

# The Rise of Dragon Temple By Wu Xia

## Chapter 49

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In Gempoint Group president's office, Joseph continued to make arrangements with Alpha 1. "After this, go to the Municipal Administration Department, Police Department, and the other departments to exchange information...." With a smile, Alpha 1 nodded and assured, "Don't worry, Mr. Dawson. I have talked to all the departments in Oplen. They not only expressed their full support, but they are also grateful that you held your wedding here as it greatly benefits Oplen..."

To that, Joseph nodded. Then, when he wanted to say something, his phone rang. It was Paige who called. "Hey Paige, what's up?" Joseph answered the call. Paige hesitated for a while before she whispered, "Joseph... Grandpa wants to have lunch with you. Are... Are you free?" When Joseph heard that, his eyes turned, and a few thoughts came across his mind. He thought Leonard was indeed quick-witted enough to suspect him. After all, he bought Estella a car and a house in Paragon Villa yesterday. Through this, Leonard must have caught on to something. However, to him, it didn't matter as the wedding was driving near. Thus, he nodded and agreed, "Sure. I will come to you later..." After hanging up the phone, Joseph looked at Dennis and Ernie. "Alright. That's all from me. You may go back to work." With that, Dennis and Ernie left with great respect. Then, Alpha 1 smiled at Joseph and said, "Oh, it seems like Leonard is suspicious of something. Speaking of him, he is also a big shot. In recent years, he single-handedly expands Aceshine Group to what it is today. It's just that he is too old, and I heard that he is now supporting his grandson, Maxton Mooney, who is serving in the military. Also, he has great expectations for Maxton, saying that Maxton will definitely lead his family to glory in the future..." However, Alpha 1 soon paused for a while and added in a playful tone, "Haha, but he is short-sighted after all. Perhaps he has been in a small town for too long, so he has no idea how big the outside world is. Why would he care about Maxton when he has a grandson-in-law that is way more powerful than the god of war?" Hearing that, Joseph chuckled and waved his hand, "Well, you also said that he is old and short-sighted. Whatever. I have been giving them chances all the time, and the choice is in their hands. Alright, you should also go ahead and do your work. The wedding must not go wrong. As for me, I will go and meet the old Patriarch of the Mooney family..." A smile flashed across his eyes. There was more than an hour before noon. When Joseph got downstairs and saw

the cars passing by on the road, he was dazed for a while before he monologued, "I should buy another car. I no longer plan to hide anyway." Thus, he went to the Mercedes-Benz 4S outlet again, bought another Mercedes S, and drove it away. As for Halle and the other saleswomen there, they were all astounded. That was because he had bought three luxury cars in three consecutive days. Besides, he voluntarily gave up all the promotions, so Halle's commission was also shockingly high. At noon, Paige, Leonard, Lily, and Rory were sitting in a private room of a grand restaurant next to Aceshine Group. For the whole time, Lily never stopped smiling, while Paige just sat silently with her hands secretly clenching under the table. As Lily had gotten Gempoint Group's collaboration

agreement, Paige felt somewhat unwilling. With that, she sighed inwardly, and a trace of helplessness flitted through her eyes. "Paige, where is Joseph? Have you contacted him?" Leonard—who was sitting by the window—asked Paige. "He just called me and said that he will arrive soon. Right now, there are some traffic congestions. Sorry, Grandpa..." Paige explained. "It's alright. Let's wait. We are not in a hurry anyway..." Leonard nodded without any hard feelings. Then, he opened the window, looked at the scenery outside, and breathed in some fresh air. But just at this time, a brand new black Mercedes pulled up abruptly in front of the restaurant entrance downstairs. Following that, the handsome and refined Joseph in a black suit got down from the car. At once, Leonard—who was looking down from upstairs—narrowed his eyes. When Joseph looked up, he saw Leonard standing by the window in a daze. Right away, he smiled at Leonard, threw the car key to the valet, and went upstairs. "What's wrong, Grandpa?" Lily asked when she saw Leonard spacing out by the window.

Leonard turned around and ordered, "Ask the waiter to serve the dishes. Joseph is here..." "Humph! So, that wastrel is here. Grandpa, why did you bother waiting for him? None of us have accepted him as a part of our family, and even if he marries Paige, he is nothing but a grandson-in-law..." Lily mocked with disdain. Anyway, there was nothing she liked about Joseph. Upon hearing that, Leonard frowned and reprimanded, "Enough! Didn't you see that Paige is still here? Is this how you treat your cousin?" After sneering, Lily stopped talking. She didn't take Leonard's words seriously at all. While she was sipping tea, Rory—who was next to her—said in a faint tone, "Haha, Grandpa, you shouldn't blame Lily. These days, she has been working hard

to secure Gempoint Group's collaboration. Besides, she has been traveling around during the day and staying up late to work overtime. So, she might be saying that out of exhaustion. Don't take her words seriously..." When Leonard listened to Rory's words, his face changed. Rory was right. Lily was now in charge of the cooperation between Aceshine Group and Gempoint Group. In other words, she now had greater importance than Leonard in the company. That was because the collaboration with Gempoint Group alone could replace a lot of small cooperations. Nevertheless, Leonard still had doubts about Lily's ability to win the contract with Rory's help. He somewhat felt that something was off. Since several years ago, Aceshine Group had always wanted to cooperate with Gempoint Group. However, they couldn't achieve it throughout these times. Moreover, Rory and Lily were together for more than three years. If Lily got the contract only with the help of the Shelton family, she should have gotten it long ago. Therefore, Leonard couldn't help feeling something was amiss. Even so, this wasn't the right time to say anything. Hence, he only nodded and replied. "Alright, thanks for being considerate, Rory. The Mooneys are grateful for what you did this time. Thank you." Hearing that, Rory also responded with a nod before he looked at Paige insultingly and stopped talking. Just then, Joseph came in, sat next to Paige, and apologized to her, "Sorry, I'm late." Paige nodded and muttered, "You should greet Grandpa too..." Hence, Joseph also said to Leonard, "Grandpa, I'm sorry for being late. There was a traffic jam." With a nod, Leonard stared deeply at Joseph. "Joseph, I heard you bought a car and a house in Paragon Villa for Estella yesterday." "What? Did you say he bought a house for Aunt Estella? No way. That's Paragon Villa. The housing price there is even higher than the villas in the main town. You must be joking, Grandpa." Lily spat out the tea, and her face was full of disbelief. Her parents always wanted to buy a house in Paragon Villa, but it was too expensive. Ignoring Lily, Joseph smiled at Leonard and nodded. "You're right, Grandpa. News travels fast. I bought the house

yesterday afternoon..." "Great..." Leonard nodded and continued, "How considerate of you. I heard you bought a car for Paige too. How about the car you parked downstairs? Did you buy another one?" Leonard stared intensely into Joseph's eyes, wanting to see through Joseph's thoughts. Nonetheless, he soon got disappointed because he couldn't see anything. The moment Leonard finished speaking, not only was Lily stupefied but Rory and

Paige were also bewildered. Then, Rory ran to the window and looked down. Sure enough, he saw two similar brand-new Mercedes-Benzs parked at the entrance of the restaurant! "How is this possible? There are two cars indeed! If we include Aunt Estella's, that makes three! Three Mercedes-Benz! And it's S-Class at that! This..." Rory-who saw

the cars with his own eyes-still found this unbelievable. How much money did Joseph own to afford a house and a few cars at once? Needless to say, the Shelton family's company was huge and had a huge capital too. However, that was capital, not pure profit!!! Therefore, Rory was thunderstruck.

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Lily's expression changed again and again. She had seen Joseph twice in the outlet, so she knew he had bought two Mercedes-Benz S-Class. However, now that she heard Joseph bought another one, she was baffled. Was Mercedes S a cabbage to him? How could he buy a luxury car worth more than a million dollars easily just like that? Despite that, she refused to believe that he was wealthy because if that was the case, her superiority in front of Paige and her status in the family over the past few years would be invalid. After all, Rory didn't even buy a Mercedes S for her, let alone three of them, and let alone a house in Paragon Villa! Thinking of this, she stared intensely at Joseph and mocked, "Where did you get the money to buy another car? Oh, by the way, I heard that the military expelled you. Is it because you have done something illegal? I warn you. This is Oplen. Don't drag our family into the mire!" The more she spoke, the more she felt that her words were reasonable. So, she quickly persuaded Leonard, "Grandpa, you should run a background check on him. How about asking Maxton to investigate him and see if he owns any criminal record? The military expelled him, after all. What if he commits a crime in this town? Our family will also be in trouble!" When Paige heard Lily slandering Joseph in such a manner, she was furious. Immediately, she stood up and yelled, "What do you mean, Lily? Don't slander him! He got expelled because of me." These days, Joseph had done too much for her. Besides, the military expelled him because of her. However, before she could finish, Joseph cut her off by pulling her back to her seat. As if he was looking at a fool, Joseph looked at Lily and nodded. "Guess what? You're right. I robbed that money. Whatever you say is always true. How about reporting me to the police then? You can even do it now." "How dare you!" Lily stood up furiously because she couldn't stand his disdainful and disgusting gaze. It was as if she were a brainless idiot. Moreover, she was awfully familiar with this kind of gaze because she often stared at others this way. "Enough! Sit down! Where is

your dignity as an elder cousin? Huh? Didn't you see that I am still here? If you don't want to eat, get out!" At that moment, Leonard could feel monstrous confidence and even arrogance from Joseph. Shocked, he thought that indeed, something was fishy about Joseph. "Grandpa..." Being berate by Leonard, Lily felt extremely wronged. "Sit down! I have something to ask Joseph! Don't interrupt!" Leonard coldly snorted at Lily before she sat down. Hearing that, Joseph turned to Leonard with a

smile and asked, "What do you want to ask me, Grandpa?" With a nod, Leonard responded, "There's something I can't figure out. A few days after Paige came back, she not only collected Reuben's debt but also secured dozens of collaboration projects for our company. But she was not in Oplen for many years. Who would help her? Are you the one who secretly helped her?" After asking, he kept staring at Joseph's face. At Leonard's question, Paige recollected herself and stared at Joseph. On the other hand, Lily was sulking while Rory was drinking tea. "Haha... Do you think it's me then?" Joseph chuckled. To that, Leonard shook his head and answered, "I don't know, so I want to ask you. After all, it's weird. It seemed like those partners took the initiative to come and find Paige..." When Joseph chuckled and was about to speak, Rory—who was holding a cup of tea

-uttered nonchalantly, "Haha... Why are you making a big fuss about some small business partners, Grandpa? If you want to accept more cooperation from small companies and enterprises, I'll talk to my father and introduce our family's business partners to you..." Rory said so because he naturally had a certain amount of confidence. Basically, his family was more than ten times stronger than the Mooneys. As for those small cooperation partners that signed with Paige a few days ago, he could also pull them over to Aceshine Group with the help of his father. Moreover, he was the one who helped Lily to get the collaboration agreement of the largest company in Oplen this morning. Therefore, he continued to scoff, "Even if there are many small partners, do you think they are better than the one Lily secured? They are just a bunch of garbage. My point is, if Aceshine Group wants to be bigger and stronger, you should cooperate with more big companies, am I right?" Rory glanced at Leonard. Then, he stared at Joseph insultingly and sneered, "Some people assume that they are great by just setting up some garbage partners for the Mooneys. As expected, garbage can only partner up with garbage..." After Rory finished, Lily also let out a heavy sigh. Without saying anything, she sat up confidently. At that moment, she couldn't be bothered to talk to Joseph. No matter how powerful he was, could he compare to the Sheltons? In front of them, he was nothing but garbage. With his brows puckered, Leonard remained silent. For a while, he had looked at Joseph but couldn't see through anything. So, he sighed inwardly. Indeed, he overthought. Even if Joseph had some money and connections, he was still an outsider. How could he compete with the Sheltons who had operated in Oplen for many years? If the Mooney family was a third-rate family, then the Shelton family

was an authentic second-rate family. In addition, Rory was the heir of the Shelton family, so he was definitely much better than Joseph. Having that thought, Leonard made up his mind to give Lily more support in the future... Listening to Rory's words, Paige also lowered her head. Deep down, she thought that her failure to win Gempoint Group's contract caused Lily, Rory, and Grandpa to look down on Joseph. Biting her lip, she whispered to Joseph, "Joseph, I'm sorry. It's all my fault..." Joseph smiled and patted her hand, comforting, "It's okay, you have done your best. I believe you will definitely do better next time..." Suddenly, Lily scoffed, "Pfft, seriously? Wake up, Joseph. I've secured the largest

cooperation in Oplen. Grandpa also promises that whoever wins will be the vice president of our company. So now, tell me, will she still be able to defeat me in the future? Haha..." At that moment, she was smirking complacently as she felt that she finally took revenge on Joseph. Upon listening to Lily's words, Paige lowered her head even more and tightened her fists while losing the courage to speak. "Haha... It's just a contract. I heard that Gempoint Group is busy these days. Maybe it's Paige whom they want to cooperate with, but they mistook you as Paige. Also, even if they have signed the contract, the project hasn't begun. Who knows? Perhaps they will revise the contract. Who knows." Joseph lowered his head and foreshadowed nonchalantly. "Hmm?" Once Joseph finished, Leonard and Paige glanced at him. On the other hand, Lily was furious and wanted to swear at Joseph. Nevertheless, before she could, someone pushed the private room door open. Following that, Gempoint Group's vice president—who signed with Lily this morning—rushed in with two huge dark eye circles. After that, he stormed to Lily and raged, "You are not Paige Mooney! Who the hell are you? I have made an appointment with her to sign the contract, not you! How dare you impersonate her to fool me? Do you have a death wish? Where is she?!" "Boom." With the vice president's words, the whole room instantly fell silent. In shock, everyone gaped at Joseph, who was sitting there drinking his tea. While lowering his head, Joseph was holding his teacup with a faint smile. However, there was an indescribable gleam flashing in his eyes...

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"Hey? I'm talking to you! Who the hell are you? Where is Miss Paige? Tell me, or I will screw you!" the exhausted vice president continued to shout at Lily. At that moment, he was already going nuts, and he almost resorted to violence. Before that, he heard some rumors in the company—the legendary terrifying man in Oplen seemed to be related to Paige Mooney of the Aceshine Group. Therefore, when Rory asked him for help to collaborate with Aceshine Group last night, he immediately agreed and signed the contract with a woman from the Mooneys in the early morning. However, he didn't expect that he signed with the wrong person. That woman from the Mooneys was not Paige! In fact, he was too busy that he had not rested since last night. Hence, after signing the contract with Lily, he didn't double-check it before rushing back to the company to prepare for the grand wedding. Later, around an hour ago, Dennis—who was in the headquarters—came to find him with Ernie and asked him to show them the contract. Only then, he realized that he had signed with the wrong person!!! With that, Dennis and Ernie gave him a death stare. Even now, Dennis's words from then kept flashing in his mind. "Aiden Marsh, do you know who the female lead of this grand wedding is?" At that time, Dennis was scowling at him coldly. Once he came to a realization, he rushed to Aceshine Group as fast as he could. When he arrived, he found that Leonard was away. After inquiring about his whereabouts with the employees, he knew that Leonard and Paige were having lunch in this restaurant. Thus, he hurried over. Sure enough, Leonard was in this restaurant, as well as the woman who cheated him to sign the contract! As soon as he saw Lily, he could no longer suppress his fury. Currently, Lily was so frightened that her face went ashen, and she quickly responded, "Mr. Marsh... why must you sign the

contract with Paige? I am also a part of Aceshine Group..." "F\*ck you! Who do you think you are?! Are you even on the same level as her? Scram!" as he fumed, he tore the contract and smacked it on Lily's face. At once, Lily screamed, stepped back, and shut her mouth. She didn't know what was wrong with Aiden, but at the moment, she could only look at Rory with pleading eyes. Frowning with displeasure, Rory stood up and reprimanded in a low voice, "Mr. Marsh, you've gone too far. Besides, didn't you signed the contract for the sake of my father? He told you last night. Have you forgotten? That's enough. Show me some respect!"

After Rory finished, Aiden was bewildered by his idiotic words and was stunned for a while. Then, with a bang, he furiously kicked Rory in his stomach, and Rory flew

out.

Following that, he went to Rory and continued to beat him up. As he punched, he cursed, "Show some respect? Who the f\*ck are you? Do you think your family is that great? Even Harrison Shelton doesn't speak to me this way! How dare you teach me a lesson? You little b\*st\*rd!" Seeing that, Leonard was rooted to the spot. Once he regained his composure, he went and tried to stop the fight. "Calm down, Mr. Marsh. Calm down. Lily is in the wrong this time. I will ask her to apologize to you..." he persuaded. "Who the hell are you? Get out of my way!" Aiden—who was already enraged, waved his hand and pushed Leonard aside. After all, Leonard was old. So, with that push, he knocked over several plates on the table and fell to the ground. Then, he groaned in pain. "How dare you and your family trample me?! Do you think I am easy to bully? Huh? You..." Bang! Just as Aiden was about to continue cursing, Joseph—who was drinking tea slammed the teacup on the table. The next moment, his cold words echoed in Aiden's ears, "Are you done?" Boom! When Aiden heard Joseph's voice, a chill crept up his spine. At once, his blood ran cold, and cold sweat dampened his body. For a split second, he felt as if a grim reaper was staring at his back. Fearfully, he turned around. The moment he saw Joseph, his heart almost stopped beating, and his body was sweating like rain. He was so scared that his face turned pale, and his legs went weak as he had seen Joseph before! Just this morning, he saw Dennis, Ernie, and the horrifying Alpha 1 following Joseph respectfully. "S... S... Sir." Aiden stammered while he was trying to apologize to Joseph, but Paige suddenly interrupted him. After she recollected her senses, she hurriedly stood up with a frightened look and apologized, "Mr. Marsh, I'm sorry. I... I'm Paige. Please calm down. I'm sorry. Please calm down..." When Aiden saw Paige got up and apologized to him personally, he was almost scared to death. Right away, he slapped himself hard while apologizing to Paige, "No, no, no, Miss Paige. Don't... Don't be. It's my fault. I was exhausted from working overtime yesterday, so I mistook other women for you. I'm sorry..." His posture was really humble... Boom! Watching that, Leonard, Rory, and Lily were extremely stupified with their mouths and eyes wide open. After all, Aiden was different from all those small business partners who had signed with Paige a few days ago. In fact, he was one of the eight vice presidents of Gempoint Group, which also meant his status was

much higher than Rory's father-Harrison! And yet, such a high-rank person was

slapping his face and apologizing for fear that Paige would be offended. As Paige was also shocked, she quickly waved to Aiden. "Mr. Marsh, it... it's okay. Please

don't hit yourself. I'm fine..." Even so, Aiden didn't stop because the legendary big shot hadn't said anything. Not having the guts to stop, he continued slapping himself. Looking at this scene, Paige felt familiar. Just then, she recalled that Brian did the same thing in Mirage Hotel the night before. As long as Joseph didn't say anything, they dared not stop. So, she looked at Joseph—who was still quietly sitting. At the same time, Leonard and others also returned to their senses. Wait a minute! From the beginning till the end, Joseph was the only one who was still sitting! Only him!!!! Upon realizing that, Leonard and the others turned to Joseph. After that, Joseph looked up to Aiden aloofly and uttered, "Didn't you come to sign the contract with my wife? What are you doing?" When Aiden heard this, he immediately understood that Joseph probably had yet to tell Paige his identity, and his fear intensified. Therefore, he quickly nodded and said to Paige anxiously, "Miss Paige, shall we sign the contract now? I have to go back quickly as the company is too busy right now. I'm sorry. I've been working for the whole night these days, so I was completely out of my mind. Just now, you must've been scared. I'm sorry. Very, very sorry..." Once he finished, he took out two new contracts with his signature and his company's stamp on them. After Paige signed them, he left quickly. Only when he went far away from the room, he lay on the ground and gasped, terribly frightened. Just as Aiden left and everyone was still in a trance, another man pushed open the door. It was the vice president of Mysticorps Group. After coming in, he spoke to Paige politely and signed the contract with her. With that signature, the problem that had troubled Aceshine Group for years was completely solved. However, it was not over yet. Later, the vice president of Pendulum Group—the third-ranked company in Oplen—came. The vice president of Seawares Company—the fourth rank company in Oplen came... The representative of the Municipal Administration Department came... The vice president of the Business Association of Oplen came...

One after another big shot that Aceshine Group had always tried hard to approach

signed with Paige. With that, the problems that hindered Aceshine Group's development were solved, and all of this happened in less than half an hour!! Finally, an hour later, when Paige's hand got tired, no one else came in. And at this moment, facing Paige—who signed the contract with so many big bosses in Oplen

-Leonard dared not sit anymore. Instead, he stood in front of her with some restraint. Looking at those high-value contracts, he swallowed hard, and he was shocked to the extreme. Once again, he subverted his conjecture. The identity of this grandson-in-law—who suddenly appeared from nowhere—was not ordinary for sure. "Haha..." Joseph smiled at Leonard and said, "Grandpa, you only requested Paige to help Aceshine Group solve a problem. But now, she has solved more than one. So, isn't it time for you to fulfill your promise and appoint her as the vice president?" With a pale face, Leonard nodded. "Well... Of course. I'll keep my word. From now on, Paige will be the vice president of Aceshine Group! A position which is second only to mine! Also, she will be in charge of our cooperation with these large companies! When I return to the company, I'll announce it!" Leonard was still perplexed because Joseph was still smiling. Besides, Joseph was calm from the beginning. Way too calm! What was his identity then? While Leonard was pondering, huge storms surged within him... "Joseph, do... Do you know all those... people?" Leonard stammered. Although a huge part of him knew the answer, he couldn't help but ask. Looking at Leonard with a grin, Joseph asked in return, "What do you think?" Hearing that, Leonard

trembled and stopped talking. Finally, he understood how Paige handled Reuben's debt, found hundreds of business partners, and solved tons of the company's problems despite returning for only a few days. It turned out that Joseph secretly helped her! On the other hand, Paige lowered her head, feeling down. Knowing that Joseph was behind everything, she felt useless. Of course, Joseph knew Paige's thoughts, so he held her hand tightly and comforted, "Haha, don't overthink. Actually, I didn't help you that much. The biggest reason why they are willing to sign with Aceshine Group is because of your efforts and Aceshine Group's ability, which has nothing much to do with me. All I did was introducing you to them. And don't forget, they are just some businessmen I met when I was doing business in Usmit six years ago. Even if they are doing me a favor, they won't risk their company and their projects..." Hearing Joseph's words, Paige felt much better. However, she still did not fully believe what he said. "Are you telling the truth? Do they really think I have the ability?" With a nod, Joseph smiled, "Yes, of course, but don't overstrain yourself. You

haven't rest much these days, and that kinda breaks my heart..." At once, Paige's face turned crimson, and she lowered her head even lower. After seeing that Paige was fine, Joseph looked up at Leonard and suggested, "Grandpa, it seems like we can't eat together today. Why don't we meet some other day? I'll book a better restaurant and invite you over." "Sure, sure. You may go ahead with your own business. Don't worry about us. We'll have our lunch somewhere else after this..." Leonard replied nervously to Joseph. At that moment, his attitude was totally different from the first time he met Joseph. To that, Joseph nodded, informed Paige, and walked out. However, when he walked to the door and passed by Rory, he stopped and looked at Rory. "Why are you still here?" "Hmm? What... what are you going to do? You..." when Rory looked at Joseph this time, his heart was uneasy, and he stuttered. That was because he was frightened by the scene just now. "Haha." Joseph laughed and insinuated, "Nothing, but I think you should leave. Who knows? Maybe your father is looking for you... Of course, I am just saying because I know some physiognomy. And somehow, I feel that your family will be in trouble if you marry your fiancée. Haha..." Upon finishing his words, he left without turning back. After Joseph left, Rory came to his senses and quickly took out his phone. To his surprise, his mobile phone had dozens of missed calls and text messages. Right away, he opened them and found that they were all sent by his father. D "You unfilial rascal! What the f\*ck did you do out there? Who did you offend? Something serious happened at home, and we might go bankrupt. So, come back now! Now!!!" This was a WhatsApp message from his father, Harrison. After Rory read Harrison's text message, his face changed dramatically. Instantaneously, he grabbed his phone and quickly dashed home without bothering to say goodbye to Lily...