

Celestial Bloodline

#Chapter 15: Mission Hall - Read Celestial Bloodline

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A while later, Kyle entered the mission hall. The hall was bustling with students of different years, trying to find a suitable mission.

He looked at the big mission board present at the edge of the hall and after finding a suitable mission for himself, he went over to the side of the hall designated for new students.

The hall was divided into three parts, the right side was for the new first-year students, the one in the middle was for the second-year students and the one on the left was for third-year students.

There were a lot of missions available to new students, including some chores from the seniors like washing their clothes or cleaning their dorm for points.

After looking at all the missions available, Kyle decided to go with the easiest one which he felt he could handle, and also because the location of the mission coincided with the place he wanted to go.

Kyle approached the Young man sitting behind the reception before handing him the mission page.

"Hello, I would like to take this mission."

The young man glanced at Kyle strangely, because not many would pick up a mission like 'herb collecting'. Nevertheless, he took the mission page Kyle tore off the board before going through some papers.

He registered Kyle's name for the mission before speaking,

"This mission was posted a week ago, you have two weeks to complete the mission and return with the item."

All the missions present inside the mission hall had a time limit on them, which is why the students were required to finish the mission within the given time.

"Okay"

After nodding Kyle left the mission hall, directly heading toward the exit of the Academy.

Soon he walked out of the Academy, Kyle turned around and stared at the majestic gates.

He still finds it unbelievable that he got into one of the biggest academies of the Kingdom. Just a week ago he was thinking of living his whole life depending on his family because he knew he was weak. Never in his wildest dream he would have imagined that after entering the Academy he would find such a big secret about himself.

Kyle clenched his fists now that he have a chance he won't stay as a pathetic loser anymore. He didn't hope to become the strongest, he would be happy even if his bloodline gave him (S)-Rank talent.

The one thing he hated the most was being looked down upon by others. After his mother's death, he wasn't a complete loner, he had few friends. It was only after the talent test that everyone left him, just because he had a weaker talent.

He thought about his father and brothers, they were always by his side supporting and encouraging him. Even after he awakened a (B)-Rank talent, they never stopped caring about him. Kyle was not sure if the 'Red snow flower' would work. But still, now that he has hope, he promised himself to become someone his family would be proud of.

Kyle shook his head and stopped thinking, it was not the right time to think about all this. And without wasting any more time he left, heading straight toward the back mountain.

It took him 4 hours just to reach the base of the mountain, and as described in the book a large forest that spanned over several kilometers appeared before his view. As Kyle reached the entrance of the forest, he chose to enter without even thinking twice.

Some might think Kyle was being too impatient and disregarded the danger present inside the mountain, but this was not true at all.

The mountains surrounding the Academy indeed had monsters but due to the student's continued hunting for the past so many years, it was very rare to see a monster inside the mountains. But if you climb high enough to reach the top of the mountain there is a 10% chance of seeing some high-rank monsters.

Still, the monsters present at the top of the mountain were living there for a long time and rarely attacked others. Not until they were disturbed. And because Kyle had no plan to disturb them he deemed it a very safe journey.

Due to it being his first time traveling on feet for so long Kyle was exhausted but he decided to grit his teeth for his future. The expression on his face showed he wouldn't stop until he found the 'Red snow flower'.

One hour later,

Kyle who was determined to reach the top of the mountain without taking a break, could be seen sitting beside a small pond filled with water. His determination only lasted an hour before he decided to take a break.

'Humans are born to take breaks, if they didn't then who will? Anyway, it's not like the Red snow flower would run away if I took a break.'

Kyle thought inwardly before taking out some cooking ingredients from his storage ring and lighting up a fire.

Chapter 16: Upcoming Competition

After cooking food for himself, Kyle started eating to relieve some of his fatigue. He was not someone with the best cooking skills, that's why the food tasted average. But because he had to eat it himself he didn't really care about the taste. It was enough as long as it filled his stomach.

While Kyle was eating, some students wearing the third-year uniform passed from the place he was sitting. Their clothes were tattered and they all looked injured, like they just experienced a life and death battle.

One of the students who seemed to be the leader of the group said with anger,

"Who the hell said the Phoenix was injured."

Another student walking behind him tried to explain,

"Boss, the information provided was wrong, it's not our fault."

The Leader of the group stomped his left foot on the ground with anger.

"I almost lost my life out there, I am going to punish all those related to this matter."

The group of Students heading toward the exit of the mountain notice Kyle's presence. But sensing his weak aura which seemed even lower than some common (-F)-Rank, they all looked at him with disdain and ignored him.

It was common knowledge that those weaker than (E)-Rank would never have something useful on them. And because Kyle was not even wearing the Academy uniform, they all thought he was some commoner roaming around inside the mountain in the hope of finding some rare herbs.

Kyle looked at the group of Students and sensing the ridiculed present inside their gazes he felt angry, but he didn't show it on his face.

It was not the first time someone looked down upon him and Kyle knew he was weak. If right now, he attacked the group, forgot about winning he would probably lose his meager life. That's why he ignored the group and returned his focus on eating.

After eating, Kyle stood up and stretched his body. He was feeling a new rush of energy within himself, and with that he started his journey again.

Meanwhile,

First-year classroom,

"That's it for today."

After completing the lecture Aliza stood behind the podium.

Almost all the students present were focused because Aliza's lecture had helped them a lot in their training. Sensing how serious everyone was Aliza nodded with satisfaction and said,

"Before you go, let me remind you again participating in the upcoming Competition is necessary because your ranking will be decided based on the results."

Every year the Academy will hold a competition among the students of different years to decide their ranking. Also in this way, the Academy promotes competition among the students, so they can continue to work hard and try to become stronger to achieve higher rankings in the next exams.

Suddenly remembering something Aliza frowned.

"That student, 'Kyle Ohan'. He is not present today either. I don't know what he is doing but if any of you know where he is, just remind him that he also needs to participate in the competition or else he will fail the midterms."

Afterward, she left the classroom.

She still finds it hard to believe that a new student was continuously skipping classes doing god knows what. It was fine if he skipped class but he was not even coming to the training grounds for training which made Aliza even more furious.

After Aliza left the class, some students talked about Kyle but because no one was close to him they all left to do their work.

Nine who was sitting at the front, remembered seeing Kyle entering the dorm next to him. That's why as a neighbor he decided to inform him about the upcoming Competition.

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On the other hand, as Kyle climbed higher, he felt the surrounding temperature increase with every passing second. His clothes were already drenched in sweat.

Climbing for almost half a day, he finally managed to find the herb needed for the mission. It was a beautiful purple grass used to make mana recovery potions.

He immediately started collecting the grass and placed it inside the storage ring. Still even after climbing so far the 'Red snow flower' was nowhere in sight, but he was not discouraged.

"It's hard.... "

The burning sun was nowhere to be seen and the surrounding was dark. Kyle sighed and stared at the beautiful moon present above the sky.

He clenched his fist and squinted his eyes to look at the peak which was visible in the middle of the night due to the moonlight.

The mountain terrain was harsher than he expected because setting the high temperature aside it was getting harder the higher he climbed.

A whole day has already passed since he started climbing the mountain, and during that time he also stopped a couple of times to rest.

He decided to do one last struggle and climbed his way toward the peak a little more. He was sure he would find the 'Red Snow flower' if he climbed a little higher.

And with renewed vigor, Kyle started to climb again. His vision was reduced because of the dark surrounding that's why he used some mana stones to illuminate his path.

Smelling the sharp yet hot smell coming from the top of the mountain he felt like his body was melting. For Kyle coming this far was already a miracle considering he was only at (-F)-Rank.

Chapter 17: Cave

As the nights progressed instead of the usual cold winds the atmosphere was hot, further adding to the difficulty of the climb. Not to mention that Kyle's whole body was aching like crazy.

After making so much effort and finding nothing Kyle was a little disappointed. As he was going to give up and return, he saw a small white flower present at the opposite end.

Seeing the flower Kyle paused for a moment and rubbed his eyes. He shouted with excitement before running toward the glowing flower which was visible even in the dark.

"It's the Red snow flower!"

The Red snow flower was emitting cold energy in the middle of such a hot place. Kyle excitedly approached the flower and immediately picked it up, he wanted to search for more but when he turned around, he saw he was standing in front of a cave.

The cave was carefully hidden under rocks, that's why he hadn't noticed it before. Kyle looked at the cave, which was completely dark but at the far end of the cave a couple of white glowing flowers could be seen. He knew he was already almost at the top of the mountain which meant the cave in front of him might very well be home to some high-rank monsters.

He had no plans to enter the cave, but then he saw the small white flower in his hands.

"According to the book I read in the library one flower is enough to awaken a bloodline but in some cases, more than one is needed."

He wanted to go inside but thinking about the possibility of a monster suddenly pouncing at him he was hesitant.

It's not because he was scared, it's because he knew he was not some kind of genius who would emerge victorious even after fighting someone higher rank than himself. Nor was he some kind of protagonist inside a story who will fight a life and death battle only to win in the end. That's why risking his life was out of the question.

'Instead of going inside and taking the risk, I should eat this flower first. If it works then good. If not then I can go inside quietly to grab the other flowers.'

Kyle threw the flower inside his mouth before sitting cross-legged.

According to the information he read, after he ate the flower he would feel extreme pain inside his body.

Kyle waited for something to happen inside his body as described in the book. But no matter how much he waited he didn't feel pain nor any change within his body.

After waiting for almost half an hour, he took a deep breath and nervously looked at his stats from the corner of his eyes.

Stats:

Name: Kyle

Bloodline: Celestial (Locked)

Rank: -F

Strength: G

Mana: F

Agility: G

Talent: B Rank (suppressed)

Luck: A

Skills:

*Fireball (F)-Rank:

User can use mana to create a small fireball. The more mana used the bigger the size of the fireball.

*Ice Dragon inherited skill; Ice Domain (S)-Rank:

User can call upon a Domain in a specific area, locking and freezing the area.

Inside the Domain;

All stats will increase by a sub-rank,

Water-type and ice-type attacks would be ineffective against the user,

Enemies will have all their stats reduced by a sub-rank.

To use this skill at least (-C)-Rank mana is required.

But as he feared nothing changed, all his stats were the same as before. His clothes drenched in sweat were making him uncomfortable but he stood up and squinted his eyes to look inside the cave.

"What am I doing? I can't see anyone inside maybe it's just an empty cave."

Honestly, he wished it to be just an empty cave, if there was a monster inside instead of eating the flowers why did he just leave them for display?

After looking around for some more time, Kyle decided to enter the cave. He took out some mana stones to brighten his path and slowly approached the glowing flower present at the other end of the cave.

From the outside, it looked like some ordinary cave but when Kyle entered he saw it was very deep and was designed with a lot of multi-colored stones.

Other than the glowing red snow flower present at the opposite end there were a lot of precious herbs scattered around at the ground. Kyle was tempted to pick them up but he decided against it, after seeing some blood stains present on some broken rocks.

The condition of the cave indicated that a battle took place here not long ago.

His heart was beating so fast that he was able to hear it clearly, but rather than getting scared, he was somewhat excited. While approaching the flowers Kyle made sure to make a minimum noise.

But as Kyle approached the flowers, he heard an almost inaudible voice coming from his left side, he was sure that voice didn't belong to his fast-beating heart.

After gathering all his courage he barely turned his head to see where the voice was coming from.

"A.. Phoe..nix....?"

Chapter 18: Phoenix

"A.. Phoe..nix....?"

Kyle mumbled under his breath looking at the red Phoenix lying not so far from him. The phoenix's eyes were closed, and its breath was uneven.

Kyle was frozen, he didn't even dare to breathe. While he was standing still the Phoenix suddenly opened his pitch-black eyes and looked at Kyle before closing them again.

Kyle looked at the Phoenix dumbfounded.

'Is it not going to attack me?'

He remembered hearing about phoenixes before but now seeing such a big phoenix he was sure that it was at least (-S)-Rank. But suddenly he noticed that one of the Phoenix wings was not present.

"It's.. injured.."

With sweaty palms and rough breathing, Kyle neared the distance between himself and the Phoenix. The more he closed the distance the hotter he felt because the Phoenix body was emitting heat.

After closing a considerable amount of distance, he took a deep breath to calm his nerves and threw a few mana stones toward the phoenix, which brightened the hidden corner of the cave.

"It's really injured."

He saw the phoenix lying inside a pool of blood. And looking at its condition, it seemed it was going to die soon.

Suddenly Kyle recalled the group of students he had seen earlier, they were talking about fighting with a phoenix. And it seemed they were the ones who gravely injured the phoenix.

At that time Kyle didn't focus on their conversation but now looking at the scene himself, he was not sure if it was fortunate for him to discover the injured Phoenix.

Seeing a phoenix was rare, if he sold the phoenix's body it would yield a hefty amount in return. Maybe if he dug out the core, there was a chance he would be able to find a skill. And how the phoenix didn't attack even after seeing Kyle trespassing his territory, it seemed to be at the death door. Kyle was sure right now even an unawakened person would be easily able to kill it.

But for some reason, Kyle felt it was a pity to kill such a beautiful creature. He knew phoenixes were also considered a kind of monster, but when the Phoenix opened his eyes and looked at him, Kyle felt the sadness present inside those glowing eyes. Those eyes belong to someone who already accepted their fate.

He felt conflicted if he should kill the phoenix or not. It would definitely be worth a lot if he killed it, but after thinking for a while Kyle decided against it.

He didn't want to feel guilty for something so insignificant. Kyle didn't have a lot of money but he didn't want to earn money this way, he sighed and returned his focus to the flowers. He was here for the flowers, not to kill.

After seeing the cave owner injured, Kyle was not hesitant anymore and directly made his way toward the Red snow flowers.

His feet brushed past the precious herb scattered around on the ground, but he didn't care and after reaching Red snow flowers, he bent down and grabbed the flowers.

['Human! Why didn't you kill me?']

FLINCH!

Kyle flinched suddenly hearing a monotonic voice inside his head, he turned around only to see a pair of glowing eyes staring directly at him.

The phoenix was staring at him, but there was not even an ounce of fear in Kyle's eyes. He was a bit taken back suddenly hearing a voice inside his head but more than being scared he got curious and looked at the Phoenix with wide eyes.

"Are you the one talking to me?"

Seeing Kyle's nonchalant attitude the Phoenix was surprised. He knew he was injured but still, he was someone superior, and under his gaze, a normal human should naturally feel fear.

['Hmm, you are a rather strange human.']

Kyle looked at the Phoenix with disbelief,

"You are really talking inside my head, how is it possible..!"

Today was the first time he saw a phoenix and it was talking to him. He wasn't sure if anyone would believe him if he told them he talked to a phoenix!

The phoenix looked at Kyle but then he suddenly closed his eyes, it seemed it was getting difficult for him.

['It's possible, there are some creatures who gain Intelligence after attaining Enlightenment.']

['And it was easy making a connection with you, considering you are so weak even after having a bloodline superior to me.']

Before Kyle was looking at the Phoenix with astonishment but then it turned into respect when he heard the word enlightenment. Because even humans would spend their whole lives seeking enlightenment. He got another shock when he heard the phoenix talking about bloodline.

"Bloodline! Do you know about my bloodline? How?"

Now Kyle was getting anxious because even after spending a week inside the library he didn't get any useful information regarding the 'Celestial Bloodline'.

[I already sensed it when you were fidgeting outside my cave and seeing how you went for the Red Snow flower instead of picking any other herb it seems you are already aware of it.]

[And I don't know about your bloodline but because it's affecting me it's probably superior to mine. And I think those Red snow flowers won't work on you.]

"Why.."

Kyle looked at the bunch of flowers clustered together inside his hand. He was sure after so much hard work he would gain something in return, but thinking about how it won't work he was dispirited.

"Why won't it work?"

Kyle exclaimed in a loud voice before he clenched his fist.

Chapter 19: An Egg

Hearing Kyle's impatient voice the phoenix tried to move his head a little.

[It's because your bloodline is too powerful, and creatures like me usually awaken their bloodline after reaching adulthood, I am not sure about humans but I think you will awaken your bloodline when your body is fully mature.]

After hearing the Phoenix's words Kyle calmed down a little because there was still a way for him to awaken the bloodline. He was not sure when his body would fully mature but there was something he wanted to ask for a while now.

"Why are you telling me all this?"

[It's because I don't have much time left. I don't trust humans because they are greedy. But I think you are different, that's why I want to ask for a favor.]

The phoenix suddenly lifted his only injured wing and showed an egg to Kyle.

"This.."

[It's my child. I thought it would die with me today, but if there's any hope I don't want to let it go.]

Kyle was shocked once again, seeing a Phoenix was already a rare sight but now he was seeing a phoenix egg.

But suddenly he became serious,

"What if I didn't care for it? What if I sold it to someone? Why are you trusting me, there are so many kind humans out there."

['Human, If I am wrong in trusting you I can only blame myself for it.']

The Phoenix slowly pushed the egg toward Kyle with his injured wing.

['Put a drop of your blood on it, to make a connection with it.']

Kyle was hesitant but after considering it for a while he looked at the Phoenix before releasing a big sigh.

He did hear about some humans making mutual connections with monsters, where both parties rely on each other and help each other. But he never thought there would be a day he would get a chance like this. And on top of that, he was sure after the egg hatched it would have the potential to reach (S)-Rank.

Kyle walked towards the egg and pricked his finger to put a drop of blood on it. The moment his blood touched the egg, it shook slightly and a small red fire mark emerged on the back of his hand.

After looking at the fire mark he picked up the egg, it was small not even fitting his fist. Through the mark, he was able to sense a small connection with the egg.

He tried to place it inside the storage ring but he was not able to, because living things can't be placed inside storage rings. After trying for a while he took out a small bag and put the egg inside before tying the bag to his waist.

The Phoenix sensing that Kyle picked up the egg showed a relieved expression.

['Thank you.']

['This is a little something I want to give you as a gift.']

A small drop of blood appeared in front of the Phoenix before floating toward Kyle.

"What's this?"

Kyle looked at the drop of blood floating in front of him. It was not exactly blood because it was glowing. He didn't know why the phoenix called it a gift but if it's a gift it's probably useful.

['My blood essence, it won't help you much but it will reduce the suppressing effect of your bloodline.']

After saying some final words the Phoenix closed his eyes. Red flames emerged out of thin air before burning his whole body.

Kyle was startled suddenly seeing flames engulfing the Phoenix, he wanted to help but before he could the floating drop of blood entered his forehead. The moment it happened Kyle felt stinging pain inside his head. The last thing he remembered was seeing the burning red flames before he lost consciousness.

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"Ugh..." Kyle tried to move his body only to feel pain in almost all parts of his body.

He looked around and found himself lying in the same place he was standing last night. Kyle questioned himself with uncertainty,

"Was it a dream?"

How can so much happen in a single night? But after seeing the egg tied on the waist, he knew it was not a dream. The Phoenix was nowhere to be seen not even a trace of his body.

And strangely for some reason, Kyle was not feeling hot anymore. After standing up he walked out of the cave only to see the sun burning brightly in the sky.

"It's already morning.. Ugh why is my body hurting so much"

He started stretching his body to lower the pain. While stretching he felt his muscles were stronger than before. Suddenly remembering the last words the Phoenix said Kyle mumbled with disbelief,

"No way."

Thinking about the possibility his heart started beating excitedly and he nervously looked at the stats from the corner of his eyes.

Stats:

Name: Kyle

Bloodline: Celestial (Locked)

Rank: F+

Strength: F

Mana: F+

Agility: F

Talent: SS Rank (suppressed)

Luck: A

Skills:

#*Fireball (F)-Rank:

User can use mana to create a small fireball. The more mana used the bigger the size of the fireball.

#*Ice Dragon inherited skill; Ice Domain (S)-Rank:

User can call upon a Domain in a specific area, locking and freezing the area.

Inside the Domain;

All stats will increase by a sub-rank,

Water-type and ice-type attacks would be ineffective against the user,

Enemies will have all their stats reduced by a sub-rank.

To use this skill at least (-C)-Rank mana is required.

#*Fire Phoenix inherited skill; Fire resistance (B)-Rank (Passive):

Provides resistance against weak fire-type attacks, and because of the inherited effect, the user will be less affected by the surrounding temperature.

Kyle thought he was dreaming before he shouted with excitement,

"My rank jumped! Not just one but two sub Ranks."

He looked at his talent and was once again struck with shock.

"(SS)-Rank! No way.. and it's still suppressed."

He was already happy with (SS)-Rank talent, but seeing how it was still showing suppressed, he was not sure what his Rank would be after he awakened the bloodline. Also, he saw the skill he got from the Phoenix which maximized his happiness.

Kyle jumped with excitement, he wanted to shout and tell everyone but he calmed his raging heart. He still had a long way to go before he truly became someone strong.

Chapter 20: Back at the Academy

Kyle was currently humming happily as he roasted a leg of a Rabbit. He brought various ingredients with him when he left the Academy to ensure he was always prepared.

After some time, a sweet fragrance drifted into the air. The color of the meat had already turned into Reddish brown.

Kyle bit a piece of the meat and tasted it. He looked at the sky still humming.

"What a great taste."

After finishing the meat he patted his stomach before heading toward the pond not so far from him. He marked this location before climbing the mountain because it was a good spot for rest.

Kyle removed his clothes before diving into the pond.

"What a great life."

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Next day,

Kyle could be seen coming out of the mountain. This trip was a fruitful journey all around, and worth all his efforts. He smiled to himself as he headed toward the Academy gates.

"I am finally back."

Kyle looked at the majestic gate in front of him with awe. As he entered the Academy, he felt like it had been years since he left but in reality, he just left yesterday.

He first went toward the mission hall to submit his mission. When he got there, the person who handed him the mission looked at him with disdain, because bringing back some herbs from the back mountain was the easiest task and yet it took Kyle 2 whole days just to collect some herbs.

Kyle who would usually get angry when others look down at him, literally ignored the receptionist because he was in a good mood.

He submitted the mission and collected the reward before heading towards the dorm to rest. After experiencing so much just in a few days he was tired. Right now he wanted nothing more than to just lie down on his bed and sleep for the whole day.

But before he could enter the dorm and rest, someone called his name from behind.

"Kyle? Right"

Kyle turned around with a frown to see who was stopping him from meeting his bed,

"Yes, it's me."

Nine stretched out his right hand with a smile.

"It's nice meeting you, I am Nine."

Kyle looked at the handsome brown-haired boy standing opposite to him. He was sure he had seen him somewhere before but because he didn't remember he brushed the matter aside.

Kyle politely shook Nine hand with a smile.

"As you already know, my name is Kyle. It's nice meeting you too."

Nine assessed Kyle and Kyle was also doing the same.

'He is at (+F)-Rank?' Nine was shocked sensing the aura around Kyle. He was sure except for the four monsters in the class, no one else had reached (+F)-Rank.

Kyle sensing Nine shocked gaze hurriedly tried to hide his aura. And for a few seconds, there was an awkward silence.

"So why did you call for me?"

With a smile, Kyle broke the silence. Since he wanted to hurry up and rest, he might as well get it over with as soon as possible.

"Ah sorry, I wanted to tell you about the competition held to decide the students ranking in class. Miss Aliza said to inform you because you were absent during the last whole week. I did come yesterday to inform you but you were not present."

Nine hurriedly explained everything before offering to go together.

"It's almost time for the competition and we are getting late. If you don't mind how about coming with me."

He didn't expect Kyle to be someone strong. Even Nine himself was only (F)-Rank. He thought it would be good to make friends with someone strong.

Kyle sighed with frustration, he wanted to skip but he knew he couldn't because according to the rules participating in every kind of competition was compulsory for all the students.

With no choice, Kyle nodded his head and started walking with Nine.

"Where are you from."

While walking Nine started conversing with Kyle.

"I'm from Nyan City."

Nine thought for a while before replying,

"Oh, I have never heard about this place."

Kyle looked at him with a smile,

"It's not a famous place, so it's normal if you don't know about it."

Both of them continued talking as they walked closer to the Classroom.

While walking Kyle looked at the huge Academy and was once again fascinated by how big it was. The Academy was well equipped with almost everything because it was the place where the future powerful individual of humanity would be nurtured.

Different training grounds, high-end food, and knowledge about almost everything, swimming pools, highly secured research rooms, almost all you wanted were present inside the Academy.

The students were allowed to go almost everywhere except for the forbidden area. The place where only high-ranking individuals can enter. The reason why it was considered a forbidden area was that it was the place where the Academy treasury was and where high-grade skills and Arts were stored.