

Reincarnated as an Energy with a System

- Chapter 1: Reincarnated as an Energy World

Chapter 1: Reincarnated as an Energy

BOOM!

Something fell from the sky in the Zebra's enclosure inside the zoo. It was nighttime, and most of the workers had left the zoo.

Ning Ruogong was the only person aside from a senior that decided to work overnight, taking care of the animals in the zoo. It just so happened that he was close to the enclosure when he heard the small boom.

"Hey, Ning. Can you go check what that was?" the senior spoke from a little far away.

"Okay," Ning opened the lock to the cage and walked inside slowly, hoping the zebras were already asleep. Unfortunately, they weren't.

He looked at the middle of the pack and saw a small crater from something falling from the sky.

'Did an airplane drop a part?' he wondered. He walked a little closer and realized the thing at the center of the crater was a black cube with a very polished surface, reflecting a ton of light.

'What is that?' he got curious and got a little closer. The zebras had stepped to the side, afraid of the cube for some reason. Ning didn't see it though. He was too focused on the cube.

He reached the cube and wondered, 'is it hot? Spaceships burn on re-entry to the earth. I wonder if it burned a little the same way as well,' he decided to give it a little tap before touching it entirely.

TAP

'It's not hot. In fact, it's cold.' He was surprised. Suddenly, the cube started to glow up. Blue light shined from the cube for a second, and then it died down again.

'What was that?' he got curious and decided to pick it up. As he reached for it, suddenly, the cube practically melted to a black liquid and grabbed his hand.

"ARHHHH," he started screaming with horror and started to frantically shake his hands to get rid of the liquid.

"What happened, Ning?" the senior who was far away started shouting as he also heard Ning's scream.

Suddenly, Ning heard something in his mind.

<Congratulations on obtaining the Energy system>

<All of the system's abilities are currently disabled>

<The system will activate once the condition is fulfilled>

"ARHHH," he still screamed not knowing what was happening.

"Stop screaming Ning, or otherwise..." just as the senior was saying this, Ning heard a dozen or so footsteps as he looked to the side to see all the zebras rushing towards him.

As soon as they reached him, the zebras turned around and kicked him with their back legs from each side. His screams had scared them and they had come to defend themselves by getting rid of the 'threat'.

"No—" he couldn't even finish his sentence before he died.

<Congratulations, You have died>

The so-called system started to speak once more. Only, the user was no longer alive to listen to it speak.

<The Energy System is now activated>

<You are being reincarnated by the system>

<Please choose a location for reincarnation>

<...>

<The host did not choose a location in time>

<The system has randomly chosen 'Southern continent of the planet Kumia' as the location for reincarnation>

<Teleporting>

<Teleportation Successful>

<You are now in the Southern continent>

<Congratulations. You have been reincarnated as an Energy>

'Where am I?' Ning Ruogong opened his eyes, or at least he thought he did, but the surrounding was still dark. He could hear nothing, nor could he smell or taste anything. He couldn't even feel anything.

'Those zebras attacked me, right?... am I paralyzed ?' Ning started to wonder. 'Or am I dead? How?' he tried to remember as much as he could. He started replaying the events in his mind backward starting from when the zebras attacked him.

Suddenly, he remembered hearing a voice. Something about a ... 'did it say System?'

<Energy System is now available to you, Ning Ruogong>

A voice sounded in his head. 'Who said that?' he shouted in his mind. His mouth didn't speak for some reason. Maybe he really was paralyzed or even dead.

<I am the Energy System, a system that is a part of you>

He heard the voice once more. 'Who are you?' he asked.

<I am the Energy System, a system that is a part of you>

The same answer repeated in his mind once more. He couldn't understand what was happening. 'What is an Energy system?' he asked.

<An Energy system is a system that turns you into energy after your death.>

<As an Energy, you can live on forever without the worry for death anymore>

'So I really did die,' he got sad. 'Are you saying I am energy right now? What does that mean? am I not a human now?' he asked.

<Yes, you are now an Energy, who can never die, and only change>

<You can become a human after completing tasks for the system>

'Hmm...' Ning got a little curious. 'What task?' he asked.

<Please use the command 'Status' to check your tasks in the system>

'Ok... Status'

Suddenly, he felt he could see light for the first time. A bunch of information appeared in his brain.

[Status

Energy: 1

Task: Collect 9 more energy

Reward: You gain auditory senses

Shop: LOCKED

The system will unlock in 3:22]

Ning saw the status and was surprised. 'What does it mean by Energy 1?' he asked the system.

<The Energy counter represents how many energies you have. Energy is a currency for the Energy System. You can do many things with energy.>

'Oh, and how do I gain more energy?' he asked.

<You cannot collect energy yourself. You will have to depend on luck to gather the energies for now>

'Oh,' he looked at the status once more. 'The shop is locked? Maybe it will unlock later after I get more energy. The system did say the energy was a currency. Where else would currencies be used if not in a shop.'

'What does it mean by the system will unlock? Isn't the system already unlocked?'

<The system takes 5 minutes to unlock after activating>

'Oh, it just activated then, huh. Guess I will wait for a bit.'

Chapter 2: Task Complete

Ning Ruogong's parents had died at a very early age, and he had been sent to the orphanage. However, even his early age was already older than most of the other orphans in the orphanage. So, when the time came for adoption, the adopting couples would always choose the younger orphans and leave the older ones alone.

The longer the time went on, the older he got, so the chances of getting adopted were also fleeting. Soon, he completely stopped having hopes for adoption and just lived his life as normally as one could in an orphanage.

At the age of 18, he left the orphanage to live on his own. But that cost him a lot of money to live on his own, so he had decided to look for a job and by chance happened to find work in a zoo for looking after the animals in the nighttime. Since it was a night shift, the pay was better than the day shift.

So, he took the job without hesitation. Alas, after only working at the zoo for 3 months...

'I can't believe I died. It just doesn't feel real. And somehow I became a ... what's the word— Sentient? Energy, that's just more unbelievable.' Ning was watching the timer go down, but there were still 2 minutes left.

'Hey, system! Is that status all there is to the system?' he asked.

<There are other hidden functions that will reveal themselves as you gain more energy>

'Oh, are these functions different from the locked shop?' he asked.

<You can unlock shop whenever you want after gaining enough energy>

<Hidden functions unlock automatically after you reach a certain amount of energy>

<There can be other requirements than just energy to unlock hidden functions as well>

'Oh, what kind of requirements?' he asked.

<The system will not tell you>

Ning snickered to himself and waited for the timer to end. 5— 4— 3— 2— 1.

<The system has been unlocked>

'Alright,' Ning was curious to see what would happen now. But he waited for more than a minute now, but nothing happened. The energy count was still at 1.

'Hey system, what is going on? Why am I not getting any Energy points?' he asked.

<The only Energy type you can gather right now is Heat>

<You will have to wait until you come across some stray Heat to absorb it>

'What do you mean by I can only gather Heat?' he asked.

<At the early stage of the system, the host can only gather energy that is in the form of Heat>

<As the system progresses, more forms of energy can be gathered>

'Can you tell me what these types of energies are?' he asked.

<The only thing you are authorized to know is that the next form of energy is Sound>

'Oh, sound huh. I wonder how it works,' just as he thought that the system spoke once more, except this time it wasn't answering his questions but, notifying him of something.

<You have gained 1 Energy>

'Wait, I got an Energy? Nice.' He said. He checked his status and it said that he had 2 energy now and required 8 more energy to unlock auditory functions.

He waited for more to arrive but it didn't. 'Hey system, why am I not getting any energy at all? Isn't energy everywhere in the world? How is it that I'm barely getting any?' he was really confused about that.

<You can only gather energy that is equal or less in amount than you>

<The closer the energy is to you in amount, the lower the chances of you absorbing it.>

'Oh,' he thought. 'So, I guess I will just have to wait to accumulate more and more, huh'

He waited for a few minutes before he finally got another energy. Now he had 3.

'Hmm...' he realized something. It had only been about 10 minutes, but somehow he had already gotten over his death or the fact that he had somehow turned into energy. He had also completely accepted that he now had this miraculous system that, according to itself, made him immortal.

'Hey system, Why don't I feel any sadness for dying? In fact, I don't feel any emotion at all. I am only emulating the emotions in the head. I can't actually feel them.' He said.

<The system has suppressed most of your emotions>

<You can unlock them through your task later on>

'Oh,' he said emotionless. Soon, the energy counter reached 5 and it only escalated from there. As he gained more and more energy, the chances of him getting energy would increase as well.

Before he knew it, he was at 8 energy. He waited for a while and got another notification.

<You have gained 2 energy>

<Congratulations. You have unlocked Auditory sense>

Burble. Burble.

He suddenly started hearing sounds. He couldn't tell which directions the sound was coming from, but he was definitely hearing them.

'Is that water?' he thought. The sound he was hearing sounded like something one would hear underwater. 'Hey system, where on earth are we exactly?' he asked.

<You are not on earth. You are reincarnated in the Southern Continent of the Planet of Kumia>

<You are flowing down a mountain glacier right now>

'Huh? Wait for a second, I'm not on earth anymore? Why didn't you say that earlier?' he was shocked.

<The system provided you with the information long ago, would you like to see?>

'Yeah, show me,' as soon as he said that, all the notifications he missed from his death started flowing into his head.

'So, I got teleported to another planet? Wait, is there even life on this planet?' he asked. If he had to live in this world without anything here, he would rather just die again.

<Life is abundant in Kumia. The amount of human alone in Kumia is 303.245 times more than Earth>

'So many? Are there humans near to me right now?'

<Host will have to find that out himself>

'Okay, I guess. Let's see what my next task is. Status.'

Chapter 3: Multiple Unlocks

'Status'

[Status

Energy: 10

Task: Collect 15 more energy

Reward: You gain Directional Hearing

Shop: LOCKED]

'Hey system, what is this directional hearing?' he asked.

<You can tell the directions of sound>

'Oh, that can be quite helpful. Right now every sound feels like it's coming from everywhere.'

<You have gained 3 energy>

'3 at once? Nice.' The gathering of energy was getting faster and faster now that he had overcome the initial hurdle. Slowly, the energy started to accumulate and he completed the tasks easily.

<You have unlocked Directional Hearing>

The all surrounding sound suddenly got separated and he could now hear them as if he were using his own 2 ears to hear them.

'Yeah, I'm definitely underwater. And I don't think it's flowing very fast too, or at least the sound should have been louder if I were,' he thought.

'Ah, the system did say I was in a glacier. Makes sense if I am moving slowly.'

He waited for more notifications to come up, but nothing happened. 10 minutes passed, but still, nothing happened.

'Hey, system. Why am I not getting any more energy?' he asked.

<The amount of Heat energy in the glacier is very low>

<And the sun just went down so you have lost your primary source of Heat energy>

'Wait, does that mean I will have to wait until the sun comes up tomorrow morning?' he thought. The system said nothing, so he assumed he was right.

'Oh god!' he dreaded having to waste 12 hours just listening to what sounded like someone gargling.

'Is there a way I can sleep?' he asked the system.

<You can turn off your consciousness until a condition is fulfilled, in which case the system will wake you up>

'Oh, then can you wake me up when the sun comes up?' he asked

<Confirmed>

Suddenly, he lost consciousness.

<.....ou up from your unconsciousness>

He woke up to listen to part of what the notification had said.

'Why did you wake me up so soon, system? I thought I said to wake me after the sun comes up.' he hadn't even been able to get a wink of sleep before the system woke him up.

<Your consciousness has remained shut for 11 hours and 45 minutes>

'Huh? Did I sleep for so long? But I didn't even feel like I was asleep?' he said.

<You cannot sleep. The system only shuts down your consciousness on your demand>

'Oh,' he hadn't realized that. 'God, why is everything so cold?... cold?' he said as he realized what he had just said. Cold.

'Huh? I can feel cold? What's going on?' he asked.

<You can feel temperatures thanks to your Thermoception>

'What is that? And how do I have it?' he asked.

<Thermoception lets you know the temperature of the objects around you>

<You unlocked it 5 hours and 23 minutes ago>

'What? Status' he quickly opened the status page.

[Status

Energy: 253

Task: Collect 247 more energy

Reward: You gain Movement Sense

Shop: LOCKED]

'203!?!?! How did I get so much energy?? Didn't you say I wouldn't get any more energy since the sun was down?' Without him knowing, overnight, his numbers had grown tenfold.

<The sun is only the Primary source. There are other residual energies in the glacier itself>

'Why can't I see what I have unlocked yet?' he asked.

<You can. Would you like to?>

'Yes, show me!!'

[Unlocks

Energy: Unlock

10: Auditory Senses

25: Directional Hearing

50: Rotational Movement

100: Auditory Spatial Sense

200: Thermoception]

'Rotational Movement? Auditory Spatial Sense? What does that mean? Can you explain?' he asked the system.

<Rotational Movement: You can turn yourself around in any direction.>

<Auditory Spatial Sense: You can tell how spacious your environment is by the sound they produce.>

Ning heard what the system said and started to feel around him. He could tell he was still in the glacier by the gurgle of water and the cold temperature around him. However, being inside the water, he couldn't tell exactly how large the glacier was.

'Hey system, does movement sense mean I will be able to tell if I'm moving?' he asked.

<Yes>

'Alright, since the sun is up, I should be able to gather enough energy now' he thought and waited for more energy to gather up. Suddenly, he got a notification. 'Here it is,' he thought as he checked.

<You have lost 2 Energy>

'What? Wait... W-What? What do you mean I lost Energy? Why am I losing energy?' He started shouting. Why would he lose energy when the purpose of the system was to absorb and grow more energy.

<Part of the Energy in the water left you when the water evaporated >

'So, I can also lose energy and not just gain it?' he asked.

<Yes. Your purpose is to use the system to grow as Energy despite constantly losing it>

'I see. But, wouldn't it be hard for me to gain energy if I keep losing it?' he asked.

<No. At some point, you will start absorbing more energy from the environment than you will lose it>

<As you keep gathering more and more energy, the energy you lose due to the environmental factors will start to become negligible>

'That's a relief to hear.' He gained 4 more energy as he said that. As the sun started to grow higher and higher, he both gained and lost a bunch of energy.

Around 5 hours later, a little before noon, according to the system, he completed the task.

<You have gained Movement Sense>

'Oh, I can feel it. I can tell I'm moving somewhere. Why can't I tell the direction though?'

He checked his status and realized why. 'This stingy system. Why is it making me do so many tasks to unlock the simplest of senses.' He thought.

The next unlock at 1000 Energy was Directional Senses. 'Well, at least I should be able to tell which way I'm moving using the sounds for now' he thought.

He let the water in the glacier carry him away to hopefully reach warmer climates where he would be able to gather more heat energy.

Chapter 4: Humans

Over the course of the day, as the sun stayed in the sky, the water around Ning heated a bit and managed to give him a little energy. But the heated water also evaporated taking away some energy as well.

It was a constant struggle of giving and take.

Slowly, fear started creeping upon him. 'Uhh... system. As Energy, I don't have my own body, I assume?'

<You are correct>

<You are currently inhabiting a few drops of water>

<You can only ever stay inside a body with mass>

'I thought so. Then, say, of the few drops of water I inhabit, what would happen if all but one drop remains? Do I lose all of the energy as the water vapor would float away from me?' he asked.

<Your consciousness is not tied to specific energy>

<If the majority of the water you inhabit turns to steam, your consciousness would fly away with the steam as they always inhabit the body with the highest amount of energy>

'Oh, so I don't have to worry about losing all of my energy?' he asked.

<Correct. The most you can lose at once is half of your Energy>

That relieved a lot of stress off of his head. Well, his figurative head. Even after the sun went down some hours later, he still hadn't gained 1000 energy.

'Status'

[Status

Energy: 928

Task: Collect 72 more energy

Reward: You gain Directional Senses

Shop: LOCKED

]

'Well, I'm not far off. Might as well sleep until tomorrow,' he thought and asked the system to let him sleep until the sun came up tomorrow morning.

As soon as the system complied, he felt his consciousness vanish and reappear just as the system was notifying him of waking up.

'I can pass eons in this way.' He was happy he wouldn't have to sit through the times when nothing happened. He suddenly noticed that he could tell what direction he was moving in.

He could hear a lot of water around him, and could somehow tell which way they were flowing from the directional information his senses gave him.

'Finally, I can tell which direction I'm moving, and not just the fact that I'm moving.' He opened his status page to check what the next task was.

[Status

Energy: 1288

Task: Collect 722 more energy

Reward: You gain Gravitational Sense

Shop: LOCKED

]

He started to notice a difference in the temperature around him all of a sudden. 'The water is getting warmer than with the glacier. Hey, system. Are we out of the glacier?' He asked.

<Yes. You are now in a river formed from the glacier>

'Yes, finally,' he thought. 'By the way, what is Gravitational Sense? Do I sense gravity? Doesn't every object technically have gravity? I hope I don't get bombarded with information about the different gravity,' he said.

<No. Gravitational Senses will tell you the directed with the highest gravity>

<In simpler terms, you will be able to tell which way is down>

'Oh. Now that I think about it, I can't really tell which way is down huh.' He had been getting tossed around so much in the water that it was impossible for him to tell which way was down even if he could.

<You have gained 2 Energy>

<You have gained 1 Energy>

<You have gained 2 Energy>

<You have lost 2 Energy>

<You have gained 4 Energy>

<You have lost 1 Energy>

'Uhh... system. I'm happy that I'm gaining so much energy, but is there a way to not get notified for every single Energy?' he asked. The continuous bombardment of notifications started to annoy him.

'Why am I getting annoyed? My emotions are supposed to be suppressed.' He thought. But then realized he was probably just emulating it because he was used to getting annoyed over such things.

<The system can not hide the notifications of you receiving the energy>

<The system can instead delay the notifications so that they are given to you after they have reached a certain amount in total>

'Huh? What about setting the amount a very high number? is that allowed?' He wondered if he could use a loophole to bypass the system's restriction.

<Yes>

<Would you like to set minimum energy?>

'Yes,' he replied.

<Please select the minimum amount of Energy you want your notifications to be of>

'Hmm... let's just make it so it's 30 for now. I will increase it to much higher number if i really want to hide it.'

<Notification changed successfully>

<System will now only show notifications after you have gained 30 Energy>

He found peace after the notifications stopped coming. Once in a while, he got the notification that he gained 30 Energy, but that was it. Before he knew it, in the warm waters, he reached 2000 Energy.

<Congratulations. You have gained Gravitational Senses>

Suddenly, he felt a lurch within him that pulled him 'downward'. 'Ahhh... what's happening? I'm falling !! Help'

ZHOOM

He heard the sound of water hitting the water. He had accidentally unlocked his gravitational senses just as he was falling down a waterfall.

'God, that scared me. I forgot I am not a human for a moment there.' He thought.

"Yosely eawnlo wer penqla bir"

"Oelson iegsn eihs wor guen heisjer"

Suddenly, he started hearing something. He heard the splashes of water and along with that, he started hearing voices.

'Are those people? Hey system, Are those people near me?'

<Yes>

The system didn't elaborate. 'Can they see me? Can I SEE them?' he started to get more and more agitated. He turned towards the sound. By the voice, he could tell they were just kids. 'Are they kids who came out here for a swim in the middle of the day?' he thought.

<They can see the water you inhabit. But they can't see you, the Energy>

<Please collect more Energy to unlock Visual senses>

He heard the sound of the children get further away, as the river kept on flowing away. He heard a few more people along the way, but he could never stop around to listen to them for long enough.

'God. This is starting to get depressing a little. Hey, system. Can you wake me up when I'm not in the water anymore?' he asked.

<Confirmed>

And he lost consciousness.

Chapter 5: Steam

Ning didn't realize how long it had really been since he was unconscious, but for him, it was only an instant. He woke up to hear part of the system's notification.

He suddenly started feeling like gravity wasn't a thing anymore. He could tell which direction was down, but he could feel himself completely ignoring gravity and going upwards.

His Thermoception also told him that his surrounding was very hot. Way hotter than even the warm water he had felt down the waterfall.

Most weird of all, he could feel this weird sensation around him. Like he was surrounded by something very soft.

'Why can I feel this?' He wondered. 'Status,' he opened his status page to check how far he had gotten along in his quest to gather Energy.

[Status

Energy: 5298

Task: Collect 4702 more energy

Reward: You gain Pressure sense

Shop: LOCKED

]

'Wait, What?' he was startled. The last thing he remembered was him getting Gravity sense not even a minute ago for him at 2000 points. Now he had reached above 5000 points.

He quickly opened the list of unlocks and realized he had unlocked something called Texture sense. 'Hey, system. What is this texture sense?' he asked.

<Texture sense: Lets you know the texture of the object in contact with the object you inhabit.>

'Hmm... so it's like normal human skin. I can already tell the temperature. Thanks to this now, I can tell what sort of object I'm touching. What else can a human skin do?' he started to emulate his sense of touch from when he was still a human.

'Temperature, texture.... Pain. Yes, that is one more. God, I hope I don't unlock pain. That would be so bad.'

'As for another one... hmm... what about being able to tell how much force something is pushing on your skin wi— Wait, is that what pressure sense is?' he quickly checked his status once more.

'Hey system, is pressure sense similar to a skin being able to tell when something is pushing on you?' just as he asked that, a huge howl of wind started tumbling him away. He could barely hear the confirmation from the system regarding his question.

'By the way system, where am I? What am I?' he asked.

<You are currently in the sea between the Southern Continent and the Central continent>

<You are currently in steam>

'Steam? Wait, no go back. You said I'm in the sea? How long was I asleep for?' he asked.

<You have been unconscious for 12 days and 17 hours>

Ning tried to understand what the system had just said, but he couldn't comprehend it at all. He stopped thinking about other things and focused on what the system had just said.

'12 and a half days? I've been asleep for nearly 13 days? Why didn't you wake me up earlier, system?'

<Host's condition for waking up was when the host was no longer in water>

<It took host 12 days and 17 hours to leave water>

Ning thought for a bit. 'I did say that, didn't I?' He thought for a bit more and realized that something didn't add up.

'Hey, system, why don't I have a lot of Energy? I should have gathered a ton during the many days I was unconscious, right?' he asked.

<Due to the high temperature outside of the glacier, most of the energy you gained left you as they evaporated>

'God, am I ever gonna enough energy to not worry about losing them?' he thought. Then he realized that he hadn't asked the system for an opinion on this matter directly.

'Hey, System. What ways are there to gather more energy?' he asked.

<Water is a bad object to inhabit for energy>

<Please switch to another object for better energy conservation>

'Hmm... I didn't think about that. How do I switch to another object.' He asked

<Wait for it, or unlock Body Switch>

He dreaded the answer to the question he was going to ask, 'And how do I unlock this Body Switch?'

<Please gather more Energy>

'Are you f*****g kidding me?' he couldn't help but scream internally. He had felt like was making some progress, but he was back to step one.

The air carried him high into the air where he started feeling cold again. He could tell from the sound that he was in a very, very vast sky. He steadily gained more energy even as the air around him was getting colder.

When he asked why the system told him that the friction between the air and the steam was generating heat energy. Also, it was sunny outside and he was getting the full brunt of the sun.

As he reached higher and higher, he realized that he wasn't losing as much energy as when he was in the water. Even when condensed in the air, the steam was still together as water droplets.

Slowly, he started feeling cold. In fact, he could tell he himself was getting colder. 'No, not me, but the steam.' He needed to learn to differentiate himself from the object he inhabited.

He couldn't see what was happening and only heard some noises. Although the cold didn't harm him, it started making him feel uncomfortable.

Slowly, he started to feel gravity more and more. Suddenly, he stopped feeling gravity as he started rising up and then falling once more.

The kept on happening for a few more times where he would start falling, but then suddenly start flying up once more.

'Hey, system? What is happening to me?' he asked.

<You have been caught in a massive thunderstorm>

<The steam you inhabit has changed to ice particle, and you are starting to gather a lot of supercooled water>

<The updraft in the thunderstorm is keeping you afloat, but not for long>

Ning couldn't understand what the system meant. 'Can't you say what is happening in simpler terms?' he asked.

<Yes. In simpler terms, you are going to now fall to the ground as hail>

Chapter 6: Rock

'Hail?' as soon as he heard the system say that, he started falling down with extreme speed. Along the way, he gathered more and more supercooled water droplets that froze as they came into contact with the hail.

The speed kept on increasing as the hail hadn't reached its terminal velocity yet. After a few seconds, he could finally sense that the hail was no longer accelerating. 'Have I reached my max speed?' he thought.

As he fell, he started to worry if he would get broken into a million pieces if he fell on something hard. That would mean that he would have to start all over again as he would inhabit the body with the largest amount of energy from the impact. The system pretty much promised that he would always only lose half of his energy at once.

But if he were to scatter into millions of pieces, even the largest amount of energy would most likely be many times less than half. 'But the system said half. Hey, system. What happens if I hit something very hard at this speed as a h— '

Boom

A massive sound came forth as he most definitely hit something very hard.

'— ail.' He had reached the ground before he could even finish his sentence. The system still answered him.

<Energy would transfer between the two objects during collision>

<The object that ends up with a higher amount of energy is what you will inhabit>

<You are now inhabiting a Rock>

<You have gained 962 Energy>

He got both the answers and the notification from the collision back to back. His very cold body suddenly started feeling warm once more, and he could feel the very uneven texture below him.

He could hear a lot of other crashes as more hails dropped around him.

<You have gained 395 Energy>

<You have gained 251 Energy>

<You have gained 366 Energy>

'Hide the energy notifications. make the threshold number in the millions.' he said immediately.

<Hidden successfully>

'What is happening, system? Why am I in a rock now?' he asked.

<During your collision, the hail you were inhabiting broke into many pieces, and most of the energy in the hail turned into Heat energy and Sound energy that got absorbed by the rock, and alongside that, it absorbed you too>

Ning weighed on the system's answer a bit and asked back, 'From what I remember learning back in the orphanage, they said that energy can neither be created, nor be destroyed, and only change its form. Is that true?'

<Correct>

'Then, how did I not only survive a collision with a rock but also instead gained energy from it. That doesn't sound right?' he asked.

<You were not the only one falling>

<Your snowflake had gathered other droplets of water to form a massive hail>

<Since, the energy in those water was not in the form of heat, but rather potential energy, you could not gather them>

<However, when they struck the rock, most of those got transformed to heat energy, and you managed to gain it>

'Oh, so in other words, I got lucky. If I had fallen as hail in a little bit smaller size, I would've had a net loss in the transition of energy.'

<Yes>

As more and more hails fell on top of the rock, he got another notification.

<You have unlocked pressure sense>

As soon as he unlocked that, he could now feel the force at which the hails were hitting the rock.

The downpour of the hails lasted a lot longer than he had anticipated. 'Hey, system. Where exactly are we now?' he asked.

<You are on a rock in the ocean a few kilometers away from the shore to the southern continent>

'Oh,' just as he said that another notification arrived.

<You have unlocked Proprioception>

'Wait I unlocked something already? That was fast. Man, I am loving these hail.' He quickly opened the status page.

[Status

Energy: 20328

Task: Collect 29672 more energy

Reward: You gain Unidirectional Vision

Shop: LOCKED

]

'Prop— Proprioception? Damn, that is hard to pronounce. What is this system?' he asked.

<Proprioception: You can sense where every part of the body you inhabit are in relation to one another>

'Sense part of my body?' he started focusing on the hails that were hitting him, and found out he could now tell exactly which part of the rock they were hitting.

'Huh. I didn't even realize I was missing it. Oh wow, this rock is huge isn't it.' He could finally sense the overall size of the rock he had inhabited. From his estimates, he was nearly spherical in shape with a diameter of 20 meters or so, and half of it submerged in the ocean.

He had gone from tiny drops of water to be in such a massive rock. He was realizing now why he was gaining so much energy.

By the time the hailstorm ended, he had about 30,000 energy in total and required 20,000 more for the next unlock. He slowly felt warm sunlight caress the entire rock as the clouds parted to give way to the sun.

The heat energy of the massive rock gathered was far more than he could've expected. He was gaining about 1000 energy every minute. The ocean water also took away some energy as the water-cooled down the rock, but they were inconsequential in front of the massive amount of gain.

The energy gain slowly went down every minute as he felt the sunlight hitting from a steep angle, meaning the sun was about to go down the horizon.

'Ah, just a little more and I could've completed the task. Sigh, I guess I will have to wait for tomorrow to unlock this unidirectional vision,' he said.

He had been excited for it after asking the system what it was and learning it would allow him to see at a 30 degrees angle in front of him. He didn't need eyes for them, as he didn't need skin to feel or ears to hear.

Night came and the air chilled. 'Guess I will sleep till tomorrow morning then. Hey system, wake me up when the sun comes up tomorrow.'

<Confirmed>

And he fell unconscious.

Chapter 7: Cultivation

It had been 2 days since Ning started inhabiting the rock. No thunderstorm arrived after the first day, but that just meant he got to bask in sunlight from morning to evening.

He had already unlocked Unidirectional vision and could now see far off into the distance in a very acute range. His vision itself wasn't as good as he would have hoped for. It was clear for around 10 meters ahead of him, but after that his vision got fuzzy.

According to the system, his vision would get better, and he could see further by investing Energy into it once the shop was unlocked. That was his sole solace right now.

Far into the south, he could see a vague silhouette of what he assumed was the Southern Continent. Everywhere else, it was just a blue ocean. Funnily enough, he

could see in an acute angle from anywhere in his body from any direction thanks to his Rotational Movement unlock, and he could see everywhere.

He could clearly see inside the water, he could have a half vision in water and half in the air. He could even see the sun now and didn't have to wince at it like he would when he was a human.

The world he was in now, that the system called Planet Kumia, was no different from earth, other than the fact that it was numerous times larger.

He was quite bored waiting for the energy to go up, so he decided to sleep once more when suddenly, he heard something flying up in the air. He tried to look up but realized that he was looking at the sun, so he couldn't see exactly what was flying.

'Does this world also have airplanes and helicopters?' he wondered. He waited for whatever it was to fly past the sun so he could see it properly.

When it finally did, he saw 2, very tiny silhouettes, flying towards him.

'Is that a bird? No, a plane?' when he finally saw what it was, he was shocked.

'It's a man!!,' if he had a jaw right now, it would be on the floor for sure. 'Wait! Humans are flying in this world? What is happening?'

The flying humans flew past him towards the southern continent. Just as they were about to reach the land, however, a giant tentacle shot out of the ocean, grabbing onto one of the flying humans.

Ning was far away, so he couldn't see exactly what was happening, but he saw bright lights shine that didn't pale in comparison to the sun. The humans flew in and out of the clutches of the giant sea monster steadily cutting off its tentacle.

Although he couldn't see, he could tell for sure that the people were most definitely using fire.

'How are they flying? Or using fire? Is it magic?' he couldn't figure out. A bit later, it seemed the fight was over and the humans had won. One of the humans brought the entire giant sea octopus out of the water, and as soon as it reached outside, it vanished.

'What? Why did it disappear? What is happening?' things just got more and more confusing for him.

'Hey, system. Does this world have magic?' he asked.

<No. This is a cultivation world, not a magical world>

'Cultivation?' he thought for a bit. 'Like those popular stories back on earth?' he asked.

<Yes>

'Uhh... system, I have never read those books. Is it possible you tell me what this cultivation thing exactly is?' he asked.

<Cultivation is an intelligent being's journey to get stronger in search of long life, or maybe even immortality>

'That... sounds awesome. Those people there used fire, I think. Is that a thing cultivators can do?' he asked.

<Cultivators can use different abilities using an energy form called Qi, which is abundantly available in the Planet Kumia>

<For more knowledge on Cultivation, please visit the Shop>

'Hmm... guess I'll have to wait until the shop is unlocked huh. I wonder when I can unlock the shop. Honestly, the next unlock seems a little useless.' He looked at his status once more and read the next unlock only to emulate disgust towards it.

His next unlock was Emotions. While, emotion by itself wasn't something bad, but having to unlock it and it taking up position for other more useful senses made him think it was useless.

'Well, I guess I don't have to emulate my emotions anymore, and can actually feel it.' He wasn't very far away from unlocking emotion. Just a couple of more hours of sunlight, and he should be able to unlock it.

'Qi huh, you said that's a form of energy. Was there Qi back on earth as well?' he asked.

<No. Qi is a rare form of energy found in very few planets>

'Oh, it's rare? How many planets have Qi in total?' he asked.

<Infinite>

'Huh? Infinite? I thought you said Qi was rare. How can infinite planets have Qi if it's rare?' he puzzled.

<There are many more planets that don't have Qi than there are that have it>

'Umm... how many planets are there in the universe exactly?' he decided to ask.

<There are 68,180,268,153,211 planets in the universe with life on them>

'So many?? Wait, but you said an infinite amount of them had Qi, right? Why are you contradicting yourself now?' the system was giving more and more confusing answers.

<The planets in a universe are countable, however, there are an infinite number of universes>

<Yours is just one of them>

'Ah' he finally understood. 'So the multiverse theory is true?'

<Yes>

'Can I ever visit the other universes?' he asked.

<Traveling from one universe to another requires you to spend 10 supermassive Black Hole's worth of Energy>

'Ah, hahaha,' he started laughing unenthusiastically. 'I guess I will stick to unlocking emotions for now. I wonder what sort of emotion I would have felt when I heard that.'

As such he spent a few more hours in the sun until he heard the notification.

<Congratulations. You have unlocked Emotions>

Chapter 8: Body Switch

Ning felt bored. He didn't emulate boredom, he really felt bored. He had been waiting around in the rock for a few days now. The thunderstorm had come and gone by once more, while most of the other days were just cloudy. So, even the Energy he gained wasn't a lot.

Every single day, he would wake up at sunrise, hoping this day would be the one where he unlocked his next skill.

'Status' he opened his status page to see how far he was from the next unlock.

[Status

Energy: 126,524

Task: Collect 73,476 more energy

Reward: You gain Body Switch

Shop: LOCKED

]

According to the system, his next unlock was a skill that allowed him to change bodies. Which meant, he could leave this god-forsaken ocean.

He had come to realize soon enough that this wasn't even a good part of the ocean. The part he was on was elevated from the rest of the ocean, so he couldn't even see anything down below. Just 10 meters deep, and he would reach the sand.

That was just sad. He felt sad. He also felt angry that he felt sad. 'Why do I have to get emotions system? Can't you remove them? I was doing so well before. Now all I do is feel bored and sad, and then get angry about it.' He truly hated the fact that he had unlocked emotions.

The moment he had unlocked the emotions, he had started to feel incredibly sad and even cried internally at the fact that he had died. He only then realized how fake the emotions he was emulating really were.

He was sad that he had done nothing with his previous life. From an early age, he was left out of everything. His parents had died tragically and left him alone, the friends he barely made in the orphanage left him to get adopted with their new parents, and even life itself had left him now.

Since then, he had started to hate the emotions he had unlocked. 'Tell me system, do I really need these emotions?' he asked.

<Yes>

<There have been many records of hosts, who didn't have emotions, going on to use the system to do terrible things to the universe they lived in>

<Giving emotions is a way of making the user empathetic so that they don't bring unnecessary harm to others>

<The system was created so that the hosts can live a carefree life, not destroy other life in the process>

<So, Hosts are forced to have emotions now, and the emotions are also amplified a bit>

'Is that why I felt so incredibly sad even when I had already come to terms with the fact that I died?' he asked the question, but the system didn't answer. The system had no way of telling exactly how sad he was feeling.

'Okay,' he accepted the answer, and along with it, accepted the emotions.

Finally, the day after, another thunderstorm arrived bringing along another hailstorm. Ning was incredibly happy. He could tell he had never been this happy before. Even his happiness towards getting the energy had been amplified.

The hails were a bit smaller this time, so every hit only brought about 100 energy each. It would take a lot of time for him to gather 70,000 energy this way.

'Guess, I'm not getting the body switch skill today. Hopefully, its starts getting sunny again soon.' Just as he thought that he happened to look up at the sky and saw something flash.

BOOM

A bolt of massive lightning appeared out of nowhere, hitting the rock he inhabited. It left about a 40 centimeters wide hole, and along with that quite a few notifications.

<You have lost 8624 Energy>

<You have gained 234,284 Energy>

<You have unlocked Body Switch>

'Holy S**t, That scared me. What was that? A lightning strike?' he could feel the extremely hot hole the lightning had left on the rock's surface. He looked back at the notifications and realized he had reached his goal.

'Body Switch? Wait... I did it? YES!!! Haha, it's here. I did it,' he exclaimed as he became the happiest he had ever been since coming here.

'HAHA!! More, Hit me more' he shouted internally at the storm. But, another lightning never came towards him.

'Oh. Right, I forgot lightning doesn't hit something twice. I got unnecessarily happy.' He got a little sad again. His emotions were very fickle right now and changed as fast as a chameleon changing its color.

He waited until the thunderstorm was over. By now, he had gained about 20,000 Energy from the hails alone. 'Status' he checked what his next goal was.

[Status

Energy: 391,542

Task: Collect 108,458 more energy

Reward: You gain Sounds

Shop: LOCKED

]

'Sounds? What do sounds mean, system? I can already hear things though. That was the first thing I unlocked.'

<You will know when it unlocks>

'Why are you being so vague?' the system didn't answer, so he changed his question, 'Alright then, let's switch bodies. How do I do that?'

<Please choose a non-living object you would like to change bodies with>

'Non-living? Umm... how about a roof? They get a lot of sunlight, right? Oh, no-no, Wait, can you switch my bodies with one of those cultivator's clothes? I want to see them use their abilities and fly around and stuff.'

<You can only switch with objects your current body is in contact with>

'My current body? But the rock is in the middle of nowhere. The only thing in contact with it is the ocean water. And I thought you said water was a bad body, didn't you?' he was starting to feel angry.

<Solid objects make for the best bodies. Liquids and gas can be easily separated, so you have a much higher chance of losing energy>

'Then, that means I can't switch bodies with anything right now? F**k!! I was getting excited about nothing.'

He had been so excited to know that he could finally switch his bodies and go somewhere else. However, after learning that he could only do so with objects he was in contact with, his disappointment was immeasurable and his day was ruined.

Chapter 9: Scabbard

Ning Ruogong looked at the cloudy sky and sighed to himself. 'No, sun today as well.' It had been a few days since the sun was out in the sky.

The energy he was gathering had gone back to the same slow days.

A seagull came flying towards the rock and perched on top of it. "BOO!" A massive sudden sound ran out from the rock, scaring the bird away.

'Ahahaha,' Ning laughed to himself. Every since unlocking the 'Sounds' unlock, he could start making sounds at the expense of a few hundred energy for each second.

That 'boo' just there had cost him 300 Energy. But he didn't mind that. The 'Sounds' unlock had also brought along another change in him. He could now absorb energy from sounds as well. More specifically, he could gather the energy of the vibrating molecules which usually carried along with the sounds.

While the ocean itself was pretty quiet, the waves hitting the rock would make enough noise for him to gather a few hundred with each big wave. However, he was also in a very shallow location in the ocean, so the waves were never really that high.

'Status' he even thought in a tired voice.

[Status

Energy: 632,000

Task: Collect 368,000 more energy

Reward: You gain Parallel Thinking

Shop: LOCKED

]

The next upgrade was something called Parallel thinking. According to the system, it allowed the user to concentrate on two different things at once. Later on, he could also buy more mental strength to change his attention from 2 different things to 3, or 4. However, each upgrade cost exponentially more.

'Just one hail storm where the lightning hits me, and I would surely get it. I wonder how much energy the lightning bolt has? Hmm... that reminds me. Hey system, What's the next form of energy I will be able to absorb after sound?' he asked.

<The next form of energy you can absorb will be revealed when you gain a human body>

'Oh, then that means it's not that far away, right?' he asked.

<System cannot confirm how far away the unlocks are>

'Whatever,' he was happy that he would soon, well, relatively soon acquire the ability to become a human. 'Hmm... I wonder if I will have to possess another human to acquire the body, or the system will give me a new one.'

The system didn't answer anything. A few days went by and he finally got the sunny day he wanted. The warm heat on his 20 meters wide-body felt really great.

As he was sunbathing, he suddenly heard something. Something was making a lot of swooshing sounds in the air.

'No way!!!' he thought. He looked towards the sound and saw 2 people flying towards him from the ocean. Just as they were about to reach him, a giant fish jumped out of the water to bite at one of the people.

However, it seemed the people were prepared as they immediately dodged it and started throwing all kinds of magic attacks towards it. This fight was much closer to him, so Ning could see everything clearly.

'Wow,' he couldn't help but be entranced by the fight. The cultivators were tough, but the fish wasn't a slouch either. It suddenly jumped out once more and slapped one of the people with its tail.

'Oooh,' Ning internally winced as he was pretty sure that attack just now broke the man's right arm. The man wobbled a little as he tried to stabilize himself in the air. The person happened to near Ning now, so he could clearly see the man's mangled arms.

The man, however, didn't cry or even make a sound. It simply looked at the fish that was distracted by the other cultivator and took out his sword from its hilt in his waist.

The sword started glowing a frightening crimson red, and he tossed it towards the fish so fast, it created multiple sonic booms just on his arms.

<You have gained 102,366 Energy>

'Woah!, Just one of his attacks, and the sound alone gave me 100K energy. How much energy would I get if that thing really hit me?' he wondered.

The sword accurately hit the fish monster's head, blowing off a chunk of its head. The other cultivator started huffing very loudly as he was tired of fighting the fish alone.

"Losen eugb isen"

"Soeh"

Once again, they spoke languages that he didn't understand. They slowly flew towards him and sat down on his rock to rest. He could finally see them clearly.

Both of these men looked like they were in their 40s. The man with the mangled arms finally started showing pain on his face. Suddenly, he did something, and a small round object appeared in his hand.

'Is that a pearl?' he wondered. The man suddenly put it in his mouth and swallowed it.

'Woah, what was that?' he wondered. The system didn't seem to be answering any of his questions so he wondered if this was related to cultivation as well.

Suddenly, the man's arm which was entirely mangled started to change its shape. Slowly, the arm returned back to its clean, undamaged state. The only thing that was damaged now was his cloth.

The man slumped to the ground and sighed with relief.

'Hmm...' Ning started feeling something poking somewhere on him. He looked at what it was and realized it was that man's sword. Or more accurately, the sword scabbard.

'Wait,' he thought, 'That's an object touching me right? Hey, system. Can I switch body to that scabbard?' he asked excitedly.

<It will cost you 5000 energy. Are you willing?>

'Yes! Do it'

<Confirmed>

Suddenly, he felt his entire consciousness move from one body to another. His vision and proprioception were the two senses that gave him the most trouble as they took time to adapt.

Once he was done adapting, he looked around, he could finally see the rock he had been living on for the past few weeks. The men slowly started flying, and Ning could feel himself getting lighter. He looked towards the direction the two cultivators were flying.

'Southern Continent! Here I come.'

Chapter 10: City

The blue ocean, the cool air brushing along his body, the unusual feeling of flying, and the sheer happiness at finally leaving the giant rock in the ocean. Multiple feelings passed over Ning Ruogong as he flew across the ocean towards the southern continent.

He looked towards the two men he was flying with and was amazed at how stoic they were. They weren't revealing a single bit of emotions at the fact that they were flying.

'Must be a usual thing for them,' He thought. He looked down at the deep blue ocean and saw a couple of fishes swimming by. It reminded him of the zoo he worked on. Part of the zoo had a small aquarium where small to medium fishes were kept. While his job was to look after the terrestrial animals, he would sometimes get to see the aquatic animals in their environment.

He wanted to switch bodies to the sword but decided not to for now. If he were inside the scabbard, he would miss the amazing view that was in front of him.

He looked to the front and saw a small beach near the shore followed by what was the largest forest he had ever seen. Even counting the rain forests he saw on the TV, they would pale in size to these. The cultivators were high enough that he could see the forest go on for what he felt was forever.

As soon as they reached the beach to the southern continent, the two cultivators suddenly sped up. They were hundreds of times faster than when they were flying in the ocean.

'Why are they speeding up only now? Is this forest so dangerous that they have to leave as quickly as they can? Or is the ocean so treacherous that they have to be careful about every step they take?' he could wonder however much he wanted, but he was not going to get the answer anytime soon.

The two men started talking once more for a brief period of time. Ning tried to listen to those words once more, and he was absolutely sure he had never even heard of a language that sounded like that.

'Hey, system. Can you translate what they are saying?' he asked.

<System cannot directly assist in communication with other living beings>

'Directly? If you can't then assist me indirectly' he said.

<System can allow you to learn the language of the Planet of Kumia>

'Oh, that's good. Alright, teach me.' He happily expected to immediately start understanding the two men now.

<Please purchase 'Planet Kumia's Language' or 'Book of Languages' from the shop once it's unlocked>

'What the hell? I thought you were going to teach me.' He got angry suddenly. He was fed up with hearing that everything required the shop to be opened, while it never told him what he had to do to open the shop.

<System cannot directly assist in communication with other living beings>

'So teach me the language counts as directly assisting? Sigh, alright.' He went back to looking at the giant forest. From time to time, he could see weird-looking animals that were unique to this world alone. However, whenever these animals saw the two men flying in the sky, they would immediately run to hide within the trees.

'Are these men so strong that the animals are running away from them?' he wondered. This took him to another train of thought. 'If they are very strong, they must output enormous amounts of energy while fighting. I wonder if I can absorb it while remaining in the scabbard. Wait, what if I switched bodies with the blade itself? Wouldn't I be able to gain a tremendous amount of energy?' he assumed his line of thinking was right.

'Hey, system. Switch my body with the blade in the scabbard.' He ordered the system.

<The system cautions against switching bodies with a weapon>

'Huh? I'm not allowed to? What happens if I switch body with a weapon?' he asked.

<Weapons are tools made to pass energy from oneself to other objects>

<This usually means the energy in the weapons are gained from the user and transfers to the object they target>

<In essence, weapons are some of the worst choices to transfer bodies with>

'Oh. Hmm... I think that makes sense.' It took him some time to understand what the system meant, but once he understood, he was fine with staying in the scabbard.

After an hour or so of flying at maximum speed, the two men arrived at a small city. The city was walled up towards the outside of the forest, while the buildings were on the other side.

The two men flew down to an open area with people wearing similar clothes. Almost as if they were wearing a uniform, each person had the same dress as the other. The clothes happened to be what these two men were wearing as well.

The grayish-blue cloth with a black sash around their waist. Only, these other people had white sash. Ning thought these men must be of some status to wear something different.

'Hmm... most of these people are just kids, aren't they? I thought they were adults because of their long hairs, but at most they are 25 at best.' He could see the youths come towards the men and greet them.

Ning watched as the two men were greeted with a bow by everyone they passed by. He couldn't understand what the language the people spoke, but even then he could understand just how respectful they were.

A young man came forward after the man called and both of these men passed along their swords to the young man. The young man bowed and left as he took Ning along with him.

'Huh? Where are they taking me?' he wondered. The young man walked for a few minutes before he came across a large building. He went inside the building and took out a metal necklace that he places on a wall.

Suddenly, the wall opened and Ning could see numerous swords and armors and all types of weapons in there. The young man walked inside and placed the sword alongside a wall.

'Huh?' before Ning could even understand what was happening, the young man left the room, leaving the scabbard Ning was in inside the room.