

The Protector Chapter 1136

She had waited thirty days for Levi's return, but he didn't come back.

That man had disappeared, or to put it bluntly, he had run away while abandoning his family.

All of them were more than aware of the fact that if Levi didn't show his face within a month under these circumstances, chances were he won't ever show up again.

No matter how hard Zoey tried to trust in Levi, now, she must accept the reality that Levi was gone.

Nonetheless, there was not a trace of anger on her face. The only semblance of emotion that could be seen on her face was the streaks of tears that were running down her cheeks.

Thud!

Emma fainted as everything was too overwhelming for her to bear. She couldn't believe that her son would prioritize his interests over his family, just like what Tyrone had once done to her.

Sylas and Russell were both in a state of agitation. They had guessed that Levi must have had a mission at hand, which explained why he didn't have a choice but to leave without a word. However, they were not allowed to reveal Levi's real identity to them.

"This is good news! Levi leaving is actually a good thing for us!"

"If he had returned, it would spell doom for us since he had offended the Garrison clan."

Both Harry and Robert felt elated.

Meredith, too, was excited. "That's right! Tyrone said that everything would be alright as long as the baby doesn't take on the surname of the Garrisons."

Even though they couldn't cozy up to the Garrison family, it didn't matter anymore since Morris Group and the topmost prominent families in South Hampton were now under Zoey's control. This alone was enough an improvement of the status of their family.

"Zoey, you should accept the reality that Levi has abandoned you. It is time for you to start anew!"

"That's right! Forget about him! You should move on for the sake of your baby!"

Everyone started giving their advices.

Zoey wiped her tears away. With her eyes full of determination, she uttered, "Dad, Mom, I've lost the bet. I'll believe that Levi has run away now. He has abandoned me and the baby."

From Zoey's sorrowful expression, everyone could tell how disappointed she was toward Levi.

She must be heartbroken right now. This time, Levi had really hurt her to the core.

Six years ago, she was willing to wait for his return because she knew he was framed. However, things were totally different this time.

Meanwhile, Emma, who had just regained consciousness, started sobbing uncontrollably. Things had spiraled out of control, heading toward the direction contrary to all her expectations. *My son... Levi... Please come back...*

Zoey cast her eyes over the whole lot before announcing, "I declare that from today onwards, I, Zoey Lopez, will cut ties with Levi Garrison. He is no longer my husband or my baby's father!"

"No..." Emma shouted her objection, but to no avail.

"Secondly, my baby will take on my surname as Lopez. Thirdly, I will reside overseas during the last few months of my pregnancy until I deliver the baby." Zoey announced the three

most difficult decisions in her entire life in one go. Her voice was firm and resolute because the person who was supposed to be there for her had run away, leaving her behind, and now she could only count on herself.

"I'm happy for you, Zoey! You've finally decided to move on."

"After all these years, you finally got to see Levi's true colors!"

"I'm glad you finally know that Levi is nothing but a selfish prick!"

Caitlyn and the others couldn't help getting a little emotional.

"And you!" Meredith shifted her gaze to Emma. "From now onward, you will leave Zoey alone, and don't you ever come anywhere near her! From now on, the Lopez family has nothing to do with anyone from the Garrison family. Zoey's baby has no relationship with you either."

"Mo—" Zoey suddenly recalled that it was not her place to call her "mom" anymore, so she changed the way she addressed Emma. "Aunt Emma, you should leave now and go back to South Hampton. Goodbye."

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“Zoey, can you let me take care of you? Why don’t you let me stay by your side since I’m the one who has been taking care of your daily livings all this while? Besides, I wish to make it up for you on behalf of Levi. At the very least, please let me stay until you deliver the baby.” Emma pleaded earnestly.

Caitlyn and Aaron concurred with her. “She’s right, Zoey, why don’t you let her stay? We believe she can take good care of you.”

They had taken note of how meticulous Emma was when it came to taking care of Zoey. Even Caitlyn herself had to admit that she wasn’t capable of doing what Emma did, taking every matter into her own hands. She honestly thought that even a nanny wouldn’t do any better than Emma.

“Alright, she can stay. After all, she did take good care of Zoey.” Meredith relented.

However, Zoey shook her head and gave the final word. “No. Aunt Emma must leave. Thank you for taking care of me all this while.” She wouldn’t budge in this matter. “But... Don’t worry, Aunt Emma. You can always come and see the baby if you want. Of course, it will be best if you can leave us alone.” Her voice was soft yet firm, making it clear that Emma was allowed to visit the baby, but she will never be acknowledged as the baby’s grandma.

Zoey’s resoluteness was surely beyond everyone’s expectations.

“Then we’ll listen to Zoey. You should leave now! We have nothing to do with the Garrison family from now on.” Caitlyn and Aaron chased Emma out.

Emma had no choice but to go back to South Hampton.

“Zoey, get ready, we’re leaving the country immediately. All of us have quit our jobs, and we’ll accompany you until you deliver the baby,” said Caitlyn.

The Black and Lopez family had booked a private jet to Keerea, a country well-known for its high-quality healthcare system, which was not far from Erudia. Logan had also made arrangements in that country beforehand.

The jet was scheduled to take flight in the afternoon.

Unbeknownst to Zoey and Emma, Tenichi had been keeping an eye on their every move.

“Zoey Lopez will be arriving at Keerea by midnight! We have all the information about their motorcade route and manpower arrangement. Be prepared, my dear allies! It will be more than enough if we have Zoey in our hands, but it will be best if we can catch Emma Jones as well. We will have more bargaining chips if we manage to capture both of them.” Tenichi had everything all planned out. *We will catch both of them!*

In the afternoon, the Lopezs and the Blacks boarded the jet with Zoey alongside some paramedics.

The private jet was set to land at the capital of Keerea at Stellar International Airport. Little did they know that Tenichi, the man whom Levi had defeated, had set an ambush for them at the airport.

He had cleared the airspace, stopped all the flights, and emptied the whole airport. Tens of thousands of elites were now lurking in the darkness, waiting to launch their attacks as soon as the jet landed.

In the meantime, Emma had just arrived in South Hampton when she was ambushed on her way back to Edburg Manor as Tenichi’s elites had been lying in wait for her for quite some time.

While Tenichi was busy capturing both Zoey and Emma, Levi, on the other hand, was stuck in North Base One, fighting a life and death battle against the lunatics of the Blood King Palace.

The private jet from North Hampton landed safe and sound at the Stellar International Airport.

Sitting at the control tower, Tenichi had a clear view of the runway. "Zoey Lopez is here! Get ready, everyone! We will attack as soon as she appears!"

"My men are on standby outside the airport. Let's hurry and get off the plane." Logan urged.

Unaware of what was awaiting ahead for them, Zoey and the others got off the plane.

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In North Base One, a battle had been waged on the vast glacier. The battlefield was baptized in blood and effluvia of death as dead bodies were scattered everywhere.

Levi and his men had just fought another wave of the Blood King Palace's ferocious attack off and were now resting and reorganizing themselves.

Sitting on a huge rock, Levi was smoking his cigar when all of a sudden, restlessness crept around his heart as he broke into a cold sweat. It felt as if his extrasensory perception was being triggered, and it was an odd feeling that he had never experienced before.

Oh no! Something bad happened!

Levi felt a gloomy foreboding that something must have had happened to Zoey and his mother.

However, since he was on Erudia's top confidential and secret mission, he couldn't possibly allocate his men for his private affairs in protecting his family.

Even though he knew Percy wouldn't be able to fend off the attacks if they were being set as a target by his enemy, he could only count on him now.

This is bad! Zoey and Mother must be in imminent danger! Levi was soaked in a cold sweat as he couldn't help feeling panicked.

If he couldn't be there to protect his family when they needed him, he was in no way a dependable husband or son. But as the situation stands now, he could only choose between his country or his family.

In fact, most of Erudia's soldiers faced the same dilemma as Levi. They couldn't be by their parents, wives, and children's side because they were being entrusted with missions. Some of them might even miss some of the most important events in life because of that.

Even when they were spending time with their families, the soldiers must be at the military's beck and call and leave whenever they received orders. It was inevitable that their families and loved ones might feel disappointed, and their friends might find them distant.

Nonetheless, they had no choice because they needed to protect their country. It was their conviction that allowed the citizens, their families, and friends to live peaceful and stable life.

Not only the soldiers, but many from different industries were also facing the same situation as them. These people were the ones who made contributions to Erudia's development, but they were also constantly being misunderstood by their close ones for the same reason.

Unknown to anyone, there existed a group of people who were selfless enough that they were willing to contribute all of their time and efforts in exchange for the country's better future. It was because of heroic people like them bearing the cross that the citizens got the chance to live a peaceful life.

The stability of the country was the result of sacrifices by countless people like Levi. Being entrusted with the mission to destroy the Blood King Palace and protect his country, he must give up his family even though his wife was pregnant with his baby.

"God of War, we don't care if we receive military punishment for disobeying the orders. Please allow us to head back to save Aunt Emma and Zoey!" Azure Dragon volunteered himself upon noticing the paleness on Levi's face.

White Tiger, whose body was covered in blood, kneeled in front of Levi. "That's right! God of War, let us save Zoey even though it would mean disobeying military orders. We are willing to accept any punishment!" Both of them were unwilling to see Zoey and Emma in danger.

Thump!

Thump!

Soon, all the soldiers followed suit and they kneeled before Levi.

Levi raised his head, trying hard to hold back his tears as he uttered through gritted teeth, "The military order is absolute; no one can disobey it! As the leader of the team, I should set a good example. This is the end of the discussion, and don't ever bring it up again."

From the moment he put on his military uniform and stepped onto the battlefield, he no longer held the identity as anyone else's husband, son, or father. As Erudia's soldier, he must prioritize his duty in protecting his country over his private affairs.

Phoenix broke out into tears. "Then what should we do now? They must be in imminent danger right now! A month has passed, and Tenichi must have prepared for revenge. Are we just going to sit here and let him harm Zoey and Aunt Emma?"

"Sir, the Blood King Palace is back again!"

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Levi was at the end of his rope when the Blood King Palace came back with another wave of attack. All of the soldiers had to focus energy on it because they were facing an enemy that was too powerful.

“Charge forward on my command!” Levi gave his command, his voice loud and clear.

Chuff! Chuff! Chuff!

Just then, a Dragonite Helicopter landed on the ice sheet. A few Dragonites hopped out of the helicopter and immediately ran toward Levi. The next moment, they were all kneeling on one knee in front of him. “Greetings God of War! Please hold fire as we are here with urgent news!”

“What is it?” Levi’s heart skipped a beat.

The others were just as confused. *Did the Dragonites travel all the way from Oakland City to bring them another bad news?*

One of the Dragonites smiled and asked, “God of War, are you worried about your family’s safety?”

Levi nodded. “Yes, I’m very worried about them. Those previously defeated by me will definitely target my family once I leave their side.”

The Dragonite slowly explained to him, “Don’t worry, God of War. The government has taken notice of your concern as well. The re-emergence of the Blood King Palace is a part of the conspiracy of Tenichi, Raysonia’s military strategist. He did all this to send you away from Erudia so that he could seize the opportunity to capture your family and threaten you with them.”

Levi was surprised and overjoyed. *The government is aware of Tenichi's conspiracy, which means Mother and Zoey are safe now!*

With a smile, the Dragonite reassured them, "All soldiers that are fighting for the country, you need not worry for your family. Erudia will be your strongest backup!"

Thousands of millions of soldiers were touched by the reassurance. It was inevitable that, as a soldier, they might be required to choose between their beloved country and dearest family. Luckily, they were born in Erudia – a country whose government would protect their family while they were at the frontlines, defending the nation.

"God of War, your wife and family have headed to Keerea..."

Levi's heart sank. *Zoey has really gone overseas... I guess she hates me to the core now...*

He asked softly, "Are they safe?"

"Tenichi has sent at least ten thousand elites to the Stellar International Airport. They will attack as soon as your wife arrives at the airport." In a sudden change of tone, the Dragonites gave him reassuring news. "But you need not worry because we have sent someone else to protect your family. Tenichi no longer poses a threat to their safety."

"Who did you send?" Levi asked curiously.

"Winsor Campbell."

"Him?" Levi drew in a sharp breath, and his expression changed upon the mention of that name.

Winsor Campbell was his one and only competitor in the whole of Erudia. Back then, when he defeated the Eighteen-Nation Alliance of God class fighters, Winsor's achievements were only second to his.

He was crowned as the God of War, while Winsor received the title of Asura.

Winsor was a cold-blooded and merciless man. Just like what his title Asura connoted, he seemed to be a living embodiment of destruction.

Back then, he had received as much acclamation as well as criticisms for his act of annihilating the war captives. Later, for some reason, the military decided to transfer him to Oakland City.

He couldn't become someone like Levi because of his bloodthirsty nature, but he was undeniable a worthy opponent second only to the latter in terms of his combat skill and prowess in war.

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He was more of a mighty warrior than a colonel!

"I'm glad that I have Asura!" Levi was both relieved and extremely touched.

Everyone in Erudia knew that the God of War and Asura were never on good terms. They were practically arch-enemies.

If it weren't for the fact that they were both mighty military leaders of Erudia, they would've fought to the bitter end.

No one in Erudia dared to disobey Levi except Asura, a.k.a. Winsor Campbell.

He'd been unhappy about Levi being the God of war as he believed that he had the edge over Levi and he should be the one bearing the title.

Their hostility towards each other never ceased.

From what Levi understood, under no circumstances would Winsor protect Zoey for him, but he did.

That showed how much Erudia had done to persuade Winsor into helping him.

It also reflected his willingness to put his personal grudges aside when in the face of Erudia's interests...

"I'm impressed, Winsor! I owe you one!" Laughed Levi.

Even if he had to hand out his title to Winsor after that, he would be more than willing to do it.

“God of War, Asura has arrived at Keerea. Your wife is in safe hands. Asura’s three disciples— Bolgun, Zar, and Talon—are on their way to protect your mother. We plead for your full allegiance in bringing Blood King Palace down. You have Erudia at your back and we are with you too!” the Dragonites roared as they saluted.

Levi saluted and led his men to the annihilation of Blood King Palace.

Somewhere around the Joneses’ Edburg Manor in South Hampton.

Just when the foreign elite fighters were about to strike, they sensed something amiss. Before they knew it, blood was jetting out from the back of their neck.

Indeed, those men were virtuosos in their field. But the people they were against were much more vicious and bloodthirsty—Bolgun, Zar, and Talon.

They bore a resemblance to their master, Asura. They were brutal, ruthless, and would show no mercy.

Emma was unscathed.

Meanwhile at Keerea’s Stellar International Airport.

Tenichi Watanabe spotted Zoey on the big screen.

“On my command...” Just as he was about to shout out his command, he smelled blood.

He turned his head around only to see all his men lying in a pool of blood.

Someone was staring at him!

It was a gauntly tall figure in a Devil’s mask.

“Erudia’s Asu... Asura...” Tenichi gulped.

“Tell your men to retreat! Don’t make me bring death to all! Zoey’s under my guard and no one touches her!” commanded Winsor.

Tenichi expressed his disbelief. “How was this even possible! You should be on bad terms with the God of War. Why have you come all the way to protect his woman? This is unbelievable!”

Everyone knew that the God of War and Asura were at loggerheads since forever.

“Indeed! You’re right! Levi and I can never get along. We may detest each other but you have forgotten something important. We are people of Erudia and no one terrorizes Erudia!” Winsor’s words pierced through the air.

Tenichi overlooked the shared pride and patriotism between Levi and Winsor for their nation.

They would willingly make peace in the face of a common enemy.

Being ever unyielding to Levi was something personal.

But when it came to the interest of Erudia, there was no place for personal disputes.

“This is unbelievable. Alright, I’ll retreat!” Tenichi immediately withdrew his men.

He could afford to provoke neither the God of War nor Asura.

Especially the latter who was known to be absolutely vindictive and would seek revenge at all cost.

With that, Zoey and the rest were safe and they left unharmed.