

The Mans Decree Chapter 491

Chapter 491 Continue With Your Pretense

“Mr. Mikkelson, is there an abundance of gemstones here?” Isaiah looked at Bruce and asked.

The latter nodded readily. “This place is indeed not too shabby. The entrance to the vein mine should be in the northwest. Send people to search in that direction!”

“Sure!” Isaiah was over the moon. Once the location is confirmed, finding the entrance to the vein mine is just a matter of time. It seems like the entire Mount Hickoria will become mine in time to come!

Just as he was thrilled by his thoughts, he noticed another group of people walking out from the jungle. And within them was none other than Jayden!

Seeing how Jayden had managed to lead his group out while remaining unaffected, the smile on Isaiah’s face vanished at once.

“H-How did you guys get out?” A look of bewilderment washed over Isaiah’s face.

Simultaneously, Bruce furrowed his brows and asked, “Did someone walk out from there?”

“Yeah, it’s the Snyders! They didn’t get trapped at all! They’ve all managed to get out,” Isaiah responded.

“How is that possible?” Bruce’s brows drew even tighter together.

“Isaiah, do you think your illusionary technique is enough to trap us up? How naive of you!” Jayden burst into a peal of laughter.

“What are you talking about, Jayden? What illusionary technique? I don’t get it at all!” Isaiah pretended like he did not understand those words.

“Continue with your pretense! The day where you won’t be able to act anymore will come!” Jayden shot a glare at Isaiah before turning to his subordinate and commanded, “Relay the message; find the entrance to the vein mine immediately!”

In no time, the Snyders began the search as well. But given that the mountain was so huge, finding the entrance to the vein mine was not an easy feat.

At the sight of the Snyders searching around blindly and clumsily, Isaiah lifted the corners of his lips into a mocking grin. We’ve already secured a clear direction. I’m sure the search will be much smoother and faster for us!

Just then, another commotion broke out from the jungle. What followed was Christopher leading the Larsons walking out, but unlike the previous group, many of them looked visibly worn out. Not only that, their headcounts had seemingly decreased by half.

Walking out, he looked at Jayden and Isaiah with a darkened expression. “Which one of you tried to play dirty and used illusions to set me up?”

Evidently, that revelation had hit him after his group had suffered the impacts.

“Who else other than Isaiah, that lowly scoundrel? We just got out of the jungle too!” Jayden pointed at Isaiah as he explained.

“Jayden, how dare you accuse me? Did you see it with your eyes? I can say you’re the one who’s playing all these tricks too! How is it possible that you can walk out so safely if you’ve fallen prey?”

Without a doubt, Isaiah did not want the Snyders and the Larsons to forge an alliance as that would only put him at a disadvantage.

At that point, the three parties stared at each other cautiously.

Meanwhile, Jared was in a state of exhilaration upon his arrival at the mountain top. He could sense the immense spiritual energy bubbling upward, almost as though it was erupting through the tip of that mountain.

There must be plenty of spiritual stone below this place.

“We found it! We found it!” one of the Fergusons suddenly shrieked at the top of his lungs.

At that, everyone ran in the direction where the voice sounded. The sight that became visible was that member holding onto a pickaxe and standing in front of a small opening that had a diameter of less than one meter.

As the opening was pitched dark, no one could see what was inside. However, according to past experiences, they knew they would be able to get to the vein mine if they continued to dig deeper from that hole.

With the emergence of the entrance to the vein mine, the tension in the air continued to mount. It seemed almost like a battle would break out any time soon!

“No one can be sure if this is indeed the entrance to the vein mine. It’s purely our guess on whether or not gemstones are abundant here. Why don’t we join forces and break open this opening to see the inside before drawing a conclusion?” Christopher suggested to Jayden and Isaiah.

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Chapter 492 A Collapse

Christopher knew the Larsons were the weakest in power among the three families. He figured that given how things were still in a vague mess, it would be futile for the three parties to engage in a fight. After all, there was a possibility that there might be nothing in the vein min.

“Sure, I agree to it!” Jayden nodded since he felt the same way.

Upon seeing their reaction, Isaiah could only follow suit. “All right. Let’s break open the opening together!”

After finishing his words, he turned to his men and ordered, "Get ready the explosives to blow the entrance."

Meanwhile, Jared had been monitoring the condition of the top of the mountain, and upon hearing Isaiah's commands, he immediately rushed forward and urged, "You can't do that! The mountain top might crumble if you blow up the entrance!"

Being able to tell that it was hollow beneath the mountain top, Jared knew the destructive impact from the explosion would build up within the mountain and result in a collapse.

Throwing a glance at the man, Isaiah coldly uttered, "What do you know? We've mined for years, and that's what we always do. Get out of my sight now! I'll settle scores with you when I get down the mountains!"

No one paid heed to Jared's words, and in the blink of an eye, explosives were set up at the venue.

In the next second, an ear-splitting sound echoed through the air. The hole, which only had a one-meter diameter, had instantly turned into a giant one!

Darkness remained inside the hole, yet the reverberation of the collision of stones was rather apparent.

"That must be from the gravels after the explosion. Let's head in and take a better look," Isaiah suggested.

A sudden sequence of tremors that resembled an earthquake became apparent just as the trio prepared to step inside. It left everyone present awfully shocked that they hastily staggered a few steps backward.

Not long after, the crowd realized that cracks were starting to form on the ground below their feet. Not only were they spreading, but they were growing wider too.

"Aaaahh!"

The majority chorused their screams as they scuttled away.

Reacting swiftly, Tessa grabbed ahold of Jared. He was the only person she trusted at that point.

Like many others, Dominic was scurrying for his life. Yet Jared pulled him back and exclaimed, "Stop running. You won't be able to get away!"

Holding onto Tessa and Dominic, Jared leaped off the ground without warning. Subsequently, the entire mountain top, which was the size of several football fields, caved in after a loud rumble resonated!

Of course, everyone plunged inward at once since they could not react in time to the sudden collapse.

Fortunately, it was only a few meters deep, and thus there were no fatalities. Only several members had sustained injuries after getting hit by the giant boulders.

"Look! There's imperial jade..."

"Oriental jasper... That's an oriental jasper!"

Getting stuck in that massive pit, the crowd noticed the plethora of stones sticking out from the ground. The colors were so bright and luscious that anyone could spot them without the need for any tools and equipment.

"Hahaha! We're going to be rich! This place is indeed a vein mine full of gemstones! How amazing!" At the sight of the gemstones around him, Isaiah began laughing maniacally.

Jayden and Christopher also fell into jubilation. This place is way more valuable than a gold mountain!

While everyone else was mesmerized by the stunning appearances of those gemstones, Jared's attention deviated to an unremarkable stone that was about the size of a fist, sharing a resemblance to a cobblestone.

Immense spiritual energy radiating from the stones covered the entire venue. Having not experienced such a phenomenon, Jared opened his arms and immersed himself in the atmosphere in an attempt to draw all the energy to him.

A few moments into their excitement, Jayden, Christopher, and Isaiah swiftly turned on their alert mode and looked at each other cautiously.

“Jayden, Christopher, I’m the one who found the entrance. Logically speaking, I should start mining first. But since you guys are here too, I’ll let you two equally split between the mines I have out of Mount Hickoria,” Isaiah generously said to Jayden and Christopher.

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Chapter 493 Stop Blabbering Nonsense

“That’s total bullsh*t, Isaiah. The entrance is the result of the collapse. How can you attribute it to your hard work?” Jayden could not hold himself back and started cussing.

Christopher did not fare any better as his expression hardened. “Exactly. How can you take all the credit?”

“Then what do the two of you want?” Isaiah’s eyes brimmed with menace as he scrunched his brows together.

Instantly, Christopher fell silent. He knew he was in no place to voice any opinions since he was considered the weakest among the three of them.

On the other hand, Jayden took a simple glimpse at George. Only upon receiving a nod from the latter did he confidently boast, “Now that the mine’s entrance has emerged, we should decide who gets to begin mining based on that person’s abilities!”

“Fine, Jayden! Don’t regret what you’ve said!” Isaiah did not beat around the bush either. Upon agreement, he turned to Bruce and gave him a polite bow. “Mr. Mikkelson, I’m counting on you now!”

"Rest assured, Mr. Ferguson!"

A flame first ignited on Bruce's palm but was put off within seconds. Consequently, a dense layer of smoke filled the place.

"It's the same trick again? That useless illusionary technique won't work on me!"

George let out a cold snort and uttered, "Daxton, go and teach that old man a lesson!"

"Got it!" As soon as Daxton's words rang out, he charged toward the lingering smoke without hesitation.

The sounds of furious fighting rang out amidst the smoke. Nonetheless, no one had an idea of the situation since they could only stare from outside.

Jayden clenched his fists so tightly they were sweating profusely.

"There's no need to worry, Mr. Snyder. Daxton has long inherited my skills. A mere mage is no match for him!"

Having learned that Bruce was a mage, George was unfazed by the situation before him.

With those words of assurance, Jayden could finally feel a little relieved.

But right as George finished speaking, a figure flew right out from the thick fog and crashed onto the ground with a loud thud.

"Daxton..." The sharp-eyed George could tell that it was his senior apprentice with one glance!

Daxton's chest sunk deep in. It was a clear indication that he had a few of his ribs broken. There was also a trace of blood from his mouth. He had wanted to open his mouth to say something, but fresh red-colored blood spewed everywhere as he tried doing that.

Bruce stood tall within the dissipating smoke, with shades on his face and his hands tucked at the back. "Who says a mage only knows magecrafts and doesn't know how to fight?"

With an icy sneer, he removed his shades to reveal a pair of eyes that had no black pupils on them. Regardless, he still waved his hand at George as though he could see where the latter was and uttered, "Even without magecrafts, I'll be able to win!"

"You're skilled in both mage and martial arts?" George's face grew increasingly grave.

"Cut the crap. Let's get started if you have what it takes. Otherwise, get lost!"

Bruce broke into a wide grin. His voice rang out like thunder, leaving everyone present freaking out.

George could only feel a chill down his spine as the confidence within him had long faded. It was out of his expectations that his opponent had such immense capabilities. Won't that mean that I don't stand a chance at winning?

Nevertheless, he figured there was no other way out for him with how things had turned out. Bracing himself and tensing his chiseled muscles up, he strode toward Bruce.

"Let me teach you a lesson for wounding my apprentice."

With that said, George dashed forward swiftly in the direction of where Bruce was standing.

This time, Bruce did not use magecraft. Instead, his ears were twitching continuously, and every time his opponent launched an attack, he was able to shun it successfully.

The battle between the two soon grew so intense it was like a fierce whirlwind, leaving the crowd dodging the flying stones around them.

"You can do it, Mr. Jenson!" With his fists tightened, Jayden secretly cheered for George. The latter was the only person he could depend on, which meant that his loss would only signify dire consequences.

Bang!

With the loud boom, the two silhouettes went their separate ways. Not only did George stumble a few steps back before managing to steady himself, but Bruce was also in a similar predicament. It turned out the latter was not as indestructible as how others had perceived him to be!

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Chapter 494 A Messy Fight

“Seems like I’ve underestimated you. Come again!” Bruce immediately sprang into action after finishing his sentence.

Figuring that his opponent only had rather average skills, George’s confidence skyrocketed, and without hesitation, he pushed himself off the ground and charged toward his opponent.

Just as he did that, he saw Bruce waving his hand. Within seconds, he was shrouded in a cloud of smoke that only grew increasingly thicker.

He hurriedly tried to move backward but heard a howl of wind behind him. His agility allowed him to lower his head relatively quickly to avoid the abrupt attack.

“Despicable jerk! Didn’t you say that you won’t use magecraft?” George snarled.

“I’m only using my capabilities. How am I despicable?” Bruce let out an insidious laugh.

In that fight they were in, he knew he had the ultimate power while George was only but a headless chicken running around aimlessly.

Witnessing the dreadful sight before him, Jayden became boot-faced as he figured doom was approaching.

Indeed, several moments later, George’s body was sent flying out of the thick smog, with bloodstains at the corner of his mouth and his body slightly shaking as he lifted his gaze to look at Bruce.

“Skilled in both martial arts and magecraft... You’re undoubtedly capable. I concede defeat,” George muttered with a pale face.

"I assume you're from a prominent background too. I'll let you off today. Scram." Bruce waved his hand in dismissal.

In response, George clasped his hands together and gave a salute before ordering his men to carry Daxton up and take their leave.

"Mr. Jenson, you can't leave. You can't leave just yet. What do I do if you're gone? I'll pay extra; tell me how much more you want!" Jayden grabbed onto George's arm and generously remarked.

"Mr. Snyder, this has nothing to do with money. I'm honestly no match to Mr. Mikkelson. There's nothing I can do!" George forcefully shoved Jayden's hands away and departed without looking back.

Astonishment struck Jayden. His body felt so weak he was on the brink of collapsing onto the ground.

"Dad!" Tessa hurriedly held onto the man.

"How is it? I've given you a chance, but sadly you don't know how to cherish it. Now, not just this, but all of the other vein mines on Mount Hickoria belong to me! Whoever dares to disagree will have to die today!" Isaiah convulsed with laughter.

"Isaiah, I promise that the Larsons won't fight with you. All we ask for is retaining the ownership of the vein mines that are originally ours!"

It was the decision Christopher had derived after proper judgment.

"It's too late now. You two shall lead your men and get out of Salinsburgh at once. I don't want to see anyone else, other than the Fergusons, mining here!" Isaiah declared triumphantly with contempt written all over his face.

"D-Don't push your luck, Isaiah!" Christopher was seething with fury.

"Why? Even if I do that, what can you do? Do you want to start a fight too?"

Isaiah shot a look of disdain at Christopher. Arrogance within the former had reached its peak!

"Isaiah, even if I die, I won't leave Salinsburgh. I'll take you down with me if I have to!" Jayden gritted his teeth as rage welled up.

Then, he turned to Christopher and said, "Chris, let's join forces. I'm confident we'll be able to outwit Isaiah with our combined powers. When that happens, we'll split the vein mines equally!"

Seeing how cocky Isaiah was, Christopher nodded readily. "Absolutely! Let's do that!"

Despite watching the agreement for a collaboration between the two, Isaiah could not care less. The expert Jayden brought along with him has already left. How powerful can he still be?

"Since you two are asking for death, don't blame me for my ruthlessness then!"

A murderous intent flashed across Isaiah's eyes, and as soon as he motioned his arm in the air, the experts he brought with him speedily pranced forward. As Bruce lightly moved his fingers, streaks of black smoke began wafting toward the Larsons and the Snyders. "After them! Kill all of them!"

"Charge!" Christopher and Jayden's roars filled the air. They knew it was a serious matter concerning their survival.

Instantaneously, an intense battle unfolded between the two groups of forces. The almost two meters in height bulky man, whom Christopher had brought along, headed toward Bruce straight away. His humongous figure was just like a hill!

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Chapter 495 Scratching An Itch

“Hmph. Insolent fool!”

Up against that mountain of a man, Bruce’s eyes suddenly blinked. In place of the whiteness that permeated his pupils before was a black sprightliness—The clarity in his eyes showed he was never blind in the first place!

“Arghhh!” Roaring, that colossus launched a fist right at him!

He niftily dodged that blow and aimed one into the man’s back!

Bam!

Akin to a hammer upon steel, a resounding thump ensued. he was sent staggering back several paces outright, with his hand tingling with numbness!

“So, you practice the martial discipline of invulnerability!” Bruce broke into a slight furrow.

Enraged after getting struck, the large man turned and strode forth once more in Bruce’s direction, with every step of his pounding resoundingly upon the ground like an earthquake.

“Hmph!” With a snort, two streams of black smoke burst out from between Bruce’s dancing fingers and straight for that colossus.

The large man saw them coming and tried to take evasive countermeasures, but those two black streams shot up his nose like specters, causing him to clutch at his own throat in an expression of shock and obvious pain!

Pfft!

One mouthful of spurted blood later, the two-meter-tall body came crashing onto the ground. The large man's gawking eyes, as well as every single orifice on his body, oozed crimson. Apparently, he was dead from poisoning!

Be it the Snyders or the Larsons, the two families began to see casualties, collapsing to the ground and succumbing to those same symptoms in short order.

Confronted with the scene that played out before them, Jayden and Cristopher both became shocked in equal measure!

"Hahaha. Pitting yourselves against me? For not taking the chance I've gifted you before with both hands, all of you shall perish here this day!" Isaiah guffawed at Jayden and Cristophe who had, at this moment, become lambs to the slaughter.

The latter pair had an awful expression on their faces. Finally, the hapless Cristopher exhaled. "I'm willing to relinquish the Larsons' control of the vein mine over to you, and henceforth retire away from Salinsburgh!"

His compromise left Jayden looking even more distraught!

"What about you, Jayden?" The sneering Isaiah regarded Jayden with frivolity.

Jayden gnashed his teeth. With his own forces almost completely spent, he had no chance of turning the tide no matter how capable he was. His only way out was to relent and beg for mercy.

"I, too, will do likewise!" said Jayden with his head bowed.

"Hahaha! Hahaha..." Isaiah reared his head and laughed a pompous laugh.

His cackling made Jayden and Cristopher feel like they were being trampled savagely underfoot. From this day on, it would seem that there would be no place left for the Snyders and the Larsons in all of Salinsburgh!

"I may spare you yet, Jayden. Your famous daughter Tessa looks like she could make for good company. Leave her with me for a day or two, then I'll let you both walk away when I tire of her!" said Isaiah after he recollected himself.

Jayden went blue in the face upon hearing that. To think that even forsaking everything to his name was not enough to get Isaiah to let him off.

“We’ve been acquainted for so many years, Isaiah, to the point that Tessa almost saw you like her own uncle. How could you...” Jayden regarded him with his eyes boiling over with rage.

“Don’t try to cozy up with me with this nonsense about uncles and whatnot. I’ve long been enamored with your daughter’s salacious figure, so now is the time for me to scratch that itch!”

Isaiah looked at Tessa with a pair of brazen eyes.

“You knave. You monster...” she cussed at him, red in the face with fury.

Isaiah’s face stiffened. “For daring to swear at me, I shall have my way with you in front of all of them here today, wench!”

Upon a wave of his hand, two of the Fergusons’ underlings then dashed right for Tessa.

In spite of his best efforts, there was nothing Jayden could do to stop it!

Seized upon by the Fergusons’ two henchmen, the frail Tessa found herself dragged toward

Isaiah!