

An understated Dominance – Dahlia and Dustin Chapter 1111

Chapter 1111 Hostage of Pride

Garrett chuckled coldly, “Open your eyes wide and look around. They’re all my people. If you dare to act out, I guarantee you’ll be riddled with bullets like a hornet’s nest!”

“Dustin, bullets don’t discriminate, so why don’t you surrender gracefully?” smugly said Nakamura.

The people from the Dragonmarsh still had their old habits, always bickering amongst themselves. Of course, this was the situation he hoped to see.

“Dustin, if you don’t want to die, you better surrender right now, or you’ll regret it!” gloated Vivian and her crew.

“Garrett, you’re playing with fire,” warned Dustin with a stern face. “In respect to the old general, I don’t want to harm anyone. If you all leave now, I can pretend nothing happened. But if you insist on protecting the Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix folks, don’t blame me for not being polite.”

“Not polite? Haha...” Garrett chuckled, looking at Dustin like he was a fool. “Dustin, what do you think you are? You dare threaten me here? Believe me, with just a word from me, I can make you disappear!”

After saying that, he lightly snapped his fingers. The next second, all the armed soldiers behind him immediately aimed their guns at Dustin.

“Now, I command you to kneel!” Garrett said arrogantly, raising his head and pointing down, as if he had everything under control.

“What did you say?” Dustin replied expressionlessly.

“Are you deaf? I told you to kneel...” Garrett’s words were cut short as Dustin suddenly reached out and grabbed his face, lifting it up. Garrett’s face contorted like it was covered by a giant spider’s web, and his words were all muffled.

Because of the force used, his whole face became distorted.

“Damn!” the crowd exclaimed in shock and then grew furious. However, no one dared to act recklessly while Garrett was being held hostage.

“I can take your life as easily as picking something from my pocket. What makes you think you can make me kneel?” Dustin held Garrett with one hand, his eyes cold and frightening.

Sometimes, the enemy wasn't to blame, because of differing perspectives. The real culprits were those who worshipped foreigners and bowed to them.

“Dustin! You're committing a crime and provoking the General's reatiation” Garrett threatened with a pained expression. “I warn you, release me now, or you'll pay with your life!”

“As a descendant of the General's family, you're nothing but a spineless wimp. You really bring shame to your family. Since your father failed to teach you, I'll educate you myself!” Dustin said as he suddenly punched Garrett in the abdomen.

Garrett let out a miserable scream, curling up like a shrimp, and the dinner he had just eaten came right back out. But just as it reached his mouth, Dustin's hand forcefully pushed it back in.

Unable to swallow or vomit it out, he coughed violently, his face turning red, clearly in great discomfort.

“I... I'll kill you! I'll definitely kill you!” Garrett hissed through clenched teeth, his face contorted in hatred, nothing like the calm and composed demeanor he had before.

“Is that so?” Dustin sneered, one hand still holding Garrett's face while the other relentlessly delivered punches to his abdomen, like beating a drum.

One punch after another, hammering his stomach relentlessly, Garrett screamed in agony, convulsing and even losing control of his bladder.

He had completely lost his composure.

Chapter 1112 Cousin's Conundrum

“Stop!”

Just as Dustin was brutally beating Garrett, a melodious shout suddenly rang out from behind.

Dustin turned around to see that Shiela had regained consciousness, her small face showing a mix of shock and disbelief. She hadn't expected to wake up to such a scene, and she couldn't understand why her cousin, Dustin, was beating up her cousin, Garrett.

“Dustin, what are you doing?” Shiela furrowed her brow, looking somewhat perplexed.

“Garrett distorted the truth and sided with the enemy. I'm just teaching him a lesson on behalf of the old general, so he doesn't go down the wrong path and harm himself and others,” Dustin explained plainly.

“Nonsense!” Vivian immediately countered, “Shiela, Dustin here kidnapped you, and we rushed to rescue you. But he turned the tables and assaulted your cousin. Look at him, see what he's turned your cousin into!”

“Exactly! This guy is treacherous. After we exposed his true colors, he got furious, started a fight, and even threatened to capture me. He's utterly despicable!” added Chase.

“Dustin, is what they're saying true?” Shiela looked puzzled.

“Shiela, do you think I'm that kind of person?” Dustin asked in return.

“No, you don't seem like it,” Shiela shook her head and then asked, “But why did you beat up Garrett so?”

“Nakamura from the Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix kidnapped you and used you to threaten me. After I dealt with the Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix's warriors, Garrett and his men arrived. This guy, in his effort to please the Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix, not only shielded Nakamura but also turned against me, accusing me falsely and even threatening to arrest me. Shouldn't someone like that receive a lesson?” Dustin explained the whole situation in one breath, concluding with a question.

“This...” Shiela was momentarily speechless.

If what Dustin said was true, then her cousin had indeed acted outrageously.

“Shiela! Please don’t be fooled by him. He’s lying!” Garrett, enduring the pain, shouted, “He kidnapped you, and we caught him red-handed. That’s why he attacked me. This guy is a hypocrite!”

As this statement came out, Shiela wavered again.

Her cousin had always been upright and of excellent character. It didn’t make sense for him to engage in such tarnishing activities.

What had really happened?

“Shiela, whether it’s true or not, you can judge for yourself by looking at the bodies on the ground,” Dustin calmly stated. “Those are the Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix warriors who kidnapped you. I believe you may have seen some of them before; their tattoos are identical to those on the bodies of these warriors. So, is it true or not? You can decide.”

Hearing this, Shiela carefully examined the scene and indeed recognized some familiar tattoos on the corpses. Although the kidnappers had covered their faces when they abducted her, she had seen a few of these tattoos before. It seemed these Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix warriors were indeed the kidnappers.

“Garrett, these Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix warriors do seem to be the kidnappers. What’s going on?” Shiela furrowed her brow, looking at Garrett.

“Shiela! Don’t be confused!” Garrett had a determined look. “These Kingdom of the Golden Phoenix warriors were all hired by Dustin. He orchestrated this whole act, deliberately having you kidnapped, and then he appeared as the savior to win your favor. This guy is a wolf in sheep’s clothing!”

At this, Dustin couldn’t help but sneer, “Garrett, you have no shame. You’re making baseless accusations against me. But what about Nakamura behind you? What role does he play in all of this?”

He had thought that Garrett was cunning, but he didn’t expect him to be so shameless, blatantly lying.

“Humph! Nakamura is the last surviving witness!” Garrett said confidently. “You paid Nakamura to arrange the kidnapping, and now you want to eliminate the evidence by killing him. You’re despicable!”

With that, he gave a meaningful look to Nakamura.

Chapter 1113: The Confrontation

The latter, with a slight pause, quickly responded, filled with admiration.

“Miss Shiela, I apologize for any offense earlier. However, the kidnapping was all funded by Dustin. If I had known Miss Shiela’s identity, I would never have dared to offend.”

Nakamura bowed deeply, showing a sincere apology.

“Shiela, did you hear that? Now there’s solid evidence. Dustin is the real villain!” Garrett added.

“That’s right! I can testify; it’s all Dustin’s scheming!” Vivian chimed in.

“I can vouch for it too! This guy is cunning and ruthless, willing to do anything to get ahead!” Chase joined in agreement.

“We can all testify! Dustin is a murderer trying to cover his tracks!”

At this moment, everyone joined in the condemnation, their voices echoing loudly.

With dozens of mouths speaking one after another, they could make black appear white.

Shiela was left stunned, utterly bewildered.

Already lacking a strong opinion, she now had no idea whom to believe.

“Shiela, every word I’ve spoken is the truth, without a hint of falsehood,” Dustin said seriously.

“Shiela, I’m your cousin, your close blood relative. Would I ever lie to you?” Garrett spoke earnestly.

“Shiela, think carefully. Why would I kidnap you?” Dustin implored.

“Shiela, you’ve known me for so many years. When have I ever lied to you?” Chase added.

“Shiela, stay calm and think. Don’t let anyone deceive you.”

“Shiela, are you going to believe a stranger over your own cousin?”

“...”

Dustin and Garrett exchanged heated words, each refusing to yield.

“Stop, please stop!” Shiela covered her ears, crouching on the ground, her face filled with conflict and pain.

She couldn’t tell what was true anymore and didn’t know whom to trust.

One was her cousin, whom she had grown up with, and the other was Dustin, who had helped her multiple times.

She just didn’t know how to choose.

“Shiela...”

Dustin was about to speak words of comfort when Garrett, who had regained his mobility, suddenly drew a knife from behind and viciously stabbed at Dustin.

“Die!”

Garrett grinned wickedly as he thrust the knife toward Dustin’s chest.

As long as he killed the man before him, who cared who was right or wrong among the dozens of voices?

But “clang!” The tip of the knife, after piercing through Dustin’s clothes, was blocked by Dustin’s protective aura, unable to penetrate even slightly.

“What?” Garrett froze, his face full of astonishment.

His knife was as sharp as it could be, so how could it not pierce through flesh?

“You’re asking for it!”

Dustin’s eyes turned icy as he unleashed a powerful punch into Garrett’s abdomen.

“Thud!”

A muffled sound.

Garrett was sent flying more than ten meters away, crashing heavily into a wall and leaving a dent.

He spat out blood from his mouth, hanging on the brink of death.

An understated Dominance – Dahlia and Dustin Novel

Score 10

Chapter 1114: Unforeseen Turbulence

“Bang!”

The sudden commotion startled everyone, leaving them in shock. They followed the noise and saw Garrett hanging on the wall, his upper body deeply embedded in the wall, with only his hands and feet protruding outside. Blood sprayed from his nose and mouth, an appalling sight.

“Garrett, young Lord!”

“Young Lord!”

After a momentary daze, the faces of those present turned pale. They rushed forward, pulled Garrett out of the wall, and administered first aid with urgency.

“You, with the Mr Rhys! How dare you harm the Murray family’s young Lord? You have some audacity!” Vivian exclaimed, a mixture of astonishment and anger.

“Dustin! If anything happens to Young Lord Garrett, you won’t escape with just your life!” Chase threatened sternly.

“Are you all blind? It was clearly Garrett who launched a sneak attack. I was merely defending myself,” Dustin stated coldly.

“I didn’t see anything except you attacking someone. I warn you to surrender immediately, or you’ll have nowhere to rest in peace!” Vivian’s expression carried a hint of malevolence.

“That’s right! Surrender immediately!” Chase echoed.

“Idiots.”

Dustin snorted dismissively, not bothering to engage further.

Garrett initiated the attack, and had Dustin not reacted swiftly, activating his protective aura in advance, that blade would have struck a fatal blow.

Although martial masters were impervious to blades and bullets, the prerequisite was having a protective aura. Without it, their physical bodies couldn’t withstand sharp weapons.

“Shiela, did you witness what just happened? This guy lacks martial ethics; he attacked your cousin without provocation, intending to eliminate him!” Vivian began to incite emotions.

“Yes, Shiela! Dustin is scheming and malicious. Your cousin merely argued logically, and he resorted to ruthless violence. It’s utterly despicable!” Chase continued to fan the flames.

“Dustin…”

Shiela was dumbfounded, her eyes wide with disbelief. “Why? Why did you harm someone?”

No matter how you looked at it, Garrett was her cousin, and Dustin’s attack was intended to take a life.

It was simply too ruthless!

“Shiela, it was Garrett who attacked me first. My response was purely instinctual,” Dustin explained.

By this time, the knife Garrett had used was discreetly taken by Vivian.

“He attacked you?”

Shiela scrutinized Dustin but found no signs of injury. Disappointment filled her eyes. “Dustin, are you still lying to me? Do you think I’m so gullible that I can be easily deceived? Yes, I might be naive, but my eyesight is still intact! If you had no ulterior motives, why would you resort to violence? I’ve always believed you were a good person and trusted you. But why? Why did you lie to me?”

As she spoke, tears welled up in Shiela’s eyes.

She had hesitated to believe it before, still clinging to hope. However, she had witnessed Dustin’s attack firsthand.

Now, she had to question his motives.

Could it be that, as her father had claimed, Dustin had approached her solely to advance within the General’s household? Were their prior encounters and his acts of saving lives all an act? Were they part of a hidden agenda?

“Shiela, what are you saying?”

Dustin furrowed his brows slightly, his tone serious. “I have never lied to you, nor have I ever considered you foolish. I genuinely regarded you as a friend.”

“Friend?”

Chapter 1115: The Unraveling Trust

Shiela chuckled self-deprecatingly. “If you truly considered me a friend, why did you harm my cousin? Why did you kidnap me? Why did you do all these things?”

“I…” Dustin was momentarily tongue-tied. He had explained the situation twice, but it was evident that Shiela didn’t believe him. Or perhaps, she already saw him as a criminal. No matter how he explained or proved himself now, it wouldn’t make a difference. Once the seed of doubt was sown, trust was irrevocably lost. He had learned this lesson long ago.

“What’s the matter? Can’t find the words? Realizing you’re in the wrong?”

“It seems my father was right. Your previous actions were all fake, all with ulterior motives, all for your own gain!”

“I thought you were someone special, unlike those ordinary people who crave vanity.”

“But now I see I was wrong, terribly wrong.”

“You’re no different from those who intentionally got close to me. You’re just better at disguising yourself, better at deceiving people.”

“You’ve fooled me, a naive fool, made me unable to distinguish the truth, and nearly turned me against my family!”

“Dustin! I hate you! I hate you!”

Shiela almost shouted the last sentence, tears streaming uncontrollably down her face. She had approached Dustin with sincerity, believing she would receive the same in return, but all she got was deception.

She couldn’t understand what she had done wrong.

In the face of her accusations, Dustin first seemed surprised, then shook his head with a faint smile. He knew that Shiela had already made her choice. When it came to family versus friends, she had chosen family. That was understandable, so there was no point in getting angry.

“Miss Murray, I’m sorry to have disappointed you,” Dustin said without explaining or defending himself further. His gaze gradually turned cold. “Actually, you’re right. I am someone who craves vanity, just an ordinary person. But I have never lied to you. Of course, that doesn’t matter anymore.”

“I have nothing else to say to you. I just hope you’ll be more cautious in the future and be careful of the people around you. Otherwise, you might end up in trouble.”

“Now that you’re safe, I’ve fulfilled my duty to General Murray. Your future path is up to you alone. No one can help you.”

“Take care of yourself. Goodbye.”

With those words, Dustin turned and walked away without any hesitation, and the powerful pressure emanating from him forced everyone to make way for him.

“Dustin...”

As she watched Dustin’s departing figure, Shiela suddenly felt anxious. She reached out her hand as if to stop him but didn’t know how to say what was on her mind.

She had a vague premonition that she might have missed something important.

The relationship between the two, which had finally been brought closer, was completely shattered in this moment. From now on, they would become strangers.

“Shiela, I’ve told you before, Dustin is not a good person. Now that you’ve seen his true colors, it’s finally clear. Keep your distance from him in the future. This kind of trash is not worthy of you!” Vivian added fuel to the fire.

“That’s right, Shiela. Luckily, you’ve realized it in time. Otherwise, if you continue to be deceived by him, you’ll definitely regret it. You saw it just now; this guy was willing to commit murder in public. He’s simply evil!” Chase continued to provoke.

“Sigh...”

Shiela sighed lightly, her expression complex. Although she felt a bit upset, she ultimately restrained herself. In the end, the difference between them was too great. Even without these events, they couldn’t have had a deep connection. They simply belonged to different worlds.

Chapter 1116: The Agonizing Wait

“Young Lord! Wake up!”

A cry of alarm interrupted Shiela’s thoughts. She turned to see that Garrett, who had been severely injured, had fallen into unconsciousness.

“Garrett!” Shiela was taken aback and quickly rushed to check on his condition.

Dustin’s punch had distorted Garrett’s abdomen, and he lay there on the brink of death.

“That damn Dustin, how dare he injure Young Lord Garrett like this? He’s gone too far!” Vivian gritted her teeth.

“If that guy hadn’t run away so quickly, I would’ve killed him!” Chase vented his anger.

They couldn’t win in a fight against him, but that didn’t stop them from expressing their anger.

“Quick! Rush him to the hospital!”

Seeing the dire situation, Shiela immediately called for help and had Garrett taken to the Blue Hills Hospital.

At the hospital, doctors and nurses worked tirelessly to save his life.

It wasn’t until late at night that Garrett finally stabilized.

If Dustin hadn’t held back and left a glimmer of hope, he would have died long ago.

At this moment, in the special ward...

Garrett lay in a coma, his face as pale as paper.

Caden and the others waited anxiously by his side, their expressions grim.

Recently, there had been too many accidents involving the Murray family.

First, Morgan was kicked by a horse, then Caden was injured and hospitalized, and now it was Garrett’s turn.

What was crucial was that all these accidents seemed to have Dustin’s shadow behind them.

“Garrett! How is he?”

At this moment, Max rushed into the ward, his face haggard.

After a busy day, he had just rested, but now he heard the bad news about his son.

“Big brother, don’t be too worried. Garrett has already passed the critical stage.” Caden tried to reassure him.

“Who? Who did this to my son?!” Max gritted his teeth.

As the head of the Murray family, he was almost unrivaled in the entire Millsburg.

Whoever dared to harm his son was truly seeking death.

“It’s Dustin.”

Caden didn’t hide anything. “That kid has no respect for his superiors, and he even severely injured Garrett. He completely disregarded our Murray family!”

“Dustin?”

Max’s face darkened. “That damn beast! He harmed my daughter before, and now he’s injured my son. I’ll make sure he’s torn to pieces!”

His daughter had just been admitted to the hospital yesterday, and now his son was in the same situation.

Facing such a double blow, his anger was boundless.

“Big brother, please calm down. What I’m saying is for your own good.”

Caden had a serious expression. “Don’t forget, tomorrow is our father’s birthday. Although it doesn’t need to be celebrated grandly, there will definitely be many guests coming and going. If you make a big fuss now, it will not only damage the family’s reputation but also put you in a difficult position in front of our father.”

At these words, Max immediately furrowed his brows.

While he was eager to tear Dustin apart, it was indeed not suitable to cause a commotion on such an important occasion.

The birthday celebration of their father was of utmost importance to the Murray family, and countless eyes were watching.

If news of today's events were to spread, it would not only damage the family's prestige but also incur their father's displeasure.

"Young brother, you've said so much. Do you have any good suggestions?" Max asked.

"Use the power of Murray family, but it's best not to arouse suspicion. In my opinion, it's better to seek help from the Martial Alliance."

Caden lowered his voice. "The Martial Alliance has many hidden experts, and if we spend some money, we can easily deal with that kid. Why not take advantage of it? We don't need to do it ourselves."

"What do you mean?" Max asked, his interest piqued.

"If we handle it ourselves, we might attract unnecessary attention and trouble. But if we ask the Martial Alliance for help, it will be more discreet. We can use their strength to deal with Dustin, and our Murray family won't be directly involved," Caden explained.

"That makes sense. Let's do that then."

Max nodded in agreement. If they handled it themselves, it might indeed cause unnecessary trouble. Using the Martial Alliance to deal with Dustin was a more prudent choice.

Chapter 1117: A Bold Entrance

Max nodded thoughtfully. "Alright, I'll leave this matter to you. Find a few formidable experts and get rid of Dustin for me!"

Why use a sledgehammer to crack a nut? Matters that could be resolved with money didn't require their direct involvement.

"No problem."

Caden curled his lips. After all, it was Max's order. If anything went wrong, he could avoid blame from their father.

...

The next day, in the morning.

In front of the General Murray's Residence, it was exceptionally lively.

Guests came and went, and the scene was bustling.

Today was General Murray's birthday.

Although he had retired from the political stage, he had once been a powerful figure, with unrivaled influence.

His disciples and students were spread across the world.

Looking across the entire Balermo region, no one dared to disrespect or disobey him.

However, General Murray had always kept a low profile and disliked extravagance. Therefore, every time he celebrated his birthday, he only invited a few close friends and relatives.

Of course, there were always some uninvited guests.

At this moment, at the entrance of the General Murray's Residence...

A black sedan slowly pulled up.

The car door opened, and Dustin stepped out with Cornelius, holding a congratulatory gift in his hands.

"Young Lord, last night you nearly beat Garrett to death, and today you're here to congratulate Murray's birthday. Aren't you afraid that the Murray family will turn their backs on you?" Cornelius couldn't help but ask.

The General Murray's Residence was heavily guarded, not unlike a tiger's den or a dragon's lair. Once you entered, it was not easy to leave.

"General Murray is a reasonable person. Right and wrong are clear, I believe he should understand." Dustin said indifferently.

Although he had beaten Garrett, it did not prevent him from congratulating General Murray on his birthday.

“Hopefully, that’s the case.” Cornelius said with a solemn expression.

If General Murray was reasonable, that would be the best. What they were most afraid of was that he would value his grandson too much and act unreasonably.

By then, they would be walking into a trap.

“Let’s go in.”

Dustin didn’t waste any time and handed over the invitation. Then, he walked into the General Murray’s Residence with Cornelius.

The guests who could enter the General Murray’s Residence were not many, but each one was a prominent figure.

Either they were high-ranking officials in the court, wealthy tycoons in the city, or local officials.

Today’s seemingly ordinary banquet was actually the gathering of the top figures in Balermo.

“Hmm?”

As soon as Dustin entered the banquet hall, he bumped into several familiar faces.

They were none other than Shiela, Vivian, Chase, and others.

They had been chatting and laughing, but as soon as they met Dustin at the entrance, they froze in place.

“You... why are you here?”

Shiela was stunned for a moment.

Ever since she and Dustin had a falling out last night, she had been feeling empty inside and had almost stayed up all night.

Seeing him suddenly, she felt at a loss for words.

“Dustin! You have the audacity to show up at the General Murray’s Residence after almost beating Garrett to death yesterday! Aren’t you afraid that the Murray family will disown you?” Vivian scolded angrily.

“Is that so?!”

Max’s face darkened. “That damn beast! He harmed my daughter before, and now he’s injured my son. I’ll make sure he’s torn to pieces!”

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Chapter 1118: A Showdown at the General Murray’s Residence

“I’ve come to congratulate General Murray on his birthday. I don’t want trouble, so please step aside,” Dustin said calmly in response to the threats and insults.

“Congratulate him? Hmph! Are you even qualified?” Vivian sneered. “What kind of person are you? What gives you the right to congratulate General

Murray? If it weren't for Shiela's face, do you think you could enter the General Murray's Residence? Stop dreaming!"

"That's right! Look around with your big eyes. Among the people here to congratulate General Murray, who isn't an important figure? You, a lowly insurance salesman, what qualifications do you have to stand with us?" Chase added disdainfully.

Shiela remained silent, gazing at Dustin with mixed emotions on her face. The events of last night had already strained their relationship, and the sight of Garrett lying in the hospital bed filled her with resentment.

"I advise you not to underestimate others," Dustin replied with indifference. "I can enter because I received an invitation. As for my identity and qualifications, it has nothing to do with you."

"Invitation? Hmph, who knows if you stole it or snatched it? A scum like you could do anything!" Vivian continued to disdainfully taunt him.

"Dustin, don't delude yourself with grandeur. We all know your true identity, and you're not worthy to stand here with us!" Chase said, his voice full of contempt.

Dustin finally showed some impatience. "Are you two done bickering?"

He stared at them with icy, piercing eyes. "I'm not close to either of you. What I do is none of your business. If you dare to speak out of line again, don't blame me for being impolite!"

His sudden outburst left Vivian momentarily stunned. Dustin had always been silent in the face of her taunts in the past, as if he hadn't heard a word.

She had initially assumed that he was too afraid to retort. However, his recent words and fierce gaze made her suddenly realize that he was not an easy target to provoke.

Garrett's condition was a clear example of that.

If Dustin were to lose control and attack them recklessly, there was little they could do to stop him.

"Are you... you dare to be so arrogant!"

Dustin's unexpected burst of anger caught Vivian off guard.

Although she had taunted Dustin in the past, he had always remained silent, seemingly unfazed. This sudden display of assertiveness made her realize that he was not as weak as she had thought.

"Dustin, I advise you not to be too presumptuous! This is the General Murray's Residence, do you dare to cause trouble here?" Chase warned with a stern tone.

"That's right! I don't believe you would dare to act recklessly here!" Vivian regained her confidence.

The General Murray's Residence was heavily guarded, and even if Dustin had the audacity, he wouldn't dare to make a scene openly.

Thinking of this, she became more self-assured.

"Are you under the impression that your lives are more precious than Garrett's?" Dustin's voice grew colder as he slowly advanced.

His intense killing intent pressured the group, causing their faces to change, and they quickly took a few steps back.

"Hold on!"

Shiela suddenly stepped forward, her face filled with anger. "Dustin, I won't allow you to harm my friend after hurting my cousin. I absolutely won't allow it!"

As Shiela spoke, she positioned herself in front of her friends, resolute and determined.

Facing her, Dustin paused for a moment, his expression slightly softening as he looked at her.

Chapter 1119: Exile or Respect

Shiela hadn't expected Dustin to be so unreasonable, resorting to violence at the drop of a hat. She realized that she had completely misjudged him.

She had mistaken a villain for a good person.

At this moment, her disgust for Dustin deepened.

“Miss Murray, it was just a joke. Don’t take it so seriously. As long as they don’t provoke me, I won’t do anything to them,” Dustin said calmly.

“Hmph! You looked like you were joking just now? If it weren’t for Shiela stopping you, you might have already made a move!” Vivian was still indignant.

“Dustin! Don’t think that you can act arrogantly just because you have some martial arts skills. The General Murray’s Residence is not a place for you to run wild!” Chase said with a dark expression.

“When others don’t offend me, I won’t offend them. But if they provoke me, I will definitely strike back. This is my advice to you, and I’m giving it to you for free,” Dustin said, his expression unchanged.

“Shiela! This guy is too arrogant. In my opinion, we should just kick him out. Otherwise, it will only lead to trouble!” Vivian continued to fan the flames.

“That’s right! I don’t believe that he would dare to cause trouble here today! It’s General Murray’s birthday celebration, and there are many important guests here. If this guy causes trouble, it will bring shame to the entire Murray family!” Chase agreed.

“Shiela, think about the bigger picture. It’s best to drive this guy away. Otherwise, it will bring endless trouble!” the others chimed in with their persuasion.

“Dustin! You are not welcome here. Please leave!” Shiela finally issued the eviction order.

Her friends were right. If this guy caused trouble here and harmed someone, it would ruin the entire birthday celebration.

“Drive me away?”

Dustin raised an eyebrow, and a self-deprecating smile appeared on his face. “Miss Murray, they are guests, and I am also a guest. They can say whatever they want, and you want to kick me out just like that. Is that appropriate?”

He had once considered Shiela as a little sister, and even when they had misunderstandings, he had no resentment. He believed that even if they couldn't be friends, they should at least treat each other with respect. But now, he realized he was wrong.

Once people had preconceived notions, they would become stubborn and could eventually become enemies.

Her actions now vividly illustrated this point.

He had saved her several times, but in return, he received an order to leave.

"I didn't invite you, and you are not a guest of the Murray family. I have the right to ask you to leave!" Shiela replied with determination.

"Miss Murray, you didn't invite me, but your grandfather did. If you want me to leave, you should ask your grandfather if he agrees," Dustin said calmly.

"You—" Shiela was somewhat infuriated.

She hadn't expected him to be so thick-skinned, refusing to leave even after being ordered to do so. Moreover, he had invoked her grandfather's name to pressure her.

"Shiela! Don't listen to this guy's nonsense. How could he possibly know General Murray? He's just being shameless!" Vivian continued to provoke.

"Shiela, you don't need to argue with him. Just tell someone to kick him out!" Chase suggested.

"Dustin! If you don't leave, don't blame me for calling someone!" Shiela's gaze turned sharp as she spoke sternly.

"Shiela! You're going too far!"

Finally, Cornelius couldn't hold back any longer and scolded her angrily. "Our young Lord has saved you multiple times, and you're not even grateful. Now you want to return kindness with enmity? Are the people of the Murray family all ungrateful?"

"I..."

This statement left Shiela speechless.

Chapter 1120: Face-off

“Shiela! They are distorting the truth!”

Seeing that things were not going well, Vivian started causing trouble again. “All that talk about saving you from water and fire, and returning kindness with enmity, it’s all nonsense! Dustin had ulterior motives from the beginning. He used various strategies and calculations to win your favor. Everything he did, all the favors he gave, were fake. Don’t let yourself be deceived!”

“That’s right! This guy is full of sinister intentions and is not a good person. We must be on our guard at all times!” Chase squinted his eyes.

Listening to their words, the slight guilt that had arisen in Shiela’s heart disappeared instantly.

Yes, Dustin had saved her and helped her, but it was all for a purpose. It couldn’t be considered as favors. If it weren’t for last night when she uncovered his true colors, she might still be kept in the dark.

In the end, Dustin had deceived her, and she didn’t need to feel guilty, grateful, or soft-hearted.

Thinking of this, Shiela took a deep breath and looked at Dustin with determination. “Dustin! I don’t want to see you here. Please leave!”

“You...”

Just as Cornelius was about to lose his temper, Dustin raised his hand to stop him and looked at Shiela with disappointment and indifference. “Miss Murray, it seems that you really dislike me. Since that’s the case, I won’t stay here and be a nuisance. I’ll take my leave.”

With that, he turned and walked toward the exit.

Shiela was determined to kick him out, and there was no point in him staying here, clinging to her. As for congratulating General Murray on his birthday, his intention had been conveyed, and he didn’t need to force it.

“Hmph! It’s about time he left. He’s just bad luck!” Vivian said with a disdainful expression.

“Immediately inform the head of the Murray security. Once Dustin leaves, arrest him right away!” Chase ordered his men to report the incident.

Although they couldn’t disrupt the banquet, it didn’t mean that Dustin could get away with it after beating the Murray family’s eldest son.

“General Murray is here!”

Just as Dustin walked out of the banquet hall, a cry suddenly rang out.

Following that, under the gaze of numerous stars, a white-haired, burly figure, General Murray, walked in with a group of people.

Wherever he passed, the guests respectfully bowed and paid their respects.

Without any action or words, just standing there exuded an invisible majesty.

It made people feel awe.

“Greetings, General Murray!”

With General Murray’s arrival, everyone promptly left the hall to greet him, showing enough respect.

Whether they were high-ranking officials or local tycoons, in the presence of such a prominent figure, they all had to lower their heads and behave properly.

The previously defiant Vivian and the others were now silent and dared not even breathe loudly.

Only Shiela happily walked up and linked arms with General Murray, treating the imposing general as nothing more than a kind old man in her eyes.

In the eyes of others, he might have the air of a dragon and a tiger, but to her, he was just a benevolent grandpa.

“You don’t need to be too polite, everyone please find your way in,” General Murray said with a slight smile.

Although he didn't exude any majesty, he still gave people immense pressure.

Including his son, Max, who was now the head of the family, and others from the main branch, all behaved very respectfully.

Finally, under General Murray's invitation, everyone entered the hall one after another.

Just as Dustin was preparing to leave, General Murray's gaze fell upon him, catching him in the act. He immediately spoke, "Little guy, where are you going?"

With this statement, everyone's eyes were focused on Dustin.

"Dustin!"

Max, who had just entered the hall, fixed his gaze and instantly wore a gloomy expression.