

## Bloodline 311

### Chapter 311 What a beautiful Reunion

When Kyle opened his eyes, a powerful and cold aura spread out in the dome. His eyes gleamed with bright light. Cold air escaped his mouth, forming a trail of glistening ice throughout his body. The once-hot spring was now icy cold, perhaps due to his temperature affecting the water.

He clenched his fist with a hum and waved his hand. At first, he thought the hot spring would help him break through to the next rank, but how wrong he was. Even after soaking in the water for a day, his rank did not increase. Instead, the spring increased his mana.

Kyle gazed at his stats from the corner of his eyes and let out a chuckle.

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Stats:

Name: Kyle

Bloodline: Celestial

Rank: S-

Strength: S

Mana: S+

Agility: S-

Talent: SSS+ Rank

Luck: A

Skills;

....

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"I thought increasing mana stat is harder than the others but look at it... It's the highest. Almost on the verge of (SS-)-Rank."

He left the spring and changed into a fresh set of blue-colored clothes.

Kyle gazed back at the water, and suddenly, blue flames burst out inside the dome. They enclosed everything in a cold embrace and when the flames vanished, the water, mana stones, and everything else in his sight turned into ice. He left the dome and behind him, the ice transformed into bright particles and vanished into thin air.

After gaining so much, he was in a pretty good mood. He stretched his body and activated his skill scent perception to track Emion. After all, he was eager to test his new strength on a good subject.

But, the moment his skill expended, he sensed some familiar auras nearby. Kyle whipped his head toward the buildings.

"Huh, why are they still here?"

Instantly, his feet left the ground and he flew across the sky to see the surroundings better. And there they were, Alec and Carcel with a few unfamiliar faces. The look on their faces was kind of dejected as they slowly made their way toward the towering walls.

Kyle blinked and vanished from his spot. His floating figure appeared in front of the group. However, the moment he appeared, all of them jumped back in fright.

Alec clenched his chest. He thought they got caught and barely stopped himself from activating his most powerful skill to take down the enemy in one swift move. He glared at Kyle with a stern expression.

"At least make a noise... why the hell is your arrival so silent?"

Kyle raised his brow with mirth. He folded his arms on his chest and nodded with a thoughtful expression.

"I will think about it."

Alec pointed his trembling finger toward him with a speechless expression, but no words came out of his mouth. In the end, he massaged his temples and simply ignored him.

With a hum, he started walking towards the base walls, because even after searching around for a day, he was not able to find his sword or anything useful. That's why he was a little bitter.

Kyle blinked and gazed at him. Was he just ignored? He clicked his tongue and followed behind him mid-air.

Carcel chuckled at them and shook his head. He gazed at Kyle from head to toe. It was unbelievable how someone could change so much in a short time.

"Thanks for the help previously. Also, what happened to your hair and eyes?"

Alec's ears perked up. Not just him, the purple-haired dwarf and the other individuals around them also raised their eyes toward Kyle curiously. They all wanted to know the story of such a strong person. But the answer they got was far from the one they expected.

Kyle grabbed his hair with his fingers. A serious expression graced his features. It was as if he was going to spill a big secret.

"It's just happened. I fell asleep for a while and when I woke up, my hair and eyes color was like this. Moreover, my strength also increased. So, I believe a lot of sleep is essential for-!"

His sentence was cut off when Carcel raised his hand with a twitching brow.

"Stop. I think it's better if I don't know."

Unlike Carcel and Alec, the others were still curious about Kyle. However, since they didn't know Kyle personally, they simply thanked him for his help.

Suddenly, while following behind them, Kyle remembered the storage rings and the weapons he found in the underground room.

"Oh right..."

Due to his loud exclamation a few heads snapped back to gaze at him. Some of them thought, maybe he was going to share the secret of his strength.

Kyle rummaged inside his mind space and in the next second a few weapons dropped in front of him.

"Your storage rings and weapons. I found them while looking around the base."

Kyle raised his brow when everyone's expression turned blank.

"What happened?"

No one answered because they were not sure about their feelings. Should they thank him for finding their lost weapons or should they beat him up? After all, no one would be happy to search a huge base only to find out that someone had already taken what they were looking for. Regardless, they did not dare to step forward because Kyle was the strongest.

Contrary to the quiet atmosphere, Alec and Carcel gazed at each other. They rolled their sleeves with smiles that did not reach their eyes. Alec picked up his sword and traced its blade.

"Let me tell you what happened."

The duo was ready to pounce at him but suddenly an angry cry rang out in the air.

All the heads snapped up. Their eyes widened with astonishment when trails of crimson flames flickered above their heads. In the next second, a huge shadow was cast upon their figures, and a large majestic fire phoenix appeared in the sky.

Bia gazed down at the tiny figures. Her bright eyes met Kyle's mid-air.

Strangely enough, he started sweating buckets of water, because he finally remembered the important thing he forgot a while ago.

Kyle raised his hand slowly and waved with a dry laugh.

"Oh hi..."

With a large flap, Bia dove down toward him with lightning-fast speed. The flames around her body spread out in a mesmerizing manner in the sky.

Alec and Carcel grabbed their weapons and immediately ran away from Kyle. For some reason, they could feel the dangerous aura around Bia. She was definitely angry!

Kyle groaned and vanished from his spot before she could crash into him. He wiped his sweaty forehead and gazed at Bia's figure.

'Wait, I can explain...'

However, before he could complete his sentence, Bia changed her direction to follow behind him in the air. The moment Kyle removed the restriction from their connection, she cursed out loudly with an evil laughter.

-'Haha, I finally found you! Let's settle all scores today!'

In the distance, Haylee gazed at the phoenix and human with a twitching brow. He couldn't believe the two of them were fighting above the enemy base!

'What had the world turned into?'

Beside him, Jian, Nine, Yue, Sia, Elli, and Rowan were floating inside white bubbles. He gently pushed the bubbles away and all of them landed on the ground safely.

Nine and Jian gazed at the two figures chasing each other in the sky and they burst into loud laughter.

Jian wiped his eyes with his fingers.

"What a beautiful reunion."

Nine nodded with a chuckle.

"Indeed. It's so touching that I feel like laughing."

He whipped his head back when he sensed a movement. His eyes widened slightly when he saw some familiar faces among the individuals standing behind him.

"Carcel and Alec?"

Carcel eyed him from head to toe and a relieved sigh escaped his lips. The last time he saw Nine, the latter was so pale that it looked like he would die any second. But now he looked perfectly fine.

With a smile, he raised his hand for a handshake but Nine smacked his hand away and hugged him with a laugh.

"How have you been? It's been a while!"

Nine gaze wandered toward Alec. For a few seconds, he was a little awkward because the last time they met he said some unnecessary things to the latter. Still, he walked up to Alec with a smile and hugged him as well.

"What about you?"

Alec tapped his back and returned the hug with a bright smile. He was worried after Nine last outburst, but it seems Nine has sorted out his emotions.

"I am fine but..."

He dragged his words and pointed at the sky.

"What happened to Bia?"

Nine shook his head and threw his arm on his shoulder with a grim look.

"It's because she missed him a lot."

Jian nodded. He walked toward the duo and placed his arm on Alec's empty shoulder.

Everyone watched with different expressions as Kyle vanished from one spot to another in the sky. Desperately trying to calm his bonded beast.

In the distance, Haylee's gaze wandered between the onlookers and Kyle. Perhaps he was the only one concerned about the fact that they were in the enemy base?

Chapter 312 The sooner the better

?Bia's breathing turned ragged but she was not even able to land a single attack on Kyle. It was very infuriating.

Kyle chuckled at her expression and shook his head. He raised his hand and tapped his shoulder with a smile.

"Come here."

Contrary to the onlookers' expectations, after Kyle's gesture, the furious phoenix decreased her size and climbed his shoulder obediently.

Kyle grabbed the little phoenix and gazed at her from all directions with a grin.

"(B-)-Rank? Not bad, you did a good job."

Bia hurrumped and rolled her eyes. How she wished to beat him a little but the difference in their strength was just too much.

-I am not lazy like you. Okay! Also, I haven't forgiven you yet!

Kyle placed the grumpy little phoenix on his shoulder and looked down at the small crowd below him. The moment his eyes traveled down, for some reason everyone looked away in different directions.

He raised his eyebrow. They were probably enjoying the view earlier, but now they were pretending as if they hadn't seen a thing.

With narrowed eyes, Kyle dived down and landed in front of the crowd. His gaze traveled from Nine to Jian.

'Oh, they had gotten stronger...'

Finally, his eyes stopped on Yue. She was standing behind everyone else with Sia. He couldn't help but blink with surprise. The aura around her was quite violent very different from the one he remembered. Also, how did she jump from (C-)-Rank to (C+)-Rank in such a short time?

A barely visible frown appeared between his brows. Alec, Nine, Jian, and Carcel approached him to ask about what he was going to do next. However, his mind was occupied in another place.

'Bia, what happened to Yue?'

Bia hummed softly. She made herself comfortable on his shoulder and gazed at Yue with thoughtful eyes.

-I don't know...'

She paused for a few seconds and recalled the time when she was alone with Yue.

-I am not sure but I think her body is a little special.'

'Special?'

-Ugh.. how should I describe it? It's like she can consume a lot of things without any consequences.'

'Things? You mean food?'

-No no.. not food. She can absorb the aura around the treasures without directly eating or wielding them, but I believe she can't absorb a large amount at once. Her rank jumped from (C-)-Rank to (C+)-Rank after we stepped into the treasure room.'

Kyle's frown deepened.

'Did it harm her body?'

-I don't think so. Or else I would have noticed.'

Suddenly, Nine glanced at Kyle's face. He narrowed his eyes because Kyle was not focused at all. That's why he stopped and lightly smacked his back.

Kyle hissed and glared at him.

"What was that for?"

Nine raised his brow.

"Are you even listening?"

Kyle's expression hardened as he noticed, Alec, Jian, and Carcel's eyes on him.

"Of course, I am."

Nine rolled his sleeves with a nod.

"And what did you hear? Can not care to explain."

Kyle was thick-skinned. Even though he did not hear what they were talking about. He replied confidently.

"Of course, you are talking about how we should take care of the dark race?"

Instantly, everyone looked at him with speechless eyes. They were clearly talking about what they were going to do next. Where the hell did the dark race come from? However, before they could plummet his confidence, Kyle wore a grim expression and gazed into the distance.

"I can sense Emion, he is quite far. How about we take out all the weaker people from the dark race? If everyone worked in teams I believe we can do it."

His suggestion immediately diverted everyone's attention. It was indeed possible. However, the problem was, what if Emion caught them while they were hunting his people? Among the dark race, Emion was the most formidable. If they could somehow deal with him, then the rest would be manageable.

As if noticing their worries, Kyle cracked his knuckles with a smile that did not reach his eyes.

"I will make sure Emion stays busy. Even though he is stronger than me. I believe I can attract his attention for a long time."

Kyle almost tripped when Nine smacked him again with a laugh. He so badly wanted to return the smack but controlled the urge.

Alec tightened his hold on his sword and pointed it toward the sky.

"Then, what are we waiting for? Let's go!"

All of them gathered together and split up into three big teams. Nine and Jian took charge of the first team, Alec led the second team, and Carcel became the head of the third team.

Kyle nodded at Alec and the others with a serious expression before he held out his hand in front of Carcel. The young prince was confused as he gazed at his hand.

"What?"

"The spear?"

"Oh?"

Carcel grazed the tip of the ordinary-looking blue spear. It was actually better than his own. After a few seconds, instead of giving back the spear, he stared at Kyle with a polite smile.

"How about we trade?"

Kyle raised his brow and rubbed his hands, ready to rob the prince. However, his plan failed when Nine smacked him again with a chuckle.

"What's there to trade between friends? Right, Kyle?"

Nine light golden eyes sparkled with mirth as he stared at him deeply. Kyle groaned and slapped his hand away. This time, he returned the smack with double strength and replied with a hint of reluctance.

"Of course. You can take it for free after all we are 'friends'."

The smile on Nine's face stiffened. Kyle's smack almost made him lose his balance. He rubbed his aching back with a pained expression and ran off to Elli for comfort. Bullying Kyle was really hard!

Alec glanced at Nine, who was rubbing his head on Elli's shoulder. He let out a bittersweet smile and started walking. Behind him, Carcel and the others also began to move.

Kyle jumped and flew across the sky. He followed behind the small crowd and after a minute they reached the base borders.

While everyone was jumping off the walls. Suddenly, Yue waved at him. She was on Nine and Jian's team.

Albeit confused, Kyle dived down and landed in front of her.

"What happened?"

Her eyes fell on Kyle for a few seconds before she averted her gaze to look at Bia. Yue held out her hand and tapped Bia's head with a sweet smile.

"It's just, while we were in the field Bia was pretty upset. I believe she was worried about you. So, you should not leave her alone."

Kyle stared at the beautiful hand caressing Bia's head. Subconsciously his eye trailed off toward her face. They were standing too close. So close that he could faintly hear the sound of her breathing and heartbeat. For some reason, her heart rate was higher than normal. Maybe, it was due to the violent aura around her body.

"Are you sure Bia was worried? Don't forget how she attacked me the moment she saw me-!"

His sentence was cut off when Bia pecked on his shoulder with an angry hiss.

-I was worried, Okay! Do I need to spell it out for you?"

With a cold hum, she looked away from Kyel and leaned into Yue's hand for more comfortable pats. Yue let out a soft laugh at her actions. She slowly lifted her eyes to glance at Kyle. Only to find out that he was staring directly at her. Her heart skipped a beat and she immediately stepped back to maintain the distance.

"Also, Bia is a very picky eater please take care of her diet."

Kyle whipped his head toward the little phoenix. The very same phoenix who could eat anything as long as it was edible.

'Picky eater? What the hell did you do?'

Bia blinked at him innocently.

-'Recently I developed a tiny habit. I can not eat if the food is not delicious enough. Also, I need three proper meals a day ahh!'

Bia cried out in surprise when Kyle picked up her body and stared at Yue blankly.

"I believe it's better if you took this glutton with you!"

Yue let out a huff and wrapped her hands on her chest with a raised brow.

"Did you forget what I said? You should not leave her alone. She gets worried."

Kyle sucked in a huge breath. How the hell was he going to feed this phoenix? He groaned and placed Bia back on his shoulder.

"Okay, you should leave. Everyone is ..."

He dragged his sentence and narrowed his eyes to gaze at the heads peeking from behind the walls.

"...waiting."

Yue replied with a nod and walked away. Her voice was barely a whisper but Kyle heard it clearly.

"Goodbye, take care."

He gazed at her back and unlike Yue's faint voice Kyle's voice was loud as he jumped off the ground to soar into the sky.

"Take care as well."

In the distance, the few curious heads peeking from behind the wall immediately snapped back when Kyle stared at them. Jian narrowed his eyes and whispered to Nine and Alec.

"Bro, what were they talking about?"

Alec rubbed his nose with a curious expression.

"My question is when did Kyle start speaking to girls so normally? Usually, he is not even responsive toward Mia and Lara!"

A mischievous smile spread across Nine's face but before he could make a comment, Kyle's figure appeared in front of the trio and they jumped back in fright.

Nine cried out.

"At least make a noise!"



Kyle ignored his cry and gazed at the sky.

"I am leaving, you should go as well. The sooner we finish this, the better."

With a nod, the trio scattered in different directions with their team members. Kyle flew across the sky. He immediately activated his skill scent perception.

Hundreds of different scents flooded his nose but he only grasped on the familiar revolting scent. It was coming from the west side.

"A little far but we can reach him within a few hours."

Chapter 313 Do not enter

?Kyle's head peeked out from behind a huge boulder as he gazed at the familiar figure floating mid-air in the distance.

Emion let out an angry laugh. He gazed at his surroundings and his harsh aura shook everything around him.

"It's been so many hours but why is it that I haven't seen even a single outsider?"

His eyes dilated into narrow slits. He was so angry that blood rushed to his head.

Kyle diverted his eyes with a frown. Just like Emion, he was equally confused because, on his way, he didn't see a single soul except for some people from the dark race.

Secretly he followed behind the frustrated man. They passed through a few treasure islands, mountains, and a large river. Yet, for some reason, the air was eerily quiet. It was as if the humans, elves, demi-human, mer, and dwarfs all vanished into thin air. Leaving behind no one except Emion and the few scattered people of dark race.

Kyle let out a soft chuckle. At first, he planned to distract Emion by attacking him but now with such a strange situation, he was not sure anymore.

'I don't think I need to distract someone who is already on the verge of madness.'

Bia yawned gingerly on his head. She was very comfortable. It was strange how Kyle's quiet and cold presence put her heart at ease. The fact that a fire phoenix prefers to stay with someone as cold as ice is astonishing, to say the least.

After another hour, Emion roared into the air madly and crushed a nearby boulder into pieces.

Kyle noticed with a raised brow. The sheer power of Emion's attack was at least ten times stronger than his own. He couldn't help but wonder what would have happened if he had been on the receiving end.

A chill ran down his spine as he shook his head with a dark face.

Still, he thought deeply. Just where the hell did the people who entered the realm go? After all, there's no way the dark race can kill so many people within such a short amount of time. Moreover, he sensed distress etched on the faces of the dark-race individuals he encountered on his way. It was clear that they were equally baffled.

'Whatever, it's better this way.'

With a sigh, he slowly followed behind Emion. They traveled for another hour toward the west before the wings behind the man fluttered roughly as he gazed at one of the treasure islands.

The look on Emion's face was screaming desperately that if he did not find anyone outside. Maybe everyone entered the treasure islands.

Kyle raised a mischievous brow and a strange glint flashed through his eyes. Just because he couldn't defeat Emion didn't mean he couldn't torture him enough to make him wish for death.

He rubbed his hands and Bia almost jumped off his head with fright when she heard his evil laughter.

- 'The heck? Why are you getting so scary...'

Immediately, she lit a candle for Emion in her heart. The man was not going to live long. What a pity.

Kyle ignored her remarks and watched the man with utmost focus. As long as they entered the same treasure island, he was sure even if he did nothing, Emion was going to suffer a lot.

Opposite him, Emion felt a chill run down his spine. The man glared back but found no one. In the end, he flapped his wings in mid-air to enter the treasure island.

Kyle tiptoed behind him with an innocent look. After Emion entered the castle, Kyle slowly moved his finger to write on the castle gate.

"Caution; Do not enter!"

Bia's eyebrow twitched violently when she saw Kyle's satisfied face.

- 'What the hell are you doing?'

'Just putting on a warning for those who might accidentally enter this castle.'

Without waiting for Bia's reply, Kyle jumped into the castle gate. The familiar darkness blurred his vision for a second before he finally opened his eyes in front of a big enclosed arena.

He lifted his head to gaze at the massive structure with towering walls made of stone and marble. In the distance, four towering humanoid statues adorned the edges of the arena. Also, for some reason, the exterior was very old. Older than the other treasure islands.

Kyle's eyes fell on the figure standing in the middle of the arena. Emion managed to plant his feet firmly on the sandy floor as he battled against a large two-horned black bull.

Kyle let out a harsh breath when he focused and tried to pinpoint the latter rank. It was probably a lot higher than his expectations. After all, his attacks never had any effect on Emion.

'(SS)-Rank...?'

- 'No it's a little higher.'

He shot Bia a look and gazed at the thin boundary in front of him. His eyes trailed off to the bright transparent dome around the arena and the towering bull before they finally stopped at the hovering white orb outside the dome.

Kyle raised his hand and for the first time unclasped the white earring present in his ear. He stepped inside the boundary and the familiar mechanical voice echoed in the arena.

"Welcome new participants to the '104' treasure land."

"Counting the number of new arrivals...."

"Total new arrivals two; A (B-)-Rank divine beast and a (S-)-Rank human."

"Please do your best to clear the challenges in front of you."

Emion snapped his head back abruptly in the middle of his fight. His eyes widened with fury when he saw Kyle's figure. He wanted to lung at him but the towering bull made it impossible for him to move.

Kyle let out a chuckle and watched him from a distance. He folded his hands on his chest and his feet left the sandy ground.

Bia hurriedly left his head because after staying with him for so long, she knew what he was going to do. Her tiny figure flew across the arena before she lazily stopped above a faraway statue.

In the next second, two more similar bulls appeared out of thin air in the arena. The two bulls' roared at Kyle and rubbed their hind limbs on the ground before charging toward him at full speed.

However, Kyle did not even flinch. He met Emion's furious gaze mid-air and the corner of his lips trickled upward into a smile before he vanished from his spot.

Under Emion's dilated eyes, Kyle's figure appeared mere inches away from the white orb floating outside the dome.

The winged man roared at him with bloody eyes.

"You dare!"

Kyle shrugged his shoulders with twinkling eyes. His wriggling fingers approached the bright orb as he watched the two bulls' who were supposed to attack him and Bia. The bulls suddenly halted in their tracks when they lost their targets. At first, they gazed around in confusion but the moment they heard Emion's thundering voice, the bulls snapped their glaring eyes at the shouting man.

Emion eyes widened with disbelief. He looked at the bulls. Now, they were charging toward him with the same speed they went behind Kyle.

"You bastard!"

He punched the bull he was fighting and jumped in another direction to avoid the two other bulls.

Kyle watched his struggle from above with glee. Suddenly he vanished from his spot and appeared inside the dome. Emion eyed his figure and the man shuddered when Kyle raised his hand and summoned countless ice spears that rained down at him with lightning-fast speed.

Bia let out a hiss instead of Emion and turned her tiny head away. The sight was just too painful.

Kyle's eyes zeroed in on the battered figure underneath him. He wanted to use his flames or ice domain but the skills would probably affect the bulls as well. That's why he crossed his fingers and gazed at the sandy ground.

Under Emion's wide eyes, ten glowing fire skeletons crawled out from the land and jumped at him without any fear. The skeletons were weak barely (B)-Rank but because the man was already surrounded by three towering bulls, he suffered a few injuries.

Kyle clicked his tongue when Emion managed to kill the strongest bull and badly injured the second one with the vortex. Still, when the man managed to subdue the last bull, Kyle spread out his palm and mumbled under his breath.

"Fire rain."

It was not his strongest skill but instantly a sea of fire descended inside the dome. Bia opened her eyes when she sensed the scorching heat. She flapped her wings and joined Kyle. After all, fire was her natural element.

-'Oh, it's actually a little fun..'

Emion let out a cry. He was already tired after battling with the bulls and the skeletons. He flapped his wings and after struggling for a minute managed to extinguish the fire.

When he was done, his body was burned in various places and countless injuries adorned his figure. Yet, the boiling anger in his eyes did not dissipate as he lifted his bloody gaze to stare at Kyle. Ready to tear the human into hundreds of shreds.

However, the sight he saw made him cough out blood.

Bia landed on Kyle's shoulder when the latter grabbed the white orb floating above the arena. The transparent dome had long vanished the moment Emion killed the last bull.

Kyle rolled the orb in his hand and a portal appeared behind his back. Before jumping into a portal he flashed a smirk at Emion.

"Dark race leader, try to stay alive because I want to be the one to end you. Remember... we will meet again, hahaha."

Emion's pupils dilated with rage. He couldn't believe that punny human was throwing the same words he said back at him!

Amidst all this, both Kyle and Emion failed to notice the tiny white ball lurking around the arena. Haylee wore a blank expression as he glanced at Emion's tattered condition and slowly followed behind Kyle.

'Just what had the world turned into? Now a (S-)-Rank kid can easily beat up a (SS+)-Rank being...'

'I wish master was here to witness the countless uses of instant teleportation.'

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A loud explosion rang out in the air as Kyle jumped out from a trembling portal.

He balanced his body mid-air and wiped the blood flowing out from his nose and mouth.

"Tsk, did he actually go crazy?"

He glanced at the beautiful and delicate flower floating above his palm. The flower petals shimmered constantly like opals, shifting colors with a soft, gentle light as if it were breathing.

Kyle's palm warmed up due to the soothing energy emanating from the flower. He groaned at the tingling sensation and tossed it inside his mind space.

Behind him, the portal flared up with a loud crack and Bia rolled out with ragged breathing. She flapped her wings and hurriedly clung to his shoulder, gasping.

-Run! Run!

Kyle's head was ringing but the moment he saw Bia he sped up in the opposite direction. He thought killing Emion would be easy if only he tortured the latter inside the treasure island. But how wrong he was. The man was just too thick-skinned, even more so than him.

Regardless, he let out a mocking laugh when he halted in the distance and gazed at the cracking portal. After all, he managed to snatch the treasure right under Emion's nose.

Bia shuddered on his shoulder.

-Damn it! At least, make a proper plan before infuriating someone stronger than you!

Kyle tapped his chest with heavy breathing. Under his gaze, Emion's battered figure emerged from the portal. Bia freaked out at the blood-red eyes staring at her and her grip on his shoulder tightened.

-Shit! I feel like he is on the verge of a mental breakdown!

Emion pointed his trembling finger at Kyle. Crazy laughter spilled out from his throat but the movement of his throat caused him pain. He couldn't believe that he, the strongest of them all, couldn't even catch a single pesky human. The humiliation he endured within just a single day was enough to make his ancestors come alive.

No matter how much he tried just like a slippery bug, the human would run away in time to avoid a fatal attack!

Emion sucked in a deep breath to calm his nerves. But when he saw the amusement twinkling in Kyle's eyes, he lost it again.

Bia cursed under her breath. She flapped her wings and flew across the sky. Kyle flashed another grin in Emion's direction and followed behind Bia.

Emion's aura soared as he chased after them but his eyes dilated when the human suddenly vanished from his spot. This was something he could not get used to no matter how desperately he tried. His wings fluttered behind his back as he spread out his senses to locate the human.

The hair on his back stood up and he abruptly turned out to attack behind him. However, his attack disappeared into thin air.

Kyle's figure slowly materialized just mere inches away from his shoulder. After using instant teleportation so many times, he discovered that if he used the skill two to three times in a row he could create a faint illusion.

Kyle's eyes narrowed at Emion's neck. He raised his sword with a sharp glint, ready to finish it once and for all. But before his blade could touch the latter's neck, Emion's wings shot up to cover his head.

A loud cry spilled out from the man's mouth when a large gash appeared on one of his wings. However, Kyle was also pushed back several meters due to the impact.

Kyle clicked his tongue in distaste. Even after so much, the man's defense was so strong. Still, he had been giving his all to gradually drain Emion's mana.

"It's fine we have a lot of time."

Bia's eyes flickered as she circled above their heads.

-Hey.. Kyle?

Kyle jumped back to avoid Emion's pointy nails and glanced at her from the corner of his eyes.

'What?'

-I am hungry.'

Kyle dodged another attack mid-air and stared at her blankly. Bia averted her eyes with a dry laugh. She was ready for a good lecture as to how she should focus more on the life-and-death battle Kyle was facing instead of food. Yet, his answer left her dumbfounded.

'How about we finish this and find something good?'

Bia's eyes sparkled.

-Really?'

Kyle rolled his eyes. Was he so cruel that she could not even believe his words? His grip on his sword tightened as he stared at Emion's panting figure.

'Yes, I am getting tired anyway.'

She gave him a quick nod before diving down. In an instant, a blazing sea of crimson flames erupted around her. Her mana was already depleted. That's why she just used the last bit to attract Emion attention for a few seconds.

The man raised his eyes and stared at her approaching figure. He held out his palm but before he could attack Bia's figure left the blazing sea of fire. She flapped her wings and turned in a different direction.

-I am done.'

Kyle hummed in his mind as he watched the sea of crimson flames dancing around Emion. Instantly, he poured every ounce of his mana into his sword. The blade buzzed in his hand and the air around him quivered violently.

He held the sword with both of his hands because the mana was getting too aggressive.

Emion roared loudly as he pushed away the crimson flames around him with a rough flap of his wings. His bloody eyes met Kyle's in mid-air and a wicked grin crept across his face. He knew that if the human did not rely on his teleportation skill and faced him head-on, the human wouldn't even be able to leave a scratch on him.

With a wide grin, he sneered. Finally, he could tear the human apart.

Kyle raised a brow with a cold smile.

"Getting impatient, huh.?"

He mumbled under his breath and Emion's eyes dilated when he raised his sword.

"Ethereal Voidbreaker slash."

The air crackled with an ominous energy, and the once serene sky darkened as storm clouds gathered. Thunder rumbled through the clear sky, and then, in a breathtaking spectacle, a colossal mana sword materialized behind Kyle's back.

Emion eyes zeroed in on the faint sword behind Kyle. Shivers ran down his spine and for the first time, he was terrified. Terrified of the puny human.

He cried out in panic and flapped his wings desperately to fly in another direction. But, it was too late.

A huge rift of light and energy that obliterated anything in its path enclosed his body from all directions as the sword descended on him. His cries muffled into thin air as the light engulfed everything.

Kyle's body was flung backward in mid-air. Bia cried out and dived down toward him as he slammed into a distant mountain with a resounding boom.

She let out a shuddering breath at the huge hole plastered in the middle of the mountain.

Kyle crawled out from the hole with bloodied clothes. His hands trembled but he managed to gulp down two healing potions instantly. However, his expression darkened when he saw a tiny crack in the middle of his sword.

He dragged his stiff body and lifted his head to look at the scenery in front of him.

Immediately, Kyle sucked in a harsh breath. His eyes widened with astonishment.

The once grassy and clear ground was scarred completely into rubble. The air was still heavy with a strange eerie glow. Almost everything was destroyed.

"Huh... it's gotten more dangerous. I believe I should avoid using this move in a crowded place."

His eyes roamed around to find the familiar figure. The one who caused him a lot of trouble. After a few seconds, his gaze stopped at the few broken bones scattered between the rubble and he let out a groan.

Kyle rubbed his temples. His whole body was aching. Still, he poked the shocked phoenix flying beside him.

"It seems we are finally done."

Bia did not even notice when she held her breath. She gazed at Kyle and released her breath.

-'Are you alright?'

Kyle hummed.

"Not really. I don't think I can fight for a while."

He let out a chuckle.

"Also, I am hungry."

Bia rolled her eyes. The duo went silent for a while. They watched the burning sun for an hour before Kyle finally had some power to stand properly.

Amidst all this, the first thing he did was to wipe the blood from his body and change out from his tattered clothes.

Bia sighed when she saw his limping figure. Kyle frowned when she flapped her wings and left his shoulder.

His frown deepened when Bia increased her size. He looked around with caution.

"What happened?"

Bia did not said anything. Instead, her figure landed in front of him. With a huge sigh, she lowered one of her wings.

-'Climb up.'

It took Kyle a whole minute to process the meaning behind her words and when he did a wide smile spread across his face. Maybe getting badly injured once in a while was not bad at all.

Chapter 315 Roles reversed

?As Kyle rode on the back of Bia, his gaze lingered upon the mesmerizing floating islands that surrounded them. With a careless wave of his hand, he felt the soft feathers beneath his touch.

'Why do I feel like our roles are reversed?'

Kyle let out a chuckle. He truly liked the feeling of riding a beautiful and huge phoenix.

Bia rolled her eyes. Yet, she did not dislike Kyle's thrilled and excited emotions. With a huff, she increased her speed. The cold air brushed past Kyle's face and he closed his eyes with a sigh. He was on the verge of sleeping on her comfortable back but it was impossible when the said ride had become a glutton.

With a groan, he tapped her neck and pointed his finger toward a mountain.

"Go there. I can sense some strong monsters."

Bia shot him a nod and lowered her body above the mountain. Kyle glanced at her back one last time and jumped down on the carpet of grass with a sullen expression.

Who knew when he would get another chance to ride her back?

He shook his head and narrowed his eyes in the distance. Meanwhile, Bia decreased her size and circled above his head.

The duo ventured up the mountain and thanks to Kyle's scent perception skill, they stumbled upon a group of (B)-Rank winged drakes only after a few minutes.

These monsters had sleek and muscular bodies, covered in scales of vibrant green and fiery red. Their sharp claws and long, serpentine tails added to their intimidating presence.

Kyle did not have to do much to kill them. His fear skill alone was enough to send the monsters into a frenzy.

After he was done, the duo found a quiet corner and lit up a fire. Kyle evenly sliced a few pieces of meat and impaled the meat onto the sharp blade of his sword.



His heart ached whenever he noticed the tiny crack in the middle of the shiny blade. Still, he knew there was nothing he could do about it except look around for a new weapon.

As the flames danced and the delicious aroma filled the air, the duo enjoyed a peaceful meal. The only problem was Bia's ruthless remarks as to how the meat was not cooked properly.

Kyle had to cut off her voice with a speechless expression.

"Why the hell are you eating so much if you don't even like it!"

He so badly wanted to say it out loud but stopped himself for the sake of the amazing ride she had given him.

After their meal, Kyle closed his eyes and leaned into a nearby boulder. Bia quietly climbed his shoulder when she noticed his even breathing.

She kept an eye on their surroundings for a few hours until Kyle rubbed his eyes open.

Strangely enough, his body was feeling refreshed as if he never got injured in the first place. He gazed at the bright sun that never set in the realm and stretched his body for a while.

After Kyle was done, his eyes sparkled as he narrowed them at the floating islands around him.

"Now that the strongest enemy is down. I believe it's time for us to 'check' this realm properly."

Bia raised her brow. She understood very well the meaning behind his words. With a flap of her wings, she landed on his shoulder and closed her eyes.

"Do you not want to check on the others?"

Kyle hummed and continued exploring the mountain.

"They are strong. Also, we will kill if we encounter anyone from the dark race."

He paused for a second with a deep expression.

"Do you have any idea where is Haylee? I want to meet the guardian of this place."

Bia moved her body on his shoulder with a frown.

"I don't know. He disappeared into thin air after I found you. Anyway, why do you want to see the guardian?"

Kyle's eyes narrowed into the distance when he sensed blood through his skill. He was sure the blood did not belong to a monster.

"I saw something interesting and now I have a lot of questions."

Bia wanted to know more but she was too sleepy that's why she left it for later. Kyle left the mountain and started moving toward the scent of blood. Still, he stopped after every few minutes to pluck out every precious herb he sensed nearby.

After an hour, he paused in front of a large structure filled with crawling insects. The structure was tucked beneath a towering and old tree trunk. Kyle gazed at the countless snail-like insects. They were sitting around an underground tunnel. Wisps of steam were drifting out from the tunnel mouth and Kyle was sure the smell of blood was coming from the tunnel.

He slowly stepped into the structure and tiptoed toward the tunnel quietly. It was better to not alert the insects because even though they were weak, they were just too many in numbers.

However, his plan failed miserably when Bia cracked her eyes open with a yawn. She flapped her wings on his shoulder and a few round heads snapped in his direction.

Kyle halted in his tracks and stared at the nearest pair of eyes. He let out a groan and immediately stopped himself from just tossing the little bird away.

Bia froze on his shoulder. Her eyes darted around to assess their situation.

- 'Why are we standing in the middle of hundreds of hungry monsters?'

"Ah... I wonder why?"

Kyle waved at the monster and kicked off his feet to fly when a few of them pounced at him. He clicked his tongue and gazed at the tunnel.

"Bia go distract them."

- 'Just kill them.'

He shot her a glare and blue flames erupted around his body. The flames surged in all directions, successfully clearing the path in front of them. A few of the bold monsters still dared to pounce at them but failed due to the bone-chilling coldness.

Kyle hurriedly approached the tunnel and gazed inside. He kicked a nearby monster and dived inside the tunnel. Bia's body rolled off his shoulder but he grabbed her before she could drop.

Chapter 316 It's been a long time indeed

? Kyle's eyes narrowed when he saw a stream of hot water cascading down in the distance. A wide underground space and a shimmering floating castle in the middle. Moreover, the air was filled with a heavy scent of blood.

His feet touched the ground near the stream. He walked for a minute and came to a halt when he spotted a pale cyan-haired youth leaning against the stairway leading up to the gleaming castle. The individual's clothes were soaked in blood. Regardless, Kyle's eyes drifted off to the lifeless body lying in the distance. He noticed with a raised brow, the body belonged to someone from the dark race.

With a sigh, Kyle stepped closer to him.

"Are you alright?"

The youth's body jolted when he heard Kyle's voice. He shot his wary eyes up and clenched his bleeding chest.

"Who..?"

Kyle sighed when the youth tried to reach for the double-edged sword placed a few inches away from him.

"Don't worry I won't harm you..."

He dragged his sentence and grabbed a healing potion from his mind space.

"Here. Take it."

The youth eyed the potion warily but after a few seconds of hesitation took it with trembling hands. After all, he had no other choice.

Kyle's eyes darted around. He sensed a few more scents around the cyan-haired youth. That's why he was a little confused as to why the boy was alone in such a bad condition.

He waited until the youth gulped down the potion and finally, some colors returned to the latter face. Afterward, Kyle moved away and started climbing the stairway.

"Wait.."

Kyle stopped and gazed back at the person standing at the edge of the stairway.

"What?"

"Thank you."

With a quick nod, Kyle resumed his steps but the boy followed behind him slowly. Still, Kyle did not pause in his tracks even when the latter started a conversation.

"Hmm, I am Lucus. What's your name? I feel like I have seen you somewhere before."

Kyle hummed and pushed the castle gate open.

"My name is Kyle. Also, I don't know you."

Lucus hurriedly followed behind him and stopped by his side with wide eyes.

"Wait.. are you the same Kyle I am thinking? I mean the one who had a majestic phoenix?"

Bia's ears perked up. She glanced at Lucus with a nod.

-'Finally, someone who had enough brain. Of course, I am majestic.'

Kyle ignored her words and jumped into the castle gate. Lucus hurriedly followed behind him. The duo appeared in a large barren land surrounded by hundreds of doors.

Lucus's face crumbled when he saw his old teammates standing in front of one of the doors. Kyle carelessly followed his gaze but froze the moment he eyed the two figures.

Bia sensed his discomfort and narrowed her eyes.

-'What happened?'

Kyle's brow knitted together and his eyes turned emotionless.

'Nothing.'

He turned around to enter the nearest door but suddenly a female voice drifted into his ears.

"Who is there?"

Ignoring the voice Kyle gripped the handle of the door and pushed it. Yet, the door did not even budge.

The female voice grew near and he let out a sigh.

'Whatever.'

Kyle turned around and gazed at the two figures circling Lucas with concerned expressions.

"Prince Lucas why did you enter the treasure island when you are injured!"

The red-haired female grasped Lucas's hand with a concerned sigh. But, Kyle noticed with a raised brow how Lucas's eyes turned extremely cold as he yanked his hand away.

Noticing his presence, the girl turned around and stared at him with a pair of familiar golden eyes. Kyle blinked. The pair of eyes, it was very similar to Nine's.

And his suspicions turned out to be correct when the girl gasped at him with a loud exclamation.

"Kyle!?"

Lucas and the other boy standing behind her were stunned at her reaction. Still, before they could question her, she closed the distance between her and Kyle with a bright smile.

"You are Kyle, right? I.."

She paused for a second and straightened her wrinkled clothes.

"I am Seraphine... Nine's sister. He told me about you!"

Kyle gave her a quick nod. Her eyes were indeed similar to Nine's. However, he could not pinpoint the reason why Nine told his sister about him.

Suddenly, Seraphine held out her hand but Kyle immediately stepped back. His frown deepened.

"What?"

With an apologetic smile. Seraphine called for Lucas and the other boy standing behind her.

She brightly introduced them to Kyle. Yet, his mood dampened with each passing second. Not because of her but because of one of her teammates.

The muscular blonde-haired youth standing beside Lucas stepped forward with a polite smile. He gazed at Bia and unconsciously extended his hand toward Kyle.

"Hey, I am Sen."

Kyle gazed at his hand for a few seconds but did not grasp it. Instead, he stared at him with a cold expression.

"Kyle... Kyle Ohan."

Sen's smile stiffened when he heard the surname 'Ohan'. Still, he immediately shook his head inwardly.

'Impossible.'

He recalled the last time he heard this surname. It has been a few years. Moreover, the owner of the surname was a loser with only (B)-Rank talent. Someone he mocked in his younger days. So, how was it possible for the same person to stand opposite him? Inside a realm filled with extremely powerful creatures.

Not to mention the fact that this Kyle Ohan owned a legendary fire phoenix. Also, he had silver hair. Not black. He threw the thought at the back of his head and took back his hand with a polite smile because Kyle did not shake it.

"You have a nice name."

Sen did not look at his eyes because for some reason he was having an ominous feeling about it. He stepped back but contrary to his expectations Kyle hummed softly. Yet, the words that came out of his mouth were so cold that they sent chills down Sen's spine.

"Sen, it's been a long time indeed."

Chapter 317 Cure

?Sen lifted his wary eyes but Kyle walked away in another direction.

'Did I make a mistake?'

He watched his back with sweat trickling down his forehead.

'I probably did...'

With a shake of his head, Sen took a step back to stand behind Lucus. Kyle Ohan, the name was indeed familiar. Regardless, he was sure the person opposite him was just another rich young master.

Sen scoffed in his mind when Lucus glared at him. At first, after entering the realm he found the prince because they were supposed to stay together but the prince was just too useless. That's why when Seraphine left Lucus behind with the excuse of his injuries. He thought they finally got rid of the unnecessary baggage but how wrong he was. Someone just had to go out of his way and save Lucus.

In the distance, Kyle's brow knitted together into a frown. He grabbed another door handle and pushed it but no matter how much he tried the door did not open.

With a hum, he gazed back at the trio looking at him with different expressions. Seraphine looked very happy for some reason, Lucus grateful and Sen, he looked wary.

'It's not like I care.'

He walked back and stood in the middle of the barren land. Kyle's eyes wandered off to the trio.

"Do you have any idea what we need to do? What about the mechanical voice?"

Seraphine took the initiative to answer him with a beautiful smile.

"We heard nothing after we entered this place. Also, we tried to open a few doors but failed."

Kyle gave her a nod. He gazed up toward the ceiling with a frown.

"Maybe we need to wait..."

Still, unlike the trio, he roamed around the chamber. Inspecting every corner properly. At first, Seraphine tried to follow behind him, but she soon got tired and quietly went to sit beside Lucus and Sen.

Kyle's feet did not stop as he checked one door after another. Bai closed her eyes comfortably on his shoulder with a yawn. Still, her peace did not last for long because after quietly pushing the doors for a while, Kyle suddenly used his flames to freeze one of them.

The trio sitting in the distance stood up in shock. They stared at the surging cold flames that spread out to enclose the wooden door in a tight embrace.

Seraphine's eyes sparkled with awe. A barely visible smile tugged at the corner of her lips.

'I knew it he is the strongest!'

Without caring about her two teammates, she hurriedly went to stand behind Kyle obediently.

Opposite her, the cold flames vanished into thin air, leaving behind a thin layer of ice. In the next second, the ice crumbled into tiny particles that drifted away with the wind.

Lucus and Sen glanced at each other and staggered forward to stand behind Seraphine. No way, they wanted to be left behind.

Kyle's eyes narrowed when the ice vanished. He stepped forward. After the door crumbled, pitch-black darkness spilled out from the hollow surface.

Bia's eyes flickered.

-I believe you are not going to jump inside, right?

Kyle let out a chuckle and before Bia could stop him, he jumped into the darkness. After all, moving forward was far better than being trapped in a single place.

After he vanished into the darkness, Haylee's loud cry rang out behind him.

"Wait!"

The boar's eyes widened when his claw grasped into thin air. He panicked and without caring about the scared and shocked trio around him, dived into the darkness behind Kyle.

At the same time, Kyle's vision blurred for a few seconds but before he could balance himself mid-air his feet touched a smooth surface. He blinked when he felt a strange wet sensation around his body.

A blinding light flashed in front of his eyes and a familiar mechanical voice echoed in the air.

"Welcome new participants to the '007' treasure land."

"Total new arrivals Two; A (B-)-Rank divine beast and a (??)-Rank human."

"Loading... unable to detect the rank of the human... Automatic rank would be assigned."

"Conclusion; Two new participants; A (B-)-Rank divine beast and a (F-)-Rank human."

"Please do your best to find zZ... "

"Loading... abnormal entry has been detected. To preserve the rules, the test would be changed to punish the participants accordingly."

"Please do your best to find the cure... in the '965' treasure land."

Kyle groaned when a sharp pain stabbed his head. For some reason, he staggered on his feet and stiffly dropped to his knees. Similar to him, Bia's eyes were also cloudy. She flapped her wings and shook her head to remove the haze but suddenly a suction force appeared behind them.

A visible tear materialized in the air but before the tear could suck them inside, Haylee grabbed Kyle from his shoulder and dragged him upward toward the place he fell from.

Kyle's eyes shot open when he was tossed above a hard surface. He flipped his body mid-air and tried to balance himself but his eyes dilated when he saw the size of his feet. With a startled cry, he crashed into the sand.

Bia's eyes widened when her mind cleared up. She flapped her wings but someone grabbed her neck tightly.

"Stop moving!"

Haylee coughed out and slowly dropped her to the ground. A trail of blood seeped out from his mouth, staining the pure white fur on his jaw red.

In the distance, Lucus, Seraphine, and Sen were still processing what was happening around them with wide eyes.

Bia settled her body and her eyes darted around to look for Kyle. She froze when she saw Haylee's grim expression.

-'What happened!?'

Haylee let out a pained sigh. His body trembled a little as he pointed toward Kyle.

"I am not allowed to help others. Especially the ones who broke the rules. It's punishment."

Bia followed his finger and her eyes almost popped out of their sockets when she saw Kyle's tiny figure crawling out from the sand.

Kyle's green eyes twinkled with a hint of annoyance when he patted his clothes. Only to notice that somehow they had gotten shorter on his body.

"Huh?"

He held out his palms and sucked in a shuddering breath. They were short, very similar to a five or six-year-old kid.

"What the fuck!"

A curse slipped out from his mouth as he wriggled inside the oversized clothes wrapped around his body.

"What the hell happened!? Bia!!"

He cried out with a perplexed expression. Bia immediately circled above his head with a familiar panicked expression.

The duo froze in their spots when Haylee's thunderous roar echoed in the chamber.

"Shut up! You two stay still for a second!"

Kyle glared at him with red eyes.

"How can I shut up in this situation?!"

He click his mouth shut when Haylee's sharp eyes pressed down at his small body. Bia landed on his shoulder but Kyle lost his balance and dropped on his butt because she was too heavy!

Haylee closed his eyes and massaged his temples. He couldn't help but wonder did the human also lost his intelligence with his size.

After a few minutes of panic, Kyle calmed his nerves. Still, inwardly he was crying. At first, he was worried his family would fail to recognize him due to his hair color and eye color. Now with such a tiny body would they even believe he was Kyle?

Haylee let out a scoff.

"Don't worry. It's just an illusion. You need to find the cure and you will return to your original appearance."

Finally, Kyle released a relieved breath. He almost thought he had to live as a child from now on! After closing his eyes for a minute, he stared at the boar with a deep expression.

"What cure? Where is it? And how can I find it?"

Haylee's eyebrow twitched a little. He suffered a few injuries when he forcefully dragged Kyle out from the tear.

"Kid, you should be grateful I grabbed you on time or else I don't think you would have seen another ray of light in this life."

Kyle gave him a quick nod.

"Thank you for saving my life. Now, please tell me where is the cure you are talking about... Wait I remember the mechanical voice said something when you dragged me out...."

"965 treasure island?"

Haylee narrowed his eyes. The thank you did not sound genuine.

"Yes, that's the place."

Kyle stood up and his large clothes dragged behind his body when he paced around with a serious expression.

"How can I leave this place as soon as possible?"

Haylee's gaze wandered around for a few seconds before he fixed his eyes on one of the doors.

"Just leave through that door. You have already broken the rules of this place. So, I don't think you need to complete the trial."

Kyle hurriedly walked to the door and pushed it open.

"Bia let's leave. Haylee come with us. You need to tell me the location of '965' treasure land."

The trio standing behind Haylee finally snapped out of their trance and glanced at each other.

Seraphine was the first to approach Kyle's short figure with a panicked expression.

"Wait, if you are leaving this place. I want to go together."

Kyle's mind was too occupied with his own problem to stop her. He and Bia immediately jumped in the door and left the castle. Behind him, Haylee gazed at Seraphine, Lucas, and Sen.



He waved his hand and a thin shield appeared around the trio's body. With a flick of his finger, the trio vanished into the door before he followed as well.

Chapter 318 Just tell me what you know

The moment Kyle's body emerged from the dark portal, he tried to float mid-air. But his eyes widened in disbelief when the mana within his body refused to budge. In an instant, he lost his balance and tumbled down the stairway.

He let out a painful hiss and rubbed his back.

"What the heck!?"

After him, Bia flew out from the portal. Her eyes trailed downward, landing on the little body sprawling at the edge of the stairway.

She hurriedly closed the distance and circled above Kyle with concerned eyes.

"Why are you lying on the ground?"

Kyle closed his eyes and moved his hand to massage his temples but the oversized sleeves made it impossible for him to reach his head.

He stared at her with blank eyes.

"Just because I wanted to."

Haylee's big frame stepped out from the portal with three round glowing transparent shields floating around him. As if waiting for him to appear, Kyle hurriedly dragged his clothes and stood up.

"Haylee! I can not use my mana, what the hell happened?"

Haylee gazed at him and let out a tired sigh.

"It's because you are in a younger body right now. I don't think you'll be able to use it until the illusion wears off-!"

He stopped mid-sentence abruptly when blue flames surged around Kyle's body. The flames traveled upward and vanished into thin air. A surprised expression appeared on the boar's face as he watched the tiny sparks floating in the air.

Kyle shot him a frown.

"I can use the flames, but I can not use any other skill. Nor can I float?"

Haylee closed his eyes and hummed softly.

"I am not sure. Based on the punishment, you should have become younger and lost all your strength, like a little kid. But there seems to be something strange about the flames you are using. Somehow, the illusion doesn't seem to affect them."

Kyle gave him a serious nod and took a step forward, but he stumbled on his clothes. Taking a deep breath, he quickly rolled up his sleeves and hiked up his pants to make them fit better. He then gazed at Bia with narrowed eyes.

"I have a question. Why am I the only one going through the punishment? I believe I was not alone who jumped in the door."

Haylee landed beside him with a chuckle.

"It's because she is your bonded beast. Moreover, it's not her original form, so the illusion did not have any effect on her."

The trio enclosed in the floating round shields could do nothing but watch as Kyle and Haylee talked as if their presence meant nothing.

Still, before Haylee could enclose Kyle in a shield as well. Bia increased her size and dived down to land in front of Kyle.

-'Climb up. It's not safe if you can not use your skills.'

Kyle wanted to jump but considering his size he slowly grabbed her feathers and climbed her body. But, his somber mood made it impossible for him to enjoy the ride.

The phoenix soared above in the air, heading straight toward the opening from where they entered the place. Bia's body shot out from the tunnel gracefully. A few large insects gathered around the opening jumped at her, but they backed off when crimson flames spread out under her wings.

Bia stopped immediately when she recalled how Kyle could not use his skills. She flew above in the clear sky with knitted brows.

-'Are you alright?'

Kyle tapped her neck with a hum.

"I am fine."

Just like before he did not feel particularly uncomfortable due to Bia's flames. His body was still as cold as before, and his hair was silver instead of black.

'It's like the illusion can not affect my bloodline.'

He gazed down when Haylee flew out from the tunnel with the trio floating around him. For some reason, the insects did not dare to approach the winged boar.

Kyle clicked his tongue with annoyance.

'Hey, Bia ask Haylee to throw that golden-haired individual away.'

Bia's gaze wandered off to the person Kyle was talking about. A not so handsome muscle figure with light yellow color hair. At first, she thought she was imagining when she sensed Kyle's discomfort but it seems she was right.

-'I can not contact him until he is speaking inside my mind. Just tell Haylee directly. I think he is taking the trio with him because he thought they were your friends.'

Kyle scoffed and focused his gaze in front of him.

'Friends? I don't think I need to befriend every person I meet here. But I am indeed tempted to punch someone in the face.'

He stopped and gazed at Haylee when the boar appeared beside him.

"Where is the treasure land we are finding?"

Haylee narrowed his eyes in the distance.

"I don't remember properly but I believe we need to travel toward east."

Kyle gave him a nod but then suddenly he recalled the important questions he wanted to ask the boar. He thought for a few seconds as they traveled toward the east.

"I want to ask some questions."

Haylee hummed in approval, thinking maybe the human wanted to know more about the illusion but Kyle's next words made him lose his balance mid-air.

"Who is James?"

A shocked expression appeared on Haylee's face as he balanced himself.

"What!?"

Kyle raised his brow at his reaction.

"So, you do know him? What about Odiak and Elizabeth?"

Haylee's heartbeat quickened. He rolled the names on his tongue. It has been a long time since someone called out his master's name in front of him.

He let out a trembling breath when countless emotions clouded his eyes. But, unfortunately for him, Kyle was not done yet.

"Are they alive or did they... lost under the third shadow general?"

Haylee gazed at him with bated breath. Immediately a thin layer of mana enveloped him and Kyle, separating their voice from the trio hovering nearby.

"How the hell did you know about all this!?"

Kyle rolled his large sleeves with a frown. Bia had gone silent under him because she was also interested in their talk.

"I saw an old memory. It was stored in a gem. Odiak called it a resonite gem."

Haylee sucked in a deep breath and mumbled under his breath.

"A resonite gem? In this place."

What were the odds of a resonite gem being left in this place? And what were the chances of someone stumbling upon that exact gem in such a massive realm? He couldn't help but stare at Kyle for a few seconds.

"What about the gem?"

"It's vanished after I saw the stored memories."

Haylee moved his head in a silent nod. Indeed, the resonite gem can only be used once. After replaying the memories it would scatter in the air.

Kyle waited for a minute before staring at the boar with knitted brows.

"So?"

Haylee let out a sigh.

"I know a lot but not enough to answer all of your questions. Also, this knowledge is not recorded anywhere for a lot of reasons. It's dangerous as well. Do you still want to know?"

Kyle's frown deepened. He really wanted to ask why it was dangerous when they were just talking about some past events.

"Just tell me what you know because, for some reason, I am having a bad feeling about all this."

A bright light flashed around Haylee's body. He turned into a ball of light and slowly settled himself on Kyle's shoulder.

He started with his master, James. A powerful and strong human and a genius among his peers. Someone who was strong enough to reach the pseudo-divine rank at a very young age.

The story was ordinary. It started with a peaceful planet and a bunch of powerful youths, all trying to outdo each other and become stronger. Yet, everything changed when their elders told them about the danger lurking around the planet. All the people who reached pseudo-divine rank were forced to leave the planet to fight against an unknown enemy.

James, Odiak, and Elizabeth were among the first batch of people who returned alive from the war. Haylee never left the planet because he was not strong enough. So, he never got the chance to know more about the things happening outside the boundaries of the blue planet.

The only thing he knew from his master's tense mood was that the planet was in great danger. After James reached the divine rank, he wanted to form his army to fight the enemies. He and the dwarf named Odiak became great friends. The duo worked together to construct a huge shield around the planet. They even designed this realm and many towers on the planet to train young people with a lot of potential to grow stronger. However, while everything was going smoothly the dark race who at that time lived with the residents of blue planet suddenly went out of control.

Chapter 319 I am not

Haylee let out a grim sigh, expressing his frustration. The dark race may have caused chaos by targeting innocent people and small villages, but as long as he remembered they were never truly strong enough to engage in a full-blown war with the other races. However, for some reason, when Odiak and James were busy constructing the shield around the planet, two divine-rank individuals emerged from the same race.

When James and a few strong individuals went to confront them, they were shocked because seemingly the dark race found a natural underground earth layer filled with extremely potent weeds brimming with mana in the middle of the dark forest.

James was tempted to take the entire layer, but the two divine-rank individuals from the dark race posed a greater threat than he had imagined. In the end, although James emerged victorious, he lost a capable individual in the fight. And, to make matters worse the precious layer was lost due to the battle fought in that place.

James and his companions were vexed. It was a tedious task but they decided to finish all the people of the dark race residing on the blue planet once and for all. After all, the dark race did nothing but spread chaos. But before they could act on their plan. One of the nearby planets was attacked by the third Shadow General.

At that time, Elizabeth, the one dearest to James was coincidentally on the same planet to look for some rare herbs. She barely escaped alive and returned when James and Odiak were busy with the secret realm.

James lost his composure when she went into a deep coma in his arms. Odiak tried to stop him, but he immediately left the planet with all the divine-rank individuals to fight the third shadow general.

Odiak could do nothing but watch as his friend left. With a regretful expression, he hid the planet in a thin blanket, waiting for James's return. Regardless, the peace on the blue planet was short-lived because with the powerful seats left empty, only after a year chaos erupted. The residents started scrambling to grab a higher position, trying to secure their own place of influence on the planet.

The race who reaped the most from all this was none other than the dark race. The same race that was on the verge of being wiped out in James's presence.

In a fit of anger, Odiak took charge and trapped all the remaining people from the dark race in the secret realm. While he was cleaning the mess, a messenger from James's team finally returned to the planet. The man only had a single message.

"We need help."

Odiak was perplexed, but he wasted no time and immediately announced to the whole planet that they needed strong people who were willing to fight for their home. Even though no one reached divine rank in James's absence, the planet still had a lot of capable individuals. Yet, at that exact moment, the Mer people lost their Queen. They started pointing fingers at the demi-humans, due to the ongoing conflict between the two races.

However, Odiak knew the reason behind the Queen's death, because he received a strange request on the day she died. She went against nature and used her life force to see the things that were meant to stay hidden.

In the end, the mermaid race decided not to join the battle and instead retreated deep into the sea.

Odiak was frustrated, but he was alone that's why he had very little influence on all the other races except his own. Not to mention the fact that he was pressed for time.

So, instead of gathering more people, he had an idea. He found the planet's core and in just one day, he was able to harness the mana from it and connect it to the protective shield around the planet. This created a powerful and constant flow of energy to the barrier around the planet, isolating it completely from the outside world. He thought, with no strong individuals present to protect the planet, this shield would become its defense until he and James returned.

Haylee expression hardened when he recalled the time when Odiak asked him to stay in the secret realm and keep an eye on the dark race. A lot of people who decided to follow Odiak also left behind pieces of their consciousness to guide the younger generation.

"After Odiak left, the secret realm was completely closed off. I have no idea what happened in the outside world during that time. But when the realm was finally opened again after countless years, the people who entered were so weak that I had to double-check to make sure I wasn't imagining things."

He paused for a few seconds and gazed at Kyle. The human had completely gone still under him. With a shake of his head, he left Kyle's shoulder.

"I watched how all of them were killed by the dark race brutally. I wanted to break the rules of the realm and help but I was tied to the last treasure island where the divine essence was kept. In the end, the guardian picked some promising individuals and forcefully threw them out from the realm."

Kyle's eyes were troubled. The information he received was overwhelming, but instead of getting answers, his questions increased.

He massaged his temples with a frown.

"It's strange, the whole story. If the planet went through so many crises why is it that the knowledge in the outsider world so lacking?"

Haylee shook his head.

"No, information about Odiak and James was never hidden. Maybe, the duo names were forgotten with time. The only information that was erased was about the power structure above (SSS+)-Rank and the lurking danger around the planet due to the mermaid Queen's request. No one knew why she made such a request to Odiak before her death."

Kyle's frown deepened as he gazed at the white ball floating around him.

"Then why did you tell me about all this?"

For some reason, he had a nagging feeling at the back of his head that it would have been better if he knew nothing about all this.

Haylee sucked in a deep breath and stopped in front of his face.

"It's because before leaving, Odiak asked me to share the information with the first outsider who mentioned his name to me."

Kyle shut his mouth for a minute and went over everything in his mind. A trail of sweat trickled down from his forehead when he asked his next question.

"So... did James and Odiak win? Did they save the planet? Or..."

Haylee closed his eyes.

"They never came back. So, I don't know."

"Also, the connection between me and James is too thin due to the distance so I am not sure if he is alive."

Kyle tapped Bia's neck and let out a dry chuckle. It's hard to believe that he discovered all of this, especially when he wasn't even sure about himself.

"Will I put my life on the line if someone unknown and strong attacked the planet out of nowhere?"

Of course, Kyle knew no matter what he would prioritize the safety of his loved ones first. As for the rest, they were always welcome to handle things on their own.

Suddenly, Alec's face flashed through his mind.

"Why do I feel like Alec is more suited to know about all this than me?"

"The whole thing about the first person to know about Odiak's name. It's like the resonite gem was not meant for me but somehow I found it...?"

Haylee raised his eyes with a frown.

"What are you thinking? You were fated to know about all this."

His voice was so firm that Kyle let out a tired sigh.

"Are you sure?"

The boar changed back into his original form with a confused expression. He wanted to say he was, but suddenly a loud cry rang out in the distance.

Haylee eyes immediately narrowed as he increased his speed. Thus he failed to hear the faint murmur echoing behind him.

"I am not."

Bia sensed Kyle's emotions and increased her speed behind Haylee.

- 'Do not be depressed. I don't think the planet is in danger or else why would it stay safe for so many years?'

Kyle mused softly.

"I hope I am being paranoid but what should I do when so many things are pointing out the fact that the planet is in danger."

They traveled to the east before Haylee stopped above a grassy field. Countless individuals were fighting with the people of the dark race. The air was heavy with a thick smell of blood.

Kyle narrowed his eyes when he saw many familiar faces. Lara, Mia, Alec, and Carcel, the four of them were fighting with a (S)-

Rank winged man.

His eyes paused on Yue and Nine as he cursed out.

"What the heck is happening!?"

"I only left them alone for not more than three days!"

Chapter 320 Help your pitiful friends

Alec and Lara together pushed back the pointy earth shreds thrown at them. Alec scoffed at the winged man opposite him as he wiped the blood trickling down his cheek.

He raised his sword to attack again but a huge shadow materialized above him. With a back flip, he snapped his eyes up, only to see a familiar pair of bright red wings.

"Bia?"

Immediately, Alec let out a chuckle.

"The battle is going to end earlier than my expectations."

For some reason, after he and the others left Kyle, they heard the news that all the outsiders were gathered in the east.

Why? It's because an unknown, supposedly very strong individual asked someone to spread the word that the east side is safe.

The same person also asked everyone to form teams, in that way, they would be able to fight the winged creatures easily. Alec would be lying if he said he was not surprised to see so many people gathered together without caring about their race.

Still, the peace did not last long because just like the outsiders, a few people from the dark race also traveled to the east. It did not stop at that and just within a day countless dark-race people flocked toward the east.

That's why Alec and the gathered individuals had no other choice but to start a full-blown battle with them.

Lara blinked at Alec's smiling face and followed his gaze, only to see a familiar fire phoenix flying above them.

Her eyes widened slightly but then a faint smile spread across her face.

'Bia has transformed into a true phoenix.'

Just like the duo, many heads snapped up to see the beautiful phoenix flying across the sky.

Crimson flames flickered gently behind the majestic beast as it made its way down.

Someone from the dark race cried out loudly at one of his fellow men.

"Why is the Leader not here yet!? We will be wiped out at this rate! Go send another signal through the artifact!"

However, the one he had been speaking to was attacked by a few demi-humans and lost his life even before he could reply.

Among the many people, Nine and Jian both gazed at each other when they saw Bia. A wide grin spread across Jian's face as he waved at Bia with enthusiasm.

"Kyle and Bia are here! Haha, the battle is gonna end now!"

Nine gave him a quick nod and together the duo kicked the winged man they were fighting.

"You bet. Also, if Kyle is here, does that mean the leader of the dark race has kicked the bucket?"

Jian's ears perked up.

"A pity I was not able to witness it."

Just like them, all those who knew Kyle personally were sure the battle they had been fighting for so many hours would end the moment Kyle stepped in.

Yet, for some strange reason, instead of landing on the ground, the phoenix circled above their heads, occasionally throwing fireballs here and there. Also, the said person who would end the battle was nowhere to be seen.

Alec's brows knitted together.

"Is Bia alone? Where is Kyle?"

A few pairs of concerned eyes traveled toward him with the same question but he had no answer.



At the same time, in the sky, Bia's body tensed when Kyle grabbed her neck feathers. At first, she dived down toward Mia the moment she saw her fighting with an ugly man, but the tiny kid sitting on her back stopped her immediately.

'Don't you dare to go down? They can handle it!'

Kyle cried out in his mind. No way, he would go down. What if someone accidentally stepped on him and he lost his precious body parts?

He shuddered at the thought.

'We will help them from above!'

In the distance, hidden behind a faint mana layer, Haylee let out a sigh. He gazed at the three people floating around him and with a wave of his paw, the shields around their bodies crumbled, startling Seraphine, Sen, and Lucus out of their stupor.

The trio closed their eyes, bracing themselves for a big fall, but to their surprise, their bodies gently landed on the grass bathed in blood.

Seraphine blinked but her relief was short-lived because a winged female attacked her from behind.

Due to the unexpected attack, she was not able to dodge on time and her body toppled backward.

"Ahhh, help me!"

She screamed for help, but the air was filled with the sound of clashing weapons. That's why her cry went unnoticed.

Her eyes went wide with horror when the winged female clawed toward her chest but before the latter pointy nails could touch her, Bia appeared between them and crimson flames surged around her wings.

The winged female from the dark race constructed a water shield to stop the crimson flames but her shield evaporated into thin air due to intense heat. She held out her hand to construct another shield but then suddenly a sea of blue flames enclosed her body in a cold embrace.

Her cries echoed through the air, sending chills down the spines of all who heard them. The sheer desperation in her voice was palpable. Many people stopped in their attacks when a glistening ice sculpture reflected in their eyes.

Sweat trickled down the onlookers' foreheads because, under their shocked gaze, the once-glistening ice sculpture crumbled into faint particles and vanished into thin air.

Kyle's eyes traveled to the girl who was supposed to be Nine's sister. She wiped her hands and gazed at him with moist eyes.

Seraphine opened her mouth with a sweet smile.

"Thank you."

Even though her clothes and hair were unkept, she looked stunning with a smile.

Kyle did not say anything and pointed his small finger behind her.

Immediately she turned around and saw another person attacking her from behind but this time she was prepared. Moreover, Sen jumped in to help her.

Bia flapped her wings and soared into the air. Yet, for a second, her eyes reflected pity for Seraphine.

- 'If only she could hear you right now.'

Kyle's eyes traveled down on the battlefield with a frown.

'What are you talking about? I am only stating the facts. She is too weak. I doubt she is Nine's sister.'

Bia's gaze wandered off to Seraphine and the pity in her eyes doubled. Still, she did not dare to voice her opinion to Kyle.

- 'Her eyes are not even hiding the fact that she is flirting with Kyle...'

After the blue flames appeared, those who recognized them were certain that Kyle had used them. They believed he was riding on Bia's back, but why the hell did he not jump down to help them!? Also, the last they saw him, he could fly on his own. So, why the hell is he riding on Bia?

Jian could not take it anymore when he was flung backward due to a sudden attack. He raised his angry eyes and pointed his trembling finger at Bia.

"Kyle my brother! If you are here just help your pitiful friends! Why the hell are you only helping pretty girls?"

Opposite him, Sia's fox ears perked up. She locked her gaze on the majestic phoenix and casually rolled up one of her sleeves, revealing a tiny scratch.

"Ah... my arm is hurt!"

She cried out with a pitiful voice. After all, she was one hundred percent confident in her beauty.

The moment her voice drifted off, Kyle's eyebrow twitched violently but he still refused to go down. Instead, he used his flames to enclose the dark race people from time to time.

After trying for one more time, Sia clicked her tongue and jumped on her feet. Beside her, Yue's eyes flickered with conflicted emotions as she gazed at her shameless friend.

"Are you done?"

Sia gathered her smooth hair on her shoulders and raised her spear with a smile.

"Should I try one more time? Maybe he did not hear me?"

Yue rolled her eyes and focused on her opponent.

Just like Jian, there was another person who seemed dissatisfied with Kyle.

Nine eyes narrowed at the phoenix as he distanced himself from his opponent. He waved his hand in the air.

"Bia, come down. I want to see if he is alright."

A concerned expression appeared on his face. Did Kyle possibly lose one of his legs or arms while fighting with the dark race leader?

Bia gazed down at his figure with a sigh.

-'Kyle, should I go down?'

Kyle massaged his temples with a groan.

'Why the hell do they want to see me so badly?'

He tapped her neck with a sigh.

'Let me down but make sure to stay with me.'

With a hum, the phoenix dove down straight toward Nine. Her wings spread out to clear the space around them when her body landed in front of Nine.

A pair of bright eyes stared at Nine and with a tilt of her head, she lowered one of her wings so Kyle could step down.

Kyle secured his large sleeves one last time and steeled his expression. He wanted to jump down but stopped because it would be very tragic if he got injured in front of Nine.

Amidst the sounds of weapons and battle cries, a few eyes snapped toward Bia as Kyle gingerly left her back and gazed at Nine.

At first, Nine blinked with disbelief. Slowly, he eyed him from head to toe with shock.

"Wait? When did Kyle have a son?"

Kyle closed his eyes and opened them again with a blank expression.

"What son are you talking about? It's me, I can not tell you the details now. That's why, stop gawking at me and go fight with the others!"

After staring at Kyle for a few seconds, Nine broke out into a fit of laughter.

"Wait wait... Kyle.. how the hell did you manage to turn into a five-year-old kid just in a few days?"

He grabbed his stomach and laughed out loud amidst the heavy atmosphere around him. His loud exclamation echoed in all directions.

The eyes staring at Kyle were also shocked. Yet, unlike Nine, they were too occupied to comment.

Frustration etched on Kyle's face as he stomped toward Nine with a hard expression. He flicked his sleeves and smacked him but Nine did not even flinch under the weight of his tiny hand.

Nine clapped his mouth shut when Kyle stared at him with a deep expression. Still, instead of intimidating him, his eyes looked rather adorable.