before they could all die, the Alstreim Family was blessed with three brothers from the same father and mother! All three of them were exceptional and were born in the previous ten-thousand year period."

"They entered the Law Rune Stage, the Ninth Stage in Essence Gathering Cultivation when they were around two thousand years old after encountering a lucky chance in a mid-sized Territory. After their return to the Alstreim Family, they were grandly celebrated, and the last surviving ancestor was able to lay his life in peace."

"However, the heavens still couldn't help but feel jealous of the three brothers. In the battlefield of the Tripartite Alliance Territory, destruction ensued, and killing was rampant, even between Eighth Stage Experts. The corpses of Eighth Stage Experts could be even counted in the thousands; after all, it was a battlefield that included all the Nine Eastern Territories from the distant past."

"Of the three brothers, the first brother and the third brother lost their lives in a battle against the previous hegemon of the Vital Tempering Sect Territory. They were actually the ones to fall in the end. In any case, the first brother and the third brother fell into their trap and died. Only the second brother, Dian Alstreim, the only ancestor of the Alstreim Family, survived."

"Eventually, as decades passed, six of the nine powers decided to leave the Tripartite Alliance Territory after massive plundering, and the remaining three nearest powers, the Alstreim Family, Towering Cloud Hall, and Falling Snow Sect decided to form an alliance to govern the Tripartite Alliance Territory equally."

Claire finished speaking whatever she knew as a fact about the Alstreim Family's Ninth Stage Powerhouses.

"What a rich history!" Evelynn couldn't help but exclaim.

The Grand Sea Continent possessed Empires that only possessed a history of fewer than ten thousand years, excluding the Ruth Empire. On the other hand, the Alstreim Family alone possesses ninety thousand years of history!

Compared to the time they lived, it appeared utterly grand and long.

"Of course, the Alstreim Family has millions of people, and those millions of people were born in this ten thousand year period alone. Perhaps, each and one of them has an interesting story to tell!" Claire smiled.

"This... How long do Law Sea Stage Experts and Law Rune Stage Powerhouses live until they die naturally of old age?" Natalya curiously asked.

"If I remember correctly, Law Sea Stage Experts possess twelve thousand years of lifespan. As for Law Rune Stage Powerhouses, I recall that they have a lifespan of around thirty thousand years." Claire replied.

"Thirty thousand years!" Natalya exclaimed.

She cast a look at Davis before thinking, 'So the best I can live with him is for thirty thousand years. I-It is more than enough...'

However, her expression deflated.

'But... Why can't it be an eternity?'

Although no one looked at Natalya, Claire intently gazed at her before she giggled, "Don't worry. We haven't reached even a hundred years of age yet. You'll be able to live with my son for millenniums and have a fulfilling journey with him."

"Hahaha!"

Natalya blushed at being found out while the others laughed at her. It turned into a harmonious atmosphere.

Davis abruptly stood up, and the laughter stopped. They all looked towards the exit while Davis announced, "We've arrived."

At the next moment, a resounding voice bombarded, "The Alstreim Family greets the Conferred Queen's arrival. Let the gates open!"

Rumble!~

The sound of the gate lifting up could be heard within the hall.

Davis waved his hand, and a projection appeared before them. On the projection, there was a mountain range that stretched towards the horizons.

Claire narrowed her eyes as a sense of familiarity overcame her. This could be considered the outskirts of the Alstreim Family. She remembered that she had once trained here, hunting down magical beasts.

A figure could be seen rushing towards the projection, or accurately, in their direction. They could see it was none other than Elder Havle Alstreim.

"Looks like they have already identified us..." Davis smiled.

"How could they not? The Earth Dragon's Abode has the Earth Dragon patterns all over it. They likely sensed that the master of this abode is the Conferred Queen, who possesses an unknown dragon's bloodline." Princess Isabella replied, "It is inevitable for them to think that it is me, the Conferred Queen."

"Elder Havle Alstreim has come to receive us. As your subordinate, I must go greet him." Davis winked at Princess Isabella, causing her to smile.

He spontaneously reached out his hand, suddenly wrapping it around her waist.

"You-" Before Princess Isabella could even react, her lips were sealed.

"!!!"

Davis disappeared the next moment, causing Princess Isabella to stand at a loss, wondering why he did that suddenly.

Giggling sounds echoed behind her, causing her to blush, "Don't laugh..."

Evelynn suppressed her laughter as her bosoms shook, "Hehe, Davis is childish."

"Yes..." Natalya giggled, "Third sis, he's taking revenge since you made him your subordinate."

"He's the one who called himself that!" Princess Isabella acted furiously, but she turned away from them, still blushing like a maiden. After all, she was kissed in front of everyone, and that was just too embarrassing!

Logan and Claire looked at each other in bewilderment.

One was wondering how his son was able to keep his harem harmonious while the other wondered if she had accepted and consented her husband's harem, would it be like this?

Fun?

They both wryly shook their heads as they didn't know the answers to their question.

Davis appeared outside. Behind him, there was a hundred-meter tall structure that floated in a majestic and oppressing manner. Its width remained around fifty meters wide, imposing than the two arks of the Towering Cloud Hall and the Falling Snow Sect.

Elder Havle Alstreim's eyes gleamed as he looked at the Earth Dragon's Abode. He approved it as a work of art, and even with his Elder Soul Stage soul sense, he was unable to penetrate the exterior. He wasn't able to identify what kind of material this construct was made from, as it even blocked his soul sense from penetrating.

Usually, big constructs like these were only built with durable materials that could withstand physical impact. As for blocking the soul sense, it was secondary. No, accurately, it wasn't secondary, but materials that blocked soul sense were extremely rare, unobtainable, and expensive.

Even if it were obtained, only elite Construct Masters would be able to create such a masterpiece such as this King Grade Construct.

Elder Havle Alstreim couldn't help but feel envious of these people coming from large Territories. He looked at the approaching Alchemist Davis and clasped his hand, "Welcome to the Alstreim Family, Alchemist Davis Loret."

Chapter 869 Warm Welcome

Davis clasped his hand back at Elder Havle Alstreim with a smile, "I assume we can enter like this? After all, a mere Peak-Level King Grade Construct couldn't possibly pose a threat to the Alstreim Family, right?"

"Of course!" Elder Havle Alstreim patted his chest proudly.

They could easily destroy the construct considering its grade. However, would they dare to destroy it?

Even if they shouldn't destroy the construct, they can easily restrict it if there were to be any contingencies. Besides, he understood people like the Conferred Queen couldn't be moved out of their constructs. It would be a direct insult to their face that should be avoided because their motive is to build amicable relationships.

"We will lead you to the family's main city, named after the Founder, Grand Alstreim City. However, once we're right outside the city, I'll have to request that the construct stays outside the city."

"Of course, we are not rude. I likewise invite Elder Havle Alstreim to travel along with us inside our grand abode."

Elder Havle Alstreim's eyes lit up, "I'm much obliged."

Initially, he was thinking of how to confirm if there were no harmful elements inside the abode, but now, he was able to get in without asking. He felt grateful to Alchemist Davis. After all, even if he went inside and were to lose his life somehow, it was better than bringing harmful elements into the Alstreim Family.

If he easily brought harmful elements into the Alstreim Family, he would really become a sinner. His three generations of descendants would be punished along with him for a serious crime. On the other hand, if he were able to prevent such danger from getting into the Alstreim Family, then only he would end up dying.

Although he didn't give a crap about most people, he did care about his daughter and granddaughter!

Davis nodded his head and waited while Elder Havle Alstreim gave instructions to the others. Once Elder Havle Alstreim finished yelling, numerous flying boats appeared, forming an enviable entourage around the Earth Dragon's Abode. In the very front was a twenty-meter tall flying boat, a construct made out of emperor grade materials.

It was a Low-Level Emperor Grade Construct! But it seemed to be of a lower quality, other than the fact that it looked majestic, paving the way for the entourage.

Elder Havle Alstreim looked at Alchemist Davis, wanting to see his reaction.

Davis's lips twitched, 'Does he want to be praised?'

"This is a wonderful welcome! As expected from the person who managed to amicably converse with Senior." Davis nodded his head, causing Elder Havle Alstreim to break out into a burst of laughter.

"Aye, you're over-praising me."

"Haha." Davis chuckled. "Let's get inside the abode then."

They returned to the Earth Dragon's Abode while the flying boats started to lead them into the Alstreim Family.

In the same hall, the round table was nowhere to be found. Elder Havle Alstreim admiringly looked at the sculptures and patterns decorating the innards of the abode. He didn't know which Construct Master created this masterpiece, but he was continuously praising that artist in his mind.

He had asked Alchemist Davis, but the answer he was given was that he didn't know. Hence, he was talking to himself as he walked into a hall.

When he entered the hall, his eyes rushed towards the Throne that was placed on top of a powerful at the end of the hall. On the Throne was a female figure that made his heart skip a beat. She looked mesmerizing with the ray of light from the ceiling falling on her, accentuating her beauty countless times as the dark purple robe shined like the starry skies. She looked as though as if she was the sole ruler of the heavens, a woman whose beauty should not be blasphemed upon.

He swiftly lowered his head and clasped his hand, "Elder Havle Alstreim greets the Conferred Queen and welcomes her excellency to the Alstreim Family. Your excellency's beauty is as transcending as ever."

He had lustful thoughts upon seeing her in the past, only to take it out on a princess of the Ethren Empire, but this time, there was only reverence left in his heart. A woman like the Conferred Queen wasn't someone like him who can have thoughts on. He felt that he would be blaspheming if he were to do so.

He didn't even utter her name, and when he realized this, he sighed. Perhaps in the future, she would be in the large Territories, belonging to another exceptional man who might be even stronger than her, even when she is in the Ninth Stage.

He secretly cast a glance at Alchemist Davis, feeling pity for this young man who seems to be low-key pursuing his Young Mistress. It was bound to be hopeless for him.

"Be seated. Otherwise, people might say that I'm far too arrogant for not giving respect to an elder..." Princess Isabella smilingly spoke and waved her hand.

Below the platform, there were a few couches. Elder Havle Alstreim nodded his head and walked towards the sofa to be seated. Just when he was about to place his butt on the couch, a figure suddenly materialized beside him, sitting on the couch!

"!?"

He was given a start, but when he saw who it was, he heaved a sigh, "Senior, there's no need to scare junior like this. Junior is already nervous from the moment I entered this abode..."

"Hahaha!" Davis laughed. It was none other than Solitary Soul Avatar, who suddenly appeared.

He still wore a face-concealing mask, as well as a black robe with a hood that hid his blonde hair. However, he already dyed his hair black, and a disguise art plastered his face, so even if his hair and face were to be revealed, no one would think Davis and the Conferred Queen's Protector were one and the same.

He stopped his laughter and looked at him, "If it weren't for you, I wouldn't bother visiting the Alstreim Family. Last time, those brutes and scoundrels from the Towering Cloud Hall ticked me off. This time, let's see what happens! Hahaha!"

Davis heartily laughed in a deep voice, but that garnered a solemn yet silent gulp from Elder Havle Alstreim. Elder Havle Alstreim was suddenly feeling unsure.

What was the actual chance that he invited a calamity for the Alstreim Family?

"..."

'Perhaps, only the heavens would know...' He inwardly lamented.

The Solitary Soul Avatar patted on the couch, telling Elder Havle Alstreim to be seated next to him.

"To be held in better standing by senior, I couldn't ask for more." Elder Havle Alstreim clasped his hand and sat a bit away from Senior.

Although it was done with respect, he didn't want to become prey to any random soul techniques, so he sat with a bit of trepidation.

"Haha, don't be so afraid. I won't be doing anything to you. If I wanted to, I could've done something to you in the Ethren Empire itself." Davis laughed.

Truly, being able to scare an Eighth Stage Expert from the Alstreim Family had him in high spirits.

"Senior is right..." Elder Havle Alstreim relaxed a bit.

If he reasoned, then what senior said was logical, unless senior had some other motives.

Chapter 870 Distant Probing Eyes Formation

Suddenly, Elder Havle Alstreim sensed people approaching from the side of the hall. He turned to look when he found four people approaching. He saw three women and one man. Out of the four people, he recognized two of them.

He amicably nodded his head at Evelyn and Natalya, who had both earned their name in the battle exchange that had occurred a month ago. They were definitely geniuses, and he possessed nothing but respect for their talent and status. They were Alchemist Davis's wives. He didn't possess the habit of

lecherously looking at married women. Besides, one of them was a poisonous woman whom he didn't want to interact with.

However, when he glanced at the two people beside them whom he couldn't recognize, he frowned. They were the man with black hair and the woman with black hair. They both wore masks, but even without it, he was positive that he had never seen them before.

Naturally, they were none other than Claire and Logan, but Claire had dyed her hair black. She had originally did not want to, but she formulated a plan in her mind and wanted to act on it.

"They are?" He posed his doubt.

"Another two of my subordinates..." Princess Isabella giggled and spoke.

"Forgive them, because they are not a fan of revealing their faces, just like my protector."

"Everyone has their privacy and secrecy to maintain." Elder Havle Alstreim nodded as he watched them be seated on another couch. He didn't ask their names since the Conferred Queen did not reveal it when he asked. He knew that it would be rude.

Davis imperceptibly moved his hand, and a projection appeared in front of them. It wasn't just one, but numerous projection appeared around them in a scattered manner.

"This..." Elder Havle Alstreim became dumbfounded.

Cities, mountain ranges, towns appeared in his and everyone's view.

Looking at the projections, he found these places all familiar. Behind the mask, Claire's eyes shook at the familiar sight. She subconsciously placed her hand on Logan's thigh as if confirming that he was still there with her.

Logan held her hand and locked his finger with her. Nothing needed to be said, and just their touch alone was enough.

"This is called the Distant Probing Eyes Formation. It is built within the abode and helps us see the sceneries within ten thousand kilometers while traveling. If Elder Havle Alstreim wants to explain to us about the Alstreim Family's territory, then this is a chance." Princess Isabella explained.

"Of course!" Elder Havle Alstreim instantly stood up.

As the one who invited them, he naturally couldn't be rude to them and wanted to bring them around to sightsee like a good host, and looking at the projections, this just made it easier for him.

Davis, Princess Isabella, and the others naturally possessed curiosity for these unknown places, and since there was a 'guide' for them, they were naturally going to make use of him.

Elder Havle Alstreim started to hand out clear and artistic hand-drawn maps of the Alstreim Family's territory before he pointed at the projections. His mouth moved while he started to explain.

An hour passed just like that.

In short, the Alstreim Family, which took fifteen percent of the land and twenty percent of the ocean of this territory, appeared very prosperous. The land they possessed alone was four billion square kilometers, while the ocean they occupied stretched to five billion square kilometers.

To put it into comparison, the whole of Planet Earth, including the land and the ocean, only amounted to five hundred and ten million square kilometers. Not even the surface area of a planet of Earth's size could compare to the Alstreim Family territory's surface area.

The Alstreim Family Territory's surface area alone was thirty billion square kilometers, and the Alstreim Family occupied almost one-third of it. The remaining two-thirds of the Alstreim Family Territory's surface area was occupied by the other powers that existed, but the vast ocean remained unoccupied except for a few powers that occupied a few parts of the ocean.

In the Alstreim Family's territory, there were thousands of towns that hosted a plethora and overabundance of families. They all possessed the bloodline of the Alstreim Family, and among the millions of population, at least sixty percent belonged to these towns and lived for the rest of their lives unless they were ambitious and talented.

The Town Lords of these towns were generally Peak-Level Law Dominion Stage Cultivators, and they reported to the cities the nearest to them.

There were four cities in the Alstreim Family's territory. These four cities occupied at least a hundred million square kilometers each. Each of their City Lords possessed Mid-Level Law Sea Stage Cultivations. While they were City Lords, they were also considered Elders of the Alstreim Family, and they reported to the Grand Alstreim City.

The Grand Alstreim City alone occupied five hundred million square kilometers! Even the four cities combined would not be able to compare to the Grand Alstreim City. The population in this Grand Alstreim City were the wealthy branch families and the mighty main family. As a particular distinction, they all possessed lush blonde hair and beautiful purple eyes, a trait that they got from their Founder.

As for who the main family is? It is determined by who is the current Patriarch of the Alstreim Family. The Patriarch and his family would be considered the main family. As for the branch families, anyone who is at the Eighth Stage could start a branch family.

This also attracted external Eighth Stage Experts to join their family. Whether it is a man or a woman, if they married into the Alstreim Family, they would need to change their family name to Alstreim and would be eligible to start their own branch family in the Grand Alstreim City or the other four cities if they prefer.

Elder Havle Alstreim also explained about other special locations such as magical beast sanctuaries, unusual locations, danger zones, but at this time, they already arrived before the Grand Alstreim City.

"Your excellency, the Conferred Queen, we have arrived." Elder Havle Alstreim reminded.

Princess Isabella stood up from the throne and strode forward with gentle and elegant steps as if she was a delicate woman.

"Traveling in my abode to the Grand Alstreim City seems a bit rude... but what if I ride on a magical beast?"

"That's not a problem."

"Cultivators do have magical beast mounts, and even I had one, but it eventually died while we were doing missions. It died to protect my life." Elder Havle Alstreim shook his head with complex emotions.

"Very well." Princess Isabella nodded her head, "Nadia, come out."

A large figure suddenly materialized behind Elder Havle Alstreim's sight, causing him to shudder. It possessed the head of a wolf's, and its mane was dark in color. Its wings that extended above its front limbs were also completely black, similar to the black of a raven's feathers yet looked like an eagle's wings. Its wingspan was around thirty meters in length.

Its golden horn that was two meters tall, protruding out from its forehead, was also eye-catching, but its piercing golden eyes were intently looking at him in scrutiny, making him understand that he was perhaps a prey in front of this predator.

"This is... a Dark-Winged Twilight Wolf!?"

Elder Havle Alstreim exclaimed upon seeing its features!