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Chapter 161

The Holtons did not have to wait too long before David came out to fetch them.

David did not expect them to be held off outside either since he had not been held back the many timesh e went in and came out.

After fetching the Holtons and reuniting with Diana and the others,

David brought them all to the third floor.

Jenny was already waiting on the third floor with the keys in hand as David had informed her beforehand.

"This way please, Mr. Lidell!" Jenny said courteously.

David was her favorite client. She had earned six million from the three houses she had sold him.

The group of people followed Jenny to the one-hundred-million-dollar one-story unit that David had already paid the deposit for.

Both Diana's and Jude's families were stunned when they entered the house.

It made sense that such a luxury house would cost at least fifty million.

The interior design, furniture, and view were exquisite.

These people might not know much about decorations, but they knew how to appreciate beauty.

Diana refused to accept this house when she heard that it cost a hundred million, but David said that he had already paid the deposit and the amount could not be refunded.

Diana still did not believe him when David told her he also had a house on the first floor.

She only agreed to take the house after David showed her his on the first floor and persuaded her some more. 1

Then, David and the others followed Jenny to the sales department to pay for the rest of the house and proceed with the transferal of house ownership using Diana's identity card. From now onwards, this house belonged to Diana's family.

After this, David brought them back to Golden Leaf Hotel. He arranged a few idle jobs for Jude and Diana's family within the hotel so that they could earn income without needing to do much work.

The two families were already numb to it when they found out that South River Province's only eight-star hotel belonged to David.

The man had given them too many surprises over the past two days.

From the million-dollar luxury car to the hundred-million-dollar house, and this ten-billion-dollar eight-star hotel. 1

David had raised their standards time and time again.

David internally let out a sigh of relief after settling Aunt Diana's family. Once Aunt Sally's family returned and were arranged jobs, they would all have a place to belong in River City and he would have one less problem to worry about.

Next, he was going to have to start building his own powers. He might have endless amounts of money, but that did not mean he could expand his influence blindly. He needed an actual plan.

Before he had built his powers, he would have to keep a low profile.

David still wanted to follow the ideals of the older generations and keep his wealth a secret.

In the afternoon, David made way to River City Hospital.

Paul should be discharged soon, and David wanted to ask how preparations for the security department were going. He also wanted to know how many people had been recruited.

Paul's hospital room, River City Hospital.

Gordon and Wayne were in the room with Paul when David arrived. The three of them seemed to be investigating something probably related to David's newly established security department.

"You're here, Mr. Lidell!"

Paul looked up and saw David enter the room.

Gordon and Wayne turned to look at David as well. "Mr. Lidell!"

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"Mr. Lidell!"

The two greeted at the same time.

"Paul! How's your injury? When will you be discharged?" David walked up and asked.

"The doctor says I can leave in a couple of days. What do you need me to do, Mr. Lidell? I'm fit to leave the hospital now, actually, I'm already fully recovered!" Paul replied.

"No need. Listen to the doctor, a couple of days isn't going to make much difference anyway. How's the security department you're building going? How many people can you recruit?"

"We've already got around a dozen people confirmed, but there are a few that's still considering the offer! It's probably because the benefits feel too good to be true. If we can have the current employees tell them the situation, I'm sure more people will join us."

"Alright. Then call over those that have been confirmed. Make sure you screen their characters; I don't want malicious people working in my security department."

"Don't worry, Mr. Lidell! The people I reached out to are all reliable folks. We might be mercenaries, but our main job has always been to protect our employer instead of taking on assassination missions. If anything, we're mortal enemies with those mercenaries that kill, since their goal is to assassinate the people we're supposed to protect."

"That's good, then. Make sure they're good people. There are laws in this country, and it'll be a hassle to explain it to the authorities if we end up recruiting an international fugitive. These people you recruit will fall under your leadership. You're the head of the security department."

"Understood! Thank you, Mr. Lidell!"

"We can start with an initial salary of ten million a year for the department head, bonuses will be calculated differently. The other employees can start with a million a year, and I'll grant a pay raise according to capability. What do you think?" David asked.

Paul and the other two's eyes widened in disbelief at David's suggestion.

'An initial salary of one million a year for normal employers and ten million for Paul as Head of Department?'

The twelve of them had only made over ten million despite working abroad for so many years. Not to mention that this was money they had risked their lives to earn.

Yet, Paul could make that much money in just a year.

Not to mention that the situation within the country was going to be much better than it was abroad.

It was common to stay up for a couple of days without a wink of sleep when they worked on missions abroad. They danced on the line between life and death during those missions, not knowing when they would take their last breath.

In comparison to that, the situation within the country was essentially heaven.

"Mr... Mr. Lidell! Isn't that a bit too much?" Paul asked.

This felt like too good a pay for mercenaries like them. "Not at all! I'll raise the pay if you do your job well." "Then I'll thank my brothers in arms in advance, Mr. Lidell! Thank you!" Paul said gratefully.

Then David turned to Wayne and Gordon. "I have a mission for you two."

"Yes, Mr. Lidell!" Wayne and Gordon said at the same time.

"Give me your bank account details later, I'll transfer five million to both of you first as your annual pay. G o home and settle your families, then go to Springfield and protect the general manager of East League International, Pearl Warmer. She's about to make a move and I'm afraid someone might have their eyes o n her."

"Yes, Mr. Lidell! But five million is too much, the basic pay of one million is enough!"

"I've already decided to give you five million so just accept it. You two will be considered senior employees once more people join the security department, it's only right you get better pay."

"Thank you, Mr. Lidell!" They did not reject David again.

David left after transferring the money to Wayne and Gordon's accounts, but not before he told Paul to get the department running.

With East League International Investments' increasing number of businesses, underlying dangers were bound to exist, and David needed the security department to get up and running as soon as possible.

Paul and the other two shared a look after David left. They understood how each other felt.

They wished the twelve of them had returned to the country and met David instead of accepting their last mission.

That way they would have been able to fight and relax together.

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Over at Diana and the others, the two families sat in the hundred-million-dollar house David had just gifted them.

Diana was currently telling the Holtons about David's past. How he had lost his parents when he was young, then studied hard to make it into the top ten universities in the country, SRU, and has now become a successful man with countless riches.

Diana was very proud of David's success.

Judy and Jude still could not believe that this house was going to be theirs.

Moreover, not only did they have a new house, but they also had new jobs as well.

Jude's parents were elated that their son had found such a reliable wife, and as parents, they had the fortune of enjoying a better quality of life as well.

The house was huge, meaning they could come and stay whenever and for however long they wanted.

However, there were still some people who were not as happy about the arrangements.

Such as Jude's aunt and cousin.

Because this house belonged to Jude's in-laws, Jude's parents could still come and stay. However, this benefit did not extend to Jude's aunt and cousin.

They might not feel this way if they had never known of such wealth, but now that they did, those two did not want a life where they could not eat the best food and live in an expensive house.

From Diana's retelling of David's past, she found out that David had lost his parents when he was young and Diana had always been nice to David, even sponsoring his university school fees.

From David's behavior these two days, she could also tell that David respected Diana a lot.

She suddenly had a thought.

Her daughter was studying in university as well, and she was also around David's age. Her daughter's university might not be as good as SRU, but she thought that her daughter was rather pretty.

She wondered if it was possible to introduce her daughter to David through Diana.

If they got together, then she would become David's mother-in-law and she would get to do whatever she wanted.

Whether it was a nice car, nice house, or good food! She would become the wealthiest person in Shu City, and could already imagine the glory.

Her heart raced in excitement at the idea and quietly pulled out her phone to text her daughter.

She asked her daughter what she thought about David, and if she was willing to get to know the man better.

If she did, then she would ask for her sister and Diana's help to get the two youths together.

Seeing her daughter with her head down and a slightly flushed face, she knew that her daughter would not reject such an idea.

It made sense since most girls would fall for such an outstanding man like David.

However, there was a problem.

She did not know if David would even take a liking to her daughter, considering how outstanding he was.

She would need Diana's help with this. Then she used her phone to text her sister, Jude's mother.

She told her sister her idea and wanted her sister to probe Diana and find out what the latter thought of this idea as well. 1

If all went to plan, their family would get to enjoy boundless benefits.

David had only arranged for Diana's family to stay in the hotel today.

Excluding Jude, no one else from his family was offered such a benefit.

If her daughter and David got together, the Holtons might even be given full management over Golden Leaf Hotel since David was still studying. This was a hotel worth tens of billions!

An extremely small portion of the money earned from this hotel would be enough for them to live comfortably for the rest of their lives.

She even told Jude's mom that they should still be careful even though Jude was given such a great house and job now. There was still the possibility that David would find a very controlling wife who governed over David's actions.

If that were to happen, not only would their lives suffer, but Diana's family might also get fired from their hotel positions.

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Only by trying to bringing David and her daughter together could she maximize the benefits the Holtons could enjoy.

Jude's mother read her sister's messages, and after mulling it over for a while, she understood her sister's reasoning.

In truth, their son Jude was the only person in their family who enjoyed any benefits.

If they managed to get their niece and David together, their relationship with David would grow closer and the Holtons could truly live off David's wealth.

By then, the Holtons could each drive a luxury car back to Shu City with pride.

At this thought, she asked Diana, "Diana! How old is David?"

"Twenty-one, turning twenty-two soon. He'll be graduating from university next year! My, time sure flies," Diana replied.

"Does he have a girlfriend?" Jude's mom asked.

"I'm not too sure about this, though. Ever since he started university, he's been working part-time during the holidays, so he doesn't come and visit too often. Even when we call, he doesn't tell us much about his love life."

"You know, Diana, my niece and David are around the same age. She's rather pretty too, and she's also smart and polite. I can promise you that she's a good girl, so what do you think about getting them together? That way we'll be even closer!" Jude's mom pointed at her niece and said.

Diana was stunned and she looked at the shy girl. For a moment, she did not know how to reply.

"Well... I think it's best we let the youths decide things like this themselves. I don't think this is something we should interfere in.

They've already met each other, so if they do like each other, I'm sure they won't need us to step in either," Diana said after some hesitation.

"How is this interfering, Diana? We're just seeing if they're compatible or not! David listens to you, right? Just tell him and let them try it out themselves. If it doesn't work out, then we won't force them either.

How's that?" Jude's mom insisted.

"Uh... I'll find a time and tell David about it, then. Whether it works out or not will depend on them, okay?"

Diana had no choice but to agree with her in-laws since it did not seem too good to reject her daughter's mother-in-law.

"Yes, yes, of course! Just tell David and ask them to exchange contacts. We won't interfere if it doesn't work out since this is a matter between

Seeing that Diana agreed, Jude's aunt happily gave her daughter a look

the two of them anyway," Jude's mother said happily.

that told her not to waste such a great opportunity.

At the same time, Judy and Jude were walking around their new house.

They took pictures of the living room, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, the view outside the window, and the luxurious decoration within the house and posted it on Instagram.

Along with the images was the caption: "Our new home. It feels like a dream," and the location of South River International Residence.

This stunned the couple's friends on Instagram.

The comment boxes were filled with envy, but there was also an abundance of compliments and people asking if they could come and visit.

Leslie's family immediately asked Cedric to find out where this South River International Residence was after they saw the post and learned how much the houses there cost.

They were all too shocked to say anything after they found out the prices.

South River International Residence was the most expensive housing estate in South River Province.

The units were personally designed by a renowned master overseas while the houses came with luxurious interior decorations.

The cheapest house had a starting price of fifty million.

Leslie's chest felt like it had been harshly hammered after he saw the price.

His expression was pale, and he did not say a single word. After this, the man locked himself in his room for three days.

Most likely because he could not accept the difference in the ways David treated him and Diana.

He was also David's uncle. In fact, his DNA might even be closer to David's than Diana's DNA was.

However, now that David had become wealthy, the treatment he received was also drastically different.

All because he decided to turn a blind eye to David back then. He could not regret his past actions more.

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David felt a little tired when he returned home, so he decided to have a nap. It was already night when he woke up but there had yet to be any updates from Pearl.

David gave it some thought before he directly dialed Pearl's number. She was spending money too slowly, and it took her too long to discuss the details of an investment.

He needed to rush her a little.

He only had a hundred and two luxury points now.

That was too far from the amount he needed.

The call connected very quickly, and Pearl's happy voice was heard from the other end.

"Hello, Mr. Lidell!"

"Miss Pearl! How's it going?" David asked.

"Mr. Lidell, we're currently negotiating the details of two companies that require our investment. The team is currently investigating the companies' backgrounds, and the situation seems pretty optimistic right now. I'll report again once the investigation is over," Pearl replied.

"How's it going over at Andy's side? Have you been in contact yet?"

"We've already contacted Mr. Lewis, and we'll go there once the investigation of the two companies is complete."

"Progress is a little slow, Miss Pearl. If the team has already been built, then finalize a few investments as soon as possible. As long as the companies are suitable, it doesn't matter if they're only offering to sell premium shares. Try to choose companies that have already produced some form of result, and don't waste time on insignificant companies." "If that's the case, Mr. Lidell, then we might not be able to achieve the biggest profit. I think it would be better to invest in small companies with good potential," Pearl replied.

David felt slightly despondent when he heard Pearl's reply. He did not

want the biggest profit, he wanted to spend more money.

It was because he had not built his own powers and was not strong enough yet that he was afraid of garnering the attention of powerful people and stirring up trouble by suddenly spending too much money and acquiring too many companies. What he wanted was to purchase and acquire more. He did not care i f the company was among the top five hundred or one thousand companies in the world, he just wanted t o buy shares. If the company refused to sell shares, then he would just acquire the company.

He needed strength! Strength was what decided the victor. Without strength, he would have to watch his back even when he spent money, and he did not like that feeling.

Moreover, he still did not even know if his system was upgradable.

His current Body and Mind stats had already been maxed out and could not be further upgraded, yet he still did not have enough power.

This is why he needed to confirm if his system could be upgraded as soon as possible, or he would not be able to plan his next step.

His current goal was to save up to one thousand Luxury points and see if the system would give him any pop up any notifications, and if his Body and Mind stats could be further enhanced.

If they could not, then he would have to change his plans and hide somewhere to develop his powers.

If he could not raise his own strength, then he would have to rely on external forces.

If he could further enhance those stats, then his primary goal would be to make himself invincible before worrying about anything else.

Then he would no longer need to fear anything or anyone.

"Miss Pearl! What I need the most right now is results, not frugality! It's going to take too long to wait for the small company to grow and make a profit. I don't care how, but you must spend at least fifty billion by the end of this month while keeping a low profile," David said.

"Huh? Mr. Lidell, I don't think I heard you. Could you repeat that?"

Pearl said after a moment.

Pearl actually heard him, but she just could not believe her ears and wanted to double-check.

"I said spend at least fifty billion by the end of this month on investments, though it would be much better i f you could spend a hundred billion. Just keep a low profile and don't act too conspicuously, understood?" Pearl was dazed on the other end of the line.

She could not believe David asked her to spend at least fifty billion this month.

She wondered if David had gone mad.

She had never heard of a boss who wanted his employees to spend his money like this.

Most people wanted to earn the biggest profit with the smallest costs-to spend the least amount of money on things with great potential.

She wondered if David just had too much money that he needed to spend, or if the man just disliked money as a whole.

She did not understand the minds of sons of wealthy families.

She wondered if there was a different reason behind David's actions.

"Are you sure, Mr. Lidell? You want me to spend fifty billion? Not five billion? Or five hundred thousand?" Pearl asked again.

"Miss Pearl, I'm going to say it very clearly now. Yes, fifty billion dollars! At least. There's no upper limit but try to keep a low profile and don't attract unnecessary troubles."

"Alright, sir! I understand. But it's going to be a little difficult not to attract any attention spending so much money on investments in so little time."

"Try your best. Don't invest too much in the same place. I arranged for two men to come and protect you, and they should arrive in the next two days. It's only natural that malicious people will target you if you spend too much money. Your safety is the most important thing though."

"Alright. Thank you, Mr. Lidell. I'll get back to work, then. This is a difficult mission, I've got to rush them."

"Alright. We'll celebrate once you return, then. Oh, and there's no need

to investigate Andy's company. I trust him. I'll contact him directly as well."

"Alright, Mr. Lidell!"

After ending the call with Pearl, David called Andy, and after a quick talk, Andy urged David to wrap up the investigations, finalize the investment plan, and transfer the funds. This was so that he could continue pushing for the implementation of the project.

He had already received a call from Pearl, the project manager of David's company, but she claimed that

there were two more companies that they still had to finish investigating before they could come over.

It was likely that she was planning to leave him hanging for a while and then negotiate prices later. He was no stranger to such business tactics.

However, he also remembered discussing everything with David already.

He promised David thirty percent of the company's shares for five billion dollars. He did not understand what David's intentions of leaving him hanging now were.

He had no idea that it was Pearl's idea to leave him hanging and this had nothing to do with David. David was more than happy to spend money now, as he did not want to negotiate any prices.

As the investment manager of East League International Investments, Pearl naturally behaved frugally. By gaining the greatest profits with the smallest costs, she would be able to prove her worth to her superior and gain his favor.

She did not know that David was not lacking for money and did not need her to act frugally at all.

David informed her that there was no need for an investigation, and he immediately transferred five billion over to him.

Andy was also confused. He did not know what David was trying to do. A moment ago, the man's company claimed that they needed to evaluate his project.

A moment later, the man said he trusted him and the funds were immediately transferred to his accounts.

All Andy cared about were the funds being transferred, so now that the money had arrived, he could continue pushing for the implementation of the project. On the other hand, David felt much better once his luxury points were raised to a hundred and fifty-two after the five billion dollars were transferred.

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Chapter 166

Springfield!

In an upscale apartment.

Pearl was sitting on the couch in her pajamas, having just hung up on David, and was about to call her subordinates to hurry things up.

David said on the phone that money was not an issue as long as they could get results. He probably wanted to do something urgently to show his family.

'Didn't heirs of powerful families try to kill each other to fight for the patriarch's position?'

"Maybe David's jockeying for a spot in his family? Is he in such danger too?"

If so, she needed to speed up. She and David were in the same boat now. She would rise or fall with him.

If David failed to grab the patriarch spot, her life would be miserable, and she still had some indescribable feelings about him.

She did not want David to fail, so she had to work harder.

Since money was not an issue, it was easier to get things done with half the effort.

With that, she got off the phone with her subordinate after urging them to finalize the investment quickly. Then, she contacted several corporations interested in financing-she was going to meet them tomorrow.

At this time.

A curvaceous woman walked out of the bathroom wrapped in a towel.

She had a beautiful face and had reached up to the top of her head to fix her hair. Her skin was as fair as snow.

Any man would be burning with desire at the sight of her.

"Pearly! Were you talking to your man on the phone? You've only been here a few days, and you can't take i t anymore?" The woman spoke flirtatiously.

Then, she walked over to Pearl and brought her chin up with one hand to kiss her.

Pearl turned her head sideways, knocked her hand away, and said,

"Rhonnie, can you be serious?"

The person Pearl called Rhonnie was Pearl's university roommate and best friend-Rhonda Rogers.

The two had been roommates since freshman year and remained close until graduation.

Although they had not seen each other for a few years after graduation, they were still familiar with each other.

Both of them were the campus belles back in university, but Rhonda was far more popular.

It was because her body was so perfect that you could not find any flaw in her. Besides, she had a beautiful face and a flirtatious voice.

She was a man-eater in school. Freshmen, seniors, and even some of the lecturers in school were smitten by her.

However, after spending a few years together, Pearl realized that the girl did not seem to like men! She was pursued by nearly a third of the men in school, from the poor to the most popular boy in school.

The poor would send love letters, flowers, and breakfast every day.

The most popular boy would buy her designer clothes, bags, perfume, and all kinds of luxury goods.

However, it all ended up in the trash.

After four years of university, no man succeeded.

The girl had no interest in men but would always take advantage of her. She even stole her first kiss by force.

"I'm serious, okay? When I asked you to stay with me in Springfield

after graduation, you insisted on going back to your hometown, and now you're back in my arms! Any woman I've set my sights on can't escape from me," said Rhonda as she held out her long palms and made some gestures.

"Rhonnie, it's been years. How come you haven't changed? You're a fool not to show men your beautiful figure!"

With that said, Pearl reached out and took Rhonda's towel off. A figure you could call perfect appeared before her eyes.

Rhonda did not care that her towel was removed. They had seen each other naked back when they were i n university.

"Those jerks are no match for you, Pearly! They look like they're trying to eat me up. It's freaking disgusting," said Rhonda as she sat naked next to Pearl.

"Rhonnie, are you sure you don't want a man? Do you want to spend your life alone?" Asked Pearl as she turned her head around.

"What's so good about men? Isn't it nice being alone? Why ask for trouble? I even have to take care of them. Pearly, why don't you spend the rest of your life with me?" Rhonda asked somewhat flirtatiously.

"No! Rhonnie, I don't want to spend my life like this! You'd better find someone else!" Pearl rejected quickly.

"Pearly, you've had a change of heart! It's only been a few years! Do you have a boyfriend now? You must have been talking to your man on the phone earlier. Come on. Tell me about him. What does he look like? How tall is he? What about his weight?" Rhonda asked with a smile.

Pearl's face was burning slightly from Rhonda's barrage of questions.

"Rhonnie, you'd really ask me anything. How... how should I know?" Pearl said with a blush.

"You don't know? Isn't that your man?"

"You... You... I'm done talking to you. I'm going back to my room!"

Blushing, Pearl got up to return to her room, but Rhonda grabbed her hand.

Rhonda pulled Pearl back gently, and Pearl sat in Rhonda's arms.

- "Pearly, don't go! Tell me, was that your boyfriend?"
- "No! That was my boss!" Pearl said, a little bashful.
- "Your boss? Male or female?"
- "Male!"
- "How old is he?"
- "He's in his 20s!"
- "So young?"
- "Yes! He's still in university!"
- "He became a boss in university? Good for you! No wonder he could steal my beautiful Pearly's heart!"
- "Rhonnie, stop the nonsense! By the way, my boss just gave me a major assignment, and I need your help, Rhonnie!"
- "What assignment?"
- "He wants me to spend at least fifty billion dollars on investments this month!"
- "How much?" Rhonda asked louder.
- "Fifty billion!" "Who is your boss? Does he have too much money to spend?"
- "I don't know either! You have to help me this time. You know Springfield better than I do. Do you have any big projects that need financing?"
- "I'll have to ask around! Don't worry! It's only fifty billion dollars. I'll take care of it for you!"
- "Alright then! I'm going to bed. Good night!" After saying that, Pearl got up and walked back to her room, while Rhonda did not pull her this time! After watching Pearl leave, Rhonda picked up the towel, covered her beautiful figure, and sat on the couch without moving. No one knew what was on her mind!

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Chapter 167

The next day.

David received a phone call from Charles early in the morning, asking if he had anything to do today and that Old Master Luther wanted to see him. After thinking about it, David agreed.

Charles and his sister had invited him several times, but he had always been held up by other matters. He could meet them since he was free right now.

After all, Charles had helped him on several occasions, so they were good friends.

Ever since David donated one hundred million dollars to the school, his lecturer never called him to return to class again. It was the power of money.

David followed Charles' directions to another affluent area in River City, South Mountain Villa Garden.

Although the price per square meter of villas here was not as high as that of South River International Residence, the area was large!

Every one of the villas started at 3,000 square meters and had a private garden and swimming pool.

Besides that, the environment was beautiful, the air was fresh, and it was quiet-unlike downtown.

If South River International Residence was the most expensive house in South River Province, then South Mountain Villa Garden was the most expensive housing area in South River Province.

Moreover, South Mountain Villa Garden had been sold out before construction was completed, which was enough to show how popular it was among the wealthy in River City compared to South River International Residence.

It was named South Mountain Villa Garden because you could see South Mountain.

The whole villa area was built along South Mountain, and the entrance of the villa area was at the foot of the mountain. The villas were built up

along the mountain one by one. The further you went up to South Mountain, the more expensive the villas were. The one at the top of the mountain was said to overlook half River City. It was owned by the villa area's developer, the Luther family of River City.

When David drove to South Mountain Villa Garden, the Luther siblings were already waiting there. David parked his car in front of the Luther siblings and rolled down the window.

"David! There you are! Old Master's been wanting to see you for a long time," said Charles as he stepped forward.

David drove a Bugatti Veyron, so the Luther siblings knew from afar that it was David who had arrived.

"Charles, I'm sorry. I've been busy lately and have only become free today!" replied David.

"We're glad that David's come then. Let's go! I'll lead the way! Old Master's already waiting."

With that, Charles walked over to the supercar parked in front of him. Sandy opened the door to David's Bugatti Veyron's front passenger seat and got in.

"Dave, I'll ride with you!" Said Sandy.

David did not expect Sandy to get in. Ever since he found out that the girl was interested in him, he had been at a lost as to how to deal with this relationship.

"Sandy, why didn't you go to school today?" asked David.

"You were coming to our house today, so I skipped school!" Sandy answered readily.

She did not think anything was wrong, but David was at a loss for words. He just stopped talking and drove up the mountain with Charles.

About ten minutes later, David followed Charles as he drove into a huge manor.

It was the most luxurious and premium villa of South Mountain Villa Garden. It was not a villa anymore but a manor. The entire summit of South Mountain was occupied by it.

You could tell from the manor alone how powerful the Luther family was in River City.

Charles and David parked their cars in the garage and took David to the main hall. Old Master Rupert Luther was already waiting in the main hall.

The Luther family's second generation was Charles's father's generation, and they were basically outside minding their own business.

The Luther family's power was not limited to River City, which was just their base camp. Their companies were located in many other cities, but all within South River Province. Once out of South River Province, the Luther family's influence declined sharply.

Except for holidays and Old Master Luther's birthday, the second and third generations of the Luther family seldom came back.

Therefore, the manor was basically where Old Master Luther and Charles and his sibling lived, as well as several of the Luther family's bodyguards.

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Chapter 168

Charles was the successor Old Master Luther designated. Although others were a little unconvinced, they had no say in the matter. Old Master Luther called the shots in the Luther family.

No one dared to oppose whatever he said. Even if you were unconvinced, you could only bury it in your heart.

David followed Charles and his sister into the main hall.

There was a wrinkled, elderly man sitting on a couch with a steaming pot of tea on the coffee table in front of him. Behind him stood four middle-aged men, two of whom had been seriously injured by Zachary's bodyguard, Mac, at Fuller Golden Sands.

"Grandpa!"

"Grandpa!"

Charles and his sister cried out as they each sat on the right and left of the

old man.

The old man nodded with a smile and looked at David.

"Hello, Old Master Luther!" David greeted him politely.

Rupert said nothing but sized up David carefully.

It took about a minute or two before Rupert said, "Good! Good! No wonder you could defeat Zachary. You're young and capable!"

"Old Master Luther, you flatter me. You're making me blush!" David said modestly.

"Dave, you don't have to be so modest. Zachary's already a big name in the younger generation, and he has the Quinn family supporting him. Not just anyone can kick him out of River City in such an embarrassing state."

"I was just lucky!"

"Luck's also a form of strength. Hurry and have a seat, Dave. Give the tea a try!"

Rupert asked David to sit down before slowly getting up to grab the porcelain teapot and pour David a cup of tea.

David picked up the teacup and took a sip, still feeling no different from the last time he had a drink with Bill, the core member of SCC.

He had no idea why all these big shots liked tea!

He was not interested in tea at all.

It was just tea! In his opinion, it was only to quench his thirst, and he had no interest in tasting it!

However, since they were so earnest, he had to pretend!

"Yes!" David answered in one word.

Rupert could see that David was being perfunctory but said nothing.

Everyone had their own way of life. Since he did not like tea, he would not force it onto him.

It was just like casting pearls before swine to discuss tea with someone who knew nothing about it.

"Dave, first of all, I invited you here today to thank you. I don't know if Charlie and Sandy would be sitting here without you. Secondly, I wanted to meet you," said Rupert.

"Old Master Luther, don't mention it. Charles and I are both members of SCC and good friends. Charles has always helped me too, so it's only right for me to do so."

Sandy got a little impatient watching the two of them being so polite. She suddenly interjected, "Grandpa, Dave! Would you please not be so polite? We might all be a family one day!"

The three people froze as soon as she said that!

Charles and Rupert both looked at Sandy with puzzled eyes.

Sandy realized it sounded wrong and wanted to explain, but she did not know what to say.

She could only blush and say, "I'm going back to my room to do my homework. You can take your time talking!"

Then, she got up and left.

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Chapter 169

After Sandy left, David chatted with Old Master Luther. Then Old Master Luther asked Charles to accompany David, got up, and went upstairs.

Sandy was blushing throughout the whole lunch. She also kept avoiding David, not daring to look at him.

After lunch, David wanted to leave, but Old Master Luther called him to the study alone.

"Have a seat, Dave!" Rupert was sitting on the couch in his study as he spoke to David.

David sat down, kept quiet, and waited for him to say something.

Old Master Luther must have called him here for something else.

"Dave, how do you think the Luther family is doing now?" Asked Rupert.

"Celebrated!" David thought for a moment before saying.

He had no idea why Rupert was asking that. However, as far as he knew,

the Luther family was celebrated in River City and the whole of South River Province.

"It was just a facade. If I were suddenly gone and no one from the Luther family could take on the burden, the Luther family would be a piece of fat meat that everyone would try to have a bite of," Rupert said with a sigh.

David froze before saying, "No way! I think Charles has what it takes!" "Charlie is indeed outstanding among the third generations of the Luther family, but he's not capable enough to bear the burden of the whole Luther family. He needs more experience."

David did not know what to say. He did not understand why Old Master Luther was telling him this. He was not from the Luther family.

"Dave, I want you to protect the Luther family until Charlie can take over the Luther family on his own," Rupert said with sudden solemnity.

"Huh? Old Master Luther, aren't you thinking too highly of me? How could I possibly b protect the Luther family when it's already at the height of its power? Are you kidding me?" said David.

Rupert's asking me to protect the Luther family?"

'Isn't that a joke?'

"How I would be able to do that?"

'Would I need to be so timid now if I could protect the Luther family?'

I would have activated the buying feature, and my lavish points would have skyrocketed!

"Dave, you don't have to reject so quickly! I wouldn't ask you to protect the Luther family for nothing, of course. I'm going to give you a big present next!" Rupert said calmly.

David was already speechless.

'It's not because of some big present, okay?

I'm just not capable of doing it!'

He would not mind helping the Luther family when they were in trouble if he was capable of doing so.

However, it would be pointless to ask him to do so right now. He was

even having trouble saving himself!

"Old Master Luther, it's not that I am rejecting you. I'm just not capable of doing it. If I were capable, I wouldn't mind helping the Luther family. After all, Charles and I are considered good friends. Of course, if the Luther family needs help, then I would step up!"

Rupert ignored what David said and continued saying, "Dave, do you know why the Luther family will exist when I'm around, but will fall without me? The Luther family is at its peak because of me, but I'm just an old man one step away from death."

David had no idea about that!

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Chapter 170

He thought Old Master Luther was someone strong, but he realized he was just an old man after meeting him.

David's mind power was so strong now, but he could not sense the slightest threat from Old Master Luther.

It was possible that Old Master Luther used to be strong, but was just an ordinary old man now.

It was hard to imagine that a family currently in its prime was built by this old man.

If the old man was suddenly gone, the towering Luther family would collapse.

"I don't understand. Please explain, Old Master Luther!" said David. It was not that he was curious or anything, but Rupert was naturally going to elaborate since he brought the topic up.

He was just complying by asking.

Sure enough, Rupert continued, "That's because I have another identity!" "What's that?" David asked cooperatively.

"A retired member of National Special Task Force's Team B!"

"A retired member of National Special. Task Force's Team B? What

kind of organization is that?" David asked curiously.

"Speaking of this organization, it's necessary to talk about martial artists first. Martial artists have never disappeared. It's just hard for ordinary people to get in touch with them. Dave, you should know this best, right?"

David did know this.

In the first twenty-one years of his life, he had never seen any martial artist, nor was he aware of the existence of martial artists.

However, ever since he obtained the system, he learned that just because he did not know something did not mean it did not exist. His level was previously just too low to ever interact with it.

It had never occurred to him that anyone could be as fearless with guns as those shown on television.

It was only after fighting Zachary at Fuller Golden Sands that he discovered a group of people in the world with powers that only ever existed on television. At the same time, he had accidentally joined that group.

Rupert went on and said, "Martial artists are a group that can do a lot of damage. Some of them are already strong enough to withstand ordinary firearms, but not everyone in this group is strong enough to resist the temptation. So, when they make a mistake, they do great harm to society."

"The state can no longer threaten these people with ordinary soldiers, and that's why the National Special Task Force was created. They are law enforcers and supervisors the country set up for martial artists."

"I used to be one of them but was seriously injured during a mission, so I became a retired member. Once you're in this organization, unless you commit treason or make a big mistake, you will always be protected by the entire Special Task Force. This protection also extends to your family. What's supporting the Special Task Force is the nation.

"I retired because I was injured in a mission, so no one dares do anything to the Luther family as long as I am alive. But if I die, the Luther family will become a piece of delicious meat without any relation to me."

David had some doubts after listening to Rupert's words. 'As long as Old Master Luther is alive, then the whole Luther family is being protected! How dare Zachary try to kill Charles at the time?'

Therefore, he asked, "Old Master Luther, why did Zachary try to kill Charles and Sandy if you're still around?"

"That's because Charlie pulled the gun first, or Zachary wouldn't have dared kill Charlie and Sandy no matter how brave he was. The Special Task Force only protects your family from harm, but they won't care if you try to hurt someone first and was struck back."

That made sense!

No wonder Zachary, who wanted to make peace at first, tried to kill Charles right after Charles pulled his gun.

It turned out he was scared at the beginning!