

The Almighty Dragon General Chapter 1461

Chapter 1461

Seeing the onslaught of the Thirteen Heavenly Swords, Thea could barely contain the smile on her face beneath her mask. She murmured, "I never expected the Thirteen Heavenly Swords to be this incredible. This battle has only begun and yet his opponent has already made him resort to using the Thirteen Heavenly Swords."

Thea found it hard to predict the outcome of the duel as James' opponent was also extremely proficient.

Tapio was forced into a corner.

He continuously dodged the attacks at his fastest speed.

However, the Sword Energies hounded him as he fled as if they were homing missiles.

"Damn it."

His pale face was anxious.

Swoosh!

He swiftly stop and spun on his heel. Quickly, he drew the rapier hung on his waist.

With a flick of the rapier, several Sword Energies materialized in the air.

Clang! Clank! Clang!

The Sword Energies collided in mid-air.

Tapio's Sword Energies were shattered instantly by the Thirteen Heavenly Swords.

Despite that, Tapio seized the chance and charged head-on at James.

Tapio was as quick as a flash. He appeared in front of James in the blink of an eye, plunging his rapier forward.

James quickly raised his sword to block the attack.

Clank!

The swords clashed and bounced off against each other.

Both of them were pushed back by the force of the collision.

Before James could steady himself, Tapio pushed forward once more.

His sword technique was unusual and seemed to focus mainly on speed.

He was so fast that James could barely parry his attacks. He gradually retreated but made a slight misstep and got stabbed in the arm. A bloody wound formed on his arm as warm blood began to soak down from it.

“He’s so fast, and I can’t predict the trajectory of his swords. How am I supposed to parry his attacks like this?”

James had not expected to have to deal with an opponent like this.

While he stood in a daze, threatening energy suddenly loomed from behind him.

He was caught off guard as Tapio was still within his sight.

“Oh, f*ck.”

James suddenly came to a horrible realization.

What he saw in front of him was just an afterimage.

Tapio was moving so fast that it left an illusion that would confound his opponents.

James quickly turned around and slashed with his sword.

A terrifying Sword Energy swept forward and rushed toward Tapio, who had suddenly snuck up behind him.

Unfortunately, what awaited James shook him up even further.

The figure behind him turned out to also be an afterimage.

The real Tapio was still nowhere to be seen.

James furrowed his eyebrows and grit his teeth

At that moment, he knew that his eyes were useless in this battle of speed.

Tapio was moving way too rapidly and whatever he was able to see were only afterimages.

He closed his eyes and began to pinpoint Tapio’s location through his other senses.

During that period, Tapio continued to barrage James with swift strikes.

James was only able to passively block the attacks.

He was able to block the first couple of strikes. Unfortunately, he soon lost his rhythm.

In just that short moment, James had been stabbed several times.

James knew he would lose if things continued like this.

He immediately activated the Invincible Body Siddhi.

His skin took on a bronze luster, making him a bronze man.

Moreover, there seemed to be an almost imperceptible golden Energy Wall covering the surface of his body.

It was the characteristic of one that was nearing the penultimate level of Invincible Body Siddhi.

The stronger one's True Energy, the greater the power of Invincible Body Siddhi.

At its penultimate level, one could unleash a one-meter Energy Wall to protect themselves from attacks.

James' Energy Wall had only just started to take form.

Clank!

A loud noise reverberated through the air.

Tapio had attempted to plunge his rapier through James' back.

However, the strike was deflected by the Energy Wall.

"Huh?"

Tapio, who was 100 meters away, looked at James in shock. He lowered his gaze and turned it to the rapier in his hand,

At that moment, cracks were forming on the blade, and his sword's tip had bent.

Tapio was completely baffled.

His sword was exceptional and was able to stand against an eighth-ranked grandmaster when infused with his True Energy.

However, the very same sword in his hand could not pierce through James' defenses.

"What kind of martial art is that?"

Tapio's eyes threatened to bulge out of their sockets.

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Chapter 1462

Tapio looked at his rapier in disbelief.

He knew James was already an eighth-ranked grandmaster that had mastered the Thirteen Heavenly Swords and that he also possessed a strange martial art technique.

Turning his eyes up, he stared at James.

He noticed the golden light shimmering on the surface of James' body.

The light was something that had not existed before this.

In the past, James had only turned into a bronze man.

Now, it looked as if there were some sort of webbing made out of golden light that enveloped his body.

He took a deep breath and tried to keep his cool. Then, he asked, "What kind of martial art technique are you using?"

"That's none of your business."

James glared at him coldly.

He had to defeat his unknown enemy.

Raising the Blade of Justice, he shouted, "Let's continue."

"Do you think I'm afraid of you?"

Although Tapio had been taken by surprise by James' martial art technique, he was not intimidated by him.

He was someone who had mastered the world's top martial arts.

Even if James had seemingly impenetrable defenses, he was still confident that he would emerge victorious.

After speaking, he remained where he stood.

James immediately noticed something was wrong after a few seconds.

"It's another afterimage."

James was once again caught unaware by him.

Tapio's technique was abnormal.

His blood suddenly ran cold and he felt a dangerous presence from behind him.

James quickly turned around and swung his sword.

Clank!

The two swords clashed with each other once more.

This time, Tapio's rapier snapped in half.

As soon as his sword snapped, Tapio quickly thrust his palm at James' chest.

James had a golden Energy Wall surrounding his body that made him impervious to most damage.

Unfortunately, the palm attack was extremely powerful. Despite having an Energy Wall and bronze-colored skin to help him defend against attacks, blood rushed out from his throat from the impact.

James was forced backward by Tapio's attack.

At the same time, James sensed Cold Energy seeping into his body.

Tapio's True Energy almost froze his blood.

James quickly utilized Heavenly Breath.

With the assistance of Heavenly Breath, the Cold Energy was immediately expelled from his body.

James landed on a huge rock.

Meanwhile, Tapio floated a hundred meters away in the air.

He gave James an intense glare.

At that time, he was no longer as calm as he was previously. His sunken face showed a never before seen seriousness.

James' defenses had surpassed his expectations.

"You win."

Tapio eyed him for a long while and suddenly surrendered.

His palm attack was the strongest out of all the attacks he used against James.

Despite that, it was only enough to make James cough out blood. Both of them would be severely injured if the duel went on any longer.

James' voice dropped to a low, menacing growl. "Where's the person I'm looking for?"

"Outside Mt. Thunder Pass, in your car."

After he finished speaking, Tapio's body flickered, and he disappeared from James' sight.

"Wait...!"

When he saw Tapio making his escape, James mustered all the strength he could and quickly chased after him.

However, Tapio was slightly faster than him. James chased after him, but Tapio had already entered the thickest part of the forest, completely vanishing from his sight.

“Damn it,” James cursed angrily.

He did not have the chance to ask who Tapio served.

James turned around and returned to the peak of Mt. Thunder Pass again.

He dispersed the Invincible Body Siddhi.

Immediately, he felt all the pain of his injuries at once and collapsed to the ground.

During the battle, he was almost completely pushed back by Tapio.

Even the Thirteen Heavenly Swords were barely able to put a scratch on him.

He would have been unable to withstand Tapio’s attacks if not for the Invincible Body Siddhi.

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Chapter 1463

James did not expect Tapio to surrender.

He thought that they would duel to the death today, with only one victor leaving Mt. Thunder Pass alive.

James sat in a lotus position, performed the healing cultivation method from the medical book, and began tending to his wounds.

“His True Energy is chilling me to my bones.”

James shivered uncontrollably.

Even though he had expelled the True Frost Energy, he still felt a chill in his body.

From a great distance away, Thea was relieved to see that the battle had ended and quietly left.

While James was treating his wounds, Delainey returned.

Delainey looked at James, who was healing himself, and tried not to disturb him.

While treating his wounds, James looked at Delainey who had returned, and asked in concern, “They didn’t make things difficult for you, did they?”

Delainey wordlessly shook her head.

James asked again, "What's going on? Who was that man, and why did you call him brother? Is he also a disciple of Mount Thunder Sect?"

Delainey nodded gently as she looked to the ground with a despondent expression. "Mhm. He's my eldest brother. He left Mount Thunder Sect about ten years ago. It happened when I was still in my teens. I couldn't comprehend what had happened back then. I only learned of the situation after my father explained it to me a few years later." Tell me all you know."

James looked at Delainey with serious eyes.

Although it was actually Mount Thunder Sect's affairs, Tapio sent him a letter of challenge, so James was considered to be someone who was involved in the situation.

Delainey thought for a while and said, "Everything started because of a martial art manual."

"What kind of martial art manual?"

"Spiritual Art."

"What?"

James stood up in astonishment. He looked at Delainey incredulously and asked, "What did you say?! Spiritual Art?"

"Yeah."

Delainey nodded as she explained the details.

James learned that Spiritual Art was stored in Mount Thunder Sect, but outsiders had no idea what that term even was.

He finally had an idea of where his grandfather learned Spiritual Art from.

It must have been from Mount Thunder Sect.

Delainey asked, "By the way, did my brother tell you who he served?"

After James had stabilized his injuries, he stood up again. He shook his head and replied, "He left before I could ask him. I chased after him, but he was too fast to catch. Your brother is an incredibly powerful man. I'm an eighth-ranked grandmaster, yet I could decisively beat him. Even when I used the Thirteen Heavenly Sword. If I hadn't learned the Invincible Body Siddhi, I would have lost this time."

"Huff."

Delainey heaved a deep sigh.

“By the way, Spiritual Art...”

James suddenly remembered something.

He recalled the palm attack Tapio used against him last.

The palm attack was powerful and abnormal.

However, he was unsure if Tapio had used Spiritual Art.

James had to ask Thea about it after returning.

Delainey asked, “What’s wrong with Spiritual Art?”

“N-Nothing.”

James gently shook his head and said, “Your eldest brother said the person I’m looking for is outside

Mount Thunder Sect. Let’s go have a look first.”

“Okay.”

Delainey nodded.

James and Delainey quickly left.

After they descended the mountain, they headed to the car they had parked a few days ago.

James walked over and opened the car door.

A woman was lying in the back seat of the car.

The woman was unconscious.

James took a look and identified her as Delilah.

He quickly woke her up.

Delilah opened her eyes in a daze. A slightly familiar face entered her sight. After a while, she came to her and asked, “J-James? Is that you, James?”

“It’s me.”

James nodded and said, “You don’t have to say anything right now. We’ll head back to the Southern Plains and get you settled first.”

He immediately got into the driver’s seat and drove the car away.

Meanwhile, inside a cavern deep in the forest on Mount Thunder Pass...

A person sat on a higher platform in an empty area within the cavern.

There was a curtain covering the man, and it was hard to see discern his identity.

Tapio knelt on the ground. His pale face looked forlorn as he said, "I was defeated."

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Chapter 1464

"You lost?"

A surprised voice came from behind the curtain.

The voice was alluring and had a magnetic charm to it. It sounded like it could have either come from a woman or a gentle-sounding man.

"Tapio, you've already ascended the Third Stair of the Skyward Stairway and yet you still lost to James?" Tapio knelt on the ground with a frustrated and helpless expression clouding over his pale face.

"I don't know what kind of martial art James was practicing. Not only did his body suddenly take on a bronze sheen, but his defenses also increased exponentially. He had a sort of Energy Wall covering the surface of his body, and my sword could not penetrate it even after putting all my strength behind the strike. The Spiritual Palm could only damage him to the extent of coughing up blood."

He paused and continued as he selected his next words carefully. "Prolonging the fight would only be detrimental to us both. Your instructions were to test him and not kill him, so I admitted defeat."

The person behind the curtain remained silent.

After a few seconds of silence, the person behind the curtain finally spoke again, "Alright, I got it. You're dismissed."

Tapio stood up and asked, "Sect leader, what do you need me to do next?"

"You don't have to do anything. Just wait for the time being. When chaos arises, we'll step up to clean up the mess."

"Alright."

Tapio turned and left.

A figure stood on the edge of a cliff deep in the dense forests of Mt. Thunder Pass.

This person was dressed in a baggy black coat, wore a hideous mask, and held a black sword in their hands.

It was none other than Thea.

After the battle between Tapio and James ended, Tapio made a hasty retreat.

Thea also made a move and secretly followed Tapio.

She followed him but lost track of Tapio's energy after arriving at her current location.

Standing on the cliff's edge, she looked in front of her.

Ahead of her was a bottomless, fogbound chasm. The thick fog obscured her vision making it impossible for her to see what was beneath the cliff.

She attempted to descend the cliff but discovered a Magic Circle beneath it.

When she tried to reach the bottom, she almost got caught in the Magic Circle and had no choice but to retreat. She stood on the edge and looked down pensively.

Tapio left the cavern and arrived at the bottom of the cliff.

As soon as he exited, he noticed something was amiss.

"Someone has been here."

He scanned his surroundings.

The scenery was nothing out of the ordinary, but in actual fact was carefully arranged. When put together, it formed an Eight Trigram Formation that could trap even the strongest of martial artists.

Those who did not understand the Eight Trigram Formation would never be able to leave the trap.

Tapio quickly left with his brows furrowed sternly.

As soon as he reached the cliffside, he saw the masked Thea on the cliff edge.

Tapio was slightly taken aback by her presence but gathered his thoughts and walked over. Standing ten meters away from Thea, his pale face was serious as he asked, "Are you the Sect Leader of Celestial Sect?"

Thea stared at Tapio and replied with a deep, hoarse voice, "That's right."

"Were you following me?"

Tapio's expression became increasingly grim.

He was cautious when he returned.

He never expected anyone to tail him without him knowing.

Tapio was astonished that he could not sense Celestial Sect's leader following him. He was at the peak of the eighth rank and had ascended the Third Stair of the Skyward Stairway.

Although he was far from invincible, only a handful of people in Sol could defeat him.

Yet, Celestial Sect's leader managed to follow him undetected.

What was the identity of the Sect Leader of the Celestial Sect?

He had strong intelligence networks, and almost nothing could escape his notice. However, despite his efforts, he could not find out the identity of the Celestial Sect's leader.

Thea did not reply Tapio's question.

She immediately drew her sword and pointed it at him.

"The Malevolent Sword..."

Tapio stared at Thea's sword.

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Chapter 1465

Recently, the media was abuzz about the Celestial Sect's leader. Thus, he had specifically ordered an investigation to be done and found out the sect leader wielded the Malevolent Sword.

He knew of the origin of the Malevolent Sword and that it had been buried in the snow cavern of Mount Thunder Sect.

"Who are you? That is a nefarious weapon. Not just anyone can control it, so how is it possible for you to wield it?"

Thea replied in a deep voice, "You sure do know a lot. You even know about the Malevolent Sword, but who was it that told you that no one could control it? Who are you exactly?"

She was also curious about Tapio's identity.

The person was powerful, but she had never heard of him before. Moreover, he was not present during the battle to kill the Spirit Turtle.

The two stood face to face.

Both of them had intense energies emanating from their bodies.

The two energies eventually collided and caused a colossal shockwave that swept over their surroundings.

The force caused the fallen leaves around the area to be tossed high in the air.

Boom!

A massive rock on the cliff could no longer withstand the pressure of the two opposing forces and exploded.

Tapio knew the Celestial Sect's leader was strong.

The whole area would be destroyed if they were to fight.

He also had no intentions of fighting the Celestial Sect's leader.

"Sect Leader of Celestial Sect, we shall meet again one day,"

Tapio uttered a few words and quickly moved into the distance.

His movements were swift, and he appeared on the opposite side of the mountain in the blink of an eye.

"Hmph." Thea snorted coldly.

She held onto the Malevolent Sword and swiftly chased after him.

She swung the sword in the air. A 100-meter-long Sword Energy burst out with immense strength and rushed to ward the distant Tapio.

Tapio was fast as lightning, and he easily avoided the attack.

Boom!

The Sword Energy collided with the mountain.

The mountain collapsed in an instant.

One single blow contained such destructive power.

Thea continued to chase after him.

However, Tapio disappeared from sight.

"Damn it!"

Thea's face was contorted in fury underneath her mask.

She followed him because this person challenged James and was naturally his enemy. She wanted to seize the moment to quietly get rid of Tapio.

However, she underestimated his speed.

Despite going all out, she could not catch up to him.

“He’s too strong and will surely be a thorn in our side if he isn’t eliminated. It’s a pity I haven’t completely refined the Spirit Turtle’s blood yet.”

Thea sighed despondently.

She was still too weak.

Every time, she would have to borrow the strength of the Spirit Turtle’s blood to make up her own.

Although she felt frustrated for not being able to catch up with Tapio, there was nothing much she could do at this moment.

She did not linger in the area any longer and quickly left Mt. Thunder Pass.

Unsure of whether James would immediately rush back to the Capital, she had to hurry back as soon as possible if she wanted to get home before him.

She did not want him to discover her identity as Celestial Sect’s leader.

Neither did she want him to know she had taken action on her own in order to help him.

He would not forgive her if he found out what she did.

Thea rushed back as fast as she could.

After she had left the area, Tapio turned back and returned to the bottom of the cliff. He entered the cavern again.

“Sect Leader.”

In the cavern, Tapio knelt and looked at the person behind the curtain on the high platform.

He reported respectfully, “After I left, I bumped into Celestial Sect’s leader. She followed me, found this place, and even broke into our Magic Circle. She probably noticed something wrong with it and fled in time.”

“Are you talking about the Sect Leader of Celestial Sect, who has been in the limelight recently, recruiting most of the ancient martial world and even defeating Simon of Mount Thunder Sect?”

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Chapter 1466

“Yeah.”

Tapio said, "That person was the Celestial Sect's leader. She wielded the Malevolent Sword, which was left by the Prince of Orchid Mountain in the Snow Caverns of Mount Thunder Sect.

Hearing this, the person behind the curtain fell silent.

After a while, the person spoke, "Alright, you don't need to worry about her. I'll personally deal with matters related to the Celestial Sect."

"Understood. I'll take my leave now."

Tapio stood up and quickly left the mountains behind.

While Thea stalked Tapio, James had already driven a great distance.

Half a day later, they returned to the Southern Plains.

Southern Plains City, Black Dragon Palace.

Although James did not stay in the Black Dragon Palace, it was his residence in the Southern Plains, and there were cleaners who regularly tidied up the place.

In the living room, James looked at Delilah sitting opposite him and looked her in the eyes. "What happened when you were captured?"

Delilah opened and closed her mouth for a long time trying to find the words to speak. "A lot of things have happened. Before the New Year, I felt it was no longer safe to stay in the Capital, so I left with my mother..."

She recounted everything that happened after leaving the Capital.

They headed to Eyrothia, found a small town, and rented a place to stay.

However, it did not take long before someone found them.

Two of them were captured.

While they were held captive, they were transferred from place to place and somehow returned to Sol again.

The majority of the time, she was unconscious.

Whenever she was conscious, her eyes were blindfolded, so she could not see the people who had captured them. As such, she was unaware of the people who brought her to the Southern Plains.

"My...my mother..."

Delilah choked up and large teardrops began to trickle down the corners of her eyes.

"They forced me to reveal my father's whereabouts and hand over the documents. However, I didn't have any documents. My mother... she was tortured to death and didn't make it."

Delilah burst into tears.

James felt a twinge in his heart when he heard Delilah's depressing story.

It was all his fault.

Had he been more careful and sent people to protect Delilah before she left the Capital, nothing would have happened to her, and her mother would not have died.

Delilah wept morosely.

James sympathized with her pain.

With a serious expression, he vowed, "I won't let those b*stards get away with this."

After crying for a while, she gradually calmed down.

James comforted her and stroked her back gently. "It's okay now. From now onward, no one will dare to touch you again. I won't let anyone bring harm to you. I'll bring you back to the Capital safely."

He could not do anything else but give her a promise.

Delilah was in a horrible state.

She had injuries all over her body. Fortunately, someone had evidently treated them, and the most grievous of her injuries had already closed up.

Exhausted from crying, Delilah fell asleep on the sofa.

During the whole process, Delainey remained silent.

It was not until Delilah fell asleep that she finally asked, "Mr. Caden, are you going back to the Capital after this?"

James nodded and said darkly, "There are still many things waiting for me to deal with in the Capital. I must resolve them as soon as possible."

"C-Can I come with you?" Delainey looked at James pleadingly.

"What're you going to do there?" James looked at Delainey with curiosity and cocked an eyebrow.

The challenge in the Southern Plains was over, and he already found out that the challenger was Delainey's elder brother, Tapio. As for who sent him, that was still a mystery.

However, there was no need for Delainey to follow him anymore.

Moreover, he did not have the time to look out for her.

Delainey said softly, "I know my brother very well. He's a true martial art genius. No matter what technique it was, he could learn it almost instantly. He sent you the letter of challenge to duel in Southern Plains. I still don't know what he is up to, but I'm sure that won't be the last time you see him. I'd like to follow you for the time being to see if I can meet him again."

Delainey stated her purpose for following James.

In fact, it was only an excuse.

She had other intentions.

Her father, Jackson, who was Mount Thunder Sect's current leader, wanted James as a member of Mount Thunder Sect.

There were no outstanding talents in the younger generation of the sect.

This meant, in the future, there would be no one to protect Mount Thunder Sect.

Her father intended for her to get close to James and get romantically involved with him, if possible, to

tie him to Mount Thunder Sect.

She had the choice to decline.

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Chapter 1467

However, she did not refuse her father's wishes.

James was a powerful martial artist as well as a man of outstanding character.

At least for now, she had not found any shortcomings in James.

Any woman would fall for a man like him.

She was no exception.

Whether it was for her own personal motive or for the sect, she wanted to get closer to James.

James also contemplated the idea.

Delainey made a good point.

Since Tapio was Delainey's eldest brother and a former disciple of the Mount Thunder sect, he would surely appear again if Delainey stayed in the Capital.

Using Delainey's relationship with him, he could find out more about the person who had dispatched him.

Tapio was immensely powerful, so the person behind him was definitely...

James could not imagine, nor did he dare to think about it.

Thinking of these, James could not help but shudder and take a deep breath.

"I'd also like to figure out the identity of the person behind Tapio. I can tell he isn't a cruel person.

Otherwise, Delilah would have been handed to me in a worse state. If you're in the Capital, perhaps you could meet him again, and we could find out the person he serves."

Hearing this, Delainey replied ecstatically, "Then it's settled. I'll head back to Mount Thunder Sect to inform my father first. I'll meet up with you in the Capital afterward."

"Alright." James nodded.

"I shouldn't delay, so I'll head back first."

"Go ahead." James waved his hand to permit her to leave.

Delainey did not stay a moment longer. She got up and hurriedly left the Black Dragon Palace.

James chose to remain in the Black Dragon Palace and not leave immediately.

He waited for Delilah to wake up.

Delilah slept for a while.

When she woke up, it was already the following day.

James brought her out for breakfast, then headed to the military region to board a private plane back to the Capital.

Before noon, James returned to the Capital.

"Delilah, do you mind staying at Thea's place for now?"

James looked at Delilah and asked for her opinion.

"Okay." Delilah nodded.

After getting her approval, James brought Delilah back home.

As soon as he entered the yard, he saw Thea and Maxine chatting in the gazebo.

When they saw James enter the yard, the two stood up almost in unison.

James walked over to them.

Thea glanced at Delilah and asked, "You found her? Did anything happen while you were at Mt. Thunder Pass in the Southern Plains? Who's the person that challenged you to a duel?"

"It's a long story. I'll tell you everything while we sit down."

James sat down.

He recounted the events that happened at Mt. Thunder Pass.

"What?! The son of Mount Thunder Sect's leader?"

Thea was baffled.

She had traveled to Mount Thunder Sect and watched the battle but was unable to identify the person who challenged James.

Thea did not expect the challenger to be a disciple of Mount Thunder Sect.

"Yeah."

James sighed and said, "It's Jackson's eldest son, Tapio. However, he left Mount Thunder Sect ten years ago and is now serving someone else. I couldn't find who the person behind him was, though."

While speaking, James suddenly remembered something.

"By the way, Thea, do you remember Spiritual Art?"

"Mhm."

Thea nodded and said, "Sir Caden taught it to me, but Maxine said that it was a fiendish technique, so I stopped practicing it."

James said, "The reason Jackson and Tapio fell apart was because of the Spiritual Art's manual. Mount Thunder Sect had kept a manual of the technique. When I fought with Tapio, he struck me with a palm attack. The attack was unusual, so I suspect it's the Spiritual Palm technique from the Spiritual Art manual."

Hearing this, Thea also recalled something.

During her fierce battle against Simon, he also performed Spiritual Palm.

Back then, she was confused as to why Simon knew the technique.

Hearing James' explanation of the events, she came to a realization.

Thomas learned the Spiritual Palm from Simon.

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Chapter 1468

Judging from Thomas' ability to access the Snow Cavern of Mount Thunder Sect easily, Thea was certain that Simon must have taught him the Spiritual Palm.

Thea was perplexed by why Thomas taught her the Spiritual Art, knowing full well it was a wretched martial art technique.

What exactly was Thomas' motive?

Thea had never doubted Thomas before because everything he had done in the past was for James' sake.

She wracked her brains but could not figure out why he would teach her Spiritual Art and why he reassured her that it was not evil.

Thea recalled Thomas saying that there was no such thing as evil martial arts, only evil intentions.

A person with a wicked heart would turn to the path of evil even while practicing righteous martial art techniques.

These thoughts flashed through Thea's mind.

She took a deep breath and stopped thinking about it.

Turning to James, she asked, "How did your body react to the palm attack?"

James thought for a while and said, "There wasn't much of a reaction apart from his True Energy being incredibly cold and almost freezing my blood. Fortunately, the Heavenly Breath I cultivated is the antithesis of True Frost Energy. Otherwise, I would've been in deep trouble this time."

"That confirms that you were hit by Spiritual Palm."

Thea was also struck by Simon's Spiritual Palm once.

She knew the aftermath of being struck by it.

If not for the Spirit Turtle's blood, she would have been doomed.

Even so, it left her body in a perilous state. She would never have been able to refine the True Frost Energy into her own True Energy if she did not visit the Medical Valley and obtained the cultivation method, Demonic Breath by sheer coincidence.

“That’s strange…”

James was puzzled. He said, “Delainey from Mount Thunder Sect said that Tapio and Jackson fell apart because of the Spiritual Art. Logically speaking, Tapio couldn’t have obtained the Spiritual Art manual, so where did he learn to cultivate it? Who did he learn it from?”

“Could it be Thomas?”

Sitting beside them, Maxine interjected. “From my understanding, the only people who have practiced the Spiritual Palm are Thea and Thomas. Since it can’t be Thea who passed it on to him, it must be Thomas.”

“I don’t think so.”

Thea shook her head and retorted, “The manual is kept within Mount Thunder Sect, so Sir Caden must have learned Spiritual Art there. Since Sir Caden learned it, it’s possible that others also learned that technique. Perhaps the Grand Sect Leader of Mount Thunder Sect, Simon, also practiced it.”

James shook his head and said, “That’s impossible. I know Simon’s personality. He’s a person of integrity and would never practice a wicked martial art like Spiritual Art.”

“Honey, you can’t judge a book by its cover…”

“I believe him.”

Hearing this, Thea did not insist.

Since James trusted Simon, no matter what she said, it would be impossible to convince him otherwise.

She would only risk revealing her identity if she doubled down.

Thea changed the subject and asked, “What’s next?”

James looked at Delilah and said, “Now that I’ve found Delilah, I’ll have to find her stepfather as soon as possible. At the same time, I’ll have to resolve the numerous issues in the Capital.”

The Capital was in an uproar.

To add to their troubles, there was the Phantom Army that suddenly appeared.

James did not want to let the situation worsen.

He had to take action and purge the Capital of the scum that plagues it.

Maxine asked, “Who do you plan to start with?”

“Halvor, of course.”

Maxine replied with a frown, "Halvor has been taken away by Tobias, the commander of the Phantom Army. If you want to get to Halvor, you'll have to take on the Phantom Army."

"I'm not afraid of him."

James's expression darkened, and he said coldly, "The Red Flame Army has the power to enforce the law across the country. I'm acting in accordance with the law, so if the Phantom Army tried to stop me, it'd just give me a reason to arrest them."

Maxine did not argue with his point.

She understood they had to start somewhere.

It would be the same no matter who they targeted first.

"Just tread with caution."

She reminded him.

James nodded, and his expression relaxed. He turned to Delilah and asked her gently, "Delilah, do you really know your father's whereabouts?"

Delilah shook her head.

James inquired again, "Did he not leave you any information or clues?"

"I really don't have anything."

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Chapter 1469

Delilah said, "Since the accident happened to my dad's company, he vanished. I never saw him again, and even my mom didn't know anything. If I knew anything, my mom wouldn't have died so horrifically."

James said softly as he cast his gaze downward, "My condolences."

"It's alright." Delilah forced a smile.

She went through a lot during this period and has now come to terms with it.

It was a blessing that she was still alive.

Thea noticed the strange atmosphere between them and promptly asked, "Honey, when will you make a move?"

James thought for a while and answered, "I should hurry up since things might start changing if I procrastinate. I'll head to the military region to check on the situation first. I

need to clean up the Red Flame Army and eliminate all the moles within. After uniting the army, I'll start taking action."

"Alright."

Thea nodded silently.

"Delilah, you can live here for the time being. It's absolutely safe, and no one will harm you."

"Mhm. Thank you, James."

"I'll get going first."

James reminded Thea to take care of Delilah, then changed into his military uniform and rushed to the Red Flame Army's Military Region.

As soon as James walked into his office in the Red Flame Army Military Region and sat down, Henry hurriedly entered the room.

"Emperor, you're finally back."

"What's wrong?"

James looked at Henry who seemed flustered and exasperated.

Henry griped irritably. "The military region is a mess! Even though I'm a three-star general, I'm incapable of controlling the Red Flame Army on my own. First of all, they don't obey me and also..."

"Cut to the chase. What do you want to say?"

"I found out after returning from Durandal that someone was promoted to deputy commander in the Red Flame Army. The whole army obeys the order of this deputy commander."

"Oh? Was there ever such a post?"

James laughed sardonically.

He was the commander of the Red Flame Army.

However, he was completely unaware of this deputy commander that had been surreptitiously promoted in his army.

Things were getting interesting.

"What's the name of this deputy commander and his background?"

Henry said, "His name is Graydon Zabel. He used to serve in the military association and held a very high rank."

“Alright. I understand. Get him to come to see me.”

“Okay, I’ll go inform him right away.”

Henry left the office.

James sat on the office chair, took out his phone, and played Plants vs. Zombies.

About ten minutes later, the office door was pushed open, and a man in his 50s walked inside.

The man was dressed in a Red Flame Deputy Commander robe and had three stars on his shoulder.

“Emperor, I heard you called for me?”

James put down his phone upon hearing the voice and raised his head.

The person standing in front of him looked about 50 years old. He had slightly tanned skin, sported neat, short hair, and looked very energetic.

Bang!

James slammed the table.

The glass on the table shattered instantly and the tea inside splattered over the table.

Graydon’s eyes widened at James’ anger. He stood stunned for several seconds before straightening up and asking, “What’s the matter, Emperor? Did something happen?”

“You’re a deputy commander, yet you lack discipline. Do you not have any manners?”

James stood up, glowered at him, and said in a dangerous tone, “This is the Emperor’s office. Shouldn’t you knock before entering my office? Are you not subordinate? Have you not learned what to do when meeting a superior during your time in the military academy? Also, what’s with your standing posture?”

All the words he had to say left Graydon’s mouth as he stood there slackjawed in terror.

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Chapter 1470

Graydon stood with a dazed look for a few seconds before the situation sunk in for him.

He glanced at James and chortled haughtily, “Are you kidding me, James?”

In response to Graydon’s incredulous statement, James let out a smug chuckle.

He smiled brightly and said, "Henceforth, you're no longer the deputy commander of the Red Flame Army." "Haha..."

This time, Graydon laughed in response.

"James, have you not understood the situation yet? Although you're the commander of the Red Flame Army, you're just occupying an empty seat. Who can you command in the Red Flame Army? Which of these soldiers will listen to your orders? In the Capital, you no longer have the authority to enforce the law."

Graydon was well apprised of the situation in the Capital.

The Capital had been divided into several factions.

However, among these factions, none of them stood by James' side.

"You think too highly of yourself, James. Just because you're the Dragon King and commander of the Red Flame Army, you foolishly think you can do as you please and deal with whomever you like. I'm telling you, there's no one you can touch in the Capital."

Graydon spoke arrogantly.

After speaking, he turned around and left discourteously.

His defiant attitude incensed James.

James eyes narrowed and glittered darkly. His rage was barely contained.

"Henry," he shouted.

Henry walked in from outside the door. Upon seeing James' dour expression, he said powerlessly,

James, you see. He's only the deputy commander but is acting in such a disgraceful manner. If the others were to follow suit, the situation would only get more troublesome."

"Get ready. This ends now."

James could not let this insubordination slide any longer.

These people were lawless.

The Capital did not belong to just one person. It was the city of the people of Sol.

In the Capital, no sole person had the right to make decisions.

The people of Sol had the final say.

Henry asked, "How are you going to take action?"

"We're going to start by cleaning up the Red Flame Army first. Call in General Carlson for me." "Alright."

Henry turned around and left immediately.

After a few minutes, Henry returned with Nathaniel.

James was unfamiliar with Nathaniel, but he seemed like a virtuous man and was willing to provide information about all the personnel in the army. James had kept the documents with him.

"Emperor."

Nathaniel walked into the room, straightened up, and raised his right hand, saluting James.

"That's enough."

James waved his hand, pointed to the sofa beside him in the lounge area, and said, "Sit."

Nathaniel walked over and sat down.

Henry sat beside him.

Nathaniel looked at James and said, "Emperor, did you call me because something is amiss?"

James steepled his fingers and said, "Of course. I'm planning to take action."

"Huh? Take action?"

Nathaniel was shocked.

"Yeah."

James nodded and said, "The information you gave me previously also contained some information about Graydon. Now that he's the deputy commander of the Red Flame Army, I'll start with him."

"Emperor, I implore you to reconsider your decision."

Nathaniel fretted, "This isn't a situation you can take lightly. Everything in the Capital is currently in disarray. Several factions have emerged and joined forces. If you take action..."

Bang!

James slammed his palms onto the table, stood up angrily, and roared, "So what if I take action against him? I'd love to see who would dare to oppose my decision!"

"But, the Phantom Army..." Nathaniel's face was pale and his expression was rather severe.

Nathaniel was also aware of the Phantom Army's existence.

They were no ordinary army and were primarily composed of ancient martial artists.

He was worried the Phantom Army would step up to stop James from laying down the law.

"Emperor, if you take action now, the Phantom Army will surely try to stop you. The Phantom Army isn't

composed of regular citizens. They're all powerful martial artists, and each one of them can take on several of our best soldiers at once. How do you plan for this to succeed?"

"I'll figure out the details."

James rubbed his temples.

Even ancient martial artists joined the fray now.

The Novel will be updated daily. Come back and continue reading tomorrow, everyone!