

## Bloodline 611

Chapter 611 Can I enter this tomb without using its entrance?

"Where did he go!? Find him! This time I am going to punish him with my own hands!"

Ned, Vexana, and all those who had rarely seen Old Hal lose his composure were surprised when a powerful aura emanated from his aged body. They swiftly started searching for the silver-haired human, intending not to further upset the old man. Suddenly, a loud and familiar taunting voice echoed from the audience below.

"Well, if the old man doesn't want to give me a spot, then I guess I shall take my leave. It's fine even if I don't enter the tomb. I should heed the words of the elder one."

The folks near Kyle were startled by his voice. They quickly distanced themselves from the silver-haired man lounging atop a chair in the audience with a smirk. After all, they lacked the strength to confront him at that moment, and nobody wanted to incur his wrath after witnessing his strength.

Old Hal's eyebrow started twitching violently at his words as he looked down at the human staring up at him.

Unlike Ned and the others who swiftly dashed towards Kyle with lightning-fast speed to capture him, the old man remained firmly rooted in his place.

"You have got quite the nerve, don't you, young one? But do you honestly believe I would fall for the same trick twice?"

Kyle shook his head upon hearing the old man's loud words. He vanished from his spot as Ned and the others closed in on him, only to reappear in the air a short distance away from the old man.

"Of course, I am certain you won't. You are far more powerful than me. However, I'm kind of curious, can I enter this tomb without using its entrance?"

Old Hal's pupils shook with disbelief as he grasped the meaning behind Kyle's words. The human intended to enter the tomb using his teleportation skill. He knew this was doable as he had seen James using his teleportation skill multiple times to bypass the limitations of various restricted realms and forcefully enter inside.

"Don't!"

He yelled and exerted his power to pause the human because Kyle's body wasn't yet strong enough to withstand the pain that breaking the rules of such a powerful ancient tomb would cause.

The old man even lunged forward with all his might to seize the human body; after all, he didn't want to lose such a powerful individual! But his blue pupils enlarged as blood trickled down the jaw of the human floating before him.

Kyle's eyes flashed with a wild glint as he glanced at the old man's hands trying to seize his body. A sudden wave of pain pulsed through his body as he advanced in mid-air, and the space before him expanded to engulf his whole being in darkness, leaving only a faint remnant behind.

Old Hal gazed at the vacant space before him for a few moments before closing his eyes and furrowing his brow.

"Crazy fool... Just don't die."

He looked at the entrance of the old tomb and, without paying attention to the crowd below, quietly watched the people on the platform who showed no concern for Kyle and were determined to enter the tomb.

He just wanted to make sure the silver-haired man wasn't dead by seeing how many unfortunate folks, whose spots were taken by Kyle and his crew, couldn't get into the tomb. After a few minutes, the platform in front of the tomb gate was nearly empty, except for thirteen individuals who were unable to enter as they were pushed back by the entrance.

The thirteen unfortunate souls tried to force their way into the tomb and let out cries when the gate slammed shut before them. They stared at Old Hal, seeking answers for the injustice they had just faced. However, the old man paid them no heed, shifting his gaze to Vexana and the group assembled behind him.

"Our task here is finished. Our presence is unnecessary until those who went into the tomb emerge. I believe there's no need for us to linger here any longer."

The crowd below bellowed, questioning how such powerful figures couldn't even halt a few unruly individuals. The thirteenth unfortunate souls stared at the old man's back with disbelief in their eyes.

All the barriers encircling the arena shattered into particles, and the arena walls began to dissolve into the ground alongside everything within the towering walls. The audience, whose strength was suppressed by the power of the arena, was finally released, and they regained their power.

Right away, the guardians and relatives of the thirteen unlucky individuals, shedding tears on the dissipating platform, moved to confront Old Hal for the unjust treatment their people endured. They had earned the tomb's spot fairly but were denied entry! If this isn't injustice, then what is??

But before they could reach him, Old Hal and his companions disappeared into a fissure that opened before them.

Old Hal emerged from the fissure with Vexana and the rest onto a barren plain, devoid of any greenery and littered with countless skeletons. He sighed and massaged his throbbing head.

"At least he made it... I was certain he wouldn't, but that insane fellow did. With Kyle and all his companions, excluding the two beasts, the total number of spots they held within the tomb is 13... yet, how can that young man risk his life just to gain access to an ancient tomb?"

He sighed and looked at Ned, who hovered behind him.

"Return quietly and offer some treasures to the guardians and families of those thirteen unlucky folks to pacify them. I truly wish to avoid any more chaos when I return to the Sacred Divine Land to see those who made it back from the tomb alive."

Ned was taken aback and pointed at himself, looking bewildered.

"Me?"

Old Hal nodded with a frown.

"Who else goes by Ned around here?"

He waved his hand to dismiss him.

"Off you go. I know it won't be easy to calm the guardians and families of those thirteen unlucky folks, but take it as a punishment. You have really been a headache for me."

Ned's face fell, and he left the group with clenched teeth to go back to Sacred Divine Land. It was then that Old Hal retrieved the storage ring Nine had tossed at him.

"These dark contracts... I must bring them to James. Elizabeth departed hastily, so I couldn't inform her. I believe we will gain many allies by freeing those enslaved by the dark side."

The group disappeared towards one of the many floating islands above the desolate plain, scattered with numerous skeletons.

Chapter 612 So this is the lost treasure tomb...?

After using instant teleportation and entering the dark void, Kyle's body passed through many solid invisible barriers. Despite the darkness surrounding him and the sharp, tingling pain coursing through his body, he pushed forward with sheer determination and managed to cross the threshold. Yet, he lost his balance in mid-air when his body materialized inside the tomb.

His attire was drenched in blood, yet a slight grin adorned his face as he realized his body was intact. However, his smile waned as he coughed and struggled to halt his descent. Peering through his eyes, he beheld the sky above, engulfed in darkness and veiled by ominous murky clouds.

"So this is the lost treasure tomb...? Looks kinda eerie to me."

This was his last words as he chuckled and lost consciousness. His body plummeted like a stone, hurtling at breakneck speed before plunging into a lake of crystal-clear water with a resounding splash, startling the beautiful purple-winged creatures sitting near the lake out of their wits.

As he went into the water, the ripples spread out, distorting the reflections of the dimly lit torches hanging on the wooden structures and rocks around the lake.

The sudden splash disturbed the peaceful atmosphere of the water. The faint light played on the water's surface, creating spooky shadows that appeared to come alive in the flickering torchlight.

"What was that? A beast?"

A deep voice echoed in the air as a man, who appeared to be in his mid-twenties, hastily emerged from behind the many rocks encircling the lake. He scanned the surroundings with narrowed eyes and settled on a rock, his brows furrowed.

"No chance I misheard, I'm positive I heard a big splash in the water."

He inserted his pinky finger into his ear for a quick clean but halted abruptly, his soul nearly escaping his body as he locked eyes with the glowing green eyes shimmering within the lake before him. Quietly, the man reached for the heavy sword hanging on his back, a weapon with a lengthy sharp edge and a curved blade, ready to face the possessor of the eyes in the water.

However, before he could even grab it, the glowing eyes in the water disappeared.

"Huh?"

The man was about to dive into the water to check what was there since this place was his, but he stopped when he saw a pair of floating shoes that popped up out of nowhere. He lifted his head slowly to see who the shoes belonged to, and his mouth dropped open when he saw an ethereal,

striking figure floating in front of him. His eyes flashed with a glint, but he abruptly shut down his senses when he felt a powerful threat aimed at his life.

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Kyle blinked, and the water dripping from his clothes evaporated. He had employed instant teleportation to exit the water as he noticed someone... quite strong. He gazed at the man in front of him, exuding a powerful aura of supreme rank.

"Who are you? I am sure you are not one of the people who just entered this tomb."

With maroon-gray eyes, golden scales adorning his exposed skin in a blue outfit, and horns on his head, the man closed his gaping mouth and, instead of answering Kyle, exclaimed with pure joy in his voice.

"Oh my gosh!! Could it be that a hundred years have passed, and once again this tomb is open to the outsiders!?"

He leaped in the air, aiming to grab Kyle's shoulders with sparkling eyes, but his hands grasped nothing but empty air.

Kyle reappeared in the distance with a frown. He had a vague idea of why this man was here from the latter's earlier words but wanted confirmation.

"Who are you?"

The man's maroon-gray eyes showed sadness as he lowered his empty hand. He just wanted to feel the warmth of another living being. For over a century, he had been trapped in this tomb, fending off countless undead creatures.

"I'm Asher. A half-dragon and half-human. I entered the tomb a hundred years ago after earning a spot in the Gladiator Arena, but I became trapped in an ancient structure when it was time to leave and couldn't exit in time... Now that I see you, I know that finally, after all this time, the tomb has reopened, and I can leave!"

Asher laughed and raised his fist towards the sky with shining eyes.

"Now nothing can hinder me from going back to the outside world! My family and friends... I wonder if they even remember me? Well, I don't remember, so they might have forgotten as well. I was just one of the many sons of a wealthy family, striving to prove my worth by becoming stronger."

He kept rambling on, sharing all the pain and loneliness he had faced in the tomb. But Kyle, the one listening, didn't seem the least bit interested. Kyle turned around and left, and only then did Asher notice the empty space before him.

"Wait? Where did the human go!?"

Asher whipped his head around to face the beautiful purple-winged creatures, perched quietly by the lake, observing him.

"Number. 1, 2, 3, which way did the human go? It's nighttime, the hour when the undead beings awaken. He will die if he doesn't find shelter! I need to locate him! I can't allow the first human I have seen in so many years to die so easily!"

The winged creatures with round, smooth bodies simply gestured their wings to the left without a word. They were purple earthlings, one of the many monsters Asher had conquered in this tomb. He nodded and quickly followed behind the human.

However, nobody could describe his surprise when, after only a minute, he saw the silver-haired human dashing back toward the lake with a dark creature made entirely of bones and dead flesh, trailing behind him with lightning-fast speed.

Kyle cursed and leaped in mid-air to avoid the bony club aimed at him by the hideous creature that had suddenly risen from the ground when he used his scent perception skill and sensed a treasure beneath the dry ground, only to be confronted by a pair of glowing white eyes beneath the earth he tore apart using a spell.

Chapter 613 What about you, human?

Asher detected the rank of the creature trailing Kyle and, upon recognizing it was merely at the late stage of transcendent rank, he breathed a sigh of relief. Being only at the middle stage of the supreme rank, he needed to steer clear of all the undead who were more powerful than him.

Nonetheless, he wondered how the heck the human stumbled upon such a powerful undead in this area, especially after he had recently cleaned this place. Swiftly moving towards Kyle, who recoiled from the undead with a look of disgust, Asher whispered.

"Hey, I introduced myself, and you bolted. That's kind of rude. How about you share your name too? I can sense you're only at the divine rank, not quite ready to take this thing down. Introduce yourself, and I'll lend a hand. Sounds like a fair deal, doesn't it?"

He grinned with a hint of anticipation, but the human's words didn't quite align with what he had hoped for. Instead of saying, Yeah, let's be friends, help me out, Kyle mumbled to himself.

"I don't have gloves. Ugh, I really don't want to touch this thing; its body is emitting such a foul smell but well..."

Kyle had lost nearly all of his divine and spiritual energy when he forcefully entered the tomb after breaking its restrictions. Flying and using instant teleportation a few times was the most he could manage at the moment. Knowing this, he understood he had to rely on his fists for now. He grabbed a shirt from his mind-space, tore it swiftly, and wrapped the fabric around his hands so fast it left Asher a bit stunned.

Then, under the man's gaze, he advanced towards the undead, nearly three times his size, with all his agility. After dodging its weapon, he landed multiple punches on the undead's chest. Instantly, a pained howl burst from the undead's lips, and its white eyes dimmed as cracks spread across its bones, shaping its ribcage.

Kyle stepped back as the undead began swinging its weapons wildly, causing destruction all around due to its immense power. As he ascended into the air, ready to attack the undead again, his gaze fell upon numerous similar undead emerging from the distance, the exact location where he had previously disturbed the earth after sensing a treasure buried beneath.

"What the actual hell...?"

He blinked and used the last bit of energy in his body to vanish from his spot, dodging entanglement with them all. A few transcendent ranks were okay, but with no divine and spiritual energy, it was better for him not to push too hard and avoid tangling with so many transcendent rank undead. Especially since he had no idea what other obstacles lay ahead in this place.

Asher, who had been silently observing Kyle all this time, was somewhat surprised to witness how the human could engage a transcendent rank and inflict damage with his bare fist despite being only a divine rank. He blinked as the one he was monitoring vanished.

"Why did he leave? The undead is almost finished... just a few more punches would be enough to end it-!"

His words abruptly stopped as his senses caught onto the numerous powerful undead moving toward his location.

"Oh... I know why he disappeared!"

He shouted and quickly fled in another direction, away from the lake. The undead Kyle had attacked and injured followed behind him, with many others. But how could they catch a supreme rank?

Asher easily led them far away from the lake and, after making sure they wouldn't find their way back, he vanished from their view to return to the lake. He sat atop a rock, gently caressing the body of a winged creature to soothe his excited heart.

"I am surprised to see the outsiders have become so strong. A divine rank beating a transcendent rank with just fists? This generation seems pretty powerful. I am just hoping that the tomb exit opens up soon so I can get out of here. I know I will, but I am getting all worked up just thinking about finally leaving this place!"

He peered towards the far end of the lake, where a wooden pillar stood with a light.

"What about you, human?"

After receiving no reply, he approached the pillar with a wide grin.

"I already sensed your presence. Why hide, huh? Come out. Let's converse. It's been a long time since I have spoken to someone other than monsters."

Kyle didn't budge from his spot. He never meant to hide and knew Asher could sense him given the latter's superior strength.

He sat cross-legged behind the pillar to absorb divine and spiritual energy from the air. Prior to using instant teleportation, he had employed his scent perception skill and observed that every direction around him was filled with powerful undead.

Only the vicinity near the lake seemed relatively clear. Mentally calling out Bia's name, he paid little attention to the man who had slowly crept beside him, engaging in ceaseless chatter, as Kyle sensed no imminent threat from him.

'Bia?'

An immediate response came.

- 'Yes, I can hear you. I'm with Jian. We successfully entered the tomb with the rest. I'm not sure where the others are, but I can sense you're quite far from my location. I will come to find you.'

Kyle stopped her from coming to find him. It was better for her not to move when the sky above was nearly pitch black.

'This place is filled with undead. Did you and Jian encounter any? If yes, don't wander around and find a cave or a hidden spot nearby to hide until morning. Then you can head in my direction.'

His brows furrowed as silence fell momentarily. Moreover, he detected a touch of hesitation in Bia's emotions.

'Are you and Jian truly okay?'

He rose abruptly, surprising Asher seated beside him. However, before he could leave towards the location where he could sense Bia, her voice resonated in his mind.

- 'We are okay. No need to worry. But I will come find you as soon as daylight breaks!'

Chapter 614 A massive white creature resembling a spirit

Kyle's eyes reflected suspicion when he heard her words, but he chose to trust Bia's words and settled back down, closing his eyes to resume absorbing the divine and spiritual energy into his body. Asher narrowed his eyes at him.

"Human, are you talking with someone through a mind link?"

Unfortunately, he received no response. Asher moved back, annoyance evident in his eyes. He felt like he was talking to a wall. Then, a smirk crept across his face as he decided to use his trump card.

'Let's see how long you can keep quiet!'

He didn't hold much hope for the human to speak, given his strength, but he cleared his throat to give it a shot.

"Hey, I know nearly everything about this tomb, including where treasures can be found. It's like my second home. You are lucky to run into me right as you entered the tomb. Wouldn't it be clever to team up rather than keeping mum?"

Kyle opened his eyes and gazed at the half-dragon sitting across from him. Without hesitation, he assessed the pros and cons of having a supreme-rank ally who possessed extensive knowledge about the tomb. The benefits outweighed the drawbacks since he could escape using instant teleportation if needed.

"Nice to meet you, Asher. I'm Kyle. I hope you could share the knowledge you possess with me."

Asher's eyebrow twitched as the human regarded him with a solemn expression, as if he was on the brink of making the most significant decision of his life.

"You-!"

He let out a sigh, and a look of understanding crossed his face.

"Just forget it. I can't expect much from someone who seems to detest the presence of others. I bet you don't have any friends or allies. You are somewhat like my former self, always alone, with only one goal in mind: to grow stronger."

Kyle didn't bother to clear up the misunderstanding about not having any friends as Asher gave him a sorrowful glance. He continued to absorb the divine and spiritual energy from the air. In that instant, Asher brightened with a smirk.

"Kyle, a nice name. Now that we have become acquainted, I should give you a gift. How about helping you reach the transcendent rank? I can sense you have reached the last stage of the divine rank. There's a powerful platform nearby that can help you ascend to the transcendent rank as long as you are at the pinnacle of the divine rank. Would you like to use it?"

Immediately, an intrigued expression appeared on Kyle's face. A platform that can help him reach the transcendent rank? He had indeed gathered enough divine energy to reach the pinnacle of the divine rank while awaiting the tomb to open.

'It seems my decision to keep this half-dragon around wasn't so bad after all.'

Noticing Kyle's interest, Asher's smirk grew wider. Despite many years passing since his last interaction with a human, he knew that everyone values treasures, especially those that can boost their strength!

"So...?"

Kyle stretched his neck. He was slightly irritated by the faint scent of blood on his body from all he had endured, but he would address it later.

"What are you waiting for? Lead the way. I hope you know a secure route to reach the platform. I would prefer to avoid any conflicts with the undead."

Asher chuckled, a glint of pride shining in his eyes as he casually rubbed his nose.

"Well, I've pretty much cracked every secret of this tomb. I mean, I've spent a century all alone in here, just wandering about."

He began floating, and upon noticing Kyle trailing behind him, he rapidly extended his senses in all directions.

Kyle noticed the subtle energy emanating from his body but chose to remain silent. It seems that despite Asher's vast knowledge of the tomb, the man lacked the confidence to face the undead emerging from the ground to roam the land at night. Well, he couldn't really blame the half-dragon for that, as he himself had sensed a large number of undead surrounding them using his scent perception skill. Otherwise, why would he linger around the lake?

Asher's expression turned solemn as they left the area near the lake and stepped into the dark, desolate terrain scattered with rocky structures. Kyle observed the man growing quiet and extending his scent perception skill to ensure they evaded any monsters and undead in the vicinity.

Unlike Kyle, who remained quiet, Asher promptly spoke up upon detecting the faint energy emanating from Kyle's body.

"You possess a strong detection skill; I noticed it before as well, and I must say your skill truly surpasses my supreme senses. Hopefully, with you here, we won't run into a horde of undead."

Kyle arched his brow.

"A horde?"



He attempted to pat Kyle's shoulder but tutted when the human recoiled as if burnt.

"That's quite common around here."

Asher paused, mischief glinting in his eyes as he looked at Kyle.

"Do you want to witness something amazing?"

Without waiting for Kyle's response, he strode off in another direction, and with furrowed brows, Kyle trailed after him.

After some time, the two of them found cover behind a massive rock above a slightly raised terrain.

Asher grinned when he saw Kyle's calm expression shift to solemn as they secretly watched a horde of undead howling in the vicinity. More than half of the undead held the supreme rank, while the rest were at the transcendent rank, all moving around with huge bony weapons in their hands. Asher tapped the rock and looked at Kyle.

"What do you think? If they spot us, we are both goners, haha."

All of a sudden, he let out a sigh.

"Actually, it wasn't like this a hundred years ago when I entered the tomb; it was very unusual to come across a being above the transcendent rank here. But for some reason, the spiritual energy in this place began to surge rapidly when a massive white creature resembling a spirit showed up about fifty years ago. That's why the undead have become so strong."

Kyle's eyes were locked onto the undead when he heard Asher mention a massive white creature resembling a spirit.

His pupils shook, and only one thought crossed his mind – that Asher was talking about a Celestial spirit. The very same Celestial spirit he had seen in the No Mana Land, the one Aze desired. After all, only Celestial spirits hold such immense spiritual energy within them.

"You saw it, right? The massive white creature. Do you know where it is?"

Kyle's voice sounded vastly different from usual. It carried a touch of anger and even a hint of darkness. His hand, which was on the ground, clenched tightly around the sand he grabbed, enough to disperse the sand into mere particles. But Asher didn't seem noticed and let out a sigh.

"I only caught a glimpse of the massive creature once when it showed up in the sky and caused a commotion by releasing a ton of spiritual energy. After that, it just disappeared into thin air."

Chapter 615 You got something they lack

Kyle closed his eyes for a moment. Suddenly, he remembered his conversation with Bia. She sounded a bit hesitant, and now, seeing so many undead, a sense of foreboding crept over him.

Without a word, he disappeared from his spot, reappearing in the sky. He needed to locate both Bia and Yue. But they were both in different directions, so he headed towards the nearest one first.

Asher, who was taken aback by the sudden emptiness beside him, blinked. He turned his head back and noticed the human's figure floating in the distance.

"Where are you going!? Wait for me!"

He exclaimed suddenly, then quickly covered his mouth with his hands, wide-eyed. The howling undead nearby fell eerily silent upon hearing his loud voice.

"Oh no... Looks like I messed up..."

He really did, as when he jumped out from behind the rock where he was hiding, a heavy bony whip crashed onto the rock, shattering it into countless pieces.

"No no no!!! Don't chase me!"

He dashed through the air because, unlike Kyle, who vanished to a far-off place using his teleportation skill upon realizing the blunder he made, he didn't have any teleportation skills!

"You traitor! I thought we were buddies!! How could you abandon me??"

Asher cursed and his pupils dilated as he witnessed a multitude of weapons hurtling towards him! The undead even utilized their abilities to summon numerous fire, ice, and earth attacks in the air, all aimed at ending him! He chuckled through the tears, threatening to spill from his eyes.

"It seems I have encountered my first betrayal in friendship in this life. But does he really believe I would succumb to just a bunch of bones??? No way, I will flee and return stronger than ever-!"

His words were abruptly interrupted by a familiar voice echoing behind him.

"Shut up!"

Asher's eyes lit up. He knew deep down Kyle wouldn't betray him! Even though he could have gotten away from this place and the undead without a scratch, it would have been devastating for him if his first friend after all these years had ditched him.

However, before he could express his joy and gratitude, a hand emerged from the portal that had appeared behind him and grabbed his collar, pulling him inside.

Kyle tossed the man he had just grabbed aside with a click of his tongue.

"How the hell can you make such a big mistake? Even after living in this land for so many years, you have no brains."

Asher balanced himself in mid-air and scratched his head with an embarrassed smile. He was obviously the older one, but he had been behaving so childishly all along. But who can blame him? He was just too excited after meeting a human.

"Don't worry. I have collected many life-saving treasures from this land. So, even if I am surrounded by hundreds of supreme ranks, I can save myself. But I am glad you are worried about my safety."

Kyle's lips twitched violently. He wanted to ask the man, if he had life-saving treasures, why was he bawling and accusing him of betraying? But instead, he took a deep breath to steady himself.

He spun around and swiftly made his way to where he sensed Bia. Yue was quite a distance away from him. Asher noticed him leaving and promptly trailed behind. Flying through the air at high speed, Kyle detected numerous individuals who had entered the Lost Treasure Tomb below, battling the undead. He glanced at Asher from the corner of his eye.

"I'm curious, why are you tailing me? We have already passed by many humans and individuals of other races."

Asher smiled softly, but the next words that escaped his lips were something Kyle never expected to hear.

"Of course, it's because we are already friends, and, also... you have got something intriguing in your body that they lack."

Kyle paused in his place, a smile appeared on his lips, though his eyes lacked warmth. He reached for his weapon, and his sword appeared in his hand.

Asher glanced at the golden sword and clicked his tongue with a sigh. His face grew serious.

"I already told you we are friends. If I was some greedy person trying to attack you just to get the powerful thing inside you, I would have done it by now. So, put the weapon away. I promise on my soul, I won't tell anyone about it or harm you. If I do, may my strength never grow."

He scratched his chin with a mix of embarrassment and curiosity.

"I never intended to pry, but it happened accidentally due to a skill I possess. I'm really intrigued though, what's that thing? It's got some serious power, but honestly, I don't know what it is as I have never come across anything like it before."

Kyle didn't stow his sword back into his mind space. Instead, he fastened it to his waist with a cold expression.

"It's best for you not to uncover what's hidden. Otherwise, it won't end well for you."

Asher raised his brow at his words. He truly didn't aim to harm Kyle. The instant he felt the peculiar power within the human's body, he sensed a danger that clearly warned him he would face death if he even dared to touch the power within Kyle's body.

That's why when he first saw Kyle, his mouth was left hanging open because he had never sensed such a potent threat to his life before, not even when he was chased around by countless undead.

"Alright, alright, I hear you... I'm not trying to snoop around. I was just a tad curious. But seriously, where are we headed? Come on, give me a hint at least."

Kyle shot him a look and kept flying towards the west. He extended his scent perception skill even farther, but oddly, its range was getting disrupted and restricted whenever it encountered a creature of supreme rank.

"You don't need to tail me. I'm just searching someone I know."

Chapter 616 I can't believe we survived that...

Inside a dark cave, Jian struggled for breath, his muscles aching as he heaved several massive rocks to seal the cave entrance. Beads of sweat rolled down his face, combining with the dust.

The air was heavy with a musty, earthy scent, heightening the sense of foreboding in the oppressive atmosphere.

He slumped to the ground and wiped his forehead with his sleeve, trying his best to calm his irregular breathing.

It hasn't even been an entire day since he entered the tomb with the others, but he already felt like he would die any second.

Bia was lying sprawled on the ground behind him, also gasping for breath in her huge phoenix form, somewhat dirtied by dust from the life-and-death situation she had just crossed. Jian's voice echoed in the air as he glanced at the phoenix.

"Bia... what did you tell Kyle?"

Jian knew Kyle had reached out to the phoenix a while back when he and the phoenix were surrounded by a horde of undead. Bia sneered.

-"What else? I told him we are completely fine. He always lies; I learned from him. He can't blame me."

Jian chuckled at her words. The brief peaceful moment the duo shared didn't last long as the cave violently shook. Dust and debris scattered on their bodies, and in the next moment, Jian and Bia swiftly jumped from their positions to cling to the walls. As they did, a massive bony hand tore through the cave ceiling and entered inside.

The hand's fingers prowled the cave, seeking the human and bird concealed within as the duo held their breath, blending into the darkness to remain unseen. After a moment of probing, the hand retreated, eliciting sighs of relief from Bia and Jian.

The duo was actually doing pretty well when they got surrounded by a swarm of undead right after they landed in the tomb. But then, everything took a turn when a massive undead, towering twice the size of a building, rose from the ground.

Suddenly, a big white eye peered into the cave from the hole in the ceiling, instantly lighting up the area inside. Jian cursed and leapt swiftly towards the phoenix.

"Bia! Fly! Or we are dead!"

Bia spread out her massive wings and grabbed his body before swiftly soaring toward the gap in the ceiling. The eye staring at them moved back when golden flames erupted from the phoenix's body, burning everything in the surroundings. Jian shielded himself from the flames and held onto Bia's leg as she successfully flew out of the cave, before flying in the opposite direction from the colossal creature.

Jian's breath caught in his throat as he once again beheld the monstrous being before him. Its skeletal structure loomed ominously, draped in dead flesh, combined with a pair of glowing white eyes. In the center of the skeleton's chest hung a round plate engraved with a dim symbol.

"I can't believe we survived that..."

The undead's eyes shifted, locking onto the fleeing phoenix, and in an instant, its hand was already reaching towards the duo. Bia and Jian were ready to use all their energy reserves to push the hand back. It was this moment, Kyle arrived in the sky. His eyes narrowed when he witnessed the scene.

Asher halted in the air as the human did, gasping dramatically and attempting to reach out to Kyle for support, as they had been moving at a speed he rarely used. But before his hand could touch Kyle, the human vanished from his spot.

"What now!?"

His eyes immediately caught sight of the massive undead standing beneath him, and they widened with surprise.

"An undead king? How? They only come out from the ground once or twice a month. It's been a year since I've seen one of them!"

No one could describe his shock when he saw Kyle's figure materialize before the massive bony creature.

"No!! I have to stop him! These types of undead have consciousness! They can think and protect themselves!"

He quickly followed Kyle, but it was already too late. Under his watchful eyes, dazzling blue flames burst from Kyle's body as the human acted swiftly to position himself between the undead hand and the fire phoenix soaring in the air.

Kyle's eyes blazed with fury as he enveloped his fist in blue flames. Ice crystallized in the air around him as he moved forward and struck the colossal hand. A resounding tremor reverberated through the surroundings as his fist met the unyielding bones with a deafening impact. The undead staggered back, its white eyes flashing with a hint of surprise.

Jian's eyes widened at the sight, and the red-haired man quickly left Bia's side before flying towards the silver-haired man.

"Kyle!"

Bia tilted her head back at the noise and, upon seeing Kyle, she also moved towards him with relief in her eyes. She should have told him about the situation right away! Lying was really not a good idea at all!

Kyle's eyes were fixed on his fist. He glanced at the undead and then back at his fist, completely ignoring the voices echoing in his ears. He couldn't believe it... the bunch of bones didn't even crack when he used more than 80 percent of his strength. This very strength was sufficient to kill a transcendent rank.

A thought flashed through his mind. This place was dangerous, yet both Bia and Jian were taken aback when they noticed pure excitement and thrill gleaming in his eyes. Bia transformed back into her small form and slammed her body into his shoulder when she saw the undead attacking again.

-"Dodge!!"

Jian whispered numerous spells under his breath at a speed no one could catch before several earth walls emerged before the trio to stop the undead, which had swung the bony chain hanging on its waist toward them. In an instant, all the walls shattered, but before the attack could reach them, a massive portal materialized before them to engulf the aimed attack.

Jian nearly lost his balance in mid-air, his heart pounding thunderously.

"Thought we were goners for a sec..."

Chapter 617 Next time, don't lie to me

Asher, who had seen everything from beginning to end, was at a loss for words. His mind raced, pondering just how powerful Kyle was.

The human just rocked the balance of an undead king with a single punch! Not just any undead, but an undead king! A creature with the power of peak supreme rank and the ability to command all weaker undead!

He knew the undead body was merely bones and lifeless flesh, far inferior to a true supreme rank entity. But for the world's sake, Kyle was only at the divine rank! How the hell did he manage to pull off such an extraordinary feat?

If only Asher knew that the human was dissatisfied with what he had achieved, he might have been tempted to pull his hair out in frustration.

Kyle looked over at the phoenix and Jian, who were struggling to catch their breath. Their exhausted state indicated they had been battling the undead since their arrival in the tomb. He swiftly sketched a series of symbols in the air, creating another portal, and pushed both Jian and Bia inside.

The duo cried out in surprise, but their voices faded as the portal in front of Kyle dissipated into nothingness.

He quickly used instant teleportation and disappeared just as the undead launched another attack, this time from a different direction to avoid the massive portal that had previously interrupted its assault.

Kyle reappeared before Asher, who was watching the scene with twinkling eyes. The half-dragon was taken aback as the human seized his collar and stepped into another portal that appeared before them.

Asher cursed as Kyle flung him aside upon emerging from the portal, which vanished behind them. The half-dragon steadied himself in mid-air and clicked his tongue.

"Why so rough? Couldn't you have just asked me to step through the portal instead of grabbing me like a rag?"

He grumbled, taking in the familiar surroundings. The crystal-clear lake and the beautiful purple-winged creatures perched on the rocks encircling it. It was the exact spot where he first encountered Kyle.

Bia and Jian were there too, hovering above the calm lake. When they spotted Kyle, their worried eyes brightened with relief, and they hurried over to him. Jian let out a sigh as he watched Bia landing on Kyle's shoulder.

"You never fail to worry us! Why send only us through the teleportation portal? You should have come with us!"

He blinked when Kyle's eyes narrowed sharply, and the silver-haired man swiftly plucked the phoenix off his shoulder with two fingers. A stern expression appeared on Kyle's face as he locked eyes with Bia.

"I'm certain, Bia, you told me that you both are doing great. So, what was that I just witnessed, huh? When did you pick up lying, Bia? I don't recall teaching you that."

The crimson bird averted her gaze with a guilty expression. It was true that she lied, so she couldn't say anything in response to Kyle. Jian also fell eerily quiet; just like Bia, he could feel Kyle was angry at them.

Asher observed the unfolding drama from the sidelines with keen interest. It's been a hundred years since he enjoyed such a good show, after all.

Kyle closed his eyes for a second and let out a sigh before glancing at the phoenix with a soft expression.

"Next time, don't lie to me. I'm not scolding you. You know it's risky. What if I hadn't shown up? What could have happened to you and Jian?"

Bia agreed but also expressed her frustration after he was done.

-"Ugh... I know. But you always do this! You lie whenever you are in danger! You should act the same way!"

Jian nodded in agreement, recalling the time when the silver-haired man prevented Bia from locating him a few years back and faced whatever danger he was in alone! The duo knew they weren't as strong as him but they wanted to lend him a hand whenever he was facing danger! Yet, he consistently chose to handle everything alone!

Kyle's lips curved into a faint genuine smile as he gazed at the phoenix in his hand, then shifted his gaze to the red-haired man. He could clearly see the worry and care they held for him in their eyes.

"Well, that's in the past. I wouldn't do that again unless it's extremely dangerous."

Bia wanted to argue, but Kyle snapped his fingers, and water materialized around the phoenix's body to cleanse her of all the dust and sweat clinging to her.

She grumbled at the cold water but stayed in his hand as he placed her back on his shoulder once she was clean and dry.

As the tension eased, Jian finally pointed at Asher, who had been staring at them with a wide, unpleasant grin.

"Who's that now? He's really getting on my nerves, especially with that smile."

The smile on Asher's face disappeared after hearing his words. He abruptly closed in toward Jian, startling the soul out of the man's body before grabbing the red-haired man's hand to introduce himself.

"Hey, I'm Asher, a half-dragon and Kyle's friend. Nice to meet you. What about you?"

Jian's eyes flickered with surprise. He was not able to sense Asher's strength, and now, seeing him move so swiftly, he could barely react. He knew Asher was at least at the late stage of the transcendent rank!

"Ah... my name is Jian."

He introduced himself but glanced at Kyle for confirmation if this person was truly his friend, and after receiving a nod from the silver-haired man, he shook Asher's hand, grabbing onto him.

Jian blinked with bewilderment when Asher's eyes welled up, and the man's grip on his hand tightened impossibly.

"You are warm..."

Jian snapped his hand away from the half-dragon grip and moved back in mid-air.

"What the hell!?"

Asher paused, taking a deep breath as he fixed his gaze on Jian with eyes filled with gratitude and embarrassment.

"Sorry, I become somewhat emotional because it's been a hundred years since I last touched another soul."

Chapter 618 Where did my prey disappear to?

Jian glanced at Kyle with a confused expression, trying to understand what was going on with the half-dragon before him. But the silver-haired man placed Bia on his shoulder and quickly formed a portal.

"Just ask Asher; he will tell you what you want to know. I'm heading out to find Yue. This tomb is extremely dangerous, but this place seems safer than the rest, and I'm confident Asher knows many other secure locations. So, stay put until morning. I will return swiftly after ensuring Yue's safety."

Hearing his words, Bia wanted to follow him, but since she had depleted almost all her divine energy fighting the undead and needed time to recover, Kyle suggested it was best for her to stay with Jian.

Bia gave a grumpy nod, and the trio observed as the silver-haired man entered the portal. Just before Kyle vanished, Asher heard his voice resonate in his mind.

'Don't you dare pull any tricks while I'm away. I will be keeping tabs on everything through Bia. I'm not asking you two to protect them. They can protect themselves. Just let them stay here until I come back.'

Asher's eyes widened at his words.

'Huh? But I'm going to follow you! Wait, wait-!'

He leaped toward the portal, but it disappeared into particles under his stunned gaze. It took the half-dragon a few seconds to regain himself and glance at Bia and Jian, who were staring at him with cautious expressions. He sat down atop a rock with a sigh, grabbed a winged creature in his arms, patted the place next to him with a smile, and called Jian.

"Come sit. Tell me what do you want to know? I enjoy chatting, you know, and I have loads of stories to share. How about we sit down and talk over some food?"

Bia narrowed her eyes.

-"Food here? Your words are very fishy, half-dragon."

Jian's eyebrow twitched at her words. The phoenix seemed more interested in food. Floating away from Asher, he settled on a rock far from the half-dragon.

"Alright, spill it. How did you become friends with Kyle so fast? We barely set foot in the tomb... Don't tell me you're trying to take advantage of him after seeing his strength in the Gladiator Arena!"

Asher shook his head with a melancholic expression and gazed at the sky.

"What are you talking about? Taking advantage of someone is not something I need at this stage. After all, my mind space is filled with countless treasures I have collected in the past hundred years.



As for what happened in the Gladiator Arena, how would I know about it when I haven't even seen the outside world for so long?"

Jian's eyes widened as he grasped the meaning behind Asher's words. Bia too comprehended the situation.

The duo had their doubts when the half-dragon mentioned that he hadn't touched anyone for a century. But now their suspicions have been proven true! Asher had been in the tomb for a hundred years! This implies he entered the tomb with the previous group of winners from the Gladiator Arena!

However, the lingering question is: why is he still within the tomb? Shouldn't he have left when the tomb exit opened?

Seeing Jian and Bia's shocked expressions, a grin spread across Asher's face. This was precisely the reaction he had hoped to see when he revealed his identity!

"Their reaction is a lot better than someone who only gave me a faint, almost invisible frown after learning I have spent a hundred years in the tomb!"

He was talking about Kyle. The human response somewhat left him dissatisfied. Asher cleared his throat and donned a somber expression.

"I know everything about this tomb. You don't have to worry about me; Kyle's my friend, so I won't hurt anyone he knows. But I'm quite curious how that iceberg managed to make friends. I thought he would be a loner like me, given his personality."

Jian and Bia exchanged astonished looks. They were amazed that Kyle had come across this half-dragon right after entering the tomb! The duo silently decided to gather all the information from Asher since they were stuck with him until morning and began questioning the man, who was more than willing to chat with them.

....

After parting ways with the trio, Kyle returned to the exact spot where he had found Jian and Bia. He looked at the vacant space in front of him with a frown.

"Where did my prey disappear to? I left for a minute, and it slipped away?"

The undead creature, which he couldn't defeat with his strength, had vanished. He had come back expressly to shatter it into multiple pieces, but it appeared he was a tad too late. He clicked his tongue with a cold expression and vanished toward the place where he could sense Yue.

Just a minute later, he stopped before a narrow entrance that led to an underground tunnel, concealed among scattered bones. His gaze darkened as he detected the scent of fresh blood in the air.

Entering the narrow passage, his eyes nearly turned crimson as he felt Yue's vivid presence just a short distance away. Kyle clenched his fists and hastened his steps, his heart leaping into his throat.

He had heard many screams and seen numerous fights on his way, but he didn't bother to glance at the fighters as their scents were unfamiliar. However, if anything happened to Yue, he swore he would completely destroy this tomb!

Relief lit up his eyes, and his tense body eased as he reached the end of the tunnel and spotted Yue seated, leaning against a wall. Nox sat beside her in silence.

Kyle didn't even hesitate for a second and scanned her entire body, only to notice that her leg was injured. He moved forward, and the soft noise he made caught the attention of both Yue and Nox. The elven woman grabbed the weapon beside her and inquired with a commanding voice.

"Who is it?"

Chapter 619 Perhaps a different race?

The tunnel was cloaked in darkness, mirroring the night sky outside. Yue refrained from igniting a fire in the underground space out of fear that the light might trigger more undead to rise from the ground. Regardless, being a divine-rank, she could see everything in her surroundings clearly even amidst the darkness.

She signaled to Nox to prepare to confront the intruder who had entered the tunnel as she tightened her grip on her bow. The duo had both used up their divine energy while defending themselves from the undead that surrounded them upon entering the tomb, but they still had some spiritual energy left in their bodies. So, they were confident they could defeat whoever entered the tunnel.

Yue sighed with relief and lowered her weapon when she sensed a familiar presence stepping toward her.

"It's you..."

Kyle swiftly approached her, his eyes were gleaming in the darkness as he sat down in front of her to assess her injuries.

"You require treatment. And what about Nox? Is the lynx injured too?"

He scanned her body and noticed her clothes were stained with blood. Yue flinched as he placed his cold palm on her right leg, just above the injury where she had applied a healing potion.

"Nox isn't badly hurt, and I gave him a healing potion."

Kyle nodded and noticed that the wound on her leg was healing steadily. Nevertheless, he traced her skin, and a soft spiritual glow radiated from his palm to ease her pain and hasten the healing process.

"Don't move."

She froze and observed as he flicked his fingers, causing water to materialize in the air to cleanse her skin of the blood before a subtle icy sensation radiated from his palm, swiftly healing her wound in an instant.

"Finished."

Kyle released her leg, his eyes flashed with amusement when he noticed her remaining perfectly still, even to the extent of holding her breath to avoid any movement.

"You're free to move now."

Yue nodded and brushed her fingers over her skin, now clear without a trace of blood. A question arose in her mind.

What was that icy sensation? It felt markedly distinct from the usual coldness emanating from Kyle's entire body.

She might have pondered further if she hadn't caught the amused sparkle in his eyes fixed upon her. Instantly, a flushed expression spread across her face.

"What...?"

Kyle arched an eyebrow. Was she thinking about something else? He leaned towards her, and a chuckle slipped from his lips when she closed her eyes.

At the sound of his voice, Yue's eyes snapped open. Instantly, her face flushed even more with embarrassment as she caught him gazing at her.

"You-!"

Her words faded as he leaned in swiftly, planting a gentle kiss on her forehead with a smile before embracing her in his arms.

"You did great... but I hope next time you contact me when you are in danger. I can't bear to see you injured."

Nox's eyebrow twitched at the scene. He had been quietly watching the duo from the sidelines. He shook his head with a sigh and turned away, not sure if it was a good thing that he had gotten good at fading into the background when he wasn't needed.

Outside the underground chamber, a resounding bell reverberated throughout the entire Lost Treasure Tomb.

The sound was powerful, nearly creating ripples in the atmosphere.

After the bell's toll, a brilliant light illuminated the entire tomb, clearing the sky and dispersing the dark clouds, revealing a stunning morning sky, though lacking a sun, it shone brightly.

The many individuals, who had been fighting the undead since they entered the tomb to protect their lives and survive, let out cries of relief as all the surrounding undead were suddenly engulfed by the ground below and disappeared.

Those who had fought the undead creatures tirelessly had no energy left in their bodies to appreciate the magnificent view that unfolded all around the Treasure Tomb when the sky finally cleared.

Kyle and Yue emerged from the underground tunnel upon hearing the commotion outside. Nox trailed behind.

As Yue and Nox briefly shut their eyes from the intense light in the sky, Kyle remained unaffected. He noticed a shadow beside him and turned to behold a grand marble statue standing in the distance.

It was old and damaged, with a missing arm and part of its face, yet it clearly represented a male human. However, the statue's eyes were peculiar, featuring two straight slits carved into its pupils.

"Perhaps a different race?"

Yue and Nox caught his whisper and turned their gaze toward the statue. It loomed tall, nearly three times the size of a building, casting shadows over the ground.

Nox climbed on Kyle's shoulder.

"It looks human except for the eyes."

Kyle nodded, but they didn't head towards the statue because he needed to fetch the phoenix first. Furthermore, he had to visit the platform Asher mentioned, which could help him achieve the transcendent rank.

He had informed Yue about the platform, and she, along with Bia, could also benefit from it since the duo had reached the final stage of the divine rank.

As Kyle and Yue soared through the sky, their eyes caught sight of many statues belonging to different races standing in various directions around them. The land below was barren, littered with bones, and only a few trees were visible.

Kyle conjured a portal leading straight to where he had left Bia and Jian, and stepped inside with Nox after Yue.

Upon appearing above the calm lake, his eyes instantly narrowed at the red-haired man and the phoenix. The duo was sitting on the same rock as Asher, eating cooked meat and listening to the half-dragon who was talking non-stop.

Kyle's gaze paused on the meat in their hands, not because something was wrong with it, but because it was from the same purple-winged creatures Asher had been fondly caressing earlier.

'He cooked them...? I thought the beautiful beasts were his companions.'

His eyes shifted to the few surviving purple-winged creatures. They were sitting at the edge of the lake together, gazing at the half-dragon with sheer terror.

'....'

Right away, Kyle realized they weren't Asher's companions but just stocked food the half-dragon had gathered for himself.

Chapter 620 Three powerful figures?

Upon noticing Kyle and Yue, Jian and Bia quickly approached them, inquiring about Yue's well-being. Asher cast a glance at Yue with admiration in his eyes, but before he could approach the elven woman, Kyle halted him with a dark expression.

The half-dragon blinked and withdrew from the lovely elven lady with a sigh. Why are all the gorgeous people always taken?

Bia swiftly landed on Kyle's shoulder and promptly lifted one of her feet to kick Nox away with a sharp gaze. The lynx gasped at her with disbelief but, upon meeting her gaze, he quietly left the silver-haired man's side. But he almost spat out blood when he tried to sit on Yue's shoulder, only to be kicked by the phoenix once more.

-"You're not a helpless cub without the strength to fly. It's a part of your training to become stronger. You mustn't sit. Otherwise, you will grow lazy."

Kyle's eyes flickered with a touch of amusement at the phoenix's sharp words. Yue and Jian both stifled their laughter, and Asher was simply speechless, witnessing the lynx obediently nod at the little bird as if she possessed supreme strength.

She did seem unique in some way, but ultimately, she was just a bird... little did he know that he would soon regret his words and follow in Nox's footsteps.

Kyle reached out to caress Bia's head on Yue's shoulder to distract her. He glanced at the sky with narrowed eyes.

"Asher, you need to tell us what happened. I can't detect any undead anymore. It's as if they all vanished the moment the strange sound of the bell rang out in the air."

However, before Asher could reply, Jian raised his hand with a smirk.

"I know. Let me explain. The bell sound is like a warning mechanical alarm in the tomb that goes off when the sky is going to clear or get dark. In this tomb, there's no sun or moon, so day and night come suddenly without any warning."

Asher and Bia nodded.

"The bell is the only sound that signals the end or beginning of the day. Moreover, when the sky clears, the undead disappear, but when it darkens, the undead show up to harm everyone around."

Kyle raised an eyebrow. It looked like they were safe from the undead during the day and only had to worry about them at night. This setup was way better since nobody could handle fighting or being constantly surrounded by the undead creatures.

"What about the statues scattered throughout the tomb?"

Jian gestured to his right, far from the lake where they were floating, another marble statue stood. It was mostly shattered, but half of its form remained upright.

"Are you referring to those? They serve as the entrances to the trial grounds where we can undertake various challenges and get different treasures as rewards. The trials also hold the remnants of many races and their legacies, gathered by three powerful figures thousands of years ago. Some of these races are unknown and have vanished into history."

Kyle let out an 'Oh'. He had some suspicions, but now they were confirmed. However, a look of surprise crossed his face when he learned that everything in this tomb was gathered by certain individuals. Wasn't this meant to be an ancient tomb? Why was he hearing that everything inside was gathered by just a bunch of people?

"Three powerful figures? Who?"

He asked with curiosity. If they built this tomb, why weren't they famous? And why did they do it? For the future generations?

Jian scratched his head with a sigh and glanced at Asher because the half-dragon hadn't said a word about the three powerful individuals yet. Catching his gaze on Asher, Kyle's eyes shifted to the half-dragon too, who cleared his throat with a serious expression and gazed at the sky as if he was about to share the most significant information he possessed.

"Those three individuals... even after being here for a hundred years, I couldn't dig up much about them. Their names were never disclosed; I found many old books from the trials I cleared and spotted loads of ancient writing on the statues. But they only ever mentioned that three powerful figures created this tomb."

Kyle rubbed his chin with a frown, but after considering that knowing about the three people was probably useless, his curiosity died instantly. He glanced at Asher.

"Let's just forget about them. We are not here to uncover the history of this tomb but to grow stronger. Now that the undead are no longer around us, Asher, guide us to the platform you mentioned last night that can assist those at the peak of divine rank in reaching the transcendent rank."

Jian and Bia's eyes widened when Kyle spoke, and they both glanced at Asher, who facepalmed after hearing Kyle's words. He had not informed the bird and red-haired man about the platform.

The half-dragon smiled wryly, sighed, and looked at the silver-haired man.

"You know that was a privilege I only granted you because you were the first friend I made after so many years... I never expected you to share it with everyone. Well, I can't do anything now that they all know. Just come with me."

Jian and Bia gazed at Asher's head with solemn expressions as he headed towards the statue Jian had pointed out earlier. The duo thought Asher was their friend after sharing a good meal with him, but it appears they were utterly mistaken.

Feeling their gaze, Asher shot a look back with narrowed eyes, but the duo turned their eyes away and chose to ignore him.

'Did I make a mistake...?'

The three individuals and two beasts around the half-dragon silently followed. It didn't take them long to reach the statue.

They paused under the broken statue, which bore the likeness of a woman, and promptly spotted a small square marble structure adjacent to it. An open entrance in the structure, obscured by dust and spiderwebs, led into darkness.

Kyle glanced at the entrance, but before he could wave his hand to clear the dust, Yue murmured a spell and swept all the dust away from the entrance. He smiled at her, and his eyes caught sight of a few strange symbols engraved on the wall of the structure next to the entrance.

"Hmm?"

He looked at Asher, who entered the dark entrance without a care, as if he already knew all about what lay inside. Jian, Yue, and the two beasts followed behind him.

Kyle extended his scent perception skill to ensure they avoided any traps and entered the entrance behind them.

But before proceeding, he glanced at the symbols once more. They weren't clearly visible, but as an array master, he took note of them and unconsciously traced them in his mind to learn them, even though he had no idea of their purpose.