

The Rise of Dragon Temple By Wu Xia

Chapter 52

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Chapter 52

It was a quarter past eleven at night. At the top of Gempoint Group's building which was 100 meters high, Joseph, dressed in black, stood against the wind under the gloomy night sky. As the chilly night breeze blew across him, his gown flapped. He looked down at Olpen's night scenery, facing the wedding site—which was brightly lit and was in rapid progression—and the direction of Paige and Chloe. For the first half of his life, he had lived miserably. At first, he thought he would only live in pain. However, God unexpectedly gave him the two greatest gifts in the world—a gentle and kind wife and an adorable and sensible daughter. Thinking about that, he took a deep breath. In this life, he would never let Paige and Chloe suffer again. (This novel will be daily updated at) There was even a moment where he wanted to give up everything the Dragon Temple, his grudges in Usmaït and Vowhye, the invitation from Frogua's military, everything—and live an ordinary life, protecting his family. Unfortunately, he could not. He had too many burdens and enemies. Even if he wanted to live an ordinary life before wiping out all his enemies, his enemies wouldn't give him peace of mind once they found out... Looking at the place where Paige and Chloe were, Joseph clenched his fists tightly. To him, they were a ray of light in his life. Whoever dared to lay a finger on them, he would skin them alive regardless of who they were!

Four hours ago, at 8 p.m., in the Shelton family's villa, Rory was standing in front of the furious Harrison with a bruised face, not even daring to breathe heavily. With eyes full of anger and despair, Harrison stared at Rory. "Do you know that today, the two top companies in Olpen—Gempoint Group and Mysticorps Group, terminated all their cooperations with Dwarfnite Group! Not only that, but they also publicly announced that whichever companies in Olpen dare to cooperate with us, they will boycott those companies! Within a day, they manage to drive our prosperous family to bankruptcy. So, tell me! What have you done out there? Who did you offend?!" Rory was shaking like a leaf. At that moment, he really couldn't think of anyone he would offend. Although he didn't keep a low profile, he was only having fun out there. Who would he offend? Hence, he responded with a blank face, "Dad, I didn't do anything, and I didn't offend anyone. I just couldn't get along with a man called Joseph Dawson these days. Wait a minute! Joseph? Joseph?! No way." Suddenly, he paused, and Joseph's words echoed in his mind, "I think you should leave. Who knows? Maybe your father is looking for you..."

When Harrison heard what Rory said, his eyelids twitched, and he immediately questioned, "Who is Joseph Dawson? Why did you suddenly mention him?" Aiden's strange act during lunchtime with Leonard came to Rory's mind. Then, Rory swallowed hard and said to Harrison in disbelief, "Joseph was the joke of the Mooneys. He is Paige's husband that disappeared five years ago and suddenly came back. Remember? Paige and the Mooneys became the laughing stock of our town because of her relationship with him." Hearing that, Harrison nodded. "Yes, I do remember. So, you offended him these days?" Cold sweat trickled down

Rory's face as he replied in doubt, "Yes. I've been arguing with him for the past few days. After all, I'm Lily's fiancé, and we will soon get married. Also, I knew she never got along with Paige, so, of course, I helped her to mock Joseph and humiliate Paige. But Dad, are you thinking that Joseph is the one behind everything? He's just an outsider that has only been here for a few days. How am I going to believe that Gempoint Group and Mysticorps Group boycott us because of him? What's more, he's a soldier expelled by the military. There's no way he can be so powerful!" After Rory finished, Harrison frowned deeply, thinking about what Rory said. A few seconds later, he looked up at Rory and instructed, "Our family can still hold on for a few days. Even if we are going to bankrupt, it won't be so soon. As for Joseph, quickly find out if he is behind everything! If it is him, you should apologize to him and Paige immediately!" When Rory heard that, he twitched his mouth. As the heir of the Shelton family, it would be embarrassing to apologize to a poor soldier and a laughing stock of the town. Thus, he murmured, "It can't be. Paige is a laughing stock, and the Mooneys chased her out that year. Besides, I don't know anyone in the military. How can I investigate Joseph..." Upon hearing that, Harrison lifted his leg and kicked Rory before he bellowed, "Just investigate it, you fool! The current world is in turmoil, so the military has great authority. Who knows what position did Joseph held? Even if he's a mere deputy general, we couldn't afford to offend him, you understand? Also, didn't you say that your fiancée's cousin, Maxton Mooney, is also in the military? Ask your fiancée to ask him to investigate, you f*king idiot! Scram!" Once Harrison finished, he gave Rory another kick, and Rory hurriedly ran out. After Rory left, Harrison—with grey sideburns—frowned more deeply. According to his character in the past, regardless of whether Joseph was behind the Shelton family's encounter, he would ask Rory to apologize. However, this time, things were different. It was the Mooney family. A few years ago, Maxton was already the lieutenant commander. Who knew? The military might promote him by now. Although the Mooney family was small, had great internal strife. Leonard's three sons were not united at all. As for the third generation, (This novel will be daily updtaed at) it was obvious that Lily was determined to go against Paige. Moreover, Harrison heard that Maxton was very protective of Lily. Otherwise, Lily wouldn't be able to arrogate all powers to herself in the family for the past few years. In fact, Maxton was the reason why Harrison wanted Rory to marry Lily. Although Maxton was still at the young age of 29, he was already a lieutenant commander. Therefore, it was very likely that several years later, he would be a general! By that time, the Mooneys would soar and own plenty of power! And with that, the Sheltons could also win some fame with power. ' Therefore, Harrison decided to hold on for a few more days and let Maxton investigate Joseph's background. Since the investigation wouldn't take long, it wouldn't be too late to decide later. After all, as the head of the family, Harrison naturally understood that people who followed the crowd would never end up well. But what Harrison didn't know was that even if he didn't ask Rory to contact Maxton, Lily was already in contact with Maxton. In Lily's house, Lily was chatting with Maxton through a video call with a wronged expression and tears on her face. "Maxton, Joseph bullied me. He is Paige's husband. The man who impregnated Paige five years ago. Now, he is back with her, and he helped her to secure lots of business partners. He even forced Grandpa to appoint her as the vice president. Not only did Grandpa demoted me, but Joseph also often scolded me. I don't think I can stay at home anymore, boo hoo..." Lily bawled her eyes out. In fact, she was not pretending because these days, Joseph and Paige had given her a huge emotional blow. Now, even the company employees ignored her and went to Paige. Meanwhile, in a training field around two to three hundred miles away from Oplen, a 180 centimeters man wearing the military uniform, with a piercing gaze, and a face as sharp as a knife, was looking at his younger cousin

sister sobbing through the screen. While he was watching, he emanated a monstrous aura. He was Maxton Mooney, the most excellent man in the Mooneys, and he had a great relationship with Lily since childhood! Upon seeing Lily crying so sadly, he asked in a cold and angry voice, (This novel will be daily updated at)"What did Grandpa say? Did he just let Joseph bully you? Without doing anything? What about Uncle Tommy and my dad? Did they just let him be?" After hearing Maxton's words, Lily shed more tears, feeling more oppressed. She kept crying and could not say a word. Seeing that Lily was still crying, Maxton got extra annoyed and shouted, "Stop crying! What did they say? Tell me!" As expected, Lily stopped wailing in an instant and stammered, "Did... Did you just shout at me?" Maxton's face stiffened, and he explained apologetically, "I'm sorry, Lily. I am just busy right now. My superior ordered me to take all nine troops back to Oplen later. It's raining outside, but the military orders are urgent, so I'm a little anxious..." When Lily heard that he was coming back, a smile appeared on her face. "Did you mean... you are coming back? That's great!" Hearing that, Maxton nodded. "Yes, I'll be back tonight, so don't worry. If my dad, Uncle Tommy, and Grandpa refuse to help you, I'll help you! I want to see who dares to bully my dear sister! Also, you may tell Grandpa and the others that I made a great achievement some time ago, and the military has promoted me to a rank higher. Now, I am the commander of the Eagle Troop with 3,000 soldiers! Once they know about this, I'm sure they will listen to me! Alright, I have to go. We'll talk about it when I get back!" As he spoke, enormous confidence surged within him. Yes, he was now the Eagle Troop's commander of the central region's military. Moreover, all the Eagle Troop commanders were the next-to-be generals. Therefore, he believed that in another three to five years, he would become a general! With that, he would also have the potential to be a major general! So this time around, he would like to see who had the guts to bully Lily in his presence! Even though he was in the military base most of the time, that didn't mean his family could treat him as if he didn't exist. At that moment, his anger thrummed through his veins. Paige was also his cousin, but she was introverted since she was young. Thus, he had always played with Lily. Moreover, Lily liked to chase after him, be considerate toward him, and prioritize him. Hence, in his heart, he only treated Lily as his younger sister. Besides, although he was in the military base, Paige's incident that humiliated the family five years ago had more or less affected him. The rain outside was getting heavier. After hanging up the video call, Maxton rushed out in a raincoat, got on the tank, and rushed to Oplen at the speed of lighting... At 2 a.m., the Mooneys' old house was still brightly lit, and it was also raining cats and dogs in Oplen. Nevertheless, the whole family was waiting at the gate in excitement because Maxton was coming back! As Maxton became one of the nine Eagle Troop commanders who led 3,000 soldiers, he became the greatest pride of the family. Leonard, Dominic, Tommy, Lily, Rory, and even Harrison came whereas Paige's family didn't. Due to Paige's incident, the Mooneys had driven her family out of the house five years ago. As for Harrison, when he learned that Maxton became Eagle Troop's commander, he was astonished. Therefore, he couldn't be bothered to sleep and rushed here after changing his clothes. Looking at the dark street ahead, Leonard was in high spirits. Thinking that Maxton had become a commander that led three thousand soldiers, he was overwhelmed with pride. The same went to Maxton's father, Dominic. The next moment, while the Mooneys and the Sheltons were waiting, streaks of dazzling lights broke through the darkness. Maxton's tank was coming over. However, unlike everyone, Maxton displayed a black face as soon as he got off the tank. With a monstrous aura, he went into the house without greeting anyone. Then, when he entered the hall, he directly sat on the seat of honor. Seeing that, Leonard didn't say anything but thought Maxton deserved it. As for Dominic,

Tommy, Rory, Harrison, Lily, and the others, they dared not utter a word. At this moment, there were dozens of soldiers standing at the door. Just then, Leonard chuckled, "Max, I heard from Lily that you've gotten a rank higher again. Now, you are a commander, leading three thousand soldiers! Congratulations! Our family will definitely soar to greatness under your leadership in the future! Well done! The whole family and I are so proud of you!" Even so, Maxton glowered at Leonard and waved his hand. "Grandpa, let's talk about this later. I have a military order, so I can only stay here for one day the most. The reason why I rush back tonight is to ask you a question. Am I still a part of the Mooneys? Does anyone still listen to me?" After Maxton finished, Lily—who was sitting aside—lowered her head. Deep down, she felt confident, and a hint of viciousness flashed through her eyes. On the other hand, Rory and Harrison got nervous and thought to themselves, "Here he comes..." For a moment, Leonard was stunned before he responded in a serious tone, "What are you talking about? As long as you want, (This novel will be daily updated at) I am willing to give you the entire family! And of course, we will always listen to you!" Hearing that, Maxton nodded and looked at Dominic and Tommy. "What about the both of you?" Right away, Dominic and Tommy also nodded and flattered, "Of course, your words always matter!" Maxton took a deep breath, and his rage burst out before he bellowed, "Great! Since everyone still thinks that my words matter, I will ask all of you in return. While I was battling in the military, how could you let an outsider—who made our family a laughingstock five years ago—humiliate Lily? Huh?" When Leonard heard that, his face changed dramatically, and he explained, "I believe there's a misunderstanding here. Listen to me. Joseph may have some background because he brought in Gempoint Group and Mysticorps Group to collaborate with us. These collaborations will benefit our company's future

development and your influence in the family." "I don't need it!" Maxton interrupted with a wave of his hand, showing no respect for Leonard "But, Max, it will only be good for us if our company can cooperate with big companies such as Mysticorps Group and Gempoint Group..." Leonard continued to coax Maxton. Obviously, Leonard didn't want to give up the two big business partners brought by Paige. Maxton's brows furrowed deeper. After contemplating for a while, he decided, "Fine, we will let Lily handle all the collaborations then!" Once again, Leonard's face changed. Somehow, he felt that Joseph's identity was complicated, so he quickly persuaded, "Actually, Joseph may be a little unusual, he..." "Enough!!!" When Leonard was about to explain more, Maxton scowled at him and

- rasped word by word, "I said! Let! Lily! Handle! All! The! Collaborations! Okay?!" Bursting with rage, Maxton went ballistic. Under the pressure of his anger, Leonard went blanched and quickly nodded. "Okay, I promise you. Lily will handle everything! I'm just afraid that the other party will be dissatisfied with the sudden change of people!" Upon hearing that, Maxton sneered, "Heh, dissatisfied? I am now the commander of the Eagle Troop with 3,000 soldiers! Also, Frogua's god of war will come here in a few days! By that time, Oplen will have the biggest battle division, and I'm sure no businessman would dare to act presumptuously!" At once, Leonard, Dominic, Tommy, Rory, Harrison, and even Lily was shocked. The god of war was coming to Oplen? This would be Oplen's heyday! Thinking about this, all of them got excited. "M-Max, is this true? What will he be doing here?" Dominic asked eagerly. Furrowing his brows, Maxton responded, "This is the military's secret, so stop asking me! You'll know it in a few days. Or maybe you can keep an eye on the major events that will happen here..." Hearing this, Leonard recalled something and

said, "Max, do you know that a big shot will hold a grand wedding here the day after tomorrow? If I link this to your news and how your superior asked you to come here in the middle of the night, the god of war might be the one who holds the wedding!" Maxton's heart skipped a beat. In fact, he had also received the news, which most probably, Leonard's conjecture was true. Even so, he cautioned sternly, "Don't make any more speculations! This is the military's secret!!!" Upon hearing Maxton's words, Leonard was agitated. After a while, he finally came to himself and quickly agreed, "Alright! From today onward, you will have the biggest say in our family!" With satisfaction, Maxton nodded and looked at Lily. "Don't worry, Lily. I will decide for you. Go ahead and do it!" Overjoyed, Lily stood up, clenched her fists tightly, and thanked Maxton profusely, "Thank you, Maxton! Thank you..." Then, she pretended to cry by squeezing out a few drops of tears, which made Maxton's gaze more firm. But no one knew that when Lily turned around and sat down, hatred and viciousness filled her eyes. "Paige, Joseph, just you wait and see!!!" she muttered inwardly.

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The next day at 8:30 a.m., Paige was about to leave for work. That was when Yahir called and told her to go to the Mooney family's old house instead of the company. She agreed. "What's wrong? Are you not going to work today?" holding Chloe in his arms, Joseph asked Paige with a smile.

To that, Paige nodded. "Yes. Dad called and said that my cousin, Maxton, came back last night. It seems like he was promoted too. So, our family won't be working today to hold a welcome feast for him at home. Dad didn't ask you to go. I'm sorry, but I am sure that Grandpa has begun to accept you, and I promise it won't be long before the whole family accepts you..." Actually, Joseph didn't care if the Mooneys accepted him or not. If it wasn't for fear that Paige would be sad, a mere family like them wouldn't even qualify to talk to him. (This novel will be daily updaed at)Besides, he wasn't interested in those snobbish people. Thus, he nodded and replied, "It's okay. I didn't want to go either. I'll see you off..." With Chloe in his arms, Joseph accompanied Paige downstairs. After that, he said to Chloe, "Chloe, Mommy is tired these days. Shall we cheer for her?" Blinking her big beautiful eyes, Chloe waved her small fists and cheered in a childish voice, "Go for it, Mommy! You are the best and the most beautiful! Hee, hee! We will be waiting for you at home..." Realizing how sensible and lovely her daughter was, Paige couldn't help kissing Chloe's face. Then, she saw Joseph looking at her with burning and expectant eyes, and a blush immediately crept up her face. "You shouldn't be biased, you know?" Joseph jested. With that, Paige's face became even redder. In silence, she bit her lip and lowered her head. Looking at her reaction, Joseph was about to crack another joke when she suddenly tiptoed and kissed his face. It was a quick kiss, and before he could respond, she jumped into the car and drove away... On the spot, Joseph was stupefied. He was only joking with her just now, but unexpectedly, she kissed him. Although her kiss was more to a peck, it still filled his heart with happiness and joy. "Aw! Daddy's shy! No, no, no. I am too young for this. I can't look..." Chloe quickly covered her eyes with her tender, fair hands. Nevertheless, she still peeped at Joseph's face through

her fingers. "Paige, you're making me more and more reluctant to let you go to work." Joseph couldn't help but touch the spot where Paige had just kissed, and his heart fluttered.

Perhaps, this was how happiness and sweetness felt.

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Not to mention Joseph, Paige's heart was also racing. When she was in the car, she could feel her face burning. She couldn't believe she had taken the initiative to kiss him. The more she thought about it, the more embarrassed she felt, and her heart beat faster. With that, she buried her head on the steering wheel until the car behind honked her. Startled, she realized that the traffic light had turned green and quickly drove away... At 10 a.m., she arrived at the Mooney family's old house. Yahir and Estella arrived earlier. Other than them, many people also came. A part of them were Aceshine Group's partners, some were friends, and some were relatives. This morning, Leonard publicly announced that he would hold a banquet to celebrate Maxton's posting as the Eagle Troop's commander. So, some reporters even came too. After all, this wasn't a small matter. Besides, the Mooneys were also happy to see those reporters. In a long white dress, Lily was happily greeting the guests at the entrance. Leonard, Dominic, Yahir, and the others were also chatting and laughing among the crowd in their new suits. Everyone was in a good mood, especially the Mooneys. "Pooh, what's so great about being a commander? Is this even necessary? How boastful.." Estella muttered in annoyance. Since Paige's family came, Lily had been ignoring them. By the way, Serena came too. "Cut it out, honey. They'll hear us. Since no one greets us, let's just head in..." Yahir nudged Estella with his elbow. Only then, she headed inside. However, she still whined in a low voice, "Why are you scolding me? If the military didn't expel Joseph..." "Stop it, Mom!" Serena bit her lip and rasped before she carefully glanced at Paige. Even though there was some disappointment in Paige's eyes, she still looked up and smiled at everyone. At once, Estella's face changed, and she quickly explained, "Well, Paige, I didn't mean anything. Please don't take it to heart. Joseph is a pretty decent man, you know? If he is still in the military, he won't be able to accompany you and Chloe, am I right? So, yeah, he is a nice man indeed..." At 11 a.m., all the guests took their seats in the courtyard. As there were up to three hundred people, the atmosphere was lively. After all, the Mooneys' grandson achieved great success, so everyone around the Mooneys would naturally take this chance to butter them up, which made them felt proud. During the banquet, Maxton-dressed in black military uniform-sat in the seat of honor. With an unrivaled aura, he was sitting up straight with a sharp gaze. On the other hand, Leonard, Dominic, and Tommy were all sitting at the main table with him. As for Paige's family, the Mooneys definitely wouldn't arrange for them to sit at the main table. Therefore, they were sitting at another table behind. Following that, Leonard raised his glass and greeted all the guests, "Thank you for coming to our banquet. Cheers!" Although he was nearly 70 years old, and his hair was white, his face was glowing. When Leonard finished his words, all the guests raised their glasses with a smile. Instantaneously, the atmosphere became enthusiastic. After toasting with Maxton, Leonard, Dominic, and Tommy went to other tables to toast with the guests while Maxton stayed in his seat. Halfway through the banquet, Maxton coughed and signaled Leonard with his eyes. As Leonard understood, he responded with a nod. A hint of complexity appeared in his eyes, but soon it was gone. Then, he went up the stage and gestured the guests to quiet down. After that, he smiled, "Well, I have another good news for everyone. In recent years,

our business has been flourishing. Of course, this isn't my hard work, but the younger generation's. So, since everyone is here today, I am happy to announce that our family has decided to nominate a vice president to assist me with the company. Hopefully, all of you will support our decision. Haha..." Once he finished, all the guests applauded. Some of them even asked anxiously, "Come on, Mr. Mooney! Please don't leave us hanging.(This novel will be daily updtaed at) We can't wait to know who is this new female vice president! Hahaha.." The guests knew there were only four people in the third generation of the Mooney family-Maxton, Lily, Paige, and Serena. As Maxton was still in the military while Serena was still studying, both of them were out of the question. So, that left with two gorgeous women-Lily and Paige, and the guests were busy guessing who Leonard would promote. Since the second generation was more lacking, it was very likely that the new vice president would be the future leader of the family. Meanwhile, after hearing Leonard's words, Yahir and his family were excited. With a satisfied smile, Yahir looked at Paige. So was Estella. She was proud of Paige. On the other hand, Serena was thrilled as well. However, the next moment, their expressions froze when Leonard declared with a smile, "Our new vice president is... Lily Mooney! Everyone, please give her a big clap!" Smilingly, Lily-who sat beside Maxton-stood up and bowed to the guests. "Thank you. I am looking forward to your continuous support, and I will work harder for the betterment of all of us!" Boom! To Paige's family, this announcement was like a bolt from the blue. Overwhelmed with disappointment, Paige clenched her fists tightly. Estella's face also changed dramatically. Right away, she got up and shouted at

Leonard, "What do you mean? Didn't you say that the vice president is Paige? Why do you change to Lily?" As Yahir was also enraged, he got up and fumed, "Dad! You've gone too far! Isn't Paige the one who secured Gempoint Group and Mysticorps Group? I demand an explanation!!!" Boom! When Estella and Yahir stood up, all the guests were shocked. At that moment, some guests who knew the Mooney family's affairs at the tip of their fingers sat back to enjoy this drama. In fact, quite a number of them signed with Paige a few days ago, and they were currently frowning with confusion. Facing Estella and Yahir's questions, Leonard was somewhat awkward. Nevertheless, he quickly responded to the two, "Well, this matter is a little complicated. I'll explain to you after the banquet!" "Haha! After the banquet? I want it now! You set the rules, so how can you break your promise? Don't you know how hard Paige worked to win these projects? How could you give everything to Lily?! Tell me! How could you!?" Estella went ballistic. When she stepped into this house, she was already pissed off, but now she was even angrier. Instantaneously, Leonard's face turned gloomy. No matter what, he was the head of the Mooney family and a senior! So, he would naturally feel embarrassed being questioned by Estella in front of so many guests. Just then, Dominic yelled at Estella, "Shut up! Who gives you the right to speak here? And how can you talk to Dad this way? Sit down!" Hearing this, Estella ignored his words and was about to continue questioning Leonard. However, Yahir stopped her and glared at Dominic. "Mind your own business! She's my wife!" After that, he stared at Leonard and asked, "Dad, since she is not allowed to ask, I'll ask you again. Why do you humiliate my daughter like this?" "Why don't I give you an explanation then?" before Leonard could answer, Maxton

—who was remaining silent-opened his mouth. As he spoke, he targeted his majestic aura onto Yahir and pressured him. With that, Yahir went ashen, and he was at a loss for word. At the same time, Estella's face also became slightly pale, and a sense of fear rose within her. Staying in his seat, Maxton continued, "I am

the one who made the decision. If you are dissatisfied, you can come to me after the banquet..." With a pale face, Yahir glowered at Maxton—who was now the Eagle Troop's commander. Deep down, he could feel nothing but infinite grievance. He slowly nodded and said, "Great... What an Eagle Troop commander! What a family! Since

you

"Enough, Dad! It's okay! Let's forget it! I don't want the position anymore! Please stop it!" Paige quickly stood up, grabbed Yahir's arm, and persuaded him with red eyes. Then, Lily walked to Paige's side, looked at her condescendingly, and gloated, "Haha! In the end, you still lost! Be prepared to be my underdog for the rest of your life..." Upon hearing that, Paige pulled Yahir and Estella to sit down. Following that, she looked up at Lily with teary eyes and raged, "That's so great of you! Since you want to be the vice president so badly, then take it! I'll resign! You heard that! I'll leave the company!" After that, she pulled Yahir and Estella and was about to leave. At this moment, she finally realized that the Mooneys didn't welcome her. In that case, why would she stay? Yahir, Estella, and Serena had no intention to stay here either, so they got up and followed Paige. Nonetheless, Lily refused to let Paige go by standing in front of her. (This novel will be daily updated at) "Do you think you can come and go as you please? But, fret not, there's a way for you to leave. I have informed Mr. Marsh of Gempoint Group and Mr. Lane of Mysticorps Group. Make it clear to them before you go. Otherwise, don't even think of taking a step out here!" Gritting her teeth with anger, Paige looked at Lily with red eyes and snapped, "Dream on! If you are capable, talk to them by yourself. Apart from knowing how to scheme, what else can you do? Others might not know how you become the vice president, but you know it yourself! You know what dirty means you used to steal this position from me!" "How dare you.. Don't you slander me! Grandpa is the one who..." "Slap!" When Lily was about to defend herself, she heard a loud slap. Then, she was shocked to find out that Maxton had come here and slapped Paige in the face. With a grim expression, Maxton glared at Paige and derided, "You insolent women! How dare you address your older cousin by her name? Besides, have you greeted me since you entered the house? Don't forget you are the disgraceful one! If you didn't have that b*st*rd's child out of wedlock five and a half years ago, our family wouldn't be the town's laughing stock! I can't believe you still have the face to compete with Lily for the position!" "Argh!!! How dare you slap my daughter?! I'll fight you to death..." Upon seeing Maxton slapped Paige, Estella was bent out of shape and scratched him. "Scram!" bursting with rage, Maxton turned around and roared. In an instant, Estella was stunned and involuntarily took a few steps back before she fell to the ground. Yahir was no better either. He was also frightened by Maxton's imposing manner and was at a loss.

After being slapped by Maxton, Paige cried. The next moment, she glared at him and sobbed, "Fine! It's all my fault! I humiliated the family! So, from now on, I am no longer a part of the Mooneys! Since the media is also here, all of you shall be the witness. From today onward, I will sever ties with this family and have nothing to do with them!" Upon finishing her words, she walked out, but Lily yelled behind her, "Don't forget Gempoint Group and Mysticorps Group's contract!" Grievances overtook Paige, and her body was trembling violently. When she heard Lily's words, she paused, gnashed her teeth, and rasped, "Fine! Take it! I will personally amend the contract later!" After that, she immediately walked out. Serena went after her with a pale face, so as Yahir and Estella. Right

now, they couldn't be bothered to care about anything else other than Paige's feelings. As soon as Paige and the others reached the gate, a cacophony of laughter filled the courtyard again. At that moment, the four of them were down in the dumps.

At noon, when Joseph was having lunch with Chloe, he kept having an ominous feeling which ruined his appetite. Unfortunately, his feeling was accurate. When he was about to call Alpha 1 and ask what had happened, Alpha 1 called him. "Mr. Dawson, something is wrong. Those business partners that Ernie arranged told him that Leonard gave the vice president position to Lily instead of Mrs. Dawson..." As Joseph was about to go deeper into this matter, another call came in. It was Serena's. Right away, he hung up Alpha 1's call and answered her call. The moment he heard the first sentence, he stood up, and the murderous intent within him surged to the sky! "Joseph, come to Paragon Villa right now. Maxton slapped Paige, and they forced her to leave the family..." What! Joseph was stunned. Instantaneously, he carried Chloe, took some snacks, and drove toward Paragon Villa. Along the way, Chloe could sense the anger on him and was a little worried. However, she didn't know anything while Joseph didn't have the time to explain to her. In just a dozen minutes, Joseph arrived at the house in Paragon Villa that he bought for Estella a few days ago. As soon as he got off the car, he saw Serena waiting anxiously downstairs. The whole incident in the banquet happened way too fast and sudden, so Serena didn't manage to contact him just now. At the sight of Joseph, Serena quickly said to him with red eyes, "Joseph, they bullied Paige. She is now upstairs, and she doesn't even utter a word. You should quickly go up..." "Okay. Help me to take care of Chloe and take her to the park..." Joseph handed Chloe to Serena before he rushed upstairs. On the other hand, Chloe was sensible enough to follow Serena without asking anything. When Joseph entered the house, Estella was pointing at Yahir and chiding him with watery eyes, "You piece of trash! He slapped your daughter, and yet you didn't even dare to say anything! Are you even a man?!" "Calm down, Mom. Where is Paige?" Joseph forcefully suppressed the surging anger in his heart and asked Estella. Immediately, Estella's tears rolled down her cheeks. With trembling fingers, she pointed at the bedroom and sobbed, "In the room. Please console her. You..." "Don't worry. Leave it to me..." Joseph nodded and walked to the bedroom door. Although Paige locked the door from the inside, he managed to push it open with only a little force. Following that, he saw Paige curled up on the bed with her head deeply buried in her knees. Feeling heartbroken, Joseph uttered, "Paige, it's me..." Paige ignored Joseph, and her body was still twitching. Yes, she was crying, but she suppressed her voice to prevent herself from crying out loud. Then, Joseph pulled up her arm and saw the faint red palm print on her face. Boom! The moment he saw the palm print, the killing intent inside him burst out, and the temperature in the room dropped sharply. As Paige could feel a sudden chill, her body trembled. Only then, she came to notice Joseph's presence. While tears were covering her face, she wept, "Am... am I useless?" Upon listening to what she said, Joseph felt more distressed. With that, he wiped the tears from her face, took a deep breath, and uttered, "Let's go to the Mooney family's house!" Stunned, Paige asked, "What are we going there for?" Joseph took a deep breath, and his eyes were cold to the extreme. Gritting his teeth, he rasped, "I'll avenge you! Let's go!" Without waiting for Paige's response, he pulled her arm and walked out of the room. Although Estella and Yahir were shocked by his movement, he ignored them, pulled Paige down the stairs, and got in the car with her. Then, he stepped on the accelerator and sped toward the Mooney family's house. Ten minutes later, the banquet in the Mooneys' house courtyard was still ongoing. All the guests were

drinking while a few Eagle Soldiers were standing guard outside the door. Even though they had also seen what happened to Paige's family, they could only obey orders and stay silent. Suddenly, they saw a black Mercedes sped toward them from a distance. Because the car was so rapid, they instantly got vigilant. In the blink of an eye, it arrived before their eyes and spun 360-degree with a piercing braking sound and thick smoke that billowed around the tires. Frightened, two of the soldiers quickly pulled out their rifles and charged toward the car while the other two of them rushed in to protect Maxton.

The next moment, Joseph pulled Paige out of the car and walked past the thick smoke.

"Maxton Mooney! You're courting death!" as he fumed, he stormed towards the courtyard with Paige. "Stop! If you come any further, we won't be easy on you!" with fear, the two soldiers shouted at Joseph while pointing at him with their rifles. As they said so, they joined hands and rushed toward him. As Joseph was holding Paige's hand, his eyes turned cold, and he blasted the two soldiers with two palm strikes. With that, a monstrous sound resonated throughout the house. The two fully armed soldiers flew out, vomited blood, and fell into the courtyard. Instantly, they fainted and died.

"Joseph Dawson! It's you who are courting death! How dare you wreak havoc in my house?! If you wish to die, I'll grant it! Argh!!!" Once Maxton saw Joseph injured his men, he flew off the handle and charged toward Joseph. Since Maxton could become the Eagle Troop's commander, that meant he had a high level of combat power. Same as Brandon, Bradley, and Lewis, he was a five-star combat master. Besides, he had been in the military all year round, so he had great hostility. However, before he could attack Joseph, (This novel will be daily updated at) Joseph grabbed his wrist, lifted his body, and slammed him to the ground. "Boom!" After Maxton fell to the ground, he spat out a mouthful of blood and was taken aback by Joseph's strength. Even so, before he had time to react, Joseph—who already let go of Paige appeared before his eyes in an instant and directly kicked him in the chest.. Once again, Maxton's expression changed, but he managed to place his arms on his chest at the last moment. Otherwise, Joseph's kick would have taken his life! Nevertheless, followed by another monstrous sound, Maxton's body flew and hit the Mooney family's door sign. With a loud crack, Maxton's body smashed the wall into pieces before falling on the courtyard... Just like before, Joseph appeared before Maxton's eyes as soon as he landed. "You can't kill me! You can't! I'm the commander of the Eagle Troop... You can't kill me..." with a pale face, Maxton yelled at Joseph. At that moment, he was completely unhinged. "Kill you? That would be easy on you!" Joseph shouted angrily. Killing Maxton was an easy task for him, but Maxton was a part of the Mooneys and a relative of Paige, after all. If it weren't because he was afraid that Paige would feel bad in the future, he would have killed Maxton! Nevertheless, he didn't plan to let Maxton off that easily! Therefore, he directly snapped Maxton's right arm with his palm. At once, Maxton shrieked in pain. "Joseph! Calm down! Don't!" Finally, Paige reacted. When she saw Maxton vomit blood and his broken right arm bled profusely, she quickly screamed at Joseph. She was afraid that he would end up killing Maxton. When Joseph heard Paige's voice, a trace of clarity appeared in his murderous gaze. Then, he looked back at her and said, "Paige, come here and return his slap!" Paige cried, shook her head, and begged Joseph, "No... please stop. Please..." "I apologize, Joseph. Please calm down. I am sorry..." Maxton hurriedly apologized. But the next moment, Joseph slapped him. With that slap, Maxton flew off, and a row of his teeth fell

out. "Argh!! How dare you slap me! You're so dead!!! Where are the Eagle Soldiers?! Kill him! Kill him! Kill him! Arghhh!!!" Maxton was completely blinded by anger. He didn't mind Joseph hit him, but a proud and egoistic person like him couldn't withstand being slapped in front of so many people! Just then, a large group of Eagle Soldiers rushed over with weapons in their hands. There were several dozens of them, all of whom were Maxton's guards with the highest combat skills! "No, don't!" Upon seeing the soldiers charging toward Joseph, Paige quickly blocked them. After that, she turned her head and yelled at Joseph anxiously, "Run!!!" However, Joseph didn't budge. Just when the soldiers were getting closer to Paige, a dozen tanks with weapons emerged and surrounded the soldiers! "Take another step if you dare!" on the leading tank, Alpha l—who was full of dangerous aura—roared at the Eagle Soldiers. At once, all of them didn't dare to move. D

But in the next moment, another hundred or so Eagle Soldiers rushed over and confronted Alpha l's army. At the sight of this scene, the guests were bewildered. On the other hand, Joseph didn't care what was happening outside. Instead, he looked at Maxton and bellowed, "Are you planning to start a war?" With hatred in his eyes, Maxton wiped off the blood at the corner of his mouth and glared at Joseph. As fury quickened his blood, his chest was heaving vigorously. Due to his injury, he was no match for Joseph. He wanted to kill Joseph badly, but he didn't dare to. After all, he came back with a task to guard the god of war and the grand wedding!

Thus, no matter how unwilling Maxton was, he suppressed his anger and glared at Joseph. "Joseph, you're dead! Don't you know that I'm the Eagle Troop's commander of the central region's military? You're lucky that I have a military order now. Stay here and wait for three days if you dare!" After letting out a scoff, Joseph looked at Maxton insultingly, "Sure. See you in three days!" "Deal!" Maxton replied, scowling at Joseph. "Paige, let's go..." Joseph turned around and walked away with Paige. After they left, Alpha 1 also left with his soldiers while sneering. What a joke? Did a mere commander just threaten Joseph? If Joseph weren't waiting for the wedding the day after tomorrow, he would have snapped Maxton into pieces by now. Exactly. This was the reason why Joseph didn't fully expose his power. In another one and a half days, it would be his wedding with Paige. Besides, for women, a wedding was a once-in-a-lifetime event. So, he didn't want her to have any regrets. However, not long after Alpha 1 and Joseph left, vice presidents from big companies in Oplen came with their contracts. Gempoint Group's vice president, Aiden Marsh, and Mysticorp Group's vice president, Ivan Lane, were among them. Then, in front of Leonard, Lily, and Maxton, those vice presidents tore all the contracts they signed with Aceshire Group. "Aiden Marsh! Ivan Lane! Are you sure you want to end this cooperation just because of Paige? Is it worth it to offend the Mooneys and me because of this?" Maxton asked Aiden and Ivan with a gloomy face. He knew these two people. Upon hearing that, Aiden and Ivan smirked, "Hah, do you think you're a general? What gives a mere commander a right to talk to us this way?" Maxton was so furious that he spat out another mouthful of blood. (This novel will be daily updaed at) With a more malicious stare, he fumed, "Okay! Fine! Go and tell Dennis Drake and Ernie Green that I will keep today's humiliation in my mind! When I become the Eagle Troop's general in the future, I will make them pay dearly for today's humiliation!" "Well, anyone can brag. We shall see when you are officially in charge of the nine Eagle Troops!" Aiden didn't show respect to Maxton at all. After saying that, Aiden looked at Leonard and sneered meaningfully, "Leonard, remember what happened today. You and your family

made this choice!" Then, Ivan also looked at Harrison mockingly. "As for you, Harrison. Go ahead and take their side if you want, but don't regret it in the future..." With that, Aiden, Ivan, and more than a dozen vice-presidents left with disdain while the Mooneys and the Sheltons fell silent. For some reason, Aiden's and Ivan's words made Leonard and Harrison worry...

The Rise of Dragon Temple By Wu Xia

Chapter 54

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Chapter 54

"Joseph Dawson! I will remember you! I will take revenge for today's humiliation a hundredfold in three days!" Maxton's face was extremely gloomy, and blood kept flowing out of his mouth. His teeth had been slapped away by Joseph. Alas, he was a five-star master. If it were an ordinary person, that person would have fainted in pain. Maxton, Leonard, and the other members of the Mooney family looked gloomy because they had invited a lot of reporters that day. Therefore, the scene had been photographed by those reporters. At this moment, when they wanted to find the reporters and ask to delete the photos, but those reporters had already run away. At first, Paige had been embarrassed, then it was the Mooney family's precious son Maxton who was disgraced. Anyway, after this day, their reputation was no longer great. On the other side, the courtyard was in a mess at the moment, with wine and dishes scattered all over the ground. (This novel will be daily updated at)Even the sky above Oplen became gloomy at this moment. The rain that had not come in the morning instantly rained down again, but it was not as heavy as the previous day. When it rained, the guests who were invited by Mooneys finally had an excuse to say goodbye to Leonard, Dominic, and others and then quickly left. Soon, the lively banquet at the Mooney family, which was full of guests earlier, became an abandoned mess. "Max, hurry up and go to the hospital. Are you seriously injured?" At this time, Leonard walked over with a very complicated expression. He stood in front of Maxton, who was in a daze, and said in a complex tone. "Grandpa, I, Maxton, have been brave all my life, but I didn't expect that I would be defeated by Joseph, who was fired from the military! Grandpa... I'm sorry..." Maxton took a deep breath and apologized to Leonard. The parents of the Mooney family should be feeling proud on this day, but it turned out to be like this. Leonard shook his head and sighed. He patted Maxton's shoulder and said, "Max, it's okay. No matter how strong Joseph is, he has been removed from the military, but you were not! Now you are still less than 30 years old, and you are already in charge of an Eagle Troop squad. I believe that you will become great in the future and officially be conferred the title of Eagle Troop Ace! It will be a great honor." Maxton also nodded. He clenched his fists and said firmly, "Well, Grandpa, I can do it! When I officially become an Eagle Troop Ace one day, I will definitely return to my hometown! I will purge this city and make family glorious!" "Huh... You sound very confident! Aren't you afraid of boasting too much? Maxton, so you want to replace me?" At this moment, a voice suddenly came from the distance. The next moment, a group of generals from the military clad in raincoats and rain hats came over. They walked very fast and arrived in front of Maxton and Leonard in the blink of an eye.

The next moment, the leading soldier, who had spoken to Maxton, took out a gun and pointed it at the forehead of the pale-faced Maxton. "Maxton, you left the team on your own and even fought with someone. Do you want to die?" "General... Mr. Huo, I... I... I..." Maxton was frightened out of his wits when he saw Mr. Huo point his gun at his head. The man in front of him was called Huo Zhichuan, the real general of the entire Eagle Troop! Maxton was just a deputy general of one of the nine Eagle Troop squads under the general's command. (This novel will be daily updated at) Moreover, Huo Zhichuan's real combat strength was already at the Semi God of War level. He was only one step away from becoming a real God of War. He was also an important protégé of the God of War in the Central Region, Felix Stokes.

That made him of the powerful forces of the central region. Huo Zhichuan narrowed his eyes, and his murderous intent spread. His fingers trembled, and he was hesitating whether he should kill Maxton now. Of course, Maxton felt Huo Zhichuan's murderous intent. He had thought that Huo Zhichuan was just trying to scare him, but he had never expected that Huo Zhichuan would really kill him! Thinking of this, Maxton was even more frightened and quickly explained to Huo Zhichuan, "General, I'm sorry. I was confused. But I wasn't the one who started the fight just now. It was Joseph Dawson, a son-in-law of our family. He came to make trouble! General... Joseph is even a soldier expelled from the military. He..." "Shut up!" Huo Zhichuan's expression changed drastically when he heard Maxton mention Joseph. Of course, this was not noticed by Maxton and Leonard, whose heads were lowered. Huo Zhichuan was extremely afraid. This morning, he had already received the news that he must not provoke the man named Joseph Dawson in Oplen! Moreover, the person who had told Huo Zhichuan this was his superior, the real God of War in the Central Region, Felix Stokes! "Maxton, don't you know that you almost..." "Zhichuan!" Just as Huo Zhichuan was about to warn Maxton, a grand and majestic voice rang in his ears. Huo Zhichuan turned around and saw a black military vehicle in the distance. At this moment, the windows rolled down, and Felix, the God of War clad in a military suit, was looking at him. "I am the Eagle Troop of the Central Region, Huo Zhichuan. Greetings to you, sir, the God of War of the central region!" Huo Zhichuan hurriedly saluted at the vehicle and pulled off the hat on his head. "God of War of the Central Region? Is it Felix Stokes, the God of War?" Maxton hurriedly raised his head and looked in the direction of Huo Zhichuan's greeting. Then, he quickly saluted Felix and said, "I am the deputy general of the Central Region, Maxton. Greeting to you, sir, the God of War of the Central Region!" "Maxton Mooney! You and your family... What you've done today... Very well..." Felix said in a cold voice, but anyone could detect the monstrous anger in his voice! Maxton shuddered all over. Just as he was about to explain something to Felix, Felix's vehicle had already left. Seeing this, Huo Zhichuan immediately turned around and glared at Maxton. "Go now and report to the military division of Oplen. Maxton, from now on, if you or your good-for-nothing family dare to cause any more trouble in Oplen, I'll personally destroy you guys! Get lost!" After saying that, Huo Zhichuan quickly chased after Felix. Maxton, who was still standing in the same place, felt everything before his eyes go dark and he fell backward. He knew that he might be finished. Even the God of War of the Central Region knew about what had happened earlier, and Maxton had left a bad impression on him. In that case, Maxton's future in the military would basically be difficult... "Joseph... I'm not done with you..." Maxton muttered to himself before he lost

consciousness. "Max..." "Maxton..." When the Mooneys saw Maxton faint, they were all anxious and hurried forward to check. Soon, they carried Maxton to a car

and drove him to the hospital. At the gate of the Mooneys' ancestral house, only Rory and his father Harrison were around, and their expressions were not good. Rory was completely confused. However, when Harrison looked at Maxton, who was sent to the hospital by the Mooney family, for some reason, he always had an ominous feeling in his heart. It was a very bad feeling, like something was about to be destroyed...

Not to mention the Mooney family, at this moment, Joseph had returned to the Paragon Villa with Paige. When he took Paige to take revenge, Yahir and Estella also went there. When they saw Joseph beating Maxton in front of everyone, they were deeply shocked. Even though they returned home at this moment, they still had not recovered from the shock. Because Paige had been too sad and worried about Joseph before, when she came back, she felt dizzy and fell asleep. Moreover, she had been in Apren City earlier and then returned again. (This novel will be daily updated at) Until now, she had been extremely tired every day. Under the extreme exhaustion, she could not hold on any longer and fell asleep. Joseph personally applied the ointment on her face, which was the best ointment to relieve swelling. Then, he applied some medicine to her temples to ease her fatigue. After everything was done, Joseph stepped out and gently closed the door

for her to sleep After Joseph came out, Estella and Yahir looked at Joseph with complicated expressions. Both of them seemed to want to say something but stopped on second thought. Joseph nodded at them and said, "Mom and Dad, it's okay. Don't worry, Paige is asleep. I also applied some ointment to her face. After a few hours, the swelling will subside..." "Well... Joseph, alas..." Estella looked at Joseph and opened her mouth to say something for a long time, but in the end, she did not say anything. Just now, Joseph took Paige with him and returned to the Mooney family to beat Maxton up, which made her very relieved! But then Estella was deeply worried that Joseph would get into big trouble. "Alas... it's all my fault for being useless, ah..." Beside him, Yahir lowered his head and began smoking. He was angry with himself. He had failed to protect his daughter and had to get Joseph to stand up for Paige. For a moment, he felt that he was very useless. "At this time, holding Chloe in her arms, Serena walked over. "Dad, what's wrong with Mom?" Chloe asked. Joseph looked up at Chloe with a smile and said, (This novel will be daily updated at) "Chloe, Mommy was too tired and fell asleep. Don't worry, she's alright..." "Okay..." Chloe nodded. She also knew that something was wrong in her little mind. Her parents were not alright, and so were her grandparents. But she didn't ask much. At this moment, Paige slept straight from noon until eleven o'clock. She slept for eleven hours straight. This was on the premise that Joseph had given her top-grade medicine to calm her down. In his heart, Joseph was very worried about Paige's physique. Just how tired had Paige been these past few days? Even if he had been injured and unconscious in the foreign territories during these years and used top grade medicine to calm his nerves, he would still wake up quite soon. At most, it would take six or seven hours for him to wake up. As for Paige, an ordinary person, how could she have slept for so long... "Joseph..." In the room, Paige looked at Joseph with a complicated expression, and her eyes were filled with worry and she looked very moved. Even when she was asleep, the scene of Joseph standing up for her appeared in her mind. Joseph gently held her hand and nodded, saying, "Well, Paige, I'm here. Have you... slept well? Does your face still hurt?" At ten o'clock in the evening, Joseph came in and removed the ointment on her face. Her face was swollen, but she was still as beautiful as before. Paige shook her head. "No, it doesn't hurt anymore. Joseph, I want to tell you something..."

Joseph nodded. "Well, sure..." She looked at him deeply and said after a long while, "Let's leave. Leave the Mooney family. Leave Oplen. Chloe, you and me... We can go wherever we want. Perhaps in the future, Chloe and I will follow you wherever you want to go. Is that okay?" Joseph was silent. After a while, he looked at Paige and asked, "Well, when should we leave?" "Can we do it tomorrow? The sooner, the better. I... I don't want to stay here anymore. This is not Chloe's nor my home, not ours..." Joseph frowned slightly and then said to her apologetically, "Paige, we can go, but can you give me a few more days? I still have some things to do. Three days, or maybe just two days. We will go after that, okay?" Paige frowned. She didn't know what else Joseph wanted to do, but she still nodded sensibly and said, "Okay, I'll listen to you. Let's go in 2 or 3 days then. I'll go and see Chloe now..." Joseph nodded. "Yes, Chloe is asleep. She's with Serena, in Serena's room. You can go. I'm going out to buy a pack of cigarettes..." After Paige got up and went to Chloe's room, Joseph went out of the room. When he was walking outside, suddenly, in the night sky, there were some white and red rose petals scattering down... At this moment, at 12 o'clock in the night, in countless places in Oplen, there were streets, roads, shopping malls, and squares... All with rose petals scattering down. It was past midnight, and there was only one day left before the wedding of the Hundred Cities. According to Dennis's plan, from then on, all the 1314 pairs of bridal couples from the Hundred Cities of the Central Region would come to Oplen. And the moment those bridal couples stepped into Oplen, they had to feel the beauty and romance of the upcoming wedding. (This novel will be daily updated at) So from that night on, the roses were scattered all over the city.... At this moment, just as the rose petals fell from the sky, countless people in Oplen were awakened from their dreams. They either pushed open their windows or ran to the streets to watch the magnificent scene of the city. At this moment, everyone remembered that the next day was the Hundred Cities Wedding. In the Paragon Villa's square, Joseph also looked up at the sky at this moment. Looking at the countless rose petals falling from the sky, he smiled... How could he not give his bride a romantic wedding? How could he let her leave this place with infinite disappointment and regret? In Oplen, that night, roses covered the whole city...