

# The Formidable Son-In-Law: The Charismatic Lucas Gray

## - Chapter 775 – 806

### Still Close Friends

#### Chapter 775: Still Close Friends

Seeing that Asher seemed about to get into a tiff with his girlfriend because of this, Lucas hurriedly said, "It's fine. I can go in. Don't worry."

Although he hadn't seen Asher for nearly ten years, Lucas knew that Asher's family wasn't wealthy.

Furthermore, based on the situation just now, although Asher's attire was decent, his girlfriend's was much more luxurious than his. She was covered in famous name-brand clothes, and the jewelry on her body was worth over a hundred thousand dollars. She was likely a wealthy heiress.

Lucas could tell from her rude behavior toward Asher that she was the dominant one in the relationship.

In that case, Lucas didn't want his former best friend to get into an argument with his girlfriend because of him.

Besides, as the protagonist of the event, Lucas could enter the venue without a ticket.

After being refuted by his girlfriend in public, Asher felt extremely ashamed toward Lucas and said apologetically, "Lucas, it's alright. I'll think of a solution for you and try to get you another ticket as soon as possible. Wait for me here."

Then he walked out of the expo center. On his way here, he had seen a few scalpers at the entrance and planned to try his luck there.

Lucas felt touched by Asher's action.

A close friend whom he hadn't met in nearly a decade actually racked his brains to come up with a solution to help him. It was rather rare.

But he really didn't need Asher to get him a ticket.

Lucas hurriedly grabbed Asher and was about to speak when Asher's girlfriend said coldly, "Didn't you hear him saying that he can go in by his own means? He doesn't need your help!"

Asher frowned. "How can he enter without a ticket? He's just afraid of troubling me because he saw you put the ticket away. That's why he said that."

His girlfriend raised her eyebrows and was about to lose her temper when the other woman, who had been keeping silent, said sarcastically, "There are many ways to enter! He has plenty of reasons to enter, especially since he works here. What are you worried about?"

Asher looked at the tight security around the entrance and immediately frowned. "It's the day of the competition that will decide the ruler of California and Oregon. The people who can enter the venue are all rich, so the security measures here today are extremely strict. All of them are powerful experts, and they won't let anyone try to fool their way in!"

He looked at Lucas and said seriously, "So, buddy, don't get the wrong idea. Don't try to find a way to mix in with the crowd to sneak in, or you'll be in deep trouble! If it's serious, you might even die!"

"How about this? I have about thirty thousand in this card. Take it and go outside to buy a ticket from a scalper!"

He took out a bank card from his wallet and passed it to Lucas.

While Lucas was still surprised by Asher's action, his girlfriend had already snatched the bank card from him. She pointed her finger at him and lashed out furiously. "Damn it, Asher! How dare you give my money to someone else?!"

Asher didn't expect his girlfriend to bring him down and put him to shame repeatedly in front of his friend, whom she had done the same to as well. He felt that she was going overboard.

"Lily, that's my card!" Asher shouted angrily as he tried to snatch the card back from her.

Lily put her hands behind her back to hide the bank card from Asher. She cursed, "What do you mean your bank card? You're now a penniless man, and I pay all your expenses! Even the money in this card I transferred to you!"

"You're just freeloading off of me now. Don't you have a clear understanding of your current status? What right do you have to let someone else use my money?"

Asher was so infuriated that his face turned beet red. "What... what did you say?!"

“Am I wrong? You managed to live till now by freeloading! If not for my family employing you and me providing for you, would you still be able to live as good as you are now?”

“Asher, I’m warning you. Everything you have now, you got from me! Now, you actually want to use my money to do someone else a favor! You’ve really pissed me off. Get lost now and stay with your penniless loser friend!”

With anger written all over her face, Lily even reached out to scratch Asher a few times.

“Yeah, Lily is right. Asher, you’re just lucky that Lily has taken a liking to you. Thanks to her, you can live a comfortable life! You can’t forget your roots! If you upset Lily, you won’t be able to make it up to her!” the woman beside Lily chimed in sarcastically. Asher was so embarrassed that his face turned pale.

He clenched his hands tightly, and the veins on his hand were popping, seemingly about to explode.

But in the end, his shoulders dropped, and he slowly unclenched his fists despondently.

He looked at Lucas apologetically and parted his lips a few times with difficulty before saying with a bitter smile, “I’m sorry, buddy. I…”

Before he could finish, Lucas reached out to pat Asher’s shoulder and said with a smile, “It’s nothing. I’m glad to see that you still consider me a close friend after so many years.”

“Besides, I really don’t need you to help me buy a ticket. Don’t worry about it. You can go inside. I’ll see you there later.”

“Don’t worry. I definitely won’t sneak in and get caught!”

After all, they were adults, and Lucas could understand Asher’s difficulties. He didn’t want Asher to feel bad or be put in a spot because of him.

But Lily sneered. “Hah, the venue is strictly guarded today. Not any Tom, Dick, or Harry can sneak in!”

“The ones here today are all from the top families of California and Oregon. The others qualified to go in and watch are worth at least millions. Someone over here should really reflect on themselves and consider if they’re qualified to sit with these people!”

“Besides, the mysterious new Master of California will also appear at the competition today. Many people are here for him. He’s a top powerhouse. How can some loser be able to meet him easily?”

Lily gave Lucas the side-eye and said mockingly, “If you can go in, I’ll eat this bank card in my hand on the spot!”<sup>2</sup>

## Chapter 776 Gathering at the Venue

Asher really couldn't stand it any longer. He shouted furiously, "Lily, shut up! Lucas didn't offend you. Why do you keep mocking him? If you do this again, don't blame me for being rude to you!"

"Asher, how dare you threaten my best friend? Who gave you the guts?" Lily's best friend, Summer, stood up for Lily.

"You... don't go too far!" Asher said with a sullen expression through gritted teeth.

Seeing that Asher seemed to be really angry, Lily finally pulled Summer's hand and rolled her eyes. "Hmph, do you think I like wasting my time with a loser? Summer, let's go in!"

After the two of them vanished at the entrance, Asher looked at Lucas apologetically and said with embarrassment, "Lucas, I'm really..."

He was initially really excited to see Lucas, and he also wanted to help Lucas get inside the venue. However, he not only failed to help him, but he even caused him to be humiliated by his girlfriend. Asher was so embarrassed that he didn't dare to speak to Lucas again.

Lucas smiled. "Enough. I know you're my buddy, and that's enough. Well, the competition is about to start soon. Go inside first! Rest assured. I'll look for you later!" Seeing that Lucas wasn't angry, Asher felt slightly better.

"Okay, buddy, I'll wait for you inside. But if you really can't get in, it doesn't matter. After the competition is over, we can find another place to catch up!"

Asher patted Lucas's shoulder and then entered the expo center.

Lucas looked at Asher's back and sighed.

Back in high school, Asher had been happy and straightforward. But now, he seemed depressed and subservient. Although he was still handsome and suave, he was no longer as spirited as when he was younger.

Besides, he and his arrogant girlfriend didn't seem like an ordinary couple.

But Lucas hadn't met Asher for nearly a decade, and he wasn't clear about his current situation. It would be better to ask him about it when they met again another time. Lucas looked at his watch and saw that it was already 8:40 p.m. There were still 20 minutes before the tournament officially began.

“Lucas!”

He was about to enter when a crisp voice called out to him from behind.

Lucas turned around and saw a beautiful young girl walking toward him joyfully. It was Alexis, the heiress of the Cole family.

Lucas smiled and nodded at her. He had always had a good impression of her.

“Greetings, Mr. Gray!”

“Greetings, Mr. Gray.”

Edmund and Clement, a few steps behind Alexis, immediately walked over to greet Lucas.

They didn’t come alone either. Apart from the two bodyguards who didn’t leave their sides, there was also another expert whom Lucas had never seen before.

Originally, the Coles’ top expert was Iron Wolf. But since he got seriously injured by Lewis at the Campbells’ conference, he could no longer represent the Coles to participate in this competition. So this time, it was a middle-aged man following Edmund.

The man, whose face was thin, had his lower lip pursed and his forehead furrowed deeply. He was clearly a man of few words who was not to be provoked.

Lucas could sense the powerful aura coming from the middle-aged man, who was at least much stronger than Iron Wolf.

This middle-aged man should be the expert that Edmund had spent a lot of money to hire in the last few days.

“Mr. Gray, Mr. Cole, Mr. Parker!”

At this moment, there were a few more greetings. The people who came this time were all people Lucas knew. They were Damon Parker and his grandson Kenneth. They were all acquaintances.

There were also several other experts among the Parkers’ team, whom Lucas hadn’t seen before. But in terms of aura, they were inferior to the middle-aged man from the Coles.

It clearly wasn’t that easy to find more powerhouses within seven days.

Strictly speaking, as long as Lucas represented California and won against the experts sent by the Peerless Martial Association, he would emerge victorious and become the overlord of both California and Oregon.

But for safety precautions and also to prove to the people of Oregon and the Peerless Martial Association that there were powerhouses in California too, the families came to a consensus to each bring an expert.

Although the experts they prepared might not be able to join the competition, they at least couldn't lose out in terms of momentum.

"Ah, Mr. Gray, everyone, you've arrived earlier than me!" Immediately afterward, Bruce appeared with Connor and the Hales.

These people, together with their families' descendants, bodyguards, and experts they brought, added up to more than twenty people.

At first, the people walking by didn't notice anything wrong. But after someone saw Damon, Edmund, Connor, and other famous bigwigs of California, they were all astonished.

It was really shocking that these bigwigs, who usually rarely made an appearance, were now all gathered around a young man and smiling at him gently.

"It's my first time seeing these big shots up close! The tens of thousands of dollars I spent on buying two tickets to come watch this competition were worth it."

"Yes, Edmund Cole and Damon Parker are both here! So are Connor Hale and Bruce Hale! Just getting to see these big shots together makes my trip this time worthwhile!"

"But what is the origin of the young man in the middle? He must have a great status for these helmsmen to surround him. Do any of you know this young man?"

"Not only are they surrounding him, but they seem very respectful toward him too. This is amazing! Who exactly is he?"

There were many people speculating about Lucas's identity.

Someone also thought of something and suddenly said excitedly, "Surely this young man isn't the legendary Master of California, right? Doesn't everyone say that the Master of California is also very young? I'm guessing it's him!"

"What? He's the legendary Master of California? But... but look at the way he's dressed. He looks so ordinary."

"What do you know? This is the style of a master! People at his level don't need to dress in luxurious clothing to prove their status. Just look at his aura. It's absolutely incredible!"

For some time, countless voices of speculation and envious gazes landed on Lucas.

Lucas was already standing in the center of the helmsmen, and many passersby caught wind of the situation and rushed over to watch. All of a sudden, this small area became extremely lively.

“Hah. Mr. Gray, you’re really ostentatious!” A mocking voice suddenly came from the crowd..

## Chapter 777 Fleeing at the Last Minute

Everyone’s eyes turned toward a certain direction.

“It... it’s the Campbells!”

Some people from Oregon exclaimed in surprise and immediately revealed the identity of the people walking over.

The old man walking in front was Noah, the helmsman of the Campbells from Oregon. Apart from his bodyguards and a group of juniors accompanying him, there was also a large group of people from the powerful families of Oregon following behind him.

In addition, a black-robed man in his fifties with a long beard and an ethereal aura was walking beside Noah.

Lucas was surprised to find that the aura emanating from this black-robed man was extremely strong, much more than the middle-aged man the Coles hired!

Moreover, Lucas could sense the undisguised hostility and murderous gaze in the eyes of the black-robed man from the moment he saw him.

But Lucas merely glanced at him without taking it to heart.

Even if the black-robed man was powerful, Lucas wouldn’t be scared.

Edmund looked at Noah, who was aggressive as soon as they met, and felt uncomfortable.

“In terms of ostentation, we can’t compare to you, who has everyone at your beck and call, Mr. Campbell. Oh right, Master Lewis, whom you respected greatly, ended up losing miserably at the hands of the Peerless Martial Association. Have the Campbells found a stronger expert? Don’t repeat the same mistake!” Edmund mocked.

Noah narrowed his eyes slightly, feeling a vague ache in his heart. He really didn’t want to recall the feeling of being shamed again.

“Hmph, don’t be too happy! We still don’t know who will have the last laugh! Do you know exactly who | invited this time?” Noah sneered.

He pointed his palm upward at the black-robed old man beside him and introduced arrogantly, “The person standing beside me is Mr. Alonso, the leader of the Octa Faction in Oregon! With him around, there’s no way California can win!”

As soon as he said this, the people standing around cried out in shock and inhaled sharply.

“What? This is Mr. Alonso, the leader of the Octa Faction? I’ve always heard of him, but it’s the first time I’m seeing him in person!”

“Oh my God, the Campbells actually managed to invite Mr. Alonso!”

“Mr. Alonso is a top expert! With him here, Oregon is bound to win!”

“That’s right. With Mr. Alonso here, no one can defeat him, not even in the Peerless Martial Association’s California and Oregon branches!”  
The Octa Faction was quite famous, and Mr. Paul Alonso was an unreachable existence in the eyes of many top experts.

Even the many powerful helmsmen present were more or less aware that Paul was indeed a powerhouse.

These families had visited Paul before to invite him. But regardless of how tempting the conditions they promised were, Paul never agreed.  
They didn’t expect Noah to be able to invite him.

In the face of such a strong enemy, all the helmsmen of the families of California became gloomy.

“Uh... Mr. Campbell, I suddenly remembered that I have something urgent to attend to at home, so I’ll take my leave now. I’m sorry. I won’t be able to attend the competition today!” the expert brought by the Dreyer family suddenly said with a pale face.

Before Mr. Dreyer could even say anything, he immediately sprinted away, as if there was something terrifying chasing him.

“Damn it!” Mr. Dreyer cursed bitterly, his expression angry.  
The other people of the Dreyer family also felt very humiliated.

They didn’t expect that the expert the Dreyer family had found would be so frightened to the point that he would find an excuse to escape immediately after hearing Paul’s name!



His behavior had embarrassed the Dreyer family in front of the numerous helmsmen.

As expected, several disturbances broke out in the California camp after Mr. Dreyer's expert fled.

"Uh, Mr. Goldman, I suddenly remembered that my wife is due for labor today. I have to go to the hospital to take care of her. I'll take my leave now!"

"Mr. Ross, my old ailment is acting up, and I can't fight now. Please find someone else!"

"Mr. Walter, my mother-in-law is coming to my place today, so I have to get going. I'm sorry!"

After hearing that Paul of the Octa Faction was on the other side, many of the experts invited to compete today immediately fled with far-fetched excuses.

In the end, except for the middle-aged man following Edmund, almost all of the experts from the other families had run away and vanished without a trace.

Seeing this scene, the helmsmen became disgruntled. It was really embarrassing that the experts they had hired at a high price fled at the last minute one after another! Contrary to the atmosphere on the California side, the helmsmen of Oregon immediately burst into laughter.

"Hahahaha! Hilarious! The competition hasn't even started yet, and Mr. Alonso's name was merely mentioned, yet those people of California have fled like mice seeing a cat!"

"Haha, so this is the style of the Master of California! I've gotten an eye-opener today! They almost scurried away! Hahaha, I'm laughing my head off!"

"People from California, are things okay on your side? I think all the people on your side have run away. Will you have enough people to compete later?"

"Since you're so afraid, why don't you just surrender now? You can also save yourself some embarrassment later!"

Lucas was a bit curious. A single name was actually enough to make so many experts from California abandon the competition and leave. He wondered if this black-robed man was really that powerful.

Facing the ridicule and mockery from the families of Oregon, Edmund stepped forward and said coldly, "Today's martial arts competition is not a contest of who has the most people! Only after you have defeated the powerhouses of California and the Peerless Martial Association can you have the right to be arrogant to us!"

Noah laughed smugly. "Hah, with Mr. Alonso, why would we have to be worried about winning?"

“In no time, you’ll have to kneel down and concede to the powerhouse of Oregon!

“Let’s go!” With this command, he turned around and led the group of people from Oregon into the venue.

Lucas watched them go in before saying indifferently, “Let’s go too.”

“Yes, Mr. Gray!” The helmsmen of California agreed and gathered around Lucas as they made their way into the venue.

This martial arts competition, which attracted the attention of the two states, would officially begin in a few minutes!.

### Chapter 778 In the Audience

The moment the group entered the venue, they immediately sparked an uproar.

“Look! The helmsmen of many wealthy and powerful families in California are here!”

“I know the one walking in front. He’s Edmund Cole! The Coles are the strongest family in California! The beautiful girl beside him is his granddaughter Alexis! Ahhh, I’d be willing to die if I could marry her!”

“Dream on! Everyone wants to marry Miss Cole. If you could marry her, you’d get all the Coles’ assets. The point is, she absolutely won’t like you!”

“Oh, the one behind is Damon Parker, the head of the Parkers from LA! Next to him is his grandson Kenneth. I heard that he isn’t married yet. If I had the chance to marry the Parkers, I’d smile in my sleep!”

“The helmsman of the Hales from Orange County is here too! Connor Hale is the youngest family helmsman ever, and the key is, he’s really suave too! Unfortunately, he’s already married. Ah, why did a good man get married so early?!”

“These people are the top forces of California. What are you saying? Are you here to pick a spouse?” an older man beside them said with displeasure.

“Nonsense! Today is a rare event in the two states. With so many prestigious figures and young people around, even those sitting outside are mostly trying to get close to these wealthy families and establish marriage alliances. Otherwise, who would spend thousands of dollars to watch the competition for fun?!”

“Yes! If the heir or heiress of a wealthy family takes a liking to you, it will be a godsend opportunity! Even if you can’t get in touch with the top-tier families, the others who

could afford the tickets here are not from poor families either. This makes for a great opportunity to communicate with them. Don't tell me that that's not what you're thinking!"

"Okay, fine. Our goals are about the same."

The competition between California, Oregon, and the Peerless Martial Association was indeed not only a grand event concerning the future fate of the two states but also a high-profile and high-level gathering.

Many people had racked their brains and spent thousands of dollars buying tickets to enter. They were naturally not here just to watch the fun.

At this moment, Asher was sitting in the middle of the audience together with his wealthy girlfriend, Lily, and her best friend, Summer. All three of them were looking at the VIP passage excitedly.

"Ahhhh, Lily, look! The top bigshots of California have finally appeared!" Summer was so excited that her face was red, and she clutched Lily's hand tightly. She couldn't take her eyes away from the few young heirs.

"The Coles, the Parkers, the Hales... Ah, it's such a pity that we're sitting too far away and can't see their faces!"

The San Francisco International Expo Center was large enough to accommodate more than 20,000 people, so even though they were sitting in the middle, they couldn't get a clear glimpse of the people sitting in the VIP aisle at the front.

The competition stage was in the middle of the expo center, with several large screens around, which was enough for even those sitting in the outermost seats to see the situation on the stage.

"Hey! Lily, quickly take a look at who that young man among the big shots is!" Summer pointed eagerly at a person sitting among the wealthy families of California.

Most importantly, this young man had a special position. He was like a star surrounded by many, and all the big shots of California kept a respectful distance from him. He was obviously extraordinary.

Lily craned her neck and looked for a long time. But unfortunately, he was too far away, and she couldn't see his looks clearly.

"Although I can't see clearly, I can roughly guess that this young man is definitely the main character of today's competition and the mysterious Master of California!" Lily stared at this figure with a strange gaze in her eyes.

“It seems he is indeed the Master of California, but it’s a pity we can’t see his looks clearly!” Summer was chagrined and furious. “I brought a small telescope with me, but that damned guard just had to confiscate it!”

Lily smiled and comforted, “It’s okay if you can’t see him clearly. He’ll be on stage later anyway. By then, you’ll definitely be able to see his face clearly!”

“Yes, that’s right!” Summer stared at Lucas with a look of infatuation. “Lily, I really like the Master of California! Although I can’t see him clearly, I can tell from his figure that he’s exceptionally charming and refined! He’s indeed worthy of being the Master of California!”

“You must help me. I really want to see him immediately and then speak to him and marry him!”

Two pink hearts almost popped out of her eyes.

Lily said, “As your best friend, I don’t want to discourage you, but I still have to say that’s impossible! This person is the Master of California, an overlord who controls more than sixty top families in California! You’ll be fortunate enough to be able to talk to him, but now, you’re still thinking of marrying him?”

“He’s so young, but he already has such a high status. I bet the women who want to marry him can line up around the borders of all of California. He can have any woman he wants. Why would he like... people like us?”

Lily had a sense of awareness. Her and Summer’s families might be wealthy and considered richer than most people, but they were worlds apart from the Master of California.

Summer pouted. “Ah, that’s not certain! What if the Master of California happens to like me? Besides, I’m not dreaming of marrying him. I’d be happy to be able to have a one-night stand with such a brilliant man!”

Her face was flushed, and she was a little shameless.

At this moment, Asher, who had been silent, was staring at the figure in the crowd and said in shock, “The... the Master of California is actually Lucas Gray!”

Chapter 779 Yes or No

After hearing what Asher said, Lily and Summer were stunned. After they figured out who Asher was talking about, they revealed contempt.

“Asher, is there something wrong with your brain? He’s the Master of California. How can you compare him to your loser high school classmate?”

“It’s an insult to the Master of California to mention them in the same sentence! To think that you’re actually saying that your classmate is the Master of California. You must be daydreaming! You haven’t even had a drink yet, but you’re already spouting nonsense!”

Asher hurriedly explained, “I’m not spouting nonsense. It’s true! Look at what the Master of California is wearing. Isn’t his outfit exactly the same as what Lucas was wearing outside the door just now?”

“Also, his stature, body shape, and posture are…”

“Shut up!”

Before Asher could finish, Lily slapped his face. “You fool, do you have a death wish? If others hear what you said, it’s definitely an insult to the Master of California! If you want to die, die alone. Don’t drag us down with you!”

She actually hadn’t even paid attention to Lucas’s outfit just now. After taking a casual glance, she could already tell that his clothes were cheap, so she didn’t look at Lucas seriously anymore.

But she wouldn’t allow Asher to continue saying nonsense!

How could that damn loser compare to the Master of California, one of the main characters of today’s competition?

The loud slap landed on Asher’s face.

Asher covered his face, his eyes full of humiliation.

At this moment, he really wanted to stand up immediately and slap Lily back before leaving. But the thought of his poor sister made him freeze in place. He couldn’t stand up at all.

Summer glanced at Asher in disdain. “A man like you is indeed a piece of garbage! Lily was kind enough to bring you here to see the world, so you’d better behave yourself and watch obediently! But you keep spouting hysterical nonsense that pisses everyone off. You deserved to get slapped by Lily. Blame it on yourself for failing to keep your mouth shut!”

“If Lily didn’t think you were useful, how could you have found a girlfriend like Lily with your status? Psht!”

These insults made the seven-foot-tall Asher so furious that he trembled all over.

But when he thought that his sister had to rely on Lily to survive, he could only grit his teeth and force himself to bear with it.

If he wasn't so useless, if he could be a little more capable, he wouldn't have to be here to suffer at the insults of Lily and Summer!

While Asher was caught in the pain of self-blame and repression, he suddenly heard a familiar voice.

"Asher, I'm here."

Asher turned his head around and saw a man standing in the aisle next to him, looking at him with a smile. It was none other than Lucas.

Lily and Summer, sitting on the inner side, looked over when they heard the voice. Their faces changed drastically the moment they saw Lucas.

It was not only because Lucas, whom they had been certain wouldn't be able to enter the venue, had actually managed to do so. But more importantly, they discovered that the clothes he was wearing were indeed similar to that of the Master of California, whom they just saw from afar!

"Lucas, you... you're the Master of California, aren't you?" Asher hesitated for a long time before asking.

He clearly saw that the person standing among the bigwigs of California was Lucas. He was very familiar with Lucas, and he was certain he wouldn't mistake someone else for him!

Lucas smiled. He didn't intend to hide his identity from Asher. Besides, he would definitely fight in the martial arts competition later, and Asher would recognize him then.

"he"

Just as Lucas was about to admit his identity, a sharp female voice interrupted him.

"Asher! I've already warned you not to spout nonsense. Did my words fall on deaf ears? Or do you think that the slap just now was too light, so you didn't learn your lesson?" Lily said ferociously.

At the same time, Summer sized Lucas up with a look of mockery. "You're just a loser. How can you possibly compare to my dreamboat, the Master of California? Even if you're wearing a similar outfit, it's just a coincidence. How could the Master of California possibly wear a shabby and unrefined outfit like yours?"

“A bottom-feeder like you reeks of poverty, and you’re worlds apart from the gentlemanly Master of California! Don’t think you’re really the Master of California just because you’re wearing a similar outfit! Even if you were wearing a crown, you’d never be a prince!”

After coming here, before Lucas could even say a complete sentence, he was immediately scolded from head to toe by Lily and Summer. Asher was also scolded. At this moment, he even suspected that he had seen wrongly.

Perhaps Summer was right. The Master of California happened to be wearing similar clothes as Lucas, and they happened to have the same stature and body shape too. Asher began to wonder if he had really made a mistake.

At this moment, he finally recalled that Lucas had suffered from poverty since he was in high school because he had lived with only his ill-stricken mother. She would have to go out to work every day to support Lucas and herself.

Back then, Lucas wore extremely simple clothes that could even be considered shabby. Besides, due to his poor family, Lucas would often be bullied by some vile kids who didn’t understand what it was like to go through hardships. So at the time, Asher, who had a strong sense of justice, couldn’t stand it and decided to help Lucas. The two then became close friends.

In hindsight, it had only been around seven years since Lucas graduated. During this short period of time, how could he go from a penniless boy who had nothing to an overlord that could dominate California? It seemed impossible regardless of how hard he strove.

Indeed, he was wrong!

Thinking of this, Asher took a deep breath and looked at Lucas apologetically. “Sorry, buddy. My eyes were playing tricks on me. I almost saw you as the Master of California and asked you a silly question. My bad!”

Seeing this, Lucas stopped speaking and smiled before sitting down beside Asher.

He didn’t have to say some things.

Anyway, they would naturally know when the time came. He didn’t have to waste his breath now.

In the VIP seats at the front, the rich and powerful people of California and Oregon were taking their seats one after another.



At this time, there were only two minutes left before the official start of the competition at 9 p.m..

## Chapter 780 Friend's Hidden Story

There was a round ring of about a hundred square meters in the middle of the expo center.

Around the ring was a vacant area that no one was allowed to enter to prevent accidental injury inflicted by the people fighting in the ring.

The outer circle was the security protection area where security was the tightest. It was a safety net arranged by the forces of California, Oregon, and the Peerless Martial Association.

The VIP seats closest to the ring were in this circle.

The VIP seats were mainly divided into three large areas—the forces of California, the forces of Oregon, and the two branches of the Peerless Martial Association.

The outer area was divided into three categories according to the distance from the ring, namely the priority viewing seats, the ordinary viewing seats, and the peripheral viewing seats. Each category was priced differently, but the seats were not fixed.

Lucas's original position was in the middle of the VIP seats belonging to the forces of California.

But because he had promised Asher when he was outside the venue that he would come to him after entering the expo center, Lucas decided to sit with Asher at the ordinary viewing seats.

Although Lucas was sitting on Asher's side and not getting in the way of Lily and Summer, they were extremely displeased with his arrival and frowned as if Lucas reeked of an overwhelming odor.

"Hmph, God knows how he sneaked in. He'd better not implicate us if he gets caught later!" Summer frowned at Lucas with displeasure.

Lily harrumphed contemptuously and then said to Summer, "Just ignore him! Quickly look at where the Master of California you've been longing for is sitting."

Summer stared at California's VIP seats for a while before saying disheartenedly, "Ah, I can't see him anywhere. Maybe the Master of California has gone to the backstage lounge and will only appear when it's time to go on stage!"



“He’s really too mysterious! | bet ninety-nine percent of the audience are eager to know what the Master of California looks like! But he’s already my man, and one day, I’ll definitely marry him!” Summer said confidently with clenched fists.

Lily smiled. “Okay! You’ll definitely marry the Master of California! Good luck!” Lucas, sitting at the side, almost burst into laughter when he heard what they said.

The two women were so disdainful of him that it seemed they wanted to drive him out of the venue immediately, lest he polluted the air they breathed. Yet they were talking about marrying the Master of California.

How would they react if they knew that the Master of California was Lucas?

Although Lucas had tried his best to contain his laughter, Lily caught him grinning slightly.

“What are you laughing at? Do you think what we said is funny?” Lily pulled Summer along and found another reason to snap at Lucas.

Lucas shrugged and said innocently, “Am I not allowed to be in a good mood?”

“Hah! I don’t know how you sneaked in. You’re just a penniless man, yet you don’t feel ashamed about sitting with rich people like us. You even say that you’re in a good mood. How shameless!”

“Don’t think I can’t tell what you’re thinking. You’re mocking us, aren’t you? Just you wait. Once I get to know the Master of California and marry him, I’ll deal with you!” Summer glowered at Lucas while gritting her teeth.

Asher’s face turned sullen as he said coldly, “Enough! Lucas didn’t say anything at all, yet you two keep yelling at him. He didn’t mock you!”

“Shut up! I won’t allow you to defend him in front of me!” Lily reprimanded Asher domineeringly without saving him any pride.

Asher’s face turned red. But once he thought of his sister, he suppressed all the anger and indignation within him.

Lucas watched coldly. At this point, he already had a rough idea. Did Asher fall in love with this mean-spirited rich girl because he’s become a masochist?

Lucas thought that there must be some hidden reason for Asher to date a woman like Lily and suffer the humiliation.

If Asher needed help, Lucas wouldn’t hesitate to give him a hand because Asher had protected him and helped him back in high school.

But now was obviously not a good time for an open and honest exchange because a commotion broke out again when another group of people walked into the cold venue through the VIP passage.

“This time, it’s the Peerless Martial Association!”

“Look, that’s Axel Fox, the head of the California branch of the Peerless Martial Association! The one on his right is Heath, the steward of the California branch!”

“There are also people from the Oregon branch!”

“Huh? Who is the middle-aged man walking in front of them? He looks very domineering! Could he be...?”

The crowd speculated about the identity of the middle-aged man who could walk at the front of the Peerless Martial Association’s team.

“It really is him, Julian York!” Edmund was staring at the gloomy middle-aged man as a grim look appeared on his face. “No wonder the Peerless Martial Association is suddenly brave and confident enough to take control of California and Oregon. It turns out it’s because they invited Julian York from the Peerless Martial Association’s headquarters!”

Damon frowned. “Julian York... I’m not familiar with him, but I heard that he has a high rank in the Peerless Martial Association’s headquarters. Such combat strength indeed shouldn’t be underestimated! Mr. Cole, can your expert deal with him?”

Edmund didn’t answer directly but looked at the middle-aged expert sitting beside him and asked politely, “Master Byron, what do you think?”

The middle-aged expert didn’t reply to Edmund immediately and was instead staring at Julian, who was walking toward the Peerless Martial Association’s VIP seats. He was pursing his lips with a solemn expression.

He sensed a surging power emanating from Julian’s body, making him feel as if a large mountain was pressing him down.

“This person is really strong!” Byron finally commented after a while. “Even I am not certain of defeating him. But since I promised you to join this competition, I will naturally give my best effort and do my best to defeat him!”

But his words made Edmund’s heart tremble and sink slightly.

## **Chapter 781: Blowing Your Trumpet First**

Byron was a top expert that Edmund had hired from abroad at a high price.

He rarely appeared in the nation, so very few people knew his name. But he was an internationally renowned expert specialized in killing. He had successfully completed countless missions, and many experts had died at his hands.

Edmund originally thought that Lucas might not need to fight in this competition because he had found a powerful expert like Byron.

But after looking at Byron's expression, Edmund knew that Julian, the expert from the Peerless Martial Association's headquarters, was indeed incredibly powerful, and even Byron wasn't certain of defeating him.

"Just do your best!" This was the only thing Edmund could say in the end.

If Byron was defeated, Lucas was likely the only one who could take over.

While they were talking, Julian led the people from the Peerless Martial Association and sat down at the VIP seats reserved for them.

After taking his seat, Julian immediately looked at the VIP seats for California.

But after looking around, he frowned slightly.

Reason being, Lucas wasn't among these people.

The reason he came to California and asked the people of the California branch of the Peerless Martial Association to organize this competition was not only to become the overlord of California and Oregon but, more importantly, to kill Lucas and avenge his brother Jude.

Lucas could be considered Julian's most important opponent in today's competition.

But Lucas didn't even show up!

Axel Fox, the head of the Peerless Martial Association's California branch, had the same thoughts as Julian. He had deliberately tricked Julian into coming here from the Peerless Martial Association's headquarters to watch him trample all over Lucas or even kill him. Only then could he relieve his hatred.

But Lucas was not at the venue.

"Gentlemen of California, the competition is about to start. Why hasn't Mr. Gray, whom all of you admire, appeared yet?" Axel stood up and said contemptuously to the people seated at the VIP seats for California. "Is the Master of California scared and hiding, or has he fled from the scene like those people you found?"

He was an expert deliberately raising his voice to humiliate Lucas, so his mocking voice immediately spread throughout the venue.

There was an uproar!

The helmsmen of the top families of California looked extremely sullen.

Just now, the experts that many families of California had found were frightened and had run away after hearing that Mr. Alonso, the head of the Octa Faction, was here.

Now that Axel brought up this humiliating matter and even mocked Lucas, they felt even more embarrassed.

The people from Oregon began mocking and laughing without restraint.

“So, he’s too scared to appear. It seems the Master of California is no big deal!” Noah laughed out loud with contempt written all over his face.

“Mr. Fox, it seems the person who fled from the exchange venue that day after being shouted at by Mr. Gray was you, right? Since you aren’t scared and hiding, why would Mr. Gray hide?” Edmund sneered at Axel.

Since Lucas wanted to keep what had happened at the Elite Business Exchange a secret, no one spread the news about Axel bringing a group of experts from the Peerless Martial Association with him, only to be defeated by Lucas.

But now, Axel was mocking Lucas in public, so Edmund wasn’t afraid of exposing Axel in public and putting him to shame.

Sure enough, as soon as Axel heard this, what had occurred at the Elite Business Exchange immediately surfaced in his mind, causing his face to sink.

Edmund didn’t care how he looked and immediately targeted Noah.

“And you, the helmsman of the Campbells, a week ago, your family’s expert was as weak as a chicken in front of the Peerless Martial Association. If Mr. Gray hadn’t appeared in time and killed the Peerless Martial Association’s expert, I’m afraid your family would have disappeared that day! Where do you get the courage to mock Mr. Gray?!”

“If Mr. Gray is mediocre, the Campbells are dog shit!” Edmund cursed at Noah without mercy.

His words, and the amount of information revealed in them, immediately sparked an uproar in the venue.

“Oh my God! The helmsman of the Coles ridiculed the head of the Peerless Martial Association’s California branch. It looks like there’s definitely going to be a good show today!”

“That’s not all! It turns out that Mr. Gray, the Master of California, has already faced Axel Fox before, and he even chased him out by shouting at him. How shocking!”

“Also, Mr. Gray actually killed the Peerless Martial Association’s strongest expert in Oregon? What’s going on?”

“Mr. Gray is really powerful! Since he’s so strong, he definitely won’t

Summer was so excited that her face turned red, and she patted Lily’s hand repeatedly. “Did you hear that? As expected of the man I like, he even killed an expert of the Peerless Martial Association. How domineering!

“How cool. I must marry him!”

Lily also praised with a look of admiration, “Yeah! A man like the Master of California is truly a real man at the top!”

Even Asher couldn’t help sighing. “The Master of California is indeed a real man!”

Sitting at the side, Lucas had a subtle expression on his face.

Florence, sitting near the front row of priority seats, listened to the awe and praises about the Master of California with a proud look on her face.

After all, the Master of California was the outstanding man she had chosen for her daughter.

As long as the Master of California emerged victorious today, he would become the overlord of California and Oregon, increasing his status.

Florence just needed to find the right opportunity to let Cheyenne marry the Master of California, and she would be given the greatest credit by the Howards and become the mother-in-law of the Master of California!

Power, status, and all the other things she wanted would be close at hand!

Thus, she was determined to achieve her goal no matter what!

Pamela, sitting next to Florence, was bored.

She was a Howard from DC, so she didn’t care about who took charge of Oregon and California.

She wasn't interested in the fights between men either.

The only reason she was sitting here was that her family was forcing her to come and see the legendary Master of California, Mr. Gray.

Her plan was to leave this place immediately after seeing the Master of California, but unexpectedly, he hadn't shown up.

"Aunt, is the Master of California really coming? Is he really afraid?" Pamela said uninterestedly.

Florence smiles. "What's the rush? Today's competition hasn't officially started. Or are you already eager to meet the Master of California?"

"Who says I'm eager to meet him? I just think that this martial arts competition is boring, so if I see him sooner, I'll be able to leave sooner," Pamela said indifferently.

Although Pamela seemed uninterested in the Master of California, which was exactly what Florence wanted, she was still a little worried.

"Pamela, are you really not interested in the Master of California? Once he wins today, he will be the overlord of California and Oregon. He'll have so much power at such a young age. It's impossible for even the heirs of the eight top families of DC. Aren't you curious about such a good man?" Florence teased while staring closely at Pamela's expression to find out how she really felt.

Pamela said impatiently, "Aunt Florence, I've already told you that no matter how outstanding the Master of California is, I already have someone in my heart, and he's the only person I will marry in this life! I won't consider anyone else! I hope you will remember this and stop saying these things to me."

Florence raised her eyebrows. "Pamela, I'm your aunt, and there are no outsiders here. Just tell me the truth. Do you really have a man you like, or do you just not want to obey the family's marriage arrangements for you?"

Pamela sighed. She looked at Florence and said calmly, "Of course I mean it. Since I saw the man I like, I've started treating other men like shadows. Even the Master of California won't be able to win my heart!"

"Are you... truly not willing to marry the Master of California?" Florence confirmed.

"Yes, I'm not willing! Aunt Florence, just give up!" Pamela answered loudly without hesitation.

Florence was overjoyed, but she didn't reveal it.

She had met countless people, and she could tell whether Pamela was telling the truth or not.

“Okay, since you’re really not willing to marry the Master of California, as your aunt, I won’t force you.” Florence finally heaved a sigh of relief before adding, “But if you can promise to do one thing for me, I’ll agree to you not marrying the Mastery of California, and I’ll talk to the family for you as well. How does that sound?”

“Really?” Pamela’s eyes immediately lit up, looking at Florence with surprise and anticipation.

“Of course. You’re my niece, and we’re both women. Am I really supposed to force you to marry a man you don’t like? Wouldn’t that harm you for the rest of your life?” Florence said with a doting look.

“Great! Aunt Florence, you treat me better than my mom does!” Pamela was extremely touched, and she immediately leaped over to snuggle in Florence’s arms, all smiles.

She hadn’t been able to sleep well for days because of her family’s order to marry the Master of California. But even though she protested and complained to her parents, she didn’t get any relief. They would only tell her that it was the family’s decision and that it was for her own good, so she should behave.

But she had finally grown up and had the chance to enjoy freedom for so many years abroad, so why should she marry a man she didn’t like and spend the rest of her life with him?

Besides, she was already in love with someone she couldn’t erase from her memory. She couldn’t accept any other man in this lifetime.

What Florence said immediately touched Pamela’s heart, and she had a drastic change in attitude toward Florence, whom she rarely met. In fact, she even had some admiration.

Pamela agreed to help Florence without saying anything else.

“Okay! Aunt Florence, what do you need me to help you with? As long as it’s not about marrying the Master of California, I’m willing to do anything!” Pamela said with a smile of satisfaction.

“No hurry. I’ll tell you about it after the competition!” Florence also smiled. Her plans were unfolding.

She finally dealt with the stumbling block Pamela and even got her to become her helper.

Next, she would acknowledge Cheyenne and then find a way to create a chance for Cheyenne to meet the Master of California and slowly fall in love with him. At that time, she would almost be finished with the matter.

As for Lucas, she wasn't worried about him because as long as the Master of California fell in love with Cheyenne, he would definitely take the initiative to get rid of Lucas, the greatest obstacle, himself.

A smile of victory gradually appeared on Florence's lips.

The uproar of shock in the venue due to what Edmund said had yet to end.

Noah stood up furiously and pointed at Edmund. "Mr. Cole, don't spout nonsense! Even if that kid didn't show up that day, the Campbells wouldn't have been in any trouble! I've already brought an expert here today, but where's the Master of

California? Ask him to come out here!"

Edmund sneered. "Don't be in such a rush to defend yourself. We all know what happened that day!

"Don't think that you're invincible now that you've found an expert. When Mr. Gray shows up later, you'll naturally know how ridiculous you are now!"

The two of them started bickering, refusing to give in to the other.

"You're talking too much nonsense!" Julian suddenly scolded coldly, his voice like thunder resounding throughout the expo center. It immediately made everyone tremble as they closed their mouths and looked over at him in shock.

Ignoring the people around him, Julian stood up and stepped onto the table to jump into the air.

In the blink of an eye, he had already leaped a distance of eight meters and landed directly on the martial arts stage in the middle of the venue.

Boom!

As he landed, cracks appeared all over the concrete floor, and dust flew everywhere..

Chapter 783 With A Single Punch

The cameras arranged around the ring immediately captured this scene and projected it onto the large screens above, giving everyone a clear view of the stage.

"Wow!"



Gasps of amazement and sharp inhalations immediately sounded in the venue.

“He... he jumped eight meters away with a single jump! Is that a level humans can reach?”

“The floor of the ring is concrete. He crushed the floor just by stomping on it. If he stepped on a human, the consequences would be worse than some broken bones. His victim would definitely die!”

“How terrifying! Is this the power of a top expert? I’ve only seen such scenes on TV before. I thought those martial artists were just phonies, but now I really believe it! Such powerhouses really do exist!”

Countless people were stunned by Julian’s sudden move.

Some top families who initially thought they could at least fight against the Peerless Martial Association had their hearts tremble, and they began to think of retreating.

**non**

**Se**

“I don’t want to waste my breath on any more nonsense. The powerhouses of California and Oregon can come in the ring if they want to challenge me!” Julian stood proudly in the middle of the field, facing the top families of California and Oregon domineeringly.

But under his gaze, the families of California and Oregon couldn’t help lowering their heads. None of them dared to come forward to fight him.

The experts of the two states initially planned to have fights between the experts of the three forces before deciding victory with a fight between the most powerful ones.

No one expected that Julian, the expert of the Peerless Martial Association, would be the first to step onto the ring and challenge everyone else. His action made the rest too scared to go up.

Noah looked at Edmund and suddenly said slyly with glistening eyes, “Since this competition is being held in California, we should have an expert from California come up first!”

Although the Campbells had invited Paul Alonso, an extremely powerful expert from the Octa Faction, they didn’t know how powerful Julian was. So he decided to let the experts of California fight first so that they could gauge Julian’s abilities while consuming his physical strength.

Edmund glanced at Noah and immediately knew his purpose. But it really wasn't up to the people of California to retreat now.

He looked at Byron next to him and asked, "Can you fight this battle?"

Byron nodded. "I can give it a try." Then he stood up and walked toward the ring.

His appearance may be far less impressive than Julian's, but he was very genuine. He merely walked toward the ring one step at a time and then made his way up the special steps.

The host of the conference, whom Julian had interrupted, finally found the chance to hurry back to the ring and say to the audience through the microphone in his hand, "Everyone, listen up! The one standing on the stage now is Julian York, a top powerhouse of the Peerless Martial Association. And the person about to challenge him is Master Byron, the powerhouse of the Coles, the top family in California! Let us wait and see who the final victor is!

"The first match shall begin now!"

The moment he announced the start, both people on stage moved at the same time!

Watching the clear scene projected on the large screens, the crowd was shocked to find that they were moving terrifyingly fast. Almost within the blink of an eye, they closed a distance of nearly ten meters and suddenly appeared in the center of the ring!

Then they raised their fists and punched at each other without any fancy moves.

It was the most ordinary and common probing move and also the most stable way to face an opponent you were meeting for the first time.

Boom!

The collision of their fists instantly emitted an explosive sound.

Suddenly, a figure flew out backward, forming a dazzling streak of red in the air.

It... it was blood gushing out!

Everyone's jaws dropped, and their eyes widened as the figure smashed straight into the open space below the ring, slid across the smooth floor, and slammed into the guardrail in front of the VIP seats. Then he stopped and remained motionless.

In just an instant, victory was decided! Everyone looked at this scene in disbelief. Many had bewilderment written all over their faces.

“What exactly happened?”

“Someone was sent flying in an instant and lost just like that?”

“I... I just blinked, and it ended?”

After a short period of dead silence, the venue immediately erupted.

The person still standing steadily in the middle of the ring was none other than Julian, who looked gloomy and domineering.

The person knocked out with one punch and was now lying on the floor and vomiting blood was the top killer Byron, whom Edmund had hired from abroad at a high price!

Byron was defeated before he could even throw a punch!

At this moment, the replay of the scene just now appeared on the screens, playing the moment their fists collided in slow motion.

In the slow-motion replay, Julian’s powerful punch shattered the bones of Byron’s hand, wrist, and arm the moment they touched!

The punch landed heavily on Byron’s chest.

The slow-motion action clearly showed Byron’s chest sinking under the pressure of the devastating wind stirred up by the punch before it even hit him. When Julian’s fist hit his chest, Byron spat out blood, and his ribs collapsed. Afterward, his body was knocked away. This heavy punch was enough to make his chest collapse. In that case, Byron’s internal organs must have been crushed. There was no possibility of survival!

The scene made everyone feel a chill in their hearts. He managed to kill another top-level powerhouse with just one punch. Julian from the Peerless Martial Association was indeed a terrifying and ruthless character! Under the crowd’s fear and awe, Julian stood in the middle of the ring with his head held high. His sharp gaze landed on the audience, and he said coldly, “Aren’t you coming out to fight

yet?”

Chapter 784 Intense Fight

Julian’s terrifying strength caused almost everyone present to have a drastic change in expression, and they all looked at him with awe.

“Th-this powerhouse of the Peerless Martial Association is too strong!”

“Looking at the slow-motion playback just now, the power of his punch is terrifying! He crushed most of his opponent’s arm and even sent him flying so far. Even his ribs and internal organs were crushed. How brutal!”

“The scene just now was so bloody! My heart is still pounding!”

“That was awesome! That’s what a real top expert should be like! I feel my blood boiling just looking at it!”

“But who is he talking to, and who is he going to fight?”

“He’s not looking at the VIP seats in California and Oregon but at the audience. Is the person he’s challenging among the audience?”

Amid the exclamations and commotion, the atmosphere in the venue was extremely lively, and the speculation continued.

But the venue was enormous, and there were at least thousands of people where Julian was looking. Everyone was looking at each other and guessing who the person Julian was looking at was.

“Why do I feel... like he’s looking at us?” Asher, sitting beside Lucas, said with a trembling voice. Being under Julian’s terrifying gaze, Asher froze, not daring to move an inch at all.

Lily and Summer, next to them, felt the air around them plunge in temperature, as if they were in winter.

“It... shouldn’t be! But the look in his eyes is too scary! My heart is almost jumping out of my chest!” Lily and Summer grabbed each other’s hands, both feeling horrified.

They weren’t the only ones. Even the people sitting nearby felt that Julian’s murderous gaze was on them, making them flustered.

Julian’s aura alone shocked everyone!

Lucas narrowed his eyes and smiled slightly.

At this moment, someone among the VIP seats stood up.

“A powerhouse from the Peerless Martial Association is indeed very arrogant and domineering. In that case, let me experience your skills. I also have to settle scores with the Peerless Martial Association!”

The faint and indifferent voice immediately caught everyone’s attention.

This person stood up from the VIP seats for Oregon. After the host was stunned for a moment, a look of ecstasy appeared on his face. He immediately said loudly into the microphone, "Everyone! This person coming forward to fight is Master Paul Alonso, a powerhouse from the Octa Faction, whom the Campbells invited!"

It was a duel between two top powerhouses!

"Did you hear that? He's actually Master Alonso from the Octa Faction! He's here too!"

"Oh my God! Master Alonso is often living in recluse, yet he actually came out to help the Campbells!"

"He probably came out because his junior died at the hands of the Peerless Martial Association." "Even I've heard of Master Alonso. He's a true powerhouse! The person from the Peerless Martial Association is also a top expert. A fight between these two is like a comet colliding into Earth! How exciting!"

"The ticket was definitely worth the money. To be able to witness the battle between two top powerhouses, it's definitely worth it!"

Paul's appearance pushed the liveliness of the scene to the peak.

The top families of Oregon felt honored to have a top expert like Paul on their side. In fact, they even felt that the scales of victory had tipped toward them.

Many people among the VIP seats of the Peerless Martial Association had solemn expressions.

Axel, the head of the Peerless Martial Association's California branch, stood up and said calmly, "Master Alonso, you are the head of the Octa Faction. But now, you're actually at the competition between the Peerless Martial Association, California, and Oregon. That doesn't seem right, does it? Does the Octa Faction also want to get involved?"

As an expert of the Peerless Martial Association, Axel was certainly aware that Paul was a powerful enemy who wasn't easy to deal with.

***wa***

*Nd.*

Paul was wearing a light gray robe, exuding an ethereal aura of a top expert.

He looked at the people of the Peerless Martial Association and said indifferently, "If not for the Peerless Martial Association taking innocent lives, including my junior's, I

wouldn't be standing here. Besides, the Octa Faction is in Oregon too. Why can't I represent Oregon?"

As soon as he said this, the people of Oregon immediately supported them.

"Master Alonso is right! The Octa Faction is an organization within Oregon, so why can't it represent us? Surely the Peerless Martial Association isn't afraid, right?"

"Hahaha, Master Alonso is extremely powerful. If you're afraid, you should surrender as soon as possible!"

"Master Paul Alonso is the strongest person in Oregon. Even the people from the Peerless Martial Association are no match for him!"

"Here's a piece of advice. If you don't want to suffer a terrible defeat, surrender immediately! Otherwise, you won't even know how you'll

die!"

All the families of Oregon were full of confidence in Paul.

On the stage, Julian didn't pay any attention to the shouting from the people of Oregon. Instead, he only looked at Paul with some interest.

"Did you just say you're here because someone from the Peerless Martial Association killed your junior?" Julian sneered.

"That's right. Just a week ago, someone from the Peerless Martial Association killed my junior, and everyone from Oregon witnessed it. You can't deny it," Paul said indifferently as he leaped onto the ring.

It immediately sparked exclamations of awe.

Julian said, "Hah, since you're incompetent, it's only right for you to be killed! Are you trying to take revenge on the Peerless Martial Association? Or..."

"Is this just an excuse you made to hide your true agenda?"

Paul's expression froze for a moment before he smirked. "True agenda? I don't know what you're talking about. Since the Peerless Martial Association killed my junior, you must be prepared to face revenge. You can't be the only ones killing without allowing me to retaliate,

right?"

“Haha, stop taking the moral high ground!” Julian said sarcastically. “It’s all for the sake of profit. You don’t have to make yourself out to be so righteous! If there wasn’t a final prize for this competition, I bet you wouldn’t have come out!”

“But since you’ve decided to come out of recluse, don’t act like an expert in front of me. Hmph, you might have a good reputation, but I won’t be scared of you!”

At this moment, Noah, who had been standing in the VIP seat, suddenly exclaimed in the direction of the ring, “Master Alonso! Kill Julian York!”

“Once you kill him, you will be the overlord of Oregon and California! The Campbells are willing to pledge allegiance to you!”

### Chapter 785 Duel

Following Noah’s yell, the helmsmen of the top families of Oregon beside him also yelled one after another, “The Hummers of Oregon are willing to pledge allegiance and obey your orders, Master Alonso!”

“The Keiths are willing to pledge allegiance to you and obey your orders too, Master Alonso!” “The Thompsons are willing to pledge allegiance to you and obey your orders too, Master Alonso!”

“The Marlins are willing to pledge allegiance to you and obey your orders too, Master Alonso!”

For a while, these helmsmen pledged allegiance one after another.

Except for these families of Oregon who had already discussed this privately beforehand, everyone else was astonished!

No one had expected that the Campbells, the most powerful family in Oregon, would voluntarily give up the position of the overlord, which the winner would obtain, to Paul Alonso, the head of the Octa Faction!

Julian wasn’t that surprised. Instead, he seemed to have expected it long ago. “Haha, I knew the reason you agreed to make a move for the Campbells definitely wasn’t simple. It seems you’re indeed after the position of the overlord of both states!”

“But your plans won’t come true because you won’t be a match for me. The position of the overlord of both states will definitely belong to the Peerless Martial Association!”

As soon as he finished speaking, an overwhelming and domineering aura suddenly erupted from his body, making his clothes and hair shockingly blow without wind.

Everyone saw this scene through the screens and exclaimed in amazement.

Paul was still behaving in an aloof manner. He narrowed his eyes and said, "The Peerless Martial Association is truly arrogant and domineering. You started this competition for the sake of seizing the hegemony of California and Oregon.

"Even if I defeat you and obtain the final victory, it'll just be exactly what the people want.

"The final outcome will only be known after we fight!"

"Hahaha!" Julian burst into laughter. "How arrogant! But it doesn't matter. I'll see your true skills soon!"

Then he stomped his feet violently, and several deep cracks appeared under his feet again. Julian darted straight toward Paul like an arrow leaving its bow!

In the blink of an eye, Julian arrived in front of Paul and raised his leg to throw a spinning kick!

Bang!

Paul was fast as well. He raised his elbow and used his technique to block the ferocious kick that was powerful enough to crack rocks.

This exchange of blows between the two immediately caused an extremely loud sonic boom in the air.

Immediately afterward, the two fought back and forth quickly.

After blocking Julian's blow with his elbow, Paul crouched forward extremely close to the floor. With his left leg bent as an axis and his right leg straightened, he spun around and threw a sweeping kick!

His leg was full of thunderous force, which could definitely kill or badly injure an average person upon contact!

Julian didn't block the swift sweeping kick but jumped backward quickly to avoid it.

But Paul reacted swiftly too. Seeing Julian dodging his strike with just a jump, he immediately changed his stance and shifted his body weight to his right foot. Then he turned his sweeping kick into a midair kick!

His kick was aggressive, and he struck when Julian was still in midair. If the kick hit Julian, it would probably hit him out of the ring. "Hmph!" Julian sneered in midair. He reached out to grab Paul's leg and used it as a leverage point to shift his body in the air. In an instant, he defused the strike and even counterattacked Paul.



Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

They were moving as fast as lightning, and the gray and black figures could be seen fighting on the ring. There were countless sounds of kicks and punches colliding. It was extremely terrifying! The duel between two peerless experts was simply amazing! Watching their quick movements live on the large screens, the audience cheered in excitement.

The battle on the field far exceeded the scope of their imagination. This was what a battle between experts should be like. It made their blood boil!

“Damn! It’s awesome! It’s the first time in my life I’ve seen a fight at this level! The tens of thousands of dollars I spent on my ticket wasn’t in vain!”

“How amazing! I can brag about seeing this fight for the rest of my life!”

“Are they still human? They’re absurdly fast! I can’t even tell who’s who or see their movements clearly! Even the cameras can’t capture their movements! This isn’t something that humans can do!”

“Too strong! These two people are like shocking killers. I’m so far away, but the sounds of their blows are like thunderclaps in my ears. How terrifying!”

The audience, who had never seen such an incredible fight, screamed one after another, their faces flushed with agitation.

Asher, sitting beside Lucas, looked at the two people in the ring and cheered with excitement.

“Amazing! These are the skills of top martial artists! If I could have such powerful skills one day, I’ll wake up laughing from my dreams!” Asher’s eyes were full of envy.

When he was a student, he had dreams of becoming a hero like the ones in novels. Thus, he had often worked out with sandbags and trained with body weights. He had even dragged Lucas to work out with him once.

But this was only a dream during his youth. With time, it became a distant dream.

“Psht! You want powerful martial arts skills? Dream on!” Lily immediately sneered. “If I hadn’t bought the ticket for you, you wouldn’t even be qualified to enter the venue and watch this fight. How ridiculous of you to have delusions of becoming a top expert like them!”

Summer said, "Although I think the two of them are very powerful, the strongest expert in my heart is still my Prince Charming, Mr. Gray, the Master of California! When Mr. Gray shows up, he will definitely be more powerful than them! It's just a pity that he hasn't appeared

yet!"

Summer was totally head-over-heels infatuated with the Master of California and had the utmost confidence in the lover of her dreams. She felt that no one in this world could compare to him.

Lucas was speechless.

He was in a complicated mood at the moment.

For some reason, Summer had become a hardcore fan of the Master of California. He was actually sitting right next to her, but she kept mocking him and insulting him.

God knew what Summer was swooning over.

There was another person present who was not the least bit interested in the battle. Her mind was full of thoughts about a young soldier.

"Pamela, who do you think will win among the two in the ring?" Florence suddenly asked. Pamela said disinterestedly, "Who cares about them? Anyway, these two people are no match for the man I love. He's the strongest man in the world!"

## Chapter 786 The Crushing Defeat of the Faction Head

It wasn't the first time that Pamela had mentioned the man she loved in front of Florence.

But after hearing Pamela's compliments about that man, Florence found them absurd.

Sure enough, she was still a young girl who ridiculously thought that the man she loved was the best in the world and that no one could match up to him.

"In your eyes, probably no one can compare to the man you love, huh?" Florence teased without taking the man seriously. Pamela nodded seriously. "Yes, no one in this world is better than him!" Then she grabbed her phone and thought about the photo she had always kept in her phone case. She said with some anxiety, "Aunt Florence, the Master of California isn't going to bail, is he? If he isn't coming, I want to leave now."

She only came here because Florence persuaded her to come and take a look at the Master of California. She was completely uninterested in the fight between the experts on stage. In Pamela's opinion, this fight couldn't compare to the one the young man she

loved had been in when he saved her from the bullets of the terrifying gang. He had killed almost 40 gangsters alone.

“The Master of California will definitely appear!” Florence said firmly.

Although the powerhouses were fighting hard on stage with their amazing combat prowess, no matter who won or lost, Florence couldn't use them to her benefit.

But the Master of California was different.

Florence had long included the Master of California in her future plans and even pinned all her hopes on him, for she was certain that he would win the tournament. So she firmly believed that he would show up!

Watching the mesmerizing fight between the two on stage, Noah smiled with satisfaction.

Just now, the expert called Byron hired by the Coles had died after Julian struck him with merely one low. In comparison, Paul, the top powerhouse of Oregon, was having an equal exchange of blows with Julian. This was the difference in strength!

“Mr. Cole, do you see this? The experts of Oregon are far stronger than those you recruited from California, right?” Noah said proudly to Edmund.

Edmund merely glanced at him indifferently before sneering. “Master Alonso is indeed very powerful, but if you think there's no one better in California, then you're very wrong!

“Once Mr. Gray is here, Master Alonso will be no more than just mediocre, and he won't be able to defeat Mr. Gray!”

Edmund was extremely confident in Lucas.

After all, Lucas was the leader of the Falcon Regiment of Calico, an existence known as the invincible God of War!

Unconvinced, Noah sneered. “You keep boasting about the greatness of that Mr. Gray, but unfortunately, he's a coward. Even till now, he hasn't dared to appear! But you're still bragging about him to me?”

“There aren't any competent people in California anyway. Why don't you surrender quickly? Otherwise, once Master Alonso wins and becomes the overlord of both states, the wealthy families of California will have a hard time!”

Edmund remained sitting without any change in his expression. He merely snorted coldly. “Wait until he defeats Julian York before you say anything! If you brag too early, you'll jinx

*it!*”

“Hah, continue being stubborn. Let’s see how you can continue being smug later!” Noah said with a trace of menace in his eyes. With that, he turned to look at the stage.

Now, the two people in the ring were still fighting intensely. In the eyes of the audience, the two people seemed to be evenly matched, but only Julian and Paul knew that the difference between them was gradually showing

“Paul Alonso, you may have been famous for years, but if this is all you’ve got, it’s indeed very disappointing!” Julian said with a smile after a close clash.

Paul felt the intense pain coming from his fists, and his fingertips began trembling uncontrollably. His ethereal indifferent expression gradually became solemn.

He originally thought that he should be able to easily defeat everyone at the martial arts competition today, including the expert from the Peerless Martial Association in front of him.

But after exchanging blows, Paul knew that he was completely inferior to Julian’s strength!

In fact, Julian was far stronger than him!

Besides, Julian looked extremely relaxed. It seemed that he hadn’t exerted all his power!

This made the heart of Paul, who had exerted his full power, sink. No, I won’t lose!

“In that case, I’ll show you my true power!” Paul gritted his teeth and gathered all his strength in his fist before swinging it at Julian’s head!

This was the most powerful punch that Paul could throw in this lifetime!

“Hah, that’s all you’re capable of!”

Julian smirked, and his aura surged. He seemed to have risen by another level. Compared to before, his speed and strength had also almost doubled. His body flickered and avoided Paul’s strike.

“Oh shit!”

Paul was already familiar with Julian’s speed and attack rhythm. Thus, he had punched at Julian’s opening and was certain that Julian wouldn’t be able to avoid the blow!

But Julian suddenly became much faster than before and dodged the punch effortlessly!

After throwing a full-strength punch, Paul lost his balance and immediately revealed a flaw, falling into a passive position.

Julian naturally wouldn't let go of this opportunity. A sinister smile appeared on his face as his elbow struck like lightning on the back of Paul's neck!

Paul felt a cold and sharp wind coming from behind his neck, but he was struck before he could even react!

Bang!

There was excruciating pain in his neck, as if it was about to be chopped off. His vision turned dark, and he almost passed out on the spot. But at this moment, he had already lost his balance and was thrown forward uncontrollably!

Bang!

Julian didn't let go of this opportunity. He grabbed Paul's collar and raised his leg to knee him in the chest and abdomen.

"Arrgghh!" Paul screamed uncontrollably. Immediately afterward, he spurted out a large mouthful of blood along with some pieces of his internal organs all over the floor.

After suffering two heavy blows in succession, Paul lost all mobility and was thrown onto the ground like garbage by Julian.

Boom!

Paul was convulsing on the floor as the pool of blood below him began spreading outward.

"Hmph, I told you a long time ago that you don't have any chances of winning against me!" Julian said coldly as he stood proudly in the ring

Chapter 787 I'll Fulfill Your Wish

The entire venue immediately fell dead silent!

The people of the top families of Oregon all stood up, and their jaws dropped when they saw Paul's terrible state. The corners of their mouths twitched, and they almost immediately passed out.

Paul Alonso, whom they all had high hopes for, had been defeated by Julian!

Seeing how he was vomiting blood incessantly to the point that he was convulsing and unable to even stand up, as well as the blood and pieces of internal organs scattered around him, anyone could tell clearly that Paul wouldn't survive.

"How... how is this possible?!" Dumbfounded, Noah stared at the scene before him in horror, his face deathly pale.

To the people of Oregon, Paul was like an immortal, yet he was actually about to die at the hands of Julian of the Peerless Martial Association!

"No, this is impossible!" Noah suddenly roared hysterically, unable to believe the truth before him.

If Paul died, it meant that his ambitions to become the overlord of California and Oregon would come to a complete end!

How could this happen?!

Edmund looked at Noah's maniacal expression, thought about how Noah's plans had all fallen through, and felt as thrilled as how arrogant Noah had been.

"Mr. Campbell, it seems that the overlord you want all of us to pledge allegiance to has to be replaced now!" Edmund laughed mockingly.

Noah immediately turned beet red, and he lashed out at Edmund with a sullen look, "You don't need to gloat! At least Master Alonso lasted for a long time, but what about the expert from California? He was killed as soon as he got on stage! What right do you have to mock me?"

Edmund laughed, "It's true that the Coles' expert wasn't skilled. But I have Mr. Gray on my side, and he will definitely be the final winner of the competition today!"

His eyes were full of confidence in Lucas.

Staff members were hurriedly carrying Paul, who was on his last breath, away from the ring.

Exuding a cold aura, Julian stood still as his gaze that was as sharp as a knife swept across the audience again.

"Aren't you going to come out yet? If you still don't come up, I'll go find you!" His voice was like a thunderclap resounding in everyone's ears. "Since you can't wait to die, I'll have to fulfill your wish." With a cold voice, a figure slowly appeared among the audience.

His voice wasn't loud, and his tone was calm too. But his voice resounded in everyone's ears clearly. In fact, it was even more shocking than Julian's roar. "Lucas, you... you..." Asher's eyes were wide open, and his jaw dropped so much that almost two whole eggs could fit in it.

He never thought that his buddy Lucas, who was sitting next to him, would suddenly stand up and say something like that to Julian, this terrifying expert!

"He... He..."

Asher's girlfriend, Lily, and Summer were both looking at Lucas in dismay, as if they saw a ghost.

They had a conjecture that they could almost blurt out, but they couldn't say it out loud because they didn't dare to believe that it was the truth at all!

After being named and challenged by Julian, there was only one person who could respond!

It was the mysterious Master of California, who hadn't made an appearance since the start of the competition!

The audience around Lucas widened their eyes in shock.

The drone cameras monitoring the arena at all times under the control of the backstage staff immediately aimed their lens at Lucas. The scene was quickly projected on the big screens around the venue.

The crowd suddenly clamored in excitement.

Was this young man the mysterious Master of California?!

At this moment, Pamela frowned and raised her head impatiently while the crowd was exclaiming with enthusiasm.

When she looked at the large screen in front of her and saw the familiar face that had haunted her for countless nights, she felt as though she had been struck by lightning. She immediately stood up flusteredly and turned her head to look at Lucas.

Indeed... The man she had fallen head-over-heels in love with at first sight was standing right there! She finally found him!

While trembling, Pamela covered her mouth as tears streamed down her cheeks! Florence had shock written all over her face as she looked at this scene in disbelief.

Lucas, the Lucas whom she utterly despised, was actually the one standing up!

After a brief moment of silence, Lily and Summer returned to their senses when they saw that all eyes were on them. "Sit down!

"You... you loser, why did you suddenly stand up? He's challenging the Master of California. Why are you trying to join in?"

"Also, how dare you speak to the top expert of the Peerless Martial Association with that tone? Do you have a death wish?"

"If you want to die, go far, far away. Don't get us implicated! Sit down before the powerhouse of the Peerless Martial Association loses his temper!"

The two of them glared at Lucas furiously, wishing they could immediately pin him to the floor and stomp on him.

Although they had once thought of the possibility that Lucas was the Master of California, they had immediately dismissed the thought.

They thought that the Master of California wouldn't dress so shabbily and sit in the ordinary seats with them to watch the match, let alone allow them to mock him without saying anything!

After a moment of being stunned, Asher reacted and thought that his thoughts were too stupid just now. He had to be out of his mind to actually think that Lucas was the overlord of California.

How could this be possible?!

"Lucas, stop making trouble. Hurry up and sit down! If you accidentally provoke these big shots, we'll be in serious trouble!" Asher was so anxious that his heart was about to jump out of his chest as he frantically pulled Lucas's hand to get him to sit down.

But Lucas smiled faintly at Asher and said lightly, "Don't worry. As your buddy, I'd like to give you a piece of advice. It's better to break up with a stupid and vile woman before it's too late!"

With that, Lucas stopped paying attention to them and walked toward the ring one step at a time.

Chapter 788 Center of Attention

"What did you say... you! How dare you say that to me? You..."

Hearing what Lucas said, Lily immediately flew into a rage. But seeing how composed he was, she suddenly felt her heart race in panic and couldn't bring herself to curse at him.



Summer immediately reassured her from the side. "Lily, don't bother with this loser! The top powerhouse of the Peerless Martial Association in the ring is clearly looking for the Master of California and asking him to go up on stage. Yet he's pretending to be the Master of California and running up there himself! Since he has a death wish, we shouldn't stop him. Anyway, he won't end up well!"

"... Yes, you're right. Since he dares to impersonate the Master of California, he deserves to die!" Lily said through gritted teeth despite feeling uneasy.

After hearing the two women beside him claiming that Lucas was impersonating the Master of California, Asher turned to look at them with an extremely complicated expression.

He and Lucas had been close friends for years, so he naturally knew Lucas's previous character very well. Although Lucas was quiet most of the time, he was definitely a smart person and would never court death. In particular, anyone could tell that Julian, who had killed two top experts from California and Oregon, was challenging the Master of California now.

It wasn't a good thing that warranted competing for glory and credit. Who would recklessly court death by impersonating the Master of California at this time?

Besides, the top families of California were all sitting in the VIP seats in front of them. Who would have the audacity to impersonate the overlord to whom they were all loyal? The only possibility was that Lucas was the true Master of California!

Although Asher didn't know exactly how Lucas did this incredible thing, he was completely convinced now!

A pang of worship and excitement suddenly surged in Asher's heart. He clenched his fists tightly, and his heart almost jumped out of his chest because of how agitated he was.

At this moment, he was incomparably proud of Lucas. But at the same time, he also felt extremely worried about Lucas's situation in the near future.

At the same time, Asher also understood the meaning of Lucas's last sentence. Lily and Summer, who had been speculating about Lucas's thoughts with the most malicious and stupid mindsets, were the ones who were truly hopelessly stupid!

If possible, he wanted to draw a clear line between himself and these two stupid and arrogant women. Unfortunately, he couldn't do it now!

As Lucas walked toward the ring with light footsteps, a spotlight shone down from the above and started following him closely, bathing him in bright and dreamy light. He was like a god descending in this world, whom everyone admired.

As Lucas appeared, the helmsmen of all the top families in the California VIP seats stood up and bowed to Lucas.

“I, Edmund Cole, welcome the Master of California!”

“I, Damon Parker, welcome the Master of California!”

“I, Bruce Hale, welcome the Master of California!”

Several loud and respectful voices sounded in the venue.

The atmosphere started boiling because of the reactions of the helmsmen to the Master of California.

“He... that young man is really the Master of California! Oh my gosh, he’s so young and imposing!”

“The helmsmen of so many powerful families are bowing to him in greeting. There’s no mistake. He must be the Master of California! He’s so handsome!”

“His aura is so domineering! This is the greatness of the Master of California, and I got to see him in person! Ahhh! The tens of thousands of dollars I spent to be here today is really worth it!”

Countless people were screaming in amazement. Afterward, someone shouted in an extremely rhythmic voice, “Master of California! Master of California!”

“Master of California! Master of California!”

“Master of California! Master of California!”

“Master of California! Master of California!”

The crowd was really agitated, and everyone was driven by the intense atmosphere. They yelled the Master of California’s name loudly in unison and joined the grand welcome ceremony.

Among the crowd, Pamela dropped her demeanor as a demure heiress of one of the top eight families of DC. With excitement all over her face, she began screaming loudly without any regard for her image.

At this moment, all she could see was the tall figure walking out of the crowd calmly, shrouded in brilliant light.

Next to her, Florence was finally certain of Lucas’s identity. She didn’t expect that Cheyenne’s good-for-nothing husband, whom she had despised, was actually the

Master of California, whom she had been looking for and wanted to marry her daughter to!

She looked at Lucas's figure with an incomparably stunned look on her face, not noticing in the least the unusual reaction of her niece Pamela right next to her.

Among the ordinary audience, Asher was extremely excited.

His former best friend had now achieved such a terrifying status and received so much applause and praise. Tears welled up in his eyes as he felt proud of Lucas. But the two people next to him, Lily and Summer, were completely dumbfounded.

The cheers filling the arena were like loud slaps hitting their faces.

"He... h-he's actually... actually the Master of California!" The two looked at each other and stammered in disbelief, feeling as if they were dreaming.

But soon, this dream-like feeling turned into horror and post-nightmare palpitations.

Lucas was really the Master of California. Just what did they say and do to him just now?!

The two almost didn't dare to recall the ugly things that they had said or done!

As the audience cheered, Lucas reached the ring and slowly made his way up the steps, walking in a relaxed and ordinary manner.

He didn't carry the domineering aura of Julian when he flew eight meters to the ring and smashed the floor with one foot, nor the etherealness of Paul.

Lucas was like an ordinary person as he stood in the ring.

But Lucas's calm and indifferent face made Julian feel an unprecedented terrifying pressure.

Chapter 789 Who Dies?

"You're the Master of California? Lucas Gray?" Julian narrowed his eyes and sized Lucas up with a sharp gaze.

This was the first time he saw the enemy who had killed his brother and who was also the opponent preventing the Peerless Martial Association from dominating California.

Julian found that Lucas was indeed young, and he was exuding a vigorous vitality from head to toe. The collagen and muscles of his body were much more delicate than the masters he usually saw.

But since this young man possessed the strength to kill his brother Jude and make the helmsmen of dozens of top families of California acknowledge him as their master, he definitely wasn't simple.

However, even though Lucas was standing right in front of Julian, Julian couldn't sense any pressure or aura coming from him, as if he was facing only an ordinary person.

If he ran into him elsewhere, Julian probably wouldn't have paid much attention to him.

But this just showed how terrifying Lucas was!

Julian couldn't see through Lucas's true strength at all. Facing Lucas, Julian felt as if he was facing an unfathomable, bottomless pool.

This made Julian keep his guard up.

"Not bad," Lucas said lightly, seemingly not taking Julian seriously at all.

Anger surged in Julian's heart.

As a top expert of the Peerless Martial Association's headquarters, he had always been praised and admired by others. Never had he faced a young man speak to him with such nonchalance.

"Lucas Gray, let me ask you. Did you kill my brother Jude?" Julian stared intently into Lucas's eyes.

Lucas raised his eyebrows. He reckoned that Julian must have appeared in California this time because of Jude.

When Lucas confronted the Taylors at their home to ask for the whereabouts of Karen, they had specially invited Jude from the Peerless Martial Association over to deal with him. But he ended up getting killed by Lucas.

From the day the Taylors were wiped out overnight, Lucas knew that the person who had eradicated the entire Taylor family would confront him sooner or later.

Lucas didn't intend to evade Julian's question and instead nodded calmly. "Yes. He tried to kill me, but unfortunately, he was too incompetent and died."

Julian immediately flew into a rage, and two rays of resentment shot out of his eyes as he glowered at Lucas.

"It's indeed you! Since you've killed my brother, I will never let you off! You will die in this ring today!"

remember you saying yourself just a few minutes ago that those who are incompetent deserve to die. Since your brother tried to kill me, he deserves to be killed by me.

“But the Peerless Martial Association must have already gotten used to double standards. So, only you can bully others, but others aren’t allowed to resist you? “For example, what does the competition today and the Master of California have to do with you? Since you insist on interfering and taking control of California and Oregon, I will definitely make sure your plans fail today!”

Sternness appeared in Lucas’s eyes.

On the surface, the Peerless Martial Association claimed that they wouldn’t interfere with the affairs of top families. But in fact, they had never stopped interfering and taking control.

For example, the Taylors, whom Julian had slaughtered, had become one of the four major families in Orange County due to the Peerless Martial Association and the help they had rendered in the filthy business of sending beautiful women to Orange County for prostitution.

The dark and secretive prostitution network had spread throughout California and even to other states.

Based on this alone, Lucas wouldn’t let off the Peerless Martial Association, which harmed innocent girls and used them for filthy transactions.

Now that the Peerless Martial Association had taken the initiative to stir up trouble here in California, Lucas simply decided to take this opportunity to get rid of the Peerless Martial Association from California completely!

“Kid, you’re really arrogant!” Julian roared with a resentful gaze. “Hmph, don’t get too smug. You’re going to face the same fate as the two people who died just now! Go to hell and repent to my brother!”

Before he finished speaking, his body suddenly swayed and turned into a streak that appeared beside Lucas almost instantaneously.

“Shameless! How dare you sneak attack?!” In the audience, Edmund stood up and shouted furiously.

It was a formal martial arts match. Even though the host didn’t play a significant role, the match should have at least begun after he announced the start.

But Julian clearly launched an attack before the host called for them to begin. This was a blatant sneak attack.

Someone with slow reactions would have probably been killed by Julian's sudden sneak attack!

But Julian's lightning-fast sneak attack naturally didn't cause any harm to Lucas.

With Lucas's strength, he could easily kill Julian within seconds, so avoiding this attack was naturally a piece of cake.

"Wow! Julian's punch was so fast! He struck before the host even announced the start. Is that allowed?"

"Haven't you heard the saying, rules are meant for the majority? In the eyes of top experts like Julian York of the Peerless Martial Association, strength is everything, and the last man standing on the stage is the winner. What are rules?"

"Look! Mr. Gray dodged this punch! It seems that he's worthy of the title of the Master of California. He's very fast!"

"But Julian has already killed two very strong experts and basically crushed them easily. As for Mr. Gray... Well, I'm trying to belittle him, but he's still too young after all. Even if he started practicing martial arts since he was a child, he couldn't have trained for more than twenty years. But Julian York has been practicing martial arts for decades. There's no way Lucas Gray is going to win!"

"I hope that Mr. Gray, the Master of California, can win. But Julian York is indisputably powerful. Mr. Gray really seems to be in a dangerous predicament!"

## Chapter 790 Unexpected Change

The audience wasn't very optimistic about Lucas.

After all, Lucas, the newly rising Master of California, was still too mysterious and unfamiliar to them. Most people still didn't know how strong he was.

Besides, Lucas was too young, and he didn't have the mighty and burly muscles typical of martial artists. Thus, they didn't have much confidence in him.

But Julian was different. From the moment he stepped into the ring, he had been exhibiting an extremely ferocious and domineering aura. He had even managed to kill the powerful Byron from California with a single punch. During the second battle, he had crushed the internal organs of Paul, the reputable leader of the Octa Faction. Paul eventually vomited blood to death. His terrifying strength was really daunting

Julian's punch was similar to the one he threw at Byron when he first stepped into the ring. But his speed and force were much fiercer than before. He wanted to replicate his previous battle and knock Lucas out in a second!

As everyone watched nervously, Julian's mighty fist had already smashed into Lucas's eyes.

But Lucas suddenly reached out to grab Julian's fist.

Bang!

Violent air currents suddenly erupted from the point of collision of their hands!

Boom!

The concrete floor couldn't withstand this pressure and soon exploded all around the two of them.

"Oh my God! The Master of California actually blocked this punch!"

"Damn! This is so impressive! They're about to break the ring!"

"How terrifying! It's like an explosion site! Is this really the effect of two human beings punching each other? It's way too exaggerated!"

"The even more terrifying thing is that Mr. Gray stood still without moving. He merely raised his hand to block Julian's attack!"

"So powerful! Mr. Gray might really beat Julian!"

...

The audience was astonished as they discussed the terrifying scene in front of them.

The strength of the two of them was extremely terrifying. In the face of Julian's astounding speed and force that far exceeded those of ordinary people, Lucas simply stood still composedly and blocked his opponent's attack. His casual attitude made everyone feel even more shocked.

In the ring, Julian's full-strength punch was stopped. Although his fist was only ten centimeters away from Lucas's face, it couldn't move another inch forward to strike his target.

The flesh on Julian's face trembled slightly for a few moments as shock surged in his heart.

Lucas looked up a little and said contemptuously, "Is this your full strength? It's pretty mediocre." "Go to hell!"

Julian retracted his hand, only to find that Lucas's grip was holding onto his fist tightly, and he couldn't pull it out at all. He kicked Lucas.

"Let go!"

A cold smile appeared on Lucas's lips as he raised his arm calmly. He grabbed Julian's ankle and held it tightly in his hand.

Julian's face became even gloomier.

He knew the force of his own kick. It contained almost all his strength. If his leg had landed on stone or even steel, it could crush and kick through them!

If ordinary people dared to block his kick with their hand, their arm would definitely become badly mangled.

Although Lucas clearly didn't have any burly muscles, his hands seemed to be even stronger and more solid than the hardest steel plate!

His full-strength punch and kick didn't seem to cause any damage to his hands! Is this boy's defensive power that much stronger than mine?

How is this possible?

Julian was already panicking.

"Since you want me to die, I should return the favor."

He suddenly tightened his grip, and a massive force enclosed Julian's wrist and ankle. At the same time, excruciating pain spread from both spots and went straight to his head!

"Ah!" Under the unbearable pain, Julian could no longer endure it and screamed in misery, completely unlike a powerhouse.

He tried to break free from Lucas's hands with all his might but to no avail!

Lucas's hands were much stronger than Julian imagined!

An ominous thought crossed his mind. Lucas's intentions were clear. He wanted to take this opportunity to crush his wrist and ankle bones and completely ruin him!

If Lucas really crushed his wrist and ankle, the outcome of the fight would be decided immediately, and from then on, Julian would become crippled!



Even if his injuries could be healed, he was already in his fifties, so it was impossible for his bones to recover and be like those of a young man. In other words, his future life would end here!

Large droplets of sweat trickled down Julian's face.

It had been years since he felt such horror and misery!

"Stop!" The veins on Julian's forehead were exposed and bulging as he clenched his jaws. "If you dare to do anything to me, I guarantee that your wife and daughter won't survive!"

"What did you say!?!?" Lin Chen's face immediately darkened.

A smug smile appeared on Julian's face as he endured the severe pain coming from his hand and foot and laughed triumphantly.

"Do you think that after you killed my brother, I would come here unprepared and have a fair fight with you?" Julian had a scheming look on his face, "Today, you must lose this fight to me and die here as the consequence for killing my brother and offending me and the Peerless Martial Association!"

"I don't mind telling you now that your wife and daughter are both in my hands! Haha, didn't expect it, huh? "If you don't want to see them die, you'd better stop resisting and let me kill you! Otherwise, I guarantee that they will die miserable deaths!"

Julian's eyes were full of mania and resentment!

#### Chapter 791 Wife and Daughter Are Hostages

Julian initially thought that Lucas would immediately look shocked, furious, and helpless after hearing what he said. But to his surprise, he found that Lucas looked much calmer than he had imagined.

He merely stood there and looked at him calmly with a contemptuous smirk.

"What are you waiting for? Let go of me immediately." Julian shouted, but he inexplicably felt an ominous premonition.

According to the information he had received from Axel, the head of the Peerless Martial Association's California branch, Lucas's greatest weaknesses were his wife and five-year-old daughter.

Regardless of whether Lucas could win this match or not, Julian thought that kidnapping his wife and daughter and holding them hostage was an excellent plan, as he could use them to provoke Lucas at the most critical moment. He could use them to anger Lucas and make him feel indignant yet helpless because he could only watch them die!

This was Julian's plan for revenge against Lucas.

Not only did he want Lucas dead, but he also wanted him to die in misery!

But the expression on Lucas's face now was not what he expected, instantly making Julian feel uncertain, a stark contrast to his earlier smug look.

In short, it seemed as if something was out of his control, making him feel vexed and troubled.

Lucas was still tightly gripping Julian's wrist and ankle without loosening his grip in the slightest.

"I originally only planned to cripple a hand and a leg so that you could survive," Lucas said softly with a smile. His voice was extremely soft, but it gave Julian the creeps.

"But I've changed my mind now.

"You've touched people you shouldn't have and crossed my bottom line. So you must die now!"

An extremely powerful aura instantly emerged from Lucas's body like a monstrous wave striking Julian!

Julian felt as if his brain had exploded. Sensing the menacing killing intent, he shivered uncontrollably and immediately got the goosebumps! Lucas seemed to have suddenly turned into a terrifying beast about to devour him!

"Do... do you really not care if your wife and daughter die?" Under the massive pressure, Julian felt an aura of death that he hadn't felt for a long time crashing down from the top of his head!

Large beads of sweat flowed down Julian's pale and horror-filled face.

At this time, he already understood how terrifyingly powerful Lucas was.

Fortunately, he still had his trump card!

Ring...

Suddenly, the phone in Lucas's pocket rang.

“Haha, you’d better hurry up and answer it! Otherwise, you might not have the chance to hear your wife and daughter’s last words!” Julian smiled maliciously.

Lucas glanced at him coldly. Since he was holding Julian’s wrist and ankle with both hands, he naturally didn’t have a spare hand to answer the phone.

But the expression on his face didn’t change much as he casually pushed Julian away.

Stomp stomp stomp stomp stomp!

An immense force immediately pushed Julian’s body ten meters away. Julian couldn’t keep his balance and ended up getting pushed to the floor by Lucas.

He was naturally shocked and furious. At the same time, countless exclamations came from the audience.

“Wow! Mr. Gray is so powerful!”

“Based on that punch, it’s Mr. Gray who has the upper hand!”

“To be able to push a top expert of the Peerless Martial Association that far away in one go, Mr. Gray is really something!”

“Mr. Gray is naturally extraordinary! The victory of today’s competition will definitely be Mr. Gray, the Master of California!”

The representatives of the top families of California all cheered for Lucas.

On the other hand, the families of Oregon all had extremely gloomy expressions.

Paul, their top expert, had died at the hands of Julian. But Lucas actually obtained the upper hand against Julian.

However, the people below the stage could only see some images, but they were clueless about what the two people on the ring said. After all, when Julian threatened Lucas with the lives of his wife and daughter, he had deliberately lowered his volume because this dishonest method shouldn’t be announced to the public. He and Lucas were the only ones who knew.

After Julian was pushed away by Lucas, he was extremely enraged. But when he saw Lucas taking out his phone and answering the call in public, he could no longer restrain his maniacal malice.

Hah, just wait for the bad news. You say you love your wife and daughter like they’re your life. In that case, between your own life or the lives of your wife and your daughter, what will you choose? Julian thought viciously.

He didn't take the opportunity to attack Lucas while he was on the phone. Instead, he stood still and stared at the expression on Lucas's face, not wanting to miss any of his frenzied and painful expressions.

Julian would be overjoyed as long as he could make Lucas feel pain!

The person on the other end of the call reported, "Lucas, the people from the Peerless Martial Association really came to cause trouble, but they've all been killed. Cheyenne and Amelia are safe and sound. Rest assured!"

It was Jordan.

Lucas simply replied calmly, "Okay, thanks." Then he hung up without much of an expression.

A sharp glint appeared in his eyes.

In fact, since the Taylors were exterminated, Lucas knew that a powerful and brutal person had come from Peerless Martial Association and was likely here for him.

Lucas was naturally not afraid of Julian, but what Julian had done was too bloody and brutal. Lucas was worried that he would act crazy and attack his wife and daughter.

Thus, Lucas had texted Jordan and Stanley, who were far away in DC, and asked them to rush back to California before the competition started today so as to protect Cheyenne and Amelia.

Although Stanley's martial arts skills were not top-notch, Jordan had been through thick and thin with Lucas in the Falcon Regiment for several years, so the people of the Peerless Martial Association naturally weren't a match for Jordan.

"Punk, are you done with your phone call? You're helpless now, huh? It's time you surrender!"

A menacing glint appeared in Julian's eyes, and the malicious smile on his face was like a venomous snake flaunting its sharp teeth.

## Chapter 792 The End of the Road

Lucas closed his eyes and suddenly stepped forward, walking toward Julian. His head was slightly lowered, and there was no emotion on his face.

"Haha! Hey, host, this guy has admitted defeat. You can now declare the result!" Julian shouted at the host beside him with a smug glint in his eyes. Judging from his findings on Lucas, there was absolutely no way Lucas would give up his wife and daughter, so this was his only option! "Uh... this..." The host was confused and puzzled.

There was indeed this rule in today's competition. As long as one side admitted defeat, the other side would win automatically.

But Lucas didn't admit defeat, and he seemed to be much stronger than Julian. How could he announce the result?

Seeing the hesitation of the host, Julian was upset.

"What are you waiting for? Hurry up and announce the result!" Julian roared furiously.

He couldn't wait for this competition to end. Once it did, he would bring Lucas to that place and then make him watch his wife and daughter die in front of him! At this moment, Lucas had already walked two meters in front of Julian. He slowly raised his head and sneered at Julian. "Admit defeat? I don't remember saying this."

"Do you... really not care about the lives of those two people?" Julian narrowed his eyes in disbelief while trying to threaten Lucas again. "Think carefully. If you choose to provoke me now, I can make them disappear from the world at any time!"

Lucas remained unmoved, and there was only a killing intent that had condensed in his eyes.

"Have you finished talking nonsense? If you're done, you can die!"

Lucas would never forgive anyone who dared to harm his family!

"You!" Julian was furious. According to his past practice, he would have killed him long ago.

But the brief exchange with Lucas just now made Julian aware that Lucas was stronger than him. Even if he fought him head-on, he would barely have a chance of winning.

"Okay, since you're so heartless, I will send your wife and daughter to hell!" Julian gritted his teeth, took out his cell phone, and immediately made a call.

While doing so, he stared at Lucas very defensively, in case Lucas suddenly rushed forward to grab his phone.

But there was nothing.

Lucas didn't even move. Instead, he stood quietly two meters away, as if he was deliberately giving Julian enough time to make the call.

The ominous hunch that Julian had become even more intense.

Then his heart sank even more because no one answered.

Julian hurriedly dialed another subordinate's number, but there was still no answer.

"No... No!" Julian panicked and hurriedly made several more calls out to the subordinates he had sent to abduct Lucas's wife and daughter, but none of them responded.

Julian's fingers began trembling. He would be a complete idiot if he was still clueless about the change in the situation.

"You... Have you guessed it long ago?"

"Did you kill all the people I sent?"

"No, that's impossible! The people I sent are all experts of the Peerless Martial Association, and there's hardly anyone in California who can defeat them!"

"Besides, you're standing here, and you can't save them. How... how did you manage to do it?"

Julian didn't believe it at all, and he quickly bombarded Lucas with several questions. All he got in response was a contemptuous smile from Lucas. "What do you think?"

"The truth is right before you. Be it your plans to take control of California and Oregon or to abduct my wife and child, I won't let you get what you want!"

Julian understood that it was all over for him. He gritted his teeth and suddenly fell to the floor on his knees!

Bang!

A thud resounded between his knee and the floor.

"Mr. Gray, I know I was wrong. Please just let me off! I admit defeat in this competition today! Besides, the ruler of the two states is already you, Mr. Gray. The Peerless Martial Association won't dare to covet it!" Julian knelt on the floor and begged Lucas for forgiveness.

Boom!

This scene sparked an uproar among the audience.

They didn't know what was happening. Right from the start, they only saw Julian punch Lucas and then kick him, but Lucas stopped him and even pushed him eight meters away.

But afterward, Lucas suddenly answered a call in the ring, and then Julian made the host announce that Lucas had admitted defeat and that Julian was the final winner. This made the audience confused about what was going on.

What happened next was even more confusing. Lucas said something to Julian, and then Julian took out his phone and made a call, his face incredibly sullen.

But even so, everything that happened previously was far, far less shocking than Julian suddenly getting down on his knees to beg Lucas for forgiveness!

“What the hell is going on?!”

“Is the Master of California already so powerful that he doesn’t need to do anything to shock the expert of the Peerless Martial Association into making him beg for mercy?”

Lucas looked down at Julian, who was kneeling and admitting defeat, without feeling any emotions.

Moreover, Lucas knew that Julian would never really admit defeat.

“From the moment you dared to take action against my wife and daughter, you should have already expected this. Let you off? Impossible.

“You can say your last words now.” Lucas looked at Julian indifferently.

Julian’s fingers pressed against the floor began to curl.

He knew that Lucas would never let him off!

“Go to hell!” Julian suddenly shouted, sprung up from the ground, and rushed straight at Lucas.

He was holding a dagger glistening with black light!

The bright dagger was emitting a sharp and cold light under the bright lights of the venue. The strange light on the blade was flashing with an ominous aura.

It was a poisonous dagger!

If the dagger cut someone, they would immediately die!

Julian suddenly burst forward without any warning. Moreover, he was so close to Lucas that the dagger appeared in front of Lucas in an instant.

“Ah! Watch out!” someone in the audience shrieked!

## Chapter 793 Overlords of Two States

With the sudden changes in the ring, many people couldn't help screaming in horror.

In the VIP seats, Edmund, Damon, Bruce, and the others immediately stood up with anxious and nervous expressions on their faces, wishing they could lash out at Julian.

Everyone knew that today's event was a martial arts competition held in the San Francisco International Expo Center in the name of fairness and equality. It was agreed in advance that all participants would compete against each other with their own abilities without using any weapons.

However, Julian of the Peerless Martial Association had not only taken out a weapon that he had hidden, but he even sneak attacked, which was utterly disgraceful! Facing this sudden and swift blow, Lucas seemed to be frozen in place and unable to react.

A trace of maniacal euphoria appeared in Julian's eyes.

So what if Lucas was much stronger than him?

He was confident Lucas would soon die and that he would become the final winner!

The people in the audience would have to admit that he won and acknowledge his status even if they were indignant!

The winner was king! This was an unchanging truth!

But the moment before the sharp edge of the dagger in his hand touched Lucas, Julian's pupils constricted, and his body immediately froze.

Lucas was standing in front of him, but no matter what, he couldn't push the dagger any farther!

A soft sound of air leaking spread from Julian's neck.

He stretched out his hand in bewilderment and touched his neck, only to see bright red blood covering his hand.

Blood was gushing out of Julian's throat endlessly like a fountain.

"Uh... You..." Before Julian could finish, his body could no longer persist and suddenly fell to the floor.

Even when he died, he kept his eyes wide open unwillingly.

At this moment, the audience became dead silent!



No one expected that Julian, who was so domineering and extreme that he had killed two experts of Oregon and California, would die in Lucas's hands!

Seeing that Lucas won, the helmsmen of the top families of California were excited and even in awe of him.

Although Lucas had used his strength and power to gain the allegiance of more than sixty top families in California, they now truly understood how powerful he was! Most people from Oregon looked extremely shocked as they all cast their gazes on the determined and upright figure standing in the ring. If there were no other accidents, the young man in the ring would also become the overlord of Oregon!

Everyone looked extremely gloomy. In particular, Axel, the head of the Peerless Martial Association's California branch, had already turned pale. A sudden chill ran down his spine, his entire body frozen, and his fingers were trembling underneath his sleeves.

Julian was an absolute powerhouse who ranked among the top in the Peerless Martial Association. He was far stronger than Axel. This was why Axel had baited him into coming to California to deal with Lucas.

But he could have never imagined that a powerhouse like Julian would actually die in Lucas's hands!

Before Julian died, he had even knelt down in front of Lucas. It was simply unbelievable!

How strong was Lucas to be able to make Julian, who had always been so high and mighty, do this in public without any regard for his pride?

The more he thought about it, the more terrified Axel felt.

He had even thought of taking a terrifying existence like Lucas under his command and getting him to work for him. Later, he had even tried to kill him. The thought of these things made Axel feel as if his body was drenched in cold sweat. "The... the winner of this match is Mr. Gray from California!" Amid the silence, the unlucky host stammered and announced the end of this competition.

"Good! As expected of Mr. Gray, he's amazing!" Edmund was the first to stand up. He applauded loudly, his face full of excitement.

The others seemed to wake up from their dreams, and they all clapped to congratulate Lucas on his victory.

Despite their reluctance, the top families of Oregon could only follow suit to clap and congratulate him perfunctorily.

“Mr. Campbell, you haven’t forgotten our bet, have you?” Edmund suddenly turned to Noah and grinned.

Noah’s face flushed red with exasperation, awkwardness, and regret. He felt complicated emotions.

A week ago, he had thought that Lewis, the expert who worked for the Campbells, could defeat the powerhouses of the Peerless Martial Association. Thus, he had initiated the bet with Edmund, which stipulated that whoever defeated the Peerless Martial Association would become the overlord of both Oregon and California.

But Lewis, whom the Campbells had high expectations for, had long died in the hands of the Peerless Martial Association. Paul Alonso, the person Noah had painstakingly hired at a high price, had also been killed by Julian. In the end, Lucas was the winner of the competition.

Not only did he lose two experts, but he even had to submit to someone else. It was way too humiliating to him!

The feeling of paving the way for someone else’s success made Noah regret it so much that he wished he could vomit blood.

Had he known this would happen, he would never have proposed the bet!

He was extremely unwilling to accept the terms of the bet, but now that there were nearly 30,000 people watching, he couldn’t say that he regretted his actions and renege. “Hah, do I need you to say it?” Noah glowered at Edmund furiously before walking away from the VIP seats and quickly getting down on one knee while facing the ring. He said loudly, “Mr. Gray, you’re indeed a rare powerhouse. The Campbells are willing to acknowledge you as our leader!”

His actions immediately took Edmund, who thought that he would go back on his word, by surprise.

Moreover, as the strongest family in Oregon nowadays, the Campbells were extremely influential in the state.

Seeing the helmsman of the Campbells, Noah, already pledging allegiance to Lucas, the other powerful families of Oregon naturally didn’t dare to have other thoughts.

Even if they had those intentions, it was pointless because no one dared to show any disobedience to Lucas’s power. “The Alcotts are willing to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray!”

“The Kellers are willing to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray!”

“The Masons are willing to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray!”

“The Johnsons are willing to plead allegiance to Mr. Gray!”

All of a sudden, the fifty-odd helmsmen of top Oregon families also got down on one knee to pledge allegiance to Lucas.

The helmsmen of the top California families also got down on one knee.

This scene was extremely shocking and greatly stimulated the audience.

In a seat not far away, Florence looked at the scene in front of her with an extremely sullen expression. She clenched her fists tightly, so much so that she didn't even know that she had broken a long fingernail.

#### Chapter 794 The Overlord

The moment Lucas stepped forward and revealed that he was the Master of California, Florence felt frenzied.

She never thought that the poor good-for-nothing whom she had always despised and had been trying to force to divorce Cheyenne was the Master of California, to whom she had tried every possible way to get closer. She even wanted her daughter to marry him.

She felt suffocated when she imagined what Lucas thought of her when she said those things to him.

No, it's not my fault. It's all because of Lucas Gray. He's clearly my son-in-law, but he didn't reveal his true identity to me.

It's not my fault!

Moreover, Lucas turned out to be the person she had been trying hard to get close to, meaning that her wish for the Master of California to become her son-in-law had already been fulfilled long ago. She didn't have to bother about this anymore!

It was an unexpected happy event for Florence. In addition, Lucas was now not only the Master of California but also the overlord who unified all the noble and powerful families of Oregon and California. Now that his status and power were even greater than before, it was a good thing for Florence.

But the first thing she needed to deal with now was to find a way to get rid of Lucas's hostile feelings for her as soon as possible and then improve their relationship so that she could reap greater benefits from him in the future!

On the other side of the seats, Asher was in a completely different mood.

“Asher, oh, Asher, I didn’t expect you to hide it so well. You actually know such an impressive man like the Master of California! This is amazing!” Lily changed her usual derisive attitude for Asher and instead smiled at him fawningly with a scheming gaze.

Her boyfriend was close friends with the Master of California, or rather, the overlord of California and Oregon. This would be of great help to her social network and life in the future. As long as Lucas helped them a bit, they would no longer have to worry about being able to live in luxury for the rest of their lives! They could hold their heads high anywhere they went! Only she could bully others, and no one could bully her!

“Asher, we’ve been in a relationship for a long time. In fact, we should have gotten married long ago. How about this? Let’s register our marriage tomorrow afternoon!

“You don’t need to buy a house or any betrothal gifts! My family will take care of the wedding too, okay?” Lily held onto Asher’s arm shyly and said coquettishly. “Asher, since Lucas is your close friend and I’m your wife’s best friend, help me out and introduce me to him! As long as I can marry him, you’ll be my greatest benefactor, and I definitely won’t mistreat you!” Summer held onto Asher’s other arm and pleaded fawningly. “Oh, by the way, isn’t your sister still short of money for her medical treatment? My family has nothing but money. I’ll transfer you four hundred thousand to you later and also ask my father to find the best doctors to treat her!”

At the thought of this matter, Summer hurriedly took out her phone and immediately wanted to transfer the money to Asher.

“Hey, Summer, don’t go too far! Asher is my man, and his sister is naturally my sister. I will pay for her treatment. I don’t need your help!”

Lily looked at Summer, who was still holding Asher’s hand and trying to please him in front of her, and flew into a rage. She went forward to grab her hands and flung them away.

“Hey! Lily, you’re the one who’s going too far! Asher is my friend too. Why can’t I help him?” Summer retorted indignantly. At this moment, the pair of best friends who had always liked insulting others together began quarreling.

“Enough!” Asher shouted, interrupting their argument.

He looked at the two people arguing in front of him for the sake of pleasing him to make use of him.

Just ten minutes ago, Lily had treated him like a dog she could order around, scold, and beat up at will.

Lily’s best friend, Summer, was exactly the same as her. She didn’t treat Asher like a human at all but as a lowly beggar who had to rely on Lily’s family to survive.

They had even humiliated and mocked his close friend Lucas even though they knew nothing about him.

If not for his sister's illness, he would have long been unable to tolerate a woman like Lily! Now that they knew Asher was close friends with Lucas, the new overlord of the two states, they immediately treated him differently. They undoubtedly wanted to rely on his friendship with Lucas to get some benefits from him.

Summer was even more ridiculous. She had delusions about marrying Lucas.

Asher would never introduce such a stupid and toxic woman to Lucas!

Lucas stood in the ring while the helmsmen of the powerful families of both states were all kneeling to him.

Axel and the others from the Peerless Martial Association were on tenterhooks and at a complete loss for what to do.

At this moment, Lucas suddenly turned to face them, giving Axel the goosebumps.

"Mr. Gray, you won the competition this time, and the Peerless Martial Association is willing to concede. From now on, we will never get involved with the matters of Oregon and California!" Axel said boldly while trying his best to remain calm.

He was now terrified. If Lucas wanted to, he could kill him at any time!

Lucas glanced at him coldly. "From now on, the Peerless Martial Association branches in California and Oregon will no longer exist!"

"Yes! I promise that the Peerless Martial Association will stay far away from California and Oregon and never appear again!" Axel immediately agreed, his heart tense.

He was well aware that given the feud between Lucas and the Peerless Martial Association, Lucas would never allow the Peerless Martial Association to exist in the two states.

That was unless the Peerless Martial Association's headquarters sent powerful experts to intervene.

Of course, it was no longer something that a branch head like Axel could take part in.

"Get lost!" Lucas said coldly.

By saying this, he was letting off the other people of the Peerless Martial Association and didn't want to take their lives.

As if he had been spared from a death sentence, Axel hurriedly bowed. "Yes! Thank you, Mr. Gray!"

With that, he fled the venue with the rest of the members of the Peerless Martial Association.

They were no longer as domineering and condescending as they were before.

Standing on the ring with his hands behind his back, Lucas looked around at the audience full of majesty.

"From now on, Oregon and California will belong to me!" Lucas's voice was as loud as a bell and instantly spread throughout the venue.

### Chapter 795 Drink the Poisoned Wine

Lucas's voice wasn't very stern, but no one dared to take him lightly, let alone disobey him.

This was the deterrence brought about by absolute power!

"Yes!" The hundred-something helmsmen of wealthy families of Oregon and California agreed in unison, their voices as loud as thunder!

Thus, the martial arts competition initiated by the Peerless Martial Association came to an end with Lucas becoming the overlord of both states.

After everything was over, Lucas had planned to leave the exhibition center. But he saw Noah, the head of the Campbells of Oregon, and several other helmsmen of wealthy Oregon families walked up to him.

"Mr. Gray, may we... talk with you?" Noah said.

"Why? Noah Campbell, you just pledged allegiance to Mr. Gray in front of so many people and decided to accept him as your master, but you're going back on your word so soon?" Edmund, who had been following Lucas, sneered.

Noah glowered at Edmund. But at the thought that he was in Lucas's presence, he didn't dare to act rashly and quickly lowered his head. "How is that possible? We're here to apologize to Mr. Gray sincerely!"

"Back in Oregon, we wronged Mr. Gray and said a lot of things that we shouldn't have. Mr. Gray, please don't lower yourself to our level. Please forgive us!"

"Yes, we were all blind and didn't know any better. That's why we offended you, Mr. Gray. Mr. Gray, please forgive us!" "Yes, please be magnanimous and forgive us!"

...

The few people that Noah brought with him all apologized to Lucas and asked for his forgiveness.

In fact, not only had all of them spoken rudely to Lucas at the conference the Campbells held a week ago, but they had even mocked Lucas in public.

Although Lucas didn't mention anything about holding them responsible, none of them would be able to escape if Lucas suddenly wanted to settle old scores!

With Lucas's terrifying strength, killing these people was a piece of cake!

Instead of waiting to be held accountable and punished later, they decided to bite the bullet to take the initiative to own up to their mistakes and apologize to Lucas.

They thought that perhaps Lucas would spare them on account that they had taken the initiative to apologize. Lucas glanced at the few of them, and a strange smile suddenly appeared on his face. "Okay, come with me if you want me to forgive you!"

Soon, Lucas led this group of confused and uneasy Oregon helmsmen to a reception room Edmund just had prepared.

It was also a place in the San Francisco International Expo Center dedicated to entertaining distinguished guests. "As you all know, you've offended me terribly before. Even if I want to kill you or even exterminate your entire family and support other forces, it's only a matter of a few words.

"It's not that easy to make me forgive you. Those who have done wrong have to pay the price for their misdeeds," Lucas said while sitting on the couch in the middle.

The faces of the Oregon helmsmen immediately changed.

Indeed, not only had they been verbally disrespectful to Lucas and said many insulting words about him, but they had also tried to have him killed. This was indeed not something that he could just forget about easily.

"What... do you want then?" Noah's face trembled, and he gritted his teeth unwillingly.

Although he had been the first to recognize Lucas as the hegemon of the two states on behalf of the forces of Oregon, he merely chose to do so because of the circumstances.

Noah didn't actually acknowledge Lucas as his leader at all!



The position of the hegemon of the two states came about due to his painstaking efforts and countless preparations. It was the position he wanted the most, but he had lost it at the last juncture, giving Lucas the chance to obtain it.

Besides, Noah thought that they were showing Lucas enough respect by taking the initiative to apologize to him and admit their mistakes. If Lucas was sensible enough and didn't want his relationship with the helmsmen of Oregon to become too strained, he should immediately forgive them and not make them pay the price!

There was anger in Noah's tone.

The faces of the other Oregon helmsmen also turned gloomy. They felt extremely uneasy not knowing what price Lucas wanted them to pay.

Lucas glanced at them with a calm gaze and merely pointed at the eight glasses in front of him. "It's very simple. People who offend me usually won't end up well. As long as you drink the poisoned wine in front of you, I will spare your families.

"As for those who are not willing to drink, I will spare your lives, but your family must vanish from Oregon!

"It's up to you to decide what to do."

There were eight glasses on the coffee table in front of Lucas, all filled with a dark blue liquid that gave people an ominous feeling.

"Wha!?!"

What Lucas said immediately caused the faces of the helmsmen to turn pale in horror.

"You... you actually want our lives? You're going overboard!" Noah roared angrily.

"Noah Campbell, mind your attitude!" Edmund, standing beside Lucas, immediately rebuked. He would never allow anyone to be disrespectful to Lucas.

Noah clenched his fists and lowered his head, hiding the maniacal anger about to burst from his eyes.

The other helmsmen looked just as miserable. They didn't want to die, nor did they want to see their families annihilated because of it.

Some of them wanted to plead with Lucas. But after seeing the cold and indifferent look in his eyes, they understood that it wasn't something they could change just by pleading for mercy.

He was the overlord of two states, and his orders were not to be defied!



Suddenly, the helmsman of a top Oregon family gritted his teeth and stepped forward to ask, "Mr. Gray, as long as I drink this poisoned wine and die, will you spare my family?"

Lucas nodded. "Yes."

"Okay. In that case, I'll drink it! I was the one who made the mistake of offending you before, and I'll take responsibility for my actions. I just hope that you keep your promise after I die, Mr. Gray!"

Then he walked toward the coffee table, picked up a glass, and downed the blue liquid.

With someone starting, the remaining helmsmen all walked over to the coffee table and downed the poisonous liquid in one go after a tough emotional struggle. Soon, seven of the eight helmsmen of top Oregon families chose to drink the poisoned wine to atone to Lucas and have him spare their families.

Noah was the exception.

He stood still for a long time without moving or stepping forward, seemingly not wanting to drink the poisoned wine to accept his punishment.

"Mr. Campbell, does that mean you're not willing to drink the wine, and you'd rather the Campbells be destroyed?" Edmund looked at him coldly.

"No, I..." Noah slowly shook his head. Finally, he slowly raised his head with a strange light in his eyes.

"What do you want?" Edmund frowned slightly with a solemn and cautious gaze.

His intuitions told him that there seemed to be something wrong with Noah's state of mind.

"I... I want you to die!"

With this roar, Noah suddenly took his hand out of his pocket, and in his hand was a dark pistol. He aimed the muzzle right in the middle of Lucas's forehead!

## Chapter 796 Test

Seeing Noah's actions, the people present had a drastic change in expression.

"Noah Campbell, what are you trying to do?! Hurry up and put the gun down!" Edmund shouted at Noah, pointing his finger at him with a look of horror on his face.

Damon frantically rebuked, "Noah Campbell, do you know what you are doing? If you dare to shoot Mr. Gray, none of your family members will survive!"

“Hah, you people already want me dead. Do you still want me to sit back and do nothing?” Noah held the pistol with a look of mania. “I’m about to die now. Why should I bother about the Campbells? Since you want me dead, I’ll kill you first!”

Sitting on the couch, Lucas looked composed as he said contemptuously, “I knew you’d rebel against me. In that case, I can’t keep you around.”

“Screw you! Go to hell now!” Noah shouted and suddenly pulled the trigger.

Bang!

There was an explosive sound, but it wasn’t the sound of a bullet leaving the pistol. Instead, it was the sound of the pistol suddenly breaking into two.

Even though Noah’s finger had already pulled the trigger, the internal parts of the gun were already destroyed, so it was no longer functional.

Deep horror appeared in Noah’s eyes. He couldn’t figure out what had happened and why the pistol suddenly broke and turned into a pile of scrap.

Immediately afterward, a sharp pain came from Noah’s wrist. “Ah! M-My wrist!” Noah wailed in pain as he held his wrist.

Just now, a thin business card suddenly darted out of Lucas’s hand.

Although it was just a thin piece of paper, it was like the sharpest blade in the world. Not only did it cut the hard gun barrel into two but also Noah’s wrist! Blood gushed out of Noah’s severed wrist as he shrieked in misery, making people’s hearts tremble.

The seven helmsmen, who had just drunk the poisoned wine, were frightened by the situation in front of them and were shuddering from head to toe, not daring to breathe at all.

Lucas managed to cut the barrel of a gun and sever Noah’s wrist with a business card that he casually flicked out. They didn’t doubt the consequences if the business card struck someone’s neck.

It’s no wonder that Mr. Gray is the overlord of both states. How terrifying!

Edmund instructed the bodyguards behind him, “Drag him away!” The two bodyguards immediately stepped forward and dragged Noah, who was shrieking and rolling around, out of the room.

No one asked where Noah would be taken because the result was already obvious. From the moment he dared to aim his gun at Lucas, he was destined to die.

The other people were trembling incessantly, clueless about what would happen to them next. Moreover, they had all just chosen to drink the poisoned wine, and they didn't know when they would die. They still wanted to return to their families before their deaths so that they could arrange some matters and say their last words to them.

"You guys should go, but I hope that you can all remember one thing. I won't mistreat those who serve me with sincerity. But if you have a change of heart and decide to betray me in the future, you will face the same fate as Noah Campbell!" Lucas glanced at the helmsmen of the seven Oregon families indifferently.

A trace of puzzlement appeared on the faces of the seven helmsmen.

What did Lucas's words... mean? Didn't they already drink the poisoned wine? What else was there?

"Do you really think that Mr. Gray would poison you all to death?" Edmund smiled. "You have passed the test. This is a chance that Mr. Gray has given you! What are you waiting for? Hurry up and thank Mr. Gray!"

Only then did it dawn on them that Lucas didn't intend to poison them. But rather, he was just testing them using the poisoned wine.

"Thank you, Mr. Gray!"

"In the future, you will be the overlord of both states, and we won't betray you!"

"Yes, we will do whatever you tell us to do in the future, Mr. Gray. We absolutely won't betray you!"

These helmsmen promised one after another. They had all thought that they would die for sure, but they didn't expect to get a chance of survival. Everyone was full of excitement.

"How can I trust someone willing to abandon their own family to be loyal to me?" Lucas said indifferently and then stood up to leave the reception room.

Shortly after Lucas left the San Francisco International Expo Center, someone immediately greeted him from not far away. But when he was about to reach Lucas, he subconsciously stopped and said somewhat nervously, "Mr... Mr. Gray."

Lucas glanced at the man. "What Mr. Gray? We've been buddies for years. What are you getting up to?"

This person was Asher, Lucas's close friend back in high school.

Asher was extremely nervous, mainly because he was worried that he might not be able to speak to Lucas like he used to since Lucas's current status was very different from before.

After hearing what Lucas said, he finally believed that Lucas's attitude toward him was still the same as before, making him feel much more relaxed.

Just as Asher smiled and was about to talk to Lucas, two eager voices suddenly came out from behind him.

"Mr. Gray! Hello, I'm Asher's fiancée, Lily. Since you and Asher are buddies, that makes us all friends!"

"Hello, Mr. Gray! I'm Asher's good friend Summer and also your admirer- I didn't expect to meet you here today. Words can't describe how happy I am!" Both Lily and Summer sprinted over on high heels to greet Lucas fawningly.

They refused to mention that they had just mocked Lucas and humiliated him in various ways and instead pretended that nothing had happened as they started introducing themselves to Lucas.

Lucas sneered and said sarcastically, "I'm just a poor loser, as you two have mentioned earlier. I'm probably not qualified to talk to you."

Even though Lily and Summer were thick-skinned, they were a little embarrassed at this moment. But they would never let go of the opportunity to get acquainted with the overlord of two states!

"It... it was all a misunderstanding. We didn't mean that at all, hehehe. Asher, quickly help us explain to Mr. Gray! Hurry!" Lily smiled awkwardly and secretly poked Asher with her arm, urging him to speak up for her.

## Chapter 797 The Truth Between Buddies

Asher pushed Lily away and shouted, "Enough! Lily, I've put up with you for a long time! If you hadn't been deliberately delaying paying for my sister's medical treatment and threatening me with her life, I wouldn't date a woman like you. I even have to put up with your scoldings and beatings every day, just like a dog being at your beck and call!

"When you didn't know my buddy's identity, you mocked him. Now that you've found out he's a big shot, you're sucking up to him and asking me to help you explain?"

"Hah, I've never been your fiancé, never was and never will be! Get out of my sight right now. I don't want to see you again, you vicious woman!"

Asher's eyes were red and brimming with tears. He was sad and furious, and he wanted to vent all the anger he had accumulated after being humiliated for so long.

Lily was enraged. Asher had always been like a dog in front of her, and it was the first he had yelled at her in public.

"Asher, you..."

She was about to lash out at him when she suddenly heard Lucas say coldly, "He told you to get lost. Didn't you hear him?"

His voice was icy cold, and so was the gaze. He immediately made Lily and Summer so frightened that they were about to wet their pants.

The two of them didn't dare to say a word and immediately fled in a flurry without looking back.

After they, Lucas turned to look at Asher. "Did you just say that Anna is sick?"

When Lucas and Asher became close friends back in high school, Asher had often invited Lucas to his place for dinner. So he had quite a deep impression of Asher's younger sister, Anna, who was an adorable young girl.

Asher smiled bitterly and told Lucas everything

He had been waiting for Lucas at the entrance of the expo center because he wanted to ask him for help. Anna had stomach cancer and urgently needed a lot of money for treatment. But Asher's family wasn't rich, and they had lost a huge amount of money due to a business failure previously, so they couldn't afford to pay for Anna's treatment.

At this moment, Asher got to know the wealthy Lily, who took a liking to the tall and handsome Asher. Thus, she offered to pay for Anna's treatment. But she wanted Asher to obey her, do her bidding, and make her happy like he was her dog

Asher was naturally reluctant to agree to these humiliating conditions. But whenever he saw his sister's increasingly gaunt face and deteriorating health as she stepped closer to death day by day, he gritted his teeth and agreed to Lily's request.

But it had already been a couple of months, and Anna's condition was worsening. Except for the money she had given Asher at the beginning, Lily had never paid for the treatment. Instead, she had found all sorts of excuses to put it off and forced him to agree to her unreasonable demands. She had no intention of lending money to Asher for Anna's treatment at all.

Asher had long been unable to tolerate Lily. But because of Anna, he couldn't fall out with Lily.

But Lucas's appearance finally allowed Asher to see a glimmer of hope.

"Lucas, I don't have any other option now. I can only beg you. Could you lend me fifty thousand? As long as Anna can undergo surgery and get treated, I'm willing to do whatever you want me to do in the future!" Asher had tears in his eyes as he gritted his teeth and knelt in front of Lucas.

He was willing to do anything for his sister.

"Asher, what are you doing? Get up quickly!" Lucas hurriedly pulled Asher up.

He said sincerely, "You're my buddy, and your sister is my sister too. Now that she's sick, I'll definitely help you if I can! Don't be so formal with me!"

Looking touched, Asher held Lucas's hand and thanked him profusely with tears in his eyes. "Lucas, thank you! Thank you so much!"

Full of emotions, Lucas patted his hand.

Now that Asher was aware of his current identity, he could no longer be as casual with his words and actions as before. Instead, he was much more restrained.

But it was an inevitable matter that Lucas couldn't change.

Afterward, Lucas accompanied Asher to the hospital and looked at Anna, who was now skin and bones. Seeing her like this, Lucas felt upset.

He helped Asher transfer Anna to the best hospital in San Francisco and also called the best oncologist to give Anna the best medical treatment.

Lucas covered all the medical expenses.

Tens of thousands of dollars was a massive amount of money for Lucas in the past. But for the current Lucas, it was peanuts. After Asher thanked him, Lucas settled everything and then returned to his office in the Stardust Corporation.

After today's competition, Lucas officially became the overlord of California and Oregon. Since his relationship with Stardust Corporation was already known to many people, the business and scale of Stardust Corporation were about to progress greatly. Thus, there were some things Lucas had to arrange in advance. He also instructed Charlotte, the general manager, to get ready.

At around 5 p.m., Lucas put down his work and left the office.

When Lucas went downstairs and walked out of the office building, he saw a familiar Mercedes-Benz car parked at the entrance.

This car was familiar to Lucas because it belonged to Cheyenne's biological mother, Florence.

Seeing Lucas appear, Florence immediately opened the car door and walked over to Lucas with a complicated expression.

"Lucas, so you're the Master of California. You've been hiding your identity from me so well!" Florence said accusingly.

Lucas smiled coldly. "I hid it from you? You've never asked about my identity right from the start, and you simply assumed that I'm a good-for-nothing sponging off of your daughter. "What right do you have to accuse me of hiding it from you?"

Florence was dumbfounded. She had indeed assumed that Lucas was a good-for-nothing, and she had even racked her brains and tried all means to get him to leave her daughter.

From the time she first met Lucas, she had never looked him in the eye.

Lucas really wasn't to blame. "Ah!" Florence let out a long sigh. "Okay, even though I'm to blame for what happened previously, the reason I did it was to make my daughter happy."

Lucas didn't care about what she had done, and he didn't believe that Florence came to him just to talk nonsense.

Based on his previous encounters with Florence, he knew that she was hungry for power, and she was now speaking to him only because she knew his true identity and status.

"Just say what you have to say. I still have something to do. I don't want to listen to your nonsense here," Lucas said bluntly.

## Chapter 798 Taking For Granted

A trace of anger flashed in Florence's eyes, but she quickly suppressed it.

In her eyes, even though Lucas was now a bigwig and the overlord of Oregon and California, he had married Cheyenne. Thus, he was also her son-in-law and should respect her, his mother-in-law.

But Lucas was still speaking to her in this tone, making Florence extremely displeased.

"Okay, I won't waste my breath on babbling nonsense with you. You should know that I came to California because of a mission given by the Howards, right?"

Lucas raised his eyebrows without answering. Of course he knew that Florence suddenly appeared in California to achieve a certain goal. Because she had gone around asking about the Master of California, he could guess what the Howards' plans were.

Furthermore, he was now not only the Master of California but the overlord of both California and Oregon. He was likely even more valuable to the Howards.

Lucas wanted to hear what the Howards were planning to do with him.

Looking at Lucas's expression, Florence said, "In fact, I was tasked by my family to have a girl from the family marry the Master of California.

"But it turns out that you married my daughter long ago, which means you're my son-in-law. Hence, many things have become much simpler.

"Since you are now a member of the Howard family, you must follow some of our orders!

"I will report the matter here to the Howards, and in a few days, we'll send someone to Orange County. When the time comes, cooperate fully regardless of what they say."

Florence's tone was unquestionable and commanding, as if it was a matter of course for her to make decisions and arrangements for Lucas's life.

Lucas found it really ridiculous.

For some reason, Florence could self-righteously tell others what to do, and her confidence that she could make arrangements for other people's lives at will was rather absurd.

From the first time they met, she had already been trying to make presumptuous decisions for Cheyenne's life before even reuniting with Cheyenne. For example, she had wanted to force Lucas to divorce Cheyenne and then arrange for Cheyenne to marry a man she thought was suitable for her.

If not for the fact that Lucas happened to be the Master of California, who knew what methods Florence would have used against him.

After she learned that he was her son-in-law, she began ordering Lucas around as if it was a given.

Lucas was beyond disgusted by her confidence and taken-for-granted attitude.

"To be honest, I really quite admire your shamelessness," Lucas suddenly said, his lips slightly curled.



“Wh-what do you mean by that?” Florence immediately frowned, displeasure on her face.

“I really admire you. You’ve never raised Cheyenne or did you part as her mother, yet you’re acting like her mother and arranging her life.

“Before, you wanted to force me to divorce Cheyenne so that she could marry the Master of California, whom you thought would be useful to you, right? At the time, you didn’t even know who the Master of California was, what he looked like, and what his personality was.

“However, even though you didn’t know anything about him, you still claimed that he was the best choice for your daughter’s husband. It’s plain ridiculous. Do you have the slightest respect for your daughter’s wishes? What you call the best and happiness are nothing more than the power and benefits you see!

“Do you know how disgusting the way you’re trying to arrange Cheyenne’s life as you please is?! You don’t deserve to be her mother at all!

“Yes, it’s true that I’m Cheyenne’s husband, but it has nothing to do with you. Who are you to order me around and arrange my life?

“You have no right to meddle with my and Cheyenne’s affairs!”

Lucas’s resolute words were like sharp knives piercing the self-righteous Florence, causing her expression to change immediately.

At this moment, she finally realized that Lucas wasn’t a junior whom she could easily make arrangements for.

He was now the one and only overlord of two states. He even dared to kill an expert from the Peerless Martial Association’s headquarters. How could he possibly obey her orders so easily?

The person in front of her was not an obedient cat but a lion that could easily rip apart any prey. Only then did Florence finally figure out something. She thought that she could control Lucas through Cheyenne, but she only discovered now that she meant nothing to Lucas.

But Florence wouldn’t give up just like that. After all, Cheyenne was indeed her daughter, which was a sharp weapon she was still holding.

“Lucas, no matter what, I’m Cheyenne’s biological mother. I carried her for ten months in my womb before giving birth to her. You can’t deny that, right?

"I admit that, at first, I really detested you and even persuaded you to divorce Cheyenne because I wanted her to marry the Master of California. That's because I wanted my daughter to marry a wealthy and powerful man so that she wouldn't have to suffer for the rest of her life! Am I wrong to think like this?"

"What mother in the world doesn't want her daughter to have a good life? Is it wrong for me to want her to marry a powerful man with a high status?"

"Besides, if you had told me earlier that you were the Master of California, would I have forced you to get a divorce? I would have happily accepted you and given you my blessings."

"Moreover, now that you've married my daughter, you're already my son-in-law, so isn't it only right for you to help your elder out? Do you call that an order?" Florence argued unreasonably.

Lucas sneered in response.

A woman like Florence would never realize her mistake. After arranging the lives of others with a high and mighty attitude, she still argued that it was for their own good. It was so ironic that she was Cheyenne's biological mother.

"Enough. I've had enough of your nonsense. If it wasn't because you gave birth to Cheyenne, I wouldn't have had the patience to listen to your revolting words."

"Don't show up in front of me and say anything like this to me again. Otherwise, I won't be polite to you anymore!" Lucas said coldly.

"What did you say?!" Florence's eyes widened in disbelief. "You... you actually told me not to appear in front of you again, or else you won't be polite? I'm your mother-in-law and Cheyenne's biological mother. How dare you speak to me like that?"

Lucas looked at her coldly. "If you weren't Cheyenne's biological mother, do you think you could still be standing in front of me in one piece?"

"Now, both California and Oregon are under my control. Do you believe that I can make you disappear from here forever with just one word, and the Howards won't be able to find any clues?"

A menacing killing intent appeared in his eyes, proving that he wasn't just threatening her.

Chapter 799 Must I Tell You?

Of course, Lucas didn't want to really kill Florence. After all, she was indeed Cheyenne's mother no matter what. Even though Cheyenne wasn't aware of it yet, Lucas wouldn't do such a thing.

But teaching Florence a lesson and getting her kicked out of the Howards to turn her from an heiress high up in the air to a nobody was just Lucas's threat.

In Lucas's opinion, people like Florence simply lacked experience with hardship. Everything went well for her, and her family was rich and powerful, so she ended up with this temperament today.

If Florence wanted to reunite with Cheyenne and get along well with her, Lucas naturally wouldn't oppose. But if Florence's agenda for approaching Cheyenne was only to make use of her to achieve her ambitions, Lucas definitely wouldn't let her off.

"How... How dare you threaten me? Do you know that the Howards definitely won't let you off if you dare to lay a finger on me?!" Florence shouted in anger and shock.

Andy, Florence's bodyguard in sunglasses, immediately stood beside Florence, looking as if he was facing an enemy. He clenched his fists, but his face was pale and covered in sweat.

Andy knew full well that he was no match for Lucas. If Lucas really wanted to keep them both in California, he wouldn't even have the ability to struggle and resist!

Lucas sneered at the two of them. "As you've said, the Howards are in DC, but we're in California now, so I call the shots! "If you're still in California before the sun rises tomorrow morning, don't blame me for being rude to you!"

Then Lucas took out his phone and made a call. "Listen up. If Florence Howard is still in California before seven o'clock tomorrow morning, make her disappear from California forever!"

After ending the call, he glanced at Florence, who had anger, shock, and horror written all over her face, and said calmly, "That's all I have to say. If you want to know whether I dare to do it or not, you can try." With that, Lucas stopped paying attention to Florence and left straight away. "He... That bastard! How dare he threaten me! I... This is going to be the death of me! How infuriating!"

Florence didn't return to her senses until after she saw Lucas walking away. She was so furious that she was trembling. She even broke two of her nails, which she had just gotten done at a manicure session.

She was simply exasperated. How dare Lucas Gray speak to me like that? He blatantly threatened me!

Outrageous!

“Madam, I think we should leave now!” Andy suddenly persuaded.

“No, I’m not leaving! If I leave like this, doesn’t it mean that I’m afraid of him? I’m not leaving! I’m a Howard, and he’s my son-in-law. I want to see what he can do to me!” Florence refused angrily.

“...” Andy looked at Florence speechlessly. But after thinking about it, he merely said, “Madam, why do you think he doesn’t dare to make a move? Previously, Lucas Gray harmed Vince Smith, making him return to DC in shame. And he also killed Julian York of the Peerless Martial Association’s headquarters. He’s not scared of the Howards at all! “As for your status as his mother-in-law... Given his actions just now, do you think he really cares about that? To put it bluntly, you haven’t reunited with Miss Cheyenne Carter yet, so even if Lucas Gray does anything to you, she won’t know. He doesn’t have to worry about it at all!”

Hearing this, Florence immediately froze in place, as if she had been drenched by cold water.

Indeed, based on Lucas’s words and actions, he didn’t care about the Howards’ power, nor did he care about her being his mother-in-law. In that case, why wouldn’t he dare to harm her?

If he wanted to kill her, there was no way she could resist.

Besides, just as Lucas said, even if she died in California, her family wouldn’t be able to get any evidence, and she would die for nothing!

The scene of Lucas killing Julian easily back in the ring of the San Francisco International Expo Center suddenly surfaced in Florence’s mind, making her so scared that she shivered.

Lucas was indeed a terrifying young man...

Otherwise, he wouldn’t have been able to take control of Oregon and California and hold so much power at such a young age. “But if I leave California like this, my mission will be a complete failure! Those people in the family will definitely mock me, and I’ll never get what I want!” Florence was really indignant, and she didn’t want to leave just like this.

“Madam, if you leave right now, you won’t be able to complete your mission, but there’s still a long road ahead. You might be able to come up with a better plan in the future. But if you refuse to leave, you might really die, and there won’t be another chance for you again!” Andy persuaded earnestly.

In fact, he was extremely speechless now.

Andy had suggested more than once that Lucas was very likely the Master of California and even persuaded Florence to check up on him more. But she stubbornly refused every single time.

If she hadn't put on that high and mighty look when she first met Lucas and made him divorce Cheyenne, or if she had taken his suggestion to heart and sent someone to investigate Lucas, their relationship probably wouldn't have become so strained, and things wouldn't have come to this.

But there is no point in saying these things now.

"No, I still have one more thing to do before I leave!" Florence suddenly said as she bit her lower lip with a firm gaze in her eyes.

Meanwhile, Lucas had already driven to the Brilliance Corporation to pick Cheyenne up from work.

He hadn't been able to decide if he should tell Cheyenne about Florence.

Cheyenne's life had been hard, and she was an emotional person, so she had chosen to put up with Karen despite being bullied by her repeatedly in the past. She had even let her off again and again only because Karen was her mother.

But even though Cheyenne was already a good daughter, Karen nevertheless viciously hurt her by revealing to her that she was not Cheyenne's biological mother.

Now that Cheyenne had just come out of the shock that Karen had given her, how could Cheyenne possibly accept the fact that her mother was such a terrible person? If Karen had ill-treated Cheyenne because she wasn't her mother, Cheyenne might not feel as pained.

But if her mother schemed against her, she would definitely be miserable.

Moreover, the last thing Lucas wanted to see was his beloved woman in misery.

Thus, Lucas had been hesitating about telling Cheyenne the truth.

Chapter 800 Facing Her Biological Mother

"Hey, Honey!" While Lucas's car was parked below the Brilliance Corporation office building and he was still hesitating, the door of the passenger seat suddenly opened, and Cheyenne got into the car.

But she looked a little bit fatigued.

“Was it busy at the office today?” Lucas asked with concern.

“Yeah, I don’t know why, but there are suddenly a lot more clients today. And they’re all renowned companies and families who want to cooperate with us, so there are a lot of things to do.” Cheyenne was exhausted, but there was a trace of joy in her eyes.

The fact that there were so many new and important clients meant that the Brilliance Corporation would get even better in time to come. As the general manager of the company, Cheyenne was naturally elated.

Lucas was very clear about the reason. At the competition last night, he had defeated Julian, a top powerhouse from the Peerless Martial Association, and became the overlord of California and Oregon, commanding more than a hundred of the top families of both states.

After learning that Lucas owned the Stardust Corporation, the Brilliance Corporation, and other businesses, these top families would naturally hand out olive branches in a bid to please Lucas.

The terms in the cooperation offers made by these companies had to be favorable to the Stardust Group and Brilliance Corporation.

Lucas naturally wouldn’t refuse the goodwill of these families.

“If things are too overwhelming, you can hire a few more assistants and secretaries to help you share the burden. I’m afraid that the company will become even busier in the future, and I’m worried that you will be exhausted,” Lucas said in a soft voice with a touch of heartache in his eyes.

Cheyenne smiled and hugged Lucas’s arm. “Actually, it’s not too bad now. The Brilliance Corporation was founded by me, and now that it’s developing so well, and so many new clients are taking the initiative to contact us, I’m really happy! So even if I’m a little bit tired for the time being, I’m glad to be so!”

Lucas could only smile bitterly.

But he understood how Cheyenne felt.

If Cheyenne wanted, he could use his power at any time to make the Brilliance Corporation the largest enterprise in California.

But it was Cheyenne’s heart and soul, and what she hoped to see most was her company growing well day by day rather than it suddenly transforming into a top company. “Oh, by the way, that woman we met called me again,” Cheyenne suddenly said. “Florence Howard?” Lucas immediately asked.

Cheyenne nodded and said with uncertain anticipation, "She said... she has some things to tell me in person. She claimed that it's... about my biological mother.

"I don't know if what she said is true or not, but... but I..."

Cheyenne clenched her fingers, clearly extremely unsettled.

She had actually long been prepared to never find her biological parents in her life. After all, she had been abandoned as an infant and left to fend for herself by a trash can outside the hospital.

If Karen hadn't lost her daughter then and brought Cheyenne home because she wasn't in the right state of mind, she wouldn't know if she would be living in this world now.

After hearing Karen yelling at her hysterically and telling her that her biological parents hated her, Cheyenne had long been prepared to never know who her parents were. But Florence Howard, the chairman of the Flor Group, suddenly told her that she had news about her mother. Cheyenne naturally couldn't calm down.

Lucas furrowed his eyebrows tightly, and his face darkened.

He had already warned Florence to stop appearing in front of him and Cheyenne, but he didn't expect her to dare to take the initiative to contact Cheyenne.

It looked like she wanted to reunite with Cheyenne.

"What's wrong with you? Why don't you seem happy to hear about my biological mother?" Cheyenne asked with bewilderment after noticing the change in Lucas's expression.

Lucas had once offered to help Cheyenne search for her biological parents. But now that there was finally a clue about her biological mother, he didn't seem happy.

Lucas sighed. "Cheyenne, do you really want to find your biological parents? If they... I mean, if they are not good to you..."

Cheyenne was stunned for a moment before smiling bitterly. "... I don't know. But I think that there shouldn't be any parents who don't love their children. So I want to ask them face to face why they abandoned me.

"If they did it because they had no choice, I will probably forgive them. "But if... they abandoned me because they didn't like me or for some other reason, then I'd like them to give me an explanation. I will then give up completely." Cheyenne bit her lip and spoke with difficulty before suddenly turning around to look at Lucas. "Honey, you'll support me, right?" Lucas looked at the expectant look in Cheyenne's eyes and looked down, his eyelashes trembling. "In that case... if they're as mercenary and money-



grubbing as Karen, and they want to reunite with you for the sake of using you, what will you do?"

Cheyenne immediately fell silent as she imagined the scene.

The damage Karen had done to her was too much.

During this period of time, Cheyenne had been trying to avoid thinking about Karen, but Lucas's words raked up the unhappy past.

Lucas couldn't bear it either, but he had to mention Karen at this moment.

In a way, Florence and Karen were the same type of people. In fact, Florence was even more brutal.

Lucas had no right to decide for Cheyenne whether she should reunite with Florence or not. But he hoped that he could at least give Cheyenne a reminder so that she wouldn't have any peachy fantasies about her mother. Once the truth eventually surfaced, she would at least be prepared and not end up suffering a huge blow.

After thinking for a long time, Cheyenne finally raised her head and said firmly, "Even so, I still want to meet them. I want to ask them why they abandoned me."

After pausing for a moment, she suddenly asked Lucas, "Honey, do you already know something?"

Given her understanding of him, he wouldn't just say those words for no reason. She reckoned that he must already know something

Lucas sighed.

At this point, there was no need for him to hide it from her anymore.

"Actually, the woman who called you is your biological mother."

Chapter 801 Why Did You Abandon Me?

Cheyenne blinked and didn't react for two seconds. "What... what did you just say?"

Lucas didn't say anything and merely looked at Cheyenne with heartache and sympathy.

After being stunned for several seconds, Cheyenne finally understood what Lucas meant. She was so shocked that her jaw dropped, and she looked as if she had been struck by lightning, causing her mind to go blank for a long time.



This news was too shocking!

Cheyenne naturally knew who the woman who called her was.

But she didn't expect her to be her biological mother!

The expression on Cheyenne's face was bizarre, and she seemed to be caught between tears and laughter.

"It turns out... she's my biological mother!

"No wonder she looks at me so strangely... "No wonder she wanted to invest so much money in the Brilliance Corporation..."

Cheyenne lowered her head and muttered to herself with an extremely complicated expression.

But Cheyenne didn't get extremely emotional because of this and instead tried her best to remain composed and restrained, making Lucas admire her strength even more and feel more sympathy for her.

He didn't say anything more but silently started his car and drove toward Amelia's kindergarten.

He knew that Cheyenne must be in a complicated mood now, so he was willing to give her enough time to think through this matter properly. But regardless of what choice she made in the end, he would face it together with her.

If Florence could put aside her schemes and genuinely treat Cheyenne as her daughter, Lucas would be willing to cut her some slack on Cheyenne's behalf and even give the Howards some help.

But if Florence only treated Cheyenne as a pawn and tried to make use of her with kinship as an excuse, Lucas would never let her off!

On the way to pick up Amelia and on the way home, Cheyenne kept frowning while pondering over this matter.

But when they were about to arrive home, Cheyenne finally made up her mind and said, "Honey, I've decided. I want to see her!"

Lucas didn't say anything and nodded calmly. "Okay, I'll go with you."

Since Cheyenne had made up her mind to meet Florence, he had no reason to oppose.

It was Cheyenne's right to make this decision, and even though he was her husband, he wouldn't meddle with the reason that he was doing it for her own good.

This was the greatest difference between him and Florence.

"Honey, you're so kind!" Cheyenne grabbed Lucas's left hand gently. With William and Charlotte at home, as well as Jordan and Stanley, whom Lucas had sent to be their guards, Amelia would definitely be well protected. Thus, Lucas sent Amelia back home and then drove Cheyenne away.

Florence and Cheyenne had arranged to meet at the Lion Restaurant in Orange County.

Half an hour later, Lucas and Cheyenne arrived outside the Lion Restaurant and entered the private room that Florence had booked.

Florence and her bodyguard Andy had been waiting in the private room for a long time, fidgety and anxious that Cheyenne wouldn't show up or Lucas wouldn't let her come.

Upon seeing the door of the private room opening, followed by Cheyenne's beautiful face, Florence finally heaved a sigh of relief. "Miss Carter, you're finally here."

At this moment, Florence still didn't know that Lucas had already revealed her identity to Cheyenne.

Florence planned to first get close to Cheyenne at the dinner table, then mention that she was her biological mother and explain to her that she had abandoned her back then because she had had no choice. She would finally tell her how sad she was at the time.

She expected that they would have a touching reunion scene with the two of them hugging each other, and Cheyenne would naturally stand on her side because of how touched she

was.

The moment she saw Lucas enter after Cheyenne, her face stiffened for a moment before greeting him warmly. "Mr. Gray, you're here too. Quickly have a seat!" It was as if she had already forgotten about the conflict she had with Lucas at the entrance of the Stardust Corporation building.

In Florence's opinion, she and Cheyenne were blood-related, and there was nothing Lucas could do to sow discord. His obstructions would only push Cheyenne toward her.

Lucas knew full well what Florence was thinking, but he didn't expose her and instead raised his brows and stood beside Cheyenne.

But Cheyenne didn't take a seat and instead stared at Florence. "Since you're my biological mother, why did you abandon me back then?"

Her question immediately made Florence, who was smiling pretentiously, freeze right on the spot.

She never thought that Cheyenne had already found out that she was her biological mother, disrupting her plans.

"You... you already know!" Florence smiled unnaturally and raised her hand to brush the hair at the corner of her forehead.

Looking at Cheyenne standing in front of her and questioning her, Florence suddenly burst into tears and felt miserable.

No matter what, the woman standing in front of her was indeed her daughter, to whom she had carried in her womb for nine months and given birth.

Seeing the tears in Florence's eyes, Cheyenne couldn't help breaking down into tears too.

Ever since she learned from Karen that she had been abandoned by the roadside as a child, she had been feeling a sharp thorn in her chest.

Although Cheyenne didn't show anything in front of William, Charlotte, and Lucas, who showed her great concern, she couldn't help herself and start wondering who her biological parents were and why they had abandoned her.

Cheyenne had imagined countless reasons why. Perhaps her parents had left her by the roadside because they were too poor to raise her, or maybe they had gotten into an accident and had to give her up.

But she now knew that her biological mother was Florence Howard, a member of the Howard family, one of the eight top families of DC. It meant that she held great power and wealth.

Besides, even if she had accidentally lost Cheyenne, given the abilities of the Howards, she could have easily found her.

But in the past two decades or so, Florence had never once appeared in her life. Even when she showed up in front of her, she had never acknowledged her either.

Why?

Cheyenne just wanted to ask her why she had abandoned her in the first place and why she didn't want her.

Cheyenne's questioning left Florence speechless.

After a long time, she finally said, "It has been years since it happened. All you need to know now is that you are the daughter of Florence Howard, and you're the future successor of my company, the Flor Group. You only need to know that I love you very much. That's all!"

She didn't answer Cheyenne's question.

A trace of disappointment appeared in Cheyenne's eyes. She didn't care about being the successor of Flor Group or whatever. All she wanted to know was why Florence had abandoned her back then.

"Answer me. What happened back then? Why did you abandon me?" Cheyenne questioned once more, tears staining her face.

Florence turned her face away and gritted her teeth without answering.

"For the sake of power and status!"

At this moment, the door of the private room was suddenly pushed open from outside, and a gorgeous young woman entered.

## **Chapter 802** Inexplicable Reason

"P... Pamela?!" When Florence saw Pamela, her expression changed drastically in shock.

Lucas turned his head to look at the young woman who suddenly entered. She was wearing a cream-colored trench coat, with her waist-length hair draped behind her, exuding a unique feminine charm. Her facial features were so exquisite that they seemed hard carved. She had defined brows, a perky nose, sweet cherry lips, and porcelain skin. She was a ravishing beauty. A trace of surprise appeared in Lucas's eyes. The young beauty in front of him was on par with Cheyenne in terms of features and figure. She even seemed to exude a dazzling noble temperament and aura.

For some reason, Lucas felt that he had met her somewhere before.

"Pamela, what nonsense are you babbling here? I have important things to talk about with the two guests here. You should leave!" Florence snapped with displeasure, her face sullen after hearing what Pamela said.

But Pamela didn't pay attention to her at all and instead looked at the gorgeous Cheyenne with an inexplicable look in her eyes.

“Let me introduce myself first. I am Pamela Howard and technically your cousin.” Pamela walked up to Cheyenne with a smile and took the initiative to extend her hand for a friendly handshake.

Cheyenne looked at Pamela warily and didn't reach out to shake hands with the equally gorgeous beauty.

Even though Pamela said that she was her cousin, Cheyenne didn't have the slightest sense of closeness to her just because of this. On the contrary, Cheyenne felt uncomfortable about the way Pamela had looked at her just now. There was a strong aggression hidden deep in her friendly gaze and smile, making Cheyenne subconsciously keep her guard up.

“For power and status? What do you mean?” Cheyenne asked with a frown.

Pamela didn't care about Cheyenne's reluctance to shake hands with her and instead withdrew her hand gracefully with a magnanimous smile.

Looking at Florence, she said with a smile, “Aunt Pamela, you never told me that Mrs. Gray is your biological daughter!

“Since you two have reunited with each other, you should tell Cheyenne what happened back then, shouldn't you?”

Florence narrowed her eyes, anger written all over her face. “This has nothing to do with you! Pamela, get lost immediately! Do you hear

me?”

But Pamela obviously wasn't afraid of incurring Florence's wrath.

The smile on her face remained unchanged as she said, “Aunt Florence, how can this be none of my business? You can't forget what your mission for coming to California is. No matter what, I'm the one chosen by the family, aren't

I?”

Neither Lucas nor Cheyenne understood what Pamela's statement about being the chosen one meant.

But Florence was well aware of what she meant.

Previously, the Howards had arranged for Florence to bring Pamela to California to look for the famous Master of California and then try to get closer to him so that Pamela could marry him.

Although Cheyenne was Florence's daughter and also carried the blood of the Howards, she wasn't from the family's direct lineage, unlike Pamela.

But due to Florence's selfishness, she wanted to let her daughter marry the Master of California. Moreover, Pamela claimed to be in love with someone else and wasn't willing to marry the Master of California. Thus, Florence had been neglecting the issue.

Now that Pamela mentioned it, it suddenly dawned on Florence that Pamela was going to get involved.

"Didn't you tell me before that you wouldn't agree to complete this mission even if you died?" Florence questioned coldly with a gloomy expression.

She had come up with an excellent plan at first. Pamela wanted to choose her own marriage, so she was glad to go along with it. Previously, she had put on the act precisely to make Pamela reveal her unwillingness to marry the Master of California as part of a marriage alliance.

In this way, Florence could facilitate the marriage of her daughter, Cheyenne, and the Master of California. Like this, she would not only be able to complete the mission the Howards gave her, but she would be able to use the power of the Master of California to stabilize her position in the family.

Florence had already calculated and made plans for everything, but she didn't expect Pamela to interfere at the critical moment of her plan.

Flames were about to emerge from Florence's eyes as she glowered at Pamela.

Pamela smiled faintly. "That was before the competition began. Now, I've already changed my mind!"

"You!" Florence flew into a rage and was about to teach Pamela a lesson as an elder. "Enough!" Cheyenne interrupted in annoyance. "I don't care what kind of mission or plan you have or how your relationship is. Please take your argument about this outside. I'm asking a question now!"

After both of them fell silent, Cheyenne looked at Florence and asked again, "I already said it. I just want to know why you abandoned me in the first place."

A trace of agony appeared on Florence's face, and she didn't answer Cheyenne's question as she changed the subject. "Cheyenne, let bygones be bygones, okay? I don't want to talk about what happened back then. You just need to know that you are indeed my daughter and that I love you very much now. I will surely treat you well in the future to make up for my past regrets over the years, okay?" "Aunt Florence, this is your fault. You haven't seen your daughter for years, yet you refuse to tell her the truth. If I were your daughter, I wouldn't believe your empty promises!" Pamela smiled and

followed up with a question. "Is it possible that you can't bring yourself to tell her what happened back then?"

"Shut up! You're in no place to talk here!" Florence was livid. "If you continue acting like this, don't blame me for being rude to you!"

Hearing this, Pamela didn't become annoyed and instead stuck her tongue out like a young girl pretending to be cute.

"She's right. At this point, you still refuse to tell me the truth. I'll ask you one last time. Why did you abandon me back then?" Cheyenne's eyes were red and swollen, and there were still teardrops on her eyes as she looked at Florence with misery and disappointment.

She wondered if things were really as Pamela said, that Florence couldn't give her a valid reason because the truth was unbearable.

Facing Cheyenne's bright eyes, Florence suddenly turned her face away and chose to continue hiding it from her. "Cheyenne, let's not rake up the past and just live well together from now on, okay?"

"Fine! Since you won't tell me, we don't have to acknowledge each other! Honey, let's go!" Tears were streaming down Cheyenne's face as she took Lucas's hand, turned around, and walked out of the private room.

"No, Cheyenne! Wait, don't go!" Florence immediately panicked and hurriedly ran forward to grab Cheyenne's wrist.

### Chapter 803 Incredibly Disappointed

Florence was extremely anxious as she held Cheyenne's hand tightly. "Cheyenne, I'm really your mother! Can you bear to disown me?"

"I've been thinking about you all these years and wondering if you've been living well, eating well, and dressing well. You're my flesh and blood. How can I not care about you and love you?"

"I've always thought that maybe one day, we will be able to reunite, and I'll be able to make up for what I haven't done for you in the last two decades!"

"Don't you like running a company? You should inherit mine! I was the one who founded the Flor Group, and it has nothing to do with the Howards. As long as you reunite with me, the entire Flor Group will belong to

you!

“I’ve also amassed some businesses, properties, land, stores, and savings over the years. In the future, they will all belong to you!”

“Cheyenne, I’ll make up for the lack of maternal love! I came to California to take you back to the Howards so that you can live like a princess! Orange County isn’t the place for you!”

Florence spoke anxiously. However, she only said she wanted to make it up to Cheyenne and even made a bunch of promises. But she never explained why she abandoned Cheyenne when she was still just a baby and why she never came to see her all these years. Moreover, she even said that she would hand the Flor Group over to Cheyenne in the future and even take Cheyenne away from Orange County to live with the Howards in DC. Her tone was self-righteous, seemingly not intending to ask Cheyenne for her opinion at all.

Cheyenne looked at Florence with her eyes full of disappointment.

A mother who kept mentioning inheritance and interests at every turn wasn’t the mother she had imagined.

She merely wanted to hear the truth from Florence and for Florence to be sincere and genuine toward her, yet Florence was constantly being evasive.

“Forget it. We don’t have to acknowledge each other, and we shouldn’t meet again in the future!”

After Cheyenne finished speaking, she shook off Florence’s hand and hurried toward the door of the private room. “Stop!” Florence shouted furiously, completely angered by Cheyenne’s disobedience.

“Are you trying to play a trick on me?”

“No matter what, I’m your biological mother, and you’re my child. That’s a fact you can never change!”

“It’s true that I abandoned you, but it’s been more than two decades. Why must you insist on making me tell you the reason?”

“I’m your biological mother. I have the right to make arrangements for you! Come home with me to the Howards tomorrow. You’re not allowed to throw a tantrum. Do you hear me?”

Perhaps because the kinship card she played and the interest she offered didn’t have the effects she expected, she stopped pretending to be a miserable mother and simply ordered Cheyenne aggressively.



In Florence's opinion, children were the property of their parents, and the daughter she had given birth to should naturally obey her arrangements!

This was something Florence had learned from her father, the helmsman of the Howards.

Lucas glanced at Florence coldly without saying anything

It wasn't that he didn't want to defend Cheyenne, but there were some decisions that she had to make herself.

Just like when Cheyenne was still part of the Carter family and was bullied by Dominic and Bryce Carter back then, Lucas was heartbroken. But he could only let her see with her very own eyes just how despicable and shameless the Carters were and how they treated her like a tool. Only then would she realize the cruel truth, free herself from the shackles of kinship, and regain freedom and life.

It was the same for Florence.

She was indeed Cheyenne's biological mother, but she didn't have the intention to be a good mother. All she wanted was to control Cheyenne and make use of her.

Only Cheyenne could realize this herself.

Cheyenne turned around in disbelief and looked at Florence, who still seemed self-righteous. Her eyes were full of disappointment.

"You gave birth to me, but other than that, have you ever taken care of me or shown me any maternal love for even a single day?"

"Apart from you being blood-related to me, what's the difference between you and a stranger?"

"Do you know how I felt when I found out that I wasn't the daughter of my adoptive mother but a baby abandoned by my biological parents?"

"I thought to myself countless times that maybe it was because I was unlikeable, so my parents threw me away like I was garbage right after I was born! Do you know how sad and heartbroken I am?"

"Do you know how excited and expectant I was after hearing from you that my biological mother was still alive?"

"But what about you? You don't love me at all. Otherwise, you wouldn't have waited so many days to reunite with me even though you've been in Orange County for so long. You wouldn't have kept the truth from me when we spoke. Even though it's our second

time meeting each other, you're still ordering me around and insisting on taking me back to the Howards. You don't care about what I think, do

you?

"Do you think you can make arrangements for my life just because you gave birth to me? Who gave you the right? "I'm a living human being, not a toy you created and can throw away or pick up as and when you please! "You're not qualified to be my mother at all, let alone decide my life for me! "You're not worthy to do so!"

Cheyenne was so agitated that she shouted at the top of her lungs to vent all her pent-up grievances as tears rolled down her eyes one after another.

"Shut up! Shut up!" Florence yelled in exasperation. Many of Cheyenne's words struck the untouchable parts of her heart, causing her to fly into a rage.

"How dare you speak to your mother like that. Don't think I won't teach you a lesson!"

Florence was so furious that she completely lost her poise as a noblewoman. She rushed toward Cheyenne and raised her hand to slap her.

"Stop! If you dare to touch her, I'll chop your hand off immediately!" A cold and stern voice suddenly sounded in Florence's ear like a sharp knife.

His voice was full of chilling murderous intent! Florence's hand immediately froze in midair, and her face turned pale. She didn't dare to move at all.

She had no doubt that Lucas would absolutely chop her hand off if she really slapped Cheyenne!

## **Chapter 804 I'm Taking It**

Andy knew that things were going awry, so he hurried forward to shield Florence.

Lucas's aura was too aggressive and domineering, so much so that even Andy couldn't withstand it. He felt as if Lucas was about to rip him apart, let alone Florence.

He had no doubt that Lucas would really kill Florence if she angered him!

Moreover, Andy was a martial arts practitioner who could keenly perceive the menacing and murderous aura coming from Lucas.

Generally, only people who had spent years killing people on the battlefield would possess such an aura. He was certain that Lucas must have killed countless people before!

The thought of it made Andy's heart tremble.

Lucas looked to be less than thirty. What... what exactly had he gone through?

At the side, Pamela saw Lucas's murderous gaze, and her heart started pounding rapidly while her face flushed red.

Just over a year ago, Lucas had the same expression as he had now when he appeared in front of Pamela at that terrifying moment when gangsters were bullying her. He was like a god descending from the sky.

His sharp and murderous gaze, tall and muscular figure, and handsome face were deeply etched in Pamela's heart. She had never once forgotten him in the last year. Now, she had finally found this man.

Pamela was willing to do anything to win his heart!

Florence's body was stiff, and all she felt was the cold sweat gushing out of her back. Seeing Lucas's eyes, she felt extreme horror.

"You... No matter what, I'm your mother-in-law and your elder. Who speaks to their elders like this?" she said while trembling and bearing with the fear.

She told herself over and over again that Lucas was just her son-in-law. If she bowed down and showed fear to him, it would be difficult for her to establish her dominance as his mother-in-law in the future.

Lucas stared at her coldly. "I don't care what your identity and seniority are. I won't let off anyone who wants to act against my wife! You're no exception!"

"Mother-in-law and elder? Hah... Do you think you're worthy?"

"Also, no matter what kind of mission you're on, and regardless of what you're planning to use my wife and me for, you'd better drop your ideas immediately! Otherwise, if something happens in the future, I won't be polite to you!"

Lucas stopped looking at the expression on Florence's face and immediately held Chyenne's cold hand as he led her out of the private room.

"You... you..." Florence could only helplessly watch Lucas and Chyenne ignore her and leave the restaurant. She was so exasperated that she was about to go mad, and her face twisted into a hideous grimace.

"Outrageous! They're both bastards! How dare he threaten me?! One day, I'll make him pay!"

Florence was so furious that she grabbed a glass on the dining table and smashed it on the floor.

Andy's lips moved slightly. He wanted to persuade her, but at the thought of Florence's temper, he was afraid that she would take her anger out on him. So he wisely shut his mouth and made himself scarce.

Anyway, his duty was only to protect Florence, and he didn't want to bother about other matters.

Seeing Florence losing her composure, Pamela crossed her arms and smiled. "Aunt Florence, you don't look like a noblewoman now but a shrew. Even if you've failed the mission, you don't have to lose your composure like this."

"Pamela Howard!" Florence turned around and stared grimly at Pamela.

If Pamela hadn't suddenly come and said that Florence had abandoned Cheyenne for power and status, Cheyenne would have probably already reunited with her long ago.

Things wouldn't have ended up like this, where Cheyenne refused to acknowledge her as her mother.

It was all Pamela's fault!

"Pamela, what's wrong with you? Why did you suddenly come out to stop me and Cheyenne from reuniting?" Florence stared at Pamela with extreme displeasure, feeling a strong urge to give her beautiful niece two slaps on the face to make her wake up.

Pamela sneered. "Florence, you're not going to blame me for this, are you? I'm not going to take the blame for this!"

She didn't even bother to address Florence as her aunt now and simply called her by her name. Clearly, she intended to fall out with Florence.

"Pamela, what are you doing? I am your aunt! If you hadn't suddenly jumped and caused trouble, my daughter would have acknowledged me long ago!" Florence said angrily.

"Besides, you're clearly the one who said that you're in love with someone else and refused to marry the Master of California no matter what. That's why I tried to look for my daughter to get her to complete this mission! "But what about you? Not only did you not help me, but you kept sabotaging me and opposing me! Let me tell you. You're entirely to blame for the failure this time! How dare you gloat in front of me? I'll definitely tell the family the truth about what happened!"

Pamela's face turned sullen. "Don't try to push the blame on me! Since you want to play the blame game, I'll make things clear with you! "From the first day you arrived in Orange County, you've been planning to marry your daughter to the Master of California. Yet you still pretended and deliberately provoked me. Wasn't it just to make me admit that I don't want to marry the Master of California, which is exactly what you wanted?"

"Don't think that I don't know what your intentions are and what you've secretly done. Do I look that stupid to be at your mercy?"

"I wanted to let you and Cheyenne reunite out of good intentions, but you acted up and ruined everything yourself! You made Cheyenne and the Master of California so upset that they left!"

"Now, you're still trying to blame me for the failure of the mission. How can I keep silent and take the blame?"

Pamela was exceptionally stubborn. As an heiress of the Howards, who had received elite education abroad, she wasn't a pushover at all.

"In that case, don't blame me for being unkind to you too! I'm telling you. I'm taking Cheyenne's husband!" Pamela said with a look of determination, as if she was waging war.

## Chapter 805 Deep Affection

Florence was furious at first. But when she heard Pamela's last sentence, she was so astonished that she opened her mouth but couldn't say a word.

She didn't expect Pamela, who was clearly extremely resistant to the Master of California before, to declare that she wanted to snatch Lucas away from Cheyenne after learning they were married!

At this moment, Florence felt a trace of regret.

She knew that her niece Pamela was extremely ruthless. If she really wanted to snatch Cheyenne's husband away, she would definitely succeed!

In fact, Pamela wasn't any less beautiful than Cheyenne, and she was over three years younger. She was at her prime, where she was gorgeous and attractive to the opposite gender.

Besides, Pamela was an heiress of the Howards and grew up carefully nurtured. She had also studied abroad for several years, so she was definitely scheming and resourceful. With these conditions added together, her kindhearted daughter might really not be Pamela's match.

Moreover, Lucas was a man after all. Most men tended to be fond of the new and dislike the old, and most of them lusted over young and beautiful women. If Pamela really snatched away Lucas, the overlord of California and Oregon, Florence's plan would be completely destroyed!

When the time came, things would be terrible!

After thinking about it, Florence quickly changed her attitude and smiled at Pamela. "Oh, Pamela, what's the point of you doing this? It was my fault just now for saying something wrong in a moment of panic. I didn't mean to scold you. Please don't take it to heart!

"Besides, you don't have to say that on purpose just because you're mad at me! I know you're already in love with a handsome and competent Prince Charming who's countless times better than Lucas Gray. And you said that you wouldn't marry him, didn't you? I will definitely find a way to help you achieve your life goal!

"You don't have to worry about the family either. As long as Cheyenne and I reconcile, Lucas Gray will be my rightful son-in-law, and even the family won't have any objections. They won't force you to marry anyone else either!"

Florence put on the benevolent look of an elder and made many promises to Pamela. She also deliberately mentioned the man that Pamela was in love with to use him to tempt Pamela into changing her mind.

But Florence simply didn't know that the Prince Charming whom Pamela was in love with was none other than Lucas.

Thus, her persuasion was futile.

"Aunt Florence, it's already too late for you to say that! I must get my hands on Lucas Gray!" Determination to get Lucas appeared in Pamela's eyes as she smiled at Florence before turning around to leave nonchalantly.

Lucas was the man she wanted, so she would never give him up. Even if she had to be a homewrecker whom everyone despised, she was bent on taking the man she adored back from another woman! Only the dumbfounded Florence remained in the private room. Why?

Pamela had clearly told her that she was in love with someone, but why would she suddenly decide to snatch Cheyenne's husband away?

Did Pamela have a change of heart after seeing Lucas at the martial arts competition today?

This is ridiculous!

What should I do now?

Florence was completely flustered because of what Pamela said.

Meanwhile, Lucas was already driving back to his home at Pearl Lake Villa with Cheyenne.

On the way, Cheyenne didn't say a word and simply spaced out while watching the passing scenery.

Looking at Cheyenne, Lucas felt heartbroken, but he couldn't find any words to comfort her.

After all, in such situations, all words of comfort seemed pointless. "Honey, do you think I'm really not destined to have parents?" Cheyenne suddenly asked. Just as Lucas was about to speak, Cheyenne continued, "In the past, I thought that Karen Turner was my mother. Although she didn't treat me well and kept trying to exploit me, I really felt that she might dislike me because I wasn't good enough.

"So I tried my best to be more well-behaved and sensible in hopes that she would praise me and treat me better. But in the end...

"At that time, I felt really relieved after learning that she wasn't my biological mother.

"It turned out that it wasn't because I didn't do well enough that she didn't like me but because I wasn't her biological child. So no matter how well-behaved or outstanding I was, she wouldn't like me. While I was thinking like this, I thought I might not be that bad.

"But after that, I began to wonder again and again just why my biological parents abandoned me and left me by the side of the road. I thought about plenty of possibilities.

"So today, when I received that phone call from... her, I was really happy because I thought that I had finally found my biological mother. I had even already imagined reuniting with her.

"But she... couldn't even tell me the reason she abandoned me. I don't want to blame her or denounce her. I just wanted to know why she abandoned me back then. Even if she really abandoned me because of some absurd and terrible reason, I think I'd forgive her as long as she admitted her mistakes to me sincerely.

"But she... she really let me down too much.

"So, I want to ask myself if I had done something wrong or if I shouldn't have been born at all."

Tears streamed down Cheyenne's face.

Cheyenne doesn't usually cry easily, and when she did, she usually teared up quietly, making her look exceptionally sympathetic. Seeing Cheyenne like this, Lucas felt as if his heart was being cut by a knife.

"Cheyenne, it's not your fault. It's their own issues for treating you that way."

Lucas slowly parked the car by the road and reached his arms out to pull the crying and trembling Cheyenne into his embrace.

"Each of us is not necessarily liked by other people, including our own parents. But we can't choose our parents, so there's nothing we can do about it.

"But there are also many people who are deeply in love with us. Amelia and I are your family members, and we will never leave you. We'll love you forever!"

Lucas stroked Cheyenne's long hair gently.

This was Lucas's promise to Cheyenne.

"Honey!"

Cheyenne was wrapped tightly in Lucas's muscular and warm arms, her heart full of a tender and fuzzy feeling. She hugged Lucas tightly and even began kissing him passionately.

She felt really lucky to have a man who loved her so much and stayed by her side **unconditionally!**

## Chapter 806 The Smiths Are Here Again

After a deep kiss, the two of them hugged each other and quietly enjoyed the warm moment that belonged only to them. But at this moment, a menacing murderous aura suddenly came from outside the car! Lucas's expression instantly changed as he pushed Cheyenne away and looked at a certain spot outside the window.

A powerful expert had just deliberately exuded a murderous aura.

Instead of charging forward directly, he exuded a killing intent. He clearly wanted Lucas to take the initiative to look for him.



“What’s wrong, Honey?” Cheyenne looked at Lucas in confusion. She was just an ordinary woman, so she couldn’t sense the mystical killing intent. Instead, she was bewildered by Lucas suddenly pushing her.

“Cheyenne, drive home on your own. I still have some matters to handle,” Lucas said to Cheyenne softly.

They were already very close to their Pearl Lake villa, and Stanley and Jordan were guarding nearby too. Even if Cheyenne drove home alone, she wouldn’t be in any danger.

Besides, he was the target of the mysterious man, so the mysterious man shouldn’t do anything to Cheyenne.

Cheyenne pursed her lips and looked at Lucas. She nodded and said sensibly, “Okay, be careful then.”

She had always known that she couldn’t help Lucas with some things, so the only thing she could do was listen to Lucas’s arrangements and not drag him down.

Lucas got out of the car and turned to look at a certain spot after Cheyenne drove away.

“Come out!”

As soon as he said this, two figures walked out of the shadows.

The person walking in front was a middle-aged man in his late forties. He wasn’t tall and had a medium build. He had a wide forehead, a squarish face, and slick hair combed back neatly. With a faint and composed smile on his lips, he exuded the noble aura of an upper-class individual.

But Lucas merely glanced at him before turning to look at the old man behind him.

The old man looked to be in his sixties or seventies, with a gaunt red face covered in wrinkles, resembling a dried date.

But despite the wrinkles piled up to his eyelids, his eyes had a glistening light. He was clearly not an ordinary person.

More importantly, Lucas could sense the aura of a top expert from his gait.

The murderous aura just now came from this old man.

It was no exaggeration to say that this was the strongest aura Lucas had ever seen since he left the Falcon Regiment in Calico.

Even Julian York, the top expert from the Peerless Martial Association's headquarters, was no match for this old man.

While Lucas was guessing the identity of this old man, the latter was sizing Lucas up as well.

"As expected of Michael Hutton's son, you're indeed something," the old man suddenly said.

Lucas wasn't surprised that the old man knew his identity.

Ever since the martial arts competition, many people had learned about Lucas's identity, and the reason these people in front of him came looking for him was clearly that they had already investigated his background.

"What's the matter?" Lucas asked indifferently.

The middle-aged man in front of him seemed rather interested as he praised with a smile, "You really have character!"

"Let me introduce myself first. My name is Oscar Smith, the Smiths who are one of the top eight families of DC. I'm also one of the heirs to the future head of the Smiths.

"Vince Smith, who came to California and confronted you last time, is my cousin.

"Speaking of which, I really have to thank you. If you hadn't forced Vince to kneel in front of everyone and embarrassed the Smiths, the helmsman wouldn't have stripped him of his position as successor. I probably wouldn't have gotten this great opportunity either!"

Oscar spoke with a smile on the corners of his mouth. Those who didn't know him would probably think that he was nice and amiable.

But in Lucas's eyes, Oscar was a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Lucas glanced at Oscar calmly before saying coldly, "Cut the crap. What's your motive?"

He didn't intend to listen to Oscar's nonsense about the Smiths.

Oscar's face immediately stiffened.

He thought that since he was the successor of the Smiths and now willing to look for Lucas personally, he was already showing him enough respect. But he didn't expect Lucas to be so harsh and cold as to not take him seriously at all.

He frowned slightly and then said with a smile, "It seems that you're really anxious, so I won't beat around the bush. Vince may have disgraced my family, but he's still one of us and a direct descendant after all.

"You forcing him to kneel and admit his mistake in public is too disgraceful to my family. So naturally, the Smiths can't just pretend that nothing happened and let you off.

"So if you're now willing to hand me the control you have over all the forces in California and Oregon, I can represent the Smiths to forgive you for your previous transgression and give you a chance to serve the Smiths.

"What do you think of this proposal?"

With a smile on his face, Oscar spoke as if this was a magnanimous offer to Lucas.

"I don't think it's appealing." Lucas smirked with contempt.

If he had been afraid of the power of the Smiths previously, he wouldn't have confronted Vince and even forced him to kneel and apologize.

This heir of the Smiths seemed to have also inherited the arrogance of the family. As soon as he arrived, he wanted to take control of California and Oregon. He even acted high and mighty as he said that he would give Lucas a chance to pledge allegiance. It was ridiculous.

Lucas thought that after the Smiths abandoned Vince, they would select a competent successor. But it turned out to be a mediocre person. He couldn't even compare to Vince.

Did the Smiths not have anyone better than this man to nurture?

After hearing Lucas's refusal, Oscar narrowed his eyes and threatened, "Kid, do you think you're in a position to negotiate with me? You only have two options!

"One, surrender control of the two states and bow down to the Smiths from now on. If you do so, I can guarantee you a lifetime of wealth and glory. Two, die here and use your life to wash away the shame you made the Smiths suffer!"