

## Chapter 2021

What Gerald didn't know, however, was the fact that news about the island had already reached Yearning Island...

Sitting beside a moth-eaten wooden table—that looked like it was going to collapse at any second—inside a relatively simple-thatched hut, was none other than a cloaked Daryl...

As he poured some tea out of his ancient teapot, a fierce-looking young man walked up to Daryl before whispering, "According to our men in Gong Island, Terenzio and a few strangers have gone to one of the nearby islands, and they've been staying there for a few days now. We suspect that Gerald could be there as well."

"Let's just wait for them to come. I'd like to see how strong his cultivation has gotten after so many years. Also, what's Trenzio's cultivation level?" asked Daryl, his hand quivering slightly as he held onto the teapot.

"Not too strong. From what we've gathered, he's simply in the middle level among our family members," replied the man after thinking for a while.

"I see. Just keep watching then. Remember, don't let Gerald notice our men. Since he was able to single-handedly kill the three great clans of Yanam, you can imagine how strong he already is by this point," said Daryl as he sipped on his tea.

Hearing that, the impatient man was prompted to say, "...But chief, if you really want to get rid of them, we can just send our men to surround Gong Island right this instant! I guarantee you that he'll be killed before dark! All our troubles will be gone then!"

With barely any changes in his expression, Daryl then lowered his teacup before asking in a hoarse voice, "Tell me, Will... How many years have you been following me again...?"

"...Twenty-five. I still remember how you saved me from freezing to death back then..." replied the man as he bowed respectfully.

“I’m glad you’re aware. While Gerald may be my grandson, in my eyes, you’re my true successor. With that in mind, know that once Gerald comes to Yearning Island, death will surely come for him...” said Daryl before chuckling.

“...I understand, chief!” replied the man who was now able to breathe much easier.

“Now then... We’ll see if Terenzio is strong enough to get rid of Gerald first. If he fails, we’ll just send more of our skillful men over to deal with him. Since he’s come looking for trouble so daringly, let’s make sure we’re prepared for anything he has up his sleeve...” said Daryl as he continued sipping his tea. From the looks of it, Gerald’s appearance barely even garnered a response from him...

Delighted to hear that, the man then exclaimed, “Then... Chief, I-”

“Don’t even dare think about showing yourself before Gerald. If you even try to, I’ll immediately remove your cultivation powers,” replied Daryl as he turned to face the man.

“...I-I understand!” declared the now shivering man as he nodded in agreement.

“Good. Now leave!” replied Daryl with a wave of his hand...

Back on Gong Island, Gerald was still thinking of how to locate Yearning Island. If even Tarek didn’t know where the island was, Gerald was pretty sure that all the other family members on the island wouldn’t know either. It certainly didn’t help that Terenzio—who was the only one who knew how to get to Yearning Island—was now dead.

With how things were going, Gerald was pretty sure that all he could really do was to wait till next week when the main family’s ship arrived... That would surely allow him to find Yearning Island...

In other news, the people on the island didn’t seem to care about Terenzio’s sudden disappearance, probably thinking that he had just returned to the main family. After all, despite sharing a surname, the main and side families were completely different...

Regardless, in the following days, Gerald mostly remained inside his room. To kill time, he studied the sea map, continuously analyzing the islands at the center of the map in hopes of figuring out which one was Yearning Island...

While Gerald was calm, the same couldn't be said for those on Yearning Island.

After all, in the past three days—under Daryl's orders—, Will Crawford had been unable to contact Terenzio at all... Something was definitely off...

Upon establishing the Crawford family, Daryl had made a rule stating that members of the main Crawford family couldn't leave Yearning Island all willy-nilly. With that in mind, since Terenzio had gone to Gong Island and hadn't reported back in a few days, he had clearly violated the taboo...

## **Chapter 2022**

After waiting for about two more days, Will couldn't take it anymore and rushed to report the situation to Daryl...

"Oh? Terenzio's disappeared, you say?" replied Daryl—who was in his hut—quite nonchalantly. The news itself wasn't all that surprising to him. After all, though he hadn't taught much to Gerald, the boy was still a Crawford by blood. In other words, Daryl didn't doubt Gerald's natural talent.

Regardless, Will then clenched his fists as he replied, "That's right! I've been trying to contact him for a few days now to no avail... I'm just worried that he fought with Gerald and ended up... Well... I'm just worried that Gerald's killed him!"

Will was naturally uneasy by this. After all, Daryl was already treating him as his own son and everyone on the island knew that he was to be Daryl's successor. With that in mind, he saw Gerald—who was Daryl's grandson—as a natural threat to his position, and the only way Will would be able to feel at ease would be by killing Gerald...

Upon hearing that, Daryl simply chuckled, waving his hand as he said, “He’s just a middle-ranking cultivator in the family, so it’s no big deal. I wouldn’t be surprised if he really was dead, honestly. After all, if Gerald could turn Yanam upside down on his own, what’s Terenzio to him?”

Gritting his teeth, Will then asked, “Then... what should we do now?”

“We’ll send some skillful men over to investigate. I need to know his current level of cultivation,” replied Daryl as he sipped more tea.

“Understood,” said Will, already expecting Daryl to say that. While he was rather reluctant to just sit there and let others do the job, he could only nod, knowing better than to go against Daryl’s orders.

Will was pretty confident that he could easily kill Gerald. However, since Daryl wasn’t allowing him to go to Gong Island immediately, all he could do was wait...

Just as Will was about to leave, Daryl called out, “Speaking of which, if he isn’t acting alone, then get his allies away from him. While I’m granting you permission to hurt them, his allies can’t be killed, understand?”

“Got it, chief!” replied Will with a nod...

Moving back to Gong Island, though the skies had been clear the past few days, the arrival of a ship seemed to bring along stormy weather with it...

At the time, Gerald was still trying to find where Yearning Island was on the map. Just when he thought that he had truly met a brick wall, he noticed the presence of the fishing boat that had just docked at the pier...

Upon seeing that, he immediately got to his feet. Tarek had previously told him that all the residents of this island were relatives of the Crawford family. Gerald had also been told that whenever a ship came to the island, it was most likely the main family—on Yearning Island—coming over to get some supplies.

Come to think of it, it had only been four days since the ship last left. While the ship was definitely here earlier than scheduled, Gerald knew this was it since no other ships would ever dock here.

With that in mind, Gerald secretly headed to the docks without telling anyone else...

While Gerald was now heading toward the ship, a few men from the ship were already rushing to Tarek's house. Upon opening the door, they soon found Tarek sitting in his living room...

Seeing that, the two men—who had chosen to enter the house—then crossed their arms before asking, “Under Mr. Will’s orders, we’re here to investigate your third older brother, Tarek. Why hasn’t Terenzio been replying to the main family?”

“What? I... How should I know?” replied Tarek, shaking his head as he thought about the incident that night.

Realizing that there was something off, the other man then asked, “How could you not know? You, for one, should know that Terenzio is in charge of communication between Gong Island and us. We’re also pretty sure that you’re the only person who’s constantly been in contact with him. Are you seriously telling us that you have no idea where he is now?”

## **Chapter 2023**

“Look, I really have no idea where he is! Please stop asking me!” replied Tarek, worried that if he let anything slip out, Gerald would surely have his head. However, if the men kept pressing on, then the main family would end him instead...!

“If you refuse to comply, I’ll simply bring you to the Penalty Division right now to let the elder in charge personally question you!” retorted the same man as he grabbed Tarek by his collar.

At that moment, a woman rushed out of a room while yelling, “D-don’t! We’ll tell you everything we know...!”

Though they had never seen the elder of the Penalty Division before—since they had been living on Gong Island their entire lives—, they had heard many horrifying things about him from Terenzio over the years.

One of the crueller punishments they've heard was about a person who was sentenced to get bitten by a hundred snakes just because he left Yearning Island without permission. Listening to the punishment alone was enough to send chills running down anyone's spine...

Regardless, upon hearing that, the man then released Tarek's collar before asking, "So, where's Terenzio?"

"H-he was killed by Gerald two days ago...! We tossed his body into the sea last night...! We... We had no choice...! If we didn't listen to his orders, Gerald could've easily killed us...!" whimpered the woman as she immediately knelt...

Hearing that, the two men then exchanged glances before one of them said, "So, Will was right. Gerald did kill Terenzio!"

Gulping, Tarek then knelt as well before muttering, "N-now that you know all this, could you please spare us, sirs...?"

"Whether you get to escape punishment or not is up to the Penalty Division," said one of the men as the duo turned to leave, leaving Tarek and the woman kneeling behind them...

Regrouping with the two other men—who had descended the ship—in the courtyard, the duo then said, "Tarek confessed that Terenzio was killed by Gerald. Apparently, his corpse was thrown into the sea."

"I see... then... should we take action now?"

"I suppose. However, remember that Mr. Will told us not to kill Gerald. It may be his way of testing our strength."

"Indeed. Then we should all remember to keep our strength in check. In the end, he's still the chief's grandson, and we can't afford to hurt someone like that too much..."

With all four of them agreeing with that, they then left the area...

Meanwhile, Gerald himself had already snuck into the ship. While he was able to map out the entire ship within minutes, he couldn't find any valuable information about Yearning Island at all! It was just an ordinary ship...

With that in mind, Gerald knew better than to remain on the ship any longer. Since the ship wasn't providing him with any clues, he'd just have to investigate those who came in it.

Once he got off the ship, he then used his Herculean Primordial Spirit to detect the movements of everyone on the island... Soon enough, he was able to find a total of four people who hadn't been on the island before. From what he could tell, they all had about the same strength as Terenzio. In other words, they weren't very strong.

Looking in the direction where the cultivators were, he then swiftly made his way toward them...

Upon seeing them, Gerald walked up to the four astonished men as he asked, "Are the four of you from Yearning Island?"

Hearing that, the leader of their team then took a step forward, staring at Gerald as he said, "Before that, are you Gerald Crawford? If you are, we're here to meet you under Mr. Will Crawford's orders!"

## **Chapter 2024**

"Will Crawford? Doesn't ring a bell," replied Gerald with a smile.

"There's no need for you to know about him. All you need to know is that you'll be kneeling and begging for mercy soon," replied the leader as the four men stood side by side before promptly releasing their strong auras...

Knowing that this was going to be a battle between powerful cultivators, members of the side family—who were present—immediately rushed to hide behind large stones and trees...

As for Master Ghost, he was standing on the balcony of the wooden house, a compass in hand as a nervous Aiden stood beside him...

Sweating anxiously, Aiden couldn't help but ask, "...Do... you think Gerald will be fine, Master Ghost...?"

Aiden was rightfully worried since this was the first time he had seen Gerald come across such powerful people.

"He'll be fine. Still, his grandfather must have found out that Gerald was here... Regardless, Gerald should easily be able to handle these people that Daryl sent over," replied Master Ghost as he shook his head. He, for one, was sure that Gerald wasn't in any immediate danger since the compass wasn't reacting negatively.

"With all due respect, I should just rush out with the other brothers of the Sacrasolis Palace to deal with them! Once that's done, we can just force them to tell us where Yearning Island is!" exclaimed Aiden, not understanding how Master Ghost was remaining this calm.

"Look, if you don't want to anger Gerald, just stay put," replied Master Ghost with a sigh...

Moving back to Gerald, after an awkward silence that felt like it lasted forever, Gerald clenched his fists before saying, "...Regardless, just relay Daryl's message already."

While Gerald had previously found his grandfather to be amiable, kind, and skillful, no matter how hard he thought about it, he simply couldn't comprehend why he would suddenly turn out this way and even kidnap his sister and parents!

Whatever the case was, now that he was so close to solving the mystery, Gerald had a hunch that Daryl already knew about everything that he had done here...

"He doesn't have anything to say to you. We're just here to test your strength!" replied the leader as he positioned his hand before him, causing it to produce a faint, yellow glow...

Barely a second later, he then rushed forward, aiming to strike Gerald's shoulder! Seeing that, the three other men began launching their own attacks! While Will had said that the chief didn't allow them to kill Gerald, they could still hurt him!

Looking at the four attacking men, Gerald couldn't help but frown slightly as he rested his left arm behind him. Positioning his right hand in front, Gerald then easily blocked the leader's attack. Following that, he elbowed the leader before kicking him back!

With the leader's body colliding against the three other men, all four of them soon found themselves lying on the ground... Gerald had taken all of them out in just a single move...!

"What, is the cultivating family this weak?" asked Gerald as he looked at them calmly.

Upon hearing that, the men quickly helped each other up. While their statuses in the Crawford family weren't exactly boast-worthy, they were still serious cultivators in the family. With that in mind, getting defeated by Gerald in just a single move was unacceptable!

Still, knowing that they had underestimated Gerald's strength, the leader quickly spat, "It looks like you're quite skillful as well!"

"Look, let's not waste any more of our time. Tell me where Yearning Island is already!" retorted Gerald, not wanting to waste his time dealing with lackeys.

"We aren't telling you anything! Now cooperate or prepare to have a taste of Crawford Style Arm Boxing!" yelled the leader—who had now gathered his strength again—as he began jabbing several punches into the air! With how fast his fists were moving, any fallen leaves in his way ended up dancing in the wind as dust cloud after dust cloud formed...!

Laughing when he saw that, one of the other men then disdainfully yelled, "Give it up, Gerald! Among the Crawford family members, he's the best at Arm Boxing! We really don't want to end up accidentally killing you, you know? How would we explain that to the chief!"

While it was true that Gerald was the chief's grandson, he hadn't grown as a cultivator together with the rest of the Crawfords. With that in mind, how powerful could he really be?

## **Chapter 2025**

They, on the other hand, had been cultivating their combat skills in the Crawford family from the very beginning. With that in mind, they were all extremely confident that they would be able to represent the Crawford family in the coming cultivation competition.

Who knows, if they managed to perform well in the competition, they could end up becoming disciples of the chief! By that point, they'd become stars of the Crawford family, and if things went swimmingly, they could even end up being one of the successor candidates in the chief's eyes! After all, though Daryl was a cultivator, he was already extremely old. Currently in his eighties, he would probably die in another twenty to thirty years...

"Arm Boxing?" replied Gerald as he narrowed his eyes.

He recalled his father mentioning that the first chief of the Crawford family had developed a powerful boxing technique known as Arm Boxing. The technique itself was so powerful due to the fact that it was a combination of four separate boxing techniques...

Under normal circumstances, learning just the basics of the technique would surely be enough to defeat a strong cultivator. Unfortunately for the man, his opponent was Gerald.

Gerald himself couldn't help but laugh as he shook his head while thinking about his current situation. It was honestly ironic that despite being the grandson of Daryl—and being the rightful successor of the Crawford family—he was now being attacked by the strongest cultivators of the main Crawford family just so he couldn't get to Yearning Island. As if that wasn't already ironic enough, they were even fighting him using a technique invented by the Crawford family!

In the end, though Gerald didn't like this Crawford family—nor did he like Daryl—, he still had Crawford blood running through him...

Whatever the case was, the man from before then brought his fists together, producing a loud, metallic sound as he yelled, "Indeed! Bet a b\*stard like you have never even heard of it before! No matter! I'll just show it to you if you continue to resist!"

"Go on, show me then!" replied Gerald with a smile.

Truth be told, Gerald didn't really want to kill any of the Crawfords if he could help it. Terenzio himself only ended up dead since he tried to harm those close to him.

Either way, knowing that the men weren't going to take no as an answer, Gerald withdrew his essential qi before entering a fighting stance...

Upon seeing that, the man immediately stomped his right foot on the ground—sending even more dust clouds swirling into the air—before bolting forward! Once he was close enough to the youth, he began launching an onslaught of punches that were so fast that they could hardly be seen!

Seeing that, Aiden couldn't help but grab onto the railing as tight as he could, cold sweat flowing down his forehead. He swore that if Gerald ever came close to losing, he would immediately take action...!

Frowning slightly, Gerald couldn't help but say, "So that's the Crawford family's Arm Boxing technique...?"

Shaking his head, Gerald then took in a deep breath before swinging his fist right toward the incoming man's arm...!

What followed was a crisp 'crack' that drew everyone's attention to the scene...

The trio themselves couldn't help but smirk. After all, they—of all people—knew that a single punch with the Arm Boxing technique was enough to split steel. Since Gerald had swung his fist toward that volley of punches, the trio had no doubt that his arm must have completely fractured...

## Chapter 2026

However, just as they were thinking about that, the agonizing shriek of their companion rang through the air...! It sounded so painful that everyone couldn't help but shiver...

As the screaming went on, Gerald simply took a step back, resting his other arm against his back as he nonchalantly said, "Is this truly the full extent of the Crawford family's Arm Boxing technique? Or are you just too incompetent to properly use it?"

The truth was, Gerald had earlier struck the man's arms before he even got the chance to hurt him. Due to the immense force of his attack, both the man's arms instantly broke! Forget worrying about being able to use the technique any more, the man was probably going to find it difficult to even use his hands to eat from now on!

Regardless, once the man finally stopped screaming, he immediately glared resentfully at Gerald.

He didn't get it at all. How could Gerald have countered him so perfectly when he was using the Arm Boxing technique? What more, Gerald hadn't even used the slightest bit of essential qi when he counterattacked! Was their difference in strength that immense?!

Either way, when Gerald saw how much hatred was in the man's eyes, he simply laughed before saying, "Look, if Daryl really wants me dead, then he should've sent stronger men, not pathetic wimps like you!"

"How imprudent...!" growled the three other men in a rage as they immediately began charging toward Gerald from different directions! If they couldn't win in a one-on-one battle, maybe they had a chance of taking him down in a group!

Upon seeing that, Gerald's smile faded as he quickly picked a stone off the ground before tossing it to his left!

The stone grazed against the man on the left's cheek, causing him to stop rushing forward due to the immense pain. Upon touching his cheek, the man realized that he was already bleeding profusely...!

As Gerald tossed two more stones, the remaining duo found themselves flying backward! With acute pains in their chests, the men instantly spurt out blood the second they hit the ground...

"To think that you amateurs would even dare to mess with me... Still, you're all Crawfords so I'm willing to spare you... Now, go back and tell Daryl that if he wants to deal with me, send someone stronger over. Otherwise, I'll just head to Yearning Island sooner or later to take his d\*mn life away..." growled Gerald as he gritted his teeth.

Still, despite the fact that his grandfather had kidnapped his sister and parents, Gerald knew that he would still be slightly hesitant to kill his grandfather should they meet.

Regardless, the four men now knew better than to further challenge Gerald. After all, if they did, they would most probably end up dead. With that in mind, the leader then yelled, "Move out!"

Watching as the four battered men then left, Gerald couldn't help but sigh with relief...

As for everyone else on the island, after watching the four board their ship again before leaving, they immediately began discussing what had just taken place.

"He's... the chief's grandson...?"

"It appears so... Still, why did the chief send his men over to harm his grandson?"

"Who knows? Either way, this matter doesn't concern us. I have a feeling that getting involved in all this will only bring us suffering!"

With that said, after staring at Gerald for a while longer, the clansmen then dispersed...

At that moment, Aiden came rushing toward Gerald while exclaiming, “B-brother Gerald...! Are you alright? Those men were sent by your grandfather, right? If we start following them now, we’ll surely be able to locate Yearning Island!”

Shaking his head helplessly, Gerald simply replied, “Just forget about it...”

## **Chapter 2027**

“...Huh? But why? Did we risk getting here from Yanam just to find where Yearning Island is?” asked the puzzled Aiden.

Before Gerald could even answer, Master Ghost stepped in and replied, “We can’t follow them.”

Turning to face Master Ghost, Aiden then asked, “...Why exactly...?”

“Well, since Daryl already knows that we’re on this island, he must’ve considered the fact that we might follow them back as well. With that in mind, if we rashly follow them, now only may we get ourselves in danger, but we may not be able to save anyone as well. You, for one, know that Gerald’s parents are still in his hands. We may be willing to risk our lives, but let’s not risk his parents’ lives as well,” explained Master Ghost with a frown.

“...My thoughts exactly, Master Ghost...” replied Gerald as he shook his head with a wry smile.

“...But... But now’s the perfect chance to locate the island...!” retorted Aiden, clenching his fist as he hammered his thigh in annoyance.

“It is, but the closer we are to our goal, the more careful we’ll have to be,” replied Gerald as he slowly faced his back against Aiden...

Though he had a rough idea what Daryl was up to, he knew that he couldn’t do anything about it. After all, he was still being on the defensive, so all he could do was accept Daryl’s taunts for now. Hopefully, he would be able to find a crack in his plans sooner or later...

Fast forward to that night, all four of the men finally stood before Will. Will himself could only frown when he saw them. After all, one of them had both his arms broken, another had horrible bruises on his right cheek, and the remaining two were holding onto their chests...

Raising a slight brow, Will eventually took the initiative to ask, "...What the hell happened to all of you?"

Exchanging glances with each other, the leader then gritted his teeth before saying, "...Gerald... was unexpectedly strong... All four of us were taken out, even though he didn't use any cultivation powers..."

The second his sentence ended, four loud, consecutive slaps could be heard...

"You useless things...! Don't the four of you have intermediate ranks in this family? How could all four of you fail to take Gerald down?! Regardless, how seriously did he get injured?" yelled Will.

"He... Didn't get injured..." muttered another of the four men after hesitating for a while.

"...What? He... Didn't get injured at all? How could all four of you be in such sorry states while Gerald remains fine?!" yelled Will, pointing at them as he laughed to release his rage.

"W-with all due respect, Mr. Will, Gerald's extremely strong...! We aren't his match at all! The only reason we're still alive is because we're all Crawfords...!" whimpered another man.

"Just... Get out of my sight...! All of you!" roared Will as he tossed his teacup to the floor, smashing it into a million pieces...

After they left, Will couldn't help but pace back and forth in the living room, panting heavily throughout the process. To think that his family was wasting all their time raising these incompetent men when Gerald was way stronger than they were...!

Come to think of it, how the hell was a self-taught cultivator this strong? He shouldn't have been able to beat up the Crawford's disciples so easily...! As much as Will hated to admit it, he wasn't even sure if he could take down all four of those men on his own! With that in mind, all this was simply flabbergasting to him...

After pacing a while more, Will eventually took a seat. Clenching his fists, he then growled, "How the hell are you so powerful, Gerald...?! If he remains alive, he'll surely end up becoming a hindrance! While it's true that the chief is currently trying to get rid of him, how long will that last? Since that b\*stard is a Crawford by blood, he could still have a chance of becoming the next successor...!"

## **Chapter 2028**

Will had his reasons for being this worried.

After all, though Daryl had kidnapped Gerald's parents and sister, he didn't make things difficult for them. On the contrary, he made sure to take good care of them! That fact bugged him to no end.

Thinking about it, while Daryl had promised that he would be the Crawford family's successor, in the end, he was simply an adopted child. Gerald, on the other hand, was a true Crawford. If he didn't get rid of Gerald quickly, Gerald could very possibly end up taking his place one day...!

Closing his eyes to think about his next step, Will eventually walked to the door and called out to his two most loyal followers, "Both of you, come in."

Upon entering, the two closed the door behind them before replying, "Brother Will."

Nodding in response, Will then lit cigarettes for both of them—and also himself—before sitting on a bench. Crossing his legs, he then asked, "You two should already know that Gerald's at Gong Island now, right?"

"We're aware," replied one of the men as both of them looked at each other.

“Good. I want you two to head there tomorrow to finish Gerald off. I want this assassination to be quick, and the fewer people notice you, the better,” growled Will as he narrowed his eyes.

“...With all due respect, brother Will, didn't the chief say that he simply wanted to test how strong Gerald was...? He doesn't want him dead, right...?” muttered the other man in confusion. Being Will's closest followers, they naturally knew about Daryl's orders.

Frowning in response, Will then retorted, “Which part of ‘I want him dead’ don't you understand? Look, as long as Gerald remains alive, he'll be a threat to my position as the successor of the Crawford family. Once he's out of the picture, nobody else will be able to get that position but me! Got it?”

“Loud and clear!” replied the two men, now understanding where Will was coming from.

“Excellent. Now prepare yourselves. I hope to hear good news from you tomorrow. After raising you two for so many years, it's high time for you to help solve my problems!” declared Will whose cigarette was already half-burnt by this point...

“Roger that!” replied both of them, not saying anything more since they knew that Will was still angry...

It was only after they left when Will started feeling slightly better. After all, he raised those two from scratch, so he knew how strong they were. Hell, he had even planned to send them to the cultivation competition as representatives of the Crawford family before this. If they ranked highly in the competition, the Crawford family's status would surely rise, thus further securing his position as the next chief!

“I wouldn't have even bothered about you if you remained in Weston, Gerald... However, since you're so keen on looking for trouble on Yearning Island, I'll make sure you never leave this place!” grumbled Will as he grabbed onto the corners of his table, tightening his grip until the table's corners were crushed...!

Moving back to Gerald, he was barely affected by yesterday's incidents.

As for the residents on Gong Island, not only did they now know that the chief's grandson was on the island, but he was apparently in conflict with the main Crawford family as well.

Regardless, Gerald turned to look at the summoned disciples of the Sacrasolis Palace before saying, "I'll be counting on all of you from today onward!"

"Not to worry, brother Gerald! We'll be sure to guard this island properly! Nobody will get on this island without you knowing!" yelled the crowd in response as they took turns nodding.

Smiling when he heard that, Gerald then nodded as he said, "It's such a relief to have you guys around..."

## **Chapter 2029**

Following that, the disciples of the Sacrasolis Palace walked out in pairs to begin guarding the fringes of the island. After yesterday's events, Gerald had a feeling that Daryl was no longer simply testing him. From what Gerald could guess, more Crawford family members were definitely on their way to look for trouble...

While Gerald wasn't afraid of them, he was worried that they would do bad things to the people around him, just like how Lindsay was captured by Terenzio back then. Gerald, for one, didn't need something like that happening again...

At that moment, Aiden couldn't help but ask, "What exactly is the main Crawford family up to...? If they really wanted to welcome you as Daryl's grandson, then they should've just invited you back! On the contrary, if they wanted you gone, they could've just kicked you out! Why even go through the tedious process of testing your strength...?"

"Like I know..." replied Gerald as he shook his head with a wry smile.

While he didn't know what Daryl was thinking, he knew better than to go against that old man's words. After all, he didn't want to put his parents and sister in unnecessary danger.

"Well, we can't just remain here forever..." grumbled Aiden as he stretched.

"Let's just wait and see what happens first. Besides, the more men he sends over, the higher our chances of learning more about the situation on Yearning Island. We'll make our move once we know enough!" replied Gerald in a helpless tone.

"Honestly, you should be more worried about protecting Miss Lawrence. She's your soulmate, is she not? Remember, had Gerald not stepped in in time, Miss Lawrence would most probably be dead by now," said Master Ghost who had gotten much more familiar with Aiden. Now that they knew each other better, they no longer shared awkward silences, and even joked around at times.

Regardless, upon hearing that, Aiden immediately yelled, "S-she's just my employer...!"

As if he'd choose to have such a brutal person as his girlfriend! If she was the last woman on the planet, he'd very much prefer staying single and living comfortably!

"Alright, quit it, you two... Now's not the time for this. Either way, you should both get some rest while you can. After all, we don't know when the Crawfords will strike again," replied Gerald as he furrowed his brows slightly.

"Not like you're going to let me fight anyway," said Aiden.

"He has a point. While he may need to in order to protect Miss Lawrence, I, for one, lack fighting skills of any sort, so I don't really need the rest. Regardless, I did learn something new about the sea map," added Master Ghost.

"...Oh? What did you find out?" asked Gerald quickly.

“Well, the thing is, the sea map should clearly state where Yearning Island is. However, the island simply isn’t there. Why do you think that’s so?” replied Master Ghost as he shut the doors tightly.

“No idea,” said Gerald while shaking his head.

“Well, after thinking about it for the past few days, a thought suddenly came to me today. Since the sea map points in this direction in general, could it be that we’re already in the Yearning Island area?” suggested Master Ghost as he took the sea map out and pointed at their island.

“What? You’re saying we’re already on Yearning Island?” replied Gerald, his eyes fully widened.

“As I said, the Yearning Island area. You see, I have a feeling that the name ‘Yearning Island’ isn’t designated to a singular island, but instead to all the islands within this area!” said Master Ghost as he drew a circle around the islands on the map.

“...You’re... saying that Yearning Island is the name for this clump of islands...?” muttered Gerald with a frown. He had never thought of it this way...

## **Chapter 2030**

“It’s just a hunch. There’s always a possibility that Yearning Island’s true location is well hidden and can’t be located just by looking at the sea map. Then again, that doesn’t mean that my theory is completely wrong either,” replied Master Ghost while shaking his head.

“That... does make sense...” muttered Aiden.

“It does. Still, if Yearning Island truly does refer to this clump of islands, all we need to do now is find out which island the main Crawford family is on... At the very least, we know they aren’t on this one,” replied Gerald with a slight frown on his face.

“Indeed... Still, I’m a little confused about all this...” said Aiden while scratching the back of his head.

“If you can’t understand such a simple concept then just focus on protecting Lindsay,” replied Gerald while atting Aiden’s shoulder.

“No, of course I understand Master Ghost’s theory! It’s just that... Don’t you find it a bit weird? Since all the islands are so close to each other, why hasn’t the main Crawford family just sent people over in the night to make their move? Why send people here just to pry on our situation...?” explained Aiden as he continued thinking about it.

Upon hearing that, Gerald paused for a moment before waving his hand as he said, “Well, thinking about it won’t get us anywhere. Just leave the question be for now.”

“I suppose... Well, you go on ahead first then... I’ll... Go get some rest,” replied Aiden with a sigh, giving up on thinking for now. After all, he knew for a fact that he only had to make a move when Gerald ordered him to. The rest had nothing to do with him...

Watching as Aiden then returned to his room, Gerald couldn’t help but shake his head as he helplessly said, “This kid...”

Now that Aiden had left, Master Ghost was prompted to ask, “So... Do you think what I said makes sense? If you do, then since Yearning Island is probably one of the other nearby islands, we should begin investigating them instead of waiting here...”

“Let’s refrain from doing that just yet. While we can surely consider doing that later on, do remember that while we stand in the light, those scoundrels lurk in the dark. If we act hastily and get discovered, the situation may take an unfavorable turn...” replied Gerald.

“I figured you’d say that. However, don’t you think we’re being a bit too passive now?” said Master Ghost who knew where Gerald was coming from. However, anything was better than just staying put...

After pondering about it for a while, Gerald eventually said, "...Hand me the sea map."

Nodding in response, Master Ghost then retrieved the sea map from his jacket's inner pocket before replying, "Here you go."

However, just as he was about to hand it to Gerald, Master Ghost couldn't help but notice something weird about the map.

After carefully studying it for a while, Master Ghost—who had looked at the map so many times that he had memorized all its locations—eventually said, "...The...map has changed... Gerald, could this be Yearning Island...?"

The map had clearly been different while he was studying it just minutes ago...

"What? Where?" asked Gerald as he quickly looked at where Master Ghost was pointing at.

True enough, there was now a new island on the map! However, before Gerald could get a closer look at it, the island disappeared before their very eyes...!

Naturally, this greatly confused both of them. After all, up till this point, they had simply assumed that it was just an ordinary map. Now that they had witnessed this disappearing island, however, they knew that the map definitely held more secrets within it...

After staring at the blank spot—where the island initially was—for a while, Gerald snapped out of it before asking, "...What on earth was that about..."

"...Give me a moment to think about it," replied the equally flabbergasted Master Ghost.

The second his sentence ended, the island suddenly reappeared at the edge of the map! As it turned out, the island was constantly on the move!

Upon closer inspection, the duo realized that there appeared to be people on the island... More worrying, however, was the fact that those people seemed to be hosting some kind of sacrificial ritual...

## **Chapter 2031**

“The Seadom tribe?”

Seeing this, Master Ghost blurted out.

“What is the Seadom tribe?” Gerald was even more confused. He didn’t expect that the sea map could change. It was almost beyond his imagination.

“I remember now, Gerald. I know how to find the location of Yearning Island!” Master Ghost slapped his thigh and wore a smile on his face.

“Just say it already. Don’t keep me in suspense.” Gerald frowned.

“The Seadom tribe is an ancient tribe. They have been living on Yearning Island. Then, Daryl came and drove them away from the island and occupied the island.” Master Ghost said in excitement.

“I don’t quite get it. Isn’t Yearning Island one of these islands?” Gerald lit up a cigarette. He couldn’t understand what Master Ghost had said.

“It’s my fault. Yearning Island is very mysterious. I only heard about it from my master. If it wasn’t because of the change on the map, I wouldn’t have been reminded of that.”

“Yearning Island is not among these islands. It’s a floating island that only appears on the map by chance. The Seadom tribe knows the way to go to Yearning Island. Of course, we can also get there if we follow the ship of the main Crawford family.” Master Ghost cleared his throat and explained.

“Of course we cannot follow the Crawfords.” Gerald disagreed immediately.

“So, that means that we must find the Seadom tribe if we want to find Yearning Island. We can learn the way to get there from them. Only then can we find the island and go there.” Master Ghost continued.

“Then what are you still waiting for? Let’s get going.” Gerald extinguished the cigarette in his hand.

“Where to?” Master Ghost grabbed Gerald’s arm.

“To find the Seadom tribe, of course. The island they live on is already marked on the sea map. If we know the exact location of Yearning Island, we will gain dominance over this.” Thinking that he would be able to see his parents soon, Gerald felt overwhelmed.

“This is just an image of Yearning Island. The Seadom tribe has long since ceased to live on the sea. If I’m not mistaken, their descendants should be in Japan. But whether they still know the way to go to Yearning Island, I’m not very sure.”

Master Ghost said, shaking his head.

“An image?” Gerald frowned immediately and looked at the sea map.

Sure enough, the island where the Seadom tribe was located did not look like the other islands at all. It looked very illusory, almost as if it would diffuse if you waved your hand at it.

“Now, it’s up to you to decide.”

“Whether to continue to stay here and wait for the Crawford family to keep sending people here, to continue investigating the situation on Yearning Island, or to go to Japan to look for the Seadom tribe to learn the location and way to get to Yearning Island.” Master Ghost stared at Gerald and asked softly.

“Let me think.” Gerald puffed out a cloud of smoke.

Sitting in his chair, Gerald lit up another cigarette and began smoking it.

They were not very near Yearning Island, but they had come into contact with the main Crawford family. This meant that he was getting closer to his parents and sister.

## **Chapter 2032**

Still, it was not guaranteed for them to get the information of Yearning Island, nor know about the next idea Daryl would come up with to deal with him.

If they left and went to Japan, it was not certain that they could find the Seadom tribe. Even if they found them, it might be as Master Ghost had said. The descendants of the tribe might have already forgotten about Yearning Island, and their efforts would have been in vain, wasting their time.

For a moment, Gerald was in a dilemma.

Master Ghost sat beside him, not rushing him nor saying anything.

After nearly half an hour, Gerald cleared his throat and stood up. After pacing back and forth in the living room, he stopped in front of Master Ghost.

Master Ghost raised his head and looked at Gerald.

“Let’s go to Japan.” Gerald pondered for a moment and said calmly.

“What about the situation here?” Master Ghost asked.

“We’ll not bother about it. As long as we learn the location of Yearning Island from the Seadom tribe, we will gain dominance. Staying here will only keep us on the submissive side.” Gerald shook his head. Within half an hour, he had thought about all possible scenarios that might happen.

“I’ll follow you.” Master Ghost did not say anything else.

“Then, get ready. We’ll leave in the next two days. We’ll send Lindsay back to Weston first and head to Japan right away.” Gerald nodded and said.

“Do we need to tell them?” Master Ghost was referring to Aiden and the disciples of Sacrasolis Palace.

“No, we’ll tell them before leaving.” Gerald shook his head.

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In the evening, Gerald went back to his room after dinner. He wanted to plan the trip to Japan. Since it was about the safety of his parents and sister, he could not act hastily. Moreover, tracking down the Seadom tribe was not a simple task.

At the same time, the two followers of Will Crawford, Arnold Crawford and Sawyer Crawford, had gone to Gong Island in the night. Instead of docking openly at the pier like the previous four men, they had gotten on the shore at the back of the island instead.

After all, the four had come here with the order of the chief to test Gerald’s strength, whereas the two of them had come under the secret order of Will Crawford to assassinate Gerald.

“Sawyer, if the chief knows what we are doing, what do you think will happen to us?” After docking the boat, Arnold got onto the shore first. However, he didn’t enter the island directly. Instead, he sat on a big stone on the shore and asked softly.

“What else would happen? Certainly nothing good would happen to us.” Sawyer smiled bitterly and shook his head.

“There should be no problem. After all, this is the mission Will gave us. Either way, he is the disciple of the chief. If anything goes wrong, he will be able to hold up.” Arnold glanced toward the island.

“Cut the crap already. Let’s hurry up and finish off Gerald so that we can go back early. If we delay it any longer, it will not bring any good to us.” Once Sawyer got to the shore, he walked directly to the island.

The two disappeared into the darkness.

In the room, Gerald briefly sorted out the plan for his impending arrival in Japan. Just as he was about to go to sleep, he suddenly felt something was wrong and found the power of his Herculean Primordial Spirit burning uncontrollably in his body.

Cultivators were approaching him.

This was the first thought that came to his mind.

Gerald got out of the bed and stood sideways at the edge of the window. His instinct was warning him that someone was very near to him.

Using his finger, Gerald drew the curtain slightly and looked outside, squinting his eyes.

## **Chapter 2033**

However, it was dark outside, seeming as if nothing strange was going on.

Still, Gerald felt that something was off. He grabbed his jacket, pushed open the door, and walked out to the end of the corridor. Then, he went through the window and climbed to the roof.

Two men were crouching on the rooftop.

“What are you looking at?” Seeing them, Gerald smiled and asked.

Gerald didn’t even have to think to know that these people had been sent by Daryl, and they were stronger than the previous four.

“Move!” Hearing the sound behind them, Arnold drew out the knife from his waist without hesitation. The knife exuded a cold aura under the moonlight.

He leaped forward like a black panther and charged toward Gerald.

Sawyer, who was beside him, did not hesitate, and he attacked from the other direction. He ran to Gerald from the side. When the two attacked in formation, anyone who was equally or less strong than them would be unable to resist.

“You really don’t find it bothersome.” The moment Gerald saw the knives and their actions, he immediately took up a fighting stance.

Almost instantly, the three got entangled with each other. Gerald dodged the attack constantly. As he resisted their attack, he was still able to counter-attack. However, Gerald did not dare to kill the people from the Crawford family as it might affect his parents’ safety.

Besides, Gerald knew that they were sent by Daryl just to test his strength and would not truly harm him.

Snap!

Gerald snatched the knife from one of them sideways. Then, he stretched out his hand and slapped his back.

The strong force nearly made the man lose his footing. He stumbled backward and fell from the rooftop.

Falling from the second floor was not dangerous at all to the cultivators.

Thus, Gerald knocked the other person down with another slap. Then, he leaped onto the ground. Before the man could stand up, Gerald gave him another kick.

“Cough!”

Arnold couldn’t react at all. When he tried to resist, he already felt a sharp pain in his chest. Then, he spurted out a mouthful of blood and took a few steps backward, holding onto the wooden pillar to stabilize himself.

“Arnold, are you alright?!” Sawyer leaped down after Gerald. When he saw this, he asked hurriedly.

“I’m fine. Do it quickly! Don’t hesitate!” Arnold shouted, holding his chest and panting heavily.

They had wanted to take advantage of the night to assassinate Gerald, but they never expected that they would be discovered. If they drew the attention of others, even if they could kill Gerald, the people on the island would see them and spread the news to Yearning Island.

“You rest first. I’ll deal with him!” Sawyer held the knife in a reversed grip and glared at Gerald fiercely. As soon as he said that, he rushed forward and brandished the knife in his hand.

Gerald turned around immediately, hit his arm with one hand, and punched him on his chest with another hand.

Sawyer counter-attacked immediately. He stabbed hard at Gerald’s chest with the short knife in his left hand.

Seeing the knife, the smile on Gerald’s face disappeared immediately. He realized that the person in front of him was trying to kill him, unlike the four men Daryl had sent to test his strength earlier.

“You want to kill me?” Gerald gripped the man’s wrist immediately and asked indifferently, looking at the knife.

“Arnold, don’t just stand there! Come and help me!” Sawyer didn’t expect that Gerald could overcome his attack and grab him, so he shouted hurriedly.

## **Chapter 2034**

Hearing Sawyer’s yell, Arnold rushed over without hesitation.

Snap!

Gerald narrowed his eyes. After the fight just now, he now knew that these two disciples were not coming to test his strength. Instead, they truly wanted to kill him. Since that was the case, he would not spare them so easily.

Exerting more force, Gerald squeezed the man's hand. The sound of bones cracking was heard right away, and Sawyer's wrist was broken immediately, with his palm and arm twisted like an arc.

"My hand!" Feeling the tremendous pain, Sawyer's face changed immediately. He struggled hard, stumbled backward, and fell to the ground.

"Gerald, how dare you come near Yearning Island?! Don't even think about leaving this place alive!" Seeing that Gerald had harmed his brother, Arnold was enraged, and he charged toward Gerald once again with a knife in his hand.

After having settled one man when they had fought one-on-one, Gerald could overpower him very easily. He threw the knife to the side and trampled Arnold to the ground.

"Let go of me!" Arnold widened his eyes in fear. He didn't expect that he would not be able to resist Gerald at all when the latter suddenly showed his strength. In just a flash, he was being stepped on by Gerald to the ground. He struggled very hard, but Gerald's strength was immense. No matter how hard he tried, he just could not break free.

Looking at the man under his foot and the other one who was trembling hard, holding his wrist, Gerald lit up a cigarette and started smoking slowly.

Soon, Aiden was attracted by the commotion outside.

Master Ghost rushed to the front and stood before Gerald. Looking at the scene, he asked softly, "These men were sent by the main Crawford family again to look for trouble?"

"It's not just looking for trouble. This time, they wanted to kill me." Gerald narrowed his eyes. If they were not Crawfords, he would have killed them immediately as soon as he realized their true motive.

"To kill you?!"

“Those who came looking for trouble before said that they came under the order of the chief to test your strength. Has your grandfather changed his mind?!” Master Ghost found this unbelievable.

“Probably.” Gerald shook his head and smiled. He couldn’t retrieve any memory of him having spent time with Daryl. This grandfather, to him, was only kin related by blood. He didn’t know about his character and style of action.

However, Gerald had some doubts. How could the head of the family change his mind so fast? Before he could ponder it any further, an idea came across his mind. Gerald smiled and said, “Or maybe, they were sent by other members of the Crawford family. After all, there isn’t just one leader in the family.”

“What do you mean?” Master Ghost scratched his head.

“Bring them in. I shall interrogate them myself to see who wants to kill me!” Gerald put his foot down and grabbed Arnold from the ground. As Arnold was dragged into the living room, no matter how hard he struggled, he could not break free from Gerald’s grasp.

Five minutes later, Gerald was sat on the sofa with a cigarette in his hand.

Arnold and Sawyer stood before him in defiance. The knife was placed right on the table in front of Gerald.

“Tell me, which senior member of the Crawford family sent you to kill me?” When the cigarette was about to finish, Gerald raised his head and looked at them.

“Gerald Crawford, now that we are in your hands, you can do whatever you want. Don’t try to manipulate us, we won’t tell you anything!” Arnold looked at Gerald with reddened eyes.

## **Chapter 2035**

He simply did not expect Gerald's strength to be so strong. In his impression, a clansman who had grown up outside the family should only be an entry-level cultivator. Even if this grandson of the chief had some talent, they should be able to handle him easily with their strength.

However, only when they had fought did they realize that Gerald's ability was beyond their expectation.

Not to mention the intermediate level disciples of the family like them, even the advanced disciples might not be able to hurt Gerald.

"Well. You seem to be very tight-lipped." Gerald raised his eyebrows. What they had said didn't surprise Gerald much

"Gerald, if you are sensible, you should leave this place. Even if we tell you who ordered us to come to Gong Island, will you be able to find Yearning Island?" Sawyer covered his wrist and said through clenched teeth.

"So, this place is called Gong Island." Gerald lit up another cigarette.

"Cut the crap. Don't think about getting any information from the two of us today. You can kill us if you want. We admit defeat!" Arnold turned his head away.

"I will not kill you so easily. After all, in a sense, I am the young master of the Crawford family. You are the disciples of the Crawford family, so you should be considered my men. But today's matter is not likely to end well either, so since none of you want to talk, let's try my methods."

Hearing their words, Gerald's hand, which was holding a cigarette, stopped for a moment.

Then, he crushed the cigarette he had just taken two puffs of into the ashtray, stood up, and walked toward them.

As soon as those words left his lips, Gerald was already standing in front of Sawyer.

"What are you trying to do?" Looking at Gerald, Sawyer gulped in fear.

“I’m not going to do anything. I just want to get to know you.” Gerald smiled faintly. He stretched his hand out, grabbed Sawyer’s hand which was twisted, and exerted force on it again.

Crack...!

The sound of bones cracking was heard.

Hearing the sound, Aiden and Master Ghost couldn’t help but frown. Lindsay went into her room right away. She had never seen such a thing before, and she didn’t expect that Gerald was actually this cruel, that he would twist someone’s hand so brutally.

“Gerald, you...” The great pain made Sawyer nearly gnash his teeth.

After suffering two consecutive severe injuries, Sawyer knew very well in his heart that his right hand was already ruined. Even if he received treatment after returning to the family, he would still suffer permanent disability.

To a cultivator, a disabled hand was tantamount to a death sentence.

“Gerald Crawford, if you want to kill us, just hurry up! Stop torturing us!” Arnold clenched his fists. If he wasn’t already aware of the wide gap between his and Gerald’s strength, he would have fought for his life.

“Since we share the same surname, I will give you another chance. Answer my question honestly, and I can consider sparing you two and letting you return to Yearning Island safely. Otherwise, I will keep you by my side. As for when you will lose your arm or your leg, it will totally depend on my mood.”

As Gerald spoke, he held Sawyer’s hand once again.

## **Chapter 2036**

Just as Gerald prepared to exert more force once again, Arnold suddenly spoke up.

“Wait!”

After having an internal battle for a moment, Arnold still decided to stop Gerald. He and Sawyer were actual brothers after all, and they had practiced together since they were young. He couldn't bear to see Gerald snap both of his brother's arms. Not only would he not be able to be a member of cultivation sects, but he would also be incapacitated as well.

"Oh?" Gerald stopped moving to look at him.

"Arnold, we would definitely not end up well if you say it!" Sawyer suppressed the pain. Although they were considered close to Will Crawford due to following him for many years, they knew just how cruel Will could be.

"I can't just stand and watch you get incapacitated just like that!" Arnold said through gritted teeth as he clenched his fist.

"Who sent you over? Was it Daryl Crawford or someone else from the Crawford family?" Gerald wasn't bothered by anything else. He just wanted to know the situation on Yearning Island.

"It was Will Crawford," Arnold took a deep breath and confessed.

"Who is Will Crawford?" It was the first time for Gerald to have heard this name.

"Will was adopted by the master, and he would probably have been the heir to the head of the Crawford family. We're his trusted subordinates and have followed him for nearly twenty years." After saying Will's name out loud, Arnold actually felt sort of relieved.

"We have no beef against each other, and I've just heard his name for the first time in my life. Why would he want me dead? Or was it an order from Daryl?" Gerald was interested in Will. Even though it was the first time he had gotten to know of this person, he got a strong sense of enmity from Will.

"No. The master didn't issue this order, but Master had passed him the task to deal with you. The four men from before were all sent by Will, but it was unexpected that you would be so strong. Will was worried that once you get connected with Yearning Island, you would be a threatening existence to his

status, so that's why he secretly sent us to get rid of you." Arnold shook his head.

"Me replacing his position?" Gerald was slightly taken aback.

Apparently, he hadn't expected to hear this, and he started to laugh out loud after a moment.

He had only gotten to know the Crawfords after his parents had been kidnapped, and although Daryl was his own grandfather, they were merely blood-related. It wouldn't be too much to call them strangers or even enemies. Gerald's hatred had almost made him want to destroy the whole Crawford family entirely.

And now, Will was actually worrying about him snatching away his position as the family head's heir.

This was the funniest thing he had ever heard in so many years.

"I've told you everything you wanted to know, so can you let us go now?" Arnold asked with his eyes fixed on Sawyer. Now that Sawyer's wrists had just been broken, they might have a way to save him if they returned to Yearning Island immediately.

"One more thing." Gerald waved him down.

"Where is Yearning Island, and how do I get in there?" Gerald asked as he looked at him intently.

Gerald didn't really have any hope for this, but these two were, after all, close to Will. They might know how to enter Yearning Island. If he could get the answer from them, he wouldn't have to visit Japan and seek out the Seadom tribe, and it would save a lot of trouble.

"I don't know." Arnold shook his head.

"You exited the Yearning Island and are about to return there now. How can you return if you don't know?" Gerald sneered.

## Chapter 2037

“To tell you the truth, although we’re from Yearning Island, the way we leave and return is always strange. We have to report to Will in advance and travel according to the direction specified by him, and the directions are always different. Not long after reporting, we would be able to see the outline of Yearning Island, and we can then enter the island.”

“However, if we don’t report in, we will never be able to find Yearning Island even if we sailed across the sea forever.” Arnold shook his head.

“Is that true?” Gerald’s sneer faded.

“We even told you about Will, why would we not tell you the exact address of Yearning Island if we knew?!” Arnold was afraid that Gerald wouldn’t believe them and continue to torture Sawyer, and his tone became anxious.

“Looks like it’s as we thought. Yearning Island is an island that floats around the sea surface. Unless there’s a special way, we would never be able to find it,” Master Ghost walked up to Gerald and spoke in a low voice. “Now, it seems that it wouldn’t be possible to get the answer from them. The only way is to find the Seadom tribe.”

Gerald breathed in deeply.

“Go back and tell Will Crawford for me that he should come to me himself if he wants to get rid of me. There’s no need for these petty assassinations. They won’t work on me.”

“Don’t worry. We will surely pass the message.” Hearing this from Gerald, the two immediately relaxed.

Without another word, Arnold helped Sawyer up, and they left the scene immediately, disappearing into the dark in the blink of an eye. Gerald got up and headed toward the door to check the situation outside before shutting the door after a while.

“Brother Gerald, are you really letting them off just like that?” Aiden spoke up in dissatisfaction.

“What else can we do? Kill them?” Gerald asked with a chuckle.

“I’ll kill them if I have the chance to in the future!” Aiden tightened his fist. He knew that Gerald couldn’t kill the two because his parents were still being held at Yearning Island, but he still felt bad about it.

“Alright, we’ll talk about this later on in the future. Go and pack your stuff, we’re leaving tomorrow.” Gerald waved him down. For now, he only wished to go to Japan and meet the Seadom tribe to find a way to reach Yearning Island. It wouldn’t be too late to discuss any other matters after they had successfully gotten onto Yearning Island.

“Leaving? Where are we going?” Aiden was confused.

“Japan,” Gerald replied casually and stuffed the half-box of untouched cigarettes into Aiden’s hand.

Before Aiden could ask for more details, Gerald had already entered his room. Aiden could only turn to Master Ghost. “What are we going to do in Japan? Are we not going to search for Yearning Island anymore?”

“You don’t have to ask more about this. Gerald must have his own reasons for doing this.” Master Ghost smiled and patted Aiden on his shoulders.

By the time Arnold and Sawyer returned to Yearning Island, the sky was bright

“Have you gotten rid of him?” Will was still smoking an imported cigar. After finding out that he had a chance to become the next head of the Crawford family, he had become puffed up with pride, even picturing himself as the Crawford family’s head already sometimes.

“No... we couldn’t...” Arnold shivered. He felt terrified as he recalled all the words he had said to Gerald on Gong Island.

“What happened to your arm?” Will raised his head to find that Sawyer’s sleeve was covered in blood.

## Chapter 2038

“It seems that Gerald isn’t that weak. He actually caused you to make such a big sacrifice. But he shouldn’t be much of a threat to me anymore since he’s incapacitated even though not killed.”

“Brother Will, we didn’t manage to hurt Gerald Crawford. He’s too strong, and we weren’t his opponents,” Arnold cut Will off. “If we hadn’t used all our might to escape from Gong Island, we would’ve been killed there by him.”

“You weren’t Gerald’s opponents?!” Those words made the smile on Will’s face disappear, and his rage could be seen as he exerted tremendous force onto the cup he was holding.

Bang!

After a moment, the glass cup burst into pieces all over the floor.

“We had no idea Gerald would be that powerful. There’s a huge gap between our strengths and his,” Arnold trembled in fear, but he still continued to explain.

“Scram,” Will breathed in deeply and spoke through trembling lips.

“Sawyer’s wrist was snapped and broken by him.” Arnold took a step back.

“I told you to get out!” Will got up in a fury and bellowed as he pointed toward the door. “From now onward, don’t appear before me, or else I will make you regret it!”

The two had never seen Will so enraged before, and thus, they didn’t dare to stay there any longer. They turned and left the room at lightning speed, fearing that they would be punished for not getting out of his sight in time.

“Gerald Crawford... now that my underlings can’t do anything to you, I’ll meet up with you myself!” Will continued to smoke the cigar and vowed with his eyes squinted.

As soon as he finished his sentence, he had a coat on, and he left immediately, heading toward the shore of Yearning Island.

The next day.

Upon waking up, Gerald led everyone to leave Gong Island by boat. Seeing Gerald leave, all the families on Gong Island immediately became relieved. They were afraid that Gerald would continue living there and bring about more trouble for them.

Standing on the deck, Gerald looked around the ocean's surface.

When Lindsay Lawrence and all the students of Sacrasolis Palace had arrived and stood before him, Gerald turned to look at them and said, "We will pause on the matter of searching for Yearning Island for now. Aiden, after stopping at Weston's dock, you can accompany Ms. Lindsay back home, and the rest of you from Sacrasolis Palace should have some rest at home. I'll come for your assistance once I have located Yearning Island."

"Understood."

All the students from Sacrasolis Palace nodded in unison, and they obeyed Gerald's order completely, not questioning him when Gerald asked them to return first.

It was Aiden who didn't move an inch.

"What about you, Aiden?" Gerald set his eyes on him.

"No problem. I'll send Ms. Lindsay back." Even though Aiden wanted to follow Gerald, he knew that he couldn't leave Lindsay behind. He should send her back safely as he had been the one who had sent her out from the Lawrence family himself. If he didn't, with the Lawrence family's power and status in Weston, he wouldn't be let off that easily.

"It's settled, then. Go back and rest up. Everyone's tired after this whole ordeal. I, Gerald Crawford, did witness everything you all did." Gerald put on a small smile, and the boat continued to head toward Weston.

Meanwhile, Will had just reached Gong Island.

Filled with rage, Will went further into the island and grabbed someone from the clan on the island.

## **Chapter 2039**

“I’m asking you, where are Gerald Crawford and his people?!” Will Crawford wore a dark look. He had exited the island secretly with the sole intention of getting rid of Gerald once and for all. It would be a big problem if Daryl Crawford found out about this.

“Gerald? They’re staying at the two-story wooden house block not far from here.” The clansman knew Will and didn’t dare to say anything unnecessary.

Just as Will had let go of him and started walking toward the direction where the wooden house block was, the clansman continued, “But they left early this morning.”

“Left?” Will was dumbfounded, and his expression darkened.

“That’s right. They all left first thing in the morning.” The clansman was terrified and couldn’t move, but he still spoke the truth.

“I’m one step late!” Will bellowed in a low voice and hit his own thigh.

If Gerald hadn’t left today, he believed that his strength and power would make them all stay on Gong Island forever, but now that they had left, it was impossible to chase after them or reach them. It was not known how long it would be before they would return here, and maybe something unexpected would happen by then as well.

“There’s none of your business here anymore, scram!” Seeing how the clansman was still standing before him, Will waved him away impatiently.

Standing on the same spot, Will observed the situation around Gong Island and became more furious as he thought about it more. Not killing Gerald this

time would bring so much trouble after this, and he wouldn't be able to stay as the heir of the family's head as comfortably with zero worries.

Till then, if Gerald and Daryl decided to cease hostilities and return to being grandfather and grandson, Gerald being the heir of Crawford's family head would be crushing Will's status. Will might be excluded or even kicked out of the Crawford family.

Thinking of this, Will grew even more furious, and he decided that he had to kill Gerald no matter what way he had to use. He wouldn't be able to rest for even a day as long as Gerald was still breathing.

Although he was angry, Will had no choice but to return and walk back to the shore.

After seven days.

Gerald's boat stopped at the dock in Japan.

The students of Sacrapolis Palace had returned, and Aiden had escorted Lindsay Lawrence back to Weston.

Gerald and Master Ghost had left the dock intending to find a place to stay temporarily. The Seadom tribe was a tribe that had existed hundreds or thousands of years ago. They had all completely assimilated into Japan's normal way of living, and they would never bring up their statuses that could affect their daily lives. Almost nobody knew of the existence of the Seadom tribe.

Staying at a hotel in a city by the sea in Japan, Gerald ordered some food and ate in the room with Master Ghost.

"Where would the Seadom tribe be?" Gerald asked right away as he ate.

"I don't know about that either. The current Seadom tribe isn't the same as the one thousands of years ago. It won't be easy to find them. We have to start finding out bit by bit." Master Ghost shook his head.

“No rush, then. We’ll take it slow.” Although Gerald was slightly disappointed, it was good enough that they had information on the Seadom tribe’s existence as it wasn’t easy to get.

“There’s something you need to take note of as well. Japan is not like Weston nor Yanam. You have to be careful in doing anything here and not trigger any conflicts. If you offend someone here, even if you found the Seadom tribe, they won’t admit their status to avoid troubles,” Master Ghost swallowed the food after reminding Gerald as the thought came up.

“I understand, I’ll be careful with that for sure.” Gerald waved him down with a smile. He knew how to determine the importance of a certain matter when he faced serious ones.

“Then, let’s eat. We should rest up for a few days after working for so long.” Master Ghost didn’t add anything else after seeing Gerald’s acknowledgment.

## **Chapter 2040**

After dinner, Gerald returned to his room for a rest while Master Ghost stayed in the living room.

Throughout the entire night, Gerald was still thinking about the situation with the Seadom tribe, and the name ‘Will Crawford’ crossed his mind too. Gerald wasn’t interested in a child whom his grandfather had adopted, and he didn’t even want to be some heir to Crawford’s family head at all.

However, it was obvious that Will had already taken him as an opponent.

Thinking of this, Gerald couldn’t help but shake his head and chuckle.

“Brother Gerald, are you in Japan?” His phone rang, and it turned out to be Aiden who had called him.

“Just arrived today. You’ve sent Ms. Lindsay back?” Gerald took a deep breath. Now that Aiden had returned to Weston, he didn’t want to release any of the negative emotions anymore.

“Hehe, open your curtains and look down, Brother Gerald!” Aiden chuckled over the phone.

“Curtain?” Gerald frowned a bit and got up from the bed to pull open the curtains of the hotel room. A familiar figure could be seen standing down there, and it was none other than Aiden Baker.

“You didn’t expect this, did you! We’re meeting again! Wait for me upstairs, I’ll go up immediately!” After this sentence, Aiden hung up the call and entered the hotel as he pulled his luggage behind him.

After a few minutes, someone rang the doorbell.

“Have a cigarette, Brother Gerald!” Aiden invited himself into the room and tossed his luggage aside casually as he took out a box of Ricken’s and handed a cigarette to Gerald from the box.

“After escorting Ms. Lindsay back to the Lawrence family house, I received an order from the higher authority to participate in a war contest in Japan. Then, I remembered that you were here in Japan as well, so I figured that I would be able to be of help. Therefore, I simply packed up some stuff and boarded the plane without even returning to the hostel.”

Aiden scratched his head bashfully, obviously overjoyed that he had gotten to stay with Gerald.

“Then, how did you know that I was here?” Gerald patted his shoulder with a smile.

“Of course Master Ghost told me about it! I specifically made a call to him asking where you were staying to surprise you!” Aiden continued.

“Okay. Now that you’re here, just stay here with us. I’ll tell you when I need your help, but don’t let it affect the order you got from your boss.” Gerald accepted his help.

Japan wasn’t like Yanam. There wasn’t really any cultivation activity here, and without the need to protect Lindsay, perhaps Aiden, as a member of the special forces, might indeed be of help to him.

“No rush! The war contest is half a month away, it’s still early!” Aiden grabbed the ashtray and placed it in front of Gerald.

“Go ahead and book a room for some rest. We can talk about other matters tomorrow.” Gerald patted his shoulder.

“Alright!” Aiden nodded and left with his luggage.

Meanwhile, Will had not taken a break even after finding out that Gerald had left Gong Island.

He had accumulated his own network of connections ever since he had entered the Crawford family. The network had gradually expanded all over the world and covered not only Yearning Island. It was just that he didn’t usually have to leave Yearning Island, so he could order his underlings to do certain tasks for him when he had other matters to attend to.