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Chapter 851

Both halves of Charles' body fell to the floor.

Derek was shell-shocked as he watched Charles get sliced in two. He fell to the floor and began to tremble from head to toe.

Sweat and urine pooled under his body.

He never expected Dustin could be so ruthless. He'd killed the

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second son of the Killian family without any hesitation. He was fuhys, this bastard is the last one left. Should we kill him too?” Cornelius pressed his blade to Derek’s neck once again.

“Don’t kill me! Show mercy, hero! Show mercy!” Derek burst into tears of fright. He crawled over to Dustin on his knees, begging for his life in a frenzy.

He was terrified. These people were insane and had no reservations.

They dared to kill a big shot like Charles. What was he in comparison to that?

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“Forget it. This has nothing to do with him. Let him live,”
Dustin said indifferently.

“Sir Rhys, the Killian family has lost many of their members. They’ll do a thorough investigation. If we don’t tie up loose ends, and this person leaks information, there’ll be consequences!” Cornelius warned.

“No, no! I won’t say anything. I don’t know anything. I wasn’t here today and never saw any of you!”

“I swear on my family’s name that I won’t say anything if you let me go. If I do, you can annihilate my family!” Derek begged mournfully, bowing his head and making promises. He

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desperately wanted to live.

“Don’t worry, I won’t kill you. But I need you to do something,”

Dustin said expressionlessly.

“I would do anything you want!” Derek nodded profusely.

“Stab Charles’ body a few times. Then bury all the corpses of the Killian family members,”

Dustin instructed.

“What?” Derek was stunned.

It seemed that they wanted to drag him down with them too.

“What, you’re not willing to?” Cornelius’ expression turned unkind.

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“I am... Of course I’m willing!” Derek nodded profusely again. Then, he picked up the blade on the ground and repeatedly drove it into Charles’ corpse. He wanted to show his sincerity to them.

“General Derek Lester, right? I’ll remember you. We’ll have a good partnership from here on out,” Dustin said casually.

Then, he grabbed Gavin’s head and got into the car.

The engine roared to life, and the Kirin Gang hurriedly left.

Derek looked at the corpse lying everywhere. He wanted to cry.

Fuck!

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What an unlucky day. Somehow he'd gotten himself into this disaster.

It was nighttime.

Tyler was holed up in one of the studies in the Grants' mansion. He was focused entirely on planning tactics at his desk.

Suddenly, a black silhouette slowly emerged from a corner. It was a woman in black wearing a mask with a raindrop pattern.

"Master, the situation has changed. Gavin's ambush failed. Now, his whereabouts are

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unknown. He is most likely in trouble,” the woman reported quietly.

“Failed?” Tyler narrowed his eyes. “He can’t even take down a small fry. That useless glutton deserved to die.”

“Master, should we move on to the next step?” she asked tentatively.

“That bastard carries the sin of killing Paul Hill. He will probably be dead in a week. We don’t need to care about him for now.”

Tyler shook his head and continued, “Right now, the most

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important matter is obtaining the Harmons' treasure map. By the way, how is Trent's progress?"

"There is discord within the Harmon family. However, it is difficult to get Trent promoted," the woman said.

"Since Trent can't do it alone, let's add fuel to the fire. We're going to turn the Harmon family upside down!" cking scary!

"Sir R

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Chapter 852

The night passed quickly.

The following day, all the members of the Kirin Gang were dressed in mourning suits. They stood at the entrance to the House of Heroes.

The House of Heroes was where they kept the ashes of the Kirin Gang members.

All disciples who died in the line of duty were regarded as heroes. They would then be kept in the House of Heroes for others to visit.

One reason was to cherish their memory; the other was to

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serve as a warning.

The Kirin Gang would care for the friends and family of those who make it to the House of Heroes.

Their family would receive timely financial support to help with living costs.

This way, the Kirin Gang members wouldn't have to worry about their families if they pass away one day.

Dustin stood at the entrance of the House of Heroes. He held two human heads dripping with blood and walked to the memorial plaque in the middle of the room.

The words, "In memory of Nelson Horst, guildmaster of the

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Flame Dragon Guild,” were engraved on it.

“Nelson, I’ve killed the people who harmed you. These are their heads. I brought them here to atone for their sins toward you!” Dustin tossed Gavin’s and Felix’s heads. They rolled under Nelson’s memorial plaque.

“Rest assured that I’ll do as I promised. From today onward, Haley is my daughter, and Cecilia is my sister. So long as I’m alive, I won’t let them get hurt. You can rest in peace now.”

Dustin faced Nelson’s urn and said a prayer. Then, he saluted it as a show of respect.

“Salute!” Cornelius shouted from the door.

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The Kirin Gang members saluted and showed their respect for the fallen heroes.

Perhaps one day, they would also die in the line of duty and be placed in the House of Heroes.

To be remembered and respected by the entire gang, they could die without regrets.

“Dustin Rhys, get the hell out here!” Suddenly, a high-pitched scream sounded.

The door to the Zephyr Lodge was violently kicked down.

A woman in braids wearing a black tracksuit barged in. She was leading a group of female soldiers.

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These female soldiers looked strong. From their sharp gazes, these female soldiers were not average.

“You’re gutsy! Who are you? How dare you barge into the Kirin Gang?!” Cornelius yelled angrily.

“Enough bullshit! Ask Dustin to come out here and see me!”

The woman in braids was radiating murderous energy. She looked pissed.

Upon hearing that, Dustin walked out of the House of Heroes and looked directly at her.

“Tam Dustin Rhys. Do you have a message for me?” he asked

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indifferently.

“You killed my brother! I’m going to kill you!” The woman’s gaze turned cold. Without another word, she unsheathed her sword and charged.

Anyone who stood in her way was forced aside with her sharp blade.

“The audacity!” Cornelius flew into a rage. He suddenly flickered in front of her, thrusting a palm out.

A ferocious burst of internal energy exploded and crashed over her.

“Hmm?” The woman frowned. Suddenly, she leaped into the

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air and dodged this blow. At the same time, she spun expertly in the air and brought her sword down on Cornelius.

Her attack was swift and accurate. Its power was shocking.

“This is child’s play!” Cornelius snorted, reaching out and grabbing the air.

A shadow palm suddenly materialized. It grabbed onto the woman’s sharp blade.

Then, the shadow palm yanked it down. The woman crashed onto the ground violently, like a fly that had been swatted.

However, right before she touched the ground, she twisted her sword. The tip of her sword pressed into the ground, stopping

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her fall.

The sword curved into an arc. Taking advantage of the rebound, she flew into the air once again. She aimed the sword at Cornelius' abdomen.

"You're asking for death!" Cornelius' expression darkened. He moved his hand downward. Then, a white beam of internal energy shot like a thunderbolt.

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The woman's eyes widened. Knowing she was in trouble, she used her sword to block.

The white beam hit the blade, forcing the woman backward.

She almost tripped and fell.

Blood dripped from her mouth. The hand that was gripping the sword was numb. She couldn't move.

"Who are you? Why are you stopping me?!" The woman frowned with a dark expression.

She didn't know such a skilled martial artist would be hiding in this lowly Kirin Gang.

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“I’ll kill you for trying to assassinate our gang leader!”

Cornelius was about to attack again when Dustin stopped him. “Young lady, who are you? Why did you try to kill me when you got here?”

“You killed my brother! I’m here to take revenge!” the woman said indignantly.

“Your brother? Are you from the Killian family?” Dustin’s eyes flashed coldly.

“The Killian family? My name is Horst, Nikki Horst!” the woman shouted.

“Nikki Horst? Then your brother must be ...” Dustin’s eyebrows

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knitted.

“My brother is Nelson Horst!” Nikki’s words shocked the audience.

Cornelius was taken aback then he looked confused. “So you’re Sir Nelson’s little sister. But why do you want to kill our gang leader?”

Nelson had a deep respect for Dustin. Nikki should have shared the same feelings toward Dustin. So why did she try to kill him on sight?

“Dustin caused my brother to die! Of course, I want to kill him!” Nikki gritted her teeth.

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“Nonsense! The enemy was the one responsible for Sir Nelson’s death. Our leader has avenged him. Did someone mislead you?” Cornelius frowned.

“Misled? Hmph! If it wasn’t for him, would my brother have died?” Nikki said resentfully.

“I am indeed responsible for your brother’s death. I didn’t protect him,” Dustin said sorrowfully.

He’d always felt guilty over what happened to Nelson.

“You finally admit it! Since my brother died because of you, you can repay him with your life!” Nikki screamed angrily. She

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brandished her sword again and stabbed him.

The attack was so sudden and quick.

Cornelius was unprepared, so he didn't react in time. Of course, Dustin would be fine without his help anyway.

Just as everyone thought Dustin would retaliate against Nikki's attack, the sharp blade pierced Dustin's abdomen. Blood dripped down the blade.

Cornelius and the entire gang were stunned. Even Nikki was dumbfounded.

No one expected Dustin to take that blow.

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“Why didn’t you dodge?” Nikki was stunned.

Even if Dustin wasn’t as strong as her, he should at least try, right? Yet, the man before her stood still and let her stab him like he was asking for death.

It was indeed unexpected.

“I am to blame for Nelson’s death. I am willing to take this sword,” Dustin said. He stood there quietly without protest.

“Are you not afraid you’d die?” Nikki frowned.

“If

you

wanted to kill me, you would have aimed for my heart, not my

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stomach.” Dustin shook his head.

Although Nikki had been hostile, she wasn't exuding much murderous intent.

She was here to stand up for her brother.

“Nonsense! I just messed up my aim earlier!” Nikki insisted.

“In that case, you can stab me again. Aim for the heart.”

Dustin pointed at his chest.

“You're you're insane!” Nikki was so scared she took a few steps back. She felt exasperated. She'd never met someone like this before. He was simply a psycho!

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“If you don’t stab me today, you won’t get the chance again,”

Dustin reminded Nikki.

As he spoke, he slowly pulled out the sword in his abdomen and tossed it back to her.

“Hmph! I don’t need you to tell me what to do! I’m here to say goodbye to my brother, so I’ll let you live to see another day.

When I’m in a bad mood again, I’ll come to end your life!”

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Nikki elbowed past Dustin and stormed toward the House of Heroes.

‘Sir Rhys, why didn’t you dodge just now? That woman is horrible. What if you got hurt?’ Cornelius was very concerned.

‘I owe her that.’ Dustin shook his head while looking serious.

Every time he remembered Nelson’s horrible death, he felt remorse and guilt.

At least he felt slightly better after that stab.

‘Sir Rhys, let’s bandage your wound.’ Cornelius sighed softly.

Then, he waved a disciple over and asked him to treat Dustin’s injury.

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As the gang leader, Dustin was deeply caring and loyal. Of course, that was a good thing.

But to become a hero and lead the Kirin Gang to glory, these traits would become burdens instead.

An hour later, Dustin was all bandaged up. He sat in the meeting room, waiting quietly.

After a moment, Nikki entered the meeting room. Her eyes were red, and she'd been crying earlier.

When she saw Dustin, she immediately wiped the tear tracks from the corner of her eyes and raised her head. "Hey, just because I stabbed you earlier doesn't mean this is over. You'll

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never make it up to my brother!”

“I know,” Dustin said with a nod. He gestured to a chair and said, “Sit down and have some water.”

“Alright.” Just as Nikki was about to sit, she suddenly jumped up. “You think you can ask me to sit, and I’ll listen? Do I even know you?”

“In that case, you can talk while standing,” Dustin said indifferently.

“Hmph! Well, I want to sit!” Nikki sat down huffily, crossing her arms in front of her chest.

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She was trying to make it difficult for Dustin.

“Are the people who killed my brother dead?” Nikki asked coldly.

“They’re dead. Their heads are in the House of Heroes,” Dustin answered honestly.

“Hmph, at least you have enough decency to take revenge for my brother.” Nikki calmed down slightly.

If Dustin said no, she would have stabbed him again.

“I can tell you’re not an ordinary person. May I ask where you’re stationed?” Dustin asked carefully.

“Do you know the Jade Maiden Sisterhood of Oakvale?” Nikki

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said while looking proud.

“The Jade Maiden Sisterhood?” Dustin shook his head. “I haven’t heard of it. Are they powerful?”

“Don’t be stupid! Of course, we are!” Nikki said with a glare.

“The Jade Maiden Sisterhood has over ten thousand disciples. We are on par with the Valley of Joy and the White Clouds. We are one of the three major women’s guilds of Oakvale!”

“I see. I guess I was unknowledgeable.” Dustin raised his head slightly and continued, “There must be another reason the Jade Maiden Sisterhood suddenly came to the Southern

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province.”

“How did you know?” Nikki knitted her eyebrows while looking at Dustin suspiciously.

She had come to Balerno with her master to search for the guild’s missing treasure.

When she found out about her brother’s death, she rushed over.

“It was just a guess.” Dustin took a sip from his cup.

News of Nelson’s death had only been released this morning.

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood was based in Oakvale. If they

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had just received word today, there was no way they could reach here so quickly.

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There was only one possibility. Nikki and her group must have arrived in the Southern province much earlier.

“You guessed it right. I have come to Balerno for an important matter.”

Nikki didn't deny it and started to

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glance around the area.

“You have a nice, spacious place here. The Jade Maiden Sisterhood needs a place to stay for the time being. Do you mind if we stay here?”

“We do have plenty of space. You can settle down here if you want. I’ll have someone make arrangements,” Dustin agreed readily.

He wondered if guilt made him feel obligated to agree to all her requests.

“Hmph! Smart move!” Nikki nodded in satisfaction and took out a red pill. She told him, “Here, this is Haemotrol. It not only helps you recover, but it also boosts your internal

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energy and cultivation. Since you got injured, it should help.”

“Thanks.” Dustin flashed her a weak smile. He could tell Nikki wasn’t a bad person.

“No problem. Consider it payment for accommodations.” Nikki then took out her phone and made some calls.

After a while, a group of disciples from the Jade Maiden Sisterhood walked into Zephyr Lodge flamboyantly.

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A woman dressed in white was leading the sisterhood. She had beautiful features and a tall figure.

However, she looked arrogant.

This woman was the Jade Maiden Sisterhood's lead disciple, Brittany Cloude.

A group

of beautiful female disciples followed behind her; they carried themselves well.

The Kirin Gang members whispered among themselves as they looked at the disciples. distastefully.

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“Brittany, you’re here.” Nikki approached them when she saw Brittany walk in.

“This is the place you’ve found for us?”

Brittany strolled into the meeting room arrogantly. Her eyes swept around the room as if she owned the place.

“That’s right. The scenery is beautiful here since it’s surrounded by mountains and rivers. Madam Edith should like it here,” Nikki replied.

“It’s passable, I suppose. It barely meets our standards.” Brittany nodded.

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Her gaze shifted to Dustin, and she frowned. “Why is there a man here? Get him out!”

“Brittany, he’s the owner here,” Nikki explained awkwardly.

“So what?” Brittany held her head high.

With a condescending look, she continued, “On behalf of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood, I now claim your manor. Move out of here with your people immediately. We don’t like staying with disgusting men!”

“Move out?” Dustin was taken aback. He wondered if he had heard her correctly.

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She had acted all high and mighty as soon as she walked in. She was also acting like she owned the place

and drove them out. What the hell was going on?

“That’s right, move out immediately.”

Brittany spoke matter-of-factly, “You should be honored that we are claiming your land. What you need

to do now is listen to our orders. Understand?”

Instead of responding to Brittany, Dustin turned to Nikki and asked, “Is there something wrong with her

head?”

“Nonsense!” Nikki retorted Dustin with a frown.

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“If that’s not the case, why would she say something like that?” Dustin was perplexed.

“You insolent bastard!”

“How dare you?”

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples erupted in anger when they heard him. They were furious.

“You bastard! How dare you insult me?” After a moment of shock, Brittany brandished her sword angrily.

She screamed, “I order you to apologize to me and leave! Otherwise, you will suffer the consequences!”

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Chapter 856

“Excuse me, miss. Please get your facts straight. This is my territory. I’m the one giving out orders here.”

Dustin pushed Brittany’s sword away with a finger. He demanded stoically, “You can only stay if I say so. If

I don’t allow it, then you need to leave. Understand?”

“How dare you? You dare refuse us?” Brittany glared at Dustin.

“I’m the Jade Maiden Sisterhood’s lead disciple. I’m a goddess everyone looks up to! Do you know how

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many outstanding men line up to impress me every day? I'm giving you a chance. Don't be ungrateful."

Because of her status, men fawned over her everywhere she went. Nobody dared to go against her will.

"I'm sorry, I'm not like your fanboys. I'm not interested in you at all.

Please don't think so highly of yourself," Dustin responded impassively.

"You-!" Brittany seethed in anger.

It was the first time a man was not fawning over her beauty. How dare he ignore her?

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“Hey, I’m warning you! Nobody has ever rejected Brittany’s request! You better not make her angry!”

“That’s right! We are disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. You will suffer severe consequences for defying us!”

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples protested in anger.

They had gotten used to receiving special treatment. In the martial world, men would do their best to please them.

“Oh, I get it!” It seemed like Brittany realized something.

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She flashed an icy smile. “I’ve seen through your true intentions. You’re playing hard to get, aren’t you?”

Are you using reverse psychology to get my attention?”

“Hmph! I’ve seen plenty of men like you. You say one thing on the surface, but you think of the opposite.

You act all upright, but you’re a lecher!”

“I’ll never fall for your tricks. An insignificant brat like you isn’t worthy of my attention.

“We are worlds apart. No amount of tricks will ever change that. After all, an outstanding woman like me is far beyond your reach.

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“But I must admit, you managed to get my attention. So I have decided to make an exception this time.

I’m giving you a chance to please me. Keep in mind that I have never given anyone such a favor.”

When she finished, she lifted her head proudly like a dignified queen. Dustin was rendered speechless. He had only thought Brittany was confident. He didn’t expect her to be an idiot as well.

He had rejected her clearly, but she somehow thought he was playing hard to get.

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“I must’ve guessed right.” The corner of Brittany’s lips curved up into a smile.

“Hah! I knew it. You, men, are all like that with your scheming tricks. But you’ll never trick me! I’m too smart for that!”

“Brittany, you’re indeed amazing! You saw through this rotten bastard with just one look!”

“You’re so smart, Brittany!”

“Hmph! Rotten bastard! Your tricks won’t work in front of Brittany!”

As the Jade Maiden Sisterhood’s disciples praised Brittany, they looked at Dustin. contemptuously.

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They had thought he was a decent guy, but he was a sly fox in hiding.

Dustin took in a sharp breath and forced himself to stay calm.

“I’m repeating myself one last time. I’m uninterested in you and don’t care who you are. Please don’t flatter yourself here.”

“Liar. Go on and continue with your lies. Do you think I will believe you?” Brittany wrapped her arms around herself, looking like she knew it all.

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“Please leave if you don’t believe me.” Dustin’s patience had run thin, and he drove them out

t. This woman’s narcissism was beyond his tolerance.

“Still playing hard to get? You’re so childish.” Brittany scoffed, shaking her head.

“Fine, I’ll play with you since you want to play. Hopefully, you won’t regret it. Let’s go!” Britta

ny walked out while she spoke.

“Hmph, Brittany gave you a chance, but you didn’t appreciate it. She’s angry now, and it’s to

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o late to do anything!”

“If you had any sense, you’d apologize to her immediately. She still might consider forgiving you.”

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples observed the situation as if watching a melodrama. Th

ey were expecting Dustin to be sobbing regretfully soon.

However, the more they laughed, the more they sensed something was amiss. Dustin remained unusually calm.

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Even when Brittany had left the meeting room, he still hadn't shown any reaction. It was as if he didn't care.

"Hey! I'm really leaving!" Brittany stopped by the door.

She left a final warning, "This is the best time to make me stay. If you miss this chance, you will regret it for life!"

Dustin remained stoic as if he didn't hear her and continued sipping his drink leisurely.

"Alright, let's see how long you can keep up your act!" Brittany clenched her teeth and exited

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d the room without looking back.

She had to admit that Dustin was good at his game. But sadly, he was up against her. His tri

cks. were useless against her.

Men should act like men, a simple fanboy. What was the point of acting? It was ridiculous!

She was going to make Dustin begged her to come back today. It was about her dignity and

pride as a goddess, after all!

“Brittany left. There’s no use crying now!”

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“Serves you right! You won’t have a chance to fawn over her now that you’ve made her angry!”

“Did you think you could get her attention this way? That was a misjudgment on your part!”

“If you’re a real man, don’t even think about begging us!”

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The disciples gave Dust in their piece of mind before following Brittany out the door. Walkin

g with pride and arrogance, they walked out as haughtily as they entered.

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“It’s all your fault, Dustin! You made my senior leave in anger!” Nikki was anxious when she saw them go.

“What does it have to do with me? Your senior thinks she’s the owner and flatters herself.” Dustin shrugged.

“Although she has her misgivings, she’s indeed gorgeous. It’s normal for her to be cautious. when men frequently have dirty thoughts,” Nikki explained.

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“Other people may be interested in her, but not me.” Dustin took another sip of his drink.

“I don’t care! Get my senior back here, now!”

Nikki spared no further explanation and dragged Dustin out of the meeting room.

She cried out, “Wait up, Brittany! Dustin has something to say to you!”

Brittany’s lips curved up into a smile. It was

as if she was expecting it. She stopped and turned around. She crossed her arms and lifted h

er chin slightly like a queen.

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Arrogantly, she said, “What? Can’t keep up your act any longer? And here I thought you were something. In the end, you were still defeated by my charm. Go ahead; I’d like to hear how you will beg me.”

Dustin pointed to the left. Then, he said seriously, “You’re going the wrong way. The exit is that way. Goodbye.”

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“What?” Dustin’s words left the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples dumbfounded.

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They had expected Dustin to be begging them to stay and crying regretfully.

But, goodbye? That shouldn't be a part of his script!

"Dustin, what are you doing? Are you provoking Brittany on purpose?"

Nikki glared at him.

She had asked him to make her stay, not send her out!

"Y—you're too much!" Brittany was livid after coming to her senses.

Right now, she couldn't care less about maintaining her goddess-like demeanor. She took out her sword instantly, ready to kill.

When has she ever been treated like this? It was humiliating!

"What are you guys doing?" Just then, an authoritative voice rang out.

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Everyone saw a 30 to 40-year-old woman dressed like royalty walk in. An elderly woman accompanied her.

The middle-aged woman had a curvy figure and exuded charm. Her gaze was sharp and full of pride. She

appeared like someone who kept people at a distance.

On the other hand, the elderly woman behind her looked gloomy. As she didn't smile, she looked stern.

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“Madam Edith!” Brittany’s expression brightened when she saw her, and she immediately led the disciples up to greet her.

The newcomer was none other than the head of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood—Edith Parker.

“What is going on here?” Edith glanced around the room while looking displeased.

She said, “The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples should carry themselves with the maidens.

What’s with all the fighting and killing? This is unacceptable!”
grace of

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“Madam Edith, it’s this bastard’s fault! He’s trying to chase us out!”

Brittany pointed a finger
at Dustin, playing the victim.

“Hey, don’t twist the truth. You were the one trying to take our place. But I
didn’t let you,” D

ustin retorted impassively.

“Hmph! You had ulterior motives toward me and played hard to get. You
got angry and cha

sed us out once you found out I was not interested in you! You’re
despicable!” Brittany yelle

d.

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“Brittany, this is a misunderstanding. Let’s talk this out.” Nikki tried to mediate the situation.

“Nikki, how can you speak up for an outsider?” Brittany frowned.

“I just think the environment is nice here. It’s a suitable place for Madam Edith’s training. Th

ere’s no need to escalate things further. It’s better to resolve things now.” Nikki advised.

“Hmph! Sure, I won’t pursue the matter, but he must apologize!” Brittany pointed her sword at Dustin.

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“What if I don’t apologize? Would you leave again? I won’t send you off then.”

“You-!” Brittany seethed in anger.

“Enough!” Edith raised a hand to stop their bickering.

She declared coldly, “I like this place. It’s not bad. We’ll settle down here.”

“Madam Edith, there are a lot of disgusting men here. They’re dirty and smelly. It’ll be hard f

or us to stay here if we don’t drive them out.” Brittany added fuel to the fire.

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“Brittany, this is Dustin’s manor. It’s not right to drive the owner out. If word gets out, it’ll ruin our reputation,” Nikki warned.

“Hey! Why do you keep speaking up for him?” Brittany was upset.

“Forget about it. Let them stay here for now. We are important people, so we need someone to serve us anyway.”

Edith glanced at Dustin and said coldly, “Hey, you there, prepare our rooms. We only want the best. Here, consider this a reward.”

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As she spoke, she flicked a finger. A gold coin dropped at Dustin's feet. And with that, she led her people in without any care.

"Hmph! Consider yourself lucky! You got another chance to get close to me. But I'm warning you, you better not have inappropriate thoughts!"

Chapter 858

"What?" Dustin's words left the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples dumbfounded.

They had expected Dustin to be begging them to stay and crying regretfully.

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Chapter 860

It was 8:00 pm.

Inside Rose Cafe, Dahlia was seated by the window. She had both hands wrapped around her

cup of coffee.

Her mood was heavy as she watched the rain fall outside. She looked exhausted.

Since last night, she had been in a trance and felt dispirited. All she could think of was Dusti

and their memories.

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She had tried so hard to mend their relationship. But whatever she did, it seemed to pull them further apart.

She slowly realized that

Dustin seemed to care less about her now. He no longer put her first and considered her feelings either.

She was terrified at the thought that they had turned into enemies, especially after the decisive look he gave her last night.

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Just then, Dahlia heard the sound bell hanging at the door. She turned her head instinctively

and saw a familiar figure enter.

It was none other than Dustin.

“You’re here.” Dahlia’s eyes lit up, and she appeared more animated as she stood up.

“What did you call me here for?” Dustin took a seat stoically.

“We haven’t sat down and talked in a long time, have we?”

Dahlia had mixed feelings. “About last night, let’s clear up our misunderstandings.”

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“Will you even believe me? Why should I waste my time if you won’t?”

Dustin said impassive

ly.

“So you won’t even talk to me anymore?” Dahlia frowned slightly.

“What do you want me to say? I made myself clear yesterday. I’m not going to repeat myself

.” Dustin shook his head.

“I just hope you’ll tell me the truth and not hide anything from me,”

Dahlia responded. since

rely.

“Alright, you want the truth? Then I’ll tell you everything from the start.

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“First of all, Gavin is working together with Madam Alma. They were the ones responsible for your ambush. It was nothing more than a staged performance they arranged.

“Secondly, I investigated and found that Madam Alma is behind Regulus’ comatic state. The

y don’t need the Panax root to cure him. All they’re trying to do is to gain your trust and plot something sinister.

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“Finally, I was sent to Azkaban, all thanks to Gavin. An influential figure got me released, not him.

“From the start, he’s been a hypocrite sowing discord and causing trouble.

“He even had his men kill me, which resulted in the deaths of my men I consider brothers.

“This is everything that happened. Now, I’ve told you everything. The question is, do you believe me?”

Dustin poured out all their grievances and countered her with a question.

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If Dahlia believed him, they could continue with the conversation. He found no reason to continue wasting his breath if she didn't.

"Dustin, what physical proof do you have of Mr. Killian being a hypocrite?" Dahlia inquired cautiously.

"So, you still think I'm lying?"

Dustin scoffed. "Since you don't believe me, what's the purpose of this conversation?"

"It's not that I don't believe you. It's just that those are serious accusations. You can't just ma

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ke empty claims,” Dahlia started reasoning with him. Gavin was Dragonmarsh’s major general. He came from an affluent family and was morally upright. It was hard for her to accept that he was a bad person. “Never mind, just forget I mentioned it.” Dustin shook his head in disappointment. “If there’s nothing else, I’m leaving.” Then, he stood up and left.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 861 -
Chapter 861

“Stop right there!” Dahlia caught up to him and grabbed his arm.

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“Do you have to be like this? Can’t we have a decent talk?”
“I don’t think that’s necessary. I’m wasting my breath. Not to mention, I’m busy. Let’s not waste each other’s time any longer,” Dustin said with little interest and headed straight for the door.
“You’re not allowed to leave!” Dahlia suddenly hugged him from behind, holding

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g him tightly. It was an extremely bold move coming from her, especially when

she was usually aloof.

“I’m not letting you go!” Still maintaining her tight grip, she rested her cheek on

his back.

She mumbled softly, “Consider me wrong this time, okay? I know I’m difficult s

ometimes, but I’ll do my best to change.

“If you say Gavin is the bad guy, then he’s the bad guy. I won’t see him ever a

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gain, alright? I'm terrified of losing you. Let's get back together, please.

"I won't be stubborn anymore and won't hit you again. I swear. As long as you

stay, I'll do anything you tell me to.

"I don't need wealth or power. I don't need everything I have now.

"Why don't we sell off the company and go on a trip? We don't need to care a

bout anything. Let's just live a happy and carefree life together. That's enough

for me.

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“As long as you agree, I’ll give up everything for you!” Dahlia got more frantic t

he more she spoke.

She had thought it through. It didn’t matter who was right or wrong.

Compared to wealth, having the person she loved the most next to her was th

e most important thing. She hoped to win his heart and grow old together with him.

“Dahlia, if you had said that three months ago, I would have agreed without he

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situation. But it's too late now." Dustin shook his head and let out a soft sigh..

"What's done is done. Some things can never go back to how they used to be.

I don't want to return to when my life revolved around you. I'm tired of trying t

o please you in every way.

"I don't want to keep worrying about you either, living every day in anxiety. It's

too exhausting. I just want to live life my way without burden, finding satisfacti

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on in settling old
scores.

“We’re over.” With that, he pried her arms open, slowly but determinedly.

“Why? Why! If you’re still angry with me, you can scold and hit me, but
you ca

n’t just walk

away.

“We’re not over yet. We can still go back to how it used to be! I won’t ever
dou

bt you again, and I won’t ever get mad at you again. Give me a chance to
turn

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over a new leaf, please!”

Dahlia’s eyes were red, and she choked on sobs. At this point, she was begging.

In the past, when Dustin got mad, a little coaxing would suffice. But she felt his coldness and determination today.

Her intuition told her that letting go today would be the end for them. She was terrified at the thought and was trying her best to make Dustin stay.

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“Dahlia, just let go. Let’s not torment each other anymore. Perhaps you’ll meet

someone better in the future, but we aren’t meant for each other.

“Let’s go our own ways. Goodbye...”

After he spoke, he broke free from her grip and walked out of the cafe. He left

without looking back.

It was time to let go.

Dahlia’s heart twisted in pain as she watched him leave. She burst into tears,

sobbing uncontrollably.

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“There’s no one better. No one is better than you! You are the one I love the most!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 862 -
Chapter 862

Early the next morning, at Zephyr Lodge, Dustin sat on the rooftop and watch

ed the sunrise. His expression was devoid of emotion.

Since bidding farewell to Dahlia last night, he had been on the rooftop since m

idnight till the sun rose in the sky.

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His emotions gradually shifted from turmoil to calmness. After a night of deep contemplation, he found a newfound sense of acceptance and detachment. He would no longer be stuck in the “Sir Rhys...”

past.

At that moment, Cornelius leaped onto the rooftop and reported, “I’ve received news that the Jade Maiden Scripture you are looking for has been located.” “Oh? Where is it?” Dustin raised his eyebrow.

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“A group of foreign merchants have it. We’ve contacted them, but they’re unwi

lling to sell to us directly. They insist on meeting face-to-face,” Cornelius replied.

“A face-to-face meeting?”

Dustin nodded. “Alright, go get Nikki. We’ll go and have a look together.”

“Yes, sir.” After Cornelius replied, he jumped down the roof again.

One hour later, a black executive car stopped at the entrance of Auspicious R

estaurant. As the car doors opened, Dustin and his two companions stepped

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out.

“Hey! You didn’t trick me, did you? Is the Jade Maiden Scripture here?”

Nikki l

ooked at the restaurant, evidently skeptical.

“Why would I lie to you for no reason? If you don’t believe me, then let’s just g

o back.” Dustin turned around, about to get back into the car.

“H–hey! Alright, I trust you. Are you happy now?”

Nikki grabbed him and grumbled, “Come on, seriously? You’re a grown man. How could react so stingily? You’re worse than a woman.”
you

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“Are you going in or not?” Dustin asked impatiently.

“Yes! Of course, I’m going!” Nikki repeatedly nodded, pulling Dustin inside with

haste.

The Jade Maiden Scripture was a precious treasure of theirs and a crucial fact

or in helping Edith make a breakthrough. Therefore, no matter the cost, she had

to get her hands on it.

The three of them entered the restaurant. After identifying themselves, a waiter

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r led them to the second floor before finally stopping in front of a luxurious private room. They knocked, and the doors opened. Upon entering, Dustin and his companions saw a chubby, middle-aged man seated in the main seat. The man had a cleanly shaved head and a gentle look. He reminded them of a priest, exuding an indescribable sense of comfort and familiarity. Meanwhile, two bodyguards wearing sunglasses stood behind him. “Oh! My esteemed guests have arrived. Please, take a seat!”

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When the chubby man saw Dustin and his companions, he stood up to welcome them. He had a warm and enthusiastic smile.

“Who are you? Do we know you?” Nikki narrowed her eyes, feeling cautious,

“My name is Samuel Franklin. I’m new here. Our meeting today is surely fated

. It would be my pleasure to befriend you all,” The chubby man said with a warm smile.

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“No need for the pleasantries. Let’s get straight to the point. We heard you have the Jade Maiden Scripture. Is that true?” Nikki cut to the chase.

“Of course, it’s true,” Samuel answered, smiling.

“Oh? Well, then, let me first have a look.” Nikki’s interest was piqued.

“There’s no need to hurry. Please, have a seat and enjoy a cup of tea. We can

take a look in a little while.”

Samuel poured three cups of tea and passed them to Dustin, Nikki, and

Corne

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lius.

“I’m not interested in your tea. Just name your price!” Nikki urged.

With her hot–

tempered behavior, she had no patience for beating around the bush or

engag

ing in unnecessary formalities.

Even when it came to movies, she preferred the simplistic, rough–

styled movies Artea

produced than the drawn–out, sluggish movies Kimboku made.

“Dear guests, please be patient. I can’t name you a price yet as a few more

bu

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yers have yet to arrive,” Samuel said with a smile.

“More buyers are arriving?”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 863 -
Chapter 863

Nikki frowned, “What do you mean? You’re not selling it directly to us?”

“Recently, I’ve received many inquiries about the Jade Maiden Scripture. I
wa

s in a difficult position and was unable to make a decision.

“That was why I gathered everyone here to discuss the price collectively. It
wo

uld be fairer this way,” Samuel explained.

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“Fair?”

Dustin shook his head with a smile. “Mr. Franklin, you have a gift for words. Y

ou’re raising the price without reason yet making it sound sophisticated.”

Gathering all the buyers to discuss the price collectively was an obvious attempt to start a bidding war. That way, the price of the Jade Maiden Scriptur

e would surge dramatically. It was a cunning strategy indeed.

“You flatter me, mister. I’m a humble merchant who hopes to earn a little extra profit.”

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Samuel continued to smile even when his plan was exposed. He was good at maintaining his composure.

“Hmph! I hate people like you the most” Nikki looked at him contemptuously.

Why couldn't he just name a price? Those who could afford it would pay, while those who couldn't could just leave.

It would have been a much simpler approach. It was such a waste of time to resort to such ways.

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While they were enjoying their tea, the private room door swung open again. T

hen, a man with a golden mask entered with confident strides.

“It seems like another esteemed guest has arrived. Please, take a seat.”

Sam

uel remained hospitable and stood up to welcome him.

The man in the golden mask nodded. He was about to sit down when he noticed

ed Dustin.

Instantly, he took a few steps backward and exclaimed in shock, “You...

What

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are you doing here?”

“Do I know you?” Dustin asked with doubt.

The man in the golden mask gulped and realized he had lost his cool.

He put on a calm front and said impassively, “My apologies. I mistook you for

someone else just now.”

“The heck? You scared me!” Nikki was upset.

He looked like he had seen a ghost as soon as he walked in. Was that necessary?

ary?

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The man in the mask took a deep breath and calmly sat. However, he occasionally glanced at Dustin with resentment. As time passed, a few more buyers entered the room. Men and women were present, dressed in luxury, and carried themselves well. They were far from ordinary individuals. “Hey, most of the buyers have arrived. Can we start now?” Nikki was getting impatient after waiting for so long. “Please be patient, miss. We are missing one last person.” With a gentle smile

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, Samuel refilled their tea, being courteous throughout.

“Who’s running late? Will we sit here all day if he doesn’t show up?”

Nikki frow

ned.

“What are you rushing me for? I’m here!” Just then, a well-dressed young scion strolled in.

He was accompanied by a few arrogant women who were all dolled up.

The

young scion was none other than Julian Nicholson!

“Who the f*ck was rushing me just now? If you don’t like waiting, then get the

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hell out!” Julian held his head high, looking arrogant.

“Hey! Do you want to get beaten up?” Nikki slammed the table angrily as she

stood up, her expression icy.

“Are you trying to pick a fight with me? Who the f*ck do you think you are? Yo

u’re asking for trouble!” Julian responded to Nikki in disdain.

“She’s asking for trouble, but what if I join in?” Dustin stood up slowly, asking

with a sneer.

“What?” Julian took a closer look and was shocked.

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“I—it’s you?”

“What? Are you surprised?” Dustin’s gaze was hostile.

“I haven’t had the chance to get revenge when you put me in jail. Now that we’ve

crossed paths today, don’t you think it’s time to settle the score?”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 864 -

Chapter 864

“Hey! I’m warning you, don’t mess with me!” Julian took a few quick steps back

in fear when he saw Dustin’s threatening posture.

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He hadn't brought any bodyguards today; only a few pretty women came with him. It would be difficult for him to handle such a reckless fellow alone. "Fellow guests. Please, calm down." Samuel noticed the tension in the air. He mediated the situation with a smile. "We've gathered here today for serious business. Let's not spoil the mood. Whatever it is, we can discuss things calmly while seated."

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“Alright. Since Mr. Franklin has spoken up, I’ll respect that.” Dustin nodded and settled back into his seat. Since they came for the Jade Maiden Scripture, it was inappropriate to fight now. He could deal with someone like Julian anytime he wanted, anyway. “Hmph! And here I thought you had the guts. But it seems like you’re all bark!” Julian sneered. He assumed Dustin was hesitant to act because of his identity.

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“You dress up so shabbily, and yet you dared challenge Mr. Nicholson? Don’t flatter yourself!” The haughty women with Julian looked at Dustin with disdain.

“Alright, since our esteemed guests have arrived, let’s begin.” With everyone seated, Samuel proceeded without delay and gestured.

Soon, a bodyguard opened a safe nearby and retrieved a delicately crafted wooden box. Upon opening the wooden box, an ancient sheepskin

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scripture was inside.

Three unmistakable words were on the cover—Jade Maiden Scripture.

“It is the Jade Maiden Scripture!” Everyone’s eyes lit up.

Nikki, especially, was so excited that her breathing grew rapid. She couldn’t b

elieve that it was real.

It would have been a lie to say she didn’t have doubts about coming here, but

it was a delightful surprise!

“Fellow guests, getting my hands on this treasure wasn’t easy.” Samuel pointe

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d at the Jade Maiden Scripture.

He said confidently, “I believe you should know that the Jade Maiden Scripture

is an ancient, and long–lost knowledge with many secrets.

“Those who practice the ways of the Jade Maiden Scripture will not only improve

their skills. They will also live longer and maintain eternal youth!”

As soon as they heard those words, everyone grew excited. Especially the group

of women could not hide their greedy expressions.

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They weren't interested in the prospect of greatly enhanced skills. They cared about the promise of long life and eternal youth. Every woman cared about their looks and desired to maintain a youthful look. "Mr. Nicholson, you must not let the treasure fall into someone else's hands. We must take it home!" The haughty women were excited as their eyes burned with hunger. "Don't worry. No one will dare take it from us as long as I am here. No one ha

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s the power to do so either!” Julian raised his head, looking confident.
“I wonder if Miranda will be happy if I give this treasure to her as a gift,”
The m
an in the golden mask murmured to himself.
“Name a price; I’m taking it home with me!” Nikki was impatient.
“Its value is not up to me but to you, my fellow guests. Whatever you
suggest
as the price
will be the price.” Samuel smiled faintly and reflected the question to
them.

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“You’re letting me decide the value of it? Alright, I’ll pay ten million!”

Julian rais

ed his index. finger, taking the lead.

“Hmph! What’s a measly ten million? I’ll pay 50 million for it!”

“50 million for the Jade Maiden Scripture? You must be dreaming! I’ll pay

100

million!”

“200 million here!”

Within a minute, the price of the Jade Maiden Scripture broke through the

hun

dred million

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mark.

Everyone knew ancient and long—

lost knowledge like the Jade Maiden Scripture was priceless. It couldn't be
bo

ught with just money.

Today, their wealth would determine who takes the treasure home.

“I'm offering one billion!” With gritted teeth, Nikki raised the price.

Immediately,

the voices.

hushed down.

Chapter 865

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Everyone glanced at Nikki, sizing her up.

“Hmph! Do you think one billion is impressive? I’ll pay 1.5 billion!”

Julian raised the bid again

.

The Nicholsons may not have much of anything else, but they certainly had a lot of money.

Not to mention, recently, he was in luck and earned a few billions. He had so much money n

ow that he didn’t know how to spend it.

“Two billion!” Nikki would not let up.

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The Jade Maiden Sisterhood had a budget of around five billion. As long as she could get th

e Jade Maiden Scroll, spending it all wasn't a problem.

“My, my. Are you challenging me? I'm curious to see what you're capable of. Three billion!” J

ulian thundered with confidence.

When he raised the price, several buyers gave up and left. Although the Jade Maiden Scripture was a precious treasure, it came with a major limitation. It was only u
seful for women.

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While spending a few hundred million to please their lover wasn't an issue, a few billion was n't worth it.

"Nikki, how much can your guild afford to pay?" Dustin asked suddenly.

"About five billion, why?" Nikki raised an eyebrow.

"Alright, sounds good." Dustin nodded.

He raised his hand. "We'll pay five billion."

"What?"

Many were shocked when they heard the amount. Did they think five billion could fall from the sky?

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“That’s crazy? Who raises the price like that?”

“I’m done playing. What’s this nonsense of adding two billion in one go?”

Following the muttered complaints, several buyers left the room.

“Hmph! Let’s see how long you can keep up with your arrogance!” The man behind the mas

k stood up and left, his gaze filled with resentment.

However, he didn’t leave immediately. Instead, he found a secluded corner and made a call.

“Hello, Miranda, I’ve spotted that guy. This time, we mustn’t let him get away!”

Meanwhile, back inside the private room on the second floor.

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As soon as they heard those words, everyone grew excited. Especially the group of women could not hide their greedy expressions.

They weren't interested in the prospect of greatly enhanced skills. They cared about the promise of long life and eternal youth. Every woman cared about their looks and desired to maintain a youthful look.

"Mr. Nicholson, you must not let the treasure fall into someone else's hands. We must take i

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t home!” The haughty women were excited as their eyes burned with hunger.

“Don’t worry. No one will dare take it from us as long as I am here. No one has the power to do so either!” Julian raised his head, looking confident.

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Everyone knew ancient and long—
lost knowledge like the Jade Maiden Scripture was priceless. It couldn't be
bought with just
money.

Today, their wealth would determine who takes the treasure home.
“I'm offering one billion!” With gritted teeth, Nikki raised the price.
Immediately, the voices.
hushed down.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 866 -
Chapter 866

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Nikki was livid and glowered at Julian. She clenched her fists, almost losing her cool.

While Dustin remained indifferent, it was like he was staring at a fool.

“Kid, get lost if you don’t have the money. What are you standing around for?”

Waiting for someone to donate it to you?” Julian mocked.

“Hmph! You’re humiliating yourself by going up against Mr. Nicholson.”

“It’s embarrassing that you don’t have ten billion!”

The haughty women spoke out, and they looked at Nikki with disdain. It was a

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s if money was just a number to them.

“All of you are too much!” Nikki seethed in anger and turned to Dustin.

She asked him, “Dustin,

how much money do you have? Lend it all to me. I will get the Jade

Maiden S

cripture today no matter what! I’m going to crush this guy’s arrogance

thoroug

hly!”

“Money?” Dustin patted his pockets, then shook his head.

“Sorry, I didn’t bring any money. How about you, Cornelius?”

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“Me neither.” Cornelius spread his hands out. He only had a few pennies to his name.

“No way, you own a whole man but don’t have any money?” Nikki frowned, skeptical.

“I don’t have any money. I have a lot of mouths to feed in my organization. I need money to run the gang, you know? Where would I get so

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much money in such a short time?” Dustin expressed his helplessness. He did have the money. He was just unwilling to lend it to Nikki. After all, why spend money if they could get the item for free? “Then what should we do now? Are we going to just hand over the Jade Maiden Scripture?” Nikki was getting anxious. It was the Jade Maiden Sisterhood’s precious treasure. It was also important for their guild’s growth.

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It was with great difficulty that she finally found a lead. How could she let it slip

away into someone else's hands?

"Hey, beautiful. You want this scripture, don't you?" Julian suddenly teased.

"How about this? Why don't you follow me home and please me? You'll get ev

erything you want. It's better than sticking with this poor guy, don't you think?"

"Get lost!" Nikki glared at him. She would never sell her body.

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“Beautiful, opportunities like this won’t come twice. This is a rare chance.” Juli

an rubbed his chin.

He was attracted to her heroic spirit. Having been accustomed to more gentle

ladies, sleeping with a dominant woman had a unique appeal.

“If you speak one more word, I’ll beat the crap out of you!” Nikki seethed in

anger.

“Hey! Why are you so dense? You should feel lucky that Mr. Nicholson has ta

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ken a liking to you. Don't be ungrateful!"

"That's right! With his status, you should feel honored to serve him!"

"Hmph! What the hell? It's so disgusting that she's acting all high and mighty!"

The haughty women scoffed one after the other. It was a rare opportunity that

others could only dream of, yet she dared to reject him?

She was stupid!

Julian waved his hand dismissively as if generously letting her off the hook. "N

ever mind. Let's not force her if she's unwilling."

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He turned to Samuel. “Mr. Franklin, I have the highest bid here. The Jade Maiden Scripture should belong to me now, right?”

“Of course.” Samuel nodded with a smile.

Julian spared the formalities and concluded the transaction. His extravagant manner of spending money dazzled the haughty women. They struck seductive poses and flirted with Julian.

“Kid, I’m taking this baby home! You can go home and eat dirt! Hahaha!”

Waving the wooden box that contained the scripture, Julian chuckled heartily.

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He was about to leave with his female companions when suddenly, the door opened. A few masked men walked in fiercely.

“Who’s Julian Nicholson?” The leader of the masked men demanded loudly.

“What the f*ck? How dare you call out to me impolitely? You must be asking for death!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 867 -
Chapter 867

Julian glared at the masked

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men, displeased with them. In public, everyone always addressed him as Mr.

Nicholson. The audacity of these masked men to address him familiarly by his first name!

“So, you’re Julian Nicholson.” After the masked man confirmed his target, his

gaze turned

cold.

The next thing they knew, the masked man lunged at Julian with a knife.

The sharp blade sliced into Julian’s abdomen, leaving Julian in shock. His eye

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s widened in disbelief.

What on earth was going on? The masked man must be out of his mind to attack

him without a word!

“Ah-!” Julian screamed in pain. He staggered back, clutching his wound.

He was terrified. “W—who are you?”

“Your executioner!” The masked men approached Julian murderously.

“I’ve done nothing to offend you. Why do you want to kill me?” Julian broke out

in cold sweat as panic overtook him..

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“I was paid to kill you. It serves you right for offending Mr. Huffner!” The leader of the masked men thundered.

“I don’t know any Preston Huffner. You must be mistaken.” Julian was taken a back.

“Hmph!

Are you still pretending? Mr. Huffner is from Asclepia. You disfigured him outside of Stoneray Valley not long ago. Have you forgotten already?” The leader o

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f the masked men had a cold gaze.

“I don’t know who Preston Huffner is. You must have gotten the wrong person!

”

Jullian was close to tears. Where did these crazy people come from? Why wer

e they trying to kill him without getting the situation straight?

“Cut the crap! You must die today for offending Mr. Huffner!” The masked men

sneered and lunged at Julian.

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“Hold it right there!” One of the haughty women stood in front of him and blocked his way. She protested. “You bastards! Do you know who Mr. Nicholson is? Do you know his background? If you dare touch-!” Before she could finish, the masked man had slashed her to death. Blood sprayed across the table. It was a shocking sight.

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“Ah!” The other women screamed in fear, distancing themselves from Julian.

They were afraid of getting caught in the attack.

“Kill him!” The masked men brandished their knives and started slashing at Julian.

“I don’t know who Preston Huffner is. I didn’t disfigure him. You guys are attacking the wrong person!”

Julian cowered and wailed as they continued slashing him. Very soon, he was

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covered in bloody cuts.

Despite his pleas for mercy and explanations, the masked men attacked relentlessly.

“Preston Huffner?” Dustin raised an eyebrow, a playful smile on his lips.

He had casually mentioned Julian’s name when he attacked Preston previously.

He didn’t expect it to cause the situation before him to happen.

“Save me!” Suddenly, Julian, who was covered in blood, rushed toward Dustin.

.

He begged by Dustin’s feet. “Please, save me!”

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“Save you? Since when were we friends?” Dustin smiled cheekily.
“If
you save me, I’ll give you the Jade Maiden Scripture!” Julian spat out
blood, then
handed over the wooden box to Dustin.
He knew Dustin was good at fighting. Only Dustin could save him now.
“Alright. Since you’ve shown sincerity, I’ll save you this once.” Dustin
nodded,
receiving the
wooden box.
“That’s great!” Julian lit up in joy.

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He then pointed at the masked men. “Kill them!”

“Don’t misunderstand. I only said I’d save you. I never said I would kill for you.

” Dustin

corrected him.

“What? What do you mean by that?” Julian was dumbfounded.

“Mr. Adler, call Mr. Nicholson an ambulance immediately,” Dustin instructed.

“An ambulance? You f*ck-” Julian was infuriated and was about to erupt in rage when the masked men lunged at him, killing him instantly.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 868 -

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Chapter 868

Julian died a regretful death. After killing him, the masked men left without any words.

Dustin, who was the reason for his death, got his revenge. Not only that, but h

e got the Jade. Maiden Scripture that was worth ten billion. It was worth celebrating.

He guessed that the masked man who left earlier was Preston. Otherwise, he

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wouldn't have reacted like that when he saw Dustin.

“Congratulations to the three of you. Luck is on your side.” Samuel clasped his hands, smiling as usual.

“Mr. Franklin, thanks to you, we got a great deal.” Dustin returned the smile

with a knowing look.

Samuel had remained silent the entire time, evidently hoping Julian would me

et his end so that he could reclaim the Jade Maiden Scripture.

It was a pity that it ended up in their hands instead.

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“May I ask for your name?” Samuel asked respectfully.

“Dustin Rhys.”

“Mr. Rhys, you don’t seem like an ordinary person, given your manner of speech.

I hope we can work together again in the future.” Samuel extended an olive

branch.

Dustin raised an eyebrow. “How do you intend us to work together, Mr.

Franklin?”

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“I mainly specialize in gathering information and trading rare treasures. I can a

ssist you if you need help in those areas.” Samuel smiled.

“Is that so? I am facing two difficulties now. I wonder if you can give me an an

swer for them.” Dustin flashed a smile.

“Please, go ahead.” Samuel nodded his head.

“Firstly, I’d like to know who assassinated Paul Hill. Secondly, I’d like to know about

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the whereabouts of Cherusia. If you have any information on those, I'm willing to offer a high price," Dustin stated frankly. Samuel was not an ordinary man if he could locate the Jade Maiden Scripture that quickly. For all they knew, they might find surprising information with his information network. Samuel smiled. "I will look into your request, Mr. Rhys. I'll notify you immediately once I have.

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news.”

“Thank you,
we’ll be leaving now.” Dustin nodded and left soon after.

1/2

“Hahaha... We got the Jade Maiden Scripture without spending any
money! T

his is fantastic!” Nikki was excited on the way back.

She had thought she was going to lose the treasure. The result came as a
sur
prise.

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“There seems to be something off about this scripture.” Dustin was puzzled as he looked at the sheepskin scripture in his hands. He’d studied various ancient texts since he was young. He recognized the cultivation methods. in the Jade Maiden Scripture from a different book he’d read. Not to mention, he was extremely well-versed in those teachings. However, that book wasn’t called the Jade Maiden Scripture.

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What caught his attention was that the contents of the scripture in his hands were incomplete.

“What’s off about it? Could this treasure be fake?” Nikki was taken aback and grew nervous.

Dustin shook his head. “It’s not exactly fake, but rather, incomplete.”

“Incomplete?” Nikki frowned and took the sheepskin scripture from him. She carefully flipped through it and said, “Where’s the missing part? It looks complete to me. Come on, don’t just speak nonsense!”

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“It’s not just the content that’s incomplete. There’s something wrong with the cover too. It seems like there’s something hidden inside it. Why don’t we open it up?” Dustin rubbed his chin. The front and back covers of the scripture had different thicknesses. Though the difference was minor, he still noticed when he touched the scripture. “Hey! I’m warning you not to mess around!” Nikki hugged the sheepskin scripture protectively, close to her chest.

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“This is the Jade Maiden Sisterhood’s precious treasure. Will you be able to bear the responsibility if it is damaged?”

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Chapter 869

“I was just saying. You don’t have to open it if you don’t want to.” Dustin shrugged.

Although the Jade Maiden Scripture was impressive, it was only suitable for w

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omen. It had no use for him. He was only interested to see it because of his
c
uriosity.

“Hmph! Smart move!” Nikki breathed a sigh of relief.

It was embarrassing to admit, but it was thanks to Dustin that she could get
he

r hands on the Jade Maiden Scripture.

When they returned, she would put in a good word for him with Madam
Edith

and ensure he was rewarded accordingly.

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Twenty minutes later, the car stopped at the entrance of Zephyr Lodge. They had just exited the car when Brittany and a few disciples rushed up to them excitedly.

“Nikki, I heard you found the Jade Maiden Scripture. Where is it? Let me see!”

Brittany was unable to hide the excitement on her face.

“It’s right here, have a look.” Nikki passed the box containing the Jade Maiden Scripture to her.

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Brittany's excitement grew as she studied the scripture. "It is the Jade Maiden

Scripture. This is great!"

"Congratulations, Brittany! You found our treasure!" The disciples behind her p

raised her.

"All of you had a hand in finding the scripture!" Brittany said as she flipped thro

ugh the scripture. She was thrilled.

"Brittany, we could only get our hands on it thanks to Dustin." Nikki attempted

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to give Dustin credit.

“Hmm?” Brittany swept a glance at Dustin.

She looked at Dustin arrogantly. “Hmph! You finally caved in? Have you finally

realized you should be pleasing me? You men are always saying one thing but

mean something else!”

“Let me make it clear. My actions have nothing to do with you,” Dustin clarified

immediately.

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“You’re still being stubborn? Why would you be so enthusiastic about finding the scripture if you aren’t in love with me? I’ve seen through you, so stop pretending!” Brittany raised her head, looking proud. Dustin was rendered speechless. He wondered where her confidence came from. She could twist any situation to make it all about herself and speak as if it was a fact. “Fine, given that you went through all that trouble for me, I won’t hold your pas

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t mistake against you anymore. Starting today, I'll allow you to be my fanboy,”

Brittany said in a

1/2

naughty tone.

“Hey, what are you doing just standing there? Hurry up and thank her!”

“You're lucky that you're getting a chance to please Brittany. You must cherish

it!” A few disciples crossed their arms, looking like Dustin had struck gold.

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Dustin rolled his eyes. He couldn't bother wasting his time with a bunch of lunatics.

"What's going on here?" Just then, Edith strolled in with an old woman.

Their proud demeanor made it seem like royalty was arriving.

"Madam Edith, you arrived just in time. We have good news. We found the Jade Maiden Scripture!" Brittany excitedly passed the sheepskin scripture to her.

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“You found it?” Madam Edith was astounded. She took a closer look, instantly,

her expression turned to joy.

“It is the Jade Maiden Scripture. This is great! Who found it? I’ll have to reward

them handsomely!”

“I found it, Madam Edith! I went through a lot of trouble to obtain this precious

treasure. I didn’t disappoint, did I?” Brittany stepped up. She didn’t hesitate to

take all the credit. Nikki was stunned by her words.

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Chapter 870

“Brittany?” Nikki looked at her in disbelief.

She

couldn't believe Brittany would say something like that. All she did was greet them by the d

oor, yet she had taken all the credit for herself.

It was unfair, especially when Brittany didn't mention a word about their efforts.

“What?” Dustin frowned slightly. Although he wasn't expecting to be acknowledged, it still a

nnoyed him to be put in such a situation.

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“You did great, Brittany. I knew you wouldn’t disappoint.” Edith nodded in gratitude.

“I’ll remember your achievement. Once I’ve mastered the Jade Maiden Scripture’s teachings, I’ll pass them on to you!”

“Thank you, Madam Edith!” Brittany lit up in joy.

This was what she had been waiting for. There was nothing more valuable than being taught personally by her mentor.

“Brittany, I believe there’s something you forgot to mention,” Nikki reminded her.

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As a fellow disciple, she didn't mind not being rewarded. After all, they were all working for Madam Edith.

However, Dustin had gone through all that trouble. She couldn't allow him to be treated. unfairly.

"What? Did I say something wrong?" Brittany gave her a warning glance. As a senior disciple, she intended to be the first to reap the benefits. So what if she stole credit? Who would dare challenge her?

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“Brittany, Dustin was the one who found the Jade Maiden Scripture. You shouldn’t disregard his efforts, don’t you think?” Nikki frowned.

“What?” Brittany’s expression darkened.

“Save the nonsense, Nikki. I was the one who found it. You should think before you speak. You must have been mistaken.” Brittany’s words carried a hint of threat.

“I’m not mistaken. It was Dustin who found it!”

Nikki was firm. “I saw it with my own eyes. Dustin was the one who found the scripture’s whereabouts and helped us obtain it!”

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The rest of the disciples looked at the two worriedly. It seemed like Nikki was challenging Brittany's authority.

"How dare you!" Brittany glared at Nikki, enraged.

"Nikki Horst, are you questioning me?" Brittany roared.

"I'm just speaking the truth." Nikki lowered her head slightly, but her gaze remained unyielding.

"The truth? Hmph! You're just trying to undermine me!" Brittany's expression soured.

"We're guild members, and I can't believe you'd challenge me on behalf of an outsider!"

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With her seniority in the guild, no one dared talk back to her, even when she was oppressive and unjust.

She couldn't believe Nikki questioned her publicly and embarrassed her. Nikki should have known her place! "Brittany, don't you have a conscience? We can't just ignore it when Dustin helped us out,"

Nikki reasoned.

"Shut up!" Brittany's temper flared, and she slapped Nikki hard across the face.

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She screamed, “Who the hell do you think you are? How dare you lecture me?”

“You!” Nikki bit her lips, feeling wronged. Her face was swollen from the slap.

Just then, Edith finally spoke up, “Enough! We’re all members of the same guild. There’s not need to argue about a small matter.”

“Madam Edith, I’m telling the truth. Dustin handed the Jade Maiden Scripture to me persona

lly before I handed it to Brittany!” Nikki tried to explain.

“Do you have proof?” Edith asked impassively.

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“The other disciples saw what happened. They can vouch for me!” Nikki pointed at them.

“Oh, is that so?” Edith looked over lazily at the other disciples.

“Madam Edith is asking a question. All of you must answer truthfully!”

Brittany’s expression

was icy, and her gaze was hostile.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 871 -

Chapter 871

“Madam Edith, I can testify that Brittany was the one who got the Jade Maiden

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Scripture!”

“That’s right. It was all thanks to Brittany. That rotten bastard had nothing to do

with it!”

“Nikki, you must have been mistaken.”

The disciples spoke out one after the other, choosing to side with Brittany.

“Y—you all!” Nikki was annoyed.

She couldn’t believe all of them were exactly like Brittany. They didn’t hesitate

to change the truth. It was outrageous!

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“Did you hear that, Nikki? Everyone here saw it. Are you still going to argue with me?” Brittany smirked triumphantly. She looked at Nikki as if she were a fool. In the Jade Maiden Sisterhood, other than Madam Edith and a few elders, nobody dared to go against Brittany. She could distort the truth as she liked. “Madam Edith, please believe me. I’m not lying!” Nikki didn’t give up and tried to get Madam Edith’s support.

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“Many of them are saying you’re wrong; how am I supposed to believe you?”

Edith’s expression was frosty.

“It seems like exhaustion is making you confused. If there’s nothing else, you

should return to your room and rest.” With that, Edith turned around to leave.

“Madam Edith!”

Nikki panicked and grabbed her sleeve. “I’m not lying. It’s Brittany who-!”

“Shut it!” Edith grew impatient and slapped Nikki across the face.

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Following the crisp sound, Nikki was knocked to the ground. Her cheek swelled as blood trickled down the corner of her mouth. She struggled to get up. “You spoke ill of your senior and showed no respect to your elders! You have overstepped your boundary! You must be taught a lesson. Otherwise, you’ll repeat the same actions or worse!” Edith’s tone was sharp, and her expression dark.

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“Madam Edith?” Nikki cupped her cheek, feeling lost. She wasn’t lying. She was just asking for justice. Was that wrong?

1/2

“How dare you!” Brittany glared at Nikki, enraged.

“Nikki Horst, are you questioning me?” Brittany roared.

“I’m just speaking the truth.” Nikki lowered her head slightly, but her gaze remained

unyielding.

“The truth? Hmph! You’re just trying to undermine me!” Brittany’s

expression

hardened.

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“We’re guild members, and I can’t believe you’d challenge me on behalf of an outsider!”

With her seniority in the guild, no one dared talk back to her, even when she was

as oppressive and unjust.

She couldn’t believe Nikki questioned her publicly and embarrassed her.

Nikki

should have known her place!

“Brittany, don’t you have a conscience? We can’t just ignore it when Dustin he

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lped us out,’ Nikki reasoned.

“Shut up!” Brittany’s temper flared, and she slapped Nikki hard across the face

.

She screamed, “Who the hell do you think you are? How dare you lecture me
?”

“You-!” Nikki bit her lips, feeling wronged. Her face was swollen from the slap.

Just then, Edith finally spoke up, “Enough! We’re all members of the same
guil

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d. There's not need to argue about a small matter.”

“Madam Edith, I'm telling the truth. Dustin handed the Jade Maiden Scripture t

o me personally before I handed it to Brittany!” Nikki tried to explain.

“Do you have proof?” Edith asked impassively.

“The other disciples saw what happened. They can vouch for me!” Nikki point

ed at them.

“Oh, is that so?” Edith looked over lazily at the other disciples.

“Madam Edith is asking a question. All of you must answer truthfully!”
Brittany’

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s expression was icy, and her gaze was hostile.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 872 -

Chapter 872

“Sorry, Dustin, I couldn’t help you.” Nikki was kneeling on the ground, feeling g

uilty.

“I didn’t expect things to turn out that way. You worked hard, yet you didn’t get

anything in

return.”

“I don’t care about any of that.

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On the other hand, have you ever thought of leaving the Jade Maiden Sisterhood?” Dustin asked suddenly. He was upset when Brittany hit Nikki earlier but didn’t intervene. Firstly, it was because that was an internal conflict within the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. Secondly, it was to make Nikki recognize reality sooner. “Leave? Why?” Nikki frowned. “The Jade Maiden Sisterhood has a bad environment. They don’t set good ex

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amples, either. It's not suited for someone like you," Dustin said bluntly. "Hey! I won't let you insult my guild like that!" Nikki's expression hardened, up set with.

Dustin.

"Am I wrong? A guild that distorts the truth and doesn't follow reason won't have a future," Dustin stated calmly.

"Madam Edith treats me well. You just haven't noticed," Nikki defended. "Don't be naive. If she truly cared for you, she wouldn't have let you suffer inju

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stice.”

Dustin chuckled. “She knew what happened, yet she chose to side with Brittan

y.

“She even made you kneel in humiliation despite your significant contribution.

Do this is the behavior a mentor should have?”

you

think

“Stop talking! Madam Edith is not like what you think!” Nikki shook her head re

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peatedly.

“Fine, let’s wait and see then.” Dustin smiled weakly, not saying anything more.

Inside Zephyr Lodge, a horrible shriek pierced through the night sky, echoing t

hroughout that night.

It was none other than Edith who screamed.

All the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples were in an uproar and rushed toward

where Edith was staying.

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As soon as they entered the courtyard, they saw Edith lying on the ground as she spat out blood.

Compared to her usual graceful appearance, she appeared pale and listless. Her hair had also turned half–white.

She looked as if she had aged by more than a decade.

“Madam Edith! What happened to you?” Brittany was shocked and rushed up to help her.

“T–there’s something wrong with the Jade Maiden Scripture. I–

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I went to extremes during training “Edith coughed violently. As she spoke, she

spat out another mouthful of blood.

“What? You went to extremes?”

The group’s expression shifted upon those words. The Jade Maiden Scripture

was a precious treasure their guild’s ancestors passed down.

How could it have possibly caused such problems?

“Brittany, where did you get the Jade Maiden Scripture? It caused Edith to go t

o extremes in training!”

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Right then, the elderly woman beside Edith suddenly grabbed Brittany by the throat. Her expression was menacing.

“Madam Letitia, it had nothing to do with me. I’ve never thought of harming Madam Edith!” Brittany shook her head, looking desperate.

She suddenly thought of something and quickly explained, “I get it now! It must be Nikki who was behind this. She must have done something to the scripture when I got her to look for it!”

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“That’s right! Nikki must have conspired with Dustin to frame Brittany!”
the disc

iples said.

“That traitor! Seize her and bring her here for questioning immediately!”

Letitia

screamed in

anger.

“Right away!” the disciples answered and left hastily.

Soon, Nikki, whose hair was disheveled, was brought into the courtyard.

She

was tied up.

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“What are you guys doing? Let me go!” Nikki struggled relentlessly, feeling wr

onged.
She had just finished

her bath. And the moment she stepped out, she was captured by her fellow di

sciples.

“Nikki Horst! You acted in defiance of authority and betrayed the guild.

How d

o you think you should be punished?” Letitia glared at Nikki.

“Betrayed the guild?” Nikki was taken aback.

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“Madam Letitia, what the hell are you talking about?”

“You altered the Jade Maiden Scripture in secret, which led to Edith going to e

xtremes in

training. Are you still going to deny it?” Letitia roared.

“What? Madam Edith went to extremes in training?” Nikki was shocked, her g

aze darting around. She quickly noticed Edith in a listless state.

She asked anxiously, “Madam Edith! How did this happen? Are you alright?”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 873 -

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Chapter 873

“Stop pretending! If it weren’t because you harbored ill intentions, Edith wouldn’t have gotten hurt!” Letitia shrieked.

“It wasn’t me!” Nikki shook her head repeatedly.

“I didn’t do anything. I passed the Jade Maiden Scripture to Brittany right after

I got it!”

“Shut up!” Brittany’s expression shifted upon hearing her. She rushed up and

slapped Nikki’s

face two times.

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She screamed, “You b*tch! How dare you slander me? It’s you who planned this!”

“Exactly! We all saw it! You were the one who handed the Jade Maiden Scripture over to Brittany!”

“It seems like it’s true that you can never know someone completely. I believe you would be so bold to harm Madam Edith!” One after the other, the group of disciples condemned Nikki.

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“I didn’t! I didn’t! I would never harm Madam Edith!” Nikki panicked.

She strug

gled to get up but was unable to move.

“You b*tch! Are you still trying to deny it? It seems like you still won’t learn a le

sson. Punish her with torture!” Letitia ordered.

Soon, a few disciples of the disciplinary board pinned Nikki forcefully to the gr

ound. A thorny iron whip soaked in chili pepper water was brought out.

The iron whip was specially crafted to break through Divine Aura. A few lashe

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s were enough to overwhelm a skilled divine-level martial artist.
“Let me ask you again. Do you plead guilty?” Letitia growled.
“No! I didn’t do anything! I’m innocent!” Nikki gritted her teeth, her gaze unyielding.

“You brought this upon yourself! Torture her!” Letitia gestured to the disciples.

“Yes, madam!” The disciplinary disciple answered her and swung the iron whip down forcefully.

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game fartinst
the starred “Malan / show it the hopp) Aris pone alright ?
Soon, Nikki was covered in injuries. Although she was evidently in pain
and w
as breaking out in cold sweat, she refused to yield.
She continued to deny and defend herself from the claims.
“Do you plead guilty?” Letitia’s expression was cold.
“No! I’m innocent!” Nikki looked at Edith pleadingly.
“Madam Edith, my loyalty is unwavering. I will never betray the guild.
Please i
nvestigate clearly into it!”

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Edith's gaze was frosty as she remained silent. It was as if she didn't hear her.

"Keep going!" Letitia raised her hand again.

"Let me do it!" Brittany volunteered, her gaze turning cold.

She grabbed the iron whip from the disciplinary disciple, wanting to torture Nik

ki personally.

Since she was more skilled, her blows were more forceful. Each lash that came

down left Nikki groaning in pain as her face twisted in agony.

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“This is your punishment for harming others! I dare you to harm others again! I

’m going to cleanse our ranks today!”

As Brittany whipped Nikki, her lips twisted into an evil smirk. She was acting b

ased on a personal grudge.

After the torture, Nikki was covered in welts. Her back was so injured that it w

as hard to differentiate between flesh and blood.

It was a gruesome sight.

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Yet, the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples looked at the sight coldly. Not a
sin

gle person felt sorry for her.

“Stop right there!” Suddenly, they heard a loud voice.

At the same time, someone grabbed the iron whip from Brittany’s hands,

brea

king it on the

spot.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 874 -

Chapter 874

It was Cornelius who saved Nikki.

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When Dustin yelled, Cornelius appeared in front of them instantly. He grabbed the iron whip and broke it in half.

“How dare you!”

“You insolent bastard!”

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples shouted. They were angry at Dustin and

d

Cornelius for disrupting the punishment. Some took out their swords, looking r

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eady to fight.

Duistin ignored them and walked up to Nikki. His expression darkened when h

e saw her covered in wounds and looking close to death.

It was one thing to steal credit; Dustin could have acted as if nothing happene

d. But now they had falsely accused a person and resorted to torture when thi

ngs turned bad.

It was outrageous!

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“All of you are fellow disciples. Do you think it’s appropriate to use such inhumane methods?” Dustin scanned his surroundings, his gaze sharp.

“We are punishing a traitor. Outsiders should leave immediately!” Letitia warned.

“This is my territory. Naturally, it is my business when something has happened,” Dustin uttered coldly.

“Hey! I’m ordering you not to be a busybody! You won’t want to get involved!”

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Brittany's gaze was hostile.
Dustin was silent and squatted down. He helped Nikki, who was very weak, up and fed her Haemotrol to help with her injuries.
He asked, "What happened? Why did they hit you?"
"They said there's something wrong with the Jade Maiden Scripture and that Madam Edith had went to extremes in training. They're sure that I harmed her when I'm innocent. I didn't do anything."
Nikki was pale and weak. She kept shaking her head. Even when severely injured

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ured, she hoped to
clear herself of the blame.

“I understand. Leave this to me.” Dustin nodded. When he looked up once
again, his gaze was
frosty.

“All of you are too much for using such methods getting the situation
straight.”

“She had evil motives and intended to betray the guild. She deserves to be
whipped to death!” Letitia roared.

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“Betray the guild? Do you have evidence?” Dustin countered.

“The Jade Maiden Scripture is the evidence!”

Leitita looked menacing. “This disciple

had malicious thoughts when she presented us with a fake scripture. After
Edi

th underwent training, she went to extremes and was in harm’s way.”

“Wait.” D

ustin raised a hand to stop her.

“You must have gotten it wrong. I clearly remember Brittany was the one
who

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presented the Jade Maiden Scripture to you. You should be asking why she
h
armed Madam Edith!”
“Y—
you! What nonsense are you spouting?” Brittany’s expression shifted
dramatic
ally. She was unable to stay calm.
“Did I say anything wrong?”
Dustin glanced coldly at her. “You took charge completely this morning
and sa
id through a lot of trouble to get your hands on the Jade Maiden Scripture.

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you went

“Now that something has happened, you pushed the blame onto Nikki.

You’re

such a master at blaming someone else!”

“Shut up!” Brittany was flustered.

“Another word of nonsense out your mouth, and I’ll retract your chance of

bein

g my fanboy!”

“Madam Parker, you were at the scene today as well. You should be clear about what happened. if you haven’t lost your memories.”

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Dustin turned his attention to Edith. “It’s Brittany at fault, and yet you pushed t

he blame toward Nikki. I wonder if you’re acting dumb or just playing favorites.”

Edith’s lips twisted into a frown at Dustin’s words. She couldn’t believe someo

ne dared. challenge her authority. This bastard was asking for death!

“You insolent bastard! How dare you judge Edith with your status?”

Letitia roar

ed.

“I’m just seeking justice.” Dustin had

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his arms behind his back as he glowered at them.

“The Jade Maiden Sisterhood is a legitimate guild. If word gets out that this is

how you handle matters, you will be the joke of the town.”

“How dare you?” Edith couldn’t hold back any longer.

She angrily screamed, “Who the hell do you think you are? How dare you point

your fingers at us? Grab him!”

Chapter 875

“I will break your legs for humiliating Edith!” Letitia’s gaze turned cold. She shot toward Dustin like a ghost. As a divine—

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level marital artist, her skills were second only to Edith and comparable to several elders of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood.

“Go to hell!” Cornelius’ expression darkened when he saw Letitia trying to attack Dustin.

He replicated Letitia’s palm attack with equal force, resulting in a loud collision. He staggered a few steps back before steadying himself.

But Letitia was sent flying a few meters away before crashing heavily into a large tree. It was like a car had hit her.

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The force left her coughing blood uncontrollably.
“What?” The expressions of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples fell.
Letitia’s skills ranked among the top five of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood members. None of the disciples could match her power.
Yet, she was severely injured by a skinny old man. It was astonishing!
Even Edith appeared unsettled at that moment. They didn’t expect Zephyr Lodge to have such a strong fighter.
“You should know your place!” Cornelius sneered before returning to Dustin’s side.

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After collecting herself, Brittany roared, “How... how dare you hurt Madam

Letitia? Your crimes are horrible!

“Dustin Rhys! I order you to apologize to Madam Letitia immediately and slap that old man.

Otherwise, I will get mad!”

Dustin didn't respond to her and looked Edith straight in the eye. “Madam Parker, first thing

s. first, please get the situation straight.

“I'm not a member of your guild. I will not let you act as you like.

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“Secondly, everyone can tell right from wrong. You allowed your disciples to twist and distort

the truth. It will lead to your downfall sooner or later.

“Lastly, let me remind you. This is my territory. I’m in charge here.

“I welcome your presence as guests. But if you continue creating disturbances with your arro

gance and domineering attitude, don’t blame me for throwing all of you out of here!”

“You wouldn’t dare!” Edith’s temper flared at his words.

She was the leader of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood with more than ten thousand disciples!

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No matter where she went, she was the center of attention. She had never been humiliated like this before.

“Why wouldn’t I? I only let you stay here because of Nikki. But now you have angered me. Al

l of you, leave!” Dustin ordered, glaring at them firmly.

“You-!” Edith was furious that her face flushed red. The veins on her face were bulging.

Suddenly, she coughed up blood and nearly collapsed.

She was already severely injured from going to

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extremes in training. Her internal energy and blood surging only worsen her condition.

Seeing that she was no match for Dustin, Edith suddenly turned to Nikki.

“Y–you traitor!”

She yelled, “I’ve treated you well all this time, yet you conspired with an outsider to humiliat

e. me!”

Those words struck Nikki like a lightning bolt, and she froze to the spot. She collapsed to her knees with a thud when the shock wore off.

She begged Edith, “Madam Edith, I was wrong. I admit to the crimes. You can punish me as

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you see fit. Please don't kick me out!"

"It's too late!" Edith dropped her kind act.

Her expression was stern. "From today onward, I am no longer your mentor. And you are no

longer a disciple of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood.

"Now, get out of here!"

"This is my home. If anyone is leaving, it is all of you," Dustin stated.

Edith's expression stiffened before she coughed up another mouthful of blood. She was irrit

ated to the point she fainted on the spot.

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 876 -
Chapter 876

“Madam Edith!” The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples were shocked to see Edith collapse.

They surrounded her, trying everything they could to wake her up. But all their

efforts were in vain due to the severity of her injuries.

“Hurry up and get her a doctor!” Letitia commanded and got the disciples to carry Edith

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outside.

“Injuries sustained from going to extremes in training are not something an ordinary doctor

can treat.

“Of course, if you admit to your mistakes and pay me five billion as a reward, I

can consider saving Madam Parker,” Dustin said impassively.

“What nonsense! Five billion? Why don’t you rob the bank instead?”

Letitia glared at Dustin. “Edith is blessed and has luck on her side.

Nothing will

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happen to her. “Even if she were on the brink of death, we will never beg for your help!”

“Really? Good luck then.” Dustin smiled.

“Let’s go!” Letitia wasted no time. With a wave of her hand, she led the group out.

“Madam Edith!” Nikki struggled to approach them but was pushed to the ground by Brittany instead.

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“Get lost! You’re no longer a Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciple. You have no right to come near us!”

As she spoke, she turned her attention toward Dustin.

“And you! You have angered me this time.

“I will strip you of your right to be my fanboy! I will make you regret this for the rest of your life!”

With that, she left in a huff.

“Idiot.” Dustin spat out.

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How could she still make it about herself at a time like this? She was indeed a lunatic!

“Madam Edith ...” Still kneeling on the ground, tears streamed down Nikki’s face as she watched them leave.

She never expected the Jade Maiden Scripture to cause them to fight amongst themselves and for her to be abandoned. For some reason, she had become the greatest sinner of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood.

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“It’s better to leave a guild like that sooner than later,” Dustin consoled her.

Nikki was filled with sorrow. “You don’t understand! You don’t understand a thing!”

“Madam Edith saved me once and has shown me nothing but kindness. How can I leave before repaying her?”

“Your mentor doesn’t care about you at all. Don’t lie to yourself.” Dustin shook his head.

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It was good that she understood gratitude, but it was also important to consider

who she was showing it to.

Nikki bit her lip. “I owe her that much. I need to repay her.”

“Do you want to return to the Jade Maiden Sisterhood?” Dustin frowned slightly.

“Yes.”

“I’m returning no matter what it takes!” Nikki nodded firmly. Her gaze was unwavering despite her battered condition.

“Fine, I’ll help you again for your brother’s sake.” Dustin felt helpless.

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There was no turning back for this kid. She was determined to keep going.

“You? How would you help me?” Nikki looked doubtful.

“Only I can heal your mentor. I also have the complete Jade Maiden Scripture.

“I believe they will come again in two days. When that day comes, you’ll be ab

le to rejoin your guild again,” Dustin said calmly.

“Really?” Nikki’s eyes lit up.

“You’ll find out for yourself soon enough. I just hope you won’t regret it,”

Dusti

n warned.

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“No, I won’t... I will never regret it! Thank you!” Nikki lit up in joy and gave Dustin a big hug.

Although it aggravated her injuries, and she grimaced in pain, the smile on her face never diminished.

To her, being able to return to the Jade Maiden Sisterhood was the only good thing among her misfortune.

Just as Dustin was about to say something else, his phone rang.

Chapter 877

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Ruth's urgent voice quickly came through when the call connected.

"Dustin! Bad news! My sister is in trouble!"

"Trouble?" Dustin furrowed his brows.

"What happened?"

"The family treasury has been robbed. My sister is the prime suspect.

"They're going to use the house law on her!" Ruth exclaimed in panic.

"Try your best to hold them up. I'll be there as soon as I can!"

Without a moment to spare, Dustin hung up and swiftly headed to the Harmons' residence.

with Cornelius.

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Meanwhile, inside the Harmon's ancestral altar, a group of people blocked Natasha at the entrance. She was trapped with nowhere to go. The elders of the family were angry and filled with righteous indignation. They scolded her nonstop. "Natasha! How dare you conspire with outsiders to steal from the family treasury. You are truly an ungrateful daughter!" "You have ruined our hundred-year-old legacy! How do you think you should be punished?"

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“You b*tch! How could the Harmons have raised such an ungrateful brat like you?”

The group kept pointing fingers and criticizing Natasha. Amidst the anger, there were also strong feelings of resentment.

“I’ve explained many times. I did not steal from the treasury or conspire with outsiders.

“I have no idea what is going on!” Natasha frowned, her expression grim. She had just laid down to rest not long ago. But a group of family elders suddenly barged in to her room without a word and brought her to the ancestral hall to be locked up.

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For some reason, they accused her of theft and forced her to confess.

“You have no idea? What a joke!”

Dylan stepped up and said coldly, “Everyone knows there are only two keys to the treasury. One is with you, and the other is with Uncle Hector.

“With Uncle Hector not around, you are the only one who can access the treasury. That mea

ns

you’re the one behind this theft!”

“Exactly! The key is with you, and now the treasury has been robbed. It must be you!” Kate a

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dded.

“Natasha! The family has always treated you well. Why would you do this?” Trent exclaimed.

“Uncle Trent, it wasn’t me. I didn’t do anything!” Natasha shook her head.

“If it wasn’t you, was it Uncle Hector?” Dylan sneered.

“My father and I would never do anything to harm the family. This must be a misunderstanding.”

Natasha’s brows furrowed deeply.

“Natasha Harmon! Stop denying!”

“If you confess and return the stolen treasures, there might be a chance to resolve this. But i

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f you insist on being stubborn, we must enforce the house law!” Dylan threatened.

“Uncle Jacob, if someone steals while being the guardian and destroys the family’s legacy, h

ow do we deal with them according to the house law?” Kate asked sarcastically.

Jacob answered with a grim expression, “Gouge out their eyes, cut off their tongue, and break off their limbs.”

The crowds’ expressions shifted when they heard that. If they truly enforced the house law,

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Natasha wouldn't survive.

"I haven't done anything wrong! Who dares enforce the house law on me?" Natasha yelled.

Her gaze hardened as she stared at the crowd without fear.

"Natasha, I'm giving you one last chance. Hand over the treasures, and I can pretend that no thing happened.

"Otherwise, you'll have to face the consequences!" Trent looked serious.

"Uncle Trent, I've been set up! Please don't fall for it!" Natasha reasoned.

"Still denying? You really need to be taught a lesson!!"

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Dylan didn't bother wasting his breath further and commanded, "Guards! Enforce the house.

law on her!"

As soon as he spoke, several muscular men approached Natasha with sharp gazes.

"Stop!"

Just then, Hector suddenly rushed in and shouted angrily, "What are all of you doing? Attempting a rebellion?"

"Uncle Hector, you came right on time." The corner of Dylan's lips curved up into a smile.

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“Natasha conspired with outsiders to steal from the family treasury. As the family head, you should enforce the house law personally.” His words carried a hidden meaning.

While speaking, he took out a knife and placed it in Hector’s hands. He clearly wanted the father and daughter duo to go against each other.

Chapter 878

“Nonsense!” Hector knocked away the knife offered to him.

“I know Natasha very well. She would never do anything like this! There must have been a mistake!”

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When Hector heard that his daughter was in trouble, he immediately rushed home. He didn't expect to be met with such a hostile scene as soon as he stepped inside. Were they going to enforce the house law? Who dared to enforce the house law while the head of the family was away?

"Uncle Hector, it's impossible to know a person truly. Character is nothing in front of riches."

Dylan shook his head and continued, "The treasury was robbed, and only you and your daughter have the keys. If it wasn't Natasha, was it you, then?"

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“Nonsense!”

Hector glared at Dylan and exclaimed, “As the family head, I consider myself upright and honorable. I would never do anything that harms our family!”

“Well, that’s certainly unusual. If it wasn’t you or Natasha, was it a ghost who did it?” Dylan asked sarcastically.

The crowd was doubtful upon hearing those words. Although Hector was selfless, it didn’t necessarily mean that Natasha was innocent.

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Since it involved his daughter's safety, even the most upright individuals would struggle to remain impartial.

"Hector, the treasury theft is not a small matter. Someone has to take responsibility.

"Otherwise, it will be difficult to gain the trust of others!" Trent said sternly.

"Hector, I know you care about your daughter. But this concerns the fate of our family.

"You shouldn't make a judgment based on your emotions!" Jacob added. He was stern, too.

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“That’s right! Our ancestor’s legacy must not be destroyed. Natasha betrayed and stole from us by working with outsiders. She must be punished!”

At that moment, a chorus of voices erupted in a clamor. Since they all had a share of the treasures within the treasury, they were naturally furious that it was stolen.

“Everyone, calm down!”

Hector raised his hands to calm the crowd. “This matter hasn’t been fully investigated yet. We can’t just come to a premature conclusion.”

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Dylan said, “Uncle Hector, the treasury cannot be opened without the keys. I’d like to ask, where is your key?”

“Here.”

Hector took out a pocket watch hanging around his neck. He opened the lid, revealing a specially crafted golden key hidden within. Since it was an important item, he always kept it on him.

“How about your key, Natasha?” Dylan turned toward her and asked.

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“I have it too, of course!” As Natasha spoke, her hands went toward her waist.

However, her expression soon shifted. The key hidden at her waist had disappeared!

“What’s wrong? Can’t find it?” Dylan smiled sarcastically.

“It should be in my room. I’ll go back and look for it.”

As Natasha was about to leave, Dylan extended his hand to stop her.

“No need for that. Your key is right here!” Dylan raised his hand.

A golden key was in his hands. Its design, pattern, and engravings were the same as the one in Hector’s hand.

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“What?”

Natasha was confused. “Why is my key with you?”

“That is a question you should be asking yourself.”

Dylan sneered, “Right after the treasury was broken in, I immediately gathered a group of people to capture the thief. I found this key on the traitor.”

“Bring that traitor in here!” Dylan shouted.

Soon, two guards entered, dragging an injured man in with them. That person was none other than one of Natasha’s attendants.

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 879 -
Chapter 879

“What?” Upon seeing the man, both Hector and Natasha frowned.
They started to worry.

“Uncle Hector, you should recognize this man, right?”

Dylan walked around the attendant. “I caught this guy as he escaped with
the
treasures.

“After a thorough interrogation, he confessed and admitted to his crimes.
The
key to the treasury is the evidence.”

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“Hey! What are you still standing around for?”

“Hurry up and tell us the truth. This is your last chance to redeem yourself!” Ka

te stepped forward and kicked the attendant.

“It’s not me... I had nothing to do with it!” With a thud, the man fell to his knees

before pointing at Natasha.

He groveled as he cried out, “It was all Miss Natasha’s doing! She ordered me

to do it.

“I was just following orders. I don’t know anything.

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“Please, I beg you, spare my life!”

“What are you talking about? When did I ever order you to do such a thing?” N

atasha looked
serious.

“Ms. Natasha, we have been exposed. There’s no point in denying it.

“You might even get a lighter punishment the sooner you hand over the treasu

res,” the attendant said mournfully.

“You sure got the guts! How dare you falsely accuse me like that?”

Natasha’s

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anger surged uncontrollably.

She didn't expect to be framed by her men. There was no way for her to prove

her innocence.

now.

"Natasha, you can stop the act. We have a witness and evidence. Just confes

s to your crimes!" Dylan looked at her with eyes full of hostility.

"This is your last chance. If you don't show

remorse and continue to be stubborn, we'll have to enforce the house law!"

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“Hector, you are the family head. You must enforce the house law, no matter

personal reasons!” Trent said sternly.

“The family’s interests always come first. Anyone who dares to harm the family

’s interests is

an enemy of the Harmons!” Jacob declared.

“Enforce the house law!”

“Enforce it!”

The scene turned into chaos with their chants.

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At first, they were just suspicious. But now there was both a witness and evidence;

they were sure that Natasha was involved in the theft and had betrayed the family.

It was necessary to enforce the house law in response to such a crime as a warning to others.

“Silence!” Hector thundered.

The instant sense of authority reverberated throughout the entire hall.

Instantly, the voices stopped.

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“Hector, you are the family head. Will you stand against the law for personal reasons and protect a criminal within the family?” Trent asked.

“Hector, it is unwise to go against public sentiment. You should think this through carefully!” Jacob warned.

“Trent, Jacob, everyone...” Hector took a deep breath before picking the knife up from the ground.

He spoke loudly, “As the family head, I share an equal responsibility for the tree”

“Trent, Jacob, everyone...” Hector took a deep breath before picking the knife up from the ground.

He spoke loudly, “As the family head, I share an equal responsibility for the tree”

“Trent, Jacob, everyone...” Hector took a deep breath before picking the knife up from the ground.

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asury theft.

“As a father, I failed to teach my child. Therefore, I hold myself equally accountable.

“I understand that all of you are angered at the situation. That is why I will bear the punishment on behalf of my daughter as a response to your concerns!”

When Hector was done speaking, he suddenly raised the knife and thrust it into his abdomen. three times in quick succession..

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Instantly, blood surged out. It wasn't long before his clothes were stained red.

“What?” Everyone was shocked at the scene.

Nobody expected Hector to stab himself without hesitation. Moreover, he didn't

hold back.

Each stab had pierced deep into his flesh and bones.

“Dad!” Natasha's expression shifted as she rushed forward.

However, Hector raised a hand to stop her. Even though he was bleeding prof

usely from his abdomen, his body remained upright.

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“Uncle Hector, I truly respect your courage. But these three stabs won’t clear

Natasha of her crime.” Dylan narrowed his eyes.

“I understand.” Hector nodded.

He

then stated calmly, “That is why I have decided that from this moment on,

I will

step down. as the family head and hand over all of my assets. I will be

bearin

g all of the consequences!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 880 -

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Chapter 880

“What? You’re stepping down as the family head?” Hector’s words caused the

crowd to panic.

Since he became the family head, Hector worked diligently and tirelessly to m

anage the

family. He had kept everything in order.

While no one in the entire family dared to challenge his authority, they found it

hard to accept. that he was stepping down.

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“Dad! All of this happened because of me.

“I should be the one being punished, if ever. There’s no need for you to bear

the blame!” Natasha started to panic.

If Hector stepped down from his position and handed over all his assets, deca

des of her father’s hard work would be ruined.

After that, they would be left with nothing and no chance to turn the situation a

round. “Shut it! It’s not your place to speak!” Hector turned back and roared.

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Power, status, and money were nothing to him compared to his daughter. “Hector, are you sure about this?” Trent’s eyes shone with delight before he regained his composure.

“Hector, resigning from the role of the family head is no small matter. You should think properly.” Jacob stroked his chin, deep in thought.

“Since a mistake was made, I must accept the consequences. I’ve made up my mind. There’s no need to persuade me,” Hector responded calmly.

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“Your sudden resignation would leave us without a leader. This puts us in a dif-

ficult situation. “Trent looked troubled.

“Trent, you are both courageous and resourceful and the eldest amongst us.

You are more than qualified to take on the role,” Hector said.

“That doesn’t seem appropriate. I’m afraid it will take time to gain everyone’s tr-

ust.” Trent faked reluctance.

“Trent, your contributions to the family are

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no less than Hector's. I believe you are very suited for the role!" Jacob showed his support.

"That's right! Uncle Trent has wisdom and courage. His hard work and achievements are remarkable. He can be the family head," Dylan echoed.

"Dad, it will be hard at first. But since everyone is nominating you, why don't you

accept it?" Kate said with a smile.

They had struggled this long all for this moment. Thankfully, their determination

and efforts didn't go to waste.

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Her father had finally risen to power.

“Alright. Since everyone is insistent, I’ll try it for a few days.

“If a more suitable candidate shows up, I’ll step down and let them take over,”

Trent humbly said with a smile.

“With Trent leading the family from now on, I believe the Harmons will reach e

ven greater heights!” Jacob took the opportunity to flatter Trent.

“Congratulations, Uncle Trent! Congratulations on becoming the family head o

f us, Harmons! “Dylan shook his hand.

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“Congratulations, Mr. Trent!” The crowd exchanged glances and was quick to catch on.

They congratulated Trent loudly together.

Trent burst into laughter. “Hahaha... Alright! From now on, I will do my best for

the family. I will not disappoint you!”

“Trent, congratulations on getting what you wished for. With the injuries I have

, may I be excused?” Hector bowed slightly.

“Go ahead. Take good care of yourself.” Trent smiled and nodded.

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Since he was just appointed the family head, he was in a good mood.
“Hold on!” Kate suddenly called out as the father and daughter were about to l

eave.

“Uncle Hector, even though you’ve taken the blame, it was ultimately Natasha’s mistake. If we don’t punish her properly, there might be others who

would do the same in the future.”

“What?” Natasha’s expression turned icy.

“We’ve already surrendered all our assets. What more do you want?”

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“By returning the goods that had been stolen, does that mean the theft never happened? Don’t you think that would be letting you off too easy?” Kate crossed her arms.

“Exactly! While we spared you from the death penalty, you must be taught a lesson to prevent you from doing it again!” Dylan stated firmly.

“Don’t push it too far! You know very well whether I stole from the family treasury!” Natasha raised her eyebrows in anger.

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She had always been sharp-minded. After what happened earlier, she was sure this had been a setup.

She was the bait, and her father was the prey. All accusations and schemes were planned to

2

have Trent as the family head.

“What? The evidence is clear. Are you still going to try to argue your way out of

this?” Kate sneered.

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“Uncle Trent, you’re the family head now. It’s up to you to decide how to handle this,” Dylan said.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 881 -
Chapter 881

“Considering that this is Natasha’s first offense, and she has shown timely remorse, we can spare her from physical punishment.”
However, Trent suddenly added, “But the family has suffered significant losses

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s, and you must make amends.

“Here’s the deal: if you hand over the formula to Immortunol, I’ll forget today e
ver happened.

“The formula to Immortunol?”

Natasha furrowed her brows and refused immediately, “Never!”

She hadn’t committed any crime. They had only
given in to alleviate the situation.

She couldn’t believe they were pushing their luck and targeting the
formula to

Immortunol. Their greed knew no limits!

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They knew that the formula was an invaluable treasure. Even if Natasha gave up all her assets, she could still make a fresh start as long as she possessed the formula.

“Natasha Harmon! Uncle Trent is giving you a chance. Don’t be ungrateful!” Dylan shouted.

“Hmph! You’ll face our house law if you don’t hand over the formula. Let’s see how you fare then!” Kate looked at her maliciously. Immortunol had become a sought-after product in the high-

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end medical aesthetics market. It was known as a medicine that was hard to obtain.

Besides, its annual profit per year was at least several hundred billion.

Who would

couldn't want it?

“I won't give it up even if you kill me, not to mention enforcing the house law!”

Natasha was fearless.

“Very well! You brought this upon yourself!”

Kate's gaze turned icy. “Take her away! Give her 80 strokes of the cane!”

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“Yes, ma’am!”

Several guards stepped forward immediately, ready to grab Natasha. Since Hector’s power and authority were diminishing, Natahsa naturally lost her influence too.

“Who dares!”

Just as the guards were about to take action, a shadow barged in, kicking several guards aside. The newcomer was none other than Dustin. Following closely behind was a breathless Ruth.

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“Why are you here?” Natasha lit up when she saw Dustin.
Her anxiety finally eased. It was like she had found a source of support.
“Ruth said you were in trouble, so I came to check on you.
“How are you? Are you hurt?” Dustin was concerned.
“I’m fine, but my dad got three stabs,” Natasha replied truthfully.
“Mr. Harmon?”
Dustin turned to Hector. When he noticed him bleeding from his abdomen,
he
frowned.
“Who did this?” he bellowed.
“No one. I did it to myself.” Hector shook his head.

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“What?” Dustin was taken aback.

What went on that led to him stabbing himself?

“This is what happened...” Natasha didn’t hide anything and briefly recounted the events.

After hearing her explanation, Dustin’s gaze hardened.

They accused his woman, forced Hector to step down, and were about to enforce the house law. These people deserved a beating.

“Rhys! What happened today has nothing to do with you. I’m warning you not to

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o get involved, or you'll face the consequences!" Kate shouted.
"Anything that happens to Natasha has everything to do with me! If you dare touch her, you should be ready to suffer!"
Dustin stood firmly in front of Natasha, his tone authoritative.
"You son of b*tch! Show some respect! Take a look around and see who's in charge now!" Kate threatened.
She had held back when Hector was still in charge. But now that her father had

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d become the family head, her authority had also risen.

“I couldn’t care less about the Harmons. Just know that Natasha is my woman

.

“I’m taking her away safely today. Stop me if your dare!”

As Dustin stepped forward, an overwhelming aura came from him. He emitted

an aura of dominance.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 882 -
Chapter 882

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Natasha felt butterflies in her stomach as she basked in Dustin's domineering presence.

His glare was sharp. They were intense and fiery. She felt pleased to be protected by the man she loved.

"You son of b*tch! It seems you won't understand how powerful we are until we teach you a lesson!"

Kate erupted into anger as she yelled, "Take him away!"

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As soon as she spoke, a dozen Harmon family guards charged forward.

Each

of them exuded murderous intent as they approached with sharp gazes.

“The audacity!”

Before Dustin could act, Cornelius had transformed into a ghostly shadow and

shot across the heads of the crowd. With a graceful backflip, he landed confidently

in front of the guards.

A loud explosion was

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heard as he launched a palm strike from a distance. A powerful divine aura
su

rged like a wave, knocking over the guards to the ground.

The lingering force became a fierce gust of wind,
forcing the rest of the Harmons to stagger backward. They couldn't keep
their

eyes open.

As the wind subsided, all their guards were lying on the ground with
severe inj

uries. They coughed up blood.

“What?” Everyone was shocked at Cornelius‘

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appearance.

Nobody expected an unimposing, frail old man to have such formidable skills.

It was frightening that he could defeat numerous elite guards with just one move.

ve.

“W—who are you?” Kate shrunk back involuntarily, scared.

“I’m nobody worth mentioning.” Cornelius spat out coldly.

Although he appeared thin, like a stick, nobody dared look down on him then.

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He had manifested true energy externally. In other words, the old man was a f

ormidable divine

-level martial artist!

“Old man, I don’t care who you are. Get lost immediately! You have no right to

meddle in the affairs of the Harmons!” Kate yelled.

She was not only the patriarch’s daughter. She was also Tyler’s fiance. Her st

anding in the family was second to no one.

“I’m not interested in the affairs of your family. But if you dare lay a

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hand on Sir Rhys, I will
break your necks!” Cornelius warned coldly.
“How dare you!” Kate glared at him.
“Do you know who you’re talking to? Do you know who my fiance is?
“You must be seeking death to be making a scene here!”
“My life is worthless since I’m old. If I die, so be it. But it’ll be worth it if
I can ex
change my life for yours before I die,” Cornelius said seriously.
“Y—
you!” Kate’s eyelids twitched as she took several steps back. She put more
di

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stance between herself and Cornelius.

She was afraid of facing someone so fearless and crazy.

“Old man, you’re not young anymore. Is it worth risking your life like this?”

Just then, Dylan suddenly stepped forward. He had an arrogant expression, a

nd his sharp gaze held disdain.

As a divine–level martial artist and a high–ranking commander of the Dark Panther Calvary, he had confidence in his abilities.

The weak martial artists in the martial world were powerless against him.

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“Dylan, that old man has some skills. You need to be careful.” Kate warned.

“Don’t worry, Kate. Dealing with an old guy like him who’s already one step aw

ay from his grave is easy for me,” Dylan said with pride.

“Very well, let’s cripple him first. Then we’ll deal with Dustin,” Kate said with a

sinister smile.

“Old man, I’ll give you a chance to kneel and beg for mercy from me.

Then, yo

u might still be able to keep your pathetic life.

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“Otherwise, once I make a move, there won’t be a trace of you left!”

Dylan threatened.

“Bring it on, brat.” Cornelius gestured with his hand and remained impassive.

“Go to hell!” Dylan seethed in anger.

With a light jump, he shot forward like an arrow.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 883 -

Chapter 883

As he got closer, Dylan whipped around and threw a heavy punch at Cornelius.

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s.

Just as his punch was about to make contact, Cornelius raised his hand and
c

aught his fist.

A large bang sounded from the impact.

The divine aura that Dylan wrapped around his punch broke on the spot. It
wa

s so fragile as if it was made of paper.

“What?” Dylan was shocked. He hadn’t expected Cornelius to grab his
aura–

wrapped punch so easily.

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“Is this all you’ve got?” Cornelius looked at him in contempt. With a slight twist

, a cracking sound was heard, and Dylan’s wrist was broken.

“Ahh-!” His painful shriek was cut short by a kick from Cornelius.

Dylan was sent flying across the room and slammed onto the wall. He bled from

both his nose. and mouth.

The Harmons looked at the scene in shock.

Dylan’s martial skills were acknowledged to be the best out of them all.

He even

surpassed the leader of the shadow guards.

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No one in the Harmon household could match him.

Seeing such an expert being defeated by such a skinny old man was shocking!

All it took was just a single move! Dylan was completely defenseless against him!

“Where did that bastard Dustin hire such an expert?” Trent frowned; his expression

darkened with each passing moment.

He thought he could get the recipe for Immortunol while he forced Hector off his

position as head of the family.

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Who would have thought such an expert would appear and ruin all his plans?

“Dylan! Are you alright?” Jacob’s face fell as he rushed to help Dylan up.

“Dad! The old geezer’s something else! He isn’t an ordinary grandmaster!”

Dylan clenched his jaws as he looked dreadful. He knew their powers were on

different levels. He was no match for his opponent.

“I can tell. Dustin’s probably spent a lot to hire such an expert.” Jacob nodded.

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Someone was always better out there, and they had underestimated their opponent. None of them had expected such an outcome.

“Is there anyone else who wishes to challenge me?” Cornelius scanned the crowd.

The Harmons looked at each other awkwardly and remained silent. Who would

dare to step out when even Dylan had been defeated?

“Well, if no one has anything to say, we’ll leave now.”

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Dustin took Natasha's hand and walked out boldly. Ruth followed after them a

nd helped Hector along.

Now that both parties were at opposite ends, things would only get ugly if they

stayed any longer.

"We're not done yet, Dustin! Mark my words; I'll make you regret your actions!" Kate could not hold it in when she saw them about to leave.

She was just one step away from success, but Dustin ruined everything!

She

was livid!

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“Is that so?” Dustin stopped in his tracks and turned around.

“We don’t know yet who will regret their actions! Forcing Mr. Harmon away from his position, as head of the family will be the greatest mistake of your life.

“You bastards will ruin the entire Harmon family!”

“Nonsense! The Harmon family will reach greater heights without Hector!” Kat
e shouted.

“How ignorant.” Dustin chuckled.

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“Do you think you’ll succeed once you marry into the Grant family? You lot are nothing more than tools in Tyler’s eyes! It’ll be game over for you once he no longer has any use of you!”

“Hah! I say you’re just jealous!” Kate looked at him disdainfully.

“Once I marry Tyler and become his wife, I’ll make all of you bow before me!”

“We’ll wait and see then.”

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Dustin couldn't be bothered to waste any more time on her. Taking Natasha's hand in his, they left without another word. As they left, those who stayed back heard him say, "They're playing with fire and digging their graves. Poor things. They don't even know that death's already knocking on their doors."

Chapter 884

Late that night in Zephyr Lodge, Dustin told Hector. "Mr. Harmon, your wounds have been tr

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eated. You'll be fine after a few days of rest.”

After dressing up the wounds, Dustin gave Hector a Haemoplenish to boost his health.

Fortunately, the three stabs hadn't hit any vital organs. Otherwise, it would have been a pain to treat.

“I appreciate your help tonight, Dustin. Thank you.” Hector smiled at him, looking pleased with Dustin.

Somehow, he had already taken Dustin as the best candidate for his son-in-law.

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“You’re welcome. It’s not a big deal at all.”

Dustin smiled as he asked, “Mr. Harmon, I’m just curious. You certainly can take charge of th

e situation and put them in their place. Why did you have to stab yourself three times?”

Hector was still in command of the shadow guards. Nobody would have been able to retalia

te if he had taken more drastic means to control the situation.

Then, he wouldn’t have to end up the way he did now—powerless and poor.

“It’s clear that things played out the way they did today because someone had been interferi

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ng from the sidelines.

“I’m afraid none of them would be happy if I wielded my power over them. It might even cause the entire family to fall apart.”

Hector sighed before he continued, “The Harmon family has had it tough in recent years. We haven’t progressed much and barely survived the mess with the Dark Lord.

“The family is in such a depressing situation. We’re all waiting for the right opportunity to start over.

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“We cannot afford to put any more strain on it. I don’t mind suffering a little if the family remains peaceful and stable.”

“Your attitude is truly inspiring, Mr. Harmon. Unfortunately, your sacrifice for the family might be in vain.” Dustin shook his head.

“Exactly, Dad. You shouldn’t have backed down this time,” Natasha said seriously.

“Uncle Trent has changed. He used to be snobbish but would never stoop so low as to scheme against his family.

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“But look at him now. He’s using every possible means to claim the position as head of the family!”

“Your Uncle Trent isn’t a bad person. This is probably just a rash decision of his.” Hector looked confused and unsure.

What happened earlier today was weird. It was as though they weren’t brothers but strangers instead.

“Honestly speaking, it isn’t Trent I’m worried about. It’s Kate.”

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Dustin poured them each a cup of tea. Then, he continued, “She’s an ambitious woman who will do anything to achieve her goals.

“She would even go so far as to harm her family members for her gains and glory. She’s going to be a difficult one to handle.”

“So what you’re saying is that Kate was the one who stirred up what happened today?” Natasha frowned.

“No. To be precise, Kate and Tyler are working together. They are the cause of what happened,” Dustin said meaningfully.

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“Mr. Harmon, have you ever thought why Tyler wishes to have a marriage alliance with the Harmon family? And why would he settle with Kate after Natasha rejected him?”

“Why?” Hector wondered.

He had thought that Tyler liked his daughter. He thought the Grants' standing in the business sector would improve with the marriage.

But now that he thought about it, that didn't seem to be the case.

“If I'm not mistaken, there's something else that Tyler is after. You Harmons have something

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important.

“Something that he can only plot to get his hands on in secret, but can’t forcefully take it from you openly,” Dustin reminded.

“Something important, but must be kept secret.” Hector’s eyes widened after thinking for a while.

“Could it be... the treasure map?”

“That should be it!” Natasha nodded.

“Only the head of the family knows where the treasure map is. That’s why Kate is going thro

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ugh so much trouble to get Uncle Trent to replace you!

“She’s helping Tyler find out where the map is! That traitor! How could she betray the family and help an outsider?”

It was one thing if it was an Internal family strife. But what Kate had done was much worse.

She chose to help an outsider and willingly gave up the family’s most valuable treasure. It was as despicable!

“If this is really because of the map, things will only get even more complicated.” Hector fro

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wined, falling deep in his thoughts.
The treasure that the Harmon ancestors had buried was invaluable.
With Tyler's wild ambition, he might use it to make himself a ruler if he
were to get his hand
s on it. The consequences would be unthinkable if that were to happen.
"So he prompted Kate to divide the
Harmon family and wait to reap the benefits. How cunning of him!"
Dustin squinted. He had to admit that Tyler had the brains, brawns, and,
most importantly, s
cheming wit.

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He had planned to get Trent to replace Hector as the head of the family after his plan for a marriage alliance with Natasha didn't work out.

Then, he would use Trent to get his hands on the map. Every step of his was a calculated move.

The most crucial point was that he had remained hidden behind the scenes. Nobody knew that he was the mastermind behind everything. That was the most alarming thing.

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“Dad, we can’t let them have the map. The Harmon family is in a mess right now.

“They don’t seem to know right from wrong anymore. To be safe, I plan to start anew,” Natasha said with determination.

“There’s nothing wrong with taking precautions, but do you know how hard it will be to start anew?” Hector asked seriously.

Chapter 885

The Harmon family has strived for over a hundred years to get where they are now. If Natasha w

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ere to start over, it would be tough on her.

“Don’t worry, Dad. I have confidence in succeeding when it comes to business.” Natasha was sure of herself.

“What are your plans?” Hector asked.

“I don’t see much potential in Millsburg. I plan to go to Oakvale. I’ll make it big there with I

mmortunol,” Natasha declared in high spirits.

“Oakvale?” Hector’s brows pinched together.

“But you don’t have any connections in Oakvale. I’m afraid things will be hard for you there.”

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“Dad, have you forgotten that Grandfather works in Oakvale? Nobody will dare mess with m

e with him there!” Natasha chuckled.

“Seems like you’ve already thought things through.” Hector nodded with relief.

“If that’s the case, I wish you all the best.”

With Natasha’s abilities and full support from Mr. Ballard Senior, it would be easier for her t

o set up a new company in Oakvale and succeed.

The Harmon family’s future would all depend on her now.

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At Stoneray Valley, the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples waited anxiously outside a ward.

Since Edith went unconscious, they had rushed to Stoneray Valley overnight for help.

Unfortunately for them, Linden

was out. As he wasn't in Stoneray Valley and unable to help them, they could only turn to th

e elders of Stoneray Order for help.

The door suddenly creaked open.

An elderly man with a white beard walked out covered in sweat, and behind him was a disci

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ple of the Stoneray Order.

“How are things, Elder Ferngray? Is Madam Edith alright?” Brittany stepped forward and asked.

“I’m sorry, but Madam Parker has gone to extremes in training. Her circulatory pathways have been broken, and she has suffered severe internal injuries. I’m afraid there’s nothing much we can do.”

Elder Ferngray shook his head. “From the look of things, Madam Parker might not survive

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past the three-day mark. You should all be prepared for the worst.

“What?” The crowd paled.

Edith was head of the sisterhood and halfway to becoming a grandmaster.

How could she di

e from going to extremes in training?

“Elder Ferngray, you’re an elder in the Stoneray Order. How can you not

be able to

help her?” Brittany refused to accept reality.

“It is a big mistake for martial artists to go to extremes. The stronger they

are, the worse the

consequences.

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“There are only two ways of treating Madam Parker’s internal injuries. First, you have to get help from a miracle doctor. Then, she might survive with the help of medications made from precious herbs.

“Or, you can seek help from a powerful grandmaster. He must use all of his cultivation to rebuild Madam Edith’s circulatory pathway.

“But both options are too hard to achieve now.” Elder Ferngray sighed. It was difficult to find a miracle doctor. A grandmaster would be even harder to get.

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Their last hope was Linden. But now that he wasn't in Stoneray Valley, they could do nothing

.

“How can that be? Is there no hope for Madam Edith anymore?” Brittany paled and looked dejected.

She hadn't mastered the Jade Maiden Scripture yet. How was she to inherit Madam Edith's position as leader of the sisterhood?

“Everyone, I know a genius miracle doctor. If he's willing to help you, Madam Edith might jus

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t have a chance of surviving.” The disciple of the Stoneray Order spoke up.

“A genius miracle doctor? Who’s that?” Brittany’s eyes lit up.

The other Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples also shared expectant looks among themselves.

“He’s the honorary elder of the Stoneray Order–Dustin Rhys!”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 886 -

Chapter 886

“Dustin Rhys?” All the disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood were stunned.

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None of them had expected the genius miracle doctor mentioned to be Dustin.

And the most important thing was that they had just had a conflict with him not

too long ago. It would be awkward to go to him for help now.

“That Dustin guy, are his medical skills really amazing?” Letitia asked with her

brows furrowed.

He was barely over the age of 20. It was shocking to hear that he was an elde

r in the Stoneray Order.

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“Of course he’s amazing!” the disciple of the Stoneray Order nodded.
“Dr. Watkins personally appointed Elder Rhys! He’s also the youngest
elder in
the Stoneray
Order. His medical skills are only second to that of Dr. Watkins’!”
The scene where Dustin had cured a paralyzed patient with just a single
needl
e was still vivid in his brain. He was still impressed to this day.
“Elder Rhys might be young, but there’s no doubt in his medical skills. He
mig
ht be able to treat Madam Parker.” Elder Ferngray nodded.

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“Does this mean... we’ll have to lower ourselves and ask him for help?”

Letitia’

s face fell.

Before they left, she had proudly declared that even if Edith were to die, they

would never go to him for help. But it looked like they had no other choice now

.

“Madam Letitia, don’t you

worry. Leave this to me.” Brittany held her head high.

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“Dustin is in love with me. All I need to do is seduce him a little, and I’m sure h

e will come running to treat Madam Edith.”

“Very well, show us what you’re capable of.” Letitia nodded, pleased.

Every one of the disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood was beautiful.

And t

hey had their way with men.

After all, it was only right for women to use their advantages.

Early the next morning, the disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood went to Z

ephyr Lodge. They carried Edith there with them.

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They marched in through the door proudly, their heads held high. People who didn't know any better might think that they were there to claim back what was theirs.

"Hey! Where's Dustin? Get him out here immediately!" Brittany, who led the group, ordered.

"What's the commotion about?" Dustin, Cornelius, and several others came out of the

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conference room.

“Hey! I heard that you’re an elder in the Stoneray Order. They claim that you have

impressive medical skills. Is that true?” Brittany lifted her chin arrogantly.

“It is. What about it?” Dustin asked calmly.

“Good!” Brittany nodded, clearly pleased. Then, she instructed the Jade Maiden

and her disciples to bring Edith forward.

“Madam Edith has gone to extremes in training, so she’s severely hurt. Since

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you're medically skilled, treat her immediately!" she ordered.

"Hang on..." Dustin raised a hand to stop her. "Why should I save her?

Are we

close?"

"Hah! Stop the act! I know that you like me. If you agree to save Madam Edith,

I'll do you a favor and have a meal with you." Brittany lifted her chin and looked

at Dustin contemptuously.

"Have a meal with me?" Dustin couldn't hold back a scoff.

"I'm sorry. Not interested."

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“Hey! You better get things straight! Not everyone has the right to have a meal with me! I’m offering you the chance of a lifetime now! You better take it while the offer stands!” Brittany was still as arrogant as ever.

“You’re better off leaving the chance to someone else. I don’t need it. If there’s nothing else, please show yourself out.”

Dustin flat-out rejected her.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 887 -

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Chapter 887

“Playing hard to get, are we?” Brittany looked at Dustin as though she had seen through him.

“Alright, if a meal isn’t enough, I’ll agree to a date too. I’ll even let you hold my

hand. Are you happy now?”

From her point of view, she had made a huge sacrifice. After all, all those men

who fawned over her didn’t even have the chance to get close to her.

“Honestly, I’m really curious why you’re so confident.” Dustin was speechless.

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He had clearly rejected her. But Brittany was so full of herself and thought the world of herself.

She seemed to believe that she was a goddess and that every man would fall at her feet.

“Why?” Brittany flipped her hair over her shoulder.

“Because of my beauty, charm, perfect figure, and noble status, of course!

I excel in every aspect possible!”

“Amazing!” Dustin gave her a thumbs up.

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“Since you excel in every aspect possible, why don’t you cure Madam Edith’s internal injury? I won’t be needed then.” Dustin turned and left.

“Stop right there!” Brittany ran up to him and blocked his way.

“Why would I come here for you if I could treat her? Quit wasting time! You better treat her right now. If her condition worsens because of your delay, I’ll be furious!” she shouted.

“Is that so? I’d like to see you get furious.” A small smile crept up on Dustin’s

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face.

He looked like he was waiting for a drama to unfold.

“You-” Brittany gritted her teeth. She looked like she was on the verge of exploding in anger.

In the past, every man who saw her would be captivated and spellbound by her, especially when she took the initiative to reach out to them. Nobody had

been able to resist her charms.

But Dustin could! He clearly was experienced in romantic affairs. The offer of

a date and the chance to hold her hand didn't tempt him.

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Brittany assumed that he must be lusting after her body then.

“How despicable!” she thought.

For her, saving Edith was important. But she could not accept to be tainted by

such a despicable man!

She was a clean and noble lady!

“No way! Even Brittany can’t handle this man?”

“He’s capable of resisting Brittany’s seduction. He’s something else!”

“Could it be possible that ... he doesn’t fancy Brittany?”

“That’s not possible! Brittany is a charmer unlike any other. Every man’s eyes

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light up when they see her. This bastard is just good at pretending!”
The disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood whispered among themselves. Their beauty had always been their greatest advantage, and it worked every time. They could just whine and look pitiful, and countless men would give their lives for them. Unexpectedly, their best move failed today. It was hard for them to accept it.
“Brittany...” Letitia communicated with her in secret.
“Keeping Edith alive is of utmost importance.

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“Sacrifice a little and coax this man. Once Edith is cured, you can teach him a lesson.”

“Got it.” Brittany nodded lightly and turned to Dustin.

She looked at him arrogantly. “Seems like regular conditions aren’t able to satisfy you. Fine. I’ll give you a nice surprise then.”

“Oh? What kind of a surprise?” Dustin raised a brow.

“Come closer. I’ve got something to tell you.” Brittany waved him over.

Dustin approached her and bent down to hear what she had to say.

Suddenly, Brittany stood on tip toes and kissed his cheek.

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“How’s that? Will that do?” She shot him a condescending look with her arms folded.

“Damn you!” After collecting himself, Dustin raised his hand and smacked Brittany across the face.

That immediately sent her flying several feet away.

Then, he raised a hand to wipe his face in disgust. He looked like he had just

experienced something disgusting.

Chapter 888

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With a crisp, loud smack, Brittany was sent flying. She spun in the air before crashing heavily to the ground.

When she opened her mouth, two of her teeth fell out. Her nose was bleeding, too.

For a split second, a deathly silence came over the place.

All the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples gaped in horror. They looked like they'd just seen a ghost.

Never in their dreams had they expected a man to hit Brittany so hard that she was sent

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flying, and not after she had kissed him!
That was Brittany-the most seductive and alluring charmer among them all! She was a great beauty; countless talented young men fought for her attention. Even men from elite and prominent backgrounds admired her! She was used to men fawning and bending backward for her. None of them ever showed their temper or said anything mean to her. Dustin was unhappy after getting a kiss from Brittany, and he even slapped her!
How dare he do something like that? Was he out of his mind?

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“You-you hit me?” Brittany scrambled to get back on her feet. Her head was still spinning. Disbelief was written all over her swollen and flushed face. She was Brittany Cloude-the lead disciple of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. She was a goddess! How could a man have hit her? Had it not been for the stinging pain on her cheek, she would have thought this was all just a nightmare! “So what if I hit you? You disgust me!” Dustin wiped his face over and over again. He looked

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extremely displeased.

“Damn it! Her breath stinks!” he thought to himself.

“I disgust you?” Brittany’s face contorted with anger.

She was a goddess admired by all! When had she ever been embarrassed by a man? He was

too

much!

“Ahh! I’ll kill you!” Brittany yelled in frustration. Pulling out her sword, she was ready to charge at Dustin.

But Letitia held her back. “Don’t act rashly! Set your priorities straight!”

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“The bastard humiliated me. I swear I won’t let him off!” Brittany spat through clenched jaws.

“Edith is in danger. You can’t act recklessly. Besides, he has an expert guarding him. You can’t hurt him!” Letitia warned.

Brittany huffed angrily, her eyes bloodshot. She looked like she could tear him up into pieces. It was one thing to be slapped. But he even called her disgusting! That was utter

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humiliation! But as Edith's life was on the line, she had no choice but to swallow her anger.

According to her understanding, men who weren't interested in her had erectile

dysfunction. "Brittany!" Nikki appeared just as things were about to get ugly.

She became worried when her gaze fell on Edith, unconscious on the stretcher.

"You've come at the right time, Nikki."

A thought struck Letitia, and she quickly pulled Nikki aside. "Edith has suffered from severe

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internal injuries. We need Dustin's help.

"Since you're on good terms with him, you should persuade him to help her."

"Dustin?" Nikki was surprised. She turned to look at him. "Can you save Madam Edith?"

She thought he had just been trying to comfort her last night. She hadn't expected those

from the Jade Maiden Sisterhood to come to him for help.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 889 -

Chapter 889

"Saving her is easy. But who is she to me? Why should I save her?" Dustin

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asked.

“Young man, if you save Edith, we will forget about all past grudges!”

Letitia

coaxed. Besides, I will let you choose one of our disciples as your wife if you

wish.”

“I have no interest in any of you from the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. If you want

me to save Madam Parker, I have three conditions,” Dustin said.

“What are your conditions?” Letitia squinted at him.

“First, I shall be paid 50 billion.” Dustin raised a finger.

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“Fifty billion? That’s outrageous!” Brittany was angered.

“Then I guess we do not have a deal.” Dustin left them no room to negotiate.

“Alright, alright. Fifty billion it is!” Letitia nodded.

Money was not important. As long as Madam Edith was alive, they could always make more.

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood lacked no rich men fawning over them.

“Second, Nikki Horst returns to the Jade Maiden Sisterhood.” Dustin raised another finger.

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“That wouldn’t be a problem.” Letitia agreed readily. That wasn’t a big deal for her.

“Third, get rid of this wench from the sisterhood, and never take her in again!”

Dustin pointed at Brittany.

“What?”

The crowd was in an uproar at Dustin’s words. None of them had expected such a condition from him.

Brittany was the lead disciple of the sisterhood. She was meant to be Madam

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Edith's successor!

If she was driven out, who would be the one to take her place?

“You ... you ... you've gone overboard!”

After she got over the initial shock, Brittany fumed. “You horrid man!

How dare

you drive a wedge between us? I'll slice you up!”

Dustin didn't respond to her. His gaze was fixed on Letitia. “These are my conditions. If you agree to all three, I'll help Madam Parker.”

There were two reasons why he requested for Brittany to be kicked out.

First,

because he hated her, and second, in consideration of Nikki.

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With Brittany still in the sisterhood, Nikki would have a tough time ahead. “I can agree to the first two conditions, young man. But your third request is a little too much. “Letitia frowned. Brittany was Edith’s favorite disciple. How could they just kick Brittany out like that? “If that’s asking for too much, why don’t you go back and consider a bit more? Come back again when you’ve decided. Of course, we never know how much longer

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Madam Parker can live.

11

With that said, Dustin turned around and walked back in.

“Just a second!” Letitia’s expression changed.

“I agree! I agree to your conditions!” she shouted.

“Have you gone mad, Madam Letitia?”

Brittany leaped up when she heard what Letitia said. “The bastard wants you

to drive me out of the sisterhood, and you’re going to do as he says?”

“Edith’s life is at stake. As her lead disciple, should you not be a good example to the rest? This is a test of your loyalty!” Letitia said.

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“But-”

“No buts!”

Brittany wanted to say more but was cut off by Letitia.

“I will do anything to keep Edith alive! Even if the price I have to pay is to break my limbs, I will do it! Having you kicked out is the least of my concerns!”

Brittany paled. She looked like she had just been struck by lightning. She honestly never thought that this was what things would come to. How could she, the favorite disciple, become the sacrificial lamb?

“Dustin, this isn’t too nice, is it?” Nikki’s brows furrowed slightly. She couldn’t

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bear to see Brittany being kicked out.
“What’s not nice about it? I’m doing this for you.
“You should know she didn’t bat an eyelash when she accused and
whipped
you last night. Are you going to stand up for her?” Dustin asked coldly.
“-“Nidd was left speechless.
Dustin turned to look at her and said, “An advice to you: Never play the
saint.
Nothing good
will ever come of it.”

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter
890

Chapter 890

“What are you doing still standing there? Get lost!” Letitia shouted at her impatiently.

Brittany seemed to wake up from a trance. She glared at Dustin as she pointed a finger at

him.” You... you wretched bastards! Curse you!”

“Throw her out!” Letitia didn’t want to deal with her anymore.

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples dragged Brittany away on Letitia’s orders. If she

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stayed longer, she might anger Dustin with her nasty words.

That would be terrible for them.

“I’ve driven her out of the sisterhood now, young man. Will you save Edith now?” Letitia

asked after getting rid of Brittany.

“Pay up first,” Dustin reminded.

“Sure.” Letitia dared not wait any longer. She immediately transferred all the money she had to Dustin.

Once the transaction was completed, Dustin nodded reluctantly.

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Under his orders, his men brought the unconscious Edith into the infirmary.

After renovating Zephyr Lodge, it now had all sorts of facilities. From infirmaries to sparring halls and libraries, they had it all.

To not be disrupted, Dustin only brought Nikki into the infirmary. The rest of the disciples were locked out.

Time passed in the blink of an eye. Very soon, it was already noon. Letitia and the rest of the disciples waited outside the infirmary anxiously. Some of them

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paced around, looking tense.

“They’ve already been in there for so long. Why aren’t we hearing anything from them yet?

Could anything have happened to Madam Edith?”

“Hey! Watch your mouth! Madam Edith will pull through! She’s going to be alright!”

“I’m just worried. Can that rascal treat Madam Edith’s injuries? What if he’s just a scammer?

We’ll suffer a great loss then!”

Every one of them fell silent.

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Soon, the infirmary door opened. Dustin walked out slowly, wiping his hands.

“How did it go? Is Edith fine now?” Letitia asked worriedly.

The rest of them waited for an answer with bated breaths.

“She’s awake now. She should be fine after a few days’ rest,” Dustin told them.

“That’s great!”

They all shared looks of delight and rushed in to check on Edith. As expected, they found

her awake. Though a little pale, she appeared to be fine.

“Madam Edith!”

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They all called out to her and pushed at each other to glimpse Edith. They began to ask her how she was feeling and if she was fine, being thoughtful and caring for her.

“Thank you, Dustin.” Nikki looked at him with appreciation as she walked out of the infirmary. She had seen the entire process of how he had treated Edith, and it was amazing.

His acupuncture skills were exceptional. Though Nikki knew little about it, she could tell he was

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skilled.

Who would have known that Dustin would have such brilliant medical skills at such a young age? She had truly underestimated him.

“You’re welcome. Take good care of Madam Parker. I hope she remembers the kindness you’ve shown her.” Dustin flashed her a gentle smile before turning to leave.

He had spent a lot of true energy treating Edith. That caused the Septemortis within him to work up even faster, so he had to return to his room to rest.

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That afternoon, as Dustin was meditating, his phone suddenly rang. It was Florence.

The moment he answered the call, a loud voice began shouting at him through the phone.

Rhys! You beast! What on earth have you done? Dahlia attempted suicide because of you!”

“What? Suicide?”

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Chapter 891

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Dustin jumped to his feet when he heard what Florence said. “How did that happen?”

“You beast! How dare you ask me how that happened? It’s all because of you, of course!”

Florence shouted.

“After she met you the other night, Dahlia seemed to have lost her soul!

She refused to eat

or drink, and she cried endless nights! Then, this morning, she attempted suicide by

jumping off the building!”

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Dustin felt like he'd been struck by lightning. His mind went completely blank. Never in his wildest dreams had he ever thought that Dahlia would act so rashly! How could she attempt suicide by jumping off a building without saying anything to anyone at all? Had she lost her mind?

“She... How is she now?” There was a tremble in Dustin's voice.

“She's still in a critical condition and doing horribly! Her life is in danger!

“And this is all because of you! You beast! You're the reason Dahlia threw herself off the building!

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“I’m warning you, Rhys! If anything happens to Dahlia, I’ll make you pay with your life!”

Florence swiftly ended the call after spewing threats at him.

Dustin sat there idly with his phone in his hand. When he finally snapped out of it, he

dashed out the door instantly.

He got into his car and sped to the hospital within 30 minutes. He quickly found Dahlia’s

ward after asking around for a bit.

When he entered the room, he saw Dahlia lying unconscious on the bed.

She was wrapped

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up in bandages and was unusually pale. She looked very weak. Florence and several others stood by her bedside, looking helpless. “How dare you show your face here, Rhys!” At the sight of Dustin, Florence’s anger flared again.

“Look at her! Look what a state you’ve gotten Dahlia into! You heartless bastard! How did she fall for a scumbag like you?”

After screaming at him, she began punching and kicking at him to let out her anger.

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“Dustin Rhys! I’ve always thought that you were an honest man. Who would have thought

that you were such a jerk?” Julie began berating him, too.

“Dahlia didn’t hold onto your past mistakes and went out of her way to defend you. But you

had the heart to hurt her so much that you drove her to despair.

“You even hurt her to the point that she would attempt suicide! You truly are a scumbag!”

Dustin couldn’t be bothered to waste words on them. Pushing both of them aside, he

quickly checked Dahlia’s pulse. His expression darkened.

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Dahlia's pulse was weak, and her breathing was so faint it felt like it could disappear at any moment.

“Get the hell out of here, Rhys! Get your filthy hands off my daughter!”

Florence roared, trying to push Dustin away.

But Dustin glared at her and said, “If you do not wish for anything bad on Dahlia, you better shut the hell up.”

“You-!” Seeing Dustin's change in attitude, they were all shocked. None of them dared to

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approach him.

After he shouted at them, Dustin took out several silver needles and began treating Dahlia.

Her vital energy was weak, so he needed to use his true energy to supply and extend her

life. Though it would cause side effects on him, it was the simplest and most effective method.

Dustin was soaked in sweat an hour later as he pulled out the silver needles. Black blood trickled out from his nose.

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Treating Edith earlier had already consumed much of his true energy. Now that he had given his all to save Dahlia, he had drained all his true energy. Hence, the toxin from Septemortis began acting up again. Fortunately, he was strong enough to endure it for now.

“If anything happens to my daughter, Rhys, I’ll make sure you pay for it!” Florence shouted her glare was like a feral beast.

Just as she finished her words, Dahlia’s eyelids twitched. Seconds later, her eyes slowly opened.

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“Dahlia’s awake! She’s woken up!” Julie was delighted.
“How are you feeling, Dahlia? Are you feeling uncomfortable anywhere?”
Dustin bent down.
closer to her and asked gently.
Dahlia groaned with her brows furrowed. Her gaze was a little unfocused
before it quickly
turned wary.
She looked at Dustin cautiously. “Who are you? Do I know you?”

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Chapter 892

“Who are you? Do I know you?”

Her words shocked Dustin.

Florence and the rest of them exchanged bewildered looks.

“You... you don't recognize me?” Dustin was stunned.

“Should I know you?” Dahlia looked at him coldly.

It was like she was looking at a stranger. She looked at him warily as if she wanted Dustin to stay away from her.

“Is something wrong? Let me have a look.” Dustin went forward to check on

her pulse.

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But the moment he touched her, she recoiled instantly, as if his touch burned her.

“What are you doing?” Dahlia looked at him frostily, caution in her eyes. Dustin wasn’t used to how she was treating him like a total stranger. Could she be suffering from... amnesia?

“Dahlia, what’s wrong? Don’t scare me!” Florence was flustered.

Looking close to tears, she approached Dahlia and asked, “You can’t have forgotten everything, can you? Don’t you remember me?”

“Mom, what are you saying? Of course, I remember you!” Dahlia looked at

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her, confused.

“You do? Oh, that’s great! That’s great! It seems like you haven’t lost your memories.”

Florence was overjoyed. “I was worried that you’d forget everything after suffering an impact. to the head. That always happens in movies!”

“Dahlia, do you recognize me, then?” Julie asked tentatively.

“Of course I do.” Dahlia nodded.

“And me?” Victoria asked, too.

“Aunt Victoria, what’s up with all of you? You’re all behaving weirdly.”

Dahlia

looked at them.

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curiously.

“Alright, alright. It’s good that you still remember us. Seems like you’re fine now.”

The three of them heaved a sigh of relief. It seemed like Dahlia wasn’t suffering from anything major.

“You remember all of them but not me?” Dustin’s brows furrowed.

Something seemed off. Dahlia didn’t appear to have hurt her head.

“Are you mistaken? I don’t know you.” Dahlia turned to look at Dustin.

She

looked at him coldly, like she was wary of him.

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Dustin's face fell. For a moment, he was speechless.”

It was obvious that Dahlia had suffered partial memory loss.

But it didn't look like she had hurt herself. It looked more like she had closed off her memories of Dustin.

In a way, that was one of the body's defense mechanisms. When a person has experienced something too unbearable, the body would choose to forget about it.

That was a body's instinct and a way of coping. There was no treatment for

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that. Whether or not the patient regains their memory depends on themselves.

“Mom, who’s this? Should I know him?” Dahlia looked at Florence.

“N-no.” An idea struck Florence, and she quickly shook her head.

“He’s an insurance agent. He barged in and insisted on promoting his insurance package. I can’t seem to drive him away. How annoying!”

Then, she shooed Dustin out. “Hey! Why are you still standing here? Go on,

get out. Don’t be a nuisance here, or I’ll call the cops!”

She eagerly wished for Dahlia to forget about Dustin so she could start afresh.

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With her daughter's looks and assets, it wouldn't be a stretch for her to marry into royalty.

"You don't remember me. I guess... it's a good thing, too." Dustin forced a

smile. He was unsure how to feel about this turn of events.

He and Dahlia had agreed to part on good terms. He had only rushed to the hospital because he had heard she was in a life-threatening condition.

Now that he saw that she was fine, he was at ease.

As for her selective amnesia, he thought it was quite a good thing for both of

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them. They no longer had to suffer and could live peacefully.

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Chapter 893

“Take care, and don’t do anything reckless anymore. We’ll meet again in the future.”

Dustin turned to leave after saying farewell. It seemed like things were fated to end between

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them. “Mom, that man was weird. Have I met him before?” Dahlia frowned as she watched Dustin leave. Somehow, he made her feel nostalgic. But she couldn’t recall who he was.

“No, of course, you haven’t met him before. He’s just an insurance agent. Why would you be concerned about him?”

“Here, lie down and have a good rest.” Florence was overjoyed.

“That’s right, Dahlia. You’ve just had a traffic accident and barely survived. Don’t overthink things,

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Julie chimed in.

”

To them, Dahlia forgetting about Dustin was a good thing.

“Okay.” Dahlia nodded. Though things seemed weird to her, she didn’t give them further thought.

Dustin’s emotions were a mess on his way back.

The current

outcome was a relatively good ending for both of them. But somehow,

Dustin couldn’t find i

t within him to feel happy.

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Maybe he still had some lingering feelings for Dahlia. But he was sure that it would fade away with time.

That evening, when Dustin arrived at Zephyr Lodge, a flustered Cornelius met him at the door.

“Sir Rhys! You’ve come back at the right time! Those Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples are giving us trouble again!”

Cornelius quickly rushed up to Dustin.

“What’s wrong?” Dustin asked.

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“Some of our men had a conflict with them, and they broke all our men’s legs! Those women are going out of hand!” Cornelius was furious.

“How dare they go around beating people up on my territory? Let’s go. I’d like to see the situation.” Dustin frowned and headed straight for the infirmary. Cornelius followed right behind him.

After treating Edith, Dustin thought he would let her rest there for two more days. But now, barely half a day had passed, and they were already causing trouble. Those women were a troublesome lot!

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Outside the infirmary, several disciples of the Kirin Gang lay on the ground, wailing in pain.

All of them had their legs broken.

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples stood around them arrogantly, looking down on them

.

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“Hmph! How dare you provoke us when that’s all you got? You truly overestimate yourselves!

“Ladies! Throw them out!”

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Then, the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples dragged those from the Kirin Gang by their broken legs. The screams and wails instantly got louder. “Stop!” Dustin strode in and looked at them coldly. “How dare you lot behave so unruly here!” The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples backed off when they saw Cornelius behind Dustin. They feared him. “Sir Rhys! You’ve finally come!” “These women are so arrogant! They just beat us up because things didn’t go their way. The

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y're too much!"

The disciples of the Kirin Gang, who had their legs broken, immediately complained.

"What exactly happened?" Dustin demanded icily.

"A woman tried to force her way into the lodge, so we tried to stop her.

But she was so unre

asonable and broke our legs without any warning. She even humiliated us!" One of the disci

ples of the Kirin Gang huffed.

"Who was it? Who dares harm my men?" Dustin's sharp gaze swept around the room.

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“It was me!”

A pretty lady made her way out from the crowd. She had her head held high, and her eyes were arrogant. She looked like she thought she was better than everyone else.

It was Brittany who had been driven out of the sisterhood!

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Chapter 894

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Dustin frowned when he saw Brittany. “Why are you here? Haven’t you been kicked out of the sisterhood?”

“If Nikki can be reaccepted, then so can I! How’s that? Do you like the surprise?” Brittany taunted as she crossed her arms.

Dustin could plan all he wanted but could not go against Edith’s word.

“I need a reasonable explanation.” Dustin looked at Letitia.

“Young man, I must admit that you have cured Edith of her injuries. But we’ve paid you 50 billion as compensation.

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“I think that’s more than enough. You should be appreciative,” Letitia said calmly.

She looked poised and showed no signs of remorse

“Money is one thing, but this is an entirely different matter. Since you promised me, then you should have kept it.

“The Jade Maiden Sisterhood is a decent guild. Are you going back on your word?” Dustin asked frostily.

“So what if we go back on our word? You have no place meddling in affairs of the sisterhood

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d!” Brittany huffed.

“That’s right! We will do as we please. It has nothing to do with you,” the sisterhood disciples clamored.

They appeared so overbearing and had completely no respect for Dustin.

“I never expected the Jade Maiden Sisterhood to be like this. Inconsistent, no credibility, and shameless!” Dustin mocked.

“Young man, you better watch your words!” Letitia was angered. She felt humiliated to be disgraced in front of so many people.

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“Fine. I won’t waste any more words on you. If you choose to be like this, that’s on you. But I demand an apology for beating up my men!” Dustin said impassively. He had been so kind to save Edith. But in the end, the disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood repaid his kindness by breaking his men’s legs. He would not accept that without a fight.

“An apology? Hah! Who do you think you are? How dare you demand an apology from the Jade Maiden Sisterhood?”

Edith slowly walked out from the infirmary.

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She looked better than before. The color had returned to her cheeks, and she looked much more energetic. Carrying herself like a queen, she looked at Dustin arrogantly.

“Madam Parker, your lead disciple is unbelievably arrogant. Do we not deserve an apology from her for hurting my men?” Dustin squinted his eyes.

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Chapter 894

“Brittany must have her reasons for beating them up,” Edith said, unphased.

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“Besides, even if she did not have a legitimate reason, so what?

“Those men are just some low-lives. So what if she beat them up? What’s the big deal?”

“What?” Dustin frowned.

“Madam Parker, aren’t you being unreasonable?”

He thought that Edith would try to smooth things over in a nice manner or apologize.

But not only did she not yield, she even continued her arrogant and self-righteous attitude. She

even went so far as to pin the blame on the victims!

“Unreasonable?” Edith huffed.

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“What I say goes! We have been merciful to have just beaten them up. You won’t be able to

do

anything if we’d killed them all!”

“That’s right! It’s their

honor to have been beaten up by me! Even if I’d killed them, they would have deserved it!”

Brittany lifted her chin proudly.

Edith was unreasonable, while Brittany was arrogant. They were made for each other.

“I finally understand why the Jade Maiden disciples

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are so shameless. They have a rotten leader who sets a horrible example for them!

“You’re all a bunch of heartless bastards!” Dustin’s gaze became freezingly cold.

“How dare you!”

“Insolent bastard!”

The disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood were livid when they heard Dustin’s words. All of them were filled with righteous indignation as a killing intent fired up within each of them.

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They had never been so embarrassed like this before! This was the same as disgracing the entire sisterhood!

“You brat! Do you have a death wish?” A murderous glint flashed in Edith’s eyes.

“We don’t know who has a death wish yet. If you annoy me any further, none of you will leave this place in one piece!” Dustin declared coldly.

“You impudent scoundrel! Take him down!” Edith shouted.

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Chapter 895

“Wait!”

Nikki came running out and stood between Dustin and Edith.

“Can we please sit down and talk things through calmly? There must be a mis

understanding. Please don’t fight.”

“Get lost! This is none of your business!” Edith glared at her fiercely.

“Madam Edith, Dustin saved your life today! You can’t repay his kindness with

revenge!” Nikki was exasperated.

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“Shut up! You’re in no place to speak here!” Edith lost her cool.

It was embarrassing for her to be lectured by her disciple.

“Madam Parker, I’m giving you a chance for Nikki’s sake.”

Dustin demanded coldly, “If you break Brittany’s leg, we can all pretend that n

othing happened today.”

“Utter rubbish! Why should anyone do as you say? Who do you think you are?

” Brittany glared at him.

“Have you gone mad, brat? What makes you think that I’ll take orders from yo

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u?” Edith looked at him condescendingly.

“Why?” Dustin stepped forward before confidently saying, “Because I have the original copy of the Jade Maiden Scripture! Is that enough?”

“The Jade Maiden Scripture?”

The crowd was

in an uproar when they heard that. They all gaped with greed in their eyes.

The Jade Maiden Scripture was the treasure of their guild. Anyone who could

master the moves in the Jade Maiden Scripture could advance at an alarming

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speed.

“Hey, brat! Is that true?” Edith’s eyes widened, both in anticipation and in doubt.

t.

The Jade Maiden Scripture she had previously gotten her hands on wasn’t complete, as only half of it existed. So, she ended up going to extremes when practicing the moves.

She desperately needed the other half of the scripture to complete her training.

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and ultimately reach the level of grandmaster.

“Of course, I mean what I say. If you break her leg, I might consider letting you look at it,” Dustin said.

“Don’t listen to his nonsense, Madam Edith! He’s trying to trick you!” Brittany panicked.

She was worried that Edith might act on the spur of the moment and break her leg.

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“You can say anything you want, brat. But I won’t believe you unless you show

me the scripture.”

Edith’s eyes narrowed. “As long as you can prove to me that you have the Jade

Maiden Scripture, I will do as you say and break this wench’s leg!”

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“You want proof? That’s simple.” Dustin approached one of the Jade Maiden

disciples and took her sword, fastened by her waist.

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The sword was unsheathed, and Dustin grabbed at it. Then, he performed a

set of sword techniques.

His moves were agile and graceful. The swordplay was fancy but lethal simultaneously.

Those who watched were impressed and shocked by it.

“Do you recognize it yet?”

After demonstrating the swordplay routine, he threw the sword into the air.

It

landed accurately into its sheath.

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“It’s the Jade Maiden sword technique! It really is!”

Edith’s eyes lit up, and her breathing quickened.

The Jade Maiden sword technique was the ultimate move in the scripture.

Sh

e had had the chance to see her teacher perform it once.

It was profound and unparalleled.

She had never thought that she’d

be able to see it again at such a place. It proved that Dustin really had the Jade Maiden Scripture.

“Well, I see that you’ve recognized it. That’s great then,” Dustin said frostily.

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“Now, I want you to break her leg personally!”
Brittany paled at his words.

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Chapter 896

For a moment, all eyes were on Brittany.

The Jade Maiden Scripture was important to the Jade Maiden Sisterhood.
But Dustin had made his condition known.

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He demanded that Brittany's leg be broken. And most importantly, he wanted Edith to do it personally

"Dus- Nikki intended to speak for them, but Dustin cut her off by raising a hand.

His gaze was fixed on Edith. "What do you say, Madam Parker?"

"Brittany is my lead disciple. I can never hurt her as her mentor," Edith said righteously.

"So I take it that you have no interest in the Jade Maiden Scripture?"

Dustin raised a brow.

"Of course, I'm interested in it. But I do not plan to take orders from you."

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Edith lifted her chin and said, “I will have the scripture and protect my disciple.

“Pass me the Jade Maiden Scripture now. That is an order.

“If you do, I will forgive you for your rudeness earlier. Otherwise, do not be surprised if I attack you!

Dustin was so angered that he failed to hold back a laugh.

She had readily agreed, but she backed out on her word in the blink of an eye. She even

dared to boss him around.

That was a straight-up threat! She was shameless and proudly so.

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“I must admit, I’ve underestimated how shameless you can be. You’re on an entirely different level of shamelessness.” Dustin chuckled as he shook his head. He had met his fair share of shameless people but never one as shameless as Edith.

“You insolent bastard! How dare you insult Madam Edith! You’ve got a lot of nerve!”

“How dare you disrespect Madam Edith! You must have a death wish!” The disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood roared angrily. Some even took out their sword, ready to attack.

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“You bastard’ Do you have any idea what you’ve just said?” Edith looked at him with hatred in her eyes

If it had not been for the Jade Maiden Scripture, she would have already killed him for what he’d just said.

“You were the one whose words cannot be trusted! Why do you care what I say since you’re already shameless?” Dustin mocked.

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“You bastard! Do not test my patience! Give me the Jade Maiden Scripture, and I might spare you this once!” Edith gradually lost her cool.

1/2

Dustin declared.

Ight before you!”

He had been too patient with them, resulting in them to cross the line. If that were the case,

he would have to resort to using violence.

“You? Do you even have what it takes?” Edith looked at him in disdain.

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“That’s right! Who are you to say that? How dare you speak so arrogantly?” Brittany challenged.

With Edith there to back her up, she had nothing to fear.

“Mr. Adler, break both her legs,” Dustin ordered. He couldn’t be bothered to waste any more words on them.

“Yes, sir!” Cornelius laughed sinisterly and leaped forward.

He couldn’t hold back any longer. Those wicked wenches had repaid their kindness with ingratitude.

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They created many problems for them. They even threatened Dustin and were ready to take what didn't belong to them!

He could not put up with them any longer.

“You're asking for trouble!” Edith's gaze turned cold when she saw Cornelius about to attack. She dashed forward and aimed to punch him..

For a moment, a fierce wind rose. Sand and dust were flying all over.

“Just the right timing!” Cornelius did not back off and sent a punch aimed straight at Edith.

Both fists collided.

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With a loud bang, they were both sent flying in opposite directions. Cornelius stumbled more than ten steps back. His heart raced, and his arm went numb..

But Edith was sent three steps back. Her face paled.

But in comparison to Cornelius, it seemed like Edith was the stronger one.

“All hail, Madam Edith!”

“You’re amazing, Madam Edith!”

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples were overjoyed.

“Hahaha! How dare you challenge Madam Edith, you old thing? You overestimate yourself!”

Brittany laughed meanly.

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But the moment her voice died down, Edith spat a mouthful of blood and nearly collapsed.

“Madam Edith!”

They were all shocked and quickly dashed forward to support her.

Edith was stronger than Cornelius but had yet to recover from her internal injuries. Now that

she had suffered the impact of the punch, her injuries acted up again.

“Stop fighting!”

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Chapter 897

Nikki rushed over to stop Edith. “Madam Edith, you haven’t recovered yet! Please stop!”

“Damn it, brat!”

Infuriated, Edith slapped Nikki across the face. “If it weren’t for the incomplete scripture you gave me, I wouldn’t have gone to extremes in training and gotten injured!” “I-it wasn’t me... Nikki held her cheek and shook her head frantically. “Stop lying” Edith shouted.

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“How did that bastard get his hands on the Jade Maiden Scripture? I’m sure you were the

one who stole it and gave it to him. You ungrateful b*tch!”

“I didn’t!” Nikki denied anxiously.

“I see what you’re up to, Nikki Horst. You gave Madam Edith the incomplete scripture and

gave that bastard the real one. You’re such a b*tch!”

“I thought you were a loyal disciple. It turns out you’re just a backstabber who betrayed us!”

“Enough with the acting. You make me sick!”

Instantly, the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples began cursing at Nikki.

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They were sure Nikki must have conspired with Dustin and took the Jade Maiden Scripture for herself. It was a big crime.

“This is a misunderstanding!” Nikki tried to explain herself, but they refused to believe her.

Just like that, she became the prime suspect.

“Mr. Adler, hurry up and break that woman’s legs.”

Dustin pointed at Brittany, looking impassive.

“Yes, sir!” Cornelius jumped forward and swung his leg toward Brittany’s knee.

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There was a crisp crack as Brittany's knee bent backward, her bone fracturing from the impact.

"Aargh!" Brittany wailed as she fell to the ground in pain, sweating uncontrollably.

"Stop! If you hurt her again, I'll make you pay with your life!" Edith snarled.

"An eye for an eye. She broke my men's legs, so I should return the favor and break hers,"

Dustin replied nonchalantly..

"Mr. Adler, her other leg as well."

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“Sure!” Cornelius sneered and raised his foot.

“I told you to stop!” Edith suddenly drew her sword and pressed the blade against Nikki’s neck.

“I’ll kill her if you do anything!”

Startled, Cornelius immediately stopped his attack.

“Madam Edith?” Nikki was stunned, looking in disbelief.

“Madam Parker, you’d kill your most faithful disciple?” Dustin narrowed his eyes.

“I’ve already kicked her out! She’s nothing to me now!” Edith retorted, lifting her sword.

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The blade broke Nikki's skin, causing blood to trickle out of the wound
"Why? What did I do wrong. Madam Edith? Why would you do this to me?" Nikki sobbed

She had remained loyal to Jade Maiden Sisterhood this entire time. She never imagined she

would end up threatened by Edith

"Shut up Edith shouted

"Who the hell do you think you are? You're nothing compared to Brittany!"

"So, you're going to kill me because of Brittany?" Nikki's voice trembled in shock

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“Sacrificing you is nothing if it means saving Brittany. You’re just a pawn to me anyway”

Edith snapped.

Nikki’s legs went weak. She collapsed onto the ground with a pale face, utterly

disappointed.

She never imagined that Edith would be ruthless enough to sacrifice her

Did her loyalty mean nothing to Edith?

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Chapter 898

“I know the two of you are working together. If you don’t want her to be killed, you better

release Brittany!” Edith threatened, holding her sword at Nikki’s neck.

She would have never resorted to such tactics if she hadn’t been injured.

“Why? Why?” Nikki mumbled as she sat on the ground, tears dripping down her cheeks.

Dustin frowned and eventually nodded. “Fine, release Nikki, and I’ll let go of your disciple.”

He gestured for Cornelius to step back.

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“Take Brittany away first.” Edith signaled.
The Jade Maiden sisterhood disciples hurriedly dragged Brittany away.
Letitia remained by Edith’s side to keep an eye on Cornelius in case he decided to do anything.
“Brat, I demand you to hand me the Jade Maiden Scripture!”
Although Brittany had been released, Edith did not lower her sword. Instead, she began to shout out her requests.
“I’ve already compromised once. You’d better not take things too far.”
Dustin’s face

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hardened.

How dare that witch try to make another unreasonable request!

“The Jade Maiden Scripture belongs to us in the first place. It’s only natural that you return it to its rightful owner!” Edith demanded arrogantly.

“With your attitude, do you think I’d hand it over?” Dustin retorted.

“Only women have use of the Jade Maiden Scripture. What would you do with it?”

“I’ll forgive you for your rude actions toward me if you return it to me!” Edith continued her

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arrogant attitude.

“All of you are the same.” Dustin shook his head in annoyance.

“Even if it’s useless to me, I’d rather burn it to a crisp than hand it over to you!”

“You!” Edith’s face hardened.

“You better think this through, brat! I’ll kill her if you don’t give me the scripture!”

She pushed the sword harder at Nikki’s neck, causing Nikki’s wound to deepen and bleed

more.

“I’ll destroy your entire group if she dies!”

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Dustin immediately began releasing a murderous aura. Knowing Edith's personality, the more he agreed to compromise, the more unreasonable her requests would be. "Madam, why don't we fall back for now? I'm sure we'll get another chance." Letitia advised when she realized the situation was worsening. "You're still hurt, so you shouldn't be fighting. There's a chance we might lose if you fight now."

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Kirin Gang had many skilled disciples and members, especially Cornelius. Both sides would suffer heavily if a fight were to break out. “What?” Edith frowned. She looked around and saw more Kirin Gang members surrounding them. She hesitated and decided it was best to retreat since fighting wouldn’t work in her favor today. “I’ll let you off the hook for today! You better hand over the scripture within the next

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three days or be prepared to face the consequences!” Edith spat before jumping over the wall with Letitia and disappearing.

Instead of going after them, Dustin walked over to Nikki’s side and crouched down. “Are you still going to be loyal to someone like her?”

“I just don’t get it. Why is she acting like this? Am I not good enough?” Nikki knelt on the ground, devastated.

“She’s not acting any differently. It’s you who never saw her for who she was.

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Dustin explained before advising, “There’s no need to look up to someone who tramples all over you.

“Your best bet would be to leave Jade Maiden Sisterhood as soon as possible.”

“B-but where would I go?” Nikki cried.

She joined Jade Maiden Sisterhood when she was in her teens. After living with them for

eight. years, the Jade Maiden Sisterhood was like a second home to her.

“If you don’t have anywhere else to go, you can join us,” Dustin answered frankly.

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“Your brother was the guildmaster of Flame Dragon Guild when he was still alive. You can take over his position.”

“C-can I?” Nikki was doubtful.

“Of course.” Dustin nodded.

“You’re talented and more than capable of leading the guild. I’ll also write the Jade Maiden Scripture as a gift to celebrate your promotion.”

For female martial artists, the Jade Maiden Scripture was a valuable martial arts asset to them..

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Mastering the technique in the scripture would make it possible for them to reach the level of grandmaster.

“T-thank you...” Nikki sobbed gratefully.

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899

Chapter 899

Everyone could tell that Dustin truly cared for Nikki.

“You should freshen up. I’ll be holding a banquet for you tonight.

“It’ll be a good opportunity for you to get closer to the gang’s members.”

Dustin patted her

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shoulder and waved two female disciples over to help Nikki to her room.

“Aren’t you being too nice to her, sir?” Cornelius asked.

“I owe Nelson my life, so I should help her however I can.” Dustin’s eyes turned sad.

“I just hope she doesn’t disappoint you.” Cornelius was envious.

Dustin didn’t just save Nikki. He helped her escape from that hellhole and would give her

the Jade Maiden Scripture.

He was even going as far as to pass her the position of guildmaster!

There was no one as lucky as Nikki. If Cornelius were a woman, he would be throwing

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himself at Dustin by now.

Night soon fell.

Kirin Gang's executives sat together in Zephyr Lodge's ballroom, enjoying their drinks. All

five of Kirin Gang's guildmasters were present.

They were Cornelius from Darklaws, Nikki from Flame Dragon Guild, Alec Blanton of

Charging Tiger Guild, Jim Kirk of Stonefur, and Joseph Bates from Slythorn.

All five of them were now Dustin's most trusted subordinates, and each had their strengths.

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Cornelius was known for his fighting skills, Nikki for her abilities and potential, Alec for his

brains, Jim for his honorable personality, and Joseph for his versatility.

“Dame Nikki, congratulations on joining Kirin Gang! I would like to offer you a toast.”

“Dame Nikki, I greatly respect your brother and hope Flame Dragon Guild flourishes under your lead!”

“I’m not good with words, Nikki. So, I’ll let my toast do the talking.”

The four guildmasters stood up and offered Nikki a toast.

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They knew that Dustin valued Flame Dragon Guild the most out of the five guilds. So, they didn't dare to protest about Flame Dragon Guild's guildmaster being a woman.

"Thank you." Nikki forced a smile and lifted her glass in response. The room became much more lively after food and drinks were served, and everyone started getting a little tipsy. After drinking a few glasses, Joseph passed out and fell to the ground. "Pfft! Oh, Joseph! You always boasted about how good you are at drinking."

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“I didn’t expect you to be such a lightweight,” Jim teased before passing out and falling to the floor.

“Jeez, what are you guys doing? Don’t stop now.” Alec reached over and tried to shake them awake but soon fell unconscious.

Soon, most of Kirin Gang’s guildmasters were knocked out.

“What?” Cornelius tried to stop his head from spinning, finally realizing something was wrong.

“Sir, we’ve been drugged!”

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“Well, you found out too late!” Someone cackled as the doors were kicked open.

Edith and the Jade Maiden Sisterhood disciples barged into the ballroom.

“You?” Cornelius paled.

He tried to stand up to fight but nearly tripped. He could only stand where he was and try

to resist the effects of the drug.

“You guys sure are stubborn!” Dustin frowned, pissed.

“I bet you didn’t expect us to return!” Edith walked in confidently.

“Security at Zephyr Lodge is tight. When did you put the drug?” Cornelius growled.

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There were no outsiders today, and Kirin Gang members were constantly on the lookout. So, the Jade Maiden Sisterhood shouldn't have had a chance to drug them. "Well, I'll have to thank my darling disciple for that," Edith smirked and waved Nikki over.

"Well done, Nikki. I've decided to take you back in!"

Dustin and his men were shocked.

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Chapter 900

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Dustin stared at Nikki in disbelief from across the table. He couldn't believe that she had been the person who drugged them.

"Why is it you?" Cornelius' widened eyes were full of dismay, confusion, and anger.

He never imagined that the traitor would be Nikki, whom Dustin had treated so well.

"I'm sorry... I'm sorry." Nikki looked away guiltily and kept her head down.

"Why?" Dustin could only ask.

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Because of Nelson, Dustin treated Nikki like his sister and tried to do everything in her best interest. He even reigned in his temper in front of Jade Maiden Sisterhood just to free her, so he never imagined that she would betray him in return. “Jade Maiden Sisterhood is my home, and they are my family. I-I didn’t have a choice. I’m sorry...” Nikki apologized as she repeatedly shook her head. She felt guilty toward Dustin but couldn’t go against Edith and the Jade Maiden Sisterhood’s wishes.

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“I just don’t get it. Why are you still so determined to stay when they mistreated you? Just, why?” Dustin’s brows were furrowed.

He couldn’t understand why Nikki would throw her pride away and serve people who treated her like trash.

“I...” Nikki didn’t know what to say, so she kept her head down and remained silent.

“What’s the point of talking about that now?” Edith sneered.

“Nikki is my disciple, and she belongs to Jade Maiden Sisterhood. Naturally, she should be

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helping me.

“You only have yourself to blame for being so naive.”

“That’s right. Serves you right for trusting women so readily!” Edith’s disciples jeered.

“Yeah, you’re right. I was an idiot for believing a person I just met.”

Dustin smirked selfmockingly.

Although Nelson had been loyal, it didn’t mean that Nikki would be the same.

Dustin had been too naive and stupid to believe that Nikki would come around if he treated

her

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well.

The reality turned out to be completely different

Nikki had drugged the Kirin Gang to return to Jade Maiden Sisterhood's good graces

despite

Dustin couldn't help feeling disappointed at how she repaid him.

"Your fates are in our hands now. You better hand the scripture over if you don't want to

die!" Edith threatened.

"I have it, Madam Edith. Please take a look at it." Nikki rushed over, took out the scripture,

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and offered it to Edith.

It was the handwritten present Dustin gave her earlier at the table.

“Really?” Edith took the scripture and began flipping through it before laughing excitedly.

“It is the Jade Maiden Scripture. It even has records of the Drizzle Dance Sword Art. Well done!

Edith beamed and praised Nikki. “You’ve finally done a good job. I’ll be sure to reward you once we’re back!”

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“Thank you, Madam Edith!” Nikki immediately perked up, her mood reflecting Edith’s.

“What an idiot!” Cornelius spat.

Was Nikki a moron? She could have kept the scripture to herself and used it to her

advantage instead of giving it away.

“I didn’t expect you to treat my disciple so well, brat.” Edith waved the scripture smugly.

“You gave the thing I had been looking for so diligently away as a gift. I’m so touched I could

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cry.

“Unfortunately for you, it still ended up in my hands.”

“Madam Edith, you’ve finally obtained the scripture. Let’s leave.” Nikki forced a smile.

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