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The Mans Decree Chapter 205

Chapter 205 Leonidas

Since it was already the afternoon, it made sense that more tourists would be heading downhill instead of uphill. However, as Jared and the others climbed upward, they saw many people rushing toward the top of the mountain.

The tourists were talking among themselves as they hurried along. "Hurry up! I heard Abbot Erasmus' senior, Leonidas, is visiting Lagrange Monastery. He's a legend, and his abilities are known far and wide! We must hurry so that we get the chance to meet him!"

"Rumor has it the last time he was here, Leonidas only agreed to meet ten people. One of them was a married couple who had not been able to conceive for more than ten years. However, the following year after they met with him, they had a baby!"

"Is that all? Someone told me that Leonidas healed a man who had been paralyzed his entire life! I can't believe we might have the chance to meet him! Come on! We need to pick up the pace!"

"I heard through the grapevine that the purpose of his visit this time is to cure Abbot Erasmus' daughter. He even brought a magical item with him!"

After hearing those remarks, Jared finally understood the reason for the crowd at that hour.

Walter explained to Jared, "Leonidas is Abbot Erasmus' senior. He used to be the head of Lagrange Monastery. After handing over the position to Abbot Erasmus, Leonidas embarked on his travels. He returned once last year to cure Abbot Erasmus' daughter. Sadly, it didn't work, and he left again soon after. That must be why he's back this time."

"Oh, that won't do! We have to hurry! If he manages to cure her, we won't be able to get the spiritual brush and cinnabar rosary!" Josephine said anxiously as soon as she heard that.

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Thinking that her words made sense, everyone quickened their pace.

Jared was the only one who remained calm. He smiled and said, "Don't worry. He won't be able to cure her."

"How do you know that?" Josephine asked, looking at him questioningly.

"Trust me. You'll see," Jared answered with a mysterious smile without elaborating further.

When they were about halfway there, Josephine began to slow down. Sweat drenched her brow, and she was practically gasping for air.

Finally, she collapsed onto a rock on the side, exhausted and out of breath. "I can't go on anymore. I need to rest for a while. My legs can barely move!"

"What did I tell you just now? You didn't want to listen to me, but you regret it now, don't you?" William reprimanded.

However, no matter what William said, Josephine simply could not walk any further!

Jared could tell that Josephine did not have the energy to continue climbing for a while. Even so, they could not all stop and wait for her. Hence, he turned to Walter and suggested, "Why don't the rest of you go on ahead? I'll stay with Josephine, and we'll catch up with you later."

Walter nodded. "Good idea. I'll go first to make sure everything is in order and let Abbot Erasmus know we've come."

After glancing at Josephine with a slight smile, William turned to Jared and said, "I'll leave Josephine in your hands, then."

With that, the others resumed the uphill journey while Jared sat next to Josephine.

Josephine blinked at Jared innocently and said with a chuckle, "I can't take another step. Why don't you carry me on your back?"

"No way. I don't have the strength for that."

Jared shook his head firmly.

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“But I’m tired. I don’t have an ounce of strength left!” Josephine whined in a pitiful voice.

Jared felt his heart flutter as he gazed at Josephine, thinking how beautiful she was.

Although she could be a little hot-tempered at times, she was kind-hearted.

Suddenly, Jared grabbed Josephine’s hand. Startled by the abrupt action, she moved to withdraw her hand at once. However, he held it so tightly that she could not free herself from his grasp.

A blush stained her cheeks as she bit her lip, not daring to look at Jared.

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Chapter 206 A Tricky Situation

Josephine felt a tingling warmth flow from his hand into her body.

Lowering her head, she mumbled in a barely audible voice, “W-What do you think you’re doing? There are too many people here!”

“What did you say?” Jared asked.

She ducked her head lower and whispered in an even softer voice, “I said, don’t do that here! There are too many people around! Let’s go among the trees!”

Jared let go of her hand. “Why should we do that? Come on. Let’s get moving. Otherwise, we won’t be able to catch up to the others.”

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Stunned, Josephine gazed up at Jared and saw that he was looking at her with a mischievous grin.

She shot him a death stare and rushed at him. "I'm going to kill you!"

However, Josephine had only taken a few steps before she realized she was not as tired as before. Her legs were also not aching anymore. In fact, she felt refreshed and energetic, just as when she first started the climb!

"Why are you spacing out? Hurry up!" Jared called out when he saw her standing motionless.

"Oh. Right."

Coming to her senses, Josephine quickly hurried after Jared.

They soon caught up with Walter and the others, who were surprised by Jared's and Josephine's speed.

"Josephine, didn't you say that you were tired?"

William studied Josephine carefully, but she did not appear the least bit exhausted!

"I don't know what happened either. Anyway, I'm not tired anymore. I feel quite refreshed," Josephine replied, also looking puzzled.

As soon as the others heard her response, their gazes fell on Jared. They guessed that he must have had something to do with it.

"Let's get going. It'll be dark soon," Jared said, hastening his pace.

After an hour, they finally reached the summit. However, it was so crowded that the monastery had closed its doors, and everyone could only wait outside.

Jared and the others pushed their way to the front of the crowd. Two monks were standing guard at the entrance, and they stopped them at once.

"Please don't try to force your way into the monastery. We won't be allowing anyone else in today," said one of the monks.

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Walter's face crinkled up in a smile as he said politely, "Excuse me, but we're friends of Abbot Erasmus. Could you please let him know that Walter Grange from Horington is here?"

"We've been told not to let anyone in. Master Leonidas is in the middle of treating our master's daughter and must not be disturbed," the monk responded airily with a dismissive wave of his hand.

Walter did not appear to be angered by the monk's response. He reached into his pocket, took out some money, and slipped it into the monk's hand. "I've also brought someone to treat her illness. Your master knows about it, so you only need to let him know we've arrived."

The monk broke into a grin when he saw the money in his hand. He stuffed it into his pocket and said, "Ah, so you're our master's friends! Please wait here for a while. I'll go and announce your arrival."

Walter watched the monk run into the monastery with a smile. This is a prime example of a situation where it's trickier to deal with the lower ranks than the higher-ups.

Jared sneered, "A monastery with an attitude like this will never have the ability to cure the girl."

The group exchanged exasperated looks. Such was the world now where even places like a monastery were money-minded. Instead of calling it a monastery, it would be more accurate to refer to it as a tourist attraction.

Soon, the monk ran back up to Walter and bowed respectfully. "Sir, our master has allowed you to enter."

Walter nodded, then led Jared and the others into the monastery.

Other tourists had purchased incense sticks and lit them while praying for good fortune. Hence, a thin veil of smoke from the burning incense sticks surrounded the monastery.

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