

An Understated Dominance Chapter 951 - 1000

Chapter 951

“I know how you feel, Ms. Harmon. But the effects of the poison are too strong.

“I’ve tried everything, but nothing worked. I’m really sorry.” Linden sighed.

He cared a lot about Dustin and even planned to make Dustin his successor. It was unfortunate

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that Dustin had been poisoned with an incurable poison.

“T—that’s impossible!” Natasha

began to panic. Nobody stood a chance if even Linden was unable to cure Dustin.

“Hang on!” Natasha suddenly recalled something.

“Dr. Watkins, I heard Stoneray Order has a magical herb called ‘Resurgathorn’. It can revive

someone when mixed with a secret recipe. Is that true?”

“Resurgathorn?” Linden frowned when he heard this.

“Ms. Harmon, that is something that is forbidden. We mustn’t use it.”

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“Why not? Are you worried that we won’t be able to pay up?” Natasha was anxious.

“It has nothing to do with money.”

Linden shook his head before explaining, “Resurgathorn isn’t a medical herb. Rather, it’s a hi

ghly

potent poison that’s difficult to use.

“Doctors are forbidden from using it.

“I don’t care if it’s a medical herb or poison as long as it can save Dustin.

Just tell me what I

have

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to do.” Natasha was unfazed by Linden’s explanation.

“If we use Resurgathorn

in his current condition, we’ll have to risk another person’s life. All the poison in Mr. Rhys’ body will be transferred to the other person’s.

“It means we’re exchanging one life for another,” Linden said sadly.

“Exchanging one life for another?” Many paled when they heard that.

The cost of treating Dustin was far greater than they had expected.

“That’s merely one of the conditions. Not everyone has the right criteria to sacrifice themselves.”

“During the process, the person

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sacrificing must willingly go through unbearable pain. Any regret or resistance will render the attempt useless.

“That

person must have a strong mind and unbreakable love toward Mr. Rhys for the treatment to work.”

Linden’s explanation made everyone silent in thought, and their expression became grim. They thought of finding a terminally ill patient to fill the role, but it seemed like that plan wouldn’t work now.

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Then, who might fulfill these requirements? After all, even close family members would be reluctant to sacrifice themselves willingly.

“Everyone has the right to choose, so we shouldn’t force anything on anyone. I think we should give up.” Linden sighed again.

“Dr. Watkins, I’m willing to give it a try.” Natasha volunteered.

“What?” Everyone’s eyes shot toward Natasha, their eyes filled with astonishment.

“Ms. Harmon, this isn’t a simple matter. If anything goes wrong, both of you will die!” Linden

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n

warned.

He'd made everything clear, yet Natasha still stubbornly insisted on trying. "I know, but I still want to try." Natasha walked over to Dustin's bed and caressed his cheek.

Her eyes were soft but determined when she said, "He's my husband. I'm willing to sacrifice myself for him."

Despite her calm tone, her love for Dustin was evident.

"Are you sure you want to do this, Ms. Harmon?" Linden frowned.

"I'm sure." Natasha nodded.

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“The pain will be unbearable. Are you sure you won’t regret this?” Linden asked again.

“Yep.” Smiling, Natasha bent over and gently kissed Dustin’s lips.

“If he doesn’t make it, I’ll die with him.”

Everyone went silent when they heard her words.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter
952

Chapter 952

“Goodbye, my love ...”

Despite being unconscious, Dustin heard a familiar voice speaking to him.

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He wanted to open his eyes, but he couldn't no matter how hard he tried. It felt like his body had fallen into a bottomless pit and was still falling. Fear and despair washed over him in the dark world. He didn't know how long he'd been in this state. A year? Ten? Or maybe even a hundred? Just as Dustin was about to break down, he saw a burst of light in the distance. Like a drowning man yearning for air, he swam desperately toward the source of the light. He got

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closer and closer until the light engulfed him.
Suddenly, Dustin woke up on the hospital bed with a gasp. Air filled his lungs, and his heart began picking up pace.
It felt as if he had been reborn.
He took a moment to check himself and realized that the poison had miraculously disappeared from his body!
Although he felt slightly weak, his life was no longer in danger.
“Mr. Rhys, you’re finally awake. I thought you would not make it,” someone said tiredly.

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Dustin looked up to see Linden by the bed. Sweat beaded the older man's forehead as he panted exhaustedly.

“So you were the one who saved me. Thank you so much!” Dustin frantically thanked Linden.

It was nearly impossible to neutralize the poison in his body, so Linden must have gone through a lot to bring Dustin back to life.

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“It’s nothing. I only had to use my energy. You should be thanking the person next to you in stead.” Linden sighed.

“Beside me?” Puzzled, Dustin turned his head.

On the bed next to his lay a beautiful but lifeless woman whose breathing was

so faint her chest barely moved. She looked just like a corpse.

“Natasha?” Stunned, Dustin sprung up in horror.

He threw himself toward her and began checking her weak pulse. She was so weak she was nearly dead.

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Dustin tried channeling his true energy to her, but all her organs remained unresponsive. He touched her once supple and smooth skin, but it was icy cold and stiff. “How could this be? What happened?” Dustin was terrified. He couldn’t figure out what was wrong with her. Despite all the medical textbooks he has read, he has never seen a condition like hers, much less know how to treat it. It felt like Natasha was already dead. “Dr. Watkins, what happened to her?” Dustin spun his head around panickedly.

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“Well, she turned this way because she tried to save you.” With a sigh, Linden began telling Dustin the whole story.

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Chapter 953

From agonizing pain to reaching death, Linden carefully watched the entire process. He felt that

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Dustin needed to know how far Natasha would go for the person she loved.

Dustin was dumbstruck after hearing Linden explain the event.

He never imagined that Natasha was willing to sacrifice herself to save him. At

this moment, he

finally understood his feelings for her.

Still, there was no way he could accept her feelings for him if it led to something like this.

“Mr. Rhys, Ms. Harmon left this letter for you. Please read it.” Conflicted, Linden cautiously passed

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Dustin a letter.

No one had ever impressed him as Natasha did. After all, even grandmasters might not be able to handle the unbearable pain.

Yet, an ordinary woman could withstand the pain without complaining and did so without regret.

She was fearless.

Linden couldn't imagine how much Natasha must love Dustin for her to go so far. Linden had

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already given up on Dustin.

But Natasha made him

realize that, sometimes, even humans could possess the strength of gods.

Dustin shakily opened the letter to see rows of neat, dainty writing.

“Dear,

“By the time you read this, I’m probably gone. Please don’t blame yourself since I did everything willingly.

“From the moment we met, I knew you were different.

“Initially, I found you intriguing. But unknowingly, I fell in love with you.

“You occupy my mind each day, and I constantly yearn to see you again.

“Your happiness brought me joy, and I felt sad

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whenever I saw you upset. This must be what love, feels like, right?

“Speaking of

which, I’m kind of jealous of Dahlia Nicholson. She got to meet you before I did and

“Fortunately, I got my chance since she didn’t know how to appreciate you.

“Right, I have a question. Who is more important to you—me or her? I bet I’ve taken the lead now, right?

“Oh, well. What’s the point of competing with her now?

“In any case, please live a peaceful and happy life for both of us.

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“Don’t you cry for me; you’d better not forget me!

“I’ll be watching over you from above. Remember, be happy.

“Farewell, darling.”

Tears flowed down Dustin’s cheeks and fell on the letter. He wept as he read what Natasha had written.

Like most men, he rarely cried. But this letter managed to hit him where it hurt.

“Oh, why were you so stupid? What am I supposed to do now that you’re gone?”

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“How am I supposed to repay you? You have to wake up!” Dustin pressed his forehead against Natasha’s and whispered brokenly. He hasn’t cried since his mother passed, but Natasha’s feelings for him opened his heart again. He was sure he would never be able to forget her.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 954 -
Chapter 954

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Natasha's peaceful expression was like a knife stabbing Dustin's heart. He hated himself for causing her to end up like this, and he hated himself for being unable to save her.

If he could turn time back, he would switch things around.

"Hang on! Switch?" Dustin perked up when he thought of something.

He looked at Linden and asked, "Dr. Watkins, do you have any Resurgothorn l

eft? I want to save her by exchanging our lives!"

"Don't be foolish!" Linden scolded him, frowning.

"Do you think Resurgathorn is food? It's not readily available.

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“Besides, Ms. Harmon sacrificed herself for you. The least you could do to make her sacrifice worthwhile is to live properly!”

“I don’t want her to sacrifice herself. I just need her to be alive!” Dustin roared with bloodshot eyes.

“I don’t care what I must do and what price I must pay. I just need her to come back to life!”

Dustin begged, “Please, Dr. Watkins. You’re the best doctor I know. Please help me save her!”

He fell to his knees in front of Linden.

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“You-

” Linden was exasperated and tried to pull Dustin up, but Dustin refused to
bu
dge.

After a moment of hesitation, Linden gave in. “Fine. I might as
well tell you the truth.

“Although Ms. Harmon is practically dead, there’s still a way to save her.”

“What is it?” Dustin lit up excitedly.

“Technically, Ms. Harmon should have died immediately after absorbing
the p
oison in your body.

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But Resurgathorn and Septemortis seem to counter each other.

“So, the effects of the poisons were reduced by half, allowing her to remain alive for so long,”

Linden explained.

“There are two ways to save her. First, you’ll need Phoenixwort. Secondly, you’ll need to find a

“Unfortunately, it’s nearly impossible to find them, so you shouldn’t have high

hopes.” Linden

sighed.

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He would have told Dustin about this if he felt it was achievable, but it wasn't.

“Phoenixwort? Shadowbloom? Where do I find them?” Dustin pressed.

“Phoenixwort has the power to raise the dead and is a sacred item to the Mystic Arts Order. No outsider has ever seen it before.

“However, you'll die if you barge into their territory!” Linden warned.

The Mystic Arts Order was the darkest faction in

the world. Many formidable fighters were gathered there.

The faction's current leader was also an ultimate grandmaster. Their leader w

as one of the most powerful figures in the world and was skilled in all sorts

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of magic.

That

person was so terrifying that even Dragonmarsh avoided them.

Dustin might be a young grandmaster, but he was no match for the Mystic

Art

s Order.

Even Michael, one of the five ultimate grandmasters of Balerno, could

only fle

e when attacked by the Mystic Arts Order.

It was clear that

the Mystic Arts Order was a place that terrified all martial artists.

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“Then, what about Shadowbloom?” Dustin frowned.
He wasn’t keen on becoming enemies with the Mystic Arts Order.
“Shadowblooms
are also known as Flowers of the Underworld. Similar to Phoenixworts,
they c
an also bring someone back from the dead.
“However, this is most likely just a myth.”
Linden shook his head before continuing, “Legend has it that around five
deca
des ago, there was a woman who traveled to the ends of the world in
search o

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f the flower. She wanted to save her ill husband.

“However, when she found the flower, her husband died.

“Since then, no one has ever heard from her. There are rumors that she hid the flower inside her

The furrow between Dustin’s brows deepened. “Who’s the woman?”

“Her name is Iris Meskill. Fifty years ago, she was the head of Jade Maiden Sisterhood and an ultimate grandmaster,” Linden replied grimly.

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955

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Chapter 955

Five decades ago, Linden had barely started gaining fame while Iris was already a household

name. He had the honor of meeting that impressive woman once.

“Iris Meskill? Jade Maiden Sisterhood?”

Surprised, Dustin asked, “Dr. Watkins, do you know where her tomb is?”

“That’s why I said this is impossible,” Linden sighed.

“Since her death, many have searched for her tomb, yet no one has succeeded. It basically d

oesn’t

exist!”

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“Just because no one could find it doesn’t mean it doesn’t exist,” Dustin answered firmly.

“I’ll find a way to find the Shadowbloom. If I fail, I’ll have no choice but to break into the

Mystic

Arts Order!”

“Are you crazy? You’d be walking into the lion’s den!” Linden paled.

“That’s nothing compared to Natasha sacrificing her life to save mine.”

Dustin had a determi

ned

gaze.

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“But...” Linden was at a loss for words.

“Dr. Watkins, how much longer can Natasha hold on for?” Dustin asked.

“That’s hard to tell. I’d say anywhere from three days to half a month. It’ll depend on her.” Linden shook his head.

Dustin bent over to place

a gentle peck on Natasha’s forehead. “Hang on, Natasha. I’ll be back.

“You said you’d lock me to your side, so don’t break your promise. I’ll save you no matter what, so wait for me!”

With that, he spun around and left.

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He had never looked so determined before that he seemed slightly insane. In a villa with a garden on the outskirts of town, Edith and several disciples studied the bro

ken

However, they couldn't find anything out of the ordinary.

"Nikki, are you sure there's something hidden inside the scripture?" Edith narrowed her eyes

doubtfully.

"That's what that bastard said, so it should be true." Nikki frowned uneasily.

"You might have been tricked!" Edith humphed.

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They've inspected the scripture so many times but couldn't find anything. What a waste of time.

"Madam Edith, are we using the wrong methods?" Nikki asked thoughtfully.

"Since it's supposed to be a secret, it must be hidden so well that it's impossible to find with just looking."

"Then what should we do?" Edith retorted.

"People in the shows would either soak it in water or burn it. Why don't we give it a try?" Nikki asked hesitantly.

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“Soak it in water or burn it?” Brittany nearly sprung up.

“Nikki Horst, are you crazy? The scripture is our treasure.

“How could you play around with it like that? How are you supposed to pay if you accidentally damage it?”

“It was just a suggestion: Forget it, then.” Nikki was a little guilty.

“Hang on! I think Nikki was right.

“Normal methods won’t work, so we have to take a more dramatic approach,” Edith said.

“Madam Edith, how could you trust her words?” Brittany was astonished.

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“No pain, no gain. Since the scripture is useless now anyway, we might as well risk it.

“We might even find a surprise!” Edith replied before instructing someone to prepare water and fire.

As the saying goes, “Without struggle, there is no success“. The chance to become a grandmaster depended on this!

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956

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Chapter 956

Two copper basins were soon brought as Edith ordered. One contained water, while the other had burning charcoal.

“Let’s try it out.”

Edith took a deep breath before tossing the scripture into the water.

Everyone observed the scripture, waiting for something to happen, but nothing did.

Apprehensively, Edith fished the scripture out. Still, nothing seemed to have changed.

“See, Madam Edith. I told you it wouldn’t work!” Brittany complained.

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“Let’s try again!” Edith gritted her teeth and raised the scripture again.
“Madam Edith!” Brittany quickly stopped Edith.
“We can let it dry if it’s wet. But if we burn it, we’ll never get it back. Please think this through!”
“I’ve memorized all its contents anyway, so there’s no need to keep it!”
Edith brushed Brittany’s hand away and threw the scripture into the fire. A puff of green smoke swirled around the basin as the scripture erupted in flames. It quickly turned into a pile of ash.
“Madam Edith, I see something inside!” Nikki’s eyes were sharp, and she quickly spotted the

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difference.

“I knew we’d find something!”

Edith extinguished the flames excitedly. She fumbled through the ash before coming in contact with a specially crafted gold leaf.

After washing the gold leaf clean, Edith realized a map was carved into it. There were five words engraved at the map’s final destination-“The Tomb of Iris Meskill“.

“Iris Meskill? Isn’t that our ancestor?” Edith got over her surprise and was overjoyed.

She burst out laughing. “This is great! I knew our efforts wouldn’t go to waste.

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“I never expected our ancestors to hide this treasure in the scripture. How lucky!”

Iris Meskill was the third-generation leader of Jade Sister Maidenhood. She stood out as the most exceptional and promising leader in its history. Fifty years ago, she was renowned for her be

auty

and skill.

Iris was also one of the most extraordinary female ultimate grandmasters in Dragonmarsh. S

he

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was rivaled only by the Prince of Theswe's wife, the Princess Consort of West Lucozia.

"But, Madam Edith, it's written tomb here. There's nothing about treasures." Brittany was puzzled.

"You're still too young to understand what Iris Meskill's tomb symbolizes."

Edith animatedly explained, "Iris Meskill is my mentor's mentor, making her my ancestor.

"She was a talented woman who surpassed all men, making her our role model.

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“She won countless valuables and jewels. She also had a hobby of collecting treasures.

“Unfortunately, she fell in love with a man she shouldn’t have. When that man died, she

buried

herself and her treasures with him.

“No one knows where her tomb is.

“Before my mentor

passed on, she told me if I could find Iris‘ tomb, I’d find countless treasures and

valuables that could restore the Sisterhood to its former glory!”

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By the time Edith finished speaking, her face was flushing with excitement.

As an ultimate grandmaster, Iris had more treasure than anyone could imagine. Therefore,

countless people have searched for her tomb but could never find it.

Edith never expected today to be her lucky day.

“Madam Edith, does that mean our success is near?” Brittany asked, her eyes twinkling.

“Of course!” Edith tilted her head proudly.

“When we find her treasures, I’m sure the Sisterhood will dominate the world!”

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“Awesome!” Brittany nearly jumped up in excitement.

“Let’s start digging right now!”

Brittany couldn’t wait to find the treasures.

““What’s the rush? We should

study the map carefully to avoid making any mistakes.” Edith was oddly calm as she forced her excitement down.

She knew digging out the treasures, even with the map, wouldn’t be easy.

She had to

ensure all

preparations were ready since there was no room for mistakes.

Edith glanced at Nikki and ordered, “You can leave now, Nikki. Brittany

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and I will study the map a little longer.”

“What?”

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 957

Chapter 957

Taken aback, Nikki forced a smile. “Madam Edith, I’ve got good eyes. I might be useful.”

“No thanks!” Edith frowned in annoyance.

“Having Brittany around will be enough. Leave.”

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“But-” Nikki stopped talking when Edith glared at her.
The older woman snapped, “What? Are you going to defy me?”
“Of course not.” Nikki lowered her head and bit her lower lip.
“Get out!” Nikki was irritated.
“I’ll take my leave.” With a nod, Nikki left reluctantly.
Her gaze showed her discontent and resentment.
She couldn’t believe that despite all her contributions, Edith still didn’t trust her. It was as if
Nikki was an outsider.
Yet, without her, Edith wouldn’t have obtained the scripture and discovered its secrets.

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Nikki couldn't understand why Edith would not acknowledge her hard work and favor her.

Worst, instead of receiving Edith's thanks, all Nikki got was Edith's anger thrown at her.

Nikki gritted her teeth and clenched her fists, displeased.

Once she left the villa, she grabbed her phone and dialed a number.

In a low voice, she said, "Dustin, I found one of the Sisterhood's secrets.

I'm sure it'll be

useful to

you.

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“Let’s meet at Auspicious Restaurant at 8:00 pm tonight if you’re interested.”

8:00 pm at Auspicious Restaurant.

Nikki sat alone in a private dining room, feeling uneasy. She wasn’t sure if Dustin would sho

w up.

but she had to take a chance.

After everything that happened, she realized it was better to take matters into her own hand

s instead of relying on others.

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Since Edith didn't trust her, Nikki no longer needed to prove her loyalty. Instead, she would use everything in her reach to bring her power. Just then, the door opened, and Dustin walked in. None of his subordinates accompanied him. "You're here." Nikki instantly lit up and stood up. She was happy and relieved he was here since it meant she still had a chance. "What's the secret?" Dustin asked coldly. "Give me Jade Maiden Scripture first, and I'll tell you," Nikki bargained.

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Without another word, Dustin took out a manuscript and tossed it onto the table. He had anticipated Nikki's intentions, so he prepared the scripture beforehand. "I like how direct you are!" Nikki examined the scripture carefully. Certain that nothing was wrong, she answered his question. "Madam Edith found a map within the incomplete scripture. "It's a map that leads to Iris Meskill's tomb, where countless treasures are hidden!" "Iris Meskill?" Dustin stiffened, losing his calm demeanor.

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958

Chapter 958

“Iris Meskill’s tomb? Are you sure?” Dustin grabbed Nikki’s wrist.

Nikki winced as Dustin’s strong grip numbed her arm.

“I saw it with my own eyes,” Nikki ignored the pain and answered firmly.

“Where’s the tomb? Tell me!” Dustin demanded frantically.

Although he intended to find out about Iris’ tomb through the Jade Maiden Sisterhood, he

didn’t expect to get a lead so soon.

“You’re hurting me!” Nikki pulled herself free with a frown.

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“I don’t know its exact location since Madam Edith chased me out before I could study the map. I only remember vaguely seeing the ‘Black Forest’.”

“The Black Forest?” Dustin frowned.

“Where’s that?”

“From what I found, the Black Forest is located in Lester. It’s a primitive forest filled with dangerous swamps.

“Due to its treacherous terrain, people rarely go there, and it’s never been developed,” Nikki explained

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“That’s not what I want to know. I just need its location,” Dustin retorted icily.

The forest was huge. Searching for a hidden tomb without a map would be like looking for a needle in a haystack.

“That’s all I found out for now.”

Nikki shook her head before continuing, “But don’t worry, I’ll remain by Edith’s side as a spy.

“I’ll let you know when I get any new information. However, I have a condition.”

“What is it?” Dustin asked.

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“If you find the treasures, I want half of it!” Nikki mustered her courage and demanded.

She approached Dustin because she needed a strong and trustworthy support.

“Fine,” Dustin responded without hesitation.

He couldn’t care less about the treasures. All he needed was the Shadowbloom.

“Alright, that’s a deal!” Nikki beamed.

She was surprised. She expected him to bargain with her.

“Let me know when you discover anything.” Dustin spun around to leave.

“Hang on!”

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Nikki grabbed his arm and asked tentatively, “What happened before this was my fault, so I’d like to apologize to you.
“Can you forgive me? I hope we can still be friends”
Her eyes teared up as she put on a pitiful act.
“We’re merely doing business, so don’t bring that up.” Dustin brushed Nikki’s hand aside coolly and walked out without looking back.
He would never have agreed to meet her if he had no use for her.
“Why are all of you like this? I already gave in and apologized, so why can’t you guys give me a chance?”

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“Just wait till I make all of you surrender to me!” Nikki seethed through gritted teeth.

After a moment, she took a deep breath to compose herself.

She stored the scripture away carefully and made herself presentable before going into another

her

private room.

And there sat Samuel Franklin.

“Mr. Franklin, I have valuable intel for you. However, you’ll have to agree to my conditions first.”

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By the following day, a shocking piece of information began spreading in the martial world.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter 959 -
Chapter 959

Apparently, the location of Iris Meskill's tomb had finally been found. It was ru

mored to be in the Black Forest.

When the news got out, many martial artists rushed to Lester to try their luck.

After all, such opportunities were rare.

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Meanwhile, in a sedan heading toward Lester, Dustin stared out the window, l

ost in thought. Abigail sat beside him, chatting nonstop.

“Dr. Watkins told you to take care of yourself and take your medicine on time.

Remember not to use your true energy, or it could mess you up inside,” she s

aid.

“Also, I have no idea who leaked news about Iris Meskill’s tomb, but many peo

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ple are going after the treasure now. So, the competition's going to be tough.

“Oh, and one more thing. Last night, some skilled person broke into the alliance's prison and rescued Spring Hill.

“The alliance sent people to catch him, but no luck so far,” Abigail reported as she scrolled through her messages.

Dustin, who had been zoning out, finally responded, “Spring Hill escaped? Who could have broken him out of the martial arts alliance's prison?”

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“According to Mr. Adler, it looks like Shadowslayer did it. The alliance was also

caught off guard,” Abigail explained.

“It might have been possible if it was Dimitri Gonzalez we’re talking about. Still

, I didn’t expect them to take such risks for a pawn.” Dustin narrowed his eyes.

“Something’s been bothering me since Paul Hill’s death,” Azalea suddenly said.

As Abigail’s bodyguard, Azalea always stayed close to Abigail.

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“What is it?” Dustin raised an eyebrow.

“I don’t know. I just feel that we’re being led by the nose.” Azalea crossed her l

egs and began

pondering about it.

“For now, just focus on the Shadowbloom.” Dustin closed his eyes, uninterest

ed.

17

“Fine,” Dustin responded without hesitation.

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He couldn't care less about the treasures. All he needed was the Shadowbloo
m.

"Alright, that's a deal!" Nikki beamed.

She was surprised. She expected him to bargain with her.

"Let me know when you discover anything." Dustin spun around to leave.

"Hang on!"

Nikki grabbed his arm and asked tentatively, "What happened before this was

my fault, so I'd like to apologize to you.

"Can you forgive me? I hope we can still be friends."

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Her eyes teared up as she put on a pitiful act.
“We’re merely doing business, so don’t bring that up.” Dustin brushed
Nikki’s
hand aside coolly and walked out without looking back.
He would never have agreed to mee
her if he had no use for her.
“Why are all of you like this? I already gave in and apologized, so why
can’t yo
u guys give me a chance?
“Just wait till I make all of you surrender to me!” Nikki seethed through
gritted t

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martial world.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter
960

Chapter 960

“Bastard?” The sudden voice startled the scar-faced man.

He whirled around to find a plainly dressed man quietly observing him.

“Where the hell did you come from? You better stay out of this!”

Scarface’s face darkened.

“Please help me!” The woman thrashed around and cried out hopefully, looking terrified.

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She had almost given up, thinking she would be violated. But now, someone was going to help her.

“I never said I was going to get involved. You guys can carry on,” Dustin said with his arms crossed, looking unbothered.

+

“What?” Dustin’s response took Scarface aback. Even the woman was confused.

Wasn’t Dustin supposed to be a hero who would rescue her? So, why wasn’t he doing anything?

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Was he just going to watch?

“Tch, I thought you were going to help her. Turns out you’re just a coward!” Scarface sneered

“If you aren’t going to stand up for her, get lost and stop bothering me!”

“Exactly! Scram, or we’ll break your legs!” Several of Scarface’s lackeys chimed in.

“You do your thing, and I’ll do mine. Although, I’m curious if someone like you can get it up,

Dustin commented, glancing at Scarface’s crotch disdainfully.

“You’re asking for it now!” The insult pissed Scarface off.

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Without hesitation, he grabbed a nearby sword and swung it toward Dustin, intending to tear him apart.

Dustin stopped the attack by grabbing the blade. While Scarface was stunned, Dustin swiftly landed a kick on the former's groin.

Scarface let out a pained cry, and he collapsed to the ground. His face turned red as he frothed at the mouth from the pain.

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“How dare you hurt him! You’re dead meat!” Dustin’s actions pissed off the other guys, and they drew their swords.

However, Dustin swiftly incapacitated them with precise kicks aimed at their groins. The men cried out, clutching themselves as they fell, and piss trickled down their legs.

“Was it necessary to go mad just because of a few words?” Dustin shook his head and walked away.

He never spared the woman a glance the entire time.

“Hey, wait!” The beautiful woman in tattered clothes caught up to him, her ample chest bou

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ncing

as she ran.

Due to her torn attire, she had to shield herself with her hands to avoid flashing anyone.

“Yes?” Dustin looked back briefly with a calm expression.

maliks foi nepy me just now. vanessa Casey. Wills you ma vanessa expressed nei gratitude.

Without Dustin’s intervention, she might have been violated by now.

“I just happened to be passing by and did what was necessary. It’s no big deal,” Dustin replied nonchalantly.

“You helped me out. I

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can't let you go without thanking you. How about I treat you to a meal?"

Vanessa suggested
with a smile.

"No thanks, I'm not hungry," Dustin declined frankly.

"What?" Vanessa stiffened. She considered herself rather attractive, and
few people

would turn her down.

Yet, this man seemed completely unfazed by her.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter
961

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Chapter 961

But Dustin's attitude only stirred Vanessa's competitive spirit.

"Hey, can't you be a little friendlier?" Vanessa pouted teasingly.

"It's polite to return kind gestures. I'll lose sleep if I don't repay you."

"You'll be fine with a couple of sleeping pills. Goodbye," Dustin replied curtly before walking

away.

"Wait, mister!"

Vanessa tried to catch up to him but stumbled after a few steps. As she fell, her torn clothing revealed her voluptuous figure.

Dustin paused briefly to remove his coat and tossed it to her.

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“Thanks!” Vanessa quickly covered herself with the coat, feeling genuinely grateful.

“Vanessa!”

A man and woman approached. Their elegant fashion tastes made it easy to

tell that they held a higher status than ordinary citizens!

“I’m here!” Vanessa waved at them, her spirits lifting.

“Where did you go, Vanessa?”

“Why didn’t you inform us? We were so worried!” The woman in red feigned annoyance.

“What happened to you, Vanessa? And why are you dressed like

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this? Did something bad happen?" The man in black was puzzled.
"I encountered some thugs earlier. But thankfully, this young man saved me!" Vanessa recounted, fear still in her voice.
"I see." The man in black studied Dustin doubtfully.
"Thank you for saving Vanessa," said the woman in red. She nodded respectfully before continuing, "I'm Emily Hoyles, and I belong to Azure Mist.
"This is my senior, Nathan Hoyles. Mind if I ask for your name?"
"My surname's Rhys." Dustin nodded politely in return.

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“Nice to meet you, Mr. Rhys.” Emily smiled.

“Judging from your accent, you’re not from around here, right? Are you here to search for Iris Meskill’s tomb?”

“Hmm?” Dustin raised an eyebrow, surprised.

“How did you know?”

“Just a hunch.” Emily smiled.

“Lester’s been lively today, and even Azure Mist received news about it, too. So, other than tourists,

“Good intuition. I’m impressed,” Dustin complimented.

“Since we’re all after the treasure, why don’t we team up for

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safety? What do you think?” Emily offered.

Most adventurers who came today were capable, so working together would benefit everyone.

“I’m used to traveling alone, so I might slow you guys down,” Dustin declined politely.

“You saved Vanessa, so it’s only fair we repay the favor.

“You’ll even get a share of the treasure once we find it.” Emily insisted.

When she saw Dustin hesitate, she added, “The Black Forest is dangerous and filled with poisonous mist.

“People who don’t know their

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way around that place will get lost easily. However, we're locals, so it'll be safer for you to travel with us."

"Emily/let's not force someone." Nathan's tone held some annoyance. Others would have jumped at the chance to travel with them, yet Dustin was still hesitating

What a fool!

"The Black Forest is dangerous. It'll be safer if you travel with us," Vanessa said.

She was grateful for what he'd done for her, so she didn't want him risking his life in vain.

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Dustin gave it some thought and agreed. “I’ll accept your offer since you insist.”

He wasn’t familiar with the Black Forest, so having a guide would save a lot of trouble.

“Alright. Let’s meet at the hotel’s restaurant tonight.” Emily and the two walked away. Before leaving, Vane ssa glanced at Dustin.

An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter
962

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Chapter 962

At 7:00 pm, Dustin, Abigail, and Azalea arrived as planned at the resort's restaurant.

The restaurant was spacious enough to accommodate hundreds of people. Dustin noticed that there were already groups of people sitting together, chatting lively.

While there were a few tourists, most of the guests were martial artists who came for the treasure.

“Over here!” Vanessa called out as she waved at them energetically. Dustin nodded in acknowledgment and led the others to her table.

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“I’m glad you could make it. Please take a seat,” Emily greeted warmly. Nathan, who had appeared aloof earlier, perked up upon seeing Abigail and Azalea. He

straightened up and tried to strike a handsome pose.

“Allow me to introduce my friends, Abigail Robinson and Azalea Larson.

“I hope you also don’t mind having them, Ms. Hoyles.” Dustin made a brief introduction.

“Of course not. The more, the merrier. Please, have a seat.” Emily smiled and gestured for th

em to

sit.

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“Thank you.” Dustin nodded before settling into his seat. He noticed several unfamiliar faces besides Emily and her friends. Judging from their clothes, they were also most likely from Azure Mist. Even the weakest fighter among them was a low-level martial artist. They were stronger than ordinary martial artists. But they were still no match for major guilds who would also be competing for the treasure. “Mr. Rhys, have you prepared to enter the Black Forest?” Emily started the conversation.

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“What preparations?” Dustin asked curiously.

“The forest

is full of poisonous creatures and ferocious beasts, so it’s dangerous. You should carry antid

otes, antivenoms, and other medicines before entering ” Emily explained.

“Things like insect repellents, compasses, and specially designed tents are also

needed. They could be life–saving during emergencies.”

Abigail was bewildered. “Do we need all of that? We didn’t bring any.”

They had rushed over, so they only had a few personal belongings.

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“It’s more like you’re here for a vacation, not a treasure hunt.” Emily teased.

Then she added, “But don’t worry. I’ve prepared all that for you. We won’t run out of supplies.”

“Really? That’s great! Thank you so much!” Abigail lit up, touched by the considerate gesture.

e.

“However, these supplies are just a small part of the trip since the Black Forest won’t be our main concern.

nale, we need to be cautious of our companions. Cy Stone grew serious.

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She glanced at a group nearby. “See those people on the left? They’re from Ironfists and are known for their defense.

“All of them are powerful and claim to be immune to external injuries.

We’ll be in trouble if we have to fight them.”

“Ironfists?” Dustin, Abigail, and Azalea turned to look at the muscular men enjoying their me

al. The light reflected off their metal-like skin.

“Now, look to your left. That’s Skycrane, a major guild from Yuston.

“They often win battles with their clever tactics. So they’re also formidable

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opponents,” Emily explained.

“Behind me, you should see a bald man with tattoos on his head.

“He’s a ruthless killer known as the Skullsplitter. Few dare to provoke him.

“And do you see the blind elderly man in front of us? Don’t underestimate him just because

he’s blind

“He’s far stronger than he seems. All of them are our competitors, so we must avoid fighting

them until we locate the treasure.”

Emily provided detailed insight into the major guilds and

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powerful fighters. This helped Dustin and his friends avoid potential danger.

Dustin couldn't help feeling impressed by her extensive knowledge.

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Chapter 963

“Of course, even though these folks seem tough, we aren't afraid of them,” Emily continued.

“But the real concerns are Boulderthorn, the Combat Priests, the Zen Order, and the Soul Reapers. Oh, there's another person we must be careful of!”

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“Who?” Abigail asked curiously.

“The young genius who recently gained fame after winning against Sir Augustus Kline!” Emily gushed.

“What?” Abigail blinked in surprise.

Emily was referring to Dustin, right?

Abigail looked at Dustin subtly. He replied by shaking his head discreetly.

They needed to lie low during their journey to avoid being targeted.

“Ms. Hoyles, have you ever met him?” Azalea smiled mischievously.

“Of course not. But I’ve heard plenty of stories,” Emily replied dreamily.

“Rumors say he’s handsome and has a strong sense of

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justice. More importantly, he's only in his early twenties but is already a grand master.

"He's one

of Balerno's rare talents and desired by many female martial artists!"

Emily's eyes glimmered with admiration. It was hard for any woman to resist the young genius with a good body and extraordinary looks.

"You admire that man greatly, Ms. Hoyles." Azalea chuckled, a knowing smile on her lips.

She glanced at Dustin subtly, who was unfazed by her words.

"Who wouldn't admire such a genius?" Emily replied nonchalantly.

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Since she wouldn't have a chance of meeting that man, she didn't mind telling the truth to her new friends. "Hmph, he might be impressive, but I'm not that far behind either! "Give me another ten years, and I'll surpass him!" Nathan interjected confidently, irritated after hearing his sister praise another man. "You? Are you sure?" Abigail studied Nathan skeptically. "Believe it or not, Ms. Robinson, I'm quite well-known in Yuston. "Ask anyone, and they'll tell you who the Little Dragon is." "That's right Nathan is an incredible person!" Vanessa chimed in proudly.

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“He’s one of the top martial artists in Lester and ranks third in Lester’s Supreme Ten. He’s also a genius because he’s already a divine-level martial artist!”

“Nathan could handle ten martial artists in this restaurant by himself with one hand!”

Several Azure mist disciples joined me praise. Na was nearly grow in men excessive compliments.

But Emily smiled and stayed quiet. Her brother might be talented, but he was nowhere near the young prodigy’s level.

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Still, she wasn't foolish enough to pop his bubble of pride.,
"Is that so? You sound quite talented." Abigail nodded innocently.
Still new to the martial world, she wasn't familiar with how
things worked yet. She
could only judge that Nathan was an impressive individual based
on his popularity and nickname.
"Both of you should stay close to me when we enter the forest tomorrow.
I'll pr
otect you!" Nathan promised, patting his chest confidently
Suddenly, a wine bottle crashed into his forehead.
Wine splattered everywhere, and blood flowed down the side of his head.

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An Understated Dominance by Marina Chapter
964

Chapter 964

“What?” Nathan was caught off guard by the sudden attack.

He touched his forehead, and blood coated his fingers. Without his energy armor, his body

was slightly stronger than average.

“Who the f*ck did this?” Nathan spun around and shouted angrily.

“Damn it! How dare someone hurt Nathan!” Azure Mist’s disciple stood up furiously.

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“Me.” A man wearing flashy sunglasses arrived with two martial artists in tow.

His calm demeanor suggested he didn’t care about anyone else.

“Do you know who I am? How dare you attack me!” Nathan snapped.

“Well, I have no idea. Who are you?” The other man smiled, seeming amused.

“Listen up! I’m Nathan Hoyles, one of Lester’s Supreme Ten! I’m also known as the Little Dragon!” Nathan stated confidently.

“Lester’s Supreme Ten? The Little Dragon?” The man in sunglasses blinked before chuckling.

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“Big reputation you have there. I’m terrified.”
trified.

11

The two martial artists with him laughed simultaneously.

“How dare you!” Angry, Azure Mist’s disciples drew their swords.

“How dare you mock me! I challenge you to a duel!” Nathan seethed.

He had to set things straight after being mocked in front of everyone. He would never live down

the embarrassment.

“A duel? Pfft! Do you even know who I am?” the other man sneered.

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“I don’t f*cking care who you are. Not even God can save you after you hurt me!” Nathan roared, raising his sword.

“I’m Ken Shonde, son of the leader of Regalswords!” the man in sunglasses declared.

Nathan immediately stopped. The sword stopped right above Ken’s head.

“Regalswords? Ken Shonde?” Nathan paled in fear.

He wasn’t afraid of his opponent’s strength. It was his identity that scared Nathan.

Ken wasn’t a strong fighter, but he had an influential father named Ian Shonde, the leader of

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Regalswords.

Ian was also the strongest martial artist in Lester.

Not only was Ian strong, but he also had connections for being an elder of the martial arts alliance.

Even Nathan's mentor would be wary of Ian, so Nathan had no choice but to stop his attacks.

If he hit Ken, he'd cause trouble for himself and his entire guild!

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“Come on, then! I’ll stand still for you, so let’s see if you’ve got the nerve,” Ken taunted, taking a step forward. Nathan gritted his teeth, pissed. He was strong enough to take on ten Kens in combat, but he simply couldn’t do it due to who Ken was. “Go on! What are you waiting for? Are you scared or something?” Ken sneered. “You talked about being the Little Dragon and taking on ten opponents earlier.”

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“Yet, you can’t even hold your sword steady. Are you a man?”

“You-” Nathan trembled in anger but couldn’t fight back.

“How

could cowards like you boast about being in Lester’s Supreme Ten? How embarrassing!” Ke

n reached out and gently patted Nathan’s cheek.

It didn’t hurt Nathan physically, but it was extremely humiliating, especially in front of many

people.

Nathan’s eyes turned red, and his breathing ragged. He had a strong urge to kill Ken now.

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“Nathan!” Emily’s soft cry snapped Nathan back to reality. Emily sprung up, forced a smile, and approached Ken. She apologized, “I’m so sorry, Mr. Shonde
“My brother had too many drinks and got carried away. I hope you’ll forgive him.”
“Well, well! I didn’t expect that loser to have such a beautiful sister.” Ken shamelessly ogled Emily.
“You must be joking, Mr. Shonde. We’re all from Lester.
“Our mentor and your father are acquaintances,

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so how about we resolve this incident quietly?” Emily forced a smile.

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965

Chapter 965

“Sure, but I’ve got a condition,” Ken answered, raising an eyebrow.

“What is it?” Emily asked with a smile.

“I want you and the two other girls to come and drink with me. I’ll let this slide if

you make me happy.” Ken smirked.

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Girls like them weren't ordinary, much less three. There was no way Ken would miss this chance.

"But..." Emily's smile froze.

She knew what he wanted. It would be hard for them to get away after drinking with him.

"Why? Are you going to refuse?"

Ken's face turned hard as he warned, "I don't like being rejected, so you'd better think carefully."

"It's an honor to drink with Mr. Shonde, so you'd better not refuse!" one of Ken's lackeys warned.

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“I’ll join you, Mr. Shonde, but the other two ladies should sit this out.”

Emily bargained, want

ing to avoid getting others involved.

“Are you telling me what to do?” Ken snapped in annoyance.

“I said all three. You better serve me tonight!”

“Hey, don’t push it!” Abigail was unable to hold herself back and stood.

“So what? Can’t handle it?” Ken smirked, getting closer to her.

“Hey, pretty lady. You seem newer than the other two, so let’s start with you.

“It’s been a while since I’ve done a chick like you. I bet you’re going to be tight. Oh, I can’t wait!”

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Ken licked his lips hungrily.

“You’re shameless!” Abigail grabbed her glass and splashed wine all over Ken’s face.

“You f*cking brat, I’ll f*ck you up tonight!” Infuriated, Ken tried to grab Abigail, but a firm grip stopped him.

“You have three seconds to leave,” Dustin said coldly.

“What?” Ken’s face tightened.

“Do you have any idea who you’re talking to?”

No one in Lester would dare to defy him.

“I don’t care. If you’re still here after three seconds, I’ll break your legs,” Dustin retorted.

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People began whispering.

“Who the hell is this guy? How dare he challenge Mr. Shonde?”

“He’s clueless about Regalswords if he’s trying to be the knight in shining armor!”

The audience shot Dusum mocking gazes.

Regalswords was the largest guild in Lester. Their leader, Ian, was a semi-grandmaster. Only a suicidal idiot would challenge them.

“Three... Dustin began counting down, and a chill engulfed the room.

“Don’t be rash, Mr. Rhys! You mustn’t cross him!” Emily warned.

Things would get messy if Dustin attacked Ken.

“Hey, don’t drag us down with you!” Nathan shouted with a frown.

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“You better let go, or you’re dead!” the two other Regarswords disciples threatened.

“Two...” Dustin ignored them and continued counting.

“Hmph, quit acting!” Ken sneered.

“Do you even have the balls to hit the son of Regalswords’ leader? I dare you to hit me. I won’t even fight back. I-”

A loud slap echoed as Dustin slapped across Ken’s face before he could finish his words.

Ken flew back and crashed into the wall, stunning everyone.

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An Understated Dominance Chapter 966

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Chapter 966

Everyone was astonished to see Ken being thrown back. Nobody expected Dustin to be so bold.

After all, this was Ken Shonde, the son of Régalswords' leader, and hitting Ian Shonde's son was risky.

“Are you crazy? How could you hit Mr. Shonde?” Nathan sprung up, shocked.

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He had endured all the humiliation just now, yet Dustin slapped Ken without care. This would bring trouble to all of them. “Shit! This is bad!” Emily paled. She’d warned Dustin, hoping he would hold himself back, but he didn’t. They’d be in trouble if Regalswords retaliated. “How dare you hit Mr. Shonde! We’ll kill you!” The two furious Regalswords martial artists began attacking Dustin.

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“Let me handle this!” Abigail grabbed her metal club and fought them. Her natural talent and Dustin’s training made her far stronger than her opponents, especially when she used the staff combat technique. Soon, the two men, who had climbed the ranks through flattery instead of actual skill, fell to the ground. They were no match for Abigail. “What gave you the guts to challenge us when you’re weak? You deserve it!” Abigail rested her club on her shoulder and rubbed the tip of her nose with her thumb.

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There was a proud expression on her cute face

“Are these guys insane? How could they hurt people from Regalswords?”

“When–Han Shonde shows up, they’ll be done for!”

The surrounding martial

artists whispered among themselves. No one could believe that Dustin and Abigail were

stupid enough to challenge Regalswords in their territory.

“H–how dare you hit me!” Ken staggered, his face a mess.

“Did you fucking hit me? You’re dead!”

“All of you are dead! I’ll tear you apart!” Ken roared after returning to his senses.

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Just then, Dustin leaped forward and gave Ken another round of slaps. A comment followed each slap.
“That’s for being a stubborn idiot.
“That’s for being a bully.
“That’s for your arrogance.
“Since your father doesn’t discipline you, I’ll do it for him instead!”
Dustin continued hitting Ken repeatedly in the face.
Blood splurged out of Ken’s nose as his head spun and his eyes rolled back.
Everyone was shocked by the sight of his swollen head. They’ve never seen Ken, known for being a h

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uge bully, beaten up so badly.

Usually, people wouldn't even dare to touch a hair on his head. Yet, Dustin was slappin

g the man as hard as he could.

Chapter 967

The slaps disfigured Ken's face, leaving him unrecognizable.

There was a bigger issue now. Ken was highly regarded as the son of Regalswords' guil

dmaster and was well-feared.

So, how could Dustin hit him? Was Dustin out of his mind?

"Stop right now!" Emily finally stepped in.

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At this point, Ken had already been reduced to a bloody, unconscious mess.

“You’ve gotten us into trouble now, Mr. Rhys!” Emily exclaimed, helping Ken up.

She began administering medication and other techniques to wake him up. It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that if anything were to happen to Ken, Azure Mist would also be doomed.

“Damn it, we shouldn’t have sat with you! You only bring disaster!”

Nathan shouted anxiously.

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Why the fuck did they have to cross paths with a maniac like Dustin, who didn't give a s
hit about Ken's status or Regalswords' authority? Dustin must be crazy!
"You'll be in trouble now that you beat Ken up, so you need to run away.
"Hurry, or it'll be too late!" Vanessa was visibly distraught as she tugged
at Dustin, who
wouldn't budge.
"Who dares hit my son!" A furious voice came from the entrance.
An intimidating middle-aged man stormed in with a group of
martial artists following behind.

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The man was Ian Shonde, the guildmaster of Regalswords and the strongest martial artist in Lester!

“Shit! Ian Shonde is here!”

“No one is capable of bearing his fury.”

“Hmph, it’s time to suffer the consequences for hurting his son!”

The martial artists surrounding Dustin and his group took a step back to avoid being collateral damage.

Many seemed delighted as they waited for Dustin to meet his doom.

“You’re done for! There’s nowhere for you to run anymore either...”

Vanessa was devas

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tated.

She wanted to help Dustin escape, but it seemed like it wouldn't happen.

"It's too late now." Emily sighed regretfully.

There was no way Dustin would escape unscathed now that Ian was here.

"What a jinx!" Nathan shook his head bitterly.

Not only did Dustin bring trouble to himself, but those from Azure Mist were also dragged

into this mess.

"Dad, you're finally here!" Ken cried out desperately and stumbled over to his father.

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He grabbed Ian's thigh and wailed, "I would have died if you came any later! Just look at what he did to my face! Please avenge me!"

"Who did this?" Ian demanded, furious by how his son's face looked. No one dared to harm his son after knowing who he was. After all, he was the strongest martial artist in Lester and one of the martial arts alliance's elders. No one would dare to challenge his authority!

"That's the guy who hit me, Dad! He even insulted you and said horrible things about you!"

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“What? How dare he!” Furious, Ian swept a menacing glance over the room.

His body shuddered involuntarily when he spotted Dustin, and his knees nearly went weak.

Ian couldn't believe the other party was Dustin.

As one of the alliance elders, he vividly remembered how terrifying Dustin was during the

recent battle between the two grandmasters.

Why, Ian wouldn't even dare to protest if Dustin slapped him, much less insulted him!

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Chapter 968

“I’m in trouble now!” A wave of unease washed over Ian, the strongest martial artist in L

ester, as he met Dustin’s cold gaze.

Ian couldn’t help being worried about getting beaten up.

“What are you waiting for, Dad? Tear him to pieces!

“You have to teach him a lesson!” Ken seethed.

“Shut up!” Ian slapped his son angrily.

Ken staggered backward, his remaining teeth flying away as well.

His eyes widened in disbelief as he asked, “W–why did you hit me, Dad?”

He couldn’t understand why he’d been smacked.

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His father usually wouldn't speak harshly to him, so what was happening? How could Ian slap him in public?
“Don't you deserve to be disciplined after ruining Regalswords' reputation by bullying others?
hers?
“I should teach you a lesson for embarrassing me!” Ian snapped, delivering another two slaps.
“Pissed, he began kicking his son as well.

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Ken's pained screams filled the air under Ian's relentless attack. Ian was so violent that outsiders might have mistaken the two of them for enemies. Everyone was stunned by the sudden twist of events. They expected Ian to attack Dustin. They couldn't understand why Ian was attacking his son instead.

"What's going on? Has Mr. Shonde lost his mind?"

"Who knows? He's known for constantly defending his son, yet he's acting odd today." "

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How brutal! It looks more like he's settling a score than disciplining his son.”

The bystanders whispered among themselves, shocked. They pitied Ken for receiving

Ian usually spoiled his son, and anyone who tried to harm Ken would face serious cons

equences. So, Ian puzzled everyone by treating Ken like an enemy.

“Um...” Vanessa, Emily, and Nathan were stunned.

They didn't understand what was going on.

They thought Ian would get revenge, yet he beat his son. What happened to the selfish l

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an Shonde they knew?

“Please stop, Sir! He’ll die!” Regalswords’ disciples returned to their senses and quickly

intervened to save Ken’s life.

“Hmph, that asshole deserves to be taught a lesson!” Ian spoke like he was getting rid o

f the devil.

Still, he stopped when he realized he might have taken things too far.

“Everyone, today’s incident is due to my lack of discipline.

“I would like to apologize to everyone.” Ian turned around and nodded politely at Dustin

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and his group.

Dustin calmly accepted the apology, unbothered.

Chapter 969

Emily, Nathan, and the rest looked surprised and at a loss.

That was Ian Shonde, the great leader of Regalswords and the best martial artist in Lest

er! A person like him had apologized to them?

Were they imagining this?

“Sir Shonde, you better teach him a good lesson once you return. It’ll be too late if

he gets into bigger trouble,” Dustin said.

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Everyone was rendered speechless and stared at Dustin in disbelief.
Damn it! Has the bastard gone mad?
How dare he openly lecture Ian? Was he not afraid that he'd be killed?
How bold!
“Hey! Do you have a death wish? Shut your mouth!” Nathan
was so shocked that he almost cursed at Dustin.
It was good enough that Ian did not blame him for beating Ken. But this
bastard was going
overboard!
How dare he

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criticize Sir Shonde in front of so many people? He didn't know what's good for him.

“Dustin, apologize to Sir Shonde immediately! Emily signaled at him furiously from the side.

She felt a headache coming due to Dustin's reckless actions. They had barely escaped danger, and now he was trying to bring them more trouble. Just as everyone thought Dustin would land himself in trouble, Ian surprised everyone by forcing a smile.

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“You’re right, Your Excellency. I will make sure to teach him a good lesson. I promise yo

u this will never happen again,” he said.

Everyone was startled once again. What was going on?

Since when did the leader of Regalswords, the ace of Lester, become so agreeable?

He even smiled at them when someone

had just criticized him! They could not believe what was going on!

“Yes, that’d be for the best.” Dustin nodded.

“My apologies for interrupting your meal. We’ll be leaving right away.”

Ian bowed and hurriedly led his men away as if he was running away.

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“Phew! We’re safe!” Vanessa sighed in relief once the people from Regalswords left.

“What happened there? Why does Sir Shonde seem so weird today?”

Nathan scratched his head in wonder. Ian’s actions had been bewildering.

“Perhaps Sir Shonde realized that it was their mistake. With many martial artists here, m

aybe he just chose to settle things nicely.”

That was the only answer Emily could come up with after thinking about it for a long time.

“No matter what it is, the most important thing is that we’re all fine.”

Vanessa beamed.

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“Hmph! We’re just lucky that Sir Shonde is a reasonable person. We’d be in huge trouble if he chose to make things difficult!”

Nathan folded his arms in front of himself and shot Dustin a glare.

“Hey! I’m warning you! You better not behave rashly in the future!

“I don’t care if you get into trouble, but you better not drag us down together!”

“That’s right! You put our lives at stake with what you did back there!” the disciples from

Azure Mist echoed.

It had been thoughtless of him, an outsider, to challenge the Regalswords in Lester.

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“Alright, alright. Cut it out. Ken had overstepped a line earlier on. Dustin’s actions are understandable.”

Emily tried to smooth things over.

Then, she continued, “It’s getting late, everyone. Let’s head back to our rooms and get s

ome

rest.

“We’ll gather early tomorrow morning and set out for the Black Forest.”

“Alright. See you tomorrow.” Dustin nodded and left with Abigail.

Dustin had never been worried about what the Regalswords would do.

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Ian was smart enough to apologize. Otherwise, he would have been beaten up.

Outside the hotel, Ian ran for his life with his son on his back. Suddenly, he shuddered.

He ran even

faster. He was flustered and not his usual self, which confused his disciples. They even

had difficulty catching up with him.

Chapter 970

Dustin and the rest of them set out for the Black Forest early the next morning.

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Due to the terrible road conditions, driving was not an option. They could only walk there

e.

Many martial artists had entered the forest since the day before. They were there to try their luck.

However, the Black Forest was so huge that they lost all sense of direction when they

entered. Most of them just walked around aimlessly, so it was difficult for them to find th

e

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treasure.

About half an hour later, Dustin and the group finally got to the entrance of the Black For

est. They could see many people making their way in, one after another.

“Ms. Hoyles, do you know where the tomb is located?” Dustin asked.

“Well, I have no information about that yet.”

Emily continued dejectedly, “Everyone is just trying their luck now.

Whoever finds the tre

asure first is the lucky one.”

Though it was a wild goose chase, they had no other choice.

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Their only advantage was that they were locals. Hence, they were more familiar with the

Black Forest, and it would save them more time.

“The Black Forest is huge. How will anyone ever find anything just based on luck?” Dust

in

shook his head.

“Do you have any better ideas?” Emily asked tentatively.

“Honestly, I have an inside man in the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. If you trust me, Ms. Hoy

les,

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let me lead the way,” Dustin said.

“You have an inside man? That’s amazing!” Emily was delighted.

What a surprise! It turned out that Dustin was their lucky star!

“Hey, are you bragging?” Nathan looked at him skeptically.

“It’s up to you whether or not to trust me.” Dustin didn’t explain further

and walked to the

front to lead the rest.

1/3

The Jade Maiden Sisterhood had entered the Black Forest an hour before they did.

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As agreed upon, Nikki would leave some special markings along the way.

All they had t

o do was follow the markings, and they could find the tomb.

“Come on, everyone, follow tight.”

Emily gestured to those behind her to keep up.

“Damn it! What’s so great about him?”

“Ultimately, they’d still rely on me for protection once they entered the Black Forest!”

Nathan spat angrily on the ground as he watched Dustin walking in front.

He was the boss of the group. He should have been the one leading them.

How dare an outsider steal his spotlight? How annoying!

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Their surroundings instantly became dark as they entered the Black Forest.

The temper

ature dropped drastically, too.

At a glance, it seemed like the entire forest was covered in a white mist.

As it was dim, they could not see well. At best, an average person could only see slightl

y

more than 150 feet ahead.

Dustin walked at the forefront. The mud beneath his feet was wet, and the trees above

him

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blocked most of the sunlight.

He could even spot venomous bugs and snakes skittering out of their way at times.

The Black Forest gave off a sinister, damp, eerie, and dangerous feeling.

As they made their way forward, they were attacked by a couple of insects and bugs. It

was good that they were all well-trained and constantly on the watch, so none of them were harmed.

“The swamp gas is getting thicker. Take the medicine first, everyone.

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Inhaling too much of the swamp gas will cause intoxication. It might even cause.

hallucination.

Emily reminded them to take their medications first. Everyone followed her order.

One reason the Black

Forest was dangerous was the swamp gas. Ordinary men could not

2/3

“Quick, look! There’s a corpse here!” someone exclaimed as they walked.

Everyone looked over in the direction pointed, just to see the corpse of a man lying right.

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behind a huge tree.

His head had been severed, and insects were devouring the corpse. It was a dreadful sight.

Two women were squeamish and threw up on the spot.

“He was stabbed right at his vital point. It must have been an ambush.

“Keep your eyes open, everyone!”

Emily unsheathed her knife and looked around warily.

The Black Forest was daunting, but men’s greed was even scarier.

Men seemed unbound by morals and rules in the forest that saw no light of day. It was

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normal for people to kill others and steal their belongings.
“It should be right ahead. Let’s go over and take a look.”
Dustin heard faint voices ahead.

An Understated Dominance Chapter 971

An Understated Dominance Chapter 971

Chapter 971

Dustin charged toward where the voices came from.

“Hurry up, guys! We don’t want anyone to get left behind!”

Emily yelled and quickly followed. She was worried that Dustin might be rash and jump

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into enemies' traps.

After about ten minutes, they saw a vast plain.

It was a barren land that was as wide as a football field. They could only see soil and rocks;

no living thing was in sight.

Right in the middle of the barren field was a tomb that led underground.

The end of the path was black and seemed bottomless. Nobody knew what was in there

.

There was a group of strong martial artists surrounding the tomb.

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They guarded it carefully, looking around in alert. They were on the lookout for anyone approaching.

“Could that be Iris Meskill’s tomb?”

Nathan got excited as they spied on the dark tomb. They kept themselves hidden behind

d

some trees.

Lady Luck was truly smiling upon them!

They had expected to stay in the forest for at least weeks. Who would have thought the

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y'd

find where the treasure was hidden in less than half a day?

“From the look of things, this is it. But some people have gotten here before us.

“They’re the Ironfists!” Emily frowned, looking worried.

Ironfists was the largest guild in Jameston. Though it wasn’t as powerful as Regalsword

s,

it was close to being on the same level as Regalswords.

It would do them no good to go up against them head-on.

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“Emily, they seem to hold two disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood hostage. I guess they’re waiting to claim the treasure.” Vanessa noticed something amiss.
1/3

The disciples of Ironfists guarded the opening of the tomb with their hostages. Once the disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood emerged, they would be taken by surprise.

“I’ve already given our mentor a heads up. Let’s wait and see how things go while we wait

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for backup.” Emily was calm and composed. She knew that they weren’t a match for the Ironfists now. She needed her mentor there to back them up. “I’m afraid there won’t be enough time for that.” Dustin squinted. “Look around carefully. Do you see how many groups are lying in wait?” “What?” Emily focused on their surroundings. As Dustin pointed out, she noticed figures hiding in the shadows around them.

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That proved that other, more powerful people lurked around in places they could not see.

e.

“Who’s sneaking around there? Get the hell out here!” one of the experts from Ironfists roared.

His booming voice scared the surrounding birds to fly away.

“Hahaha!” a loud laughter was heard as a group of men walked out from their hiding place.

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A man with a messy beard was leading the group. He was muscular and had a bronzeringed broadsword over his shoulder. He gave off a murderous aura.

“Weston Greene? The leader of the Desert Hawks?”

Emily’s brows furrowed when she saw Weston

The Desert Hawks was a gang of bandits who terrorized the area. Their leader, Weston

Greene, was renowned for being merciless and strong.

Many skilled martial artists had lost their lives against him.

“You too, Sheaves! Come on out!”

“No point trying to hide now!” Weston shouted, looking at his side.

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As leaves fell to the ground, a group of men emerged from the trees. Their leader looked like a gentleman. Though he looked harmless, his gaze was cold and

sharp.

2/3

“Magnus Sheaves of Skycrane?” Emily’s expression went from bad to worse.

The Skycranes were just about as powerful as the Ironfists. Magnus Sheaves, the eldest

disciple, was acknowledged as a genius swordmaster in Yuston.

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“We’ve got trouble.” Vanessa swallowed dryly. Ironfists, Desert Hawks, and Skycrane were the three major guilds who were worthy opponents of Azure Mist. It would be quite a challenge to get the treasure from them.

“Sheaves, Neeson, it seems like several rats are still lurking in the forest. Shall we wipe them out before we get down to business?”

gaze

Weston smiled sinisterly as his gaze shot over to Emily and the rest of them. His held a

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killing intent.

Chapter 972

All eyes fell on them when they heard what Weston said. Their gaze was hostile and unkind.

There were many divine-level martial artists present. They could hear everything within a 300 feet radius.

“They’ve noticed us!” Vanessa had a bad feeling.

“Nathan, Emily, what do we do now?”

“Why are you so worried? I’m here. You’ll be fine. Follow me!”

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Dusting himself off, Nathan walked out with his head held high. Though those were strong opponents, the Azure Mist wasn't to be looked down upon either. He had the confidence to take them down in a fair fight. "Come on, let's go meet them." Emily gestured to the rest of them and graciously showed themselves. They had initially planned to watch on from the sidelines, but it was too bad that they were noticed so soon.

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“Alright, now that everyone’s here, how should we handle things?”
Weston smiled evilly with his broadsword still hoisted over his shoulder.
“I suggest we should team up for now. Once we get the treasure, we can split it evenly among us.

“That way, everyone can walk away happy!” Nathan suggested.
He wasn’t greedy. Getting a portion of the treasure would be enough.
“What do you say, Sheaves?” Drake Neeson, the eldest disciple of Ironfists, asked for Magnus’ opinion.
Out of everyone present, Magnus was the one person he feared the most.

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“I have no problems about splitting the treasure. But, there are too many of us here now

.”

Magnus‘ gaze swept across the plain.

1/3

“It would be best if there were fewer people to split the treasure among,” he said darkly.

“Less? But who should we get rid of?” Weston’s eyes narrowed.

It was true that each would get a larger portion if they split the treasure three ways

instead of four.

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“Skycrane, Ironfists, and Azure Mist are all decent guilds.

“Only the Desert Hawks are a gang of bandits. Who do you think we should get rid of?”

Magnus smiled ever so faintly.

At that, all the disciples of the three guilds looked at the Desert Hawks.

They were not

even hiding their sinister looks.

“What?” Weston’s face fell.

“Sheaves, we are all part of the martial world!

“You should know that anyone who finds the treasure will have some of it!

Are you sure

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this is what you want to do?”

“How dare despicable bandits like you claim to be one of us?”

Magnus huffed. “I’ll give you one minute to get out of here. If you do not, you will end up dead!”

“Sheaves! You’ve overstepped the line!” Weston fumed and got ready to kill.

“Neeson, Hoyles, since he insists on staying back, we will no longer hold back! Kill him!”

Without wasting another word, Magnus unsheathed his sword and charged at Weston.

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He would pay with his life for not leaving when he had the chance to do so. “Damn it! You’re dead!” Weston was furious. He lifted his broadsword, bringing it down in a forceful slash. A deadly fight broke out between the two. With that, a war sparked between the disciples of Skycrane and Desert Hawk. For a moment, the flashes and glints of swords slashing could be seen in the dark. Blood splattered everywhere.

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“Wipe out the Desert Hawks!” Drake was quick to react. With a roar, he led the disciples of Ironfists into the battlefield. There was nothing wrong with decent guilds wiping out bandit gangs. They felt no sense of guilt at what they were doing. Even if word got out about what they did, they would only be praised for ridding of the bandits. The Desert Hawks were few in numbers, so they weren’t a match for the Skycranes. No

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w that the Ironfists joined the fight, it was clear that they were on the losing end.

The disciples of the Desert Hawks were killed and severely injured. They did not even have the chance to escape.

“Nathan, should we go and help out?” a disciple of the Azure Mist suddenly asked.

“There’s no need for that. The two guilds can easily defeat them.” Nathan shook his head, not planning to get involved in the fight.

Chapter 973

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He wasn't one to take advantage of those who were outnumbered.
"Fuck you, Sheaves!" Weston roared.
He was ultimately defeated by a stab that Magnus delivered straight to his chest. He slumped to the ground.
Within minutes, the Desert Hawks were wiped clean. None one of them survived.
"How dare a gang of bandits challenge us? Insolent bastards!" Magnus huffed and flicked his sword to the side, raining drops of blood to the ground.

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“Hey! Why didn’t Azure Mist join in the fight earlier on?”

Drake turned and saw Nathan and the rest of them standing where they stood earlier.

They were clean, with not a single drop of blood on them. It was clear that they had not joined the fight.

“Two major guilds are enough to deal with the Desert Hawks. There was no need for us to get involved,” Nathan explained calmly.

Though he was only stating the fact, it sounded to the rest of them like he was trying to

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act nobler than them.

“You did nothing and simply watched as we killed them. Are you trying to gain an advant

age out of the situation?” Drake asked sinisterly.

“You’re mistaken. I never meant to do that.”

Emily quickly stood out to explain, “The fight ended too soon. We did not even have the

time to react, and the Desert Hawks were already wiped out!”

The malicious looks all around made her feel uneasy.

“Hah! Do you think that I’d buy that?” Drake looked at them with a sharp gaze.

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“Neeson, it looks like the Azure Mist isn’t on our side. Why don’t we join forces for now and clear them out first?”

“Then, we can split the treasure just between us. How’s that sound?”

Magnus suggested.

d.

“Hahaha! Exactly my thoughts!” Drake laughed heartily.

It was even better to split the gains two ways than three!

“Hey! I’m warning you, you better not do anything reckless!”

Seeing

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that they had formed an alliance, Nathan wielded his sword and warned them.” The Azu

re Mist is nothing like the Desert Hawks!

“We will not let you have your way with us! If you dare mess with us, we’ll bring you down!”

“Bring us down? Haha! What a joke!” Drake laughed coldly.

“If I join forces with Sheaves, wiping out Azure Mist will be a piece of cake!”

“Neeson, don’t waste time on talking. Let’s go and kill them all!” Magnus urged. His eye

s

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shone with killing intent.

“Alright! Today is the day I’ll show them what the Adamantine Body Art is all about!” Dra

ke

laughed maniacally.

Just as he was about to channel his inner energy, the sound of flesh being pierced was

heard. A sword had stabbed him from behind, piercing straight from his chest.

Blood dripped off the sword.

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Drake was caught off guard. He looked down in utter shock to see the sword sticking out

t

of his chest.

The attack was so sudden that it took him some time to understand what had happened.

He had been stabbed before his energy armor had been activated.

The question was, who did it? All those who stood behind him were his comrades!

With anger and disbelief written on his face, it took Drake a great effort to turn around. H

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e

was met with Magnus' cold and sinister smile.

"It was you?" Drake's eyes widened in disbelief.

"Why? Haven't we agreed to work together?"

"There are no permanent enemies, only permanent interests.

"You're the biggest threat to me here. I can't be at ease with you around!"

Magnus snee

red.

The Azure Mist was just a second—

grade guild to him. He wasn't intimidated by them at all.

The only ones that he felt threatened by were the Ironfists.

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2/3

He particularly feared Drake among them since he had perfectly honed the Adamantine

Body Art. He was known to be undefeatable.

Once he unleashed his powers, he would be invincible. Had Magnus not sneaked an att

ack on him, it would be difficult for him to find another chance to win against him.

He had caught the exact moment when Drake had been letting out his energy and was t

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hus totally defenseless. Hence, he chose to attack without a moment's hesitation.

“You... you wretched vermin! Curses on you! You should go die in a ditch!” Drake roared.

“You're the one who's going to die!” Magnus let out a cold laugh as he swung his sword down hard.

Drake was beheaded on the spot.

Chapter 974

Drake's head fell to the ground with a thud.

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Everyone was shocked. No one had expected Magnus to pull such a dirty trick.

He was smiling and agreeing to an alliance just seconds ago. But now, he had chopped

Drake's head off. He was plain evil!

"Drake!" After they got over the shock, the Ironfists disciples were angered.

Before they could even react, the Skycrane disciples began attacking.

Following their sh

rieks, most of the Ironfists disciples were defeated within seconds.

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As for the remaining, Magnus and his men surrounded and killed them off. They did not stand a chance against Magnus. The Azure Mist had their guards up when they saw how ruthless the Skycrane disciples were. They pulled their swords out, waiting to see what they would do next. “Magnus! I never thought you’d be so despicable to attack someone sneakily!” Nathan’s brows furrowed.

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Skycrane was supposed to be a decent guild. How could Magnus resort to such

underhanded tactics?

It was shameless!

“Haha! What does it have to do with you? As long as I laugh till the end, who cares what

I do?” Magnus sneered, not feeling ashamed at all.

He seemed proud of himself.

The martial world followed the rule of the survival of the fittest. Killing a few men to get h

is hands on the treasure meant nothing to him.

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“Hah! Do you think you’ll remain victorious till the end?”

“Don’t forget, I’m still here!” Nathan shouted at him.

“You?” Magnus looked at him in disdain.

“Who do you think you are? You are simply the lead disciple of a second-grade guild.

“How dare you challenge me?”

1/3

“You arrogant bastard!”

“How dare you look down on Nathan? You better watch your back!”

The Azure Mist disciples were angry when they heard what Magnus said.

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Skycrane might be powerful, but the Azure Mist wasn't to be messed with either.

Besides, with Nathan there, they had a chance of winning.

"Don't be so proud, Sheaves! If you have the guts, fight me one-on-one.

"I'll show you how I can beat you up!" Nathan shouted.

"A one-to-

one fight? Sure. I'd like to see what you're capable of." Magnus smirked and gestured at

Nathan to make the first move.

He had sneaked an attack on Drake because he was scared of him. But he was not afra

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id of

Nathan and the rest of them.

“All of you, stand back! I’ll teach him a lesson!” Nathan declared confidently.

“Be careful, Nathan! Magnus is very skilled. You shouldn’t be rash!” Emily warned.

“Don’t worry. He won’t be able to pull any of his dirty tricks with me here. Just wait and see.

“I’ll defeat him within 100 moves!” Nathan was full of confidence.

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He might not be able to beat Magnus in a group fight. But he had never backed out of a one-on-one fight.

“Cut the crap! Here I come!” Magnus didn’t bother to continue chatting. He raised his sword and charged forward. He moved with incredible speed and attacked from an unpredictable direction.

“Another sneak attack? Shame on you!”

But Nathan was prepared for it. Wielding his sword, he leaped forward. A fierce battle ensued.

They were both expert martial artists who had reached the divine–

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level. They were both also the eldest disciple of their respective guilds. They had the best training resources and also learned directly from their masters.

2/3

The outcome of their battle was not only a matter of who would win. It was a matter of their respective guilds' reputation, as well as a matter of life and death. So, neither of them backed down. They both gave it their all, each attack aiming to kill their opponent.

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Magnus' sword danced about swiftly and mercilessly. His swordsmanship was exceptional, and every move was unpredictable. His incredible footwork made it hard to keep up with. Nathan's techniques were powerful, and it was clear that he had a solid foundation. He looked like a strong opponent when he swung his sword around him. But though he looked mighty, it was only a matter of time before he was defeated. A series of metallic clangs sounded as Nathan slashed wildly. As he gradually lost his

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patience, his attacks got more forceful.

On the other hand, Magnus had a slight smirk. He blocked the attacks in stride, appearing

ng

to be toying with Nathan.

Chapter 975

“Nathan won’t hold up for much longer.” Dustin could finally hold it in no more.

But what was meant as a warning received a lot of retorts from the Azure Mist disciples.

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“That’s nonsense! Nathan is extremely skilled, and his swordsmanship is incredible! How

could he possibly be defeated?”

“Exactly! Please look closely! Nathan is winning!”

“Hmph! Why are you on the opponent’s side and belittling Nathan? If you don’t know what’s

happening, keep your nonsense to yourself!”

They shouted at Dustin.

Everyone could see that Nathan was overpowering Magnus! It wouldn’t take much longer

er

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for him to win the battle!

But not only was Dustin not cheering Nathan on, he was even belittling him? How annoying!

“You probably don’t know Nathan well, Dustin.

Vanessa proudly explained, “Nathan’s so skillful that he’s considered one of the top three

in the younger generation of Lester martial artists.

“He’s earned himself the nickname of the Little Dragon and has defeated many reputable

martial artists. It shouldn’t be a tough battle going against Magnus.”

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“That’s right! You should watch and learn! See how Nathan defeats him!”
The disciples of Azure Mist held their heads high. They were confident.
Dustin shook his head, not saying much. These people were too blind to
see what was
going on.

As time went on, the fight got intense. Nathan started to falter. Sweat
formed on his bro

ws

as he panted heavily.

“Azure Blade!” Nathan gritted his teeth and used his trump card.

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He swung his blade even faster. For a moment, there was a flash from his sword.

The air around him swirled and sent sand and dust flying. The flash from his sword

1/3

“Look! Nathan’s using his best move!”

“Haha! Azure Blade will certainly defeat Magnus!”

“Keep your eyes open, Rhys! See for yourself just how powerful Nathan is!”

The disciples of Azure Mist were so excited, as if Nathan had already won. But as their voices died down, they heard a scream.

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Magnus had stabbed Nathan in the stomach and sent him flying. Nathan threw up blood

and lay on the ground, too weak to get up.

“Nathan?” The Azure Mist disciples were all scared and shocked by what they saw.

Didn’t Nathan have the upper hand just now? How did he suddenly get defeated? What

was going on?

“You... you deflected my move?” Nathan’s eyes widened in disbelief.

He had not expected Magnus to break through his most powerful move so easily.

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“Hmph! I was just playing with you. Do you think you’re all that great?” Sneering, Magnus looked at him in contempt. “At your level, you aren’t even fit to carry

my shoes!”

“You-!” Nathan glared at Magnus as he threw up more blood.

“Since you’ve lost, it’s time you go to hell!” Magnus whipped his sword and charged forward.

“Hold it right there!”

“Protect Nathan!”

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The disciples of Azure Mist rushed forward at the sight.
“You’re too full of yourself!” Magnus scoffed as he slashed his sword in an arc.
A blinding flash of light sparked from his sword and swept toward the Azure Mist disciples like a giant sickle.
They were taken aback and raised their swords to deflect the blow.
All the Azure Mist disciples were sent flying with blood spewing out their mouths. None

An Understated Dominance Chapter 976

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An Understated Dominance Chapter 976

Chapter 976

“How is that possible?”

Seeing all the disciples of Azure Mist lying on the ground and throwing up blood, Emily

and Vanessa exchanged looks of horror.

They had been standing at the back of the group, so they had not rushed up in time to h

elp

Nathan.

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What they saw was terrifying. More than ten elite disciples of Azure Mist were sent flyin

g

by a single slash of Magnus' sword.

His strength was horrifying!

“How dare you bunch of trash attempt to challenge me? You're just wasting your efforts!

”

Magnus pointed at them with his sword. He was looking down on them.

He had only engaged in Nathan's challenge for fun. Now that

he had his fun, it was time he ended things.

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“As expected of Magnus. His skills are out of this world!”

“Hah! How dare a second–grade guild go against us? They were asking for it!”

The Skycrane disciples laughed among themselves. The treasure was theirs now that th

ey

had defeated the Azure Mist.

“Magnus! Those girls with them are beautiful!

“It’d be a pity to kill them just like that. Why don’t we have some fun with them first?”

One of the disciples of Skycrane pointed at Emily with a wicked smile.

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“Oh?” Magnus looked over and nodded enthusiastically.

“Not bad. They do look fine indeed.

“If you want to have fun with them, you better hurry. Don’t waste too much time.”

“Hehe! Thank you, Magnus!” The Skycrane disciples were excited.

Their eyes lit up.

“Emily, run! I’ll hold them back!”

1/3

Seeing that things weren’t good for them, Nathan clenched his jaws and forced himself

up.

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He knew that if his sister fell into their hands, her life would be a living hell. Those monsters were inhumane.

“If we die, we’re going to die together! I can’t leave you behind!” Emily slowly lifted her sword.

She looked like she was ready to fight them.

“Stop putting on a brave front! Run while you can!” Nathan yelled at her. He would give his life to ensure that his sister was safe.

“Vanessa! Lead Dustin and the rest of them out of here.

“Leave this to me!” Emily stood firm, determined.

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“Emily! No! I’m not leaving! I’m staying back with you!”

Vanessa had tears in her eyes. Though she was afraid, she did not back off.

“Don’t be silly! You aren’t of any help here! Get Master Chasey!

“I’ll hold these people back. If

Master Chasey gets here in time, we still have hope!” Emily told her.

“Emily...” Vanessa seemed helpless as she looked at Emily with teary eyes.

She knew that if she left now, she might never see them again.

“Don’t just stand there! Quick! Run before it’s too late!” Emily urged her frantically.

She had to get all of them to

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leave. That was better than them staying back and none of them surviving.
“I’ll do it.”

Just as Vanessa was stuck in a dilemma, Dustin stood forward. “Be it
Skycrane or what

not,

I’ll handle them.”

Emily and Vanessa had treated him well. He wasn’t going to watch them
sacrifice

themselves.

“Hey, what are you talking about? I can’t even handle them!

“How are you going to fight against them?” Nathan asked rudely.

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2/3

“Dustin, do not try to act tough now! Run for your life! There’s no point risking it!” Emily frowned.

That was Magnus Sheaves they were talking about! The lead disciple of Skycrane and

a genius swordmaster from Yuston!

Even Nathan had been defeated so easily; what more, a small fry like Dustin?

“Don’t worry. They’re no match for me,” Dustin assured calmly.

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At that, the Skycrane disciples stared at Dustin in disbelief before bursting into laughter.

“Hey, bastard. Do you have any idea what you’re saying? Do you think you’re on the same level as us?”

“Oh! I remember now! This is the idiot from the restaurant yesterday!”

“Haha! You were lucky enough to get away yesterday. You’re not going to get lucky a second time!”

The Skycrane disciples snickered, looking at Dustin like he was a moron.

Chapter 977

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“Hey, you! I’ll let you live if you can withstand three of my attacks!”

Magnus taunted as h

e

lifted his sword.

“Is that so? I’d like to see how great your skills are.” Dustin’s expression remained

impassive as he went forward calmly.

“Dustin!” Emily grabbed his wrist.

“Magnus is much stronger than us. You can’t possibly win against him.

You better run fo

r

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your life!”

“That’s right, Dustin! The guy is terrifying! You’re no match for him!”

Vanessa tried to persuade him against it, too.

“Rhys! Stop making things worse! Bring Emily and the rest away from here now!

“You can’t handle the situation here!” Nathan shouted at him.

“Exactly! Even Nathan can’t win against Magnus! Do you think you can?

Run while you

can!”

The disciples of Azure Mist yelled at him to run away. Though they didn’t particularly like

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him, they didn't wish to see him dead.

“Don't worry. It's just Magnus. I'm not afraid of him.”

Dustin was calm like there was nothing to be anxious about. He walked forward.

“Dustin!” Emily still wanted to stop him, but the Skycrane disciples had surrounded them

.

“Oh no... Oh no. Dustin's done for now!” Vanessa panicked as if she had already anticipated the scene of Dustin's death.

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“The dumbass doesn’t know fear even when death stares him in the face!”

Nathan looked

at

him in frustration.

“Oh, what a stubborn ass!” The disciples of Azure Mist shook their heads

as they sighed

helplessly.

“Hah! You are too full of yourself! How dare you go

against Magnus? You’ll die soon enough!

1/3

Disciples of Skycrane laughed as they watched enthusiastically.

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“Come on then.”

Dustin stood with an arm behind his back. With his other hand, he beckoned at Magnus with a finger.

The act looked like a condescending taunt to everyone.

“If you insist on meeting your maker, I’ll send you to him immediately!”

Magnus sneered.

He launched forward like an arrow with a light tap of his feet. The speed at which he

leaped forward was shocking.

“Scattering Radiance!” Magnus suddenly shouted.

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Then, a shocking radiance burst from his sword, blinding everyone.
A glow seemed to spread out from the blade, expanding rapidly. It reached almost 10 fe

et.

in length.

At a glance, it was becoming like a giant sword!

“So fast! And the glow from the blade is so blinding! Magnus used his killer move right

from the start!”

“The rascal should be proud to have died by Magnus‘ sword!”

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The Skycrane disciples looked full of themselves like they had already won.

“Oh no! He’s done for!” Disciples of Azure Mist hung their heads low in misery.

“Dustin! Move out of the way!” Emily and Vanessa were so shocked that they paled and

exclaimed in unison. (1

Dustin should not attempt to block Magnus’ sword, or he would certainly die!

“Impressive. But more style over power, I’d say ” Dustin stood still as he stared straight

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at
the blinding radiance of the sword.
Then, without ducking or moving out of the way, he punched the
oncoming sword. Simpl
e
and without any flairs.
As they came into contact, three explosions were heard.
On the first explosion, the radiance of the sword shattered.
2/3
On the second explosion, the sword itself shattered.
On the third explosion, Magnus himself shattered!

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A deathly silence fell over the place.

Chapter 978

Everyone was silent when they saw Magnus explode into pieces.

They stood there frozen in place with absolute horror on their faces. They looked like th

ey'd seen a ghost.

Many of them even wondered if they were dreaming. If this wasn't a dream, how can su

ch

a thing happen?

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That was Magnus, the lead disciple of Skycrane and a genius swordmaster from Yuston

. He was strong enough to defeat all the disciples of Azure Mist single-handedly.

How could a nobody like Dustin overpower someone of that level?

No, he wasn't even overpowered. Dustin's punch shattered him on the spot.

Just a single punch from him had shattered both Magnus and his sword.

He had been s

o thoroughly destroyed that nothing remained.

Was he even human? He must be a monster!

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“How—how could this be? Magnus—died?”

Looking at all the blood on the ground, the disciples of Skycrane looked defeated. They

trembled, and their eyes were filled with shock.

It was hard for them to accept that Magnus, a genius swordmaster and the best among t

hem, had been crushed by just a single punch! It was unbelievable!

“Am—

am I seeing things? The bastard won?” Nathan’s eyes widened. He could not believe

what he saw.

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When Magnus had wielded his sword, he had thought that Dustin would certainly die. B

ut it turned out that Dustin had given him the shock of his life!

“Oh my goodness! How did I get myself involved with a monster?” Emily swallowed dryly, astonishment clear on her face.

“He crushed Magnus with just one move! Dustin is amazing!” Vanessa was pleasantly

surprised that she almost jumped for joy.

She had been worried that Magnus would have killed Dustin. But by the look of things, s

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he had been worried over nothing.

12

It turns out that the handsome and helpful young man was a hidden expert! “He’s a monster!” The disciples of Azure Mist exchanged looks of astonishment.

None of them had thought that Dustin, whom they had assumed was a nobody, was so powerful. They now felt guilty and ashamed for their contempt toward him before.

They had to admit that they had underestimated him.

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“Hmph! This is nothing! If only you knew that he’s the young grandmaster!”

Abigail mumbled to herself, looking proud of Dustin. She felt honored to have such a mentor.

“You killed Magnus? We’ll kill you!”

After collecting themselves, the disciples of Skycrane began shouting.

They raised their

swords and charged at Dustin.

They knew that they would not be able to win against him in a one-to-one battle, so they attempted to overpower him with their numbers.

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“Do not act recklessly!”

Just then, an old man with white hair descended from the sky. He delivered a palm strike

through the air, straight at the ground.

“Boom!” An immense surge of true energy in the shape of a palm burst out from his hand.

It

weighed down heavily upon the

Skycrane disciples like a mountain. “Bang!” There was a loud explosion.

Chapter 979

A large crater in the shape of a palm was formed on the ground.

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The Skycrane disciples were buried in the soil and gravel in the crater. Some of them were severely wounded, while others died on the spot. All it took was one palm strike from him, and almost all the Skycrane disciples were wiped out. It was a truly powerful attack!

“Master Chasey!”

Upon seeing the elderly person, the Azure Mist disciples’ spirits were uplifted. They gathered around eagerly as if they had met their leader.

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The elderly man was none other than Walter Chasey, the leader of Azure Mist!

“Dad! You’re here! We almost died!”

Vanessa ran up to him with red-rimmed eyes. She looked like she was close to tears.

“Oh, you! You refused to train when I asked you to. Now you know fear in the face of danger!”

Walter stood with his hands behind his back as he lectured Vanessa with a stern expression.

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“Dad! They were too powerful! Even Nathan was no match for them. What could I do?”

Vanessa pouted, looking hurt.

“That’s right, Master Chasey. The Skycrane disciples were skillful.

“We were lucky Dustin was with us. We would have been in grave danger otherwise.”

As Emily spoke, she looked at Dustin. It seemed like she was trying to get Walter to praise him.

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“Yes, I saw what he did.” Walter nodded as he, too, looked towards Dustin.

“Young man, you have great skills. May I know who your mentor is?”

“I have no mentor,” Dustin replied.

“Oh? So you were self-taught?”

1/3

Walter was astonished and wanted him to join Azure Mist.

“Young man, I see your potential and talent. Since you do not have a mentor, why don’t

you be my disciple?

“You’ll have someone to back you up in the future, too.”

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“My apologies. I do not have any such intention for now.” Dustin shook his head, rejectin

g

Walter.

“Young man, this is an opportunity of a lifetime. You won’t be getting such an offer

anymore.

“Do you know how many people in Lester have begged to be accepted into Azure Mist b

ut failed? Consider yourself lucky to be getting this chance,” Walter said proudly.

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“Yes, Dustin! Master Chasey is halfway to becoming a grandmaster. “You’ll learn much from him if you become his disciple!” Emily coaxed. Azure Mist was only second to Ironfists in the whole of Lester.

Master Chasey was the second–best martial artist in Lester. He rarely accepted disciples.

“Dustin, my father’s amazing. Did you see the palm strike he did earlier on?

“He wiped out all the Skycrane disciples with just a single move. You have nothing to lose by becoming his disciple,” Vanessa echoed.

Her lack of opportunity to get closer to Dustin troubled her. But if he were to become her

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father's disciple, she'd be able to be around him often then.

“Thank you for the kind gesture, Master Chasey, but I'm used to having my freedom.

“I do not like to be controlled, so I have no plans to become a disciple.”

Dustin shook his head.

Walter frowned, clearly displeased.

“Young man, think about it carefully. Many people are dying to become my disciples, but I'm only offering the opportunity to you. Do you understand?”

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He had always been the one rejecting others and never the other way around.

He was giving Dustin a great honor by offering him the chance to be his disciple. He never thought that his offer would be turned down.

2/3

“Hey! People are dying to have such a reputable mentor as Master Chasey!

Why are

you being so stubborn?” Nathan was annoyed.

It was an honor to

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earn the favor of his mentor. It was also an opportunity that countless people dreamed of and yearned for.

Dustin was the only one who didn't appreciate it. What an idiot!

"I thank you for the offer, Master Chasey. But I'll still have to turn you down." Dustin stood

on his ground and shook his head.

"Hey, young man, are you looking down on me?"

"Do you think that I'm not fit to be your mentor?" Walter's eyes narrowed as his expression

changed

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darkened.

He had put down his ego and said all he could to persuade Dustin to join him. But no m

atter how he coaxed, the young man refused to take him up on his offer.

How unappreciative!

“You’re mistaken, Master Chasey. I never meant that.” Dustin frowned.

Why was the old man getting unreasonable?

“Hmph! I think that’s what you meant!”

Walter looked at Dustin, determined. Then, he pointed at Dustin.

“If you’re not convinced of my skills, boy, you can always test me. Try me and see if I’m

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fit

to be your mentor!”

Chapter 980

With how Walter tried to pick a fight with him, Dustin started running out of patience.

It was his choice to choose a mentor and whether or not to learn from him.

How could it

be

forced on someone?

Besides, Walter was just halfway to becoming a grandmaster. How could he be qualifie

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d to

be Dustin's mentor?

"Master Chasey, your skills are exceptional. Dustin would never look down on you. May

be he just needs some time to consider things.

"Once he sees just how amazing you are, he'll come to appreciate the offer." Emily quic

kly tried to smooth things over when she saw things getting ugly.

"That's right, Dad! The matter of importance now is not getting yourself a disciple.

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“Let’s not get distracted from the treasure,” Vanessa tried to change the subject.

Though it was a pity, she did not wish to force Dustin into things. It would not be worth it to go overboard and ruin their relationship.

“I’ll give you three days to consider the offer, boy. If you change your mind within three days, you can come to me any time.

“But once the three days are over, the offer no longer stands. No matter how much you beg, you won’t get the opportunity any

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more. Think about it!”

Then, with both hands behind his back, Walter entered the tomb.

Iris Meskill’s tomb was his priority today. He refused to be affected by a brat.

“Hmph! The most foolish thing you’ve ever done is to turn down Master Chasey’s offer!

You’ll regret it!”

Nathan spat before leading the rest of the Azure Mist disciples into the tomb.

In

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his eyes, this was Dustin's one chance at success. But he did not appreciate it. It was foolish of him.

"Dustin, Master Chasey's just a very straightforward person. Don't take it to heart."

Emily felt awkward now that there was tension over something as trivial as getting Dustin to be Walter's disciple.

1/3

"That's alright. It's just a small matter." Dustin shook his head, unaffected by what had

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happened.

“Alright, let bygones be bygones. Let’s go on and check out what treasures lay in wait in the tomb.”

Vanessa was excited but nervous.

“After you, Dustin!” Emily smiled.

They quickly caught up with the rest of the group.

Once they entered the tomb, it was pitch black all around them. They could not even see

e

their fingers in front of them.

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But they came prepared. Taking out their torches, they saw that the tomb was huge. They could not even see the end of it.

The tomb had a damp, moldy stench. They could occasionally hear the dripping sound

of

water droplets dropping to the ground.

“Look, there are footprints here. Someone must have been here before us.

We need to

make

haste!”

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Walter, who was at the front, urged the rest of them. They had no choice but to hurry.

After walking for about 10 minutes, they noticed a spacious stone chamber before them.

Upon entering the stone chamber, they saw many crates scattered around it. The crates

had all been pried open.

Someone had been there and taken everything.

Glancing at the place, they noted three other stone doors in the chamber.

They were all

shut.

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“Darn it! We were one step too late!” Walter exclaimed, looking down and frustrated.

They had gone through much trouble locating the tomb but still ended up empty-handed.

It was infuriating!

“Master Chasey, there’s something over there!” Nathan pointed at something in the center of the chamber.

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Everyone looked over to find a mystical formation in the middle of the chamber. It was

2/3

Right in the middle of the mystical formation, a pitch-black sword stuck straight up from the ground.

The entire blade of the sword was buried in the ground, leaving only the hilt exposed.

Though it was in a sheath, it radiated a sharp glow.

Anyone could tell at a glance that it wasn't an ordinary object.

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Right in front of the sword, there was a message. “The Celestial Blade appears to slay a
ll
evil; only by the Fated One to wield.”
“It’s a treasure!” Walter’s eyes lit up at the sight of the black sword. He immediately rush
ed
up to it.
But when he got near to the mystical formation, he paused.
Iris was a top–
notch grandmaster. With her cultivation level, she could easily set up a trap

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that could kill a grandmaster on the spot.

He had to be very careful.

“Ben! Go and pull the sword out!”

Walter took a glance backward and pointed at one of his disciples, who was very well–

built.

“Me?” Ben swallowed dryly. He couldn’t help but feel nervous about it.

He wasn’t a fool either. He knew that that was no ordinary sword. It would already have

been taken by others if it were.

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“Don’t worry. I’ll be here to protect you. Nothing’s going to happen. Go on.”

Walter pretended like he was going to protect Ben.

“Alright.” Ben had no choice but to step into the mystical formation.

Luckily for him, nothing happened.

He grabbed the sword’s hilt and gave it one hard tug. It did not budge.

“Hmm?” Ben fou

nd it strange.

An Understated Dominance Chapter 981

An Understated Dominance Chapter 981

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Chapter 981

He had no problem lifting thousands of pounds with his strength. How was it possible th

at

he could not lift a sword?

“Try again,” Walter urged.

Ben didn't dare to hesitate. Taking a deep breath, he clasped both hands tightly on the s

word's hilt and pulled it upwards with all his might..

His veins popped, and his face flushed. He used all his strength, but the sword did

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not budge an inch.

“Master Chasey, this won’t work. I can’t lift it.” Heaving a long sigh, Ben was already drenched in sweat.

“What a piece of trash. How could you not be able to lift just a sword? Let me do it!”

Nathan couldn’t take it anymore. He voluntarily walked up and pushed Ben aside. Then,

he spat into his palms and rubbed them together.

Setting his footing right, he grabbed the sword’s hilt and deeply breathed.

Mustering up

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all the true energy he had, he pulled up sharply.
The black sword remained unmoving.
“Damn it! I don’t believe this!” Nathan frowned. Unwilling to accept defeat, he tried several more times.
And it was still the same. The sword remained motionless as though it was a part of the stone chamber.
“Master Chasey, there’s something odd about the sword. It can’t be removed.”

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Nathan felt both ashamed and helpless. In the end, he had no choice but to give up. “I think you’ll have to do it yourself.”

“Hmph! I can’t believe you guys can’t handle such a small task. What an embarrassment!”

With a dark expression, Walter walked up to the sword with his hands behind his back.

He circled the sword once to make sure it was not dangerous.

Then, he grabbed the sword’s hilt. He gave it a sharp pull, Still, the sword remained motionless.

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“Hmm?” Walter’s eyes narrowed. He increased his force on the sword but to no avail.

With all his disciples’ eyes on him, Walter felt embarrassed that he could not pull out the sword. Hence, he reached out both hands to grasp the sword’s hilt and crouched down.

“Get up!” Walter roared, unleashing all his true energy in one go.

The entire stone chamber began to rumble, and pieces of rubble fell around them. For a

moment, dust and sand rained down on them.

It was as though an earthquake. It was scary.

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The stone chamber continued rumbling, but the black sword remained unmoving.

“Too much! This is too much!”

Walter gritted his teeth. He had put every last bit of his strength into it but failed. He

kicked at the sword to vent his anger.

“That’s odd. Could that be a fake sword? Why else is it not budging?”

“If even Master Chasey can’t dislodge it, who can?”

“The Celestial Blade appears to slay all evil; only by the Fated One to wield.‘ Could it be

possible that the sword has a mind of its own and will pick its owner?”

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Everyone exchanged looks of bewilderment as they whispered among themselves.

“Let me try.” All of a sudden, Dustin approached the sword.

Somehow, the sword looked familiar to him. He even felt a sense of liking for it.

He felt like they were old friends and were finally meeting again after a long time.

“Hmph! Even Master Chasey can’t do it. Do you think you’d be able to?”

Nathan rolled h

is

eyes at Dustin in disdain.

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“The sword has a mind of its own. Of course, you can’t do it with brute strength.”

Dustin slowly closed his eyes and began feeling the mysterious sensation from the sword.

“Nonsense! It’s just a sword! How can it have a mind of its own?”

“Don’t overestimate yourself, young man.”

“Even Master Chasey can’t do it. Do you think that you’d be able to? You’re just going to embarrass yourself!”

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The Azure Mist disciples jeered, each with a look of contempt on their face.

Master Chasey was halfway to becoming a grandmaster. If he found it impossible to lift t

he sword, what more could a nobody like Dustin?

“Young people tend to think too highly of themselves.”

Walter shot Dustin a sidelong glance and said coldly, “You think you’re better than me,

don’t you? Do you think that you’ll be able to perform a miracle when even I can’t?

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“Mark my words. Nobody will be able to extract the sword. Not even the gods! If you can

do it, I’ll get on my knees and take you as my mentor!”

He had barely finished his sentence when Dustin suddenly opened his eyes.

A dark glow flashed, and Dustin suddenly lifted two fingers. He pointed at the sword and

lifted it upwardly with his fingers.

“Up!” he shouted.

A clanging sound was heard.

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The black sword lifted off the ground and circled in the air twice before falling straight int

o Dustin's outstretched palm.

Walter stood there dumbfounded.

Chapter 982

Looking at the black sword in Dustin's hand, everyone was astonished. It was simply unbelievable.

They had tried hard to pull the sword out, but none succeeded. And now, it came out by itself and flew straight into Dustin's hand.

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The most shocking thing was that Dustin hadn't touched it the entire time! He had simply pointed two fingers at it and made a lifting motion through the air. The

sword seemed to have sensed him beckoning it, so it launched out of the ground and

landed straight in his hand.

But why?

They had put in so much effort and thoroughly tried to get it out, all to no avail.

Why did the sword come to Dustin just because he had motioned to it?

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Was the sword discriminating against them? Or had it simply ignored them?

“No! No way! How could it have been so simple for him?” Nathan’s eyes widened in disbelief.

Even Master Chasey had not been able to pull the sword out! Why had it gone to Dustin of its own will? What was going on?

“Oh my goodness! Am I seeing things? Did the sword just fly out by itself?” Vanessa gulped, unable to come to terms with what she just saw.

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“Does the sword have a mind of its own? Is that why it decided for itself who should be its owner?” Emily wondered, shaken. “The Celestial Blade appears to slay all evil; only by the Fated One to wield.”

Looking at the message on the ground, that was the only conclusion she managed to draw from it.

“You—How did you do it?” Walter’s brows furrowed. He lost his composure.

He could not understand why Dustin was able to pull the sword out when he could not.

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Did the sword regard Dustin, the young man, better than Walter?
“I don’t know. All I did was beckon it, and it came on its own accord.”
Dustin looked at the black sword in admiration.
He was adept with swords, but he rarely used them. Because of his power, no regular sword seemed good enough for him.
But this one was different. It felt like it was tailor-made for him.
The blade was made of meteoric iron. It was so sharp that it could slice through almost any material. Dustin could feel an immense power within it that could destroy the world.

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“Celestial Blade? Impressive.” Dustin smiled. He slowly caressed the sword, growing fond of it.

“Dustin! Congratulations on getting a sword of your own! Seems like it belongs to you now.

“Emily smiled.

“Hang on!” Walter suddenly piped up.

“Young man, there’s something unusual about this sword.

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“If I’m not mistaken, this should be a dangerous object. It might put you in danger if you

keep it around you. Why don’t I safe–keep it for you?”

Dustin raised a brow. “Sir Chasey, I think it’s fate that the sword chose me.

It’s not dang

erous.”

“I’m doing this

in consideration for your safety, young man. You wouldn’t be able to

handle such a dan

gerous object. Let me guard it.”

Walter reached out to take the sword from Dustin.

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It was rare to come across a sword with a mind of its own. He wasn't about to let it slip through his fingers.

If he were to own the sword, it would greatly enhance his powers. He might even be able

to put up against a grandmaster if he had it!

“Sir Chasey, I'll keep it safe myself. Don't worry about it.”

The smile on Dustin's face started to fade. He was beginning to see what kind of a person

Walter was.

Chapter 983

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This old geezer was abandoning his morals for his gain. He was greedy to make the sw

ord

his.

“Young man, let me make this clear. I’m not asking for your opinion,”

Walter said coldly.

“Like they say, an innocent man will become a target if he possesses a prized possessi

on.

This sword isn’t suitable for you.

“Give it to me, and you can uphold your honor.

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“Sir Chasey, it sounds like you’re threatening me.” Dustin narrowed his eyes.

“I’m just giving you advice—

a wise man understands his circumstances. You’re still young, and you’ll have many more opportunities.

“You don’t have to destroy your future over a sword, don’t you think?”

Walter continued.

He was determined to get the sword at all costs. He would have done this long ago if he didn’t care about his reputation.

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“Master Chasey, the sword chose its wielder. Dustin is fated to have this sword. What you’re doing isn’t right, don’t you think?” Emily frowned. She never thought her righteous master would completely turn his back on someone over a sword. He was even making threats. “Shut up!” Walter glared at her. “What do you know? This sword has no owner, so finder’s keepers!”

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“Dad! Dustin already got the sword. Don’t tell me you’re going to snatch it from him?”

Vanessa said with furrowed eyebrows. She looked angry.

“Stupid girl, you’re my daughter! Why are you siding with the outsider?!”

Walter felt embarrassed.

“I’m just pointing out the facts!” Vanessa said indignantly.

“Dustin saved our lives before. We haven’t even had the chance to repay him yet, but you’re already threatening him. You’re such a bully!”

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“Hmph, if we hadn’t brought him here, he might never have found this treasure!

retorted fiercely.

“Not to mention, I just want that one sword. What’s the big deal? If we find another treas

ure in the future, we’ll let him have it!”

“But...”

“That’s enough!”

Vanessa wanted to say something, but Walter interrupted her angrily, “I like this sword. I

have to have it no matter what!”

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“What if I don’t give it to you?” Dustin said with a cold look.

“You won’t give it to me? Don’t blame me when I stop playing the nice guy!” Walter shouted.

As he spoke, his body exuded an overwhelming aura. He looked like a ferocious beast baring his teeth.

“Stop!” Vanessa stood in front of Dustin and defended him.

“Dad, Dustin saved my life before. If you’re going to do something reckless, then you’d have

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to kill me first!”

“Move out of the way, stupid girl!” Walter flew into his rage.

He thought that the daughter that he’d raised would support him.

“Dad, we can’t be ungrateful! You taught me this!”

Vanessa bit her lip, spreading her arms wide to protect Dustin. She looked like she was

ready to face death.

“Forget it, Master Chasey. You’ll find a better treasure next time. There’s no need to fight.”

t.”

Emily advised.

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“Shut up!” Walter was furious.

He slapped Emily across the face and screamed, “You ungrateful brats, I taught you to r

espect your teachers, not rebel against them!”

Emily cupped her cheek with a frown. She looked at Walter in shock, like she didn’t reco

gnize him anymore.

2/3

She never thought that her master would become so uncompromising.

“Sir Chasey, you need to know where

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to draw the line. Don't make mountains out of molehills," Dustin said coolly.

This old geezer was blinded by greed.

It was a shame because he had such a great disciple and an awesome daughter.

"Enough talking! Give me the sword, or don't think about leaving this place!" Walter threatened.

"You want the sword? Fine, I'll give it to you." Dustin nodded and flung the sword.

It spun in the air a few times before lodging itself back

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in the mystical formation, just like how it was before.

“Go on, pull it out if you can.”

Chapter 984

“Go on, pull it out if you can.

Dustin didn't want to waste his breath any longer. He tossed the sword back to its origin

al

spot and walked out the stone doors.

There were three stone doors in the stone room. Dustin simply chose one and entered.

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He didn't prolong the situation for Emily's and Vanessa's sake. Instead, he chose to go his separate way.

After all, it wasn't like Walter could retrieve the sword. There was no harm in leaving the sword here.

The most important thing was the Shadowbloom.

Once he found the Shadowbloom, he could still return and get the sword.

“Stop right there, punk!”

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As Walter watched Dustin walk away, his anger flared. He raised his hand and was about

to

deliver a lethal blow.

“Stop!” At that moment, Vanessa suddenly jumped between them.

Walter jumped in fright. Afraid that he would accidentally injure his daughter, he stopped

himself.

Ultimately, he watched Dustin and the two others slowly walk into the darkness.

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“Stupid girl, how dare you go against me over an outsider? You’re incredibly foolish!”

Walter stamped his foot in disappointment.

How did he raise such an ungrateful child?

“Dad, the treasure is important, but you can’t give up your conscience!”

Vanessa said

righteously.

“You-”

Walter raised his hand to hit her, but in the end, he stopped himself.

He only had one precious daughter. He couldn’t hurt her.

1/3

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“Master Chasey, he is gone, but the sword is here. Why don’t we try again?” Emily said tentatively.

“Hmph! I refuse to believe that only that punk can pull it out!”

Walter gritted his teeth and approached the sword again. Then, he grabbed the hilt with

both hands and tried to lift it.

However, the sword didn’t budge. It reacted differently than it did in Dustin’s presence.

“Useless! Trash! I’ll destroy you!”

Walter tried a few more times, and his embarrassment turned into anger.

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Since he couldn't get it, he wanted to destroy it. He slammed his palm on the hilt of the sword.

“Boom!” There was an explosion.

The sword didn't move. Instead, an invisible force forced Walter to stagger backward.

Suddenly, blood rushed through him, and his arm went numb.

He couldn't pull it out nor destroy it. He was about to die from frustration.

After composing himself, he left two disciples there to guard it. Then, he led the rest of t

he

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group through the other stone door.

There was no point in trying. Perhaps there were better treasures inside.

Inside the dim tunnel, Abigail was still upset. “Sir, that old bastard crossed the line. Why

didn’t you teach him a lesson?”

“There’s no need to create

additional problems for ourselves. Let’s find the Shadowbloom first,” Dustin said indifferently.

The sword had already bonded with him. He could summon it anytime, so he wasn’t

worried it’d get stolen.

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As they were walking, Azalea stopped in her tracks. “Doctor, there’s another crossroad ahead.”

At some point, a crossroad had appeared.

2/3

Looking into it, they saw that each cave was unfathomably deep. It was pitch black, so they had no idea where it led.

“Why is this place just like a maze? There are all sorts of crossroads.”

Abigail frowned, looking nervous.

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If they took the wrong road, would they be in danger?

“Keep walking forward.”

Dustin swept his gaze over his surroundings and quickly found his bearings.

They continued trudging ahead, following the twists and turns of the tunnel. After half an hour of walking, they saw a bright light.

They picked up the pace. They realized it was a brightly lit burial chamber when they go

t

closer.

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The burial chamber was huge. All sorts of lifelike humanoid statues surrounded it.

In the very middle of the statues was a giant bronze coffin.

**

There were all sorts of strange symbols covering the coffin. It looked like it was filled with

h

dark energy.

“Sir, don’t you feel like this place is eerie?” Abigail shrunk backward. For some reason,

she

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felt nervous.

Those lifelike stone statues next to the coffin crept her out the most.

Their cold, bead

y

eyes seemed to be staring straight at her.

Goosebumps broke out on her skin.

“They’re just statues. What are you afraid of?”

Dustin looked around, but he didn’t sense any living creatures.

“Doctor, there are some writings here.” Azalea stepped forward to find a stone tablet in

front of the coffin.

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On the stone tablet were the words, “Disciple of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood; Kowtow th
rice before the tomb.”

Chapter 985

“Sir, we’re not disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. Should we pray?”

Abigail asked.

“We should respect the dead,” Dustin said, nodding.

Iris was a great legend. Although she already passed, she deserved to be respected.

“Okay.” Abigail agreed. She kneeled in front of the stone tablet and kowtowed.

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Suddenly, the stone tablet began rumbling. It sunk into the earth and disappeared.

Then, an exquisite box emerged from the stone tablet's original spot. "Sir, there's something here!" Abigail's eyes lit up, and she immediately opened the box.

A golden pearl was inside the wooden box. It was dazzling and sparkling. The golden liquid inside was spinning like a whirlpool. It was absorbing the spiritual energy from its surroundings. "Oh my gosh, is this the Celestial Pearl?!" Azalea's eyes grew wide with shock.

Even the ever-composed Dustin was surprised.

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He never thought the box would contain a legendary sacred relic of the martial world—

the

Celestial Pearl!

“What’s a Celestial Pearl?” Abigail cocked her head in confusion.

Wasn’t it just a pretty jewel? Why were they freaking out?

“Abigail, you struck gold this time!” Azalea was jumping out and down in excitement.

“The Celestial Pearl is one of the three major sacred relics. It’s the best, something that

numerous martial artists could only dream of!

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“Its biggest use is in increasing the speed of cultivation by 10 to 100 times! With the Cel

estial Pearl, a loser could become a genius overnight!

“Of course, if a genius got their hands on this treasure, their power would be unimaginable!

ble!

“It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that once the Celestial Pearl appears, there will be a bloodbath in the martial world!”

By the end of her explanation, her face was flushed.

1/3

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This prized treasure in front of them could make someone a whole new person and achieve great heights!

Who wouldn't be envious?

“Huh, it's that powerful?” Abigail was shocked and found it hard to comprehend the situation.

She'd assumed that it was some kind of decorative jewelry. She didn't think it was such a big deal.

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“Abigail, remember, you can’t tell anyone about the Celestial Pearl. Or else, there’ll be consequences!” Dustin warned her sternly.

Even he couldn’t help but feel a desire for this treasure.

“Sir, this is too precious. I can’t take care of it. You should take it.”

Abigail was a little scared, so she

handed the Celestial Pearl to Dustin without a second thought.

“Abigail, you-!” Azalea’s eyes widened in disbelief.

Was that girl stupid? Did she give away this treasure that could change one’s fate that

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others desperately search for?

Even a fool wouldn't do this!

“You silly girl, you're the one who followed the writings, so the Celestial Pearl naturally b

elongs to you. You keep it.” Dustin smiled and pushed her hand back.

“What?” Azalea was once again dumbfounded.

She thought Dustin would be overjoyed, but he unexpectedly turned it down.

Was he also stupid?

“Sir, you're more talented than me. You would use it better.” Abigail shoved it to him aga

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in.

“If I use it now, I won’t improve much. A beginner like you needs it to increase your cultivation speed.” Dustin pushed it back.

“I don’t want it, you take it!”

“Don’t be silly, keep it!”

“I don’t even want it!”

“You need it!”

The both of them pushed it back and forth. In the end, they got so worked up that they almost fought.

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At the side, Azalea's lips twitched. She looked at the scene before her, not knowing how

to

feel about it.

Did they think this was a game?

This was a fucking sacred relic of the martial world!

This treasure made countless martial artists crazy with desire!

Could the two of them at least show it some respect?!

An Understated Dominance Chapter 986

An Understated Dominance Chapter 986

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Chapter 986

Seeing the two of them fight non-stop, Azalea couldn't stand it anymore. "If neither of you wants it, why don't you give it to me?"

If she was shameless enough, they might give it to her.

"Don't be stupid!" Dustin glared at her.

He forced the Celestial Pearl back into Abigail's pocket and said, "Take care of it. This treasure chose you. If you push it back, I'll be mad!"

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“Oh okay, then. I’ll use it for a while, then give it to you.” After hesitating, Abigail still decided to keep it close to her. She thought that once she grew stronger, she could help Dustin more. When she touched the Celestial Pearl, she could feel a cooling energy flow into her body and her core. It empowered her internal energy and strengthened her circulatory pathways.

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If this continued, she would have another breakthrough within three to five days.

Her cultivation speed was advancing fast!

“Alright, let’s look around. Do you see any Shadowblooms here?”

Without wasting time, Dustin began searching all over.

The tomb contained many treasures. There were powerful weapons, ancient martial arts

texts, and priceless artifacts.

Each item’s worth could give a person a comfortable lifestyle for a lifetime.

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However, Dustin wasn't interested in these. On the other hand, Azalea took everything that she could find.

After searching the entire tomb, Dustin didn't find any Shadowblooms. The only place he hadn't searched yet was the bronze coffin.

"Sorry!" Dustin faced the coffin and bowed deeply. Then, he pressed his palm to the coffin's lid and pushed.

Metallic creaking sounded as the coffin slowly opened. Dust rained down below.

1/3

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When Dustin looked inside, his eyes widened.
He found the remains of a man wearing a beautiful suit.
On his chest was an exquisite flower.
The entire flower was black, and it emitted a dim glow.
It gave off a mysterious, sad, gloomy, yet beautiful feeling.
It was eerie and enchanting but also fierce. It looked like it came from another world.
With just one glance, he was captivated. This flower was none other than the Shadowbloom.
“As I thought, it’s here!” Dustin was overjoyed.

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With this Shadowbloom, Natasha could be saved.

“Please forgive me for offending you.”

Dustin bowed another time, then reached for the Shadowbloom.

“Sir, behind you!” Abigail suddenly exclaimed.

“What?”

Dustin turned his head. One of the stone statues behind him was suddenly moving.

There was a crackle as the statue’s outer layer began to crack and fall off piece by piece.

Then, the statue’s eyes snapped open!

The stone layer on its body exploded when it opened his eyes.

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At the same time, a white figure burst through the rock and slammed Dustin in the chest

.

Frowning, Dustin raised his arm in response.

“Boom!”

When both of them touched, Dustin staggered backward from the momentum, wobbling on his feet.

Every step backward that he took left a deep footprint on the ground. On the other hand, the white figure landed gently on the ground. White mist swirled

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around it, giving it a holy yet evil aura.

Chapter 987

Abigail was shocked. She hid behind Azalea, trembling.

She was fearless in most aspects, but supernatural stuff scared her.

“Who are you?” Dustin frowned, his face hardened.

He was caught off guard. But the fact that the person could push him back with a single

palm strike proved their strength.

The person before him was definitely an ultimate grandmaster!

“This is my tomb. Who do you think I am?”

The mist surrounding the figure dissipated.

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Soon, they saw the face of a white-haired woman with a youthful appearance appear before them. She possessed a beauty that could captivate nations. Even with white hair, her face looked like she didn't age. Her deep eyes seemed to have witnessed and seen all of life's experiences through everything. "Your tomb?" Dustin was stunned. His expression then shifted. "Are you Iris Meskill?" "Iris Meskill?" Even Abigail and Azalea were stunned, their face full of disbelief.

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Didn't Iris die 50 years ago? Why was she alive? What was happening?
"You know my name, yet you dare steal from my tomb? Are you asking for death?"

Iris's tone was calm, yet it conveyed chilling pressure.

"Madam Iris, we didn't come here to steal from you. We're here to obtain the

Shadowbloom

to save a life," Dustin explained.

"Do you know how precious the Shadowbloom is? Why should I give it to you?" she replied

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impassively.

“Please state your conditions, and I’ll fulfill them as best as possible.”

Dustin bowed

respectfully.

“Conditions?” Iris snorted.

1/3

“If you can revive my husband, I’ll give it to you.”

“Madam Iris, this is a difficult request.”

Dustin frowned slightly. “How can a dead man be brought back to life?”

There was nothing but bones left of the person in the coffin. Not even God could bring hi

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m
back to life.

“Since you know that the dead can’t be brought back to life, don’t covet the Shadowbloo

m
anymore.

“Since you were polite earlier, I won’t kill you. Leave.” Iris waved her hand dismissively.

“Madam Iris, I must take this flower back with me!” Dustin was determined.

“Take? What makes you think you can?” Iris’ gaze grew colder.

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“I’d like to try.” Dustin was solemn.

“Aren’t you afraid of death?” She narrowed her eyes.

“Even if I die, I must take this flower back!” Dustin was resolute.

“Very well, I’ll grant your wish!”

Iris’ anger flared, and she leaped into the air. Her palm strike was aimed at Dustin.

Although it seemed like a harmless strike, it carried explosive power that could

disintegrate a person.

Dustin felt his scalp tingle before it hit him, and every hair on his body stood on its end.

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A sense of danger surged within him.
Fifty years ago, Iris was already a top ultimate grandmaster. After 50 years, her cultivation had reached an unimaginable level, surpassing all others.
“I’m giving it all I got!”
Dustin gritted his teeth. He jabbed a silver needle into the back of his head. This was the Rhys family’s secret technique. By sacrificing a portion of their life force, they could bring out their untapped potential and gain a temporary boost in strength.

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Dustin's eyes turned bloodshot as the needle entered his body, and his veins bulged against his skin.

2/3

Energy surged within him like an erupting volcano. He was unstoppable. Breaking through the constraints of a grandmaster, he took a huge leap forward and stepped into the realm of an ultimate grandmaster!

Chapter 988

At the same time Dustin broke through a new realm, Iris' killing palm strike was about to

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land on him.

Dustin couldn't evade in time and had to face her head-on. Similarly, he extended a palm strike.

The moment their palms met, an explosion rang out.

Dustin flew back like a cannonball. He crashed into the wall behind him, leaving a human-shaped dent in.

The entire chamber shook, causing stones to fall.

Dustin felt a sharp pain in his throat and spat a mouthful of blood. His complexion turned

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d

pale.

“Sir!” Abigail’s expression shifted.

She was about to rush up to help but was grabbed by Azalea. Azalea knew they had no

place in a fight of that magnitude.

Iris was already a revered figure 50 years ago. After years of seclusion, she was now in

vincible, a true immortal of earth!

It was impressive that Dustin wasn’t killed on the spot before such a terrifying figure.

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“You are skilled. Unfortunately, you are too young.

“Leave. I don’t wish to kill you,” Iris said indifferently, her hands behind her back.

He could become the chosen one since he achieved such strength in his twenties. Even

she might have been weaker than him in those years.

Dustin coughed and struggled as he crawled. He felt as if his body was about to fall apa

rt.

Defeated by a single strike, Dutin was completely outmatched!

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Even when he used his secret technique to break through a new realm, he was still

incomparable to Iris. He couldn't even defend against her.

"I must bring home the Shadowbloom today."

Dustin wiped the blood off the corner of his mouth and staggered forward resolutely.

1/2

"You're asking for death!" Iris' gaze grew even colder.

"I don't have any other choice."

Dustin continued on fearlessly. His determined gaze was fixed on the coffin.

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“You’re incredibly stubborn!” Iris raised her hand again, striking a palm from a distance.

The golden aura shaped like a palm shot out, carrying an explosive force.

It struck Dusti

n.

Dustin flew back again as another explosion rang out. He crashed heavily into the wall, l

eaving another dent.

He spat out another mouthful of blood. It added to his injuries.

It looked as if he would collapse at any time.

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Dustin gritted his teeth and forced himself to stand upright. One unsteady step after the other, Dustin moved forward slowly. Every step he took left a bloody footprint on the ground. “What?” Iris frowned. She didn’t expect Dustin to be that stubborn. He was severely injured, finding it hard to stand. Yet, he was still walking toward death. How could there be such a foolish person in the world?”

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“I’m giving you another chance. Leave immediately, or die!” Iris warned sternly.

“No matter what it takes, I’m returning with the Shadowbloom.”

Dustin took a deep breath, his burning gaze unwavering.

“Let’s see how long you can hold on!” Iris’ expression darkened.

She shot out another palm strike from a distance. It landed on Dustin’s chest.

An Understated Dominance Chapter 989

An Understated Dominance Chapter 989

Chapter 989

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Dustin felt his chest collapse He was thrown high into the air before crashing heavily onto the ground He spat out a third mouthful of blood that landed in a splat far from him. It was a horrifying sight “Sir!” Abigail screamed. Her eyes reddened, her face full of grief and anger She wanted to rush forward, but Azalea held her tight So, she could only watch as Dustin. suffered

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“One more step just one more step... Natasha is still waiting for me. I can't fall now!”

After collecting himself, Dustin clenched his teeth.

Swaying unsteadily, he forced his battered body to stand upright. He was trembling and

weak

He was like a flickering candle that would go out at any moment.

“Sir, just give up! Let's give up the Shadowbloom. If you continue like this, you will die!”

Abigail was anxious as tears started flowing.

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She could tell that Dustin was already at his limit. Another strike, and he would be dead.

Drip, drip, drip

Dustin remained determined. He straightened his body and staggered forward.

Blood continued to drip from his mouth and nose, falling to the ground.

“Dustin! Don’t push it anymore! Is it worth it for a woman?”

“She won’t live either if you die!” Azalea screamed. Even she couldn’t bear to continue watching.

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She couldn't understand Dustin. Was there someone in this world more important than their own life?

Looking at his unwavering gaze, she was moved. She even felt jealous of Natasha for

having a man willing to sacrifice his life for her.

"Why? Why are you so desperate?" Iris frowned. She looked at Dustin, conflicted.

13

Even she admired Dustin's strong willpower His tearless efforts especially reminded her

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of her younger self.

“The Shadowbloom I must get the Shadowbloom I must save her!” Dustin mumbled to

himself

He took difficult steps forward, but he was determined. As long as he lived, he would not

give up

Right then, Iris fell into a daze. She realized something when faced with Dustin’s

tenacity.

She was reminded of herself from many years ago.

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Back then, she traveled to the corners of the world. She faced a difficult journey and

risked her life, all for the love of her life.

But what came of it?

She finally found the Shadowbloom after suffering through all the hardships, only to

return and find her lover dead.

She was hysterical, feeling pain and desperation. And yet, there was nothing that could

bring him back.

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She owed him an apology, but he would never get to hear it. He could only lay in this icy cold coffin, deep in slumber for eternity.

“When the world is vast and boundless, only the yearning for love knows no bounds.

“Silas, you said you would wait for me. But why can’t I see you again?”

Iris shut her eyes. Two streams of tears rolled down her cheeks.

At that moment, she thought she saw a nobleman walking toward her with a smile. He

then wrapped her in a tight embrace.

Everything was beautiful and serene. It was enchanting.

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Only when she opened her eyes did the beautiful dream fade away.

“I know how it feels...”

Iris sighed softly. She reached into the coffin, took out the Shadowbloom, and tossed it into Dustin’s hands.

“I’m giving you this flower. Go and save that person.”

“What?” The sudden turn of events left Dustin stunned.

After he came back to his senses, he bowed repeatedly. “Thank you, Madam Iris!”

Even though he didn’t understand what happened, it was a positive development.

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“I hope you and your loved one will be together forever,” Iris said wistfully.

Both of them had a similar experience, but they had opposite fates. Dustin’s lover was still alive, and they had a beautiful future. Her lover had long since passed away...

An Understated Dominance Chapter 990

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Chapter 990

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After handing over the Shadowbloom, Iris turned back to stone. With her eyes closed, she stood unmoving.

She seemed to be reminiscing memories She also seemed to be in deep contemplation.

“Thank you, Madam Iris, for the flower. I will always remember your generosity.

Goodbye.”

Dustin decided not to disturb her further when he saw her in her meditative state. After a deep bow, he staggered away.

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Dustin would have been dead if Iris hadn't held back earlier. Her skills had already surpassed that of an ultimate grandmaster, and she was unmatched in the entire world.

"Sir, are you alright? You lost a lot of blood."

Abigail helped Dustin walk. The corner of her eyes was still stained with tears.

That was too close.

If it weren't because Iris took pity on him, Dustin would have died.

"I'm fine. I just broke a few bones. I won't die."

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Dustin took out a tablet and swallowed it. He then slowly circulated his energy.

It was fortunate that he had a good foundation. Not to mention, Iris had held back.

Otherwise, it would have been difficult for him to walk.

“Sir, you were stubborn earlier. We could have looked for another way without using the

Shadowbloom. Why did you have to push yourself?” Abigail complained.

“We were out of time. I had to take a gamble.” Dustin shook his head.

Natasha was in critical condition, and he wasn't sure how much longer she could hold

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on.

If he missed this chance, it might be too late.

“You were willing to give up your life for the sake of a woman. I’m unsure if I should.

describe you as foolish or crazy in love,” Azalea said.

If there were a man who would risk his life for her like that, she would never let him go.

It was unfortunate that the man before her already belonged to someone else.

“Let’s go. It’s time we head back.”

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Dustin circulated his energy to heal his injuries temporarily. Soon, they made their way

back through the dark passage.

As they were walking, the ground suddenly started to shake.

Followed by a roar, a large amount of sand fell. The tomb started shaking violently.

Cracks started to form as if the tomb was about to fall apart.

“This is bad! It’s an earthquake! Run!”

The three of them grew worried and quickly ran toward the exit. They dashed as if their

lives depended on it.

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They were underground. If they ended up being buried alive, the consequences would be unimaginable!

After two minutes, the three of them finally exited the tomb. Their faces were covered in dust.

Not long after they escaped, they heard a thunderous sound. The entire passage had collapsed, burying everything inside.

“That was close! We almost didn’t make it!”

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Abigail patted her chest. The lingering fear she was feeling was evident on her face.

“It was probably Madam Iris’ work. She doesn’t wish to be disturbed anymore.” Dustin

looked at the collapsed tomb with a frown

Iris Meskill was a legendary figure in Dragonmarsh. She was a heroine among women

and a revered figure akin to God.

Yet, in the end, she was bound by love. She willingly chose to be buried underground

with her dead husband, never to see the light of day again.

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Her love story was tragic yet inspiring. It deserved respect.

“Sir! It looks like a fight is starting over there!” Just then, Abigail pointed ahead.

Dustin looked over and saw the disciples of Azure Mist surrounded by the elite martial

artists of major sects.

The tomb’s location had been leaked, and everyone who caught wind of it hurried over,

trying to get whatever they can.

Meanwhile, Azure Mist had already managed to collect many treasures from within.

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An Understated Dominance Chapter 991

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Chapter 991

Azure Mist didn't expect to be stopped by major sects as soon as they exited the tomb.

There was no way to escape.

“Sir Chasey, wouldn't it be better to share? It doesn't seem right for Azure Mist to enjoy it alone.”

“Walter, it would be wise to read the room. You won't be able to keep your hands on

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those treasures today, so why not share them with all of us? Everyone would be happy that way.”

“Chasey! Hand over the treasures right now, or don’t blame us for using force!”

The leaders of several sects shouted a variety of threats and enticements. Their eyes gleamed with greed.

Iris had collected countless treasures. The sight of any of them would send people into a frenzy.

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“What the hell are all of you talking about? We didn’t discover anything. What are we supposed to give you?”

Walter denied it firmly. He couldn’t bear to hand over the treasures they had acquired.

“Hmph! Still trying to wriggle your way out? You just came out from the tomb. You must have found something!”

“That’s right! Do you think we’re idiots? You think you can fool us with just a few words?”

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“Chasey! I’ll give you one more chance. Hand over the treasures right now, or you’ll regret it!”

The crowd was getting angry. They were ready to act at any moment.

“I told you, we don’t have anything!”

Walter growled darkly, “All of you belong to reputable sects. Are you going to rob us?”

“Chasey! You killed my fellow Skycrane disciple, and yet you remain stubborn. I am going to seek revenge today!”

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One of the elderly men suddenly leaped into action, taking the lead in the assault.

“Attack!”

Several sect leaders exchanged glances and charged forward simultaneously.

Over hundreds of elite martial artists surrounding Azure Mist joined and charged forward.

“You bastards!” Walter gritted his teeth.

He took out a Divinix he found in the tomb and swallowed it.

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After taking it, it would provide a significant boost in strength and cultivation for a short time. It would allow the weak to overcome a stronger opponent in critical situations.

However, the downside was that they would turn exceptionally weak once the drug's effects wore off.

“Ah-!”

As the tablet took effect, he let out a fierce growl. His veins bulged, and his face turned red.

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Surges of overwhelming power erupted from him in an instant. His skills had stayed stagnant for almost a decade. Today, he finally broke through his limits, entering the realm of a grandmaster! “Hahaha... All of you can go to hell!” Walter laughed confidently. With a powerful thrust of both palms, he unleashed the mighty force of a grandmaster. It surged toward the crowd like a tidal wave. Three resounding explosions echoed through the air. As the force swept through the landscape, rocks shattered, huge trees toppled, and the

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earth erupted in a storm of debris.
Those who had charged forward were sent flying and spat out blood. They were like
leaves caught up in a storm, utterly powerless.
Even the leaders of the major sects were pushed back violently. Their internal energies
were thrown into disarray, making it difficult to withstand the force.
“H-How is this possible? You broke through?” The leader of Skycrane widened his eyes
in
disbelief.

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His opponent was weaker than him in the past. How did he suddenly become so much more powerful?

“Those below the level of a grandmaster are nothing but trash. It seems this saying holds

Walter’s spirits soared as the tremendous power flowed in him. He was now filled with pride.

Only when he entered the realm of a grandmaster did he truly understand what it meant

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to have the whole world beneath his feet.

“Master Chasey, congratulations on becoming a grandmaster!” The disciples of Azure

Mist were excited and congratulated Walter.

They had thought that they were doomed. They never expected that Walter would break

through at a critical moment.

Even though it was through the tablet’s power, it was now enough for him to dominate

the entire scene.

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“Hahaha...” Walter cackled like a maniac, his gaze sweeping over the major sects.

“Come at me, you bunch of trash! I’ll take down ten of you at once!”

›An Understated Dominance By Marina Vittori

Chapter 992

As the sect leaders watched Walter’s transformation, they frowned. They knew they were about to face a formidable enemy.

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In the past, they could defeat him easily. But now, Walter had broken through another realm and turned into a true grandmaster.

The difference in skills between both sides widened. Even though they were only half a step away from becoming a grandmaster, that step was like a rift that was impossible to cross.

Once they crossed over, they would soar to greater heights. If they failed, they would fall behind. forever.

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“Guys, what should we do now?”

Skycrane’s leader glanced at those beside him. He wouldn’t have provoked Walter if he

had known he was a grandmaster.

Now, they were trapped in a difficult situation. They couldn’t defeat him in a fight, and

they couldn’t escape either.

“Should we try and fight him? He achieved a breakthrough temporarily through a tablet.

If we work together, we might stand a chance.”

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“Are you joking? He’s a grandmaster now. None of us are a match against him. We

would only be asking for trouble by going against him.”

“I agree, we should just let it go. There’s no need to risk our lives for a few treasures.”

The sect leaders whispered amongst themselves, and it was clear that they were ready

to retreat.

“What are you all whispering about? Since you guys won’t fight, I’ll make the first move!”

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Walter didn't waste time. He took a deep breath and thrust his palms forward once more.

With a deep rumble, two big shadow palms shot out. Like two large trucks, they surged forward.

toward the sect leaders.

Once the leaders had been defeated, the rest wouldn't be a concern!

The effects of Divinix would only last for half an hour. Walter knew he needed to end the battle as

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quickly as possible.

“Retreat!”

The leader of Skycrane’s eyes widened in shock. Realizing he was no match for Walter, he decided to retreat.

The rest of the group wasn’t brave enough to confront Walter, fleeing even faster.

“Where do you think you’re going?”

Walter didn’t plan on letting them go. He chased after them immediately.

“You reckless madman! I won’t let you get away with it!”

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Suddenly, a purple-clad figure shot out from the trees like an arrow released from a bow. It charged straight for Walter. “Go to hell!” Walter sneered. Changing directions, he channeled the force of a grandmaster, delivering a powerful palm strike. After breaking through, he gained confidence like never before. He believed he was unbeatable.

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Their palms collided with an explosive force that echoed throughout the forest.

The purple-clad figure flipped backward and landed steadily on his feet.

On the other hand,

Walter let out a miserable groan and flew back several meters.

He fell to the ground, disheveled.

“Dad!”

“Master!”

The disciples of Azure Mist were shocked. They hurriedly rushed forward to help him

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up..

Walter's body trembled, and he coughed up a mouthful of blood. He instantly lost his momentum.

and confidence from before.

“How could this be? I was defeated?”

Walter was shocked and terrified. He found it hard to believe.

Under normal circumstances, he should have been superior and undefeatable, earning

the respect.

of all.

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How did he suffer defeat, losing his imposing air halfway through?

“You overestimated yourself!”

Right up front, a purple-robed elderly man stood with his hands behind his back. He

looked prideful.

Although he appeared frail, he had a powerful air to him. He stood there like he was

unshakable.

“Master! Why are you here?” The leader of Skycrane lit up upon seeing him.

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The purple-robed elder before him was none other than the founder of the Skycrane Theodore Crane!

He was also known as the Venerable Crane.

“Hmph! If I didn’t come, would you have been able to obtain the treasure?”

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›

Chapter 993

Theodore had an icy expression as he rebuked his disciples.

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“Master, you have a point.” Skycrane’s leader smiled apologetically, appearing submissive.

The crowd broke out in whispers when they noticed his behavior.

“It can’t be. Is that the legendary Venerable Crane?”

“The Venerable Crane has secluded himself for many years, paying no attention to worldly affairs.

I didn’t expect to see him here today.”

“Even the Venerable Crane is after Madam Iris’ treasures!”

Theodore’s arrival shifted the dynamics of the situation.

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Although Walter had become a grandmaster, he was still relatively new. In contrast,

Theodore was

a veteran grandmaster whose reputation had spread far and wide.

They weren't on the same level.

“The Venerable Crane? Why did this monster show up?”

Walter gulped, losing his confidence. His arrogance disappeared, and he looked at

Theodore with respect.

“Hey, you over there. You entered Madam Iris's tomb earlier, didn't you?”

Theodore's gaze swept across the area and finally settled on Walter.

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“I’m not asking for much. If you hand over the Celestial Pearl, I’ll ensure your safety!”

“What Celestial Pearl? I have no idea what you’re talking about,” Walter frowned.

“Acting stupid? I’m repeating myself one last time. Hand over the Celestial Pearl, and I’ll spare your life.

“Otherwise, I’ll slaughter your entire sect!” Theodore yelled.

The only reason he came out of seclusion was for the Celestial Pearl.

Rumor had it that

Madam

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Iris had found the Celestial Pearl 50 years ago. He was certain that it was in her tomb.

He could become an ultimate grandmaster with the Celestial Pearl within five years!

“Sir Crane, I don’t have the Celestial Pearl. You must be mistaken!”

Walter tried to explain.

“Hmph! Since you refuse to hand it over, die!” Theodore’s expression darkened.

Without another word, he thrust a palm strike from a distance, and a giant shadow palm

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shot forth with an unstoppable force toward Walter. Wherever the shadow palm passed through, it left destruction in its wake. Walter clenched his teeth. He attempted to gather his strength but spat out another mouthful of blood instead. He almost collapsed. “Don’t hurt my dad!” Suddenly, Vanessa stepped forward. She attempted to shield her father from the fatal blow with her own body. “Die!” Theodore Crane showed no mercy. His iron palm continued forward.

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When it seemed like Vanessa was about to be killed, a silver needle suddenly shot out with a sharp whistle.

Instantly, the shadow palm dissipated, protecting her from the devastating blow.

“What?” Theodore raised an eyebrow, angry.

“Who dared intervene in my business?”

“Sir Crane, indiscriminate killing is not a good practice.” Dustin emerged from the

shadows with Abigail and Azalea.

“Dustin?” Vanessa lit up with joy at the sight of Dustin.

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She couldn't believe he had come to her rescue again in a life-and-death situation.

Was this what they called fate?

"Brat, was that sneak attack from you?" Theodore's gaze was hostile.

"Sir Crane, a few people from Azure Mist are my friends. I hope you can go easy on

them." Dustin. lowered his head respectfully.

He hadn't fully recovered from his injuries, so it was best to avoid a fight.

"Hmph! Who do you think you are? Why should I even be listening to you? Get the hell out of here!"

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Theodore looked at Dustin with disdain.

How dare a mere kid challenge him? He didn't know his place!

“Sir Crane, if you insist on continuing, we'll have to settle it through a fight.

“I hope you won't regret it when you end up lying on the ground in pain,”

Dustin said

seriously.

As soon as those words were spoken, the crowd fell silent. Everyone

widened their

eyes in disbelief.

1.

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Chapter 994

“What the hell? Is this brat crazy? How dare he challenge the Venerable Crane?”

“Where did this hothead come from? He has no respect for the Venerable Crane. Is he tired of living?”

“He’s so reckless for his age. Seems like he hasn’t faced society’s wrath!”
The crowd discussed and pointed at Dustin. It was as if they were looking at an idiot.

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Theodore was Skycrane's founder. He was a revered grandmaster respected by thousands and considered a legendary figure in Balerno martial arts. Nobody would ever dare act disrespectfully against him. And yet, this little brat was challenging him publicly. He might as well turn it into a suicide mission! "You little prick, do you know what you just said?" Theodore's expression darkened. In a sinister tone, he said, "If you don't want to die, kneel immediately. Grovel at my feet

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and call me grandpa, and I will let you live!”

“Hey, brat! What are you still standing there for? Hurry up and kneel!”

“Not anyone can address the Venerable Crane as grandpa. You’re in luck!”

“You should feel honored to become Sir Crane’s grandson. Don’t be ungrateful!”

The crowd chattered incessantly. Their tones carried threats and warnings but mostly

mockery and jests.

“Dustin, the Venerable Skycrane is a force to be reckoned with. Hurry up and apologize.

That’s the only way to live!” Emily exclaimed.

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Even her master, who had broken through another realm, was no match for Theodore. It would be even worse for Dustin.

“Dustin, you don’t have to worry about us! Just leave! Don’t get yourself into trouble!”

Vanessa chimed in

She was grateful for Dustin’s help. But in the current situation, he could not turn the tide.

He might get pulled into the mess if he insisted on being stubborn.

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“Sir Crane, let me give you a piece of advice. It’s better to be forgiving. Otherwise, things might turn ugly,” Dustin said calmly.

“You little prick! You won’t learn your lesson until you see death in the eyes!”

Theodore looked at him murderously. “Since you want to put your nose into someone

else’s business. I’ll kill you first before killing all your friends!”

“Wait!”

Walter panicked and said, “Sir Crane, this brat provoked you. If you have to kill

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someone, kill him! It has nothing to do with us!”

“Hmph! Hand over the Celestial Pearl, and I will spare your life!”

Theodore spat out.

“Celestial Pearl?”

Walter quickly thought of something and exclaimed, “Sir Crane, I know who has the

Celestial Pearl. As long as you promise to let us go, I’ll tell you immediately!”

“Oh? Where is it?” Theodore narrowed his eyes, showing interest.

“It’s with this brat!”

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Walter pointed at Dustin and exclaimed. “Earlier, we had entered the tomb together. But we soon had a disagreement and parted ways. If the Celestial Pearl exists, it must be with him!”

At those words, everyone turned their attention to Dustin. Their eyes were filled with greed and desire.

The Celestial Pearl was a sacred relic of the martial world. It was a treasure capable of

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granting a
rebirth. Who wouldn't want such a treasure?

“Sir Chasey, we're not enemies. Why would you harm me?” Dustin
frowned.

Walter and his daughter survived because he had rescued them. He
couldn't believe

Walter had
betrayed him just like that.

“Stop pretending, brat!”

Walter glared at Dustin. “You were inside for so long and the last to come
out. You must

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be hiding.

a lot of treasure.

“I’d advise you to hand them all over to Sir Crane. That way, you might just be able to live!”

“You little prick, so the Celestial Pearl is with you. No wonder I sensed a powerful force coming from you.”

Theodore rubbed his chin. His eyes gleamed as he said, “Hand it over now, and I will forgive you for your insolence earlier!”

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“Sir Crane, you believe him? I’ve never even heard of the Celestial Pearl,”
Dustin said
indifferently.

“You’ve never heard of it? Then I guess you wouldn’t mind us checking.”
Walter
sneered.

“I told you. I don’t have the Celestial Pearl. Suit yourself if you don’t
believe me.” Dustin
couldn’t bother explaining further.
However, his cryptic attitude made him more suspicious.

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Chapter 995

“Dustin, if you found any treasure, just hand them over. Your life is more important,” Emily couldn’t help but worry.

“That’s right, Dustin! Treasures are all material possessions. It’s far less important than your life!”

Vanessa was worried, too.

“Rhys! A wise person knows when to surrender. The Venerable Crane is

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not someone you can go
against.

“Just admit to your mistakes and hand over the treasures. Everyone would
be happy that way,”

Nathan warned him as well.

He wasn't sure if Dustin had the Celestial Pearl with him, but Dustin had
other valuable items.

There was only one way out for him: to give up the treasures to save his
life.

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“I don’t have any treasure. But even if I did, I would never hand them over,” Dustin gave his final answer.

“The fuck? Did he talk back? This kid has nerves of steel!”

“Hmph! Driven by greed, he doesn’t even care about his life! He deserves to die!”

Dustin’s

response sparked discontent among the martial artists. It also angered Theodore. His last bit of patience had worn away.

“You little prick! You won’t listen, huh? Then I’ll take it from

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you!” Theodore’s anger had reached its peak.

He concentrated his energy on his feet and flew forward like a shadow toward Dustin. His hand aimed straight for Dustin’s throat with enough force to crush steel.

“This is bad!”

Emily and her group watched in horror. They could feel their hearts drop to their stomachs.

“Now suffer the consequences for defying Sir Crane!”

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The crowd mocked gloatingly. Just when everyone thought Dustin was done for, Dustin suddenly made a move, Instead of retreating, he shot forward like a missile and punched Theodore. Their collision was like a bomb exploding, a thundering boom echoing across the scene. A violent surge of energy befitting a grandmaster erupted when they collided. It created a surging wave that swept outward. The trees were uprooted, and debris flew everywhere. The martial artists closest to them were lifted before crashing onto the ground.

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After they collided, Dustin staggered backward several steps. Each step left a deep imprint on the earth.

On the other hand, Theodore was forcibly pushed back more than ten feet away. His feet sunk into the ground and hollowed out two twin furrows on the ground.

He only came to a stop after crashing into a large tree.

“What?”

The crowd was dumbfounded. This was completely unexpected.

What happened?

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Shouldn't Theodore have Dustin crushed? Why did he end up at a disadvantage instead

?

What exactly happened?

“Are my eyes playing tricks on me? This brat is stronger than the Venerable Crane?”

“I—impossible! How old is he? He won't be that good even if he started training in his mother's belly!”

“Damn it! I've never seen anything like it. Could that brat be a grandmaster, too?”

“Wait! I remember now! It seems like he's that revered young grandmaster

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who killed Augustus Kline some time back!”

“What? He’s a young grandmaster?”

“Oh my God! He’s an absolute monster!”

After a brief moment of silence, the crowd exploded in an uproar.

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Chapter 996

The crowd was stunned as they looked at Dustin. Nobody expected the frail young

man before them to be the legendary young grandmaster.

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These days, everyone in Balerno was talking about the young grandmaster. Countless people admired and idolized him. Now that he was standing before them, they still could not believe their eyes. “A young grandmaster? H–h–he’s a young grandmaster?” Walter widened his eyes in disbelief. He had initially thought Dustin was only a bit more talented than usual. He hadn’t realized the extent of his background.

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It was even more absurd that he wanted to take Dustin in as his disciple. It was a laughable misjudgment! After all, everyone knew Dustin was the monster who had slain Augustus Kline.

Walter hadn't even truly broken through yet. Even if he did become a grandmaster, he would only be scratching the surface.

He was not even worth mentioning next to a veteran grandmaster like Augustus, not to mention someone as extraordinary as Dustin.

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“Damn it! This spells trouble!” Walter wiped away the cold sweat from his forehead, feeling unease.

It was one thing to take him in as a disciple. The problem was that he wanted to take Dustin’s sword and even slandered him.

If Dustin were to take revenge, the consequences would be simply unimaginable.

“E–Emily. Did I hear it right? Dustin, is the famous young grandmaster?”

Vanessa stood frozen in place, stunned.

“Handsome and has a strong sense of justice. Only in his early twenties but is already a

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grandmaster...” Emily muttered to herself.
Her face lit with joy. “It is him! He checks all the boxes! He’s that rare, talented genius that everyone looks up to!”
By the end of her speech, her body was shaking. She was excited and shocked.
Who would have thought the young grandmaster she looked up to had been next to her all this time?

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She should have known earlier. Dustin's temperament, strength, and cultivation had far surpassed

He had defeated Magnus with a punch and lifted the black sword with two fingers. These had shown his extraordinary abilities.

Now that his true power had been revealed, it was even more shocking.

The rumors were true. A young grandmaster should indeed be as majestic as he was.

"Why is it him? Why?" Nathan clenched his teeth. Other than shock, he felt pathetic.

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All this time, he had thought Dustin was only slightly better than him. He could crush him completely if he trained harder and achieved a breakthrough. Only now did he realize how vast the gap in their skills was. He was a little divine-level martial artist, yet Dustin was already challenging veteran grandmasters. It was a huge joke to say he could catch up to him in ten years. “You little prick, I didn’t expect you to have another identity. I’ve underestimated you.”

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After a brief moment of shock, Theodore's aura grew stronger and fiercer than before.

“Sir Crane, it won't be easy to deal with him. Let me help.”

Suddenly, they heard a commanding voice from above them. Following the voice, a black-clad figure descended from the sky.

Just like a feather, he landed on the ground gracefully. Not one speck of dirt

was stirred from his landing.

After a closer look, the crowd noticed that it was a burly, white-bearded old man.

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The old man had a rugged appearance and a sharp gaze. He had a fierce aura to him.

It was as if a transparent barrier surrounded him where he was isolated from everything.

“Damn! Isn’t that the leader of the Soul Reapers, Graham Thorne? Why is he here?”

The scene erupted into a frenzy after the white-bearded old man’s appearance.

The Soul Reapers were the strongest sect in Balerno. They were almost as famous as Boulderthorn.

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And as the leader of the Soul Reapers, Graham Thorne was known as a revered veteran grandmaster in Balerno. He was only second to that of the leader of the martial world, Ronald Reeds.

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Chapter 997

“Sir Thorne, are you here to get your hands on the Celestial Pearl too?”

“Hahaha. The Celestial Pearl

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is a sacred relic of the martial arts world. Naturally, I wouldn't miss out on it." Graham laughed, not denying it. As grandmasters, there were only very few treasures that interested them. It just so happened that the Celestial Pearl was the finest among them. With the Celestial Pearl, there was a chance they would be able to break through their limitations and become an ultimate grandmaster! They would stand at the top of the martial world when that moment came. "I'm joining in as well, amen."

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A figure exuding a holy aura suddenly stepped out from the shadows. It was a bald, elderly man with a scar on his head. He was plump and had a kind demeanour, nor, dressing in a loose-fitting robe. It looked like he was bathed in divine light, radiating a sense of holiness. And as the gentle sunlight shone upon him, he gave off a refreshing feeling.

“It’s the Abbot of the Combat Priests, Father Orson!”

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After a closer look, the crowd erupted into an uproar once more. They didn't expect another

her

grandmaster to appear.

What was going on? Why were grandmasters gathering here today?

These elusive figures who rarely showed themselves suddenly made appearances. Could it be that

they were all here for Iris' treasure?

"Father Orson, why are you here?" Theodore frowned slightly, feeling the pressure increased.

Initially, he had thought of taking

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the Celestial Pearl for himself, but it seemed impossible now.

“There was a rumor of the presence of an evil relic here. So I came to investigate.

“It would be best to bring this evil relic back to the church and seal it beneath the Holy Cross.

“That is the only way to prevent a catastrophe,” Orson declared with conviction.

“Hmph! Nice words, but aren’t you just after it for your gain?” Graham sneered.

He disliked those who pretended to be noble and righteous when they intended to seize the treasure.

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“You’re wrong. I’m here to rescue all of you,” Orson replied, maintaining his composure.

“That’s enough nonsense for me.” Graham was growing impatient.

“Sir Crane, you’re the eldest among us. How do you think we should divide the Celestial Pearl between us?”

“Divide? We haven’t even gotten the item, yet you’re all already in a rush?” Theodore raised an eyebrow.

“Oh right, I almost forgot.” Graham slapped his forehead and turned to Dustin.

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“Young man, hand over the Celestial Pearl. We will discuss this further.”

“Sir Thorne, I don’t have the Celestial Pearl. There must be a misunderstanding here.” Dustin denied it again.

Since the Celestial Pearl was with Abigail, he wasn’t lying.

“Young man, your words are meaningless. We have good senses.

“If you intend to keep it all for yourself, you’ll anger all of us,” Graham warned.

“I’ll repeat it, I don’t have it. I’m sorry to disappoint all of you.” Dustin shook his head.

“Brat! I’ve been treating you

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with respect since you're a reputable person. Don't test my patience!"
Graham's expression darkened.

"My friend, this evil relic just
brings harm. Why don't you let me deal with it?" Father Orson said
with folded hands.

"You little prick, I'm giving you one last chance. Are you going to hand it
over or not?" T

heodore

growled.

At that moment, the three grandmasters united to pressure him.

An invisible energy field enveloped

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Dustin. The energy field intensified layer upon layer, attempting to force him into submission.

“I don’t have it, so how can I hand it over?” Dustin took a deep breath, his gaze unwavering.

“Hmph! What a fool!”

The three grandmasters exchanged glances. Without another word, they attacked Dustin simultaneously.

“Three against one? Aren’t you guys afraid of being ridiculed by the martial world?” Suddenly, a booming voice came from nowhere.

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At the same time, a white figure fell from the sky and landed in front of Dustin. Then, he launched
With a loud boom, a huge palm shadow burst forth. It created a tremendous shockwave that forced the three grandmaster's back.

Their expressions turned serious.

“Michael Robinson?” Their faces fell after the three grandmasters realized who the man was.

An Understated Dominance Chapter 998

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Chapter 998

“What? Michael Robinson? One of Balerno’s five ultimate grandmasters?”

“Neptune! It’s actually Neptune! Holy shit! Why is he here?”

“He’s been in hiding all these years, never getting himself involved in the affairs of the martial world.

“Why did he suddenly appear out of thin air? The world must be ending!”

Michael’s appearance caused a commotion among the crowd. They looked at him in awe and

astonishment.

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The five ultimate grandmasters of Balerno were publicly acknowledged as the five most powerful individuals. And among them was Michael, also known as Neptune. Ten years ago, he had defended Westward Fortress alone. Single-handedly, he defeated three highly skilled foreign grandmasters. His efforts prevented many enemy cavalry from entering the country. He was only one man guarding the city, yet enemies were kept at bay. That was how the battle

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made him famous.

That year, when his fame soared, he was appointed a knight. His glorious deeds were still

being

recounted and admired by people.

“Mr. Robinson?” Dustin raised an eyebrow, evidently surprised. He didn’t expect

to get aid at such

a critical moment.

“Dad, why are you here?” Seeing the familiar figure before her, Abigail lit up.

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Since they last parted ways, she thought seeing her father again would be difficult.

“I heard something happened here, so I came over to check.”

Michael turned his head around and smiled. “How are you? You’re not hurt, are you?”

“I’m fine, but these bastards are threatening us. They want to steal our stuff and are even ab

out to

attack Dustin.

“They’re too much!” Abigail ratted them out.

“I saw what happened earlier. Leave it to me.”

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Michael nodded and turned his attention to the three grandmasters. His smile

disappeared, and his gaze turned cold.

“Three of you are respected figures. Don’t you think it’s laughable for you to bully your juniors?”

“Sir Robinson, this is a matter between us. It doesn’t seem to concern you,” Theodore said w

ith a

frown

The treasure

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was right at the tip of their fingers. They couldn't believe it was getting further away from their grasp.

“Sir Crane, Dustin is a close friend of mine. How do you expect me to ignore it when you bully him?”

“Michael said sternly.

“A close friend?”

The three grandmasters exchanged surprised glances but appeared concerned.

It was hard enough to go against Dustin alone. Now, with

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Michael entering the fray, the tension was high.

Compared to Dustin, Michael was harder to deal with with his status as one of the five ultim

ate

grandmasters.

“Sir Robinson, do you know he is hiding the Celestial Pearl?” Theodore suddenly asked.

He tried to entice him with the treasure, attempting to create a rift between them.

“So what? He was skilled enough to get his hands on it.

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“On the other hand, you guys are just committing daylight robbery.”

Micheal roared.

“Hmph! The Celestial Pearl is a sacred relic of the martial world.

Everyone has the right to

get

their hands on it!

“What makes that brat think he can have it all to himself?” Graham remained stubborn.

“Sir Robinson, the Celestial Pearl is an evil relic. Using it will cause chaos in the martial world.

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“The danger can only be prevented by handing it over to me,” Orson spoke solemnly, his hands clasped

“Sir Robinson, the Celestial Pearl is not a personal possession. It should be shared with everyone, and its use should be discussed.

“Taking it for himself will only lead to public outrage, don’t you think?” Theodore said calmly

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As long as the three were on the same page, they still had an advantage in a three-on-two fight.

“Seems I haven’t made myself clear. Let me repeat myself.”

Michael’s tone grew louder as he spoke, “Dustin has my support! Leave with your people if y

ou’re

smart enough. Otherwise, I’ll beat you into submission!”

213

His words created a trenzy among the crowd.

“What the hell? Neptune truly lives up to his reputation! He’s so 6061”

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“Isn’t he too confident? He doesn’t care about the three grandmasters at all!

An Understated Dominance Chapter 999

Chapter 999

“God damn it! If I had Neptune’s power, I would be a hundred times cockier than he was!”

The martial artists chattered among themselves. They were not only amazed, but they were also filled with admiration for him.

Who else had the guts to provoke three grandmasters in Balerno?

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“How dare you, Michael! Do you think we’re afraid of you?”

Theodore was furious. It was humiliating to be publicly scolded by someone younger.

“Robinson, don’t go overboard!”

Graham was angry, too. “We were showing respect by offering advice as fellow

grandmasters. But if you insist on opposing us, don’t blame us for using violence!”

“Amén.”

Orson let out a soft sigh. “Sir Robinson, if you remain stubborn, I can only follow the will

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of the
heavens.”

“Since the three of you won’t let this matter go, let’s fight.

“After all, it’s been long since I’ve stretched my muscles.” Michael suddenly laughed.

A deep aura started

to flow out from him. The surrounding temperature dropped, and a swirling

hurricane began to take shape.

“Michael Robinson! Don’t forget that we are at an advantage in a three-on-

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two fight!” Theodore yelled.

“Three–on–two fight?”

Michael shook his head.

“No, no, no. You guys are mistaken. There is no need for Dustin to join in the fight. I alone am enough to go against the three of you.”

His words stunned the crowd.

Neptune was going to go against three grandmasters alone?

What a joke!

Theodore and his gang

were a group of veteran grandmasters, not some novice wannabes. He was

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asking for trouble by going against three alone.

“Michael Robinson! You are too reckless! I’ll teach you a lesson today!”

Theodore was livid.

1/2

He leaped forward, leading the attack.

“You arrogant fool! Let’s see how skilled you are!” Graham followed closely, aiding him in hi

s

attack.

“Sir Robinson, let me save you from your internal suffering!” Orson refused to

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be outdone and shot forward.

A golden light enveloped his body,

The three grandmasters launched an attack from three different directions.

“Great! Come at me!” Michael laughed heartily and shot into the air, turning into a streak of light.

At that moment, the four engaged in intense combat. They moved so fast that it made it

impossible to tell them apart.

After they collided, thunder roared one after the other.

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The grandmaster energy they released was tremendous as it swept across all directions. The soil was upturned, and giant trees were uprooted wherever it went.

Everything in its way couldn't withstand their force. The onlooking martial artists could only retreat further and further.

A single ripple from a grandmaster's attack was enough to injure divine-level martial artists seriously.

"What the hell? Are they really fighting? Neptune is going against three on his own! This is

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incredible!”

“Is this what a grandmaster’s battle looks like? It’s terrifying!”

The crowd looked on in apprehension.

“Sir, will my dad be alright?”

Abigail was nervous as she watched their shadows darting around. She knew how strong her

father was.

But it was hard to come out victorious in a match against three.

“There’s no need to worry. Mr. Robinson will be fine.”

Dustin smiled. “Even though the three

of them are strong, they won’t be able to hurt Mr. Robinson.

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“To be precise, anyone below the level of an ultimate grandmaster is no match for Mr. Robin son.”

An Understated Dominance Chapter 1000

Chapter 1000

The battle between the four intensified. And the destruction they left grew as they fought.

Everything within their range was destroyed and became rubble. Birds and animals of the Black

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Forest ran away.

The huge commotion also attracted the attention of various martial artists.

Low-level martial artists, divine-

level martial artists, and even grandmasters were present. They were from various sects and skill levels.

Almost all sorts of martial artists had gathered. But they did not dare make a move.

Everyone watched from

afar as the four grandmasters fought. They were shocked, but their gazes were locked on the epic battle.

With each resounding clash, their battle grew intense.

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Waves of energy rippled outward like a tsunami. It sent shivers down the spines of the onlookers.

After a long exchange of moves, Theodore, Graham, and Orson grew alarmed. They didn't expect Michael to be that strong.

Even against three opponents, he wasn't struggling.

His grandmaster aura seemed infinite and boundless as if it could be drawn upon without li

mits. Instead of growing tired, he grew stronger as the battle continued.

They finally understood how strong the five ultimate grandmasters' were.

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Even when the three worked together, they couldn't overpower him. The outcome would be obvious if it were a one-on-one fight.

It seemed like Neptune was not just an empty nickname.

“Sir Thorn, Father

Orson! We will be at a disadvantage if we continue fighting. It's time to use our special move!”

Theodore called out to the other two. He had turned worried after seeing the extent of Micahel's power.

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“That’s right! We must use our full power! Otherwise, our defeat would leave us humiliated!”

Graham gritted his teeth. Beads of sweat were starting to form on his forehead.

“I will engage him head–on. The both of you attack him the best you can,” Orson said.

“Alright, it’s settled!”

1/2

“Get ready. Now!”

After they exchanged glances, they moved at the same time.

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Orson exuded a ray of golden light, enveloping Michael within it. The strands of golden threads

formed a dense net and trapped Michael within it.

“Moonlight Crane!” Taking the opportunity, Theodore used his killing move.

He transformed into a huge white crane and dove toward Michael.

“Flickering Souls!” Not wanting to fall behind, Graham manifested into ghostly shadows, dashing

forward

like a cannonball.

“Prismatic Blade Strike!”

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Michael's body shook, and he broke free from the restraints. He raised an arm and made a horizontal slash at them.

With a sharp whistle, a crescent-shaped white radiance shot out. It expanded until it resembled a massive sickle and hit them..

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

Three explosions went off; the ground shook from the force.

The first explosion broke Orson's ray of golden light.

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The second explosion blew up Theodore's crane.
The third explosion disintegrated Graham's ghostly shadows.
It was as if the three of them were struck
by lightning. They were thrown across the forest and crashed, creating
three craters on the ground.

“What? Did he defeat three grandmasters? How is that possible?”

“What the f*ck? He's a monster!”

The crowd was dumbfounded as they took in the scene.

They thought it would be an easy win since it was three against one. They didn't expect

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Michael
to defeat three people simultaneously with just one move.

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