The Invisible Rich Man CHAPTER 2486-2490

Chapter 2486

"Did you really think that you were the only one who had gotten stronger, Ryder?" scoffed Gerald in a frigid tone.

"...Fine! So be it! I guess I lost even after possessing demonic soul power! I have no further reason to live!" retorted Ryder as he raised his good hand before attempting to smash it into his forehead.

However, before his palm could hit its mark, a gust of wind redirected the attack away. Yusra was the one who did that, and it was also at that moment when Gerald finally realized that others had been watching.

Now smiling at Gerald, Yusra was then prompted to say, "Mr. Gerald Crawford, correct..? Since you've injured Mr. Ryder so badly, could I request that you call this a tie...? Please put an end to this conflict and spare his life for my sake..."

Upon hearing that, Gerald turned to give Yusra a good look.. However, his eyes instantly widened instead as he muttered in shock, "Giya..?!"

Apart from her fashion sense, Yusra looked almost identical to Giya! Gerald still remembered that after rescuing Giya in Northbay and bringing her back to his family's manor to recuperate, she ended up going missing with the rest of his family... To think that he'd meet her again here, of all places! Since Gerald was staring so much at her,

Yusra couldn't help but blush as she muttered, "Um.. Mr. Crawford.?"

"Huh? Oh, pardon me... You just look very similar to an old friend of mine!" replied Gerald who now realized that she didn't sound similar to Giya either.

But how on earth could such a similar looking person exist...?

"I see... By Giya, I wonder if you're referring to my younger sister whom the Quarringtons recently located again..?" asked Yusra with a smile.

"You... Know Giya, Miss Quarrington? Do you know where she is now...?" replied Gerald.

"Oh, I know a lot more than that. However, this isn't the place to talk.. How about this, I'll use some elixirs to treat Mr. Darkwind first, and following that, we'll find someplace to sit and talk. That aside, many cultivation realm experts are here today for the full moon conference to discuss the general's tomb, so why don't we get to know each other for better cooperation later on?" suggested Yusra.

"We'll do as you say!" declared the crowd. It was sometime later within the manor's magnificent banquet hall when the smiling Yusra said, "It appears that we have a deep connection, Mr. Crawford... AsI said, Giya's my sister, and we finally found her again about two years ago! That aside, I honestly didn't expect you two to not only be classmates, but also good friends!"

"I didn't expect Giya's parents to be the presidents of the DarkMoon Biological Group either!" replied Gerald who was rightfully surprised by this tum of events.

"If I may, if we tell the Second Young Mistress that Mr. Crawford is here, maybe she'll finally get out of her depression!" suggested the butler who had been standing by Yusra's side.

"I agree! Once the matter regarding the general's tomb has been settled, I truly hope that Mr. Crawford will come over to my place as an honored guest!" replied Yusra. "I'll be taking you up on that offer, then!" said Gerald.

Regardless of whether Yusra had been lying or not, she truly did look identical to Giya.

Gerald had previously rejected Giya and hurt her, so no matter what happened, if Gerald could leave the tomb alive, then he'd definitely find a way to get to her to find out the truth, and also to hopefully locate the whereabouts of his family.

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"We have a deal then, Mr. Crawford! It's an honor for the Dark Moon Biological Group to be your acquaintance!" replied Yusra as she raised her wine glass to give him a toast.

"Agreed, Miss Quarrington! He truly is a remarkably talented man!" added a few other experts as they joyously raised their wine glasses as well.

It was at that moment when a servant came running in while exclaiming, "E-Eldest Young Mistress...! Something bad has happened...!"

"What is it, Charle?" asked Yusra with a slight frown.

"It's the seven solitary cultivators of Mount Flygre...! All of them snuck into Noircorpse Valley earlier to be the first to enter the general's tomb..! Unfortunately, one of them died and the other six remain missing! Master Greendrake and the others are currently on their way to discuss this matter!" replied the anxious Charle.

"What?! But... When the seven join forces, they're near unbeatable..! To think that something would happen to them on their way to the general's tomb..!" exclaimed several of the people in the room as they then got to their feet while exchanging shocked glances.

Though the seven solitary cultivators had yet to enter the Dominesch Realm, their master had taught them a formidable formation.

Essentially, when all seven of them used the formation together, they'd all gain the strength of seven Domiensch Realm powerhouses! It was the reason why the seven cultivators were so famous in the cultivation realm.

Whatever the case was, it was at that moment when Master Greendrake, together with Master Trilight and the others came running in before saying, "Hmm..? So you're both here, Mr. Crawford! Miss Quarrington! In fact, it seems quite a number of you are here as well! Good. I was planning to gather all of you to discuss this anyway!"

Before anyone could ask what he meant by that, they soon saw a corpse being carried into the room and upon seeing it, Gerald couldn't help but frown.

The corpse had gone as black as charcoal, and a distinct row of teeth marks could be seen around its neck... Adding that to the fact that the corpse's primordial spirit had been completely drained, it was evident that the culprit of that wound was a demonic corpse.

"What an immense corpsy aura...!" muttered Gerald to himself.

Though Finnley had mentally prepared him of how strong the headless general and his demonic subordinates would be, Gerald was unable to stop himself from skipping a heartbeat as he confirmed staring at the horrifying corpse.

"Serves them right, really. They already knew what they signed up for when they headed down that foggy valley! Still, to think that they weren't even able to make it past Noircorpse Valley unscathed! "

"Could the headless general have done this.." speculated one of the cultivators as he sighed "Now's not the time to mock the dead. Also, the headless general doesn't even have a head! How could he have done the deed?" replied Yusra.

"She's right!"

"From the looks of it, the seven didn't even manage to defeat the demonic corpse that had attacked them.. It's a rough guess, but since there's a dragon vein where the general's tomb is, I'm assuming that the headless general has already turned into a devilish corpse by now. With that in mind, the other demonic corpses must have had plenty of time to cultivate under him after all these years! The strong corpsy aura surrounding that area most probably contributed to why the demonic corpse was so strong as well!" Though Gerald hadn't gone to the general's tomb yet, he had heard all this from Finnley.

Whatever the case was, Yusra then frowned as she replied, "He's right, and unfortunately, this confirms that the general's tomb is now even more dangerous than before..! If the headless general really has become a devil, then we need to have a thorough plan before we even consider entering that place...! Remember, the headless general only refrained from leaving general only leaving the tomb back then since he was still only a demon. f he's a devil now, then he's free to leave the tomb whenever he likes!"

"I suggest we make our move on the night of a full moon. After all, it's when the headless general absorbs the moon's aura. In other Words, he'll be too preoccupied with cultivating, making it his most vulnerable state! With all that said, if we're to make a move, now's the best time to strike!" declared Master Greendrake.

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Following Master Greendrake's suggestion, everyone quickly agreed and began thoroughly discussing how they were going to make it across Noircorpse Valley to finally get to the tomb.

In the end, they didn't even hold the full moon conference, opting instead to rush to the valley.

All in all, there were about five hundred cultivators from major sects participating in this mission. However, only thirty-eight of them had managed to enter the Domiensch Realm.

Speaking of Domiensch Masters, Darkwind and Lyndon were unable to join along due to their injuries. Because of that, Gerald simply brought the professor along. While it was true that the professor's cultivation was nowhere near as powerful as the rest, this wasn't actually Professor Boyle... It was a disguised Finnley instead!

Naturally, Finnley had tagged along to help Gerald in secret. After all, the old man knew that even with all these cultivators, the headless general was still going to be an extremely dangerous encounter.

Regardless, in order to get to the tomb, they first needed to get past Noircorpse Valley.

As they made their way deeper into the valley, Gerald recalled being told that Freyr Zandt hadn't even been injured in the tomb.

He had been attacked in the valley instead.

Speaking of the valley, it had apparently always contained this dense forest that spanned an area that could house a large city.

The miasma that constantly filled the valley only made the area all the more dangerous. As for its name, 'Noircorpse' came from the rumor that several soldier corpses had been buried together with the general. The valley, however, had another name, that being the Nether Soldier Valley. The second name sprung up due to the rumor that a few hundred thousand nether soldiers called this place home.

Either way, due to the thick demoniC aura, corpsy aura, and miasma, Gerald and the others found themselves continuing to wander within the valley, even after the ten-hour mark.. It

was simply that difficult to navigate within this place! The headless general was definitely benefiting from all this... After all, just seeking out the tomb was now a tall task.

For safety's sake, Master Greendrake eventually managed to get everyone to what appeared to be an abandoned village nestled deep within the valley.

Naturally, no human had set foot in here for ages...

" entered this valley many years ago, and back then, the corpsy aura and miasma were nowhere near this terrifying..! How did things end up this way? Even a Domiensch Master like me is finding it hard to navigate this place!" grumbled Hauk Savik, the leader of the Mount Taivas Sect ina gruff voice.

"It's to be expected. After all, since the headless general's devilish power has probably multiplied Over the years, his control over demons has greatly increased! It would certainly explain why this entire valley reeks of demonic and devilish aura! With that said, we need to be more cautious than ever!" declared Master Greendrake.

"Master Greendrake's right. Regardless, since the headless general will be busy absorbing the sun and moon's essence tonight, I suggest that we make our move early the next morning when the moon starts to descend. That'll be when the headless general rests from cultivating. That aside, his primordial spirit won't have solidified by that point, so acting then would be our best bet," suggested Yusra.

After a brief pause, however, she was prompted to add, "One other thing... I hope none of you have any greedy or malicious motives.. If we can't achieve our goal in time, please prioritize escaping. I don't think this needs to be said, but we won't be able to deal with the headless general, no matter what formations we use!"

Upon hearing that, everyone, including Finnley, quickly nodded in affirmation. Gerald himself said, "While we await that moment, make sure to cultivate and rest up tonight. We need all the energy we can get to make this a speedy mission!"

"Agreed, Mr. Crawford ...! "

Following that, the team of five hundred people began occupying the houses in the abandoned village to cultivate and rest...

While the village felt like it was thousands of years old, it was still pretty well-preserved since nobody had been here for ages Either way, since they were going to wait past midnight, when the miasma and devilish aura had thinned out, before finally making their way to the general's tomb, Gerald and Finnley made sure to quickly enter one of the houses to cultivate as well.

It was a short while later when Gerald looked up and saw that a thick layer of miasma had completely clouded the night sky... This prompted Gerald to furrow his brows while muttering, "I can't explain why, but I keep having a feeling that something bad will happen in the valley...!"

"Hmm? So you can feel it too? Not bad! Regardless, the devilish aura has completely covered the moon by this point, and the sun and moon's essences are rapidly being drained as well. To be able to do all this, the headless general is truly far more powerful than you could ever imagine."

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"Really though, as I said before, devils nowadays are much stronger than deities... No wonder your grandfather wanted to pursue devilish cultivation so much!" added Finnley as he shook his head with a helpless smile.

"From all that you've said, I guess tonight really is going to be an unusual one.. I wonder what we'll have to face..." muttered Gerald.

"I wonder as well. We'll just have to wait and see.. That aside, don't be afraid, Gerald. Remember, if you want to even have a chance of entering the Deitus Realm, you'll ultimately have to enter the general's tomb," replied Finnley in an encouraging tone, not wanting Gerald to chicken out at the last moment.

Gerald, however, wasn't really afraid of dying. After all, he had already undergone a neardeath experience once back in Fyre Cave.

Even so, he felt that if he were to die in the tomb and have his soul vanquished, it'd be a complete shame, especially after he had cultivated for this long. That thought alone was making him wonder whether entering the Deitus Realm was really worth all this trouble. It didn't help that Finnley had told him about the headless general's backstory.

Despite having entered the Ziyiryon Realm and having near, unparalleled powers beyond the three realms, the headless general had still wanted to get stronger.

In the process of getting to the Xenqhos Realm, the headless general ultimately died to a mere mortal... Not only did he lose all his cultivation, but he was also decapitated, which finally led to him turning into a devil!

With all that in mind, Gerald would be lying if he claimed that he wasn't worried of such a fate befalling him.

Still, in the end, Gerald took a deep breath before nodding as he said, "1 understand, Finnley"

Following that, he and Finnley began practicing the Coronal Decem Charm...

It was around eleven that night when Gerald who had still been cultivating suddenly heard the faint sound of beating drums in the distance.

Opening his eyes, the vigilant boy then turned to face the source of the drum beating.

However, when he saw that Finnley remained cultivating with his eyes closed, Gerald couldn't help but mumble to himself, "Could I be hearing wrong... ?"

In the end, Gerald decided to walk outside. Looking around, nobody seemed to have left their houses, and all Gerald was greeted to was the occasional gusts of wind... However, it didn't take long for Gerald to notice that Yusra had walked out as well.

Upon noticing him, Yusra walked toward the boy before asking, "Did you hear that as well, Mr. Crawford?"

After nodding in response, Gerald watched as Hauk who had a whisk in hand came out as well before saying, "How strange.. Even if regular ghosts were to notice us, they'd most probably be too afraid to come close... With that said, I wonder who's daring enough to beat those drums."

"It's clearly a sign that our guests aren't ordinary ghosts, then... Regardless, we've been discovered!" muttered Master Greendrake as he and several others began walking out as well.

It was at that moment when one of the cultivators pointed toward the sky while asking, "Hey, what's that over there?"

Hearing that, everyone was prompted to look in the direction he was pointing at.

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Upon looking up, the crowd was greeted by the sight of what appeared to be a green, glowing lantern rising into the air... The scene was unsettling, to say the least.

"What... Is that...?" muttered the curious Yusra.

Gerald himself was frowning. As a literature student, he had previously read that floating lanterns such as these were commonly used as signal lamps during ancient warring times.

Once such lanterns appeared, large troops were sure to come soon...!

With that in mind, Gerald felt his heart momentarily go numb as he declared, "Not only have we been found, but we're going to have company soon as wel.!"

"But who's the enemy?" asked Yusra, now feeling even more uneasy than before.

"Whoever it is, there's nothing to be afraid of. After all, anyone who even dares to come close will first have to go through me first!" scoffed Hauk before pinching his fingers together and launching an aurablade toward the floating lantern!

"Stop..!" yelled both Gerald and Yusra at the same time. However, they were too late!

Following a minor explosive sound, the destroyed lantern quickly came crumbling to the ground.

Laughing in response, Hauk then replied, "it's just a lantern, Miss Quarrington and Brother Gerald! Why are you two being so cautious?" Feeling helpless, Gerald then muttered in a frigid tone, "I'm afraid that wasn't just a 'simple lantern, Mr. Savik... Honestly, your actions may have just doomed our expedition.

Before Hauk could even reply, everyone suddenly heard rustling noises coming from nearby... And shortly after, marching and neighing could be heard as well! It was as if they had just summoned an ancient, hostile army!

"H-Huh..?" muttered Hauk, finally realizing that he had just put everyone in deep trouble.

"W-what?! What's going on?!" exclaimed the dumbfounded Hauk.

"They're corpse demons! If you want to kill them, you'll first need to locate their demonic sources! It's the only way to kill them since they're technically already dead!" retorted Gerald who was using his Fierce Wind Palm to blow away dozens of nether soldiers who were trying to clamber onto him!

Upon hearing that, Hauk immediately attempted to do as Gerald said... However, after missing his mark a few times, he soon looked horrified as he exclaimed, "F-from the looks of it, their demonic sources are unevenly scattered!"

This prompted Yusra to grow], "You've truly doomed us all, Hauk Savik..! Even if we don't die from their attacks, we'll still die from exhaustion..!"

To add salt to the wound, bats and winged nether soldiers suddenly began swooping down on the cultivators as well! There were now so many enemies that they almost seemed countless.