

"Mr. Asuka, w-what are you doing?" Kazuo's eyes widened when he saw the snow lotus. He didn't understand what kind of scheme or trick. Asuka was pulling.

"You helped me take revenge, so of course I want to repay you. Although some people were sacrificed, it's nothing," Asuka replied. Upon hearing this, Kazuo felt a bit ashamed. After all, he had not been able to kill Jared and had only deceived Asuka.

But looking at the snow lotus in front of him, Kazuo knew he couldn't just refuse it. "Thank you very much, Mr. Asuka." Kazuo quickly took the snow lotus from Haruto's hands.

As he looked at the snow-white lotus, Kazuo couldn't help but feel enamored with it. Asuka noticed this and curled the corners of his lips into a slight smile.

"Mr. Kawaguchi, I actually have one more thing I'd like to ask for your help with..." Asuka said. "Please, Mr. Asuka, just tell me." Kazuo's eyes were fixed on the snow lotus, and he would agree to anything at this point.

"I want you to capture Yuri and bring her here," uttered Asuka. When Kazuo heard this, his excitement vanished instantly, and he handed the snow lotus back to Haruto.

"Mr. Asuka, I don't want to get involved in the Watanabe family's affairs. I hope you can understand. I have things to do, so I'll take my leave now..." Kazuo said before running away.

Kazuo wasn't stupid. He knew he shouldn't get involved in the power struggles of such a large family because he knew that no matter who won in the end, he would become the sacrificial lamb. Upon seeing Kazuo run away in fear, Asuka couldn't help but curse, "Coward! He's just a coward..."

"Dad, what should we do now? It's going to be difficult to capture Yuri, especially after this..." Haruto asked his father. After this failure, Ryosuke would certainly strengthen security measures around Yuri and might even prevent her from leaving her home..

"Hmph! Even without Yuri as a bargaining chip, I'll take the position of the head of the family. Follow me to the ancestral home..." Asuka demanded, his expression grim and menacing.

At the foot of Fujio Mountain in the Xendale suburbs, there was a simple wooden house that served as the ancestral home of the Watanabe family. Masato Watanabe, who lived there, was the most senior member of the family.

Ryosuke arrived at the wooden house with his men and got out of his car, walking toward the house after parking a few hundred meters away. Although he was the head of the Watanabe family, he still respected the elders and observed the necessary etiquette.

Upon reaching the front of the house, Ryosuke gently knocked on the door. It opened slowly, revealing a gathering of people inside who seemed to be discussing something. This caught Ryosuke off guard since Masato had long retired from family affairs and would not allow so many people to disturb him. This situation was very unusual, and as the head of the Watanabe family, he was surprised that no one had notified him of it.

Seeing Ryosuke, many people stood up and bowed to him. After all, his status as the head of the family was higher than theirs. Only two people remained seated-Masato, who had thinning hair and

missing teeth, and was seated at the top, and a middle-aged man in a samurai outfit sitting next to him.

The middle-aged man was kneeling next to Masato with an old katana placed in front of him. Although the man's eyes were cold and filled with disrespect, Ryosuke dared not show any resentment toward him.

This man was Kawano Chishima, a renowned sword master in Xendale whose skill with a katana was legendary, and whose true strength was unknown to anyone. Kawano had been guarding Masato's safety since he was young and was still doing so now with the utmost loyalty.