

Alchemy 1191

Chapter 1191: Flying Home

Alex felt the teleportation aura take over him as the space around them was warped away to a new location. This was the first time Alex had ever felt something so strong, so he was quite surprised by the effect of the space.

However, that surprise wasn't nearly as big as learning the fact that he now had a daughter.

Just as he was about to give the information some more thought, he felt the space warm once more and they were then teleported once again.

"What?" he looked around weirdly and found himself standing in an open field along with everyone that had teleported along with him.

"Why did we teleport twice?" he couldn't help but ask.

"Hmm? You noticed that?" Hao Ya asked with a surprised look. "The first teleportation sends you to the Intercontinental formation, but since that's in master's place, he prepared this smaller teleportation field to send you all away from it."

"I see," Alex said. "So... we're finally back."

He looked at the open field with hundreds of thousands of people still gathered. They were all looking around, awkwardly, not knowing what to do right now.

Alex decided to take the lead and flew into the air. "Everyone, please find your own way home. You will have a year to stay around. After a year, if you are not satisfied and would like to return, that will be arranged as well," he said.

Hao Ya nodded and watched everyone leave.

Scarlet looked around. "Wow, this place really does not have any Qi at all," she said. "Actually, it's more than just not having any Qi. It's like the Qi in my body is slowly being driven out of me."

"You have to be careful, your Majesty. Any Qi you let out will leave your body immediately, driven away to the Qi barrier. You need to keep it all stored," Hao Ya said.

"Why is that?" Scarlet asked. "Is this some sort of formation?"

Hao Ya shook her head. "It has something to do with Intent. My master can explain it way better than I could ever hope to imagine," she said.

Scarlet nodded. "Should we go meet him then?" she asked.

"Uh, I'll have to ask him," Hao Ya said and pulled out something from her storage ring. Alex looked at the artifact, no technology, and gave a curious look.

"Is that a smartphone?" he asked. "You use a smartphone?"

"Qi is quite scarce here, so we try not to use it if possible," she said. "Besides, this does the same thing as a talisman, if not better, so why not use it?"

She started calling a number and everyone could hear the phone ring on the other side. Scarlet was the only one who didn't understand what was happening, but she kept quiet.

"Hao Ya? Did you return?" a man's voice could be heard from the other side.

"Master, yes I just came back," Hao Ya answered. "Actually, I came back with the Immortal Phoenix from the Southern Continent along with the human King. They want to meet with you."

"The phoenix wants to meet with me?" the man's voice spoke. "Hmm, sure let the phoenix come. I'm sure our friend here will love to meet it too. As for the human, I don't think there is any reason for me to meet him. Tell him I refuse."

Alex's face darkened when he heard that. He had been looking forward to meeting with this man and suddenly being refused didn't feel so good.

Hao Ya saw his face change as well and quickly gestured for him to calm down before whispering into the phone. "The human is actually Alex Benton, the guy that destroyed everything. You know, Ma--"

"ALEX? The one with the Sun God's body?" the man's voice seemed to have gone up an octave. "Why didn't you say so before? Bring him. Bring them all quickly."

"Okay, I will do so," Hao Ya said with a wide smile on her face. She ended the call and gave them a thumbs up. "Everything is set. Should we leave now?"

Alex gave a sigh of relief and was about to nod when he stopped. He quickly shook his head. "I'm sorry. However much I may want to meet with your master, I have other priorities before that. I will need to go find my brother first and then I can do whatever else I want to," he said.

"Oh, the cat, right?" Hao Ya said. "Sure, go do that. It's not like my master is going anywhere. I will just tell him you'll be late by a day or two. That sounds good, right?"

"Yes, thank you," Alex said as he bowed a little. "Also, you mentioned something about me having a daughter. Did you mean my clone has a daughter?"

"Uh, yeah. I was talking about your clone's daughter. She's your daughter too now," Hao Ya said.

"Is it okay to say she's my daughter? Niece might sound better," Alex said.

"I have a Granddaughter?" Graham couldn't help but ask with a surprised look on his face. He had been keeping quiet all this time, but hearing that his son had a daughter made him speak up immediately.

Hao Ya smiled. "You'll learn everything once you go back, won't you?" she asked.

"Yes," Alex said. "Will you be coming, Scarlet?"

"No, I want to go meet her master," Scarlet said. "I don't think I will have anything to do at your place. You will bring the cat tomorrow anyway, right?"

"Yes," Alex said. "Then, I'll be leaving now."

Alex bowed to both of them and walked away from the field with his father. However, after walking for a few seconds, Graham stopped.

"Um, Where are we exactly?" he asked. "Do you know where we have to go?"

Hao Ya chuckled a bit from far away. "You're in Pineroot city. There's a map posted over there for everyone. Go look at it and see where you have to go," she said.

"Thank you," Alex said once again. He turned toward his father. "You can check the map if you want, but I know where we are supposed to go."

"We seem to be in the central area, so we will have to fly northwest from here," Graham said.

Alex looked in the direction Graham mentioned. "That seems to be the right direction," he said as he felt his bond with Pearl pulse in the distance. "Let's fly home right away."

"Are you sure we should fly? Didn't that girl say we should rather not use our Qi if we can afford to?" Graham asked.

"It's fine, father. I have a lot of pills which I can quickly eat to get back by Qi if I need it," Alex said. "Besides, I don't see how else we are going back. Surely you don't want to run all the way back, right? It's not like we have money to use public transportation."

"I suppose," Graham said. "Fine, let's take the sky then."

Alex nodded and lifted his father in the air with his Qi. However, just a few seconds after lifting him, Alex realized that he couldn't fly that way.

"I see, she did say any Qi that is out," Alex whispered to himself.

"What's wrong?" Graham asked.

"Nothing, it just looks like flying is a bit complicated here, especially if I want to bring someone along with me," Alex said. The Qi he used to carry his father has quickly swept away for some reason, sent out of the area immediately. 'This was what she was talking about, huh?'

"Can you not fly with me then?" Graham asked.

"No, no. I can," Alex said. "I just have to grab you is all."

Alex flew above his father and lifted him by the arm before flying away. He had a mental map of where he was, so he flew in the direction he knew was correct. He used the sky and sun to guess the correct direction and continued flying for a while.

Just an hour or so later, he had already crossed 2 major cities, surprising him quite a lot.

"This place is so small," he said. "Was it always this small?"

From what he could tell, he was already half an hour away from his destination. Were the map he was following of the Southern Continent, he would have still been many hours away from his destination.

"You've never visited these places, so you never knew how big they actually were," Graham said as he too watched the scenery while he hung in the sky.

Alex flew until he saw a vast forest full of maple trees. Just past the forest was Mapleleaf city. It had changed to a point where even his father couldn't really recognize the place, but Graham still managed to figure out where they were based on how the roads were.

"There, that red house. We need to take that road," Graham said.

Alex smiled and simply flew in the direction his father said as that was the right one. The roads were supposed to have turned to gravel at some point, but they never did. They were still paved all the way through, confusing Graham for a moment.

However, when he saw the vast forest in the distance, he knew that they were in the right place. "We're here," he said. "Hopefully, our house hasn't changed much."

"There, I see it," Alex said. It was still far away, but he could already sense the closeness of the bond.

And with his Demon Eyes, he could also see the house.

A minute later, they arrived.

Chapter 1192: Reunion

Alex and Graham looked at their old house. It did not look like their house anymore at all. It seemed to have been entirely renovated, to the point that the original design was barely present at all.

The farm seemed to have been expanded a lot more, but for some reason, no one was working at all, aside from whatever machinery was in there.

Alex slowly dropped his father on the side of the road and landed next to him. He looked at his house from the outside and started feeling nervous and a little bit of anxiety.

However, before his emotions could take over a lot of him, he saw something in the distance. Something moved in the distance, faster than sound itself as it dashed toward the two of them.

Alex's nervousness and anxiety all disappeared, replaced by a sense of happiness.

"Pearl!" he shouted at the sight of the white cat that came toward him.

"Brother!" Pearl shouted and jumped at him.

Alex grabbed the massive beast in the air and was thrown to the ground by the momentum.

"Pearl!"

"Brother!"

Alex hugged the massive beast tightly as he felt his eyes start to moisten. "I've missed you so much," he said.

"I've missed you a lot too, brother," Pearl said.

Graham watched his son and the new beast hug each other for a while and smiled. "Is this the young beast you were telling me so much about?" he asked.

"Yes, father. This is—"

"Father?" Pearl shouted in surprise. "How... how are you...?"

"Hmm? You recognize me?" Graham was surprised.

"Father?"

"Alex?"

Two distinct voices came from the direction of their houses, prompting both Alex and Graham to turn around.

When they did, they saw an elderly couple standing by the driveway, both of whom seemed to have been quite shocked by their arrival.

Alex looked at the two individuals. The man was old with half a head full of more gray hair than white. He seemed to have lost the rest of his hair, and his skin had lost most of its elasticity.

The woman was a little better, but not by much. Her hair was fully white and she held onto the man for support.

The four people looked at each other with surprised and awkward faces. Alex stared at the old man, knowing who he exactly was.

The old man, however, couldn't keep his eyes off of Graham. He seemed to be more surprised at seeing Graham than seeing his other self.

The woman, however, did look at both of them equally.

"H-hi," Alex said. "I've been looking forward to meeting you."

A single drop of tear streamed down the old man's face before he looked around and saw Alex. "Yes, hi. Hello. Uh... welcome home," he said. "They... they said it would be a while before they got to the Northern Continent. I did not expect you to be here so quickly."

"Hmm? I was on the Southern Continent. They started there," Alex said.

"I see," the old man said. He turned toward Graham. "I... I do not know if you consider me your son or not, but I consider you my father. I am happy to see you once again after all this time."

"All this time? I should have a clone here too, right? Where is he?" Graham asked.

"Father, he... he passed away a long time ago," the old man said. "It's been more than 20 years already."

"I see," Graham said.

"Honey, we can't talk on the street," the old woman said. "Alex, father, please come with us."

"Oh right, please come. This is your house, so don't feel shy or anything," the old man said.

"Come brother, I will show you the way," Pearl said as he walked by Alex as they all walked in.

Alex pet Pearl as he walked by his side. Pearl was nearly as tall as him even while on all fours, which surprised him quite a bit.

"Why are you so big? Do you like staying big now?" Alex asked.

"No, I can't change back," Pearl said. "I don't have any Qi at all."

"Oh, I see," Alex said. "Right, are you wounded? Are you hurt? Do you want to eat some pills? I have many pills. Let me get one for you."

Pearl laughed a little. "I'm fine, brother. I'm not wounded anymore," he said. "That was a long time ago."

"I-is that so?" Alex asked. "I'm sorry I couldn't come earlier. I tried to, but I just couldn't find a way to."

"I understand, brother," Pearl said. "I know how impossible it is to get in here. I don't blame you for not coming earlier, so please don't blame yourself."

Alex still couldn't help but feel bad for leaving him here for so long, but at least he hadn't been alone this whole time.

Graham looked at the fields by the side of the house. "How are you taking care of such a large land by yourself at your age?" he asked.

"Hmm? Oh, no. I don't do anything," the old man explained. "I have people hired to work for me."

"Oh, why don't I see them?" Graham asked.

"I've sent them all home," the old man said. "They won't return for a while."

"Why? Do you not need to look after the plants?" Graham asked.

"I had to," the old man said. "After all, today is the day everyone was returning, so I had to send everyone back so they could meet their parents and friends and relatives that they lost to the game years ago."

"Wait, they publicized our arrival?" Alex asked.

The old man nodded. "They prepared us for the influx of people returning. I don't think how else it could've been handled," he said.

"I see," Alex said.

"Come on, now. Don't stand around outside," the old woman said. "Honey, take them to the living room. I will prepare some tea."

"Yes, dear," the old man said. "Follow me, please."

Alex and Graham followed the old Alex into the house and came upon a large living room with open windows.

Alex sat on a couch and Pearl sat by the side. The old Alex sat opposite him, but Graham didn't sit immediately. Instead, he noticed some pictures hanging by the wall and walked over to them.

"Is that... me?" he asked, looking at an older version of him.

"That is father, yes," the old Alex said. "By his side is mother too."

Graham looked at the framed picture of the smiling old woman as well. "And where's your mother?" he asked.

"She has already passed away too," the old Alex said. "She died a few years after father passed away."

"How... did they die?" Graham asked.

"Father died from overwork," Old Alex said. "He... was stubborn and did not want to admit that he couldn't work as hard as he used to. Even though he knew his body wasn't as strong, he still tried to work every day."

"In the end, the fatigue got to him." As old Alex spoke, tears started streaming down his face as he remembered the day from over 2 decades ago.

"It was nighttime by the time anyone found him in the field. By that time, he had already passed away," Old Alex said. "As for mother, she died of cancer a few years after."

"That's..." Alex didn't know what to say. "My condolences. Was the cancer not curable?"

"No," old Alex said. "It showed up out of nowhere and her body couldn't keep up with the treatment."

"That's—"

"That's normal," he continued. "It's actually way more frequent than you might be thinking. With how bad our bodies are, many older people regularly die of diseases. Our generation got to get used to our body a little better, but we're not sure how much it has adapted. If anything, we also might just find out we have cancer tomorrow and just die."

"No, you won't," Alex said. "I am here now, and I won't let you die so easily. If nothing, I can at least give you pills to improve your body and increase your longevity by a lot."

"Haha, I'm happy to hear that," old Alex said. He turned to look at his father who was still viewing the pictures.

"We don't have that many pictures on the wall, but we do have many saved on the computer. I can show you them later, father," old Alex said.

Graham walked away from the pictures and came back to the couch.

The old woman returned with a tray full of cups and handed tea to everyone. Alex looked at the old woman and found himself a little puzzled.

"I shouldn't know who you are, should I?" he asked the old woman.

"What do you mean?" the old woman asked.

"You look familiar, even though I know I never met any girl before I started playing the game," Alex said.

"Brother, she is the clone of that lady from the village," Pearl quickly said.

"From the village? What village?" Alex asked.

"The one from the Northern Continent. The one you went to right after you got there," Pearl said.

'The one I went to?'

"AH!" Alex remembered. "Fan Li, that was her name. She must've been your real body. Wait no, she was a clone too."

"I died while playing the game, so I don't have a real body anymore," the old woman said. "Since you took some time to remember me, I suppose I did not leave much of an impression."

"Not very much, I'm afraid," Alex said. "May I know your name?"

"Ah," the old woman said. "My apologies. I forgot you weren't aware of me yet. I am Emily, Alex's— I mean, my Alex's wife."

Chapter 1193: Ronron

"It's a beautiful house," Graham said. "Did you use the money you made from the game to make this?"

"Ah, yes. The old house was... well, old, and small. We needed more rooms, so I decided to destroy the old one and replace it with a bigger, better one," the old Alex said. "I tried to keep the aesthetics of the old one, but it's been so many years that I don't think you can find the semblance of the old house at all."

"To be honest, I don't think I would know even if there was," Graham said. "It's been quite a while since I last saw home after all. I'm surprised you even came back at all. With the money you said you had made, I would've assumed you would've stayed away from this place that was so far away from the rest of the world."

"Honestly, that was what I was thinking at all. A few years past the game's abrupt end, I lived in the city and was fine doing so. However, I would regularly get calls from mother complaining how father wasn't listening to her at all and was doing everything by himself, despite no longer being capable of."

"By the time I was 24, I decided to come back and help you set up the farm with workers. I had intended to come back temporarily, but I liked the quietness of the countryside I had grown up to. So, I decided to stay here permanently and help manage the many fields."

"Besides, it was not like I had to make more money. I was making enough from all the investments I had made, and the farm would earn us enough as well," the older Alex said.

"I married Emily a year after that, and we love living in this place," he said.

"It truly is a wonderful place," the old woman said.

Alex nodded and looked around the place. He felt the nostalgia too, but he had been away for too long to now want to live in a place like this.

"Oh right, Where have you been, father?" the older Alex asked. "Were you really in the Southern Continent?"

"Yes," Graham said. "Alex here only found me less than a decade ago. Oh right, you have a mother too, in the Western Continent."

"Yes, Pearl told us," the older Alex said. "And Aunt Liz in the Northern Continent. You haven't been to the Eastern Continent yet, right? That's where sister Hannah said she was."

"Oh right, how is she doing? And Liz, and Rob too," Graham asked.

"Uncle Rob and Liz died about a decade ago. Sister Hannah died a little before that in a car accident," the older Alex said.

The two father-son's eyes sharpened with shock. "They are all dead?" Alex asked. "How did the two die?"

"Uncle Rob and Aunt Liz divorced a decade after the game ended. Aunt Liz had suddenly started aging all of a sudden and she couldn't handle it mentally. She started showing abnormal behaviors and had to quickly be put in a psychiatric facility after their divorce."

"Uncle Rob is said to have died from cancer too, although none of us were at his funeral. As for Aunt Liz... she simply couldn't handle her changed self and... she committed suicide," Alex said.

The two remained dumbfounded at the information.

"Sister Hannah never managed to conceive a child, so after her death, her husband moved elsewhere, and we lost communication," older Alex said.

"I heard you found Pearl and took care of him. Thank you," Alex bowed to the couple sitting in front of me.

"You don't have to thank us. We didn't do anything," the older Alex said. "Besides, it was actually Pearl who found us."

"Oh, he found you? How?" Alex asked.

"I can sense him, brother," Pearl said. "After you were gone, I tried to follow you, but it turned out he was the one I sensed and arrived near here."

"I was surprised to find him in the middle of the night. He had crashed right outside where the Qi barrier is. The crater there is as large as his mother made back then," the older Alex said.

"How... how hurt was he?" Alex asked.

The older Alex took a deep breath. "Very. He had major blood loss, he had lost most of his skin, and..." the old man paused.

"And...?" Alex asked.

The old man sighed. "And he burned through his spiritual roots and bloodline to make it out of the barrier."

"What?!" Alex stood up suddenly. He turned around to Pearl. "Is that true?" he asked.

"Y-yes," Pearl said meekly. "I... I seem to have used whatever I could at that time to save myself. I... I don't think I can follow you on your journey, brother."

Alex was still shocked to hear the first set of news, that he almost didn't register what Pearl told him next. "Wh-what do you mean you can't follow me? It-it's just blood and spiritual roots," he said. "You are a White Tiger, you can create the lost blood on your own. As for your spiritual root, I will help you improve it with time. Don't worry."

"I'm afraid it's not that simple," the older Alex said. "He didn't just use the Bloodline or the spiritual roots, he basically sacrificed them for his own survival."

"It's not just that he has low White Tiger blood, but rather that he burned through the source inside him that makes more White Tiger blood. Similarly, he also hurt his Spiritual root to the point where it cannot function nearly as well as an average spiritual root could function."

"All in all, without some sort of miracle, Pearl now has zero chances of entering the Immortal realm," the older Alex said.

Alex took a deep breath to not let the guilt and rage inside of him show immediately. "How do you know all that? You should not be able to make such a comprehensive diagnosis," he said as he crouched by Pearl, doing his own test.

He let his Qi flow inside Pearl to test him. Most of the Qi he was bringing out was quickly being pushed to the Qi barrier, but even then Alex didn't stop.

"Of course, it wasn't me who did the diagnosis," the older Alex said. "It was Ronron's master."

Alex frowned a little. "Who is this Ronron?" he asked. "And who is their master?"

The older Alex gave a weird look and looked to his wife, who seemed surprised as well. "Did you... not meet with the senior yet? I assumed you had come after meeting him," he said.

Alex frowned. "Are you talking about..."

"The game's Creator," the older Alex said. "He was the one that checked on Pearl. Have you not met him yet?"

"No, I have not," Alex said with a stunned look. "You've met him?"

The couple nodded. "A couple of times," Emily answered. "I think it's 4 times in total."

"How did you meet him?" Alex asked. He simply couldn't comprehend that someone like his clone could even possibly be able to meet someone like that. "Do other people meet the creator too? Does he like coming out every so often to meet the mortals?"

"No, no," the older Alex said. "He is a very seclusive person. The fact that we managed to meet him 4 times is already a lot. Almost no one else has even met him once."

"Then how?" Alex asked.

"Because of Ronron, of course," Emily said. "He is Ronron's master."

"Ronron? Who is—" Alex paused for a moment. He only then remembered that he had heard about everyone in the family but one other person.

"Ronron is our daughter," the older Alex said. "She has been a disciple under the senior for quite some time now."

"Right! I have a granddaughter, don't I?" Graham asked as he looked around. "I completely forgot about her as soon as I saw the house. Where is she? Is she shy and hiding in her room?"

"Oh, no," Emily quickly said. "Ronron is not home right now. She's staying at her master's place. Senior came to take her about 2 weeks ago, saying that soon there would be a lot of people coming back to this place and he didn't want to risk her being around some potentially harmful people."

"Ronron... that's her name?" Alex asked. "Ronron Benton?"

"Oh no," the older Alex quickly said. "Her name is Maron. We call her Ronron lovingly."

"Maron... that's..."

"I named her after master," the older Alex said. "I was still saddened for a long time after my master's death, and knowing that the world I left behind was a real one didn't help at all. It was only after Ronron was born that I managed to lose some of that sadness as she filled my life with sunlight and happiness."

Alex started remembering his master as well, and while most other times he would've been saddened after remembering her, this time he smiled. "Maron... that's a nice name," he said.

The couple nodded.

"Sigh, here I was hoping to meet her immediately. Alas, it seems I will have to wait," Graham said. "We are going to meet this senior tomorrow, right?"

"Yes, father," Alex said. He turned around to the couple. "Speaking of which, why is she a disciple exactly? I can't seem to think of any reason."

"Oh, it was because of what happened during Maron's birth," the older Alex said. "There was a massive hurricane and the sky seemed to split in the middle of the night."

"The senior came just as she was born and said that the phenomenon meant that she was someone that would be born once in a lifetime. That was the first time we met him."

Chapter 1194: Birth Omens

"Sorry, phenomenon? What does that have to do with your daughter's birth?" Alex couldn't help but ask.

"Apparently it was related to our daughter being born. The phenomenon had only happened because Ronron was coming to this world," the older Alex said. "At least that was what the senior said that night."

"He arrived as she was born and held her in his arm for a moment before saying that he would take her as his disciple. It honestly took me a while to even understand what was happening," the older Alex said.

"In fact, he wanted to take Ronron away right then and there to teach her by himself. I had to argue with him for a while to keep our daughter. He agreed to not take her right then but said that he would absolutely do so when she hit 16."

"We could only agree at the time, but thankfully it turned out to be a great decision. The senior treats Ronron like his own child. No, it sometimes feels like he treats her better than he would his own daughter. He definitely treats her better than his other disciple, the girl named Hao Ya."

"That's... surprising," Alex said. "Did he really say that it was her birth that caused that phenomenon?"

"Mhm," Emily nodded.

Alex still couldn't believe it. However, there were too many things in this world that happened regardless of his belief.

"It's called a Birth Omen," a voice spoke in his head. "It's rare and infrequent, but it happens all the time in the immortal worlds, although with different intensity. From what I am hearing, it sounds like your

clone's daughter caused quite the phenomenon. She must have been born with something amazing, whether it be talent, fate, or body constitution."

Alex was surprised to hear Godslayer's voice, but he heard him completely. "Birth Omen? So it's true, huh? Does it always happen to such people? Or is that dependent on the situation too?"

"It always happens if someone is born against heaven's will," Godslayer said. "Although, the phenomenon usually consists of switching weather, which most people usually ignore and can't recognize."

"I see," Alex said. 'People born against heaven's will. Isn't that what Shen Jing said I was?'

When two people with extraordinary gifts got together, they usually had trouble giving birth to a child because of how much heaven was against it. The couple would have to fight against heaven to be able to give birth to someone with their gifts, which was what the phenomenon most likely represented.

"That reminds me of when you were born too, Alex," Graham suddenly spoke. "The day you were born was so hot that it caused several wildfires around the world. It was recorded as the hottest day of the century. I distinctly remember coming home from the hospital with your mother and having to immediately go work on the field so that the plants didn't die from the severe lack of water."

"Did something like that actually happen?" Alex asked with a surprised expression.

"Yes," Graham said. "If not for already having chosen Alex and Alice as your potential name back then, I would've most likely named you Sunny."

Graham laughed by himself while Alex fell into his own thought. Given the information, it made sense that he caused some sort of phenomenon, but it was still surprising to hear from his father.

'They did fight against heaven to give birth to me,' Alex thought. 'It would be more surprising if nothing had happened despite my gifts.'

As he thought about that, another thought came to him. "Hmm? Wait for a second. That doesn't make any sense," he said.

The 3 suddenly looked toward him with curious looks. "What doesn't make sense?" the older Alex asked.

"The senior,' Alex said. "He said that your daughter was someone that was born once in a lifetime, right?"

"Yes," the older Alex said. "I don't remember much from back then, but that is definitely what he said."

"What's so special about Ronron?" Alex asked.

"I don't understand myself, but the senior says she is talented and has an almost impossible-to-have physique," the older Alex said.

That was the part confusing Alex more than anything. "How does she have a good talent and physique?" he asked. "Correct me if I'm wrong, but don't you two have none of that?"

The two looked at each other and back at Alex. "I see where you are getting at," the older Alex said with a sigh in his voice.

"What's wrong?" Alex asked.

"We had the exact same concern back then as well, and we asked the senior about it. We too wanted to know how the two of us could ever give birth to someone like Ronron," the older Alex said. "And... this was what the senior said to us back then."

Alex and Graham got closer to the old man to hear what he had to say.

"Apparently, she is more your daughter than mine," the old man said.

No one spoke for a while until Alex broke the silence. "What?" he hadn't expected to hear what he heard at all. "What do you mean she's my daughter and not yours?"

"Please ask the senior to explain it, because we don't understand it either. The only thing we know is that she did not receive anything from the two of us, but rather you and the real Emily," the older Alex said. "Basically, biologically she is your daughter."

Alex was stunned for a few seconds as he didn't know what to say. Even Graham was dumbfounded by the information.

'Godslayer, how can the child born to the clones belong to me?' he asked.

"That's... not something I have knowledge about," Godslayer said. "It doesn't sound impossible, but it's definitely a challenging task even in the Immortal realm."

"I see," Alex said. "I'm more and more curious as to just who the senior really is."

"Enough of that," Graham said. "Do you have a picture of Ronron? Let me see, please."

"Yes, father," Emily said and quickly took out a phone before bringing out her daughter's picture.

Alex looked over as well and saw a young lady in a pink dress standing by a tree branch full of flowers. She had her hair in a ponytail and wore a single expensive-looking necklace on her neck.

Her wide smile made her fair skin seem even brighter than it actually was.

"She looks no older than 20 years old," Alex said. "When was this picture taken?"

"Uhh about 2 months ago. She came back because her master would be busy for a while, and I took that picture out by the field where that tree grows," Emily said. "She looks really young, doesn't she? Sigh, I sometimes wonder if she would look younger if we had let her start her cultivation even earlier."

"She is already cultivating?" Alex was surprised. "In here?"

"The senior has a way," the older Alex said.

"How old is she supposed to be in this picture, by the way?" Graham asked.

"She is currently 28 years old," the older Alex said. "Although she doesn't like it when people remind her of her age, so don't bring this up in front of her when you meet her, okay?"

Alex nodded while looking at the picture. He still found it impossible to believe that the young lady in the picture was biologically his daughter.

He had a daughter.

'I haven't even gotten together with a woman yet and I already have a daughter? What sort of sick joke is this?' he thought.

He looked at several other pictures of Ronron, at which time Emily went to prepare some food.

"Let's go eat something. We can continue talking in the kitchen," the older Alex said.

Alex and Graham didn't need to eat, but since they were home after a long time, they didn't refuse.

Pearl came to eat as well. Without any Qi to sustain him, food was the only thing he could eat to survive.

"Right, how did your wounds heal exactly? Was it the senior?" Alex asked Pearl.

"Yes, Senior came at that time and helped him," the older Alex said.

"Did you call him?" Alex asked.

"No, he came on his own. He said he sensed something crossing the Qi Barrier and wanted to see exactly what could do such a thing. When he saw that it was Pearl, he was quite surprised since Pearl didn't have the cultivation base or the physical strength to do such a thing."

"It was only after a bit more testing that he came to the conclusion that Pearl had unconsciously sacrificed his bloodline and spiritual root to protect himself," the older Alex said.

Alex couldn't help but feel guilty. "I'm sorry, Pearl. You had to go through such a thing because of me," he said.

"It's fine, brother," Pearl said with a big smile. However, that did nothing to calm Alex's heart. He still felt the pain and sadness and was sure that Pearl was disappointed too.

"No, I will find a way to fix this. Just wait," Alex said with determination in his voice.

"Actually, the senior did say that there was a way," the older Alex said. "Only, it would in all likelihood lead to Pearl's death."

"What? What way?" Alex asked.

"The same way I, no we tried to stop Pearl from going through because there was a possibility of death. Now, that possibility is astronomically high," the older Alex said.

Alex's eyes went wide. "Wait, are you saying that..."

"Yes," the older Alex said. "If Pearl ever wants to go back to how he was, or maybe even better, then he will have to go through the ritual in the White Tiger's Palace and hopefully evolve."

Chapter 1195: Healing

"Evolve?" Alex asked with a stunned look on his face. "But... that's so dangerous. Even more so now."

"I'm afraid so," the older Alex said. "But that is the only way the senior told me about it. Maybe there are other ways, but I do not know of them yet."

Alex gave a thoughtful look. "I'll ask the senior when I see him. You guys don't need to worry about it. I alone will bear that burden," he said.

The room got a little quiet after he said that. Emily put the food on the table and sighed. "Alright, enough brooding. You can think about everything later, but for now, you need to eat," she said.

Alex shook his head and got rid of any foreign thoughts. "What did you cook?" he asked as he looked around. "I haven't eaten anything in years, so this all looks appetizing."

The couple looked at each other with weird looks on their face and back to Alex. "You don't eat that often, do you?" he asked.

"I don't really need food to survive after all. It's more of a preference on my end," he said. "I try to go out and taste a few things, but it's been so busy at the palace for the past few years that I haven't gotten the chance to eat anything at all."

"Oh, that's not very good," Emily said. "You're working in a palace right now? Poor you, they must work you to the bone. Can you not ask for lower tasks at least? You should have some free time for yourself."

"No, I'm alright. No one is forcing me to do anything. I'm doing it all of my own volition," Alex said.

"Well, I hope you're getting something out of the job to be doing it so religiously. If there's nothing to be gained, however, you should just leave the job," the older Alex said.

"Well, it's not exactly a job I can leave whenever I want," Alex said. "If I want to leave, I would have to find a good replacement first."

"Are the replacements hard to find?" Emily asked. "What do you do exactly? Pearl says you are amazing at making pills, so is your job to make pills for the royal family or something?"

Graham tried to hide his laughter, but the situation was too funny for him to be able to hold it back at all. Alex smiled a little too, confusing the couple even more.

Even Pearl looked confused as to why exactly they were laughing.

"Actually, I don't work for the royal family," Alex said. "I am the royal family."

The older Alex and Emily weren't sure they heard him correctly. "Did you say you are the royal family?" the older Alex asked.

"Yes," Alex said. "More precisely, I am the King of the Southern Continent."

"HUH?!" Pearl suddenly got up with a surprised voice. "Brother, what are you talking about?"

"Right, what are you saying? You're a king?" Emily asked.

"Yeah, it's a long story, but the gist of the matter is I happened to become the King of the Southern Continent about a decade ago," Alex said.

"No, you don't get to just tell us the gist," Emily said as she sat down on her chair as well. "You have nowhere to be, so tell us everything."

"O-okay," Alex said, a little surprised at how aggressive the old woman was. "Uh, where should I start exactly?"

"We know most of what happened until you had to escape from the Northern Continent with Pearl," the older Alex said.

"I've told them everything," Pearl said.

"Okay, so let me start with what happened after Pearl and I were separated at the Qi Barrier."

Alex started telling the story while eating the food that was laid out for them.

Everyone but Graham listened to the story with obvious curiosity. Graham on the other hand was more curious about the food on the table.

He couldn't believe how nostalgic it all tasted. 'Helen must've taught them her recipes,' he thought while happily consuming the food.

He ignored the many gasps and cries from the other 3 and finished eating everything even before Alex was halfway done with the story.

He waited for the story to end, but after realizing it was still some time away, he stood up to go grab some more food.

Emily tried to help him, but he made her sit and listen to the story while he got the food. With another serving of food, he took his time this time around and finished it just as the story ended as well.

"That was when sister Hao Ya came to the Southern Continent and asked for our help to bring everyone back. It took a week to gather everyone, and here we are," Alex said.

"Father, you suffered a lot," Pearl said.

"It's alright," Graham said. "I suffered so I can meet my family again, and look where I am."

Emily had been in tears when she heard about Graham's situation and was still wiping them. As for the older Alex, he could only feel anger.

"I'm glad they are all dead," he said. "They deserved to die. How dare they... argh."

"Are you alright?" Alex asked when he saw his clone suddenly stop speaking.

"I'm fine. My head hurts when I get angry. I've gotten too old," the older Alex said.

"Hmm, wait for a second," Alex said and looked through his storage ring to find a few pills. "Here, eat these. They will help heal any physical problems or injuries you may have."

"Aren't these precious?" the older Alex asked.

"Do you think that's something I would care about right now?" Alex asked.

"Thank you," Emily said and took the pill bottle.

Alex took out another bottle and pulled out a pill. "Here, Pearl. Eat one, just in case," he said.

Pearl nodded and took the pill. They all ate the pill, and the two older folks immediately felt an immediate change in their body.

"Argh!" the older Alex cried out as he spat out something solid from his mouth. "What the hell?"

"Is that your tooth's crown?" Emily asked with wide eyes. "Wait, my teeth. They grew back."

"Yeah, even my wisdom teeth are back, and they don't hurt anymore," the older Alex said.

"What is this?" Emily immediately closed her eyes and opened them again. "Woah! I can see even without my glasses. Honey, look, I can see clearly."

"Me too, hahaha!" the older Alex laughed as well. "I think my hearing got better too."

"I feel like I'm young again," Emily shouted.

Alex watched the two regain the proper bodily functions that they had lost with old age. His healing pills had easily brought back everything they had lost. He smiled and watched the two get more and more shocked as they found more and more of their problems gone, some of which they didn't even know were there.

"How about you guys rest for a bit? You should let your body adapt to what you just got back," Alex said. "The energy in the pill also needs to settle."

"Okay," Emily said. "What will you two be doing instead?"

"I will go look around the farm," Graham said.

"I will come with you, father," Alex said and the two of them left.

Chapter 1196: The Void

Graham and Alex walked through the fields, looking at everything that was growing.

"This looks much better than when I was taking care of it all alone," he said. "He really did quite an amazing job with the field."

"Everything looks easy, to be honest," Alex said. "From water to pesticides. Even the animals are given food through the system setup. It seems the workers are there to help with the rest, but the farm can survive a few days with minimal care."

"It's quite amazing how the world has come to change in the past 40 years," Graham said.

"It's changed a... lot," Alex said as he slowly looked toward the forest. He could hear the wind picking up all of a sudden, reminding him of something from the past.

'That's right,' he thought. 'I used to hear the winds howl every night before I went to sleep. Is that it?'

Alex's Demon Eyes shined purple as he looked at the world with a different light. There was nothing different in the area at all as no aura or Qi could remain there at all. However, when he lifted his head slightly to look past the trees, he saw something else.

Like an ocean of colors, the nebulous cloud of Qi moved like a behemoth in the sky. Alex felt a sense of fear when he saw the amount of Qi that was in those clouds.

'That's probably more Qi than over 100 spirit veins combined,' he thought. And they were all gathered in just that one little spot on the horizon.

The massive cloud of Qi went around the land, and it was the Qi that was left behind that was the Qi barrier.

'We would've died if we had come across that, wouldn't we?' Alex thought. He was sure that thing was strong enough to kill even Immortals if they weren't careful enough.

He saw the massive cloud pass by and leave behind a calmer, but still terrifying barrier of Qi that would destroy anything that tried to get close to it.

"Father, stay here for a moment, okay? I need to go check something," Alex said and walked away.

Graham was a little confused, but he didn't say anything.

Alex walked through the forest at the edge of what was his previous world. He now knew that the world was far vaster than this, but he still felt weird coming to the very edge.

'Void,' he thought to himself as he laughed about it. He continued walking until he came upon a land with no trees at all. The land there was completely destroyed, which meant that the Qi came as far as there.

However, right now, it was over a kilometer away from him. Alex stopped his Demon Eyes and his vision switched from one full of color, to one of nothing.

With the Qi no longer visible, he could see just how far the broken land went on. It was dozens and dozens of kilometers in the least. And this was the tail end of what went around the land, destroying everything.

Alex stepped back a bit, not daring to step on a land that had no trees at all. He continued watching the area until half an hour later he heard the wind pick up once again.

'It's already made a round?' Alex thought. He stepped back even more and watched the gust of Qi come through the land once again, tearing through everything.

Alex took out a sword from his storage and threw it into the gust of Qi. The sword immediately struck the Qi and was hit by it from every direction.

Alex watched as the violent Qi destroyed the sword within less than a minute of being there. With such a destructive force, he got less and less hopeful that any of his items from back then had even survived at all.

He sighed and walked back.

He met with his father and after going through the farm a little more, they returned back to the house.

The four of them talked once again, this time about how the older Alex and Emily met in the first place.

Alex was very enamored by the story of what would've happened to him had he not been sent away to a distant land.

Graham enjoyed the entire story thoroughly, while Pearl slept the entire way through. He had apparently heard the story multiple times and no longer cared much to hear it.

By the time they stopped talking, it was time for dinner already. Afterward, Alex and Graham sat in the living room watching TV to catch up on the world.

The two older folks tried to stay up late as well, but it was impossible for them to stay awake for a long. Alex sent the two of them to sleep and stayed there watching everything about the world.

The news in the media was all about how everyone had come back from outside the void. It seemed people had become a way of existence outside the central continent now, and that was making waves in the news right now.

There were several interviews with several different people to learn more about the outer world, and many times Alex even heard his own name come up.

He cycled through the channels until there was nothing to watch, and at that point, he used the smartphone left behind by his clone to look up more stuff.

By the time the sun had come up, he had learned many things about this new world.

The older Alex and Emily woke up early to take care of the farm. Pearl also went with them to help with the farm as there were no workers at the moment to help the old couple.

Graham and Alex moved as well, and in about an hour, they had done everything. It would've taken significantly less time if Alex could use his Qi as well as he wanted, but since he did not, he had to stick to physical work.

Emily prepared some breakfast afterward and they all ate together once again.

"Will you go to meet Ronron's master today?" Emily asked.

"Yes," Alex said. "I've been looking forward to meeting with him for 4 decades now. I delayed it by a day yesterday so I could come here and meet Pearl, but I don't think I can waste any more time."

"I see," Emily said. "Will Father be going too?"

"I should, shouldn't I?" Graham asked. "I mean, I don't need to meet this senior, but I do want to meet with my granddaughter."

"Why don't you stay here, father?" Alex asked. "It's easier for me to go by myself. Pearl will have to stay anyway, so why don't you spend some time with him?"

"What about my granddaughter then?" Graham asked.

"I can bring her back," Alex said. "The senior only took her because he was worried someone would attack her, but with me and you around, I don't think he would mind us bringing her back."

"Hmm," Graham gave it some thought. "Sure, I can take the time to go to the cemetery. I still have to visit Father and Mother's graves."

"That settles it then," Alex said. "I will leave on my own."

Chapter 1197: A Man Surnamed Yang

Alex flew through the sky and even saw quite a few people flying on their own. It seemed people were either moving around or were simply enjoying their homes from the sky.

He ignored those people and flew on his own, going in the direction where he sensed Scarlet. He flew for 2 hours before arriving close to Scarlet. He could sense her nearby.

He looked around in search of her and noticed a massive mansion in the distance that looked like it had a lot of trees around it. That was where he sensed Scarlet was.

He found the location a little weird and activated his Demon Eyes. It was then that he noticed all of the trees were actually illusions created through what was most likely a formation.

'What?' Alex looked shocked when he noticed that. 'How is an illusory formation active? Shouldn't the Qi be getting thrown into the Qi barrier?'

He slowed down and landed outside of the mansion. He looked at the gate and couldn't find any sort of bell to ring.

"Scarlet, I'm--"

The gate opened on its own without anyone being there.

"--here," he finished letting Scarlet know, but it seemed that wasn't necessary.

"Senior says you can come in and find us in the backyard," Scarlet's words flowed into him through their bond.

Alex was a little surprised to hear that. 'She's calling him senior too?' he thought. That was not what he would've expected from a previously Immortal beast.

He walked in through the gate and along the driveway. He wanted to go around the house to go directly to the backyard, but he couldn't see any way to do so. There was no way to go around the house, which meant he had to go through it.

Alex slowly pushed open the main door, which easily opened up. Then, he spread his spiritual sense around the house and found a path through the house that led him to the backyard.

However, in that search, he also noticed a room that gave giving away some obvious space aura, which caught his attention.

He wondered if he should check what it was, but immediately got rid of the idea. He was in someone else's house, someone who was most likely an Immortal of higher rank than Scarlet even was. If he were to accidentally offend that person, he was as good as dead.

Alex ignored that room and walked the path he had found and went to the back of the house. He walked through one final door and arrived outside in a massive garden.

The backyard was an open meadow with flower bushes around the side, but nothing in the middle. There wasn't even any simple chair or table setup as many noble houses would have.

Instead, all he saw was a pond in the distance, and in front of it were 3 individuals.

Alex recognized Scarlet and Hao Ya immediately, but the final individual, a man was not someone he had seen before.

Hao Ya noticed Alex and quickly came up to him. "Come, my master has been waiting for you for a while now," she said.

Alex nodded and walked toward the man in the distance. At the same time, the man walked toward him too, leaving Scarlet by the pond.

The man wore a pure white robe that was without a single blemish on it. He looked middle-aged, about what a mortal would look in their 40s, but he had a clean-shaven face, making him appear quite handsome, which was aided by his tall height as well.

He held a smile as he stopped in front of Alex.

"Master, this is Alex," Hao Ya said. "Alex, meet my master."

"Greetings. I did not expect to be able to meet you this early," the man spoke in a gentle voice. "I'm happy to see that you are doing well."

Alex bowed toward the man. "It is an honor to meet you, senior," he said.

The man looked at Alex curiously for a few seconds and smiled. "Saint Foundation 9th realm," the man said. "In just a little over 40 years, that is definitely not something one can normally do, even if they have the best talent and body to go along with it."

"You flatter me, senior," Alex said. "There are several people who have done better than me."

"There are several people with a higher cultivation base than you, yes. I won't deny that," the man said. "However, a higher cultivation base doesn't necessarily mean better, does it? You should know that more than anybody."

Alex slowly looked up at the man. "You can tell?"

"That little birdie told me," the man said. "I'm truly surprised that there is someone who can bring out a cultivation prowess that is 9 realms higher than his own. Even back where I come from, I have never seen or heard of someone being able to bring out that much strength from their cultivation base."

Alex was a little surprised at how smoothly everything was going. He had expected things to be awkward for the first few minutes, but the man didn't seem to worry about awkwardness at all. In fact, Alex could swear that he was seeing actual fascination in the man's eyes.

"I am honored to hear such compliments from you, Senior," Alex said and bowed once more.

"Ugh! Come on, don't be like that. Speak freely, as you would to a friend," the man said.

Alex hesitated a bit, wondering if he should or not. Hopefully, it was not a test of any sort.

"Then, may I know what your name is, Senior?" Alex asked.

The man in the white robe smiled. "Hmm, I wonder if I should tell you," he said amusedly. "I have been called by many names in the short span of time I've spent in this realm, one of the more popular ones being Neil Ambers. However, since it is you, I shall let you use my real surname, Yang."

"Thank you, senior Yang," Alex said.

The man tilted his head to the side with obvious laughter hidden behind his smile. "I was hoping to get some sort of reaction, but it seems I overestimated my popularity a bit," he said.

Alex looked confused. "I'm... sorry?"

"You're not much of a history guy, are you?" he asked.

"History? I try to learn what is essential, but I wouldn't say I know many things," Alex said.

"Shows," the man said. "You didn't even react to my other name."

"Your other name? Neil Ambers?" Alex asked. "Is that a fake name you gave yourself in this world? I'm sorry if I'm missing some sort of significance to the name."

"Don't worry about it. It's just one of the more popular names I have used throughout the last 700 years to help your ancestors whenever they needed my help. I had to help keep them from killing themselves after they came to this land from far away," the man said.

Alex's eyes narrowed in surprise. "From far away? Wait, are you saying my ancestors originated someplace else?" he asked.

"Hmm? Of course," the man surnamed Yang said. "I thought you would've guessed that by now. That birdie told me you know a lot of things that normal cultivators of this world do not. Did you never put the facts together?"

Alex's eyes went wide as they looked around the backyard while his mind worked to sort out different information.

5 thousand years ago, the battle that involved the Heavenly beasts caused the phenomenon of the Qi barrier to form. From that point onward, all Qi in this land had most likely disappeared, and from what the Tortoise had told him, everyone had evacuated long before the changes had happened.

With such a terrible Qi barrier stopping everything from entering afterward, how did his people come to be?

Alex had most likely thought of the exact question many times, but he never gave it enough thought to confuse him previously.

However, now that he was really thinking about it, the facts did not flow as well as they should.

5 thousand years ago, there were no humans, and then suddenly 600 or 700 years ago, humanity came to exist in this world. How could that be?

The only possible answer was exactly what the man had said. They had come from outside the Qi barrier.

However, that posed another problem. Given how talented and gifted the individuals inside the Qi barrier were, they couldn't have possibly come from one of the four other continents at all.

Since no one inside this world had demon blood in them, none of his ancestors could have possibly been from this world, or any world with demons in them.

Which meant, they had come from another world, one that was full of gifted humans.

"An Immortal land," Alex thought to himself and looked back up. "We came from a realm that is not this, didn't we? We came from a world full of human-blooded individuals. I cannot think of why anyone would move to this sort of place, but that is where we came from, isn't it?"

The man surnamed Yang smiled. "You understand now," he said. "Yes, your ancestors did come from a land that is not this. However, you are mistaken about where they came from."

"Please enlighten me, senior," Alex said.

"You are mistaken through no fault of your own. It's simply something that should be impossible in the first place," the man said. "You see, I know of every realm that exists in our world. However, your ancestors came from one that I had never even heard of."

"They came from a planet called Earth."

Chapter 1198: Malfunction

"Earth? Like the grade?" Alex asked.

"No, no, not like the grade. They happen to share the name, but this is something completely different," the man said. "This is a planet that does not exist in our world."

"I'm confused, senior," Alex said. "How can this place not exist in our world? We came from this planet called Earth, didn't we? In the first place, what even is a planet?"

The man chuckled and shook his head. "Honestly, what you're asking is far beyond my own understanding as well. Uhh... let's start with the small stuff before we get into the bigger stuff."

"So, what is a planet you ask? Basically, a planet is a world just like our own, only it is spherical in shape and humans live all around it. Imagine a world in the shape of the sun or the moon, and the people living around it. That is a planet."

Alex was surprised. In all his life, he had only ever known about the worlds being a plane. However, he was now hearing about a world of a different shape than his own, and it was even a world his ancestors had apparently come from.

"Are there planets in this world too, senior?" he asked.

"No, there are none," the man said. "Every world out there is a flat plane. There is no such thing as a planet that exists in this world."

Alex frowned. "Then how do you know that this place that goes by the name of Earth is a planet?" he asked.

"From your ancestors," the man said.

"From... my ancestors?" Alex was surprised.

"I was here when your ancestors arrived. Well, arrived is not the right word. I should say... misplaced," the man said. "After they came, they were in a disarray, so I had to help them. While doing so, I came to learn their language and soon enough learned a lot of things about them."

"The world they came from resembles the modern-day world. They had cars and trains just like our own, and maybe even more. Their world was developed, but they seem to have troubles of their own."

"Those people spoke of monsters that would come through void gates and fighters who could kill them. They swore that most of them had similar powers, but I never saw that."

"They never truly understood that the world that they had come to was different from the ones they had previously been in, and after I was sure they could not go back, I decided to help them get settled here."

"Unfortunately, as a wounded man without much Qi in me, I couldn't do many things. As such, not many years after they came here, your ancestors started fighting on their own. The war lasted decades before any peace was in this world again."

"By that time, those people had destroyed most of their history themselves. I had only later realized just how much had been destroyed. Fortunately, I had a few things saved beforehand for research, and they now remain in the Archaic National Museum of the Global building in Pinewood city."

Alex could only nod as he listened to the man speak. "So... the reason we don't know where we came from is that we got rid of all knowledge of it?" he asked.

"Yes," the man said. "Also, for mortals 600 years is enough time to lose a lot of knowledge about the past, especially when your source of history happens to be an important resource."

"Destroyed buildings were used as rocks, broken machinery was scraped for metals, etc. Such things happened all around. It was some time before they found any ore deposits and such, so they didn't have to use old stuff," the man said. "But of course, by that time, almost everything was gone."

"I came out occasionally to help them, mostly with helping them learn about the limits of this world, like how they couldn't go out of the natural boundary of this place or they would die. Quite a few died while testing, and they finally started believing that there was a void they would fall into out there," the man said.

I see," Alex said. "You must've suffered throughout the years."

The man didn't say anything.

"There are many things I'm still confused about that information, but one thing sticks out more than the others," Alex said. "What did you mean by the people were misplaced?"

The man sighed. "Your ancestors were victims of an accident that was never meant to bring them here at all. It all just... happened, and they came here," he said.

Alex looked at the man curiously, waiting for more information, and the man seemed to be somehow pressured into answering more.

"It all began when I tried to leave this realm," the man said. "I had come here unintentionally as well and wanted to leave this place. I had been hiding in this continent due to its nature, and fortunately, there were teleportation formations here already."

"All I had to do was change it so that instead of teleporting me to one of the continents outside, it teleported me to where I came from."

"I spent nearly a hundred years fixing the teleportation formation, doing whatever I could to make it work, and when it finally did, I used it. I was going to connect the space in this realm with one from a higher realm and go there."

"However, that was when the accident happened. As it turned out, there was an opening on this land, one that connected to the planet Earth. My formation malfunctioned, connecting to this opening, and sucked in a majority of the people from Earth."

"So, when I say they were misplaced, I mean they were stolen from their home world by me due to my formation malfunctioning. I felt very guilty at the time, not only because people were brought here, but also because quite a few died in the process. I tried my best to fix it, but I could never send them back through the opening no matter how hard I tried."

"In the end, I had to give up and help them settle here," the man said with a drooping face. He seemed to be truly pained by this incident.

"Then, my ancestors never intended to come here?" Alex asked. "They were brought because of the accident?"

"Because of my accident, yes," the man said.

Alex didn't know what to say. Was he supposed to get angry here? Or was he to try and console the man by saying that he never meant for it to happen? In the end, he knew that even though something bad had happened to his ancestors, that was the reason he was born in the first place.

"If not for those specific set of events, I wouldn't be here right now," Alex said softly. "Although, I'm curious senior. Why was there an opening here that connected to Earth?"

"Sigh, I only came to learn about it recently too, but not long before I had arrived in this world, someone had created the opening here to travel to Earth," the man said.

A vague guess floated in Alex's head. "H-how long ago?" he asked.

The man shrugged. "Some 5000 years ago."

No matter how Alex tried to understand the implications of what he had just heard, he couldn't come up with any understandable conclusions.

"This event... did it happen before or after the beasts fought the humanoid monster 5 thousand years ago?" he asked.

The man surnamed Yang looked at Alex with a dry smile. "That was the event 5 thousand years ago," he said.

Alex felt his heart skip a beat when he heard that. "Then the opening to Earth, was it created by the humanoid monster that fought the beasts?" he asked.

"It was," the man said. "Right after this Qi barrier was created, he created that very opening and went to your ancestor's world known as Earth."

Alex was slackjawed for a while. "What sort of creature is capable of opening a doorway in space that leads to a world that doesn't exist?" he asked.

The man gave a dry laugh. "If anyone could do it, it's him," he said.

Alex looked at the man with a curious look. "Do you know who it was?" he asked. "Do you happen to know the identity of the monster that fought the beasts?"

"He... is not someone you need to know about," the man said.

"He?" Alex asked with a surprised expression. "It was a man?"

"No, it wasn't," the man said. "He was... no, I can't say." The man shook his head furiously and gulped a few times while looking around him from time to time.

"Are you... afraid of this monster, senior?" Alex asked.

"Hehe, who wouldn't?" the man asked.

"Do you need to be afraid?" Alex asked. "If even the beasts could fight against that being, then you should be strong enough to defeat him too, right?"

"Defeat? Him? Are you crazy?" the man asked. "Do you think the beasts defeated that thing? I told you, he went to Earth. His intention had always been to leave. Had he wanted to defeat the beasts, not a single one of them would've made it out of this place alive."

"They were simply beaten up because they were an annoyance to him for getting in his way," the man said. "Someone who can do something as grand as pushing the Qi on this continent to form a wall wouldn't simply die to the beasts."

"So, it really was that being who created the Qi barrier huh?" Alex said.

"Yes," the man said. "And his Intent still remains in this world, continuously pushing all Qi out of here."

The man looked around with a terrified look on his face that he couldn't hide at all. He quickly shook his head and looked back toward Alex. "Now, please stop asking me about this incident. I do not feel comfortable speaking anything related to this being."

Seeing how agitated the man had become about the topic, Alex decided to drop it. However, he could still feel waves of shock in his heart from the information he had received.

'Then... did the White Tiger die for nothing?' he thought. 'Did it not even manage to kill the monster after sacrificing itself? That is what it means if the monster managed to make that opening right?'

Hao Ya felt uncomfortable with the sudden silence and spoke up. "Right, Alex. You have other questions for my master, right? Ask away. He is willing to answer everything."

The man looked toward Hao Ya and chuckled a little before turning back toward Alex. "Yes, you can ask me anything. I don't know if I will answer it all or not, but I guarantee you I won't be offended at all," he said.

Alex looked up from his stupor and quickly thought of what to ask. "Uhh..." he couldn't immediately ask anything. It wasn't so much that he had no questions, but rather he couldn't choose one from the many that he had in his mind.

He looked around trying to think of one that he immediately wanted to know about and happened to see Scarlet in the distance who seemed to be speaking on her own for some reason by the lake.

"Oh right, sun!" Alex said.

"Sun?" Hao Ya asked.

"My body," Alex said quickly. "Senior, when I first started the game, it said my body is called the Sun God's Divine Yang body, and yet no one seems to know what that is at all. No one even knows what a Sun God is."

"Oh, is that what you're most curious about?" the man asked. "I would've assumed you would first ask why I had you all play the game."

"Well, that too," Alex said.

The man nodded. "I understand, you are curious about a lot of things. I would too," he said. "Let's see. Regarding your body, the reason no one knows about your body is because of two things.

"The first is the fact that it has rarely ever appeared as it has with you. It has been named many different things before for the various properties it holds."

"The Extreme Yang body, the Heaven Devouring body, the Earth Consuming body, the Poison's Bane constitution, Qi Stealing body, Serene Mind Constitution, etc. Throughout history, whenever people would be born with your body, they would immediately be named one of the names that were more popular."

"They were never named what your body is truly named because no one knows about the name itself. I only happened to learn of the name after reading through an archaic record I found in my master's library," he said. "That book held the name for your body, and the significance it held."

"Significance?" Alex asked. "What sort of significance?"

"That brings me to the second reason why no one knows about your body," the man said. "And that is the fact that the being known as the Sun God has disappeared from history, except for the very few records that have lasted since ancient times."

"Wait, so the Sun God really existed?" Alex asked with a surprised face.

"He did," the man said.

"And the records of his existence were erased?" Alex asked.

"No, not erased. They simply disappeared to time itself," the man said. "After all, the being known as the Sun God lived so long in the past that we don't even have a complete record of him. All we know is that he simply wasn't there anymore when he was needed the most."

"Why was he needed?" Alex asked.

"Because of the war," the man said. "There was a large war that happened a lot of time ago, and just before the war, the Sun God disappeared."

"The Eternal war?" Alex asked.

The man was taken aback a bit. "You know about that? Well, that makes things simple then," he said. "Yes, the Sun God disappeared before the Eternal War began. No records of him can be found afterward."

"I see," Alex said. "So that's why no one knows about them at all."

"No, people still know about them," the man said. "They just don't know the name."

"Huh?" Alex asked. "People know about them?"

"Yes," the man said. "The Sun God and the Moon Goddess are well known everywhere, albeit not by their names. You must have heard about them too, haven't you?"

"After all, it is them they are talking about when the people refer to the two True gods."

Chapter 1200: Thief

The True Gods.

Thanks to Shen Jing, Godslayer, and the beasts from the Beast Realm, Alex had come to learn a bit about the True Gods.

They were two real gods, unlike the false gods that were simply called such. They were the ones that were responsible for blessing the 4 divine beasts and creating the 3 demonic plants.

He couldn't be sure which god was responsible for which, but he could guess. He saw Scarlet and remembered how she mentioned the feeling she got from him. That and the fact that her body favored the sun more than anything.

If what Alex had heard just now was correct, along with every bit of information he had, then it would be correct of him to assume that the god that had blessed the Heavenly Beasts was the Sun God.

Alex couldn't help but gulp in surprise and shock.

"M-my body... is that of a True God?" he asked.

"More of a mere imitation," the man said. "The Sun God disappeared, but the impression he left behind in the world did not. As such, from time to time, people would be born with an imitation of their body."

"Most of those would be of a quality that was nothing to speak of, but you were born with one that could be considered to be one of the best imitations of the Sun God's body. Good enough to be considered a divine grade body."

"And then you somehow evolved it," the man said with clear amazement in his eyes. "That's an entirely different problem that I have to deal with somehow."

"It's a problem that that I evolved my body?" Alex asked.

"It would be depending on your character, but from what I've seen and what I've heard, you are very much not problematic at all," he said. "Had you instead been someone who let their power get to their head, I would've killed you the moment you walked in here. Something like the Sun God's body cannot be allowed in the hands of someone who would only misuse it."

Alex took a step back out of sheer instinct.

"Don't worry," the man said. "As I mentioned, you are more than good enough to have a power like that. In fact, I had happy that you grew up to be who you are today. The problem I talked about has nothing to do with your body, but rather how you evolved it."

"I... ate the Yang fruit," Alex said.

"You ate the Nine Yang Divine fruit," the man said.

Alex's eyes went wide. He quickly turned to Scarlet in the distance who wasn't paying attention to them at all. 'Did she tell him? We were supposed to be keeping it a secret, weren't we?'

"Why are you looking toward the phoenix?" the man asked.

"Nothing," Alex quickly said. "Nine Yang Divine fruit... that's the name of the fruit I ate?"

"Yes," the man said with a sigh. "I thought it would be fine leaving it be here, but who knew someone like you would come around to consume it for yourself? Urgh, I shouldn't have stolen it. I'm an idiot."

Hao Ya was surprised to hear her master call himself an idiot.

Alex was surprised as well, but for completely different reasons. "Wait... senior, what do you mean by you stole it? Were you the one that brought the tree here?"

"Urgh! Don't remind me, please. I hope master can save me from this somehow," he said. "I would've been fine if the plant was still alive, but now that it's dead... urgh."

Alex couldn't believe what he was seeing. The senior that seemed greater than heaven was crouching in front of him with his head in his arms. He stared for quite a while before quickly shaking his head.

"So you were the one who brought the plant here? I had assumed it had come with the meteor shower," Alex said.

"Huh? Meteor shower? What's that about?" Hao Ya asked.

"Oh, about a thousand or more years ago in the Western continent, there was a night when the sky was lit up with meteors that fell from the sky. What they assumed were meteors at the time actually turned out to be precious weapons, tools, books, plants, etc. I had thought that the plant whose fruit I ate had come in that shower as well, but it seems it was senior who brought it here instead," Alex said.

"Oh," Hao Ya said with a blank face before turning to her master and back to Alex. "Actually, you are correct. That plant did come in that event you call the meteor shower."

"Huh?" Alex looked at her weirdly. "But your master said—"

"My master... is the one who caused that meteor shower," Hao Ya said.

"WHAT!?"

Alex was hearing so many surprising things today that he felt like he needed a pill to calm his heart before it failed.

"Senior was the reason behind the Meteor shower?" Alex asked.

"Oh, that. Uh, yeah, it was me," the man said.

"How did that happen?" Alex asked.

"Well, I was trying to run away from my master's place after stealing everything from there but was caught at the last second before I could teleport somewhere else. My master tried to pull out everything I had in my storage and she did manage to do it, but I also managed to activate the formation to take me to a random realm."

"At the same time, I took the items with me as I teleported away, and when I came here, they were out of my control, thrown everywhere in this world where I was not welcome. I was also hurt, so I spent my time in hiding here, healing myself."

"I never knew the mortals referred to my disaster as a meteor shower," the man said with laughter in his voice.

The man turned around to see Alex's shocked expression. "Don't be too surprised, I heard something similar happened to you too. I heard you were teleporting with quite a few items when you hit the Qi wall here and had to lose everything," he said.

"I did," Alex said blankly. "Senior, you stole stuff from your master?"

"Yes," the man said straightforwardly before realizing what he had said. "Wait, I'm not a thief. I just stole stuff."

Alex's eyes narrowed.

"No, I mean I stole, but profiting from the stealing was not my intention. It was meant for something bigger, something grander than I or the things I stole," the man said. "I had good reasons to steal those items."

"I don't doubt you, senior," Alex said with a bow.

"You don't trust me, do you?" the man said. "Of course, why would you? I wouldn't trust me either."

"No, no," Alex said quickly. "I'm sure you had reasons, senior. I don't doubt your words. I'm simply wondering what reasons they could be to force a disciple to steal his master's stuff."

"No, not my master's stuff. I wouldn't dare," the man quickly said. "I only stole what my master was safekeeping in her place. They didn't belong to her at all, but rather the entire human race."

Alex's eyes narrowed when he heard that. "Your master's place held items that belonged to the entire human race?" he asked in surprise. "Where is this place?"

The man gave a smug look. "It's a realm known as the Sky God's Palace. My master is the current Sky God."