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Chapter 636

Paul, who had been silent the entire time, finally spoke up. "Mr. Doyle, there are rules that should be kept. Since your son was the one who accepted the challenge, he should accept whatever consequences there are."

"But, my son-" Phil wanted to protest but stopped when he met Paul's icy glare. "Do you plan to be condemned by everyone?"

"No, sir." Phil gritted his teeth and lowered his head. In terms of status and power, the Doyle family was no match for Paul.

"Mr. Doyle, you should send your son to Stonearay Order immediately. He might still have hope if Dr. Watkins takes a look at him," Paul reminded.

"Hurry! Get the car ready!" Coming to his senses, Phil gathered his son into his arms and dashed. out of the arena, the rest of the Doyle family members following closely behind. Receiving treatment was the most important thing right now.

"Hi, mind if I have a word with you?" Paul turned his attention to Dustin.

"It would be my honor." Dustin nodded and followed Paul out the door.

Once the two men were gone, gossip rose once more.

"What an outstanding battle!"

"I know, right? To think that the person ranked thirteenth on The Heavenly Immortals lost to a nobody. I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes."

"I'm sure that the leader of the Flame Dragon Gang is going to become famous after this."

"As he should."

"Such a talented individual should join Greendust."

“Don’t be silly. Autumn Wind has called dibs on that guy. I’m willing to do anything for him to become my disciple!”

“Are you forgetting about Boulderthorn?”

“You guys are too late. Sir Paul has already made the first move.”

“What? Oh, that sneaky geezer!”

“What are you waiting for? Go after them!”

After processing everything that happened, the elders and leaders of different guilds hurriedly chased after Dustin, not wanting to be left behind.

After all, it was extremely rare to find someone as monstrously talented as Dustin. As long as they paid him some attention, he would surely become a Grandmaster martial artist, so all of them

were now clambering for his attention.

Because Dustin had total victory over the battle, Terry’s title as a genius had been swept under the rug, and the Doyle family’s reputation was in tatters after being known as sore losers.

On the other hand, Dustin’s reputation seemed to have soared thanks to this incident, and there was now a new genius in Balerno.

The Flame Dragon Gang’s reputation also skyrocketed after the battle as skilled fighters from all over the place scrambled to join the gang. Although they still weren’t as powerful as the other famous guilds, they were considerably strong in Millsburg. In time, they would surely become much stronger.

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Outside the Doyle family gates, a Maybach revved up and drove off, successfully shaking off the group of people who were chasing after them.

“Thank God I moved fast, or I wouldn’t even have the chance to talk to you.” Paul turned around and looked at the annoyed group behind them, impressed by his foresight.

“It’s not that bad.” Dustin was puzzled.

“You don’t seem to understand your value yet.” Paul shook his head, chuckling. “Being able to defeat Terry Doyle has already proven how powerful and talented you are. There are less than five people in Balerno who could even be on par with you, so countless guilds are desperately trying to rope you in.”

“Tsk. What a bother. I should have kept a low profile.” Dustin sighed. He had only challenged Terry to warn the Doyle family not to mess with him. He didn’t expect them to invite so many people to watch the battle in an attempt to boost their reputation. Still, the Doyle family has shot itself in the foot since he was the one who ended up receiving the boost in reputation.

“You’re an interesting fellow. Others would die for that fame, yet you don’t want it at all.” Paul smiled

“Things like fame can’t even fill my belly. I’m sure that once word spreads, I’ll have people coming up to me to challenge me to a duel. Aren’t I just making things troublesome for myself?” Dustin shook his head.

“It’s hard to find someone who looks at fame and fortune so lightly nowadays.” Paul studied Dustin appreciatively.

“Don’t flatter me, Sir Paul. I’m just a normal person. I don’t have any great ambitions, so whatever you want to say, just tell it to me straight.” Dustin changed the topic.

“Alright, then. I’ll get straight to the point.” Paul nodded. “I wanted to talk to you about the Knighthood Society Tournament.”

“The Knighthood Society Tournament?” Dustin was confused.

“Every three years, there will be a Knighthood Society Tournament between Balerno and Glenstead. The purpose of this tournament is to find new talents as well as observe how strong each side is. The outcome of the battle will determine the direction in which the alliance will

grow for the next three years. The winning side has the right to call the shots and occupy more resources. Therefore, I hope that you can join the tournament as Balerno's representative," Paul explained

"But why me? There are so many skilled fighters in Balerno. There's no way a youngster like me has the right to represent Balerno." Dustin was still puzzled.

"First of all, I have high hopes for you since you're a capable individual. Secondly, there's an age limit. Participants can't be more than 38 years old. Thirdly, each side has five slots. Terry Doyle was supposed to take one of them, and since you've injured him greatly, you'll have to take his place." Paul smiled.

"What?" Dustin paled He never thought things would get so bothersome after defeating Terry.

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"This is a good chance for you, young man. Everyone who joins the tournament receives a hefty prize. And if you win, the alliance will grant you one wish. Money, power, jewels, women name it, you'll have it." Paul urged.

"Grant me a wish?" Dustin pondered for a moment. He wasn't interested in money or power, but he did happen to need two rare precious herbs. With the alliance's help, he might be able to find them more easily.

"Let me know what you need, young man. Don't be shy." Paul took advantage of this opportunity and began pressing.

"Sir Paul, have you ever heard of the thousand-year green lotus and Cherusia?" Dustin asked.

"Thousand-year green lotus, no, but I know who has Cherusia," Paul answered.

"Really? Who?" Dustin's eyes lit up.

"That's a secret for now." Paul tried to entice Dustin "Of course, if you're willing to represent Balerno in the upcoming tournament, I'll let you know regardless of the tournament's results." "I guess that means I don't have a choice."

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Dustin chuckled bitterly. "Alright, I'll agree to it. It's just going to be a few fights anyway." There was no fight he couldn't win when it came to using his martial arts prowess.

Paul smiled. "Great. That'll be all."

Dustin was curious. "Sir Paul, since you've retired, why are you still worrying about matters regarding the martial arts alliance?"

Paul kept his smile. "Even though I'm not with the alliance anymore, my heart still belongs to them. Not to mention, the current leader of the alliance is my disciple. I don't see anything wrong with helping him recruit talent."

"Sir Paul, I admire that you're a man of high integrity." Dustin nodded in acknowledgment.

"Alright, there's no need for the flattery. Where are you going next? I'll see you off."

"Back to the Flame Dragon Dojo."

In the afternoon, inside Stoneray Valley at Mount Cloudcrest, Terry laid on an emerald bed. His complexion was pale, and he was sweating all over. A few physicians in white were carefully tending to his injuries. Phil stood at one side; he was anxious and hesitant to speak, fearing he might disrupt their work. After a long while, Terry's wound was finally sutured up and bandaged.

"Mr. Turner, how is my son?" Phil finally asked when he saw that they had finished treating Terry.

"It's fortunate that you sent him here on time. Your son is safe for now." Nicholas wiped his sweat

with his sleeves.

"Thank God!" Phil breathed a sigh of relief. But he quickly followed up with another question.

“He’s safe now, but would it affect his martial arts abilities?”

“That’s where the problem lies.” Nicholas sighed and explained, “His core is seriously damaged. It would be hard to get it healed. I doubt he will be able to recover his abilities.”

“What? How can that be?” Phil’s expression fell. Mr. Turner, you have excellent medical skills. Can you please think of something? I’ll pay you no matter how high the price!”

“Mr. Doyle, my skills are limited. There’s nothing I can do.” Nicholas shook his head.

“If you can’t do it, what about Dr. Linden Watkins? Can you please get him to treat my son?” Phil

was anxious

“Dr. Watkins is in seclusion and refuses to meet anyone. Even if he did treat your son and heal his core, your son won’t be able to recover his abilities immediately as they are lost. He would need to start all over.” Nicholas was feeling truly helpless.

“Start all over?” The blood drained from Phil’s face when he heard the news. It took his son more than 20 years of hard work to reach where he was today. It would be too late to start all over again. He was now akin to a crippled man.

“Dad...” Terry suddenly opened his eyes and cried out weakly. “Quick... get my mentor, Mr.

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Augustus Kline, here quickly. Only he can save me now!”

Phil’s eyes brightened. That’s right! I almost forgot about him. I’ll contact him right away!”

Augustus Kline was one of the five ultimate grandmasters of Balerno. He possessed remarkable abilities and was seemingly invincible. With the appearance of such a revered figure, he would definitely turn the situation around.

“Dustin Rhys! When my mentor gets here, I’m going to make sure you are crushed into pieces!” Terry growled menacingly. However, the intensity of his anger made him spit out blood, and he fainted on the spot.

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That night, in the second-floor office of the Flame Dragon Dojo.

“Sir Rhys, you were so cool today! Not only did you show the Doyle family who’s boss, but you also made the Flame Dragon Gang famous all across Balerno! We have around a thousand members now, and they all admire you greatly!” Nelson poured Dustin a cup of coffee while he showered him with compliments; his excitement and elation were evident.

He’d been worried that the Doyles would seize the opportunity and take revenge on them if Dustin. lost. He didn’t expect their gang leader to be so incredible. Against all odds, Dustin turned the tide. and achieved a resounding victory over Terry. He had become famous through a single battle.

“That’s enough, you’ve said that a million times now. Can’t you say something new?” Dustin was speechless. Ever since Dustin’s return, Nelson had been flattering him in various ways, singing all sorts of praises that Dustin could think of. If people didn’t know any better, they would think Nelson was flirting with Dustin from the look on Nelson’s face.

“You want something new? No problem!” Nelson grinned as he said, “Sir Rhys, did you know that after your victory, many talented individuals have sought to join our gang? I’ve tested out their skills, and every one of them is no ordinary talent. With a little training, they could turn out to be the backbone of our gang! If this continues, I believe the Flame Dragon Gang would become. Millsburg’s largest gang within three years!”

Dustin nodded in response. “Not bad. This is good news. But remember: quality over quantity. Don’t recruit anyone with questionable characters. It would be advantageous to him if the Flame, Dragon Gang expanded well. However, he had to clearly plan out their expansion, lest it led to internal conflicts.

“Hehe... No need to worry, Sir Rhys. I’m skilled in that area, I’ll be able to tell their character from just one look.” Nelson grinned confidently. He’d been part of the martial world for many years. While he didn’t possess any extraordinary abilities, he was always right when it came to reading people.

“Oh, by the way, the most important task is finding the murderer. Make sure not to slack off in that regard,” Dustin reminded him.

“My men have been working hard on investigating. I believe we will have results soon.” Nelson turned serious.

Dustin nodded. “Okay. Let me know immediately if you get any news. You can go now.”

“Alright.” Nelson left after responding..

Suddenly, Dustin’s phone rang. He took it out and saw that it was a call from Dahlia.

The Nicholsons hated him terribly since he was the greatest suspect in James’ death. With the current situation, he couldn’t believe Dahlia was the one to call him first. He wondered if she had finally thought things through.

“Hello, Dahlia?” Dustin answered immediately without hesitation.

After a few seconds of silence, he heard an indifferent voice on the other line. “I’d like to talk to

Augustus Kline, here quickly. Only he can save me now!”

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“Dustin Rhys! When my mentor gets here, I’m going to make sure you are crushed into pieces!” Terry growled menacingly. However, the intensity of his anger made him spit out blood, and he fainted on the spot.

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Chapter 640

“Evidence? Where is it?” Dahlia was taken aback.

“It’s with me now.” It appeared that Dustin came prepared, as he took out two pieces of evidence.” These are the autopsy results. This can prove that James was poisoned to death. While this black. needle is the murder weapon.”

“What?” Dahlia examined it curiously.

Dustin added, saying, “If you don’t believe me, you can get it tested personally.” Although he had the evidence, it would be hard to convince her without finding the murderer.

“No need for that. I believe you.” Dahlia’s expression was solemn. “To be honest, I know that you’re not the murderer and that this has all been a misunderstanding.”

Dustin smiled. “I’m happy that you think that way.

“I’m sorry for misunderstanding you. But please understand, I had no other choice. My brother’s death has left me in pain. I feel so lost, and I don’t know what to do. I’m scared... I’m scared that I will lose you too. I’m scared that we will become enemies. I’m scared of being alone, I As she spoke, her eyes turned red. She lowered her head and choked back her tears. Her teary appearance looked pitiful; anyone who saw her would pity her.

“It’s alright. It’s all in the past now.” Dustin patted her shoulders in comfort. His actions seemed to shatter all her reservations, and she threw herself into his arms, her sobs intensified. She trembled uncontrollably as a steady stream of tears flowed down her cheeks. Dahlia finally released all the pent-up emotions that she had suppressed for so long.

Dustin sighed. With both arms wrapped around her in an embrace, he inched closer to her and whispered words of comfort into her ear. “It’s okay to cry. It’ll be alright once you cry it out. Oh, by the way, I have a secret to tell you. To be honest, I really did kill your brother.”

“What?” Dahlia froze, and she looked up in shock. “Wha-what did you just say?”

“You didn’t hear me? Let me repeat myself, then. I murdered your brother!” Dustin declared as he smiled.

After a momentary daze, Dahlia shook her head furiously. “No, it can’t be! You must be lying! How could you be the murderer? I don’t believe you!”

“I couldn’t bear to continue deceiving you, especially when I see you crying so miserably. So I thought I’d just tell you the truth,” Dustin said calmly.

“Dustin, stop joking! You’re not that kind of person” Dahlia denied it flatly.

“Do you really know me?” Dustin countered.

“Why? Weren’t you collecting evidence?” Dahlia frowned.

“I was just playing with you. But I’ve lost interest, so I decided to reveal my cards.” Dustin shrugged his shoulders.

“So, you were the one who killed my brother?” Dahlia was enraged.

“That’s right. I’m the murderer. What do you plan on doing now Dustin gave her a vague:

“I’m going to kill you!”-In her fury, she took out a dagger and aimed it toward Dustin’s throat.

A slap rang out as Dustin struck Dahlia mercilessly, causing her to fall to the floor. The dagger slipped from her grasp and clattered onto the ground as well.

“You-!” Dahlia’s face was disfigured. She was about to get up when Dustin grabbed her by the throat and pinned her against the wall.

“Ugh-” Dahlia gasped for breath, and her face flushed red. She struggled to free herself but to no avail. Dustin’s grip was like an iron vice that clamped tightly around her neck.

“How are you planning on avenging your brother with your meager strength?” With just one hand, Dustin lifted her off the ground.

“W-why?” Dahlia was aghast. She never expected Dustin to suddenly turn hostile and forget about their past relationship. She could even see the intent to kill in his cold eyes.

“Why? You should ask yourself that.” Dustin sneered coldly. “Is it fun playing such childish tricks in front of me? Are you tired of living?”

“What nonsense are you spouting? Have you gone crazy?” Dahlia was shocked and afraid.

“So, you’re not going to admit it? Alright, two can play at this game!” Dustin snorted and reached out his hand. With a forceful tug, Dahlia’s clothes were torn into shreds and revealed her enticing, voluptuous figure. She looked extremely provocative.