

## An Understated Dominance Chapter 981

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Chapter 981

He had no problem lifting thousands of pounds with his strength. How was it possible that at

he could not lift a sword?

“Try again,” Walter urged.

Ben didn't dare to hesitate. Taking a deep breath, he clasped both hands tightly on the sword's hilt and pulled it upwards with all his might..

His veins popped, and his face flushed. He used all his strength, but the sword did not budge an inch.

“Master Chasey, this won't work. I can't lift it.” Heaving a long sigh, Ben was already drenched in sweat.

“What a piece of trash. How could you not be able to lift just a sword? Let me do it!”

Nathan couldn't take it anymore. He voluntarily walked up and pushed Ben aside. Then, he spat into his palms and rubbed them together.

Setting his footing right, he grabbed the sword's hilt and deeply breathed. Mustering up all the true energy he had, he pulled up sharply.

The black sword remained unmoving.

“Damn it! I don't believe this!” Nathan frowned. Unwilling to accept defeat, he tried several more times.

And it was still the

same. The sword remained motionless as though it was a part of the stone chamber.

“Master Chasey, there’s something odd about the sword. It can’t be removed.”

Nathan felt both ashamed and helpless. In the end, he had no choice but to give up. “I think you’ll have to do it yourself.”

“Hmph! I can’t believe you guys can’t handle such a small task. What an embarrassment!”

With a dark expression, Walter walked up to the sword with his hands behind his back.

He circled the sword once to make sure it was not dangerous.

Then, he grabbed the sword’s hilt. He gave it a sharp pull,

Still, the sword remained motionless.

“Hmm?” Walter’s eyes narrowed. He increased his force on the sword but to no avail.

With all his disciples’ eyes on him, Walter felt embarrassed that he could not pull out the sword. Hence, he reached out both hands to grasp the sword’s hilt and crouched down.

“Get up!” Walter roared, unleashing all his true energy in one go.

The entire stone chamber began to rumble, and pieces of rubble fell around them. For a moment, dust and sand rained down on them.

It was as though an earthquake. It was scary.

The stone chamber continued rumbling, but the black sword remained unmoving.

“Too much! This is too much!”

Walter gritted his teeth. He had put every last bit of his strength into it but failed. He kicked at the sword to vent his anger.

“That’s odd. Could that be a fake sword? Why else is it not budging?”

“If even Master Chasey can’t dislodge it, who can?”

“The Celestial Blade appears to slay all evil; only by the Fated One to wield.’ Could it be possible that the sword has a mind of its own and will pick its owner?”

Everyone exchanged looks of bewilderment as they whispered among themselves.

“Let me try.” All of a sudden, Dustin approached the sword.

Somehow, the sword looked familiar to him. He even felt a sense of liking for it.

He felt like they were old friends and were finally meeting again after a long time.

“Hmph! Even Master Chasey can’t do it. Do you think you’d be able to?” Nathan rolled his

eyes at Dustin in disdain.

“The sword has a mind of its own. Of course, you can’t do it with brute strength.”

Dustin slowly closed his eyes and began feeling the mysterious sensation from the sword.

“Nonsense! It’s just a sword! How can it have a mind of its own?”

“Don’t overestimate yourself, young man.”

“Even Master Chasey can’t do it. Do you think that you’d be able to? You’re just going to embarrass yourself!”

The Azure Mist disciples jeered, each with a look of contempt on their face.

Master Chasey was halfway to becoming a grandmaster. If he found it impossible to lift the sword, what more could a nobody like Dustin?

“Young people tend to think too highly of themselves.”

Walter shot Dustin a sidelong glance and said coldly, "You think you're better than me, don't you? Do you think that you'll be able to perform a miracle when even I can't?"

"Mark my words. Nobody will be able to extract the sword. Not even the gods! If you can do it, I'll get on my knees and take you as my mentor!"

He had barely finished his sentence when Dustin suddenly opened his eyes.

A dark glow flashed, and Dustin suddenly lifted two fingers. He pointed at the sword and lifted it upwardly with his fingers.

"Up!" he shouted.

A clanging sound was heard.

The black sword lifted off the ground and circled in the air twice before falling straight into Dustin's outstretched palm.

Walter stood there dumbfounded.

## Chapter 982

Looking at the black sword in Dustin's hand, everyone was astonished. It was simply unbelievable.

They had tried hard to pull the sword out, but none succeeded. And now, it came out by itself and flew straight into Dustin's hand.

The most shocking thing was that Dustin hadn't touched it the entire time!

He had simply pointed two fingers at it and made a lifting motion through the air. The sword seemed to have sensed him beckoning it, so it launched out of the ground and landed straight in his hand.

But why?

They had put in so much effort and thoroughly tried to get it out, all to no avail.

Why did the sword come to Dustin just because he had motioned to it?

Was the sword discriminating against them? Or had it simply ignored them?

“No! No way! How could it have been so simple for him?” Nathan’s eyes widened in disbelief.

Even Master Chasey had not been able to pull the sword out! Why had it gone to Dustin of its own will? What was going on?

“Oh my goodness! Am I seeing things? Did the sword just fly out by itself?” Vanessa gulped, unable to come to terms with what she just saw.

“Does the sword have a mind of its own? Is that why it decided for itself who should be its owner?” Emily wondered, shaken.

“The Celestial Blade appears to slay all evil; only by the Fated One to wield.”

Looking at the message on the ground, that was the only conclusion she managed to draw from it.

“You—How did you do it?” Walter’s brows furrowed. He lost his composure.

He could not understand why Dustin was able to pull the sword out when he could not.

Did the sword regard Dustin, the young man, better than Walter?

“I don’t know. All I did was beckon it, and it came on its own accord.”

Dustin looked at the black sword in admiration.

He was adept with swords, but he rarely used them. Because of his power, no regular sword seemed good enough for him.

But this one was different. It felt like it was tailor-made for him.

The blade was made of meteoric iron. It was so sharp that it could slice through almost any material. Dustin could feel an immense power within it that could destroy the world.

“Celestial Blade? Impressive.” Dustin smiled. He slowly caressed the sword, growing fond

of it.

“Dustin! Congratulations on getting a sword of your own! Seems like it belongs to you now.”

“Emily smiled.

“Hang on!” Walter suddenly piped up.

“Young man, there’s something unusual about this sword.

“If I’m not mistaken, this should be a dangerous object. It might put you in danger if you keep it around you. Why don’t I safe—keep it for you?”

Dustin raised a brow. “Sir Chasey, I think it’s fate that the sword chose me. It’s not dangerous.”

“I’m doing this in consideration for your safety, young man. You wouldn’t be able to handle such a dangerous object. Let me guard it.”

Walter reached out to take the sword from Dustin.

It was rare to come across a sword with a mind of its own. He wasn’t about to let it slip through his fingers.

If he were to own the sword, it would greatly enhance his powers. He might even be able to put up against a grandmaster if he had it!

“Sir Chasey, I’ll keep it safe myself. Don’t worry about it.”

The smile on Dustin’s face started to fade. He was beginning to see what kind of a person Walter was.

Chapter 983

This old geezer was abandoning his morals for his gain. He was greedy to make the sword

his.

“Young man, let me make this clear. I’m not asking for your opinion,” Walter said coldly.

“Like they say, an innocent man will become a target if he possesses a prized possession.

This sword isn’t suitable for you.

“Give it to me, and you can uphold your honor.

“Sir Chasey, it sounds like you’re threatening me.” Dustin narrowed his eyes.

“I’m just giving you advice—  
a wise man understands his circumstances. You’re still young,

and you'll have many more opportunities.

"You don't have to destroy your future over a sword, don't you think?" Walter continued.

He was determined to get the sword at all costs. He would have done this long ago if he didn't care about his reputation.

"Master Chasey, the sword chose its wielder. Dustin is fated to have this sword. What you're doing isn't right, don't you think?" Emily frowned.

She never thought her righteous master would completely turn his back on someone over

a sword.

He was even making threats.

"Shut up!" Walter glared at her.

"What do you know? This sword has no owner, so finder's keepers!"

"Dad! Dustin already got the sword. Don't tell me you're going to snatch it from him?"

Vanessa said with furrowed eyebrows. She looked angry.

"Stupid girl, you're my daughter! Why are you siding with the outsider?!" Walter felt embarrassed.

"I'm just pointing out the facts!" Vanessa said indignantly.

"Dustin saved our lives before. We haven't even had the chance to repay him yet, but you're already threatening him. You're such a bully!"

"Hmph, if we hadn't brought him here, he might never have found this treasure!

retorted fiercely.

"Not to mention, I just want that one sword. What's the big deal? If we find another treasure in the future, we'll let him have it!"

"But..."

"That's enough!"

Vanessa wanted to say something, but Walter interrupted her angrily, "I like this sword. I have to have it no matter what!"

"What if I don't give it to you?" Dustin said with a cold look.

"You won't give it to me? Don't blame me when I stop playing the nice guy!" Walter shouted.

As he spoke, his body exuded an overwhelming aura. He looked like a ferocious beast baring his teeth.

"Stop!" Vanessa stood in front of Dustin and defended him.

"Dad, Dustin saved my life before. If you're going to do something reckless, then you'd have to kill me first!"

"Move out of the way, stupid girl!" Walter flew into his rage.

He thought that the daughter that he'd raised would support him.

"Dad, we can't be ungrateful! You taught me this!"

Vanessa bit her lip, spreading her arms wide to protect Dustin. She looked like she was ready to face death.

"Forget it, Master Chasey. You'll find a better treasure next time. There's no need to fight."

Emily advised.

"Shut up!" Walter was furious.

He slapped Emily across the face and screamed, "You ungrateful brats, I taught you to respect your teachers, not rebel against them!"

Emily cupped her cheek with a frown. She looked at Walter in shock, like she didn't recognize him anymore.

2/3

She never thought that her master would become so uncompromising.



“Sir Chasey, you need to know where to draw the line. Don’t make mountains out of molehills,” Dustin said coolly.

This old geezer was blinded by greed.

It was a shame because he had such a great disciple and an awesome daughter.

“Enough talking! Give me the sword, or don’t think about leaving this place!” Walter threatened.

“You want the sword? Fine, I’ll give it to you.” Dustin nodded and flung the sword.

It spun in the air a few times before lodging itself back in the mystical formation, just like how it was before.

“Go on, pull it out if you can.”

Chapter 984

“Go on, pull it out if you can.

Dustin didn’t want to waste his breath any longer. He tossed the sword back to its original

spot and walked out the stone doors.

There were three stone doors in the stone room. Dustin simply chose one and entered.

He didn’t prolong the situation for Emily’s and Vanessa’s sake. Instead, he chose to go his

separate way.

After all, it wasn’t like Walter could retrieve the sword. There was no harm in leaving the

sword here.

The most important thing was the Shadowbloom.

Once he found the Shadowbloom, he could still return and get the sword.

“Stop right there, punk!”

As Walter watched Dustin walk away, his anger flared. He raised his hand and was about to

deliver a lethal blow.

“Stop!” At that moment, Vanessa suddenly jumped between them.

Walter jumped in fright. Afraid that he would accidentally injure his daughter, he stopped himself.

Ultimately, he watched Dustin and the two others slowly walk into the darkness.

“Stupid girl, how dare you go against me over an outsider? You’re incredibly foolish!”

Walter stamped his foot in disappointment.

How did he raise such an ungrateful child?

“Dad, the treasure is important, but you can’t give up your conscience!” Vanessa said righteously.

“You-”

Walter raised his hand to hit her, but in the end, he stopped himself.

He only had one precious daughter. He couldn’t hurt her.

1/3

“Master Chasey, he is gone, but the sword is here. Why don’t we try again?” Emily said tentatively.

“Hmph! I refuse to believe that only that punk can pull it out!”

Walter gritted his teeth and approached the sword again. Then, he grabbed the hilt with both hands and tried to lift it.

However, the sword didn’t budge. It reacted differently than it did in Dustin’s presence.

“Useless! Trash! I’ll destroy you!”

Walter tried a few more times, and his embarrassment turned into anger.

Since he couldn’t get it, he wanted to destroy it. He slammed his palm on the hilt of the sword.

“Boom!” There was an explosion.

The sword didn’t move. Instead, an invisible force forced Walter to stagger backward.

Suddenly, blood rushed through him, and his arm went numb.

He couldn’t pull it out nor destroy it. He was about to die from frustration.

After composing himself, he left two disciples there to guard it. Then, he led the rest of t  
he

group through the other stone door.

There was no point in trying. Perhaps there were better treasures inside.

Inside the dim tunnel, Abigail was still upset. “Sir, that old bastard crossed the line. Why  
didn’t you teach him a lesson?”

“There’s no need to create  
additional problems for ourselves. Let’s find the Shadowbloom

first,” Dustin said indifferently.

The sword had already bonded with him. He could summon it anytime, so he wasn’t  
worried it’d get stolen.

As they were walking, Azalea stopped in her tracks. “Doctor, there’s another crossroad  
ahead.”

At some point, a crossroad had appeared.

2/3

Looking into it, they saw that each cave was unfathomably deep. It was pitch black, so t  
hey had no idea where it led.

“Why is this place just like a maze? There are all sorts of crossroads.” Abigail frowned,  
looking nervous.

If they took the wrong road, would they be in danger?

“Keep walking forward.”

Dustin swept his gaze over his surroundings and quickly found his bearings.

They continued trudging ahead, following the twists and turns of the tunnel. After half an

hour of walking, they saw a bright light.

They picked up the pace. They realized it was a brightly lit burial chamber when they got

closer.

The burial chamber was huge. All sorts of lifelike humanoid statues surrounded it.

In the very middle of the statues was a giant bronze coffin.

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There were all sorts of strange symbols covering the coffin. It looked like it was filled with

dark energy.

“Sir, don’t you feel like this place is eerie?” Abigail shrunk backward. For some reason, she

felt nervous.

Those lifelike stone statues next to the coffin creeped her out the most. Their cold, beady

eyes seemed to be staring straight at her.

Goosebumps broke out on her skin.

“They’re just statues. What are you afraid of?”

Dustin looked around, but he didn’t sense any living creatures.

“Doctor, there are some writings here.” Azalea stepped forward to find a stone tablet in front of the coffin.

On the stone tablet were the words, “Disciple of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood; Kowtow three times before the tomb.”

Chapter 985

“Sir, we’re not disciples of the Jade Maiden Sisterhood. Should we pray?” Abigail asked.

“We should respect the dead,” Dustin said, nodding.

Iris was a great legend. Although she already passed, she deserved to be respected.

“Okay.” Abigail agreed. She kneeled in front of the stone tablet and kowtowed.

Suddenly, the stone tablet began rumbling. It sunk into the earth and disappeared.

Then, an exquisite box emerged from the stone tablet’s original spot.

“Sir, there’s something here!” Abigail’s eyes lit up, and she immediately opened the box.

A golden pearl was inside the wooden box. It was dazzling and sparkling.

The golden liquid inside was spinning like a whirlpool. It was absorbing the spiritual energy from its surroundings.

“Oh my gosh, is this the Celestial Pearl?!” Azalea’s eyes grew wide with shock.

Even the ever-composed Dustin was surprised.

He never thought the box would contain a legendary sacred relic of the martial world—the

Celestial Pearl!

“What’s a Celestial Pearl?” Abigail cocked her head in confusion.

Wasn’t it just a pretty jewel? Why were they freaking out?

“Abigail, you struck gold this time!” Azalea was jumping out and down in excitement.

“The Celestial Pearl is one of the three major sacred relics. It’s the best, something that numerous martial artists could only dream of!

“Its biggest use is in increasing the speed of cultivation by 10 to 100 times! With the Celestial Pearl, a loser could become a genius overnight!

“Of course, if a genius got their hands on this treasure, their power would be unimaginable!

“It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that once the Celestial Pearl appears, there will be a

bloodbath in the martial world!”

By the end of her explanation, her face was flushed.

1/3

This prized treasure in front of them could make someone a whole new person and achieve great heights!

Who wouldn't be envious?

"Huh, it's that powerful?" Abigail was shocked and found it hard to comprehend the situation.

She'd assumed that it was some kind of decorative jewelry. She didn't think it was such a

big deal.

"Abigail, remember, you can't tell anyone about the Celestial Pearl. Or else, there'll be consequences!" Dustin warned her sternly.

Even he couldn't help but feel a desire for this treasure.

"Sir, this is too precious. I can't take care of it. You should take it."

Abigail was a little scared, so she handed the Celestial Pearl to Dustin without a second thought.

"Abigail, you-!" Azalea's eyes widened in disbelief.

Was that girl stupid? Did she give away this treasure that could change one's fate that others desperately search for?

Even a fool wouldn't do this!

"You silly girl, you're the one who followed the writings, so the Celestial Pearl naturally belongs to you. You keep it." Dustin smiled and pushed her hand back.

"What?" Azalea was once again dumbfounded.

She thought Dustin would be overjoyed, but he unexpectedly turned it down.

Was he also stupid?

"Sir, you're more talented than me. You would use it better." Abigail shoved it to him again.

"If I use it now, I won't improve much. A beginner like you needs it to increase your cultivation speed." Dustin pushed it back.

"I don't want it, you take it!"

"Don't be silly, keep it!"

"I don't even want it!"

"You need it!"

The both of them pushed it back and forth. In the end, they got so worked up that they almost fought.

At the side, Azalea's lips twitched. She looked at the scene before her, not knowing how *to*

feel about it.

Did they think this was a game?

This was a fucking sacred relic of the martial world!

This treasure made countless martial artists crazy with desire!

Could the two of them at least show it some respect?!