

CHILD OF DESTINY

Chapter 2 Shin Kinghad



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For as long as I could remember, I had been living in this hell since I was 3 years old. How did I know? It's because I happened to see the record book of all the children that had been brought here.

When were they brought here?

What were their ages when they were brought in?

Where did they come from?

What was their background?

For how long had they been in the camp?

How much did they improve?

Practically everything they knew about the kids was in there. Some of them were found from the streets or the slums, with no parents and no clear background.

I tried to find something about me, but unfortunately, all I got was my age when I had been brought in and the place where they took me from. It was in

an amusement park in the 'Eastern Blue District'. Aside from that, I've got nothing.

In this place, we had to follow a very strict schedule.

Waking up at 5 in the morning to some martial-art training.

Taking different kinds of lessons after breakfast and then continuing after lunch.

Medical and medicinal knowledge, different kinds of languages, all kinds of musical instruments, various types of visual arts, science and technology, and mathematical knowledge.

They would teach us all kind of things.

In the afternoon, we had to do some obstacle training and then sparring with the other kids afterwards.

Then go to sleep after dinner.

Here Strength was Supreme, while Knowledge was Power.

If you were not strong enough, you were going to get beaten up so badly that you couldn't even feel your own body anymore.

If you were not smart enough, there was no food for you to eat.

If you were not good enough then you were going to sleep on the floor with no blanket.

I had been living this kind of dull life for almost 4 years.

Beating up others so that I would not get wasted.

Outshining everyone to get some food.

It was like living in a dull, monochrome world. And I thought I was going to live like that for rest of my life.

Until that girl entered the camp. Clear blue eyes that were full of life, a perfect, oval face, long and soft silver hair and a smooth jade-like skin. She was an energetic and charming girl.

She always smiled at others as if she was not affected by what was happening in her surroundings. Treating other's wounds when they were hurt, sharing her food with those that failed the test and encouraging everyone to do their best.

Then I found myself too close to her. We were always talking to each other when we had some time to spare. There was nothing that I could share with her, but she always used to tell me about the life outside this place. Sometimes, she even talked about her family. She always treated me as her little brother.

I don't know why, but I just got attracted and became dependent on her. And I promised myself that I would protect that beautiful smile of hers.

But life is too cruel. I couldn't do anything to save her when she was executed in front of everyone. And what was worse was that she was executed because of someone else's fault. They said she was trying to escape, but truth was, she was preventing others from escaping. They accused her so that they wouldn't get punished when the warden discovered their plan. They betrayed her and pushed her to her death.

I hated myself at the time for being too weak to defend her innocence! I hated myself for failing to protect that smile!

And because of that, I trained even harder so I could avenge her death.

Even though I had become stronger than them, I still couldn't kill them yet. All I could do was beat them and break their bones during sparring matches. And even though I was always first in everything, I felt really empty because I

couldn't have my revenge. So all I could do was wait. Wait for the perfect opportunity to send them to meet her on the other side.

Then one day the Boss presented me the perfect opportunity to strike.

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A car was traveling to Royal Capital City. And inside it, Shin was sleeping peacefully. A few moments later, he opened his eyes after a long dream and muttered to himself, "So that's what happened".

Even though he was quite confused because of some missing events in his memory, his lips still formed a bright smile. He looked outside the window and whispered, "I have finally avenged you Big Sis. I hope you are happy over there."

When Captain Springfield saw that Shin had woken up and was whispering something to the air, he smirked and said, "Still dreaming? We're almost there, so you should adjust yourself to face a new environment".

Shin gave a side-eyed glance to him and said, "I'm a trained young mafia agent and not some ignorant caveman that doesn't know anything about the world OK?"

The corner of Captain Springfield's smile twitched when he heard Shin's reply. "Hey kiddo, you should learn how to respect your elders."

"But not all elders are respectable." Shin's rebutted. Then he continued to look outside the window.

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In a Villa in the outskirts of one of the City in the Western Plains Region, a man was lying on a bed. His right arm was swathed in bandages, while his right leg was wrapped in plaster. This man had a triangular face with small,

cunning eyes. He had a diagonal scar on the corner of his brows. He was 'Snake Head', the Boss of the notorious 'Black Serpent Mafia'.

A man in a suit entered the room while holding a pile of books. After he put it on the table beside the bed, he turned around to leave, but he stopped his feet when he heard Snake Head's voice.

"What's the progress?"

The man turned to face his boss and said, "We are doing our best to find that B*stard's location. He is going to suffer an outcome worse than death for betraying us!"

Then he helped the boss to get into a more comfortable position before continuing, "As for that kid at the base, we have encountered a very troublesome situation. He was taken away by 'Bernard Springfield' into the Capital City of Main Region to be taken under his wing. And by the looks of it, he is going to adopt the kid so that he can monitor him more closely."

Snake Head fell into deep thought when he heard about the kid being brought into the Capital City of the Main Region, deliberating the pros and cons of the situation. After some consideration he said, "Forget about it, if he is planning to adopt the kid then it is not an ordinary trouble anymore, because there's an 'Old Demon' guarding that place. What about the experiment?"

"Unfortunately, we failed to read deeper into his memories. We couldn't even penetrate his inner mind, as if there was something preventing us from going farther, let alone rewriting it. All that we could do was to erase some of his recent memories regarding the camp."

When Snake Head heard that, he said, "OK, forget about that boy for now. Don't do any stup*d stuff against him without my permission if you don't want to alert those in the military. Just focus all your thoughts in completing 'Project Eve'".

"Alright Boss", after saying that, the man in the suit turned around and left.

After his subordinate closed the door, Snake Head stared at the ceiling and muttered, "In the end, I couldn't even confirm my suspicions in these past 6 years. Shin Kinghad, are you really the son of that man?"

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The car that Shin was riding in, finally reached its destination.

The moment Shin exited the car, he couldn't help but stare at the huge Mansion that majestically stood in front of him. He couldn't even move his eyes away from the giant statue of a dragon sitting in the middle of a fountain.

The Dragon was 5 meter tall, looking towards the heavens as if challenging their authority. The boulder under its feet had the words 'Springfield' engraved on it.

He only came back to reality when Captain Springfield called out to him, "That's enough of dozing off, let's go inside."

When Shin heard the captain and saw him walking towards the door, he caught up to him and asked suspiciously, "How did you get a place like this? Is the salary of a special force captain high enough for you to afford this?"

Captain Springfield froze and shot a deadly glare to Shin. But Shin didn't get intimidated and continued to throw his verbal attacks, "No, that shouldn't be the case. Maybe your parents are rich to begin with or your wife is a very successful woman. A muscle head like you couldn't have that kind of money".

"Kid, will it kill you if you keep your mouth shut?" The veins on captain's head started popping out when he saw that Shin didn't plan on stopping.

Walking into the hall, Shin's eyes got attracted to a map that was drawn on one of the walls.

He wasn't attracted to it because it was a complete and very detailed map, but because it was very rare to see this kind of an old-school artifact anywhere. In this age of Advance Technology, where almost all of the people were using 'Advance Watches', you could practically search anything that you wanted to know.

Moreover, this map was extremely detailed with Cities, Plains, Rivers and all kinds of different places present on it.

The world was divided into seven major continents. The Soaring Continent, Deep Blue Continent, Clear Sky Continent, Dark Continent, Sun-Moon Continent, Silver Wing Continent, and Lost Soul Continent.

Each Continent was further divided into Regions. Soaring Continent had five Regions: The Eastern Sea, Western Plains, Northern Blue, Southern Fog and Main Region.

While Shin was engrossed in studying the map, he heard an Old man's voice coming from beside him, "Impressive isn't it? It cost me a large fortune just to invite the World's Best Geographers, Cartographers and Navigators to make this."

Shin was about to say something, but the moment he turned his head to see who it was, he froze in his place, because the pressure that was being released by this old man was terrifying. The more Shin look at him, the heavier the pressure on him got. It was as if the whole world was being pressed onto him.

The man that was standing beside him had a very muscular and well-built body that was two meter tall. Compare to a 9 year old kid like him, this old man looked like a giant. He was the 'Demon Fist General', Samuel Springfield.

The moment Samuel Springfield heard from his son, Bernard, that he found a kid in the Black Serpent Mafia's hideout, he asked him to bring the kid to the Capital City so that he could take a look at him.

He knew that the Organization had a very high training standard since they had highly skilled special agents. Even though these agents rarely showed themselves, they would be an immense threat when they did.

And since he was looking for a suitable opponent for his grandson, he wanted to give it a try. But when he saw that Shin was able to hold himself straight for a few minutes, he was surprised. Even though Shin's forehead was covered in sweat, he still managed to endure the part of the pressure that the General had released.

"The willpower of this kid is abnormally strong for his age." He muttered to himself before removing his aura.

He looked at Shin and said with a wide grin on his face, "Not bad kid, you have a very strong mind. You have a very high potential".

He turned to Captain Bernard, "You should bring him to his room so that he can rest. Your wife took the children to visit her parents. I guess they will be back after a week or two". After that, he left and entered one of the corridors in the hall.

When Shin was sure that the Old Demon left, he looked at Captain Bernard and asked, "Hey Old man! Who was that Older man earlier? "

The corner of the captain's mouth twitched, "That's my father, Samuel Springfield, the head of this household".

Shin was at a loss for a moment when he heard that. He came back to his senses when he realized who it was. "The Demon Fist General!!! Sure enough, those old monsters are scary."

"You know my father?" asked the Captain while looking at him with a raised eyebrow.

"Of course! He is one of the people on the 'must watch out for and never provoke' list on the organization", said Shin while looking at the captain as if he was an idiot.

"You...." Captain Bernard got pissed when he saw that look. 'This kid is treating me like I'm just some John Doe on the street'.

"Never mind then. Let's go, I'll show you where you are going to stay for the next few weeks, since your opponent is not here." He led Shin to his room while sighing to himself, 'Kids these days'.

Chapter 3 The Martial-Art Prodigy Meets A Battle Genius



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The next morning, Shin woke up while it was still dark outside. Because of the strict schedule at the camp, his body had gotten used to waking up early in the morning.

Shin took a shower before going to the backyard garden of the villa. He almost got lost in the house because there were a lot of corridors. He got confused about which led where, and if not for the head-butler being awake already and telling him where to go; he would still be going around in circles.

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Shin was doing his training regimen when an old man happened to pass by the garden. At first, the old man thought it was Arthur, the young master of the Springfield Family, but that kid had been taken along by his mother to his

maternal grandparents. He got curious as to who the boy was and watched Shin for a while.

The more he observed Shin, the higher his frown got. Until he couldn't take it anymore and shout at Shin, "Hey little guy! You are going to destroy that solid foundation of yours if continue this kind of training".

Shin got irritated because of the interruption. His was about to scold whoever it was, but moment he saw who it was, he froze in his place and cursed in his heart 'D*mn! Are all old men in this place, monsters? That old butler earlier also gave out a strange aura.'

He was looking cautiously at the old man that was walking towards him, because he couldn't even feel the old man's presence. It was as if he was a part nature. If Shin wasn't looking at him then he wouldn't even know the old man was there.

"I don't know where you found that crap training, but you should stop doing that if you don't want to be crippled", said the old man as he got nearer to Shin.

"Hey old man, don't you know that there is an unspoken rule that spying on others' training is a crime? And interrupting them is even worse! And how about introducing yourself first before criticizing someone else's training? ", said Shin while taking a few steps back.

The old man smirked when he saw Shin's action, "Heh... You're right kid, but what you are doing is randomly throwing your fist and feet in the air, and that is not training at all".

Shin frowned when he heard that. He had been doing this regimen for the past 6 years, so he didn't agree with what the old man said.

As if he could read what was on Shin's mind, the old man smiled and said, "The training method that you are using is commonly used by some kind of

the underground organizations. It is used for forcefully building a solid foundation but it also destroys your body because it overworks your muscles."

The Old man sat under the tree before continuing, "Because it stains your body, if you don't use the special serum prepared by that organization, your body will eventually collapse. But if you use that serum, you will become dependent to it. So the best option you have is to stop right now since you already built a very solid foundation which is quite rare at your age".

Not being moved by the old man's word, Shin asked with caution, "You're telling me to stop training with the method that I've been using for six years? Just who are you old man?"

The Old man clicked his tongue when he saw that Shin did not believe what he had said, "Tsk! What a skeptical and stubborn young man."

"I am called 'Professor Plum' in this place. And, as I said, that so-called training method of yours is a poison that's going to destroy your body. A real training method not only trains your body, but also trains your mind. Tell you what, I will teach you a real training method and you should stop using yours. How about that? "

Because of the iron-clad rules of the camp, Shin knew that there was no such thing such as a free lunch in this world, so he asked skeptically, "And with what condition?"

'Quite cautious too, huh?' Professor Plum looked satisfied by Shin's performance so far, so he replied coolly, "Simple, just become my disciple."

Shin looked at Professor Plum, speechless, when he heard what the old man had said and thought to himself, 'Why me?'

As if he could read Shin's mind, the Professor explained, "You have a very high potential, you know? Even though your talent is average, you have covered up for it with your effort. And for me, the most important thing is

diligence". He looked like a thief that had spotted a rich target, and then muttered in his heart 'And you also have a very strong willpower, which is too abnormal for someone at your age.'

Without waiting for Shin's reply, the old man started teaching. "Listen kid, what I'm going to teach you is the Yin-Yang stance. This stance has different parts. First do a '*Horse Stance' and put your arms parallel to the ground. Face your palms away from your chest and regulate your breathing."

"Next, empty your mind to enter a deep meditative state. If you can't blank your thoughts, then just think of something that you can focus on. Anything is fine as long as you can calm your mind. Then, move your body side to side without lifting your feet from the ground. Do it slowly and feel each movement of your body. Now it's your turn". After his demonstration he asked Shin to redo it.

*(Horse Stance: A standing position that resembles riding a horse)

Shin couldn't even react before the old man continued explaining, "This stance will help you relax your mind and remove the strains in your body caused by your previous training method. Do this stance training for two weeks and your body will be back to its perfect condition. It can even give you a very nice surprise".

All that Shin could do was follow the old man's instructions while cursing in his heart. 'What a shameless Old Man'.

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It had been two weeks since Captain Bernard brought Shin into the Villa of the Springfield Family.

Shin was performing his daily routine, while Professor Plum and General Springfield were chatting on the sidelines.

"Tsk! Old Monster Plum I didn't expect you to accept a disciple this way ".
General Springfield clicked his tongue, mocking Professor Plum.

Professor Plum kept fondling his beard as he continued to watch Shin, as if he hadn't heard his old friend's remark. A few moments later he smirked and turned towards him. "Heh, Old Demon, if I were you, I wouldn't underestimate that kid. Because that kid has a secret that even he himself is unaware of ".

General Springfield frowned and said, "Do you think I haven't noticed? That kid's willpower is too abnormal and I'm pretty sure that it is not caused by that organization. But I don't have any idea where it came from."

Professor Plum smiled mysteriously and spouted out one word, "Bloodline ".

The general was taken aback by that word and asked him, "But that kid shouldn't be part of that Clan!"

"You're right about that kid being not part of that Clan, but they are not the only ones that have that kind of willpower." Old Plum replied.

"IMPOSSIBLE!!!", the old general rejected the idea right away. "That man shouldn't have a child. No. No. No. That man can't have a child! What's more, it is impossible for him to mix his blood with others, so it's impossible for that kid to be his son or even his successor".

"You never know what's running in that guy's mind. And who can testify that he can't really have a child?" Old Plum rebutted.

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Meanwhile a *'Yellow Bumblebee' arrived at Springfield Villa. A young man with blonde hair and golden colored pupils got out of the car with a huge smile on his face.

*(An expensive car in this world)

"Arrived at last! Thank you Uncle Berlin, just tell Mom that I got bored over there." said the young man before running to the Villa.

While he was passing through the corridor along the garden, he noticed a kid the same age as him practicing Martial-Arts.

At first, he just wanted to take a look, but then he suddenly thought of something. He grinned as he moved towards the kid stealthy.

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Shin took a deep breath indicating that he was done with his training.

All of a sudden his face turned solemn because of a malicious intent directed towards him. Then he heard a whistling sound coming from behind his head.

He hurriedly turned his head and threw a punch at whatever was coming from behind him.

His fist came in contact with his assailant's foot, forcing him to take two steps backward to relieve the force from the impact.

He took a look at his assailant and saw that it was a boy of a similar age as him. The boy smiled at him and said, "Hey, you look strong! Let's have a match!"

Shin frowned and said, "Do all people in this house really like to interrupt others while they are busy? Much less introducing themselves first?" while remembering all the encounters that he experienced so far.

"Ah! Sorry about that. It's just too rare to find someone as good as you. What's more, you are at a similar age as me. By the way, I'm Arthur Springfield. Now let's have a match." said the boy in one breath.

Then he took his battle stance and the aura he was emitting suddenly changed. It looked like he had transformed from a mischievous child into a majestic eagle that looked down at everyone from the sky.

Shin still looked dissatisfied with the kid's reply. But he didn't reject the challenge, since it had been a while since he had had a sparring match. He believed one would only know their improvements if they applied what they learned into practice.

He gave a traditional bow before taking his own battle stance. Suddenly, the aura around him also changed. If Arthur was a majestic eagle, then Shin was a vicious vulture, ready to take on his prey.

Arthur looked excited when he saw Shin take his stance. Then he took the first move, since he believed that the one, who attacked first, dictated the rhythm of the fight.

In just a blink of an eye, he was already in front of Shin. He threw a straight punch with his right fist targeting Shin's face.

'Fast!' Shin thought when he saw Arthur's fist, but he did not panic. He calmly raised his left arm and turned counterclockwise. His action seems so slow to a spectator's view, but this slow movement of Shin's successfully deflected Arthur's fist with the back of his hand.

The moment Arthur's attack was deflected by Shin; Arthur felt an immense threat coming from him, so he hurriedly jumped backward and retreated.

But how could Shin not seize that opportunity? So he gave chase. The moment Arthur landed on the ground; he was greeted by Shin's uppercut coming straight at his face. He leaned his body backwards and did a backflip, barely avoiding the fist. And while evading, he kicked his right foot upwards, targeting Shin's chin.

Shin was caught off-guard by the sudden counter, but he still managed to lean his head sideways, narrowly avoiding the kick.

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The two old men were discussing the fight as if they were commentators of a boxing match.

"That first attack of Arthur's was a little rash. Although he believes in the saying 'Offence is the best defense', that doesn't mean he can always attack recklessly." criticized Old Plum.

"But he still managed to regain his footing, didn't he? The result is still what matters the most." said Old Springfield defending his grandson.

"Hmph! Old Demon, if you keep spoiling your grandson like this, his future growth is going to become limited," said Old Plum. He paused for a few moments before continuing, "Don't worry, since even I am not that optimistic about my disciple winning this match. At his current strength, even though he has more experience than Arthur, that grandson of yours is still a Martial-Art prodigy."

Old Plum sighed because he knew that a Martial-Art prodigy could not be beaten by experience alone. They were the kind of geniuses that had a lot of trump cards up their sleeves. They had a very high comprehension ability and they could even learn a lot of skills even if they only saw them once.

So no matter what Shin did, he still couldn't beat Arthur once the latter became serious.

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The two kids were still exchanging blows back and forth. Fists against fists, kicks versus kicks. Then Arthur's eyes suddenly turned fierce, he clenched his right fist and threw it with a speed that couldn't be seen by the naked eye.

'Military Arts: Meteor Fist'

Shin was caught off guard by the sudden change of tempo. He tried to cross his arms in front of his chest, but the attack was too fast for him to block. The fist managed to land on his chest and he was thrown backwards.

Shin did his best to twist his body in the air to decrease some of the force of the blow, but Arthur was already above him and launched an axe-kick at him. The power coming from the kick was even more powerful than the previous attack. It felt as if a real meteor was descending from the sky.

'Military Arts: Meteor Descend'

Shin's face turned even more solemn because of the incoming attack. He put more force into turning his body in midair while throwing a kick, trying to redirect the course of Arthur's attack.

'Black Serpent Martial-Arts: Aerial Twist'

Even though Shin managed to deflect it, his balance was still off. So when he landed on the ground, Arthur had already begun his onslaught. And he was thrown into a passive state because of it.

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Old General Springfield frowned at first, but he felt at ease when he saw that his grandson had the upper hand. "That Aerial Twist earlier was a little forceful, if he had released it a little later, it would've been perfect".

Old Plum can't help but agree with his old friend, "Well, that Meteor Fist of Arthur's was perfectly executed and it even managed to land it cleanly. Maybe that kid's chest was hurt, resulting in a rushed decision".

Then Captain Bernard suddenly popped out beside the two old men, with a cigarette in his mouth and smiled saying, "Since that is the case, then I guess this match..... is ... almost... ove-..." Before he managed to finish what he was

saying, his expression changed and the cigarette in his mouth fell to the ground.

Because he saw that, as the match progressed, Shin became stronger. The execution of his skills was becoming more perfect and he managed to break away from his passive state. He even managed to counter a few times until their fight went back into a deadlock.

Even the faces of the two old men changed when they saw what happened. They looked at each other and spat two words out.

"Battle Genius!!!!"

Battle Geniuses were different from Martial-Art Prodigies. They didn't have a very high comprehensive ability but they had a very strong battle senses. They could improve themselves through fighting.

A Martial-Art prodigy had a lot of aces up their sleeves due to their ability to learn different kinds of skills, while a Battle genius became stronger as the battle progressed because the more experience they had, the better they became.

When Old Plum regained his composure, he smiled mysteriously and said in a satisfied tone, "This is going to be interesting an interesting battle."

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Chapter 4 Pinnacle Omniscience, Ultra Instincts And Godly Intuition



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Captain Bernard didn't know how to react to the sudden turn of events. He then took a look at the two old men beside him and noticed that both of them were also in awe of what had happened.

Contrary to the Captain's reaction, the two kids who were engaged in the match looked like they were enjoying their fight. Both of them had a satisfied smile on their faces.

For geniuses like them, having a suitable rival was a must, because having an unrivaled talent meant living a lonely life. It was like walking a solitary road. So knowing someone who was walking on a similar path as them was quite invigorating.

The two of them continued to exchange blows as if there was no tomorrow. The more they traded skills, the fiercer they became.

Even though Shin didn't have a lot of skills in his arsenal, he still managed to fight Arthur on equal footing by relying on his experiences that he got from fighting against other kids in the camp.

All of the kids in the organization had different kinds of skills because they were specially trained based on their own talent in combat.

Some were trained as assassins, some as soldiers and other types of fighting style. So Shin knew how to respond to different kinds of situations.

No matter what kind of Military Art or skill Arthur used, Shin always had an equally strong response for it. So when Arthur noticed that he couldn't beat Shin by relying only on ordinary skills, he changed his approach. He started using his family Martial-Arts.

He raised his right hand and formed a claw, then swung it downwards with an unimaginable strength.

'Nine Dragon Arts: Dragon Claw'

When Shin saw Arthur's strange movement and felt the immense threat coming from his claw, he immediately retreated backwards. After dodging the attack, he felt a shiver run down his spine when he saw the claw marks on the ground where he had been standing a moment ago.

'What a powerful attack! So this is the strength of a skill from a Martial-Art Family.' Shin was amazed by the skill that Arthur had used, but before he could catch his breath, Arthur's speed suddenly accelerated. It was as if his feet had unexpectedly gotten turbo boosters.

'Nine Dragon Arts: Dragon Pursuit'

Shin was forced to dodge repeatedly because of this turn of events.

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"Looks like that little rascal of mine is taking it seriously this time, huh?" said Captain Bernard in relief, as if the burden on his shoulders had been lifted.

The Old General looked at his son skeptically and said, "So you are proud that your son only managed to suppress his opponent by using our Family Martial-Art? Let me tell you, if Shin had a similar skill then this match would be much harder to predict".

He paused for a few seconds before turning his head to his old friend. "What do you think, Old Monster Plum?"

Old Plum was still focused on the match while fondling his beard as if he was waiting for something to happen.

When the Old General saw his friend didn't reply to him, he furrowed his brows a little before turning his attention back to the match.

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While Shin was repeatedly dodging Arthur's onslaught, he was trying to find a way to escape his current predicament. Suddenly he found his feet unexpectedly rooted to the ground.

'Nine Dragon Arts: Dragon's Capture'

Followed by a powerful rotating punch that was faster than the 'Meteor Fist',

'Nine Dragon Arts: Dragon Strike'

Shin knew that he had no choice but to confront the incoming strike. He calmed himself down and lowered his hips while raising both of his arms trying to block the attack.

Subsequently, he felt as if time slowed down, the fist that couldn't be seen by naked eye was now clearly visible to his eyes. A sudden thought popped up in his mind as he recalled something that he had heard two weeks ago, 'Do this stance training for two weeks and your body will be back to its perfect condition. It may even give you a very nice surprise someday.'

He smiled and said to himself, 'So this was what that Old Geezer meant about the surprise, huh?'

Then he moved himself according to the Yin-Yang stance, slow and calm.

When Arthur's fist was upon him, the back of his hand came in contact with it and managed to deflect the attack. Shin was still moving his body while muttering to himself. 'Feel the every change in your body while absorbing the force you got while guiding and redirecting it towards your desired location before releasing it'.

Shin guided the force from the impact to his right hand before releasing a palm strike to his opponent.

Arthur was startled by Shin's sudden counter and got hit by it square on his chest, before it sent him flying backwards. He collided with a tree and fell to the ground.

The process looked so long but it just took a few seconds to happen.

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The jaw of the Father and Son Duo on the sidelines almost dropped to the ground because of what happened. They looked at each other and saw shock was written on their face.

Few moments later, the Old 'Demon Fist General' looked at his old friend and asked, "Isn't that the classic 'Yin-Yang Twist' followed by a 'Sudden Counter'?".

Old Plum was still fondling his beard and said calmly, "Yeah, what I taught that kid was the 'Yin-Yang Stance', even though it is just a training stance, it is still the first move of the 'Yin-Yang Techniques'. I didn't expect that kid to learn it this way and what's more in just two weeks. As expected of a 'Battle Genius', they really grow in battle". The old professor looked more and more satisfied in his decision to take Shin as his disciple.

At this moment, Captain Bernard regained his composure and said, "Well this match is still in our bag. That little rascal still has his final trump card".

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Arthur slowly stood up while patting his chest, as if removing the dust from his shirt. He looked at Shin and said with a smile, "You are really strong. You are the first person of the same generation as me that managed to force me to come this far. So as a reward, I'm going to show you what I'm truly capable of."

Suddenly, Arthur's pupils turned into vertical slits like the eyes of a snake or a lizard. Then his aura changed once again. This time he looked like a young dragon that was arrogantly looking down at everything as if he was the ruler of this world.

The moment Shin saw those eyes; he knew that he was in danger, because he had read about it at the camp.

It was called 'Foresight'. Even though it didn't really have the full ability to see what would happen in the future, it still could see more than ordinary eyes. The wielder of it could see every movement in his surroundings and through it, they could predict what would be the next move of their opponents and counter it before it happened.

If a 'Foresight' was trained to its max level, it could even evolve into 'Pinnacle Omniscience', an ability that not only could affect one's eyesight, but also their other four senses.

A 'Pinnacle Omniscience' wielder not only could know everything around them and predict movements; they could also fool others' senses by relying on it.

What's even more problematic is that those eyes were being wielded by a Martial-Art Prodigy, so it made the young dragon even fiercer.

Shin knew that he didn't have a chance against someone at that level. All he could do was give his all and try his best to experience the feeling of fighting someone with this kind of talent.

He took a deep breath and calmed his mind. He took a step forward while raising both of his hands. Each of his hands formed a blade, one in front of the other, in front of his chest. He then unknowingly entered a state of tranquility. He forgot everything around him. The only thing in his mind was himself and the calm surroundings.

In this state, what he could only see was eternal darkness, but he can clearly sense what was happening in his environment.

And then the atmosphere surrounding him also changed. It was as if he transformed into a fierce tiger, waiting patiently for his prey.

At the same time Arthur made his move. He didn't care about the changes Shin made, since for him, the stronger his opponent was, the better.

Even though his movement was too sudden and too fast for anyone to react to, it was still clearly sensed by Shin. For him that sudden attack was like a violent ripple on the surface of calm water, so he responded to it accordingly.

....

The changes in the atmosphere that Shin produced made Old Plum nod his head, "Hmm, looks like this kid is starting to understand the real purpose of the 'Yin-Yang Stance', huh?".

The Old General also nodded his head " '*Deep Meditation'. This kid really knows how to improve himself during a battle. Battle Geniuses sure are scary."

*(Deep Meditation: the act or process of spending time in quiet thought)

"Ah, that's what it was! It is still not enough for him to defeat someone with 'Foresight' talent", is what Captain Bernard wanted to say, but he stopped right away because he saw that Shin was still able to respond to every movement that his opponent made. He looked at his father and asked. "Dad is that-....?"

But before he managed to complete his sentence, the Old General confirmed it right away. "Yeah, it is an 'Immediate Response' Talent". The Old General clicked his tongue and said in amazement, "Tsk! This kid really has some fearsome talent."

'Immediate Response' was the same level of talent as 'Foresight'. If 'Foresight' focused on one's senses, especially eyesight, then 'Immediate Response' focused on body reflexes.

Anyone who wielded this kind of talent was born with reflexes superior to other people. They could react to any kind of attack almost instantly.

Human reflexes had a split-second delay before the body could react to any situation. But 'Immediate Response' ignored that small time frame. Their body could react automatically to any kind of movement that happened in their surroundings without even thinking.

What's more, it could also further evolve into 'Ultra Instincts' if trained to its max level. 'Ultra Instincts' surpassed the concept of 'mind becoming one with the body', because it was a state where one could respond to any attack before it could even be executed.

If a Battle Genius in Deep Meditation wielded 'Immediate Response' in battle, then it was the same as giving a pair of wings to a tiger.

.....

The two kids continued their battle, without giving up an inch to their opponent, trying to gain the upper hand.

Shin should have been at an advantage since he was in deep meditation and using 'Immediate Response' at the same time, but he just learned the deep meditation not too long ago. What's more, he was only using his 'talent' unconsciously.

Unlike Arthur, who was already aware of his 'talent' since he was little and had more experience than him at using it. So compared to Arthur, Shin was just like an infant that was just starting to learn how to walk.

Arthur was continuously shifting between Military Arts and his Family Martial-Arts that he knew, trying to suppress Shin by using them. While Shin was relying on 'Yin-Yang Twist' and using it to borrow the force that came from Arthur's attack to send it back by using 'Sudden Counter' and some Mafia Martial-Arts that he knew.

.....

Old Plum was still fondling his beard while he said to his friend, "Having two '*Chosen Ones' in our country, and what's more in the same generation. Looks like our chances in the upcoming 'Battle for Supremacy' are quite positive this time, huh?"

*(Chosen Ones: They are people that have a peak class talent like 'Foresight' and 'Immediate Response')

The Old General looked at him and said, "If you are talking about the 'Empire Wars' nine years later, then it is still going to be difficult. I heard that the Noble Families from different Continents have their own 'Chosen Ones'. Especially Dark Continent and Lost Soul Continent. From the reports that I have received, those two Continents at least have two in their ranks each".

Every Continent in the world held their own 'Youth Competition' every twenty years. All participants should be under twenty years old. Whoever won the top three group places, would become the representatives of their Continent for the 'International Empire Wars'.

The 'International Empire Wars' were held after every 'Youth Competition'. Those who managed to enter the top ten would go on to fight for the unclaimed territories of the world and for expedition permits for the unexplored places. That was called 'The Battle for Supremacy'.

Old Plum crossed his hands behind his back and said, "I just hope we can regain our standing this time."

The Old General said while smiling bitterly, "That time, that guy shook the whole world because of the talent he had shown. Defeating all of the geniuses who came from different parts of the world while wielding 'Godly Intuition'. Even an old man like me was in awe at that time'."

Thirty-one years ago, the Soaring Continent dominated the whole 'Battle for Supremacy' because of a certain man wielding a supreme talent called 'Godly Intuition'.

'Godly Intuition' was at the top of the 'peak class talent' chart. Earlier, it was not even in the chart, but once this man showed up, he suppressed all the other talents around the world using it and became the unshakable rank-1 talent.

What this man really wielded at that time were two different kinds of peak class talent, the 'Pinnacle Omniscience' and 'Ultra Instincts'.

He used the combined forces of these talents to defeat the other youths of his generation at that time. These two talents complemented each other and formed a new talent and he called it 'The Godly Intuition'.

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Chapter 5 The Structure Of Martial-Arts



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The battle between the two Chosen Ones was quickly coming to an end. Both of them were almost at their limit but they still didn't want to give up, because neither of them wanted to lose. No, to be exact, neither of them had ever suffered a loss.

Shin's nose was bleeding while Arthur's eyes had turned bloodshot. They had already started to feel the fatigue of their bodies but both of them still held on.

Noticing the condition of both of the kids, Captain Bernard took a step forward, intending to stop the match, but Old Plum had already blocked his path and prevented him from intervening. Even his father looked at him with a fierce expression.

One look on their faces was enough for him to stop in his tracks. He knew if he took one more step forward, he would end up with a few broken bones.

Then suddenly, both Shin and Arthur separated away from each other because of the powerful impact from their last attack. For a few moments, they both just stood on either side of the garden while facing each other.

Arthur closed his eyes and started to digest what he had experienced, whereas, Shin was catching his breath while feeling the changes in his body. Both of them entered a state of enlightenment.

When Captain Bernard saw this, he sighed with relief before taking a cigarette out of his pocket and lighting it up.

Old Plum took a look at the two outstanding kids and said in a quiet tone. "Looks like asking to bring Shin in here was the right choice, Old friend".

The Old General nodded his head while smilingly said, "Of course, it was the right gamble to make. And what's more, it's because of it that you managed to find a fearsome disciple like this. So you should be thanking me for it, Old Plum".

"Entering the 'Body Strengthening' stage at the age below ten years old. These two kids sure have a bright future ahead of them".

.....

The Structure of Martial-Arts was divided into three major realms with different minor stages within each realm.

The first realm was the 'Foundation Building' realm. In this realm, a martial artist focused on forming their own martial-art foundation.

It was divided into three minor stages. The 'Body Strengthening Stage', 'Qi Refinement Stage' and 'Core Formation Stage'.

The 'Body Strengthening Stage' was the stage where a martial artist enhanced their body, transforming it into a huge furnace to contain a powerful energy.

In 'Qi Refinement Stage', one absorbed the force of nature and circulated it inside the body before transforming it into their own energy called 'Qi'. This 'Qi' could be used to strengthen the body to make it even tougher. It could also reinforce martial-art skills to make them even more powerful.

The aim of the 'Core Formation Stage' was forming a golden core inside the lower dantian using the accumulated 'Qi'. This core would become the center of the circulating 'Qi' inside the body. It would make the 'Qi' even purer and denser, making it even stronger.

The second realm was 'Ascension Realm'. This realm started to affect one's surroundings by becoming one with them. This realm was also divided into three different stages.

The first stage was called 'Ethereal Opening'. This stage was the starting point of 'being one with nature'. Anyone in this stage could feel the 'Force of nature' more clearly. They could even combine it with their own 'Qi' to create their own 'Natural Force'.

Each person had a different kind of 'Natural Force' as it was dependent on the person that created it. It was created through the combination of one's

personal 'Qi', the element of nature they felt closest to and their own imagination.

A person could decide the characteristics of the 'Natural Force' as suitable to them. A violent wind, a destructive lightning, heavy earth, a chaotic flame, or baneful water, etc., anything was fine as long as it complimented their fighting style.

Next was 'Void Manifestation'. This was a little simpler. It was about creating something out of nothing. Easy to say but hard to accomplish.

This stage needed one to have a very high control on their own 'Natural Force', so that they could form battle armor based on it, or even an elemental weapon that could aid them in their battle.

A person at this stage could also walk on the air as if walking on a concrete road. This ability was called 'Void Walking'.

The last stage of this realm was called 'Domain Creation'. This stage was also the peak of 'being one with nature'. At this stage, one would be in complete control of the territory around them.

This territory was called 'Domain'. Anything that was inside your own 'Domain' would be under your control. You could even manifest your own 'Natural Force' faster and stronger if you activated it.

You could also execute a large scale destruction skill at this stage, and it was called a 'Domain Skill'.

The final Realm was called the 'Transcendent Realm'. This realm was not focused on breaking the restrictions of the mortal body anymore, but being a 'Transcendent Being' through Martial-Arts. And it was also called the Peak of Martial-Arts.

A person of this realm could destroy a mountain with a flip of their palm and could split the ocean with the wave of their hand.

The stages of this Realm were unknown since there were very few people that had reached this Realm. In fact, there were less than ten people that had reached this stage.

Those people had removed themselves from the worldly affairs and secluded themselves just to explore more about this Realm.

....

It had been a whole day since Shin and Arthur passed out from fatigue after their last sparring match.

Shin opened his eyes and looked at his surroundings. What he saw was the familiar room that he was staying in since he had come to this place. He wanted to get up from the bed, but the moment he raised his body, his head got dizzy and he fell back down once again.

At the same time, the door of the room opened and a thirteen year old girl with blonde hair entered the room. She had a round face and clear blue eyes, coupled with her long eyelashes, her beautifully arched thin eyebrows perfectly match her natural sharp nose and pale red lips.

Her hairs were cutely tied in a pigtail and revealed her small white ears. Even though she was still growing up, the important parts of her body were already starting to mature.

'Beautiful!'

That was the only word that came to Shin's mind when he saw the girl.

She was cutely pouting her lips and humming a song while holding a basin with tap water in it. The moment she noticed that Shin was already awaked and looking at her, she got startled and almost dropped the basin in her

hands, but she quickly recovered herself and formed a beautiful smile on her face after a brief moment.

When Shin saw that smile, he thought his heart had stopped beating. It was as if he saw an angel descend to the surface of the earth. But his fantasy was completely shattered the moment he heard what the girl said.

"Is this the first time you saw a beautiful girl like me? What a poor young man."

The girl put the basin down on a desk beside the bed and introduced herself, "I'm Shiella Springfield, the eldest daughter of this family. Nice to meet you."

Shin was speechless for a second before introducing himself, "Shin Kinghad, a nobody".

"A nobody huh? A nobody that managed to score a draw with the greatest genius of the Central District of the Main Region." said Shiella as if she was mocking Shin's introduction.

Shin was not concerned about the girl mocking him, because the moment he heard the word 'Draw' he remembered that he had made a bet with Captain Bernard. "That's right, the match! Where is Captain Bernard? I need to talk to him about my... Ugh!". He didn't even manage to finish what he was saying before being assaulted by a sudden aching in his head.

Shiella was taken aback by Shin's reaction and tried calming him down. "OK, OK, Relax. I'm going to call Dad and get some food for you to eat. You need to get some protein to recover your strength since you just broke through to 'Body Strengthening Stage' ". Shiella then ran out of the room.

A few moments later, she came back with Captain Bernard, leading a maid with a tray of food in their tow.

When Captain Bernard came near the bed he smilingly said, "How is the feeling of officially entering the ranks of Martial-Artists?"

Shin didn't answer him and asked his own question, "Can you give me my freedom now?"

The Captain smirked and said, "Kid, even though you manage to not lose, you also didn't manage to win. And from what I can remember, our deal was that if you won I'd do whatever you wished, but if not, you'd do what I said. It's quite clear right?" He paused for a few moments and patted the head of his daughter. "What's more, you get to live in my house together with my beautiful daughter. You can also have a sparring match with my son as long as you want".

Shin rolled his eyes at him while cursing in his heart. "What a cunning and shameless old man. Tricking a nine year old like me?"

...

April 19, Year XX07

Central District, Capital City of Main Region

In the backyard garden of the Springfield Villa, there were two teenage boys engaged in a sparring match. Their silhouettes kept flashing and clashing repeatedly.

One of them had Ash-colored hair and had eyes that were round and gray in color coupled with his natural, long eyelashes. Even a girl would get jealous of his eyes.

He had a sharp chin that perfectly matched his nose and pale lips. He was a typical example of a knight in shining armor.

His upper body was bare, showcasing his well shaped muscles. Even though he was not bulky and looked a little slim, you could still see that he was powerful.

p The other guy had a triangular face and blonde hair. Sharp golden eyes together with sharp brows and pointed nose. He always wore a harmless smile on his lips.

His body was built similar to the other guy. He was the best example of a prince with a white horse.

They were, of course, Shin and Arthur. It had been six years since Shin came to stay in the Springfield Household. He always had sparring matches with Arthur from time to time.

After some time, Arthur failed to block one of Shin's kicks which landed on his abdomen, which resulted in him flying backwards and colliding with a tree.

Before he managed to stand up again, a foot was already pointing at the top of head declaring the end of the match.

"I won once again, looks like you will not be able to defeat me in this lifetime 'Golden Boy'.", said Shin before helping Arthur to stand up.

"In your dreams! You only manage to defeat me twice and that's including this time. You understand that 'Gray Eyes'? JUST TWICE!". said Arthur emphasizing the last words.

"Yeah you're right about that, but have you ever won against me?" replied Shin before taking out a small notebook from his pocket and writing something.

When Arthur saw that notebook, he hurried over to look at it while Shin was drawing another line after his name.

Shin - II

Arthur - O

Draw - ∞

The moment Arthur saw that, he frowned and angrily said, "Why the hell did you write a zero after my name!? It is as if you are saying that I will never beat you!? And What's with that infinity symbol after the draws!?"

Shin closed the notebook and returned it to his pocket. He walked away before replying, "Well it is true that you haven't defeated me. So I will never change it unless you beat me. And as for the infinitely sign...." he paused for a few moments while he wore his shirt before facing Arthur and said with a smile, "I got tired of repeatedly writing a line after line so I just changed it into an infinity sign, since it will not affect the result of our duels".

The corner of Arthur's mouth twitched when he heard it, especially the last few words. He was about to start another duel when a sweet and charming voice echoed in the corridor.

"I'm Home!!!!"

The voice was really pleasant to the ears and relaxing to hear. If someone heard that voice, they would hurriedly welcome whoever was the owner of that voice.

But Shin and Arthur were different. The moment they heard that voice, both of their bodies shivered and their faces turned pale. It was as if they heard the most frightening being on earth coming after them. And then both of them hurried to find a place to hide.

"What the hell is 'Big Sis' doing here? Isn't it Wednesday? I thought she was only going to visit us during the weekends? ", asked Shin while running in a panic towards the other end of the corridor.

"I have no idea either! From what I know, she should be accompanying Mom on a business trip, so there is no reason for her to be here!" replied Arthur while running along with Shin.

Before they were able to reach the exit of the corridor, they heard the voice behind their backs.

"And where are my cute little brothers going?"

The moment they turned their heads, they saw a beautiful young lady with blonde hair standing behind them, and looking at them with a sweet and charming smile.

That smile was so beautiful that it could melt a killer's heart, but when Shin and Arthur saw that smile, their faces turned even paler. Because they knew that this day was going to become their judgment day.