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Chapter 325 Come At Me

There was no sign of fear on Renee's face. Fueled by pure anger, she lunged at Dorieus.

Unfortunately, she was currently just an average girl who was no match for Dorieus. With a harsh slap, Renee was sent flying backward.

"If you wish to kill me, then you better obey me. Serve me well and become one with me, then perhaps you'll get the chance to slit my throat."

With that, Dorieus pounced at Renee like a leopard would its prey.

"You animal! Let go of me!" Renee struggled to free herself from his grip.

Rip!

A large piece of Renee's shirt was torn off.

On the other side, Jared and Leonidas were sprinting up the mountain. Jared moved so abnormally fast that Leonidas could barely keep up.

Soon, Phantom Monastery appeared before them. Jared felt his heart sink when he saw the dilapidated building. Who would be in such a run-down monastery?

"Mr. Chance, this monastery was an abandoned monastery before Dorieus took over and named it Phantom Monastery. All the monks who reside here are irredeemable criminals who had come here to escape imprisonment," Leonidas explained.

Jared nodded in understanding. That means that I can kill everyone in the monastery without guilt! With that in mind, he barged into the monastery.

The monks who had been cleaning were stunned to see Jared and Leonidas at the entrance to the monastery.

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No one ever visited the desolated monastery, so the sight of two strangers made the monks wary.

"Who are you two? What are you doing at Phantom Monastery?" A monk interrogated as he pointed the end of a broom at Jared and Leonidas.

Diomedes heard the monk's booming voice from where he stood in the hall and quickly rushed over.

The moment he laid eyes on Leonidas, Diomedes smirked. "Senior, I didn't expect you to come here so quickly. Have you settled Erasmus' funeral already?"

"Diomedes, you traitor! I swear I'll kill you today!"

Rage overtook Leonidas when he saw Diomedes. He exploded in anger and charged at the grinning prior.

However, Jared quickly intercepted Leonidas' attack and demanded, "Where's Renee? I know you kidnapped her. Where are you keeping her?"

The only reason Jared had held Leonidas back was to find out Renee's whereabouts.

Diomedes gave Jared a disdainful glance and countered with a question of his own. "Who are you? You're just an insignificant youngster. How dare you interrupt?"

Diomedes had assumed that Jared was Leonidas' disciple due to his young age.

Jared revealed the Starry Compass in his arms and challenged, "I was the one who killed your disciple, Falcon! I was also the one who snatched the Starry Compass from his dying hands. If you want to seek revenge for your beloved disciple, come at me!"

The sight of the Starry Compass ignited Diomedes' wrath. "So you were the one who murdered my disciple! I'll make sure that you're six feet under by the end of today!" he spat in anger.

An air of malice surrounded Diomedes as he ordered, "Charge! Kill this man and take back the Starry Compass!"

Heeding his command, the monks bared their teeth and surged toward Jared.

Unfazed, Jared raised his hand to fend them off when he suddenly heard the terrified scream of a girl. Though it was a soft cry, Jared could hear it clearly. After all, his auditory perception was currently far better than the average human's.

The shout had traveled from the back of the monastery. Jared was positive that it was Renee's voice, which could only mean one thing—Renee was in danger!

"Abbot Leonidas, hold them back while I save Renee!"

With that, Jared swiftly maneuvered his way around the monks and dashed toward the hall.

"Stop him!" Diomedes' ear-splitting shriek pierced the air as he extended a hand to block Jared.

"You traitor! It's about time I cleaned up my following."

Leonidas brandished his cane and lunged at Diomedes.

With Diomedes preoccupied, Jared took the opportunity to burst into the hall and kick down the wooden door to the hidden room.

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Chapter 326 Cultivator

Crack!

The oak door splintered to pieces. An old man with an unkempt beard appeared in Jared's line of sight. He was hovering over Renee, who only had her undergarments on.

Startled by the noise, Dorieus whipped around to see a young stranger standing by the door. His bushy eyebrows knitted together.

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"Jared, save me, save me..." Renee pleaded when she noticed Jared. She hastily pulled the blanket over her body to protect her modesty.

"Who are you, kid? Do you know the consequences of barging into the Phantom Monastery?" Dorieus growled menacingly.

"I was the one who murdered your grand-disciple and stole the Starry Compass. Come and take the Starry Compass back if you can!" taunted Jared as he presented the Starry Compass.

Dorieus' expression lit up instantly when he laid his eyes upon the Starry Compass. "You've got the guts, kid! Since you've come to me of your own volition, I'll end your pathetic life today!"

With his words still hanging in the air, Dorieus' robes billowed out behind him despite the lack of wind. He threw a punch at Jared.

Jared's eyes glinted coldly as they bore into Dorieus. His intimidating aura swirled around him, singing the promise of death.

"You shameless criminal, on behalf of the heavens, I'll make sure you receive retribution!"

With that, spiritual energy coursed from Jared's core to his clenched fist, engulfing it in golden light.

Dorieus was stunned. Shock flashed across his eyes, but his fist did not falter as it continued to fly toward Jared. Instead, he injected more internal energy into the punch.

Bam!

With a deafening boom, a force swept through the room and wreaked havoc.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

Dorieus staggered back three steps before he regained his footing. His whole arm was numb from the impact.

Jared, on the other hand, was completely unaffected as he regarded Dorieus with contempt.

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Dorieus could not hide his astonishment. He never imagined that a young man like Jared would possess such great power.

"You're a cultivator?" Dorieus asked with narrowed eyes. "No wonder you dare to challenge me!"

Dorieus could pinpoint Jared's identity from the blow. It seemed like the youngster had trained with cultivators.

Jared, too, was taken aback by Dorieus' acuity and ability. Had Jared not achieved Level Nine of Energy Cultivation, the previous attack might have ended in a draw.

"Now that you know what I'm capable of, why aren't you pleading for mercy?" Jared quipped impassively.

"You're too arrogant, young man!" Dorieus cackled. "You're just a mere cultivator, and I just so happened to have absorbed your energy for my own use!"

Dorieus' laughter stopped abruptly. He leaped into the air and spread his fingers. His digits transformed into claws as he slashed at Jared.

Jared nimbly dodged the attack and seized Dorieus' wrist. To Jared's surprise, the old man did not try to escape his hold. It was as if Dorieus had intended for it to happen.

Instead, Dorieus mirrored Jared's actions and gripped Jared's wrist as well. The two men grappled with each other, each trying to overpower the other with their internal energy.

The corners of Dorieus' lips quirked upward in a smug smile. Soon after, Jared felt his spiritual energy rush from the center of his body to his arm like a tsunami.

The spiritual energy flowed into his arm and through Dorieus' fingertips as the older man absorbed Jared's energy.

Jared's expression shifted to one of concern. He never expected Dorieus to have such an impressive skill.

"Who would have thought that a young man like you would have such pulsating spiritual energy! I'll have to savor this feeling."

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Dorieus guffawed, evidently pleased with himself.

As Jared felt his spiritual energy get siphoned out of him, he had an epiphany. Since I can absorb the cultivation of all things with the Focus Technique, does that mean I can also steal a person's spiritual energy?