

## Bloodline 401

Chapter 401 A little experiment

Ray raised his brow and, after coming in front of Kyle, flicked his forehead.

"Tsk tsk, after spending some time in a coma, you've become so impolite. What did you just call us, 'you two'?"

Kyle rubbed his forehead and stared at the man in front of him.

"I mean, bro, I'm old now. So, it's okay..."

He swallowed his words when Ray looked at him with deep eyes.

"Ah... brother. Can you sit in front of me? I need to check your body."

Ray nodded with a satisfied grin and pulled a chair in front of him to take a seat. He stared at Kyle, who grabbed his wrist and closed his eyes. Ray had seen Yue give divine essence to others, so he couldn't help but feel a little sad that Kyle hadn't given him and Neon any divine essence.

However, he knew Kyle must have considered all the options before making the best choice. Also, he and Neon didn't have a high talent to begin with. So, the chances of them failing to absorb the divine essence were really high.

Neon also sat down beside them and watched as Kyle furrowed his brow and sniffed the air. Neon blinked in surprise.

"Where the heck did he learn this bad habit?"

Kyle heard his words and his eyebrow twitched a little, but he focused all his concentration on Ray. Baron Ohan and Butler Eon also sat down beside the trio to see what Kyle was up to.

Time passed slowly, and everyone's attention was fixed on Kyle, who had his eyes closed. Ray let out a hiss as he felt Kyle's already cold fingers on his skin grow even colder.

He looked down with furrowed brows and observed as Kyle moved his hand slightly, causing a chilling sensation that made his skin tingle uncomfortably.

In that moment, Kyle opened his eyes and flashed a wide grin. He stared at Ray, who had a confused expression on his face.

"I knew it... we all have it in our bodies!"

At first, Kyle was going to save two vials of divine essence for Neon and Ray. But then he remembered. Just like him, his whole family had the ice enchantress essence in their bodies. Even though it was in a small amount, it was way more powerful than the divine essence.

Regardless, even if his family did not have the ice enchantress essence in their bodies, Kyle would have found a way to extract his own divine essence and give it to them. After all, now that he had the pseudo divine rank strength, he felt confident that he could make it happen.

But just as he thought, he sensed the ice enchantress essence in Ray's body, although very faintly. It was so subtle that he couldn't even locate it with his scent perception skill. In the end, he had to focus solely on Ray's body to find it.

Kyle rubbed his chin with a deep expression.

'It would be a little difficult to awaken the ice enchantress essence in their bodies, but not impossible.'

He had learned a lot about the Celestial bloodline in his body from Nesis, that old man who ran off who knows where before he even woke up. So, maybe, just like how he controlled the celestial essence in his mind space to heal his soul, he could control it again to help his family.

'I need to try at least. It would be the best option. If it doesn't work, I have to find some treasures that would help them awaken the ice enchantress essence.'

Seeing Kyle's distracted expression, Ray swatted his hand away with a groan.

"At least let go of my wrist before you start daydreaming. Your hand is too cold."

Kyle rubbed his hand and clicked his tongue. But then he let out an evil smile.

"Big Brother... I'm going to do a little experiment on you."

Ray shuddered at the politeness oozing out from Kyle's words. He grabbed Kyle's shoulder tightly with a similar smile.

"You want a beating?"

"Of course not... It won't be painful, I swear. Or maybe just a little... I'm not sure."

Ray let out a laugh. It seems Kyle was serious.

"So, you want to make me your first test subject?"

Kyle nodded, but before he could say another word, Ray propelled his chair backward, far away from Kyle. But the man froze when he realized he couldn't move and stared at Kyle with wide eyes.

"You little prick, what did you do?"

Kyle blinked.

"I knew you would try to run away, that's why I drew a little invisible symbol on your chair. Now, you can't stand up until I'm done."

Ray looked at his father for help, but his father stood up and left, saying he should go make something good for dinner.

Neon stared at Ray and let out a sigh.

"Brother, don't worry, I'll keep an eye on Kyle, and if the experiment becomes too dangerous, I'll save you immediately."

Kyle rubbed his hand and dragged his chair toward Ray.

"So, let's start, shall we?"

Ray shut his eyes and braced himself for what was to come. He knew Kyle wouldn't do anything harmful, but the smile on the latter face made him suspicious.

"Okay, fine. Do whatever you want. It's not like a little experiment would kill me-!"

Before he could finish his sentence, a chilling sensation spread across his wrist. He looked down and saw blue flames around his skin, but they didn't touch him. Instead, they just roamed around his skin.

Ray glanced at Kyle, who had a dead serious expression on his face. Strangely, within a few seconds beads of sweat formed on Kyle's forehead, as if he was struggling with something. Kyle clenched his jaw and stared back at Ray with a dry smile.

"It's harder than I expected. So, let's get serious, brother. No matter what happens, don't move, not even a bit, because I have to retrieve it from your body as soon as I'm done... or else it can harm you."

Kyle closed his eyes and focused, to quickly sense the dormant ice enchantress essence within Ray's body.

Then, he exerted all his willpower just to control a few blue particles in his body and guided them outside.

'Damn it... I am only controlling a few particles, but it feels like my body can't handle it.'

Ray stared at him, unsure of what Kyle intended to do. Nevertheless, he held his breath and remained still. In the end, he didn't feel anything except for a cold, prickling sensation that seeped into his body. Also, the sensation disappeared as quickly as it had appeared.

He looked at the icy blue flames around his wrist and they scattered into thin air. His eyes narrowed at the faint, almost invisible blue particles hovering above his hand. However, the particles instantly leaped towards Kyle and vanished into his skin, as if they couldn't part with him.

Kyle released his hand and took a deep breath with hazy eyes. He experienced a dreadful sensation just by letting a few particles out of his body.

"That was hard. Not just hard, it was dangerous... I was afraid I would accidentally harm you."

Ray rubbed his wrist and looked at Kyle with a frown.

"What did you just do?"

Kyle chuckled and blinked his eye to clear his vision.

"Nothing special, just increased your talent."

Chapter 402 The experiment is successful

Ray blinked, once, twice, and then the meaning behind Kyle's words dawned on him. Instantly, his eyes widened as he stared at Kyle.

"What?"

Kyle shrugged with a grin. He quickly removed the symbol he drew on the chair restraining Ray, who had an astonished expression on his face.

"Now you can stand up, brother. The experiment is done, and it's successful."

Ray snapped out of his trance and let out a dry laugh. Since he didn't attend the royal academy, he couldn't see his stats. That privilege was only available to the royal academy students or students from a few other big academies.

"So, now you can even enhance others' talents, something that's considered unchangeable. What the hell have you been doing...? Are you sure you were in a coma?"

Kyle laughed and shook his head.

"No, I can't increase others' talents. I just awakened something that's already in your body. It's something that's present in all the descendants of our family."

Ray wanted to know more, but Neon pushed him out of the chair with an excited expression. Then the latter sat down in his seat and extended his hand towards Kyle with sparkling eyes.

"Now it's my turn!"

Ray rolled his eyes. Why did it feel like they were at a market taste-testing a new dish? He smiled and watched as Kyle did the same thing to Neon. But the moment Kyle was done, a familiar feeling welled up inside Neon's body, and he let out a surprised cry.

"I am going to break through! It's not believable because I have already reached the end of my talent!"

He wanted to go outside the house for the break through, but Kyle drew a few symbols around him to envelop him in an array and asked him to do it here.

Neon closed his eyes and sensed the mana around him tremble as it started entering his body. He felt his strength rise with each passing second. After a while, he opened his eyes and saw two pairs of eyes staring at him.

Kyle stood up and cleared his throat.

"Guys, let's grab the old man-!"

His forehead was flickered again by Ray, who raised an eyebrow. Kyle grumbled and rubbed his forehead. Then, he looked at the door leading outside the living room, his eyes turning into crescents.

"I mean, let's grab dad. He ran off to the kitchen, right? He needs to be part of the experiment too."

Ray and Neon rolled up their sleeves and dragged the old man, who was hiding behind the door, secretly peeking at them to see what Kyle was up to. Soon, Ohan was made to sit in front of Kyle. He wiped his forehead and let out a wry smile.

"Kids, I heard what you all talked about, but I'm too old. There's no need to increase my talent. Ray and Neon are young. They have a big life ahead of them. I'm already happy to see all of you achieving so much at a young age..."

His sentence got cut short when Kyle, Ray, and Neon gave him stern looks. Ohan let out a hearty sigh.

"Okay, okay... but don't expect me to train or anything because I am not going to do it at this age."

Kyle's lips curled into a smile.

"No need to train, I have enough treasures to fill this entire living room. You can just absorb one whenever you feel like it."

The old man stared at Kyle, speechless. It seemed like he had no other choice.

Kyle grabbed his wrist and checked his body, but a surprised expression appeared on his face as he looked at the old man. Unlike his brothers, his father's body had more ice enchantress essence. Almost double the amount they had.

He did the same thing to his father, and this time he didn't feel much resistance. That's why it didn't take him long to awaken the ice enchantress essence in the old man's body.

Just then, Butler Eon entered the living room with a tray full of fruits and drinks. Kyle gazed at Eon and rubbed his chin. The butler wasn't a descendant of the ice enchantress, so he couldn't increase his talent with the same method.

'Hmm, I'll ask Susan to help him. After all, that old man is a divine rank individual.'

Kyle nodded, and the old butler, who had a smile on his face, shivered when he sensed his deep gaze. Then, Kyle grabbed a few storage rings filled with mana stones and treasures from his mind space and handed them over to his father. So all of them can get stronger as soon as possible.

His father remembered the old scare he got the last time he checked the storage rings Kyle gave them. So, the old man politely gave the rings to his other two sons to avoid any potential shock.

Ray and Neon glanced at each other and let out wry smiles. No matter what, they could never get used to Kyle pulling treasures out of thin air like they meant nothing.

After chatting a bit more with his family, Kyle stood up and said he should leave.

Baron Ohan let out a sigh and rubbed his back. Now Kyle had grown taller than the old man.

"Okay, just take care of yourself. Also, come back whenever you have time to see me."

Kyle nodded, but as he started moving toward the exit, he noticed everyone was following him. He stared at Neon and Ray to find out why. The duo burst into laughter and Ray shook his shoulder.

"We are not following you. We are going to a nearby weaponry to look around for a talent checking orb to check our new talent."

Kyle nodded with an 'Oh'.

"Hmm, if I saw George again, I would ask him for the crystal that helps you see your stats. Oh, wait... I can ask Susan. Maybe he might have something similar. I can sense he's nearby, so you two should come with me for now."

The three of them walked out of the house together. Baron Ohan and Butler Eon stood at the building exit, watching as the trio disappeared into the crowd and left the area.

Chapter 403 It's difficult, but not impossible

In front of the border, the soldiers and fighters were working hard to clean up the area after the long battle with the monsters.

They were searching the monsters' bodies for skill cores and dragging the high-rank ones with stronger structures to craft weapons from their bones.

Kyle looked at the soldiers and raised his head to see Susan surrounded by Alec, Jian, Lara, and Carcel in mid-air. The group seems to be bombarding the old man with a lot of questions, probably about the image they formed in their minds after using the brown crystal.

Kyle took a deep breath and shouted at the old man, who got startled and almost lost his balance in mid-air.

Susan turned around and gave Kyle a fierce glare, his eyes burning with anger. But he quickly regained his composure and landed in front of the young man.

"What is it now?"

Kyle got straight to the point because he could see that now the old man was getting annoyed at him.

"Do you have something like a crystal that can help others see their stats before the pseudo-divine rank?"

Susan furrowed his brow, taking a few moments to think before nodding.

"I do have something... not a crystal, but a slate that can connect others to the planet's core, allowing them to see their stats. I collected a lot of things in my younger days. So, why do you need it?"

Kyle gestured towards Ray and Neon, who were standing behind him.

"Let them use it. Also, is there a way to increase someone's talent without the divine essence?"

Susan let out a sigh and massaged his temples. He just came out of the tower and this rascal is making him do so much.

"No, I don't think so. I've never heard about any other method to increase talent. If someone reached the end of their talent, they can break the wall by consuming the divine essence."

Kyle nodded.

"Do you have divine essence or can you tell me how to extract divine essence?"

Susan closed his eyes for a second and shouted at Kyle.

"You just reached the pseudo divine rank and you want to extract divine essence from your body, are you crazy? Don't even think about it! I do have a few drops, but they are inside the tower. So, if you need it urgently, you can take it from me."

However, his face turned blank when Kyle casually told him to share some of the divine essence with Butler Eon. He took a deep breath to control his emotions and gestured for Neon and Ray to follow him so they could see their stats by forming a connection with the planet's core. Especially to avoid any further talk with Kyle.

In the next second, Alec, Jian, Lara, and Carcel landed in front of Kyle, who looked at Alec with a serious expression.

"Alec, do you know about the third shadow general?"

Alec's expression hardened, and he nodded.

"I know... better than anyone else. And I don't think there's only one shadow general."

Kyle furrowed his brow.

"No way, don't tell me the shadow generals also..."

However, before he could complete his sentence, Alec shook his head with a wry smile and secretly rubbed the back of his hand.

"No, they are not on this planet. Neither the third shadow general nor the others. If they were, this planet would not still be standing."

Kyle gazed up at the sky. The planet was now open to anyone who wanted to enter. Fortunately, James' consciousness had ordered someone to take care of the planet's core. If everything went right, they would be able to once again construct the presence-concealing shield around the planet that had hidden the planet for so long.

"Alec, I think we need to hurry. I am not sure when the shadow generals will arrive, and I don't want to know how strong they are—at least not right now. That's why we must strike first to completely wipe out the enemies on the planet."

"Currently, the tower's guardians are assisting us. Nine will also arrive shortly with people from the Sea Continent. Two of the strongest guardians of the tower are working to restore the shield around the planet, and I believe they will succeed. Let's gather everyone to fight and clean the enemies once and for all..."

He paused for a second.

"I am not overconfident that we will be victorious without any casualties, but I know we don't have any other choice. We can only fight or wait... until they wipe us out completely."

Alec gripped his shoulder.

"Don't worry... No one is going to back down now. They started this war, but we are going to finish it!"

Jian and Carcel joined them, their gazes fixed on the duo.

"It's difficult, but not impossible."

Kyle smiled and shook his head as he looked at all of them. Alec is just as he remembers... always trying to help as many people as possible. Carcel still wears an aloof expression, as if he does not care about what happens. But he is just like Alec.

Lara, she has changed a lot. He still remembers how she used to ignore him when he first started interacting with Alec. As for Jian... well, he is still the unluckiest among them all.

Lara surprised Kyle by patting his shoulder. And not just Kyle, but everyone around her too. A beautiful smile spread across her lips when she saw Kyle's stunned expression.

"Hey, I just wanted to say... Well, I've been meaning to say it for a long, long time. I never meant to ignore you. It's just that I couldn't express myself properly... and then you disappeared, and all this happened. That's why I never had the chance to apologize properly."

She paused as if it took her all just to say those words.

"I'm sorry, Kyle, and please take care of yourself. I noticed that whenever something dangerous happened, you were always the one who disappeared or ended up in a difficult position. I just realized that. So... that's it... Bye."

Lara turned around and left without saying anything more, but there was a smile on her face. Finally, she said it, and it wasn't as hard as she expected.

Jian smirked at her figure and started floating away too.

"Okay, bro, I'm the strongest and youngest guardian of this Continent. So, I'm leaving too. Just like Lara said, take care of yourself and don't suddenly disappear on us. After all, you have to fight on the frontline. Haha."

Kyle's smile stiffened, but he let it go and waved at the red-haired man.

Alec and Carcel also nodded at Kyle and quickly left with the duo. As the young guardians of the new Continent, they had a lot of work to do.

First, they needed to send all the talented youngsters they had gathered to train inside the tower of opportunity, now that it's open to the public. Second, they have to inform the Kings and gather the entire army of the Continent.

Chapter 404 A well-suited rank

Kyle stared at their disappearing figures for a few seconds and started floating.

He closed his eyes and activated his scent perception skill. Instantly, he sensed a few familiar presences amidst the multitude of scents wafting into his nostrils.

Yue and Bia weren't too far from where he was. He opened his eyes and went into the forest close to the border. But after just a minute, he stopped when he sensed a barrier.

The barrier was thin and transparent, separating the space from the outside world. Kyle raised his hand and touched the barrier, causing it to flicker slightly before settling down.

He smirked and with a blink of his eyes, a symbol appeared in the air. The symbol merged with the barrier and created a small opening on its smooth surface.

Kyle peered inside, and right away his eyes landed on a serene lake. It was nestled among big rocks and trees, creating a peaceful atmosphere. Bia was sitting on one side of the lake in her phoenix form, and faint flames danced around her body, just like flickering sparks. Above her, the crimson flower floated, emitting a red aura that was absorbed by her body.

His gaze shifted towards the woman donned in elegant attire, seated on the opposite side of the lake atop a boulder, quietly observing the phoenix.

Kyle raised his leg and entered through the opening before it closed behind him.

He landed softly on the ground, careful not to disturb the deeply meditating phoenix. Gradually, he approached Yue and lightly tapped her shoulder.

Yue jolted and instinctively clenched her hand into a fist, prepared to strike. But she let out a long sigh when she realized it was Kyle.

"At least, announce your presence. What if I had attacked you?"



Kyle hummed and propped himself beside her like it was the most natural thing. Because of the limited space, their bodies were touching, and Yue wanted to shift away a little. But he gently grasped her waist and guided her to sit beside him.

"Don't tell me that after I asked you to give everyone the divine essence, you didn't take a rest for even a second?"

The woman next to him stilled, seemingly processing his words or maybe more focused on his hand on her waist. His touch was cold... just as she remembered. Yue was startled when Kyle tightened his grip slightly.

"So?"

She looked up to meet his gaze, they were too close, so close. She could feel his breath gently brushing against her face. The tips of her pointy ears instantly turned red. She wasn't sure when Kyle had started to change so much.

No, he never took the initiative to get close first, so what happened now? Her mind was racing with so many thoughts, and those deep, bright eyes were staring at her, waiting for an answer. Coupled with his handsome features... it had an immediate effect on her, and her thoughts came to a sudden halt.

'What did he ask again...? Oh, right...'

She looked down slightly, too nervous to meet his gaze directly, afraid that her heart, which was already racing, might just leap out of her chest. Her face flushed when she realized that Kyle might be able to hear the sound of her racing heart.

"It's not like... I need rest, right? I'm strong, and even if I don't rest for a few days, it wouldn't matter..."

Kyle nodded slightly, his brows furrowing.

"Still, it's not like we're going to war right away. You shouldn't put so much burden on yourself. I heard you're the Queen of the elven Kingdom now. The role suits you, but it comes with a lot of responsibilities. I just don't want you to exhaust yourself working day and night."

Yue let out a smile at his words. The tension around her body loosened, and she peered at him with that beautiful smile of hers. After all, she could clearly sense that he was worrying about her.

"A Queen..."

She rolled the words on her tongue. Clearly, it sounded hundreds of times better when Kyle called her with that title.

"Does it really suit me? I don't think so. They just needed a strong leader, and I was the only one left..."

Kyle sensed the sadness in her voice. He had heard that many people had died during his absence, so maybe someone close to her as well...

"It does, but you can always run away with me. I'm planning to leave this planet once it's safe. I have some debts to settle with some people out there, and it would also be a fun journey. So, think about it, okay?"

Yue blinked at his words and couldn't help but let out a giggle. The previous sadness seemed to evaporate into thin air as genuine laughter spilled out of her lips.

She surprised Kyle by wrapping her arm around his neck in a swift movement, pulling him closer. Her eyes turned into crescents at his stunned expression.

"You want me to run away with you? Why? We're not even close."

Kyle let out a chuckle as he felt his heart picking up its pace, and a thought that had been getting clearer in his mind became even more apparent. He realized that he liked this woman in front of him, a lot more than he expected.

"So, how about we get a little closer?"

Yue's neck flushed at his words. Her breath quickened as she sensed his grip tightening on her waist and his face moving closer to her face. The air exploded with sparks and thick tension but... the moment was destroyed when a familiar cry rang out in the distance.

"I'm gonna break through! Oh my gosh, the majestic me can finally reach a well-suited rank! Hahaha!"

Kyle closed his eyes as Yue pulled away from his grip as quickly as one would in a startled frenzy. He took a deep breath and closed his hand, which felt empty for some reason, before glancing at Bia.

"Right, congratulations."

Chapter 405 You knew it's an artifact

Bia flapped her wings and her eyes lit up when she spotted Kyle in the distance. With a swift movement, she soared into the sky. The air around her crackled with crimson flames flickering around her entire body. After completely absorbing the flower's aura, she had effortlessly shattered the small wall blocking her path.

The divine energy in the air rushed into her body, and a radiant golden glow appeared on each of her feathers, which were blue at the edges. The air grew still as the phoenix flew around in the sky and let out a loud cry. In an instant, all types of monsters in her vicinity, those who could hear or sense her presence, froze in place as if witnessing the birth of a divine beast.

Kyle looked up and saw Bia's flames take on a pure golden hue. A little distance away from him, Yue gasped, her amber eyes fixed on the beautiful phoenix as Bia spread out her wings in a majestic manner, covering the entire sky in a blanket of flames.

Yue began to float and eyes turned crescents.

"She's beautiful..."

Kyle leaped up from where he was and floated alongside her, humming. He reached out his hand towards the elf, who blinked but still took hold of it. The duo floated up towards Bia, who had finally ceased her display of newfound authority to the other monsters.

The phoenix circled the two of them with excitement and then came to a stop in front of Kyle. She quickly transformed into her shorter form and landed on Kyle's head with a lazy expression.

Kyle leaped up from where he was and floated alongside her, humming. He reached out his hand towards the elf, who blinked but still took hold of it. The duo floated up towards Bia, who had finally ceased her display of newfound authority to the other monsters.

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The previously proud demeanor faded away as Bia made herself comfortable and, in the process, messed up Kyle's hair with a contented sigh.

- "It's been a while, right? Now that I think about it, I'm feeling pretty hungry! Let's find a good place to eat now!"

Kyle, who had just raised his hand to pat her head in praise, paused after hearing her words. His lips twitched a little, realizing that no matter what, the phoenix would never change. Regardless, he agreed and looked at Yue, asking if she wanted to go together.

Yue had already used the brown crystal to form an image in her mind before she took Bia to a quiet place where the phoenix absorbed the flower. The elf thought for a few seconds. She had a lot of things she needed to do, especially in the Kingdom. But then she noticed the two pairs of bright eyes, staring at her quietly, seemingly waiting for her answer.

'Well... it would be fine to put the work on hold for a while.'

"Okay..."

Kyle nodded at her, and they left the forest together, only to find themselves in front of the border. Then, they walked on foot and entered the crowded space after crossing the border. A lot of eyes lingered on them, probably those who had seen Yue before or those who had seen Kyle with the other young guardians. But nobody had time to meddle in their matters because the urgency of the situation kept everyone focused on their own tasks.

Yue noticed they had come quite far away from the border. She paused and gazed back, but Kyle grasped her hand and pulled her beside him.

"There's a lot of crowd, just stay beside me. Also, I can smell a good place a little distance away. Let's go there."

She was curious about what he meant by smell, but her attention shifted when she realized he was still holding her hand. Yue softly gripped his hand in return, and even though he noticed, she didn't say anything.

They quietly walked through the area, taking in the sights of the houses and numerous individuals selling weapons or skill cores on both sides of the street.

Bia's eyes roamed around. She had seen all of this before, but now that she was with Kyle, it felt a lot different. However, the streets weren't filled with enthusiasm, probably due to the ongoing circumstances.

The phoenix's sharp eyes narrowed at the duo's interlocked hands, and a surprised look flashed across her face.

- "Wait, when did they progress so far? Why didn't I notice?"

She let out a little laugh in her head and closed her eyes because it would be bad if she disturbed the moment, unaware that she had already done so before.

However, unlike Bia, Kyle's eyes narrowed a little as he noticed the familiar bracelets on Yue's wrists. He hadn't thought about it before, but now that he looked closely, he noticed that they were slightly different from before, especially the glowing gems embedded on their surface.

But he stopped his thoughts as they arrived in front of the place he sensed would be perfect for a good meal.

It was a medium-sized hotel with wooden furniture, probably the only decent place in the surroundings. Inside, there was an old dwarf couple serving the customers. The place was quite crowded, but Kyle's eyes wandered around and he spotted an empty table in a corner.

As the duo approached the table, many eyes turned towards them, impressed by how good they looked together. Both of them were good-looking, but Kyle furrowed his brows and drew a few symbols to cast a small barrier around them. So, they could enjoy a peaceful meal together.

Yue chuckled at him as he sat down across from her, and she was pleasantly surprised when he naturally pulled out her chair so she could sit down.

"So, if I pay for the meal, would that count as repayment for sparing Nox's life?"

Kyle blinked and then rubbed his chin with a thoughtful expression.

"Well, to be honest, the meat of a beast with (SSS+)-Rank talent would be a lot more expensive than just one meal. But since it's our first meal together and I think we should get closer, you can keep that little monster alive. Also, it would be better if I paid. After all, I'm the one who invited you."

Yue's face turned slightly red when she heard the words 'we should get closer'. The recent memory quickly came back to her mind.

Bai hopped down from Kyle's head, realizing they were taking too long, and startled the elderly dwarf woman who came to take their order. The phoenix didn't hold back and ordered everything because she felt like she should eat a lot more now that she's a pseudo divine-rank being.

If only Alec and Nine could hear Kyle's words, saying that he would pay for the meal. The same Kyle who dine and dashed, leaving a big bill for Alec, even though he had a storage ring full of mana stones. No one would know what their reaction would be because they weren't here to witness it.

The atmosphere was quiet and peaceful until Kyle pointed out the bracelets on the elf's hand.

"I believe you found all the parts of the artifact because there's divine energy on its surface."

Yue was taken aback by his words, unsure of when he discovered the artifact.

"You knew it's an artifact...?"

"Hmm, it was back when we first met. I completed some symbols on its surface and realized that the bracelets were part of a powerful artifact, but I wasn't sure what kind. Then I didn't see them on your wrists, so it slipped my mind."

Chapter 406 That's not fair at all

Yue nodded and fiddled with the bracelets, her voice becoming slower.

"My father found the remaining parts. It's a divine rank artifact..."

She wanted to say more, but didn't know where to start. The moment she mentioned her father, memories of the difficult time came rushing back, making her vision blurry. She hadn't shown her emotions so openly since her father passed, so why did she have to embarrass herself in front of Kyle?

Kyle did not really care about the divine artifact. Not this one, or maybe he would not even in the future because the one that ate his soul was enough to give him a big aversion toward divine rank artifacts. But he noticed that the corner of Yue's eyes turned red when she mentioned her father.

'Don't tell me...?'

He quietly pulled his chair next to her and surprised her by suddenly putting his arm around her and gently rubbing her back.

"I know it's hard, but it'll get better."

Once again, he realized he wasn't good with words, especially when it came to comforting others. However, the woman next to him found comfort in just the few words he managed to say, and she buried her face in his shoulder.

Once again, he realized he wasn't good with words, especially when it came to comforting others. However, the woman next to him found comfort in just the few words he managed to say, and she buried her face in his shoulder.

On the table, Bia silently bit into another piece of meat that was put there by the old dwarf woman a while ago and watched as Kyle effortlessly secured his future wife. The phoenix had an uneasy feeling that the duo had forgotten about her presence. She clicked her tongue lightly but still didn't stop munching on her food. After all, wasting was a big no-no.

After Yue calmed down, they continued their meal, but Kyle noticed that she kept trying to say something, only to stop in the middle as if something was holding her back. He even asked her what happened, and she did open her mouth to speak, but then closed it again with furrowed brows.

However, before he could learn more, something buzzed in Kyle's mind space. He grabbed the little crystal that one of the tower's guardians had thrown to him before leaving to check on the planet's core.

In an instant, a serene voice resonated from the crystal, and Kyle's expression turned grim as Lie, the divine rank guardian, informed him that there was something wrong with the planet's air. That's why her efforts to rebuild the planet's shield were failing.

In the end, Lie told him to find Yon, the old dwarf, as quickly as possible because he knows a lot about this types of issues and can help solve it. If they don't act soon, the air that has already affected the monsters on the planet will start affecting the land and plant life too.

Kyle's expression turned serious as he closed the communication crystal. He looked at Yue, but she had already gotten up to leave. Kyle stood up too, and Bia, who had finished eating, quickly climbed onto his shoulder so she wouldn't be left behind. Kyle generously paid the old dwarf couple and they swiftly left the place.

Once they were in the air, Yue looked at him and smiled. Today was one of the best and most peaceful moments she had experienced in a long time.

"I need to head back to the elven Kingdom too. So, take care of yourself and Bia, alright?"

Kyle closed the gap between them and let out a sigh before softly kissing the strands of her flowing honey-colored hair.

"Let's continue where we left off once everything calms down. I mean, you wouldn't run away with me because we're not that close... yet."

The elf stared at him, dazed, too surprised to even react. So, he could even do that out of nowhere? She watched as Kyle backed away and stared at her with a soft expression.

"Okay, bye... take care of yourself too."

Yue watched as he left with the phoenix on his shoulder, heading in the opposite direction, probably to find Yon. After Kyle left, she clenched her fists tightly, feeling a prickling pain throughout her body. It wasn't because of anything else but because of the bracelets on her wrists.

"So, I can't talk about it with anyone else? That's not fair at all..."

She let out a sad smile and gazed into the distance where Kyle had gone.

"I hope everything gets better, just like you said."

Yue shook her head and headed in the opposite direction towards the elven Kingdom. She had been away from the Kingdom for too long without telling anyone the reason.

Honestly, she didn't feel bad about it, but the older elves were definitely going to ask her a lot of questions to make her realize how irresponsible she had been. Just thinking about it gave her a headache.

....

Kyle stopped after floating a long way from the place. He rubbed his fingers.

"Her hair smelled nice, a lot better than all the different scents that always overwhelm my nose because of the divine scent perception skill. I think I'm becoming more sensitive to smells."

Bia pawed his shoulder with a loud sound.

-"Hey, did you forget there's a kid around you? I remember you always calling me a kid, and now tsk tsk, you're doing everything in front of me."

Kyle rolled his eyes at her words.

"You think I didn't notice how eagerly you were staring at us? But don't worry, next time I'll make sure to put a barrier around you to block your vision."

Bia suddenly looked at him with a hint of suspicion.

-"Umm, Kyle, I could be wrong, but I feel like I'm more sensitive to divine energy. It seemed like you used it on Yue when you touched her hair. What did you do? Or am I mistaken?"

Kyle raised his eyebrow, surprised that she noticed.

"Nothing, I just noticed something off about her behavior. It seemed like she wanted to speak but couldn't. So, I placed something on her, but don't worry, it's not dangerous and won't affect her at all. I'll remove it as soon as the uneasy feeling I am having goes away."

He took out his communication crystal to contact Han. It's a good thing he took the old man's communication crystal coordinates before the latter left with the tower's guardians.

#### Chapter 407 Our future hope

Yon stood on a platform made of stacked bricks, looking at the other guardians and countless citizens working nearby. They were all building a new barrier in the center of Coaxis, combining countless symbols with a lot of natural mana and divine energy. Once activated, this barrier would cover the entire Continent with a transparent dome.

This way, if the enemy tried to attack and harm the citizens, the barrier, along with the border around the Continent, would give them enough time to fight back with everything they have got.

Yon wasn't alone. There were many others, including the demi-human king Muzim and the human king Istalian. They both stared at Yon's back with solemn expressions. They were shocked to learn that the array masters had succeeded after so much struggle. Finally, they called upon the guardians to help them in this difficult time.

A glimmer of hope appeared in the hearts of all those people who watched the guardians constructing a barrier in the middle of the Continent.

However, the two kings and a few others were completely stunned and couldn't find words when their communication crystals buzzed. At that moment, Alec and Carcel, the young guardians of the Continent, declared that this time they would be the ones launching the attack against the enemy first. No way they would wait for the enemy to strike and catch them off guard.

Of course, the kings and the elders who heard the news didn't agree because they thought it was too risky, even with the tower's guardians on their side.

They had witnessed the enemy's power, and it would be unfair to say they felt confident in confronting so many divine-rank individuals directly. But everything changed when word got out that Alec, Jian, Carcel, Lara, and the elven Queen had reached the pseudo divine rank.

The news was so shocking that some of them even dropped their communication crystals. The elders exchanged glances, and their faces broke into wry smiles.

These youngsters had already amazed them by fighting on the frontlines during the previous enemy attack. And now, they had once again surpassed everyone's expectations by achieving a rank that even they themselves weren't sure they would reach.

In the end, a multitude of projections appeared in the sky as the two kings reached out to all the strong people of the Continent. A heated discussion ensued about whether they should heed the words of the youngsters. But before they could come to a conclusion, another news reached their ears that numerous strong individuals from the Sea Continent had arrived at the border to join the war—a war they hadn't even decided to start yet.

Yon couldn't help but muse with amusement as he watched the faces of the people around him change every minute, as if they were experiencing the shock of their lives.

King Istalian's communication crystal buzzed once more, and this time he swore he wouldn't answer it. However, the people around him stared at him with intense gazes, silently urging him to pick it up.

He let out a groan. Istalian had finally freed himself from the shadow after countless attempts. He had given the shadow the divine phoenix blood, and in return, before vanishing to an unknown place, the shadow gave him something that would enhance his strength. Regardless, it would only be useful when he reached the point where he felt he had truly reached the peak of (SSS+)-Rank.

That's why when he heard that many people younger than him had already reached the pseudo divine rank, he couldn't help but feel a twinge of envy. Still, despite his reluctance, he stole his nerves and held the communication crystal in his hand.

Soon, Jian's face appeared before him. The red-haired man ran his hand through his hair and let out a smile, a smile that bordered on wickedness. Jian cleared his throat, and in the next moment, the image above the communication crystal changed, showing countless familiar youngsters entering a tall tower in rows.

"So..."

Jian's voice echoed through the crystal, jolting Istalian, who stared at the familiar tower where the youngsters were entering.

"I just wanted to ask if I could send some kids to train in the nearest tower of opportunity. Oh well, they're so eager and already going inside, so don't blame me. But don't worry, 'our future hope' will definitely become the hope of the future when they come out from that place with enough strength to fight alongside us! Hahaha."

Just like that, before Jian's words could fully sink inside anyone's head, the connection of the communication crystal was abruptly cut off, leaving the crystal dead silent.

Right at that moment, Yon turned around, scratching his chin with a thoughtful look on his face.

"Oh, it seems they found out that after the guardians left, all the towers are open to the public. It's great that they're taking advantage of this opportunity to send all the young ones into the towers."

His booming voice reverberated through the air, and Istalian's expression turned pale. So, Jian contacted him after he had already teleported the youngsters in front of the tower and was in the process of sending them in?

Istalian gazed at Muzim, the demi-human king, only to find that Muzim's expression was even paler than his own. Not just Muzim, everyone had various expressions on their faces, unsure of what the hell was happening and why the hell it was happening so fast?

All eyes immediately turned to Han, who was munching on fruits in the distance while overseeing some individuals drawing symbols around him. Han and George were the ones who brought the guardians back, but they haven't discussed anything else yet!

Of course, everyone heard about Kyle once the array masters returned. Kyle was the human who was considered to be the strongest among the younger generation when he came out of that secret realm.



But he vanished even before the planet was attacked, and no one knew what happened to him. Moreover, due to the circumstances, everyone forgot about him.

However, the very same Kyle has made a reappearance. And not just that, he even made a major contribution when the array masters opened the tower. No, not just a major contribution, he was the one who added the right symbols in the array.

Regardless, nobody mentioned that they would be going into a war so suddenly!

Chapter 408 Where the hell is Susan?

Yon took a whiff of the air, and a frown creased his brow.

"The air is polluted, but why can't I find the source?"

He gazed at the people behind him who were busy contacting one person after another. Yon heard everything they talked about because his senses were sharper than his rank, that's why he couldn't help but let out a smirk.

'The young ones really know how to make others panic...'

He shook his head and started floating to once again sense the air. So, he could find the source of the air pollution, the same air pollution he sensed the moment he came out from the tower.

Yon closed his eyes and sensed everything around him. The air, the flow of mana, the faint light particles. But his eyes snapped open when he sensed another type of faint sapphire-colored particles mixed with the air. Those particles were devouring the mana in the air and multiplying rapidly.

"What in the world is this thing...?"

He couldn't shake the feeling that whatever it is, it isn't good because the particles give off an ominous feeling. That's why he quickly gathered all the array masters around him and gave them a few symbols, before asking them to draw an array that would clean the air.

However, the only problem was that the array needed a lot of divine energy. Not from any other source, but divine energy directly from someone who had stepped into the realm of the divine. Without it, there's no way the array would be strong enough to cleanse the entire planet's air.

He clicked his tongue.

"Where the hell is Susan? He and Lie are the only true divine beings among us. Lie is working on the planet core, but what the heck is that old man doing? Don't tell me he ran off somewhere quiet to rest when he knows we have a lot of work to do?"

Yon massaged his temples. He has reached the (SSS+)-Rank, and there were a few pseudo divine guardians as well, but unfortunately, he sent two of them to scout for information about the enemy.

He gazed at Han, and after thinking for a few minutes, he asked the old human to call the people who had reached the pseudo divine rank.

Yon knew it wouldn't be enough, as the young ones had just recently reached the pseudo-divine rank, but anything was better than nothing. The dwarf watched as the array masters swiftly drew the symbols inside the array he requested. Unlike the barrier, which would take another day to complete, the air-cleaning array was ready within a few hours.

Meanwhile, Han quickly got in touch with Alec and Carcel. He thought they wouldn't answer because after Jian's last words, they didn't respond to King Istalian and the others. But to his surprise, the duo picked up almost instantly. Han let out a sigh of relief and went to a corner to explain the situation to them.

Alec thought for a moment and said they were near a teleportation array. They would come directly once they had sent all the youngsters inside the tower.

Time passed, and Yon, who was overseeing everything, sensed a ripple in the air. He furrowed his brows, but before he could say anything, his eyes widened when a familiar figure crashed in the middle of the crowd. Instantly, a cloud of dust rose into the sky, and debris flew everywhere.

Some panic cries rang out from the weak citizens who were only there to construct the barrier, caught off guard by the sudden turn of events. But one of the guardians in the distance quickly slammed his hand down, scattering the dust into thin air, and shouted loudly.

"Shut the hell up!"

The place fell into a deadly silence as Yon turned his gaze towards the caved-in surface of the earth where the horned demi-human had crashed.

The horned man with slit red pupils spat out a mouthful of blood. His expression mirrored pain as he clenched his chest, where a black metallic spike protruded out from.

Instantly, King Istalian and a few other powerful figures became alert, not really sure what had happened. At that moment, a pleasant voice echoed through the air, and a figure stepped out from a portal that formed in the rippling air.

"Hehe, not bad... Gotta admit, that spy was pretty strong. So, there's a pseudo-divine rank individual on this planet too, huh?"

The man in an elegant attire, who just stepped out of the portal, smoothed out his shirt and looked around, as if familiarizing himself with the place he had just arrived in.

"Oh, the defense here is quite impressive. But what else can you all do besides hiding when your opponent is so much stronger?"

"By the way, those two spies gave me a lot of trouble. One managed to escape, but I caught the other one. So, now tell me, how does it feel to see one of your informants die right before your eyes?"

His brown eyes, tinged with darkness, held disdain as he scanned the countless people below, looking at them as if they were mere ants. Just like Diora, there was a black three-petal flower engraved on his forehead, showing his alliance with the people the Continent wanted to fight back against.

Yon's pupils dilated as he clenched his fingers into fists, ready to tear the man into countless pieces.

Just like him, all the guardians of the tower were ready to take down that man, even though they could clearly sense his divine-rank strength. But with all of them combined, they were confident they could make him regret ever being born.

"This arrogant bastard...!"

However, before Yon or anyone else could attack the man, a punch landed on the smirking man's face, causing him to stagger backward a few meters in mid-air.

Jian let out a surprised gasp as he waved his hand around, his brows furrowed.

"What the heck! Why is his skin so thick? It almost felt like punching metal!"

He had left Alec and Carcel behind just to investigate what kind of array required divine energy, only to see an unfamiliar figure appearing out of thin air. But no matter what, the black three-petal flower engraved on the man's forehead indicated that he was an enemy.

The man chuckled and moved his jaw from side to side, as if relishing the stinging sensation spreading across his skin.

"That was quite a heavy punch... but hold on a second... Dora said there weren't any stronger individuals on this planet, so why am I seeing so many people with pseudo-divine strength?"

Jian ignored the man and turned his gaze towards Yon and the others. Instantly, Yon, Istalian, and two other guardians of the tower started floating and arrived beside him. Yon looked at Jian and cracked his knuckles.

"Hey, kid, let's finish him off before things get complicated."

The man laughed, as if he couldn't believe what they were saying, and ripples formed behind him.

"Oh, come and get me, but can you?"

He smirked, opened his arms, and in the next second, the ripples enveloped his body, and he vanished into thin air.

Chapter 409 It's not teleprotation

Jian's pupils contracted when he sensed ripples on his left side. He raised his arm and blocked the fist that came out of thin air directly toward his face. But the impact sent him flying backward in mid-air.

He rubbed his arm, which got bruised due to the impact, and gazed at the man who just appeared from the ripples. He clicked his tongue.

"So, you gonna strike secretly even though you're stronger? Tsk, what a scaredy-cat."

Yon chuckled and joined him.

"Doesn't matter, kid. He knows he's as good as dead now that he dared to appear in front of us."

The man's brown eyes widened slightly with surprise, and he tilted his head unfazed by their words. Yon jumped forward, a hammer appeared in his hand as he slammed it toward the man. But before his hammer could touch the man, he disappeared once again.

"This bastard..."

A curse slipped out from Yon's mouth as he paused and looked around to find where the man would appear next.

Istalian and the other two guardians also became alert, doing their best to sense the air around them. But instead of attacking any one of them, the man appeared behind Jian and kicked his back,

probably because Jian was the one who punched him. However, before his kick could land, crimson flames appeared all around Jian, forcing him to retract his attack.

Jian chuckled and turned to face the person behind him.

"Now it's my turn!"

He gathered all the crimson flames, and they traveled toward the man with lightning fast speed. The man's brown eyes flashed with surprise because Jian's flames were very strong.

He wondered how the human got such a strong skill or did the human consumed a treasure related to fire? Regardless, before the flames could touch him, he vanished into the ripples again.

Jian let out a frustrated groan.

"Damn, why does this annoying skill seem so familiar? I really hate these disappearance skills..."

Soon, the people in the air got busy chasing after the man. But the man seemed to enjoy toying with them because he would always control the air around him and vanish before anyone could touch him. His eyes sparkled with amusement as he watched them struggle.

'It's fun... haha, I should have come earlier. This planet is so much fun.'

Meanwhile, below on the land, Han and a few others quickly made their way toward the man with slit red pupils lying inside the caved-in surface. He was the same horned man who was thrown mercilessly on the ground by the enemy who just appeared out of nowhere.

Han quickly poured a few potions on the man's chest where a metal spike was sticking out. He shouted to the others to take him to a safer place, but then a female guardian appeared above the injured horned man and silently carried him away.

The other guardians quickly dispersed the crowd, and in the end, only stronger individuals were left on the land.

Han cursed under his breath as he gazed at the sky, where a heated... no, a one-sided battle was taking place. The man seemed to be just playing around without actually attacking anyone else.

Just then, his communication crystal buzzed. He rummaged through his storage ring and grabbed the crystal before a familiar face appeared in front of him. It was Kyle, asking for his location because he needed to discuss something important with Yon.

In the air, Jian groaned as another one of his attacks missed its mark. He snapped his head toward the man who had just appeared above the round structure, the barrier the guardians were creating.

The man rubbed his chin and wore an incredible expression.

"What is this thing? Hmm, should I destroy it?"

He jumped back when a spear shot out towards him from the air, impaling itself in the ground with a loud bang.

"Oh, the tip is quite sharp. You all have no manners! I'm just a guest passing by. How can you treat me like that?"

A vein bulged on Yon's forehead.

"You slippery bastard! Just stay in one place. Why are you buzzing around like a damn bee?"

The man showed a stunned expression, as if he didn't like the title.

"No, no, don't call me a bee. I'm just a young divine-rank individual who turned two hundred years old a few months ago. Just call me Ateo. That's the name Hay gave me on my hundredth birthday."

He massaged his neck and looked around.

"I'm getting bored now. Diora has ordered everyone to stop searching for natural treasures and assemble, so we can wipe out the remaining struggling souls on this planet. But now I think we don't even need to assemble because a few of us are enough to wipe you all out, hahaha."

His wild laughter echoed through the air, and Yon hurled his hammer at the man to wipe the annoying smile off his face, but the man vanished again. Just then, Jian summoned countless earth spikes and launched them in different directions.

Ateo, who just appeared in a different place, let out a shriek when one of the spikes grazed his arm, and blood oozed out from the injury. He raised his arm and stared at the little injury with wide eyes.

"You! How can you send your attack just anywhere? Don't you know it can harm innocent citizens?"

As his voice traveled through the air, in that exact moment, a portal appeared beside Han, who was looking up at the battle with a hard expression.

-"Oh, innocent citizens?"

Bia flew out from the portal and landed on Han's shoulder, causing the old man to jolt at the sudden voice echoing by his ear.

"You scared me. I thought that jerk appeared right next to me."

He shook his head with a sigh and watched as Kyle also stepped out from the portal.

"What innocent citizens?"

Kyle asked the phoenix, who was sitting on Han's shoulder. Bia pointed one of her wings in the air where the man had disappeared once again, only to attack Istalian in the next second.

-"Just go and take care of the innocent citizen. He's using a teleportation skill just like you."

Kyle narrowed his eyes and observed the man. Instant teleportation was one of his trump cards, so he found it a little weird when someone else used it in front of him. However, only after a few seconds, he noticed with a raised brow, that the skill the man was using was completely different from instant teleportation.

"No, it's not teleportation. He's using the air around himself as a vacuum to move around at a speed invisible to the naked eye."

An evil smirk appeared on the corner of his lips.

"Well, I don't like the fact that he has this skill. So, I'm going to let him experience the true horror of the real instant teleportation."

Chapter 410 A true divine being strength

Jian let out a frustrated shout and raised his fist in the sky.

"Damn it, damn it! Just once, let me grab you! I'm gonna break every bone in your body!"

Not just him, Yon, Istalian, and the other guardians also wanted nothing more than to grab the man. Just once would be enough. Ateo hadn't used a single skill since he appeared, except for his irritating disappearance skill!

Yon grabbed his hammer and started spinning it in the air. He had been keenly observing the man's movements and noticed a pattern in his skill. Every time Ateo disappeared, he would reappear within a few meters radius. It's like he can't travel far. Electricity crackled around Yon's hammer as he tossed it toward the place where he sensed the ripples.

Ateo's eyes narrowed because this time the attack was coming directly toward his face, his beautiful and pretty face. His sharp nails turned black and a dark curtain appeared in front of him.

The hammer crashed into the curtain with a loud boom. Instantly, ripples formed in the curtain, and it even cracked a bit. But after just a few seconds, the force behind the hammer started to fade away. Eventually, it dropped down aimlessly.

Ateo gazed at the hammer and wiped his forehead in an exaggerated way.

"That was close, but is this all you have got? If yes, then the pseudo-divine rank people here are quite weak... Now, just try your best to follow me. I'm going to destroy some nearby cities, hehe."

Jian shouted at Ateo as ripples appeared behind the latter.

"You bastard, stop right there!"

Ateo mused, a mischievous twinkle dancing in his eyes. He didn't vanish right away, just to enjoy their facial expressions. However, he blinked when Jian abruptly paused, and the human's eyes widened for a split second, only to turn into crescents. Moreover, he noticed with narrowed eyes that Jian wasn't looking at him, instead, the human was looking behind him...?

He froze when a soft touch landed on his shoulder, followed by a deep voice that sent chills down his spine because he hadn't sensed anyone behind him. Not now, not before.

"Where do you think you're going?"

Jian burst into laughter as he watched Ateo's expression crumble within a split second.

"Yeah, just kick him towards me! I want to punch this bastard so badly!"

Ateo leaped forward so fast that his figure blurred in everyone's vision. He looked back with narrowed eyes, only to see a pair of bright green eyes staring at him with little to no emotion. Kyle lowered his foot with a raised brow.

"He's quite fast."

Then, he gazed at Jian and gave the red-haired man an okay sign.

"Get ready, I'm sending him towards you."

Ateo laughed at his words because he had already sensed the new human's rank. It was hidden behind an invisible layer, probably because the human is wearing a strong artifact to hide his presence.

Just like Jian, this human also had pseudo-divine rank strength. Ateo scoffed and gave Kyle a taunting look. The human had caught him off guard with the invisible layer that hid his presence, but now that he knew about it, there was no way he would be surprised again.

'I'm a person who's never been caught, even after stealing powerful treasures right under the noses of countless strong individuals! How can a mere pseudo-divine rank human-!'

His thoughts were abruptly cut short because Kyle vanished right in front of his eyes. And before he could react, something landed on his back, sending him flying forward with a single impactful blow. Ateo spat out a mouthful of blood and cried out in shock.

"Ahhh..."

However, his eyes widened even more when a familiar red-

haired man with an evil smile appeared in his vision. No, the man didn't come in front of him; he was the one hurtling straight toward the man!

Ateo wanted to stop mid-air and disappear, but another kick landed on his back in the exact same spot, inflicting more damage and propelling him directly toward Jian.

Jian instantly clenched his fist and, just like he said, punched the man in the face, sending him flying backward.

Ateo's face darkened with anger as he wrapped his body in ripples and vanished, only to reappear in the distance in the next second. The man wiped his chin where blood trickled down. His cheek had started to turn purple because this time Jian infused his fist with divine energy.

"You prick, how dare you-!"

He abruptly stopped and let out a startled cry because the man with green eyes had vanished!

'No way!'

He couldn't believe that one day he would be the one scared by a skill that is so similar to his! He wanted to vanish in the ripples, but before he could, another strong kick landed on his back.

Kyle slowly lowered his leg and watched as Yon seized the opportunity to strike the man's stomach with his hammer. He winced as he looked at the size of the hammer.

'Yon probably broke a few of his bones with that single attack.'

And his words were true because the moment the hammer slammed into Ateo's stomach, faint cracking sounds echoed in the air. The man's expression twisted in pain as he let out a loud and agonizing cry.

However, right after that, Ateo managed to balance himself in mid-air with the help of a black curtain that appeared behind his body. His eyes glazed over, and dark particles spilled into his brown pupils. In an instant, countless dark metallic spikes appeared all around him. The ground beneath him shattered as he unleashed his divine pressure, causing not only the land but also the air to crack and tremble under the sheer force of his power.

He let out a menacing laugh, watching the faces of everyone around him, the faces that turned pale under his pressure. Only after a few seconds, Istalian, one of the guardians, and the people watching from the land, they all dropped to their knees.

"In the end, no matter what, a true divine being strength is stronger than all your pity tricks!"