

Chapter 1481

Asher and Luca were friends? It was known that Asher's power was really strong among the participants. He was always at the top of the list. With Asher speaking on Luca's behalf, no one dared to laugh at him anymore.

"I..." Johannes was stunned. He gathered his courage and looked at Asher as he said, "Asher, what's wrong with you? Luca only managed to get a few Internal Alchemy Elixirs. What's wrong if I laugh at him just a bit?"

Johannes pointed proudly at the temporary winner list to the side. "I'm in the top ten on the list; I have the right to laugh at him."

Johannes was right; he was first on the winner's list. There was no surprise that he would qualify for the next round.

"So, you're in the top ten?!" Asher laughed coldly before he turned to look at Florian as he said, "Master Florian, I'll give all my Internal Alchemy Elixirs to Luca. I'm pulling out from the competition!"

At that moment, Asher looked extremely determined. Honestly, Asher had put in a lot of effort to get first place in the martial arts competition. It was a waste for him to just give up like that.

However, he had no choice. Since he knew Luca was from the South Cloud World royal family, he had to support him. His sect also still required the royal family's support in order to expand to a further level.

“What?!”

At that moment, the competition venue was in chaos. Everyone there looked at Asher with disbelief, their eyes full of surprise.

‘Asher wanted to pull out from the competition and was giving his Internal Alchemy Elixirs to Luca unconditionally?’ everyone thought.

‘What was their relationship that was so important to Asher to make such a huge sacrifice?’

Asher had obtained over a thousand Internal Alchemy Elixirs. If he gave all of them to Luca, Luca would easily move up to second place.

At that moment, the atmosphere turned tense suddenly.

At that time, Darryl walked over and patted Asher's shoulder as he smiled and said, “Asher! Thank you; you don't have to do that! I won't lose!”

Darryl looked at him with admiration. He did not expect Asher to be such a generous and honorable man.

“But...”

Asher was worried when he heard Darryl's hesitation and said, “You'll be eliminated if we don't do this.”

At that moment, Asher still did not know that Darryl had obtained the Internal Alchemy Elixir from the Wolf King, but he had yet to present it.

Darryl smiled and signaled for him not to worry.

At that moment, Johannes gathered his thoughts and pointed at Darryl as he laughed. “Ha-ha! Oh wow, a man with his principles, not accepting another's help. Let me ask you, how will you qualify with just over thirty Internal Alchemy Elixirs?”

“Ha-ha, ha-ha!” as he said that, everyone came to their senses and broke out into laughter.

Seeing that the time was almost up, Florian did not want to waste any more time. He said to Darryl impatiently, “Luca, this isn't the place for you to joke around. You'll be disqualified if these are the only Internal Alchemy Elixirs you have.”

‘Such an unimportant person, but with so much to say. I'm still waiting to report this to His Majesty,’ Florian thought.

“Who said that I don't have others?” Darryl smiled calmly as he took out the golden Internal Alchemy Elixir. “Does this count?”

The moment he brought out the golden Internal Alchemy Elixir, the gold color shone brightly, causing everyone around it to feel dizzy from the shine.

In the next second, everyone took a cold breath as they saw the golden Internal Alchemy Elixir in Darryl's hand.

'What type of Internal Alchemy Elixir was that? It was gold in color?'

Johannes was completely stunned, and his jaw was dropped.

Chapter 1482

"This..." Simultaneously, Florian was also stunned as he looked closely at the golden Internal Alchemy Elixir. He was so emotional that he could not speak clearly, "Th-this is the Wolf King's golden Internal Alchemy Elixir?"

Florian could not hide how stunned he was. He looked around and said, "Everyone, His Majesty has ordered anyone who could obtain the Wolf King's golden Internal Alchemy Elixir; it would be worth 800 regular Internal Alchemy Elixirs."

'That golden Internal Alchemy Elixir was worth 800 normal Internal Alchemy Elixir?!' Everyone was stunned when they heard that. All of them looked at Darryl with curiosity and mixed emotion in their eyes.

The Wind Spirit Wolf King was powerful. He was only a Martial Saint level cultivator; how could Darryl have obtained the Wolf King's Internal Alchemy Elixir?

At that moment, Florian reorganized the qualifiers list and announced, "Luca's golden Internal Alchemy Elixir, together with his 30 normal Internal Alchemy Elixirs, totals up to 830 elixirs. He is now in fifth place and qualifies to the next round as one of the top ten."

Florian looked at Johannes, still stunned. "Johannes, who was in first place, is now in eleventh place and thus, eliminated."

As he said that, Johannes's body trembled, and he staggered back a few steps. His face turned green and looked horrible, as if he had eaten a rotten egg.

'I qualified; how can I be eliminated just like that?'

'What had happened?' Matteo furrowed his brows, looking weird.

'Shit! I forgot this Luca guy still had the Wolf King's Internal Alchemy Elixir. Although you qualified, don't be too happy just yet. I'll have no mercy if we meet in the next round of the competition,' he thought as he stared daggers at Darryl.

At that moment, everyone looked blankly at Darryl. They could not gather their thoughts.

The situation changed too quickly; it was just simply unpredictable. A guy who was just at a Martial Saint level had qualified for the semi-finals and placed fifth place.

Who would have believed that if they had not seen it with their own eyes!

Asher smiled as he saw what had just happened as he deeply sighed.

'Master Luca has qualified to the next round, and I don't need to give up on the competition.' At the same time, Asher respected Darryl in his heart. This was what the South Cloud World royal family could do—change the situation at the most critical moment. It was amazing and gained respect.

Darryl held his fist and bowed to Florian. "Thank you, Master, for executing the competition with fairness!"

As he said that, Darryl was really reluctant to say such kind words to Florian, but he had to pretend to be nice in order to continue to take part in the competition.

"You don't have to thank me!" Florian looked arrogant as he replied calmly. "You should thank His Majesty. You would have been eliminated if His Majesty had not mentioned that the Wolf King's Internal Alchemy Elixir could be counted too."

His fortune was based on pure luck. However, he could not take the top spot just with luck.

No matter what, the later rounds of the competition were getting more and more brutal. Florian did not speak further but just raised his hand. "Alright, the winner list for the top ten participants is released. Everyone, please return home to rest. I will return to report back to His Majesty."

As he said that, Florian led the royal armies to return to the royal city quickly.

Meanwhile, at the New World Palace, Yvette was sitting near her bedroom window. She stared blankly at the night view outside. She was incredibly beautiful, but her face carried some sadness too.

Chapter 1483

Ever since she heard the news that Darryl had died at the city moat, Yvette felt her entire world had collapsed.

Although she had been asked to observe the tournament with the other royal family members for the past few days, her heart was completely absent. She missed Darryl all the time.

As that day was the Martial Arts competition semi-finals, the New World Emperor and the Ministers could not be present to observe at the competition venue, so Yvette had a free and relaxed day.

She had not eaten a single thing the entire day as she missed Darryl so much.

“Princess.” At that moment, a sexy woman walked into her bedroom. She looked smart and alluring—it was Sloan.

Sloan was holding the winners’ list in her hand, smiling.

Once she reached Yvette and saw how depressed she looked, Sloan could not help but sigh. She consoled her gently and said, “Princess, are you still thinking about Darryl?”

As she said that, Sloan looked sad and felt the sadness in her heart too.

Sloan did not know why. When she had met Darryl, she would usually be irritated and wanted to teach him a lesson. However, knowing that Darryl had died, she still felt surprisingly sad.

Yvette did not reply but continued to stare blankly at the sky.

A few seconds later, Yvette turned her head and looked at Sloan closely. “Sister Sloan, Father was lying to me, right? Darryl isn’t dead, right? He wouldn’t die so easily.”

She had been through so many dangerous challenges with that man, and he had never failed to escape danger. How would he have died at the city moat?

At that moment, due to her pain and sadness, she stubbornly insisted that Darryl was not dead.

“Princess.” Sloan felt heartache when she saw Yvette’s pain. She held Yvette’s hand and consoled her, “Don’t be like this. Darryl is dead. I made an effort to check with Leonardo earlier. He saw Darryl fall in the city moat with his own eyes, and Darryl never came up afterward. Princess, he’s dead and won’t be coming back; just forget about him!”

Sloan appeared relaxed as she smiled. “I brought the winners list for today’s semi-final for the martial arts competition. Take a look; you’ll notice something interesting.”

Sloan handed over the winners list.

Although she still felt sad about Darryl’s death, everyone needed to move forward. She did not want Yvette to continue living in sadness.

Besides, there were plenty of elite people in the martial art marriage tournament.

“I don’t want to see it.” Yvette shook her head without another thought as she pushed away the winners list directly. “No matter who these participants are, I don’t want to hear anything about them!”

No matter how talented these participants were, they would never be as good as Darryl in her heart.

Sloan smiled bitterly and put the winners list aside as she said gently, "There's someone named Luca Moonlight at the semi-finals today. He's only a Martial Saint level, but he's in third place. Don't you think that it's a bit funny?"

Sloan focused on any change in Yvette's expression.

Honestly, Sloan and Yvette's relationship were just like sisters. She did not want Yvette to continue feeling devastated. As such, she tried to say something interesting to divert her attention.

'Martial Saint level but obtained the third place in the semi-finals?' Yvette furrowed her brows and said casually, "Is he cheating?"

Sloan laughed and shook her head as she said, "How is that possible? I heard that he obtained the Wolf King's golden Internal Alchemy Elixir. Besides, earlier in the competition, he beat Wudang's Wyatt with sword technique. At that time, I already felt that this Luca was not an ordinary person."

Sloan looked at Yvette and continued to ask, "Princess, aren't you interested in a person like this?"

Chapter 1484

"I..." Yvette bit her lips, looking bored. "I am not interested at all with this, Luca. Please leave me alone, Sister Sloan."

She did not show any emotion when she said that.

Her beloved Darryl was gone, and no one could attract Yvette's attention no matter how interesting they were.

Sloan sighed softly and slowly stood up. "Alright, I won't interrupt you anymore. Please go to bed early, Princess!"

'The Princess really loved Darryl so much,' she thought.

As she spoke, Sloan felt sad as she turned and left the bedroom.

Yvette continued to sit there, staring blankly at the night sky.

'Darryl, do you know how much I miss you?'

Meanwhile, Darryl returned to the inn and went to bed early after dinner.

Darryl felt extremely relaxed after making it through the semi-finals for the martial art competition. He slept extremely well.

The next day, Darryl arrived at the semi-finals venue first thing in the morning.

'Sh*t,' Darryl thought as he was stunned to see the sight in front of his eyes when he arrived at the Nine Suns Altar.

He saw wooden stakes were arranged all over the entire literary competition venue. The wooden stakes were two feet high, were placed close together, and there were millions of them. The setting made the entire competition venue look like a huge maze.

Darryl could see that the wooden stakes were connected with steel chains. It looked complicated but organized.

'Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation?' he thought after glancing at it quickly.

Darryl had analyzed the Bai Qi Formation for many years, so he was able to identify this formation with just a glance. Although the wooden stakes formed a huge maze, it was, in fact, a formation.

The Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation was a mid-level formation in the Bai Qi Formation. It was not difficult to break. However, for a person that had no knowledge about formations, they would not be able to leave after going in.

It was impressive that the royal family could make such a huge formation.

Darryl walked over slowly, looking extremely relaxed.

Once he passed through the entrance, he could see many literary competition participants had arrived at the waiting area. Most of them were staring at the huge formation in front of their eyes in awe!

After he entered, Darryl saw Parker standing amongst the crowd. She was frowning too.

It was obvious that Miss Yohan, just like everyone else, was stunned by the Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation.

Besides that, the surrounding audience stands were full of people. As yesterday's martial art competition semi-finals were being held at the training ground, ordinary people were not able to attend the competition.

As such, all the people of Royal City came for today's literary competition semi-finals.

"Have you figured it out?" When he arrived, Darryl smiled and went closer to ask Yohan softly.

"This..." Yohan bit her lips and could not hide the worry in her heart. "This should be a formation, right? I still haven't been able to identify its rhythm."

As she said that, Yohan looked at Darryl with her eyes full of anticipation. "Have you figured it out?"

'Earlier during the attack and defend battle, Luca managed to lead me to a win. He must have a way.' Darryl smiled and said softly, "Of course I do. When we enter later, don't wander anywhere. Follow me closely."

The Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation was no big deal.

“Great!” Yohan nodded, and her heart was emotional.

“Silence everyone.” Florian, the main invigilator, walked over and shouted loudly.

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As he spoke, the entire venue was dead silent.

Florian was satisfied with the response he got and smiled as he looked around before he spoke, “Congratulations, everyone for passing the previous round of the literary test. Today will be the semi-finals for the literary competition, and you will be tested on formations. Can you see the wooden stakes here? This is the Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation. All of you will enter the formation in sequence. You need to come out from the formation within half an hour to qualify for the next round. If you fail, you will be eliminated.”

As he spoke, Florian raised his hand.

In an instant, the royal guards protecting the formation opened the entrance, and a handsome-looking figure walked in.

It was Kilenc! He seemed fearless facing the formation.

At that moment, the observation deck cheered loudly.

“Yes, it's Mister Dokko.”

“Mister Dokko knew about the formation too? He looked so confident. He's so powerful!”

“What else can you say? Mister Dokko is a top talent; what is a small formation to him?”

Kilenc smiled confidently when he heard everyone's compliments and cheers.

Kilenc knew formations. The Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation was one of the formations he was familiar with.

He was an interesting person as he was quite a strong contender in the previous round of the literary competition. Darryl smiled when he saw what was in front of him but stayed silent.

Parker said softly, “Luca! It's almost our turn; shall we enter together?”

Although Darryl proposed that, Parker was still nervous.

No matter what, it was the semi-finals. It must not be easy for the royal family to prepare for the formation.

Darryl smiled and gave her a nudge to remind her to calm down. “You’ll walk in first, and I’ll follow behind you. Don’t worry; I’ll tell you where to go by then.”

Darryl had thought it through. He would let Parker take the credit and let others think he only got through by following Parker. Before he reached the finals, he would keep a low profile the whole time.

“Ok!” Parker nodded as she tried to calm herself down.

At that moment, the royal guards announced their names, and Parker immediately stepped up to take the lead.

Darryl pretended to be really nervous as he quickly followed behind her.

“Ha-ha. Can you see it? It's Luca again. He’s following Parker again to gain an advantage.’

“That’s right. Earlier during the attack and defend battle, Luca relied on Mister Yohan to get to the next round. He’s pulling the same trick again today?”

“Let’s see how this ends. His good luck is up anyways. After the semi-finals, a person with no real knowledge would be eliminated quickly.”

At that moment, Darryl followed behind Parker as they entered the Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation. Everyone at the observation deck could not help but look down on them, and they started to laugh at them.

They felt that the only reason Luca made it this far was all thanks to Parker.

Darryl completely ignored the crowd’s teasing. He followed closely behind Parker and did not stop giving instructions softly, “Walk two steps forward and turn left. That’s right, after the crossroads, turn right...”

Darryl was very familiar with the Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation. He could walk through it even with his eyes closed.

Under Darryl’s guidance, Parker dared not miss a beat. She walked slowly through the formation and felt nervous but excited.

She was excited as Luca seemed to know the formation clearly.

At the same time, she was worried. The Nine Palace Golden Lock Formation was huge; would they be able to walk out of it smoothly within half an hour?

At that moment, Parker still did not know whether the other participants near them were lost in the huge formation. All of their heads were spinning and were extremely miserable.

Chapter 1486

Minutes and seconds passed till half an hour was almost up before anyone realized.

Everyone on the observation deck and the New World Emperor and the royal family seated at the high altar looked closely at the formation's exit.

The next second, a figure walked out of the formation gracefully.

It was Kilenc!

At that instant, the entire venue was in an uproar. Everyone looked at Kilenc with respect.

"How impressive is Mister Dokko. He's the first to qualify again!"

"Incredible!"

At that moment, Darryl was still in formation. He smiled and said softly to Parker, "Alright, let's get out of here. Walk straight ahead, then turn right at the next turning. That's the exit."

Darryl looked extremely confident. Honestly, he could have exited the formation with Parker a long time ago, but he did not want to expose himself. That's why he directed Parker to circle the formation a few times.

Darryl would have left the formation a long time ago, given his power. It would have definitely not been Kilenc who exited the formation first.

At that moment, Parker felt her legs were weak. Luca really knew about formations!

"Who is Luca?"

Once they walked out of the formation, Parker could not hide her excitement as she stared closely at Darryl, and her body was trembling. As for Darryl, he looked relaxed.

"Parker Yohan and Luca Moonlight progress to the next round!" Florian yelled out unconsciously.

He was stunned when he saw the two figures walking out from the formation.

At the moment, Florian looked closely at Darryl as he furrowed his brows.

'This Luca is too lucky! Yesterday at the semi-finals, he unexpectedly took out a golden Internal Alchemy Elixir and placed fifth in the results. And today, at the literary competition, he qualified again. Nobody knew of this guy before, but he has extremely good luck.'

At that moment, Yvette, who was sitting beside the New World Emperor, lifted her brows and looked at Darryl.

‘So, this is Luca Moonlight?’

At just a Martial Saint level, he passed the semi-finals of the martial arts competition and progressed to today's semi-finals of the literary competition too.

Yesterday night when Sloan mentioned Luca, Yvette was not interested at all, but she still remembered his name. As such, when she heard the name Luca Moonlight, it attracted her attention immediately.

‘Yvette...’

Darryl’s heart trembled when he noticed Yvette. He was surprised and delighted.

‘Yvette recognized me? If she can recognize me, wouldn’t the New World Emperor and Florian recognize me too?’

Just as Darryl started to feel uneasy, there was booing coming from the audience. Everyone’s gaze was on Darryl, and all of them wanted to laugh at him.

“What are you capable of besides relying on Mister Yohan to qualify.”

“That’s right. This Luca is just a little cunning.”

‘He would not have been able to walk out of the formation if he didn’t follow behind Parker.’

Up till that moment, everyone was confident that Darryl was only taking advantage of Parker. None of them knew that Parker had relied on Darryl’s instruction to walk out of the formation.

Chapter 1487

“This...” At that time, the Empress, who was sitting at the side, was full of doubts. She could not help but ask, “This Luca, he was following behind Parker closely the whole time. That’s obviously cheating.”

The New World Empress was beautiful, elegant, and kind. She was a principled person, and she was really dissatisfied when she saw Darryl walk out together with Parker.

As the martial art marriage tournament was not only related to the ethics of the royal family, it was also critically related to the happiness of the Princess. The Empress would not allow anyone to take advantage by playing smart.

Noticing that the Empress was unhappy, Florian rushed over to the New World Emperor without thinking. He said politely, “Your Majesty, this Luca, walked out of the formation by following behind Parker. Does that count as cheating?”

When he said that, the entire place went silent. Everyone’s gaze was focused on the New World Emperor.

The atmosphere turned tense too. From what had happened, the New World Emperor could forfeit Darryl's right to continue competing with his order.

'Sh*t...' Darryl started to become worried. 'The Emperor wouldn't rule me out by saying that I was cheating, right?'

However, the New World Emperor did not speak and instead kept silent.

'It was really suspicious that Luca was cheating, but...'

Seeing what was happening, Parker became worried. She stepped forward and bowed to the New World Emperor, holding her fists together. "Your Majesty! Luca and I coincidentally took the same path. We both used the same technique to break the formation. How can that be counted as cheating? Please consider this, Your Majesty."

As she said that, Parker was really worried. She was worried that Darryl would be disqualified from the competition. No matter what, he was the one that helped her secretly get through the semi-finals successfully. She was the one taking advantage of him.

At that moment, Darryl turned and looked at Parker, feeling a warmth in his heart.

He did not expect Parker would defend him at the most critical moment. His relationship with her started because he had discovered her secret; they were not even friends.

At that moment, the New World Emperor sighed, raised his hand, and glared at Darryl as he said calmly, "Luca Moonlight qualifies to the next round. He can continue with the competition."

Although Luca was suspected of cheating, there was not enough evidence.

Besides, it was incredible when Luca defeated Wyatt at the martial arts competition with his sword technique. The New World Emperor was impressed, so he would not want Luca to be disqualified.

At the moment, the New World Emperor, just like every other person, still could not see that Luca's real identity was the Elysium Gate Sect Master, Darryl.

Darryl and Parker both sighed in relief. Darryl looked grateful as he bowed to the New World Emperor. "Thank you, Your Majesty."

'Sh*t, although the New World Emperor was cruel, he still had his principles for certain things.'

Although the Empress was not satisfied, the Emperor had spoken, and there was nothing else she could do.

At that moment, Sloan leaned closer and said to Yvette quietly, "Princess. Look, Luca has his ways, right? He qualified for the semi-finals for the literary competition again."

As she said that, Sloan looked closely at Darryl with curiosity.

He was a Martial Saint level cultivator, but he was able to pass the semi-finals for both the literary and martial art competition.

An ordinary person could not do this.

“He’s just lucky!” Yvette replied coldly.

Although she said that, Yvette’s eyes could not help but observe Darryl.

‘Is this person really capable, or was it just pure luck?’

Chapter 1488

Soon, half an hour had passed. Only a handful of people succeeded in exiting the formation. In the end, only eight people qualified for the next round.

Darryl did not stay any longer after the competition ended and left the venue immediately.

‘What a day, I almost got eliminated from cheating.’

“Hey, Luca!” someone shouted at him once he left the venue.

Darryl turned to look and saw Parker was running towards him. Her face was all rosy, looking attractive.

“What is it?” Darryl smiled and asked, feeling relaxed.

The semi-final was over; how refreshing.

“I…” Once Parker arrived, she was embarrassed. She bit her lips and hesitated before saying softly, “Thank you for everything today.”

When she said that, Parker was really sincere. Her words of gratitude came from the bottom of her heart.

As the eldest Young Miss of Famed Sword Manor, Parker had an arrogant character and seldom accepted help from others. However, that day was an exception.

Without Luca’s help, she would be trapped in the formation and eliminated.

‘Just for that?’

Darryl smiled and shook his hand casually. “It’s just a small matter!”

As he said that, Darryl turned and was about to leave.

“Hold on. Please wait!” Parker shouted immediately.

Darryl smiled bitterly and turned to look at her. “Anything else?”

'What does Parker want today?'

Parker was blushing, but her eyes looked serious. "Luca, are we friends now?"

Honestly, Parker looked down on Darryl initially, thinking that he only managed to last so long in the competition by pure luck.

However, Darryl's performance that day was completely beyond Parker's expectations.

"Yes!" Darryl nodded his head without thinking further.

"Then..." Parker looked at the ground and said softly, "Since we're friends, can you teach me about formations?"

Parker was a very studious person. She was almost eliminated at the semi-finals, so she thought she needed to learn about formations.

Luca would be the perfect master.

'Sh*t! This woman wants to learn about formations from me.'

Darryl was stunned. He then smiled bitterly. "This should be fine, but we can't do it now. I don't have time to teach you as both of us still need to compete in the tournament."

'Yvette is still waiting for me to rescue her from the palace. I have no time to recruit a student.'

"In the future is fine too!" Parker thought and smiled as she said, "When you have time in the future, I shall come looking for you."

Parker's eyes were filled with anticipation. "You must tell me your real identity so that I can look for you in the future."

'Sh*t! She is determined to be my student.'

Darryl was stunned. He smiled and said, "No need. I'll look for you when I have time after this martial art marriage tournament. I shall tell you my real identity by then!"

Although he knew Parker would keep his real identity a secret, Darryl decided to continue to keep it from her just in case.

"Fine then." Parker was very disappointed when Darryl refused to reveal who he was. However, she had to agree with him.

Next, Parker suddenly remembered something as she pulled out something from her pocket and put it in Darryl's hand. "This is a token I carry with me. When you come to the Famed Sword Manor, you just need to show this, and someone will bring you to see me directly. Don't lose it!"

It was a jade sword pendant made from high-quality jade and carved into a sword's shape. The handicraft was unique and exquisite.

The jade sword pendant was Parker's token that she carried with her and the symbol of her identity as the eldest Young Miss of the Famed Sword Manor.