

The Man's Decree 326

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.

"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.

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."

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?

Chapter 327 Astral Attraction

With this revelation, Jared applied the Focus Technique, and the outflow of spiritual energy came to a jarring halt.

Next, an intangible vortex formed at Jared's core and drew energy toward its center. The tide changed as the spiritual energy, Dorieus' included, gushed back to Jared.

Dorieus' face turned a ghastly white when he felt the energy loss. His eyes grew wide with fear.

"H-How did you learn the Astral Attraction?" Dorieus exclaimed in trepidation.

Dorieus could feel the energy draining through his limbs as it naturally gravitated to Jared. He fought to escape, but Jared was like a huge magnet, and Dorieus was the metal that stuck to it.

Dorieus' muscles quickly became emaciated, and he plummeted into a chasm of unadulterated terror.

After ten minutes, Dorieus was nothing but skin and bones. His eyes bulged out of their sockets, his frightened expression eternally frozen. The rest of his body had shriveled up beyond recognition.

Jared loosened his grip, and Dorieus collapsed to the ground with a light thud. His features were no longer human, and not a single moan escaped Dorieus' cracked lips in his last moments.

Jared was in awe by the changes in his body. He could feel his abilities grow stronger, and every fiber of his being hummed with the extra energy. He never thought that the Focus Technique could be used in such a way, and it was a fascinating discovery for Jared.

"J-Jared," Renee called out timidly.

Renee's voice snapped Jared out of his thoughts. He hurriedly took off his jacket and draped it over Renee's frail body.

By the time Jared escorted Renee out of the hall, Leonidas and Diomedes were still engaged in battle. Both men were drenched in sweat, and monks' dead bodies were strewn all over the place.

The two men were already at their limits. Each assault they unleashed sapped their energy, but they gritted their teeth and pressed on, well aware that a moment of carelessness could cost them their lives.

"Master Leonidas!" Renee cried when she saw Leonidas. Tears streamed down her dainty face.

With her father dead, Leonidas was now Renee's only family.

Upon hearing his name, Leonidas turned to look at Renee. His heart filled with relief when he saw that Renee was relatively unscathed.

Diomedes had a sense of foreboding when he saw Jared and Renee standing side-by-side. While Leonidas was distracted, Diomedes jabbed at Leonidas and prepared to flee.

Leonidas swung his cane at Diomedes to parry the attack, but it was already too late.

"Ah!" Renee's horrified scream filled the place as she watched Diomedes' spear approach Leonidas' exposed chest.

Jared harnessed his energy, and with a flick of his wrist, a bolt of white light struck Diomedes' arm.

Diomedes flesh split open, and he lost his grip on the spear.

In the same instant, Leonidas' cane crashed into Diomedes' head.

Blood gushed out of Diomedes' mouth as he crumpled to the floor, unable to get back up.

"Traitor, I'd love to see you try to escape this time!" Leonidas bellowed at the prostrate Diomedes.

"S-Senior, please have m-mercy on me. I was wrong! Dorieus forced me to do it; it wasn't my fault! Please don't kill me, please..." Diomedes groveled at Leonidas' feet, begging for his life.

"Scum like you deserve to go to hell, so how dare you covet life?"

With that, Leonidas aimed a forceful kick at Diomedes' head.

Diomedes' head cracked open on impact, its contents splattering on the ground. Void of energy, Leonidas' legs gave away beneath him, and he slumped on the grou

Chapter 328 The Travel

"Master Leonidas..."

Renee ran toward Leonidas and hugged him tightly.

"Are you okay, Renee?" Leonidas asked with concern in his eyes.

"I'm fine... B-But my dad..." her voice trailed off as she started sobbing the moment she thought about her father.

Leonidas let out a sigh.

Right then, Jared walked toward Leonidas. With a single move, he pulled Leonidas up and channeled some spiritual energy into the latter's body. In an instant, Leonidas felt a wave of strength wash over his body.

"Thank you, Mr. Chance, for all you've done for us! We will never forget it!" Leonidas said as he was about to kneel before Jared, and Renee followed suit.

However, before both of their knees came into contact with the ground, Jared stopped them. "Abbot Leonidas, please don't kneel. It is fate that bound us together. Besides, Renee has helped me a lot too!"

If it weren't for Renee's help, Jared would have needed to spend much longThe cultivating his abilities. The frosty energy trapped inside her body helped speed up the entire process.

With that, the three of them walked down the mountain and reached Lagrange Monastery. The place had already been cleared and cleaned, and not a single soul was there. Yet, something was different. More than ten tombstones could be seen in the open area behind the main hall.

Renee couldn't hold it in anymore as she broke down in sobs at the sight of it.

The buried bodies there were her seniors and juniors she had grown up with. When they were still alive, some of her seniors used to take care of her and doted on her. Alas, all of them had become cold, lifeless bodies that were buried underground.

Situated in the front was the biggest grave compared to the rest. Renee's body trembled when she walked up to it, and she held onto the tombstone tightly.

"Dad... Please come out! I'm Renee! Please call my name like how you used to! I'm here! Please..."

Renee's grip was so strong that the rough surface of the tombstone broke the skin of her fingers.

Leonidas' eyes reddened at the sight of her actions, and he wanted to help Renee up. However, Jared stopped Leonidas from doing that because he knew Renee needed to let it all out.

After thirty minutes, Renee eventually calmed down as she finally accepted the fact that her father had died.

“Abbot Leonidas, Renee, what do you plan to do next? If you need a place to stay, I can make arrangements for you in Horington,” Jared suggested. He thought about the state of Lagrange Monastery and the poor Renee who had lost her home.

Leonidas didn’t say anything, but he merely looked pitifully at Renee.

Renee met his eyes and said to Jared, “I only have Master Leonidas now. Wherever he goes, I’ll go.”

“Mr. Chance, don’t worry about us. I’ll bring Renee with me as we explore the world. I’ll never let her get hurt for as long as I live!”

“All right. Since you’ve decided, I won’t force it,” Jared responded as he took out Starry Compass. He continued, “Renee, take this. When you feel sick again because of the frosty energy inside you, use Starry Compass to get that energy out. One more thing, as long as you don’t go to places with strong frosty energy, there won’t be a relapse within a short period of time.”

With that, Jared put Starry Compass into Renee’s hand.

“Jared... T-This is your magical item! I can’t accept it!” Renee exclaimed.

She knew how much this magical item meant to Jared because he killed Falcon for it.

“Just take it. It’s just another magical item in my hands, but in yours, it can save your life. If we meet each other again, I’ll help you unleash your potential once I’m strong enough!” Jared said while smiling as he patted her head.

Renee remained silent, holding Starry Compass against her chest tightly.

The three of them went their own ways after they went down the mountain. Jared looked at Renee and Leonidas’ silhouette as the two of them walked in the other direction. Right then, Jared didn’t know that his decision to give Renee Starry Compass would save him countless times in the future.

Chapter 329 A Secret Lover

At Yeringham Hotel, Josephine was asking Tommy something.

“Tommy, tell me the truth. Where did Jared go?”

“I really don’t know, Ms. Sullivan! He told me that there are some urgent matters, and he left right after!” Tommy replied helplessly.

“Why isn’t he back yet if he left last night? I can’t even reach him! Did something bad happen to him?” Josephine asked. Concern was written all over her face.

“Maybe he has a secret lover out there! Guys like him usually wouldn’t stay loyal to a woman,” Frida teased with a devilish grin on her face.

“Frida! Don’t be ridiculous! I don’t think Jared is that kind of person!” Yasmin chided as she lightly smacked Frida.

Yasmin had completely changed her view of Jared. To her, a low-profile man of his caliber wouldn't be seduced easily by women.

"I agree! I don't think Jared would do that too!" Zeke chimed in.

"I trust him, but I'm worried that he might be in danger," Josephine said.

"Okay, let's stop worrying about him. Maybe he'll call you in a while. Let's go eat!" Zeke suggested.

With that, the five of them went out to look for a restaurant to eat.

As soon as they were out on the street, Tommy felt that something was wrong. He furrowed his brows, and his heart raced when he sensed danger.

"Ms. Sullivan, it seems that we're being followed. You go ahead with the others first. Don't look back!" Tommy said to Josephine in a hushed voice.

With that, Josephine nodded in surprise. She quickened her pace with Frida and the others.

In an instant, Tommy held onto his belt and spun on his heel. When he turned, he saw that three men were approaching him with a smirk on their faces.

Even when they were found out by Tommy, they didn't show a single sign of alarm.

"Who the h*ll are you? Why are you following us?" Tommy asked seriously.

"Ah!"

A scream was heard after he said that. It was Josephine's voice.

Tommy immediately turned in her direction and found that there were three other men in front of Josephine as well.

Zeke trembled in fear when the three men appeared before him, but he tried his best to protect the girls by standing between the men and the girls. Slowly, Zeke and the others moved backward and regrouped with Tommy.

"So, you're Jared?" one of the men with a crew cut asked Zeke.

It was Tyrion's uncle, Wilbur Jantz. He had never seen Jared before, so he thought Zeke was Jared.

"I-I'm n—"

"What business do you have with Mr. Chance?" Tommy asked before Zeke finished his sentence.

"Of course, I'm here to kill him! Did he really think I'll let him live after he crippled Tyrion?" Wilbur replied coldly.

"You're from the Whitaker family!" Tommy shouted as he tensed in response. He removed his belt and was ready to attack.

"You're Tommy Lewis, right? A word of advice? Get lost, hero. This has nothing to do with you!" Wilbur shooed Tommy away.

“Such arrogance!” Tommy barked as he lashed toward Wilbur with his belt.

At that moment, the first person who struck first would gain the upper hand.

As Tommy’s metal belt lashed toward Wilbur, the latter didn’t even try to dodge it. Instead, he grabbed onto Tommy’s belt and yanked forcefully at it.

While Tommy was still taken aback, he felt the powerful tug pulling him toward Wilbur.

With that, Wilbur punched Tommy hard in the latter’s abdomen.

Cough!

Tommy spat a mouthful of blood instantly, and he felt that his ribs were broken.

Chapter 330 Replacing Josephine

“Hmph! I can’t believe the underground king of Horington is just another weakling!” Wilbur scoffed.

Tommy fell to the ground after that. His face winced in pain. Even if he wanted to get up, he couldn’t muster the energy to.

“Are you Jared?” Wilbur asked again as he walked toward Zeke.

At the moment, Zeke was scared to death. He knew how strong Tommy was, so when he saw how Wilbur took the latter out with just one punch, he was completely stupefied.

Wilbur frowned when he saw Zeke’s reaction. Tyrion told him that Jared was very strong.

If that’s really Jared, why is he shaking like that? Hmph! There’s no way Alfred would die in his hands!

“You’re not Jared, are you?” Wilbur asked once more.

“N-No...” Zeke shook his head vehemently.

“Then, where is he?” Wilbur asked with a murderous look in his eyes and took two more steps toward Zeke.

At that time, Zeke could almost feel Wilbur’s breath on his face, and he didn’t even dare to look into Wilbur’s eyes.

“I-I don’t know... H-He has left Yeringham!” Zeke stuttered as he trembled out of fear.

“He left?” Wilbur frowned before he turned to the three girls. “Which one of you is Josephine?”

All three of them looked at him with terrified looks on their faces, and none of them said anything. It was because they knew why he wanted to find Josephine.

“Not speaking, are we? Fine then. I’ll tear your clothes apart and throw you out in the streets so that everyone can see how you look then...” he threatened as he glared at them.

Josephine and the others held each other tightly as if they were trying to calm each other down. Nevertheless, no one was able to calm the others at the moment because all of them were utterly terrified.

“How could a man like you bully women? You’re so shameless! Leave them alone! Come at me if you dare!” Tommy yelled angrily from the ground when he saw how frightened Josephine and the others were.

Wilbur ignored Tommy completely as he gestured for his subordinates to deal with Tommy. The next moment, his subordinates moved toward Tommy and started beating Tommy up.

Josephine and the rest paled at the sight of that.

“I’ll ask you one more time. Which of you is Josephine? You have three seconds to think about it, or else I’ll take all three of you away!” Wilbur yelled again as he threatened them.

After that, he started counting down.

“Three! Two! One!”

At that moment, Josephine gritted her teeth and was about to walk forward because she didn’t want to drag Frida and Yasmin into it.

However, before Josephine could do anything, Yasmin walked forward.

“I’m Josephine,” Yasmin stated with a determined voice despite the fear on her face.

“H-Hey...” Josephine said softly. She didn’t expect that Yasmin would step out for her.

Wilbur took a good look at Yasmin and grinned coldly. “I get why Tyrion likes you now. You’re easy on the eyes!”

When Zeke saw Yasmin step out, he turned pale and wanted to call out to her. However, he stopped himself when she shot him a look.

People would be selfish when it came to moments like this. Yasmin was his girlfriend, so he didn’t want her to get in danger. He knew what would happen if Wilbur took her to Tyrion.