

The Almighty Dragon General Chapter 1791

Chapter 1791

Meanwhile, Thea sat beside James and remained silent.

After some time, James looked at Thomas and Nicholas and said, "Grandpa, Dad, I'm not interested in participating in your plans. However, I promise I won't get in your way. Do whatever you wish. Thea and I will be living in seclusion from now on."

Upon hearing this, Thomas was dismayed.

"James, I really wish you can lend me a hand. You're the only one closest to crossing into the ninth rank. Not only that, but the Cadens are besieged by enemies on all sides—the Prince of Orchid Mountain, the Omniscient Deity, and the Blood Race. We'll all benefit greatly from slaying the dragon. Soon, many powerful martial artists will emerge. Without your help, it'll be impossible for us to achieve our goal."

Thomas continued, "James, I really hope you can lend me and the Cadens a helping hand. With you and Thea by our side, it'll only be a matter of time before the Cadens dominate the world."

Still, James was unimpressed.

He looked at Nicholas and asked, "Dad, I've never seen my mother, nor have I ever heard you mentioning her. Who exactly is she?"

James asked the question that had been lingering in his mind.

Upon hearing this, Nicholas fell silent. After some time, he said, "I don't know who your mother is either." "When I was twenty, I took in an injured woman I encountered outside the Cadens' residence and tended to her injuries. We ended up having sexual intercourse. However, she disappeared without a trace after giving birth to you.

"I know nothing about her background nor how she's currently doing. Perhaps she's still alive somewhere. "The only thing I know is her name, Xandra Lafleur."

Nicholas said.

All these years, he had been searching for Xandra. However, he could not find her no matter how hard he tried.

"I see..."

Then, James asked, "Do you have a photograph of her?"

Nicholas rummaged through his wallet, pulled out a yellowish photo, and handed it over to James.

James scrutinized the yellowed photo. The woman in the photo was beautiful and innocent-looking. "Is she my mother?"

Pensive, James looked at the photo.

Thea leaned over to him to have a glimpse at the woman.

Then, James returned the photo to Nicholas and said, "Grandpa, Dad, please leave. I won't accept your proposal."

Thomas sighed in frustration. Since James was unwilling to help him out, he had no other choice but to leave with Nicholas.

Three days later, at a random village in Sol....

Every single building in this village had been destroyed. Behind the village was a mountain.

A man and a woman were holding swords in their hands.

They were James and Thea.

Thea looked at the dilapidated village and said, "Back then, I'd seen some skeletal remains in the house upon returning from farm work. Then, I lost consciousness, and the powerful aura I exuded destroyed the entire village."

James smiled and said, "Indeed, a lot has happened over the past year. Finally, everything's resolved."

"Let's go."

Thea pulled James' hand and said, "Let's go to the back of the mountain and bury the Malevolent Sword and the Primordial Dragon Blade. From today onward, we will have nothing to do with the affairs of the ancient martial world."

"Mhm."

James nodded.

Then, they headed to the back of the mountain. There was a pond, and the two stood by the edge of the pond.

Thea tossed the Malevolent Sword into the pond. Soon, the Malevolent Sword sank into the depths of the water. James followed suit and tossed the Primordial Dragon Blade into the pond as well. Then, hand in hand, the two turned to leave.

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Three years later, on a mountain in Sol...

A man carrying a pack basket was traversing the landscape. Holding a sickle in his hand, he wore a simple sackcloth and a pair of straw sandals. His pack basket was full of herbs he uprooted from the ground.

“Huh, what’s this herb?”

Suddenly, he saw a glimmering green light on a cliff in the distance. Although the light only glimmered for a split second, the man with impeccable eyesight could see the herb even from a hundred meters away. As he murmured, he leaped into the air and flew toward the cliff. Standing in mid-air, he simply stared at the herb.

The herb, which looked like an orchid from the outside, had bloomed a beautiful red. At that moment, he could even smell the fragrance of the herb.

The man was James, who had been living a life of seclusion for three years. Over the past three years, he had been collecting herbs in the mountains whenever he was free. In fact, he had planted all sorts of herbs around the village. All these years, he had been researching the Medical Book. He himself had no idea how advanced his medical skills now were. He only knew that he could bring anyone back to life as long as they had not breathed their last breath.

As he stared at the herb, he knew it was not an orchid. He could sense that the herb possessed a strong vitality and extremely powerful Emyrean Spiritual Energy.

Three years ago, he had obtained the Lunar and Terra Art overseas. Although he had been living a life of seclusion all this while, he still cultivated the Lunar and Terra Art. He even used the Lunar and Terra Art’s breathing method to absorb Emyrean Spiritual Energy daily. Although he remained at the peak of the Ninth Stair, the unique breathing method improved his physical capabilities. Besides, the dragon blood he consumed had also changed his body structure. So, although he was not a ninth-ranked grandmaster, his strength was comparable to one.

His cultivation over the past three years had made him more sensitive toward Emyrean Spiritual Energy. However, this was his first time finding Emyrean Spiritual Energy inside a herb. The herbs he had come across in the past were simply regular herbs.

He carefully uprooted the herb and tossed it into the pack basket.

Then, in the blink of an eye, he appeared on an empty plot of land in the distance. Humming a song, he walked downhill.

There was a wooden house at the foot of the mountain. There were animals around it. Chickens were happily clucking away in the chicken coop, while ducks were frolicking in the pond.

Not only that, but there was also a vast plantation in the area. The plantation was full of herbs that exuded a sort of scent.

“Thea, I’m back.”

James walked into the house and put the pack basket on a wooden table. Then, he took a seat and called for Thea.

Soon, the door opened.

A woman wearing a simple sackcloth walked out. Though she dressed simply, she was extraordinarily gorgeous. Also, she was pregnant.

James pressed his ear against her stomach and said with a smile, “Missing Daddy already, my dear boy?”

Thea teased him playfully, “What if she’s a girl?”

“He’s so mischievous. He’s got to be a boy.”

At that moment, movement came from inside Thea’s stomach.

“See?”

James smiled and said, “He’s up to his mischievous deeds again.” A smile crept up on Thea’s face.

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“By the way, Thea...”

Upon thinking about the herb he picked in the mountains, James immediately took it out of the pack basket and handed it over to Thea, saying, “Look what I found.”

Thea took it.

The moment she made contact with the herb, she was stunned. "What powerful Empyrean Spiritual Energy!"

"Indeed."

James said, "I've been collecting herbs for three years. This is the first time I've encountered a herb that possesses such majestic Empyrean Spiritual Energy. However, there are no records of this herb in the Medical Book. What about the Book of Malice?"

Thea scrutinized the herb for a moment before shaking her head slightly, saying, "No, I don't know what this herb is either."

"In any case, we should plant it."

"Mhm."

Thea returned the herb to James.

James immediately headed to the backyard, dug a hole, and planted the herb. Then, he watered the plant. After planting the herb, he returned to the courtyard.

Thea was sitting on a swing caressing her tummy. Upon seeing James, a smile crept up on her face." Though the baby is due in another two months, we haven't thought of a name for it yet."

James said with a smile, "There's no need to rush things. Take it slow. We should wait for the baby to be born before deciding on a name. After all, we don't even know his or her gender yet."

"No way. We have to think of a name first." Displeased, Thea reprimanded him, "The only things on your mind are the Medical Book and martial arts. Pay more attention to our child, will you?"

"Hehe..."

James laughed.

"Alright, go see if the hens have laid any eggs."

"Got it."

James headed over to the chicken coop.

Soon, he shouted, "Thea, there are five eggs here!"

"Go catch a fish by the pond. I'm in the mood for fish today."

“Sure thing!”

James placed the eggs on the table before heading over to the pond. Standing by the pond’s edge, he waved his hand, and powerful energy gathered in his palm. In the blink of an eye, a fish was in his hands.

Holding the fish in his hand, he walked over to Thea with a bright smile on his face.

“Hahaha! We’re gonna have a feast tonight!”

A voice boomed.

A thirty-year-old-looking man walked over to James. The man had a piece of sackcloth on and was smoking a cigar.

“Cook the fish if you wanna eat it.”

James tossed the fish to the man.

“Hey!”

Callan sighed. “I’m here for the free food. Why do I have to cook every time?”

When James first retreated into the mountains, Callan found out about his whereabouts and became his neighbor. James would frequently research and discuss martial arts with him.

During his time overseas, Callan refined the Dragon Essence and consumed the dragon’s blood. Now, he was at the peak of the Ninth Stair and only a step away from crossing into the ninth rank.

Holding the fish in his hand, Callan entered the house and began cooking.

Meanwhile, James sat on a wooden chair outside the house and smoked his cigar.

Soon, the meal was ready.

Outside the wooden house, the three happily ate. While they were eating, Callan suddenly stopped and said, “James, something big is about to happen in the ancient martial world.”

“Huh?”

James looked at him puzzledly and asked, “What do you mean?”

Then, sensing Thea's piercing gaze, he hurriedly laughed. "Well, it's not like I have anything to do with it. I no longer concern myself with the affairs of the ancient martial world. Even if all hell breaks loose, it has nothing to do with me."

Thea reminded him, "The baby is due in two months. You aren't going anywhere. Do you understand me?"

"Understood!"

James smiled and said, "Cheers!"

He clinked his glass with Callan's.

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After having a simple meal, Thea returned to her room and continued her prenatal education.

Meanwhile, James and Callan continued drinking.

After watching Thea leave, James leaned over to Callan and asked, "What happened in the ancient martial world?"

As James had not kept up with the ancient martial world's affairs, he had no idea how much had changed. Over the past three years, he simply researched the Medical Book, martial arts, the Lunar and Terra Art, and the natural principles of the world. In essence, he had been living a life of leisure. However, it was boring and uneventful.

Reinvigorated, Callan turned to have a look at the house before whispering, "I haven't been paying close attention to the events in the ancient martial world too. A few days ago, I heard some rumors on the street while I was out for a walk."

Hearing this, James' curiosity was piqued. He hurriedly asked, "Oh, just tell me about it already!"

"Calm down... This is a long story..."

Callan smoked his cigar.

"Let's first talk about Thea's Celestial Sect."

"Huh?" James froze momentarily before asking, "What does Thea's Celestial Sect have to do with this?"

Callan explained, "Three years ago, although Thea retreated into the mountains alongside you, she didn't dissolve the Celestial Sect. She merely... forgot about the sect. I heard that the Celestial Sect now has a new leader."

"Who?" James asked, "Who's the current Sect Leader?"

"You're not gonna believe this."

"Cut the crap and tell me already..." James rolled his eyes.

Callan whispered, "Sky's the current Sect Leader of the Celestial Sect. I heard he took over the sect half a year ago. Besides, I heard that he's crossed into the ninth rank. Under his leadership, the Celestial Sect managed to take over a small nation and changed its name to Taciryus."

"Sky?"

James froze.

He knew that Sky was an ambitious and power-hungry man. Three years ago, James searched for opportunities to get rid of him once and for all. However, the opportunity never presented itself. Three years later, Sky had become a ninth-rank martial artist and even took control of a small nation.

"That's not all." Callan continued, "Surely you must've heard of the Prince of Orchid Mountain?"

"Mhm."

Janics nodded.

How could he not know of the Prince of Orchid Mountain? The Cadens were somewhat related to him. After all, the Grand Patriarch of the Cadens was one of the four major officials of the Prince of Orchid Mountain.

Besides, he even gifted Thea the phoenix's blood. Three years ago, it was because of the Prince of Orchid

Mountain's appearance that they managed to slay the dragon. Not only that, but it was also because of him that a fierce battle was avoided after the dragon was slain.

He looked at Callan and asked, "What about him?"

Callan explained, "He's the star of the show. He took over a country in a state of deep civil strife and became its ruler. The country, now internationally known as Lothian, is quite a distance away from Sol."

“Holy moly!”

Upon hearing this, James could not help but exclaim, “Are you saying that the Prince of Orchid Mountain, the immortal man who’s lived for a millennium, has established his own country?”

“That’s not all, James.”

Callan took a deep breath and said, “Your grandfather, Thomas, has been busy as well. He’s insane, I’m telling you. He united a dozen countries into one and established a nation known to the international community as Japura.”

“What the…”

James was dumbfounded.

He could understand if Sky and the Prince of Orchid Mountain were out under the spotlight.

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However, he did not expect his grandfather to be a part of this.

“Apart from that, many powerful martial artists and sects have emerged in Sol. You know Maxine Caden, don’t you?”

James looked at Callan and asked, “What happened to Maxine?”

“Huh…” Callan said, “She’s an impressive woman, I must say. Though she also obtained the Dragon Essence and the dragon’s blood, she’s kept a low profile over the past three years. She’s been in closed- door meditation all this while and seldom left her residence. Just three months ago, she suddenly appeared and announced her separation from the Cadens. She’s now known as just Maxine to the outside world. Not only that, she even established Floret Palace. She’s now known as Master of Floret Palace to the ancient martial world.”

Upon hearing this, James was lost in contemplation.

The fact that Maxine left the Cadens and established Floret Palace deeply stunned him.

“What else is there?”

James looked at Callan.

Callan continued, "Japura has been busy recently. Many powerful martial artists have shown up there, including Tobias Caden and Lucjan Owen, who were supposed to be dead. They're now the guardians of Japura. They possess great strength. Based on the rumors on the street, they should be at the peak of the Ninth Stair."

"What about Grandpa? How strong is he?"

James looked at Callan.

All this while, he had not been able to figure out his mysterious grandfather. He was interested in knowing how strong he was. Thomas had gained a lot while they were on the seas. He wanted to know how powerful he had become over the past three years.

"Rumors say that he's a half step away from the ninth rank. Though he's surpassed the Ninth Stair, he's yet to completely cross into the ninth rank. They call people at this stage a Half-Saint. Your grandfather is now the most powerful individual below the ninth rank."

Hearing this, James took a deep breath. He never expected so much to have happened in just three years.

"Besides, the Psychics of Merania have joined in the fun. I heard that the Thunder King, a Psychic from Merania, had a fierce battle against Thomas Caden of Japura. The Thunder King, who obtained the Dragon Essence and the dragon's blood, has absorbed them all over the past three years. Your grandfather was almost defeated, and it was only with the utilization of the Ascendant Star Art, a martial art created by Thomas himself, that he managed to defeat the Thunder King."

"What about the Omniscient Deity?"

James asked.

The Omniscient Deity was immortal. Since many powerful martial artists had shown themselves, James was curious about what he was up to.

Callan said, "There isn't much news about him. He's still running his intelligence network."

James asked, "Is there anything else?"

"A lot has happened over the past three years. I don't think I could finish telling you everything even if I spoke for three days straight."

"Tell me the important parts, then."

"Alright then, I'll tell you everything I know. Cheers!"

James clinked his glass against Callan's.

"So much has happened in the ancient martial world over the past three years. Powerful martial artists are springing up like mushrooms after the rain. Everyone who obtained the Dragon Essence has ascended the peak of the Ninth Stair. Meanwhile, some older folks have become Half-Saints. Rumors on the street are that Sky is the only one who's crossed into the ninth rank.

"As for Divine Sword Villa, they used the dragon's bone to forge a new divine sword by the name of Doomsday that's even more powerful than the Primordial Dragon Blade. This has spread the Divine Sword Villa's fame far and wide. Not only that, but Waylon Giovanni, the owner of Divine Sword Villa, has also ascended the peak of the Ninth Stair and is only a step away from becoming a Half-Saint.

"As for the Mount Thunder Sect, Simon Cabral has regained control once more. After consuming the dragon's blood, Delainey Cabral ascended the peak of the Ninth Stair in three short years. Similar to Maxine, she's been a dark horse in the ancient martial world over the past three years. Not only that, but I heard that Delainey, a highly-trained martial artist herself, created a new martial art six months ago. The martial art is called Geostigma and is extremely powerful. This has allowed the Mount Thunder Sect's fame and prestige to reach even greater heights."

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Hearing this, James could not help but be stunned. He never expected there to be such drastic changes in the ancient martial world in just three short years.

It seemed everyone had benefitted greatly from slaying the dragon three years ago. Things were even more chaotic now than they had been back then.

"By the way, what about the Blood Race? What have they been up to over the past three years?" James asked.

Callan said, "They've been keeping a low profile all this while. Apart from the First Blood Emperor who would occasionally show himself once in a while, the rest almost never appeared in public. They might be intimidated by the Solean ancient martial artists."

"I see..."

James said.

Then, holding the wine glass in his hand, he said, "What's the point of knowing all this? I'm now living a happy and carefree life. I'm not getting myself involved in this."

“But, can you stay out of it?”

Callan said, “Many powerful martial artists have emerged. You’ve cultivated the Lunar and Terra Art, an extraordinary martial art. Although you’ve yet to cross into the ninth rank, you aren’t someone to mess with. Aren’t you tempted to face them in battle?”

“Not interested.”

James leaned against his chair.

Their baby was due in two months, not to mention he had no desire to leave this tiny village. Living a life of seclusion served him fine.

“True.”

Callan said with a smile, “If only everyone could live a desire-free life like you, the world would be a much simpler and kinder place.”

“Hehe…”

James smiled faintly and said, “Alright, I have to plant the herbs I picked in the mountains.”

Hearing this, Callan took his leave.

Meanwhile, in Floret Palace…

It was a majestic palace. In the lead of the main hall sat a twenty-year-old-looking woman. Dressed in an elegant costume, her glamorous-looking face wore an ice-cold expression.

Many were kneeling before her.

“Master, we’ve found James Caden’s whereabouts. He has retreated into a secluded village in the southeast alongside Thea Callahan. Not only that, but Thea is pregnant. Her baby is due in two months.”

The man kneeling spoke fearfully.

The woman in the lead was Maxine, Master of Floret Palace.

She was called Maxine Caden in the past. However, she had severed all ties with her former household.

Maxine slowly stood up and said, “I understand. You’re dismissed.”

Though her voice was melodious, it was ice-cold.

She slowly walked out of Floret Palace.

A day later, she arrived at the residence of the Hansels in the southwest. The Hansels were an ancient family. However, they were a comparatively weaker family, with their most powerful members only at the fifth rank.

Today was the ninetieth birthday of Favion Hansel, the head of the Hansels. Various aristocrats and billionaires from the southwestern region gathered to celebrate.

Dressed in a red suit, Favion welcomed the guests warmly.

The scene was lively.

Clack! Clack! Clack!

The sound of footsteps could be heard, and a woman walked in.

The moment she walked in, she immediately became the limelight of the show. Silence filled the bustling venue, and everyone's gaze was fixed on her.

The woman was wearing an elegant dress, and the charisma she exuded stunned the crowd.

"Wh-Who is she?"

"She's so beautiful..."

"Is she a fairy?"

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"Pipe down! She could be Favion Hansel's friend. She looks like she possesses extraordinary strength." Many conversed in whispers.

Upon seeing Maxine, Favion momentarily froze. Wearing a puzzled expression on his face, he murmured, "Isn't she Maxine, Master of Floret Palace and the woman who left the Cadens' household? Why is she here?"

After collecting himself, Favion walked over to Maxine with a bright smile. "Welcome, Master of Floret Palace. What a surprise this is! Please make yourself comfortable."

Maxine's name had been well-known by all recently. It was natural for Favion to recognize her almost immediately.

As he thought Maxine was here for his birthday banquet, he welcomed her warmly.

However, Maxine looked at him coldly and simply raised her arm. Powerful energy gathered in her palm, and she struck Favion.

Favion was immediately sent flying.

The crowd fell silent as they watched Favion crash against the wall and collapse heavily to the ground. Vomiting a mouthful of blood, he tried to get up. However, Maxine's attack had shattered the meridians throughout his body. He could not even stand.

"You..."

He looked at her fearfully.

"Master of Floret Palace, the Hansels have never offended you. What do you mean by this?" he questioned.

Even though he was significantly weaker than Maxine, he had no other choice but to confront her.

"If you don't provide me with a satisfactory explanation, the Hansels will head over to the Mount Thunder Sect and seek its assistance in annihilating Floret Palace."

He said confidently.

Maxine glanced at him nonchalantly and said coldly, "There's a tiny village three hundred kilometers to the east where James Caden resides. Find him if you wish to live. If you can find him within three days, you'll live."

Leaving this ruthless remark, Maxine turned to leave.

After she left, everyone hurried over to Favion and helped him up.

"W-We have to find James!"

"Quick, help him out!"

At the same time, James was in his village. Crouching down, he observed the unique herb he had picked. He scrutinized it, sensing the movement of Spiritual Energy inside the herb.

Raising his arm, he catalyzed the Lunar and Terra Art. Then, he absorbed the herb's Spiritual Energy. As the Spiritual Energy entered his body, he could feel a soothing calmness. Even his True Energy, which had remained at the same level for three years, was boosted.

"What?"

James was delighted.

His True Energy had long reached a stage where he could no longer boost it. No matter how much he cultivated, his True Energy remained the same. Hence, the sudden increase in his True Energy delighted him.

Then, he catalyzed the Lunar and Terra Art once more and absorbed the herb's Empyrean Spiritual Energy. Soon, the herb's Empyrean Spiritual Energy was fully absorbed, and his True Energy increased by a little.

"How magical..."

James sat on the ground and murmured.

He was deep in contemplation.

"All these years, I've been using breathing methods to modify my body structure. My body is like a huge water tank, while True Energy is like water. If the container is full, I can no longer increase the volume of water. Now that my physical capabilities have improved, this means that my body's capacity for True Energy has increased.

"However, ordinary cultivation methods can't increase True Energy. Empyrean Spiritual Energy is the key to increasing True Energy..."

James finally figured it out.

He watched the herb intently.

Though the herb's Spiritual Energy had been completely absorbed by him, he could sense the herb now absorbing Spiritual Energy from the ground. In just a short amount of time, the herb began to exude a tiny trace of Spiritual Energy.

Judging by the herb's absorption speed, its Spiritual Energy would be fully restored within a week.

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Learning that his True Energy, which had been stagnant for three years, increased, James was delighted. "Thea!"

He rushed into the house excitedly.

At that moment, Thea was sitting on a chair in the courtyard while reading stories to her soon-to-be-born baby.

Upon seeing James rushing over to her, she rolled her eyes and said, "You're no longer a child, James. Calm down."

"Wait, I can explain! My True Energy increased after absorbing the Spiritual Energy of the herb. I'm heading to the back of the mountain to see if I can make a breakthrough."

Back then, James could not make a breakthrough no matter how hard he tried. Now, he was tempted to give it another try.

"Go on, then."

Thea waved her hand slightly,

After gaining her approval, he hurriedly turned to leave and headed to the back of the mountain.

Soon, he arrived in the woods behind the wooden house.

After finding an empty plot of land, he sat in a lotus position on the ground and catalyzed the Lunar and Terra Art.

The Lunar and Terra Art was a unique martial art that allowed one to cultivate both Terra and Lunar Energies, in other words, True Yang Energy and True Yin Energy respectively. Yang Energy represented Heavenly Breath, while Yin Energy represented Demonic Breath.

All these years, James and Thea had been researching and discussing the subject.

The moment he catalyzed the Lunar and Terra Art, two familiar yet distinct True Energies appeared. The two enveloped the other inside his elixir field and formed the pattern of Grand Extremity.

At that moment, he entered into an illusory state. Before him, an illusory flight of stairs appeared, and he slowly ascended them.

Soon, he arrived at the Ninth Stair.

Standing at the Ninth Stair, he looked at the greyish atmospheric barrier in the sky.

“Break!”

James raised his arm and struck the barrier.

However, the barrier was solid. Even though his True Energy was maxed out, he still could not make a dent in the barrier.

“What’s going on? Why won’t it work?”

James was puzzled.

He had been trying time and again over the past three years. Back then, he believed it was because he had insufficient True Energy. He thought that he could break the barrier if only he boosted his True Energy. Now, however, that hypothesis turned out to be false.

The barrier was formidable. No matter how much force he struck it with, he could not break it. After trying a few times, he gave up and returned home, crestfallen.

Thea was done with her prenatal education and was now sitting in the courtyard, sunbathing.

Upon seeing the dejected expression on James’ face, she knew that he had failed once again.

“Did you fail?”

“Mhm.” James nodded dejectedly and said, “Though my True Energy has been boosted, I still can’t break the barrier to become a Half-Saint. I’m rudderless... It’s been so many years. Why won’t it work?”

Thea said, “Everything will turn out fine.”

James sighed and returned to his room.

Thea watched James’ retreating figure. She had seen his crestfallen expression countless times. She knew that James would never be content living the remainder of his life in this tiny village. She knew he wanted to leave and head to the outside world.

She was content being able to spend three years of her life in seclusion alongside James.

At that moment, she had the temptation of allowing James to leave. However, her baby was due in two months. She could not compromise at such a crucial moment.

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

