

Chapter 1470

Seeing that, Gerald instantly grabbed hold of the girl's waist before helping her up!

"My god! What the hell are you doing?! Are you actually taking advantage of Xyrielle right before our very eyes?!" yelled the enraged girls.

To think that he was being so daring out in public, and in front of them, no less!

"I-it isn't what you think, Xaverie...!" said Xyrielle, hoping to stop her friends from saying anything unnecessary.

"There's no need to be afraid, Xyrielle! We're here to defend you! Whatever the case is, I'm making a call now so that this kid pays for what he's done!" said Xaverie as her angered friends united against their common enemy.

"You've got it all wrong! He was simply preventing me from falling just now! There's a pit hole there, see?" explained Xyrielle.

"...Huh?" replied her friends, all startled to hear that.

After realizing what had truly happened, their glares softened slightly. Xyrielle, on the other hand, found herself blushing slightly as she looked at Gerald.

A brief moment later, one of the girls then said, "...Even so, he'll still have to make up for our burnt kite!"

"I already said I was sorry!" replied Gerald with a wry smile.

“And do you think things will be settled with a simple apology?” retorted Xaverie as she crossed her arms.

Tugging onto Xaverie’s sleeve, Xyrielle then asked, “What are you still doing, Xaverie?”

“Xyrielle, you, of all people, should know how expensive that kite was! After all, it was made with high-quality materials! Regardless, with how plainly you’re dressed, I assume it’d be difficult for you to cough out a hundred and fifty dollars... Still, you did help Xyrielle out earlier... Fine, why don’t we do this? Taking into account that you aided her, you’ll just have to buy each of us a cup of milk tea as compensation. How’s that?” asked Xaverie.

“No problem!” replied Gerald with a smile as the other girls cheered and applauded.

Soon enough, all four of the girls were holding a cup of milk tea in their hands. Just as they were about to leave, however, Xaverie asked, “Speaking of which, what’s your name? And which department are you from?”

Seeing no reason to hide it, Gerald simply replied, “I’m Gerald! Gerald Crawford!”

“Copy that! Also, just so you know, a cup of milk tea each isn’t going to cut it! The next time we bump into you, we’ll be asking for at least one more milk tea treat from you! With that said, I’ll be remembering you!” said Xaverie as she dragged her friends away.

Naturally, that wasn’t a problem for Gerald. Xaverie didn’t seem to be making things particularly difficult for him either. Truth be told, he found them to be quite interesting.

Now that that issue had been dealt with, Gerald recalled that he still had important business to attend to. With that, he then quickly headed to the Department of Economics and Management.

As he left, however, he didn't notice that Xyrielle had been constantly turning back to look at him from time to time...

Watching as his figure slowly disappeared, Xarielle was jolted back to reality when Xaverie suddenly shouted, "Xyrielle!"

Startled, she then replied, "...H-huh? What's wrong?"

"You know, I've noticed that you've been acting a bit off for a while now... While you were all cheerful before this, you've been acting pretty shy ever since you bumped into that boy! Hell, you were even blushing as you stole glances at him just seconds ago! You can't have already developed feelings for him just because he hugged you a little just now, right...?" said Xaverie in disbelief.

"N-no! That's not the case! It's just... When I saw him earlier..." muttered Xyrielle, hesitant on completing her sentence.

"Go on!" replied Xaverie as she and the other girls anxiously waited for Xyrielle to finish her sentence.

"It's hard to put into words, alright? Look, do you girls remember when we bumped into that fortune-teller about half a year ago...?"

Chapter 1471

"A fortune-teller...? Wait, I think I remember. He was an old man, right? The one we met when we were on an outing?"

"That's the one!" replied Xyrielle with a nod.

“Hahaha! That guy was funny... I remember him saying something along the lines of, ‘Your heartbeat will immediately hasten the second you meet the love of your life!’” said Xaverie, recalling that event.

It was only a second later when she suddenly froze. Dropping her jaw, she then looked at Xyrielle in disbelief before adding, “You... can’t be serious, right...? That was the guy who ended up touching your heart?”

After nodding shyly at her friends—who were all staring at her with questioning looks—Xyrielle paused for a moment before shaking her head and saying, “...While it’s true that my heart thumped a little, I don’t think that he’s the one... After all, that fortune-teller had said that my lover would have very unique life experiences. My lover would also be extremely skillful and have near-unparalleled abilities! A true hero! With that said, while that guy from before was definitely a gentleman, he’s far too thin and fragile-looking! Due to that, I don’t think that he’s the one!”

“Heh! When you put it that way, I have to agree! With that said, I’m sure you simply misinterpreted your feelings earlier. Regardless, I won’t deny that that guy was pretty handsome and honest-looking... I’ll be frank and say that while I’d love for such a person to be my husband, I definitely wouldn’t want him as a boyfriend! As you saw earlier, I just couldn’t help but want to tease him! Either way, don’t think too much into it, Xyrielle! Just wait for your great hero to appear!” replied Xaverie with a laugh.

“You’re so mean!” joked the girls among themselves as they laughed as well.

Just as they were about to leave, however, a commotion—mostly consisting of awe-filled screams from girls—could suddenly be heard coming from the campus’s main road.

Turning to look in that direction, the girls were greeted by the sight of a crowd quickly gathering around a luxury car that was slowly making its way inside. What on earth was all that about...?

Stopping a student who was running toward the crowd to join in on the excitement, Xaverie then asked what was happening.

“What? Don’t you girls know about Young Master Laidler? He’s the coolest interim student around! Not only is he handsome, but he’s also very powerful and comes from a distinguished background!” said the student in a tone that suggested that she was his biggest fan.

“Oh? Is he that amazing? And how powerful are we talking about here?” asked Xaverie.

“I guess I’ll just give you a rundown on who he is! His real name is Stetson Laidler, and he’s a very prestigious individual both domestically and internationally. Now, regarding his power... There’s a rumor that states that he was able to kill a tiger at the age of twelve, simply by pointing at it! With rumors like that spreading around, it’s no question why he’s considered to be a legendary person!”

Before the girls could ask her anything else, she had already run off to join the crowd!

“Bloody hell! To think that such a person actually exists! I do wonder if he’s one of those extraordinary people whom you mentioned back when we were at your house the other day, Xyrielle...” exclaimed Xaverie in her astonishment.

Due to some circumstances, such things were no longer a secret to them.

“I doubt it. After all, father told me that those people are extremely secretive about their identities. With that said, I feel that Young Master Laidler isn’t one of them since he’s appearing in such a high-profile manner,” replied Xyrielle.

“...Hold on. Xyrielle! Do you think that Young Master Laidler could be the love of your life? After all, not only does he have a very special background, but he’s also apparently extremely powerful and skillful! The fortune-teller could’ve very well been referring to him, right?” exclaimed Xaverie.

Hearing that, Xyrielle instantly lowered her head shyly.

Ignoring her reaction, Xaverie simply tugged on Xyrielle's arm while saying, "Come on, let's go see what Young Master Laidler looks like!"

When they got there, they were just in time to see the tall man getting out of the car.

With long hair and a thin figure, Stetson seemed to have a perpetual sharp gaze in his eyes. To be quite frank, he looked like he had just stepped out from some anime. He certainly felt like an anime character as well. After all, from what everyone could tell, looking deeper into his past would definitely be intimidating due to all his legendary experiences.

"You know, they say that Young Master Laidler is from the Xyshore Border, and he's the eldest young master of the prestigious and influential Laidler family! I've also heard that he's been receiving special training in a valley ever since he was a child... I wonder if you've heard about this, but a few years ago, a massive discussion about the training boy took place. However, all of the discussions were quickly deleted, leading everyone to believe that the rumors were fake. With that said, I truly hadn't expected all that to be true! As it turns out, the training boy truly does exist!"

"I heard of that incident too! After all, the training boy was quite famous on the internet back then. The fact that he's now a teen checks out with that rumor! Still, I do wonder what he's doing here in the Jenna Province... He couldn't have come all the way here just to study, right...?"

Chapter 1472

As those from within the crowd continued discussing the matter, Xyrielle and the others simply listened in to their conversations while glancing at Stetson.

From what they could see, Stetson had a very cold personality. After all, he didn't even seem to bother about all of the people who were treating him extremely courteously. Instead, he simply walked off with an indifferent expression on his face...

Naturally, the discussions soon died out since Stetson was no longer there.

As the crowd slowly dispersed, Xyrielle found herself thinking, 'That couldn't be the love of my life, right...?'

While it was true that Stetson satisfied all the conditions that the fortune-teller had mentioned, her heart wasn't throbbing for him at all.

Observing Xyrielle's expression, Xaverie then grinned as she poked her arm while asking, "Well, Miss Xyrielle Waddys? What are you thinking about?"

"I'm not thinking about anything!"

"I can already guess what's on your mind, so you don't have to say a thing! Regardless, though Stetson seems to currently be shrouded in darkness, I'm sure he'll soon find his light again since Xyrielle's in love with him! Who knows, his training path could also greatly progress in future due to our Xyrielle's blessings!" said Xaverie with a laugh.

"Alright, that's enough! I'm a little tired so let's stop talking about this and just head back to the dormitory to rest already!"

With that, Xyrielle and her friends returned to the dormitories, feeling slightly dispirited.

Meanwhile, both Gerald and Perla themselves were walking out of the campus with a rather well-behaved and bespectacled boy.

When Gerald caught a glimpse of Stetson—who was currently quite a distance away—he found himself muttering, "...Oh? How interesting..."

"What is it, master?" asked Perla.

“Hmm? Oh, it’s nothing. You know, it’s quite embarrassing to realize that though I’ve met so many people before—be it through sharing a school or a workplace—it had never crossed the past me’s mind that some of them could actually have supernatural backgrounds!” murmured Gerald.

“...Huh? What do you mean by that, Master...?” asked Perla, clearly unable to see things from Gerald’s point of view.

Pointing at Stetson, Gerald then said, “What I’m saying is that though I’d surely have missed it in the past, the current me can tell that he’s also a person who’s training to attain spiritual enlightenment!”

“...What? To think that such a young person would be training to achieve spiritual enlightenment!” exclaimed Perla in shock.

“He’s not the only peculiar person we’ve bumped into in this campus either. Do you remember that bespectacled female student who showed you the way earlier?” asked Gerald.

“I do!” replied Perla, recalling her encounter with the girl. Essentially, Perla had bumped into her as she was walking along the corridor of the Department of Economics and Management. Following that, she had asked the girl which floor the second class was located on...

Nodding, Gerald then said, “That girl is a textbook example of peculiar people in this place! She’s actually a Rabbit Soul that’s possessing the girl! The rabbit itself is doing so to learn how to live amongst us. After all, possessing her would make it look like an ordinary person!”

Watching as Perla covered her mouth in surprise, Gerald simply laughed before saying, “Worry not, you’ll slowly be discovering even more in the future!”

Shortly after, the trio then arrived at a restaurant. After booking a private room, Gerald then ordered a bunch of food for them...

While pouring Yul a glass of fruit juice, Gerald then said, "There's really no need for you to be this nervous, Yul! We didn't call you out looking for trouble, you know?"

Chapter 1473

"I appreciate that!" replied Yul as he sipped on the juice before starting to eat. It was evident that he was still being extremely wary with his actions and words...

Noticing that, Gerald simply smiled before saying, "Still, didn't you just receive three hundred thousand dollars...? Why are you still being so hard on yourself? By that, I'm referring to the fact that you were only eating steamed buns with pickles when Perla and I found you!"

"I... don't dare to use the money... Though, I don't mind handing the money over to you, if that's what you want!" replied Yul.

Shaking his head with a smile, Gerald simply said, "We're not here for your money, Yul. We're here to ask you how you got your hands on the Heavenly Horsetail Whisk. From the looks of it, it doesn't seem like you were the one who had made the plan to auction it off in the first place!"

Pondering for a moment, Yul eventually raised his head before saying, "...I... I'm really sorry, but I can't tell you that... Look, if it's money you're after, you can just take it...! I was simply running an errand!"

Seeing that Yul was too frightened to even eat at this point, Gerald then cautiously asked, "There really isn't a need to be so nervous, brother... Again, we aren't looking for trouble. Let me rephrase my question... Did the other party say anything else after handing you the whisk?"

After hesitating for a moment, Yul replied, "...A young friend from the south will be coming over!"

"Hey now, what do you mean by that? Are you trying to change the subject again? Have some respect for my master!" scowled Perla.

"...Oh? A young friend from the south, you say... Could that friend of his have the surname of Crawford...? A Crawford living in Northbay?" asked Gerald with a smile.

Upon hearing that, Yul's eyes instantly widened as he said, "You... You know about the Crawfords from Northbay, brother? Then... Could you perhaps be...?"

"My name is Gerald Crawford, and yes, I'm from Northbay. Getting straight to the point, I'm here today to look for Master Ghost, the owner of the whisk!" explained Gerald.

Instantly wiping his mouth, Yul then exclaimed, "So you really are him! My benefactor had told me that a person called Gerald Crawford would definitely come looking for me soon to inquire about the Heavenly Horsetail Whisk! Now that I know that you're the real deal, he's also told me to hand you a letter!"

From that alone, it was obvious that Yul had been extremely cautious with what he had chosen to disclose, up till the point he realized that Gerald was the person he had been waiting for.

"Benefactor?" asked Gerald.

"While I'm not sure whether my benefactor is the same person as Master Ghost, I do know that he was the one who had saved both me and my family from dying back then... Following that, he had entrusted me with this matter, and from that day on, I've been patiently waiting for your arrival!" replied Yul happily as he retrieved a letter from his pocket—that appeared to have been personally sewn onto his clothes—before handing it to Gerald.

“Here it is!” added the pleased boy as Gerald took the letter from the boy. On the letter, were the words, ‘To a young friend of mine, Gerald Crawford!’

Recognizing Master Ghost’s handwriting, Gerald quickly found himself equally as delighted as Yul was.

Opening the letter, he instantly began reading its contents.

As it turned out, Master Ghost truly was in the Jenna Province. What more, Master Ghost had apparently also figured out the next step of his plan even before the first time Gerald had scaled Langvern Mountain alone!

Regardless, upon abandoning the church back then, Master Ghost had hurried over to the Jenna Province. Based on what he had written in the letter, Master Ghost had done so specifically because of Gerald. According to him, he truly believed that Gerald was the person he had been waiting for all these years. With that in mind, he wanted to leave Gerald a lavish gift as soon as he arrived at the Jenna Province!

However, even though he managed to predict quite a bit of his future, there was always a chance that the things he foretold could get altered.

Not knowing what other dangers awaited him, Master Ghost had made sure to lay low in order to increase his success of avoiding the many pursuits from a force.

Either way, Master Ghost also made it a point to repeatedly mention the underground festival that the Waddys were hosting, adding that if Gerald managed to participate in it, he would surely benefit greatly!

After reading through the entire letter, Gerald found himself muttering, “Why do I feel that there are some things I can’t seem to grasp from Master Ghost’s letter...?”

Hearing that, Zenny—who had also been reading the letter this entire time—said, “There really isn’t anything to be puzzled about, Gerald! After reading through it, it appears that you’re going to be my master in the future! Actually, allow me to rephrase that! You’re going to end up becoming my master’s master!”

Chapter 1474

Upon hearing Zenny’s words, Gerald instantly replied, “...What? I’m going to become Master Ghost’s master? Could you elaborate on that?”

“Indeed! Master Ghost had already mentioned it to me several times before, but he’s been waiting for the longest time for someone to take him under their wing. From the looks of how things have been progressing, it seems that it’s already been determined that you’re the person he’s been waiting for. What more, he’s even sent you a greeting and such a lavish gift upon your arrival in the Jenna Province! I have a suspicion that once you’re done with what happens during the underground festival, you’ll surely be able to take a massive step forward, Gerald! No, master!” said Zenny.

“That’s nonsense! There are still many things I have to trouble Master Ghost with once I locate him. With that said, why would he even be talking about greeting me as a master?” replied Gerald.

“What more, while it’s true that I’ve encountered a few miracles, I feel that they have little benefit to me!” added Gerald.

“Well... Either way, you should finish reading the letter first... I don’t think you’ve noticed the five elements diagram on the back of it...” said Zenny.

Hearing that, Gerald then turned the letter around to realize that she was right. Well, partly. After all, Gerald knew for a fact that this wasn’t a five elements diagram.

His eyelids now twitching rapidly, Gerald knew for a fact that the patterns arranged on the diagram were exactly the same as the five discs that were currently present in the elixir-of-life field in his body!

While he definitely recognized the image, Master Ghost hadn't left any explanations about it at all.

Regardless, Gerald had initially thought that Master Ghost was so focused on locating miracles since he had assumed that Gerald's strength hadn't advanced by much. In truth, however, Gerald had far exceeded his previous strength since they last met.

While that had been Gerald's own assumption about the situation, looking at the picture now made Gerald realize something.

Master Ghost could have only included this picture with the knowledge that Gerald would have already restored his Dehlere Foundation upon arriving at the Jenna Province. After all, the image perfectly mirrored the discs that had recently appeared on his elixir-of-life field.

'Could this be a hint that I'll be able to solve the mysteries regarding my elixir-of-life field at the underground festival...?' Gerald thought to himself.

By this point, he had already made up his mind that he was going to follow Master Ghost's instructions and participate in the underground festival no matter what to find out more about its origins.

After properly keeping the letter, he then looked at Yul—who had been busy eating—before saying, "Yul!"

"Yes, brother Gerald?"

"From the looks of it, both of us were truly fated to meet... With that said, take this card. I'll be telling someone to change it to today's date later, but essentially, there's some money in it. Consider it as my token of appreciation to you, and do make good use of it!"

“I-I can’t accept that, brother Gerald!” replied Yul as he shook his head.

“Just take it!” said Gerald as he shoved the card into Yul’s hand.

Following that, Gerald and Perla made their way back to the Sherwin Manor...

As soon as they arrived, Julian and Terrance immediately greeted in unison, “Sir! You’re back!”

Both of them were now calling him ‘sir’ since they now knew how powerful he truly was. With that in mind, they felt that simply referring to him as Mr. Crawford would be a little too presumptuous on their part.

Gerald wasn’t really against this change either.

Regardless, before he had set off for the university, he had made sure to forcefully intervene in the grievances between Julian and Terrance. In other words, he had arranged for Julian to help train the Sherwin family’s children to allow them to open up their spiritual roots. Should things go well, the effort would surely pave the way for the children to embark on their personal training journeys in the future.

Naturally, this decision resulted in Terrance quickly calming down. Terrance was undoubtedly a person who placed his family first before his own grievances, which meant that as long as he was able to ensure his family’s survival in the long run, he would certainly be willing to let his grievances slide!

Shaking the thought off, Gerald then sat down and looked at Julian before asking, “What do you know about the underground festival, Julian? Could you detail everything you know about the event?”

“Of course, sir!” replied Julian as he respectfully stood up before sharing the origins of the underground festival...

Chapter 1475

“The underground festival has been around for a long time, and every time this festival is held, it’s usually in conjunction with the emergence of certain powerful resources!” explained Julian.

“Powerful resources? Could you be referring to the training resources necessary for those who wish to train themselves to achieve spiritual enlightenment?” asked Gerald with a nod, seemingly understanding what Julian was getting at.

“Indeed, but the reason the festival is held isn’t limited to the emergence of regular training resources either, sir! At times, the festival is also held when magic artifacts capable of destroying the world are found! While such items are certainly tempting for ordinary people to purchase and boast about, they’re invaluable treasures to those training to attain spiritual enlightenment!”

“With that said, there’s always competition when it comes to such resources. It’s the reason why those training to attain spiritual enlightenment choose to ignore their agreements during times like these and abruptly join society in order to compete for the resources!”

“Naturally, there are also ordinary people who wish to obtain such magic artifacts. Speaking of which, I’m not sure if you already know this, but as long as a powerful family owns such a magic artifact, there will definitely be a cultivating family who supports them from the shadows. While the buyer would certainly get protection, the truth is, the cultivating family usually ends up remotely controlling everything that happens within the buyer’s family!” detailed Julian.

Upon hearing that, Gerald found himself nodding. After all, from what he now knew, though the Crawfords owned a few magic artifacts and things appeared to be fine on the surface, the truth was that there had always been another Crawford family who had been secretly supporting them.

On the other hand, if an ordinary family acquired similar magic artifacts, they'd surely face the danger of being reduced to nothing but a puppet.

"So that's the reason you've been concealing your identity after entering society, right? Because you're aware that several people—who are also training to attain spiritual enlightenment—have rushed over and are very possibly already among us with their identities concealed?" asked Gerald.

"Sharp as always, sir. Regardless, had I not kept a low profile and ended up getting discovered by others who are also training to attain spiritual enlightenment, they'd surely lay endless traps for me or even besiege me the second they're able to!" said Julian.

"I see... The Waddys are the ones responsible for providing the platform for these contenders, correct? Are they trying to allow for reasonable resource allocation using certain methods in advance?" asked Gerald.

"That is correct, sir. You could say that the underground festival is similar to a martial arts conference. During the actual event, many of the participants—who are actually people training to attain spiritual enlightenment—will be disguising themselves as wealthy or even ordinary people. From what I've gathered, many of them will also be relying on the prestige of influential families in order to get a better chance of competing."

"If the rumors are true, then the winner of the competition—or the winning family—will also be given the dominant right to take the lead in discovering the miracle on Tierson Mountain! That's a big deal since such an honor would only ever be granted to someone with the rank of a martial arts leader outside the competition!"

"Oh? Has a miracle already been discovered on Tierson Mountain?" asked Gerald.

"Indeed!"

"I see... Tell me, though the Waddys are the organizers of the event, do you think they'll be sending in a participant of their own for the competition?" asked Gerald.

"I do, though do note that being the organizer doesn't necessarily mean that they're the one leading the event. Regardless, in order to secretly observe the situation this year, I've chosen not to cling onto anyone training to attain spiritual enlightenment or join any powerful and influential families, which is why I settled with the Duns before this."

Hearing that, Gerald felt that he now fully understood the ins and outs of the matter.

With that, he began thinking about Master Ghost's letter again. From what he could now guess, Master Ghost wanted him to join the underground festival because he wanted Gerald to participate in the competition.

'Could there be hidden things relating to the secrets of my elixir-of-life field within the miracle on Tierson Mountain...?'

The more Gerald thought about it, the more he realized how possible that was.

Gerald also finally understood why Master Ghost had been laying low this entire time. As it turned out, the undercurrents of the Jenna Province were already surging despite how calm it appeared on the surface.

Though there were probably already countless training forces that had secretly snuck into the Jenna Province and were already present, Master Ghost had hinted that the miracle would be of great use to him. Knowing that, Gerald knew that he definitely had to get his hands on it.

Still, though Gerald was confident that he was currently powerful enough to belittle many of the existing forces, after his little lesson with the King of Judgment Portal, he now understood that no matter how good he thought he was, there would always be someone better than him out there. With that in mind,

Gerald knew he couldn't be too high-profile now. Thankfully, Julian's explanation had given him some inspiration.

His current plan was to sneak in by joining certain families so that he could secretly observe the people who were training to attain spiritual enlightenment. With any luck, he'd be able to find out about their situations. Following that, he'd hopefully be able to eventually come up with a plan for himself.

After thinking about it for a while, Gerald then asked, "So, where exactly is the underground festival being held?"

Chapter 1476

"At the Heartstone Manor in Jenna City! By this point in time, there should already be many people training to attain spiritual enlightenment there!" replied Julian.

"I see. If that's the case, I'll be heading over there to check things out first!" said Gerald with a nod.

"Allow me to accompany you, sir!" replied Julian.

"There's no need for that. You're simply too big of a target, and I truly believe that you'll easily be discovered by the others training to attain spiritual enlightenment. Unlike you, I'm capable of using my breath-holding technique and that'll allow me to appear like an ordinary person. With that said, Perla can come with me instead," said Gerald before turning to look at Terrance.

"As for you, Mr. Sherwin, I'm afraid I'll have to trouble you with something..."

"Do state your wish, sir!"

“Well, I’d like you to get me admission tickets to participate in the underground festival!”

“That won’t be a problem at all, sir!” replied Terrance.

By this point in time, Terrance and Julian found themselves deeply admiring Gerald. After all, they both felt that their futures would surely be bright as long as they followed this man. It probably wasn’t a stretch to say that they’d surely be able to reach impossible heights just by being under him, and Julian, in particular, strongly believed in this.

Regardless, after entrusting and delegating everything that was required, Gerald and Perla were just about to head out to have a look at the situation at Heartstone Manor when Perla suddenly received a message on her phone.

Smiling as she read through it, she quickly said, “Master, Yul just sent me a WhatsApp message stating that he needs my help with something! He’s apparently waiting at the entrance right now!”

“Oh? If that’s the case, then why don’t we go meet him now?” replied Gerald who honestly had a pretty good impression of Yul.

He really couldn’t deny that Yul reminded him of his past self. Thinking about it, Gerald couldn’t help but laugh self-deprecatingly in his mind.

After all, there was a saying that while two equally great people could potentially end up becoming friends, two equally miserable people would definitely get along together. This was because after being miserable for so long, meeting someone who understood their sadness would surely make both parties happy to know that they had finally found a person willing to walk through the same journey together with them. That was most probably the reason such friends ended up getting so close with each other.

Regardless, upon arriving at the door, they saw Yul pacing back and forth with his cell phone in hand. Though he was now rich—after receiving the money from Gerald—he still chose to maintain a plain and simple appearance.

Whatever the case was, the second he saw Gerald and Perla, he instantly ran toward them before saying, "Brother Gerald! Perla!"

"You said you needed my help, right? What's the problem, Yul?" asked Perla.

"I-It's about my grandfather's grave! It's erected at Xbygi Mountain, you see, but a developer just said that Heartstone Manor is conducting an event there! Due to that, they're planning on taking down his grave! While I pleaded them to leave his grave alone, I simply ended up getting beaten up and being chased out! With that in mind, I was hoping that you could have a word with those people so that they'd at least give me a few days to transfer my grandfather's grave away first, Perla...!" explained Yul, his eyes now reddened and teary.

"...That..." muttered Perla, feeling like she had just been placed in an extremely difficult spot. After all, the Sherwins were no longer how they used to be, and they didn't really have a say when it came to things regarding Heartstone Manor for quite some time now...

Seeing how anxious Yul was and how sensing Perla's troubled feelings, Gerald simply smiled before saying, "There's no need to be so anxious. For now, let's just head to Heartstone Manor first. We'll think of a solution once we're there!"