

# The Invisible Rich Man CHAPTER 2351-2360

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## Chapter 2351

Nearly choking on his tea upon hearing that, Gerald quickly shook his head before saying, "Y-you... You're pulling my leg, right, Uncle Zeman...?"

"Do you honestly think I'd joke about my daughter's life? Just so you know, my daughter has less than a year left before the cold poison enters high gear. With that said, the sooner you help her, the better..." muttered Walter before heaving a heavy sigh.

Hearing that, Third elder added, "You know, after observing you for some time, the patriarch and I have concluded that you're a good man. With that said, once you cure her, we're willing to make you the son-in-law of the Zeman family. If you agree, then we'll definitely teach you all the best techniques the cultivation realm has to offer. What more, we'll also provide you with an excellent environment to help your cultivation grow even faster!"

This time, the shocked Gerald wasn't able to stop himself in time, resulting in him spurring his tea all over the table and even getting some on Walter!

Quickly wiping his mouth dry, Gerald then stood up before exclaiming, "I... I apologize, Uncle Zeman...!"

"Don't worry about it," replied Walter with a wave of his hand.

Nodding in response, Gerald went silent for a while before eventually explaining, "The thing is... I already have a girlfriend... With that said, copulating with your daughter would mean that I'm being unfaithful... What more, I'm currently on a personal quest to save her!"

"Whatever the case is, you must save my daughter... Remember, saving a life is a meritorious act, so I believe that your girlfriend will understand and forgive you in the end. Actually, if nobody says a word about it, the secret will remain here forever," replied Walter, fearing that Gerald would refuse to help in the end.

"Could... You give me some time to think about it...?" muttered Gerald as he scratched the back of his head.

This wasn't something he could just agree with all willy-nilly...

"Actually, I have a better idea. Third elder, go call Mia over. Being such outstanding youngsters, I'm sure both of them will warm up to each other soon enough!" ordered Walter who didn't really see Mila as an issue.

After all, it wasn't as though Gerald was married to her. Even if Gerald was, Walter could easily take the boy from her if he really wanted to.

"Please, don't..." replied Gerald as he raised his palm in refusal.

After giving Gerald a good, long, look, Walter got to his feet before bowing as he said, "Alright, then. Go get some rest first. While I'm giving you time to think about it, in the end, you must help my daughter recover. As long as she gets better, I'll grant you any request you want, even if you want my position as this family's patriarch..."

"Please don't say such things, Uncle Zeman... I have no interest in being your family's patriarch. Regardless, I appreciate you giving me time to think things through. Also, if there's any other way to cure the cold poison, do let me know! I'll be more than willing to help!" declared Gerald as he placed his fist and palm together before Walter.

Simply nodding in response, Walter then said, "Bring Gerald back, Yaacob..."

Up on hearing that, Gerald saluted Third elder as well before finally leaving the room under Yaacob's guidance.

Once they had left, Third elder walked toward Walter before whispering, "Do you think Gerald will help us in the end, patriarch...?"

"I have the same question..." muttered Walter with a sigh before shaking his head.

"What will we do if he refuses...?" asked Third elder in a slightly anxious voice.

## **Chapter 2352**

Third elder had watched over Mia ever since she was a child. With that said, though she wasn't his flesh and blood, he treated her like his daughter. It wasn't even a stretch to claim that Third elder was just as worried about the girl as Walter was.

"If he refuses, then we'll just have to force him to help her. We can't let the poison remain in her body for any longer! I won't allow Mia to die!" declared Walter in an unwavering tone as he slammed his fist onto the table.

"Understood," replied Third elder who honestly had the same idea. Even if they had to drug Gerald in the end, saving Mia was the priority...!

Moving back to Gerald, his brows had been furrowed ever since he left the dining room. While he now knew how the island kept disappearing, Walter's words were simply too shocking for him to concentrate on that. The only way to save his daughter was to have intercourse with her...? He thought such things only happened in movies! Unfortunately, it seemed all too real now...

After walking for some time, Yaacob stopped in his tracks before saying, "I won't be returning with you tonight, brother Gerald..."

Nodding as he lit a cigarette, Gerald paused for a moment before asking in a helpless tone, "Doesn't your family have endless power and resources...? Is there truly no other way to save her...?"

"The truth is, the patriarch and our family's elders have been searching far and wide for a cure throughout the span of ten years. The method we proposed is the only one we managed to find... It doesn't help that people possessing the Herculean Primordial Spirit are incredibly difficult to find. Just so you know, you're the only person who fits all the requirements whom

we've managed to find..." explained Yaacob. Now that Walter and Third elder had notified Gerald about all this, there was no reason for him to hide this information anymore.

"I see," replied Gerald in a calm tone.

Hearing that, Yaacob grabbed Gerald by the arm before sincerely pleading, "Please help her, brother Gerald...!"

"Again, please give me some time to think things through," muttered Gerald before walking forward, leaving Yaacob behind...

By the time he got to the living room, the sky was already pitch black. Seeing that the lights in Lucian and Aiden's room were already off, Gerald sat in the darkness for a while finishing his cigarette before finally returning to his room...

The very next morning, Gerald was awoken by the sounds of people talking outside. After washing his face, he got dressed before opening his door only to be greeted by the sight of

two men in grey standing in his living room. They appeared to be talking to Lucian who looked rather confused.

Upon seeing Gerald, the Zemans immediately walked over to the boy before saying, "Good morning, Mr. Gerald! The patriarch told us to bring you some breakfast! He's worried that you haven't gotten used to our island's food yet!"

Frowning slightly, Gerald then replied, "There's no need for that..."

"Please, Mr. Gerald, we insist you take the food. If you don't, we won't be able to report back to the patriarch!" interrupted one of the Zemans.

Before Gerald could even reply, both of them having left the food behind-had already marched out the door After checking the food -and realizing that they were just ordinary breakfast foods-, Gerald sighed before placing them on the table.

Seeing that, the curious Lucian was prompted to ask, "Who were they, Gerald...? And who's that patriarch they were talking about? Did you get to know another family during the auction...?"

### **Chapter 2353**

"It's nothing," replied Gerald with a wave of his hand, not wanting Lucian or Aiden to learn about the Zemans just yet.

"I see. Regardless, I've heard rumors that there'll be an incredibly valuable auction item today that'll rival even tomorrow's top item! With that said, I have a feeling that there'll be a bloody battle on the island right after the auction ends..." muttered Lucian as he took a bun from his lunchbox and began eating on the couch.

"Hmm? Why would you assume that, uncle Grubb?" asked Gerald as he turned to look at Lucian.

"What? Have you not heard about the incident?" replied Lucian as he finished the rest of his bun.

"I may have headed out with Yaacob the night before, but I haven't heard of any incidents..." said Gerald as he shook his head.

"Well... Shortly after you two left, there was a fight between two families... Several members of those families suffered heavy casualties, and I heard that even a few innocents got hurt. In the end, at least ten people ended up dead..." explained Lucian in a slightly uneasy tone.

"Conflict between families here isn't out of the ordinary though..." replied Gerald who had already witnessed someone getting murdered on his first day on the island.

"While that's true, it's the reason behind the fight that worries me. Basically, they were worried that the items they wanted would get bought by the other party, so they ended up deciding to just wipe the competition out before that could happen. With that said, we need to be more vigilant in the next two days. Though your cultivation level is rather high, remember, many of

those who attend this auction aren't ordinary people either," explained Lucian in a serious tone, not wanting anything bad to befall Gerald.

After all, if Gerald ended up dying here, not only would his family's disciples lose their one chance of learning the secrets of the Devotion Mirror, the mirror itself could end up getting snatched away!

Regardless, Gerald simply smiled subtly as he replied, "Don't worry uncle Grubb, I know what I'm doing."

"Glad to hear," replied Lucian as he watched Gerald resume eating his breakfast.

It was shortly after when Lucian finally realized that Yaacob wasn't present. With that realization, he was prompted to ask, "Speaking of which, where's Yaacob? Hasn't he been following you like a shadow in the past few days...?"

"Oh, he's already gone back," lied Gerald in a casual tone.

"I see... Whatever the case is, he's definitely no average Joe. After all, not only did he have access to the viewing box, but he also knew that the auction actually lasted for five days! Truth be told, I have a feeling that he's one of the organizers..." muttered Lucian as he stroked his beard.

"If he really was, then he wouldn't have sat with us in our viewing box," replied Gerald, not wanting Lucian to piece the puzzle together that quickly.

"You make a fair point. Now that I think about it, any organizers would definitely be too busy to just sit around with us throughout the day," said Lucian with a nod, completely buying into Gerald's words.

The second his sentence ended, Aiden exited his room while mumbling, "Brother Gerald... Uncle Grubb..."

After sitting by Gerald's side, Aiden yawned before adding, "I'm a little worried, brother Gerald..."

"You're no cultivator, so as long as you don't look for trouble, I'm sure nobody will harm you," replied Gerald as he patted Aiden's shoulder with a smile.

Shaking his head, Aiden then explained, "What I meant was that I'm worried about Lindsay's safety..."

Upon hearing that, Gerald's smile faded as he replied, "Maddox abducted her to lure me into his trap. With that said, as long as I remain alive, Lindsay won't die. She'll be fine..."

#### **Chapter 2354**

Though he said that, Lindsay was still abducted because of him. With that said, if Maddox lost it and ended up killing her, then he would indirectly be the cause of her murder... Should that scenario come to be, then not only would Gerald feel guilty for the rest of his life, but he would also be unable to face Aiden ever again. Regardless, upon hearing Lindsay's name, Lucian was prompted to take his phone out before saying, "Speaking of Lindsay, I'll give my butler a quick call to see if he's obtained the firearms."

Hearing that, Aiden quickly inched closer to Lucian as the call was made. Shortly after, a smile formed on Lucian's face as he cheerily said, "Looks like my butler was able to get some from a few dealers! Even so, I don't think they're enough to secure your safety since your opponent this time is the military department..."

"Worry not, uncle Grubb! I'll definitely save Miss Lindsay, even if I have to sacrifice myself!" declared Aiden as he gritted his teeth.

Unlike Aiden, Gerald remained calm as he asked, "Speaking of the military, have there been any other news about them?"

"Come to think of it, remember that friend of mine whom I said was working with the Yanam military? Well, I received an update from him last night. He told me that Maddox had continued leading a troop of soldiers with a large batch of armory supplies out every night since the day we left for the island. However, since Maddox is the deputy chief, my friend hadn't dared to order his most trusted men to pry any deeper..." explained Lucian rather quickly, almost as though he was worried that he would forget any key details.

"Looks like he really is doing something there..." growled Aiden as he clenched his fists.

"There?" asked Lucian.

"A forested area quite far behind the military's office. The night Aiden and I made our move, we tailed Maddox and his soldiers all the way to an obscure building in that forest. While we had a feeling that Miss Lindsay was being held captive there, we also figured that Maddox had already set plenty of traps around the area, which was why we returned to the manor instead of proceeding to save her back then," explained Gerald.

"Oh? Actually, I think both of you told me about this before..." muttered Lucian as he tapped his cheek.

"Either way, to think that Maddox is still setting the place up after so many days. He must really want me dead," replied Gerald with a smirk.

"But of course, he does! Once you're out of the picture, he'll be sure to replace Carter in becoming the next chief! What more, if he fails to take you out, I'm sure he knows that there's a high chance that he'll end up being the next Godwin!" said Lucian with a laugh.

Nodding as he finished his soy milk, Gerald then tossed the drink packet into a trash can before replying, "Indeed. Once the auction is over, our first course of action will be to save Miss Lindsay. I honestly can't wait to see what Maddox has prepared for me...!"

It was sometime later when the trio arrived at the viewing box again, and the auctioning began shortly after. After yesterday's auction, several families who had managed to purchase items had either left or had been assassinated. Naturally, the assassinating families had also left after getting what they wanted.

## **Chapter 2355**

Whatever the case was, it explained why the lower floor was much less crowded compared to yesterday. What more, all the groups maintained a distance from each other, clearly worried that they would end up being targeted next.

While tension was high down below, things were still relatively calm on the upper floor. After all, those who could afford to be in the viewing boxes were either from famous families or cultivating sects. With that in mind, it was obvious that they didn't even need to compete for such things.

Regardless, after the auction went on for about half an hour, Aiden couldn't help but look at the door for a moment before asking, "Is Yaacob not joining us...?"

"He probably has things to take care of," replied Gerald, knowing full well that Yaacob no longer had to keep an eye on him after his encounter with Walter.

"Speaking of that boy... His family is certainly powerful enough to be able to grant us access to the upper floor... However, this only makes things stranger since I've never even heard of a

cultivating family by the name of Zeman!" muttered Lucian. While he definitely knew a Zeman family, it certainly didn't share Yaacob's high status.

Not wanting to talk about that family, Gerald simply replied, "Either way, aren't you going to bid for anything, uncle Grubb?"

"Negative. It was already difficult enough for me to get those two bargains back then. Aside from that, not only are the auction items now immensely expensive, but I'd rather not paint myself as an assassination target by buying something!" said Lucian as he shook his head...

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Meanwhile, Walter and a few others were busy keeping an eye on Gerald from the hidden viewing box from before. Walter himself looked rather relaxed. After all, not only did Gerald now know about his daughter's condition, but the boy was still in his territory. As long as Gerald remained, his daughter would surely have a chance to recover.

As for Mia, she could be seen sitting next to Walter, clearly unaware of what had taken place the night before. Though she occasionally snuck glances at Gerald, anytime Gerald's gaze met with hers despite not being able to see her from the outside, Mia immediately lowered her face, absolutely refusing to make eye contact with Gerald.

Either way, after staring at Gerald for a while, Walter recalled the old woman that Gerald had mentioned. With that in mind, he began scanning through the individuals on the lower



floor. When he couldn't find anyone with a matching description, Walter was prompted to ask, "Speaking of which, who exactly is that old woman that Gerald spoke of, Third elder?"

Upon hearing that, Third elder turned to look at Mia who was sitting in front of him before saying, "That... Was young mistress in disguise... She was the first to discover that he possessed the Herculean Primordial Spirit. With that said, she was the one that had come to his rescue when I attempted to chase him down the night Gerald accidentally trespassed into Mount Nimbus..."

Confused to hear that, Walter then frowned as he asked, "Why on earth would you even do such a thing, Mia?"

Quickly averting her gaze, Mia simply replied, "I... I just felt like it!"

Sensing dissatisfaction in her tone, Walter couldn't help but sigh before saying in a soft tone, "For heaven's sake, I've already promised to give you six months to get to know Gerald, haven't I...?"

"And what if I still don't like him then?" replied Mia as she looked straight into her father's eyes.

"Naturally, you'll still have to undergo the process with him to expel the cold poison! While I'll definitely allow you to use a different method if we find one, the likelihood of that is extremely low. Remember, we haven't found any other methods in the past ten years! What makes you think that'll change in the coming six months?" said Walter in a soft, but firm tone.

"So in the end, my choice doesn't even matter, does it?" retorted Mia with a harrumph. While she was honestly slightly interested in Gerald, the fact that she had to copulate with him no matter what made her reject those feelings. The more her father wanted her to do it with him, the more she didn't want to!

Worried that the duo would get into a quarrel, Third elder quickly interjected, "Let's... Just give the young mistress a bit more time, master..."

Upon hearing that, Walter took in a deep breath before muttering, "What a truly spoiled girl..."

## Chapter 2356

Whatever the case was, the auction's morning session soon ended and Gerald found himself walking out of the auction house with Aiden and Lucian.

Unbeknownst to the trio, however, a man wearing a suit was standing motionless in the middle of the leaving crowd, his eyes glued onto Gerald. Though several people scowled at him for blocking their way, the man paid them no heed. After a while, another man walked up to him, prompting the man to ask "Is that Gerald?"

"I believe so. Still, I'm baffled that he's eligible to partake in the auction in the first place. Regardless, I have no clue who those two men by his side are..." replied the other man as he stared at Gerald's back "Forget those two, our target is Gerald. To think that I'd be able to bump into him here, of all places... Even god is on my side!" said the man with an evil grin.

The man in question was none other than the grudgeful Will Crawford! As for the other man, he was Will's confidant who went by Finch Crawford. Within the Crawford family, Finch was second only to Amare in terms of cultivation. Regardless, while Daryl was supposed to have attended the auction with Will, the old man fell sick, so Will brought his confidant along instead.

In truth, Will had initially been quite hesitant to attend the auction. However, now that he knew that Gerald was here, he couldn't be happier. The fact that Daryl was so far away from him, only made things better. After all, no matter what he did here, that old man would never be able to find out now!

Even so, Will still knew he had to do things flawlessly. That way, if Daryl got suspicious and decided to make investigations of his own, he would remain clueless for life!

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Regardless, upon seeing that Gerald had almost disappeared into the crowd, Finch hurriedly asked, "When shall we do the deed, brother Will?"

"There's no hurry. Let me do some investigating first," replied Will who already felt that Gerald's fate was sealed the second Will saw him on the island. It was only a matter of time before Gerald would finally die...!

Upon hearing that, Finch simply said, "Understood..."

"Good. Now return and get some rest. I want you to start keeping an eye on Gerald once noon comes. We need to find out where he's staying. Remember, the auction ends the day after tomorrow, so we'll need to get rid of him within the next two days," ordered Will as he rubbed his hands together, a sinister smirk on his face.

Still, even if Gerald had seen Will, he wouldn't have recognized him. After all, he had never met the youth before! Whatever the case was, since Gerald found the morning session rather boring, Gerald decided to spend the rest of his afternoon in his room.

Throughout the afternoon, Gerald laid on his bed, thinking about Walter's words. If Gerald agreed to save that man's daughter, that would also mean that he had to be unfaithful to Mila.

While he certainly didn't like the idea of doing so, Gerald remembered how serious Walter had been last night. Since he was currently deep in the Zeman family's territory, if he continued refusing to save Walter's daughter, Gerald could very easily lose his life. With that in mind, regardless of what he chose to do, he would still receive the short end of the stick.

Not wanting to overthink things, Gerald decided not to make a choice for the time being and simply see how things went first. He also needed to delay Walter as long as possible. Gerald, for one, believed that there had to be other ways to cure the cold poison.

While this was happening, Will and Finch themselves were looking rather flustered.

### **Chapter 2357**

After all, they had been looking for Gerald at the auction house all afternoon to no avail. As a result, Will was anxious out of his mind. Had Gerald seen them and left the island in a hurry? However, after giving it some thought, Will remembered that Gerald had never met him or Finch before. With that in mind, Gerald wouldn't have had a reason to flee in the first place!

Understanding that, Will who had now collected his thoughts again scanned the area one final time to ensure that Gerald wasn't there before whispering to Finch, "Let's search again later. If you manage to spot him, make sure to never let him out of your sight, understand?"

"But... What if we're discovered in the process?" asked Finch.

"Look, when else are we going to be able to get rid of him? Remember, though the patriarch said that he wanted to kill Gerald, he didn't do the deed even when he received two clear chances to kill him before! What more, he's only sent me to investigate that boy's

cultivation level! Never to kill! With that said, only a fool would continue believing Daryl's words! Letting Gerald escape will only bring more trouble in the end!" scoffed Will with a snort, his hatred toward Gerald already beyond words.

Will, for one, knew that until Gerald was dead, he would remain uneasy. After all, even if he did attain the position as the patriarch's successor, Daryl could easily replace him with Gerald if that old man really wanted to.

With that in mind, the sooner he got rid of Gerald, the better his chances of being able to retain his position as the patriarch's successor. Gerald was literally the only thing in his way since Will knew for a fact that nobody else in his family was as capable as he was. Then again, the majority of the Crawfords were already supporting him.

Will's train of thought was cut short when Finch rather hesitantly asked, "Um... Can I ask a sensitive question, brother Will...?"

"Just say it!" grumbled the impatient Will, now thoroughly pissed after thinking so much about Gerald. Truth be told, he would've already exploded in rage if there weren't other families present.

"Well... What should we do if the patriarch finds out about all this...? After all, he's already said that nobody's allowed to meddle with this matter. With that said, if we're found out, we'll most definitely be punished..." muttered Finch, sounding rather worried.

After all, although Will was Daryl's confidant and also the successor of the Crawford family, Finch still had to prioritize Daryl's commands. It didn't help that anyone who defied Daryl never met a good end. Finch, for one, had already witnessed a few of the punishments, and each of them was equally terrifying...

"As I've said, as long as we do the deed flawlessly and neither of us says a word about it, there's no way he could know!" grumbled Will. Daryl was the last person he wanted to think of at the moment. After all, despite Daryl's promise to make him the family's successor, he still treated Gerald so well! It was truly enraging!

Honestly, he was now wishing for Daryl's sudden death so that he could finally take his rightful place as the new patriarch! If that scenario came to be, then his first order would be to have Gerald killed at all costs! No longer would that boy cause him any more trouble in the future...!

"But..." muttered Finch, clearly still worried. Doing all this perfectly was easier said than done. If they ended up getting found, they'd surely land in a world of trouble... It didn't help that Gerald was the patriarch's biological grandson. What's more, nobody could tell what the patriarch was thinking!"

Regardless, Will simply retorted, "No buts. If you're that scared, then feel free to leave now!"

Upon hearing that, Finch clenched his fists before eventually declaring, "I'm not..!"

Pleased to hear that, Will then ordered, "Good. Now hurry off and remember to tell me where Gerald's staying the second you find out."

### **Chapter 2358**

Honestly, if Finch had chosen to return earlier, Will would've tried to kill him one way or another. After all, what good was a man who couldn't even follow simple commands? What's more, Finch already knew too much. If he didn't get rid of him quickly, it could cause him problems later down the line.

Either way, after Finch left, Will heaved a deep sigh. He really needed to kill Gerald this time. No longer would that b\*stard continue threatening his position...!

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Fast forward to evening, a few Zeman clansmen went looking for Gerald again. Upon seeing him sitting alone in the living room, they were prompted to say, "Ah, there you are, Mr. Gerald. Our patriarch has invited you over for dinner."

After nodding in response, Gerald got to his feet before following them out. Just as he was leaving his room, however, he bumped into Lucian and Aiden. After telling them he was heading out for a bit, Gerald then followed the Zemans downstairs.

Watching as Gerald walked off, Lucian was prompted to mutter, "I wonder if he knows any other people here..."

"I wonder as well. It's been quite a while since I've last met him, so I'm not too sure of what connections he now has..." replied Aiden with a shrug.

"Whatever the case is, let's just have a simple dinner. I'm sure chaos will ensue the second it gets dark enough outside..." muttered Lucian as he closed the door and windows,

remembering that it was around this time when the two families had gotten into their fight the day before.

Regardless, just as Gerald was leaving the building with the Zeman disciples, he was seen by Finch who just so happened to be passing by on his way to dinner.

Finch himself had been searching all afternoon for Gerald to no avail. With that in mind, he was understandably tired, and he was planning to head straight to bed after his meal. Naturally, he immediately did a double take when he saw Gerald. Once he confirmed that it really was the boy, Finch quickly gave Will a call before reporting, "B-brother Will! I saw Gerald leaving a wooden building! He's currently heading north with two other men!"

"Well, what are you waiting for? Hurry and catch up to him! If you lose him this time, don't you even dare think about returning to Yearning Island!" growled Will, prompting Finch to helplessly hang up before starting to tail the trio.

Naturally, Gerald had no idea that he was being followed. After all, he was busy wondering what Walter would say to him tonight, and what he should do if Walter continued pursuing the matter regarding his daughter.

To Gerald's surprise, however, the second Walter who was sitting alone in the room saw him, the middle-aged man instantly greeted, "Gerald! My good friend! Come, sit!"

Though Gerald knew that Walter was only being this friendly because he needed Gerald's help, he couldn't help but feel slightly embarrassed. After all, the middle-aged man sounded so genuine. Regardless, Gerald quickly replied, "Um... I really shouldn't be eating here all the time..."

"Why shouldn't you? You're our family's savior! Honestly, feel free to stay here if you so wish!" declared Walter with a hearty laugh.

"That... isn't necessary..." muttered Gerald in a slightly helpless tone. The way Walter said it, it was almost as though Gerald had already agreed to help Mia expel her cold poison... Then again, there was nothing he could do about it. After all, Walter's cultivation was much higher than his. With that in mind, if Gerald straight out refused, then there was a chance that he wouldn't even be able to leave this place.

Gerald's train of thought was cut short when Walter patted his thigh before adding, "Speaking of which, if there are any auction items you want, just tell me! I'll give it to you as a gift!"

Upon hearing that, Gerald instantly exclaimed, "There really is no need for that...!"

If he accepted it, then he would have no way to back out of this...!

Despite Gerald's refusal, Walter simply ignored the boy as he turned to look at the door before shouting, "Yaacob! Go get the auction item list for Gerald to have a look!"

### **Chapter 2359**

Shortly after, Walter received a small booklet from Yaacob. Following that, Walter handed it to Gerald before saying, "If you see anything you're interested in, just say the word!"

"Again, I really don't need anything! If I'm truly interested in something, I'll bid for it myself! Besides, obtaining auction items this way is clearly against the rules!" exclaimed Gerald as he waved his hands in refusal.

Rather than being angered, Walter simply crossed his arms with a laugh as he said, "It's good to see that you're full of principle! On a more serious note... Have you given my daughter's illness enough thought? Know that as long as you cure Mia's cold poison, I promise to grant you any wish!"

Before Gerald could even answer, Third elder rushed into the room while shouting, "Patriarch! Someone's just attempted to barge in!"

Frowning slightly upon hearing that, Walter momentarily glanced at Gerald before asking, "Hmm? Who would even dare to do such a thing? Could the person have stumbled upon this place by accident like Gerald?"

"Negative. While Gerald had only wandered close to the forcefield around Mount Nimbus, this man was different. He came here with a clear target in mind..." muttered Third elder as he shook his head. Had that man simply stumbled across this place by

mistake, Third elder would've just driven him away instead of reporting all this to the patriarch!

"Oh? Interesting... Since he's daring enough to come here, I'd like to see who he is!" replied Walter as he burst out laughing. Turning to look at Gerald, he then added, "Care to join me, Gerald?"

After Gerald nodded, the duo then followed Third elder out. Soon enough, they arrived at the room where the intruder was being held.

Upon entering, the two were greeted by the sight of a man firmly tied to a chair with thick ropes, a number of disciples actively standing guard around him. Naturally, the intruder was none other than Finch!

Finch himself had no idea what this place was. He had simply gotten here after tailing Gerald and the Zeman disciples. Unfortunately for him, he got caught as he was trying to eavesdrop on Gerald's conversation. Whatever the case was, upon looking up, Finch was immediately greeted by the sight of Gerald and Walter staring right at him!

Walking up to Finch, Walter then glared condescendingly at him before saying, "You're younger than I expected. Tell me, should I call you brave or arrogant?"

"P-please sir... I accidentally stumbled into this place... With that said, please let me off..." muttered Finch in a helpless tone. Had he known that this would happen, he wouldn't have followed Gerald here...!

"Let you go? Tell me who you are first, as well as what you're really after, then we talk Also, the elder on guard told me that you came straight for this place, so only an idiot would believe that you 'accidentally' stumbled all the way here," scoffed Walter as he gestured for his disciples to fall back.

"I... I... I really did just come across this place by accident...!" whimpered Finch who didn't dare expose who he really was. After all, if he did, Gerald would definitely kill him...! Who knows, if he kept his mouth zipped, he could possibly get freed in the end.

"Make me repeat myself and you'll be dead in a minute," snarled the increasingly impatient Walter as he immediately exuded immense murderous intent...!

## **Chapter 2360**

Upon hearing that, one of Walter's disciples immediately took a step forward.

Now terrified out of his mind, Finch who could sense how serious these people were about murdering him immediately yelled, "W-wait...!"

After gesturing for his disciple to stop, Walter then stared Finch straight in the eye before asking in a calm, but stern tone, "Again, I ask. Who are you, and who has your back? Why



didn't you just return to rest after today's auction ended? just so you know, my family is the organizer of this auction!"

Gulping in response, Finch glanced at Gerald before sighing. He had no choice but to state the truth.

Shaking his head, Finch then explained, "I... I'm from the Crawford family... I came here to spy on Gerald..."

"Oh? You're a Crawford? Do you know him, Gerald?" asked Walter as he turned to look at the boy.

Gerald himself already had his fists clenched as he narrowed his eyes at Finch while growling, "The cultivating Crawford family, I presume?"

After seeing Finch nod, the confused Walter couldn't help but ask, "Hmm? What's going on here? Is he not your family member?"

Momentarily remaining silent, Gerald eventually turned to face Walter before placing his palm against his fist as he requested, "Before that, could you spare his life for now? Maybe keep him here in the meantime...?"

"That's certainly arrangeable," replied Walter, prompting both Gerald and Finch to heave sighs of relief.

After exiting the room, Walter who could sense Gerald's unease signaled his disciples to leave them be for now. Following that, Walter took a slow stroll on the shore behind his home-together with Gerald.

It was a brief silence later when Walter turned to look at Gerald who was very obviously upset before asking, "My friend, do you have any grudges against the cultivating Crawford family...?"

"Well, there's no point hiding all this anymore... You see, the cultivating Crawford family was established by my grandfather..." muttered Gerald, not wanting to keep it a secret anymore.

Gerald, for one, knew that Walter wouldn't suddenly decide to kill him since he still possessed the Herculean Primordial Spirit. What more, Walter could very well end up helping him! However, should that happen, then he would truly have no choice but to

copulate with Walter's daughter. Though he knew that, Finch's sudden appearance had made Gerald's mind more muddled than he'd like to admit.

"I see. Then... Isn't that man part of your family...?" asked the confused Walter.

"Far from it," replied Gerald with a long sigh before starting to explain all about Daryl. In the process, Gerald also admitted that he had only approached Mount Nimbus in the first place to learn about its secrets due to how similar it was in terms of being

able to disappear and reappear to Yearning Island.

Throughout Gerald's explanation, Walter kept nodding as his frown slowly deepened. To think that this young man had been carrying such heavy responsibility in the past few years.

By the time Gerald was done, Walter slipped his hands into his pockets before saying, "Now I know the whole story... Yearning Island, was it? I truly believe that that island floating atop the Northbay Sea functions the same as this one, as in, there's a giant forcefield around it, thus allowing it to be invisible from the outside... With that said, I have reason to believe that your grandfather's cultivation level is on par with mine. Still, I've never heard of the cultivating Crawfords before, so I can't help you information wise..."

"But... If you haven't even heard of the cultivating Crawfords before, how did they get invited to the auction...?" asked Gerald.

"Well, just because I haven't heard about them doesn't mean that the same applies to the rest of my family. In case you weren't aware, those on the island are just a small part of my family. With that said, I normally don't care about the auction too much. I'm only here due to the fact that I was told that the bearer of the Herculean Primordial Spirit was here," explained Walter with a smile as he looked at the vast ocean.

"I see..." replied Gerald as he nodded.

After lighting a cigarette and handing one to Gerald, Walter took a moment before saying, "Since Yearning Island is most probably surrounded by a forcefield like Greendrake Island, it won't be easy for you to get there How's this? I'll inform my family's elders to tell you all they know about the cultivating Crawfords."

"I appreciate it. Still, there's one other thing that I can't quite understand," muttered Gerald as he held onto his cigarette.

"That being?" asked Walter with a slightly raised brow.

"Well... Since Yearning Island was already able to vanish at will thousands of years ago, does that mean that those from the Seadom tribe were cultivators...? Or perhaps they used some other method to make the island vanish..." muttered Gerald, a frown on his face.

"Unfortunately, I'm not too sure about that," replied Walter as he shook his head.

"Whatever the case is, my parents and sister are still being held hostage there... I won't stop till I've saved them...!" growled Gerald as he clenched his fists tightly.

"Once you find the island, tell me and I'll lead some of my family's seniors over to help you save your family. How's that sound?" asked Walter as he placed a hand on Gerald's shoulder.

"While I appreciate the kind offer, I wish to save my loved ones with my own strength. Besides, I don't think it's good to keep relying on others," replied Gerald as he shook his head.

Admiring Gerald's determination, Walter nodded as he asked, "I see. Speaking of which, what do you plan to do with the man we caught?"

"If possible, keep him here for now... I think he's just a regular member of the cultivating Crawfords. With that said, another Crawford must have brought him here," replied Gerald after taking in a deep breath.

"Oh? So you're saying that the spy is working for another person who wishes to harm you?" deduced Walter.

After watching Gerald nod in agreement, Walter then turned around as he said, "I see. Then I'll make sure to force every last bit of information out of him, then. Also, as an elder, I have some advice for you... Though it's good to be kind, being too kind all the time could eventually spell trouble..."

Bowing toward Walter, Gerald simply replied, "I appreciate the advice, Uncle Zeman. I know what to do."

"Good to hear. Well, feel free to return to your room now. As promised, I'll let Finch live for now. The second I find someone attempting to look for that man, however, I'll be sure to immediately inform you," said Walter as he tossed his cigarette butt into a stone pestle.

"Thank you, Uncle Zeman," replied Gerald with a bow before turning to leave.