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Chapter 323 Lunatic

"Abbot Erasmus died with his eyes open. I tried to close his eyes, but to no avail," Walter reported sadly. He didn't even dare to look in Erasmus' direction.

Jared got to his knees and caressed Erasmus' face. "Abbot Erasmus, don't worry. I shall avenge you!"

After he removed his hands, Erasmus' eyes had snapped shut.

Getting to his feet, Jared glanced around the hall. There were no other corpses in sight, so he asked, "Where is Abbot Erasmus' daughter, Renee?"

Walter shook his head. Glen, however, parted his lips to explain, "We don't know where she is. We rushed here after receiving news and barricaded the scene. There was no one else here. We made sure no one touched the scene."

Walter gritted his teeth and declared, "I can't believe a lunatic killed everyone in the monastery! Who could he be?"

Jared had a suspect in mind, but he didn't reveal his thoughts as there wasn't any evidence tying the suspect to the gruesome incident.

"Don't worry, Mr. Grange. I've asked the Criminal Investigation Division to investigate the matter thoroughly. I believe we'll find out the culprit soon," Glen promised.

The anguish in his voice was evident.

"Mr. Lowe, stop investigating the matter. Ordinary humans can't find anything. Leave it to me!"

Jared knew this was done by someone who possessed abilities that go beyond that of ordinary people.

Glen was stunned, but he quickly regained his composure and glanced at Jared. Nodding, he said, "All right. I'll ask the investigators to leave!"

Right after he said that, a commotion sounded outside.

Jared and the rest rushed out to see Leonidas arguing with the investigators. His robe was utterly drenched.

"Let him in!" Jared roared.

The investigators were astounded, but they made way for Leonidas. After all, Glen was standing right beside Jared.

"Erasmus! Erasmus..." Leonidas wailed as he ran into the monastery.

Jared felt his heart ache at the sight of Leonidas' misery.

Both Jared and Walter headed into the hall after him, while Glen stayed outside to dismiss the irrelevant people. He warned them not to spill a word about that day's events.

"Erasmus, Erasmus! Wake up! Wake up..."

Inside the hall, Leonidas flung his arms around Erasmus' body and burst into noisy tears.

Jared and the others stood aside silently. No one spoke a word, for any attempted comforting words were futile.

After crying for a long while, Leonidas put Erasmus' body down. A murderous intent appeared in his gaze as he clenched his jaw and exclaimed, "Dorieus, we're enemies from today onward! I won't stop until I take your life!"

Hearing Dorieus' name, Jared finally confirmed his guess. A while ago, he had grown to suspect Dorieus. As he had killed Falcon and took the Starry Compass, Dorieus wouldn't have possibly let it slide. After all, Starry Compass was a rare magical item.

Jared had no idea Dorieus was cruel enough to wipe out the entire monastery instead of coming to him for revenge.

"Abbot Leonidas, how did you know it was Dorieus?" Walter asked carefully.

Leonidas managed between gritted teeth, "It was Diomedes who informed me about it. Otherwise, I wouldn't have arrived so quickly. After we killed Falcon, Diomedes persuaded Dorieus to kill everyone in Lagrange Monastery to avenge his disciple. He then informed me about the massacre so I can deal with the mess."

"That's crazy! How could a monk do that?" Glen could barely hide his astonishment.

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Chapter 324 Live For A Hundred More Years

"Do you know where Renee is?" Jared asked.

"She was captured and brought to Phantom Monastery. I'll rescue her once I give Erasmus a proper burial!"

Leonidas slowly gathered Erasmus' lifeless body in his arms and turned to bury the corpse in the backyard.

However, Jared reached out to stop him. "Abbot Leonidas, let the others take care of Abbot Erasmus' funeral. Bring me to Phantom Monastery right now. Renee will be in grave danger if we take too long!"

Leonidas paused briefly before nodding. "All right, I'll take you there immediately," he agreed and carefully placed Erasmus' body on the ground.

"Mr. Grange, Mr. Lowe, we'll leave the rest to you guys!" Jared hollered at the men.

"Take care, Mr. Chance!" Walter replied.

Without further ado, Jared and Leonidas embarked on their quest to save Renee. The Phantom Monastery was located at the peak of a treacherous mountain, where the population was sparse. Hence, the monastery rarely had visitors and was a stark contrast to its famous counterpart—Lagrange Monastery.

With Leonidas leading the way, they reached the foot of the mountain at dawn.

Jared stared at the tall mountain and the dense forest that carpeted it, his eyes gleaming with murderous intent.

The mountaintop was enveloped in thick fog—a product of the heavy rain from the night before. However, it did not deter Jared and Leonidas as they strode straight ahead and disappeared into the white mist.

Meanwhile, in Phantom Monastery, several ferocious-looking monks were sluggishly cleaning up the monastery. Despite their deceiving attire, they were ruthless murderers who had fled to the mountains to evade the law. They made the Phantom Monastery their haven and lived under the guise of monks.

A man in robes stood in the main hall. He was none other than the current prior of Phantom Monastery and the traitor Leonidas had spoken of—Diomedes. Falcon was his disciple!

It was time for the morning sermon, but Diomedes' mind was elsewhere as he crouched by the wall to eavesdrop on the situation behind the monastery.

In a secret room at the back of the monastery, Dorieus, who was obviously past his seventies, was leering at Renee.

Curled up in a fetal position on the bed, Renee tried to hide from the bearded man's lecherous gaze. Her eyes were filled with dread as she stared at the madman before her.

Last night, Renee had gone back to her room after dinner. Just as she was about to retire for the night, she heard a commotion outside her room. It sounded like a scuffle. As her curiosity piqued, she opened the door to investigate, but she got knocked out cold immediately. When she finally came to, Renee found herself in a foreign room.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk... Your skin is as white as ivory. I can even see the delicate veins under it! How befitting of someone who has a frosty constituent! I may have lost the Starry Compass, but I've attained something even more precious. What a bargain!" Dorieus ogled at Renee, his weathered face beaming with glee and excitement.

"W-Who are you? Why did you kidnap me?" Renee asked. She tried to sound calm, but the quiver in her voice gave her away.

"Oh, my dear, you need not worry. I promise I won't kill you. You just have to stay by my side forever! Thanks to your frosty constituent, I can live for a hundred more years if you and I merge into one!"

Dorieus' tongue darted out to lick his chapped lips. The lust in his eyes compelled Renee to scramble away from him.

"D-Don't come near me, or my dad will never forgive you. He'll kill you for sure!"

Renee was still unaware of Erasmus' death.

"Your dad? Killing me? What a joke!" Dorieus burst into raucous laughter. "Your dad is just a corpse now. How is he going to kill me? With his spirit? Even if his ghost comes back to haunt me, I'll vanquish him all the same!"

Renee was thunderstruck by this information. "You murdered my father?"

"Well, how do you think I got you here if I didn't kill that old bag?" Dorieus sneered.

Overwhelmed by shock, Renee fell into a stupor for a fraction of a second. However, she quickly recovered and swore to take vengeance for her father. "I'll kill you... I'll kill you..." she vowed, her eyes burning with fury.