

Chapter 1913

“It’s fine if you don’t get it. Whatever the case is, I’m going to be having an out-of-body experience now to check if my theory is correct! With that said, be sure to guard my body well in the meantime!” said Gerald.

“Got it, Mr. Crawford! Do be careful!” replied Rey as Gerald nodded before lying down...

Shortly after, his ghost form shot out from his body before diving downward!

Continuing to dive deeper and deeper, Gerald eventually came across the source of the duo’s plight... True to Gerald’s guess, there really was a giant mechanism underneath them this entire time!

With that mystery solved, Gerald knew that in order for them to escape this hellish loop, they would need to take a literal leap of faith after finding a specific number on the stairs... If they didn’t, they could very well end up living the rest of their lives on these stairs...

Regardless, now that he had learned all this, Gerald bolted back to his physical body... and upon re-entering it, he instantly yelled, “Bingo!”

Since Gerald had made such an abrupt return, it scared the living daylights out of Rey!

Once the youth finally calmed down, he could only look helplessly at Gerald as he muttered between pants, “D-d*mn it, Mr. Crawford...! You almost gave me a heart attack...! Don’t go shouting so abruptly...!”

To be fair, being all alone in such darkness would make anyone feel utterly terrified...

While even Gerald was momentarily stunned by Rey's reaction, he quickly snapped out of it before saying, "...Got it! Anyway, listen, I think I've found a way to get out of this place!"

"...H-huh? Really? Then what are we waiting for, Mr. Crawford? Lead the way!" replied Rey, instantly forgetting about being scared half to death just seconds earlier. After all, Rey's priority was to leave this place as soon as possible since he felt that he would go mad from anxiety if he had to stay in this place any longer...

Nodding in agreement, Gerald then began leading Rey down the stairs again... and eventually, he found the exact spot they needed to be at.

Seeing that they had stopped, the confused Rey couldn't help but ask, "...Um... Mr. Crawford...? Didn't you say we were leaving...? We've been descending the stairs for quite a while now..."

Hearing that, Gerald turned to face Rey before saying, "This is it. We're jumping down from here!"

"...H-huh?!" replied Rey as his jaw instantly dropped, unsure of whether he had heard right.

Upon seeing how determined Gerald's following nod was, the worried Rey immediately replied in a fearful tone, "P-please don't joke about this, Mr. Crawford... We can't even see the bottom from here! We'll surely die!"

After saying that, Rey couldn't help but gulp as he stared down... The longer he stared at the abyss, the more terrified he got...

Gerald himself simply raised a brow as he said, "...Rey, do you honestly think I'd joke about something

like this?"

While Rey was sure that Gerald wouldn't, his master's order to leap into the abyss was simply mind boggling...

Seeing how hesitant Rey was being, Gerald couldn't help but sigh as he added, "...Fine, I'll be jumping first then. However, if I do end up dying, good luck thinking of other ways to leave!"

Momentarily left stupefied by Gerald's absurd suggestion, Rey could only stare wide-eyed as Gerald leaped off the stairs without even waiting for his reply!

While Rey was left panicking, Gerald himself had made a safe landing atop another set of stairs...

Just as he had thought, the trick to escaping that loop was by hopping off the step with that specific number!

However, Rey wasn't aware that Gerald was still alive. With that in mind, it wasn't a surprise that he soon began calling out, "M-Mr. Crawford...!"

[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

Chapter 1914

Hearing how worried the boy was for his safety, Gerald couldn't help but smile subtly as he looked up while shouting, "What are you waiting for, Rey? Jump already!"

Upon hearing Gerald's response, Rey was instantly overjoyed. After all, not only was Gerald still alive, but he had apparently successfully found a way to escape this hellish loop!

Now that he knew this, Rey mustered up his courage... before leaping and plunging straight into the abyss!

Immediately screaming as he plummeted, his utter terror soon turned into confusion when he realized that his feet were already on the ground. The fall had barely even taken a second!

"...Was there really a need to scream that loudly..." grumbled Gerald whose ears were now throbbing due to how loud Rey had been.

While Gerald was left annoyed, Rey himself was so overjoyed—that he was still alive—that he immediately exclaimed, "I-I'm alive! And to think that the jump wasn't even all that long! W-we're finally free from those stairs, Mr. Crawford...!"

Shaking his head in resignation at how childish his disciple was being, Gerald simply patted him on the back before starting to walk toward the light before them...

Now realizing that the exit had been this close this entire time, Rey's eyes widened as he called out, "W-wait for me, Mr. Crawford!"

Quickly catching up to Gerald, the duo soon went past the shining exit... However, what awaited them was nothing short of surprising.

Beyond the exit, lay a worn-down place that looked utterly ravaged...

Staring at the near-endless towering pillars around them, Rey couldn't help but exclaim in awe, "H-holy cr*p! To think that such a place existed down here...! Everything here looks ancient!"

Though Gerald said nothing, he shared the same sentiments. After all, who wouldn't be amazed and shocked to find ancient ruins out of the blue...

Regardless, Gerald was first to break the silence by saying, "...Come on, let's have a look around!"

Nodding in agreement, Rey then began exploring the wondrous place with Gerald...

However, they had only taken a few steps forward when both of them stopped dead in their tracks.

Strange skittering sounds seemed to be quickly approaching them, and they could immediately tell that something was amiss. Was it danger...?

"...What... is that, Mr. Crawford...?" whispered Rey as he leaned in closer to Gerald.

Instead of replying with a guess, Gerald simply chose to slowly turn around, prompting Rey to do the same... and the second they saw what was coming for them, Rey's eyes immediately widened.

As it turned out, the sounds were coming from a hoard of giant scorpions!

"H-holy cr*p! Why the hell are those scorpions so massive?!" stuttered the quivering Rey.

“Shut it! And stop moving around so much!” ordered Gerald in a calm tone.

While it was his first time seeing such massive scorpions as well, he wasn't afraid of them at all. After all, he had already seen all kinds of horrifying ghosts, so how scary could scorpions be for him?

Though Gerald wasn't intimidated by the giant scorpions, that wasn't the case for Rey. He was completely frozen in fear as he watched the scorpions quickly encircle them, swaying their pointy stingers from time to time, seemingly prepared to attack them at any moment...

Small scorpion stings were already quite venomous, so Rey didn't even want to begin imagining how potent these large scorpions' stingers were... In fact, from how large and sharp those stingers looked, one would probably die from the stab alone...

[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

Chapter 1915

“W-what should we do now, Mr. Crawford...?” whispered Rey, gulping as he stared at all the giant scorpions around them. No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't see an opening for them to escape at all!

“Stay calm! I'm thinking!” replied Gerald as he continued looking around, hoping that it would help him devise an escape plan.

Thankfully, it wasn't long after before Gerald spotted a large door leading out of this area.

With their escape route in his sight, Gerald quickly whispered, “Rey, do you see that large door at your twelve o'clock?”

Turning to look in that direction, Rey then nodded before replying, "I do!"

"Good, now listen up. The plan is simple. You rush over to open that door while I distract the scorpions! Got it?" explained Gerald.

"L-loud and clear!" replied Rey, knowing that that was their best bet of surviving this encounter.

Hearing that, Gerald then drew his Astrabyss Sword before pushing Rey with his other hand while yelling, "Good! Now go!"

As Rey nodded before bolting toward the large door, Gerald himself began channeling his energy into the Astrabyss Sword, allowing it to emit its spiritblade.

Watching as the scorpions backed off a bit—after they saw the spiritblade—, Gerald took that chance to get a bit closer to Rey. He made sure to stick close enough to Rey to ensure that Rey wouldn't get sneak attacked by any hiding scorpions...

Thanks to the duo's teamwork, they were able to get Rey to the large door...

To Rey's dismay, however, no matter how hard he pushed, the door wouldn't budge! Then again, it wasn't really all that surprising. After all, the door was made of stone and it stood over thirty feet tall. There was no way Rey was ever going to be able to open it!

Understanding that, Rey yelled, “Um...! The door’s too heavy for me to open...!”

“Again, stay calm. I’m sure there’s a mechanism to open it!” replied Gerald who currently had his eyes on the giant scorpions that were now charging toward him!

Seeing that, Rey knew that it was all up to him now. If he failed to find the mechanism, then this would be their end... Because of that, failure wasn’t an option!

With that in mind, Rey quickly calmed himself before starting to search for the mechanism... and not long after, he found it!

The mechanism itself resembled a circular door handle, and after Rey pulled it, the large door instantly began shaking!

Taking a few steps back, Rey could only stare wide-eyed as the door finally swung open a few seconds later.

Delighted, Rey then yelled, “M-Mr. Crawford, come quick! The door’s open!”

Hearing that, Gerald instantly turned to charge for the exit... and moments later, both of them found themselves staring at the large scorpions—that had now stopped in their tracks—from the other side of the giant door...

Shortly after, the scorpions began retreating, prompting the confused Rey to ask, “...Huh? They’re... not chasing after us...?”

Staring as they scuttled off, Gerald simply replied, “Indeed... I’m assuming that they’re afraid of

something in here!”

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1916

After saying that, Gerald turned around and began exploring this new place with Rey...

Shortly after, they came across a spring of sorts that had crystal clear water that splashed all over the place...

Naturally, this surprised the duo. To think that there would be a spring here of all places...

“How odd to find a spring out of the blue!” exclaimed Rey as he walked over to the body of flowing water before scooping some up to drink...

Eyes-widening the second he gulped down, Rey couldn’t help but turn to face Gerald as he added, “Holy! The water’s sweet!”

Rey had never tasted such sweet and refreshing spring water in his entire life!

Hearing that, Gerald walked over as well to taste the water... and true to Rey’s words, the water truly was rather sweet.

The fact that a spring with such sweet water was down here in this horrible place truly was mystifying...

Before Rey could take another scoop, the water suddenly began bubbling, causing the youth to freeze in surprise.

It wasn't long after before the entire spring was filled with bubbles, and within seconds, all the water suddenly evaporated!

"...H-huh? The hell? How did all the water suddenly disappear!" exclaimed Rey in an incredulous tone.

Before Gerald could even theorize, however, a crisp 'crack' could be heard from the middle of the dried-out spring...

Fixing their gazes on the source of the sound, the duo simply watched as a slab of stone suddenly began rising from the center of the dried-out spring...

Exchanging glances with each other, Gerald and Rey slowly walked over as the stone slab shifted to the side... revealing what appeared to be a darkened entrance that led downward!

While Rey's first reaction was to stare at Gerald in disbelief, Gerald himself was already shining his flashlight to illuminate the bottom of the hole...

A while later, Gerald wordlessly began descending the hole... Of course, upon seeing that, Rey had no choice but to follow him down...

The hole itself led to a flat path, and the duo walked on until they eventually came across a huge chamber...

Seeing that there was a golden casket in the middle of the chamber, Rey couldn't help but exclaim, "...I-is that what I think it is...? My god! This chamber... it's a tomb!"

As Rey wondered how the hell their expedition ended up becoming a tomb exploration, Gerald himself began walking deeper into the tomb...

It was only a few steps later when the candles in the chamber suddenly let up, instantly brightening the entire tomb...

Now that everything was well lit, Gerald noticed that there was a tombstone within the chamber.

Walking over and seeing that ancient script had been carved onto the tombstone, Gerald turned to look at Rey before asking, "Say, can you read this?"

Gerald knew that Rey was a top student, which was why he felt that Rey had a chance of deciphering the text.

Regardless, Rey quickly jogged over before having a look at the tombstone...

It took him a while, but eventually, Rey replied, "Well... It contains information about this tomb's owner, Mr. Crawford! From what I've gathered, the owner of the tomb goes by Talias Yah, and he was a general in an ancient country called Zanekh... To think that the tomb of such a great general could be found within Mount Dakriont... How stupefying!"

Upon hearing that, Gerald immediately knew that they couldn't touch anything in here. After all, triggering a trap in such a high-profile tomb would surely spell their doom...

As he was thinking of that, the corner of Gerald's eyes suddenly caught a glimpse of a familiar symbol on the golden casket... Where had he seen that before...

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1917

Looking at Gerald's raised eyebrow, Rey couldn't help but ask, "Is... something wrong, Mr. Crawford...? Did you find something...?"

"...See that symbol there? I feel like I've seen it somewhere before..." muttered Gerald as he continued flipping through his memories...

Sometime later, he suddenly yelled, "I remember now!"

Following that, Gerald fished the map out before quickly scanning through it.

Raising a slight brow, Rey then inched closer to look at the map as well... and when he finally realized that the exact symbol—on the casket—could be found on the map, Rey immediately exclaimed, "...Holy, is that... Then... Instead of going after the treasure, Tye was trying to locate this tomb this entire time...?!"

"I'm guessing so!" replied Gerald with a nod, finally a hundred percent sure that Tye was up to no good. But what was he scheming...?

As Gerald was wondering about that, Tye and his men finally made it to Moonbeam Village...

Despite Gerald taking pity on them and allowing them to live, Tye wasn't about to give up on his goals that easily. Still, without the map, Tye and his men had remained lost in the mountain's forests for ages...

Regardless, upon attempting to step foot into the village, Stanton—who just so happened to see them—immediately rushed over before asking, “And who might all of you be?”

As more of the villagers ran over to stand behind Stanton, they knew why he was being so vigilant. After all, Tye and his men looked incredibly suspicious...

Raising a slight brow, Tye then glared at the old man before replying in an annoyed tone, “That isn't important. Regardless, have you recently come across three individuals dressed like us?”

Stanton was no idiot. From Tye's expression alone, he could already tell that the man wasn't a good person. With that, he simply shook his head as he replied, “...I'm afraid not! It's been ages since anyone from the outside world came to our village! Speaking of the outside world, how did all of you get here?”

Upon hearing that, Tye squinted his eyes at the chief, wondering if the old man was telling the truth...

Unfortunately, at that very moment, a young woman came jogging toward Stanton while yelling, “The meal's ready, chief! Have the three wise men returned yet?”

While Stanton was surprised to hear that statement, Tye and his men immediately frowned.

Now fully aware that Stanton had lied to them, Tye then yelled, “How dare you lie to me, old man!”

Stanton himself was at a loss for words. That young woman truly had arrived at the worst possible time...

Seeing that Stanton wasn't keen on replying, Tye then grabbed the old man by his collar before roaring, "Enough games! Where the hell are those three!"

It was clear by now that Tye's hatred for Gerald was beyond words... Tye himself had even sworn to show Gerald no mercy the next time they bumped into him.

Whatever the case was, Stanton hardly even flinched at Tye's attempt at intimidating him. Instead, the old man simply replied, "How should I know? They simply left without telling us where they were headed to!"

"Are you honestly still lying to me? Don't blame me for being ruthless then!" scowled Tye with a snort, his gut telling him that Gerald and his party were well acquainted with Stanton. After all, why else would the old man lie about something like this?

Following that, Tye ordered his men to gather all the villagers. Once that was done, Tye also instructed them to tie Stanton to the pillar at the village's entrance...

"I'm going to ask one final time... Tell me where they went!" shouted Tye, believing that the old man would finally spill the beans now.

"I've already told you, I don't know!"

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1918

Despite how serious Stanton looked as he scowled back, Tye wasn't buying it.

Now fully enraged, Tye glared at his men before ordering, "Men! Beat this old b*stard up till he talks!"

Hearing that, two of Tye's men then stepped forward with whips in hand... and without the slightest mercy, they began whipping the poor old man!

Naturally, the other villagers instantly became enraged, and some of the bolder ones even rushed forward to rescue their poor chief!

Seeing that, Tye simply shook his head, glaring at those who dared oppose him as his hand quickly reached out for his pistol...

And with a deafening 'bang', one of the courageous villagers flopped to the ground, dead...

Upon witnessing that horrifying scene, none of the other villagers dared to take another step forward...

Tye himself simply sneered, "Listen, every time you refuse to tell me where they are, I'll just kill another villager! With that in mind, you'd better start fessing up already! Still, I'm glad nobody even knows about your village! Because of that, I can do whatever I want with you!"

"Chief, just give them the information!" called out one of the villagers, not wanting the entire village to get massacred just for the sake of protecting those three wise men.

“Yeah, chief! Our entire village is at stake here!”

“Please, just tell them, chief...!”

One after another, the villagers continued pleading Stanton to share Gerald’s location with them... and eventually, the chief knew he didn’t really have any other choice. After all, he needed to prioritize his village’s safety.

With that, Stanton sighed before declaring, “...Fine. I’ll tell you on one condition! You have to leave us once you get the information! Deal?”

“Deal!” replied Tye without the slightest hesitation.

“They’ve gone deeper into the mountain! To be more specific, they entered a cave with two stone pillars before it!” said Stanton.

Hearing that, Tye’s expression instantly soured. To think that Gerald was able to locate the exact cave Tye himself was trying to look for!

“Hah! Not bad...” replied Tye with a nod, a sinister smile on his face as he slowly aimed his gun at Stanton’s chest... and with the pull of a trigger, a bullet shot through the old man’s chest.

“C-chief...!” cried out the villagers as Stanton spat out a mouthful of blood... before his head drooped and his limbs went completely limp...

After staring for a while at their chief’s fresh corpse, several of the villagers turned to glare at Tye while roaring, “How... How inhumane...! You utter b*stard...!”

“You promised you’d leave us be! Why did you have to kill our chief?! You demon!”

Upon hearing all those curses, Tye’s frown only worsened as he aimed his pistol at the villagers... and just like that, several more villagers fell to the ground, dead.

Each bullet had hit its mark, and as Tye reloaded his gun, he yelled out, “Kill them all! Make sure you don’t miss anyone!”

Nodding in response, Tye’s men then retrieved their knives... and the massacre soon began.

By the time Tye and his men were done, the entire village population had been wiped out. Moonbeam village was no more...

How absolutely vile...

[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

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Moving back to Gerald and Rey, they had no way of knowing about the massacre that had taken place at Moonbeam Village. Even so, it was pretty much guaranteed that Gerald wouldn’t let Tye and his men off the second he found out about what they had done...

Regardless, since they were both standing before the casket now, Rey was prompted to ask, “Should... we open the casket and have a look inside, Mr. Crawford...?”

“Negative. I truly believe that something terrible will happen if we do,” replied Gerald, instantly causing Rey to give up on his idea.

Even so, he couldn't help but remain curious about the contents of the golden casket. After all, Tye had been trying so hard to search for it. What kind of treasures lay within...?

“...Say, Mr. Crawford? What kinds of treasures do you think are in this tomb for Tye to travel so far just to obtain them...?” asked Rey.

Shaking his head in response, Gerald then said, “I have no idea, though I believe the things he's after lies within that casket!”

Though Gerald knew that the casket was bad news, he also had a pretty good idea that it contained something extremely valuable. After all, Tye was trying so hard to get it.

Whatever the case was, Gerald then began searching high and low around the chamber. After all, he was sick of remaining trapped in here.

Rey started doing the same, and with their combined efforts, the duo eventually managed to find a way out!

Quickly making their way out, the two soon found themselves stepping into a forest of sorts...

Still, Gerald and Rey were much too glad to finally be able to see the sky again to be bothered by that. With how stale the air in the cave had been, the two men couldn't help but feel extremely relaxed now that they could finally take whiffs of fresh air...

Exhaling loudly, Rey then sat on the ground before exclaiming, "Thank god we're finally out of that place, Mr. Crawford...!"

"Indeed! Let's head back now!" replied Gerald.

At that very moment, both of their ears perked as several rustling sounds could be heard in the distance!

Immediately getting vigilant, the duo then hid themselves well before peeking out to see who was making all that noise... and the second they saw the culprits, Gerald and Rey were rightfully surprised.

"Mr. Crawford...! It's Tye and his men!" whispered Rey.

Gerald himself was much too busy wondering how they had found their way here so quickly without the map.

Whatever the case was, Tye and his men appeared to be fully focused on getting to the cave. With that in mind, they were unable to detect Gerald and Rey...

Remembering that the cave wasn't too far off from here, Gerald had a hunch that the group would soon come across it...

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Visit chapter list for next chapter

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[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

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[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

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Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1920

Once the men were out of sight, Rey then turned to look at Gerald as he asked, "So... what now, Mr. Crawford...?"

"Well, we've already got what we wanted so let's just return to the village. As for Tye and his men... I have a pretty good hunch that even if they do manage to find the tomb, they won't be getting out alive!" replied Gerald who had zero interest in the casket.

Gerald had made that bold claim for a reason. After thoroughly investigating the chamber, Gerald had gathered that there were several hidden traps in the tomb. What more, most of the traps appeared to be activated by touching different parts of the golden casket.

With that in mind, if Tye and his men insisted on opening the casket, they would surely end up triggering a deadly trap or ten, dying miserably in the process...

Whatever the case was, Gerald and Rey then began making their way back to Moonbeam Village...

However, the second they got to the village's entrance, both of them froze in their tracks.

Strapped onto one of the village entrance's stone pillars, was Stanton's corpse...! As if that wasn't already terrible enough, from where they stood, the two could already see the many dead bodies littered all over the place...!

Rey was the first to break the silence as he angrily growled, "...Who... Who could have done this...?! What the hell happened here?!"

“...It was definitely Tye and his men. Those... Those utter b*stards are as inhumane as beasts...!” replied Gerald, clenching his teeth as he tried his hardest to keep his cool.

From what Gerald could guess, Tye must have killed all of the villagers in order to locate him and Rey! Only a beast like Tye could commit such a heinous act...

Seeing that Gerald was clenching his fists so tightly that his veins looked like they were about to pop, Rey lowered his, his eyes fully reddened in rage as he growled, “...What should we do now, Mr. Crawford?”

Upon hearing that, Gerald found himself momentarily at a loss for words. After all, he and Rey were part of the reason why this tragic event happened in the first place, and knowing that brought endless amounts of guilt to Gerald...

After thinking for a bit, Gerald eventually calmed himself enough to say, “...We return to the chamber. We need to avenge everyone here...!”

Rey naturally agreed with that plan, and the duo quickly began retracing their steps...

As they continued making their way to the tomb, Gerald swore that he was going to make Tye and his men pay.

While the earlier Gerald didn't really care if the casket's traps killed that b*stard and his men, the current Gerald wasn't about to allow that to happen. In order to properly avenge the villagers, he was going to personally end them all...!

Regardless, since they already knew where they were going, their journey back to the cave was much swifter this time...

Moving back to Tye and his men, they had earlier managed to enter the cave. After messing around with the mechanisms on the back of the door, they were able to uncover the same hole that Gerald and Rey had fallen through.

“Score! I’m sure the tomb is down there! Men! Start descending!” ordered Tye as his men obediently began sliding down the hole...

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1921

Since Gerald and Rey had earlier dismantled all the traps leading to the chamber, Tye and his men had little trouble getting to the tomb, and upon seeing the casket for the first time, Tye instantly went giddy with excitement.

Laughing triumphantly, Tye’s eyes glinted greedily as he ran toward the casket while yelling, “I’ve finally found you! After all this time!”

Seeing how delighted Tye was, one of his confused men couldn’t help but ask, “Um... Whose tomb is this, Charman Lamano...?”

“Hmm? This is the tomb of a great general of the ancient country of Zanekh! While there are countless treasures in this tomb, the most priceless one can be found in this very casket! Based on the rumors I’ve heard, there’s a ten-thousand-year-old pearl in there that’s capable of preserving a body for eternity!” explained Tye as his hand caressed the golden casket.

“R-really? That’s one hell of a treasure then!” exclaimed the man who had asked.

“You bet it is! Now enough talk! Hurry and get me the casket-opening tools we brought along!” ordered Tye, prompting his men to do as he instructed.

Tye himself had been very specific when selecting the tools since he wanted the process of opening the casket to be perfect.

Still, Tye couldn’t help but feel surprised that Gerald and Rey had left the casket alone despite successfully making their way here...

Whatever the case was, everything got set up quickly and before long, the casket was finally ready to be opened...!

Before Tye could order for it to be opened, however, a voice suddenly roared out, “Don’t you dare open it!”

As the words echoed across the chamber’s walls, Tye turned to glare at the source of the voice... and of course, the voice belonged to Gerald.

“Gerald Crawford...!” growled Tye, his voice brimming with hatred. After all, he hadn’t forgotten that Gerald had stolen his map!

“Tye Lamano! You’d best not open Talias’s casket! While what you want may be inside, I assure you that you’ll definitely come to regret letting whatever’s in there out!” sneered Gerald.

Despite the clear warning from Gerald, Tye’s hatred and urge to kill Gerald had completely blinded the man.

With that in mind, Tye simply retorted, “Like I care! Also, don’t even dream about leaving this place alive! You’re meeting your maker today if it’s the last thing I do!”

“You dare threaten me after killing everyone in Moonbeam Village? Are you even human anymore, you b*stard?!” scowled Gerald, his wrath growing by the second.

Laughing mockingly, Tye simply scoffed, “So what if I killed them? Though to be honest, if anyone’s to blame for their deaths, it should be you! Hah!”

Hearing how unremorseful Tye was being, Gerald’s rage skyrocketed as he glared at Tye while yelling, “You... You’ll pay for all this...!”

While Gerald already saw Tye as a dead man, Tye himself simply thought that Gerald was talking big. After all, Tye clearly had the upper hand in terms of manpower.

With that, he chose to ignore Gerald as he declared, “Enough! Men, open the casket!”

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Nobody was going to get in his way of opening the casket, not even Gerald!

“You’re a dead man, Tye!” roared Gerald as he bolted toward the evil man.

“Stop him!” yelled Tye as several of his men quickly stood before Gerald, blocking him from reaching Tye!

However, Gerald wasn’t in the mood to waste time with these buffoons. Swiftly attacking them, all he needed was a single hand to send all of the men flying!

Seeing that, Tye’s other men immediately took action as well.

Tye himself was too busy prying the casket open—along with three other men—to even bother about Gerald. In his mind, getting the casket open was his top priority...

Regardless, Tye’s men were naturally no match against Gerald, and he easily pummelled them to the ground.

Upon hearing his men’s agonized screams, Tye was finally forced to look away from the casket.

Realizing that the rest of his men were too injured to even get up anymore, Tye’s eyes could only widen as Gerald began coming for him next!

Since the only men he had left were the three who were currently helping him open the casket, Tye gritted his teeth as he yelled, “You three! Go stop him!”

Doing as Tye instructed, the three men immediately charged toward Gerald... Only to find themselves getting slapped so hard they were instantly knocked out!

Eyes now fully widened, Tye knew that he wasn't going to be able to take on Gerald alone. With that in mind, he pointed at Gerald before shouting, "You... Don't you dare take a step further! An inch closer and I'll open the casket! We'll surely die together then!"

Hearing that, Gerald stopped in his tracks before glaring back at Tye as he retorted, "Do you honestly think that'll stop me from ending you? I've said it once, and I'll say it again. You're paying the price for massacring all the villagers in Moonbeam Village!"

Once Gerald had his mind set on killing someone, nobody would be able to stop him from doing the deed. Gerald, for one, knew that if he didn't kill Tye today, then the current resentment in his heart would never truly go away. Revenge needed to be taken for Stanton and the villagers...!

"Hah! Had you not stolen my map, I wouldn't have had to kill them in the first place! With that in mind, you're the true reason why they're all dead! Stop putting the blame on me!" yelled Tye without the slightest remorse for his actions.

"Cut the cr*p! Look, if you let go of the casket's lid, I'll consider granting you a painless death. If you don't, well, I'll make sure you die extremely slowly and painfully!" growled Gerald, knowing full well that speaking with this demonic man was only a waste of breath.

In response to Gerald's threat, Tye simply laughed maniacally. As if he would ever listen to Gerald after what that boy did...

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1923

Regardless, once he was done laughing, Tye used all his strength to lift the lid off the casket!

Though Gerald immediately leaped forward and kicked Tye into the air after seeing that, the deed had been done. With the casket now open, the entire chamber began shaking violently, sending debris—from the ceiling—falling everywhere...!

Even so, Gerald's attention was currently on more worrying things, like the black mist that had just flown out the golden casket! Just as Gerald had predicted, there was something extremely dangerous within that casket!

Whatever the case was, things were looking bad.

With that in mind, Gerald immediately retreated from the chamber and reunited with Rey who had been hiding at a blind spot right outside the chamber.

Upon seeing Gerald, Rey quickly asked, "W-what should we do now, Mr. Crawford...?!"

"Run, of course! We need to get out of here!" yelled Gerald as he grabbed Rey's arm before yanking him toward the exit.

Though escaping this place unscathed was his priority, Gerald made sure to take a few glances behind him as the duo ran on...

While the black mist didn't go after Gerald or Rey, it completely surrounded Tye and his men! From the looks of it, the mist appeared to be rapidly draining Tye's men's life forces! Though that may sound horrible, it was nothing compared to the agony Tye was probably feeling.

After all, in that brief moment Gerald caught sight of Tye, he saw that the black mist had pierced right through the back of Tye's head... and it was currently protruding out of his mouth! What a truly terrifying way to die...

Still, Gerald made sure to remind himself that it was none of his business...

Soon after, Gerald and Rey safely made it out of the exit. Before even thinking of leaving, however, the duo made sure to properly seal the entrance up so that the black mist wouldn't be able to escape...

Once that was out of the way, both of them sat on the ground, exhausted.

Rey himself was panting much heavier than Gerald was. After all, he was still new to witnessing such dangerous chains of events, and all this happening within a tomb certainly didn't help!

Whatever the case was, there was a silver lining to all this. After all, Tye and his men had received the retribution they deserved...

The only regret Gerald had was that he wasn't able to kill that devil of a man with his own hands...

Regardless, after catching their breaths, Gerald turned to look at Rey before saying, "...Alright, now that all this is done, let's return to the village. We need to give the villagers a proper burial!"

After Rey nodded in agreement, the two then began walking back to Moonbeam Village...

Upon arriving, both of them immediately got to work burying Stanton and the rest of the villagers... While they were at it, they made sure to clean up the mess Tye and his men had made as well.

To think that Moonbeam Village would no longer exist from this day onward...

Though it was saddening, Gerald and Rey knew that there was not much else they could do. With that, once they were done with everything, they packed their things up and prepared to leave...

However, just as they were about to leave the village, a black figure suddenly bolted out of the forest and yelled, "It's time to meet your end, Gerald!"

Instantly recognizing Tye's voice, the two were rightfully startled that he was still alive! What more, he appeared much more vicious compared to before!

However, the second Gerald snapped out of it, he couldn't help but raise a slight brow. From the looks of it, Tye's entire body was now covered in unnerving-looking black bumps...

"...So, you're still alive, huh?" replied Gerald as he scanned Tye's new body from head to toe.

Laughing aloud, Tye then sneered, "I bet you didn't expect this, huh? Just so you know, I'm now stronger than ever! After all, the soul of that Zaneke general is now within me! With that in mind, of course I wouldn't die that easily! Regardless, I have big plans to conquer the world and establish my own empire... but before any of that, I'll be starting small by finally ending both of your lives!"

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1924

Following that, Tye glared evilly at the duo as he blasted an orb of black mist toward Gerald and Rey!

The two were able to dodge to the side in time, and seeing that Rey stood no chance here, Gerald immediately instructed, “Find someplace to hide! I’ll deal with him!”

Simply nodding in response, Rey then ran into one of the village houses as Gerald unsheathed the Astrabyss Sword.

Narrowing his eyes as his murderous intent surged, Gerald then yelled, “Since you’re not dead yet, I’ll take this chance to personally finish you off, Tye! The chief and the villagers are going to be avenged no matter what!”

Just as Gerald was finding it fitting that he could still personally avenge the innocents, Tye simply responded with a disdainful laugh. From that alone, it was clear that the current Tye was even less afraid of Gerald than he previously was. To him, Gerald was simply an ant that he could easily crush now.

“Talking big, eh? Fine! Try me!” scoffed Tye as he grinned before charging toward Gerald with inhuman speed!

The black mist had clearly improved his speed and strength, and in the blink of an eye, Tye was already right in front of Gerald, his fist—that was currently covered in black flames—well positioned and ready to strike...!

Gerald, however, didn’t even flinch. Instead, he simply lifted his blade to block the attack!

Since the Astrabyss was such a powerful sword, it easily deflected Tye's attack.

Naturally, this momentarily stunned Tye, and he immediately thought that the sword was the reason Gerald was so powerful.

"...Oh? To think that you had such a good weapon! Allow me to kill you so that I can be its next owner!" scoffed Tye with a malicious grin.

"Hah! Come and get it if you can!" retorted Gerald as he laughed mockingly.

Before Tye could even react, Gerald then channeled his energy into the blade, sending Tye flying backward!

Tye had just gained his new powers. In other words, there was no way he was going to be able to deal with someone well trained with the Astrabyss Sword like Gerald.

Whatever the case was, Gerald wasn't about to allow Tye to recover from that attack. With that, he shot out a powerful spiritblade toward Tye!

Unable to avoid the attack in time, Tye ended up getting hit by the full brunt of the attack!

Now seriously injured by the Astrabyss Sword, Tye finally accepted that he was currently no match against Gerald. He needed to escape!

"...You may win today, Gerald, but we'll see who'll have the last laugh!" yelled Tye as his body quickly dissipated into a black mist before making a speedy escape.

Upon seeing that, Gerald was momentarily stunned. Now that Tye was no longer human, Gerald knew that taking him out wasn't going to be all that easy anymore. Still, that didn't change the fact that he still needed to end Tye if it was the last thing he did...

Regardless, upon realizing that the fight was over, Rey quickly got out from the house he was hiding in and jogged toward Gerald before asking in a worried tone, "...What now, Mr. Crawford...?"

Rey was rightfully worried since Tye, a man who had been a bad egg from the start—and had only grown more powerful—, was now on the loose... Who knew what kind of damage he could now do with all that strength...?

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1925

Gerald was currently at a loss as well, so he simply said, "...We'll think about it once we get back!"

Since this matter needed to be planned carefully, Gerald felt that they had to do it in the safety of their home.

Naturally, Rey agreed, and after traveling for an entire day, the two finally made it back...

Upon entering their living room, the duo saw Juno and Yrsa sitting there watching television.

Realizing that they were home, Juno immediately got off the couch before excitedly walking up to them

while exclaiming, “You’re back!”

Rey himself simply walked past her and dived into the couch before yelling, “Oh god! It feels great to be back...!”

Watching as Rey then sighed loudly, Juno could already tell that this mission hadn’t gone smoothly. With that in mind, she turned to face Gerald before asking, “Is... everything alright, Gerald...?”

Simply shaking his head, Gerald replied, “It’s nothing. We’re just tired!”

That wasn’t a lie either. Gerald was pretty exhausted by this point, and he would rather discuss things after he had a good sleep. Too many things had happened during the trip, and Gerald knew for a fact that he needed the rest.

Despite knowing that, Gerald found it hard to bring Tye out of his mind. After all, he knew that that b*stard wasn’t about to let them go that easily. Tye would surely return eventually and who knew what kinds of horrible things he would do then?

Forcing that thought out, Gerald then chatted with Juno and Yrsa for a while before dragging Rey back to their respective rooms to get some well-deserved rest...

Looking at the two, Juno couldn’t help but feel slightly distressed. After all, it wasn’t common for Gerald to get this exhausted.

With that in mind, Juno and Yrsa headed out on their own to get some high-quality ingredients. Their

plan was to make a hearty dinner for Gerald and Rey to help replenish their energy...

It was around eight that night when Gerald and Rey finally woke up again. This had been the most comfortable sleep they had had in a while...

To their pleasant surprise, they were immediately greeted by the sight of a feast upon entering the dining room. Anyone would feel touched to see such a grandiose meal prepared for them after a long and hard day, and the two weren't any exceptions. Honestly, it felt like they were married men being served delicious food after returning from work...

Still, Gerald couldn't help but wonder how much longer such nice days could last...

That thought, however, was cut short when Rey—who had already sat by the dining table—yelled, “Holy! Come quick, Mr. Crawford! There's so much good food!”

Smiling when she saw the familiar glint of excitement return to Rey's eyes, Juno then explained, “Consider it to be me and Yrsa's treat! We prepared this for you since you looked like you had a hard and exhausting trip this time around! Now go on and enjoy your well-deserved meal!”

“You're too kind, Miss Zorn! Thank you!” replied Rey who was all smiles.

“Hey, I made some of the dishes too, you know! Where's my thanks?” said Juno with a slight pout.

Chuckling awkwardly in response, Rey then grinned sheepishly as he replied, “Sorry Yrsa! I just got too excited back there!”

Rolling her eyes, Yrsa couldn't help but reveal a subtle smile as she said, “...Humph! Good enough!”

Happy that Yrsa didn't seem to mind anymore, Rey then began digging in...

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1926

While Rey was jovial, Gerald—on the other hand—hadn't even budged from his initial spot, a grave expression on his face...

Seeing that Gerald appeared deep in thought, Juno cleared her throat before asking, "...Is... something wrong, Gerald...? Is the food not to your liking...?"

Upon hearing that, Gerald quickly snapped out of it before replying, "...Huh? Oh, no, I was just thinking about something!"

With that said, Gerald then took a seat by the dining table and began eating as well...

Even so, all Gerald ate was a bowl of rice before getting up and leaving for the living room...

In a typical situation, that would immediately signify that there was going to be a lot of leftovers. However, Rey wasn't a typical person.

His appetite was voracious, and in the end, he finished up most of the dishes without any trouble!

Regardless, now that dinner was over, the trio joined Gerald in the living room to start talking things out.

Juno was the first to break the silence as she asked, "Um... Gerald...? What's bothering you...? You haven't looked great ever since you returned!"

"...I'm worried about Tye. Long story short, he managed to turn into a half-phantom like me, and the worst thing is that I don't even know where he's currently run off to!" explained Gerald.

"...Don't worry, Gerald! I'm sure we'll be able to finish him off soon!" replied Juno, knowing that verbally supporting him was the only way she could help at the moment...

It was at that moment when a black figure descended from the night sky before slipping into the Sun Group's massive building... Of course, who else could it be but Tye Lamano...

After leaving the forest and returning to the city, Tye had waited till night before finally daring to step foot into his company again. After all, he didn't want to risk getting seen by others in broad daylight.

Whatever the case was, after returning to his office, Tye immediately got a bottle of wine from his cabinet before taking a few sips of it...

Shortly after, however, a voice from outside suddenly called out, "Who goes there?"

Before Tye could even turn around, a security guard had already pushed the door open and walked in.

Noticing the black figure, the security guard instantly shone his flashlight at Tye's back while asking in an intimidating tone, "Who are you? Who let you in here?"

From that statement alone, it was evident that the guard had no idea that he was talking to Tye. Not that it mattered to Tye as he slowly turned around to reveal his true face...

Upon realizing who it was, the guard's eyes widened in shock. Before he could even say a word, however, Tye momentarily disappeared before reappearing right in front of him!

Squeezing the guard's neck with a single hand, Tye watched as the guard's face turned increasingly red. Unable to breathe, the guard's eyes soon went white, showing just how much pain he was in.

Regardless, after the guard's flashlight fell to the floor, Tye took the chance to release a black mist from his mouth... that quickly slithered into the guard's mouth!

The second that happened, the guard's body immediately began convulsing violently as his face turned fully pale...! Within seconds, the guard's body moved no more...

Not only had Tye absorbed all of the guard's energy, but he had also consumed his soul!

With that done, the immense damage he had sustained from the Astrabyss Sword was finally cured, allowing Tye to feel refreshed again... As it turned out, Tye was now capable of draining human souls and energy...!

Staring at the flashlight on the ground, Tye stomped it to pieces in a single step...

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter List

Chapter 1927

Flopping onto the couch before staring at the ceiling, Tye then growled, "Just you wait, Gerald... I'm not letting you off that easily...!"

Whenever he thought about Gerald, the hatred in his heart would simply flare up. No matter what, he was going to make sure Gerald paid the price...!

Fast forward to the next morning, Gerald got up early and silently left the house on his own.

He was off to see Master Snyder in hopes of asking him whether he knew of a way to deal with Tye in his current state...

When he arrived at Master Snyder's home about half an hour later, the door immediately swung open before Gerald could even knock.

"Come in!" called out Master Snyder from inside, making it evident that he had already sensed Gerald's presence.

With that in mind, Gerald then walked in, the door closing behind him on its own...

Stopping once he stood in the middle of the hall, Gerald then called out, "Master Snyder!"

Following that, Gerald felt a swift gust of wind behind him... and just like that, Master Snyder had mysteriously appeared behind the youth!

"I'm assuming you came here looking for answers to that dilemma?" asked Master Snyder, clearly hinting that he already knew what Gerald was here to ask him.

Turning to face Master Snyder, Gerald then replied, "Indeed. I hope you can provide me with a suitable solution to this!"

"Confrontation is the only answer I can see... There's simply no escaping that if you wish to deal with the issue..." replied Master Snyder before giving a heavy sigh.

While Gerald understood that Master Snyder was telling him to face Tye head-on, he couldn't help but say, "But-"

"But he's a half-phantom now, right? While that does make things much harder, it'll be even worse if you wait to confront him. After all, he's getting stronger and stronger by the day! If you didn't already know, Tye is currently possessed by a strong thousand-year-old ghost. With that in mind, he has the capability to drain souls and energy!" explained Master Snyder before Gerald could even finish his question.

"...What? Are you telling me he can drain the souls and energy of people anytime he wants now?" exclaimed the shocked Gerald, suddenly feeling that things had taken a terrible turn.

“Indeed. However, he does have one critical weakness. His powers are considerably weakened during the day! With that in mind, that is the prime time for you to strike! However, do take note that his powers grow once night falls!” replied Master Snyder, knowing that the information could definitely help Gerald.

Upon hearing that, Gerald simply nodded. While it was clear from the start that taking Tye down—in his new form—was never going to be easy, Gerald was unwavering on his decision to kill Tye. That man wasn’t going to bring any more harm to the world if Gerald could help it...!

At that moment, Gerald’s phone began to ring.

Fishing it out, Gerald realized that it was Harold. What more, he seemed to be calling from the Great Council building.

Putting two and two together, Gerald figured that Harold must have encountered another psychic case that he needed help with.

Though Gerald hesitated for a while, he eventually picked up and greeted, “Hello? Mr. Lee?”

“Good day, Mr. Crawford! Sorry to disturb you, but could I know whether you’re currently free?” asked Harold.

“Is something wrong, Mr. Lee?” replied Gerald.

“Essentially, there’s a tricky case I can’t solve alone and I need your help!”

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1928

As Gerald had guessed, Harold was calling to have a mystery solved...

However, knowing that the dangerous Tye was probably already somewhere within the city, Gerald wasn't about to prioritize anything else. Besides, it wasn't as if he needed to help Harold every time he was asked to solve a mystery.

With that in mind, Gerald simply replied, "Unfortunately, Mr. Lee, I'm currently not available... There are some things I still need to take care of..."

"I see... But hear me out first, Mr. Crawford! There's been a murder at the Sun Group building and the victim, a security guard of the company, ended up being sucked dry! This description may be a bit poetic, but it almost seems like his soul had been sucked out!" explained Harold.

"Come again? The Sun Group? A dried-up corpse?!" exclaimed Gerald, instantly recalling that Tye now had the power to drain human souls and energy. To top it all off, the murder had happened in the Sun Group building! The culprit was definitely Tye!

"Indeed, Mr. Crawford! So please, could you-"

"I'm coming over!" replied Gerald before Harold could even finish his sentence.

Immediately hanging up before Harold could say anything else, Gerald then turned to face Master Snyder while saying, "I'll be leave-"

However, Master Snyder was no longer there! Then again, it wasn't as though Gerald hadn't expected that. The man simply enjoyed disappearing and reappearing whenever he liked...

Whatever the case was, Gerald then bowed slightly before respectfully declaring, "Thank you for the advice, Master Snyder! I'll be taking my leave now!"

The second Gerald's sentence ended, the door slowly creaked open, signifying that Master Snyder had heard the comment.

Nodding in response, Gerald then left the house before speeding off...

It was only when Gerald began driving off when Master Snyder reappeared at his bedroom window. Staring at the car as it quickly disappeared in the distance, Master Snyder then sighed heavily as he muttered, "This is all part of the process for you to become an outstanding cultivator, Gerald...!"

With that said, Master Snyder then vanished again...

Fast forward to ten minutes later, Gerald's car came to a screeching halt before the Sun Group building. It was honestly his first time coming here, and he hadn't anticipated the building to be so large up-close.

Regardless, he quickly snapped out of his awe and began walking past all the cars—owned by the Great Council's members—before going over the cordon tape that surrounded the building...

After entering and asking a few inspectors where Harold was, he was directed to the sixteenth floor, the floor where Tye's office was.

With that in mind, Gerald quickly made his way there...

Upon entering the office, Gerald saw that Harold and his subordinates were already busy investigating the area while also discussing what they had found.

“Mr. Lee!” called out Gerald as he began walking toward the man.

The second he saw Gerald, Harold looked like he had just come across his savior. After all, when it came to the supernatural, Harold knew that he could rely on Gerald...

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1929

Not wanting to waste any time, Gerald immediately asked, “So, what’s the situation like?”

“Well, you already know that the victim is a security guard of the Sun Group. From what we’ve gathered, the time of death should be around midnight yesterday, and we’re assuming he must have encountered something paranormal since his body is all dried up! His eyes are milky white as well!” explained Harold as Gerald went ahead to squat beside the security guard’s body...

After properly inspecting it, Gerald was now surer than ever that Tye was the culprit.

Looking around, Gerald couldn’t help but take note of a wine bottle and a single wine glass in one of the cabinets...

Raising a slight brow, Gerald then headed over to investigate... and on the wineglass, he found a stain.

Seeing that, Gerald immediately began thinking of how that stain came to exist there.

From what he could guess, Tye had probably returned to the Sun Group building last night to have a drink of wine. However, he was noticed by a security guard, and as a result, he killed the poor man and absorbed his soul and energy, which eventually led to the current scene...

With that in mind, Gerald then turned to look at Harold before saying, "Could I have a moment with you, Mr. Lee?"

Momentarily surprised by the question, Harold quickly snapped out of it before nodding.

Once the two were in a quiet corner, Harold was first to ask, "Did you find anything strange, Mr. Crawford...?"

"Indeed. It'll come off as surprising, but I assure you that the murderer was none other than Tye Lamano, the chairman of the Sun Group" replied Gerald.

Upon hearing that, Harold was rightfully shocked as he quickly asked in his disbelief, "That's... one bold claim you have there, Mr. Crawford... Do you have any proof of that...?"

No matter how much he trusted Gerald when it came to the occult, he was still an investigator. Bold statements like that definitely needed proof for him to believe it.

Gerald himself wasn't annoyed by Harold's distrust. After all, he was the inspector of the Great Council. There was no way he could make hasty conclusions.

Whatever the case was, Gerald then began detailing his trip to Mount Dakriont to Harold, ending the tale with how Tye transformed into the monster he was today...

With everything now clearly explained, Gerald knew that it was up to Harold now whether to believe him.

Harold himself knew that Gerald wasn't fibbing, given how serious the youth looked as he detailed everything. Besides, Gerald had no reason to joke about such things.

Seeing how hesitant Harold was, Gerald was prompted to say, "Mr. Lee, just so you know, Tye is no longer a human. He's currently a half-phantom, which makes him all the more dangerous. What more, you already know that he has the ability to drain people of their souls and energy. However, do know that he is unable to do much in the day. With that in mind, I'm sure he'll make his appearance once night falls!"

"...I see. But where will we find him?" asked Harold as he raised a slight brow.

If everything that Gerald had told him was true, then Tye was an extremely dangerous individual. They had to capture him as soon as possible so that more murders like this wouldn't occur...!

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1930

"About that... I've looked around the office earlier and I'm pretty sure he came here last night just to enjoy some wine. With that in mind, I have reason to believe that he'll return here again tonight to hide.

Due to that, I suggest that we work together to catch him once night falls!" proposed Gerald.

Hearing that, Harold knew better than to say no.

"...Alright, let's go with that! Hopefully it works!" replied Harold in agreement.

With that, Harold left the corpse to his subordinates to take care of as he and Gerald began making arrangements for their plan tonight...

By the time they were done, hidden monitoring equipment had been set up all over the office.

Now, all that was left to do was to wait till nighttime...

Fast forward to late evening, street lamps were already starting to glow as the sky darkened... While more and more lights would eventually get turned on as the night grew darker, the interior of the Sun Group building remained pitch black under Gerald's orders in hopes that this would further encourage Tye to show up.

The plan was simple. Gerald would disguise himself as a security guard and patrol the whole building—till Tye showed up—whereas Harold and his men would remain in their cars to actively monitor the office...

Gerald was pretty sure that he would return here tonight. After all, Tye didn't have anywhere else to hide...

Regardless, after waiting till about eleven—and everyone was already starting to get sleepy—, a black mist could suddenly be seen dashing past the monitoring camera. Following that, the mist slowly formed

the shape of a figure... a figure that undoubtedly belonged to Tye Lamano.

Upon seeing it happen with his very eyes, Harold could only stare in disbelief for a few seconds. To think that Gerald had been telling the truth...! This truly was something one needed to see to believe...

At that moment, Gerald himself was already on the sixteenth floor, and he had noticed Tye's presence. With that in mind, Gerald made his way to the office, aiming his flashlight at Tye as he asked in an altered voice, "Who goes there? What are you doing in the chairman's office?"

Hearing that, bloodlust instantly filled Tye's eyes as he turned around to face Gerald... before momentarily disappearing! The second he reappeared, he was already standing right in front of Gerald, completely ready to attack!

However, before Tye could even do anything, the office's lights were instantly turned on, cueing Gerald—who was now smiling wryly—to shout, "You've been had, Tye!"

Realizing that he had fallen into Gerald's trap, the surprised Tye quickly snapped out of it before yelling, "Gerald...!"

Gritting his teeth, Tye then opened his mouth, releasing more black mist in hopes of hurting Gerald!

Gerald, however, had been expecting this. With that in mind, he easily summoned the Astrabyss Sword to take the attack!

As Tye was staring wide-eyed when he realized that the sword could absorb all the black mist from his attack, Gerald took the chance to yell, "Don't even dream about leaving this place in one piece, Tye!"

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1931

Having said that, a net flew out from one side, heading directly toward Tye.

The net was charged, and it was specially designed to prevent him from escaping.

When Tye was covered by the net, he was electrocuted and instantly lost his consciousness.

Finally, Tye Lamano had been caught with the joint effort of Gerald and Harold.

Hiss!

The net released electric currents continuously into Tye's body.

After keeping Tye under control, Harold immediately ordered his subordinates to bring him back to the Great Council and lock him up.

"Mr. Crawford, thank you very much for this!"

Harold thanked Gerald.

“Hehe. You’re being too polite, Mr. Lee. You don’t have to thank me. It’s good as long as Tye Lamano is caught.”

Gerald replied.

Their purpose was to catch Tye Lamano so that he would not wander around and cause harm to society.

It’s just that Gerald and Harold didn’t know that catching Tye Lamano was not a good thing. On the contrary, it would bring them more disasters.

Late at night, Gerald said goodbye to Harold and returned to his villa.

When Gerald entered the house, he found that Rey and the girls had not gone to bed yet. Instead, they were waiting for him.

They hadn’t seen Gerald for the whole day and did not know where he had gone, so they were very worried.

It was only when they watched the news on the television that they knew something had happened in the Sun Group, and they realized that Gerald must be there.

Regardless, now that they saw that Gerald was back safe and sound, they were relieved.

“Brother Gerald, you’re finally back. You’ve made us worry!”

Rey stood up and said to Gerald.

“Yeah, Gerald, you went out today without saying anything, causing us to be on tenterhooks all the time. We thought that something had happened to you!”

Juno complained.

Gerald smiled subtly when he heard that.

“I’m fine. Mr. Lee called me this morning and asked me to help him solve a case. Since you were still sleeping at that time, I didn’t wake you up. Sorry to make you all worry!”

Gerald apologized to the three of them.

“By the way, Brother Gerald. We heard that a man died in the Sun Group. How was the situation when you got there? Who’s the killer? Don’t tell me it’s Tye Lamano.”

After that, Rey started questioning Gerald.

“Yes, you’re right. It was Tye Lamano. But he’s been caught now and is being held at the Great Council!”

Gerald nodded and replied.

“That sounds so simple. I previously thought that Tye Lamano was very powerful, I didn’t expect him to

be so weak!”

After Rey heard that, he exclaimed immediately in disbelief. His disbelief was clearly shown on his face.

Hearing this, Gerald immediately came to his senses. He suddenly remembered what Master Snyder had told him before.

Master Snyder had told him that Tye would only become powerful during the night. During the night, he would not be easy to deal with.

But now, they had caught Tye so easily. Wasn't it strange?

“D*mn it!”

Gerald's heart skipped a beat. He felt that something was very wrong.

“Quick, Rey, let's go to the Great Council!”

Gerald immediately reacted and said to Rey right away.

Having said that, Gerald and Rey left the house and drove to the Great Council.

Meanwhile, in the interrogation room in the Great Council.

Tye Lamano was handcuffed, and his body was covered with the net. He was seated on a chair alone in the sealed room. In front of him, there was a large piece of glass. Harold and his subordinate were sitting on the other side of the glass.

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1932

They were sitting in front of the glass, looking at Tye Lamano.

“Tye Lamano, tell me, why did you kill the security guard?”

Harold sat on his chair, looked at Tye, and questioned him.

Tye did not answer Harold’s question. Instead, he slowly raised his head and stared at Harold. A sinister smile appeared on his face, and it made people who saw his smile involuntarily feel horrified.

“I’m asking you a question!”

Harold yelled angrily.

“Hah, did you really think you could catch me so easily?”

Then, Tye blurted out in a very cold tone.

Harold frowned immediately, not understanding what Tye meant.

The next second, Tye released a black fog from his body. The black fog transformed into a sharp spike and directly pierced through the glass in front of him, instantly shattering the glass into pieces.

Harold and his subordinate were flung to the ground in an instant.

As for Tye, he had freed himself from the handcuffs. He morphed into a humanoid figure and appeared in front of Harold and his subordinate.

“You... What do you want?!”

Harold looked at Tye in shock and asked.

Tye smiled wickedly before grabbing the subordinate beside Harold.

Harold held the subordinate before his eyes. Then, he released a cloud of black fog and inserted it directly into the body of the subordinate.

In an instant, the subordinate turned into a lifeless dry corpse.

Seeing this, Harold’s heart was filled with fear. He didn’t expect that Tye could be this terrifying.

Right then, the door of the interrogation room was breached, and a few subordinates ran in, aiming their guns at Tye.

But how could they be Tye's opponents?

Tye waved his hand and sent out another cloud of black fog, hitting them to the ground all at once.

"I told you. Did you really think I was so easy to deal with?"

Tye mocked with a grim smile.

Having said that, Tye grabbed Harold, who was in front of him.

Harold kept struggling, trying to free himself from Tye's hand.

However, Tye's grip was very strong. There was no chance to break free at all.

"Tye Lamano!"

Right then, a loud angry shout was heard.

Right after that, a spiritblade came flying toward Tye.

Seeing this, Tye threw Harold away and formed black fog around his hand to block the spiritblade.

Immediately after, Gerald and Rey appeared at the door.

“Tye, I just knew you wouldn’t be this easy to be caught. You must have another motive!”

Gerald pointed at Tye and bellowed.

“Hahaha!”

Hearing Gerald’s words, Tye burst out laughing.

“Gerald, you are quite clever. Let me tell you. If you hadn’t come, they would all have died today!”

Tye smiled wickedly as he spoke.

“Tye, let me tell you, I will exterminate you and not let you harm the world again!”

Gerald glared at Tye and shouted.

Then, Gerald leaped forward and charged toward Tye. The Astrabyss Sword in his hand was emitting a cold spiritblade, making the surroundings a few degrees cooler immediately.

[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

Chapter 1933

Although Tye had absorbed the souls and energy of two commoners previously, he had not recovered fully yet. He didn’t dare to fight head-on against the Astrabyss Sword, so he could only go into hiding for the time being.

Harold ran out of the interrogation room and called the other people for backup. Everyone held a gun in their hands.

Those things, however, were of no use to a half-phantom like Tye.

Gerald shouted immediately, "Get everyone out of this building!"

Otherwise, if Tye caught them, he would absorb their souls and energy. With his speed, Gerald would not be able to save everyone in time.

Harold was truly terrified this time. He didn't dare to disobey Gerald, and he commanded his men immediately.

"Everyone, retreat!"

Seeing that all his nourishment had run away, Tye shouted angrily. He morphed into a cloud of black fog and pretended to attack Gerald as he tried to escape.

"Are you trying to escape?" Since the last time he had used this trick to run away, Gerald had been prepared to prevent that from happening again. He chased after him and sent out a spiritblade with the Astrabyss Sword. When the spiritblade cut through the black fog, Tye was affected right away, and he screamed in pain.

"Gerald Crawford, I will never make peace with you!" Tye could not escape, so he could only choose to resist. The black fog morphed into sharp claws and tried to grab Gerald.

The Astrabyss Sword blocked the attack, and Gerald smirked.

“You’re almost done for!”

Tye was extremely frustrated. He was already injured, and the energy of the commoner was simply not enough to compensate for what he had lost. Currently, he could only use half of his power. How could he possibly be Gerald’s match?

After that, no matter which direction he went, Gerald would immediately run toward that direction. In the end, he managed to force Tye into a corner.

“I shall exterminate you today!”

Gerald murmured something under his breath and took out the Phangrottom Rune.

The previous Tye Lamano was considered dead long ago. He had been resurrected because of the soul of the general. So basically, he was just a ghost who had been reborn with the help of his body.

Once the Phangrottom Rune was taken out, Tye felt a shiver in his soul.

Instantly, the soul of the general took over Tye’s body completely. The moment the Phangrottom Rune was taken out, he burst out his strong power and morphed into a black arrow, rushing out of the window with a whoosh.

However, before leaving, a part of his soul was still destroyed by the Phangrottom Rune.

So, it would mean that Tye was not just severely injured, but he had also lost half of his soul. Even if he did not disappear, it would take him years to recover.

Gerald felt that it was a pity because he had nearly succeeded. The soul of the general was indeed very strong. However, for now, there was no need to worry about it. Unless Tye was seeking death, he would not appear in the near future.

When Gerald walked out of the Great Council, Harold, who was outside, quickly walked toward him.

“Mr. Crawford, how was it?”

“It’s settled. He is not completely eradicated yet, but he won’t be able to cause trouble for a while. If there are any more cases like the dry corpse case, inform me immediately.”

Harold finally breathed a sigh of relief. He was horrified by what had happened just now.

It was not something they could solve by using guns at all. Gerald truly lived up to his name!

Rey was also relieved.

“Brother Gerald, you’re so strong. If it were me, I guess I would have become a dry corpse by now.”

“So, you need to learn properly.”

After saying that, Gerald returned to the villa together with Rey.

After such a fierce battle, Gerald was very tired. He slept until the afternoon of the next day before getting up.

After getting up, he took Rey out for lunch. Then, they wandered around to see if Tye had left any traces after escaping.

Just then, the sharp sound of a car braking was heard.

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1934

Gerald looked in the direction of the sound and saw that it was actually a car that had hit a pedestrian on the road. The car stopped for a while but left right after that. The driver showed no intention to help the pedestrian at all.

Gerald rushed over. The pedestrian was a middle-aged woman, and she was badly injured. Her head was bleeding, and she had fainted.

Gerald shouted immediately, "Rey, get a car quickly!"

They hadn't driven today. If they waited for the ambulance, it would be too late.

Rey immediately went to get a car. A few cars passed by, and thankfully, one car pulled over to help.

Gerald felt slightly relieved. Luckily, he was a cultivator. If it wasn't him who helped to cover the wound of the woman just now, she would already have had a stroke, and she would have gone into a vegetative state by the time they got to the hospital.

On the way to the hospital, the woman's mobile phone fell out, vibrating

Gerald took it up and saw that it was her daughter calling. He answered the call and immediately heard the sweet voice of a lady from the other end of the phone.

"Mother, I've been waiting for you for ages. Why are you still not here?"

"Pardon me, but I'm not your mother. Your mother met with a car accident on the road and is now on her way to the hospital."

"What did you say? A car accident?! I'll be there right now!"

When they arrived at the hospital, Raine Taylor was already waiting anxiously at the entrance. When she saw her mother, she jumped toward her mother immediately. "Mother! How's my mother?!"

Gerald said, "Don't worry. It's not serious."

A nurse hurriedly pushed the injured woman, Yollande Waller, into the operating room, and Raine Taylor sat on the bench outside the operating room. She was somewhat in a daze. Suddenly, she raised her head and looked at Gerald, shouting angrily, "Was it you who hit my mother?"

Without waiting for Gerald to speak, Rey spoke first, "Beauty, don't slander people here. Let me tell you, there are monitoring cameras in that area. You can go to the police station to view the footage later.

Besides, we don't even have a car. How could we have hit your mother? We are even kind enough to save your mother!"

Raine apologized quickly, "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to..."

"It's okay." Gerald waved his hand forgivingly and looked at her bag. "Your student card is about to fall out. Are you a student of Schywater University?"

Raine wiped off her tears and said, "Yes."

"What a coincidence. I was a student of Schywater University too. You can address me as your senior. I'm Gerald Crawford."

"Raine Taylor."

They talked about the university for a while, and Raine's mood slowly improved.

A couple of hours later, the light of the operating room went out. Raine rushed over hurriedly and asked, "Doctor, how's my mother?"

The doctor removed his mask and said, "Her injury is not life-threatening. She is indeed very fortunate. The wound was very severe, but it didn't cause internal bleeding in her brain. I've stitched up the wound, but we still need to observe her condition for a period of time. Now, you need to complete the procedures for her hospitalization."

Admission to the hospital...

Raine was about to agree when she suddenly remembered that she hadn't brought her purse out as she had rushed over in a panic.

"Doctor, how much is it?"

"You can pay ten thousand first."

She wanted to take out her mobile phone to call her father, Dexter Taylor, but who would have thought that she had lost her phone. She had probably lost it on the way to the hospital.

Gerald sensed her embarrassment and said, "It's okay. I will pay for it first."

"Thank you so much!" Raine now truly felt that Gerald was indeed a good person.

Only when Yollande Waller was pushed into the ward did she realize that this was actually a luxurious single-room ward!

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1935

Raine's face changed slightly.

"How much does this cost?"

Gerald waved his hand and said, "You are my junior. This is just a small favor. You don't have to worry

about it. Besides, a single-room ward is good for Aunt's recovery. When she wakes up, she might have some sequelae. It might take a while to heal."

"How could I trouble you! I cannot accept your favor for nothing." Raine insisted. Then, she borrowed Gerald's phone and called her father.

About an hour later, Dexter Taylor arrived and quickly asked, "Raine, how's your mother?"

"The doctor said that she's fine for now, but she still needs to be hospitalized for observation. Father, this is Senior Gerald Crawford who helped pay for the medical bills."

Dexter wanted to thank him immediately, but after hesitating for a while, he said, "Um, Mr. Crawford, thank you very much for your help. For the medical fees, can I delay it for a few days?"

All their money had been taken out for daily expenses, so they did not have much cash left.

Raine bit her lips. Of course she was aware of her family's financial situation.

"Please don't call me Mr. Crawford. This is just a small favor. As for the medical fees, you don't have to repay me. I hold some shares of this hospital, so the hospital won't charge you. You can stay for as long as you want."

"This..."

Dexter exuded a grateful look and said, "It's so... Thank you very much!"

Gerald still had some matters to settle, so he had to leave. Raine quickly saw him off. Before that, she asked for Gerald's number.

"Senior, I really want to thank you. I will treat you to a meal someday!"

Today, she had to stay in the hospital to take care of her mother.

Two days passed, and Gerald received a call from an unfamiliar number. It was Raine.

"Senior, can you... come to school?"

She spoke in a quavering voice, and Gerald reckoned that she must be being bullied, so he agreed right away.

"Okay, I'm coming over!"

After hanging up the call, Raine looked at Yash Lambo, who was blocking her way. She felt helpless. These rich kids just so happened to like pestering her.

She had made herself clear, but these people still liked to trouble her.

"Yash Lambo, get out of the way!"

Yash Lambo pursed his lips.

“Who did you call just now? Senior? Raine, it’s your honor that my friend likes you. Don’t be ungrateful!”

Yash Lambo had a follower who was very ugly. Moreover, it was rumored that he had all sorts of bad habits such as drinking, whoring, and gambling. Raine would never be together with such a man.

Raine was provoked by his words, and her eyes turned red immediately.

The other students who passed by simply watched, and no one came to help.

Meanwhile, Gerald was not far away from Schywater University, so he drove over immediately.

When he stepped into the campus, he saw Raine being surrounded by a few people. They looked very disrespectful toward Raine.

“Raine!”

“Senior!”

Raine was very happy when she saw her savior.

Yash put on a contemptuous face when he saw Gerald.

“He’s just an old man. Huh, are you sure he can take care of you?”

Gerald's gaze intensified.

"Mind your words!"

"What? This is how I talk. I can beat ten men like you alone! Do you know who I am?"

A follower behind him, Haydn Zaal, said promptly, "Brother Yash is the president of the taekwondo club of Schywater University!"

Taekwondo?

Gerald said nonchalantly, "It's just child's play."

Raine knew that Yash was a good fighter, so she quickly nudged Gerald.

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1936

Yash Lambo was completely irritated by his words.

"What did you say? How dare you say that taekwondo is just child's play?! Do you dare to fight with me? Believe it or not, I will punch your shining teeth through the back of your skull!"

Gerald smiled calmly.

“You are not my match.”

“Then let’s have a battle!” Yash shouted fiercely, “Come at me if you’re a man! I’d like to see what you’re capable of to act so arrogantly in front of me!”

The followers behind him shouted, “Let’s have a fight!”

“Rubbish!”

“Brother Yash will teach you how to be a man!”

Raine was a bit nervous. She had asked Gerald to come over because she really didn’t know who to get help from. She had just instinctively thought of this senior who made her feel secure, but she didn’t expect that she had caused him trouble.

“Yash Lambo, you should just deal with me. It has nothing to do with Senior!”

Hearing this, Yash’s face became even uglier. “My friend is pursuing you, but you rejected him. Instead, you’ve fallen for this old man. I shall beat him to the ground later!”

Gerald had finally sorted out what was going on.

“Raine, do they always trouble you?”

“Not always,” Raine said in a grievance, “I always avoid them. It’s just that I wasn’t very lucky today and bumped into them.”

In truth, she was always very careful, but because her mother had had an accident and she had been busy taking care of her, she hadn’t gotten much sleep last night. So, she was not in her right mind today and had met with these people.

Since they were always looking for trouble, it was better to settle it once and for all.

Thus, Gerald agreed to it.

“Okay. I will fight with you. However, let’s make a bet. If you lose, you can’t look for or pester Raine in the future. Otherwise, every time I get to know about it, I’ll beat you up. Do you dare to make that bet?”

Yash smirked and said, “Sure, I agree. Then, if you lose, you will stay far away from Raine. Otherwise, I will beat you up every time I see you!”

Gerald agreed to it, and the group of people headed to the taekwondo studio.

The other students were very curious and followed them to see what was going on. It had been a long time since such things had happened at Schywater University.

Raine was very nervous.

“Senior, are you sure?”

Gerald smiled and said, "Don't worry. Do I look like an impulsive person? You will know later. After this, they won't dare to pester you anymore."

Once in the studio, Yash started jumping in the arena to warm up his body. He seemed to know what he was doing.

But to Gerald, he was showing his weakness everywhere. His physical strength was not good either. Gerald was sure that he could win with just one hand.

There was even a follower feeding him water, and he was truly showing off his identity as a rich kid to the extreme.

The more flamboyant he was, the more so-so he looked.

Gerald shook his head, thinking that the young people now really thought of themselves as kings when they had some skills. However, what they didn't know was that there would always be someone better at something than them.

If it was not because of Raine, he would be too lazy to fight with this kind of person.

Moreover, taekwondo was indeed nothing to him. All the tactics were just flashy moves. Although the moves looked cool, they actually wasted a lot of energy. Moreover, they would expose their weakness easily.

If Gerald wanted to kill Yash, he didn't even have to fight with him. One move was enough to do the job.

He stood still and waved his hand.

“Come on. I’ll let you start first.”

“Arrogant!” Yash barked angrily and lifted his leg fiercely.

His leg was long, and he lifted it up high. When he did a downward kick, it was full of momentum. When Raine saw that his leg had nearly kicked Gerald, she was so scared that she nearly screamed.

“Kick him to death!”

“Long live Brother Yash!”

The people around were waving flags and shouting.

[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

Chapter 1937

What happened the very next second surprised everyone.

Gerald was not blown away by Yash Lambo’s kick.

Instead, he dodged Yash’s leg easily, causing his flying leg to fall short.

Yash was stunned. He didn’t expect that Gerald could actually dodge his leg.

Gerald took a step backward and stood still, staring at Yash calmly.

Yash frowned and looked at Gerald with a gloomy face.

He had a feeling that Gerald was provoking and mocking him.

It was indeed so since he really didn't get to hit Gerald.

However, Yash did not give up because of this. He launched another attack on Gerald.

This time, his attack was even more fierce. He charged toward Gerald like a tiger that had just come down the hill.

Tye attacked Gerald with a set of rapid movements.

Gerald simply dodged Yash's attacking moves calmly.

Once again, Yash didn't get to hit Gerald on his body.

Not just his body, he didn't even get to touch Gerald's shirt.

Seeing this, Haydn and the rest who were standing around them dropped their jaws and opened their eyes wide. They never expected Gerald to be so powerful.

Any insider would be able to see it clearly.

They would know the gap between Gerald and Yash's abilities.

"You're so lame. You can't even hit me!"

Right then, Gerald showed a belittling smile as he mocked Yash.

Yash became very angry when he heard that. He felt greatly humiliated to be teased by Gerald.

"Hmph, you just know how to dodge! If you had real skills, you would fight with me properly!"

Yash snorted and said with full defiance.

What did it mean to be barefaced?

People like Yash Lambo were barefaced.

It was obvious that he was not Gerald's match, but he still wanted to mock him. He was simply too shameless.

"Tsk, tsk!"

Gerald couldn't help but express his disapproval.

"Fine. Since you want me to make my move, you should be prepared!"

Gerald reminded Yash kindly.

As soon as those words had left his mouth, before Yash could react, Gerald had disappeared before his eyes.

By the time Yash had returned to his senses, Gerald had already reappeared only a few centimeters away from him before his eyes.

Boom!

Gerald hit Yash on his chest with his elbow.

Yash couldn't even defend himself, and he was directly blown away by Gerald.

Cough!

Yash coughed out blood suddenly.

"President!"

As Yash fell heavily on the ground, Haydn and the rest rushed to him and cried out in concern.

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1938

Yash stood up with difficulty with the help of Haydn and the rest. He felt a burning pain in his chest.

“This is just a small lesson for you. Don’t think that you are very strong. To me, you are just a kid.”

Gerald pointed at Yash and warned him.

Having said that, Gerald brought Raine along and left the studio.

Yash and the others did not dare to stop Gerald. They didn’t want to end up like Yash.

Knowing that the president of the taekwondo club was not even Gerald’s match, petty characters like them couldn’t possibly be Gerald’s match. They would only die if they went forward.

Looking at Gerald’s back, Yash felt very gloomy and angry.

However, he couldn’t express his bitterness or vent his anger.

He would not let it go like this. He would not just put up with it. He would make sure that Gerald paid the price. However, his action would drive him to death.

After Gerald left the studio with Raine, they left the campus and went to the hospital.

On the way there, Raine kept staring at Gerald.

“Senior, you are really strong. I didn’t expect that even Yash would not be your match.”

Raine looked at Gerald in awe and praised him.

Yash Lambo was very famous at Schywater University, not just because of his family background, but also his popularity.

Moreover, Yash was the president of the taekwondo club and a Black Belt who had won numerous championships.

But now, this so-called champion had actually been defeated by Gerald in just one move. If this was made known to others, he would become a laughingstock.

“Hehe. It’s nothing. I didn’t expect him to be so weak either!”

Gerald smiled and replied humbly.

If it was someone else, he might not be a match to Yash. However, Gerald was different. He had an unusual power that nobody had.

Amidst their conversation, Gerald and Raine arrived at the public hospital of Schywater City.

After parking his car, Gerald brought Raine to the ward. He brought along some tonics and fruit especially for Raine's mother, Yollande Waller, as well as his good wishes to her.

Seeing Gerald bring so many things, Raine was very touched. She didn't expect Gerald to care so much about her mother and put her mother's condition in his heart.

Soon, they arrived at the first-class nursing ward on the tenth floor.

Dexter Taylor was sitting beside Yollande and chatting with her.

"Dexter, staying in such a high-end place must be very costly, right?"

Yollande had regained her consciousness just recently. After easing up a bit, she looked around the room and asked Dexter.

She had never stayed in such a luxurious ward before, and she knew it had to be very costly.

"Oh, Yollande, don't worry about the money. We'll talk about that after you get well. Besides, we don't have to pay for anything this time. It was Raine's senior who paid the fees. We should thank him properly."

Dexter reassured Yollande and explained to her.

"Raine's senior? How could somebody be so kind and help us?"

Yollande was very surprised when she heard about it. She was worried if her daughter had encountered something dangerous.

“Hey, watch what you’re saying. He is very nice to Raine. He has long graduated and has a good career now. It just so happened that he came to know about this matter. He is an extremely kind man. Don’t misunderstand him.”

Dexter quickly explained to Yollande.

After all, Gerald had helped his family. He couldn’t repay his kindness with a grudge.

Yollande agreed to it after listening to his explanation.

“Yes. Anyway, he saved me. We should thank him properly.”

Yollande agreed with Dexter.

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1939

“Yolande, I have an idea. You see, Raine is not that young anymore, and she is graduating soon. If her senior likes her, I feel that it’s not a bad choice. That way, we will also be able to live a good life for the rest of our lives.”

Dexter continued to voice his thoughts to Yollande.

Yollande of course understood what he had in mind.

“Hmm. You’re right, Dexter. But this still depends on Raine. We should respect her choice.”

Yollande reminded Dexter earnestly.

The couple had always respected their daughter’s opinions. They didn’t want to force her into anything. As long as she could live a good and happy life, they would be satisfied.

Dexter nodded in agreement upon hearing that.

Creak!

Right at that moment, the door was pushed open, and Gerald and Raine walked in together.

“Father, is Mother awake?”

Raine asked Dexter as soon as she walked in.

“Raine!”

Seeing her daughter, Yollande immediately smiled and called out to her.

“Mother, how do you feel?”

Raine went to her bedside immediately and asked in concern.

Yollande shook her head gently and said, “I’m fine. Why are you here? Don’t you have class?”

“I don’t have any classes this afternoon. So, I came here to take over for Father.”

Raine explained to Yollande.

“Aunt, Raine and Uncle will be much more relieved when you are alright.”

Then, Gerald smiled at Yollande and comforted her.

Yollande looked at Gerald when she heard him.

“Young man, you must be Raine’s senior, right? You saved me, so you are my life saviour, my family’s life saviour. I don’t know how I should thank you.”

Yollande looked at Gerald and thanked him.

“You’re being too polite, Aunt. Your health is the most important thing. The rest are just small matters.”

Gerald smiled and said humbly.

“Right, Aunt, Uncle, here are some fruits and tonics for you. When you get discharged, you can recover properly.”

Having said that, Gerald handed the things in his hands over to Dexter.

“Oh my, Gerald, come here. Why did you buy so many things? You must have spent a lot.”

Dexter was surprised and nagged at Gerald. However, he felt touched and happy in his heart. Now, he found Gerald even more likeable. In his heart, he had completely acknowledged Gerald as his son-in-law.

When Dexter looked at the tonics in his hand, he was shocked.

He didn't expect Gerald to buy such expensive tonics. They cost at least a few thousand dollars. This made Dexter even more convinced that Gerald was not a simple person.

“Young man, your name is Gerald, right?”

Yollande asked Gerald.

“Yes, I am Gerald Crawford, Raine's senior. I graduated in the class of '07, so I am a few years older than Raine.”

Gerald nodded and explained to Yollande.

Yollande nodded and glanced at her daughter before looking at Gerald again.

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1940

“Gerald, I truly owe you a lot these few days. Please take care of Raine in the future.”

Yollande suggested to Gerald.

Gerald was startled when he heard her. Then, he smiled and said, “Of course. Don’t worry, Aunt. Raine’s matters will be my matters, I will help her.”

In truth, Gerald understood what Yollande was trying to say. She was treating him as Raine’s boyfriend.

Gerald spent some more time with Raine’s family before leaving.

Although Raine was reluctant to let Gerald leave, she knew he must have his own matters to deal with. She was already very satisfied when he could come with her.

After seeing Gerald off, Raine returned to the ward.

“Raine, tell me, you like Gerald, don’t you?”

The moment Raine came back and sat down, Yollande looked at her and asked.

When Rained was asked directly, her face turned red immediately out of shyness.

Seeing the changes on her daughter's face, Dexter immediately put on a loving smile on his face.

"Raine, just tell us. No matter what, we will support your decision." Dexter said.

Raine hesitated for a few seconds. Then, she nodded and said slowly, "Yes, Father, Mother, I like him."

Although Raine had only known Gerald for such a short time, she knew what she thought of him in her mind. She felt that Gerald was the good man she had been looking for in this lifetime.

Hearing her answer, Yollande and Dexter exchanged glances.

Then, they smiled.

"Raine, I support you!"

"Yes, Raine. I support you too. Just go for it!"

Dexter and Yollande expressed their support and approval toward Raine's choice.

“Gerald is such a high-quality man. Besides, he is kind and nice to you. He is a good man. Raine, you should take advantage of this chance!”

Dexter reminded Raine.

Raine nodded understandingly, but she did not say anything else.

She didn't know how Gerald felt for her. For now, she dared not say out her feelings as she was worried that he might reject her directly. If that happened, it would be very awkward.

This was because Gerald had rejected her once already yesterday. Although the situation yesterday had been different, at the very least, it showed that Gerald was not a casual man.

“Raine, look at all these tonics Gerald gave us. These cost more than a few thousand, or maybe a few ten thousand. This is not affordable for any ordinary man. So, it means that Gerald's background must be very good. You should not miss out on such a good man.”

Dexter said to Raine.

“By the way, Raine, do you know what Gerald does? Do you know about his family background?”

Yollande looked at Raine and asked.

Raine shook her head and said, “Oh, Father, Mother, I've just gotten to know Gerald for only two days. He simply helped me when I was bullied, so I don't know much about these things.”

Yollande and Dexter came to understand the situation after hearing this.

Anyway, it didn't matter. They could get to know each other better slowly.

At the same time, Gerald had no idea what Raine was talking about with her parents. He drove back to Yonjour Group.

Meanwhile, in a cafe, four young men were sitting there and chatting. One of them was Yash Lambo, who had been beaten up by Gerald earlier.

Yash's face was very gloomy. He sat on the sofa with a dark expression, and his eyebrows were furrowed.

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1941

The three youths sitting before him went by Yong Haas, Jacque Lennox, and Ferdo Bach, and they were none other than the young masters of the prestigious Haas, Lennox, and Bach families of Schwater City.

Since they were three of the Famous Four of Schywater, it was evident that they had complex backgrounds. What more, they were even shareholders of Schywater University, and the only shareholder that could rival them was the Yonjour Group.

Then again, the four families were nothing in the presence of that group...

Whatever the case was, Yong—who was sitting on the couch—couldn't help but ask in a playful tone, "Say... I heard rumors that you got beaten up by someone, Yash! Are the rumors true?"

Upon hearing that, Yash simply looked at Yong without saying a word. Just as he had feared, gossip

about him being beaten up had already spread like wildfire throughout the university... How embarrassing...

“To think that that brazen kid was able to defeat Yash... Where do you think he comes from?” asked Jacque in a curious tone.

“Who even cares about that? Whatever the case is, since he dared to humiliate the Famous Four of Schywater in the first place, we’ll just make him eat his words!” scoffed Ferdo rather disdainfully.

“Indeed... Regardless, I’m not sure if you’ve heard about this, but there’s been some major changes in the university of late. Essentially, the principal and owner of the university have supposedly changed. What more, according to my father, he heard news that the university’s biggest shareholder is now the chairman of the Yonjour group! With that in mind, the Yonjour Group now owns the university!” explained Yong.

“...What? The Yonjour Group has acquired the university? But for what reason?” exclaimed the confused Jacque.

Everyone knew about the Yonjour Group’s power. If the rumors really were true, then the trio knew better than to act hastily...

Whatever the case was, it was noon when Gerald returned to his office.

Shortly after, Natallie walked in before respectfully asking, “Is there anything you’d like me to do, Chairman?”

“Before that, there should still be some villas under the company’s name, right, Natallie?” said Gerald.

“Indeed, Chairman. A few remain,” replied Natallie, much to Gerald’s satisfaction.

Nodding in response, Gerald then ordered, “That’s great to hear. I need you to get me the documents for one of our villas. Can you arrange for that?”

Simply nodding in response, Natallie then walked out of his office without another word...

The truth was, Gerald was asking for the documents on behalf of Raine’s family. After all, that family was currently plagued with demolition problems and needed someplace to move to. With that in mind, Gerald was stepping in to help by allowing them to move into one of his company’s villas.

A little over an hour later, Natallie returned with a document folder.

Handing it to Gerald, she then said, “These are the villa’s documents, chairman. Also, all the necessary procedures for moving into it have been settled.”

Taking the documents, Gerald replied with a simple, “Thank you.”

Hearing that, Natallie was prompted to ask, “Do you need me to come with you, chairman?”

“It’s fine, I’ll head there on my own. You can continue working in the office.”

Visit chapter list for next chapter

Chapter 1942

With that said, Gerald then got up and left with the documents in hand...

Natallie herself didn't think much of it, knowing full well that Gerald had his own way of doing things. With that in mind, she simply did as she was told...

Regardless, it wasn't too long before Gerald arrived at the hospital. Naturally, he was there to meet Raine and her family.

Either way, the second they saw him, everyone from Raine's family couldn't help but smile.

Dexter himself couldn't help but ask, "Gerald? What are you doing here? Aren't you busy...? Are you sure we aren't taking too much of your time...?"

Simply smiling in response, Gerald then replied, "It's fine, uncle. Regardless, I'm here to discuss something with all of you."

Seeing how confused they were after hearing that, Gerald then looked at the couple before adding, "I heard from Raine that the place you're all currently staying in is about to get demolished. I've also been told that you still haven't found a place to stay yet, is that right?"

Hearing that, Dexter simply heaved a heavy sigh, a helpless expression on his face as he said, "Indeed... The houses nowadays are just so expensive, you know? And we don't really have the money to get a good place to stay... What more, Raine's mother has just undergone surgery! We're in a truly perplexing

situation...”

Seeing how big a problem it was for the three of them, Gerald then replied in a confident tone, “I see... Truth be told, I’m here to help solve that very issue!”

Naturally, this surprised the family of three.

A brief pause later, Dexter was prompted to ask, “Really? Are you really going to help us out, Gerald...?”

After all, if Gerald truly was stepping in, then their most major problem would surely be taken care of.

“I wouldn’t joke about such things, would I?” replied Gerald, a serious expression on his face as he handed the documents over to Dexter.

Following that, he then explained, “Those are the documents of one of my vacant villas. It’s a nice place and you can all move there. I’m sure that aunt will be able to recover faster there too.”

Upon hearing that, all three of them could only widen their eyes in response, too shocked to even say anything for a while.

Eventually, Dexter snapped out of it before exclaiming, “A-a... villa...?!”

To think that Gerald was actually allowing their family to live in one of his villas! None of them had even dreamt of being able to live in a villa before!

“You heard right, uncle. Regardless, all the necessary contracts and procedures have already been dealt with, so you can just move in straight away. Speaking of which, the villa is fully furnished, so you don’t need to get any new furniture!” replied Gerald with a smile.

“T-that... H-how can I even thank you...?” muttered the overwhelmed Dexter, actively fighting the urge to kneel before the youth. After all, without Gerald’s help, they would’ve surely had a rough time on the streets...

“A simple thanks is sufficient, uncle. As I’ve said before, Raine’s matters are my matters, and I’ll help whenever I can,” replied Gerald.

Upon hearing that, Raine couldn’t help but feel touched. Gerald truly was being too nice to her...

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1943

Regardless, it was a few days later when Raine’s mother was finally discharged from the hospital. It was also the day Raine’s family would move into the villa.

With that in mind, Gerald had made sure to remind Raine and Dexter to pack all their clothes and personal belongings before getting Raine’s mother from the hospital. That way, Gerald could immediately drive all of them to the villa once Raine’s mother was discharged.

Then again, there wasn’t much to pack in the first place. After all, as Gerald had previously said, the villa was already fully equipped with furniture and electrical appliances.

Whatever the case was, the second the trio entered the villa, they were instantly left dumbfounded.

It took him a while to snap out of it, but when he finally did, Dexter couldn't help but fumble a few steps forward while exclaiming, "M-my god... This... This is extravagant...!"

Yollande and Raine themselves remained stupefied in silence, unable to believe that they were going to live here from now on.

Turning to face Gerald, Dexter—who was still having trouble accepting all this—then added, "A-are you really sure we can live here, Gerald...?"

Giving a firm nod, Gerald then replied, "As I've said before, I'd never joke about something like this, uncle. Also, since I own this villa, you don't have to worry about trouble from others. I should also mention that you won't have to worry about paying for any of the utilities either."

Hearing that, Dexter was left utterly flabbergasted. What a saint!

After calming down a bit, Dexter gulped before asking, "...Gerald... What... exactly do you do for a living...?"

"I'd like to know as well! Until you tell us, there's no way we could live here! We simply wouldn't dare! After all, this is a massive favor you're doing for us! We don't even know how to repay your kindness yet!" added Yollande.

Seeing how keen all three of them were to find out, Gerald knew that he couldn't hide it from them any

longer.

With that, he truthfully replied, "...Well, if you insist on knowing, I guess there's no point hiding it anymore... You see, I'm actually the chairman of the Yonjour Group! With that in mind, all the other villas in the area belong to my company as well, though my employees are currently living in those. Regardless, since there were still a few vacant villas, I figured that I could help your family's plight by allowing you to live in one of them!"

Upon hearing that, the trio's eyes almost popped out of their skulls.

Raine herself was the most surprised among them. To think that Gerald would actually be the chairman of the Yonjour Group... No wonder he had been able to pay for all those medical expenses in one go...! It explained how he got them such a nice place to move into too! She had truly gotten to know a magnate!

Naturally, all three of them were fully aware of how powerful the Yonjour Group was. To think that not only had they been acquainted with that company's chairman this entire time, but he was even willing to extend his help to them!

Regardless, after eventually snapping out of it, the still rather shocked Dexter gulped before stuttering, "I-I had no idea you were the chairman of the Yonjour Group, Gerald...!"

Shrugging in response, Gerald then said, "Chairman is just a title in the end, uncle. I prefer keeping a low profile rather than flaunting it."

Hearing that, all three of them simply nodded. After all, they knew that it was better for powerful people—like Gerald—to stick low so that they wouldn't accidentally cause any major stirs.

Whatever the case was, it was evening by the time they were done unpacking.

Seeing that Raine and Gerald were now sitting on the living room couch, Dexter took Yollande upstairs to allow their daughter to have some alone time with Gerald.

After a brief silence, Raine couldn't help but say, "...You know, you're really good at hiding secrets, senior... You really surprised me earlier!"

Simply grinning in response, Gerald then chuckled before replying, "Sorry, Raine. Didn't mean to hide it from you!"

"Well, there's no need to apologize... I get why you chose to hide your identity!" replied Raine in an understanding tone.

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1944

"I'm glad you do.... Speaking of which, I've already acquired Schywater University. Just thought you'd like to know," replied Gerald, instantly stunning Raine once more.

Seriously? He had bought the entire university so casually?! This was truly a feat only Gerald could do...

"So, you're the biggest shareholder of Schywater University now... No wonder you weren't afraid of the Famous Four of Schywater!" exclaimed Raine as she put two and two together.

Then again, Raine was only half right about that assumption. Even if Gerald hadn't acquired Schywater University, he would've remained unafraid of the Famous Four. After all, to him, they were simply four playboys who didn't need to be feared or even looked up to.

As long as they didn't trouble him, he wouldn't even bother about them. However, if they did, he would simply destroy them along with their families.

After all, everyone knew that offending the Yonjour Group was never a good idea since the consequences would always be devastating...

Regardless, it was getting rather late when Gerald finally bid farewell to Raine and left the villa...

While he could've stayed for much longer, he didn't since it was the weekend tomorrow and he remembered promising Earla to bring her to an amusement park. With that in mind, he planned to turn in early so that he would be awake by dawn...

Either way, it was about nine when he finally arrived at his villa.

Upon entering, he was greeted by the usual sight of Earla and Natallie sitting on the couch, laughing as they watched television.

When they realized that Gerald had returned, Early quickly hopped off the couch before exclaiming, "You're back, Mr. Crawford!"

Understanding that Earla found him more important than the television, Gerald couldn't help but smile as he replied, "That, I am! After all, we're going to the amusement park tomorrow, aren't we? Early to bed, early to rise!"

Hearing that, Earla instantly cheered before saying, "Yeah! You're the best, uncle Gerald!"

Gerald and Natallie could only smile when they saw how happy Earla was. That child's innocent smile truly could heal even the most tired of souls...

Now feeling all warm and relaxed, Gerald turned to face Natallie before instructing, "Go book three tickets for Happy Amusement Park later. We'll go there together tomorrow!"

Nodding in response, Natallie replied, "Got it, Chairman!"

Giggling with glee, Earla then said, "Say... Could I sleep with you tonight, sister Natallie?"

Momentarily startled to hear that, Natallie quickly snapped out of it before replying with a smile, "Of course you can!"

Cheering once more, Earla then exclaimed, "Yay! Thanks, sister Natallie!"

Gerald and Natallie had made it a point to give Earla all the love and care they could possibly offer. With that in mind, such a simple wish was definitely no problem for Natallie...

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1945

After all, the duo knew that they were Earla's only family. If they didn't treat Earla well, who else would?

Whatever the case was, it was rather late at night when Gerald finally parted ways with the two girls, prompting the duo to head to Natallie's room. As promised, Earla slept together with Natallie, and Natallie made sure to hug her tight as they slept comfily...

Gerald himself opened a bottle of wine as soon as he got to his room's balcony. Leaning against his lawn chair as he took a sip of wine, Gerald then stared at the beautiful night sky...

As they said, night truly was the best time for people to think their life through...

Taking another sip of wine, Gerald couldn't help but think about the fact that he was immune to getting drunk. Even so, he still enjoyed the thrill of drinking alcohol, so who cared?

Either way, after taking a few more sips, Gerald couldn't help but start thinking about his father...

Imagining his father's face as he stared at the starry sky, Gerald knew that if his father was still alive, then his family would surely continue leading a happy life... He was also pretty sure that his father would be proud of all his achievements, though this was all simply wishful thinking... After all, the dead couldn't be truly brought back to life.

Regardless, after drinking for quite some time, Gerald finally decided to hit the hay...

It was eight the next morning when he was awoken by the sound of his alarm clock. Feeling refreshed, Gerald then hopped off his bed to get himself cleaned up before eventually having breakfast together with Earla and Natallie.

Once that was done, the trio finally drove off to Happy Amusement Park.

Though the amusement park was located just north of Schywater City, this was Gerald's first time going there. After all, he was pretty much always busy.

With that in mind, this was a good opportunity for him to get a rare moment of relaxation... It was also a chance for him to finally have proper fun with Earla.

Either way, it was about ten minutes later when Gerald finally hit the brakes. They had arrived.

Stepping out of the car, Gerald saw how large the northern area was. It was no wonder why the Happy Amusement Park was established here.

Whatever the case was, after Natallie made sure that she had the tickets on her, the trio then headed into the amusement park...

Upon entering, Earla couldn't help but immediately exclaim, "Wow! This place is so huge and beautiful...!"

This was Earla's first time at an amusement park, so it was understandable why she was so excited. Before this, she had always dreamt of going to one, and now that her dream was finally getting fulfilled, there was no way she was going to be able to contain her joy.

Understanding that, Gerald then turned to look at Earla before saying, "Earla! If there's anything you'd like to play or buy, just tell me! We'll make sure you enjoy yourself to the fullest today!"

Nodding in response, Earla then began guiding Gerald and Natallie toward the rides she wanted to enjoy...

Though Earla had previously seemed like an obsequious girl, she was apparently quite courageous, even more so than Natallie! After all, she was interested in the more thrilling rides in the amusement park like roller coasters!

Had it not been for the minimum height and age restrictions for most of the thrilling rides, Earla would've surely gotten onto each and every one of them!

Regardless, it was true that time flew when one was having fun. After all, two hours had passed in the blink of an eye...

Seeing that it was now noon, Gerald and Natallie decided to lead Earla to one of the amusement park's benches to have a short rest. Even so, Earla looked like she still wanted to continue enjoying herself.

Smiling when he saw that, Gerald was prompted to ask, "So, what do you think of today, Earla? Enjoying yourself?"

Immediately nodding in response, Earla then replied, "I am! If... it isn't too much trouble, could we come here again in the future...?"

"But of course! Just tell me or Miss Moon when you feel the urge to come here again! We'll definitely find the time to bring you here to have fun!" promised Gerald without the slightest hesitation.

"Yay! Thank you, Mr. Crawford! Miss Moon!" exclaimed Earla, all smiles as she nodded with glee...

[Visit chapter list for next chapter](#)

Following that, she turned to look at Natallie and said, “Um... Could we go to the washroom, Miss Moon...?”

“Sure! Let’s go!” replied Natallie as she immediately led Earla to the washroom...

Gerald himself followed them until he found a bench—that had a flower bed right behind it—within view of the washrooms...

Even from afar, however, the trio had already noticed a long line of ladies waiting to use the bathroom. Then again, this wasn’t really out of the ordinary. The fact that nobody was lining up to use the gents was normal as day as well.

Whatever the case was, Natallie and Earla naturally had to queue as well, and it was about fifteen minutes later before it was finally the duo’s turn to enter...

However, just as they were about to enter, a woman suddenly cut the line and stood before them!

Seeing that, Natallie immediately held onto the woman’s wrist—before she could enter—and said, “Hey, now! Wait your turn!”

Upon hearing that, the woman instantly turned to glare at her before yelling, “Hah! As if I need to listen to you!”

With that said, the woman then snorted before yanking her arm free from Natallie’s grip! Due to the sudden yank, Natallie almost ended up falling! Thankfully, the person behind her was kind enough to support her fall.

Seeing that, the angered Earla then pointed at the woman before yelling, “Hey, we got here first! You’re clearly the one who’s wrong here! Miss Moon, are you alright-”

Before Earla could even finish her sentence, the woman—who was now frowning uglily—gave her a tight slap across her face!

Naturally, this stunned everyone present. To think that this maniacal woman wouldn’t even let this girl off!

Her eyes now fully widened when she saw how red Earla’s swollen cheek was, Natallie immediately exclaimed, “E-Earla...!”

Watching as Natallie then squatted down to check on the crying girl’s cheek, the woman simply snorted as she scoffed, “Hah! Let that be a lesson to you, brat! Don’t meddle in other people’s business!”

Before anyone could even retort back, however, they could only stare in shock when they saw that the woman had been sent flying!

Of course, the one who had done the deed was none other than the furious Gerald who had witnessed everything from the bench.

After seeing how merciless the woman had treated Earla, Gerald no longer had any hesitation about beating her up. That b*tch deserved it!

Regardless, Gerald then quickly turned to face Earla, inspecting her swollen cheek as he said, “Hold still, Earla, and let me have a quick look!”

As Gerald began transferring the bioelectric current in his body into Earla's face, Natallie and Earla couldn't help but feel relieved. After all, they both knew that with Gerald around, nobody would ever dare to bully them.

Either way, it was only seconds later when Earla's swollen cheek returned to normal...

"Does it still hurt, Earla...?" asked Gerald in a doting tone.

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1947

Shaking her head, Earla then said, "Not at all, Mr. Crawford! You're so awesome...!"

While Earla's cheek had stung quite a bit earlier, the second Gerald touched it, the pain simply vanished. It was truly magical...!

Either way, Gerald breathed a sigh of relief upon hearing that.

With that done, Gerald then got up again before staring at the woman from earlier who had just crawled back to her feet.

Glaring at him, the enraged woman then yelled, "You...! How dare you hit me...?! Don't you know who I am?!"

Upon hearing that, Gerald simply squinted his eyes, revealing an icy glare that could pierce a soul... He definitely wasn't letting her off easy now...!

"Like that matters! Titles are only given to humans, and you're clearly an animal for even daring to treat a young girl this way!" retorted Gerald.

"...Yeah, he's right! Besides, she was the one who started it all by cutting the line!"

"I know right? As if she'd react any differently if someone cut her line!"

Hearing all the bystanders—who had watched the whole thing happen—yell at her, the humiliated woman could only blush in shame. It truly was a miserable feeling to be despised by everyone...

"Y-you...! All of you had better shut up! In case you didn't know, I'm the wife of the Zachariah Group's chairman! Who the hell are all of you to even think about teaching me a lesson?!" roared the desperate woman.

The second they knew who she truly was, everyone instantly fell silent. After all, they were well aware that the Zachariah Group was the cream of the crop in Schwywater City. With that in mind, that group was undoubtedly powerful...

Even so, that group was pretty much insignificant when compared to Gerald's Yonjour Group. In fact, not even ten Zachariah Groups would come close to rivaling Gerald's group!

Understanding that, Gerald couldn't help but gaze disdainfully at the woman while scoffing, "The Zachariah Group, you say...?"

"Indeed! So if you dare offend me anymore, I'll surely make you suffer! In fact, I'll even kick you out of Schywater City for good!" scowled the woman in an arrogant tone before smiling smugly at them. It was clear that she had no intention of showing any of them any respect...

Whatever the case was, since she was Zachariah Kershaw's wife, Gerald figured that she must be Zuri Lidwell.

Still, just to be sure, Gerald casually asked, "Save the big talk. Regardless, you said your husband is Zachariah Kershaw, right?"

Nodding in response, Zuri then replied, "Oh? So you know my husband's name! I guess you're more sensible than I thought! Regardless, I want you three to grovel and apologize to me! If you do, I'll let the matter slide! If you don't, however... Well, let's just say that a single phone call will ruin all of you!"

Hearing that, Gerald and Natallie couldn't help but snort in their minds. Zuri really was all talk.

Honestly, Gerald was feeling slightly bad for Kershaw. After all, he had gotten married to such an idiot. Women like Zuri would always end up ruining their partners, and the fact that she was now pissing Gerald off was a textbook example of such a situation. She didn't even know what she was getting herself into!

Shaking his head, Gerald simply replied, "Go ahead and call him, then!"

Visit [chapter list](#) for next chapter

Chapter 1948

Upon hearing that, Zuri was stunned. After all, not only was Gerald more fearless than she had anticipated, but he didn't seem to care about her high position at all! Was he not afraid of the Zachariah Group in the least...?

Gerald himself was simply waiting to see if she truly was going to make the call. After all, the second she did, he would no longer hesitate to end the Zachariah Group. By that point, any amount of regret from Zuri would be useless...

Either way, Zuri wasn't about to get outdone and mocked, so she gritted her teeth before yelling, "...Fine! Since you want to get kicked out of the city so much, be my guest!"

Following that, Gerald, Natallie, and Earla simply watched calmly as she began fishing her phone out. Gerald himself couldn't help but think, 'Messing with us, huh? We'll make sure to properly take you on, then!'

Regardless, it was about ten seconds later when the call finally connected. The second it did, Zuri's tone immediately did a one-eighty as she whimpered between crocodile tears, "H-hubby...! I'm getting bullied by others...! Please come back me...!"

"What? You're at the Happy Amusement Park, no? Why would you get bullied out of the blue? Are you sure you didn't start it?" asked Zachariah who knew all too well about his wife's temper.

This wasn't the first time Zuri had gotten into trouble for bullying others first. What more, with how much she flaunted her position as his wife everywhere, who would dare bully her in the first place?

“...What do you mean by that, Zachariah? I really was beaten up by a b*stard! Look, you’d better help me or I’m going to make things difficult for you once I get back!” scowled the two-faced Zuri. What a defensive and hostile woman...

Whatever the case was, Zachariah knew that all he could do now was give in to her whims...

With that, he could only ask in a helpless tone, “Fine... What exactly do you want me to do...?”

Delighted to hear that, Zuri’s confidence instantly peaked as she replied in a loud voice, “I want you to kick them out of Schywater City!”

It was evident that she had deliberately done so to ensure that the trio heard her.

Upon hearing that, Zachariah could only groan before saying, “...Isn’t it fine if we just teach them a lesson...? Don’t you think you’re causing too much of a scene for such a small matter...?”

Zachariah himself didn’t like using his power and position to bully others. That was Zuri’s thing. In fact, he had advised her time and again to stop being so arrogant, though of course, she never listened.

Unfortunately for Zachariah, she had somehow managed to offend a person who was even more powerful and influential than him, and he would soon come to learn about that...

“Zachariah! Would you listen to yourself?! I’m your wife, aren’t I?! Why aren’t you angry that I got bullied by others?!” scowled the enraged Zuri.

Being the kind of person who just couldn’t stand getting scolded, Zachariah instantly gave in as he replied to the unbearable woman, “Fine! I’ll come over right away, alright...?”

Satisfied to hear that, Zuri then nodded before saying, "That's more like it! Now hurry over!"

Following that, she hung up before glaring at the trio, a smug smile on her face...

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