

Chapter 721: Apologize To Me

Wendy couldn't endure it any longer. Her legs went limp, and she fell straight to the floor.

“Vince, I... I was just bewitched. That's why I made that mistake. I'm sorry, Vince. Please forgive me. I'll never dare to do this kind of thing again!” she pleaded while shuddering.

Lance also trembled in fear. He knelt in front of Vince and begged for forgiveness. “Mr. Smith, t-this is none of my business! I was also very shocked and surprised, but Mrs. Smith forced me to help her cover up the truth. If I didn't listen to her, none of the Kingstons would have been able to survive. I had no choice but to help her lie to you. Please have mercy and spare my life!”

The others at the scene looked extremely complicated.

The scene shown in the video, as well as the two people kneeling before Vince and crying and begging for mercy, was simply the best plot twist. It was much more exciting than the plot of some corny soap operas.

It turned out that while Wendy and Lance both identified Lucas as Roy's murderer, the truth was that Wendy was actually the murderer. In order to frame Lucas for it, she had even plotted with Lance. Indeed, women were the most vicious!

It was no wonder that people often said that art came from life, but life was far more melodramatic than art.

Furthermore, many people were interested in Wendy's ex-husband and son, whom she mentioned in the video. The dramatic secrets between big families had always been a hot topic of gossip that everyone liked hearing.

Everyone craned their necks forward to watch, not wanting to miss any detail. But at the same time, they were trying their best to control their expressions, lest they seemed overly enthusiastic.

After all, such a thing was definitely a disgrace to the Smiths.

With nothing but cold indifference in his eyes, Vince looked at the two people kneeling in front of him.

The Smiths were not a close-knit family in the first place, and there wasn't much of a father-son relationship between Vince and his son Roy. Even when he received the news of Roy's sudden death, he didn't feel grief-stricken and was merely angry.

If Roy's death could bring him and the Smiths some benefits, he would have died a worthy death. Even if Vince had to kill Roy personally, he would definitely not be reluctant about it.

But Roy had actually died at the hands of Wendy, and the reason was just to avenge her damn son and ex-husband. It made Vince furious.

Moreover, if word about this matter spread back to DC, the Smiths would become the talk of the town and everyone's laughing stock!

Vince would never tolerate that!

“Kill!” Vince roared. The expert behind him immediately stepped forward and smacked Lance’s head with his palm without the slightest hesitation.

Crack!

The palm of martial arts experts was powerful enough to split a boulder. Lance’s skull instantly shattered as his eyes bulged out. He died without even being able to make a single sound!

This scene made Wendy tremble in horror.

“V... Vince, I-I really know I was wrong. Please just spare me! I-I won’t dare to do anything like this again in the future. I can give you all my assets too. I...” Wendy was frightened out of her wits. Seeing Vince’s subordinate approaching her, she desperately begged him for mercy.

Without waiting for her to finish, Vince ordered coldly, “Kill her!”

Crack!

With another slap, Wendy ended up with the same fate as Lance. Her skull shattered, and she died violently on the spot!

Vince had resolutely taken two lives just like that, and one of them was even his cousin. Everyone had a deep understanding of how cold and cruel Vince was, and they unanimously lowered their heads, not daring to look at him again.

Vince didn't even look at the two corpses at his feet. He merely stared at Lucas viciously before turning around to leave.

"Hold it. Did I say you could leave?" Lucas suddenly spoke up in a domineering tone to stop Vince from leaving.

The crowd was astonished.

A maniacal murderous intent appeared in Vince's eyes. He stopped, turned around, and hollered furiously, "Punk, what else do you want?"

With a cold look on his face, Lucas said, "You seem to have forgotten something. I was framed by the Smiths for no rhyme or reason, and you repeatedly tried to kill me. Now that the truth has come to light, and it's proven that I didn't kill your son, aren't you going to give me an explanation?"

Only then did the crowd understand that Lucas had called out to Vince to stop him to give him an explanation.

Lucas was way too daring.

Vince was from one of the top eight families of DC. Even if the helmsmen present had been wrongly accused, they would be overjoyed if the Smiths didn't continue to pursue the matter against them. They obviously wouldn't dare to ask for an explanation.

Lucas was really outrageously daring!

At this moment, the head of the Peerless Martial Association's California branch had a hint of surprise in his eyes.

The reason he dared to confront Vince was that the incomparably powerful Peerless Martial Association backed him, giving him great confidence.

But the young man in front of him was just an abandoned son of the Huttons, who had been kicked out of the family for years. How could he have the courage to call Vince out and demand an explanation from him?

While the others thought so, Vince, the person in question, was boiling with fury. "Punk, who do you think you are? How dare you ask me for an explanation? Do you think the Smiths are afraid of you and that we can let just anyone trample all over us?"

Vince's eyes were full of infuriation.

"When you've wronged, you should naturally apologize. Haven't your elders taught you this?" Lucas said in exasperation.

"You want me to apologize to you? No way! Do you have the qualifications?" Vince roared angrily.

Lucas raised his eyebrows and said calmly, "Qualifications... In that case, I'll have to resort to other methods to tell you whether I have the qualifications or not!"

As soon as he finished speaking, there were countless buzzing discussions from the crowd.

“This kid is really arrogant. No matter what, Vince is a Smith. He’s just shooting himself in the foot by doing this. How stupid!”

“Even if you want to kick him when he’s down, you ought to consider who he is! Vince isn’t someone whom an abandoned child like him can afford to mess with!”

“I bet this punk is just getting carried away. Everything would have been fine after Vince left, but he just had to do this. I’m afraid he might not be able to escape later!”

...

There are many different opinions, but almost everyone thought that Lucas was dead meat for sure.

Lucas turned a deaf ear to the discussions.

Lucas really didn’t take the Smiths seriously. Besides, he wasn’t even facing the helmsman of the Smiths but merely a direct descendant.

Furthermore, if Lucas wanted to, he could go back to DC at any time and become the helmsman of the Huttons, making his status far above Vince’s.

Not to mention Lucas’s other identity—the esteemed captain of the Falcon Regiment of Calico, titled the God of War of Calico.

Vince chuckled mirthlessly and stared at Lucas coldly.. “Come on. I want to see how exactly you can make me apologize to you!”

Chapter 722: Tyrannical Lucas

As soon as Vince finished speaking, Lucas took two steps toward him.

At this moment, the heart of the middle-aged expert behind Vince skipped a beat because he actually sensed a danger that resembled a gale and massive waves during a high tide coming from Lucas's seemingly calm gait.

“Mr. Smith, it's dangerous! Go quickly!” He abruptly took a step forward to shield Vince.

Lucas caused him to feel overwhelming pressure, so much so that cold sweat broke out on his forehead.

He felt as if Lucas was a tall and majestic mountain towering over him. He was even petrified with fear, without the slightest confidence in defeating Lucas.

After hearing the caution and nervousness in the middle-aged expert's tone, Vince was also astonished.

He knew very well that this expert was one of the Smiths' best experts, and he enjoyed a good reputation in DC.

But he was now uncertain if he could deal with Lucas and even asked Vince to leave.

Without waiting for Vince to ponder any further, Lucas exclaimed coldly, “You’re not going anywhere!”

At the same time, Lucas’s feet moved, and he vanished right on the spot before appearing behind Vince!

Axel, sitting nearby, suddenly exclaimed in shock as he stood up with disbelief all over his face.

Initially, Lucas and Vince were only over ten meters apart from each other, with the middle-aged man in between them.

But Lucas actually suddenly appeared behind Vince in a second. His speed was so incredible that it left Axel completely astounded.

Of course, this was also because Axel had shown up too late and hadn’t been able to witness with his own eyes Lucas’s incredible speed when he was confronting Gaia, the Walkers’ former sharpshooter.

Vince felt that Lucas had vanished from in front of him in the blink of an eye. Immediately afterward, he felt a terrifying aura coming from behind him. The next instant, a hand directly pressed on his shoulder.

“Apologize!” An incredibly cold voice sounded beside his ear as Lucas pressed Vince’s shoulder down farther.

“Ah!” Vince felt as if there was a boulder on his shoulder, making him unable to support himself. He shrieked in misery and fell hard to the floor!

Bang!

The sound of his knees smashing against the floor was extremely loud!

One of the future successors of the Smiths was directly pressed on his knees to the floor by Lucas!

This scene left everyone dumbfounded!

How is this possible?!

How dare he do that?!

Everyone’s hearts were surging with these thoughts, and they were all horrified.

Even Axel’s heart was shaking, and he couldn’t utter a single word for a long time.

Even he wouldn’t dare to do what Lucas did!

He actually forced the future successor of the Smiths to get on his knees. What a maniacal move!

If Axel had the guts to do this, he would definitely provoke the Smiths and cause a huge conflict to break out between the Smiths and the Peerless Martial Association. This would be a terrible consequence that he absolutely couldn’t bear!

Yet Lucas actually dared to do so!

Is he really not afraid that the Smiths will take revenge? Even Axel couldn't tell if Lucas was bold or reckless and brainless.

He could only look at Lucas with shock while cursing incessantly in his head.

On the other hand, Damon and Bruce, who were on Lucas's side, had unspeakable excitement and a great sense of pride in their eyes.

He was the person they had pledged allegiance to, and he was so domineering. Regardless of which family people were from, they would always have to get on their knees in front of him!

An overbearing person like him was the person they should sincerely follow and trust!

Next to them, Ethan also clenched his fists tightly as a look of excitement emerged on his face.

How many people could be like Lucas, a domineering and tyrannical young man who actually didn't take the eight giants of DC seriously at all?

Only now did he finally understand why the chief butler of the Huttons had been tasked to bring Lucas back to DC when he had just returned to Orange County.

Such an excellent and outstanding talent was the successor that every family wanted!

Previously, Ethan had even been worried that Lucas was too weak and might lose the battle, especially since he didn't have the support of the Huttons. Thus, he wavered.

Looking at the incredibly domineering figure standing behind Vince, Ethan wanted to give himself a tight slap on the face. Which of the Huttons would be able to fight against a man like Lucas?

Lena looked at Lucas with admiration, her pretty little face flushed with excitement while her heart pounded rapidly.

He was such a domineering, powerful, and handsome man. How many women would not be moved by such an outstanding man?

After meeting such a rare and outstanding dreamboat like Lucas, there wouldn't be any other man in the world who could attract her or win her heart.

Lena wasn't the only one who felt this way. Many other female attendees, from teenage girls to ladies in their forties, gazed at Lucas with glistening eyes, their hearts racing.

After hearing the sound of Vince's knees hitting the floor hard, the middle-aged expert in front of him finally came to his senses and turned around in panic, only to see Vince being held down on his knees.

"Punk, hurry up and let go of Mr. Smith!" the middle-aged roared at Lucas furiously with wide eyes. He raised his hand to smack Lucas to force him into letting go of Vince.

"Get lost!" Lucas raised his head and roared. Then an invisible aura surged toward the middle-aged expert.

The middle-aged expert only felt a violent trembling in his heart as the aura made it palpitate. He was completely terrified, as if he was seeing a menacing beast baring its fangs and pouncing toward him.

“Ah!” The middle-aged man was horrified, and cold sweat gushed out from every pore of his body, immediately soaking his clothes.

Stomp! Stomp! Stomp!

The middle-aged man took six steps backward in a row before he could finally stabilize his body. His entire body seemed to turn limp like a deflated balloon, and he no longer had the courage to take a step forward.

Lucas had merely roared angrily, yet he managed to make Vince’s most outstanding expert withdraw far, far away!

The scene made the people in the venue completely dumbstruck!

Chapter 723: Kneeling To Beg For Mercy

The sharp pain coming from his knees made Vince grimace.

But what was even more unbearable was the humiliation of being forced to get on his knees in front of the crowd!

Never in the five decades of his life had he ever suffered such humiliation!

“Y-you, let go of me!” Vince’s eyes were bloodshot as he hollered furiously while struggling to break free from Lucas’s grip.

Unfortunately, the strength Lucas possessed was simply not something that Vince could resist. Try as he might, he couldn’t break free from Lucas’s hand at all.

“I told you that you have to give me an explanation! I will use my own methods to make you do it!” Lucas said coldly while looking down at Vince. “It seems you haven’t experienced it enough yet.”

Then Lucas suddenly tightened his grip on Vince’s shoulder, digging his hand like a claw into the flesh of Vince’s shoulder.

Crack!

The hair-raising sound of bones cracking clearly reached the ears of everyone around.

“Ahhhhhh! My... my shoulder!” Vince suddenly tilted his head up and let out a miserable shriek.

His shriek immediately made countless people subconsciously shiver.

The designer white shirt Vince was wearing became stained with fresh blood gushing out of the holes that Lucas made in his flesh. It was terrifyingly red and bloody.

“Do I have the qualifications to receive an apology from you now?” The expression on Lucas’s face didn’t change in the slightest, as if he was just pinching a puppet while asking this question coldly.

Vince began inhaling cold air in large mouthfuls, his face covered in cold sweat. The excruciating pain coming from his shoulder caused his vision to turn black as he wailed in pain, unable to answer Lucas’s question at all.

“My patience is limited. I’ll give you ten last seconds. If you don’t apologize, you’ll die now!” Lucas gave an ultimatum coldly.

Others didn’t dare to lay a hand on Vince because they were afraid of facing the Smiths’ retaliation.

But Lucas wasn’t afraid at all.

Vince had repeatedly tried to kill him even after knowing that he wasn't his son's murderer. Lucas was being nice enough by only asking for an apology.

If Vince still didn't know what to do, Lucas definitely didn't mind killing him.

At this moment, Vince was kneeling on the ground, his knees, shoulder, and heart in immense pain!

He was the future successor of the Smiths, but he was now being forced to get on his knees to apologize by a young man in his twenties.

If this matter spread back to DC, the Smiths would definitely strip him of his position as a successor!

For a top wealthy family like the Smiths, the family's honor and pride were more important than anything else. Moreover, the fact that he had disgraced the Smiths had already become a stain on their reputation, and he would definitely lose the chance to take over the family in the future. He would even become the laughing stock of other wealthy families in DC.

Therefore, Vince didn't want to give in at all.

Be it for the sake of his dignity as a man or his future, he wasn't willing to give in to Lucas, the Huttons' outcast.

But if he held on without apologizing, Vince didn't have the slightest doubt that Lucas would really kill him!

He was definitely not scaring him but really dared to do it!

“Five...

“Four...

“Three...

“Two...

...

Lucas began counting down expressionlessly.

Just as he was about to count to the last second, Vince finally couldn't withstand the tremendous psychological pressure and completely bowed down.

“I'm sorry!

“I... I shouldn't have listened to others without finding out the truth and mistakenly thought you killed my son!

“And I shouldn't have tried to kill you twice because of it... I'm sorry! I was wrong! I hope... you can forgive me!”

Vince lowered his head, gritted his teeth, and spoke these words with great reluctance.

The meeting hall that accommodated several hundred people was extremely quiet, and even the sound of breathing could barely be heard.

Everyone opened their mouths wide in shock while looking at Vince in disbelief.

Vince, who was previously extremely domineering and aloof, whom no one dared to offend, was actually forced by Lucas to apologize to him and beg for forgiveness in such a humiliating manner!

If they hadn't seen this scene with their own eyes, they would probably never have believed it!

Axel looked at Lucas's domineering figure, and a thought suddenly appeared in his mind.

Such a powerful and formidable young man had terrifying future potential!

If he could get him to join the Peerless Martial Association, Lucas would probably be able to enter the headquarters and hold true power within a few years!

At that time, the benefits he could gain as the introducer would be unlimited!

The more he thought about it, the more intense the gaze in his eyes. He even subconsciously licked the corners of his mouth.

"You can get lost now." Lucas looked down at Vince coldly.

Vince gritted his teeth with all his might, feeling extremely humiliated. He struggled to get up from the floor while enduring the pain in his body. He then walked toward the door of the venue without saying a word.

Seeing this, the middle-aged expert hurriedly chased after him.

"Wait a moment!" Lucas suddenly said.

The middle-aged expert shivered, wishing he could flee immediately. But he knew that there was no way he could escape from Lucas's terrifying speed.

He timidly turned his head and carefully asked, "Wh-what else do you want?"

Lucas raised his finger and pointed to the floor next to him. "Take the corpse of your family member away."

Wendy's corpse was lying on the floor.

The middle-aged expert heaved a sigh of relief, hurriedly walked over, picked up Wendy's corpse, and dashed out of the hall.

The Smiths had finally left.

However, the atmosphere in the venue wasn't much more relaxed, and everyone looked at Lucas nervously.

The reason was none other than that the power Lucas just showed was simply too shocking. He could even force the future heir of one of the eight giants of DC to kneel and apologize, and he could kill anyone he wanted. These families were nothing compared to him.

At this moment, the other two of the three top whales of San Francisco looked at Lucas with great fear and nervousness.

The corpse of Lance, whom Vince's expert had just killed, was still on the floor, and no one dared to go forward to collect it.

The rest of the Kingstons were also worried that Lucas would continue to retaliate against them, but they couldn't help huddling up, not daring to even look at Lucas.

The Walkers were even more panicked and horrified.

Herman clenched his fists and tried his best to maintain a calm look on his face. But his trembling lips and ashen face were already revealing the panic within him.

Just a short while ago, he had sent two of the Walkers' experts to kill Lucas.

The martial arts expert Freddie had not only failed to subdue Lucas, but he had even gotten killed by Lucas's counterattack on the spot.

On the other hand, Sharpshooter Gaia had surrendered on his knees in front of Lucas's terrifying strength and even pledged allegiance to Lucas by killing Nate.

The two failed attempts to threaten and harm Lucas had not only caused the Walkers to suffer a great loss, but they had undoubtedly formed a deadly feud with Lucas.

Lucas forced Vince to kneel down and apologize on the spot because he had misunderstood him and wanted to kill him. This meant that he definitely wasn't someone who could be fooled easily.

How would Lucas retaliate against the Walkers then?

All of the Walkers were extremely nervous.

They watched in horror as Lucas turned around, glared at Herman, and suddenly said calmly, "It's your turn next. I'll give you the chance to do it yourself!"

Chapter 724: Surprise Shot

Herman's heart suddenly sank.

Lucas was undoubtedly implying that he should die to atone for his mistakes.

All the Walkers showed misery and sadness to part with him, but no one dared to come forward to oppose Lucas.

Now, Lucas had already shown his immeasurable strength that families like theirs could no longer defy.

Moreover, the families that had chosen to follow the Smiths earlier also seemed anxious and agonized.

Lucas didn't pursue the matter against the rest of the Walkers and instead only told Herman to kill himself, which meant that he was letting the other Walkers off.

After all, Herman was the one who had ordered to kill Lucas.

Herman opened his mouth and wanted to plead with Lucas. But as soon as he saw the cold and indifferent gaze in Lucas's eyes, he understood that there was no way that Lucas would let him off.

He smiled bitterly, and his old face seemed to have instantly aged by several years.

He had already lived until such an old age, and even if he died now, he didn't have much to regret. In fact, he was willing to give up his life in exchange for the safety of the other Walkers, so he wouldn't die for nothing.

However, Herman was indignant! Why should I die?

Herman suddenly raised his head with maniacal hatred in his eyes as he stared at Lucas. He pulled out the pistol hidden in his pocket and pointed it at Lucas.

“If you want me to die, then go to hell and explore the way for me first!”

Herman had a hysterical look on his face, and his hand holding the pistol was trembling slightly due to the intense agitation in his heart. This made his move even more dangerous because he might pull the trigger at any moment.

As long as Lucas died, there would no longer be a threat to the Walkers. From now on, the Walkers would still be the top family in San Francisco!

This scene immediately caused many people present to scream.

No one had expected that Herman had hidden a pistol on his body and that he would aim it at Lucas at this moment.

“Herman Walker! Stop!” Edmund shouted as he stood up with anxiety and anger.

“Herman Walker, if you dare to shoot Mr. Gray, the Coles will definitely become

your enemy. Even if I have to use up all the Coles' resources, I will make sure to drench the Walkers in blood! Try it if you don't believe me!"

He was truly enraged. Lucas was the captain of the Falcon Regiment, so how could he possibly be shot by someone like Herman?

Axel of the Peerless Martial Association narrowed his eyes, stood out, and said slowly, "Herman Walker, I advise you not to make a move against Lucas Gray. Otherwise, I won't spare your family either!"

He saw a lot of potential in Lucas, and he was even ready to introduce him to the Peerless Martial Association. How could he allow Herman to hurt Lucas?

"Herman Walker, if you dare to lay a hand on Mr. Gray, I definitely won't let you off!" Bruce, Damon, and Ethan also stood out and rebuked Herman furiously.

Looking at the scene in front of him, Herman felt extremely miserable.

Seeing that he wanted to kill Lucas, several people from these powerful families of California immediately came forward to protect him.

But when Lucas wanted to kill him, none of his former allies came forward to speak up for him or ask for mercy on his behalf. In fact, none of the Walkers dared to plead for him either.

Why?

Am I that inferior to this young man Lucas Gray?

What have I done wrong as the head of the Walkers?

There wasn't any enmity between him and Lucas prior to this, and he had previously wanted to kill Lucas only because he wanted to curry favor with the Smiths, so as to give the Walkers a better chance to become stronger. Was there anything wrong with this?

Who is Lucas Gray to force me to kill myself as an apology? Herman was indignant!

The more Herman thought about it, the more agitated he became, and his hand holding the pistol trembled more and more, as if he would pull the trigger at any moment.

The numerous people standing immediately looked extremely nervous, fearing that he would really shoot Lucas dead.

But compared to the people next to him, Lucas, who was held at gunpoint, was much calmer.

He stood still with a slight smirk on his face. "Herman Walker, as I said earlier, things like guns are useless against me. Do you really think you can hit me? "

Then he laughed and walked straight toward Herman as if he was just taking a leisurely stroll.

"You... Hold it right there! If you dare to take another step forward, I'll shoot you immediately!" Herman yelled frantically, his face covered in sweat, his hand trembling violently.

Seemingly not hearing the threat at all, Lucas didn't stop, and he said with a smile, "Try shooting then. No one's going to stop you."

“Don’t you think I won’t dare!” Herman roared and then pulled the trigger.

Bang! There was a loud gunshot.

However, to everyone’s astonishment, Lucas was unharmed. But instead, Herman, the one with the gun, had a bullet hole in the middle of his forehead.

There was obvious shock and confusion on his face, as if he couldn’t understand why he had been shot. Then his body fell backward.

With’s Herman’s death, everyone looked at the only other person here holding a gun.

This person was none other than the Walkers’ former Sharpshooter Gaia.

Gaia had his arm raised, and there was still faint smoke wafting out of the muzzle of the pistol in his hand.

“Mr-Mr. Gray...!” Gaia gulped hard and stammered, “I-I just wanted to help you... He actually tried to shoot you. He deserved to die!”

If someone who didn’t know the inside story saw it, they would definitely think that Gaia was worried about Lucas’s safety, so he had resolutely killed his former boss and saved Lucas.

But Lucas smiled coldly while looking at him.

He had always had sharp senses, and he was already aware of it when Gaia stood not far behind him and took out his pistol.

Moreover, he also knew that Gaia's pistol was not aimed at Herman at all but at the back of his head.

If Lucas hadn't quickly shifted his head to the side the moment Gaia fired, the bullet would have probably pierced through his head!

The fact that this person actually dared to pretend to be a loyal servant in front of him seemed extremely ridiculous to Lucas.

"Do you think I'm a fool? For people who try to kill me, they will only die!" Lucas said coldly.

Then he flipped his finger, and a pistol suddenly appeared in his hand. It was the one he had taken from Gaia earlier.

Bang!

Without giving Gaia a chance to argue, Lucas simply fired a shot and used the bullet that Gaia was most familiar with as the last gift of his life.

Gaia's eyes were wide open as blood kept gushing out of the bullet hole between his eyebrows. The luster in his eyes faded away, and he slowly fell to the floor.

There was dead silence in the venue!

Chapter 725: Untitled

Perhaps Gaia would never be able to figure out how Lucas had evaded his sudden attack from behind.

Besides, Lucas didn't bother to guess Gaia's motives. After all, he wouldn't have trusted someone like Gaia who could betray his former employer.

Axel admired Lucas even more.

He had seen clearly from the side just how Lucas had managed to evade the sudden attack from behind.

Lucas was a cautious and powerful young man who was resolute when it came to killing. He was certain Lucas had excellent potential and a great future!

Lucas looked around the room and said indifferently, "From today onward, the Walkers and the Kingstons will completely disappear from California! If I see anyone from either of your two families in California starting tomorrow, I will kill them!"

His cold and overbearing words were like a large stone thrown into a pond, causing everyone to exclaim in astonishment.

The Kingstons and the Walkers looked terribly dismayed.

But they were also aware that the Kingstons and the Walkers had already offended Lucas badly and that the helmsmen of their families had already died here. Facing the powerful and capable Lucas, the two families had completely lost their ability to resist and could only obediently do as he said.

Moreover, Lucas was already showing them mercy by merely demanding that they leave California instead of killing them or taking advantage of the opportunity to seize their properties.

The three top families of San Francisco, who were evenly matched before, had their trinity broken in the blink of an eye. And now, the Coles were the only family left.

Edmund couldn't help sighing in amazement.

Of course, he didn't sympathize with the Kingstons and the Walkers. These families had their greed to blame for ending up in this situation today!

However, Edmund also understood that from now, all of California would probably become Lucas's turf.

With the absolute strength he showed today, no family in California would dare to be disrespectful towards him in the future.

This was the deterrence that came from absolute power!

Of course, as the captain of the Falcon Regiment, Lucas could easily dominate merely California.

Even if he went to DC one day to take all eight families under his wing, Edmund wouldn't be surprised because Lucas was completely capable of doing this with his power!

After the Kingstons and the Walkers left the venue with the bodies of their respective helmsmen, the atmosphere in the venue became somber again.

At this moment, Edmund suddenly came forward to stand in front of Lucas and said solemnly, "From today onward, the Coles are willing to pledge allegiance to Mr. Gray!"

Edmund's words were like another boulder immediately setting off a huge wave in the venue.

Who was Edmund Cole?

He was the helmsman of the Coles and the only surviving one of the top families in San Francisco. It could be said that the Coles had become the most powerful family in California now that the two other families were about to be eradicated!

Yet the head of the Coles actually pledged allegiance to Lucas in public!

The shock and disbelief in the crowd's hearts were imaginable!

“The Hales are also willing to pledge allegiance to Mr. Gray and take orders from him!”

At this moment, Bruce and the new helmsman of the Hales, Connor, both stood out and expressed their allegiance to Lucas.

“The Parkers are also willing to pledge allegiance to Mr. Gray and take orders from him!” Damon strode forward and bowed to Lucas with great respect.

“The Sawyers are going to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray too!” Ethan also stood out and loudly announced his allegiance.

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As the helmsmen of these families stood out to pledge allegiance, the rest of the people present also understood that this was irreversible.

“The Summers are going to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray too!”

“The Kellers are going to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray too!”

“The Julians are willing to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray too!”

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After the few most powerful families in California took the lead in pledging allegiance, the rest of the sixty-odd families stood forth one after another to pledge allegiance to Lucas.

In the end, apart from the Taylors of Orange County and Axel, the head of the Peerless Martial Association's Californian branch, the rest of the forces at the exchange had already pledged allegiance to Lucas.

Such a matter was really unprecedented!

Frederick, the head of the Taylors, began to panic, and he couldn't help looking at Axel.

The Taylors had a close relationship with the Peerless Martial Association, and they had always been dependent on the Peerless Martial Association. In fact, many of the Taylors' decisions were actually made according to the Peerless Martial Association's wishes.

For example, before today's Elite Business Exchange meeting began, Frederick's proposal to form an ally with Lucas and the others in Orange County's exclusive reception room was actually an order given by Axel.

Thus, now that all the families had pledged allegiance to Lucas, Frederick was at a loss for what to do because, in reality, the Taylors had already pledged allegiance to the Peerless Martial Association. Before receiving Axel's approval, Frederick definitely didn't dare to pledge allegiance to Lucas, not even verbally.

Axel narrowed his eyes dangerously.

He had brought the people of the Peerless Martial Association here, but he didn't expect that after he suppressed Vince, Lucas would suddenly intervene. Lucas had even used his domineering power to snatch that position away.

Axel was now in a somewhat unhappy mood.

“Lucas Gray, I advise you not to rejoice too soon. You should know that the Smiths aren’t going to let you off easily once they learn that you’ve just forced Vince to kneel down and apologize to you, right?” Axel suddenly said.

Unlike everyone else who had changed the way they addressed Lucas to ‘Mr. Gray’, Axel didn’t show any respect at all.

Lucas glanced at him with raised brows and said nonchalantly, “And then?”

Axel’s lips, which were always pressed together, thus making him seem extremely mean, were curled into a peculiar smile at the moment. “I can guarantee that even if the Smiths are one of the eight top families in DC, the Peerless Martial Association will be able to protect you! The only condition is that you join the Peerless Martial Association and become one of us!”

Chapter 726: Refusal To Join

Axel's words immediately shocked everyone.

No one had expected that Axel wanted Lucas to join the Peerless Martial Association.

Even Lucas was rather surprised as he immediately looked at Axel with a strange expression. "You want me to join the Peerless Martial Association and become one of you?"

Axel nodded with a smile. "Yes! The Peerless Martial Association is an extremely large organization with branches all over the world. We're definitely more powerful than the eight families in DC! So even if the Smiths want to find trouble with you, they definitely won't be able to do anything to you when you're a member of the association.

"In addition, the Peerless Martial Association attaches great importance to martial arts. Your skills are very good, so once you join us, I believe that you'll be able to surpass my position in a few years and even directly be able to enter the headquarters to hold great power!

"At that time, whether it's wealth, power, status, beautiful women, or anything else, you can have it all! Isn't this the life all men dream of?" Axel said to tempt him.

Didn't all people work hard for these things?

Axel believed that Lucas was an extremely ambitious man, and he was certain that Lucas would be tempted by his conditions!

Countless people wanted to join the Peerless Martial Association every year just so that they could enjoy these privileges. Unfortunately, most people didn't qualify to join.

For example, many people present were green with envy after hearing Axel's invitation to Lucas.

If they could, they also hoped to join such a powerful organization like the Peerless Martial Association. But unfortunately, they knew that they didn't have the qualifications to do so.

Axel was still calculating many things in his mind. Once Lucas joined the Peerless Martial Association, it was basically the same as taking all the families in California with him. Given Lucas's power, he would definitely enter the headquarters of the Peerless Martial Association in the future and hold great power. When the time came, it would be time to reap the most benefits for himself.

Axel never even considered the possibility that Lucas would reject him. So after hearing Lucas's following words, he was stunned as he rubbed his ears in disbelief. "What did you just say?"

"I said," Lucas looked at him and repeated word for word, "I'm not interested in joining you guys."

Axel's face immediately changed slightly.

He had never thought that Lucas would reject him and refuse to join the Peerless Martial Association!

This was something that many could only dream of, yet Lucas actually didn't know any better!

Indeed, Axel admitted that Lucas had great strength. Otherwise, he wouldn't have thought of getting Lucas to join. But one person's strength was indeed limited. Does he really think that he can ignore all other forces just because he's good at martial arts?

Axel's face darkened as he said with extreme displeasure, "Lucas Gray, do you know what you're turning down? The invitation to join the Peerless Martial Association isn't extended to anyone."

"Mr. Fox, Mr. Gray has already said that he doesn't want to join the association. Why do you have to be so overbearing?" Edmund stepped forward and spoke up for Lucas.

In fact, he felt rather annoyed.

Lucas was the captain of the Falcon Regiment and titled the God of War. Axel had to be dreaming by asking Lucas to pledge allegiance to the Peerless Martial Association!

"I'm asking Lucas Gray. Shut up!" Axel roared at Edmund.

Lucas's refusal had already taken him by surprise and completely disrupted his future plans. Axel was extremely unhappy, and Edmund's sudden interruption made him feel even worse.

Edmund had wanted to say something. But after seeing that Axel was clearly enraged, he didn't want to cause any more trouble for Lucas, so he could only stand by indignantly without saying anything.

“Lucas Gray, I'll ask you one last time. Are you really going to turn down my invitation to join the Peerless Martial Association? After today, I won't give you another chance even if you want to join in the future. You'd better think this through!” Axel said threateningly.

If Lucas refused to join the Peerless Martial Association, all of the wishful plans Axel had made in his head would fall through. In fact, he would even have to try and snatch the position of California's hegemon from Lucas.

Lucas would either become a member of the Peerless Martial Association or an enemy of the Peerless Martial Association!

In response to Axel's threat, Lucas merely said, “Get lost!”

His words stunned everyone!

No one expected Lucas to speak so rudely to the head of the Peerless Martial Association's California Branch and tell him to get lost.

Axel was dumbfounded too. When he reacted, he was boiling with fury. “Punk, what did you say?!”

As the head of the California branch of the Peerless Martial Association, he enjoyed the respect of many people. But now, a young man in his twenties actually reprimanded him! It was shameful!

A terrifying murderous intent quickly gathered in Axel's eyes as he glowered at Lucas. The ten or so black-clothed men in Peerless Martial Association uniforms

behind him also flew into a rage, and they glared at Lucas with the intention of starting a fight as soon as Axel issued an order.

As experts of the Peerless Martial Association, they could easily defeat the bodyguards of several top families, and they were confident that the ten of them could easily defeat Lucas!

Facing these Peerless Martial Association experts glaring at him, Lucas said indifferently without batting an eyelid, “I told you to get lost. Didn’t you hear me clearly?”

...

There was a dead silence.

Many people in the venue closed their eyes, not daring to look at the scene in front of them anymore.

How audacious of Lucas Gray. He has definitely angered Axel.

What’s going to happen next?

Will Lucas Gray and the people of the Peerless Martial Association really get into a fight here?

In fact, these families had just pledged their allegiance to Lucas, so they didn’t want to see both parties fighting.

If Lucas won, he would become the arch nemesis of the Peerless Martial Association, and there would probably be constant turmoil in the future.

But if Lucas lost, the Peerless Martial Association would probably find trouble with those loyal to him.

What exactly would happen next?

Everyone wondered to themselves in fear..

Chapter 727: Acknowledging Him As Their Master

“Punk, you’re really too arrogant! You have to know that young people who are too arrogant usually don’t end up well!” Axel said through gritted teeth.

He desperately wanted to instruct the people behind him to take down Lucas immediately.

Unfortunately, based on the strength Lucas had displayed earlier, Axel could conclude that his strength might not be comparable to Lucas’s, and he didn’t have the confidence to make a move against Lucas.

Reason being, it was apparent that everything Lucas had shown was far from his true strength.

Even though he had many people on his side, he wouldn’t have any advantage if the gap between their martial arts skills was too large because it would be like a group of young children fighting against a tall and strong adult.

Lucas sneered. “You don’t have to worry about me. At least, I’m still alive and well now, and none of those who have tried to go against me ended up well. I hope you’ll remember this!”

“You!” Axel was once again stumped by Lucas’s words to the point that he was about to vomit blood.

At this moment, Edmund finally couldn’t bear it anymore. “Mr. Fox, the Peerless Martial Association has always boasted about not interfering in the affairs of the top families. But now, you keep trying to force Mr. Gray to join the Peerless Martial Association. Isn’t that too much?”

“That’s right. It’s Mr. Gray’s freedom to choose if he wants to join the Peerless Martial Association or not. He has clearly stated that he doesn’t want to join you, yet you refuse to give up. You’ve really gone overboard!” Bruce accused righteously.

“Yes, the Peerless Martial Association has indeed gone overboard!” Damon also stood by Lucas.

“Indeed, the Peerless Martial Association is being too much!” Ethan said.

The other major families looked at each other before standing up and saying in unison, “The Peerless Martial Association has gone overboard!”

Axel’s face became even more gloomy.

He was already extremely displeased that Lucas had the audacity to reject his offer and even rebuke him, which was an absolute insult to Axel.

Now, the helmsmen of these families of California dared to stand on Lucas’s side and reprimand him for being overboard, making him even more furious.

Moreover, it was all caused by Lucas!

With so many families helping Lucas, there was nothing he could do to Lucas now, let alone take his anger out on these families.

“Okay, you people are very good! Since you’ve all chosen to take his side, don’t regret your decision later!” Axel looked around at the crowd angrily before turning around to leave with the people of the Peerless Martial Association.

“Congratulations, Mr. Gray, for becoming the leader of California today. Furthermore, the Hales have acknowledged Mr. Gray as our master.” With a smile on his face, Bruce took the lead to get on one knee in front of Lucas while pulling Connor down as well. They knelt to Lucas at the same time.

The Hales had actually pledged allegiance to Lucas a long time ago and had even acknowledged him as their master. Bruce and Connor took the initiative to reveal their identities in front of everyone to show the relationship between the Hales and Lucas.

Bruce and Connor’s actions immediately shocked the families present.

Just a short while ago, they had all decided to pledge allegiance to Lucas. But now, the Hales actually acknowledged Lucas as their master, which was a big deal!

Unless there was an immense gap in power, or they greatly trusted the other party, a family would never easily acknowledge another person as their master.

As one of the four top families of Orange County, the Hales actually took Lucas as their master. It was simply too shocking!

“From today onward, the Parkers will also acknowledge Mr. Gray as our master!” But before everyone’s shock subsided, Damon also took the Parkers’ direct descendants with him to Lucas and got down on one knee in front of him.

The Parkers and the Hales were actually in a similar situation, and they had also pledged loyalty to Lucas a long time ago. Damon was extremely impressed by Lucas’s abilities, so he was the second to publicly acknowledge Lucas as his master.

“From today onward, the Sawyers will acknowledge Mr. Gray as our leader!” Not wanting to be left out, Ethan hurriedly got on his knees in front of Lucas after the Hales and the Parkers did.

He had given up on Lucas once before, and even now, he often regretted his decision, especially after witnessing Lucas’s powerful strength today. It made Ethan convinced that Lucas definitely had a limitless future.

Thus, he had to seize this opportunity to strengthen the relationship between Lucas and his family!

“The Coles of San Francisco will acknowledge Mr. Gray as our master from today onward!” Edmund also stepped forward and got down on one knee in front of Lucas.

“What?!”

Three top families’ actions of acknowledging Lucas as their master one after another had already shocked the crowd. Edmund’s actions pushed their shock to the peak!

Edmund not only represented the top family in California now, but he had always been a tough, righteous, and zealous person who had never submitted to anyone in all these years.

Yet he actually got on one knee in front of a young man in his twenties and willingly offered his service to him!

This scene deeply agitated everyone in the room!

Clement, standing next to Edmund, was shocked silly!

He could never have imagined this. Just last night, he had condescendingly thrown a four-million-dollar bank card at Lucas and demanded that he stay away from his daughter and father.

But in just one day, Lucas became the master of the Coles with his overbearing power and had a status far superior to his.

...

Seeing that even the strongest Cole family in California had recognized Lucas as their master, the helmsmen of the other families looked at each other and all knelt down on one knee toward Lucas.

“The Julians are willing to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray!”

“The Kellers are willing to acknowledge Mr. Gray as our master!”

“The Sheldons are willing to acknowledge Mr. Gray as our master!”

...

All of a sudden, all the major families at the venue got on one knee and pledged allegiance to Lucas.

In the end, only the Taylors of Orange County were left standing and sticking out like a sore thumb.

Lucas stood proudly among the crowd and glanced at Frederick indifferently.

Frederick, the head of the Taylors, immediately stiffened as sweat gushed out of his body.

Chapter 728: The Dust Settles

The gaze in Lucas's eyes was extremely calm, but Frederick felt an invisible pressure coming straight down from above his head.

Bang!

Frederick could no longer endure the pressure and immediately got on one knee on the floor.

He said in a hoarse voice, "From today onward, the Parkers will also acknowledge Mr. Gray as our master."

By now, apart from the Kingstons and Walkers, who had been kicked out of California, the rest of the sixty-odd top families of California had pledged allegiance to Lucas.

It was an unprecedented event!

Lucas had achieved the goal that Axel Fox and Vince of the Smiths, one of the eight most powerful families in DC, had failed to achieve with all their efforts!

Lucas felt extremely emotional.

When he came to the Elite Business Exchange, he had to worry about facing the malice and retaliation from the Kingstons and the Smiths. But to his surprise, the situation changed drastically in just two hours.

Even Lucas hadn't expected these changes.

...

It was already past 10 p.m., and the lights outside were shining brilliantly in the darkness.

A silvery-gray Ferrari was speeding on the highway leading to the San Francisco International Airport.

Vince, who had just left the Walton Hotel, was sitting in the backseat.

But he looked extremely ill-tempered, and he was clenching his jaws.

The middle-aged expert in the front passenger seat asked cautiously, "Mr. Smith, should we ask the family for help and get the family to send more experts?"

The incident that just took place at the Elite Business Exchange was still vivid in the middle-aged man's mind.

He had followed Vince for many years, so he naturally knew how frustrated and furious he must be after suffering so much humiliation.

At the same time, he was also very frightened and nervous.

Reason being, he had been frightened into retreating six steps under Lucas's shout and had failed to protect Vince, causing him to suffer extreme humiliation by being forced to kneel and apologize.

If Vince wanted to take his anger out on him and blame him for it, he wouldn't be able to defend himself.

Vince raised his head in annoyance and said coldly, "Shut up! If you dare to breathe a word about what happened today to the family, I won't spare you!"

What had happened today at the exchange was the biggest shame of his life. The thought of it made Vince boil with fury and the strong urge to people him immediately!

The middle-aged man's heart skipped a beat, and he quickly kept quiet, not daring to utter a word.

After a long while, Vince finally raised his hand to touch the wound on his shoulder and said resentfully, "One day, I'll make sure to pay back double the humiliation and pain I suffered today! But for now, I can only forcibly endure it and wait for the right moment!"

"If the Smiths hear about what happened today, not only will the reputation of the Smiths be tarnished, but even the others in the family will use this opportunity to attack me. When the time comes, my position as the next helmsman won't be guaranteed!"

"Also, since the Peerless Martial Associated intervened in the situation in California, even if I seek help from the family, it's impossible to regain California. Instead of seeking revenge on that punk, what I should do now is to find another place as soon as possible and strive to make achievements to secure my position in the family! Do you understand?"

Hearing this, the middle-aged man understood his considerations.

Vince had just suffered humiliation in a way he had never experienced before. But he actually managed to weigh the pros and cons in such a short time and suppress his desire for revenge while thinking about the most important thing he should do to turn the situation around.

Vince was indeed worthy of being the most valued helmsman candidate of the Smiths and the one with the greatest chance of becoming the helmsman.

“Okay, Mr. Smith, I understand. But what if those families in California expose what happened today?” the middle-aged man asked worriedly.

He was a little worried that Vince might think that he was the one who spread the news in case this matter was really revealed.

Vince snorted coldly in disdain. “Unless those families really dare to become an enemy of the Smiths, they won’t dare to breathe a word about what happened today!

“As for the people from the Peerless Martial Association, Axel will likely order them to keep their lips sealed about today’s matter. After all, I’m an heir of the Smiths, yet they watched me get humiliated. If word about this spreads, it won’t do them any good, and it will instead make the Smiths hate them. I believe he won’t do such a stupid thing.”

Vince trusted the middle-aged man beside him, who had protected him for many years, so he explained the matter to him patiently, which was rare for him.

After hearing Vince’s explanation, the middle-aged man suddenly felt relieved.

This trip to California was a complete failure, but Vince had already designated a new goal and plan. As for taking revenge on Lucas, there was a lot of time for this!

The silvery-gray Ferrari sped through the night and headed straight to the airport.

...

Meanwhile, Axel was also furious after leaving the Walton Hotel.

Just now, he had basically been kicked out. It had been more than ten years since he experienced such humiliation!

“Damn Lucas Gray! You’re just a greenhorn. Do you really think you’re some big shot?”

“How dare you talk to me like that? How dare you treat me that way? I won’t let you off!”

“I’ll pay you back for all this today. Just you wait!”

Sitting in the backseat of a car, Axel had a murderous look on his face, wishing he could kill Lucas immediately!

But he knew that while Lucas was arrogant, he had the capital to be.

Given the power Lucas showed tonight, Axel was shocked to find that Lucas’s strength was definitely above his!

The even more frightening thing was that Lucas was less than thirty years old, and he still had a lot of room for improvement. He had countless possibilities in the future.

Even he was not Lucas's opponent, so no one in the Californian branch could deal with him.

Unless he asked for help from the headquarters and asked them to send a stronger expert, he wouldn't be able to deal with Lucas.

But the Peerless Martial Association also had its own rules. If there was no valid reason, people couldn't easily ask for help from the headquarters.

While Axel was vexed, one of his subordinates suddenly said, "I have a good solution.. Maybe I can help you kill that scoundrel Lucas Gray!"

Chapter 729: Killing Three Birds With One Stone

This subordinate's name was Heath, and he had been by Axel's side for a long time. Although he wasn't very good at martial arts, his advantage was his intelligence and his flair for strategizing. He was a strategic genius whom Alex had always valued.

"Oh, what solution do you have? Let's hear it." Axel immediately developed an interest.

Heath didn't say it directly and instead kept him in suspense and asked, "Mr. Fox, do you still remember the matter of Jude?"

Axel frowned. "Jude has been missing for more than two weeks. Have you found his whereabouts?"

Heath shook his head. "No. According to my conjecture, Jude is likely dead after being missing for so long."

"Dead?" Axel immediately frowned. "How can you tell? Is this all your speculation?"

Heath nodded. “That’s right, but I don’t have any proof yet. Jude is a top-level member of our Peerless Martial Association branch. Although he usually relies on his brother’s status to behave recklessly, he basically rarely causes big trouble and has almost never disappeared for so long without informing anyone.

“So I suspect that he encountered an accident outside or was killed by someone.”

Axel’s face immediately darkened. At the same time, he felt extremely vexed and frustrated. He punched the leather seat and cursed, “Damn it!”

The reason was that Jude’s brother, Julian, was a member of the Peerless Martial Association Headquarters, and his status was much higher than that of Axel, the head of the California branch.

If Julian found out that Jude had died in the California branch’s turf, he definitely wouldn’t let Axel off!

Now that there was another thing to worry about, Axel was even more frustrated.

He started pondering. Heath was clearly telling him that he had a solution to deal with Lucas, so why did he suddenly mention Jude’s death? Is there a connection between the two?

“What do you mean?” Axel asked with a frown.

“I think we can frame Lucas Gray for Jude’s death.” Heath narrowed his eyes and revealed his plan confidently.

“You mean, frame Lucas Gray and then let Julian deal with him?” Axel pursed his lips after figuring it out.

Heath laughed. “That’s right! Since you think that kid isn’t easy to deal with, it means that his martial arts skills are very impressive. At the very least, he’s on the same level as you. In that case, it won’t be a problem to say that he killed Jude.”

“Jude’s brother, Julian, is part of the Peerless Martial Association Headquarters, and his martial arts skills are even more superb. As long as we tell him that Jude was killed by Lucas, he will definitely come to California to avenge his brother!

“In that case, Lucas Gray will have to die!”

“After that, as long as Lucas is dead, who in California will be able to contend with you? When the time comes, you can just kill a few disobedient ones to warn the rest, and the other families will then behave themselves. At that time, all of California will be back in your hands, right?” Heath said eloquently with a smug smile.

The more Axel listened, the happier he was.

The idea Heath gave him could be described as killing three birds with one stone!

He would be able to get rid of Lucas, shirk responsibility for Jude’s death, and even be able to get his hands on California in the end. It was simply perfect!

“Okay, Heath, you’re indeed very smart! Once we solve all these matters, I’ll reward you! Hahahaha!” Axel patted Heath’s shoulder and laughed out loud.

...

In the Walton Hotel of San Francisco...

The Elite Business Exchange, which was held only once every three years, officially came to an end.

Although the exchange this year was much more eventful than the previous ones, it was considered to have passed successfully.

Lucas ordered everyone not to spread a word about what had happened at the exchange today.

All the people present nodded in agreement before they walked out of the venue with a sigh of relief.

But before Edmund left, he looked at Lucas several times, seemingly wanting to say something, making Lucas bothered. So he asked him to stay.

After everyone left, and only Edmund and Lucas remained in the venue, Edmund took a deep breath, walked up to Lucas, and performed a military salute respectfully.

“I, Edmund Cole, a warrior of the Fifth Army under the Falcon Regiment, solemnly salute you, Captain!” Edmund seemed extremely agitated.

There was a trace of surprise on Lucas’s face because he didn’t expect Edmund to have guessed his identity and perform a perfect military salute to him so solemnly.

Zeal surged in Lucas’s heart, and he raised his right hand to return a standard military salute to Edmund. “I, Lucas Gray, the former captain of the Falcon Regiment, salute to you, veteran!”

Only after saluting each other did Lucas say helplessly with a bitter smile, “Edmund, you really didn’t have to do that. I’ve now left Calico, and I’m no longer the captain of the Falcon Regiment either.”

Edmund had now received the confirmation from Lucas. Although Lucas said he was no longer the captain of the Falcon Regiment, he was still the supreme God of War not long ago, and it was enough to make Edmund feel overwhelmed and proud.

“Although you’ve now left Calico, the contribution you’ve made there, as well as the blood, sweat, and tears you shed, will always be worthy of being remembered! In my heart, you will always be the captain of the Falcon Regiment and worthy of my salute and respect!” Edmund said earnestly with the zeal of a soldier.

Lucas also admired Edmund, a veteran warrior who had also contributed several years of his youth on the battlefield of Calico.

“Okay, let’s not talk about this. I have other matters to ask you about, Edmund,” Lucas suddenly asked.

Edmund said respectfully, “Mr. Gray, please go ahead. I’ll answer all your questions!”

Lucas couldn’t quite get used to Edmund’s respectful attitude toward him.

However, he also knew that even if he wanted Edmund to change his mind now, Edmund probably wouldn’t agree. So he thought that it would be better to wait a little longer.

“What I want to say is that although I’ve unified California by a freak combination of factors, this doesn’t mean peace. Instead, there may be many hidden dangers lurking everywhere. At least, the Smiths and the Peerless Martial Association will definitely not give up, and they will definitely have follow-up actions.

“Now that they’ve suffered a little loss, they will definitely send stronger powerhouses the next time they come.. Edmund, do you have any suggestions?” Lucas asked sincerely.

Chapter 730: Battle Analysis

In fact, this was exactly the case. Before Lucas came to the Elite Business Exchange, he never thought that he would actually unify all of California and become its hegemon.

If not for the ambitions of the Kingstons, the Walkers, the Smiths, and the Peerless Martial Association, who kept forcing Lucas at every turn, Lucas probably wouldn't have made an aggressive move and shocked everyone.

But since things had already come to this, Lucas wouldn't shirk responsibility and do nothing.

Therefore, he had to prepare for the future crisis that California might face so that he wouldn't be caught off guard.

The Coles were initially a top family in San Francisco, and now, they were the only powerful one. They undoubtedly had the greatest impact on the other families of California. Edmund had rich experience, so Lucas wanted to ask him for advice on this issue.

Edmund pondered for a while before saying cautiously, “Mr. Gray, I think the Smiths probably won’t make any trouble for the time being, but we have to keep our guards up against the Peerless Martial Association!”

Lucas said with raised brows, “I’d like to hear more.”

Edmund explained in detail, “Here’s how it is. Let’s talk about the Smiths first. Today, you forced Vince to kneel down and apologize in public. Not only has he been humiliated, but the Smiths have also been disgraced. If the Smiths hear about this, Vince will probably lose his position as one of the successors.

“As far as I know, there are five people within the Smiths competing with Vince for the position of the next helmsman. Once they find out about this, they will definitely attack Vince with all their might until he loses his competitiveness!

“That’s why I think Vince will definitely try his best to hide what happened today from the Smiths!”

“At the same time, California is not the only option for the Smiths. Vince can go to another state to carry out his plans. So I think his most important goal at the moment is to find ways to obtain results to stabilize his position among the Smiths. Coming to California to take revenge is not his first choice, so we can ignore the threat posed by the Smiths for now.”

Lucas nodded, thinking that Edmund’s analysis was reasonable.

Given Vince's character, he would indeed choose the solution that was more beneficial to him. He would likely postpone the matter of taking revenge until he became the helmsman of the Smiths.

Seeing Lucas nodding and agreeing to his point of view, Edmund was overjoyed. His following analysis became even more earnest.

"Next, let's talk about the Peerless Martial Association. The California branch of the Peerless Martial Association has established itself in California for years, and they have a lot of intelligence in their hands. Although I'm still not sure why the Peerless Martial Association suddenly wants to take charge of California, which has been peaceful for years, our families and the Peerless Martial Associate have always stayed in our own lanes. We don't want to be controlled by them.

"Today, Axel also suffered losses at the exchange, so he's definitely upset. But since he could be the head of the California branch for so many years, he's definitely not a dimwit. He can't beat you, Mr. Gray, so he'll definitely get help from external sources.

"Moreover, I reckon that in all likelihood, he'll find some experts from the Peerless Martial Association Headquarters to deal with you. The Peerless Martial Association is full of powerhouses, and those with the best martial arts skills are almost all at the headquarters. Therefore, the people who come out of the Peerless Martial Association Headquarters will absolutely be extremely difficult to deal with!"

Toward the end, Edmund's expression became solemn.

He knew better than anyone else how lethal a peerless powerhouse could be.

For example, at the Elite Business Exchange that just ended, the Walkers, the Kingstons, and Axel would have probably long killed Lucas if not for his extraordinary martial arts skills that deterred them from acting rashly.

Lucas nodded. “If the Peerless Martial Association comes after me, I won’t be afraid regardless of what experts they send. But I’m worried about whether they will attack you or not.”

“After all, at the exchange just now, it was because the Coles, the Parkers, the Hales, and the others supported me and took the lead in pledging allegiance to me that the rest of the families followed suit, making matters reach the current situation.

“If the Peerless Martial Association holds a grudge against you because of this and wants to kill you, the matter will become very troublesome.”

With Lucas’s martial arts skills, he wasn’t afraid of any top expert of the Peerless Martial Association, but he was only one person and couldn’t protect all these families.

If these people who followed him wholeheartedly were instead implicated by him, Lucas would feel guilty and upset.

This was the issue he was the most worried about now.

Edmund smiled graciously. “Mr. Gray, don’t worry! Although the Coles don’t have top-level experts like the Peerless Martial Association does, we are no pushovers, and we won’t let them bully us. We have many bodyguards and some firearms. I don’t think everyone can dodge bullets like you, right, Mr. Gray?”

Lucas's worries eased slightly.

Indeed, how could a top family like the Coles not have some self-protection skills?

For example, the Hales and the Brookes of LA all had their own gunmen squads, and even top experts might not be able to escape a bullet barrage.

After all, there were very few people who could do this.

"Okay, as long as you know. Just be careful!" Lucas said.

"Don't worry, Mr. Gray. I definitely will!" Edmund agreed smilingly.

The two of them chatted casually for a while before Lucas left the Walton Hotel.

Just as he walked out of the hotel, a crisp and familiar voice came from the side.

"Lucas!" Charlotte was standing playfully at the entrance of the hotel. As soon as she saw Lucas, she immediately walked to him.

"Charlotte, it's so late. Didn't you go back to Orange County?" Lucas was a little surprised to see Charlotte here.

Reason being, Charlotte was the Stardust Corporation's Orange County branch representative, so she should have attended the ordinary business exchange in the gymnasium opposite the hotel.

The ordinary business exchange meeting started at 5:30 p.m., and it should have ended long ago.

Moreover, Lucas had instructed Charlotte not to wait for him and to return to Orange County first.

Charlotte pursed her lips. “The exchange just ended, so I came here to wait for you.”

The bright light at the hotel entrance shone on Charlotte’s face, and Lucas surprisingly discovered that Charlotte’s eyes were red. Her expression was rather unnatural too, as if something had happened.

Lucas’s expression immediately became solemn. “Charlotte, did something happen to you?”