

## Chapter 1434

He felt as though he had just woken up from a dream. Gerald slowly opened his eyes.

He realized that he was on an island now, and this island was surrounded by dense forests.

He spread out his holy sense immediately so that he could perceive his surroundings. He could vaguely feel that many passenger ships were passing by.

'I should already be back now, but it seems as though my position has deviated, and I have arrived on an island!' Gerald thought to himself.

It would not be difficult for him to return to Crawford Manor in Northbay. Gerald could simply fly back directly.

This was because Gerald could sense that his Dehlere Foundation was still complete and intact. The Mackusion was indeed very miraculous.

He no longer needed to be afraid of anything now.

However, there were also subsequent problems that appeared immediately.

The awakening of Gerald's Dehlere Foundation made Gerald very powerful and strong. This power made Gerald feel as though he was carrying a mountain on his back when he did not utilize the airbending skill.

Gerald had no choice but to stop so that he could slowly digest this huge force first.

Gerald meditated on the spot as he began unleashing his skills. At the same time, at Crawford Manor.

Waves of thunder and lightning flashed within Crawford Manor. However, after it was over, there was nothing else left behind. Peter was waiting anxiously at the side.

At this moment, he could not help but widen his eyes as he hurriedly asked, "Angelica, what is the situation now? Where is Gerald? Based on the time, he should already be back now, right?"

"Yes, but everything is fine. I believe that his position has just slightly deviated. It must be because Gerald had been moving his body very quickly at the moment when he was leaving. Therefore, this might have caused a deviation in his position. I do not know where or which direction the Mackusion has taken him!" Zyla said.

“According to what you have just said, that will only mean that Gerald’s cultivation base after he has undergone the awakening of heaven should no longer be the same anymore. Even if he has landed in any other positions, it shouldn’t take him too long to rush back here!” Peter said.

“No. Since he has already undergone the awakening of heaven, he would have gained too much strength and power all at once. This huge strength and power will be present at this current time. So, Gerald will have to spend some time to slowly digest and merge this huge amount of strength and power within his own body. This is because this strength and power will bring about huge changes to Gerald! It might even transform or change his body. So, I am afraid that he will not be able to rush back for quite a while!”

“Okay!”

Peter nodded. After that, he wondered, “Angelica, what kind of changes will Gerald experience to his body, then? Could it be similar to the abilities that we gained when we were in Jaellatra?”

“You could also understand it that way. However, since Gerald’s ability is obviously completely different as compared to us, the changes that he undergoes will not simply be an ability, but it might actually be a supernatural power! An extremely powerful supernatural power!” Zyla explained.

“Well, in that case, I am really looking forward to seeing what Gerald’s final transformation would turn out to be like!” Peter could not help but exclaim.

At this moment, Zyla suddenly frowned as she knitted her brows tightly together.

“It’s not good!” She hurriedly said.

“Angelica, what’s wrong?” Peter asked.

“There is a group of people who are closing in on us rapidly. I can sense and feel the King of Judgement Portal’s aura!” Zyla cautiously replied.

“The King of Judgement Portal?” Peter also widened his eyes.

“They have finally found this place! We will have to leave as soon as possible!” Zyla said.

“It won’t be that easy for you to just leave!”

A terrifying and stern voice suddenly sounded and echoed around them.

After that, it was accompanied by a series of hurricanes.

It was the King of the Judgement Portal.

Moreover, many masters had followed closely behind him as they surrounded the entire Crawford Island.

“Angelica, you will have to leave first! I will draw their attention away from you!” Peter said.

“No! You are Gerald’s second uncle. If you were to meet with danger or any mishaps, Gerald would certainly feel even sadder! He does not have any family members left!” Zyla said as she shook her head.

“Angelica, in comparison to me, you are even more important to Gerald. My life is insignificant and of little to no importance to him at all. So, you should go! The Crawford family has a secret passage! If you continue delaying any longer, neither one of us will be able to leave this place!” Peter said bitterly as he tried to persuade her.

Zyla struggled for a while before she finally ground her teeth.

She knew that she should never allow herself to fall into the King of the Judgement Portal’s hands at this time.

Otherwise, it was very likely that Gerald would encounter a very different kind of danger.

So, she had no other choice!

Furthermore, Zyla was in possession of the dragon blood jade pendant. So, she used it to draw a ray of light as she hid inside the Crawford family’s secret passage.

“None of you will be able to escape! Gerald will fall into my hands eventually...” The King of the Judgement Portal’s voice was still roaring and echoing outside...

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Zyla finally escaped as Peter covered up for her.

However, just as Peter had predicted, he was a step too late. He could not escape even if he wanted to.

The King of the Judgement Portal and Yreth from the Gunter family gathered around and surrounded Peter in an instant.

The Gunter family and the King of the Judgement Portal had not given up on the search for them over the past few days.

After all, Gerald had already officially started a feud with them.

This was not merely something that could be expressed with just interest or relationship anymore!

Peter had no way to counterattack in front of these two masters, especially so because there was the King of the Judgement Portal there to suppress him.

So, he surrendered to the Gunter family without any resistance at all. "Where is Zyla Lockland?"

The King of the Judgement Portal asked coldly as he turned into the shape of a figure.

"Isn't it obvious that she has already escaped before you even arrived? Moreover, it will be very difficult for you to catch her!" Peter said as he sneered.

"What about Gerald, then?!" Yreth's eyes were filled with anger and hatred as she asked angrily at this moment.

"Hahaha! Gerald is no longer here either. Even though both of you are so powerful, it seems as though you always end up empty-handed. You cannot even find the person that you want to find at all!" Peter said as he looked at them with a satirical expression on his face.

"You b\*stard!"

The King of the Judgement Portal was furious and enraged.

"You seem to believe that all of the people that we are looking for have already managed to make their escape. You seem to be very steadfast in your beliefs when you are in fact wrong. In comparison, you are actually a very important chess piece!"

The King of the Judgement Portal said as he looked at Peter.

"Me?"

"That's right. As long as you are in our hands, we will not need to worry that Gerald will not come to look for you, then! After all, no matter what it is, you are still his second uncle!" The King of the Judgement Portal roared.

"Still, I am just afraid that you guys will not be Gerald's opponents at all when he comes eventually!" Peter said as he sneered.

Regardless, the King of the Judgement Portal obviously did not have any desire to continue talking to Peter anymore, and he wanted to chase after Zyla immediately.

“Yreth, I am going to leave everything here to you for the time being. The Gunter family should try to take control of Crawford Manor as soon as possible. When the time comes, Gerald will certainly make an appearance and easily reveal himself!” The King of the Judgement Portal instructed.

“Yes, your highness!” Yreth replied.

When she raised her head again, the King of the Judgement Portal was no longer in her sight.

“It would certainly be very difficult for Gerald to escape again if he were to come this time!” Yreth said as she looked at Peter coldly.

“Moreover, the few people who have escaped from Qerton City have also fallen into my hands! So, Gerald will certainly come here!”

“That’s right. I am also very certain that Gerald will certainly come here!”

Peter never expected that the reason why Jasmine and the others had not come back in time even though it had already been so many days was because they had already fallen into the King of the Judgement Portal and Yreth’s hands.

In fact, Peter had already had a foreboding feeling that something might have happened to them.

However, he truly would not have thought that it would be because of the King of the Judgement Portal and the Gunter family.

Moreover, it was just as Angelica had said.

When it reached a certain point, many things and many people would end up becoming bystanders. The only person who would truly be able to stand up to them was Gerald!

Now... everything depends entirely on you, Gerald!

...

Five days later.

On the island.

At this time, the sun was shining brightly, and there were strong waves on the sea.

A seagull that was looking for food flew over the island.

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It slowly descended on a fresh branch.

Not long after that, the entire island seemed to be trembling for a moment.

Immediately afterward, an earth-shattering scene was reflected in the seagull's eyes.

The island was cracking open, and it subsequently opened up a wide gully at a speed that was visible to the naked eye.

The waves around the island began to roar frantically, almost as though there was a tsunami.

The sky was suddenly covered in thunder and bolts of lightning.

There was a look of extreme terror in the seagull's eyes, and its whole body began trembling uncontrollably.

After that, the seagull took off from the branch as it tried to desperately make its escape into the distance.

It must have seen something, and that was the reason why it was fleeing out of horror.

An insane bolt of lightning struck directly.

Immediately afterward, a ray of light was projected from the very center of the island.

The source of light was a young man who was sitting with his legs crossed in the center of the island.

Although this young man was seated on the deserted island, there was no trace of dust on him at all despite the raging waves and the howling wind!

His skin was extremely fair, and his body was filled with a breathtaking aura. Of course, anyone who saw him now would definitely feel very frightened and afraid. This was because this person's forehead seemed to be a little strange.

It was not only shining brightly, but there seemed to be a faintly discernible third eye that had appeared on his forehead. It seemed as though this third eye was emitting this bright light.

The bright light penetrated the sky directly as it swept through everything around it.

After a long time, the third eye on the person's forehead began to slowly converge as the young man slowly opened his eyes.

'Unexpectedly, I would actually obtain this kind of gain from the first stage of the awakening. The Thunder Extraordinary Sight is indeed amazing! It is truly unimaginable and completely beyond comprehension!'

Although it could be seen that this young man was usually very calm and composed, at this moment, he had a horrified and surprised look on his face.

As for the identity of this young man, who else could it be if he was not Gerald?!

Gerald had been digesting all of the gains that he had obtained at this place for the past five days.

Over these five days, in addition to the substantial increase in his cultivation base, three days ago, Gerald had also begun to discover that it seemed as though his body had undergone a very miraculous change.

He had felt a slight pain in his forehead, which gradually became a tingling pain, and he had eventually felt a pain that felt like a tear in his skin.

In the end, Gerald had ended up growing an extra eye.

Moreover, it was an eye with magical and supernatural powers.

This eye had many functions. One of them was information storage, and Gerald had already tested it. Gerald had used his divine pupil to scan through everything, and as long as he wanted to, everything before him would be stored infinitely within his mind. There was also a warning function that came with it.

The second function was that it had a far-sighted effect. Just now, Gerald had used his divine pupil to look directly toward the horizon.

Thirdly, it possessed a special ability. Gerald referred to it as the Mysterious Resurrection Power, and this power far surpassed the common people. It seemed as though this force could actually bring the dead back to life and turn any decays into a miracle!

The fourth one was his powerful attack and energy. He was omnipotent, regardless of whether it was a long-range lock-on attack or even a close-range attack.

Moreover, he could even form a very strange technique under the premise of this kind of attacking power.

Gerald has already developed greatly.

This was especially so for the fourth function. It would be hard to imagine what kind of terrifying existence Gerald's attack would end up being if his cultivation level kept rising.

Now, Gerald had already completely unlocked the first stage of his transformation. So, he would have the fighting power and capability even if he were to go against the King of the Judgement Portal.

What's more, he had the blessing of the mysterious Thunder Extraordinary Sight!

Gerald was excited.

At this time, Gerald's Thunder Extraordinary Sight began to flicker continuously.

'Hmm? This is the Thunder Extraordinary Sight giving me a warning that there is danger!' Gerald thought to himself.

He immediately thought of Crawford Manor. Could it be that his second uncle and the others had already met with a mishap?

Gerald could not help but wonder.

However, when he thought about how he had not returned even after five days had already passed by, he knew that he would have to return as soon as possible. So, he quickly cast a spell to hide his divine pupil, and his figure quickly disappeared...

## Chapter 1437

Northbay, at the Hong Kong port.

At this moment, there were many people gathered at this lively place.

It turned out that there was a man who was crawling on the ground, and this aroused the curiosity and attention of many onlookers.

Everyone was pointing at this man, but no one was willing to take a step forward to help him.

"F\*ck! Isn't that Chairman Zack Lyle?!"

Someone finally recognized the man in front of them at this time.

That's right. This person was not anyone else, but the infamous Chairman Lyle from the business world.

Oh, my god. Zack Lyle? How had he ended up in the current state that he was in? He was horrified.

As soon as he spoke up, many people took out their cell phones to take pictures.

This was because Chairman Lyle, who was in front of them, was very badly battered and bruised up, and someone had already broken the muscles in his hands and his hamstrings.

It was impossible for people not to sigh in pity when they witnessed this scene.

“Chairman Lyle, what happened to you?! I heard that you were currently in Mayberry City. So, why are you suddenly here at the Hong Kong port?”

This middle-aged man obviously had a friendship with Chairman Lyle. So, he quickly walked over with a sad expression.

At the same time, he hurriedly took out a bottle of water as he tried to give it to Zack, who seemed to be dehydrated.

As a result, before he could even put the water to Zack's lips, the bottle of water was kicked away.

It was a few bodyguards who were dressed in black, and they sneered as they said, “Hey, fatty! You'd better get lost if you do not want to die! Stop being so nosy! Otherwise, you will die here today!”

The bodyguard in black said coldly.

The middle-aged man wanted to refute, but when he saw that this group of people seemed to mean what they had just said, he did not dare to continue getting in their way anymore.

So, he could only leave reluctantly.

Zack wanted to pick up the bottle to take a sip of water from it.  
As a result, the bodyguard in black instantly stepped on his hands.

He stepped on his hands until it was already bloody, yet the bodyguard simply continued crushing his hands fiercely.

“Didn’t I already tell you that you cannot drink any water for seven days? It is just the third day and you cannot stand it anymore?! Did you think that you are still a very famous and powerful person in the Crawford family? You dare to ask people to serve you water?! Let me tell you something specifically. The Crawford family has already been renamed to the Sime family! From now on, all of you are nothing but the Sime family’s dog!” The bodyguard said coldly.

As for Zack, he was so thirsty that he was even thinking of trying to drink the water that had been spilled on the ground.

“D\*mn it! Do you really want to drink water that badly?! Hahaha! Brothers, throw him into the river, then! If he can survive and swim up to the surface of the water, we will consider it that he indeed has good fortune!”

The bodyguard said as he grinned.

“Okay!”

The other bodyguards responded in unison.

Meanwhile, Gerald had just left the island on the Southeast Sea.

He happened to be passing by Hong Kong as he prepared to head back to Crawford Island.

It just so happened that he also saw the scene that was unfolding before him.

However, at this moment, he did not want to be nosy and interfere in this matter.

Just as he was about to leave, he suddenly heard Zack crying out loud in pain. He initially thought that he had heard wrongly.

As a result, after turning back to take a look, he realized that it was indeed Zack! How could this be possible?!

Gerald’s eyelids twitched wildly.

He appeared directly in front of these few people at this time.

“Zack!” Gerald shouted out loud in disbelief.

The both of them had just met a few days ago, and he had been perfectly fine. Moreover, at that time, Zack had been dealing with the transfer of the Crawford family’s assets. He had been back in Mayberry City at that time. What was going on here?!

As for Zack, his body trembled uncontrollably, and he raised his head as soon as he heard Gerald's voice.

"Mr... Mr. Crawford?!"

Tears started streaming down Zack's face at this time. It felt as though he had finally seen the light at the end of the dark tunnel. "What is going on?" Gerald hurriedly asked.

"It is the Gunter family and the Judgement Portal. They occupied the Crawford Manor forcibly, and they handed the entire management of the Crawford family over to the Sime family in Qerton City. They took over all of the Crawford family's industries and properties! I tried to go against them, and as a result, I was captured and brought here!" Zack cried out miserably.

"Hmph? Who is this person? Could he be the Mr. Crawford that the Gunter family is currently looking for?"

## Chapter 1438

The bodyguards at the side stared at each other in astonishment, and there were sparkles in their eyes at this time.

In truth, the Gunter family had given orders to the Sime family to torture all the members of the Crawford family in various ways so that they could draw Gerald out and subsequently capture him.

Hahaha! This was simply perfect. It seemed as though this person had come up to their doorstep personally.

When the time came, these few bodyguards would certainly be rich!

"Who else did the Sime family capture? Where is my second uncle, Peter Crawford, and the others?!"

Sure enough, something had indeed happened to the Crawford family.

Moreover, Gerald truly did not expect that the Gunter family and the King of the Judgement Portal would actually track them down all the way here.

At this time, Gerald stared angrily at the three bodyguards who were guarding Zack. "Hahaha!" The several bodyguards laughed out loud.

"Is this fool actually trying to question us?"

“That’s right. He even dared to look at us with such an angry expression on his face!”

The bodyguards said contemptuously. As for Gerald, he simply frowned tightly.

After that, he raised his hand directly before slapping one of the bodyguards’ forehead.

There was a loud bang!

The scene before Gerald at this moment was similar to that of a mortar hitting a watermelon, and the person’s head was instantly shattered into pieces.

“Ahh!”

The people around them were so frightened that they hurriedly ran away.

As for the remaining two bodyguards, both of them were dumbfounded.

“F\*ck! He is actually very strong! It turns out that this person is not our opponent at all!”

The two bodyguards could only exchange glances with one another as they felt extremely panicked at this time.

It was no wonder why the Gunter family had to spend so much time and effort just to arrest him. He was so powerful!

“What happened? I am asking you one last time!” Gerald said coldly.

“Pfft! We will never tell you anything. If we were to tell you, you would certainly kill us immediately! However, if we refuse to tell you, then...”

Before they could even finish speaking, Gerald had flicked his finger, and their heads exploded directly!

“Zack, I will heal you first!”

Gerald said as he looked at Zack, who was in agony and pain.

Gerald’s figure flickered as he brought Zack into a forest.

The way that Gerald could treat a person’s injuries was naturally no longer what it used to be.

At this moment, Gerald simply closed his eyes slightly.

After that, the Thunder Extraordinary Sight gradually appeared on Gerald's forehead.

A golden light instantly enveloped Zack at this time.

Immediately afterward, the wounds on Zack's body were all healed magically in an instant at a speed that was visible to the naked eye.

When the golden light disappeared, Zack could feel the changes in his body.

At this time, when he looked at Gerald, he was not looking at him with awe or respect. Instead, he was staring at Gerald in disbelief, almost as though he was a demon.

"Mr. Crawford... you?!"

Zack did not dare to continue speaking anymore because he was already completely healed.

"We can talk about all these things in the future. What happened to the Crawford family?" Gerald asked.

At this time, Zack hurriedly explained everything to Gerald...

It turned out that something had already happened to the Crawford family five days ago.

The Judgement Portal and the Gunter family had come to the Crawford Manor, and they had captured Peter. At the same time, they had also captured Jasmine and the others before taking over all of the Crawford family's assets and industries. Zack was captured after he had tried to fight and go against them.

As for their puppet, it was none other than the Sime family from Qerton City. The Sime family was very domineering and powerful in Hong Kong now.

They were torturing all of the original Crawford family members in various ways.

"Furthermore, when they found out that Miss Jasmine was your fiancée, the young master of the Sime family even sold Jasmine off to a bar to work as a hostess to insult and humiliate her. I heard that the Gunter family has already set up a lot of traps in the Crawford Manor, and they are simply waiting for you to walk right into their trap now!"

Zack told Gerald everything that he knew...

“What?! I should have fought it out with them and destroyed the Gunter family a long time ago!” Gerald said as he clenched his fists tightly.

“By the way, where did they take Jasmine? What about my second uncle, Leo, and the others?” Gerald asked.

Before his teleportation, Gerald had explained these things to Zack. So, Zack naturally knew who they were.

At this time, Zack said, “Miss Jasmine has been sent to Emperor’s Tavern in Hong Kong! As for the second master and the others, all of them are trapped inside Crawford Manor. The Gunter family have already made massive preparations there, and they are simply waiting for you to make an appearance so that you will fall right into their trap!”

Gerald clenched his fists tightly.

“I want you to find a place so that you can settle down there. I will go and save Jasmine first. You should contact the other members of the Crawford family, and when I have settled the score with the Gunter family, the rest of you will have the opportunity to plan for the future!” Gerald instructed.

As for Zack, he knew very well that he would not be able to help Mr. Crawford in any way. So, he could only nod his head.

Gerald headed directly to the bar in Hong Kong.

The atmosphere inside the bar was very smoky and messy at this moment. Many people were drinking inside.

If it was the young master of the Sime family, this person should be Matilda’s younger brother, then.

Gerald did not know who he was either.

So, as soon as he entered the bar, he asked the waitress directly, “There is a young man named Mr. Sime. Which room is he in?”

“In Room 888.”

“Hahaha! She is truly a beauty! I wonder what it would feel like if I could have some fun with her!”

Many people were surrounding a young man at this time.

There was a beautiful young woman who was kneeling as some men held her in place as they held onto their shoulders.

This young woman was none other than Jasmine.

“Mr. Sime, if you like her, why don’t you go ahead and do as you please?” Some people could not help but ask.

At the same time, they were also hinting to the young man that they would certainly be willing to provide him with any help or assistance if there was a need to.

“Hahaha! Would I need you to remind me if I really wanted to do that? I would have already done it a long time ago if I wanted to. However, that would simply be too boring. I want to see how long she can hold out and endure being tortured before she finally decides to willingly climb into my bed. What kind of experience would that be, then! Hahaha!” Mr. Sime said.

“Let me tell you something! If you had the guts to, you can go ahead and kill me. Otherwise, Gerald will never let you off. You people from the Sime family are indeed very courageous. Aren’t you afraid that your family will be met with a terrible disaster?” Jasmine yelled.

“Pfft! Gerald? Let me tell you something. The Gunter family has already set up many traps to capture Gerald. And to be honest, we have been looking forward to Gerald making an appearance as soon as possible. In fact, the sooner he makes an appearance, the better it would be for the Sime family as we would finally be able to enjoy everything that the Crawford family owns unscrupulously! Hahaha!” Mr. Sime said.

“Gerald killed Matilda. So, that means that he has a blood feud with the Sime family. So, I will have to settle this score with him sooner or later!”

At this moment, the room door was suddenly opened.

It was a heavyweight bodyguard who was walking in slowly.

He had always been in charge of all of the arrangements for Mr. Sime. Moreover, the Gunter family had provided his services to Mr. Sime exclusively.

There were nearly a hundred masters outside the private room at this time, and they were all tasked with the responsibility of ensuring Mr. Sime’s safety.

This person was the leader.

“What’s wrong?” Mr. Sime asked.

“Someone is going to die here today. I hope that those who have depended on the Crawford family in the past and have nothing to do with all of this will leave immediately!”

The bodyguard said as he trembled uncontrollably. “Huh? Raion, what do you mean?”

Mr. Sime could not help but ask in surprise, “The Sime family has the final say here in Hong Kong now!”

“Someone is going to die here today. I hope that those who have depended on the Crawford family in the past and have nothing to do with all this will leave immediately!”

As for the leader, it seemed as though he had not heard what Mr. Sime had said, and he simply repeated his sentence as though he was speaking to himself.

At this moment, when they saw the panicked and anxious expression on this man’s face, the others in the room could not help but feel a little uneasy.

An unnamed and dangerous aura suddenly enveloped itself around all of them, and everyone suddenly felt extremely nervous.

Leave! Perhaps, it would be best for them to leave now, and it would certainly be their best option.

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Therefore, most of the people inside the room stood up as they decided to walk out of the room.

“What do you guys think you are doing?! No matter what it is, all of you are still young masters with a very influential existence. Why are all of you such cowards?!”

Mr. Sime snorted as he mocked them. As soon as he spoke up, no one dared to leave the room anymore. “What are you afraid of anyway? I am here!”

“Raion, what exactly is happening?!” Mr. Sime asked as he looked at the bodyguard.

However, at this time, the bodyguard suddenly started trembling uncontrollably all over his body before he fell to the ground and started foaming at his mouth. He died not too long after that!

“Ahhh!” The young woman in the room screamed out in horror at this moment. Mr. Sime’s face also turned a little pale.

“Who? Who did this?! Men, come! Men, come!” He yelled angrily.

“You must be very courageous! You guys are just a small and mediocre family, but you are so discontented, and you actually dared to try and reach for what will never belong to you? That is already bad enough, but you even dared to treat my friend like that?!”

At this moment, a ghost-like voice suddenly sounded out loud.

Everyone was stunned, and they felt as though their hearts had stopped.

Jasmine, on the other hand, suddenly raised her head.

This was because this voice sounded too familiar to her.

“Gerald!” Jasmine said in excitement and surprise.

“What?! It’s Gerald?”

There was a look of shock and panic on Mr. Sime’s face at this moment.

“Mr. Crawford!!”

As for the other young masters, they were also exchanging glances with one another in astonishment at this time.

In an instant, they felt as though the space in front of them was suddenly distorted, and Gerald suddenly appeared in front of everyone like a ghost.

“Mr. Crawford!!”

These young masters naturally knew who Gerald was, and they could not help but feel very frightened and afraid when they saw Gerald at this time.

“Gerald!”

Jasmine hurriedly ran toward Gerald’s side. Everything that had happened over the past few days had truly frightened her to death, and she had even thought of killing herself.

Unexpectedly, Gerald would appear at this moment, and he was actually standing in front of her.

“Don’t be scared! I am back today! An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth!” Gerald said coldly.

Mr. Sime had obviously been sentenced to death.

When many of the other young masters were all kneeling as they were pleading and begging for Gerald's forgiveness, Mr. Sime, who was obviously on the verge of dying, was laughing out loud at this moment.

"Hahaha!" Mr. Sime raised his head as he laughed out loud.

"What are you laughing at?" Gerald asked.

"Hahaha! I am laughing at you because you are such a fool!" Mr. Sime's eyes were filled with ridicule at this point as he said, "Gerald, when I was in Qerton City, I heard that you are extremely cunning and crafty. So, I thought that you would be a very smart and intelligent person. However, I never expected you to turn out to be such a fool. You are a complete fool! Let me tell you, you have already fallen into my trap!"

"Fallen into your trap?" Gerald asked coldly, "So, how did I fall into your trap? What kind of trap is there?"

"Hahaha! Don't tell me that you don't think that everything is too much of a coincidence? From the instance where you ran into that d\*mn Zack Lyle out on the streets, until the moment that you made an appearance here? In other words, I was the one who had planned everything step by step so that I could lure you here! I knew that you would definitely come here as soon as possible so that you could save your friend first. So, I have already been waiting here for you for a long time!" Mr. Sime said.

"That's right. It's a pretty good strategy, but don't you think that you have already missed a step?" Gerald asked as he smiled bitterly.

"I know what you are going to say. You are going to say that I am not your opponent at all and you can just kill me easily, right? Hahaha! So, that is the reason why I have a dedicated guest who is here to receive you!"

Mr. Sime began clapping his palms as he spoke.

In an instant, a black light quickly made its way directly to the room...

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The darkness quickly spread across the entire private room, deeply scaring all of the other rich heirs to the point of screaming. After all, anyone caught in a similar situation would surely be filled with desperation.

"I-I'm sorry, Gerald...! It's entirely my fault...!" whimpered Jasmine.

Pulling her to stand behind him, Gerald simply consoled, "It's fine, just stay behind me!"

Soon enough, the darkness dispersed, leaving three orbs of light in its place... Everyone then watched as lights began increasing in size till they eventually formed human silhouettes.

By the time the lights dimmed down, two men and a woman stood face to face with Gerald.

One of the men gave off a particularly imposing aura, and his entire body was plated with black armor. The other man, on the other hand, had a tailcoat draped around his slim figure.

As for the sharp-chinned woman who had an extremely graceful-looking figure, a strange charm seemed to exude from every orifice of her body. Adding that to her long, wavy, and red hair, she looked very much like a serpentine demon.

The trio was part of the Judgement Portal, and together, they made up the Squad of Judgement Portal.

Gerald had already met one of them before this, that being the burly man with black armor on... It was Hogan, the person who had almost ended Gerald's life back then!

Even to the King of Judgment Portal, all three of them were considered to be quite powerful and capable people. With that said, knowing that he was able to rely on the extraordinarily talented trio was the reason why Quigley—Mr. Sime—had been so confident earlier.

What more, he was positive that Gerald would have no escape from this perfect trap that both the Gunters and those from the Judgement Portal had set up to deal with Gerald.

Laughing mockingly, Quigley then sneered, "Well, Gerald? What do you think? I'm sure you've guessed that with my three friends here, things are going to end rather simply, but also extremely violently for you! Heh, even sprouting wings to escape won't save you now!"

Murderous intent reflected in his eyes, Quigley then added, "You know, once you're out of the picture, the Simes will be able to legitimately inherit all your family's wealth and assets! That's over half of the world's wealth! Hahaha! I really don't know how to thank you enough, Gerald! After all, in a way, everything the Crawfords have done up till this point has been for the Sime family's sake! Heh. I'm guessing you're in a bad mood now, right? Though with how smug I'm being, of course you'd be annoyed!"

As Quigley sneered again before lighting a cigarette—his legs still crossed—, Gerald simply smiled calmly before replying, "On the contrary, I'm rather elated now that all three of them are here!"

"...Oh? Could you already have gone mad with fright? Do share why you're feeling so happy!" asked Quigley as he returned a smile.

“Well, let’s just say I have a grudge against one of these three people... I had initially been wondering how I’d be able to get my revenge, but lo and behold! Here he is, standing right before me! You truly saved me a lot of time and effort to find you!” replied Gerald as he pointed at Hogan.

‘You broke all my tendons, causing me to suffer terribly... Now that you’re standing before me...’ Gerald thought to himself, fully ready to have his revenge.

“Heh, he’s talking about you, Hogan!” said the sole woman of the trip as she stuck her tongue out before turning to look at the big man.

“He’s just a small fry! I’ve already ruined him once, and I have no problem with doing it again! Since the master instructed us to keep him alive, I’ll just make sure he’s constantly just a few breaths away from dying!” declared Hogan coldly as he slowly raised his palms...

Within seconds, his iron palms darkened, and by the end of the transformation, they looked similar to steel forks!

Turning to look at Quigley, Hogan then said, “You’ve truly made a great contribution this time around, Young Master Sime! I’m sure the master will reward you greatly!”

Hearing that, Quigley simply smiled before excitedly replying, “That’s for sure! Also, after the Simes inherit all the Crawford family’s properties, I promise that each of you will be able to enjoy all the wealth and glory in the world!”

Laughing aloud, the serpent-like demoness of a woman then smiled before saying, “I’d like a lot of men then, Young Master Sime!”

“Not a problem! I’ll be sure to satisfy every one of your wishes!” said Quigley as he burst out laughing.

Watching as the group chatted among themselves, Gerald simply shook his head with a bitter smile on his face before saying, “Ladies and gentlemen, I’m still here you know? Not only did you fail to greet me, but to think that you’re even discussing how to share my family’s properties among yourselves, right in my face!”

“Haha! You don’t seem to understand how dire your situation truly is at the moment, Gerald! Just to remind you, you’ve fallen into my trap, and I’m more than willing to take responsibility for ordering the trio to kill you! I guess it’s just fate! While your martial art skills are greater than mine, in the end, I still come up on top due to my intelligence!” retorted Quigley with a smug smile.

## Chapter 1442

“There’s no need to say anything more to him, Young Master Sime. Allow me to capture and break all his limbs first before we continue our little chat!” said Hogan as his imposing aura seemed to amplify by the second!

Lifting his steel claws, he then dashed toward Gerald incredibly quickly, creating a force so massive that it caused all the surrounding furniture to be smashed into pieces! It wasn’t hard to determine that Hogan was now much stronger compared to when he had first encountered Gerald!

As Hogan’s palm came inches before Gerald’s body, an explosive sound was heard...!

However, Gerald was still standing. In fact, Hogan hadn’t even been able to touch him!

Now completely paralyzed in place, the deeply shocked Hogan found himself saying, “...What?”

It was obvious that Hogan was being held down by an immense force, and this caused the woman in black and the man with the tailcoat’s eyelids to begin twitching rapidly.

“While I wasn’t a match for you at the time, you’re but an ant to me now!” replied Gerald as a strong beam of light suddenly shot out from one of his fingers!

Both rapid and strong, the light sliced through Hogan as though it were a sword... And a second later, disgusting sounds could be heard as Hogan was split clean in half!

Watching as Hogan’s purplish-black flesh seared open extremely bloodily, desperation began filling everyone’s eyes again. Even the remaining duo—from the Squad of Judgment Portal—found themselves tensing up considerably!

“...H-how powerful...! Ariana, detain him here! I’ll be calling for reinforcements!” instructed the man in the tailcoat.

Drawing in a cold breath, the man—who was particularly good at the lightness skill— felt his body sway slightly...

Anyone looking at him at that moment then stared wide-eyed as the man disappeared out the window!

Now all alone, Ariana’s fear instantly doubled! Though her immediate thought was to escape, she knew that it simply wasn’t going to happen.

Gerald himself simply waved his hand in a slashing moment, and soon enough, pieces of Ariana’s diced-up body flopped to the ground.

Seeing that it had only taken Gerald a few minutes to completely turn the tables, Quigley found himself gulping as he stuttered, "T-this... This...!"

Not even realizing that he had wet himself, Quigley instantly knelt before shouting, "M-Mr. Crawford...!"

"You said you were extremely intelligent, no? Do you have any idea how many people have told me the same thing? I do wonder what goes on in those brains of yours... To be able to so confidently boast about your intellect... Compared to all of you, I barely have any confidence most of the time!" replied Gerald as he looked into Quigley's eyes.

"P-please spare my life, Mr. Crawford...! I... I was forced to do all this...! L-look, since that man's headed off to call for reinforcements, I'm sure the King of Judgment Portal and Yreth will be rushing over soon...! With that in mind, please give me a chance to redeem myself! If you spare my life, I'll show you an excellent escape route...!" pleaded Quigley as he continuously bumped his forehead against the ground.

"...Gerald, about that person..." muttered Jasmine, clearly worried about the man in the tailcoat who had escaped.

Hearing that, Gerald casually walked toward the window before saying, "Close your eyes, Jasmine!"

"...H-huh? I... Alright!" replied Jasmine as she instantly did as she was told.

Once he was sure she had done so, Gerald closed his own eyes... And at that moment, a golden eye appeared on his forehead!

The second his third eye opened, an explosive sound was heard as the entire private room was engulfed in a blinding, golden light!

Upon seeing the light, several people instantly began screaming in pain as they covered their eyes. Some of them were even convulsing on the floor at this point, foaming from their mouths as they continued suffering.

Not long after, a shockwave aimed at the sky was launched out of the golden eye...

#### Chapter 1443

Meanwhile, the man in the tailcoat was still soaring in the sky, his heart beating wildly as he thought, 'That was way too terrifying...! I need to get as far away as possible from him...! I truly hadn't expected that guy's training to be even more vicious than my master's! Thank god I retreated quickly!'

The second his thought ended, however, he immediately felt himself being tugged! Turning to look at what was holding him back, he was shocked to find out that not only had a lasso of searing light caught onto him—preventing him from going any further—, but a shockwave with immense power was now shooting toward him at high speed!

His eyes now fully widened, the man immediately began screaming as he desperately tried to free himself. Unfortunately, that wasn't about to happen, and with an explosive sound, the shockwave shot through his body, leaving only fine dust behind...!

It was then when Gerald finally reopened his eyes back at the house. Upon closing his golden eye, everything else returned to normal.

While that was the case, Quigley—who was now suffering from a terrible headache and extremely pained eyes—found himself sweating profusely as he thought, 'This... This person's a demon without a doubt...! His frighteningly pressuring aura alone is enough to make people find it hard to breathe...!'

With that in mind, he quickly cried out, "P-please... Please spare my life...!"

"No can do. I've sworn to myself that I'd kill anyone who hurt my friends, you know?" replied Gerald as he slowly pointed at Quigley...

The next thing Quigley knew, he had been set ablaze!

As the burning man made disgusting gurgling sounds while attempting to cry out in his agony, Quigley was eventually put to rest, though only when he was nothing more than a pile of burnt, rotten flesh.

After witnessing all that, everyone—including Jasmine—found themselves gulping in fear.

Eventually, Jasmine found herself turning to look at the man before her. The man whom she had missed and loved this entire time... Somehow... He felt quite unfamiliar now...

Jasmine still remembered the first time she had met him two years ago... Back then, his soul was pure and his heart, kind... He also seemed to just exude an aura of simplicity at the time...

Despite having all the prestige in the world with the title of 'Mr. Crawford', the Gerald back then didn't have an arrogant or domineering attitude at all...

Jasmine knew very well that the past Gerald had still felt rather inferior... Due to that, he was slightly cowardly and easily grew awkward when he had to deal with multiple affairs at a time.

'Haha... Now that I think about it, Gerald was still quite cute at the time... Before I knew it, I found myself growing attracted to his past characteristics...'

Now, however, the Gerald she used to know was nowhere to be seen... He was way too cold and cruel now...

While Quigley and all the others Gerald had killed certainly deserved to die, Gerald could've easily ended them without having them suffer... Despite that, he had killed each of them in the most merciless way possible...

Adding that to the fact that there were still traces of murderous intent reflected in his eyes, Jasmine found herself feeling afraid to even approach him now...

"...Everything's fine now, so let's go," muttered Gerald in a casual tone.

"...Go.... Where are we headed to Gerald...?" asked Jasmine as she snapped out of it.

"We're off to exterminate the rest of the Gunters!" declared Gerald as he slowly walked out.

Meanwhile, all the way on the island owned by the Crawfords—that was currently being used as the base for the Gunters, the Simes, and those from Judgment Portal—the Gunters were busy planning on how to rebuild their family there. After all, the island was pretty spacious and their manor had been razed to the ground anyway.

Amidst everything that was happening, a voice from the Crawford family's square could suddenly be heard shouting, "You dirty b\*stards! And here I thought the Gunters were a cryptic and prestigious family! Looking at you now, you're all just a bunch of robbers!"

#### Chapter 1444

The voice belonged to Peter, and he was currently being hung up at the square as several Gunters—who had been listening to his scowls—glared at him.

Unable to take any more humiliation, one of the Gunter family's disciples icily sneered, "To think you'd still say such crap when you're in such a state... I've decided! I'm breaking all your teeth right this instant! Let's see you try to be arrogant then!"

Just as the disciple was about to make his move, however, he froze in place when a sudden, distinct voice shouted, "Stop right there!"

"Lady Gunter!" declared the other disciples—who were present at the square—extremely respectfully.

“Step down!” ordered Yreth who was now walking toward Peter with a group of people behind her.

Arms against her back, Yreth looked at Peter with a smile as she said, “You know, I heard that a mysterious and extremely exceptional man made his appearance a few years back... He was said to have exceptional archery skills, and was a top-notch marksman... While I was compelled to think that the person came from a new cryptic family, I truly hadn’t expected him to be you, of all people!”

While she had to admit that Peter was extremely strong, even he was unable to withstand a single blow from the King of Judgment Portal back when they bumped into each other.

“You old witch! If you wish to end me, then just do it already and spare me the nonsense!” retorted Peter.

“Oh, don’t worry, you’ll die a little later! Haha! Still, now that I think about it, you resemble a person I used to know quite a bit... Could you be Daryl’s second son?” asked Yreth casually.

Upon hearing that, Peter’s eyelids twitched slightly.

Puzzled, he then asked, “...You know my father...?”

“Of course I do. The Gunters and the Crawfords have had certain relationships before, you know? Regardless, it truly hadn’t occurred to me that the descendant of that cunning old man could actually be a powerful hero!” scowled Yreth at the mention of Daryl.

While it was a norm for others to get angered whenever they heard others bad-mouthing their fathers, Peter simply took in a deep breath before asking, “...What exactly was his relationship with your family?”

“Haha! So you truly don’t know! I see, I see... Well, I suppose it’s not unexpected from him. After all, he’s a person who’s able to do just about anything! He probably only sees you, his biological son, as nothing but a pawn! I’m saying it now that you’ve been constantly lied to and tricked by him!” replied Yreth.

“Well, since you’re going to die later anyway, I don’t mind sharing what I know. Maybe you’ll finally be able to see what kind of person Daryl really is! First off, I need you to understand that your family is nothing but a preposterous joke! Once you’re done listening to my part of the story, let’s see if you still think that we’re the real robbers!” sneered Yreth.

Frowning slightly, Peter said nothing though he kept his ears peeled.

“Now then, where to begin... I’m assuming that to you, Daryl’s a responsible father who’s good at business and has several other strong capabilities, correct? Well, he’s none of that. He’s

nothing but a true b\*stard, that's what he is! In case you haven't noticed, the Crawford family's history isn't as simple as merely being a rich and powerful family that's lasted for almost a thousand years! You were simply lied to!"

"The truth is, you Crawfords began as a cryptic family as well! In fact, you were the strongest cryptic family on the planet for the longest time! After all, your family was capable of using a multitude of extraordinary and remarkable secret techniques. Truth be told, there was such a huge gap between your family's secret techniques compared to the other cryptic families that it wouldn't be a stretch to say that the Crawfords—in their early years—were close to reaching the level of those living in Jaellatra!" explained Yreth.

"The Crawfords... Were initially a cryptic family...?" replied Peter, clearly surprised. If that were truly the case, then there was a possibility that some of the mysteries that he had been unable to solve in his heart could finally be solved.

"Indeed. Your family almost died out overnight when Daryl was only sixteen, you know? He was the only survivor who managed to escape with his life intact. Regardless, since the Crawfords were no longer in the picture, the Gunters naturally took their place in becoming the most powerful cryptic family at the time."

"A crucial thing to note is that the Crawfords have been going against the Gunters for the longest time. With that in mind, that cunning old man made sure to place the entire blame—of the Crawford family's mass slaughter—on our family! You have no idea how many times he attempted to take revenge on the Gunters. There was seemingly no end to his cunning schemes! Unfortunately for him, however, he was nowhere as strong as the exceptional Crawford family members that existed during your family's earlier years. With that said, all his schemes simply ended in failure!"

"Eventually, however, he plotted to steal our family's most precious treasure! I'd like you to know that he didn't even hesitate to kill the innocent people living in the surrounding villages as a means to force us out! In the end, we surrounded and attacked him, understanding that he had simply gone too far. Following that, he was seriously injured though he did manage to flee!" sneered Yreth.

By that point, the glossiness in Peter's eyes almost suggested that he was in some sort of trance. However, he quickly snapped out of it, and after thinking for a while, he then replied, "...So what you're saying is that though he clearly knew that he was unable to go against the Gunters, he still tried to use all sorts of ways to launch surprise attacks against your family? Also, he, of all people, should've definitely known that your family would have no real way of exterminating ours... With that in mind, why had he continuously pestered your family like that...?"

"Hahaha! With your great deductive abilities, I have no doubts that you truly are Daryl's son... Regardless, you're absolutely correct. Even though he was a fool, it was pretty much impossible

for him not to know that the Gunters didn't have the power to even come close to exterminating your family back then, especially since that was the Crawford family's most glorious and prosperous period. The truth is, he had been constantly pestering us since he had learned of a dreadful secret..."

#### Chapter 1445

"...A secret?" asked Peter.

"Indeed. I didn't know about it either in the beginning... Before moving any further, however, I'll have you know that for the longest time, I was only aware of the existence of your family's most valuable treasure, that being the picture of the sun. Not only is it capable of foretelling things, but it's also rich with training techniques! It truly is a treasure among treasures! Regardless, what I'm assuming is that he must have learned something from it."

"After all, after we beat him up, we were surprised to find out that he managed to escape right under our noses! Though I contacted several champions and their families to hunt him down, we never found him again. It was about twenty years later when the Crawford family suddenly reappeared, and when it did, it shockingly already owned over half the wealth on the planet! The Crawfords controlled the economic lifeline of the world!"

"Even so, a lot of us doubted that the Crawfords who reappeared were established by Daryl. After all, Daryl was still missing, and after a bit of research, we found out that the leader at the time was Dylan. As was expected, we also found out that nobody knew a thing about Dylan's father. Speaking of which, there's something else you need to know! Your father's original name wasn't Daryl! His true name is Lucero! Lucero Crawford!" explained Yreth, clear contempt on her face.

"Still, he truly is an intelligent person, you know? Had my family not gotten acquainted with the King of Judgment Portal, we'd surely have continued getting fooled by him! He's an expert at lying and making up stories, that's for sure! Either way, I'm also sure he was well aware that Gerald's body held many secrets! Secrets of which few in the world—including the Gunters—know the exact details about!" added Yreth.

By that point, Peter was already frowning slightly. After all, if Yreth wasn't lying, then all his worries had just been proven to be true.

There were some things that Peter hadn't mentioned to Gerald before. While he did tell Gerald about the mysterious man who had been stalking him for who knows how long, Peter hadn't told Gerald that he had once exposed his whereabouts, and was completely ready to fight the mysterious man.

During that process, Peter had successfully torn off the man's veil, and though the man managed to instantly cover his face, all Peter needed was a simple glance for him to recognize the man's eyes and appearance.

"Dad?!" called out Peter at the time, feeling as though he had just been struck by lightning.

'...The man in black clothes... Had been dad this entire time...?! No, there's got to be a mistake... I must have made a mistake, right...?' wondered Peter at the time, trying his best to think of a more plausible answer.

As he thought about it, he recalled how strong his father's martial arts skills were when Peter was still a child.

'After escaping from Jaellatra, my training has definitely increased by leaps and bounds... However, if that person truly is dad, then how could he be even stronger than me now...?'

With so many questions in mind, Peter had decided to continue concealing his identity to investigate more in secret. He wanted to find out whether his father's intentions toward Gerald were good or evil.

Whatever the case was, that discovery had stemmed from an incident that he had come across earlier on. At the time, not only had his father stunned Gerald, but he had even snuck into Gerald's body! Following that, he had checked Gerald's bodily conditions, though he found no changes to Gerald's body.

It was also the reason why Peter had concealed the fact—from Jasmine—that his face wasn't actually ruined. After all, he was still unable to figure out his father's true intentions, and the vagueness continued up till the point he found out that several people had died horribly during the most recent pledge of the holy water...

#### Chapter 1446

After realizing that his father's corpse wasn't among the other dead bodies, Peter was finally able to see the bigger picture.

However, something still puzzled him. Why was his father being this cruel? What had prompted him to do all that?

"Well? I wonder what you're feeling now that you finally know what kind of person your father is actually like! Though from your expression, I'm assuming that you had already felt that something was amiss some time ago, correct? Hahaha!" said Yreth with a laugh.

“...I admit that I was aware that something was amiss. Even so, there’s something else I don’t quite get. The Gunters themselves have plotted many schemes. What were all those for? Also, let’s not forget that several innocents have ended up dying as your grand scheme played out! How could you have just played around with and manipulated the lives of so many people?” retorted Peter with strong indignation. After all, he, too, was one of the grand scheme’s victims.

“Besides, about the part where you said that you didn’t know about the secrets within Gerald too well... I wonder how true that statement is... After all, I heard from Miss Lockland that you’re quite aware that Gerald seems to be a reincarnation of some kind of powerful deity!” added Peter.

Shaking her head, Yreth then replied, “While Zyla and the King of Judgment Portal may have said that Gerald is a reincarnation of a powerful deity, both of them only know about that through a rumor from Jaellatra. From what the King of Judgment Portal told me, the rumor definitely attracted no shortage of people. Even so, nobody—the King of Judgment Portal included—has been able to confirm the authenticity of that rumor. Whatever the case is, deity or not, Gerald still possesses a frightening amount of power, and whoever manages to get their hands on it will surely be able to rule the three divisions of the world! Many from Jaellatra call the power the Herculean Primordial Spirit, and you know even they find it powerful since they’ve attached such a wonderful rumor to it!”

“Regardless, since nobody knows what secrets lie within Gerald’s body yet, many forces have already begun targeting the Crawford family in recent years. From the looks of it, Daryl already knew about the secret for quite some time. After all, he had already taken action long before all this! Knowing that he wouldn’t be able to deal with so many forces alone, he had made sure to remain in hiding for all those years, only daring to finally show his face again quite recently!” explained Yreth.

“...I see. You know, my father once told me that our family would be annihilated according to the picture of the sun’s prophecy... Could that have been referring to these incidents?” asked Peter, feeling enlightened.

“Right, you are. You Crawfords need to repay for all the things you’ve done, and it’s a massive price to pay! All of you are to be exterminated without question! Even so, I’m sure that your cunning old Daryl already knows about this. After all, he’s extremely competent when it comes to planning ahead. You know, in order to divert our attention, he actually established two Crawford families! If you’re wondering how, he’s conceived many, many children at the same time by sleeping with countless women! If you’re still feeling doubtful then let me ask you this. If the Crawfords truly are such a grand family that hands down its properties from one generation to the next, tell me, have you ever met your second or third uncle? Have you even heard about your grandpa before? In fact, I’m pretty sure that you’ve never even met your mother before, right? I’ll say it right now that though the Crawford family has a large family tree, most of them

are adopted children who were taken in by your father! Only your family is his direct descendant!”

After hearing all that, Peter felt like he had just been struck by lightning!

‘...There... There are two Crawford families...? But how could that be...?! Though, she does have a point... I’ve never met my mother before... Hell, I’ve never even heard anything about her up till this point...! Even so, that’s the least of my worries now... If what she’s saying is true, then are there currently two halves of our family currently existing...?’

“Regardless, I do have to say that Daryl is exceedingly capable... After all, we only managed to find out about the other Crawford family a few years ago. His diversion truly was a success... You know, while everyone was busy paying attention to Gerald and your half of the Crawford family, the other Crawfords have long developed. Upon finding out about that, the Gunters were utterly devastated! Had the King of Judgment Portal not decided to step in, my family would have ceased to exist long ago!” said Yreth, a hint of fear on her face.

“With that said, not only are we trying to get hold of Gerald to acquire all the secrets of his body, but we’re also trying to ruin Daryl’s plans. After all, the Gunters will truly end up losing the ability to protect ourselves should this incident continue to develop... He’s such a terrifying man that we have a feeling that Daryl had already established communication with the forces of Jaellatra, long before anyone else had!”

#### Chapter 1447

“...And where exactly is this other Crawford family...? Also, you mentioned something about other forces earlier... What forces are they?” asked Peter. As was expected, this incident was far from simple...

“Nobody knows where the other Crawfords are. I simply know that my family would’ve been exterminated ages ago had the King of Judgment Portal not stepped in. I do know, however, that the other Crawfords are exceedingly strong... Even beyond your wildest imagination...! And as for the forces... Tell me, who do you think stands at the peak of the world?” replied Yreth as she turned to look at Peter.

“I have no idea. However, I am certain that such a position isn’t reserved for a cryptic family like yours! I was fortunate enough to meet several powerful people in the world, and I’m sure there are many others out there who are equally as powerful! Regardless, the ones I’ve come across are undoubtedly stronger than those from cryptic families like yours. Hell, they’re even more powerful than those from warrior families who have special blood types! I do find it funny,

though. After all, while all of you are nothing compared to them, all of you still consider yourselves to be the most powerful families!”

“Hmm... Though what you just said is easily enough reason for me to kill you a hundred times over, only half of what you said was true. For your information, my family truly is at the top in selected areas. However, just as you’ve said, if we’re looking at things on a global scale, the true order is controlled by extremely powerful forces. Even so, we’re protected by the thought of the King of Judgment Portal’s soul. With that in mind, nobody is daring enough to shake that till the primary part of his soul is released by Gerald. Following that, his strength will greatly increase, and with the additional help from the ancestor of my family, we’ll certainly be able to form another force and compete against those people!”

“While that was the initial plan, the thought of my ancestor’s soul was ruined by Gerald before he was even able to recover the primary part of his soul! Due to that, Gerald has to pay!” declared Yreth before taking in a deep breath.

Watching as she glared sternly at him, Peter then asked, “Is the Crawford family one of those forces?”

“But of course. Those people control everything! In fact, most of the innocents you mentioned were mutilated by them, so they’re the person you should be hating! Regardless, once the Gunter family acquires Gerald and gains control over the world, who knows, maybe the situation will end up becoming better!” replied Yreth, a hint of delight in her tone.

“Apologies for being straightforward, but you’re far from capable of fighting against Gerald at your current strength... Are you not afraid?” asked Peter as he looked at her sympathetically.

“Hahaha! Trying to scare me? Well, it certainly is true that Gerald owns mysterious powers... After all, the strength of his soul alone was sufficient in ruining the thought of my ancestor’s soul...! However, you should know that he’s way weaker than me. Even if he has gotten slightly stronger, what do you think this is?” asked Yreth as she revealed a bead and showed it to Peter.

“This here, is a formation specially made to deal with Gerald... Once it’s activated, it’ll be impossible for him to escape! I made sure to have this made since I’ve already heard rumors that it’s no longer effective against Gerald...” sneered Yreth.

“...Rumors? ‘It’...?” asked Peter with a frown.

“I’m talking about the Dead Annie, of course. The strange plant that exists between heaven and earth... Back then, I had used it as a sure-fire way to suppress Gerald, and though I planned to continue dealing with him using the same method, to think that in the end, he actually managed to snatch the Dead Annie Mother away! With that in mind, I feel that Dead Annies will no longer be useful against him!”

“...I see. Regardless, suit yourselves. I hope your family doesn’t come to regret your final choice!” replied Peter with a nod.

“With all due respect, Lady Gunter, this person’s been putting our family down far too many times by this point. Do allow me to teach him a lesson!” growled one of the Gunter disciples in dissatisfaction.

“As long as he’s still breathing by the time you’re done, you’re free to do whatever you want!” replied Yreth with a slight nod.

What the disciple had said was true. Even under such circumstances, Peter didn’t seem to be the least afraid of the Gunters, and it made Yreth seethe with anger. It was the reason why she wasn’t completely against teaching him a lesson or two.

Upon getting Yreth’s approval, the disciple then took a step forward, ready to launch an attack! However, the second he made his move, a beam of light suddenly shot toward him!

An explosive sound later, it took everyone a second to realize that the person’s arm had exploded! Not only that, but the disciple had been flung to the side with such force, that he was now nothing but a lump of dead flesh.

Utterly shocked and horrified, all the Gunters slowly turned around to see who the culprit was. Even Yreth—whose eyelids were now twitching extremely rapidly—did the same as she roared, “Who the hell did that...?!”

The immediate response she got, however, was a tight slap to her face! She wasn’t even able to come close to dodging it!

Looking around in panic, Yreth felt another hard slap on her other cheek, sending several of her broken teeth scattering across the ground!

Though she was now extremely dizzy, her anger had also amplified as she growled, “Who the hell are you...?!”

Seeing how helpless Yreth was against the assailant, all the other Gunters found themselves looking around in fear as well. As immense terror peaked among those currently in the square, everyone heard a soft ‘thud’ behind them, prompting them to look at where Peter was...

To their utter shock, Peter had broken free from his restraints! The thud had come from the fallen ropes that had been cut clean in half... And the one who had cut them, was none other than Gerald! The youth who was currently slowly descending onto the rockery in the middle of the square...!

Chapter 1448

“...Gerald...!” growled Yreth, her eyes bloodshot as she glared at him in shock.

‘How... How is this even possible...?! To think I’d actually be unable to take him on!’ Yreth thought to herself in her sheer disbelief.

“I heard you’ve been waiting for me to show myself, Yreth! Well, here I am!” replied Gerald.

“So you’ve grown stronger, have you, Gerald... That’s good...! That’s more than enough proof to show how frightening the power in your body is...!” added Yreth as she laughed out loud despite still seething with rage.

“Be careful of the bead in her hand, Gerald! That’s a formation!” shouted Peter just as Yreth began activating it!

With immense speed and precision, Yreth quickly tossed the formation toward the space above Gerald while shouting, “Now hurry up and get captured without putting up a fight!”

Now right above Gerald, the formation quickly began expanding, and the sight of it immediately caused the excited Yreth’s expression to turn twisted and hideous!

However, her excitement instantly plummeted the second she saw the formation retracting... and a split second later, there was a brief flash before the formation disappeared entirely!

“...W-what...?” muttered Yreth who was now beading trails of sweat off her forehead.

Following that, Gerald’s body momentarily disappeared... and the next thing anyone knew, he was now standing before Yreth!

Looking at the stunned woman, he momentarily frowned before asking with a subtle smile, “Now what could that have been... Was it made to kill people...? Or was it perhaps just some toddler’s toy...? Whatever the case is, how disappointing!”

“D-disappointing...? The hell are you being disappointed for...?!” replied Yreth as she took a few steps back.

The Gerald before her now... He was utterly terrifying...!

“Well, I was kind of expecting your grand scheme to be a bit more... major, you know? A bit more climactic, at the very least? After all, you did go through so much just to set me up... How couldn’t I be disappointed when your trump card is nothing by this toy? I was feeling hopeful too, thinking that you’d at least put up a fight after shouting for me to be captured so confidently! While that could’ve been a side dish, serving that bead as your main dish? That’s just sad...” said Gerald.

Her face now reddened with wrath after hearing Gerald's humiliating words, Yreth instantly retorted, "You... You'd best not get too conceited...!"

Still, it truly hadn't occurred to her that Gerald would get this strong this quickly...! Slipping a smoke bomb out from her sleeve and into her hand, Yreth then added, "While you may be a great force now, know that you aren't too far from the day you'll finally be killed! Regardless, you've got me! Just kill me if you want to!"

Yreth was rather confident that with the aid of the smoke bomb, she would be able to make her escape. The next time the two clashed again, she would definitely take him down...!

Just as her train of thought ended, she suddenly felt an acute pain in her chest! Looking down, she realized that a beam of light had just pierced through her heart...!

Seeing that, the quivering old woman then slowly looked up... and saw that Gerald had doomed her by simply pointing his finger at her!

Vomiting blood as she collapsed to the ground, her eyes were fully widened in her utter bewilderment and disbelief!

'Shouldn't he have asked me when his dying day would be...?! Following that, I should have gotten the chance to detain him! Once that was done, we would've simply needed to wait for the King of Judgment Portal to come over...! By that point, Gerald capture would've been in the bag for sure! To think that... That he'd make a move the second my statement ended...! I... I'm dying...' Thought the aggrieved Yreth to herself.

If only she had known that all this would happen, she wouldn't have beaten around the bush... But it was far too late for regrets now, and soon enough, Yreth drew her final breath.

Upon seeing that, the rest of the Gunters were instantly overwhelmed with fright, and all of them instantly began kneeling as they pleaded, "P-please spare our lives, Mr. Crawford...! We were only following her orders! I-if you let us live, we can tell you something important...!"

Naturally, begging him for mercy was only a front. The important thing was for them to survive! Though none of them liked the idea of begging him for their lives, they needed to ensure that at least one of them remained to take their eventual revenge on Gerald...!

To their utter shock, Gerald simply casually replied, "I'm not interested in any of that. You'll all still be dying today!"