

Bloodline 521

Chapter 521 It was a human!

Not only the elven Queen, but every high-ranking individual floating in the air, recognized the man. The azure intensity of his eyes, the regal crest atop his head, and the powerful, sculpted form he possessed were all unmistakable.

He was Damien, the water dragon — or more precisely, the dragon who defied his own kin and ascended to the esteemed title of the inaugural Shadow General.

The man's presence alone startled not only the elven Queen but every individual floating in mid-air. The elves averted their gaze as he swept his eyes over them with an inscrutable expression.

Damien crouched down in mid-air, his fingers delicately caressing the barren branch devoid of leaves. As his thumb traced the spot where the fruit of fate had been severed, the branch trembled under his touch and tried its best to evade him. But unfortunately, the tree couldn't muster much strength to move the branch because it was weakened after yielding the fruit of fate. Also, it had utilized a significant portion of its strength to grow the fruit of fate a little earlier than intended.

The elven Queen's facial expression paled as tremendous pressure descended on her shoulders, causing her to struggle to maintain her balance in mid-air. She glanced around and observed that every person, whether demon or elf, had frozen in place with pale expressions. They were also experiencing the same intense pressure as she was.

Damien glanced at the old white-haired woman beside the elven Queen because he could sense she had the most spiritual energy in her body, indicating she was the closest to the Tree of Fate.

"Who took the fruit? I'm a bit late because I went to visit master since I heard from fifth that he woke up... but unfortunately, I wasn't able to see him."

His voice softened a bit, but his next words were something that sent chills down the spine of every elf who heard him.

"Just tell me who took the fruit, and I will not touch this planet. Otherwise, I can just destroy it because, after all, the Tree of Fate is not strong enough right now to stop me."

The elven woman clenched her jaw tightly as the pressure on her shoulders doubled. Nevertheless, she remained silent as the decision lay in the hands of the Queen. She had stood by the elven queen's side since the king passed away and held a deep love for her race. But the Tree of Fate had bestowed the fruit upon that silver-haired human of its own volition. How could she question the tree's choice?

Damien's eyes narrowed.

"So, you're useless?"

A chill ran down the woman's spine, and in the next second, her eyes began to roll, and she started coughing up blood. But before she could fully succumb to the darkness, the elven Queen gritted her teeth and appeared beside her body.

"Wait! I will tell you! It was a human!"

She already knew that the first shadow general was also pursuing the Fruit of Fate because rumors had it the man had been injured in the war happening at the other end of the universe, and he desired to consume the fruit to heal his wounds.

That's why she and many others elves had been trying to summon as many powerful individuals of their race back from the war. But who could have predicted the tree would bear the fruit earlier than expected, even before the two strongest individuals of her race returned to protect it?

Damien raised his brow when he heard the elven Queen's words. A flash of annoyance coursed through his eyes at the mere mention of 'human'. He loathed humans deeply because of a human named James, who had been his archenemy for the past hundreds of years.

The human and his followers, who have been increasing with each passing day, even though he kills many of them every single day, have been hindering him and all the other shadow generals from achieving victory in the war and breaking the last two seals that block the path leading outside the universe.

He groaned and rubbed his temples the moment he thought about James. He could never fathom just where the heck that darn black-haired oddball came from out of the blue and messed up all their smoothly progressing plans.

The dark side would have won ages ago if that bastard hadn't started gathering every powerful individual in the universe regardless of race to fight back.

Not to mention, among the people following James, his closest friends were also battle-crazed fanatics just like him, especially that dwarf who slew a thousand divine beings with an artifact he invented.

The shadow generals haven't even found a single Celestial spirit in Azazeal's absence. He was certain his master would be very displeased upon discovering that the shadow generals, to whom he had granted significant power, had failed to break even a single seal from the remaining two and had not found a single Celestial spirit.

Damien let out a sigh and brushed away the negative thoughts in his mind as he was here to find something important before locking eyes with the elven Queen.

"A human, you say? It's quite unusual for the Tree of Fate to bestow its fruit upon someone outside the elven race... Are you being truthful?"

The elven Queen's coral-colored eyes began to bleed as she felt a looming darkness above her head... She knew that now if she lied, he would kill her without a second thought. But to everyone's surprise, before she could speak, Samara stepped in.

"It was a human! A silver-haired man who appeared to be in his early twenties... I saw him! The Tree of Fate aided him, and before I could attack him, he vanished!"

She clenched her teeth.

"I have no idea where the Tree of Fate sent him! He just disappeared; how could we possibly know!?"

Damien lifted his blue eyes to gaze at Samara, and she flinched not because he put pressure on her body but because she had just lied to him.

She was determined not to let the fruit of fate slip away from her grasp; she would go and track down that silver-haired man and secure the fruit for herself! She needs it to get stronger. How could she let it go after enduring so many struggles?

Chapter 522 Tell me more about the human

Damien rubbed his chin. He had seen Samara before a few times because she had been striving to attain the title of the sixth shadow general, even going as far as searching for a way to meet Azazeal. So, he knew she was also on this planet for the fruit of fate to increase her strength.

"You have got potential... you know I can see you can reach the Celestial rank if you work hard. So, don't let this small setback hinder you because I hope to see another Celestial rank by my side soon."

His voice grew more intense, and those who paid attention could detect the subtle threat in his words.

"Forget about the fruit because I need it."

Samara nodded and Damien gave her an approving look.

"Alright, now tell me more about that human. I believe he has not consumed the fruit yet since the branch from which it was taken still lacks any leaves."

There was a hush in the air because all those who were familiar with the fruit of fate knew it required careful preparation before consumption. If the Tree of Fate's branch, where the fruit blossomed, stayed bare of leaves, it signified that the fruit had not been eaten. Ultimately, the fruit was incredibly potent because it not only greatly boosted the consumer's strength but also possessed the ability to reshape and improve their fate.

Samara started telling the first shadow general everything about the silver-haired human except his location, saying that he had disappeared without a trace. The numerous elves who overheard Kyle's loud proclamation about heading to the Sacred Divine Land all fell into an eerie silence and watched the demon as she lied with a serious face.

They couldn't believe there would be a day they would see someone bold enough to lie in the face of the first shadow general, known for being ruthless.

Samara's eyes crinkled a bit as she deceived the man who had reached the initial stage of the Celestial rank. She knew that even though the elves didn't get the fruit of fate, they wouldn't let the demons or the shadow general take it.

Therefore, they wouldn't tell the shadow general that she was lying!

As for the demons circling around her, despite their unruliness, they understood when to remain silent because ultimately, their lives were in her hands.

After she was done, Damien stared at her with narrowed eyes. He had his suspicions, but it's not like he can peer into her head and kill a demon who had the potential of reaching the Celestial rank in the future. Moreover, when she was describing the human's appearance, he detected no lie in her eyes. But... for a moment when she mentioned that she didn't know where the human went, he did sense a faint ripple in her eyes.

"Hmm, silver hair and green eyes, you say? He also has powerful icy blue flames..."

He thought for a second and glanced at Samara with a serious expression.

"That's enough. Now that I know his appearance, I will send my people to search for him. Also, you have been staying on this planet, right? Just remain here and keep an eye on the branch. I can't keep coming back to check if the branch has any leaves. Let me know immediately if you sense even a single leaf growing on the branch."

Samara nodded eagerly, and Damien mentally noted to physically bind her to himself once she reached the final stage of the Supreme rank. This way, she would understand the consequences of deceiving those superior to her. He had faced this situation several times before.

Demons and those aligned with the dark side were all sly and constantly pursued what would serve them best. That's why he disagreed when the second shadow general carelessly exempted the demon, dark, and nightkin races from having to put a dark petal on their bodies just to display their loyalty if they didn't want to. After all, these three races were inherently dark and willingly followed Azazeal for power.

'Tsk, that fish was just being greedy. He's the strongest among us five, but he hates sharing his power. I will have to speak with master directly about this so we can fully control these three races too.'

'It's not like master lacks dark energy... he has enough to dominate half of this universe with it if he chooses to.'

He glanced at the Tree of Fate one last time, and within moments, a crack formed before him. Without uttering another word, he stepped into the crack and vanished. He had numerous tasks at hand, unlike these incompetent demons who have failed to conquer the elven planet even after so many years.

He needed to return to the war as well; otherwise, that troublesome black-haired human and his followers would once again go on a killing spree in his absence to claim the lives of the many formidable individuals fighting for the dark side.

The second shadow general had also withdrawn from the war to recuperate and investigate the rumors he heard about the Celestial spirit that is supposedly hiding within the Sacred Divine Land.

Damien really hopes that the fish find at least one Celestial spirit in the Sacred Divine Land, or else he will have to teach Ceano a lesson, even if it means enduring a beating in return. After all, he had to bear the full brunt in the war because the four other shadow generals are all off doing who knows what.

'Now that master has woken up, I hope he gives the others some punishment because they have all been wasting time.'

After Damien disappeared, Samara grinned and scanned the demons around her, who all began trembling under her gaze.

"Did you all hear what the first shadow general requested? Keep a watch on the branch and inform him immediately if it starts to grow leaves. In the meantime, I am heading to the Sacred Divine Land to search for that human. Haha..."

Her gaze sharpened.

"I believe nobody will open their mouth when I'm not around because if they do, they would have to die together with me."

Samara didn't even glance at the elves and retrieved a round wooden artifact from her mind space. The artifact brightened in her palm, and several symbols illuminated around her.

Subsequently, she disappeared from her location as the artifact teleported her directly to her desired place. The air fell silent for a moment after she vanished, then a single word slipped from the elven Queen's lips, sending chills down the spine of every demon floating in the air.

"Kill!"

Chapter 523 What is this thing...? A bug?

Instantly, another fight between the elves and demons erupted in mid-air, but with Samara's absence, the elves started to overpower the demons. The elven Queen glanced at the white-haired woman beside her amidst the battle and whispered softly.

"Go to the Sacred Divine Land. Locate that human and secure the fruit of fate from him before the first shadow general or Samara catches him. I don't want the fruit to end up in the wrong hands."

The old white-haired elven woman halted briefly but then released a sigh.

"No, my Queen, let's just leave the fruit be. The tree has bestowed it upon that human, and I believe there's a purpose behind it. Now it's up to the human to decide whether to consume it or to pass it on."

She glanced at the elven Queen.

"I have never opposed you before, and this is the first time I am requesting something. I understand it's challenging to let go of something so valuable, but..."

"... I believe this time the fruit was never meant for our race."

The elven Queen went quiet for a moment after hearing the woman, then she patted the old woman's shoulder with a nod.

"Alright, I will honor your request this time. No need to chase after that human. Let that young man carry the burden of owning such a powerful treasure."

But in that moment, only the Tree of Fate was aware that these simple words saved the life of the white-haired elven woman, and the future of the elven race underwent a significant transformation.

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After Kyle reached the Sacred Divine Land, he cursed as his body plunged into a pool of warm water, and an unfamiliar warmth spread over his extremely cold body. He hissed at the feeling and quickly jumped out of the water.

Immediately, he clicked his tongue in irritation as his clothes became soaked. Glancing around, he noticed numerous lush and large green trees encircling the lake where he had landed.

He murmured a spell and manipulated the air around him to quickly dry his clothes within seconds. A grin appeared at the corner of his lips as he remembered what he had just done a while ago.

"Not bad... It was enjoyable."

Kyle closed his eyes and gazed at the fruit floating in his mind space. It sparkled beautifully but... oddly before his body vanished from above the massive tree, he heard an unfamiliar voice echoing in his head. The voice was similar to an elderly woman who had not spoken for many years. It advised him not to eat the fruit he acquired, at least for now. Otherwise, his empty fate would be sealed on a single path, and he would face loss.

"Hmm, it said empty fate? So, I don't have a destiny? Great, just great. I already have no memories of the past, now I don't even have a fate... tsk tsk, just what else can I expect from nature."

He shook his head and secured the strands that had fallen out from his tied hair tightly behind his head. Then, he donned his hoodie and decided to explore the Sacred Divine Land and on the way, he would also search for the Gladiator Arena.

Kyle realized that despite the tree teleporting him to a far-off location, he felt no physical discomfort, likely due to his improved physical strength.

He let out an exaggerated breath because he could sense the abundance of divine and spiritual energy in the air. He was certain that even if he did nothing in this land and just stayed still, he could easily reach the pinnacle of the divine rank since his body required no training, only divine energy at the moment. He sighed and took a step forward in a random direction, but his eyes widened when a faint twinkling light appeared in front of his face.

"The fuck!"

He jumped back and glared at the light that had just startled him. Kyle narrowed his eyes at the light when he sensed pure spiritual energy around its body. He noticed with a solemn expression that this strange creature, wholly made of light, hovering just a short distance away from him, had a beautiful pair of wings behind its back.

"What is this thing...? A bug?"

The mystical spirit in front of him let out a soft sound, as if showing its displeasure at being called a bug!

But who could blame Kyle for confusing a mystical spirit with a bug, especially since Hubert hadn't shared much about the Sacred Divine Land with him.

Kyle lifted his hand and prodded the hovering orb of light, causing it to tremble under his uncaring touch. However, before he could retract his finger, the light clung to it desperately.

Amidst the ethereal glow, he could swear he saw a pair of small, shimmering eyes gazing at him, almost as if pleading him to allow it to hold onto his finger. Kyle raised his finger and gazed at the light with a complex expression.

"What the...? Did I get myself a little bug made of spiritual energy as a pet?"

He pondered for a moment, and an evil gleam flickered in his eyes. Now that he thought about it, isn't this tiny bug actually a creature crafted from spiritual energy?

"Should I consume it?"

The light quivered as it felt the covetous eyes fixed on its form, and for the first time, a mystical spirit began to regret its decision to approach a human from whom it had sensed a "Should I consume it?"

The light quivered as it felt the covetous eyes fixed on its form, lovely fragrance.

Yes, it had sensed an otherworldly fragrance coming from Kyle's body, which was almost akin to nature itself, leading it to approach the human quickly.

But... little did it know that this would be its last choice, as the human appeared determined to consume it. The spirit let out a deep breath and accepted its fate, as it really didn't want to release the human now that it had touched his body, emitting a calm and comforting coldness.

Kyle noticed the trembling light clinging to his finger and clicked his tongue because it seems the bug understood his words. He gripped the light with two fingers and forcefully detached it from his skin before gazing at it. However, as he performed this action, a faint sense of nostalgia washed over his body, almost as if he had once picked up a familiar small creature with his two fingers... He furrowed his brows but, unfortunately, couldn't recall the form of the creature even after pondering for a few seconds, so he pushed the thought to the back of his mind.

"Now that I have got myself a little buddy, it wouldn't be right to consume you, so... do you wanna stick around, little one? You can have your meals when I'm eating, and I won't let any small animal snack on you."

"Sound good?"

The mystical spirit body brightened up at his words, and Kyle raised his brow as he confirmed his thoughts. The bug can really understand his words. He naturally wanted to place the light on his head but paused midway with a strange expression.

'What am I doing?'

Kyle let out a sigh and instead placed the spirit on his right shoulder.

Then he watched as the light instantly snuggled closer to his body... only if anyone knew he encountered a mystical spirit right after entering the Sacred Divine Land, their jaws would drop because finding a mystical spirit is extremely rare.

After all, mystical spirits tend to hide whenever they sense any presence nearby. But fortunately or unfortunately, no one was around Kyle to know about it.

Chapter 524 I forgot I had company

Kyle glanced up at the sky above him. It was getting a bit dark, indicating that night was drawing near. He started running and left the lake behind, even though he knew it was a hot spring from the warm water and the faint scent of sulfur in the air.

He had come to understand that as much as he enjoyed warmth, he found that things just a bit warmer weren't compatible with his cold body. His silhouette darted through the verdant trees enveloping him from every angle, while the mystical spirit desperately clung to his shoulder, trying its best not to be left behind due to the harsh wind that pushed against his body.

Kyle expanded his scent perception skill in all directions to monitor his surroundings. Instantly, a multitude of scents inundated his nostrils, yet he didn't even flinch and extended his skill even further, detecting the diverse array of presences, monsters, and valuable items surrounding him.

His eyes narrowed, and he paused above a rock amidst the grassy expanse because he sensed numerous underground chambers beneath the land he was running on.

Oddly, he could only perceive the presence of these deep underground chambers due to the peculiar scent emanating from them but couldn't discern what these chambers held within them. It seemed as though his skill was unable to penetrate the barriers or energy fields encasing those chambers.

"This place is filled with natural treasures, even though I don't know what they are. I can also detect a myriad of plants all around myself that are emitting pure spiritual energy and divine energy."

He rubbed his chin with a pleased expression. At least, his master had sent him to a better place than he had anticipated.

But it was a shame that his body only needed divine energy at the moment, and even if he got those treasures, they wouldn't be very helpful to him. Also, his spiritual energy stat had a minor breakthrough after the massive tree infused so much spiritual energy into his body, allowing him to engulf the entire tree with his flames.

Therefore, it wouldn't be wise for him to take in more spiritual energy than his body can handle right now, at least until his body adjusted to the previous breakthrough. This was also one of the reasons he held back from consuming the light sitting on his shoulder and saved it for the future.

The mystical spirit on his shoulder shuddered slightly as it sensed a faint ominous aura from the human eyes when they glanced at its form. It couldn't help but wonder if the human had lied to it when the latter said it could stay with him...?

Kyle averted his gaze, but his eyes narrowed as he noticed another floating light approaching him from a distance. He let out an 'Oh' and pointed his finger towards the familiar light before tapping the light on his shoulder.

"Hey, is that one of your family members? Are they looking for you?"

He chuckled and thought to himself that it was all good because he could just put the other light on his shoulder too, not realizing that he would soon regret his decision.

At midnight, Kyle halted in front of a tree that caught his eye because its trunk was giving off a soft glow. He gazed at the two round fruits radiating divine energy hanging from the tree's branches and disappeared from his spot to pick them.

As he vanished, the two spirits sitting on his shoulder were startled, and the duo instinctively flapped their wings to stay airborne after losing their positions.

Kyle settled on his heels atop one of the tree branches and grabbed the fruits. He barely managed to contain the urge to let a smirk creep onto his lips as he watched the two lights rushing towards him from the distance. It somehow felt familiar.

"Oops, I forgot I had company."

The two mystical spirits were incensed at his words, but they once again quietly sat down on his shoulder without complaint, even though they had the power to make this human regret his words. Kyle glanced at them once and then ignored them.

He was feeling somewhat giddy, perhaps because initially, he believed he would only meet the individual he had put a mark on upon reaching the Sacred Divine Land. But now that he was here,

he could also clearly feel the second presence he had sensed alongside the first one for many years in the No Mana Land. The presence with whom he shared a bond. He wondered about their appearance.

Were they a human, an elf, or maybe someone from another race? But he knew deep down he wouldn't connect with any of them as it didn't align with his taste. Also, forming bonds with humans and other races wasn't feasible unless it was done using unorthodox methods.

So, they must be a beast, right? A huge, intimidating, and dark beast. That would be his choice. Something robust and mighty enough to catch his attention. He let out a sigh and looked in two different directions, unsure which one to follow, as both were very far from him.

Kyle stored one of the two fruits he had torn from the tree in his mind space and started eating the other while making himself comfortable on the branch. It was getting late, so he opted to spend the night on the tree meditating since he felt the divine energy around the tree was more potent than in other locations.

After taking a few bites of the fruit, he moved it towards the two little lights sitting on his right shoulder, but the light bodies trembled and quickly moved away from the fruit as if scalded.

"Huh... it seems they don't like it."

He gave a nonchalant shrug and ate the fruit before feeling his body fill with divine energy that needed proper assimilation. That's why he closed his eyes to meditate. However, after a while, a crease formed between his brows when he sensed a familiar presence, similar to the two lights sitting on his shoulder, approaching him.

He slowly opened one of his eyes and watched as another light approached him from a distance and settled on his body as if claiming ownership. Kyle's eyebrow twitched at the scene, but he sighed and let it pass since the bugs were not heavy as their bodies were made of light.

He closed his eyes once more, only to be interrupted again by another light that appeared and sat on his forehead.

Chapter 525 How did you get here!?

It was all good even when four or five more lights appeared and settled on Kyle's body. However, a vein throbbed on his forehead because, for some unknown reason, their numbers kept increasing, causing his body to tingle from the tremendous amount of spiritual energy around him.

He released a deep exhale and repeatedly reminded himself inwardly to stay calm, but his final shred of composure shattered when another light appeared and settled on his left eye. Kyle swatted the few lights on his face away and vanished from his spot without a second hesitation.

He reappeared in the distance and cursed under his breath while brushing his body to dispel the tingling sensation. His actions halted as he caught the sound of rustling leaves coming from the tree where he was sitting just a moment ago.

Kyle blinked and whipped his head back only to see numerous lights rushing toward him. Their radiance illuminated the entire area around the tree, and his lips twitched when he noticed that, strangely, their speed was much faster now compared to before.

"Okay... I take back my words. I am good alone. I don't need a companion!"

His final words dissipated into the air as he vanished into thin air towards a distant place. The mystical spirits all froze when they witnessed his disappearance.

Then, they all let out faint sad whimpers and dispersed in all directions to search for the human they liked so much. They were even willing to lead the human toward valuable treasures; all he had to do was let them stick to his body.

In the meantime, Kyle reappeared in a faraway place and clicked his tongue. It was late at night, and he had no good place to sleep anymore. Well, it's not like he was sleepy. He just wanted to meditate. But now that he had started moving, he didn't want to sit anymore.

So, he gazed at the faraway place where he sensed the presence of the individual he had marked and vanished from his place to go see them. Unfortunately, on the way, he caught a repulsive scent of blood mixed with the scent of an individual that made him a bit angry for some reason.

Kyle halted above a barren landscape. He had sensed many other people around him since he arrived here, and he was sure they were also exploring the Sacred Divine Land just like him. That's why, to avoid unnecessary inconvenience, he always avoided them. However, among those presences, this familiar yet unfamiliar dark scent stood out distinctly, as if his body was drawn to it intentionally.

"I feel like even though I forgot, my body remembers... who is this person to make me angry just by their scent alone? It's definitely not Aze because I can clearly sense their rank... So?"

Kyle glanced to his left and vanished, only to reappear above a cluster of boulders. He gazed down at the concealed narrow tunnel that descended underground towards one of the numerous buried chambers he had sensed in this land. In the next second, a cold smile crept across his face as he leaped and entered the tunnel.

"Well, whoever it is, I will figure it out after giving them a little beating, won't I? It won't take much time, I'm sure."

He blinked, and his vision adjusted to the darkness enveloping him as he walked through the tunnel leading down. After a minute or so, Kyle's eyes narrowed at the light at the other end of the tunnel.

He stepped out into an open area that shimmered brightly due to the slightly ajar, majestic silver gate adorned with various symbols that loomed across from him.

Kyle's eyes quickly focused on the few individuals fighting before the massive gate. The first thing that caught his eye was the blood pooling beneath their feet before he noticed a middle-aged human male, two male elves, a living male demi-

human, and the lifeless body of another middle-aged demi-human female.

His gaze narrowed at the middle-aged human who, along with the two elves, was attempting to kill the demi-human. But even after looking at the middle-aged man clad in a blue shirt with jet black hair and a pair of grey pupils, he didn't remember or feel anything.

"So, is it just his scent that's making me feel infuriated? I should inquire if that man recognizes me."

He had already sensed that none of the individuals in the group were powerful enough to confront him on equal terms. In the next moment, Kyle's floating body materialized behind the middle-aged man who was wielding a whip towards the demi-

human and gently tapped his shoulder.

Instantly, the middle-aged man who had a menacing grin on his face as he and the elves attacked the demi-human froze when he felt the fleeting touch on his shoulder. He snapped his head back, and his eyes dilated when he saw the familiar pair of green eyes staring down at him.

Leroy, the middle-aged man, for the first time since he left the blue planet through the ethereal tunnel to arrive on the Sacred Divine Land because he was able to construct a new body for himself with the help of the divine phoenix blood, felt like he was dreaming. After all, how could the human he had seen years ago on the blue planet... the very human who he heard disappeared, leaving behind the phoenix, appear behind him out of thin air?

His grey pupils trembled slightly because, even though he had only seen Kyle once before when he followed Istalian to check on the youngsters who emerged alive from the ancient realm, he could never forget those piercing green eyes.

These eyes were the very reason that instead of kidnapping the divine phoenix, he asked Istalian to use a more diplomatic approach to request the phoenix for her blood in exchange for treasures. Leroy's mouth fell open in a startled shout.

"You!? How did you get here?"

He leaped back from Kyle, who stared at him with emotionless eyes. The man was extremely shocked and wanted to know how and why the human who should have been on the blue planet was here! No way, the main question was how the heck did the youngster find him!?

Leroy made sure before he left the blue planet that the ethereal tunnel would be completely destroyed if anyone else used it after him to take revenge against Odiak, who in the past ordered a group of divine rank individuals to kill him! So... how?

The two elves fighting alongside Leroy kicked the injured demi-

human aside and glanced in his direction after hearing his loud and shocked exclamation. Leroy, however, paid them no attention; he simply began moving with the elves because he needed allies in this dangerous place. At that moment, he couldn't fathom just how this human had arrived here!

A sudden thought crossed his mind, sending him into a bit of a panic... If Kyle is here, does that mean the guardians of the Tower of Opportunity who survived when the ethereal tunnel collapsed are also here searching for him?

But why so soon? It's not even been five years since he arrived on this land!

Chapter 526 An enemy I need to get rid of

Kyle gripped the hem of his hoodie and pulled it back from his head. Instantly, his hair tumbled down to cover his neck as he scrutinized the middle-aged man opposite him from head to toe with a curious look.

'It's clear from his reaction that we both know each other. However, unlike Glacia, I can't recall anything even after seeing his face and hearing his voice.'

'Only his scent is making me uneasy, almost as if he's an enemy. Huh, I did say I would trust my instincts, so he should just blame that his scent is bad.'

Leroy calmed down when he noticed that Kyle was alone. He quietly extended his senses to check the youngster's rank, only to be caught off guard when he found out that the person in front of him had just recently stepped into the divine rank!

That was predictable since Kyle didn't bother to conceal his rank. He basically flaunted it, almost like he wanted everyone to see how strong he was. But once Leroy knew his rank, he let out a deep breath. The middle-aged man realized he had only panicked because Kyle had appeared behind him too abruptly!

Leroy shook his head and wanted to laugh at himself. Just what had caused him to panic upon seeing a divine rank person? Sure, Kyle was a threat to him back on the blue planet when he didn't have a physical form, but now that he had a body, he had almost regained all his former power! He was a transcendent rank individual for the world's sake! How in the hell could he get startled by a mere divine rank?

He just needs to finish Kyle off and leave before the guardians of the Tower of Opportunity arrive and find him. Yeah, that's right, he just has to kill this silver-haired human. Nothing else.

Leroy's expression brightened the more he thought about it, but before a smile could settle on his face, he stilled as a chill ran down his spine upon seeing an evil smile at the corners of Kyle's lips. The silver-haired man peered directly at him with those green orbs that threatened to swallow him whole. Then, a deep voice emanated from his lips.

"It's been a while, hasn't it? How about we reconnect and address any unfinished business from the past?"

"What do you say?"

The middle-aged man snapped out of his trance but then burst into laughter at Kyle's words. The two elves stared at him and the silver-haired man with furrowed brows. One of them even asked Leroy if he needed help, but he waved dismissively at the elves.

"No need. Just handle that demi-human. This silver-haired fellow is my target. After all, we do have a bit of a history, don't we? Let's reconnect, shall we?"

Kyle raised his brow at the man, and his feet finally touched the ground.

"Nice, I like it."

Leroy's smile faded, replaced by a menacing expression as his figure turned into a mirage, and he vanished from his spot. The whip in his hand crackled with dark energy as he struck it out at Kyle. The air quivered at the attack as he watched the whip edge closer to the silver-haired man's body, who stayed rooted in his place.

He and the two elves were at the initial stage of transcendent rank. The trio had been trying to take out two demi-humans who were both at the middle stage of the transcendent rank. All five of them found this place at the same time and just wanted to enter the hidden ancient tomb. It was only after they reached the silver gate and opened it that they discovered only a limited number of individuals could enter. Therefore, eliminating the others was necessary.

Kyle blinked as he witnessed the dark energy emanating from the whip. He couldn't help but question why the man seemed so slow in his movements even though the latter had reached the transcendent-rank.

'His foundation is weak...'

He could clearly see every single action of the middle-aged man as the man sprinted towards him with the whip handle tightly gripped in his hand before snapping the long slender leather lash towards him. But what made his relaxed demeanor change was the intense killing intent he perceived in the man's grey eyes.

Kyle's eyes turned indifferent, and he grabbed the whip when it was just an inch away from his body. He quietly muttered under his breath with a nonchalant voice as he witnessed Leroy's expression morph into one of pure shock and disbelief when he seized the whip.

"This won't be an enjoyable fight... But one thing's for sure — this man is definitely an enemy I need to get rid of."

The elves in the distance who had cornered the injured demi-

human were stunned when they witnessed the scene. They wanted to help the middle-aged man since, in the end, Leroy was their teammate. However, before they could even budge, Leroy's body was thrown backward, and the man cried out in horror and pain.

Kyle disappeared from his spot and reappeared in front of the man's body. And before the man could even get his balance back, his eyes dilated as Kyle clenched both of his fists together and slammed them down at his body.

In an instant, dust and debris scattered in every direction as the middle-aged man's body was driven deep into the ground.

The two elves in the distance and the injured demi-human quickly stepped back from the swirling dust, their eyes wide with disbelief. How could a transcendent rank be taken down so swiftly and effortlessly!?

They watched with bated breath as Kyle waved his hand, making the dust scatter in all directions before the silver-haired human grabbed Leroy's leg and pulled the groaning, bloodied man out of the crater without a single emotion on his face.

Kyle's grip on the man's leg tightened so intensely that a distinct, crisp sound of bone breaking echoed through the air, accompanied by the middle-aged man's painful cries.

Chapter 527 Does any one of you want to help him?

Leroy's head was spinning violently. He could not even make out what in the world happened because everything just unfolded too fast for his mind to grasp onto even a single thing.

He unconsciously wanted to crawl away from the agonizing hold on his leg, but before he could, his body was once again hurled upward before crashing painfully into the ground with a resounding thud that intensified the ringing in his ears.

Kyle mumbled a spell under his breath and controlled the wind around him to disperse the dust. He glanced at the two elves and the injured demi-human in the distance with a chilling smile.

"Does any one of you want to help him?"

The demi-human shook his head at him with an angry expression. He was already badly injured and wanted to witness at least one of the individuals who killed his companion die before his eyes.

On the other hand, the elves quickly retreated with horrified expressions. The duo had recently attained the initial stage of the transcendent rank, and after witnessing how effortlessly the silver-haired man defeated someone of a similar rank to them, they realized he was much stronger than they were.

No way, they wanted to get involved in this mess! They don't even know who Leroy is! Yes, they have no connection with the middle-aged man!

The pair swiftly shook their heads like the demi-human, but a chill ran down their spines when Kyle spoke up again, this time staring directly at them with eyes that glowed ominously for some reason.

"If you all don't want to join, then what the fuck are you doing here? Huh? Watching the show? Get out of here."

His words barely faded, and the two elves hastily scrambled toward the tunnel they came from to leave. Kyle's eyes narrowed sharply as he glanced at the demi-human who didn't move from his spot. A deep chuckle rumbled from his throat.

"What, didn't get my words? Need me to spell them out for you again?"

The demi-human opened his mouth to say something, but when he saw the silver-haired man stepping toward him, he gritted his teeth and also ran off towards the tunnel to leave the open area.

Kyle clicked his tongue with a scoff as he glanced at the man's fading figure. But a smile crept onto his lips as he moved next to the middle-aged man. Then he lifted his foot and firmly planted it on Leroy's uninjured leg to halt the man who was discreetly attempting to crawl towards the massive silver gate opposite them.

"Where do you think you are headed? I don't recall asking you to get lost as well."

Leroy clenched his fists, and another scream ripped from his throat when Kyle forcefully pressed his foot into his leg. His eyes contracted as the silver-haired man bent down in front of his face and roughly slapped his cheek a few times.

"Don't you dare pass out. I need to ask you some questions. If you tell the truth, we are good, but if you lie, I will break one of your..."

Kyle drawled his words as he scanned the man's bloodied body.

"... intact bones for each lie. I have a skill similar to a lie detector, you know?"

He lied with a straight face, thinking if a skill that can detect lies truly exists? Well, even if it doesn't, it's not like the man who is right under his mercy would have the audacity to question.

Leroy stared at the silver-haired man with a pair of horrified eyes. How could the human he remembered who hadn't even stepped into the pseudo-divine rank come so far as to make him so miserable?

His mind did not help much either because it was too jumbled up from the events that happened in mere moments. Moreover, his whole body was screaming with pain. So, he simply nodded his head at Kyle while he secretly started searching inside his mind space to find an artifact or anything that could save him from this situation.

He swore he would forget about the revenge he desired against Odiak and go into hiding all his life if he made it through the day! Ultimately, his life held the utmost significance. If he couldn't even survive, what purpose would revenge serve...?

But his expression sank only after hearing Kyle's first question... Leroy's lips quivered, and agony was evident in his grey eyes as he stared at the silver-haired man with shock and disbelief. Kyle offered him a smile that failed to reach his eyes.

"Well, well, you seem to understand the situation you are in quite well. So, my first question is: Who are you, and what enmity do we both have between us?"

Leroy wanted to scream so badly to ask the human if he doesn't even know him, then why the heck did he beat him half dead!? His eyes blazed red with veins flaring around the white surface.

In that moment, his mind cleared up for a while. He finally pieced together everything that had happened now and in the past. If he remembers correctly, Kyle had never seen him before, right?

Sure, the human felt his presence when he was hiding in Istalian's shadow, but that was the only time Kyle sensed him! They never crossed paths again, so why was the silver-haired man so hell-bent on ending his life? Right, he remembered he left behind a resonite gem on the blue planet to proudly inform the survivors that he caused the ethereal tunnel explosion... but if Kyle had seen that recording, he wouldn't have asked the question he just did!

Still, he swallowed all his protests, and fear was evident on his face as the green eyes glaring down at him grew impatient.

He wanted to plead, but his words got stuck in his throat as Kyle grabbed his hair and forcefully slammed his face into the ground with a click of his tongue. Leroy coughed up blood, and his eyes began to roll as a deep voice echoed in his ears.

"Do you expect me to wait around all day for a single answer?"

Chapter 528 At least, I didn't die

A frown was visible on Kyle's face as he gazed at the man sprawled before him. He got the answer to his first question, albeit somewhat vague. Perhaps the vagueness stemmed from his missing memories. The man disclosed his name and mentioned a planet known as the 'blue planet,' the birthplace of both him and Kyle.

Subsequently, he explained that their enmity was minimal since they had never formally crossed paths, except Leroy messed with the ethereal tunnel before leaving the blue planet. So, if someone attempted to use the tunnel to reach the Sacred Divine Land after him, they would either die or become lost in the vast universe if they were sucked into the messed-up ethereal tunnel.

The man did this to get back at his old enemy, Odiak, and planned to kill as many of the guardians of the Tower of Opportunity as possible.

Kyle let out a sigh, completely unaware of who these guardians were. However, one thing was certain — he had finally discovered his place of origin.

He quickly asked Leroy if the man had any knowledge about his family, friends, or acquaintances he had on the blue planet, but the man shook his head. Leroy only knew a thing or two about Kyle, mostly what he heard from Istalian.

Kyle's interest was piqued when all of a sudden the man hesitatedly shared information about his bonded beast. He was genuinely surprised to discover that it was not a muscular dark beast as he had thought but a beautiful fire phoenix.

"Bia... you say?"

He rolled the name on his tongue, and it felt more familiar than he expected. Almost as if he had called this name numerous times in the past. Kyle's demeanor relaxed a bit as he began to exert a little pressure on his head to remember anything about Bia, but unfortunately, even after a long minute, he had no recollection of the phoenix.

Now, he was curious and eager to see the phoenix, but his eyes darkened when he saw the man before him, who once again attempted to flee when he got distracted. Kyle let out a chuckle and stood up to gaze at the man's crawling figure.

"You didn't lie, I could see it from your body language, but that ethereal tunnel you mentioned... you know, I just formed a bad theory in my head. Do you want to hear it?"

Leroy clenched his fists when Kyle planted his foot on his back. Instantly, a bad premonition welled up inside his heart. He gritted his teeth and used all his willpower to retrieve the round teleportation bead he had found in his mind space after searching for so long.

His eyes lit up as he grasped the small white bead in his palm. Now, he would finally be able to break free from the silver-haired man's grip! He watched with bated breath as a few symbols illuminated above his clenched fist, but before the symbols could teleport him... Kyle casually flicked the symbols away with a bored expression.

Leroy's heart sank as Kyle grabbed his hand and peeled open his fingers to snatch the white bead. The silver-haired man clicked his tongue and threw the bead away.

"Just some low-rank symbols? I thought you would have a better trick up your sleeve to get out of this. Also, it's a shame you are not interested in hearing my theory."

Kyle placed his hand over the man's head, and unlike the first time, this time, sending his spiritual energy into another person's body to completely erase their memories and consciousness was rather smooth.

At first, Leroy was a bit confused, but when the pain hit him, he started screaming, yet Kyle's eyes remained eerily calm. After a few seconds, a light tainted with darkness left the man's body, and Kyle sensed that the latter had stopped breathing.

Kyle stepped back from the man's body and watched as blue flames engulfed the body before it transformed into an ice sculpture that disintegrated into particles and drifted into the air. The moment Leroy spoke about the blue planet, the ethereal tunnel, and how the man messed it up, Kyle connected the dots between the various incidents.

He couldn't recall how he ended up in the No Mana Land, and all he knew was what Hubert had told him — that the villagers found him in a bloodied state. But now he understood, and he was confident his theory was completely accurate.

Kyle, whether alone or with others, attempted to use the ethereal tunnel after Leroy, and the tunnel exploded. In the end, out of the two possible outcomes - death or being sucked into the tunnel - the latter likely happened to him. He was sucked into the ethereal tunnel and somehow ended up in the No Mana Land.

"At least, I didn't die."

He shook his head with a wry chuckle and glanced at the large silver gate that stood slightly ajar across from him.

After pondering for a moment, Kyle approached the door, but he didn't go inside the tomb. Instead, he gripped the silver door and spread out his scent perception skill. Before, he couldn't figure out what was in the different chambers he sensed buried underground due to the barriers around them. But now, as he stood in front of one of those chambers with the door open, he effortlessly extended his skill inside to explore its contents.

Kyle's nose wrinkled because the smell inside was ten times stronger than outside, especially the scent of decay and death. It was almost as if he was sensing remnants of someone. After a while, he let out a sigh and withdrew his skill because all the treasures within the chamber were linked to spiritual energy. Plus, even if there were treasures that contained divine energy, they weren't particularly useful to him.

He stepped away from the silver gate and closed it shut before walking toward the exit of the place, but at that moment, he saw a familiar small floating body of light approaching him from the distance.

Kyle clicked his tongue and this time just flicked the mystical spirit away with an annoyed expression.

"I don't want any more bugs around me."

He blinked and vanished from his spot, heading straight toward the presence he had marked. After all, the night was long, and it's not like he was sleepy.

Chapter 529 It's her... the person I marked

It didn't take Kyle long, not even a few minutes, to reach a vast, bustling area that was brightly illuminated even at night. He stood above a building and glanced at the myriad of people, each belonging to a different race, conversing or wandering among the numerous buildings scattered haphazardly throughout the area.

The location housed a collection of buildings likely constructed to accommodate individuals participating in the Gladiator Arena who lacked lodging. Kyle's gaze swept the area. He saw several stalls and shops selling various things among the numerous buildings. But he couldn't shake the feeling that despite the lively atmosphere, the air was heavy with tension, as if every person present was vigilantly keeping an eye on their surroundings.

He chuckled and gazed into the distance, away from the bustling area, because while he was on his way here, he felt a significant amount of dark energy spreading across the other half of the Sacred

Divine Land, gradually expanding to cover more ground. Also, he sensed many people with a scent similar to the demons he had recently come across on the elven planet.

"I suppose the air is tense because everyone is concerned about a potential attacks from the demons while they rest or sleep. But I wonder how so much dark energy manifested in this place?"

Kyle rubbed his chin and started walking on top of the building with a curious look.

"It's definitely not spreading because of the demons. They are probably utilizing some kind of artifact or array to spread the dark energy and corrupt this land."

He reached the edge of the buildings and wanted to jump towards another in the distance, but he halted when some powerful presences, which he was sure were of supreme rank or even higher, scanned his body for a second or two before vanishing into thin air.

Kyle's expression chilled, and he clenched his fists. He had sensed many powerful presences even before entering this place, but he didn't expect them to scrutinize every individual who entered the area to ensure they are not aligned with the dark side.

It's fortunate that his bloodline is in his mind space; otherwise, things could have taken a bad turn for him.

He let out a breath and jumped down from the building to blend into the crowd, aiming to avoid a repeat of the situation as he truly disliked being scanned by others.

After wandering through the crowd for a while, Kyle arrived at the area mostly occupied by elves, and his gaze finally settled on a familiar insignia — a graceful tree with intricate branches and leaves. He had encountered this exact insignia before, sketched on the attire of many elves on the elven planet. Kyle observed the group of elves, all of whom had an identical tree symbol on their attire, almost as if signifying their shared origin from a particular planet.

He covered his hair completely that was peeking out from the hoodie and closed his eyes to accurately pinpoint the location of the person he had marked. His eyes lit up because it wasn't far; it was very near. As Kyle moved through the crowd of elves, he approached a distant building where he noticed many elves with the same tree insignia on their clothes.

However, he stopped outside the building and furrowed his brows because he sensed some supreme-rank individuals inside. But after seeing a few demi-humans entering the same building, he followed suit and slipped in with them.

The ambiance inside the building was completely different from outside, and as soon as Kyle stepped in, his nose twitched at the delightful aromas of food wafting through the air.

He surveyed the area and noticed that the ground floor was filled with numerous wooden tables surrounded by chairs, where many elven men and women were actively taking orders and serving food and drinks to the people seated on the chairs.

"Would you look at this? They are having a great time here even though the demons are just around the corner."

He mumbled under his breath with a snicker as he weaved through the tables, but he quickly fell silent when an elderly elf at a far-off table shot him a sharp look.

Kyle's eyebrow twitched as he eyed the elderly elf who stroked his white beard and gracefully sipped the drink from the glass before him. However, even though the old geezer had averted his gaze, Kyle could keenly feel the latter's attention on him.

'Darn, can't he think I'm also here to eat? I never thought a supreme-rank person needs to eat too. Just why is he sitting with a bunch of youngsters-!'

His thoughts abruptly halted as his eyes unconsciously swept across the round table where the old elf was seated, only to pause at a particular face. It was an elven woman in a robe, and just like everyone else around the table, her white robe also bore a familiar insignia of a graceful tree.

Kyle's gaze lingered on the locks of long honey-colored hair cascading down her shoulders before settling on her amber eyes, which glowed warmly in the dimly lit atmosphere. His heart, which had remained silent for as long as he could remember, suddenly skipped a beat, and even though it was faint, he vividly sensed it when it quickened its pace.

He only realized he had been staring at the woman's face too intensely when the old elf, who had shot him a sharp look earlier, cleared his throat loudly and emphatically slammed his glass on the table.

Kyle jolted and instinctively spun around when he felt the old elf's eyes boring holes into his head. He could sense, even from afar, that the old man would surely gouge out his eyes if he stared a bit longer at the woman who was clearly among the people under the old man's protection.

Kyle blinked, once, twice, and a few faint images flashed through his head, but no matter how much he tried, he wasn't able to grasp them. In the end, he just let out a long breath and calmed his restless heart that had stirred just after seeing another face. He quietly muttered under his breath.

"It's her... the person I marked."

Chapter 530 You need a hand with something

Kyle noticed that after the elderly elf emphatically placed his glass on the table, many eyes turned towards him. He quickly scanned the area and casually chose an unoccupied chair at a table where some elves and two demi-humans were seated across from the elderly elf's table.

The elves and demi-humans were surprised when Kyle suddenly joined them and gazed at him with wary expressions. However, they relaxed when they detected his rank since he was practically flaunting it for everyone to sense.

They were about to ask him to leave their table, but before they could, Kyle cleared his throat and skillfully adjusted his hoodie to reveal his face a bit, then looked over at the elven woman seated nearest to him.

"Pardon me, miss, may I join you here?"

The elven woman blinked, taken aback by the pair of green eyes gazing at her eagerly. Before anyone else at the table could object to Kyle, she nodded slightly with a subtle flush on her neck, clearly charmed by the intense gaze upon her.

Kyle reciprocated with a brief smile that didn't last more than a few seconds. He softly uttered a quiet 'thank you', though internally he found his own actions somewhat awkward.

The other people at the table were all astonished by the exchange that happened before their very eyes and gazed at the elven woman with bewilderment. Her friend even whispered in her ear, questioning why she allowed a stranger to sit next to them. But the elven woman simply shrugged and remarked that it was because he looked handsome. The men at the table scowled at her comment and chose to ignore the hooded man who silently beckoned an elderly server to order some food.

After the server left, Kyle's eyes once again wandered to the table across from him. Some elves around him tried to talk to him, only to fall silent after being ignored by the man who treated them like thin air once he got what he wanted.

He gazed at the amber-eyed elven woman seated next to the old geezer who had given him a stern look earlier. Clearly, everyone else around her was dining, but she was evidently playing with her food, lost in her own thoughts. Kyle wanted to gaze a bit longer in the hope of recalling anything about her. But unfortunately, the supreme rank old elf sitting at her table was keeping an eye on him. So, he closed his eyes with a sigh and began to wait for his food.

'I know her name... it's Yue, right?'

He remembered the two elven women who had spoken to him on the elven planet and began to think about what else they had mentioned about Yue. They informed him that she was compelled to come to the elven planet... and when he connected the information gathered from Leroy with this incident, everything started to strangely fall into place. A sudden thought crossed his mind, and he opened his eyes in surprise.

'If she was forced to leave... Don't tell me I wanted to enter the ethereal tunnel to leave the planet so I could go find her? Oho, even though I have no memories of her, from my reaction, it's evident we were very close or perhaps we were lovers?'

Kyle wanted to chuckle at his own words, but his smile waned as he glanced at Yue. He let out a hum, finding it hard to believe, particularly his willingness to go to such lengths for someone else. The truth could only be revealed once the gap in his memory was filled.

'I need to talk to her alone, but how can I manage it when she's surrounded by so many people, especially that old geezer?'

He clicked his tongue and crossed his arms. The ambiance around him buzzed with myriad scents, particularly food, but everything faded as he began to craft a plan to share a private moment with the elven woman, all the while keeping an eye on her table to follow her whenever she left.

Suddenly, a few more elves joined Yue's table. They were all young men, which was fine until one of the elves with brown pupils whispered something in the ear of the person sitting in front of Yue, prompting them to leave their seat. The elf then took the vacant seat with a wide smile.

Kyle's crossed arms loosened as he gazed at the green-haired elf, whom he discovered was named Sebastian by listening to the faint whispers in the air.

The old geezer, who had previously given him a sharp look, now directed a similar glance at Sebastian, but the man simply laughed it off without a care.

It was tolerable when the bastard attempted to engage Yue in conversation despite her obvious annoyance. Kyle's eyes sharpened when Sebastian and the elves who arrived with him took out a

few glass bottles of liquor from their mind space they had purchased at a steep price from a stall outside. He sneered as Sebastian confidently claimed that the drink they had acquired was very strong and was rumored to intoxicate even divine-rank individuals.

The supreme-rank old geezer at their table, even though asked the youngsters not to drink just anything, seemed tempted to try the drink and sneakily took one of the bottles for himself.

It was very normal to have a drink with food, and Kyle stayed calm, but he reached his limit when Sebastian and his friends began pressuring everyone at the table to drink it, even including Yue.

"That bastard..."

The people around Kyle were startled when he cursed out loud with dark eyes. They glanced at each other, but before any of them could ask him what happened, Kyle abruptly stood up and left the table. Okay, he was officially pissed.

He walked toward an old server and inquired about where to settle the bill for the food he had ordered but had not yet reached his table. The old man pointed toward a counter in the distance where a young human was seated. Kyle nodded and approached the person, who gazed at him with a bored expression and requested some mana stones.

Kyle's lips curved into an evil smile as he retrieved the fruit filled with divine energy from his mind, which he had previously stored, and tossed it onto the counter. The blue-haired man at the counter was surprised and quickly stored the fruit before gazing at him with a knowing smile.

"So, you need a hand with something?"

"I do, first off, I need a room in this place, and the second..."

Kyle dragged his words and glanced at Sebastian as he placed his arm on the counter.

"See that elf over there? He's really getting on my nerves. Can you help me get him out of this place? I will handle the rest."

The blue-haired man's smile broadened as he looked at Sebastian.

"Just that? Sure, it's no problem."