

Chapter 701

James' face was contorted with rage, and a vein popped out in his neck.

He did not expect that someone would abduct Thea and use her to blackmail him despite having divorced her.

However, he remained composed. He called Jay, who was far away in Cansington.

Jay was currently entertaining a guest. At that moment, his phone rang. Realizing it was James who called, he immediately headed toward a desolate area.

"Dragon General, what seems to be the matter?"

"Jake, investigate Thea's current whereabouts for me."

Jay froze for a brief moment. Almost immediately, however, he nodded, "I'll give you an answer in five minutes."

Though he did not know what had happened, he felt something was not quite right with James' tone.

After hanging up the phone, he immediately contacted the underground intelligence network.

Once Ronald had withdrawn from the place, Jay's men had once again taken over the network

James waited patiently after calling Jay.

Five minutes soon passed.

whereabouts. It's almost as if she disappeared

"Got it."

hung up the call.

walked out of the Black Dragon Palace.

vehicle with a full gas tank was ready. James immediately headed

then headed toward Mt. Thunder

no-man's-land that served as the border between

its nearby cities were annexed by Sol, Mt. Thunder Pass naturally fell under

foothill of Mt. Thunder. After parking his car, he made his way up the

a few wooden houses

was where James faced off

one of the wooden

you can threaten James by abducting me? I'm afraid you might be disappointed. We're already divorced. I no

was sitting opposite her.

robe, the elderly man looked

Five Monasteries Mountain's Hemis Monastery from the Capital.

was Reign

is none of your concern. In fact, I think you should be worried about your current situation. If James doesn't come, you'd

Thea was no longer the innocent girl

the cr*p and just

Ignoring her, Reign closed his eyes.

Although Thea talked tough, she was in truth fearful of death. Deep down, she was secretly hoping that James would come to her rescue.

'Will he come to my rescue?

But I mistreated him... Now that we're divorced and he's in a relationship with Quincy, will he still care about me?'

Thea could not help but let her thoughts run wild.

At that moment, a man in a black jacket walked over to Reign. "Your Holiness, James has arrived at the foothill."

Reign opened his eyes. His glassy eyes gleamed, and he asked, "Is he alone?"

"Yes."

"Good."

Wearing a cold expression, he said, "If he dares come, this will be his final resting place."

James walked up the mountain. He did not spot any mercenaries or any sentinels along the way, and could not help but frown.

"Who were the people that abducted Thea?"

He thought that the enemy must have set up a foolproof trap after luring him here. However, he found no traces of one along the way. It was only when he reached the top of Mt. Thunder did he sense another human being's presence.

Chapter 702

Looking at the unknown men in front of the wooden house, James frowned and walked over to them.

“Halt.”

The men blocked James’ path. One of them walked over to him and said coldly, “Search him.”

James was not sure whether Thea was abducted here.

He chose not to act recklessly and allowed his enemy to search him.

James did not bring any weapons. All he brought were some silver needles and the steel wire formed by the Crucifier.

However, all of the silver needles and even the Crucifier were confiscated.

Glancing at his enemy, he said coldly, “You better take good care of my belongings. If even a single silver needle is missing, I’ll tear you to pieces.”

After he said that, he entered the wooden house.

Clap! Clap! Clap!

The moment he walked in, someone clapped.

“How brave of you to con James.

was

not tied up, nor were

asked, “Are you alright?”

she saw James, Thea’s eyes brimmed with tears.

thought James would not

However, he came.

men walked in and aimed their firearms at

elderly man, James smiled. “That’s all you’ve got? Are you looking down on me or are you overestimating

going through the trouble of formulating plans and whatnot? After all, as long as Thea Callahan is in

“Is that so?”

James smiled.

he moved swiftly

pointing their firearms at him instantly

remained composed. He merely took a seat

Clap! Clap! Clap!

He clapped once again.

When it comes to battle prowess, you're

James scrutinized Reign.

had a bad feeling about this. He did not understand

"Ah!"

At that moment, Thea let loose a scream.

She fell from the chair and collapsed onto the floor groaning in pain.

James hurriedly made his way over to her and helped her up.

"It hurts, James... It hurts..."

Clutching her head, Thea pulled at her hair non-stop.

James swiftly grabbed her wrist and took her pulse.

Thea's body was in perfect health. She was not poisoned.

Thea, however, was suffering excruciating pain.

James hugged Thea tightly and glared at Reign. "What did you do to her?"

"Nothing much," Reign spoke as if it was a matter of fact. "There's a poisonous insect that I meticulously raised for thirty years inside her body. It will enter her brain following the blood flow. Then, it will simply eat away at her medulla little by little. In the end, I'm afraid she'll just become a simpleton," he said nonchalantly.

James's face was contorted with rage.

"James, h-help me... It hurts... I don't wanna die..."

Thea's cry of anguish and every word she uttered echoed in James' ears and pulled at his heartstrings.

Chapter 703

"I'll kill you!" James roared.

He stood up menacingly and charged at Reign. Grabbing Reign by his throat, James lifted him off the ground.

Color immediately drained out of Reign's face.

However, he did not panic.

"J-James, you better think twice about killing me. Once I'm dead, Thea will continue to suffer excruciating pain. Though you're highly skilled in the art of medicine, this is a Gu that I've raised for thirty years. There's no way you can remove it."

Reign's voice was feeble.

“James, it hurts...!”

Thea rolled on the floor tearing at her hair.

She could feel that there were many insects inside her brain eating away at her medulla. The pain was unbearable.

Thea’s cry of anguish calmed James down.

He slowly loosened his grip.

gently rubbed his neck.

you want me to

placed it on a table. Then, he said coldly, “Consume this if you want Thea

“What is this?”

looked at the bottle on the table.

was an ordinary-looking ceramic bottle that was bronze in

you. However, you will experience muscular atrophy slowly but surely. You will gradually lose strength to the point that you can no longer exert

you. However, it’s possible that you won’t sacrifice yourself for a woman. And so, I changed my mind. I believe you will consume it. After all, you believe your medical skills to be unparalleled and that you’re able to create the

you consume it, I’ll let Thea go. Deal?”

hurts! K—Kill me, please! I don’t wanna live anymore... Why?

screams reverberated

hope you’ll hold up your end of the bargain. Or

the lid and took a black pill from inside the bottle. Without the slightest bit of hesitation,

stare on James.

started popping out on his face. Reign laughed, “Haha! This is how it should be. Dealing with you is a simple matter, after all. That idiotic Emperor is simply

moment, James finally knew that this elderly man was on the Emperor’s side.

at his strength. Soon, he collapsed

no matter how much strength he

“R—Release her.”

a

keep my word. However, this is not the

A wicked grin crept up on Reign's face. Immediately, he headed toward Thea and placed something near her nose. Soon, a tiny insect crawled out.

However, he then proceeded to feed Thea an unknown pill.

James roared, "What did you feed her, you b*stard?!"

Reign smiled. "Don't worry, it's not fatal. This is parasitic venom. It will slowly spread all over her body. Her skin will gradually rot, and black spots will emerge. She will become one of the ugliest women in the world."

Looking at James, Reign smirked.

After all, the Emperor did not manage to kill James despite all his plots and petty tricks. He, on the other hand, succeeded with a single attempt.

"James, I'll have you know that I planned to kill you. In fact, I can still choose to kill you right here right now. However, before leaving the monastery, I promised someone to keep you alive. You will cling to life half-alive. Even if you survive, you'll be crippled.

"Does your entire body feel weak?

"That's how it is.

"This is a venom I specially concocted to deal with highly skilled people like you. What a shame You have reached the peak of martial arts. If you continue to grow, you will surely move one step beyond.

"What a shame that this will never happen.

"Don't worry, you won't die so soon."

"You will slowly lose strength, and your muscles will gradually shrink. At first, you might still be able to sit on a chair. However, after a few years, you can only remain bedridden. But don't you worry. After a few short years of excruciating pain, you will soon be dead."

Chapter 704

"Hahaha!"

Reign laughed.

"Your Holiness, these are James' belongings."

A man walked over to Reign and showed him the silver needles and the tiny steel wire which were found on James.

Reign glanced at the items.

Though he was skilled at parasitic venoms, he knew nothing about the art of medicine. He felt that he had no use for these items. He was unaware of what the Crucifier was capable of.

He simply tossed the items beside James and said coldly, "Return him his belongings."

His henchman asked, "Why don't we kill him straight away?"

"I wanted to."

Reign sighed. "He's still a Caden, after all. Caden's blood runs through his veins. Besides, I promised someone I'd spare his life. Now that he's no longer a threat, it should be fine. Just leave him to his own devices."

Then, Reign turned to leave.

a headache. She knew that Reign had fed her another poison. However, she was still fine at the
James. She wanted to help James

"Sob...

you're not dying

She was tearful.

fault for getting you

lying

moment, he could not exert a single ounce of

art of medicine. However, he could

to

Let me rest

feel something buzzing

sniveling agitated him.

this, Thea shut

lay on the floor and rested.

minutes, he felt he had regained some of his strength.

tried taking a few

step seemed to take a

of poison is this?"

James sat on the chair and cursed.

At the same time...

Reign had left Mt. Thunder. He gave the Emperor a call. "James is now crippled. He will no longer be a threat to you."

"I want him dead. He's a threat to me as long as he's alive."

Reign said calmly, "He's no different from a dead man."

"But he's still the Dragon King, one of the most powerful men in Sol. I can't be at ease knowing he's still alive."

"In that case, think of a way to remove him from his position. You're a master of intrigue. I believe this should be a piece of cake for you."

"Got it."

The Emperor hung up the phone impatiently.

He thought James would be dead once Reign made his move. Now, however, Reign had spared James' life.

After hanging up the phone, he stroked his chin, contemplating how to best remove the Black Dragon from his lofty position.

James had performed great meritorious service for Sol on the battlefield. Not only that, he was made the Dragon King. Removing Sol's hero and guardian from his position was no easy feat.

After some thinking, a grin crept up on his face. "James, it's all over for you."

Chapter 705

James could not exert any strength, so he sat on the chair and rested.

He closed his eyes.

He remembered seeing records of the Gu in the medical books he had read.

A Gu was only one of many poisonous insects.

As far as he was aware, raising a Gu was an arduous task. One would need to capture many poisonous insects and make them kill each other. The last insect standing would then be a Gu.

Meanwhile, different Gus had different effects.

James did not know what kind of Gu was inside his body.

After diagnosis, he found that his body was in perfect health. No anomalies were found.

The reason why he could not exert any strength was that there were many Gus within his blood and limbs. Only by removing them from his body could his body recuperate.

However, he had only briefly read through the documents in the medical books that were incomplete.

He had no way to remove the Gus.

eyes shut. She did not

James opened his eyes. He pulled his phone out and called Henry.

heard you left the pass. Did something happen?" Henry's voice

it was an emergency. I'm currently at the top of

Also, seal off Mt. Thunder Pass and the 140 surrounding

was feeble.

heard James' voice,

knew something must have gone

to

the phone, Henry

of Mt. Thunder. Also, give the order to seal off Southern Plains City and the 140 cities surrounding Mt. Thunder Pass. No one is allowed to

siren of a Level One Battle Plan blared throughout

in position. They ordered their men to seal off Southern Plains City and the 140 cities near Mt. Thunder Pass

headed toward Mt. Thunder Pass in

Soon, he arrived.

the top of Mt.

"What happened here?"

into the wooden house, puzzled.

house, he saw James

he asked, "Why are you

immediately after. Seeing that his face was pale,

you

difficulty. "It's nothing. Help me up. I'll tell everything once we get back."

"Understood."

Henry walked over to James and helped him up.

James could barely stand.

Weak and feeble, he would have collapsed to the floor if not for Henry supporting

him.

With Henry's help, he left the wooden house and headed toward the helicopter not too far away.

Thea followed close behind.

After getting on the helicopter, they returned to Southern Plains City.

In the military region of Southern Plains City...

James called for a forensic artist immediately upon arriving.

Based on his memory, he tried his best to sketch Reign's face. Seeing the increasingly similar appearance on the computer, James nodded. "That's him. Issue a warrant for his arrest. He should still be at Mt. Thunder Pass. I want you to find him no matter the cost."

Henry roared, "What are you all standing there for? See to it immediately!"

"Understood."

Everyone stood up.

James tried to stand. But, not only did he feel enfeebled, but he also felt his head spinning. Then, he collapsed on his chair.

"James..."

Thea hurriedly made her way over to him.

Chapter 706

James raised his hand to stop Thea.

"S-Sorry..."

With an apologetic look on her wretched face, Thea apologized profusely, "I'm sorry. It's all my fault for getting you involved."

"Send her back to Cansington, Henry."

James spoke with great difficulty.

"I..."

Upon hearing this, Thea cried out.

Her eyes brimming with years, she looked at James pleadingly. "How can I leave knowing that you're in such a state? Please let me stay. I can take care of you."

"Umm..."

Henry was caught between a rock and a hard place.

James glanced at Thea.

Thea's hair was disheveled. Her face was full of her own scratches. In addition to her previous injuries which had yet to recover from, she looked a little.

frightening.

broke James'

longer owed Thea

not wish to have anything to do with this woman anymore. Besides, before the revolution, he could not have any emotional entanglements with any women. Otherwise, they would once again be used by his say,"

"Please follow me, Thea. Please don't

tearful expression, Thea asked, "Why, James? Why? Why are

Is this

"I need rest!"

James cried out.

his cry

few men walked over to

ordered, "Help

"James..."

Thea cried out.

had

"Sob..."

into tears.

resignation, "Let's go, Thea."

him, she had completely lost him. She thought that James still had feelings for her. However, she did not expect James to be

heartless.

ran out, sobbing.

close behind.

arranged for a private plane

the private

Henry could not help but ask, "What happened, Thea? What's wrong with James? Something's not quite right with him. He seems to be severely weakened."

"Sob..."

Thea burst into tears once more.

“Stop crying! Please tell me.”

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“Th—They abducted me and used me to blackmail James...”

Tearfully, she narrated the chain of events.

“What?!”

Henry exclaimed, “Are you saying that the muscles all over James’ body will shrivel to the point where he can no longer stand?”

Thea sobbed. “Y—Yes... That was what the one who poisoned him said. I—I don’t know anything else.”

Henry’s expression hardened.

After a long while, he took a deep breath and said, “Alright now, I understand. I will find the one who poisoned James. There’s nowhere for him to hide.”

Thea slowly got on the private plane.

Henry watched her get on the private plane and left.

He wore a grim expression.

“Seal off the city. Do not let a single fly pass through. Mobilize the army and search the border. Do not let him escape!”

Chapter 707

At the Black Dragon Palace...

James removed his clothes. At the moment, he was only in his undergarments.

Silver needles were all over his body.

He was trying to save himself.

He used the silver needles and tried to force the Gus in his body out.

However, after a whole day of work, it was no use.

The Gus within his body were extremely minuscule. He could not remove them no matter how hard he tried.

Once the Gus matured, he would be crippled.

After all, the pill Reign forced him to consume was Gu larvae. There were countless Gus inside a single pill.

Once consumed, the pill would dissolve in his stomach. Then, the larvae would be incubated immediately and become grown Gus. They would follow James' blood flow and absorb all the nutrients in his body.

James' feeble strength could be attributed to the Gus sapping away his nutrients.

James removed the silver needles with great difficulty. Then, he sat on the sofa and contemplated.

It was a shame he knew nothing about Gus. Otherwise, it should not be too difficult to get rid of the venom.

same

and the 140 cities which had

was allowed

circled

cars and tanks were on the

guarded the choke points of all passages.

"Wh-What's going on?"

mobilized? Are we going

only recently been annexed into Sol. I'm planning to work hard and earn money to marry my girlfriend. If war breaks out,

army formation, the civilians of the

entire region was sealed off, Henry personally led the army and conducted a blanket search near Mt. Thunder

incident happened not long ago, the enemy should not have gone far. They area.

A day passed.

Reign's subordinates. Reign, however, was nowhere to be seen. It was almost as if he had disappeared without a

At nine p.m....

made his way to

seems to have disappeared without a trace. Though we sealed off the entire region and conducted a blanket search, we found no traces of him. Only a few

sitting on the sofa, frowned.

hurried footsteps could be

an anxious expression, Levi swiftly made his way over. “Something bad do you

Levi’s forehead was beaded with sweat. Wiping off the perspiration, Levi

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hurriedly said, “Sir, y–you have been reported.”

“Huh?”

James’ forehead furrowed.

Puzzled, Henry asked, “Reported?”

“Yes...”

Levi continued, “It’s all over the Internet now.”

“What the hell is going on?” James asked.

Levi explained, “This afternoon, someone reported that you embezzled money to enrich yourself while you were still the Black Dragon. In this accusation letter, every single cent that you received was clearly recorded. This includes the incident where the Black Shadow General returned to the Southern Plains and demanded hundreds of billions from the rich and the fact that you abused your power as the Dragon General to forcibly take over Transgenerational New City in Cansington.”

Levi was sweating profusely.

“Initially, this accusation letter was sent directly to the disciplinary committee. However, it was dismissed, and the content was not revealed. However, many others started sending the same accusation letter. Soon, it was all over the Internet.”

“What dogsh*t! Black Dragon? The guardian of Sol? He’s just another corrupt figure!”

“Enriching himself with trillions of dollars?!”

Chapter 708

“Not only that, it turns out that during the previous incident at Mt. Thunder Pass, the twenty–nation alliance paid war reparations amounting to 9 trillion dollars. However, the National Treasury only received a mere trillion. The rest entered the Black Dragon’s pockets!

“The Internet is in an uproar.”

Hearing this, James’ expression turned grim.

Henry swiftly pulled his phone out and searched the keywords ‘Black Dragon’ in a browser.

As expected, they were in the headlines of almost every newspaper.

There were many shocking revelations.

Many public figures on Twitter were retweeting the incident of James' accusation.

letter.

In the letter, every cent James misappropriated, every act he did, and every person he killed was clearly recorded. Seeing this, Henry's face darkened. He said, "This is extremely disadvantageous to you, sir. Even if the higher-ups hold you in high regard, it will lead to public discontent once the content of the letter spreads. To appease the public, you'll surely be made a scapegoat by the higher ups."

James took a deep breath.

someone was targeting him.

Emperor had been behind the scenes all this while—from the fierce

now crippled, the Emperor had no plans of letting

off the hook.

little

it was inevitable that many would offer him gifts. He could not refuse them all. As long as the higher-ups turned a blind eye to his

4.3.

be

way, he crossed the line.

must have known about his hostile takeover of Transgenerational

higher-ups would not

the higher-ups order an investigation into the matter, finding concrete evidence is just a matter of time. After misappropriating so many

James, who was in

and said, "You're dismissed for

"Understood."

two nodded and

leaned against the

the Dragon King. Not once did he

escaped justice.

all, he had the Blade of Justice. He had the right to do

However, the misappropriation of funds was an extremely controversial issue in Sol.

Anyone who was involved in this misdemeanor would be severely reprehended.

James pulled his phone out and briefly read the news.

Overnight, the hero of Sol had become a pariah.

Many netizens called for the nation to punish James. Some even banded together and wrote a petition to the state demanding an investigation into the matter. If the allegations against him were true, he would be in deep trouble.

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Chapté de

Seeing this, James rubbed his temples.

“How troublesome.”

Before he could deal with the Gus in his body, such a consequential matter had occurred.

Now that the news had spread like wildfire, he would surely be made the scapegoat by the higher-ups to appease public outrage. He would consider himself lucky if he was merely demoted. However, in most likelihood, he would be thrown into prison or possibly even shot.

That was because Sol would never go against the wishes of its people just for him. After all, the people’s voices were the foundation of Sol.

Chapter 709

Tonight would be a sleepless night for James.

James, the commander-in-chief of the Southern Plains and one of the five commanders-in-chief of Sol, was a man who stood at the peak of the power pyramid.

Not only was he the guardian of Sol, but he was also a national hero.

He had just retaken Southern Plains City from the enemy without bloodshed. The citizens of Sol showered him with adulation.

However, with a single accusation letter, he instantly became a pariah.

The internet was in an uproar.

Describing James as the cancer of the nation, he was severely reprehended.

“Down with the Black Dragon!”

At the Heavenly Palace of the Capital...

This was the residence of the King of Sol, the Supreme Commander of the nation.

In the courtyard of the residence, the Supreme Commander was wearing a gray suit. Though he was around fifty years of age and slightly chubby, he was

exuded a distinct

was sitting in a gazebo sipping

a middle-aged man.

was Hendrix Hudson.

secretary of the King of Sol. His distinct position made him one of the most powerful men in the
do you think of this?"

"Hmm?"

"What do you mean, may I

Sol sipped his tea. "You

about."

Dragon King? News has spread

of it?" The Supreme

case,

moment, however, a man walked over to

However, he was wearing an anxious expression. He walked over to them and hurriedly said,
"Something bad happened, sir! The Dragon King has been reported. The Procuratorate is now filled with
anonymous accusation letters against him. Not only that, thousands upon thousands of Solean civilians
are now demanding we investigate the matter. If the allegations

was the

was only recently made the Dragon King. I never expected him to abuse his power and commit so many
crimes while he was the Dragon General! How

of Sol sipped his tea. Devoid of all emotions on his face, it was hard to figure out what he

you think we should do?"

looked at the Emperor and said calmly.

public discontent. If we do not act decisively, the people won't be satisfied. If everyone follows in the
Dragon

authority to investigate the matter. No one's allowed to interfere in your investigation. Of course, as the commander-in-chief of the Red Flame army, I don't think anyone would dare interfere

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"Don't worry, I'll thoroughly investigate the matter. I'll bring my men to Cansington immediately to investigate and collect evidence. We'll start with the Transgenerational Group. If James truly is the behind-the-scenes owner of the corporation, I'll immediately seal it off. No related personnel shall escape."

After giving his assurance, the Emperor turned to leave.

Once he left, Hendrix asked, "Are we really conducting an investigation into the Dragon King?"

The King of Sol said calmly, "The innocent have nothing to be afraid of. If the allegations against him are true, he'll be promptly arrested and executed. If he was being framed, this would be the perfect opportunity to clear his good name."

"How wise of you, sir."

The King of Sol lightly waved. "You're dismissed. Hold a press conference this evening and announce that we've established a special task force to investigate the matter. We should first provide an explanation to the people."

"I'll see to it immediately."

Hendrix turned to leave.

Whew!

The King of Sol took a deep breath.

Thirty years ago, the demise of the previous Black Dragon caused a reshuffling of cards in the dynamics of Sol's royal court.

He was made King of Sol thirty years ago and remained in his position to this day.

Now, the same problem had arisen.

If he could not handle the situation well, it would be the end for him.

Chapter 710

"Gloom."

He called out.

A man in black robes appeared and kneeled before the King of Sol.

"Sir."

"Head to the Southern Plains immediately. Tell James this..."

The King of Sol stood up and whispered something in the man's ear.

“Understood.”

Gloom got up and swiftly left.

At the same time, at the General Assembly Hall of the Capital...

All reporters of the Capital were present.

At the front seats were the big shots of the Capital, which included Hendrix. Hudson, the Secretary-General, Leroy Tucker, the Chief Executive, and the Emperor, the commander-in-chief of the Red Flame army.

Hudson, may I ask what the higher-ups intend to do about the allegations against

A reporter questioned.

crime. Corruption has been outlawed in Sol for thousands of years. Many dynasties fall

ask how James would be

with confidence, “We have established a special task form led by the Emperor, the commander-in-chief of the Red Flame army to investigate the matter. If the

were paying close attention

press conference,

were worried sick.

villa in

in her pajamas was sitting on the

It was Quincy.

paying close attention to the development of the incident after knowing something had happened to James in the afternoon.

murmured, “What’s going on? Where did all these

pulled her phone out and called James.

no one answered the

She was worried.

Scarlett was

to the building had been swamped with reporters after the company was revealed

appeared outside the company and

to ask for further

However, the call would not go through.

Thea was worried too.

After returning to Cansington, news of James' misdemeanor spread.

After experiencing what had happened in the Southern Plains, she knew someone was targeting James. They must have been the ones behind the allegations.

sphe

She also tried calling James to ask about his current situation.

However, James did not pick up his phone.

The allegations against James stunned all Soleans.

Meanwhile, James was in the Black Dragon Palace in the Southern Plains.

He had watched the press conference.

He knew that the King of Sol would surely adopt such an approach. After all, this was the only way to appease public outrage.

Leaning against the sofa, he could not exert any strength. It was almost as if he had not eaten in days.

Many people were standing beside him.

Henry, Levi, and the Elite Eight were all frowning.