

Be Honest! 91

Chapter 91 You Can Do This Too?

Chiyou glanced at Dorian pitifully, thinking of how grateful one should be in this life.

Look! Even the heavens couldn't give the Grandmaster both brains and common sense, as that wouldn't be fair at all.

So it could be that they blessed him with wealth, brains, good looks... But not common sense.

Sigh... So it was really true what they said. No one can be perfect!

Chiyou shook her head wryly while thinking of how but the thieves around these parts were.

But little did she know that the moment Dorian stepped out, he had already placed a Talisman underneath the car, close to the rear right tire.

But this talisman was similar to the talismans he could sell to others.

It would be effective for a specific number of times. And after that, it would break apart on its own.

So whether he would come and meet his vehicle in one piece would depend on his luck, as well as how fast he handled Chiyou's matter.

Dorian glanced at his watch briefly.

They needed to speed things up!

With that, he quickly uprooted 2 flowers from the ground and blew into them.

And what happened next was something that Chiyou would never forget in her life.

"Grow."

Boom!

The flowers started trembling vigorously as their petals and stalks enlarged like a butterfly bursting out from its cocoon!

And their brownish roots turned into long, stretchy curled-up legs.

Pah!

Chiyu slapped her cheek and blinked uncountably in disbelief.

Her opened lips quivered and shook in speechlessness as she kept staring at the scene dumbfoundedly.

"You! You! They! Them! How? A dream?!"

Cviyou's fingers pointed back and forth as her brain tried to convince her that what she was seeing was indeed right.

But how can this be?

Yes. She did believe that there was some magic in this world... Especially after seeing the talisman's work the way it did.

But seeing a puny flower that she could stomp on at any time grow into a 7-foot giant right before her very naked eyeballs wasn't something anyone's brain can readily accept.

And almost her fascinated shock, fear and horror, the enlarged flowers took their first step towards her.

"You!~~."

Chiyou was just about to tell them to stay back. But before she could even complete her sentence, she couldn't herself now nestled in the soft petal blanket of the flower.

Eh?

Woosh!

Like lightning, the flowers carried both Chiyou and Butler Sheng very protectively.

Of course, Butler Sheng hadn't been worried from the get-go. But Chiyou, who was still new to the game, had to take time easing her brain in.

Sure. She had faith in the Grandmaster.

But as a human being, even in times like this, it was okay for one's shock to be accompanied by fear... Especially when seeing such a thing for the first time.

But now, her heart wasn't as chaotic as it was when the creatures first leaned over her like giant monsters with their petals all stretched and hunched over her.

Dang, it!

She placed her heart against her chest frantically. That moment sure was scary.

Dorian looked at her calmly: "Directions."

"Right, Grandmaster. I'll do my best to guide you!"

With that, the gang dashed onwards, only leaving after images of themselves behind.

Bam!

And from time to time, those working on fields around the paths they passed would get confused, thinking they were dreaming or imagining things.

In particular, one of the village men who went up one of the hills to harvest his summer crops, had only paused to take a dip of 'water' before continuing his work.

He first looked at the juicy wild berries and other goods in his field, feeling very satisfied and happy at the turnout during this season.

Now, he just had to harvest it all and sell it to earn more money for his daughter.

They, village folks, lived on farming, hunting, fishing, carpentry, and other works of these sorts to get by here.

He had one daughter and one son.

His son was already schooling in the big city, working part-time and paying for his expenses.

So now, his primary focus was on his 11-year-old daughter.

She typically spent her time in school or doing house chores with her mother.

Yes! He was the only one in charge of harvesting, planting and tilling the soil up here.

And sometimes, he liked drinking his favourite tapped white rum that was extracted and brewed in an old-fashioned way from the trees.

So after working for hours, he finally decided to have a breather and take a sip of his white rum.

But just after taking one sip, he seemed to be seeing things.

Eh?

Did he just see giant flowers running around, as well as the sight of a person behind them too?

Blink. Blink. Blink.

The man blinked again but found that in this split second, there was no such image before him.

Moreover, he couldn't hear the sounds of anyone running around the place.

The man looked at the jug of white rum in his hand silently.

He starts at the jug as if having a battle with it. And soon enough, he poured its contents out onto the land with a place expression on his face.

F***!

From today henceforth, he will never drink such a crazy thing again!

~Brrrrrrhhhhh

The wind blew ever so gently across Chiyou's face, which was shocking, considering the speed they were going.

But Chiyou already knew the reason for this.

Look at these giant Flowers? While dancing ahead, they kept clearing the air and space before him ever so quickly, as if they were ninjas blending in with their surroundings.

They used their massive, thick and powerful roots to swipe away any harmful things that might be coming their way, all the while watching her point and direct which way they had to go.

It was just too awesome!

Chiyou knew that after this experience if she ever spoke about this matter to someone, they would think her mad... Just like Alice in Wonderland.

Most likely, they would put her in the looney bin!

~Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

Like so, the flower ninjas did their thing, and Dorian calmly followed them in silence until they finally reached a forest region close to Chiyou's home.

The home only had 9 other neighbouring homes around it on a low hill.

Each home had large enough space for poultry raising and private gardening.

Of course, the age wasn't just made up of these 9 households, as across the land, homes were scattered all over the place in clusters.

These were how villages here were.

Chiyou peeked at the beautiful scene of her home from within the bushes, feeling very determined.

"Grandmaster, we're here."

Chapter 92 A Family Affair

"Grandmaster, we're here!"

Dorian peered at the scene, feeling it very novel and fascinating, to say the least.

One shouldn't look down on the place just because it was a village.

Sure. Most village homes look the same as they did ages ago, but they more or less killed like cottages to him.

And the beautiful low-hill grassy surroundings, as well as the drawing well at the side, only made the place look very peaceful.

Of course, many times in this village had electricity and flowing tap water in their homes.

But not all homes were equipped in this way, as some still liked to live as though they were in the roaring '80s.

They were used to fetching water and doing things for themselves.

Then again, some homes had solar panels on their roofs too.

But no matter how much change had occurred around the place, the village still blended well with nature, with each person having enough yard space to garden, raise poultry and cook outdoors too.

And of course in this village, they didn't have house numbers. And their roads weren't even labelled as well.

If one wanted to get somewhere, they had to ask for directions and primarily refer to places or houses via family names.

Like saying one was going to Mother Xx's home or saying one was going to the old Fool's house.

Nicknames were what they used and understood here.

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Dorian glanced at the site for a bit while waiting for the giant flowers to lower the duo.

The gentle giants did as instructed before suddenly implanting their roots into the soil and shrinking at an alarming speed.

Chiyou moistened her dry lips while still gaping at the magical sight before her

With a blank mind, she looked at the flowers that had now shrunk to the size of her big toe in a daze.

Of course, Dorian didn't kill them.

He just planted them alongside their roots back into the soil where they belonged.

They were a great help to him, so why should he just discard them after using them?

Additionally, people tend to forget that the very and even plants themselves were breathing.

Meaning they were alive in a different form as well.

So treat them all with respect.

Chiyou also glanced at the Flowers as if saying thank you.

She also noted the place, wanting to carry the flowers and plant in the garden after the Grandmaster left.

To her, the flowers were a reminder that she wasn't dreaming.

And since the Grandmaster himself used them, wasn't it a blessing for her to grow them?

Yup! She treated these flowers just as a fan would treat an item from their idols or favourite celebrities.

Dorian glanced at the scene deeply.

Already, he could feel the disturbance in the force.

"Lead the way."

"On it, Grandmaster!"

Like so, the trio stepped out of the bushes and headed towards Chiyou's home from the back.

Meanwhile, within the Chiyou's home, the gloomy air still prevailed, as three people worriedly peeked out their front window from time to time.

"Where is she? Husband. I'm worried about her! What if on the way, something disastrous happened? She said her luck had been stolen. So won't she attract all negative things on the way instead?"

The 41-year-old man, who looked like he had aged by 10 years, could only pet his wife, trying to convince her that it was just in her mind... Of course, he was also trying to convince himself that nothing terrible would happen too.

"Now, now... Provided she still holds that paper; she will be alright. So she will be able to reach the Grandmaster safely."

The woman's tears leaked out as she gripped her husband's hands worriedly.

Will it really be alright?

Yesterday was the most devastating time for her.

After knowing or convincing herself to believe the hard facts before her, she felt very breathless, as she couldn't imagine what wrong she had done in this life to wanton someone's hatred for her family.

The hard knot constricted in her throat kept choking the words in her heart downwards when she thought of their current predicament.

Why? Why her family?

They had never done anything drastic or gone out of their way to harm anyone.

And if they did harm someone, she had no idea of it, meaning maybe they did so without knowing it.

So she was ready to beg for forgiveness in whatever way.

However, the problem didn't even stem from them offending anyone. No! That Grandmaster said that it came from pure jealousy.

Meaning some people just got jealous of the blessings they had received.

But how was that their fault?

For the first time in her life, she felt terrified and frightened of the world around her.

She was so shaken that she started wondering how she would ever go out to work again.

Being a village woman, she already felt very inferior in the world and had never overstretched her hands to the stars.

But even at that, some people still wanted to push them further into the ground.

And this thought alone kept her awake all night!

Seeing his wife tremble and look around frighteningly, the man could only pull her into his embrace and comfort her as much as he could.

Unlike his wife, he understood that he had to provide for the family. So going out was a must!

But now, he wouldn't navigate this world so blunt again.

As for the little boy of 3 years old, these past few weeks had truly opened his eyes to society's cruelty.

And now, he was far more mature than people his age.

Chindu looked at his parents and clenched his meaty fists hard.

So he secretly swore that if the Grandmaster could make things go back to the way they used to be, then he would pay him back 10 times in the future!

With different thoughts in their minds, all 3 stayed around the front corner of their home, waiting for Chiyou's arrival.

But suddenly, they heard a loud crack from the creaky door back of their home.

Like lightning, their bodies tensed up greatly.

Who?

Chapter 93 An Angel's Voice

~Creak

The door creaked loudly, causing everyone's eyes to flash in panic.

Their bodies turned to stone, and their mouths remained tight and shut in fear.

Just in this split second, the gang of 3 glanced at each other, trying their best to use their non-existent telekinesis powers to communicate with each other.

'I thought you locked all the doors and windows?'

'I did! I did locked all the doors and even placed chairs against it to stop anyone from getting in.'

'Then, then, then, how can someone get in?'

No! It might not even be human. What human could unlock doors from within, as well as push all those things aside and enter their home?

Fear crept up their spines, the louder the wooden floors of their home squeaked.

~Squeak. Squeak. Squeak!~

Their mouths opened wide in silent screams of horror while listening to the creepy sounds that bombarded their ears.

No! No! What was going to happen to them?

The gang of 3 began taking several steps back too, wishing to flee the scene via the front doors.

They walked backwards, not daring to take their eyes off the scene until the man sent his left hand behind his back in hopes of grabbing the door handle.

~BroohBroohBrooh!

It won't budge!

"What's happening? Why won't it open?"

"Mommy... I'm scared..." Chindu said while feeling the warmth of his parents, who kept him hidden behind them.

Tears flowed out of his eyes at the thought of his parent's actions.

His body trembled with grief and unwillingness.

What? What wrong had they ever done to whoever was against them?

Why did that person want them all dead?

The little boy's eyes turned red when he thought of their predicament. He only wished that his sister could continue to remain safe.

He wasn't a fool.

He knew that today might be his last day in this cruel world.

Hopefully, after they're gone, his sister will live on and remain happy.

That was his only wish right now!

~BroohBroohBrooh!

His parents continuously tried to open the door and at least let him out.

And at the same time, the strange creaks grew louder and louder too.

~Squeak. Squeak. Squeak!

Chindu was ready to accept his death.

And soon enough, that came face to face with whatever had barged into their home.

-Silence-

The gang of 3 had no words to describe the scene before them.

Their speechlessness was due to the high level of shock they received.

Hehehhe... But make no mistake. Their silence wasn't because they were relieved.

No! They remained silent because of how petrified they were!

That's right. They were scared right out of their boots!

And standing before them were 2 gruesome-looking creatures with black cloaks and a hunched back.

These creatures seemed dripping wet as their pale bluish skin was soaked from head to toe.

BuBuum buBuum! Bubuum!

Chindu's pupils dilated incredulously.

Monsters! Monsters! Monsters!

His parents stared at the scene in horror, with everyone placing their hands on their mouths, trying their hardest not to throw up.

No! They were so frightened that they dared not make any sounds for fear of angering whatever was before them.

The catatonic terror that weaved itself into their bodies made them tremble like a shaky leaf.

And at this moment, they leaned against the door, wishing to blend and become one with it, rather than standing before these creatures.

Likewise, the hunched, cloaked creatures seemed surprised to see them up as well.

"Oh? How strange!" one of the creatures said, before smiling evilly: "How strange for you all to be up after all we've done to you!"

What?! They... They... No!

The family of 3 felt true despair.

And at this moment, the amount of fear and despair emitted from them was too sweet for these creatures to resist.

So much so that one of the creatures couldn't take it anymore and began drooling stupidly.

"Bahahhahaha! Since you can finally see us, then this will be your end!"

~Swish! The monsters all flew like lightning towards the group of 3, with crazed looks in their eyes.

Hahhahahaha!

A meal! A meal! They could finally eat the meal they had painstakingly been preparing for weeks now!

How would it taste? What would it be like?

To Chindu, their every move happened in slow motion, as death's claws stretched itself towards his family without mercy.

Everyone's face turned pale while their entire life seemed to flash before their very eyes.

Indeed. It was true what they said.

One would remember all their regrets and joys just before their death.

And for the trio, it was even more evident.

The couple thought of their entire life from childhood to now.

And 3-year-old Chindu's memories weren't that much. But what he primarily focused on was the happy times in his life where he and his family were still smiling unconditionally.

He closed his eyes in pain, once again accepting death.

This was the end for him, wasn't it?

"Bahahahhahahhha!"

The monsters laughed maniacally, the closer they got to their prey, enjoying every little bit of the show.

Yes. The fear they harvested was indeed satisfying.

They looked at the man who had now stood before his wife and children, on my feeling him stupid.

Heh. To them, humans were the same as how people took chickens or fish.

They were just food!

~Swish!

The monsters zoomed in the air and were ready to make a mark on their prey.

But just when their attack was inches from hitting its mark, suddenly, something bizarre happened!

"Lightning Of Eternia!"

Boom!

A massive explosive sound echoed out, followed by the loud gruesome cries of the creatures.

~Grawwwwwwhhhh!

The family of 3 shuddered with their eyes still closed, daring not to open them for even a split second.

What was going on? What was happening around them?

The creatures cried even more loudly, sounding as though someone was throttling millions of goats all at once

No! No! No!

The fear alone overwhelmed the gang of 3, making them unable to think or concentrate for even a second more.

But soon, they heard an angel's voice sound out amidst the chaotic cries.

"Mother! Father! Brother!... I'm here!"

Chapter 94 A Grateful Family

"Mother! Father! Brother... I'm here!"

Chiyou's anxious voice echoed across the scene, making the frightened trio feel tempted to open their eyes for even a split second.

But it was just that the amount of fear that overwhelmed them was too great to bear.

And at this moment, their entire body and eyelids felt a hundred times heavier instead.

Should they open their eyes? No! What if it was a trap? What if those things were only playing tricks with them?

They felt like they would immediately go into cardiac arrest if they opened their eyes only to come face to face with their doom.

But before they could even think more about what to do, they suddenly felt a hand touch their shoulders and embrace them warmly.

Of course, their first impulse was to push the hand away and kick with their might in horror.

"No! No! No! Get away from us, you Monster."

"Mom, Dad, brother... It's me... It's me; I came back with the Grandmaster!"

Uh?

The trio quickly opened their eyes and was shocked, relieved and pleased to see Chiyou beside them.

"Chi... Chiyou, is it really you?"

Chiyou nodded slowly, with tears in her eyes.

And at this moment, the gang of 4 all hugged each other and shed tears of joy at their survival.

"Daughter!"

"Sister!"

"Parents! Brother!"

"We thought we would never see you again!.. It's good. It's good that you're safe and sound."

~Woooooo~

All 4 cried their eyes out, with even her father shedding tears from the catastrophe they had just escaped.

Chiyou's father felt his entire body quiver uncontrollably whenever he thought of his entire family almost becoming extinct.

They were his family! His treasures! His previous gems, and the ones he could die for.

So to see them all so helpless with him having no way to protect them, all he could do right now was cry like a child at how fortunate they were.

Looking up at Dorian and Butler Sheng, he quickly wiped his tears away and let down on his knees with his head touching the floor.

"Thank You, kind Grandmaster and sir, for coming over and saving my lowly family! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! THANK YOU!"

Bam. Bam. Bam. Bam. Bam~

He kept thanking Dorian continuously while slamming his head onto the creaky floor as hard as he could.

And his wife, son and Chiyou, also followed suit to do the same actions too.

They thanked him while crying and letting out all their frustrations to the world

The system looked at the pitiful family, before glancing at its host in an aggrieved manner.

[Host. Why don't you make them stop? I thought you didn't like these sorts of things?]

'Are you human?'

[No host.]

'Then you wouldn't understand.'

[Then why don't you explain it to me, host?]

'Because you're too stupid to understand.'

[...]

Once again, the system felt like committing suicide because of its host

What evil did it do as a system to be stuck with such a host?

And how can its host think that it was stupid?

This daddy here was one of the genius systems around, okay?

The system crouched down and pitifully drew letters on the floor of its space in an aggrieved manner.

It had no tears but only wanted to cry.

Its host was a big Meanie!

Dorian was too lazy to get bothered with the system.

Yeah. It was true that he didn't like such things and was very uncomfortable having people kneeling and kowtowing all the time.

But, he could also read a room too.

These people had been suffering for weeks and weeks.

And today, they had met with such a disastrous turn of events that not only shook them to the core, but also showed just how fleeting their mortal lives were.

Yes. They were helpless, scared, panicked, worried and pent-up with all sorts of emotions in them.

So after all they had been through, they could finally let out all their grievances, air their chests and emotions out, which in a way was therapeutic too.

Holding it all in with no one to talk to but themselves, can be very choking.

And so, the moment they saw Dorian and Butler Sheng, they not only thanked them but began relaying how much suffering they had undergone during this period.

Of course, Dorian wouldn't let them ramble on and on for so long.

He genuinely couldn't handle so much of their actions.

So he secretly gave them a time limit of 2 minutes.

Two minutes was what he gave for them to cry and get things off their chest.

It might not seem like a long time, but it would be enough for them to gather themselves a bit.

And as time went by, one could visually see them picking themselves up too, compared to the moment they first fell to the ground.

Dorian had long begun his countdown.

And in a blink of an eye, their 2 minutes were up.

"Get up. I only did what I had to... And, when it comes to me, there is no need to do this sort of thing again."

Woosh!

In a flash, the family of 4 all stood up gratefully, with no one feeling aggrieved for kneeling or kowtowing in any way.

To them, they would've liked to continue doing so in hopes of expressing their gratitude. Unfortunately, it looked like the Grandmaster might be uncomfortable from it all.

So they secretly took more and promised not to do so again.

Of course, they were also impressed by the Grandmaster too.

If it were other people who had such skills, they would want people to bow and even kiss the floor they walked on.

,m But just look at the Grandmaster?

At such a young age, he was not only humble... but also very considerate and kind despite his wealth and skills.

Tsk! Such a person was so hard to find nowadays, and definitely deserved all their praises!

Chapter 95 Nightmare Ghouls!

Like so, the family all stood up abruptly while gazing at Dorian with so much awe in their eyes that it was almost blinding.

And their move only made the system even more dumbfounded.

How?

How could these humans be like this after its host allowed them to kneel and bash their heads onto the floor?

How come they aren't even the slightest bit aggrieved?

It was at this point that the system tonally chose to give up.

Sigh... Humans were truly a confusing bunch!

After standing up, Chiyou's father looked at Dorian cautiously: "Grandmaster... What were those things that attacked us earlier?"

Instantly, everyone's ears stood at attention. Even Butler Sheng faced Dorian, focusing all his attention on him.

Yes! What exactly was the Grandmaster fighting?

Butler Sheng didn't see anything, but the family of 4 all seemed to have seen something there.

So why? Why was it that he couldn't see or hear anything?

All he heard were the creaks of the floor around the region where the Grandmaster sent his attack to.

But he didn't hear any screams or see anything. However, it seemed that this family of 4 seemed to have seen and even heard horrifying cries on their one path.

Of course, he was basing these conclusions on how he met the family of 3.

That is, when he stepped into the room, they were all crouched down with their hands over their ears and faces while shaking hard.

What was even surprising was that Chiyou, who stepped into the room alongside himself, seemed to see something there and also jumped back in shock too.

She kept pointing while saying that the things there were burning from Dorian's attacks.

Again, what was stranger, was that Chiyou, who didn't cover her ears on time, now had blood oozing out from it after listening to the high-pitched screams of whatever was before her.

However, all this was still baffling to him since he couldn't hear or see anything.

And this alone made his curiosity jump off the roof!

Why? Why was he exempted?

How could one fight an enemy they can't see or hear?

Butler Sheng's heart went cold while digesting the shocking revelation of today's matter.

He clenched his fists and stared at the scene where Dorian shot his attack at, only coming to terms with the hard facts too.

Hehehehehe!

Maybe because of the past few incidents, he had become too comfortable, thinking that he knew more or less about what sort of enemies they would be up against.

But now, he knew that he still had a long way to go!

The others looked at Dorian curiously, with a hint of fear in their hearts.

What were those things?

"Nightmare Ghouls."

Eh? Nightmare Ghouls?

"Hmhm... Nightmare Ghouls. They can only be seen or heard by those they mark. And like a spider creating its web, they'll visit you daily and take something from you!"

What?!!

The gang of 4 all opened their eyes in transformed horror.

Those things did say that they were supposed to see them up. So didn't this mean that every day for the past how many weeks, these things had been visiting their home like so?

Instantly, countless beads of sweat began forming on their backs and foreheads the more they thought about things.

What? What were these creatures taking from them?

This... This...

"Uagh~"

Chiyou's mother gasped feebly as her legs turned into jelly.

She weakened onto her husband's body, going over the Grandmaster's words in her mind once more.

The truth was too hard to bear, leaving not just her... but the rest of the family lost as well.

However, Dorian wasn't done yet.

"Nightmare Ghouls are a terrifying group with the sole purpose of creating dreadful nightmares for their victims. And after each nightmare, the victim will continuously fall into a deep slumber that would keep increasing relative to the number of times visited by the ghouls."

Ding!

An invisible lightbulb lit up in everyone's brain.

"Grandmaster, I think we all experienced their works while asleep!"

"Yes! Yes! That's right. And additionally, these creatures seemed surprised to see us awake too!"

"Exactly, they also seemed a little panicked, wanting to kill us off immediately, now that we saw them!"

"Yes! Yes! Grandmaster, that's the impression they gave!"

...

Chiyou's father, mother and brother all remembered that they seemed to be trapped in several horrific dreams that were just too terrible for words alone.

And no matter how they tried to wake up, nothing they did seemed to work!

,m They had been chased in their nightmare nonstop, with countless incidents happening all around them.

As for Chiyou, because of her fate and her overflow of blessings from the heavens, she didn't fall into a coma.

No... Even though a majority of her luck had been stolen, the enemy was still in the process of drawing it all out.

So she was the lucky one amongst the rest to avoid the Nightmare situation.

However, she had long been marked, as the ghouls were just waiting for the perfect opportunity when her luck would have all gone away. And by then, they would strike her down!

Well, that was indeed their plan. Too bad that Chiyou ran into Dorian.

If not, their family of 4 will all die without even understanding why.

Nightmare Ghouls!

Butler Sheng had finally gotten the answer to his question.

Yes. He understood that he couldn't see or hear them because he wasn't marked.

But it was just that something else kept him puzzled.

"Grandmaster, why was it that these creatures seemed anxious to kill them off after realizing that their targets could see them?"

"That's because they're nightmare Ghouls that exist to create an illusion or facade. Their entire survival depended on them being hidden. Bottom line, their powers grow weaker the moment their prey spots them. And if this went on, they would lose control over their prey." Dorian said calmly: "Find them, break their illusions, and you'll win. Remember this, Butler Sheng... It is their greatest weakness!"