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Chapter 531 Separatist Movement

Wilbur's smile faded when he saw the "X" mark on the table.

As the commander of Yaleview Army, he had an army of more than six hundred thousand men under him. Being second only to the commander-in-chief, he was on par with Jonathan in terms of status.

Being such a high-ranking officer, he had seen it all, and nothing could really easily arouse his interest.

Asura's Office was the exception.

With the intensification of the in-fighting within Chanaea, it was expected that sooner or later, Yaleview Army and Asura's Office would come face-to-face in confrontation.

Thus, Wilbur, as commander of Yaleview Army, would naturally be interested in information about Asura's Office.

He looked at Joshua warily and said, "Commander, if it is about Asura's Office, I would like to hear about it."

Asura's Office was set up less than two years ago, but within that short time, it had unified all the armies in Chanaea other than Yaleview's.

On many occasions, Wilbur had planned to get some men to infiltrate Asura's Office to spy on them for him. However, it wasn't easy, as the general population highly regarded the newly established Asura's Office.

Trying to overthrow such an organization would be almost impossible.

He never thought Joshua actually had the means to get access to insider information about Asura's Office. Belatedly, he realized he had underestimated Joshua.

Within a decade, Joshua had risen from a deputy director to the position of commander-in-chief. To achieve that feat, besides the support from respectable families, it was only reasonable that he also possessed the necessary abilities and skills.

"I just received information that Jonathan had ordered all his undercover spies in Yaleview to retreat, evacuating all his own men. So, you should know what that means. They're getting ready for war," Joshua shared.

Wilbur was a tad disappointed with the information that Joshua shared. He initially thought Joshua had some highly confidential information, so the revelation of such inconsequential information was a big let-down.

Even if Joshua had not revealed that to him, and if the spies of Asura's Office retreat en mass the next day, it would be obvious. As such, that information wasn't very valuable to Wilbur.

Joshua noticed Wilbur wasn't impressed with the information he shared, so he added, "One more thing—monitor the Eastern Army in the Northeast. According to my sources, there are unusual military maneuvers in that area, so they could be planning a separatist movement."

Wilbur's eyes narrowed when he heard that.

"Karl is planning to betray Asura's Office? Would he dare to do that?" he asked in astonishment.

"It's merely my guess at the moment as I do not have evidence to back it up now." Joshua solemnly added, "Lately, Eastern Army has been very active. Our latest intelligence revealed that Karl's family had gone missing for almost half a month. A few days ago, he captured Aidan, the commander of Medved Army, but the latter managed to escape during the hearing and made his way back to the north of River Onxy."

Wilbur's mind was rapidly analyzing the information as Joshua spoke, and he was quick to link the dots.

"You mean Karl may have made some sort of a deal with Aidan?" Wilbur muttered as that thought came to his mind.

When he looked up, what greeted him was the frosty look in Joshua's eyes.

"Wilbur, did you just address me as 'you'?"

At that instant, the world seemed to be frozen in time.

Wilbur felt his spiritual energy boiling over and then being drained out of his body. All of a sudden, he felt like a deflated balloon.

He stood up, bowed slightly at Joshua, and apologized, "It was a slip of the tongue, Commander. Please forgive me."

"Hahaha..." Joshua's stern expression disappeared, and he quipped, "I was just kidding, Wilbur. Relax! Come on, have a seat!"

Wilbur hesitated for a moment, then sat down on the stool again to face the chuckling Joshua.

"As I've mentioned, I do not have solid evidence at the moment, so it is just speculation with regards to the situation in the Northeast. However, we still have to take precautions against Eastern Army. From the map, we can clearly see Yaleview is situated right between the Northeast and Central regions. If there is a problem with Eastern Army in the Northeast, Asura's Office will have to pass through Yaleview to reach them. This, we will definitely not allow," Joshua said, looking concerned.

"Wilbur, based on the current situation, in the event trouble brews in the Northeast, Yaleview will be caught between Eastern Army and Asura's Office. Whether we like it or not, Karl will make use of Yaleview to be his best defensive shield. The military powers in Chanaea will be split three ways then."

As Joshua was sharing his views on the political situation, all the different scenarios of a rebellion by Eastern Army flashed in Wilbur's mind.

Although Eastern Army had less than one hundred and fifty thousand men, it was the best army in Chanaea.

If Karl really led his men to start a rebellion, the complex geographical features in the Northeast would be to his advantage. The probability of Karl, the Prince of Diyouli, becoming king in the Northeast would be very high.

Since the founding of Asura's Office, Chanaea had enjoyed almost three years of peace.

Suddenly, the political situation in Chanaea turned from peaceful and stable to fraught with tension.

So the past three years are merely the calm before the storm? Well, what's so bad about it?

The corners of Wilbur's mouth lifted, and he couldn't help but smile.

Heroes aren't born, but they are created in times of strife and struggle. A war will be to

my advantage, so why don't I add fuel to the fire and help it burn bright?

Back in Jadeborough, many vehicles were parked inside and around the compound of No. 2 Villa. All those vehicles were transporting medical equipment.

After Jonathan rushed back to Jadeborough, he ordered Zachary to buy over No. 2 Villa and made use of their connections to call for all the top medical teams in Jazona. Even the doctors of Asura's Office were summoned to rush over to Jadeborough.

The reason for all the panic was the lady lying on the sick bed—Sophia.

Jonathan and his team grimly stood by Sophia's bedside amidst a heavy atmosphere.

Sophia was injured, and her injuries were grave. The bones in both her legs were shattered, and she had chest trauma. To make things worse, one of her broken rib bones had punctured her lung.

If Jonathan hadn't reached her in time and stabilized her with his immense spiritual energy, she would have already died.

The medical experts present had been in discussion for three hours, but they could not come up with a feasible treatment plan.

Sophia's life was hanging by a thread, and she was sustained solely by Jonathan's spiritual energy.

The doctors were worried that if they were to operate on her, they would disturb the flow of that spiritual energy, resulting in instant death for her.

"Our doctors will be here soon, Mr. Goldstein. They should take no more than an hour." Zachary went up next to Jonathan and updated him in a hushed tone.

Jonathan nodded, his eyes betraying no emotions.

"Have you deciphered the encrypted data sent by 018? Have you located the Osborne family?"

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"There was no information on the location of the Osborne family amongst the massive amount of data sent over by Agent 018, Mr. Goldstein. The only clue we have is that they are somewhere in the Northeast," Zachary reported solemnly.

Jonathan was disappointed, despite having expected the result to be so.

Infuriated by the gruesome suffering inflicted on Sophia, he couldn't wait to get hold of the location of the base for the Osborne family and charge over with his men to eliminate the Osborne clan.

However, the task of locating the headquarters of such respectable families was easier said than done.

Those respectable families were also nicknamed "The Untouchables." Other than an indication of their power and strength, that nickname was also in reference to the protective and secretive nature of those families.

The rich and powerful in Yaleview, or even a wealthy family like the Goldstein family, had only heard of the powerful respectable families. None of them knew anything else about these secretive families.

In order to find out merely the location of one of the houses of those respectable families, Jonathan would have to risk one of his elites planted in the intelligence agency. It was almost mission impossible to find out the location of the crucial bases of such families.

Jonathan had been gathering intelligence on those respectable families since he set up Asura's Office.

Initially, when left with no other options, he made the desperate last resort decision to join the army.

However, as time passed, after witnessing the horrors of wars, he began to dream of lasting peace for Chanaea.

In order to achieve that, he knew he would have to confront those respectable families sooner or later.

Alas, after two years of hard work by the intelligence network of Asura's Office, all they managed to identify was the ruins of the Whitley family that was wiped out ten years ago. They had no success with any of the other existing respectable families. The Whitley family!

All of a sudden, Joshua's face appeared in Jonathan's mind.

Asura's Office had been mindful of and in quiet competition with those in charge of Yaleview.

Although Jonathan had never met Joshua, he had gathered lots of intelligence on Joshua and knew him well. After all, one needed to know one's enemy well in order to win.

According to the information gathered by Asura's Office, for reasons still unknown to them, all the other respectable families suddenly ganged up against the Whitley family ten years ago.

In a single night, the Whitley clan was brutally massacred and left with not even a single survivor. One of The Untouchables was wiped out totally.

Joshua was a descendant from a distant lineage that was banished from the Whitley family a long time ago. Hence, other than the common last name, he shared no real ties with the wiped-out family.

Moreover, Joshua was a very realistic and practical man. When he was caught by the respectable families, in order to stay alive, he immediately went down on his knees and surrendered to them. He also willingly self-destructed his own energy and elixir field. As a result, he was let off.

In the following ten years, he rose through the ranks and became a commander-in-chief that could compete on an equal footing with those respectable families.

With his current status, even the respectable families had difficulties going against him.

Joshua was a man not to be taken lightly of.

As the sun set, a military helicopter landed at Edenic Heights.

The top medical team from Asura's Office, comprising twelve people, had finally reached Edenic Heights.

The twelve wore no white robes and carried no medical equipment with them as they rushed toward No. 2 Villa. With the arrogant and menacing look in their eyes, one could hardly associate them with doctors.

When they saw Jonathan, the twelve oddballs went down on their knees in front of him and chorused, "Greetings to you, Sir!"

"The patient is inside. Go get the relevant statistics from Zachary and take over from

now!" Jonathan instructed.

"Yes, Sir!"

The twelve stood up and instantly entered No. 2 Villa.

Xiara, with the lollipop in her mouth, gave Jonathan a weird look.

"Are you sure these twelve are reliable, Jonathan? I see a student, an elderly, a white collar executive, and... Anyway, they looked like a strange ensemble you gathered off the street!" she said.

Jonathan frowned at Xiara's quick judgement.

"They are the real McCoy, the true top-notch medical experts! When I was severely wounded back in those days, they were the ones who pulled me back from the brink of death," he refuted.

"Well, judging by the look in their eyes, I would say they're more credible as hitmen!" Xiara sighed and retorted.

In less than half an hour, one of the twelve, a bespectacled young man, came out. His hands were blood-stained.

It was Jason Carrick, and he was the one with the best medical skills in Asura's Office. "Mr. Goldstein, I've done some basic treatment on the patient. I've drained out the blood accumulated in her shoulders and legs. Despite being stabilized with your spiritual energy, she's bleeding profusely internally. I have to drain the accumulated blood out manually as her body will not be able to reabsorb that amount of blood," Jason reported. Upon hearing that, Zachary turned around and whispered a reminder in Jason's ear, saying, "Jason, that patient is Mr. Goldstein's aunt, so do be gentler and more meticulous when you're treating her."

Jason was famous for his medical skills, but he was also infamous for his treatment style.

Once, he was treating Dorian, and halfway through the process, he threw the suture needle and thread to Dorain and said, "I've removed the bullet fragments, and I'm tired now. You bear with the pain and close the wound yourself."

Every time he extended a helping hand, his mission was always the same—to save the life of the patient. After he got the patient out of critical danger, the rest of the matter would be none of his concern.

Zachary's reminder also reminded Jonathan of Jason's infamous attitude. Eyeing Jason suspiciously, he asked, "Jason, how did you drain the blood?" "I..." Jason's blood-stained hands began to fidget with his tie, and he stammered, "I-I couldn't have done it without using the scalpel..."

Jonathan could only let out a sigh of resignation.

"It's okay. I'm not faulting you. Before you came, none of the other doctors dared to perform any treatment on her. I have full faith in you. Having a scar is better than losing a life."

Jason's tensed-up face relaxed when he heard those assuring words from Jonathan. "Pardon me for my blunt honesty, Mr. Goldstein, but even with us around, we can't guarantee we can save your aunt's life."

"What?" Jonathan suddenly lurched forward, and even Jason, who was normally proud and fearless, was shocked.

"You have to save her, Jason!" Jonathan barked.

Jason hesitated for a moment, then turned to look apologetically at Jonathan and replied, "We have our limits, Mr. Goldstein. One of her broken rib bones has punctured her right lung. She will be okay for the time being, but if the rib bone is removed, even we can't perform a miracle to save her."

"You mean my aunt has to lie in bed with a broken bone sticking out of her lung for the rest of her life?"

"No, it won't stay long that way..." Jason continued in all seriousness, explaining, "Even with the support of your spiritual energy and our round-the-clock care, the patient has at most ten days..."

"I dare you to say that again!" Jonathan snarled frostily.

"Mr. Goldstein, I know how you feel, but as a doctor, I must tell you the truth."

When it came to matters regarding his patients, Jason was calm and unflinching. He had no qualms about looking Jonathan straight in the eyes when he spoke.

"Impossible!" Jonathan grabbed Jason's collar and shouted, "Two years ago, I was wounded at Summerbank Mountain. My right lung was punctured too, but you managed to save me. Why can't you do the same for my aunt?"

"Mr. Goldstein, other than my skills, you were lucky to have the pill at that time!" Jason adjusted his spectacles and calmly replied.

"When you were on the verge of death, a young monk gifted you a life-saving pill. Without that pill, you wouldn't be standing here today," he added.