

An Understated Dominance Chapter 651 - 700

Chapter 651

Abigail was shocked by how easily he had broken the baseball bat. It was thicker than her arm, for goodness sake! And that person had just snapped it

in half like it was nothing? This man must be ridiculously strong!

“Is that all you’ve got? How dare you attack my boss when you’re so weak?”

One of the bodyguards sneered disdainfully and sent a kick straight to Abigail’s abdomen.

Abigail was sent flying into the air and landed heavily on her back, almost 10

feet away. Blood trickled down from the corners of her lips, and for a moment,

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she could not even get up. She was all out of internal energy, and her body was exerted beyond its limits. She had no strength left to fight back. But her gaze was still firm; it was obvious she wasn't ready to admit defeat. "Oi, b*tch! Don't you ever, for a single second, think that you can pull this kind of shit with me just because you practice some martial arts! I am from the Charging Tiger gang, and we have countless experts among us. Defeating a small fry like you is a piece of cake for us!" Chad straightened out his suit, walked up to her, and looked down at her condescendingly. "You have only one option now, and that is to obey me. If you do not, I'll make sure that you regret your decision." "Cut the nonsense! Just kill me already!" Abigail forced her words through

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gritted teeth, ready to embrace death.

“Kill you? Hahaha! You’re not getting out of this so easily!” Chad smirked.

“Since you’re not doing as you’re told, I think it’s time I teach you a little lesson. Boys, tear her house down!”

“Yes, sir!” Upon his command, the two excavators that were stopped right in

front of the house were immediately ignited. Then, accompanied by the roar of

the machinery, they crashed straight through the courtyard fence, over the vegetable patch, and went straight for the house.

“Stop it! Stop this right now!” Abigail was livid. She struggled to get on her

feet, but Chad kicked

her to the ground again.

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Loud crashing noises could be heard as the excavators tore through the walls and broke everything down. In no time, the house was tattered and unsteady; it was reduced to piles of rubble, and fine dust rained down.

“Stop it!” Abigail screamed with all her might as tears streamed down her face.

There was nothing she could do but watch helplessly as her house was torn down. Her heart ached so badly, as though it was cut into pieces. At that moment, it finally dawned on her how essential a person’s abilities were. Had she been stronger, this would never have happened. The onlookers sighed as they watched from afar. None of them dared to step

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up and defend the Robinsons, as the perpetrator was from the Charging Tiger

gang. One would have to be a fool to cross them.

Suddenly, an ear-splitting boom was heard, and the house collapsed instantly.

Abigail was heartbroken. She could not accept that the place she had called

home for so many years and held so many beautiful memories was now in ruins.

“Well? Have you changed your mind yet?” A malicious grin spread out on Chad’s face. “Destroying

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the house was just the start. If you continue to refuse, then your father is next.” With that, he signaled his bodyguards, and they immediately

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understood what he meant. Without another word, they grabbed hold of Mr. Robinson and pinned him down on the ground. One of them stepped on his head while the other held a machete in his hand, giving him a contemplative look as if he was thinking about where he should start. “Let go of him!” Gripped by fear, Abigail threw a punch at Chad, but he easily deflected it. “Abigail, go! Don’t worry about me! Run!” Mr. Robinson shouted. “My! What a touching scene!” Chad chuckled mirthlessly. “Unfortunately for you, I despise sappy scenes. Boys, chop that old geezer’s hand off!” “Yes, sir!” The bodyguard, who had a machete with him, answered before swiftly raising the machete above his head. “No!” Abigail shrieked in despair.

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Just as the machete was brought down, a person appeared out of nowhere and grabbed it by the blade. Surprised by the resistance, the bodyguard looked up and found an impassive yet handsome face staring back at him. The person's face was devoid of any emotion whatsoever. The bodyguard had a gut feeling that the person before him was not an average person but a

lurking beast ready to pounce at any moment. The bodyguard felt an unknown terror rise within him.

"It's you, sir?" Once the initial shock wore off, a wave of relief washed over

Abigail, and she could no longer hold back the tears. Her savior had finally arrived.

"Tearing down houses against the owners' will and assaulting them in public.

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Where did you get the audacity to do such things?” Dustin asked with an icy glint in his eyes.

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 652 -

Chapter 652

“Hey, punk! Where did you come from? How dare you meddle with my business!” Chad glared at him. He had yet to come across someone who did

not tremble at the name of the Charging Tiger gang, but here was this insolent

bastard who stood up for others and went against him. Did he have a death wish?

“You will pay back 10 times what the house is worth for demolishing it against

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their will. And whoever struck them, chop your hand yourself. If you do what I

say, I'll consider letting you go," Dustin said nonchalantly.

"Let us go?" Chad cackled and looked at Dustin like he was an idiot. "Hey buddy, do you even know what you're saying? Go, take a look in the mirror,

man! You're not a hero, and you damn sure ain't going to be saving the damsel in distress today!"

"Where did this impulsive lad come from? Where did he get the courage to interfere with the Charging Tiger gang? Does he have no fear?"

"I applaud him for his bravery, but he must not be too bright to be doing something like that!"

"The Charging Tiger gang is renowned for being mercilessly brutal. This young man is getting himself into some unnecessary trouble!"

The onlookers whispered among themselves when they heard what Dustin said.

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“I’ll count to three. If you do not do as I say, I’ll have to take action myself. And if I do, it won’t be as simple as chopping your hands off anymore,” Dustin warned.

“Well, aren’t you a cocky one?” Chad’s fury was ignited by Dustin’s words.

“Bobby! Donny! Get him!”

“Yes, sir!” The two bodyguards exchanged looks and simultaneously threw a punch at Dustin’s face, one on the left and one on the right. The moment Dustin showed up, they felt a very imposing aura from him, so neither of them

held back when they threw their punches. They gave it all they had, intending to take him out with a single move.

“You underestimate me.” Dustin scoffed and reached out with both hands,

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accurately grabbed both the bodyguards' wrists, and then twisted them forcefully. With two loud cracks, their arms. were broken then and there.

Their

arms were badly deformed, and the broken bones pierced through flesh and

skin, it was a gruesome sight for all..

“Ahhh!” Both men let out agonizing screams with tortured expressions on their

faces. But before they could even move, Dustin continued with his assault.

He

threw a punch with both hands, each. one aimed at the two men's chests.

With two dull thuds, their sternums collapsed, and indentations the size of a

fist could be seen on their chests.

At the same time, the two burly men were sent flying several feet away and

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crashed heavily into piles of rubble-like bags of sand. They both coughed out

blood and laid unconscious. Although they did not die on the spot, they had

little time left to live.

Chad was shocked by what he saw. His bodyguards were considered elites in

the Charging Tiger gang, and they could take out at least 100 regular people

on their own. No matter what trouble he got himself into, they had been able

to handle their opponents with a breeze It was beyond him how they could be

defeated by just a punch. And they were even so badly hurt that they were on

the verge of death. Who on earth was this punk?

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“It’s your turn now.” Dustin turned to glare at Chad. So, are you doing it yourself, or shall I do it for you?”

“Y-you! Stay away!” Chad had a bad premonition about the turn of events.

“I’m

warning you; my father is the leader of the Charging Tiger gang! If you so much as lay a single finger on me, my father will never let you go!” 1

“The son of the leader of the Charging Tiger gang!” A commotion broke out

among the onlookers. They had thought that Chad was just an ordinary member of the Charging Tiger gang, but now that they learned that he was not just any other member but the son of the leader of the gang, it made him seem even more formidable than he already was.

“I don’t care who you are. You either pay up and chop off your arm, or you’ll

end up just like them,”

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Dunstin said without a hint of emotion.

“Are you f*cking deaf? I said, my father is the leader of “Chad was cut off midsentence as Dustin appeared right in front of him and grabbed him by the

throat, lifting him off his feet. With his airway blocked, Chad could not breathe

and kicked around wildly as he struggled to free himself.

Fear bubbled from within him and overwhelmed him as he looked into Dustin’s

cold, uncaring

eyes. At that moment, it finally registered to him that the person before him

was an absolute madman who did not give a shit about who he was, If he wasn’t careful, this would be the day he bid the world goodbye.

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“Wait, Mr. Rhys!” Right then, Mr. Robinson clambered up from the ground and reasoned with Dustin. “Mr. Rhys, we cannot afford to anger this person. Please put him down quickly, will you? The repercussions will be severe if you do not.”

“I shall bear every consequence of my actions,” Dustin assured.

“Mr. Rhys, I know that you’re powerful, so you’re not afraid of the Charging

Tiger gang, but that isn’t how things are for us. We’re just ordinary civilians.

We cannot afford to offend people like them. If you hurt him, we will also be

dragged into the mess.” Mr. Robinson looked at Dustin with despair.

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“Will you let him go just like that after all these terrible things he has done to you?” Dustin frowned.

“Mr. Rhys, peasants like us have no choice. All we ask for is a life of peace.

Though we’ve indeed lost our house, we can still build another. As long as we’re unharmed, then it isn’t a big deal. Please, Mr. Rhys, I beg of you, release him.” As Mr. Robinson spoke, he suddenly fell to his knees and began

begging Dustin to let go of Chad.

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Chapter 653

“Why are you getting on your knees, Mr. Robinson?” Dustin was surprised by

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the sudden turn of events and quickly reached out to help him up. Though Mr.

Robinson was just a regular civilian, Dustin had always viewed him as an elder who deserved respect.

“Mr. Rhys, I know that you’re trying to defend us, but while you may be able to

protect us this time, you won’t be here to protect us forever. Mr. Robinson continued, “Using violence against violence will never solve the problem.

Why

don’t we all take a step back? I don’t mind suffering a little unfairness in life as

long as we can continue on with our lives.”

Dustin was rendered speechless when he heard what Mr. Robinson said.

When he put himself in Mr. Robinson’s shoes, he had to admit that what Mr.

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Robinson said made a lot of sense. Dustin might be able to help them out this once, but he wouldn't be able to be there to help them out all the time. Peasants had their way of life. Since they could not afford to offend anyone, they had to keep a low profile and watch every step that they took in order not to bring trouble upon themselves. Even if they suffered from any injustice, they would choose to ignore it and pretend that nothing had ever happened. Of course, it must feel terrible to live like that, but it was the only way of life that they knew

“Release him, Mr. Rhys,” Mr. Robinson begged once again. Dustin took a deep breath as he contemplated his decision. In the end, he chose to let Chad

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go. If even Mr. Robinson, who was the victim of this, did not wish to pursue the matter any further, then what was the point of him insisting on making Chad pay for his actions?

“Thank you for your understanding, Mr. Rhys.” Mr. Robinson nodded at him as a sign of appreciation. Then, he went up to Chad and smiled apologetically.

“My apologies, Mr. Miller. That was all a misunderstanding. Are you alright?”

“Hah! And here I was, thinking that you were something else. In the end, it turns out that you’re just a loser pretending to be all that!” Chad laughed arrogantly when Dustin finally let go of him. He was under the impression that

Dustin only released him because he was intimidated by his power and status.

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After all, everyone in the entire neighborhood feared the name of the Charging Tiger gang.

“This is all my fault, Mr. Miller. I’m the one to blame Please do not be angry.”

Mr. Robinson apologized humbly as he brushed the dust off Chad’s clothes.

“You know what’s good for you, old man.” Chad smiled meanly with a condescending pat on Mr. Robinson’s face as if he were some pet of his. Abigail was infuriated by this action of his. Even Dustin could not help but frown.

“Thank you, Mr. Miller!” Mr. Robinson forced a smile.

“Why are you so quiet now, you asshole? Weren’t you acting all high and mighty just a while ago? I say you’re a gutsy one for daring to play rough with me!” Chad shot daggers at Dustin.

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“I’m only letting you go for Mr. Robinson’s sake. You better know your place and don’t cross the line, or you’ll regret it.” Dustin warned coldly.

N

the verge of death. Who on earth was this punk?

“It’s your turn now.” Dustin turned to glare at Chad. So, are you doing it yourself, or shall I do it for you?”

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not just any other member but the son of the leader of the gang, it made him seem even more formidable than he already was. “I don’t care who you are. You either pay up and chop off your arm, or you’ll end up just like them,” Dustin said without a hint of emotion. “Are you f*cking deaf? I said, my father is the leader of-” Chad was cut off mid-sentence as Dustin appeared right in front of him and grabbed him by the throat, lifting him off his feet. With his airway blocked, Chad could not breathe and kicked around wildly as he struggled to free himself. Fear bubbled from within him and overwhelmed him as he looked into Dustin’s

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 654 -

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Chapter 654

Caught off guard, Chad stood frozen in place before he could react. When the

pain finally hit him, he reached up to touch his head, only to find his hand covered in blood. There was a huge wound on his head!

“You-How dare you hit me?” Chad stared at Abigail in shock and anger.

“You

are done for! All of you are! I’ll-” A hard slap from Dustin shut him up and sent

him sprawling to the ground. For a moment, Chad saw stars and bled from both his nose and mouth. Even two of his teeth were knocked out of his mouth.

“100 slaps, was it? Fine. We can do that.” Dustin grabbed a fistful of Chad’s

hair and lifted him off his feet. Then, a torrent of slaps rained down on Chad’s

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face continuously. Following a series of sharp slapping sounds, Chad's face became red and swollen, and he was on the brink of losing consciousness. Shocked by Dustin's violent assault, the onlookers gaped in terror. The person who was being beaten up was the son of the leader of the Charging Tiger gang! A person whose powers were unimaginable and who had connections in both the legal system and the underworld. People like them always had their way and have never been publicly shamed like this! How did this young man dare to do something so audacious? "My word! This brat is gutsy! He even has the guts to beat up the son of the leader of the Charging Tiger gang!"

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“I say he’s just impulsive! I don’t think he understands how much trouble he’s gotten himself into!”

“He might have just suffered a good beating for what he’s said, but now that he’s pulled something like this, his life might be on the line!”

The crowd commented on Dustin’s reckless behavior.

“He deserves that!” After everything that Chad put them through, Abigail found

Dustin’s actions. very satisfying. Chad had led his men to tear down their house and bullied them as he wished. His actions were horrible, to say the least. And a beast like him deserved every bit of Dustin’s beating.

“Oh no... oh no! He’s done it now. He’s offended the Charging Tiger gang.

What do we do now?” Mr. Robinson’s expression was both woeful and

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flustered. He had tried his best to mediate between them, but still, he did not manage to calm both parties down, which ended up with the situation escalating.

After several tens of slaps later, Dustin suddenly felt the weight in his grip disappear. Chad's hair could no longer sustain his weight and finally gave way, which resulted in a patch of his hair being ripped off his scalp. With a bald spot on the top of his head, Chad slumped to the ground, his face so swollen that it was no longer recognizable.

"I'm not done with you yet." Dustin reached out for Chad's collar, ready to make good on their deal of 100 slaps. But before he could continue, more than 10 white vans pulled up by the curb. The doors opened, and over 100 henchmen with machetes rushed out of the vans. They were all dressed in black, with a huge image of a tiger's head embroidered in the middle.

They looked mighty and domineering.

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“It’s the Charging Tiger gang! These are people from the Charging Tiger gang!” The crowd quickly dispersed, or else they would be dragged into the mess as well.

1

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 655 -
Chapter 655

“Who would have guessed that the Charging Tiger gang would get here so fast? The young man’s in deep trouble now!”

“Well, he deserves it. I mean, why did he have to go and offend the son of their leader?”

“Exactly. We, common folks, have our way of life. If he didn’t have the power, then he should have laid low. See, now even his life is in danger.” The crowd

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looked at Dustin as if he were already a dead man
The Charging Tiger gang had always been known for their arrogance and
vengefulness. Anyone who offended them met a tragic fate-they'd either
go
bankrupt, or their family would suffer great tragedy. There has never been
an
instance like today, where the son of their leader had been beaten up, and
so
brutally, at that. Even when an ordinary gang member experienced
injustice,
the gang would go all out to demand a payback. So, now that it happened
to
their leader's son, it was inevitable that Dustin and the Robinsons' would
bear
the full wrath of the Charging Tiger gang. "Oh no, darn it! Now we're all
done

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for!” Edmund felt weak in the knees when he saw the fierce appearance of the

members of the Charging Tiger gang, and his face paled.

“There are so many of them?” Abigail frowned, worry written all over her face.

She could not help the trepidation that crept up on her. She knew Dustin was

a skilled fighter, but the Charging Tiger gang had the numbers. She counted

at least 100 henchmen, each armed with a machete. No matter how skilled Dustin was, he was severely outnumbered.

Right then, Chad, with his terribly swollen and bruised face, seemed to be aware that something was going on, so he tried his best to open his eyes

Managing only to open his eyes into the narrowest of slits, he saw the situation around him and laughed maniacally. “Hahaha! My men from the Charging Tiger gang are here! You, all of you, will die here today!”

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“Run, Sir! I’ll hold them back!” Abigail saw the Charging Tiger gang close in on them, and she rushed to stand in front of Dustin, raising the broken bat above her head with a determined look. She had been the one who called Dustin, so now that there was trouble, she had to be the one to bear full responsibility.

1
“Take care of yourself, kid! These shrimps can’t hurt me,” Dustin said calmly, showing no sign of fear.

“But, Sir, there are so many of them! How can you fend them off alone? I don’t want you to get into trouble! Quick, go now!” Abigail urged Dustin anxiously.

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As they spoke, the gang members had already surrounded them. Even if they

wished to leave now, -they no longer had a way out.

“Hah! Weren’t you boasting earlier? Scared now? It’s too late!” With a grotesque expression, Chad hissed, “I’m telling you, this is just the beginning!

I will make sure that you pay ten times, no, a hundred times worse for what

you did to me! I’ll make your life a living hell!”

“You’re too noisy.” Dustin scoffed before giving Chad a kick that sent him flying several feet away.

“Chad!” The Charging Tiger gang members were astonished and quickly rushed over to help him up. The moment Chad got back on his feet, he spat out a mouthful of blood and nearly fell to the ground once again. The burning desire for revenge kept him going, despite the excruciating pain he was experiencing. His deathly glare was fixed on

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Dustin, as if he wanted to swallow him whole.

“Who dares hit my son?” A loud, authoritative sound boomed.

The horde of Charging Tiger members who had formed a barrier around Dustin and the Robinsons parted. Soon after, a burly and menacing figure clad in a fur coat strode in with an air of arrogance and confidence. This was

none other than the leader of the Charging Tiger gang, Felix Miller!

“No way! The leader of the Charging Tiger gang himself showed up?

Things

are about to get real ugly!”

“Felix Miller is infamous for his ruthlessness! Anybody who crosses him would

much rather face death than endure his torment.”

“If I were the young man, I’d end myself right now to avoid Felix Miller’s cruel torture!”

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A commotion broke out among the crowd once more due to Felix Miller's presence.

For the leader of the gang himself to show up with such a huge entourage, it

was obvious that the Charging Tiger gang intended to assert their dominance.

"You're finally here, Dad! If you were any later, this bastard would've finished

me off!"

Chapter 656

When Chad saw his father, he immediately ran over to him, stumbling as he

went. He looked like a real mess; his face was swollen and bruised, and blood

trickled down his mouth.

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“How did you end up like this?” Felix frowned, his expression darkening.

As a

leader of one of the four largest gangs in Millsburg, he was considered an underground overlord. His son had always been the bully, never the other way

around. Now that his son has been messed with, it went without saying that

he was fuming.

“I didn’t have a choice, Dad! I ran into the greatest idiot today who had zero

respect for the Charging Tiger gang! He attacked me out of the blue! Look what he did to me! Look at my face! You have to get revenge for me!”

Chad

wailed miserably as he ratted on Dustin.

“Who’s the insolent bastard who dared to underestimate the power of the Charging Tiger gang?” Felix snarled.

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“It’s him!” Chad pointed his finger at Dustin and said, “He slapped me over and over! My head is still buzzing from the pain!” “You scumbag! How dare you hit my son? I’ll-” When Felix followed Chad’s pointed finger, he suddenly froze and cut himself off in the middle of his threats. “It’s him?” At the sight of Dustin, all his hair stood on ends, and he felt his skin crawl. A chilly sensation ran from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet. He had been at the Doyles’ yesterday to watch the dueling competition. The memory of Dustin defeating Terry Doyle with his unbelievable powers was still fresh in his mind. It was shocking!

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Terry Doyle was a legendary figure, ranking thirteenth among the Heavenly Immortals. He was widely acknowledged as a martial arts genius and was one of the candidates for the next master of the Balerno martial arts. Any mention of his name evoked admiration from others. But this great and legendary figure ultimately met defeat at the hands of Dustin Rhys, so it was easy for Felix to imagine just how formidable the person before him was! It took a powerful person to know one, and in his position, Felix knew all too well how fearsome a powerful martial artist was. To say that Dustin could single-handedly wipe out the entire Charging Tiger gang was no exaggeration. “How did I manage to get into trouble with someone so terrifying?” Felix gulped, breaking out in cold sweat. He was truly intimidated by Dustin’s

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presence.

“You bastard! Now that my Dad’s here, you’re dead meat! No God can save

you now!” Chad, still oblivious to Dustin’s status, shouted at him.

“Shut up! Not another word from you!” Gripped with fear, Felix signaled to

Chad with his eyes to shut him up. He dreaded even thinking about what would happen to them if this man before him took offense at Chad’s taunts.

Harry Hall, the former leader of the Flame Dragon gang, was the perfect example.

“Go ahead, Dad! Use all your most brutal tactics on him! Let this bastard know

what it means to be in a living hell!” Chad laughed hysterically.

Dustin frowned at Chad’s words. This minor gesture alone scared Felix so much that he felt his

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knees buckle. Truth be told, he was just short of peeing his pants.
“Dad, why are you still standing there? Get this brat and show him what you got!” Chad continued.
“To hell with your nonsense, Chad! Shut up!” Felix couldn’t take it anymore and struck his son across the face so forcefully that Chad spun twice before collapsing to the ground like a sack of potatoes.
“D-Dad... why did you hit me?” Chad cupped his swollen cheeks in his hand, unable to wrap his head around what had happened.
But Felix didn’t even spare him a glance as he fearfully approached Dustin.
Amidst everyone’s shocked and astonished gaze, he fell to his knees and

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prostrated in front of Dustin. “I bow before you in reverence, Mr. Rhys!

Felix

Miller, leader of the Charging Tiger gang at your service, sir!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 657 -

Chapter 657

“I bow before you in reverence, Mr. Rhys! Felix Miller, leader of the Charging

Tiger gang at your service, sir!” As the crowd watched, Felix fell to his knees

and prostrated before Dustin.

A hushed silence fell over the crowd. Chad was dumbfounded, as were Edmund, Abigail, and the onlookers. Even the members of the Charging Tiger

gang were dumbfounded. Dustin found himself gaping at the sight before him.

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No one had ever imagined that Felix Miller, the fearsome leader of the mighty

Charging Tiger gang, known for being merciless, would publicly prostrate before Dustin. It was as though he had met someone whom he greatly admired and feared. It was quite unsettling and unthinkable.

“Wha-Is this for real?” Abigail stared wide-eyed.

“What on earth is going on?” The onlookers looked at each other in bewilderment and disbelief.

“Am I seeing things? The leader is prostrating before the little bastard?”

Members of the Charging Tiger gang couldn’t believe their eyes. Their leader

held such prestigious status that even among the prominent Fabulous Five, he walked with his head held high. Why then would he tremble and shake at

the sight of the young troublemaker, so much so that he could not even stand

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on his feet?

“No... no way!” Chad shook his head violently, his entire worldview shaken to

its core. In his eyes, his father was an upright and heroic figure, always remaining stoic and composed even in the face of adversaries. So how could

such a great person assume such a lowly stance before another?

“What are you playing at?” Dustin wondered aloud as he stared at Felix.

He

was certain that he didn't know this man. It was truly mind-boggling to have

someone get down on their knees on the first meeting.

“I sincerely apologize for our behavior, Mr. Rhys. I hope you can find it in you

to forgive us this once if we have offended you.” Felix smiled apologetically,

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fear evident in his eyes.

“Do I know you?” Dustin asked.

“You don’t know me, but I’ve had the honor of watching you fight. You were

incredible at the Doyles’ yesterday. Truly impressive!” Felix praised him.

Dustin had indeed made a reputation for himself across Millsburg after the duel yesterday, and the Flame Dragon gang had risen in the ranks to become

the most powerful gang in Millsburg overnight. 1

“Oh, so you were there too.” Dustin nodded with understanding. He finally understood what was going on. The reason Felix feared him so much that he

was brought to his knees was that he was intimidated by Dustin’s powers.

But

that worked well for Dustin, too, because then, there wouldn’t need to be a massacre.

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“Dad! What are you doing? You are the formidable leader of the mighty Charging Tiger gang! Why are you on your knees at this bastard’s feet?” When Chad finally came to his senses, he immediately ran up to Felix and demanded an explanation.

“Shut up!” Felix’s expression darkened as he jumped to his feet and gave Chad two slaps across the face. “You insolent child! Apologize to Mr. Rhys

right now, or I’ll skin you alive!”

“Me? Apologize to him? Why should I?” Chad held his face in his hand, looking both unwilling and aggrieved.

“Why should you? Because he’s the leader of the Flame Dragon gang, that’s

why! And because he’s defeated Terry Doyle! Is that reason enough for you?”

Felix roared.

“What? He’s the leader of the Flame Dragon gang?” Chad stood frozen in

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place upon hearing that. His previous defiance was replaced by complete awe. Though he had never met Dustin in person, he had certainly heard of him.

Dustin had shown up at the dueling competition as the leader of the Flame Dragon gang at the Doyles' yesterday, intimidating everyone with his presence. Even the elderly master of the martial world personally went up to

him to greet him. His talent and strength had marked him out as a person who

would undoubtedly emerge as the champion, earning the awe and admiration

of countless people.

No wonder his father feared him. So this was the impressive figure who nearly

turned the Doyle family upside down! With a thud, Chad's knees buckled, and

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he, too, fell to his knees under the astonished gaze of the onlookers.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 658 -

Chapter 658

For a moment, a commotion spread through the crowd. Felix Miller had just

prostrated before Dustin, and now Chad Miller followed suit. What was going

on? Was this what they called “like father, like son”? Though they didn’t exactly know what had happened, anyone could tell that the Charging Tiger

gang was in trouble. They were sure the handsome young man possessed considerable influence.

“I was wrong, Mr. Rhys. It’s all my fault. I failed to recognize you, and I underestimated you. Please don’t take my wrongdoings to heart. I hope you

can find it in you to forgive me,” Chad apologized as he slapped himself

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repeatedly. With each slap, a loud, clear smacking sound echoed, showing just how hard he was slapping himself. In no time, he quickly made up for the

remaining 20 to 30 slaps that Dustin had left out.

“Please get things right. The person you should be apologizing to isn’t me,”

Dustin said impassively.

Chad seemed caught off guard initially, but he quickly caught on and went over to Edmund and Abigail. Then, he kneeled and said, “I am truly sorry.

This

is all my fault. I beg for your forgiveness. I will compensate you ten times for

all your losses!”

“Hah! Who wants your filthy money?” Abigail turned away huffily, not wanting

to bother herself with the likes of him.

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“What are you doing, Mr. Miller? Please don’t kneel to us!” Edmund was so frightened that he quickly reached out his hand, signaling for Chad to stand up.

“If you don’t forgive me, I will keep kneeling until you do.” Chad seemed bent on receiving their forgiveness.

“Alright, alright, we forgive you. You’re forgiven. Please, do kneel any longer!”

Edmund nodded, furiously, obviously overwhelmed by Chad’s behavior.

Chad

then turned around to glance at Dustin. Only when he saw that Dustin gave him no reaction did he slowly straighten up.

“Mr. Rhys, your magnanimity is truly admirable. You are a role model for

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people like us!” Felix quickly complemented him when he saw that the critical situation had been averted.

“Pay up first,” Dustin piped up.

“Yes, yes. Right away.” Without a moment’s hesitation, Felix immediately wrote a check for twenty million dollars check and handed it to Edmund.

“It’s... it’s too much!” Edmund dared not take the money.

“What do you mean it’s too much? He owes it to us!” Abigail didn’t waste any time and snatched the check from his hands, stashing it safely away in her pocket.

“Mr. Rhys, I’ve paid them.” Felix conjured up the brightest smile he could manage.

“Now that you’ve paid them, let’s talk business,” Dustin continued. “From what

I’ve heard, the Charging Tiger gang is pretty powerful and possesses great

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influence in the city's northern region.

"I wouldn't say we've got great influence. We're just doing okay, I guess.

Of

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compared to you, Mr. Rhys.” Felix smiled humbly.

“Don’t give me that. I know your background pretty well,” Dustin said.

“Truth

be told, the Flame Dragon gang is looking to expand, so we’re recruiting talented individuals to join us. Would you be interested in joining?”

“Join the Flame Dragon gang?” Felix was taken aback, and it took him quite a

while to react. He was the leader of the Charging Tiger gang, so how could he

possibly join the Flame Dragon gang? “If you join us, I’ll make you the vice

leader. You’ll be on par with Nelson Horst.”

“And what about my Charging Tiger gang?” An uneasy feeling washed over

Felix.

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“Easy, it’ll be absorbed into the Flame Dragon gang. Dustin dropped a bomb.

“What?” Felix was shocked. He thought Dustin had just mentioned it as a passing comment. Who would have thought that he meant what he said and had actually intended to absorb the entire Charging Tiger gang? Wasn’t that too much?

“What’s the matter? You don’t want to?” Dustin raised an eyebrow.

“Well...” Felix stuttered.

Everyone knew that it was always better to hold an important position in a relatively smaller setting rather than getting a less influential role in a larger, more prominent setting. As the current leader of the Charging Tiger gang, he

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had absolute control over every one of his members. It was a no-brainer that he wouldn't want to be demoted to vice leader of the Flame Dragon gang. "If you don't want to, I won't force you. When Felix heard that, he heaved a sigh of relief. But Dustin's next words hit him like a bolt of lightning. "I've always been someone who wins others over with my capabilities. I won't force myself on anyone. This's why the previous leader of the Flame Dragon gang, Harry Hall, chose to step back. So, what do you think? Do you think he made the right move?" Dustin smiled.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 659 -

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Chapter 659

Felix was frozen with fear when he saw the devilish smile on Dustin's face.

Cold sweat broke out all over him. While others might not know how Harry

Hall, the previous leader of the Flame Dragon gang, had died, Felix knew very

well why. It was precisely this person standing before him who had killed Harry off to take his place. His talk about winning people over with his capabilities? If anything, that was a blatant threat! If Felix didn't comply, he

might very well end up just like Harry Hall!

"Alright, you may leave now. Till we meet again!" Dustin smiled meaningfully,

sending panic through Felix. He knew that he was every part a mortal, just as

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Harry Hall was. If he really turned Dustin down, he might not live to see the next sunrise.

“Mr. Rhys, it would be my honor to join the Flame Dragon gang. If you would have us, I, Felix Miller, will gladly lead all my members in the Charging Tiger gang to devote ourselves to the Flame Dragon gang!” Felix declared, putting on a righteous front.

“Please don’t feel pressured, Mr. Miller. I don’t like to coerce others.” Dustin shook his head.

“This is no coercion! I’ve long heard of your great reputation, Mr. Rhys, and I greatly admire you. Now that I’ve had the honor of meeting you, I’m

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completely won over by your character. Please bestow upon me the honor, sir!” Felix cried out passionately.

“Are you sure you wish to join the Flame Dragon gang?” Dustin asked again.

“Of course I’m sure! I believe that under your leadership, Mr. Rhys, the Flame Dragon gang will surpass all others and become the most powerful gang!” Felix praised excessively.

“Very well, from now on, you’ll be the vice leader of the Flame Dragon gang.

You’ll still have control over the members who were previously part of the Charging Tiger gang, and all your turf will remain yours,” Dustin announced.

“Thank you for allowing me this honor, Mr. Rhys!” Felix exclaimed with elation.

His biggest concern was losing his authority when he joined the Flame

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Dragon gang. But since that hadn't changed, and only his title was different, he seemed to have suffered no loss at all. Before this encounter, Felix had a certain aversion toward Dustin, but now, all he felt was admiration. Dustin was powerful and knew how to make things work in his favor. He was also courageous, and most importantly, Felix saw immense potential in him. It was not a bad idea to serve someone like that. "Alright, you go ahead and go to the Flame Dragon gang and meet up with Nelson Horst." Dustin dismissed him with a wave. "Yes, sir!" Felix answered and quickly left with his men. As he watched them leave, Dustin fell into deep thought. He knew Felix would have objections, but he had his ways of pursuing him to join willingly. His

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target wasn't just the Charging Tiger gang but also the other two major gangs.

Simply put, he wanted to merge the four major gangs in order to form new rules and create an orderly system.

Currently, the four major gangs had their own interests at heart and would often get into gang fights with each other. In the eyes of truly powerful people,

they seemed trivial and

inconsequential, as they had no sense of cooperation. However, once they were merged, they would become an unbelievably formidable power, even surpassing that of the Fabulous Five! Gaining control over the four major gangs would make him the King of the Underworld in Millsburg!

Just then, the sound of a car honking filled the air. Dustin turned around to see a silver Bentley slowly pulling over by the side of the road. As the door

opened, an exquisite lady with a perfect figure stepped out of the car and

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slowly approached them. 1

It was Natasha! She was dressed in a burgundy-red overcoat, a black turtleneck top, and a pair of Hermès boots. She looked stylish and elegant, exuding an air of nobility.

“Why are you here, Natasha?” Dustin’s eyes lit up. Despite being familiar with

her, he couldn’t help but be in awe of her beauty every time he saw her. 1

“I heard Mr. Robinson ran into some trouble, so I came to check on things. Didn’t expect to find you here already!” Natasha smiled.

“Ms. Natasha.”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 660 -
Chapter 660

Edmund quickly greeted Natasha.

“Ms. Natasha,” Abigail greeted her too.

Back when her father used to work for the Harmons, Abigail had her fair share

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of interactions with Natasha. She found her to be a thoughtful, caring, and gentle person who would occasionally give her gifts. It wasn't until Natasha

went to Swinton to further her career that the two rarely met anymore.

“Abigail, I haven't seen you in two years! You've grown up into such a beautiful young lady!” Natasha praised with a light-hearted chuckle.

“You're the beautiful one, Ms. Natasha. There are countless ladies in Millsburg who envy your beauty.” Abigail looked at her with admiration.

Few

could match Natasha's beauty and elegance in the whole of Balerno, much less Millsburg.

“How sweet.” Natasha tapped Abigail's nose adoringly before looking back at

the ruins behind them. “It seems like your house has been completely torn

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down. Why don't you go back with me to the Harmon estate and stay there for

a few days? It'd be a good opportunity for us to catch up too."

"It wouldn't be right to trouble you like that, Ms. Natasha. We'll just find somewhere else to stay for a few days," Edmund declined.

"It's almost New Year's; where will you find a place to stay at a time like this?

Besides, we have plenty of empty rooms at the Harmon estate, and you're familiar with the place too. What harm will it do to stay there for a couple of

days?" Natasha didn't see any trouble with that at all.

"Well..." Edmund found himself in quite a dilemma!

"Ms. Natasha's right. If you're not going, I'll go myself!" Abigail huffed.

"Don't hesitate, Mr. Robinson. Come on, get in the car. There are so many of

us waiting," Natasha urged.

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“In that case, I’ll have to trouble you then, Ms. Natasha.” Edmund looked around, and in the end, he nodded. It wouldn’t be right to decline such a generous offer. If he refused any longer, it would come off as impolite. After getting into the car, the four of them quickly left the village. Half an hour later, they arrived at the Harmon estate. Edmund and Abigail couldn’t help but sigh when they saw the familiar sights through the car window. Having worked for the Harmons for so many years, the estate was akin to their second home. After taking Edmund and Abigail to their lodgings, Natasha led Dustin to Hector’s study room, and they stood outside the door. “Why have you brought me here, Natasha?” Dustin couldn’t help but wonder. “There’s something my dad would like to discuss with you.”

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“What is it?”

“I’m not sure. Maybe it’s something to do with our marriage.” Natasha smiled coyly.

“Don’t spout nonsense.” Dustin shot her a glare. Nothing was official between them yet, so how could they be talking about marriage? It definitely wasn’t going to be so soon!

“What? Do you not wish to marry me? Or is it because you still have feelings for Dahlia Nicholson?” Natasha asked, subtly probing. Dustin cleared his throat awkwardly. “If Mr. Harmon wants to meet me, I’m sure he has something important to discuss. We’d better go in now.” Seeing that the conversation was veering into dangerous waters, Dustin swiftly

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pushed the door open and went in.

“Hah! Just wait till I get the chance to stake my claim on you! I’d like to see

how you’ll deny my hand in marriage then!” Natasha thought to herself as she

bit her lip. She followed him in soon after.

Inside the study, Hector was quietly reading a book, and the room was still brightly lit. It was obvious he hadn’t slept the entire night. “Oh, you’re here?

Have a seat.” Hector put down his book and poured them each a cup of tea when he saw them enter.

“Mr. Harmon, is something the matter? Why did you call me here?”

Dustin

asked tentatively.

“I heard from Natasha that you gave her a call yesterday, telling her to watch

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out for the Dark Lord What was that about?” Hector cut straight to the point.

“It was Azalea. She gave me information that the Dark Lord is now in Millsburg. It’s highly likely that he’ll strike again during New Year’s,”

Dustin

said solemnly.

“It’s three days away from New Year’s Eve. So you’re saying the Dark Lord

will appear again in three days?” Hector seemed deep in thought.

“That’s right.” Dustin nodded.

“Sounds like the Dark Lord isn’t planning on letting us have a peaceful New

Year’s celebration!” Hector narrowed his eyes ever so slightly as a murderous

gleam flashed in his eyes. After fighting and scheming against each other for

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so long, it was finally time to draw an end to things.

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Chapter 661

“How do you plan to deal with this, Mr. Harmon?” Dustin asked.

“Since the Dark Lord is drawing near, I’ll have to make arrangements in advance. Just to be prepared, I’ll spare no expense to hire skilled martial artists to guard the house,” Hector declared in all seriousness.

Not only was the Dark Lord exceptionally skilled in martial art, but he was also

accomplished in the mystic arts. The Harmon family’s shadow guards alone

were no match for him, so he would need to hire backup. Not only will this strengthen their forces, but it would also minimize potential losses for the Harmons.

“Mr. Harmon, the Dark Lord will not act alone. He has many disciples, and each one of them possesses remarkable skills. You will have to consider that

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too,” Dustin reminded.

“Yes, I’ll take note of that. The Harmon family will be under strict security measures for the next few days to prevent any unwanted visitors.” Hector nodded.

“Dad, I remember Grandfather saying that we have a trump card. What is it?”

Natasha asked out of the blue.

“It’s a person,” Hector replied, his voice lowered.

“A person? Who is it?” Natasha’s curiosity was piqued.

“There are five ultimate grandmasters in Balerno-Paul Hill, Zachary Graves,

Ronald Reeds, Clarence Lawson, and Michael Robinson. The person I’m talking about is none other than one of the five ultimate grandmasters, Michael Robinson!”

Hector’s words shocked both Natasha and Dustin.

“The grandmaster Michael Robinson?” Natasha’s eyes widened in extreme

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astonishment.

The five ultimate grandmasters of Balerno were formidable figures with reputations that extended across the entire nation! They were like towering mountains, magnificent and awe-inspiring, yet seemingly out of reach.

When

faced with grandmasters, the presence of regular people and low-level martial

artists was no different from those of ants. There was even a widely circulated

saying that everyone below the level of a grandmaster was like ants, and this

went to show the immense power of a grandmaster.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that any one of the five ultimate grandmasters alone could easily wipe out the entire Harmon family. So, when

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Natasha heard her father say that their trump card was Michael Robinson, her

first reaction was shock, followed by doubt.

“Dad, you’re not joking, are you? How do we have a connection with Michael

Robinson?” Natasha asked, both surprised and skeptical.

“The Harmon family has had its time of glory. What’s the surprise in us having

connections with some big shots?” Hector calmly sipped on his tea.

“Dad, what does he look like? Does he look imposing?” Natasha began to gossip.

“I’m not entirely sure how he looks. I haven’t met him in person, either.

Your

grandfather’s the only one who knows. Your grandfather helped him ten years

ago, so he owes us a favor,” Hector

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explained

“The favor of a grandmaster martial artist is priceless! With Michael Robinson

backing us up, dealing with the Dark Lord would be a piece of cake!”

Natasha

looked overjoyed. “Dad, why haven’t you used this valuable trump card earlier? We wouldn’t have to worry so much then.”

Over the years, the Harmons had been oppressed by the Dark Lord. Every year, several bizarre deaths would happen in the family, wreaking havoc and

instilling fear in their hearts. The Harmons would have long since fallen if they

had not been so strong and resilient.

“I, too, would like to get rid of the Dark Lord once and for all, but your

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grandfather had given me strict instructions that unless the safety of the entire

Harmon family is at stake, I am not to use the favor.” Hector shook his head.

The Harmons could only ask for Michael’s help once. It only made sense that

they should not waste the opportunity on trivial matters. Besides, the Dark Lord had always been cautious, acting in the dark and never showing his face

to anyone. Even someone as powerful as Michael would find it arduous to catch him. For a cat to catch the mouse, the mouse had to first come out of hiding...

“Dad, the Dark Lord could barge through our doors at any moment now! Are

we still not going to use it?” Natasha insisted. She was impressed by her father’s resilience.

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“There’s no rush. I have my plans,” Hector said calmly before adding,
“When
the time comes, all it takes is a signal from our end, and Michael will be
here
in no time.”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 662 -
Chapter 662

“Alright, you’re the leader of the family. It’s your decision ” Natasha
didn’t
voice much of her
opinion. It was true that they shouldn’t play their trump card, Michael
Robinson, so easily. The best outcome would be to resolve the crisis and
eliminate the Dark Lord of their own means so that not only will they still
be in
possession of their trump card, but it would also boost the entire family’s
morale.

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“Mr. Harmon, I’m curious. What grudge the Dark Lord holds against the Harmon family?” Dustin suddenly questioned.

“Well...” Hector seemed to hesitate for a moment.

“Mr. Harmon, I asked because I’m curious. If you don’t feel like telling me,

don’t stress about it.” Dustin smiled. He knew better than to probe if it involved

any of the family’s secrets.

“Dad, there’s no harm in spilling the truth. Dustin isn’t an outsider,”

Natasha

coaxed. She, too, didn’t know much about the grievances between her family

and the Dark Lord.

“Alright then, if you must know, I’ll tell you.” After some contemplation, Hector

began. “The reason behind the resentment between us Harmons and the

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Dark Lord is simple. It's all because of riches. "Back in the days, the Harmon ancestors used to be royalty, and we had our period of glory. Back then, our ancestors amassed a huge amount of treasure, and to put things simply, we were immensely wealthy. But as time passed, things happened, and there was a change of monarchies. In order to safeguard the treasure, our ancestors buried them in a safe place and drew out a map pointing to the exact location where the treasure was buried. As a precaution, the treasure map was split into three parts. They were to be kept by the three sons of the Harmon family.

"The original plan had been to use the treasure to aid the Harmon family in regaining their former glory when the time came. But beyond everyone's expectation, the three sons eventually turned on each other and disappeared

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with their part of the map. From then on, the Harmon family split into three branches and made their way in the world independent of one another. “After centuries of ups and downs, the three lineages of the Harmon family eventually reached different outcomes. Some grew stronger, while others declined. And the maps were passed on from one generation to the next. It wasn’t until a decade ago, when Stonia went through some changes which brought about the great earthquake in Dragonmarsh, that something happened. The strongest branch of the Harmon family mysteriously just disappeared overnight! And the two remaining branches were implicated in varying degrees too. We were one of them. “Fortunately for us, we pulled through it and made it out stronger than before.

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The other branch, however, did not fare so well and eventually perished.”

At

the mention of that, Hector stopped abruptly and sighed lightly.

“Dad, I’ve seen the history on the genealogical register, but what has the Dark

Lord got to do with this?” Natasha asked.

“All these years, the Dark Lord has had many chances to kill me, but he has

always held back. Do you know why?” Hector countered.

“Was it because of the treasure map?” Natasha quickly understood.

1/2

“That’s right.” Hector nodded. “Who wouldn’t want to get their hands on immeasurable riches? The Dark Lord is no different. The only reason he hasn’t killed me is because he hasn’t got the map. All this time, he’d been pressuring me in every way imaginable in order to make me give up the map.

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“Hang on...” Dustin suddenly asked curiously, “Mr. Harmon, surely this matter

about the treasure map is a secret known by only Harmons?”

“Of course.” Hector nodded yet again.

“Well, if this is a Harmon family secret, how would the Dark Lord know about

it?” Dustin could not contain his concern.

“Seems like you’ve noticed.” Hector sighed before continuing, “Out of the three lineages of Harmons, one has mysteriously disappeared, one has perished, and we are the last one standing. As for the Dark Lord, he is the sole survivor of the lineage that had perished!”

2/2

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 663 -

Chapter 663

“The sole survivor?” Dustin and Natasha exchanged a look of surprise. It was

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truly astonishing to them that the Dark Lord was also a Harmon! And not only that, but one from the same ancestry! No wonder he knew so many of their secrets.

“The three branches stemmed from the same ancestry, but due to the Dark Lord’s selfishness, he went so far as to harm his kinsmen. How inhumane!”

Natasha slammed her hand on the table out of frustration. She was even more irked after learning about the truth. She could have been more understanding if their current predicament had been caused by some deep grudge between both parties, but to think it was all because of a treasure map? The Dark Lord actually assassinated members of the Harmon family for

so many years, all for a mere map? He was extremely deranged! “Men’s greed is endless. The temptation of the treasure is immense, and the Dark Lord will never back off till he gets his hands on them,” Hector said.

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“One of the three branches has already disappeared, which means that a part of the map is missing. Even if the Dark Lord manages to obtain our part of the map through all his vile schemes, what use has he of it? Isn’t it pointless?” Natasha asked coldly. The Dark Lord would not be able to find the treasure with an incomplete map. From how Natasha saw it, he was only caught up in his wishful thinking.

“The Dark Lord has been blinded by greed. He has long since lost all sense of rationality. When you become the next leader of the family, I’ll personally hand our part of the map to you. When the time comes, you must protect it to the

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best of your ability,” Hector said solemnly.

“No, you hold on to your position as the patriarch. I’m not interested in it.”

Natasha waved her hands dismissively. The treasure map was no doubt troublesome. If she were to take over, she could only begin to imagine the problem she’d have to deal with.

“Alright, we’ll discuss this in the future. I don’t want to force you into anything,

either. The most pressing matter at hand is to defeat the Dark Lord Hector

continued after a pause, “For the next three days, just stay put in the Harmon

estate. Don’t go running around lest we get singled out. I’ll hire some skilled

martial artists to back us up. If the Dark Lord shows up, he’ll be walking straight into our trap.”

“No matter the price, we must get ahold of the Dark Lord this time round to put

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an end to things!” Natasha narrowed her eyes, a cold glint flashing in them.

The Dark Lord had placed huge pressure on the Harmon family and needed to be dealt with as soon as possible. However, the problem was that he hid himself too well and never revealed his identity. Now that the chance finally presented itself, the Harmons were definitely not going to let it pass without taking action.

“Mr. Harmon...” Just then, Jack entered after knocking on the door.

“What is it?” Hector looked up at him.

“Someone has requested to meet you, sir. They claim to be disciples of the Invincible Guardians.”

“The Invincible Guardians?” Hector was pleasantly surprised. “They’re here so

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soon? Quick, show them in.”

“Yes, sir, Jack said and swiftly left.

“Dad, who are the Invincible Guardians? Why have I never heard of them?”

Natasha asked, curious, “The Invincible Guardians is a huge guild in Glenstead. However, they prefer to keep a low profile, and since you’re not a

part of the martial world, it’s only natural that you’ve never heard of them before,” Hector explained.

“Did you invite them here?” Natasha probed.

“Yes, I have some connections with the guild master of the Invincible Guardians. After I learned about the Dark Lord’s intentions last night, I immediately contacted him. Never expected them to be here so soon, though,” Hector chuckled.

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The Invincible Guardians were well-known in the martial world. Though they were few in number, every one of their members was a genius of exceptional talent. With their help, Hector felt the Harmons would stand a greater chance of going against the Dark Lord.

“Mr. Harmon, they are here.” As they were conversing, Jack returned with three people behind him. Two young women and a young man, all wearing white attire with a long sword on each of their backs. Their gazes were sharp, and they carried themselves with extraordinary demeanor.

“Caelus Amos, senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians, at your service, Mr. Harmon!” The young -man in white greeted Hector the moment he came in

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through the door.

However, when his gaze fell on Natasha, his eyes lit up.

“What a beauty! She’s incredibly beautiful!” he thought.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 664 -

Chapter 664

As expected of the number one bombshell on the Beauty Ranking!

“Maria Dunham, second disciple of the Invisible Guardians, at your service,

Mr. Harmon!”

“Ivy Dennis, third disciple of the Invisible Guardians, at your service, Mr. Harmon!”

The two girls in white also introduced themselves.

“Alright, alright. You’ve all come at the right time. Come have some tea.”

Hector smiled gently, motioning for Jack to serve the tea and pastries.

“Mr. Harmon, we heard you’re in trouble, so we’re here on our master’s orders

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to lend a hand. If you need anything, just let us know. We promise to help you

handle it with ease!” Caleus said confidently.

“The three of you must be exhausted from such a long journey. Please get some rest first. We can discuss this tomorrow. Oh, by the way, why haven’t

I

seen your master?” Hector asked, changing the subject.

Just three disciples from the Invincible Guardians were obviously not enough.

It was best if a few elders or even the leader stepped in..

“Don’t worry, Mr. Harmon. My master and his colleague will be here in two

days,” Caelus replied. “Great.” Hector secretly let out a breath he had been holding.

“Actually, something small like this doesn’t even require my master and his

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colleague to step in. No matter what it is, I can slay it with just one slash!” Caelus shrugged, and a longsword immediately appeared on his back. He grabbed it with one hand, gripped the hilt, and slashed down on a chair about ten feet away.

The sword glinted, and the wooden chair split into several pieces.

“Amazing swordsmanship, Caelus!” Maria and Ivy said in unison, gasping in

shock. The external manifestation of true energy was a sign of a divine-level

martial artist. To be able to cast such a quick and fierce aura in his early thirties was truly no small feat.

“Mr. Harmon, what do you think of my sword?” Caelus smiled slightly with a

hint of pride. As he spoke, he even snuck a glance at Natasha as if to say, “Did you see how cool I was?”

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“Not bad. You have accomplished a lot at a young age, surpassing your peers. You even outdo your master when he was your age,” Hector said, nodding with a smile.

“Heh, so long as I’m here, nothing will dare come close to the Harmon family,”

Caelus boasted. As the most senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians and

the future successor to the leader role, he was the cream of the crop among the youths in Glenstead in terms of both talent and skills.

“With the Invincible Guardians here, I definitely feel more at ease.” Hector smiled:

“Mr. Harmon, actually, there’s another reason I came today,” Caelus said, moving to a different topic.

“Oh? What is it?” Hector’s smile didn’t waver.

“I heard that you have two daughters as beautiful as the flowers blooming

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outside, Mr. Harmon, and they are yet to be married. Thus, I wanted to ask for your daughter's hand in marriage!" Caelus didn't beat around the bush. The moment those words left his mouth, Hector and the two others were stunned. They had invited the Invincible Guardians to go against the Dark Lord, so how did the topic turn to marriage?

"Caelus, I think it's too sudden to be talking about marriage, considering how we just met," Hector said.

"You and my master are old friends. We should be strengthening our ties. If that means marriage, I would be open to it." Caelus laughed.

"Caelus, is this your idea or your master's?" Hector asked.

"My master will fully support my decision. So long as you give your nod of approval, Mr. Hector, this is a done deal," Caelus said, brimming with

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confidence.

“Well...” Hector hesitated.

“What’s the matter? Could it be that you look down on me, Mr. Harmon?”

You

don’t think I’m worthy of becoming your son-in-law?” Caelus narrowed his

gaze. With his status, he more than deserved to marry the daughter of a wealthy family.

Not to mention, if he simply gave the word, countless excellent girls would

come looking for him. “It’s not like that at all, Caelus. It’s just rather sudden. I’d

have to ask my daughters’ opinions,” Hector said, trying to avoid giving an

answer.

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“There’s no need for such trouble. I’ll ask her myself.” Caelus turned around, his eyes blazing, and said, “Ms. Natasha, I’ve heard so much about you. The moment I saw you today, my heart fell for you. Will you marry me?” Natasha was first caught off guard. Then, she coldly spat out, “Get lost!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 665 - Chapter 665

“Get lost!” Natasha’s answer was simple and direct. The smile on Caelus’ face froze. He had never thought she wouldn’t even try to spare his feelings. After all, he was the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians and a universally acknowledged martial arts genius. No matter where he went, people kissed the ground he walked on, and no one dared look down on him.

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But today, of all days, when he tried to ask for someone's hand in marriage, all he received in response was a simple "Get lost!" His reputation was going down the drain.

"Natasha, don't be rude!" Hector chastised. He then said regretfully, "Caelus, my daughter impulsively spoke out of turn. Please don't take it to heart." Caelus was the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians, after all. He had to show him some form of respect.

"Mr. Harmon, I consider myself a handsome and exceptionally talented man. I don't think it's a tall order to become your son-in-law. Now, I'm sincerely proposing to your daughter, and this is the attitude I get in return?" Caelus frowned slightly.

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“This is a misunderstanding, Caelus. Actually, my daughter is already betrothed. All I can say is that you two are not destined to be,” Hector explained, shaking his head.

“Betrothed? To whom?” Caelus was taken aback.

“To this young man next to me, Dustin.” Hector gestured toward him.

In an instant, everyone’s eyes were drawn to Dustin.

Dustin’s mouth twitched. The only choice he had was to go along with it.

At

this point, no matter whether it was real or not, he couldn’t expose the bluff.

“Dustin?” Caelus narrowed his eyes slightly. The moment he stepped through

the door, he noticed. this man. At first, he simply thought Dustin was an ordinary disciple of the Harmon family. Never in a million years did he think

the man was Nathasha’s fiancé.

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Caelus peered at him closely. Besides being somewhat good-looking, there was nothing outstanding about him. He dressed ordinarily and gave off an aura of ordinariness. He seemed to be the farthest thing from a powerful martial artist, and he didn't have the energy that young talent should have. His entire being screamed average.

"Mr. Harmon, I don't understand. In what way is this guy worthy of your daughter?" Caelus said, not hiding the disdain on his face. How could a mediocre young man like Dustin be put on par with the senior disciple of the

Invincible Guardians?

"Dustin is talented in both medicine and martial arts. And he's way better than

you. Why wouldn't he be worthy?" Natasha piped up suddenly.

There was always going to be that arrogant bastard who liked to look down on others.

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“Talented in both medicine and martial arts?” Caelus snorted coldly. “Fine. Since he’s so

impressive, why don’t we have a duel?”

“How do you want to compete?” Dustin said indifferently.

“It’s simple. Let’s follow the example of our ancestors and have a martial arts

battle. The winner will get Natasha’s hand in marriage!” Caelus raised his head slightly.

Dustin said nothing, instead turning to look at Natasha. Although he was certain he could win, he didn’t agree with treating women as objects to be won, so he had some concerns.

“What, are you scared? If you are, then just forfeit,” Caelus said with a cold

laugh.

“Isn’t it just a fight? Fine, we agree!” Natasha replied.

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At that moment, Hector suddenly slammed his hand on the table and shouted,

“This is ridiculous! The enemy hasn’t appeared yet, but we’re already starting

to tear each other apart. This is unacceptable!”

“Dad, that bastard”

“Enough!” Hector raised a hand, interrupting Natasha. Sternly, he said,

“Do

not bring up the martial arts battle again. If you youngsters are brimming with

energy, you can go outside and run a few laps!”

It was one thing to bicker, but if a fight broke out, things would get complicated. One side was the young man that he had his eyes on, while the

other was the Invincible Guardians. No matter who won, it would be unfavorable to the Harmons.

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Before the big enemy appeared, any internal conflict would just be an opportunity for the Dark Lord to take advantage of.

“Caelus, you must be exhausted from the long journey. Go get some rest.

We

can talk about it later,

Hector said lightly.

“Yes.” Seeing that Hector was upset, Caelus couldn’t refuse. After all, Hector

was on good terms with his master. He had to show him respect, at the very

least.

“Jack, please take our three guests to the guest wing and show them the Harmons’ hospitality,” Hector instructed.

Chapter 666

“Please follow me.” Jack bowed and escorted them out.

“You got lucky today, punk. However, you won’t be this lucky next time.”

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Caelus shot Dustin a cold glare before leaving with the two young women. “Dad, why do I feel like you’ve invited wolves into our house?” Natasha said meaningfully.

“These are special circumstances. Let’s put the interests of the whole above anything else. Now, we need the power of the Invincible Guardians, so let’s not turn them against us,” Hector reminded them.

“If he doesn’t get on my nerves, there won’t be a problem.” Natasha arched an eyebrow.

“You...” Hector shook his head helplessly. “Enough You two should head out.

I still have things to attend to.”

The two nodded. They quickly said their goodbyes without saying much.

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After leaving the study, Natasha specially arranged a luxurious guest suite for

Dustin, complete with a hot bath.

To put it nicely, a private bodyguard would get special perks.

Dustin wanted to turn it down at first, but he couldn't stand the pleading and

pestering, so he decided to stay for now. His main concern was Natasha's safety.

The Dark Lord could attack at any time. Considering his treacherous tricks, he

could easily take out several people at once. If he didn't stay by Natasha's side protecting her and something ended up happening to her, he'd regret it for the rest of his life.

Dustin practically lived in the Harmons' home for the next few days. In his spare time, he gave martial arts training to Abigail or went flower viewing with

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Natasha. Occasionally, he'd call Nelson to ask about the results of the investigation.

Something to rejoice about was that Nelson had already identified the culprit-a

resident doctor at the hospital. After committing the murders, the resident fled

to escape punishment. The Flame Dragon Gang and the Charging Tiger Gang

were pursuing him.

Capturing the culprit was only a matter of time. Once they caught him, it would

be clear who the mastermind was.

Three days later, on New Year's Eve, large, fluffy snowflakes descended from

the sky, covering the ground in a layer of white.

Houses everywhere were brightly lit to welcome the new year, except the

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Harmons' home. The Harmon estate was heavily guarded, with outposts everywhere. In order to catch the Dark Lord, Hector had gone all out and invited a large number of martial arts experts to protect their home.

Among

them were several notable figures.

The Harmons' armed forces had strengthened greatly. However, it came with

a downside, the entire courtyard was a mix of good and bad people
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Among

them were several notable figures.

The Harmons' armed forces had strengthened greatly. However, it came with

a downside; the entire courtyard was a mix of good and bad people

At that moment, a family meeting was being held in one of the conference rooms. All of the core members of the family had gathered there. As the

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patriarch, Hector sat at the head of the table, while Trent and Jacob sat on his

left and right, respectively.

“Hector, when tonight draws to a close, the year will end. Didn’t you say before that the Dark Lord would come? Why hasn’t he appeared yet?

Could

your information be wrong?” Trent was the first to speak.

“The source of the information shouldn’t be fake. All in all, everyone needs to

be careful,” Hector said seriously.

“Could the Dark Lord have found out that there’s an ambush and decided not

to come?” Jacob rubbed his chin.

The Harmon family had invited so many martial artists to help. Right now, their

home could be compared to a lion’s den. If the Dark Lord was smart, he

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wouldn't barge in recklessly.

"It's nothing out of the ordinary if he doesn't show up." Dylan suddenly spoke

up. "With me here, would the Dark Lord dare to act out of line?"

When the others heard him, they all nodded in agreement. The current Dylan

was nothing like the old Dylan; not only was he extremely talented, but he also

had the Scarlet Warrior backing him. No matter how strong the Dark Lord was, he'd have to think it over.

"Considering the Dark Lord's personality, he wouldn't give up easily. We can't

let our guards down,

Hector warned.

H

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“Hmph, it’s better if the Dark Lord doesn’t show up. If he does, I’ll lop his head

off and release all the pent-up hatred!” Dylan spat fiercely.

As soon as he said that, one of the Harmon family guards suddenly ran inside

in a panic. “Sir, it’s bad! A fight broke out outside!”

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Chapter 667

“A fight?” Upon hearing that, Hector got to his feet. Is the Dark Lord here?”

“Perfect timing! Everyone, come with me to kill the enemy!” Dylan shouted

with vigor. “Kill!”

The Harmon family members all slammed the table in front of them and hopped to their feet, aggression rolling off of them.

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“You’ve got it wrong!” The Harmon family guard quickly explained, “It’s not the Dark Lord; it’s the martial artists we invited. They got into a conflict and are now fighting in the ballroom.”

“Huh?” When everyone heard that, they frowned. They had all thought that the great enemy had descended on them, but it turned out to be an internal fight amongst their own. All their excitement and vigor had been for nothing.

What a waste of emotion.

“Come, let’s go take a look!” Without another word, Hector led everyone out of the conference room. If internal conflicts were not handled properly, it could

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very likely end in greater disaster.

At present, the Harmon family home's ballroom was filled with martial artists

eating and drinking together. It looked like people of all sorts of backgrounds

and teachings were there-gazing across the room, there were burly, fiercelooking men, stout dwarves; poison experts with snakes crawling all over their

bodies; swordsmen with swift auras; and monks holding golden wands.

There

were also inhumane-looking humans, unghostly ghosts, and peculiarly dressed fellows. At that moment, Dustin, Natasha, Ruth, Edmund, and Abigail

walked in. Their appearance attracted a lot of attention; the three gorgeous women were especially eye-catching.

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“Natasha, are these the external help that Dad invited? Why do they look so weird?” Ruth looked around with a strange expression on her face. Besides a handful of regular people, the rest were rather odd.

“The Dark Lord is an expert in the mystic arts. It would be difficult to fight him with normal martial arts. These strange people are our best options,” Natasha explained.

“I see.” Ruth nodded.

“I don’t quite like the way they’re looking at us,” Abigail suddenly piped up.

“Ms. Natasha, let’s take a seat first,” Edmund said with a smile.

It was New Year’s Eve; the Harmon family had specially thrown a banquet in

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the ballroom to host all the guests. However, these guests didn't look like nice people.

As soon as they sat down, a group of martial artists with impressive waistlines

walked over. "Oh, I didn't think I'd be able to see such beauty here."

The leader was a bearded man naked from the waist up. He was buff, muscular, and had a thick bush of chest hair. When he got close, they could

smell the pungent odor coming from his armpits. "Hey, beautiful. Seems like

we're fated to meet. Are you interested in drinking a few glasses with Jer bb7

me?" The bearded man regarded the women up and down, not even disguising the desire in his eyes.

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“Not interested,” Natasha declined.

“Gorgeous, in the martial world, having more friends always trumps having more enemies. Don’t you think so?” The bearded man flashed the knife tucked in his belt. His words and actions carried a hint of threat.

“You stink, so please keep a distance from me. Don’t ruin our meal,” Natasha remarked coldly.

“Do I smell? Why do I not smell it?” The bearded man raised both his arms and sniffed his armpits. Instantly, his body odor filled the air. Everyone frowned at the stench. “Beautiful, I don’t think you know. That’s the smell of a true man!”

“That’s right! The heavier a man’s scent, the stronger he is. You should

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appreciate it.” “Hahaha...”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 668 -

Chapter 668

The muscular men at the back began to poke fun. All of them were behaving brazenly, leering at them.

“Ms. Natasha, why don’t we leave for now? These people look difficult,” Edmund advised quietly, shrinking into himself.

“Why are you panicking, Dad? This is the Harmons’ home. What kind of trouble are they capable of kicking up here?” Abigail glared. She’d always looked down on her father’s cowardly tendencies, always recoiling at the most

minor things. Was he even a man?

“You’d better get out of my sight while I’m not angry yet,” Natasha said, her

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expression cold as ice.

“Oh, you’re pretty feisty! I like it.” The bearded man rubbed his chin.

“Unfortunately, beautiful, those two wusses next to you can’t be your knights

in shining armor.” As he spoke, he glanced at Dustin and Edmund. One was a

much younger man, and another was a wrinkled old geezer. They were nothing to fear.

“Just me alone is enough to fight you!” Abigail said, slamming her palm into

the table and jumping to her feet. Having been through Dustin’s training the

past few days, her abilities had improved by leaps and bounds, which greatly

boosted her confidence.

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“Gorgeous, I’ll play with you, but I’d rather do it in bed,” the bearded man said,

grinning sleazily.

“You-” Abigail was furious and humiliated. She was about to get violent, but

Edmund stopped her.

“Abigail, don’t be rash. Harmony is of utmost importance.”

“You’re always like this. Can you grow a pair?!” Abigail frowned.

“I just don’t want you to get hurt,” Edmund said lamely.

“I don’t need your concern. Go away!” Abigail pushed her father aside and swung her fist at the bearded man’s face. She was going to teach these lechers a lesson.

There came a dull noise. The bearded man had easily caught Abigail’s fullpowered punch without sustaining any injury.

“Huh?” Abigail’s expression changed. She finally realized that these people

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were far from ordinary.

“Beautiful, at your strength, your blows are nothing more than an itch for me.

Take my advice and save your energy.” The bearded man grinned.

After he spoke, the other men behind him burst out into guffaws. They looked

like a pack of hungry wolves setting their eyes on several sheep

At that moment, a furious roar rang out, “You scum of the martial world, let go

of that young lady!”

Three young, upright-looking martial artists finally stood, denouncing the bearded man’s actions.

“Oh, does someone finally dare to save the damsels in distress?” The bearded man smirked coldly, pulling the knife out of his belt.

“We should always help one another, but you’re over there bullying a few women. You call that a

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skill? Fight us if you dare!” one of them yelled.

“My knife never cuts those who are nameless. You, tell me your names!”

the

bearded man said.

“Listen up. We’re the White Stag Trio!” the three of them shouted in unison.

“The White Stag Trio? What the hell is that? I’ve never heard of you,” the bearded man said disdainfully.

“How dare you look down on us? You’ve got a death wish!” Upon hearing that,

the three martial artists flew into a rage. Without another word, they brandished their daggers.

One side wanted to save the damsels in distress, while the other wanted to show off.

“You’re in over your head!” The bearded man snorted coldly. Alone, he went

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up to fight the trio.

There was a series of metallic clanging. The bearded man was practically a tiger foraging into a herd of goats-he was unstoppable. After several rounds,

he had cut everyone to the ground. The White Stag Trio was defeated!

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 669 -

Chapter 669

The White Stag Trio? Heh, you're nothing but clowns," the bearded man said

disdainfully. He kicked the three of them and sent them flying.

"Huh?"

All the martial artists were shocked to see the three of them severely hurt and

coughing up blood. Although they weren't exactly top dogs, they were still well-known in the martial world. Otherwise, the Harmons wouldn't have invited

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them.

However, even with the three's combined forces, they couldn't withstand a few

moves from the bearded man. It was far from anyone's expectation

This clearly proved how powerful he was.

"Just who are you?" The White Stag Trio were both surprised and afraid.

"Listen up, I am the Glenstead Hoodlum, Marlon Cobb!" the bearded man said

arrogantly.

"Marlon the Hoodlum?!"

Everyone was shocked to hear that, especially the White Stag Trio.

Marlon was a divine-level martial artist. He was extremely well-reputed in Glenstead. Because of his strength and ruthlessness, he gained the nickname

"Hoodlum." People cowered at the sound of his name.

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If they had known who he was, they wouldn't have stepped forward and said anything.

“Who would've thought that even Marlon would be here? The Harmons seem to have invited a whole lot of experts.”

“Marlon the Hoodlum is a heinous criminal. I can't say if inviting someone like him here is a good or bad thing

The martial artists began to titter.

Although Marlon was strong, his personality was horrible. He didn't abide by

the principles of the martial world at all. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call

him the scum of society.

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After defeating the White Stag Trio, Marlon shifted his gaze to Natasha and the other women. Hey beautiful, I don't think anyone is going to stand up for you anymore. What do you say? Do you want to go back to my room and have a good time?"

Finally, he was going to get lucky tonight.

"Asshole, you are too presumptuous!" At that moment, three people suddenly walked through the door. A man and two women, all dressed in white with swords strapped to their backs. They appeared so dignified that they took everyone's breath away. It was none other than Caelus, Maria, and Ivy!

"Oh, two more bombshells?" Marlon ignored Caelus and eyed Maria's and Ivy's bodies. The two women were beautiful and had slim figures. Their hair

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was neatly secured with a hairpin. The modest hairstyle made men want to dominate them

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“Marlon, you already have three gorgeous women serving you. Why don’t you

leave these two newcomers to us?” one of Marlon’s lackeys said, laughing sleazily.

“No problem. After all, we’re brothers. Good things are meant to be shared.

You can pick which one you want. I want you to have a fun time,” Marlon said

heroically.

“Thank you, Marlon!” His lackeys brightened.

“I like that one with the big chest. Don’t even think about fighting over her!”

“That one has a great butt. It looks super bouncy.”

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The lackeys pointed at the women while making all sorts of comments as if they were just toys.

“You shameless thugs, I’ll cut your tongues out!” Maria and Ivy were infuriated. They pulled their swords out of their sheaths and charged toward

Marlon and his lackeys.

As elite disciples of the Invincible Guardians, they had never experienced such humiliation before. If they didn’t teach these bastards a lesson, they couldn’t look anyone in the eye again.

“Come at me!” Marlon grinned, swinging his fist.

The three of them began sparring.

Maria and Ivy were exceptional swordswomen. They were also skilled at fighting side-by-side with their sharp and swift techniques. They performed

move after move so quickly that it just seemed like a blur to everyone else.

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On the other hand, Marlon's attacks were far simpler. He used both his hands

as weapons to fend off their swords. He was not falling behind.

The women had excellent swordsmanship, but there was a significant power

gap between them and Marlon.

Marlon was a divine-level martial artist, while the two women were only highlevel martial artists. Sometimes, a gap like that could stretch into a chasm.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 670 -

Chapter 670

Maria and Ivy gave it their all. In the end, after almost thirty exchanges, Marlon still found a chink in their armor and dealt a blow to each of them.

The two women staggered back from the impact, and blood came out of their

mouths. Instantly, they couldn't even muster any internal energy.

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“Not bad!” Marlon grinned. He looked like he was still riding the high.
“You’re shameless!” The two humiliated women flew into a rage. They wanted to attack again, but Caelus raised a hand to stop them!
“That’s enough. You two are no match for him. Allow me.”
“Caelus, this asshole is utterly shameless. You need to teach him a lesson!” the two women said indignantly.
“Don’t worry. Leave it to me.” Caelus leveled a cold gaze at Marlon. He slowly unsheathed the sword on his back.
Maria and Ivy bit back their anger and stood off to one side.
“Punk, you want to play the hero and save those damsels in distress? Are you capable of doing that? Don’t regret it when I smash all your teeth in, Marlon sneered.

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“I’ll defeat you in less than ten moves,” Caelus said arrogantly.
“Ten moves? Heh, is your head okay? If you were one of the Heavenly Immortals, I might have some reservations. Where did a nameless pipsqueak like you find the courage to say such outrageous things to my face?”
Marlon laughed coldly.
“You don’t believe me? Then try me.” Caelus beckoned with his finger.
“Fine! I want to see what you can do!” Marlon was getting a little angry.
He brandished his blade and slashed it down on Caelus’ head.
Caelus’ expression remained calm. He raised his sword in response.
In an instant, the room was filled with the glinting of swords. Bursts of energy filled the room.
Everyone else took a step back, putting space between them and the fight.

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They were afraid that they might get hurt.

“Miss, that bearded guy is really strong. Can your fellow disciple handle it?”

Abigail asked out of the blue.

From the earlier battles, one could tell that Marlon hadn't used his full strength.

“Hmph, Caelus is the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians. He's extremely talented and strong. It will be a piece of cake for him to take down

that scum!” Ivy said with confidence.

“That's right! Just watch closely. Watch how Caelus scares off the enemy!”

Maria said arrogantly.

“I hope so,” Abigail muttered to herself.

While they were talking, the spar had progressed rapidly. After a few blows,

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Caelus thrust his sword violently, hitting Marlon's blade. There was a clang, and the sword broke.

Following the momentum, the sword pierced Marlon's shoulder. The broken

end of the sword fell to the floor.

Marlon's expression changed. He staggered backward from the impact, wobbling on his feet.

"Marlon!" The lackeys were shell-shocked. They immediately helped Marlon

up. They'd never thought that the unbeatable Marlon would actually be defeated today. Even less so at the hand of a young swordsman.

"Who are you? How is your swordsmanship so sharp?!" Marlon said with a dark look.

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“I am the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians, Caelus!” Caelus swung his sword, shaking off the blood. He was in his element. “The Invincible Guardians?” Marlon was shocked. The Invincible Guardians were a well-known guild in Glenstead. Although they were few in number, they were all elite fighters. Among all the guilds in Glenstead, the Invincible Guardians were in the top ten! An ordinary martial artist like him couldn’t afford to piss them off. When he returned to his senses, Marlon lowered his head in apology. “Caelus, I didn’t know who you were. Please forgive me for offending you.” “Kneel and apologize,” Caelus said with an arrogant expression. “Huh?” Marlon frowned. He hesitated, but he still fell to his knees with a thud. He clearly showed what it meant to know when to surrender.

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Chapter 671

“Marlon!”

When Marlon knelt on the ground, his lackeys all seemed aggrieved.

Although

Caelus was very strong, if they all fought him together, they would have a shot

at winning.

They couldn't understand why their leader would kneel in front of everyone. If

this incident got out, their reputation would be done for

“Don't let me see you all again. Get lost!” Caelus snorted coldly.

“Let's go!” Marlon said nothing more and immediately fled with his lackeys. He

didn't dare stay a

second longer.

“Amazing! What an amazing fight!”

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“As expected of the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians. He’s truly impressive!”

“In less than ten moves, he defeated Marlon the Hoodlum! It’s truly admirable!”

All the martial artists in the hall began to clap and cheer.

Marlon had a notorious reputation. After seeing him pick on women today, they were furious at him. It was just that none of them dared to fight him due

to his strength.

Now that Caelus had taken down Marlon the Hoodlum, they rejoiced and praised him.

“Did you see that? That’s how strong Caelus is. Now do you still dare question

him?” Ivy raised her head pridefully. She had felt a little unhappy because of

Abigail’s doubt earlier.

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“Ms. Natasha, when you were in danger, Dustin didn’t so much as say a word.

Yet, Caelus stood up for you and defeated your harasser. I think it’s clear who

is better.” Maria turned around to look at Natasha. She sounded a little proud.

“Hmph, what’s so impressive about that? Dustin is not any weaker than your

senior disciple!” Ruth said indignantly.

She had witnessed Dustin defeat Terry with her own eyes during the fight with

the Doyle family.

Caelus’ skills were far from average, but there was still a gap between him and Terry. Naturally, he wouldn’t be able to beat Dustin, either.

“Heh, if he’s really that strong, then he wouldn’t have shrunk back into his

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shell earlier.” Maria snickered coldly.

“Exactly! In the face of danger, he’d actually let a woman stand in front of him.

He’s a worthless excuse for a man!” Ivy sneered.

“You” Ruth was suddenly at a loss for words. She turned around and said huffily, “Dustin, say something!”.

“What’s there to say? It’s meaningless to fight over this.” Dustin shrugged.

“Hmph, if you don’t have the chops, then just say so. There’s no need to sound so high and mighty. What a joke!” Caelus leaned over, not forgetting to make a snide remark.

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“Sure,” Dustin said indifferently. He didn’t bother to give a real response.

“It seems like you now know the gap between us. It’s like heaven and earth,”

Caelus said

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pridefully.

“Sure.”

“Ms. Natasha is well-respected and noble. Someone like you shouldn’t try to

ride on her coattails. If you know better, you should stay away from her

“Sure.”

“Only a god among men like me is worthy of Ms. Natasha.”

“Sure.”

“Hey, can you respond with something else?!” Caelus was starting to get irritated.

Fuck, after all that, all he could say was “sure.” No one could stand that.

“Sure,” Dustin said. He opened his mouth wide and increased his volume.

“You f*cking-” Caelus flew into a rage. Just as he was about to blow up, the

door was kicked open with a bang.

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Immediately after, a group of mysterious masked men walked in, led by a tall man in a cloak.

As soon as he entered, he removed his mask to reveal a sinister face. He was

completely bald-no hair, eyebrows, or facial hair. His complexion was deathly

pale, his lips were purplish, and his cheeks were sunken.

Even more strangely, his eyes were blood red. He looked as scary as a ghost.

“Heh, I didn’t expect the Harmon family to invite a ragtag bunch of trash.

How

disappointing!” The pale man swept his gaze over his surroundings. He laughed coldly.

“Who the f*ck are you? How dare you act so atrociously here?!” a burly man in

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the crowd shouted angrily.

“Hmm?” The pale man tilted his head and turned to the burly man. He reached out to grab the air in front of him.

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Chapter 672

The burly man’s expression changed drastically. His body began involuntarily

moving toward the pale man at high speed, as if there was an invisible rope

pulling him forward.

All his struggles were in vain.

Finally, his throat ended up in the pale man’s grasp

“You” The burly man was terrified. He opened his mouth, but before he could

get a word out, the pale man clenched his fist.

There was a crack. The burly man’s head fell to the side, and he died

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instantly.

“Ah!” Everyone was horrified by the gruesome sight. The pale man had simply grabbed a man and killed him.

That move was frankly frightening.

“Don’t panic, everyone. With Caelus here, no one would dare act out of line!”

Maria said, trying to calm everyone down.

“What unorthodox magic is this? How dare you act so boldly here?!”

Caelus

took two steps forward. His gaze was sharp and aggressive. The sword on his back began to vibrate slightly, as if ready to spring free from its sheath at any

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moment.

“I am the senior disciple of the Dark Lord, Gray Ghoul.” The pale man tossed the burly man’s corpse aside.

“Gray Ghoul? It’s Bloody-Eyed Gray Ghoul?!” Everyone was scared senseless.

Bloody-Eyed Gray Ghoul was infamous in the martial world. He specialized in killing and robbing, often using cruel methods. If he appeared, then things usually ended in complete annihilation!

Back then, several upstanding martial arts tried to organize ambushes several times to eliminate this scourge.

All of them ended in failure.

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Afterward, all those involved in the ambush would receive revenge. They were hunted to the ends of the earth and died gruesome deaths. No one dared to ambush Gray Ghoul ever since. Gray Ghoul had also vanished for some time. However, no one expected him to turn up there. “He’s finally here?” Natasha narrowed her eyes. After three days on high alert, the Dark Lord finally attacked. “So what if that’s Bloody-Eyed Gray Ghoul? He’s just a wayward martial artist. What’s the worst he could do?” Caelus said coldly. “That’s right! We have power in numbers, and with Caelus here, what do we have to fear?!” The martial artists pulled out their weapons, ready to strike. After all, the Harmon family had invited them there to ambush the Dark Lord

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and his minions.

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Since they'd taken the money, they had to do the work.

"Heh, it's nothing but an overly ambitious effort." Gray Ghoul smirked coldly.

"Today, all of you here will die!"

"How wildly arrogant! Watch me cut your head off!" Caelus pulled out his sword and swung it in Gray Ghoul's direction.

The force of this attack was terrifying. His sword was unstoppable, like a sun

ray penetrating the sky.

"What a strike! That's the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians for you!"

"Once Caelus attacks, even Gray Ghoul would die an untimely death!"
Everyone let out gasps of surprise.

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“Dustin, that move was the result of twenty years of training. Could you fend

against that?” Ivy gloated while looking at Dustin.

“Ms. Natasha, watch closely. Once Caelus eliminates Gray Ghoul, you’ll finally

understand who’s the god among men!” Maria said arrogantly.

As soon as Maria finished speaking, Gray Ghoul finally made a move. In the

face of Caelus’ sharp attack, he didn’t try to dodge. Instead, he threw a punch

head-on.

His fist hit the point of the sword with a terrifying force.

There was a loud blast. The moment they came in contact with each other, Caelus’ sword was instantly obliterated. It exploded into pieces.

At the same time, Gray Ghoul’s iron fist continued with its momentum and slammed into Caelus’ chest.

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Caelus grunted. It was as if he'd been hit by a truck. He was sent flying almost fifty feet before crashing heavily into the floor, spewing blood everywhere. In an instant, everyone fell deathly silent.

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Chapter 673

When everyone saw that Caelus had gotten sent flying from a punch, they were stunned.

This was none other than the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians, a highly powerful martial arts genius. The same person who defeated Marlon

the Hoodlum with just a few moves.

However, Gray Ghoul defeated a strong warrior like him with a single punch. It

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was unthinkable!

“How could this be? Caelus lost?”

“Who would’ve thought that Gray Ghoul would be so formidable? He defeated

the senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians in one move. That’s horrifying!”

“Shit, if even Caelus is no match for Gray Ghoul, would any of us be able to

hold against him?”

Right now, everyone was shocked and afraid. They all began to back out. Caelus was already extremely strong, but Gray Ghoul was even more terrifying.

More importantly, he wasn’t alone. He had so many lackeys, and none of them was ordinary.

There was no way around sheer force in numbers.

Ivy’s and Maria’s snapped out of their daze, and their expressions changed.

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“Caelus!”

They helped the injured Caelus to his feet. Then, they fed him a healing tablet.

“This bastard is too strong. Hurry, contact our master!” Caelus wobbled shakily on his feet. He pressed a hand against his chest, his face full of terror.

Gray Ghoul’s punch had completely obliterated him. He wasn’t able to fend it

off at all. The power gap between them was far too wide.

Right now, the only way to subdue him was if his master and his master’s colleague stepped in.

“The senior disciple of the Invincible Guardians is nothing. Since you have the

courage to step forward, then you should die.”

After that punch, Gray Ghoul had gotten the upper hand. Unforgivingly, he threw another punch

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into the air.

There was a loud whoosh. The huge burst of true energy transformed into a

giant shadow fist, flying straight at Caelus.

“Caelus, move!” Maria and Ivy pushed Caelus aside. Then, they raised their

swords against the shadow fist.

A loud blast erupted. The two women’s swords broke, and they flew backward. They were severely injured and coughing up blood.

They couldn’t even withstand one attack.

“Maria! Ivy!” Caelus’ expression changed. He was enraged.

However, he was not powerful enough. He was helpless.

“Hmm, what a close relationship between guild members!” Gray Ghoul grinned. He loved seeing

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these upright martial artists put up a last fight.

“Gray Ghoul, I’m warning you, don’t do anything crazy!” Caelus yelled sharply.

“We are from the Invincible Guardians. If you dare lay a hand on us, you will

incur the wrath of the entire Invincible Guardians!” (1)

“There are a lot of people who want to kill me. Adding the Invincible Guardians

wouldn’t make a difference,” Gray Ghoul said. He showed no fear.

“I know you’re very powerful, but listen, my master is coming. Leave now, and

you may be able to avoid trouble. Otherwise, once my master gets here, you’ll

all be dead!” Caelus threatened.

“Heh, by the time the leader of the Invincible Guardians makes it here, you’ll

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already be dead.” Gray Ghoul laughed coldly. He beckoned with his hand.

“My

dear disciples, hurry and slaughter every last person here. We still have more

important matters to attend to.”

“Yes!” The group of masked killers dressed in black pulled out their blades.

Then, they charged forward like a swarm of bees, prepared to wreak havoc.

At that moment, there was the glint of a sword blade. The few masked killers

at the very front couldn’t dodge in time; their heads were chopped off, causing

blood to spew everywhere.

Shocked, the others came to a stop. They surveyed their surroundings vigilantly.

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-That slash just now was so fast to the point they couldn't even react.
“Who did that? Who was that attacking from the shadows?!” Gray Ghoul’s face darkened. He swept his gaze left and right.

“It was me.” Dustin stepped out from the crowd, wielding a broken sword.

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 674 -

Chapter 674

Instantly, everyone turned to look.

“How dare you kill Nightshade’s disciples!” Gray Ghoul glared at Dustin.

“If you stop now, I’ll let you die in one piece,” Dustin replied. His calm words

ticked everyone off.

“Who the f*ck does he think he is?”

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“Does he have a death wish? How could he openly challenge Gray Ghoul?”

“He’s just an idiot trying to show off.”

The martial artists sneered at Dustin disdainfully Gray Ghoul was notorious for

being so strong that even Invincible Guardians was no match for him. So, where did a nobody like Dustin find the balls to challenge that man?

“You better not act tough, Dustin. Even Caelus lost to him. What makes you

think you have a winning chance?” Ivy jeered.

“She’s right. Your skills are pathetic!” Maria echoed

“Just because he lost doesn’t mean I will. Piss off.” Dustin snorted.

“What?” His words irked Caelus. “Who the f*ck do you think you are, Rhys?

How dare you look down on me! I might have lost to Gray Ghoul, but I can still

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beat you!”

“Oh, shut up. You can’t even stand right now.” Dustin retorted without turning around.

“You f” Caelus gritted his teeth. If he hadn’t been severely injured, he’d already be setting Dustin straight by now.

“We’re only trying to warn you. If you don’t listen, you’ll have to face the consequences.” Ivy frowned.

“Hmph! Stubborn bastards like him won’t listen. Let him die!” Caelus snarled.

He couldn’t wait for Gray Ghoul to kill Dustin.

“You’ll let us die in one piece?” Surprised, Gray Ghoul laughed. “It’s been a while since someone spoke to me like this. Do you even know who I am?”

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“It doesn’t matter. You only have two choices right now. You either give in or die,” Dustin stated.

coolly.

“Insolent fool! It’s time for you to die!” Gray Ghoul was finally angry. He drew his sword and brought it down heavily on Dustin’s head. There was a

loud hum as a violent light burst forth from the blade. It tore through the room

and shook the furniture. The onlookers’ hearts stopped out of fear.

“My, what a ferocious attack!”

“Is this Gray Ghoul’s real strength? How terrifying””

“No one would be able to withstand that attack!”

The martial artists in the room were frightened by the strength of Gray Ghoul’s attack.

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1/2

“Weren’t you dying to show off? Let’s see what happens now!” Caelus sneered.

“Shit!” Ivy and Maria sighed silently. Even Natasha and the others began to

fear for Dustin’s safety.

Just then, Dustin made his move. With a flick of his wrist, a beam burst forth

from his sword. It pushed past Gray Ghoul’s attack and split his blade in half

before piercing his body in one fluid.

motion

“Aargh!”

Gray Ghoul’s body stiffened before his head rolled off his shoulders. It landed

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on the ground with a thud, smearing blood all over. The commotion stunned the crowd into silence.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 675 -
Chapter 675

The entire hall had gone silent as everyone gaped at Gray Ghoul's head in disbelief. It all

happened so fast that they didn't have time to process everything. No one expected Dustin to kill the invincible Gray Ghoul in mere seconds and with just a single strike.

"I-Is this for real? He killed Gray Ghoul?"

"He ended Gray Ghoul with one strike. Who is this monster?"

"What terrifying sword skills he has. Since when did someone like him exist?"

After finally realizing what had happened, the crowd burst into whispers.

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Gazes of shock, dismay, and disbelief were shot toward Dustin. They thought it was the end for Dustin when they saw Gray Ghoul swinging his sword at him. But not only did Dustin survive, he even defeated Gray Ghoul effortlessly. How terrifying! They also realized that the choices Dustin had so proudly laid out earlier had come true. “I-impossible! How is that guy so strong?” Caelus’ eyes widened in disbelief. He always viewed Dustin as a weak nobody who was no match for the notorious Gray Ghoul. “Who knew that he’s actually so strong?” Ivy and Maria exchanged shocked looks.

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Even Caelus had lost to Gray Ghoul. If Dustin could cut Gray Ghoul down with

a single strike, didn't that mean he was more powerful than Caelus?

The two ladies couldn't help feeling embarrassed for their rude words earlier.

They never thought they'd be looking down on someone far stronger than them.

"I knew he was powerful!" Abigail jumped excitedly

"He's awesome!" Ruth's eyes twinkled, just as in awe of the man as Abigail

was.

"That's my man!" Natasha smirked proudly. She'd been worried when she saw

Gray Ghoul's attack. Fortunately, Dustin was strong enough to come out of it

unscathed.

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After a few seconds, Gray Ghoul's decapitated body gradually toppled to the

floor with a thud. It caused a cloud of dust to rise into the air.

"Gray Ghoul!" the group of masked killers exclaimed furiously. They never

imagined that this invincible man would meet his demise so suddenly

"How dare you kill him! You're dead meat!"

"Everyone, we shall wipe out the Harmon family to avenge Gray Ghoul!"

Battle cries echoed as each of the masked killers fished out a black ball and

smashed it into the ground.

One by one, the balls burst apart on impact, and black fog wafted into the air.

"Watch out for the poison!" one of the martial artists cried out.

Everyone else immediately paled. They covered their mouths and noses frightfully.

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“Natasha, lead everyone out of here. I’ll take care of this!” Dustin swung his

sword. A burst of light parted the poisonous gas, drawing a safe path.

“Hurry up!”

Natasha hurriedly gathered Mr. Robinson and the rest and ran out. She knew

that they’d only be a burden to Dustin if they stayed behind.

“Caelus, we should run too!”

Ivy and Maria quickly lifted Caelus and followed Natasha. With their current

condition, their best bet was to run away to stay alive.

As soon as they walked out of the door, the poisonous gas engulfed the room

once more. Several martial artists tried to run away but were swallowed by the

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gas and began wailing in anguish.

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Chapter 676

By the time they emerged, those people's skins had begun to rot. Pus oozed from their skin, and blood trickled out of their mouths. They were going to die soon.

“Go after them! Don't let them get away!” Two of the masked killers went after

Natasha and the others. However, before they could even get past the door, a

flash of light sliced their heads off cleanly.

“I'm your opponent.” Dustin stood in front of the door regally, holding a broken

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sword. Even the poisonous gas seemed afraid to go near him.

“Kill him! We need to avenge Gray Ghou!”

With a loud cry, the killers charged toward Dustin. They utilized everything

from weapons to poison and curses.

“None of you will escape today!” Dustin humphed before joining the fray, starting the bloody battle. Meanwhile, in the gardens, Natasha and everyone

else were running in the blizzard. They left trails of footprints on the snowy ground.

“None of them seemed to have caught up to us. We should be safe now.”

Ruth was panting after running for so long.

“Ms. Natasha, Caelus has been severely injured. We need to stop somewhere

safe and treat his wounds as soon as possible,” Ivy said.

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Natasha turned and saw Caelus, who was as white as a sheet. He was struggling to keep himself upright.

“Let’s go to the meeting room. Our elite guards are having a meeting there.”

She immediately decided

“Let’s go.”

Just as everyone began to move, a bunch of large, round men emerged from

the bushes. They were led by Marlon Cobb.

“Hello there, darlings. Where are you guys heading?” Marlon smirked as he

gave the ladies a look

over.

“Marlon, why aren’t you helping when someone has infiltrated the place?”

Natasha yelled.

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“Help? Well, rather than hustling with those people, I’d much rather hustle with

you girls.” Marlon wore a sickening grin.

“How dare you!” Caelus exploded. “Marlon, you better scram, or I’ll mess you

up!”

“You?” Marlon sneered. “I might be afraid if you were uninjured, but you can’t

even save yourself right now. How are you going to fight me?”

“I might be injured, but I can still get rid of you!” Caelus snarled.

“Really? Well, let’s see how strong you are now.” Marlon suddenly threw a

punch.

“You!” Caelus tried to stop the other man, but his movements only aggravated

his injuries. He

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began to vomit blood, then collapsed.

“I haven’t even touched you yet. What a loser!” Marlon sneered.

“You better not play around, Marlon! The Invincible Guardians won’t let you off

the hook!” Ivy yelled.

“If I kill all of you, how would others know?” Marlon retorted, unfazed by her threat.

“You wouldn’t!” Maria glared.

“But we’ll definitely have some fun before killing you guys” Marlon sneered

viciously before signaling to his men. “What are you guys waiting for?

Hurry

up, the two chicks from the Invincible Guardians have been waiting for so long.

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“Thanks, Marlon!” His subordinates immediately lunged toward Ivy and Maria.

“Let’s give it our all!” The two ladies gritted their teeth and faced the men’s

attacks head-on. However, they were quickly subdued and forced to the ground. Although they were skilled fighters, they weren’t able to use their full

strength due to their injuries. Eventually, they lost.

“We’re coming, darlings!” The men sneered. They yanked at the ladies’ clothes. Maria and Ivy shrieked in terror. They had never experienced something like this in their lives.

“Stop!” Caelus roared. He was powerless to do anything. He could only watch

those men put their dirty hands on his allies.

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Chapter 677

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“Stop, you f*cking mongrels!” Abigail yelled. She could not stand the sight of

Ivy and Maria being assaulted by those beasts any longer.

“Awe, don’t rush us, darling. You’ll get your turn after we’re done with these

two.” The men grinned sickeningly. Their predatory gazes were glued to Abigail.

“You’re taking things too far!” Abigail was furious and unsheathed her dagger.

She charged

toward the men. The men were taken off guard. They couldn’t steer clear of

her attacks quickly enough. Her blade left several cuts on them as they jerked

backward.

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“How dare you interrupt our fun! We’ll f*ck you first!” The men were pissed.

They were about to draw their swords, but Marlon stopped them.

“Woah, how can you guys treat a lady like that?” He approached Abigail with a

small smile. Honey, you should queue up if you want your turn with us.”

“Fuck off, or you’re dead!” Abigail threatened.

“Awe, don’t be like that. I mean no harm. Just hand me that dagger. It’s too dangerous for you.” Marlon smiled and extended his hand.

“Fuck off!” Abigail swung her arm. The sharp edge of her blade left a gash on

Marlon’s palm.

“Hmm?” Marlon’s smile hardened, and his face darkened. “There’s a limit to

my patience. You should be grateful for my offer!”

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“Abigail, don’t be reckless!” Mr. Robinson hurried over. He put himself in front of his daughter, smiling apologetically. “Sir, my daughter is young and foolish.

Please forgive her.”

“Forgive her?” Marlon sneered. “She cut me just now, so what should we do now?”

“W-we’ll pay!” Mr. Robinson withdrew the twenty million dollar check he had

gotten from Felix.

earlier. He carefully handed it over to Marlon.

“Not too shabby.” Marlon accepted the check and stuffed it into his pocket.

“Since we’ve already paid for your injuries, could we leave now?” Mr. Robinson smiled sheepishly.

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“Leave? Who said anything about leaving?” Marlon smirked. “Did you think

twenty million dollars. would be enough? What do you take me for?”

“Sir, we should take care of this issue peacefully. Let’s be forgiving and understanding when necessary.” Mr. Robinson lowered his head.

“I don’t mind letting you guys go, but you’ll have to please me first.”

Marlon

pointed at his shoe. and ordered, “My shoe has gotten a little dirty. Kneel and

clean it.”

“Hey, you better not go overboard!” Abigail snapped Dying with dignity was

much better than enduring humiliation. Being forced to kneel and clean someone’s shoe was nothing short of humiliating.

“I’m not forcing you to clean it.” Marlon shrugged.

“I’ll do it.” Mr. Robinson nodded repeatedly. Then, he fell to his knees.

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1/2

“What are you doing, Dad? Get up!” Abigail frowned.

“It’s fine. It’ll be over in a second.” Mr. Robinson smiled sheepishly. He rolled

up his sleeves and began carefully cleaning Marlon’s shoe.

“You!” Abigail’s blood boiled. She didn’t understand how her father could be

such a huge coward “Pfft! You sure are a wonderful pet.” Marlon smiled and

patted Mr. Robinson’s head.

“Sir, your shoe is clean now. Why don’t you take a look?” Mr. Robinson lifted

his head and forced a smile. But, he remained where he was.

“Good job. You can leave now.” Marlon nodded with a smile.

“Thank you, sir!” Mr. Robinson beamed and grabbed his daughter’s hand.

“Let’s go, Abigail!”

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 678 -
Chapter 678

“Let me go!” Abigail flung her father’s hand aside angrily. “You might be a

coward, but I will never bow down to them like you do!”

She could leave now, but what about Natasha and the others? Was she supposed to abandon her friends and run away? She could never do that!

“Abigail, as long as you’re alive, there’s always a chance for you to seek revenge!” Mr. Robinson advised.

“You can leave if you want to, but don’t tell me what to do!” Abigail snapped

cooly. She despised her spineless father; he bowed down to others no matter

what.

He had never once acted like a man. Others had made fun of her all her life

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because of his timid actions. Therefore, she'd sworn that no matter what, she

would never lose her dignity!

"Stop being so stubborn, Abigail. Let's go!" Mr. Robinson tugged at

Abigail

anxiously.

"I told you not to tell me what to do! Scram!" Abigail shoved her father, and the

man fell to the ground.

Marlon grinned at the sight. "You should have listened to your father, darling.

You wouldn't have been able to escape, but it would have been fun to watch

you two try."

He never planned to let them escape in the first place. He was merely playing

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a game of cat and mouse.

“I knew you were up to no good!” Abigail clutched her dagger and tried to stab

Marlon. As long as she could defeat that man, they would all be safe.

“What a fool.” Marlon shook his head. Then, he planted his foot into Abigail’s chest.

Abigail grunted as the force threw her backward. Blood trickled out of the corner of her mouth. For a moment, she was immobile.

“Since you like using force so much, why don’t we start with you?”

Marlon

slowly approached her with a leering grin. He wanted to take her clothes off.

Mr. Robinson was instantly alarmed. Falling onto his knees before Marlon, he

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begged, “Please forgive her, sir! She’s just a child. I beg you!” He bowed deeply.

“Fuck off, you old shit!” Annoyed, Marlon kicked Mr Robinson aside.

“Sir!” Mr. Robinson clambered back to his knees. Please let my daughter go!

I’ll do anything you want!”

“Are you f*cking deaf? I told you to piss off!” Marlon kicked Mr.

Robinson

again, harder this time.

The older man grunted as he flew backward. Still, he staggered to his feet and

lunged toward Marlon. He held the other man’s calf, begging, “Please, sir! Please don’t hurt my daughter!”

“You’re dead meat!” Finally losing his temper, Marlon planted a furious kick on

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Mr. Robinson's back.

Mr. Robinson threw up blood that dyed the snow red. However, he refused to

let go of Marlon's leg.

1/2

"Just die already, you old coot!" His stubbornness ticked Marlon off, who planted kick after kick on his back. Each kick caused Mr. Robinson to throw

up blood. Still, his grip never loosened.

"Fuck off!"

Furious, Marlon aimed his last blow at Mr. Robinson's head. He kicked it like a

football. Immediately, Mr. Robinson went flying and crashed into a tree.

He

was bleeding profusely.

"Dad!"

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“Mr. Robinson!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 679 -

Chapter 679

Abigail, Natasha, and the others were devastated. They knew that the force Marlon used was enough to kill his opponent. Even the strongest martial artist

would have died on the spot from that attack. There was no way Mr.

Robinson

was fine.

“That piece of shit dirtied my clothes.” Marlon tried to dust the blood off his

pants legs, disgusted. “I’ll kill you!” Abigail howled. She grabbed her dagger

and charged toward Marlon.

Marlon sneered and grabbed her wrist, effectively pressing her onto the ground.

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“No one’s going to interrupt us now, honey. Let’s do it here.” Grinning perversely, he tore off her jacket, exposing her voluptuous figure.

“Fuck off!”

Abigail slammed her knee into Marlon’s groin with all her might, her eyes bloodshot.

“Aargh!” Marlon wailed. His face was twisting in pain. “You b*tch! How dare

you harm me! I’m going to kill you!” He pulled out his sword and swung it

toward her.

The blade was going to slice through her, but a bloody hand appeared from nowhere and grabbed the tip of the blade.

“Huh?” Marlon lifted his head. The person who stopped his attack was Mr. Robinson! However, he seemed like a completely different person.

This Mr. Robinson was no longer timid and fearful, Instead, he was cold and

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ruthless.

“How are you still alive?” Marlon’s expression sobered.

“Why did you have to push me?” Mr. Robinson sighed. “Couldn’t you have just let this matter slide?”

“What the hell are you talking about, old man?” Marlon frowned uneasily.

He

realized that the air around the older man was slowly shifting.

“I’ve already given you a chance, but you didn’t appreciate it, so don’t blame

me.” Mr. Robinson tightened his grip slightly, and Marlon’s sword instantly

shattered into a million pieces. At the same time, a burst of energy exploded

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out of him. It rippled through the wind and caused snow to whirl up. Even the plants around them began to sway and shake as if they were marveling at his strength.

Mr. Robinson inhaled deeply, and all the joints in his body cracked. He gradually absorbed all the natural essence surrounding him into his body. Soon, he became so powerful that it was hard for others to even look him in the eye.

“W-who are you?” Marlon scrambled backward in terror. He never expected the timid old man to undergo such a drastic change. Now, Mr. Robinson was like a ferocious dragon who had just woken up from his deep slumber. A mere

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peek at the man was enough to send shivers down one's spine. Marlon had met countless masters in his lifetime, but Mr. Robinson was the scariest person he had ever seen. In fact, Mr. Robinson might even be considered a god at this point-a being who stood higher than any human. "You shouldn't have hurt my daughter." Mr. Robinson shook his head. He pointed in Marlon's direction, and without warning, the man's body exploded like a balloon. Marlon died in an instant.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 680 - Chapter 680

"What?" Everyone gaped incredulously at the bloody mist that used to be Marlon.

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Marlon was a Divine-level martial artist strong enough to take all of them down effortlessly. However, a finger was all Mr. Robinson needed to kill him. How terrifying! Was this really the cowardly old man they all knew? “Run!” Once they got over the shock, the group of large men spun around and began to flee. They had no idea what had happened, but they knew Mr. Robinson was far stronger than expected. Marlon had been killed easily, so there was no way they’d stand a chance against that man. “You shouldn’t have done all that if you were afraid of dying.” Mr. Robinson waved his hand casually, and the men immediately burst apart. They turned into a bloody mist.

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“Uh...” Everyone was shocked by the sight, especially Abigail. Her eyes were wide open. She couldn’t believe that her cowardly father had suddenly turned so strong.

“Wow, he really kept his skills well hidden!” Dustin, who had just arrived, gaped at Mr. Robinson. He always thought he had a good eye. However, he never realized such a strong individual had been hiding under his nose this entire time.

“Mr. Robinson? Is that really you?” Natasha asked hesitantly, astonished. “I apologize for scaring you, Ms. Natasha.” Mr. Robinson lowered his head.

He quickly returned to how he was earlier. However, no one could look down on him anymore.

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“Dad, how...” Abigail was at a loss for words. She couldn’t understand why her father would hide his powers and let others walk all over him. “I’m sorry for deceiving you all these years. I wanted you to grow up as an ordinary person, but I didn’t expect things to turn out like this.” Mr. Robinson sighed. He knew how dangerous the martial world was, so he hoped his daughter could stay out of it. Alas, things didn’t always go as planned. “Who are you? Why are you so strong? And why did you lie to me?” Abigail fired questions rapidly. Her head was completely blank at the moment. “It’s a long story. I-” Mr. Robinson began. Suddenly, a group of people emerged from the snow ahead. It was the rest of the Harmon family. The Harmon family’s strongest fighters, which consisted of

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hundreds of Harmon family elite guards and aids, were being led by Hector.

“Natasha, Ruth, are you girls alright?” Hector asked as he and his group braved the blizzard and trudged toward them. He stared at the bright red snow

fearfully.

“We’re fine. We ran into some bastards earlier, but fortunately, Mr. Robinson

was around.” Natasha forced a smile.

“Mr. Robinson?” Hector was taken aback. He surveyed the mess in dismay.

After all, the pieces of flesh littering the ground could only have been caused

by using powerful true energy to blast the bodies apart.

It would take at least a Divine-level martial artist to do that. Mr. Robinson was

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merely a servant in
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Chapter 680

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uet hall. The Dark Lord's disciples broke in. You kly told her father.

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 681 -
Chapter 681

“Hurry! Let’s head over to the banquet hall!” Hector ordered immediately.

“No need. I’ve taken care of it.” Dustin emerged from the darkness. His white

clothes were stained red as some murderous air lingered on him.

“That’s good.” Hector sighed in relief before asking, “Dustin, did you catch

sight of the Dark Lord?”

“Not yet?” Dustin shook his head..

“As long as the Dark Lord is alive, our family will be in danger. All members of

the Harmon 1

family, listen up! Split yourself into groups of five and root him out!”

Hector

commanded.

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“There’s no need for that. I’m already here.” Just then, a sinister voice spoke out. Everyone turned and saw a man standing proudly on the gazebo nearby. He wore a black cape and a mask that covered half of his face. The air surrounding the man was so poisonous that the ring of plants around him had already withered. Even the snow that fell on his body turned black. “The Dark Lord?” The Harmon family instantly had their guards up and their weapons drawn. The past few years have traumatized them. They couldn’t see or catch him, so they had to be constantly on guard against him since his methods were always baffling. He was skilled in poison, curses, and witchcraft

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and could easily kill someone undetected. His skills made it extremely difficult

to anticipate his next move.

The Harmon family couldn't help but feel a little scared. They could finally

meet this nightmare

in person.

"You've finally shown yourself." Hector narrowed his eyes, his expression grim. Knowing the Dark Lord's personality, the man must have something

up

his sleeve if he was willing to show himself

today.

"We should end things now. It's been a long time coming, after all." The Dark

Lord sniggered. "You have two choices right now. You either hand over your

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treasure, or your entire family will perish!”

“Our family will perish? Because of you?” Hector humphed. He prepared well

just to fight against the Dark Lord. However, dealing with the man would have

been difficult if he had been hiding in

the dark. Now that the Dark Lord had shown himself, they could finally take

him down!

“I can deal with all of you myself!” The Dark Lord clasped his hands behind his

back, his clothes dancing in the air.

“How dare you!”

“Insolent bastard!”

The Harmon family cried out angrily. The Dark Lord was feared for his mystic

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arts. So, the Harmon family had nothing to fear as long as everything came down to a battle of the fists.

“Move out of the way! I’ll deal with him!” Dylan stood forward and swore,

“You’ve harmed our family for years, Dark Lord! Today, you will pay for your sins with your blood!”

“Foolish brat.” The Dark Lord humphed disdainfully

“How dare you look down on me! Go to hell!” Dylan drew his blade and leaped

into the air. With a powerful swing, he brought his sword down with all his might.

There was a whistle as the force melted the snow in its path and headed toward the Dark Lord,

“What a powerful swing!” The Harmon family watched the battle animatedly.

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As the genius of the family, the time Dylan spent on the battlefield completely changed him. His sword was much more powerful than it once was. “Oh, my genius boy!” Jacob watched his son proudly. Defeating the Dark Lord would make Dylan the family’s hero. “Tree Flicker.” With a snicker, the Dark Lord struck out with his palm. A shadow phased through Dylan’s sword and planted itself into the young man’s chest. “Aargh!” Dylan wailed as he collapsed onto the ground. He spurted blood everywhere.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 682 - Chapter 682

“What?” Everyone was shocked as they watched Dylan land on the ground.

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The way he had leaped into the air tricked everyone into thinking that he had

a winning chance against the Dark Lord. However, his opponent was able to

get rid of him effortlessly, shocking the crowd.

“Dylan!” Jacob paled. He rushed over to hold his son up.

“I slipped, Dad...” Dylan forced out before his head fell to one side as he passed out. Jacob was tongue-tied. He couldn’t believe how stubborn his son

was.

“How could he act so foolishly when he’s so weak? Does the Harmon family

have no one else to send?” At the gazebo, the Dark Lord sneered at them scornfully.

“Don’t be cocky. We’ll deal with you!” A voice was heard as nine people emerged from the group of people. There was a mix of men and women, as

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each of them were powerful fighters well-known in the martial world.

Without

doing much, they gave off immense pressure on those around them.

“To tell you the truth, these are skilled martial artists we hired. With them around, you’ll meet your end no matter what tricks you use!” Trent declared,

pleased.

“You better surrender if you don’t want to die!” Hector shouted.

The Harmon family called upon many martial artists for help, but most of them

were nothing but smokescreens. Their true trump card was actually these nine

fighters.

“Pfft! I can get rid of these nine pests easily.” The Dark Lord sniggered, unfazed.

“Insolent bastard!” His answer pissed off the nine fighters.

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They were well-known fighters in the martial world and were confident they could each take on the Dark Lord by themselves, much less as a team “Guys, on my mark, let’s get rid of this evil man!” An elderly man shouted as he sprung toward the Dark Lord, sword first. “Kill him!” The remaining eight fighters followed closely behind, each using their best skills to fight the Dark Lord Blades glinted, and gusts of wind rippled through the air as the trees and bushes around them were sliced down. Even the freshly laid snow had evaporated. “With those skills, no wonder they’re the best fighters around.” “With those nine people attacking him at the same time, there’s no way he can avoid their assault!

II

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“Since he dared to invade our house, let’s make sure he never leaves!”
The Harmon family watched intently as the nine fighters surrounded the Dark Lord, eagerly waiting for the latter to be shredded into pieces.
“What a bunch of losers.” The Dark Lord chuckled before striking outward with both palms. There was a loud rumble as the two fighters closest to him were flattened into human pancakes. The Dark Lord then spun around and did the same to the two fighters behind him, killing them instantly.
Within seconds, nearly half of the nine fighters were dead.
While the Dark Lord was busy with the four fighters, the remaining five rushed toward the Dark Lord and swung their swords fiercely.

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Sharp clangs rang out as their weapons hit the Dark Lord's body. As if they

had hit solid steel, sparks flew from the points of contact.

“What?”

The five fighters' eyes widened in shock, and they paled. When they tried to

jump backward, they realized that the true energy surrounding the Dark Lord's

frame had glued their weapons to his body like a magnet.

“Who gave you the courage to fight me with those measly skills? You guys

must have a death wish!” The Dark Lord's body shook, and a gust of terrifying

true energy burst forth.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 683 -

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As if they had been struck by a train, the remaining five fighters were brutally

thrown backward and landed in a pile of snow.

Some died, while others were severely injured, and none of them were able to

stand up again.

“What? The nine fighters lost?” The Harmon family was devastated to see that

the skilled fighters they spent a hefty amount to hire hadn’t even been able to

touch a hair on the Dark Lord’s head.

“Who’s up next?” The Dark Lord stood at the same gazebo, and he peered down at those useless fools.

“Even those nine fighters lost to him. There’s no way anyone could win against him.” The Harmon family exchanged fearful glances, none of them daring to step forward. Was this the end of the Harmon family?

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“The two of us will have some fun with you, Dark Lord.” Suddenly, a grave voice broke the silence.

Everyone turned to see two shadows emerging from the sky, nimbly making their way toward them. They moved as stealthily as a cat, making it hard for others to spot them.

“They’re awesome!” Everyone was amazed by the two men, who moved past the trees and toward the Dark Lord.

As they approached, everyone finally realized who the two elderly men were.

“Master Herman! Sir Leon!” Caelus was overjoyed to see them.

“They’re finally here!” Ivy and Maria cheered at the new arrivals, who were

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none other than the leader and assistant leader of the Invincible Guardians, Herman, and Leon Delgado.

1

“You’re finally here.” Hector and the rest of the Harmon family heaved sighs of

relief. Now that the leader of the Invincible Guardians was here, the Dark Lord

couldn’t do too much damage. After all, these two men were martial artists who were close to becoming grandmasters.

“I hope you can forgive us for arriving late, Hector. Herman lowered his head

respectfully.

“Of course. Having you two here is already a godsend.” Hector smiled.

Things

had seemed quite bad earlier, but fortunately, there hadn’t been much real damage.

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“Let’s not waste time. We’ll take care of things from here.” Herman turned around to face the gazebo. “Dark Lord, you’ve committed grave sins Bold of you to not surrender yourself now that the two of us are here!”

“No wonder you guys weren’t afraid. You had the Invincible Guardians protecting you.” The Dark Lord narrowed his eyes.

“If you’re scared, you better kneel and apologize right now. We might spare your life that way.” Leon bellowed.

“Scared? Pfft! Guilds like yours always like to bully people with numbers. How strong can you be? I challenge you to a one-on-one fight!” The Dark Lord taunted.

“Why would I need Herman’s help to deal with the likes of you?” Leon snorted.

“You better remember what you just said.” The Dark Lord’s gaze darkened, a

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sinister smile on his face.

“Hold on!” Dustin suddenly called out. “Sir Leon, you’re no match for him on your own. You have to work together if you want to have a winning chance”

“Nonsense!” Leon glared at him. “I’m nearly a Grandmaster martial artist. I can take care of this fat Divine-level bastard easily!”

“I’m just giving you a piece of advice. Even animals give it their all when catching prey much weaker than them, so there’s no need to risk it,”

Dustin responded.

“Shut up! How dare a stupid brat like you tell me what to do! Step aside!”

Leon

was pissed that Dustin would question his capabilities.

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“What?” Dustin frowned, and his expression turned cold. “If you insist on doing

things your way, forget I said anything.”

He only gave that piece of advice because of the Harmon family, but since Leon refused to listen to him and even insulted him, he might as well just turn

a blind eye.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 684 -

Chapter 684

“Hmph, foolish brat!” Caelus glanced at Dustin and sneered. “What would a

stupid pig like you know about Sir Leon’s strength? You could never even hope to reach his level!”

“Dustin, Sir Leon is a semi-Grandmaster. You shouldn’t talk about things you

don’t know. Others might laugh at you,” Ivy grumbled in displeasure.

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“She’s right. You should watch how Sit Leon takes his opponent down!”

Maria

echoed. All of them saw Dustin as someone who liked to talk others down to

make himself feel good. The Dark Lord might be a powerful person, but he

was still a Divine-level martial artist, which was nowhere near the level of a

semi-Grandmaster.

“Let’s hope things turn out the way you’re hoping they will,” Dustin simply

responded. He’s said everything he needed to say. If he said anymore, he would just make a fool of himself.

“Sir Leon, I think he’s right. If you’re too scared to fight me alone, you can ask

your leader to join the battle. Otherwise, you might suffer an embarrassing

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loss,” The Dark Lord taunted, aware that guilds like these cared more about their pride than anything else.

As he expected, Leon was furious at his words. “Yeah, right! Killing you is a

piece of cake. I don’t need anyone’s help! Here I come!” He jumped into the

air and unsheathed the long sword behind his back. Clutching the sword with

one hand, he thrust it toward the Dark Lord at an incredible speed.

“His sword is so fast and powerful!”

“No wonder he’s a semi-Grandmaster. He’s so strong!”

The crowd marveled at his strength. They had never seen someone as strong

as Leon.

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“You’re doomed!” Leon bellowed, and his sword shone as his attack increased in power.

“Foolish bastard.” The Dark Lord chuckled coldly before swinging his hand,

which was curled into a claw

This caused Leon’s blade, which was less than twenty inches away, to stop mid-air. The sword trembled violently but didn’t move at all.

“How is that possible?” Leon was shocked. Before he had time to react, the

Dark Lord reached out and struck Leon’s chest with his palm.

Immediately,

blood spewed from Leon’s mouth, and he flew backward.

“Go to hell!” The Dark Lord took advantage of this opportunity and struck again. A huge shadow in the shape of a palm hit Leon hard.

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“Leon!” Herman paled. He quickly drew his sword to counter the Dark Lord’s attack. There was a loud bang as the two attacks clashed before the shadow palm disappeared.

Herman reached out to catch Leon when the Dark Lord suddenly fused with the shadows and slammed into him.

“You must have a death wish!” Furious, Herman brandished his sword. Instantly, thousands of shadow swords appeared. They trapped the Dark Lord

from all directions and then flew in the Dark Lord’s direction. However, they

didn’t seem to affect the Dark Lord, who was able to phase

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through the shadows and counter with another strike.

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“Oh no!” Herman’s eyes widened, and he instinctively raised his sword to block the oncoming onslaught. The blade shattered on impact, and the Dark

Lork quickly followed up with another strike to Herman’s chest, crushing the

man’s bones and causing him to cough up blood. Herman flew in the air before crashing into the ground, head-first.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 685 -

Chapter 685

It had only taken the Dark Lord two seconds to defeat Herman and Leon.

“What?” Everyone exclaimed, flabbergasted. No one had expected the two semi-Grandmasters to lose so terribly to the Dark Lord.

“Master Herman!” Terrified, Caelus, Ivy, and Maria dashed toward their mentor. Herman and Leon were severely injured; they bled profusely from their noses, and they couldn’t get back onto their feet

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“How is this possible? The leader of the Invincible Guardians actually lost?”

The Harmon family couldn't believe their eyes. The two semi-Grandmasters

had been their final trump card, and they'd thought they'd have a winning chance against the Dark Lord, yet the latter had eventually won, which begged the question: if the Dark Lord was stronger than Herman and Leon, which Harmon family member would stand a chance against him?

“If the two of you had come at me together, you could have won against me.

Unfortunately, your confidence and pride blinded you.” The Dark Lord peered down at them.

“Aren't you just a fully developed Divine-level martial artist?” Herman gasped, clutching his chest.

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“How was I going to lure you out if I didn’t hide my true strength?” The Dark Lord chuckled. Although he had been confident that things would turn out in his favor, he still didn’t want to take any risks.

“You treacherous and shameless bastard!” Jacob swore.

“Nothing matters as long as I can win.” The Dark Lord grinned. “Also, aren’t you curious as to why I finally decided to show myself after all this time hiding?”

“Why?” Hector asked uneasily.

“I’ve been biding my time and building my strength” The Dark Lord puffed out his chest. “Actually, I’ve already evolved into a Grandmaster martial artist!”

His words shocked everyone, causing them to break out in a cold sweat.

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There were many skilled fighters in the martial world. However, it was rare to find anyone so strong. Countless geniuses spent all their lives trying to break that barrier and evolve.

Herman and Leon were the perfect examples. Although they were semiGrandmasters who were halfway to becoming Grandmasters, the gap they had yet to fill was so profound that they'd been stuck at their current level for the past decade and still hadn't seen any improvements. Therefore, it wasn't an exaggeration to say that becoming a Grandmaster was near impossible. Everyone finally understood why Herman and Leon had lost. Their opponent was a Grandmaster! "Shit! We're doomed!"

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“How are we supposed to fight against such a strong opponent?”

“That’s the end of our family!”

The Harmon family wore devastated expressions. The opponent they were facing was a

Grandmaster, which meant they had no chance of winning and could only let

the Dark Lord do as he pleased.

“You’ve lost, Hector. I’ll let you guys live if you hand over the treasure.”

The

Dark Lord

commanded. He was powerful enough to crush the entire family.

“Knowing you, you won’t let us go even if we hand over the treasure.”

Hector

shook his head.

“You don’t have a choice in this matter.” The Dark Lord smiled coldly. It

was

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true that he hadn't been planning to let any of them go since obtaining the treasure map and getting rid of the Harmon family had been his target from the start.

"Since we'll die no matter what, we might as well die honorably." Hector took a deep breath. He suddenly raised his hand and shouted, "All Harmon family members, listen up! Draw your weapons and fight!"

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Chapter 686

"Draw your weapons and fight!" Hector bellowed, his determined gaze psyching the rest of the family up.

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“Fuck, let’s do this!”

“Charge!”

The Harmon family yelled and drew their weapons. Their conflict with the Dark

Lord had been going on for years, and there was no way he would let them go

easily. So, they might as well give it their best shot if they were going to die.

“You pests dare challenge me? You will all die!” The Dark Lord’s expression

hardened. “Hector, since you’re being so stubborn, I’ll turn this place into a

bloodbath today!”

He slowly pulled his hand back before slapping the ground harshly.

Instantly,

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the ground shook, and snow exploded everywhere. A huge shadow palm fell

from the sky and onto the Harmon family members, making it hard for them to

breathe or even move. They realized that when their opponent was a Grandmaster martial artist, they couldn't even run if they wanted to.

"Hmm..." Dustin frowned. He was just about to make his move when a pebble

shot toward the shadow palm. There was a bang as the dark cloud dispersed.

Freed from the attack, the Harmon family began panting.

"Who the hell did that?" The Dark Lord studied the people around him with a

sharp glare. He might have only used less than a third of his powers, but it was still more than what regular martial artists could withstand.

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“Why do you insist on killing everybody? Can’t you just forgive them?”

With a

sigh, Mr. Robinson emerged from the crowd.

“Mr. Robinson?” Everyone was shocked. They never expected a family servant to stand up for them when things got rough. Alas, it wasn’t enough.

Everything was useless when faced with a Grandmaster.

“Who are you? How dare you stop me!” The Dark Lord glared at the older man.

“I owe the Harmon family a debt, so I hope you could be generous enough to

let them go.” Mr. Robinson requested politely.

“Hmph, who are you to talk to me like that?” The Dark Lord shouted.

“Come on, you come from the same family, so why do you have to fight them

like this? You should stop now.” Mr. Robinson’s tone was grave.

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“And if I don’t?” The Dark Lord narrowed his eyes, which glinted murderously.

“I’ll have to try and stop you then,” Mr. Robinson replied seriously.

“You stubborn, old thing!” The Dark Lord snarled. He launched himself forward and thrust his

palm at Mr. Robinson’s chest. The devastating force was so strong that it ripped through the air, causing the snow around them to evaporate and the trees around them to explode.

“Watch out, Mr. Robinson!”

1/2

“Dad, duck!”

People cried out from the crowd. However, Mr. Robinson seemed to have frozen up in fear.

“Shit, he’s a goner!”

“No one can stand the attack of a Grandmaster.”

Everyone shook their heads, sighing silently.

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Mr. Robinson's courage was commendable, but he was still far too weak to save them. With a loud bang, the Dark Lord's palm landed on Mr. Robinson's chest.

Just as everyone thought that Mr. Robinson would be injured and die on the spot, a miracle happened. The small figure withstood the attack perfectly and without moving.

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Chapter 687

"How is that possible?" Everyone's jaws dropped. Even Herman hadn't been able to withstand a single strike from the Dark Lord, so how was the feeble old man still standing?

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“I-is this really happening? Mr. Robinson blocked the attack with his body?”

Jacob’s eyes were wide.

“Holy shit! When did he become so powerful?” Trent gulped, his face stunned

in disbelief. Although Hector didn’t say anything, the shock was written all over

his face.

“I didn’t know there was someone so strong in the Harmon family!”

Herman

and Leon were secretly in awe. Even if the Dark Lord hadn’t used all his might, his attack was still more than what most people could withstand.

“What?” The Dark Lord staggered backward, flabbergasted. He had used eighty percent of his strength just now, yet Mr. Robinson had blocked his attack like it was nothing.

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“You should stop now.” Mr. Robinson shook his head, a clear warning in his eyes.

“Shut up! I’m going to kill you!” The Dark Lord’s gaze hardened. He took out a red ball and flung it at Mr. Robinson, which exploded midair.

“Watch out! That’s Demon Fire! It can burn anything and kill you instantly!”

Hector paled and cried out a warning.

Demon Fire was an infamous weapon in the martial world. Anything it touched

would immediately turn into ash, and its killing power was incredible.

Mr. Robinson was unfazed by the flame. With a gentle puff, a strong gust of

wind raked by, putting the fire out instantly.

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“What...” Hector was taken aback. How did such a terrifying weapon get put

out so quickly? Was this even humanely possible?

“How is this possible?” The Dark Lord paled. Demon Fire had been his trump

card. It was so powerful that even Grandmasters would have a hard time defending themselves, yet Mr. Robinson had blown it out so easily. How terrifying!

“You’ve had your turn. Now, it’s mine.” Mr. Robinson slowly raised his hand

and pointed.

Bang!

The Dark Lord’s body slammed backward with tremendous force, blasting through trees, a fake hill, and the gazebo before eventually crashing into the

snow somewhere back, unconscious.

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“Holy shit!” Everyone was stunned and tongue-tied into silence. The Dark Lord, who was a Grandmaster, someone countless martial artists yearned to

become, had been defeated by a single attack from Mr. Robinson. That’s incredible!

“W-who are you?” The Dark Lord staggered to his feet. His hair was tousled,

and blood trickled out of his nose and mouth. He looked as though he would

collapse at any moment.

“Michael Robinson,” his opponent answered frankly

“M-Michael Robinson?” The Dark Lord paled and stammered, “Y-you’re Michael Robinson, one of

Chapter 687

the five ultimate grandmasters in Balerno?”

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Chapter 688

“Michael Robinson?”

As soon as everyone heard the name, their jaws dropped in shock. Michael Robinson, one of the five ultimate grandmasters in Balerno, was just as renowned as Paul Hill and was a legendary figure with an amazing reputation

Ten years ago, he single-handedly defended Westward Fortress by himself. He defeated three foreign ultimate grandmasters and repelled tens of thousands of enemies from breaking in. With him alone as defense, his opponents hadn't been able to step a single foot in, and this battle had made

him famous. In a short year, word of his achievements spread far and wide, making him known as one of the strongest people in Balerno.

No one expected the same person, who had gone missing for years, to suddenly appear here as an ordinary family servant. It showed that one should never judge a book by its cover.

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“Mr. Robinson is the Grandmaster Michael Robinson? How is that possible?”

Hector was dismayed. Michael Robinson was their family’s ultimate trump card. His father had once told Hector that a distress signal could only be sent

when the entire family was on the brink of destruction. However, never in his

dreams did he expect such a legendary figure to be hiding right under his nose, blending in well with everyone else.

“No wonder Mr. Robinson was so strong.” Natasha was astonished. Being able to kill Marlon by pointing at him and defeating the Dark Lord with a single

strike was more than enough to prove Michael’s identity.

“How unexpected!”

“With his capability, no wonder he’s such a legendary figure.”

“I can’t wait to brag about being served by a Grandmaster before!”

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The Harmon family was excited after finding out the truth, their views of Michael turned respectful. No one expected the timid servant, who was full of smiles, to be one of the five ultimate grandmasters in Balerno.

“Dad...” Abigail was at a loss for words, her head blank. She still couldn’t wrap her head around the fact that her father was such an important figure.

“It must have taken you a long time to reach such a level. I don’t want to kill you, so stop now,” Michael stated calmly. No one dared to look down on him after what had just transpired.

“As a Grandmaster myself, I doubt you can kill me!” The Dark Lord gritted his teeth in displeasure.

“You should know that there are strong Grandmasters, and there are weak

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ones. You're still a fresh Grandmaster, so it wouldn't be difficult to get tid of

you." Michael shook his head.

"Cut the crap! I'll kill you today!" The Dark Lord bellowed, black fog bursting

forth from his body.

"Watch out, sir. He's going to go all out!" Herman warned.

Almost immediately, the Dark Lord made his move. With a powerful stomp, he

shot in the opposite direction like a rocket. H-he had run away!

the five ultimate grandmasters in Balerno?

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Chapter 689

The Dark Lord snuck away giddily, praising himself for his quick thinking that

saved him from his death. There was no way he could have won against a

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monster like Michael. Only an idiot would have challenged that man. After getting over the scare, the Dark Lord thought of something and smiled.

“So what if my opponent is the legendary Michael Robinson? I still got away.

He’s just a piece of trash!”

Suddenly, his grin froze as he sensed danger coming from behind. He instinctively turned around to see a beam of light shooting toward him at lightning speed.

“Aargh!” The Dark Lord shrieked in terror. He immediately used all his energy

to form a shield. However, the barrier shattered as soon as it touched the light, which pierced his body. He howled in pain as he fell out of the sky and

into the bushes.

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“Great job!” The crowd cheered. They thought that the Dark Lord would get

away once more, but all it took was for Michael to throw his sword like a javelin to take the Dark Lord down.

Just as they were basking in the happiness of defeating the Dark Lord, there

was a red flash of light as the injured Dark Lord sprung up and dashed away

rapidly, disappearing in a flash.

“A Blood Shield?” Michael was taken aback.

Blood Shield was a type of rare black magic. It drew energy from the user’s

life force and allowed the user to have sudden bursts of strength and speed, which was extremely effective for both fighting and running away.

However, it

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came at a cost. Each time a person used this technique, ten years of their life would drain away. Using a Blood Shield when injured was even worse, so even if that person didn't die afterward, their fighting skills would drop significantly, and there was no way they could remain a Grandmaster anymore.

"He didn't die. What a pity." Hector sighed.

"That lucky bastard!" Trent gritted his teeth angrily

"The Dark Lord has been injured. He won't get far. Men, go after him immediately!" Jacob ordered, leading the Harmon family's elite guards. Everyone was aware that if they let the Dark Lord slip away today, the man

would retaliate tenfold in the future.

"Mr. Robinson-I mean, Sir Robinson, thank you so much for helping our family today!" Hector lowered his head respectfully.

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“Thank you, Sir Robinson!” Natasha and the rest of the family followed suit.

Mr. Robinson was no longer the timid old man they all knew. Instead, he was

the renowned -Grandmaster-Michael Robinson!

“Don’t mention it. Mr. Harmon Senior helped me before, so I’m just repaying

the favor,” Michael answered kindly as usual. However, his gaze was conflicted as it swept over Abigail. He had tried to keep his daughter safe by

hiding his identity. Unfortunately, the truth had still come to light. If he became

Michael Robinson once more, things would only become more troublesome.

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Amidst the heavy snowfall, a figure in black dashed on frantically, ignoring the fierce winds. Blood trickled out of his wounds and dripped onto the fresh snow beneath him.

“That piece of shit. He nearly killed me! Thank God I used Blood Shield, or I’d be dead meat by now! * The Dark Lord gritted his teeth, only letting out a sigh of relief when he saw that no one was on this trail, his face still ashen. Michael’s final attack had been so strong that it had pierced his protective barrier and even managed to cut through his ametrine armor, leaving a deep gash on his back. If it weren’t for that armor, he’d be dead by now. No wonder so many people

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feared the five Grandmasters. Fortunately, he managed to survive, and he even got some shocking information.

The Dark Lord wheezed and coughed out blood as he dragged his battered body toward his hiding spot. After ten minutes, he finally reached a hidden area in the courtyard.

“Who are you?” Several masked women jumped out, firmly clutching swords.

“It’s me.” The Dark Lord unveiled himself.

“Master?” The women immediately lowered their heads.

“Where’s Azalea?” The Dark Lord croaked.

“She’s standing guard in the hall,” one of the ladies answered.

“Keep an eye out for danger,” the Dark Lord reminded before heading over to the hall.

Meanwhile, Azalea was intently observing a wooden jar. She watched, amused, as a poisonous scorpion and centipede fought furiously.

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“Azalea!” Just then, the doors opened, and the Dark Lord tottered into the room.

“Yes?” When Azalea saw the man, she paled and rushed over. “Master! What happened? Who did this to you?”

“Michael Robinson was helping the Harmon family, so I lost.” The Dark Lord scowled.

“Michael Robinson, one of Balerno’s Grandmasters?” Azalea frowned. “Didn’t he disappear years ago? What’s he doing here?”

“He was hiding his identity, so no one knew who he was. Today’s just my unlucky day.” The Dark Lord sighed. He thought he’d finally be able to destroy the Harmon family after becoming a Grandmaster, yet Michael’s sudden appearance nearly cost him his life. He must have the most

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rotten luck!

“As long as you’re alright, we’ll have many more chances to take revenge.

Let

me treat your injuries.” Azalea immediately got to work, swiftly applying medicine and patching the man up. However, his internal injuries would require constant medication before they could heal.

“I might have lost this time, but at least I’ve obtained a valuable

bargaining

chip,” the Dark Lord.

mused.

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Chapter 691

What is it?" Azalea asked curiously.

"You've heard of the Mystic Arts Order, haven't you?"

"Of course. It's the greatest dark faction of all time. It's even on par with Stonia's Celestial Alliance," Azalea answered.

The Mystic Arts Order was a mysterious faction. Despite having only a few

disciples, everyone in the group was trained in the mystic arts as well as martial arts. And because of their ruthless way of killing their targets discreetly, they quickly became the strongest dark faction of all time.

"I used to be part of the group," The Dark Lord said wistfully. "I might not have

been the brightest disciple there, but I was still a talented individual with a bright future. However, I was kicked out after committing a crime."

"Do you still wish to return there?" Azalea asked.

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“Of course.” The Dark Lord nodded. “That place is like heaven to people like

us. It’s filled with numerous secret arts and is home to many powerful fighters.

If I can get back in, I’d be far stronger than I am now!”

“You sound like you have a plan.” Azalea watched her mentor.

“You’re such a smart girl.” The Dark Lord smiled softly. “Michael Robinson is

my ticket to return to the Mystic Arts Order. Do you know who his wife is?”

“No.” Azalea was puzzled.

“Their Grand Sorceress, Katherine Hunter!” The Dark Lord revealed.

“The Grand Sorceress?” Azalea was astonished. The Grand Sorceress was the successor of the Mystic Arts Order and stood higher than anyone in the group. Most of the time, the leader would keep themselves hidden from the

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world outside, so the responsibility of taking care of the order would fall onto

the Grand Sorceress' shoulders.

“Hang on...” Azalea suddenly recalled something. Didn't the Grand Sorceress

die a long time ago?”

“Katherine Hunter might be dead, but she has a daughter.” The Dark Lord smiled sinisterly. “Very few people know that she gave birth to a daughter after eloping with Michael Robinson. The leader of the order only discovered

this after tracking Katherine down a decade later. To prevent their daughter from being taken away, Katherine and Michael fought against the order, and

Katherine died during the battle. Michael then immediately fled with his daughter and hid

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– himself from the world. I didn't expect myself to discover this secret today.”

Azalea finally understood what the Dark Lord was implying. “Master, do you intend to trade this information with the Mystic Arts Order so that they accept you again?”

“Bingo!” The Dark Lord smiled. “Since Katherine died, Michael Robinson's

daughter naturally became the next Grand Sorceress, and the Mystic Arts Order would do anything to get their hands on her.”

“I see...” Azalea's eyes lit up. “We sure hit the jackpot today.”

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Exactly! As long as we bring the Grand Sorceress back to the order, they will

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worship us endlessly,” the Dark Lord boasted. He laughed manically before he began to cough violently.

“Are you all right?” Flabbergasted, Azalea quickly comforted the Dark Lord.

“Michael managed to injure me earlier, and I was forced to use Blood Shield. I

only have ten percent of my power left.” The Dark Lord wiped the blood off the

corner of his lips. “But that’s nothing. As long as I can bring the Grand Sorceress back to the Mystic Arts Order, I’ll recover in no time. I’ll be stronger than ever!”

“I can’t believe you’re letting me know such a huge secret.” Azalea was touched.

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“You’re my favorite disciple and like a daughter to me. What’s a little secret?

As soon as I secure a position in the order, I’ll make sure to promote you too!”

The Dark Lord smiled.

“Master, thank you so much. I don’t have anything to repay you with, so please accept my small gift.” Azalea lowered her head.

“What is it?” The Dark Lord inquired. Before he had time to react, a sharp dagger pierced his chest, shocking him.

“Here you go.” An evil smirk appeared on Azalea’s face.

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Chapter 692

“Ugh...The Dark Lord was stunned. With his eyes wide open, he looked at the

knife in his chest, then up at the smirking Azalea. His pale face was a mix of

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shock, disbelief, and confusion. It happened so suddenly that he still hadn't

registered that he had been stabbed.

"W-why?" The Dark Lord asked in disbelief. He never expected his most beloved disciple to kill

him.

"Your skills have greatly plummeted since you're seriously injured, rendering

you defenseless.

Today is the best day to kill you." Azalea smiled. "By the way, I applied some

Tranqurin on my blade. You're just like a little lamb waiting to be sacrificed

now."

"I've treated you well. Why would you betray me? Just when have I ever treated you badly?" The

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Dark Lord trembled, blood dripping from the corners of his mouth. “You’ve never treated me badly. In a way, you’ve been quite kind to me. However, you still have to die,” Azalea said plainly. “Why why? Why!” The Dark Lord’s emotions surged as he grabbed Azalea’s hand, and his eyes turned red as he roared, “I’ve treated you like my daughter since you were young. The other disciples have yet to receive such an honor. Why would you do this?” Azalea slapped his hand away, her expression growing colder by the second. “You want to know why? Fine, I’ll tell you. It’s because you killed my parents!” The Dark Lord froze at her words, his eyes betraying his shock.

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“Why are you silent now?” Azalea scoffed. “15 years ago, on New Year’s Eve, you led a group of men in the middle of the night, broke into my house, and slaughtered my entire family. My father was killed at your hands, while my mother was violated to death. I watched as you, beasts, massacred the people close to me! I could never forget, nor will I ever forget, those horrifying scenes! “I endured 15 years of humiliation, all to find an opportunity to kill you! However, you were too strong, and you got suspicious easily. I never felt confident enough to make a move. That was why I tried my best to please you in every way, lowering your

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guard slowly. Finally, I succeeded. It's been 15 years! I've waited exactly 15

years for this opportunity!" By the end of it, Azalea was seething.

Nobody knew how she endured those 15 years. She hid right beside her enemy, putting on a fake smile and acting thoughtful throughout the day. However, she had endless nightmares at night, never getting a peaceful night's sleep. Every night, to prevent herself from sleeping talking, and revealing her identity, she sealed off her acupoints, rendering herself mute. For 15 years, she was extremely cautious and walked on thin ice, for she knew that once her cover

was blown, it would not only put an end to her plans for revenge but also put her in a situation.

worse than death. Fortunately, after 15 years of waiting, determination, and

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hard work, she finally had a chance at revenge.

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“H-how did you find out? Who told you?” The Dark Lord’s lips trembled.

It was

true that he slaughtered the Larsons back then. However, when he stormed into the final room and saw the little girl asleep on the bed, his heart was stirred with compassion. The little girl reminded him of his late daughter.

Since

he hadn’t exposed his identity, he made a bold decision. He killed all of

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r, taking her under his wing. He never expected msself would lead to such a calamity.

ssed every one of your killings with my own eyes!

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Chapter 693

“No, impossible! You were only six years old back then, and you were fast

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asleep! The Dark Lord shook his head furiously.

Azalea responded, "I'd be dead now if I hadn't pretended to be asleep."

"You?" The Dark Lord was at a loss for words. He could not believe an experienced fighter like him had been played by a six-year-old.

"Since you now know the truth, you can die now!" Azalea flashed a smile again.

"Wait! You can't kill me!" The Dark Lord panicked as he clamored,

"Don't

forget that you still carry the curse that I planted in you. If I die, you won't survive either!"

He would plant a venomous curse on every new disciple. The first reason was

to control them better, while the second was to prevent betrayals. The current

situation was a perfect example.

"The curse? You mean this?" Azalea smiled playfully and took out a clear

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glass bottle. Inside was a red centipede.

“H-how did you get it out?” The Dark Lord’s expression shifted. The curse he

planted was connected to him, no one was able to break it unless the elder of

the mystic arts personally intervened

“I knew today would come, so I asked a miracle doctor to break the curse in

advance. What else do

you have to say?” Azalea reached out and squeezed, crushing the bottle with

the centipede inside.

“Azalea, let me live, and I’ll teach you everything I know!” The Dark Lord panicked and pleaded. Due to the effects of Tranqurin, he wasn’t able to muster an ounce of internal energy and was

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rendered useless.

“There’s no need. Once I find the Grand Sorceress and join the Mystic Arts

Order, I’ll naturally get what I want.” Azalea was unfazed.

“Azalea! Even if you kill me, your parents won’t come back to life.

Vengeance

only breeds more vengeance. Put down your blade and seek redemption.

As

long as you spare me, your soul can be saved!” The Dark Lord preached, desperately trying to live. However, as soon as he finished his plea, Azalea raised her sword and swiftly severed his neck, showing no mercy.

“Ugh The Dark Lord’s voice choked. The bloody line on his neck spread rapidly, and in the next second, his head rolled off his shoulders and onto the

ground with a thud. He had died with

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discontentment.

“Only when you die can my soul be saved.” Azalea kicked the Dark Lord’s

headless corpse, sending it flying several feet away. Carrying his head, she walked out of the hall, coming to a stop in the courtyard. Looking up at the sky, the chilling snowflakes fell upon her face, carrying at sense of desolation and sorrow.

“Mom Dad... Can you see it? This bastard is dead I personally killed him. I did

it. I fulfilled my promise. I avenged the both of you!” With a thud, Azalea dropped to the ground heavily. As she knelt, two lines of tears streamed slowly down her face. She had endured 15 years of humiliation. Today, she finally slayed the murderer. Vengeance was hers

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Chapter 694

As night fell deeper, the snow fell heavier.

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Meanwhile, Hector and the others stood outside the Harmons' meeting room, waiting in silence. They occasionally stole glances inside, where Michael and Dustin were engaged in a hushed conversation. Half an hour earlier, Michael had asked everyone to leave so he could speak to Dustin privately. "Mr. Rhys, that's the gist of what happened. I concealed my identity to hide from the enemy and protect Abigail from harm." Michael poured his heart out, finally releasing all the feelings he had bottled up. "I never expected that Abigail's mother would turn out to be the Grand Sorceress of the Mystic Arts Order" Dustin was shocked. The Mystic Arts Order was known as the most formidable dark faction in existence, composed of talented individuals and high-level experts. The

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position of Grand Sorceress was prestigious Dustin had always been curious

about the protective seal inside Abigail. With her mother's identity as the Grand Sorceress revealed, everything now made sense.

"Though the title of Grand Sorceress sounds grand, they don't even have the

basic right to freedom. I don't wish for Abigail to follow in her mother's footsteps." Michael sighed.

"Mr. Robinson, I don't understand. Why are you sharing your secrets with me?" Dustin was confused. The Mystic Arts Order's Grand Sorceress was a

prestigious position in which few had the privilege of knowing their identity.

"It used to be a secret, but it won't stay a secret much longer." Michael shook

his head. "From the moment I attacked the Dark Lord, I had exposed my

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identity. The Mystic Arts Order will probably be making a move soon.”

The

disciples of the Mystic Arts Order were spread all over the world. The

Dark

Lord was one of them.

“So, what’s your plan?” Dustin asked.

“I’ve been on the run for so many years. It’s time to face reality and resolve

things once and for all.” Michael frowned. “Abigail is the only one I have left. I

have a favor to ask of you-I hope you can

take care of her for me.”

“Me?” Dustin was shocked. “But I’ve never been a father.”

“You don’t have to be her father, you can be her mentor instead. ” Michael smiled. “I know you’ve been guiding Abigail in martial arts. Since she inherited

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her mother's genes, she has a strong foundation. I sincerely hope you will take her in as your disciple."

"Mr. Robinson, you think too highly of me. You're a martial arts grandmaster.

How could I dare accept her as a disciple with you here?" Dustin scratched his head.

"Mr. Rhys, you are too humble. I've been part of the martial arts world for over

a decade. I'm good at reading people, too. However, I can't seem to read through you. If I'm not mistaken, you should have already attained the level of

a grandmaster. Am I right?" Michael smiled profoundly.

"You have a good eye. It's no wonder that you are one of the five ultimate grandmasters." Dustin

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didn't deny it. Some things could be understood without being said aloud. The younger generations are talented!" Michael's expression was full of wonder. "A young grandmaster martial artist is hard to find in Dragonmarsh. It would be Abigail's greatest honor to be your disciple." "You're too kind, Mr. Robinson. Talents like Abigail are sought after by countless people." Dustin smiled in response. "Does that mean you've agreed?" Michael was surprised. "As long as Abigail is okay with it, I naturally have no problems with it." Dustin nodded. Abigail was talented, and they got along well. He would be happy to take her in as a disciple. "Thank you, Mr. Rhys! I'm extremely grateful." Michael stood up and shook Dustin's hand.

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“You’re welcome, Mr. Robinson. Perhaps I was fated to meet Abigail.”

Dustin

returned the gesture.

“Alright, I’ll send Abigail over to you officially as a disciple tomorrow.”

Michael

nodded in acknowledgment. After another short exchange, Michael left.

Dustin’s expression turned heavy as he watched the father-daughter duo depart. From their conversation earlier, he could tell from Michael’s tone that

he was already passing on his final wishes.

“Dustin, what did Mr. Robinson tell you?” At that moment, the members of the

Harmon family

walked in.

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Chapter 695

The Harmons were naturally curious since Dustin and Michael's conversation went on for some time.

"Nothing much. Mr. Robinson just requested that I take care of Abigail in the future," Dustin replied.

"That's all? That can't be." Trent was suspicious.

"Yeah." Dustin shrugged. He knew that Abigail's identity as the Grand Sorceress shouldn't be made known for her safety.

"Alright, let's set aside other matters for now. Our priority is to capture the Dark Lord. As long as he is alive, the Harmons will be in danger." Hector changed the subject.

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“Jacob has gone after him with some of his men. I wonder how he’s doing.”

Trent was slightly worried. Although the Dark Lord was severely injured, he

was still a Grandmaster martial artist. It would be a challenge to capture him.

“Mr. Hector...” At that moment, the butler rushed into the meeting room, holding a square gift box.

“What’s wrong?” Hector looked over at him.

“Mr. Hector, someone outside just passed us a gift earlier, asking us to deliver

it to Mr. Rhys,” the butler responded.

“For me?” Dustin was perplexed. “What is it?”

“I’m not sure. That person said it was a surprise.” The butler shook his head.

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“A surprise? I’m curious now.” Dustin smiled as he slowly opened up the box.

Everyone else in the room watched, and their expressions transformed instantly. Inside the box was the severed and bloody head of the Dark Lord!

Meanwhile, inside the Grant family mansion, Tyler sat alone in his study, engrossed in a game of chess. Suddenly, a fleeting shadow glided by the corner. Moments later, a woman with a mask resembling a water droplet emerged slowly from the shadows.

“What?” Tyler remained focused on the chessboard, never once looking up.

“Master, I just received news that the Dark Lord failed. He didn’t manage to get his hands on the treasure map,” the masked woman reported in a hushed voice.

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“What?” Tyler’s brows furrowed. “That trash! I spent all those resources to help him attain the level of a grandmaster, but he ends up not being able to deal with the Harmons? He’s better off dead!”

“Something unexpected happened today, master. Michael Robinson appeared and injured the Dark Lord,” the masked woman said.

“Michael Robinson? What was he doing at the Harmons?” Tyler was confused.

The masked woman replied, “Based on my investigation, the Harmons helped

out Michael once. I

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guess today was the day he repaid the favor.”

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I didn't expect the Harmons to have hidden a trump card." Tyler was deep in thought.

Master, should we kidnap Natasha and threaten Hector to reveal the treasure

map?" The masked woman suddenly asked.

"That's a bad idea." Tyler shook his head. "Once the existence of the treasure

map is revealed, it will attract others' attention. Not to mention, Natasha's identity is somewhat special. Her maternal grandfather is no ordinary person.

We can't make a move on her for now. Hector is also stubborn and persistent,

so it will be hard to snatch the treasure map from him: Since it's difficult to

deal with Hector, let's change our approach."

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Tyler smiled as if he thought of something. “Traditionally, the treasure map has always been kept by the family patriarch. As long as we can sow discord among the Harmons and manipulate the succession of a new patriarch, our problem will be resolved naturally.”

“Master, you are a genius.” The masked woman caught on immediately. “Go on. There is no room for failure this time.” Tyler waved his hand, gesturing for her to leave. “Yes, master!” The woman responded and vanished right away.

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Chapter 696

Inside the chairman’s office at Nicholson Corp., Dahlia stood before the

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expansive floor-to-ceiling windows, gazing pensively at the falling snow. The city shimmered with vibrant lights, yet she was there alone. Her mother had returned home yesterday while she remained in Millsburg to settle pressing work commitments. On one hand, she truly had matters to attend to, but on the other, she was hiding. She didn't know how to explain James' death to the family. Until the real culprit was caught, Dustin remained the prime suspect. While she was lost in her thoughts, her phone suddenly rang. She was surprised to see that it was a call from Regulus Nicholson, the Nicholson family patriarch. "Hello, Grandpa Regulus. How can I help you?" Dahlia was quick to greet him.

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“Dahlia, I heard from your grandpa that you won’t be spending New Year’s at home and will be working overtime at the office instead?” Regulus asked in concern.

“I have pressing matters to attend to at work. It’s more convenient for me to stay here.” Dahlia smiled

“Dahlia, it’s good that you’re devoted to your work. But you need to balance work and rest as well. Don’t overwork yourself.”

“Thank you for your concern, Grandpa Regulus. I’ll take care of myself.”

“Right, I called you tonight as there is something important I wish to discuss with you.”

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“Please go on.”

“As I’m getting old, I’m no longer able to take on as many responsibilities.

That

is why I have decided to step down from my position and appoint you as the

new head of the family,” Regulus declared, dropping a bombshell.

“What? You want me to become the matriarch?” Dahlia was shocked and refused immediately. ” Grandpa Regulus, that won’t do! I’m too young.

How

can I possibly be worthy of taking your place?

“I’ve witnessed your talents and capabilities firsthand. You are entirely capable of taking on the position and leading the entire Nicholson family,” Regulus said in a serious tone.

“Grandpa Regulus, I’ve only recently returned to the family. I won’t be convincing as the successor. Besides, there are plenty of talented individuals

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in our family who would be more suitable for the role.” Dahlia was in a dilemma. Managing Nicholson Corp. alone was already giving her a headache. Since her current standing within the family was still low, leading

an entire aristocratic family would be an immense challenge.

“Our family indeed has talented people, but they are not ready to lead the family. You, on the other hand, are different. You built up your own family with

your own hands and have long been ready to take on this responsibility. You’re the best among the young members of the Nicholson family. No one

else is more suited for the role.”

“Grandpa Regulus, you’ve overestimated me. Firstly, I don’t possess the family’s wealth. Second, I

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lack connections, and third, I don’t have the resources. I’m simply not

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qualified.” Dahlia was feeling helpless. Even though she was ambitious and had considered fighting for the position, it was too early with her current standing.

“I can provide you with the wealth, connections, and resources you need. As long as you agree, I will personally support your succession,” Regulus declared boldly.

“I...” Dahlia was at a loss for words. Regulus was not merely valuing her but showering her with affection by sweeping away all obstacles for her.

“Grandpa Regulus, I don’t understand. Why did you choose me?” Dahlia inquired cautiously. With Regulus’ abilities, wouldn’t it be better to groom his grandson to be his successor? Why did he choose an outsider like her?

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“Because you are the most suitable candidate and have the greatest potential to bring our family to greater heights!” Regulus sounded resolute. If he were honest, he made the decision not solely based on Dahlia’s exceptional talent but mainly because she had the support of a nobleman. 1

“But-” Dahlia was about to continue when Regulus interrupted her.

“Dahlia, stop refusing. Some things are meant to be fought for. I trust in your abilities. If you won’t be the matriarch, nobody else can!”

Since Regulus put it that way, Dahlia had no other reason to refuse. She could only nod, saying, ” Thank you for having confidence in me. I will try my best. Please guide me when I fall short.”

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Regulus chuckled heartily. “All right, as long as you agree! I’ll arrange a family

meeting tomorrow morning and officially announce you as the new head of the

Nicholson family!”

The surprising news came without warning, leaving Dahlia in a daze even after Regulus had hung up. She hadn’t achieved much, yet she was suddenly

the Nicholson matriarch, dramatically elevating her status.

It felt unbelievable. Although Dahlia believed she had the talent, she lacked

the confidence to lead such a prominent family at this time. However, she also

realized that this was an opportunity for her to rise, and she shouldn’t let it slip

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away. She had to give it a try, regardless of whether she was prepared. The next morning, the heavy snowfall had stopped, and it was finally the New Year. Dustin had just returned to the Flame Dragon Gang when he saw Nelson approaching him happily. “Sir Rhys! I have good news!” “What? Did your wife give birth?” Dustin asked curiously. “It’s better news than that.” “She gave birth to twins?” “Sir Rhys, can you have a better imagination?” “A better imagination? Oh... I get it now. The children are not yours?” Nelson was speechless, and the corners of his mouth twitched. Dustin’s responses were getting more absurd. “Sir Rhys, I’ll just tell you. We found James’ killer.” Nelson was not going to let

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Dustin continue guessing. Dustin might just say his wife ran off with another man next.

“The killer? Where are they?” Dustin’s gaze grew cold, and he turned serious.

“We beat him up half to death. He’s unconscious now, but he already ratted out the mastermind,” Nelson responded.

“Who was it?” Dustin asked.

“Nicholson Corp.’s Vice Chairman-Hank Hoffman!” Nelson’s expression was serious.

Dustin was surprised. “Hank Hoffman? Are you sure?”

Nelson explained, “Based on the statement, Hank intended to remove Ms. Nicholson forcefully from her position, but he couldn’t do so with you backing

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her. So, he decided to sow discord between the two of you. It would be easier

for him to accomplish his goal if you weren't on good terms with Ms. Nicholson."

"I can't believe he resorted to such underhanded methods to gain a small advantage. This bastard deserves to die!" A murderous gaze flickered in Dustin's eyes. He had previously rejected Hank's attempts to bribe him.

He

didn't expect Hank to retaliate by setting him up. If he hadn't investigated the

situation thoroughly, he would have fallen into Hank's trap.

1/2

"Sir Rhys, what Hank did was unforgivable. I've already obtained his address

and will send someone to capture him immediately!" Nelson said furiously.

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“There’s no need. I’ll handle it personally this time. Show me the way,”
Dustin

said with a hardened expression.

“Right away!” Without hesitating, Nelson quickly went to get the car. The gravity of the situation was evident since Dustin had decided to get involved

personally. Hank wouldn’t be able to escape this time!

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 698 -

Chapter 698

In a luxurious private room at Ibiza Club, Hank was enthusiastically entertaining a bald man in glasses. A few alluring hostesses were by their sides, providing attentive service.

“Mr. Niles, thank you for traveling all the way here. This is our show of sincerity. We hope you like it.” Hank took out a check and placed it on the table, sliding it forward. The bald Niles only glanced at it before ignoring it, and

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he continued to drink with the beautiful women beside him.
“Oh, look at me. I almost forgot to pass you a welcoming gift as well.”
Hank
caught on immediately and took out another gift box, passing it to him
with
both hands. Niles opened the box and saw a gold bar that weighed a few
kilograms. It was worth around one to two million dollars.
Niles chuckled gleefully. “Hank, that’s so generous of you. There’s no
need for
such extravagant gifts between us,” he said as he put them away
nonchalantly.
“Considering you traveled from Stonia, these are nothing.” While Hank
smiled
politely, he inwardly mused that this cunning individual seemed to be
growing
greedier. However, since he

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needed Niles' assistance, he could only remain silent.

"Mr. Niles, I'm wondering if you brought anything with you on your trip this time?" Hank asked tentatively.

"Don't worry, I didn't forget. This isn't the first time anyway," Niles said as he

took out a small, purple vial from his pocket and passed it to Hank.

Hank's eyes lit up as he reached out to receive the vial. However, Niles retracted his hand with a

warning. "Mr. Hoffman, I'm just reminding you that this is an extremely valuable item. There is

only one such vial made every year, and your grandmother relies on this precious herb to live. You

better not lose it."

"Never. This treasure is more valuable than my life. I assure you, I won't lose

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it!” Hank nodded incessantly.

“Very well, I’m entrusting it to you now. You’re responsible for anything that

happens after,” Niles said, placing the purple vial in Hank’s hands.

“Thank you, Mr. Niles!” Hank was delighted. He took out a safe he had brought with him, carefully placing the vial in it. This item was worth a fortune

and couldn’t be bought with money. It was also a precious item that Alma relied on to survive. Naturally, he had to take extreme care of it.

“Hank Hoffman!” Suddenly, the private room was violently kicked in, and a

group of fighters with menacing expressions barged their way in furiously. Each of them had a knife in hand.

“Who are you? How dare you make a scene in my area?” Hank’s expression

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darkened.

“You seem to be having fun, Mr. Hoffman. How is it that you have the time to

be drinking here?” The men stepped aside to make way for Dustin and Nelson, who slowly walked inside.

“It’s you!” Hank’s brows furrowed. “Mr. Rhys, what is the meaning of this?

There are no grievances between us, why have you brought your men here?”

“You son of a b*tch! You’re still pretending, I see. What do you mean by ‘no

grievances’ when you set up our leader?” Nelson bellowed.

1/2

Aldon’t understand what you mean.” Hank acted clueless.

You ordered James to be killed, didn’t you?” Dustin asked out of the blue.

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James? Hank shook his head. “I’m sorry, I don’t know who that is. There must have been a misunderstanding.”

“A misunderstanding?” With a frosty smile, Nelson gestured. “Bring him in!”

On his orders, a man covered in injuries was forcefully brought in. Hank’s expression shifted at the sight of the man. He finally realized something was

up. These people had come prepared.

“Hank Hoffman, do you know this man?” Dustin asked calmly.

“No, I don’t. Who is he?” Hank remained unyielding.

“You son of a b*tch!” Nelson raised his hand, delivering a forceful slap that

sent Hank sprawling to the ground. Nelson berated. “You’re still trying to argue at this point? This man confessed to everything, and you were the one

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who hired him!”

“Nonsense! I don’t know any murderers! Stop making false accusations!”

Hank shouted in fury, I’m warning you. I have the matriarch of the
Glenstead

Nicholsons backing me!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 699 -

Chapter 699

“You dickhead! I don’t think you realize the gravity of the situation!”

Nelson

was furious and was about to smack Hank again when Dustin stopped him.

“You mean the Nicholsons were involved in this?”

“Why, are you finally scared?” Hank sneered. “That’s more like it. You’ll
be

offending the Nicholsons if you offend me. Now, get out of here!”

“I’m giving you one last chance. Confess and surrender yourself to the
authorities, and I’ll let you go” Dustin’s expression was cold.

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“What a load of crap!” Hank glared at Dustin. “Don’t think I’m afraid of you just because you’re the leader of the Flame Dragon Gang! Your small gang is nothing compared to the aristocratic Nicholsons! They could exterminate you in seconds!”

“It seems like you won’t talk without a lesson. Slice his hand off!” Dustin cut through the nonsense.

“Yes, sir!” Nelson smirked. He ordered two of their henchmen to pin Hank to the table.

“Wait! I’m warning you, don’t you dare touch me! The Nicholsons will not let you get away with it if you do!” Hank panicked and struggled desperately.

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“Go on, don’t stop! Let’s see how long you can keep up this act!” Nelson raised his knife and

ruthlessly brought it down on Hank’s wrist.

“Ah-!” Blood splattered everywhere as Hank’s blood-curdling scream echoed

throughout the room.

“Y-you!” Hank’s expression twisted in agony as he groaned. He couldn’t believe they had hurt

him. Weren’t they afraid of the Nicholsons’ wrath?

“Still not going to talk? Slice off his other hand,” Dustin ordered again.

“Yes, sir!” Without another word, Nelson raised his knife once more.

“Mr. Niles, save me!” Hank screamed in fear.

“Stop right there!” At that moment, Niles, who had been silent the entire time,

finally stood up.

“Who are you? I’m warning you to mind your own business!” Nelson’s

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expression was hostile.

“Hmm?” Niles’ expression darkened. “Do you know who I am? How dare you

talk to me like that?

You must not want to live!”

“I don’t f*cking care who you are!” Nelson was getting impatient.

“The audacity! He’s a prominent figure from Stonia-The Killian family’s butler!”

Hank cried out.

“The Killians?” Nelson could feel his eyes twitch, and his earlier arrogance

disappeared instantly.

The Killians were one of Stonia’s prestigious aristocratic families. As a family

with a history spanning over a hundred years, they wielded immense power.

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Even the Tremendous Three of Millsburg were inferior to the Killians. After all, Stonia was the capital city. Any random, minor aristocratic family from Stonia was already leagues above any family in Millsburg, let alone an influential one like the Killians.

1/2

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1/2

“Hah! Why did you go silent? Where’s all that arrogance now? I dare you to try

anything with the Killian family’s butler here!” Hank’s expression twisted into a

hideous sneer. He knew that few would dare to provoke the Killians.

This is between us and Hank. It’s best if the Killians stay out of it,” Dustin responded calmly.

“Hey, kid, are you lecturing me?” Niles took his time lighting a cigar before

taking two deep puffs. With an air of arrogance, he declared, “You seem oblivious to my status. Listen up; I’m not going to repeat myself. I am the Killian family’s butler. You ants will always remain beneath me, as I hold the

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power to play with your lives! I can have all of you killed with just one word!

Now, I order you to immediately-”

Before Niles could finish his sentence, a thunderous noise similar to an explosion rang out. He had been sent flying, crashing heavily into a wall.

His

bones shattered as he spewed blood, and he was rendered unconscious on the spot.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 700 -

Chapter 700

“My ears hurt.” Dustin’s expression turned frosty. Without hesitation, he sent

Niles flying with a brutal kick.

“What?” Nelson and their men were dumbfounded at the sight. Hank couldn’t

believe his eyes either, and he momentarily forgot about his pain. Nobody

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expected Dustin to act so ruthlessly without uttering a single word. He had just kicked the Killian family's butler and a prominent figure from Stonia! One simple word from him could end their entire lives. Most importantly, the butler represented the Killians. Humiliating their butler was akin to humiliating the family themselves. How could Dustin be so daring and seemingly unconcerned about his own life?

"Y-you... You dared harm Mr. Niles? Do you know what you just did?" Hank was scared and furious as he cried out.

"He's just the Killians' servant. What's the big deal?" Dustin turned his attention back to Hank and warned coldly, "You, on the other hand, will be in big trouble if you don't start talking."

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After meeting Dustin's icy stare, Hank felt a chill run down his spine. He was genuinely terrified at that moment. To him, Dustin seemed like a madman for daring to harm Niles.

"Silent still? Cut off all his limbs," Dustin ordered once again.

"Yes, sir!" Nelson grinned as he raised his blade once more.

"Wait! I'll talk..." Hank was terrified and surrendered immediately.

However, despite that, the steel knife still came down with a whoosh, slicing

Hank's hand off. Hank's mind went blank as he met Nelson's twisted smile.

"You damned-!" Hank's words were cut off by the intensity of the pain, and he

lost consciousness. "Lightly bandage up his wound. We're heading to Nicholson Corp., Dustin ordered.

"Yes, sir." Two henchmen dragged Hank out after wrapping his arm up

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“Sir Rhys, take a look at this. Suddenly, Nelson’s sharp gaze noticed the safe on the table. After they opened it up, they saw a delicate purple vial inside. Dustin picked it up and brought it to his nose. After a sniff, his expression betrayed his surprise. “I didn’t expect it to be Zirtanium. Interesting.”

“Zirtanium? What is that?” Nelson was curious.

“It’s a slow-acting poison, but taking it induces a comfortable and energized feeling. They won’t even feel any more pain. It’s effective in treating specific illnesses. As it is extremely rare, it is worth a fortune,” Dustin explained.

“Is it really that amazing?” Nelson’s eyes lit up.

“Indeed it is, but it is still poison after all. One will get addicted easily, and it has been banned in the martial world, Dustin responded.

“What would Hank need it for?” Nelson scratched his head.

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“Who knows? Let’s just hold onto it for now It’s worth a lot anyway

Dustin

replied nonchalantly and kept the vial in his pocket. He knew it could act as a

lifeline for certain people

In the chairman’s office at Nicholson Corp

An Understated Dominance by Marina Vittori Chapter 700 -

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