## The Mans Decree Chapter 1471 -

### Chapter 1471 Looking For Help

Over at the Dunn residence, Lachlan appeared sullen, for he knew it was a moment of life and death for his family.

In the past, the Dunns and the Nortons were opposing forces. With Skylar assuming the vice presidency of the Warriors Alliance, he would definitely take the Dunn family down.

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Almost all the sects in Jadeborough's martial arts world were already part of the Warriors Alliance, so it would be a futile effort if Lachlan were to challenge the alliance.

"Dad, I think Skylar won't do anything to us openly even though he's the vice president of Warriors Alliance. Our family has a high social standing in Jadeborough. If he lifts a finger against us, we will just talk to Mr. Sanders. The Warriors Alliance doesn't have the final say in the martial arts world here," Howard uttered when he noticed his father's grim mood.

"Well..." Lachlan replied with a sigh. "Not exactly. Mr. Sanders would have acted long ago if he had wanted to. The alliance has grown so influential only because Mr. Sanders allowed it."

"Why didn't he do anything?" Howard blurted, confused.

"How would I know? There's no way we know what the authorities have in mind," Lachlan replied, shaking his head.

Howard did not know what else to say, and everyone fell into silence.

"Dad," Howard called out after some time. "What about we ask the Gunderson family for help? They are the only ones who have not joined the Warriors Alliance in Jadeborough till now. We can count on them to challenge the alliance."

"But the Gunderson family has a policy of staying out of trouble. Besides, it's not like they have any reasons to help us. We're not related in any way," Lachlan disagreed with a frown.

"Let me talk to Astrid, Dad. She helped me when I was in Bliss City. I think she's a nice person."

Howard was still grateful to Astrid for saving his life.

When Lachlan heard this, he thought for a bit and nodded. "Sure. Bring some gifts with you. We need to repay her kindness and test the waters to see the Gunderson family's take on this."

"I'll do that!" Howard left gladly after hearing that.

The Gunderson family was actually one of the most powerful families in Jadeborough, but because they had neither crossed anyone nor joined any alliance, not many people knew about them.

As for Astrid, she was the most gifted person of her generation. Despite her young age, she had gained much popularity. Yet, her fame dwindled after she had gone into seclusion.

On the day Howard went over, Astrid was sitting at the gazebo in her house, staring into the east.

"I can't believe he died just like that," she mumbled to herself.

"What's the matter, Astrid? You've been distracted ever since you came back from the Trial," a middle-aged man noted as he walked toward Astrid with a faint smile.

It was her father, Fernando Gunderson.

Astrid snapped out of her daze and turned to look at the man. "It's nothing. I felt bored in the room, so I came out to sit here."

"Why are you out here on a cold day, though? I saw you were deep in thought just now. Don't tell me you're in love, Astrid. I know it's about time you have a boyfriend," Fernando teased, smiling.

"Cut it out, Dad. What are you talking about? I wasn't thinking about anyone."

Astrid rolled her eyes and got up to leave, but her father tugged her before she could do so.

"Come on. You're my daughter. There's no way I don't know what's going on in that head of yours." Fernando called her out, chuckling. " Kai was a genius. I like him too, but what can I do? He did not live long. I can only say he's not fated to be with you."

"What nonsense! I wasn't thinking about him, Dad! I don't even know him..."

Astrid suddenly felt guilty. She shrugged off her father's hand, intending to run away from the awkward conversation.

# The Mans Decree Chapter 1472 -

### Chapter 1472 A Higher Cultivation Level

While the father and daughter were talking, a servant hurried into the residence. "Mr. Gunderson, Ms. Gunderson! Mr. Howard Dunn is here to see Ms. Gunderson!" "Howard Dunn? Why is he here to see me?"

A subtle frown appeared on Astrid's face. "Hm, Howard is not bad too. He might not be successful, but he's a good man," Fernando commented, flashing a smile at his daughter.

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Astrid rolled her eyes at Fernando again. "I'm not talking to you anymore." With that said, the woman went to the door to find out for herself what brought Howard to her place.

Howard was standing at the door in a neat suit when Astrid met him. It seemed he had put in the time and effort to look good for the visit.

"What do you want, Howard?" Astrid asked.

Although Astrid had saved the man in Bliss City, it did not mean she was fond of him.

In fact, she did not like any of the young men in Jadeborough.

When Howard saw Astrid at the door, his eyes sparkled in excitement.

"Sorry for disturbing you, Ms. Gunderson. I have something I need to discuss with you," he informed her as he went closer to her.

"What is it? You don't have to come so close to talk to me."

Astrid retreated in disgust. It was apparent that Howard's flirtatious action put her off.

"This is not a place to talk, Ms. Gunderson. Let's go somewhere else," Howard insisted with a smile.

"Just say it here. If not, I'm going back in. I don't have time for this."

Speaking, Astrid turned to leave.

"Wait, Ms. Gunderson! It's about Kai. Don't you want to know what I have to say?" Howard added instantly.

Astrid halted the moment she heard that name. " Kai? What about him? Is he still alive?"

A menacing glint glimmered in Howard's eyes when he saw how worried Astrid was.

"We should talk somewhere else. The walls have ears. I'll tell you everything later."

With that said, he pulled open his car door gentlemanly.

Astrid was reluctant at first, but she went ahead in the end.

Once Howard got in, he started the engine and headed to a hotel. Looking at the woman in the backseat through the rearview mirror, he smiled with evil intent.

Howard had never smiled like that before, but his expression went unnoticed by Astrid because she was not paying attention.

Over in Bliss City, Kai sat cross-legged amidst the numerous beast cores on the ground. The beast cores had already been reduced by half at that point.

As the number of beast cores decreased, Kai's power steadily increased.

Kai had already reached the second realm of Nascent Soul. Although it was just a meager increase in level, there was a marked improvement in his strength.

Kai slowly opened his eyes and looked at the beast cores left. "Nascent Soul's cultivation requires a lot of resources. This means it will be even more difficult for me to improve further as I advance," he noted.

Kai looked at the many remaining beast cores and wondered when he would be able to finish absorbing all of them.

"I wonder how things are like over on the outside after all this time."

Kai had lost track of time.

He had no idea how long he had remained in that state, let alone how things were in the outside world.

In fact, he did not know if it was already a new year. Earlier, he had promised himself to save Josephine and his mother before the year ended, but looking at how things were, Kai was unsure if he would be able to live up to that goal, for he could not just leave the beast cores behind.

It would be great if he could bring them with him, but unfortunately, his Storage Ring did not have enough space, so he could not take them all.

"I think I'll have to finish cultivating first, then," he said to himself as he shook his head in resignation.

With that in mind, he harnessed his Focus Technique and resumed his cultivation.

# The Mans Decree Chapter 1473 -

### Chapter 1473 A Disguise

Meanwhile, Astrid followed Howard to a hotel in Jadeborough. The room was romantically decorated, and when Astrid saw this, she turned and spoke apathetically to Howard. "Howard Dunn, I don't think this is a proper place for us to talk."

Despite her comment, Astrid did not really have her guard up, for she knew that, given Howard's capabilities, she could easily pin him down. Since that was the case, she was not concerned at all that he would do anything to her.

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"What's so improper about this place, Ms. Gunderson? You've always been the girl I want. I brought you here today to confess my love to you."

As he spoke, Howard took out a bouquet of flowers and went on one knee before Astrid. Astrid's face froze when she saw that. "You should just give up. I don't like you a single bit," she replied dismissively.

When she had made herself clear, she turned to leave. It did not occur to her that Howard would trick her into that place to profess his feelings to her.

Although Astrid was infuriated, she did not lash out at Howard.

To her, the martial arts world in Jadeborough was going through a tectonic change, and the Gunderson family could no longer stay out of all the politics. It was not time for Astrid to make an enemy out of the Dunn family.

Yet, just as she was leaving, Howard made a move on her and grabbed her by the wrist.

"Since you're here, why don't we talk things out, Ms. Gunderson?" Howard insisted with a sinister grin.

Astrid frowned. "Let me go."

Then, she lifted her hand and hurled a half-hearted punch at the man.

Howard would not be able to stand it if she had gone all out. Still, instead of dodging, Howard caught her fist with his hand, making it impossible for her to move an inch.

Astrid was stunned. Suddenly, a mist appeared around Howard, and a dizzy sensation overtook Astrid. She closed her eyes and passed out eventually.

Howard smirked as he looked at the unconscious woman. He carried her over to the bed and started undressing her.

A dark mist engulfed Howard when he saw Astrid's body. Then, his face began to change and morphed into Skylar's face.

It turned out that Skylar had worn a disguise to appear as Howard. That was why he was able to counter Astrid's attack so easily earlier.

"Tsk, tsk. There goes a fine young woman like you. I would've ravaged you if I could."

Feeling regretful, Skylar took out his camera and started snapping photos.

After he was done, Skylar left the hotel and proceeded with the rest of his plan. It was time for him to watch a conflict erupt between the Gunderson and the Dunn family.

After some time, Astrid finally regained consciousness. When she saw her disheveled clothes, she broke down and cried bitterly.

She was the woman all the young men in different sects coveted, and it was hard for her to believe that a man had just tarnished her.

"Howard Dunn! I will kill you..."

A murderous intent exuded from her body. Astrid was under the impression that Howard was the one who had sullied her purity.

Dispirited, she got home and cleaned her body desperately before changing into a new set of clothes.

I will go to the Dunns myself. They'd better give me an explanation. I will kill that man even if it means death!

Yet, just as Astrid was getting ready to find Howard at the Dunn residence, a servant rushed in and informed, "Ms. Gunderson, Mr. Howard Dunn is here to see you."

Overwhelmed by a strong murderous intent, Astrid darted to the door.

### The Mans Decree Chapter 1474 -

### Chapter 1474 Innocence

She could not believe that Howard dared to show himself at her house again after what he had done to her.

The servant was terrified when he felt the murderous intent, so he quickly left to get Fernando.

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Meanwhile, Howard, standing at the door, was feeling nervous with all the gifts in his hands. His current situation reminded him of someone about to meet his future in-laws.

Just as the poor man was waiting at the door, a shadow suddenly appeared before him.

"Ms. Gunderson..." Howard exclaimed the moment he saw Astrid.

"You're an animal, Howard Dunn! I'll kill you!"

Astrid stared at him as anger boiled in her heart, and she dealt him a punch.

The man was stupefied. He had no idea what he had done to incur the woman's wrath.

"Ms. Gunderson! What are you—"

Before he could finish, Howard felt a painful punch landing on his chest.

Blood spewed from his mouth, and his body flew backward until it hit a car somewhere nearby.

The car was dented at the impact.

Astrid's attack left Howard struggling for his life. When he finally got back on his feet, he saw Astrid charging toward him again for another strike.

Deep down, Howard was crying for help, for he knew not what he had done to make Astrid so furious that she would want to kill him.

He was not strong enough to fight Astrid, and since he had lost the ability to dodge her assaults, Howard could only watch her directing her punch at him like a destructive tornado.

"Stop!"

Fernando managed to make it in time. He shielded Howard and neutralized Astrid's momentum with just a hand.

"Don't stop me, Dad! I have to kill him!" Astrid bellowed in fury.

"What happened, Astrid? Why are you doing this?" Fernando questioned.

Astrid could not bring herself to tell her father what happened, so she stomped and insisted, "I have to kill him right now!"

When Fernando saw that his daughter refused to tell him anything, he turned to the injured man instead. "What happened, Mr. Dunn? Why does she want to kill you?"

Howard was equally confused. He shook his head, replying, "I don't know. She started hurling death threats at me the moment I saw her."

"Did you say anything to her?" Fernando asked with a frown.

He knew that Astrid was not someone who would get into a fight without a good reason. Although she was a little willful, she would never kill anyone mindlessly.

"No. I didn't say anything to her..."

Howard was on the verge of crying at that point. He was innocent and had only gone to see Astrid with gifts as tokens of his gratitude for her.

He totally did not expect Astrid to do that to him.

Seeing this, Fernando had no choice but to advise Howard to go home. "What about you leave first, Mr. Dunn? I'll talk to you once I get to the bottom of this."

Howard could only do as he was told, or else he would not be able to leave alive.

When she saw Howard leaving, Astrid wanted to attack again, but Fernando stopped her.

She cried in resignation as she watched Howard leave and ran back to her room.

As for Howard, as soon as he arrived home, he dropped to the ground, unconscious.

Lachlan was incensed at the sight.

Despite what happened, Lachlan and Fernando did not declare war against one another in the heat of the moment. They were too wise to do that.

Skylar was disappointed when things did not escalate as he had predicted. Still, he knew that although his action did not result in a confrontation between the two families, it was enough to make it impossible for them to work together. The Warriors Alliance could just take them down separately, and all the sects in Jadeborough's martial arts world would be part of the alliance in no time.