

Chapter 687 Familiarity

After the reminder, the Padilla family's team made a hasty exit from the village.

Their apparent purpose had been to spread word of the Duncan family's takeover of the rare-earth mine.

The subtext in Carville's message was a call to group together with other families to challenge the Duncan family for profits.

Though the implication was clear, Liam couldn't shake the feeling that something was amiss. The Padilla family's coincidental arrival seemed almost orchestrated by some unseen hand.

A sudden unsettling idea darted through his mind, heightening his unease.

With a grim expression, Liam became convinced that the rare-earth mine could be at the heart of some scheme.

Unaware of his suspicions, Adelina and Timothy seized the chance to flee.

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family for profits.

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The charade came to an abrupt close. Javier, acting as an intermediary, was busy marshaling his team for deeper exploration into the island.

Before setting out, Javier gave Liam a friendly nod. Although Liam was wearing another face and Javier didn't know his real identity, since the Ramirez family and the Hoffman family had always been allies, the Ramirez family treated the members of the Dark Night Organization as their allies too.

Liam, however, did not rush to join the departure. Instead, he retreated to a secluded corner in the village to contemplate.

The Padilla family's unexpected appearance struck him as peculiar. The island was already a maze of complications, now potentially transformed into a trap. Any next steps promised increased risk.

After much deliberation, Liam still lacked a foolproof strategy. Nonetheless, he resolved to venture toward the rare-earth mine.

He had nothing holding him back and a vendetta against the Duncan family to pursue. Despite looming dangers, he was dedicated to pushing forward.

Once the outsiders had departed, the villagers who belonged to the Shipwreck Organization finally let out a collective sigh of relief.

The old lady instructed everyone to return to their homes, preparing to retire to her own dwelling as well. Yet, Julie seemed unusually somber behind her veil.

Taking a few steps after the old lady, Julie halted abruptly and used sign language to say, "I need to follow them and see what's going on."

Puzzled, the old lady reflected on the day's events. The newcomers had been anything but friendly. Had Liam not shown up just in time, a violent clash would

have been unavoidable.

Furthermore, it became apparent to the old lady that the outsiders were not to be trusted. They were clearly competing for something.

In such circumstances, pursuing them would put Julie at risk.

Mulling this over, the old lady used sign language as well. "Those outsiders are bad news. Steer clear and avoid them until they're gone!"

But Julie's eyes were resolute as she replied, "I have to go. I believe one of them is a friend of mine!"

Of course, she was referring to Liam.

When Liam, posing as Javen from the Dark Night Organization, had appeared, Julie sensed something oddly familiar about him. His movements echoed those of Liam.


Though their appearances were dissimilar, Julie recalled Liam mentioning how disguise techniques could radically alter one's looks.

At this point, she was caught between hope and apprehension.


She felt compelled to ascertain whether the man she had been anxious about was indeed among them.

Faced with Julie's unyielding stance, the old lady

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 +90 Points at most

finally yielded. "Fine, go ahead, but be extremely cautious!"

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