

## **The Righteous Player(s) C493 – “The Prophet School Is A Wily Bunch”**

### Chapter 493: “The Prophet School Is A Wily Bunch”

However, when Dmitri and Annan just started to plan for the next step...

Ivan Austere-Winter discovered the two brothers who were secretly making plans.

So Grand Duke Ivan had beaten up Dmitri.

Firstly, it was because Dmitri dared not ask his father's opinion on such a significant matter as the eldest son. Secondly, he failed to set an example as an elder brother and led his younger brother Annan to mess around. Thus, he had to take the second beating in Annan's place.

Dmitri did not care about his fertility, and he did not even think about having children.

Even though he did not care about this matter, the fact that he was infertile would make the Dukedom unstable. That was simply because he was the first heir.

At that time, Maria had decided to take the path of the Daughter of the Storm.

Thus, the Young Annan was the only one left to inherit the throne as the Grand Duke.

This decision incited Maria's panic. Unlike her elder brother Dmitri, Maria did not particularly trust the Young Annan. On the contrary, she was worried and overly caring for him.

Their mother died in the second year after Annan was born. There were supposedly six brothers, the sixth of whom died before birth, and the remaining two died of [Winter Heart] power before they were three years old. Thus, they did not get their name.

Annan was the child before last.

Maria was the third child before last.

Dmitri took care of her since birth, and she would take care of Young Annan.

She was more like a mother than a sister.

Even though she knew that Annan was talented, she did not trust the child she raised with her hands and was intensely worried. Compared with Annan and her father Ivan, she believed Brother Dmitri could be a better Grand Duke.

However, Ivan's lifespan had not been successfully extended because of the Rotten Man, and he might die at any time.

—At that time, brothers and sisters would depend on each other for their lives.

Compared with ordinary people who only wished to “live a good life”, the three still had the people of a country to be taken care of. Not long after the war, foreign enemies were around, and the nobles in the

country seemed politically unstable. At the same time, they still had to take care of and protect the common people.

Dmitri's brother, whom Maria trusted the most, lost his right of inheritance.

The future Austere-Winter Dukedom would fall into the hands of Young Annan.

How could she bear it?

The originally calm Maria planned to enjoy her life and wait to die. She would then inherit the Daughter of the Storm when she was 40. However, she made up her mind to become a formidable transcender as soon as possible.

This was also why she had participated in Master Michelangelo's succession ritual.

She was the Edict Wizard from the Storm Tower, the future Daughter of the Storm.

However, the Daughter of the Storm was mortal and would die one day.

Maria was not afraid of death, but she was worried about Annan.

Could Annan really take care of himself without her?

She also felt that Michelangelo's sudden summoning of eight young wizards must be a conspiracy. Most likely, he was doing some ritual. But at that time, she could not care about that much anymore.

Just like when Dmitri and Annan acted privately, she did the same to their father.

It might be revenge, or it seemed like a strange comparison. She did not tell Ivan and Dmitri about her going to Howling White Tower.

Maria had always been upright, saying and doing what was in her mind.

She was firm and unyielding, taking responsibility on her shoulders and moving forward in silence.

Compared with girls of the same age or the heirs of the emperor who grew up in a world surrounded by conspiracies, she was more like those Austerians of ordinary families who owned a family business.

It was also because of her integrity, Maria almost died in the taboo ritual of the Twin Towers [Overlapping Death and Life].

At that time, Maria did not understand how this ritual took effect. Only when they were fighting each other until only four of them left did they hear Michelangelo's message, telling them that this was the first half of a ritual.

It was not until not long ago that they realized this was an ascendancy ritual.

Michelangelo, the host of the taboo ritual, had successfully sublimated and achieved true deity not long ago.

Michelangelo was pronounced as “the Man in the Mirror”.

So when Maria came back that year, Dmitri got another heavy beating.

This was the unbearable weight of the eldest son.

In any case, it was he who was beaten up.

But also, thanks to the beating, Dmitri remembered it clearly. According to Maria, only four people survived that ritual.

Except for Maria, the remaining three were all dangerous folks. Of course, the few who died were even more difficult.

The Man in the Mirror's pope, Benjamin Foster;

The Black Wizard from Swamp's Black Tower, David Gerald;

The Man in the Mirror's student, Ghirlandaio Buonaro of the Prophet School.

And the name, Ghirlandaio David Buonaro.

It happened that the names of the two survivors were mixed in this ritual.

Although Dmitri did not know why “David” was added as the middle name, it was undoubtedly the person “Ghirlandaio” who Maria mentioned, judging from his appearance.

That harmless and docile Prophet Wizard maintained peace until the end. Maria did not know what he did or what tricks were on his sleeve.

Presumably, he had already used the Prophet Magic to rewrite everything that might affect his future.

The purpose of the Prophet School had never been just to “see the future”.

What they practiced was the skill of “rewriting the future based on the past”.

Dmitri once met a Prophet Wizard from the Twin Towers.

When Dmitri asked him, “Prophet school can directly obtain the results of their study through spells, then what exactly do they need to learn”, the person replied by throwing a question back to Dmitri.

“If 'yesterday' has become 'tomorrow', it will become two days ago. So is 'the day after tomorrow' 'today' or 'yesterday'?”

Dmitri was dumbfounded.

Although he did not figure it out in the end, he was convinced that the Prophet Wizards were a witty bunch.

The silent, low-key, and unobtrusive Prophet Wizard must have laid many tricks, and definitely the “Prophet” at the highest level.

The witty brains were constantly working. Every one of them was smart and scary, and everyone had a future vision. A Prophet Wizard, who could modify the future from the past, looked so ordinary that people would forget it if they did not pay attention.

If you saw this, would you believe it?

Anyway, Dmitri did not believe it.

His feeling at the time was, “The Prophet School is a wily bunch.”

The more low-key the person looked, the more likely he was calculating everyone he could.

Dmitri glanced at the gentle and cheerful middle-aged man in front of him.

As predicted, he saw a silver ring in the person's hand.

Have I fallen into the plot of these nagging Prophets again?

The thought came to Dmitri's mind.

Chapter end

## **The Righteous Player(s) C494– A Crucial Frost Beast**

### Chapter 494: A Crucial Frost Beast

“Is seeing me here also part of the 'future' you saw?” Dmitri stared at Ghirlandaio, speaking bluntly.

Dmitri took away the cigar. Then, as his deep and magnetic voice sounded, the smoke spewed out of his mouth naturally, “Your Excellency Ghirlandaio?”

Hearing Dmitri's address, Leona was startled and looked at Ghirlandaio in astonishment.

She was not one of those lower social status civilians who knew nothing about the transcended world.

In the current state, she realized her situation:

Dmitri addressed Ghirlandaio in the honorific of “Your Excellency” and mentioned the word “future”. Also, he has a silver ring that appears quite complicated, which I initially mistook as an ornament.

Could he be a Great Wizard of the Prophet School?

“Ghirlandaio” was taken aback when he heard Dmitri addressing him in honorifics, “Oh?”

However, he did not reveal his identity directly, nor did he ask how Dmitri knew this name.

Instead, he grinned at the corners of his mouth with interest, showing a gentle and harmless smile, “I haven't heard that you have the habit of smoking.”

“Ah, I only got into it in recent years. It's not a good habit.” Dmitri replied casually.

He stared at Ghirlandaio and said slowly, “I suggest you clarify everything.

“Since you can see the future, you should also know why I came here.”

Ghirlandaio replied with a smile, “I don't know.”



—Nonsense.

Dmitri did not believe the nonsense of the Prophet Wizard.

However, he did not dare to attack the wizard simply.

Those who could see the future would never be troubled by any “accidents” or “troubles”. When they took the initiative to appear in front of others, either things were adequately arranged, or it did not matter anymore. Thus, those who act would fall into their plot.

Dmitri was a little fidgety.

He got up and went to the wine cabinet. Then, he took down a small barrel of fine wine. Later, he laid silver coins into the shallow grooves where the wine was placed. The number was the same as the label on the top of the wine barrel.

This self-service tavern was a leisure facility unique to Austere-Winter.

It appeared like an ordinary dwelling, but the door was never closed. Besides, the door was covered with a thick black animal skin curtain. There was no one inside, only a counter full of wine, a single lamp, and a barrel of sauerkraut [1] for free. Other than that, food, wine, and a small round table were available.

Austere-Winter was cold, so Austerians fancied wine.

Even in the winter year when crops could not be grown, Austere-Winter Dukedom would purchase ample wine, plus the Noah Kingdom's grain to make wine. People would tend to frequent the taverns. After all, those places were lively, and there were hot meals.

However, the price of the wine in the taverns was much higher than the actual price. After all, they opened the business to make a profit.

So some people would bring their own appetizers and find a cheap private tavern to drink and chat with friends. Those who had no money could have some sauerkraut directly. Of course, some were dedicated to drinking only.

The private tavern owners usually ran multiple “stores” at the same time. Typically speaking, they were responsible for restocking because they had other jobs.

Since Austrians worried that the boss would be unable to continue working or lose too much money, the customers would spend money there. They would give a little more if they had spare money. Austrians valued reputation quite a bit. Thus, there came the most derogatory insult in Austria-Winter, a “Wine thief”. It combined the meaning of being poor, uneducated, and their whole family dead.

Of course, if a beggar had no money and was about to freeze to death, they were acquiesced to enter the tavern and get the cheapest wine to warm up themselves and survive.

After all, life was tough for everyone these days.

As the Grand Duke's son, Dmitri naturally would not dine and dash. However, his character was not the kind of person who would pay more money.

He poured himself a glass of crimson wine, glanced at Leona again, and poured her a glass. Then, he poured Ghirlandaio a glass without hesitation.

It was different from Leona's approach in pushing Annan to drink endlessly.

Dmitri did not even finish his drink before taking another puff on his cigar.

He took another puff before his cigar was lit for long so that it would taste a bit bitter.

However, this bitterness made him more energetic.

Forget it, there is nothing to hide.

“You should have seen the convoy yesterday. The convoy was transporting the Frost Beasts.” After getting Ghirlandaio's reply, Dmitri continued in a low voice, “They are just passing through this place. Logically speaking, they should set off for Frostwhisper Province in the morning.”

Dmitri exhaled the smoke slowly.

He glanced at Leona.

“However, they found that they had lost an important Frost Beast this morning. It is said that the Frost Beast is also in this city now. I am near the Razor Territory, so I rushed over immediately.”

“Ghirlandaio” immediately thought of the wolf that belonged to Doreen, “One Frost Beast should not bring Your Royal Highness Dmitri to come and find it in person, right? Is it dangerous?”

Even though Doreen had acted as a [Spirit Thief] more than once, it should not be the case.

Moreover, it was just a Frost Beast.

Frost Beasts were not rare in Austere-Winter, whereby they could be found everywhere in the wild. Only after the domestication of the Austere-Winter family could they get “the Frost Beasts that had been trained”.

What made the Frost Beasts precious were those that were domesticated.

Frost Beasts were uncontrolled and attacked other creatures at will. Only its fur and blood could be sold for some money. It was not anything particularly valuable, just a natural disaster.

Even lone Frost Beasts were roughly equivalent to the Noah Kingdom's brown bear level of deterrence to hunters. Anyway, the hunters would be dead if the beasts managed to get closer. Their defense power was solid, so there was no significant difference.

Considering that the smaller-size Frost Beasts were more agile, their threat level soared even higher.

“If it's only the typical Frost Beasts, I've seen them all, whether it's the Frost Beasts in the shape of rabbits, foxes, or even crows.” Dmitri glanced at Ghirlandaio and patiently explained, “You should also know the nature of the Frost Beasts.”

“There are the beasts that have absorbed the curse from the Old Grandmother's Dragon's Breath.” Ghirlandaio nodded.

It was not a secret.

Essentially, the “Winter Heart” and the strength that caused the Frost Beasts to mutate, as well as the Frost Beasts' ability to suck the emotions of creatures, were the other manifestations of the same power.

“That's the problem.” But Dmitri said slowly, “Man is also an animal.”

Hearing this, Ghirlandaio was taken aback.

His pupils shrank slightly.

Noticing this detail, Dmitri immediately felt a lot of relief in his heart. I didn't expect that you nagging Prophet Wizards would have something you didn't know!

“To be precise, it's a werewolf.

“When she was transformed into a wolf, she was attacked and fell into a coma in the wild. After waking up, she found herself transformed into the Frost Beasts. But the problem is...” Dmitri said slowly, “After she has returned to human form, she still possessed all the unique abilities of the Frost Beasts. At the same time, she also regained her rationality. Her name is 'Butter Biscuit', and she is the only human form of the Frost Beasts. Do you get the meaning of her existence?

“The primary mission of the convoy this time is to escort her to Frostwhisper Province. But this morning, the person in charge of the convoy told me that he lost Butter Biscuit.

“So, Your Excellency Ghirlandaio. Please tell me. When did you arrive at Razor Ridge? When are you leaving? What are you planning to do here?”

The man was biting his cigar. His voice was a little fuzzy; his right arm reached out from under the overcoat, holding the wine glass and raising it to Ghirlandaio while asking in a low voice, “Can you answer my question, brother?”

Ghirlandaio froze for a moment.

He chuckled.

He also picked up the wine glass and clinked it lightly with Dmitri.

“Why not, my brother?” Ghirlandaio narrowed his eyes and said with a half-smile.

### **The Righteous Player(s) C495– Doreen & Her Teacher**

#### **Chapter 495: Doreen & Her Teacher**

Doreen folded her hands on her knees, squatting in the corner of the room in fear.

The Frost Beast she brought was squatting in front of her, staring at her closely.

It was full. Thus, it would not hunt for at least two days.

Doreen, as Spirit Thief, knew this all too well.

But her fear was not because the Frost Beast was staring at her.

However, it was because of “Ghirlandaio”.

—How could a wealthy business person from the Noah Kingdom have the technology to tame the Frost Beast instantly?

Why couldn't Doreen, a wandering werewolf, tame the Frost Beast?

If she had tamed a Frost Beast, the selling price would be enough for her to indulge in pleasure and enjoy life for more than 10 years. Then, she would not have to use “The Scammer And The Missionary” to deceive passers-by and peek into other people's minds at risk.

No one could ever tame her Frost Beast.

Just because Doreen took it to “eat a few meals”, it would not take Doreen as the first hunting target if it was not particularly hungry.

The relationship between her and the Frost Beast was more appropriate to be described as “cooperation”.

However, Your Excellency “Ghirlandaio” tamed the Frost Beast without sweat.

No doubt that “Ghirlandaio” must have the Austere-Winter's Blood!

Even if he pretended to be a wealthy businessman from the Noah Kingdom, he could not hide this power. If a random Transcender could tame Frost Beasts, the beasts would not be a disaster.

If one could tame a Frost beast, even if they were not the Grand Duke Ivan, they were undoubtedly related to the Grand Duke Ivan's

bloodline within two generations... That person was undoubtedly an extraordinary figure.

If she were to follow her original life path, Dorine would never have encountered such a big shot in her lifetime.

But why would “Ghirlandaio” hide his identity and come to the Austere-Winter Dukedom from the Noah Kingdom?

Dorine dared not guess and also dared not ask.

She could only throw all the blame on her teacher.

She had a hunch that she might accidentally get involved in some conspiracy involving the highest level of authority in the Dukedom.

Just being glanced at by Ghirlandaio, Doreen was so nervous that her back was straight, and her palms were sweating.

In the current state, she wanted to flee. However, she was waiting for her permission to go and did not dare to run away on her own accord, fearing that her suspicion about Ghirlandaio's real identity was revealed.

She would not have any undue curiosity and would never inquire about anything.

Doreen was self-aware.

The less she knew, the safer she would be.



Not to mention...

“I'm just a werewolf.” She buried her head in her knees, muttering softly.

Werewolves were not well received by the Austerians. In comparison, the dwarves who were proficient at wine, had a robust labor capacity, and did not like meat could mingle with Austerians in the resource-poor Austere-Winter Dukedom. When the full moon was approaching, the werewolves, who occasionally go frenzy and lose their minds, lost the people's trust.

Worse still, it had become a fact that all other races would discriminate against the werewolves.

Of course, werewolves were also citizens of the Austere-Winter Dukedom. In Austere-Winter Dukedom, as long as they were minors, persons with disabilities or serious illnesses, or those who worked in exchange for remuneration for more than one month, they were citizens protected by law.

The Austere-Winter Dukedom law would not protect adults free from disease and disaster but did not work hard.

But the problem was that werewolves could only find a job if they had outstanding abilities.

At the same time, there was such a law in the Austere-Winter Dukedom:

—Slaying a berserk werewolf is not considered a crime of homicide. Instead, they are treated as innocent.

There was nothing wrong with the law itself.

Once a werewolf went berserk, it would attack others like the Frost Beasts. Werewolves would first attack cubs of other races, followed by people of different races, then cubs of their race, and finally other werewolves. Werewolves could attack anything but their immediate bloodline.

The purpose was not to devour but only to kill. Therefore, it was an attack with a relatively high killing efficiency.

Even a werewolf without a transcended profession might defeat Bronze Rank's Transcender after going berserk.

According to the research, this was the racial ability werewolves obtained since ancient times to compete with other races for resources and living space. Adult female werewolves after the end of lactation and young male werewolves who had no child yet were prone to go into a frenzied state.

For self-protection, no one would spare mercy against a berserk werewolf.

Thus, the law was necessary to ensure the safety of other races.

But there was a problem. Werewolves did not necessarily go berserk on a full moon.

Some werewolves might not go berserk even once for several years, but some werewolves would go berserk twice a month. A fanatical werewolf was no different from usual except that he could not speak or drink.

Wanting to prove that a werewolf who was killed was not berserk was harder than proving innocence.

This unique racial trait also made it difficult for many villages to accept werewolves—especially underage male werewolves. They could only live in caves outside the small barrier in the form of werewolf tribes.

As for female werewolves, they were relatively safe without pregnancy and could stay in the small barrier. But once pregnant, they would also be driven out of their residence. After the lactation period ended, the female werewolf would go berserk almost once or twice a month, and it would last until the child was seven years old and could hunt independently.

The lifespan of werewolves was short, only forty years on average. A six-year-old werewolf was already about the size of a seventeen-year-old human youth.

Logically speaking, Doreen, as a female werewolf, could live in the barrier as long as she did not get married. It was not a particularly hard life if she learned some skills, found a job as a female worker, or saved some money to attend an adult university.

But the problem was that Doreen's mother had gone berserk in the village.

Her mother had a great personality, so she gained the villagers' trust. She could even marry humans and have children—yes, Doreen was actually a half-werewolf.

But no matter how good the character was, she could not resist her racial instinct.

Doreen's mother went berserk twice.

But fortunately, Doreen's father was a transcender. He was an Idol Wizard who graduated from Howling White Tower.

He quickly put Doreen's mother down each time.

After that, until Doreen was five years old, she did not go berserk again. Her father gradually relaxed his vigilance.

Until a foreign woman holding a child and asking for directions knocked on the door of their house at night.

By the time Doreen's father woke up, she had killed the child and nearly killed the child's mother.

Doreen's father hesitated for a long time.

He finally decided. After the battle, she helped Doreen's mother to dispose of the crime traces and hide the corpses.

There was no problem at first.

However, when Little Doreen was playing in the yard the next day, she accidentally dug out the untreated corpse.

With the premise that the victim was not from the same village, Doreen's mother was not slain or reported by the villagers. But she had already killed someone. The villagers could not accept living with her—their family was kicked out.

Later, for some reason, her father's illegal use of spells and crimes were exposed.

The Winter's Hand captured the wanted Doreen's parents — Doreen's mother would be imprisoned for twenty years, while her father would be sentenced to three years of confinement and labor.

Doreen was left alone.

Unlike other werewolves, she had such a happy childhood that she did not even know the “survival skills”, even thief and robbery.

Later, she met her “teacher”.

The teacher specialized in nurturing werewolf orphans, turning them into phantom thieves, spirit thieves, spies, killers...

[Professor Wolf] Frederick Wolfheart.