

## Bloodline 251

Chapter 251 I think Nine is...

Meanwhile in a different place surrounded by thick green trees. Bia was sitting above someone's body with a bored expression.

A far contrast to before half of her feathers were blue with a layer of green at the edges. The remaining red feathers were shining with a golden hue under the moonlight.

Her small body moved up and down at a rapid pace when the person below her did one push-up after another.

She lifted her reddish blue eyes to look at the crying figure a few meters away from her.

- 'Tsk, he is crying again. Why can't he stay quiet even for a second?'

She grumbled inwardly and wanted to roll her eyes. The figure was Nine. His brown were lidded with dirt and his body was filled with sweat. He was wearing a half-sleeved shirt with tight trousers.

The area around her was dimly lit up with many round orbs flying above the youngsters who were doing push-ups with one hand.

She looked down at Alec who was the most diligent one and an evil idea appeared in her mind.

- 'Should I increase my weight?'

In the next second, the person below her trembled when the pressure on his body doubled. Alec gritted out with a bitter smile.

"Bia... be merciful I am gonna collapse at this rate."

Bia chuckled and lowered her weight. After Kyle awakened his bloodline a lot of changes happened within her body. She gazed at the white-haired old who was currently cursing Nine with a fed-up expression.

After an hour the old man finally let the youngsters go. He cleared his throat and gathered the kids in front of him.

"Today is the last day of your training. Tomorrow afternoon George and a few individuals will take you all to the outer layer of the black forest. For the next month, everyone will hunt monsters and increase their battle powers."

Amidst everything he didn't forget to glare at a certain brown haired who made his life difficult.

"Go rest for the night. Just camp around the trees this area is safe."

He looked at a certain someone with a deadpan expression.

"Also, if anyone tried to run away. This time I am going to break their legs!"

Nine shivered and hid behind Carcel with a grim look.

"I messed up again. This grumpy old man is too cruel!"

Carcel chuckled and shook his head at Nine antics.

The old man humped. He turned around and left the kids alone.

All the youngsters sighed with relief and cheered inwardly. For some reason, no one wanted to see this old man ever again. He trained them so hard that their bones almost cracked!

They staggered around with sluggish footsteps. Any place was fine as long as they could sleep peacefully.

Amidst the tired crowd, Bia noticed Nine was secretly moving away from everyone.

She almost laughed out loud.

- 'He just received a warning but he is still trying to run off!'

She left Alec's shoulder and started flying. A few eyes looked at her but they didn't think much about it because this area was safe.

Bia followed behind Nine who ran off in the trees, she was itching to make some loud noise so the old man could catch him but stopped because instead of running away Nine simply went toward a nearby waterfall.

- 'Huh? Don't tell me he just wants to take a bath?'

She sighed with disappointment and was ready to fly away.

- 'What a pity I wanted to see him in tears.'

However, what happened next made her stunned for a second. Nine slumped down on the ground with a groan. He put his feet in the water and under the dim moonlight, his skin started glowing in a bright blue color.

Bia stopped moving and stared at his bright skin with wide eyes.

Nine looked up at the sky with a pained expression. He started grumbling in a faint voice.

"Sigh, I almost died due to dehydration. That fucking old man! I told him so many times I don't want to enter the Secret Realm so why the fuck is he not letting me go! I just want to secretly murder him in his sleep!"

Bia perked up her ears and listened to him quietly. She already had her hunch about his race and now seeing his skin glow in such an unusual way she was 60 percent sure about her guess.

Her thoughts were disturbed when Nine turned around to look toward the place where she was sitting.

"Who is there?"

He shouted out and stood up immediately but when he saw Bia's small figure on a nearby tree he sighed and sat down again.

"Oh, it's Bia. I thought it was the old man."

Nine stretched his arms and looked at Bia who started flying and arrived beside him.

He chuckled when she stared at his skin with curious eyes.

"Are you surprised? Well, it's normal I am different from others. Everyone from the sea had this trait. Our bodies start glowing if we are actively absorbing water but keep it a secret okay? Don't

tell Kyle when you meet him. I wonder what he is doing. It's so long but there is no news about him."

Bia nodded with seriousness, making Nine laugh again. However, he was unaware of the fact that Bia was someone who could never keep a secret.

While he was soaking his feet in the water with a pleasant expression she was already speaking with Kyle through their mind link.

-'Kyle.... I think Nine is...'

Her words were cut off when Kyle replied immediately.

'I know.'

.....

Some time ago in the place where the auction was held. Kyle and Yue quietly walked in the narrow path for a minute and arrived in a room filled with large square-shaped metal cages. The upper part of the cages was covered with thick black blankets, hiding everything within completely.

Yue looked at the cages with knitted brows. Her ears twitched when she sensed faint breathing sounds from the covered cages. Among the silent breathing, there was a faint sound of water coming from one of the biggest cages.

Kyle wanted to remove the blanket from the cage from where he sensed the water sound to see what was inside when Regius's voice sounded behind him.

"Did you both find something?"

He stopped beside Kyle and gazed at the cages.

"This... I thought they were only going to auction the mermaid."

Chapter 252 I know

The others also arrived behind Regius. Sinon eyes ranked around the room, it was filled with nothing but many cages. Also, there was another path at the end of the room.

He moved to the nearest cage and under everyone's gaze, he grabbed the blanket and pulled on it.

The blanket slid down smoothly, revealing a round spiky shell within the cage. The shell was brown and it was continuously moving up and down.

A small slender head peaked out from underneath the shell, looking at the group with large beady eyes. Kyle narrowed his eyes. It was a wild chelonian, a rare beast.

"I heard these types of beasts are very aggressive. Why is it so calm?"

Sinon frowned, he bent down in front of the cage and waved his hand to attract the chelonian attention but it didn't move at all.

"I can't sense any mana movement from it and the chains around its neck are strange."

He looked around and counted the cages.

"There are nine cages. Let's check the others."

Regius approached the cage on his left and pulled down another blanket. He sucked in a breath because this time there was a young demi-human chained inside the cage. His whole body was covered with a single piece of white cloth and he was sitting motionlessly in a corner.

"I knew we would see this type of thing but I am still bewildered. Those fucking bastards."

Just like the chelonian, the demi-human raised his eyes to look at them but he didn't move, nor did he speak. However, his eyes were filled with panic and dread.

Sinon gazed at the chains around the demi-human feet and hands and anger welled up in his chest. He was a demi-human and seeing a member of his race being chained in front of him wasn't pleasant at all. He staggered toward the cage and blurted out.

"Let's open the cages!"

Regius grabbed his arm with a frown to calm him down.

"The cages are made of special materials we need a lot of time to break them. Also, I checked the storage rings and didn't find anything that could open the cages. Leave it, the Royal guards are here. They will free everyone."

Sinon looked reluctant but agreed.

While they were contemplating what to do, Kyle's eyes trailed off toward Yue. She was standing in front of the cage from where he sensed the water sounds.

She gripped the blanket and pulled it down, revealing a rather different cage.

Regius's eyes went wide, not just him everyone stopped and eyed the cage with astonishment.

The upper part of the cage was made of transparent glass. It was filled with water and inside the water, a young girl with purplish hair was chained. Her upper body was covered with a silk dress and just like the demi-human, she was sitting in a corner with chained wrists. The rims of her bright eyes turned red when she shifted her gaze to look at the people who removed the blanket.

Kyle's eyes didn't stay at her face instead they trailed down at her legs. No, she didn't have legs instead she had a long tail. Her long tail was shimmering with shades of turquoise and silver.

A low murmur sounded on his left.

"So beautiful..."

Kyle tore his gaze off from the tail and looked at Yue who was staring at the girl with awe.

He hummed. Her tail was indeed beautiful. He looked up to see the mermaid's face.

An anxious pair of deep blue eyes stared at Kyle pitifully. At first, the mermaid was frightened when the blanket was removed but when she saw a bunch of kids staring at her with stunned eyes she was sure she could trick them and leave this disgusting place.

She squeezed out some tears to make herself even more pitiful and looked at the silver-haired boy with hope. However, her target didn't even flinch when he saw her gaze. Instead, Kyle's eyes narrowed at her skin.

It was glowing in a bright shade of blue.

'Huh?... I think I have seen this type of glow before...

Kyle went through his memory because he was sure he had seen it somewhere before. A fainter shade maybe... It took him a while but a stunned expression appeared on his face when he recalled where he saw this glow.

He mumbled out with a stunned expression.

"At the Academy... on Nine's body...."

Kyle looked around her body again to make sure he wasn't seeing things.

'It's very similar just brighter in color.. but it's kinda unbelievable that Nine is not a human...'

He was still contemplating inwardly when he saw how the mermaid's glistening purple eyes turned even redder.

Yue's expression sank.

"She is crying... "

She palmed the glass and looked at everyone with a serious expression.

"We should try to break her cage at least. If the Royal guards arrived I don't think it would be easy for her to go back."

Regius sighed.

"We can break the glass but what about the chains?"

At that moment, to everyone's confusion, Kyle moved closer to the cage and spoke out loudly.

"Do you know someone called Nine?"

After blurting out the strange question, he grumbled inwardly.

'What am I saying... even if Nine is a merman it's not like every mermaid out there would know him..'

The mermaid's moist eyes showed confusion at first but in the next second, they went wide with shock.

Kyle blinked. He was watching her expression and seeing her wide eyes he stepped back with a dazed expression.

'Damn... So he is a merman? Oh Nine you hid it so deep... '

'I am a little jealous. Alec has a powerful system. Carcel is a prince and now Nine is a merman. Moreover, the way this girl's eyes went wide with shock I don't think Nine is just a normal merman.'

He laughed out dryly. It's seemed everyone around him was special. Kyle's thought trailed off. Maybe... Lara and Mia were also not ordinary. Well, one of them is a duke's daughter so calling them ordinary didn't seem right.

He was still digesting the fact that Nine was a merman when Bia's serious voice sounded in his mind.

-'Kyle.... I think Nine is...'

Kyle hummed and replied before she could complete her sentence.

'I know.'

Chapter 253 Serve him right

Bia's shocked voice rang out in his mind non-stop.

-'What!? Do you even know what I am talking about? It's a serious matter listen to me!'

Kyle rolled his eyes with a faint smile.

'Your information is a tad bit late. I know he is a merman.'

His ears perked up when he heard the sound of approaching footsteps.

"Someone's coming."

He gazed at the path from where they come from and snapped back. There was another path at the end of the room. He wasn't sure where the path would lead them but it was better than being caught.

Kyle jumped back.

"I will try to break the glass step back."

Regius and the others looked at Kyle back. They wanted to ask why Kyle asked the mermaid such a strange question but when they heard his words they hurriedly moved back.

Amidst the quiet atmosphere, Yue spoke up in a low voice.

"Who is Nine? It's the first you stared at someone so long."

Her eyes widened because she just blurted out her thoughts.

'What am I saying! Of course, he looked at her because she is a beautiful mermaid!'

Kyle didn't notice anything wrong with her question and replied immediately.

"Nine is my friend."

In an instant, blue flames appeared around the glass cage. Kyle wasn't sure if they would work but he let the flames touch the glass.

Instead of burning, a layer of ice appeared on the glass walls. The ice on the glass spread out and even the water started freezing.

Kyle's eyes narrowed and he controlled the flames to stop the water from freezing. After the glass walls turned icy, the flames vanished.

A crack appeared on the glass but instead of breaking the ice turned into small bright particles. The water inside the glass walls splashed out in an instant, making the mermaid gasped with shock.

Not just her, the ones standing behind Kyle had their eyes glued on him. They sighed and watched the water that spread out in the room.

A bright light flashed around the mermaid's tail when the cold wind caressed her skin. She blushed when her tail transformed into two pale slender legs. She wanted to cover her lower half but her wrists were tied with chains.

Kyle frowned and retracted his gaze.

"Yue."

Yue snapped out of her daze and immediately took out some clothes from her storage ring. She approached the mermaid and covered her lower body.

"Regius pick her up I will try to freeze her chains when we are out of this place...."

Kyle's sentence was cut short when two tall elven men clad in blue uniforms arrived in the room.

One of the men fixed his eyes on Kyle and the others.

"Who are these kids? Don't tell me they are working for this evil organization?"

His expression turned frosty and he ordered the other man standing beside him to capture them all.

Kyle took a defensive posture and stood in front of the others. He was ready to fight but after a few seconds, five more men clad in blue arrived in the room.

He cleared his throat and let out a dry chuckle.

"Guys I think we should run.."

He looked back and choked on his words because Regius and the others were already standing at the other end of the room. The mermaid was in Regius's arms as he blinked at Kyle innocently.

"Bro, you are the strongest. Stopped them for a few seconds."

Kyle's eyes flew open when they ran off toward the other path without him. He wanted to curse but at that moment one of the men cried out loudly.

"Stop them! They are running away!"

Two men jumped at Kyle to grab him while the others ran behind Regius and the others.

Kyle sucked in a breath. He knew he had to stop the men well he was abandoned by the others just for this reason.

The air around him trembled and blue flames surged out everywhere. Within a second, the whole room was engulfed in flames.

The individuals clad in blue uniforms stopped in their positions. Dread crept up their spine when the cold flames surrounded their bodies.

Kyle looked around and started moving backward with slow steps. However, he froze when a familiar voice called out to him from behind.

"Kyle?"

He snapped his head to look back. It was Yue she was standing at a distance. The others were standing beside her as well. Their heads were hung low. Only the mermaid was nowhere to be seen.

"Why are you all back? Run..."

He stopped mid-way when he saw a middle-aged man with amber eyes appearing behind Yue. The man was wearing a white shirt with a purple pattern engraved on his left shoulder. He sighed with a frustrated expression.

"Didn't I tell you to take them back why are you here?"

Yue flinched and lowered her head with a guilty expression.

"Sorry Dad..."

Aefel wanted to scold his daughter more but he was distracted by the burning blue flames.

He looked at Kyle who was standing in the middle of the room and spread out his fingers to touch the flames.

"These flames are indeed unique.."

However, before his fingers could touch the flames they vanished. A cold sensation touched his fingers as he looked around with a surprised expression.

His eyes narrowed at Kyle with a glint.

"I thought there were only five kids but including you now the number increased to six. I hope all of you enjoy your punishment for the next few days."

He chuckled and pointed at a corner.

"Alright, for now, go face the wall with your hands up in the air."

Regius was the first who ran off to obediently stand in front of the wall. He knew how dangerous Yue's father's anger could be.

The others also arrived beside him one by one. Kyle stood between Yue and Regius and decided to break the silence.

"So even after abandoning me you all got caught?"

Regius let out a dry laugh.

"Bro, will you believe me if I say all of this is a misunderstanding? How dare we abandon you?"

At that moment a black shadow appeared above Regius.

Regius trembled as he turned his head to look at Yue's father.

"Sir... do you need anything?"

Aefel glanced at his fingers with a meaningful look and held out his palm.

"These rings look suspicious? I believe you stole them from the individuals you fought in this place. So, I will confiscate them."

Regius wanted to cry but he held his tears and removed the rings from his fingers one by one with an aching heart and placed them on his palm.

Aefel gave him a satisfied nod and asked him to face the wall again.

Amidst the gloomy atmosphere, Sinon, Niamh, and Faith secretly laughed in their hearts. Their revenge on Regius was complete! He treated them like his servants and wanted to pocket all the storage rings! Haha, serve him right!

Chapter 254 Make sure to come back alive

After Aefel was done checking all the cages, he gazed at the kids who were still facing the wall with their hands raised.



He thought for a minute and a wide grin smile appeared on his face. He grabbed one of the guards and asked him to escort the kids back.

Kyle's eyes trailed around the empty room as he followed behind the guard clad in a blue uniform with the others. While he was standing in punishment the cages were transferred to another place.

He quickened his pace to arrive beside Regius and patted his shoulder.

"What about the mermaid?"

Regius shrugged his shoulders with a conflicted expression.

"After we got caught Yue's father asked someone to take her away. He said he would take care of this matter."

Regius hummed and gazed at Yue.

"Yue, you should ask your father to release her. So, she can go back to where she came from. After all, We did so much to save her."

Yue didn't reply. She thought for a second and gave him a nod. The matter regarding the mermaid was quite sensitive that's why she wasn't sure if her words would have an impact on this topic but she would talk to her father to see what he could do.

Kyle sighed. He wasn't worried about the mermaid. He just wanted to send her back safely because she knew Nine.

The remaining distance was covered in silence as the guard let them out from the underground auction.

The street outside was crowded and messy. A few guards were dragging some individuals dressed in luxury attires who were crying their hearts out. The underground auction was surrounded and Kyle was sure Aefel captured all the people who were present inside.

He gazed around, the once vibrant and loud festival was quiet with many onlookers peeking at the people who were being dragged out from the underground auction. All the shopkeepers and stall owners were closing their businesses with resentful looks because it was the first time the elven festival was stopped mid-way.

Kyle and the others reached the hotel within an hour. They secretly smiled with relief because Aefel forgot to punish them further. However, they were utterly wrong.

The man was crueler than their imagination. Including Yue his daughter, all six of them were forbidden to leave the hotel without permission.

Regius sneered as they sat down in the hotel lobby to eat something.

"So what we can just run off secretly."

His happiness was cut short because a group of bulky guards arrived at the hotel to keep an eye on them.

In the end, all of them were stuck in the hotel for the next few days.

Sinon cried out loudly to voice out his grievance but he shut his mouth after he got a glare from one of the guards.

After eating some snacks, they all staggered to their rooms with dejected expressions. Anyway, it's not like they had anything else to do. So, what's the point of sitting in the lobby?

Kyle gazed at their backs with a strange expression. Alas, it seemed he was the only one who didn't find this arrangement strange. As lazy as he was, he decided to just spend his days in luxury.

His next few mornings were peaceful. He ate delicious elven dishes, bathed and wore clean clothes, slept under a warm blanket without any care. He was truly enjoying himself.

Just like that the day when they had to leave the hotel arrived.

Kyle dragged his body out of bed and took a long warm bath. He wore a long-sleeve brown hoodie coupled with leather boots and left his room.

After a minute, he arrived at the lobby and met with the others.

Just like them, all the participants who were told to stay in the hotel stood obediently in the lobby.

A few minutes later, Anlee and Dynn arrived at the hotel. The duo counted the kids and Anlee was the one who clapped his hands to gather everyone's attention.

"Alright, I believe you all have rested enough. Now follow me."

The old man led the kids outside. They traveled on foot for an hour before stopping in front of a large platform.

A huge teleportation Array was set up in the middle of the platform.

Kyle's gaze drifted off to the other end of the platform. Aira the one who arranged the event with Anlee was standing in front of a group of kids.

As if noticing Kyle's gaze, she lifted her eyes to look at him for a brief moment before she retracted her gaze to look at Anlee.

She talked with him while Dynn merged the two groups of kids and asked them to stand in the middle of the platform.

Afterward, Dynn stood in front of the platform and gazed at Regius with a serious expression. His voice was heavy as he patted his shoulder.

"Kid, the moment you joined the event you stepped on a path of no return. Now, I can't do anything. So, try to work as hard as possible because I don't want you to die out there.

Regius was confused but Dynn only gave him a faint smile.

"Your grandmother gonna miss you so make sure to come back alive."

Dynn sighed and left the platform. He talked with the King and found out about everything but it was too late. Regius's name was already included in the list of the individuals who would enter the Secret Realm from Kingdom Tersia. Even when Dynn pleaded with the King the latter didn't budge. Now, the only thing he could do was wait Or find another way to persuade the King.

After he left, Aira arrived in front of the kids. Her expression was cold as usual. She raised her voice to speak loudly.

"After the event, a total of 116 participants won, and now including the new arrivals there are 200 individuals who would enter the special training conducted by the King."

"I hope all of you work hard because it would be a pity if so many talents from Kingdom Tersia died in vain."

Her voice was grim when she spoke the last sentence. Just like Regius, everyone listening to Aira was confused. Why was she talking about death when they were just going to train?

However, their questions remained unanswered because the Array below their feet lit up with a bright light.

Anlee nodded at Aira and stood in front of the kids. In the next second, he and everyone else standing on the platform vanished.

Chapter 255 Work hard

Serena sighed as she watched the platform from afar. Her eyes were fixed on the silver-haired boy who vanished with the others when the blinding light enveloped the platform.

With this, her job was over.

"He gave me a headache but he is strong. Stronger than his peers."

She pressed her lips together with a sharp look. If one looked closely they would notice the huge dark circles under her sharp eyes.

After Kyle left the Royal Castle with the Royal envoy, she left him alone. He was old enough to take care of himself. Also, it's not like the Royal envoy was taking the kids to fight a war. Kyle just had to stay in the hotel. However, leaving Kyle alone was a big mistake! Not even two days of peace and she received news that he and his friends went to visit a hidden underground auction! And to make matters worse the auction wasn't normal at all. It was the hub of illegal activities!

The moment she received the news, she went to check on Kyle but he was fit and fine. Moreover, the people who organized the auction were caught and dragged into the Royal prison.

She thought she was already numb to Kyle's surprises but yet again this incident made her bewildered. He was a walking magnet that could attract dangerous things whenever he went out.

Alas... That's how her nightmare started. Kyle was already famous among the elven nobles due to his unparalleled talent and after this incident, those insolent people tried everything to dig out everything related to him. And the one who was subjected to their inquiry gaze was none other than Serena. Amidst all this, she managed to keep the matter regarding Kyle's true identity under the table.

But her mood became sour when she went to see Kyle in the hotel.

"I was suffering and this brat... he was enjoying his life how frustrating."

Serena scoffed. After seeing Kyle lazing around with a blissful expression she had the urge to kick him once! But in the end, she curbed her urge and decided to ignore him completely. He was simply too unsightly. Even now when she thought about the struggle she had to go through for this ungrateful brat. She wanted to go and punch Han once or twice just to vent her frustration.

"Hah.... and you said Kyle is just an ordinary kid who wants to attend the event."

She massaged her temples and informed Han about Kyle's safe departure. Afterward, she instantly packed everything and left for a vacation. The past two months were just too much for her and now she just wanted to go to a faraway place where no one would question her about Kyle!

....

At the same time, Kyle didn't even remember that someone called Serena was assigned to take care of him.

He opened his eyes and swept his gaze around. After the sudden darkness, he found himself standing within a large circular clearing. A lush forest with tall, majestic trees surrounded the clearing all around.

The sunlight filtered through the leaves, casting a warm and gentle glow on the scene. Kyle frowned when like a buzz, hundreds of whispers entered his ears.

The remaining 199 individuals standing around him curious lifted their eyes to inspect the area. He noticed something amidst the heated crowd and raised his brow.

The newcomers who arrived with Aira were calm and collected. They excluded arrogance and looked at the excited individuals with disdain.

Kyle's eyes trailed to Niamh, Faith, and Yue. It was subtle but the trio gave off a very similar aura to those individuals.

'So...they are all nobles?'

He hummed inwardly. And he was right. After the event 116 participants were selected, meaning the Kingdom still needed more people to fill the remaining places from the original 200 spots. That's why when the 116 winning participants were resting in the hotel the Royals arranged a battle arena, especially for the nobles. So, they can fight for the remaining spots.

A loud voice echoed and Kyle lifted his eyes to look at the floating figures.

His gaze first landed at Anlee. Then he noticed the two elven men and two elven females floating behind the old man. Their bodies were clad in grey uniforms with warm and harmless smiles plastered on their faces but Kyle noticed the suppressed pressure around their bodies.

'They are strong.'

He averted his gaze when one of the floating elven men stared back at him.

Anlee cleared his throat with a grim expression.

"I believe you all know why you are bought here. The only reason is training! However, there is one thing that we hid from all of you. Maybe... some of you already heard about it through your families but the ones who are unaware listen carefully. From today onwards your life will change because all of you are selected to enter a dangerous Realm that is going to open soon."

A deadly silence enveloped the place and many shocked eyes stared at Anlee with astonishment. A dangerous realm? They didn't even have the slightest bit of knowledge about this!

However, the shocked individuals noticed with surprise. Almost half of the people standing around them were unfazed when they heard about the Realm. Just like what Anlee said they seemed aware of this matter.

Kyle narrowed his eyes. He thought the Kingdom wouldn't tell them about the Secret Realm until the end but it seemed he was wrong.

He glanced around and sighed. Niamh was taking in the news with a rather calm expression but the others' expressions told him that except for Niamh no one else was aware of the secret Realm.

Anlee's expression hardened for a second to show how serious this matter was and before the youths could voice out their questions, he continued.

"I know it's surprising but with danger comes incredible opportunities to become stronger. No one knows what threats lay behind the Realm gate because the records about it had long vanished over time. Maybe... the only thing that would be waiting for you all in there is death. However..."

His expression turned sharp.

"No one here is weak. All of you are genius talents of the elven Kingdom, selected after strict testing! Also, we will do our best to train you to cope with the life-threatening dangers. The only thing you need to do is work hard! So you can survive in that foreign place! And once you return alive you won't be the same ordinary person anymore. You will become one of the strongest or maybe the strongest among all!"

"Or is there anyone who thinks he is weak, pathetic, and won't be able to return alive and wants to run away with their tails tucked between their legs?"

## Chapter 256 Bloody

Anlee's eyes showed disdain when he swept his gaze around the clearing.

The youths who wanted to speak up instantly shut their mouths when they heard his remarks and a pin-drop silence enveloped the area.

A satisfied expression appeared on Anlee's face and he nodded.

"Good very good.... I expected nothing less from the youths from my Kingdom."

A chilling smile appeared on his face, making everyone shudder.

"Anyway, if anyone indeed tried to leave... I would have broken his legs."

Loud gasps echoed in the air when they heard his exclamation. And from his chilling smile, they were sure he meant whatever he said.

"Alright! Stop gawking at me! The four people standing behind me are your instructors for the next month. So, make sure to be respectful because if you don't they are allowed to break your bones. Also, don't even dare to fight with each other. You all are a big team from now on. So learn to help each other. Consider this my first and last warning because if I found out that someone stirred trouble in my absence I don't think I will only break their legs."

His eyes trailed to a certain silver-haired boy who was busy in his thoughts. Anlee hummed and clapped his hands.

"That's it. I wish you all the best for the future."

He turned around and left. Leaving behind the crowd of youths with the four instructors who were known for being merciless in their training methods.

Kyle gazed at Anlee fading back and looked at the floating instructors.

Soon, the crowd was divided into four big teams and each instructor took one team with him. Afterward, they vanished within the lush trees present around the wide clearing.

Kyle waved at Yue and Niamh. The duo was placed in a different team. He quietly followed behind his instructor. She was a middle-aged woman with blonde locks.

Regius couldn't help but narrow his eyes when he saw a tiny smile at the corner of Kyle's face.

"What are you so happy about?"

Kyle turned his head to look at him.

"Just a little excited because I am going to experience what they call a 'hellish training'. Also...."

His words trailed off into a whisper that's why Regius didn't hear it.

"....I will meet my old friends soon."

...

In another place, the sun was burning high in the sky and frightening heat spread out everywhere. However, thick brown trees stopped the sunlight from descending on the group of individuals hunting monsters.

Alec looked at his damp bloodied clothes with a rather unsatisfied expression.

"159..."

"Can you stop counting? I know you killed the most monsters! Damn it... stop showing off!"

An irritated voice boomed from behind him with a loud thud, indicating the owner of the voice also killed a monster.

Nine wiped the blood from his fingers and showed a satisfied expression as he inspected the dead body lying in front of him. It was a fox monster.

"80! Let's move. I think I killed all the monsters in this area."

He placed his sword on his shoulder with a smirk and staggered forward without caring about the others who were looking at him with twitching eyes.

All of them had the same question in their hearts.

'If you killed all the monsters then what the hell did we do?'

Alec chuckled and caught up to him.

"Don't advance further. We are only allowed to roam around in the outer area of the dark forest. Let's go to the east side to look for Carcel, Mia, and Lara."

Nine clicked his tongue. He turned around to move in another direction when he accidentally grazed Alec's hand.

He froze in his place. The golden thread in his eyes swirled in a sharp moment. Nine's expression paled and his hand holding the sword trembled. With a click, the sword fell from his grasp.

Alec stopped and looked back at Nine with a frown.

"What happened..."

His sentence was cut short because in the next second red blood trickled down from Nine's nose. Under Alec's horrid eyes, he fell to his knees with a resounding thud.

There was pin-drop silence as everyone standing around them looked at Nine with wide eyes. What happened? He was just fine a moment ago?

"Nine!"

Alec shouted and rushed to his side. He took out a healing potion from his storage ring and poured it inside Nine's mouth.

His expression sank because even after drinking the potion Nine didn't return to his senses. Instead, his eyes turned hazy.

Alec's eyes widened when he saw blood within the bright golden eyes. Bright golden threads swirled inside Nine's eyes with lightning-fast speed. If not for Alec's heightened vision he would have never noticed such thin threads.

He hurriedly closed Nine's eyes with his palm.

"Damn it Nine come to your senses!"

He grabbed his shoulder and poured another potion into his mouth.

"It's not working!"

Alec looked around at the individuals standing around him and shouted out.

"Help me! Let's take him back!"

A few individuals rushed toward Alec. Even if they were unwilling to help they didn't voice their opinions because Alec was the strongest among them.

Meanwhile,

Nine blinked his eyes when he saw himself standing between dust and debris.

He looked around with an astonished expression.

'Where am I?'

He tried to move his lips but no voice came out from his mouth.

Nine sucked in a deep breath. He noticed he was standing above what seemed to be the remains of a large building.

He moved toward the edge and his eyes flew wide at the scenery in front of him.

Bloody... The sky was painted red with dark smoke rising everywhere. Dead bodies littered the ground with crimson.

Nine's expression turned deadly pale when he saw a beady-eyed man with fangs munching on a dead body of a young girl. The man lifted his charcoal eyes to look at him with an evil smile. Blood painted the lower half of his mouth disgustingly.

Nine barely maintained his balance and staggered backward when he found the scenery around him cracking bit by bit.

Chapter 257 I didn't mean to kill him

The scenery around Nine was pitch black with many shattered fragments of different scenarios dancing around in a zig-zag manner.

A sharp pain pricked his eyes, enough to make him blind but no matter how much he tried to scream nothing came out from his mouth.

His lips were sealed. He recalled he was originally standing with Alec in a forest but afterward, everything was a blur.

What happened? And what was this place? His head buzzed with pain. Amidst the hundreds of fragments showing hundreds of different scenarios, he caught sight of a particular fragment floating at a distance.

A familiar figure with dark blue hair stood atop a broken building. His hands were painted red with blood and his usual bright blue eyes looked dull.

Nine eyes shifted amidst the pain to stare at the figure with a dazed expression.

'He looks older... A lot older..'

He mumbled in his dazed mind. The figure looked below only then did Nine gaze down to see a few more figures.

It was blurry that's why even after ranking his eyes through the fragment he didn't recognize who they were. However, even if it was blurry he could see the condition of the figures didn't look good. Half of them were kneeling limply on the ground and the remaining half were pointing their weapons at the floating figure.

The blue-haired figure's facial features looked ghastly pale as a bitter yet twisted smile appeared at the corner of his mouth.

'I am sorry.. I am sorry... I didn't mean it... I didn't mean to kill him...'

He moved his lips faintly to mumble in a barely audible voice but Nine expression turned dark when he caught the faint movement of his lips.

Nine gasped. He opened his eyes and saw an unfamiliar ceiling.

"What...the..?"

Nine blurted out and the moment these words left his mouth a sharp pain shot up to his spine, making him scream in pain.

A loud worried cry echoed beside his ears.

"Young Prince!"

Nine pupils dilated when his eardrums buzzed loudly. He grabbed his ears with a painful expression.

"Shut up shut up shut up!"



The person seemed to have sensed his discomfort and a pin-drop silence enveloped the place.

After a long silence, Nine finally lifted his eyes to look around himself. He was lying on a middle-size bed.

The room roof looked unfamiliar and except for the bed, it was devoid of any other furniture.

He took in a deep breath when he saw a few familiar figures standing around his bed.

"Young prince, do you feel any discomfort in your body?"

Nine didn't reply to the old man who worked for his mother and followed behind him to tail his movement. His mind was still muddled as he gazed at Ratric and Geroge standing on his left.

They wore somber expressions and Ratric's voice sounded rather grim.

"What did you see? You were out for two weeks? Also..."

He sighed with a complicated expression as he eyed Nine figure.

However before Nine could understand the meaning behind his words, the old man who called him young prince immediately resorted angrily.

"The Royal Academy doesn't have the right to know about this topic. This is a matter related to my Kingdom and I have contacted the Queen. She said to bring the prince back home immediately."

Ratric gazed at him coldly and scoffed.

"I was the one who saved his life timely. Moreover, the moment he stepped into the Royal Academy he became one of my people. You can't take him back without my permission."

Amidst their angry discussion, the room door slammed open and a few youths stepped inside with worried expressions.

Ratric snapped his head to look at the door. He narrowed his eyes at the middle-aged man who was tasked to stop everyone from entering the room.

The man cowered under his gaze and blurted out with a sweaty forehead.

"I am sorry Sir. The kids didn't listen to me. They forcefully barged inside even when I threatened them. They said they wouldn't return until they saw their friend."

Retric released a sigh as he gazed at the youths standing between the door with resolute expressions.

He dismissed the man immediately and waved his hand at the youths.

"Nine is awake just see him and leave because he needs rest."

Alec and Carcel nodded. Bia was sitting on Mia's shoulder, she narrowed her eyes to look at Nine. He looked dazed and she noticed a few grey strands on his head.

-'Indeed everything has a price... he lost his lifespan.'

She mumbled inwardly. Even though she knew Nine was a mermaid, she wasn't aware that he could glimpse at the future through a unique ability. She only found out about this when she heard Retric and Geroge's conversation secretly.

With a sigh, Bia immediately informed Kyle who had been worried about Nine the moment he heard about his condition.

Alec and Carcel approached the bed with worried expressions. The two girls followed behind the duo with steady steps. Lara's usually cold face had softened a lot in the past few months. Now, her eyes reflected pure worry for the dazed youth sitting on the bed.

Alec stood beside the bed after Retric and Geroge retreated to give the kids some space. He moved his hand to pat Nine shoulder.

"Are you alright?"

Nine turned around to look at Alec with a strange expression but then his expression sank when he finally remembered what he saw and heard a moment ago. A rare angry shout erupted from his throat.

"You bastard!"

With a burst of strength that appeared out of nowhere, Nine clenched his fist to punch Alec.

Alec was caught off due to his sudden outburst. He blocked the punch out of reflex but still staggered backward because Nine used too much strength in his punch.

"?"

He looked at Nine with wide confused eyes. Not just him all eyes stare at Nine seething expression with shock. Why did he punch Alec out of nowhere!?

However, before anyone could speak. Nine cried out loudly.

"You killed him! You killed Kyle!"

A pin-drop silence enveloped the room and Alec blinked with a dazed expression.

"What?"

He sucked in a deep breath. No way it was impossible.

"Why would I kill him?"

He resorted but this time instead of replying Nine fainted again. Retric rushed forward and checked his body.

"His condition is not good because his body is too strained."

The old man who had been silently watching the kids' interaction finally spoke up with a cold expression.

"I am taking him back. There is no way he can enter the Secret Realm because his body is losing strength with each passing second. I believe you can sense it too Retric."

He narrowed his eyes at Retric who frowned. Retric knew Nine unique ability was not high-grade or else why would the Sea Continent let go of such a precious person? However, it seemed Nine had used too much of it unconsciously.

Retric thought for a few seconds and massaged his temples. The old man was right, there was no way Nine condition would recover within a month. Also, his body needed proper treatment.

In the end, he nodded. It was better for Nine to go back.

Alec stood in a corner of the room with a complicated expression. Carcel and the two girls were standing behind him. They watched as the old man took Nine away.

When the old man left, Gero and Ratric turned around to look at Alec.

They weren't sure what Nine meant by 'You killed Kyle' because he didn't divulge anything else. But no matter what Alec was a good seedling and they had observed him for the past few months.

There was no way Alec would harm someone without a reason. Also, Kyle was someone who disappeared a few months ago. Han did inform them that the kid was alive but because Retric and Gero left the Kingdom to train the kids they didn't have time to check on Kyle.

Retric waved his hand at the kids with a serious expression.

"You all should leave. Go train with the others. Don't worry your friend is safe he just went back home."

Alec released a large breath and left the room with Carcel and the girls. However, the sentence 'You killed Kyle' echoed in his mind again and again.

'Why did he say it? And why would I kill Kyle?'

Bia narrowed his eyes to look at Alec with a wary expression. She hummed. Nothing was certain. Who knows what will happen in the future?

After another two weeks, Alec stopped thinking about the matter regarding Kyle and placed it at the back of his head. He focused on his training because he knew himself, there was no way he would harm Kyle without a good reason.

Chapter 258 Run ten more rounds

The sun was burning brightly above the heads of the individuals who were running around the boundary set up inside a forest to do their morning exercise.

Kyle looked bored as he ran with a group of youths. He groaned.

"I thought we were gonna undergo a 'hellish training'. What the hell is this? Not to mention hellish this training didn't even make me tired!"

Kyle's words flowed with the wind entering the ears of the nearby youths who glared at him with resentment!

They cursed him under their breaths but didn't dare to say anything out loud to make him angry because they still remember the beating they got from Kyle when they tried to intimidate him.

In the end, they silently gulped their anger and decided to treat him like thin air.

Regius rolled his eyes at Kyle as he followed behind the others.

After the tenth round, all of them arrived in front of a huge boulder. A middle-aged female elf with blond hair was sitting atop the boulder. She looked at them with a smile.

"Good! First, we will do breakfast then you all can start training with your weapons."

After her voice drifted in the air, almost all the youths collapsed with bated breaths. They wiped the sweat from their foreheads with tired expressions.

The blonde-haired instructor's eyes trailed at the youths before stopping at Kyle. She narrowed her eyes, Kyle looked clean with not even a drop of sweat on his body. A far contrast to the others who looked like they had just bath under the rain.

She hummed sweetly.

"Kyle?"

Kyle looked up at the instructor who had been training them for the past few weeks. He had to admit that she was a good instructor. Also, it seems she prioritizes everyone's life because in between training she would give them a lot of tips about how they should run away if the situation they faced was too dangerous. After all, life was the most important.

Kyle noticed her faint smile and gave her a nod but her next words made him speechless.

"You are indeed the strongest in this team. That's why I have decided your training will be doubled from now on. Alright, now go and come back after running ten more rounds around the boundary."

Regius looked at Kyle blank expression and laughed out loud.

He stood up and cheered for Kyle to run.

"Come on! Bro, you can do it!"

However, the instructor's chilling voice made him shrink his neck with a shudder.

"It's seemed Regius also has a lot of energy left. How about 10 more rounds for you as well?"

Regius immediately grabbed his ankles and slumped down with a groan.

"I am sorry but I think I can't stand up anymore due to exhaustion."

A few laughs echoed around him. Even the instructor looked amused at his acting.

Kyle sighed and left to run another ten rounds around the forest boundary. He was running when Bia informed him about Nine conditions. He sighed with relief.

'It's good he is fine. I almost jolted out from this place to see him when you told me about his severe condition.'

Kyle listened carefully to Bia's explanation and he grumbled inwardly when he found out Nine would not be going to the Secret Realm.

'Hmm, I wanted to see him and the others but it's fine his health is more important.'

He noticed for some reason Bia's voice sounded hesitant. Kyle's brow knitted together. Was she hiding something?

'Bia? What happened spill it out. I can sense the strangeness in your voice. Did you lie when you said Nine is out of danger?'

Kyle stopped running and waited for her answer. After a minute, Bia sighed and told him the thing that she was hiding. A stunned expression appeared on Kyle's face as he listened to Bia.

'So Nine has a special ability that gives him the power to see the future?'

He blinked. Indeed it was a terrifying ability but what astonished him most was the fact that Nine said Alec would kill him.

After a few seconds, Kyle chuckled out loud.

'I am close to (B+)-Rank. I remember Alec was (C+)-Rank. Moreover, the gap between our strengths is only going to widen further in the future. So, it's almost impossible for him to harm me. Also, from the amount of time I spent with Alec I don't think he would just simply stab his friend out of nowhere.'

He mused inwardly and started running again. However, the thought roamed around his mind. He didn't believe the things Nine saw were hundred percent correct. After all in this world, no one is omnipotent enough to know what exactly will happen in the future because the future is ever changing.

With every action Kyle took his future will change accordingly. Just like how if he didn't enter the Royal Academy he would have never discovered the secret within his body.

Kyle hummed and after a long run, he went back. The instructor seemed displeased because even after ten more rounds there was barely any sweat on Kyle's body.

She clicked her tongue and gestured for Kyle to eat something before going to train his weapon art with the others.

Kyle's days in the elven forest were passing peacefully.

The only problem was that the blonde-haired instructor seemed to have guessed his strength because, after the first week, she increased the pressure on him twofold.

If the other kids needed to run ten rounds around the forest, Kyle had to run twenty rounds. If they practiced their arts for five hours Kyle had to practice it for ten hours.

Amidst all the pressure, he stopped lazing around and worked hard. Also, his relationships with Yue, Regius, Sinon, Niamh, and Faith strengthened because of the time they would spend around him.

As the day when the kids had to leave for the Secret Realm drew near Kyle broke through to (B+)-Rank in the middle of his training.

The blonde hair instructor's mouth was opened wide when she found out Kyle's true strength. Not just her almost everything was astonished. He was already so strong at such a young age what would happen in the future?

For some reason, almost all the people who witnessed Kyle's strength had a nagging feeling that he would become a terrifying existence in the future. That's why without Kyle's knowledge the other kids secretly regarded him as their leader. Even though the leader did not do anything for them his mere presence was enough to make them excited. After all, he was the strongest among them all.

After another week, the 200 individuals gathered in front of Anlee who arrived to pick them up. They were finally leaving for the Secret Realm.

Chapter 259 The dark shadow

The sky was clear with many twinkling stars shining like fireflies.

A magnificent flying ship, adorned with sparkling gems of various colors descended into a deserted area. The ship's exterior was crafted from polished wood and intricate carvings. A small stature man with a large beard floated out from the ship.

He squinted his eyes and took in the sight of a massive crowd of thousands of people gathered in front of an old huge vertical metallic gate.

The gate crackled with an eerie energy, pulsating in the darkness. The man noticed the thick chains that sealed the gate for the past hundreds of years were undone.

His eyes stopped at the fifteen figures clad in messy outfits floating around the gate.

"Huh, the Central Continent did a lot this time because seeing so many Array masters in one place is a big deal. Still, one thing for sure just like us no one looked willing."

He scoffed and looked back. However, his face softened when he saw the bunch of kids standing on the ship with resolute expressions.

"kids. I know it's nerve-wracking because you are going to enter an unknown and dangerous place but do your best. I don't want the dwarf Kingdom to lose so many talented individuals."

The young people shouted with all their might. With a satisfied expression, the floating dwarf took them all to stand with the huge crowd.

As time passed more and more flying ships appeared above the deserted place. The air was heavy, and whispers of anticipation echoed in the space.

At a distance, far away from the excited and nervous crowd. A middle-aged man with long navy-colored hair was overlooking the situation with a blank expression. Adorned in an expensive suit, he had an aura of authority around his body.

He was sitting on a floating chair with many guards standing firmly behind his back. A surprised expression appeared on his face when he sensed the movement of a familiar presence behind him.

"What's brought you here? I thought you wanted to conserve your energy?"

No one replied for a second but then an ominous dark shadow appeared beside his chair. The man's guards seemed used to the shadow's appearance because no one stopped it from approaching the navy-haired man.

Under the night sky, a hoarse voice sounded beside the man.

"Indeed Your Majesty I want to conserve my energy but I was too excited to sit so here I am. I wonder if your majesty has prepared everything."

The navy-haired man chuckled at the shadow but his calm and composed expression cracked when he felt a sharp pain at the back of his head.

"This bastard! I swear once I am free I am going to hack this unsightly shadow into pieces!"

He cursed in his mind. He was a King. Also, the strongest in the Central Continent but a single mistake led him to his current miserable position.

A far contrast to the other Continents where Kingdoms operated separately with different leaders, the Kingdoms in the Central Continent would fight for dominance every twenty years and the one who emerged victorious had the power to make the other Kingdoms obey his commands.

It was a friendly fight and no one had any qualms about it because instead of the general public the fight would commence between the Kings of these Kingdoms. Moreover, it was very rare for the winning King to impose his rules on the other Kingdoms. The winner would just let them do whatever they want as usual. Only when he wants something precious or something desirable will he use his authority.

The man with navy hair gritted his teeth and bore the pain inflicted on him by the shadow with a blank expression. His name was Istalian Visonzo, the current leader of the Central Continent. The one who singlehandedly defeated all the others and grasped the authority with his strength.

Istalian smoothed his expression amidst the sharp pain as he waved at the shadow.

"There is no need to worry about the preparation because everything is ready. The kids from my Soltecia Kingdom are equipped with all the knowledge you provided me. They are trained meticulously just to find the thing you want from the Secret Realm."

The shadow hummed with a pleased voice. He chuckled when he saw how Istalian, the mighty King was trying to get free from his restraint.

"Don't force it even though I have weakened but there is no way you can get free from me child."

Istalian froze and ceased his mana movement. He was sure he was close and soon he would get free from this bastard. He was just waiting for the right time.

The shadow already knew what he was trying to do but he ignored it because currently he can do nothing. His mighty strength had reduced to a spec of dust. He wasn't sure how long he slept after he lost to James one of the powerful ancestors of blue planet. But he was glad Istalian accidentally broke the old relic and awakened the sealed pieces of his consciousness.

He looked at the far distance. The gate to the otherworldly realm that was created by the powerful ancestors to train the young generation in the old era was still here but he remembered before he succumbed to darkness they closed the realm to imprison a part of the evil race associated with chaos and darkness.

The dark shadow shuddered when he remembered the terrifying existence outside the boundary of this small planet. Relief flooded his chest when he looked up in the sky.

'Even though I hate those bastards they indeed did everything to protect their home planet. Tsk, just how many resources did they use to cover the whole planet with such a big protective shield?'

Istalian saw the tremor in the shadow and sensed his fear. He raised his brow and secretly sneered.

'So he is also scared of someone probably the ones who destroyed his body and turned him into a lump of dark energy.'

The shadow glided down his chair and started disinterested in the air.

"It's good everything is ready. Istalian you did a good job this time. I am not an ungrateful person. I will share that otherworldly treasure with you as well. After all, I can sense a stronger existence hiding inside this seemingly peaceful planet. In the future when I leave you will need a lot of power to protect your fragile people."

Istalian listen to his fading words. Even after hearing from the shadows countless times, he was still astonished at the fact that he a person with (SSS+)-Rank power was nothing but an ant.

He sucked in a deep breath as he looked at the place where the shadow was present a few seconds ago.

'No matter who you are you have opened a new path for me. If a treasure that can give me a chance to become an immortal exist. Do you really think I will give it to you so easily?'

He looked back at one of the guards.

"What about the Sea Continent? Are they willing to send their people or do they want me to make their life miserable?"

The guard lowered his head to show his respect.

"Your majesty. The mermaid Queen accepted your offer. For some reason, they are even sending their dear princess to help our people."

Istalian narrowed his eyes.

"What are they planning? I am aware of the unique ability they possess but to send the future Queen to such a dangerous place. Don't tell me the princess saw another vision about the future?"

He hummed with a cold expression.

"Leave them alone for now. They are aware of what I want and I don't think those cowards who prefer to stay hidden underwater are strong enough to steal under my nose."

Chapter 260 You were so small

Alec gazed at the dark sky with a sigh. He and the people from Kingdom Escalante arrived in this place when the sun was burning brightly but now the sky was filled with dark clouds.

He tapped Carcel's shoulder who was staring at the gate of the Secret Realm.

"How long do you think we need to wait?"

Carcel retracted his gaze and shrugged his shoulders.

"I don't know but this gate leading to the secret Realm is giving me an unsettling feeling."

Alec narrowed his eyes and looked at the system panel from the corner of his eyes.

System analysis;

'An old sealed Realm'

'Created by a few powerful individuals to train the younger generation'

'Current status: Filled with impurities.'

-Error...

No more information provided.

He hummed and glanced up as another massive floating ship appeared in the distance, but his attention was diverted when Ratric clapped his hands in front of them.



"Kids, listen up! The Realm gate is going to open in a while but you won't be teleported inside automatically. Instead, you have to pass through the gate to enter the Realm."

Ratric gazed hardened for a second.

"Remember all of you are a team. If you happen to cross your fellow teammates in the Secret Realm don't fight and try to help each other."

The 200 youths looked at each other and nodded their heads with serious expressions. However, no one knew what was in their minds.

While Ratric was speaking Elder Han's figure flashed behind him. The kids standing in front of him almost got heart attacks when they saw Elder Han's haggard appearance.

Retric frowned and looked at Han.

"What are you doing here? Are not the Array masters responsible for the opening of the Secret Realm gate."

Han clicked his tongue with a sour expression.

"They worked me so much that now even my bones had cracked. Also, why are you worried about my work? I know what to do no need to lecture me. Just tell me did you bring the kid's storage rings?"

Ratric narrowed his eyes and looked inside his sleeves. He took out a pouch and handed it to Han.

"Here I bought them but where is Kyle? I did tell you to contact him and ask him to come back to Kingdom Escalante because we got an empty spot after Nine left. I would have given him that spot."

A far contrast to his messy appearance, Han's smile was brighter than any twinkling star when he heard Kyle's name.

"Don't worry my disciple is a genius who got a spot without your help. He is going to enter the Secret Realm but not through Kingdom Escalante. Hahaha."

He laughed out loud and checked the pouch containing storage rings.

"I am adding a life-saving Artifact in the pouch and will return the storage rings back to him when he arrives."

Alec and Carcel's ears perked up when they heard Ratric. They looked at each other with smiles. Mia saw the duo's happy faces and smiled as well.

"What a relief. He is fine and entering the secret Realm with us."

At the same time, Lara who was standing at a distance gazed at Bia's agitated figure. An hour ago, the little bird left Mia and sat down on her shoulder.

"What happened? Why do I feel like you are getting anxious?"

Lara patted her round head with a faint smile, completely unaware of Bia's inner tremor.

-'Damn Damn Why can't I control my mana!? I can feel Kyle is almost here is it because my bond with him is reacting due to his presence? Or is it because of his bloodline?'

She opened her wings and under Lara's surprise gaze started flying.

"Bia come down! It's dangerous there are too many eyes here."

Lara tried to grab her small figure but she avoided her hands and flew toward Elder Han. A frown appeared on Lara's face, she looked around and saw a few more individuals who had bonded beasts with them.

'It's fine I guess.'

Alec gazed at Bia and tapped Lara's shoulder.

"What happened to her? Don't tell me she is excited after hearing about Kyle."

With a sigh, Lara shook her head because she had no idea. Bia mostly stayed with her or Mia but even after a few months, it was hard for them to understand what was going on inside her mind.

Amidst the heated atmosphere, two more ships arrived in the sky. One big and one small.

For some reason, when the big ship landed opposite the crowd a loud announcement was made to tell everyone that the people from the Sea Continent arrived.

Almost all the heads snapped back to stare at the people who emerged from the ship. Especially the younger individuals. After all, they were all curious about the mermaid race.

An old man clad in silk clothes descended from the ship, and following behind him were 200 young individuals. Under the crowd's eyes, the old man waved his hand and the ship vanished into his storage ring. He took the kids and quietly walked to an empty corner.

The other ship which was smaller compared to the first ship landed at a distance. The door slid open and a group of elves with a few humans and demi-humans stepped out from the ship.

Kyle's eyes narrowed as he looked in the distance when he sensed Bia's presence.

'What happened? Wait I will come pick you up in a while.'

He spoke in his mind as he followed behind Anlee and Aira with the others. From the corner of his eyes, he caught sight of the people who arrived on the bigger ship.

'So they are from the mermaid Kingdom?'

His eyes sparkled when he saw a familiar figure standing in the middle.

'Oh, Nine is here? Good. I was feeling worried for him.'

Kyle's thoughts were disturbed when he heard a loud shriek coming from the sky.

He mindlessly gazed up but froze in his spot because a majestic sight that sent chills down his spine greeted his contracted eyes.

Under the bright moon, casting a faint glow across the horizon, a huge majestic phoenix flapped its large wings with a loud cry.

Its huge breathtaking wings painted with red and blue shimmered under the night sky. Its feathers seem to catch fire because golden flames dance along its wings, creating a mesmerizing spectacle.

Just like Kyle, the crowd was stunned and their breath hitched in their throats when they saw the soaring phoenix.

Gasps of awe filled the air as the bird gracefully flew through the sky, leaving trails of golden flames behind.

Kyle's eyes almost bulged out from his sockets. It took him a few seconds to realize it was Bia!

'How? You were so small? And why now?'