

Celestial Bloodline

#Chapter 161 A Realm? - Read Celestial Bloodline Chapter 161 A Realm?

Chapter 161 A Realm?

After five minutes, when some of Kyle's mana recovered his eyes snapped open with a jolt. He hissed because his left arm was pressed by someone.

His body was aching but his eyes darted at his surroundings. A lot of whispers resounded in his ears.

'The last thing I remember is that I killed the Orc.'

He saw a familiar ceiling and could feel the rough touch of the ground on his back. With a groan, he finally pushed the heavy weight pressing on his arm.

"Who is it?"

He mumbled slowly but then the person lying beside him moved away and looked at his face.

"You are awake."

Kyle blinked his eyes and stared at those familiar golden eyes.

'Nine?'

He was dazed. It was the first time he saw Nine eyes so close.

'A golden thread?'

A thin golden thread was crawling inside Nine's eyes. It moved nonstop around his pupils like a snake. It was so thin that if someone didn't look closely no one would notice it.

"Hey, You fine?"

Suddenly Nine moved back with a frown and waved his hand in front of Kyle's face.

Kyle instantly closed his eyes. A sudden green light appeared inside his shut eyes. He didn't know the reason but he felt angry at Nine for some reason.

'What is this feeling? It's the feeling when those powerful individuals tried to probe my and Bia's body. No, it's a little different....'

"I am fine."

Kyle said and shook his head.

'I am thinking too much.'

He wanted to stand but his body didn't listen as he was too tired to move. In the end, he sighed and just sat down on the ground.

"Now only one person is left."

A pleasant voice came out from his left. Professor Aliza was standing a few meters away from him with a frown.

Kyle looked at the Professor. He could see a lot of students lying or sitting around him as well. Some of them were even glancing at him from time to time.

He gazed at the ranking projection floating above his head.

"Oh, Alec is still inside...."

His voice trailed off when a grumble resounded beside him.

"I feel like both of you wanted to show off!"

Nine said and clicked his tongue.

Kyle chuckled. He wanted to come out after seeing the (C-)-Rank Orc but then he thought it would be a pity if he didn't test his limits.

With a sigh, Nine tapped Kyle's shoulder and looked at the ranking projection.

"1_Alec= 3000

2_Kyle= 3000

3_Lara=2700

4_Carcel=2560

5_Mia=2450

6_Nine=2270

7_Lily=1990

8_Jake=1260

..."

"Both of your points are the same so why isn't he out yet?"

"I don't know."

Kyle shrugged his shoulders and closed his eyes. They have to wait until Alec comes out.

...

On the other hand, Alec took a deep breath as he gazed at the dead body of the Orc. It had been five minutes but no new monster emerged from the fog.

He looked at his hands. After he broke through to (C-)-Rank his mana recovered but he was mentally exhausted.

He waited for another two minutes and finally, something stepped out from the fog.

Alec gripped his sword ready to fight. He stepped back and looked at the large leg that just stepped outside from the fog.

His eyes narrowed as he waited for the monster to completely come out from the fog.

Within a second another leg stepped on the stage and the whole monster stood tall in front of Alec who almost freaked out.

A tall ugly brown troll with one round eye in the middle of his face was standing in front of him. The troll was holding a large wooden bat. His arms were muscular and his stomach was bulging out slightly.

Alec looked up at the towering monster with a dry smile.

"(B-)-Rank directly after (C-)-Rank? Is not it a little unfair?"

A determined look flashed inside his eyes as he stepped back once more.

"Don't think I am scared. We will meet again."

This was Alec's last words as he instantly admitted defeat inwardly and he was ejected out from the dungeon.

He appeared inside the training ground. Unlike the others who fell the moment they appeared, he was standing properly. His gaze lingered around when Professor Aliza's voice resounded inside his ears.

"Alright, Alec is out. The practical exam is over."

She gave Alec a side-long glance with a raised brow.

"I am very satisfied with everyone's performance. It seems you all have put in a lot of effort but we will talk about it later because I know no one will have the energy to listen to me right now. So just go and rest. I will see you all in class after two days."

Alec nodded and looked at the ranking projection.

"My and Kyle's points are equal?"

He mumbled with a sigh.

'Does that mean Kyle also killed the Orc? I don't know his actual rank because of the Artifact he is wearing but if he did that means he is at least (D+)-Rank.'

Suddenly someone grabbed his arm.

"Bro, can you stop releasing your aura? I don't know why but you and Kyle are becoming similar day by day. At least stopped showing off that you broke through."

Nine looked at him with an annoyed expression. He was sour all over.

'Damn! I am the one who wants to show off! Why are the both of them taking the spotlight.'

Alec blinked his eyes and instantly hid his aura but it was too late because a lot of shocked eyes were staring at him.

Kyle who was sitting behind Alec chuckled.

"Let's leave."

He said and after stretching his body he stood up with a wince.

"I need rest."

Carcel, Lara, and Mia also stood up. Alec looked back with a sigh and they all started walking together.

Under the envious gaze of a lot of students, they left the training ground and went toward their dorm.

After walking for a while, Lara and Mia said goodbye to the boys and went to the girl's dorm.

Alec and Carcel also left when they arrived in front of the boy's dorm building.

Kyle was walking beside Nine when he started talking with Bia inside his head.

'Bia... Bia? Can you hear me?'

No one replied for a while but after a few seconds, Bia's voice resounded inside his head.

-'I can.'

He stopped in front of his dorm and after nodding at Nine he went inside.

'Where are you? Should I pick you up?'

-'I don't think you can even if you want to. Also, I saw you and the others fight inside the dungeon.'

'You did. How?'

Kyle entered the bathroom to take a bath while talking with Bia.

-'Tsk, it's complicated. After I went with your master he brought me to a building. We entered a room where George and 3 more powerful individuals were sitting. A lot of projections showing the students fighting with monsters were floating inside the room.'

After removing his clothes, Kyle opened the tab and cold water poured down on his body.

"Sss...too cold."

'Well, it's natural the artificial dungeon was created by the Academy so they can probably see what's happening inside.'

Bia stayed quiet for a while. She was eating high-quality meat with the old individuals after the practical exam was over. They were all talking about a lot of things without knowing that she was listening to everything attentively.

-'Kyle, I think you need to clear the matter about your talent. The old man with white hair seems to be the Academy Principal because even George treats him with respect. Also, they seemed to be selecting students to enter some magical Realm.'

Kyle froze. He ruffled his hair with a frown.

'A magical realm?'

It was not something that could be seen easily because these realms were left behind by some powerful individual. Also, information regarding this type of Realm was very lacking.

-'I don't know much. They didn't discuss about the realm but your name was removed from the list of who would enter the realm because of your low talent.'

'Hmm, the matter about my talent is complicated. It's not like I can just go and say my talent increased overnight. That's impossible. They will know about it naturally because I don't think the news about my talent will stay hidden for long.'

Kyle talked with Bia while taking a shower. He came out after drying his hair and climbed the bed. Bia was filling him with a lot of new things and he just replied from time to time.

The more Kyle listened the more surprised he became.

'Damn! Why do I feel like you are spying on them? It's not a good habit but it's bringing a lot of information so how about you stick with Master for a while?'

'It's not bad at all! If not for you being wanted by the whole Continent right now you could have become a top spy!'

An evil grin appeared on Kyle's face as he laughed inwardly.

Bia who was eating suddenly choked when she heard Kyle's sudden laughter inside her head.

The individuals sitting around her looked at her with confused expressions. She wanted to curse but stopped herself and innocently focused on eating without caring about the stares stabbing at her back.

Chapter 162 What a long day

While Bia was talking with Kyle suddenly Principal Ratric frowned and took out a vibrating communication crystal from his storage ring.

Everyone present inside the room went silent and a strange tension appeared in the air.

Bia looked up at the Principal who distanced himself from the others before the communication device lit up showing a middle-aged man wearing a golden robe.

-'The King!'

She exclaimed inwardly with surprise while secretly peeking at the communication crystal.

On the other hand, a confused expression appeared on Kyle's face. He sat up with a frown. If the Principal was speaking with the king that meant they were probably talking about the secret Realm.

'You are sure the other person is the King?'

-'I am 100 percent sure. I saw him only once when we went to the Royal Castle before we entered the Tower but his face isn't something I can forget. He looked just like Carcel's older version.'

'Can you hear what they are talking about through the communication crystal?'

Bia's gaze returned to the food and her ears perked up but she didn't hear any voice. She glanced at the Principal only to see a transparent shield around him.

-'Tsk, I can't hear anything. Their voice is blocked'

'Leave it then. Maybe it's not something we should know.'

'Anyway, tell me more about that Academies tournament we were talking about a while ago. It's never happened before because the Royal Academy doesn't need to show its dominance. The first reason behind its prestige is the Principal who is currently the only (SSS)-Rank in the whole Kingdom. Secondly, no matter their original status all the students studying inside the Academy have always achieved something incredible in their life.'

Bia talked with Kyle filling him whatever she heard about the tournament inside the room.

After a few minutes, Principal Ratric removed the transparent shield around himself. He walked toward George and the Elders with a grim expression.

George stood up and his expression was grim as well because if the King called so suddenly something was surely wrong.

"What happened?"

Ratric gazed at everyone inside the room with a serious expression.

"I am leaving for a while. I will return after the Academies tournament so take care of the Academy in my absence."

After getting a nod from all his trusted subordinates he chuckled to lighten the mood.

"Tell the students that those who worked hard and participated in the tournament will have a chance to get a special training session from me. I will teach them some life-saving techniques."

"Those old foggies from other Kingdoms are also doing it."

"Contact me immediately if there's any urgent situation. I am leaving."

Ratric waved his hand. He turned around and started moving but after he stepped forward his body disappeared from the room.

George looked at the fading image.

'Did something happen? Why did the King call him so suddenly.'

He massaged his temples and waved at the Elders with a serious expression.

"Go back for now."

Elder Han sighed and stood up.

"Let's leave little one."

He picked up Bia and with the other two Elders, he left the room.

After walking for a while, he looked at Bia with a smile.

"Should I send you back or would you like to stay with this old man for a while?"

Bia blinked her eyes and tilted her head cutely.

Elder Han chuckled seeing her reaction.

"It seems you can't understand what I am saying. Well, I should send you back because I have some work to do."

He walked toward the boy's dorm but then stopped outside the building with a frown.

"I know he is inside the building but I don't know his room location. It's such a hassle to go and acquire information about it from the main hall. I remember I gave him a communication device..."

His sentence was cut in half when a familiar voice resounded opposite to him.

"Master?"

Elder Han gazed at the person with a raised brow. Kyle was walking out of the building with a serious expression.

'How did he know I am here?'

Kyle ignored the suspicious stare he was getting from the Elder and approached him hurriedly.

While Elder Han was staring at Kyle Bia flapped her wings and started flying. She landed on top of Kyle's head. Her eyes sparkled when she thought about everything she did today.

-'Just like you said It's really fun to listen to others without their knowledge. I should do this often. hehe.'

Kyle could hear Bia's giggle inside his head. He suppressed his smile and stood in front of Elder Han.

"Thank you master for taking care of Bia."

Elder Han didn't say anything he was processing the hidden smile present inside Kyle's eyes. Suddenly a strange thought appeared inside his head which he didn't dare to believe.

'Don't tell me Bia understand everything we talked about inside the room? It's not possible right?'

His eyes landed on Bia who again tilted her head with her innocent eyes staring back at him.

'Maybe I am thinking too much?'

With a smile, Elder Han looked at Kyle. After seeing the latter fighting abilities he was proud of his student.

"It's fine. Now go and rest for today. You must have been tired after the practical exam."

"I am busy tomorrow but from the day after tomorrow make sure to come to the library after noon. I will teach you about Arrays as long as I am here. I saw the Symbols you drew on those pages, it wasn't satisfactory and needs more improvements but I can see you worked hard...."

He started pointing out Kyle's mistakes, like how while drawing the symbols Kyle didn't care about their thickness and how he cramped too many symbols in just a single beginner array.

Kyle listened to every mistake Elder Han pointed out with a stoic face but inwardly he was suppressing his laughter because Bia was saying something very opposite.

-'I am telling you in front of the other old individuals Elder Han praised you like you are a genius. He showed off that he is your master. Why is he complaining now?'

-'While watching you draw Arrays inside the projection he was laughing nonstop. He even said you are born to learn about Arrays! He said your beginner Arrays were perfect without even a single error.'

-'Tsk, Tsk, how can someone change their words so easily?'

Kyle gazed at Elder Han who was busy scolding him with a serious expression.

'He looks so serious. Are you sure we are talking about the same person?'

After a few minutes, Han finally left him alone. With a smile, Kyle went back to his room.

He picked up Bia from his head and poked at her bulging stomach with a grin.

"You full?"

-'Ugh, don't do it. The food was too tasty so I ate everything they gave me.'

"Hmm, let's sleep then."

Kyle put her on top of a pillow and wrapped a blanket around her before lying down on the bed as well.

He gazed at the ceiling of the room with his black eyes for a while.

"What a long day."

After a few seconds, Bia could hear Kyle's peaceful breathing.

-'He can sleep so easily.'

Chapter 163 The banned student went out

?

The next day inside the Royal Academy wasn't much eventful because after the practical exam students were tired. Some of them spent their day inside their rooms on the beds sleeping while some went outside for fun.

The second and third-year students mostly took some missions and left the Academy to enjoy some nearby restaurants or markets.

The mid-term results would be announced a few days later that's why they were roaming around before they suffered the consequences of their bad results.

In front of the mission hall, Nine wore a gloomy expression as he tried to step inside to get a mission only to get a glare from the person in charge.

'Damn it! My life has gone downhill after a single mission with Kyle, Alec, and Carcel.'

'I promise from now on I am not going to invite them whenever I am going outside.'

He grumbled inwardly and decided to leave because even after arguing with the person in charge he didn't get anywhere.

After walking for a while, he kicked a nearby pebble.

"They are all sleeping like logs! Now I don't know what to do."

In the morning, he knocked on Kyle's door only to see the latter sleeping without any care. As usual, he wanted to barge inside Kyle's room and make him sober but it seemed Kyle was prepared because he slammed the door shut the moment Nine tried to enter his room.

With an annoyed expression, Nine left Kyle alone and went to check on Alec and Carcel but it seemed today was the day he would be alone because they also shut their doors on his face.

"Tsk... I want to leave the academy. I want to see a lot of fresh water. I want to.."

His voice trailed off as he gazed at a group of students nearby.

A purple-haired youth wearing a second-year uniform was walking toward the north with three more students.

Nine narrowed his eyes slightly as he saw the familiar round glasses on the purple-haired youth's eyes.

A smile appeared on his face and he hurriedly waved his hand at the purple-haired individual who was busy talking with his friends.

"Senior Blane!"

Blane almost freaked out when he heard a loud shout nearby. He settled his glasses at looked at the person who called him.

"Nine?"

He smiled politely seeing a familiar junior. He knew Nine as they interacted with each other before they entered the Tower. It was a pity that, unlike the too powerful first-year students, only two students from the second year returned alive from the Tower but Blane was happy to return safely.

He waved back as he didn't know why Nine was waving at him out of nowhere.

One of Blane's classmates who was standing beside him frowned.

"Hey Blane, the smile on his face is giving me a bad vibe."

"Huh? The smile.. now that you mentioned it does look a little evil..."

Blane blinked his eyes. His friends gestured for him to leave but Nine sped up and instantly arrived in front of him with a grin.

"Seniors, where are you going?"

Blane sighed and assured his friends that Nine wasn't a bad guy. Afterward, he looked at Nine with a smile.

"We are going outside to have some fun. What about you."

Nine smirk widened.

"Senior, I am free take me with you as well."

"Huh? You want to come with us but we are going a little further from the Academy because we have to complete a mission as well by killing some mud monsters."

"It's okay senior. You can do whatever you want I am just going to roam around for a while then we can return together."

Nine said with a smile. Blane thought for a while. His friends were reluctant but after speaking with them and getting their permission he agreed.

With Blane and the other second-year students Nine walked toward the Academy gate. When they arrived in front of the gate, Nine purposely hid behind the group who showed the guard their mission page.

After they left the Academy, the guard standing at the gate narrowed his eyes when he saw Nine fading figure.

"Why does that kid look familiar?"

The guard whispered but then he recalled the warning he received a few days ago. His eyes widened slightly.

"He was one of the students who were banned from stepping outside the Academy!"

He wanted to stop the kids but the group had already gone far.

"I am not allowed to leave the gate. Sigh, I need to tell the Elder."

He massaged his temples and hurriedly grabbed a student from nearby to send the message to the person who warned him a few days ago to not let the banned students go outside the academy.

On the other hand, Blane looked back at Nine.

"We are going this...."

He stopped midway and looked around his friends. Nine was nowhere to be seen.

"Where did he go?"

He and his group members looked around for a while but they didn't see Nine at all. In the end, they left the area because they had to visit some places before completing the mission.

....

Next day early morning, Blane and the trio return to the Academy with satisfied expressions. They talked about the places they visited while laughing.

Their mission was complete but the moment they entered the Academy a black-haired old man stopped their path with narrowed eyes.

They all stopped and looked at the old man with confused expressions but their confusion was replaced with horror when the old man said that they had to run one hundred rounds along the Academy walls.

"Wh..y?"

Blane said with disbelief. One hundred rounds! It was too much because the Academy was huge! He wasn't even sure if he and his friends would survive after they finished running!

"Because you all helped a student who was banned from going outside. Start running or else I am going to increase the number..."

Blane looked at his friends who were cursing him inwardly. He wanted to cry.

All the students who took a mission were informed about some banned students but he didn't listen carefully to who those students were that's why he agreed to Nine request.

'I should have known something was amiss the moment Nine smiled so evilly!'

He cried inwardly and started running with his friends who were staring daggers at his back.

The old man looked at their backs and sighed. After getting the news about Nine he instantly informed the Vice Principal but the latter only chuckled and said not to worry about Nine because he had a guardian following behind him outside the Academy.

"Anyway, I need to punish these kids a little. The banned student's names were written inside the hall how did they miss it."

Chapter 164 He needs to suffer a little

Kyle was standing inside the bathroom as he looked at his reflection in the water.

His gaze darted at his head as he grabbed the corner of his hair with a nonchalant expression.

"My hair is still black."

He wiped his hair and body with a towel and wore a long-sleeve pale blue shirt with grey pants.

After the practical exam, he didn't do anything and just stayed inside his room with Bia for the whole day. Today the first-year classes were finally starting again that's why he woke up early. In the evening he had to go to the library to take lessons about Arrays.

After wearing clothes, he left the bathroom and looked at the wrinkled blanket on the bed.

"Bia let's leave. It's time for class."

He removed the blanket and poked at Bia who had become too lazy recently because of him.

"Tsk, I think I need to dip you in water."

Bia shivered as she remembered what happened yesterday. The devil Kyle suddenly thought she was too dirty and made her take a bath.

-'You! I told you I didn't like cold water.'

Bia cried out and instantly left the bed. She fluffed up and shook her red feathers before flying around Kyle.

Kyle chuckled when he saw her becoming more and more like a bird.

Both of them left the room together and Kyle knocked on Nine door but no one replied.

He blinked his eyes.

"Where is he? Just yesterday he was pestering me to come out..."

Kyle knocked again but after getting no response he left the building heading straight toward the classroom. His question was soon answered when he neared the class building.

A black-haired old man was standing in front of a group of students with a frown. He was giving them a lecture with an angry expression.

Kyle raised his brow seeing two familiar faces among the group. First was Blane and second was Nine.

Nine was alright because he was wearing a neat shirt but Blane and the trio standing beside him didn't look good at all.

Their clothes were wrinkled and drenched with sweat. Even their breathing was shallow as they tried to stand firmly in front of the old man.

A small crowd of first-year students was standing a little further from the old man. They were laughing and whispering among themselves.

Kyle neared the crowd of students and tapped someone's shoulder with a curious look.

"Huh?"

The Olive-haired student suddenly turned around with annoyance but when he saw Kyle's face his eyes instantly lit up.

"Classmate Kyle!"

His voice was too loud and the students standing beside him gazed at him with raised brows before spotting Kyle.

"It's Kyle! Look the famous bird beast is flying around him!"

"Damn! Why is he here did he find out we were bad-mouthing him?"

They whispered among themselves and some of them even stepped back fearing that maybe Kyle heard them when they were badmouthing him.

Kyle wanted to face palm he just wanted to inquire what was happening from the olive-haired boy but now the whole crowd was staring at him.

He cleared his throat and stepped back with a polite smile.

"I just wanted to know what's happening there?"

He pointed at the old man and the group of students who were getting scolded.

The olive-haired boy smiled when he heard Kyle. He was thinking of befriending the latter because he was one of the people who admired Kyle for his hard work and determination. Even though Kyle's talent was low he was rivaling Alec who was above his league. That's why the olive-haired boy inspired Kyle as his role model.

Well, no one knew what would be his thoughts if he knew how much Kyle 'worked hard'.

"Classmate, my name is Tray. Let me tell you what's happening."

Tray explained everything he knew. How Nine slipped out from the Academy even though he was banned by the Elders and how Blane and his group helped Nine even after knowing the consequences.

Blane and his group were punished yesterday but Nine just arrived back today morning that's why he was now getting scolded by the old man.

Kyle blinked his eyes after hearing the explanation.

-'You sure Blane helped him. Why do I feel like he was tricked by Nine?'

Bia's voice resounded inside Kyle's head.

'You are just feeling, knowing his personality I am one hundred percent sure he tricked Blane.'

Kyle suppressed his laughter and thanked Tray before walking toward the building. Tray and another black-haired boy followed behind him.

While he was walking he gazed at Nine and to his surprise the latter was looking at him with a begging expression.

Nine cried out inwardly.

'Help me, bro!'

It had been an hour he had been listening to the old man. Now even his ears had given up!

Kyle smirked and turned around without even sparing him another glance. Bia who was flying above Kyle also looked at Nine's expression. She gave him a pitiful glance and laughed inwardly while following behind Kyle.

Bia looked at Tray and the black-haired boy following Kyle before finally landing on top of Kyle's head while stretching her wings.

-'Aren't you going to help Nine?'

'No, he needs to suffer a little. Senior Blane and his friends were punished because of him.'

Kyle chuckled and after walking inside the building for a while he appeared in front of a familiar classroom.

He pushed the door and entered inside. More than half of the chairs were empty but the ones present inside became quiet for a few seconds when Kyle entered the room.

"Kyle!"

Kyle heard a familiar voice and looked at the rows of chairs.

Carcel was waving at him from the second row. He was sitting alone because Alec hadn't arrived yet.

With a smile, Kyle sat beside him. After a few minutes, a lot of students entered the classroom. Soon, Alec, Lara, and Mia also arrived.

When the class was filled with students a dejected brown-haired boy entered the classroom with slumped shoulders.

Nine wiped his nonexistent tears and glared at Kyle and Carcel. They both saw him being scolded but they didn't help him!

With a grumpy expression, he sat in the front row with Alec instead of Kyle.

Kyle gazed at Nine and just shrugged his shoulders with a smirk.

Chapter 165 A tiring yet normal day

After the classroom was filled with students. Professor Aliza finally arrived in the room with some papers.

Her expression was grim when she glanced at some students with a disappointed look.

Everyone present inside the room went silent when she arrived and gave them a cold glance.

She stepped onto the stage and stood behind the podium before slamming the papers on the podium.

"Good morning everyone."

Her narrow gaze swept on the students sitting on the chairs.

"I know you all have rested enough yesterday. That's why I would like to talk about the theoretical exam."

She picked up the papers and fiddled with them.

"I am done checking everyone's papers but some of you maybe thought I would check them with closed eyes that's why the only thing they wrote inside the papers was some made-up stories and strange symbols that even I can't describe what they were."

Her voice lowered as she sighed.

"I know the exam was a little hard, but that's not an excuse for not preparing adequately. We covered the material extensively in class, and I provided proper guidance for studying. So why are the results so bad?"

"Even the ones who were inside the Tower and didn't get the chance to study properly had scored better than the rest of the class...."

Her gaze first landed on Kyle and then on Alec and Mia but when she saw Nine she didn't know whether to laugh or cry because his paper was something that she would never forget.

"Well, I mean except for some special cases."

She cleared her throat and left the papers on the podium.

"Anyway, you will get your results after two days. They will be posted inside the student's hall."

"Let's not waste more time and start the lesson."

The students finally relaxed when Professor Aliza stopped talking about the theoretical exam. Nine glanced back at Kyle with a pained expression.

He saw how Professor Aliza gazed at him when she said 'The ones who entered the Tower performed better'. He even remembers how unlike Kyle she gave him a terrible stare.

'I think my 50,000 mana stones are already gone.'

He blinked. His eyes had lost the luster of life when he thought how he had to give Kyle 50,000 mana stones!

The class continued as Professor Aliza started the lecture about how mana affects the individual's bodies and makes them stronger the moment they break through.

After two hours the class was over and Professor Aster entered the classroom. He talked about different weapons and Artifacts.

Two hours later the first-year students left the classroom and entered another classroom to take the history lecture. A curly-haired old man who seemed to be in his mid-fifties was already present inside the classroom when the students arrived.

The old man gave the students some books and talked about how humans and other races lived after their relationship became better. He also talked about some old customs and why the Sea Continent doesn't like interacting with other races.

All the students listened attentively when the old professor suddenly started talking about the Sea Continent. Information regarding that continent was lacking because the mermaids always stayed inside the water.

"The mermaids possess a very strong affinity with water. That's why they preferred to stay in their home Kingdom but they can change their appearance and become similar to humans or elves. That's why even if they come out and roam inside the other Continents no one can recognize them."

The class started whispering when they heard that the mermaids could change their appearance.

"So it's true! That's why it's so hard to see a mermaid."

"Tsk, they are always nonchalant about everything and never helped others. Also, the Sea continent people are cowards who hide inside water."

"No, they are too weak and beautiful that's why they don't come out from the water!"

Some of the students chuckled at this comment but Nine frowned. He just clicked his tongue and looked at the Professor.

Kyle heard the chatting. He also wanted to see a mermaid someday but from the corner of his eyes he saw how Nine and Alec's expressions became sour when everyone badmouthed the mermaids.

Kyle raised his brow but because the Professor silenced the class he forgot about this small thought.

"Class, let's stop the lecture here we will continue tomorrow."

After the professor left, the students started chatting among themselves.

After a small break, they all went to the training ground where Professor Liam was eagerly waiting for them.

"Finally the exams are over and I can start working again."

Liam said with a smile and asked the students to start training while he pointed out their mistakes.

Kyle shuddered a little when he thought about the recent training session he had with Liam. He wiped the sweat from his forehead and stood in front of a dummy.

He took out his sword and started practicing as well.

His whole day was packed with classes and training.

After a while, Kyle sat on the ground while wiping his sweat with a towel. He gazed at Alec, Carcel, and Nine. The trio was training a few meters away from him with serious expressions.

Lara and Mia were in the long-range training area and for some reason Tray and the black-haired boy were following behind him but unlike before Kyle didn't dislike interacting with others that much.

Maybe he had changed a little after making some friends. Even though they all have their secrets it wasn't something Kyle needed to worry about. He had a big secret himself.

A genuine smile appeared on Kyle's face as he closed his eyes for a while.

'A tiring yet normal day indeed.'

After spending two hours in the training ground, he went back with Nine and cleaned himself before heading straight toward the library.

The old librarian greeted him but Kyle's eyes stopped at a new face.

A tall and slender girl wearing black clothes was working beside the librarian. Her face looked innocent and she was wearing thick glasses on her eyes. She seemed to be in her late twenties.

The girl looked back at Kyle and nodded but her eyes glanced at Bia's body for a second.

'Master finally found an assistant for the librarian.'

Kyle thought inwardly and replied with a nod. He glanced at the old librarian to confirm if it was fine to enter the secret room in front of her.

"It's fine."

After getting a reply he approached the end of the first floor of the library before taking out a familiar crystal and opening the secret room.

Kyle coughed the moment he entered the room. A lot of smoke was rising and he could smell something was burning.

His eyes darted inside the room only to spot an old figure standing in a corner brewing something inside a large bowl.

"Master?"

Elder Han gazed at Kyle and waved his hand. The smoke instantly disappeared.

"Just sit on the chair. I picked some new books about Arrays for you so read them carefully. You can ask me any question you want."

Kyle sighed and just sat down and picked up one of the books present on the table. He would ask some questions here and there while reading.

Elder Han would also lecture him from time to time. Kyle took in all the information and at night he was finally free to go back to his room.

After coming back he ate something with Bia and slumped down on his bed with a tired expression.

Soon, he fell asleep.

Chapter 166 Result I

Two days later,

The student hall was filled to the brim as almost every student of the Royal Academy was present here today.

The hall was devoid of any furniture but three big boards were placed in different corners inside the hall. So the students of each year could see their results.

All three boards only had three white sheets stuck on them, each sheet showed a separate result.

1. The theoretical exam result.
2. The practical exam result.
3. The final result.

Two old Professors wearing blue robes were sitting in the middle of the hall to answer the students who had problems with their results. The Professors wore serious expressions as they talked to the students who were causing unnecessary trouble.

Meanwhile, a few meters away from the student hall. Alec, Carcel, Lara, and Mia were walking together. They chatted and made their way toward the hall to see their results.

The atmosphere was harmonious. For the past two days, their schedule was packed with classes and training.

Alec rubbed his hands together with anticipation as he saw the familiar hall in the distance.

"I know about my practical exam result but I am not sure about the theory exam. I just hope we all get good marks because Professor Aliza was quite angry due to some students."

Carcel looked at Alec. After spending so much time with the latter he was very comfortable around him now.

"I did good so I am not worried about myself but you...."

His sentence was cut short because Alec glared at him.

"We will see in a while who did better!"

Lara and Mia both looked at the duo and shook their heads.

Suddenly Carcel remembered something and a smirk appeared on his face.

"What about Kyle and Nine bet? Who do you think will win?"

Mia raised her brow.

"What bet?"

Alec looked at her with a mysterious smile.

"It's a very tragic bet that Nine lost even before he made it."

"What?"

Alec laughed and explained about the bet to Lara and Mia. The girls wore an amused expression when they listened to the details.

"Giving 50,000 mana stones to someone else isn't something small. Even I don't have that many mana stones!"

Lara exclaimed with a serious expression. She thought about Kyle and sighed. She was still uncomfortable around others and didn't know how to start a conversation but now she was willing to talk to her classmates.

Recently she even tried to talk to Kyle but because she felt too awkward and embarrassed she wasn't able to say much.

'No one is a bad person. They won't harm me without any reason. It's just my mind who perceives them bad and beneath me.'

'I need to change my mindset.'

Her thoughts were complicated. She knew her personality wasn't good but now she was trying her best to change a little.

After getting help from Hanson and Kelvin in the Tower she realized how wrong she was. Not everyone was bad.

She felt a little guilty for all those people she looked down at. In the end, it was all because she wasn't able to make genuine friends after the incident that happened in her childhood. That's why her personality naturally becomes cold and arrogant.

Alec looked at Lara and tilted his head.

"Hey, relax your brows. Why are you frowning so much because of Nine and Kyle's bet."

"Nine won't ask you for mana stones!"

He chuckled and looked ahead.

Lara blinked her eyes when she saw Alec's face and nodded before her expression finally relaxed.

She stepped back a little because Alec was too close.

After a while, they stepped inside the hall. Many students were entering and leaving the hall. They looked at the three boards and after asking a nearby student they went toward the first-year result board.

Alec frowned when he saw so many students standing in front of the board.

"Excuse me. Please give me a small way. I want to see my result as well"

He said and some of the students looked back with annoyance but when they saw Alec's face they instantly made a small gap between the crowd.

Some of the students even snickered and whispered among themselves looking at Alec and the others.

Carcel and Alec stepped issues the crowd while Lara and Mia followed behind both of them.

They soon saw the board but Alec rubbed his eyes with shock.

"Am I hallucinating?"

Carcel's eyes also widened slightly. He patted Alec's shoulder.

"Does that mean I am hallucinating as well?"

Lara and Mia were also shocked but unlike the duo, they didn't show it on their faces.

Mia looked at Carcel.

"I believe it's not a hallucination if we all are seeing the same thing."

Lara shook her head. A rare smile appeared on her face. The students who saw her smile squeaked with shock.

"It's seemed Nine didn't just lose the bet. He lost very terribly."

Alec was too shocked to even hear Lara's words. He pinched Carcel's arm to confirm if he was seeing things.

Carcel rolled his eyes and smacked his hand away.

"Why the hell are you pinching my arm?"

Alec took a deep breath and looked at him.

"It's because it's painful if I pinch myself."

He chuckled and pointed at the result.

"It's a little sour to see this result."

Carcel massaged his temples.

"I am feeling sour as well. My rank dropped."

Alec glared at him.

"Hey, I lost my rank as well!"

Lara chimed in as well.

"I thought my rank would increase but it's the same as before."

Mia sighed at her friend's childish behavior but she noticed something that made her laugh. Her slender finger pointed at the theoretical exam result.

"Look who is last!"

Alec and the other two followed her finger and after seeing the name they burst into laughter. Even Lara started laughing.

The students around them looked at them with confused expressions. Didn't the four of them lose their ranks? Why are they laughing?

Chapter 167 Result II

On the other hand, Nine knocked on Kyle's door with an anxious expression.

He paced around for a while and Kyle finally came out wearing a brown hoodie. Bia was sitting inside his hoodie.

"Why do you take so much time just to get ready? Hurry up!"

He dragged Kyle toward the student hall.

Kyle chuckled when he saw Nine anxious expressions. He cleared his throat.

"I hope the mana stones are ready."

Nine glared at Kyle. Even though inwardly he knew he lost the bet he wouldn't accept defeat until he saw Kyle's result with his own eyes!

"We still haven't seen the result!"

After walking for a while they spotted Alec and the others but because they were too far away Nine didn't call out their names.

A few minutes later when they arrived in front of the student hall, Nine stopped Kyle.

"Wait! I am not ready yet!"

He wiped his sweaty forehead and looked at the hall with a serious expression. It looked like he was fighting an inner war.

Kyle looked at Nine expression he wanted to laugh but controlled himself.

"If we stand here any longer the day will turn into night!"

"Let's enter."

Nine sighed and fiddled with the ring he was wearing.

"Alright, Alright."

With a dry smile, he entered the hall with Kyle. After passing through the crowd of students they saw a small gap between the crowd present on the north side.

Nine squinted his eyes, he could see Alec, Carcel, Mia, and Lara standing in front of the board but for some reason, they were laughing.

'I am having a very bad feeling.'

He grumbled inwardly and left Kyle behind before approaching the laughing individuals.

After passing through the narrow path, Nine tapped on Alec's shoulder.

"Bro, why are you all laughi..."

His sentence was cut short when his gaze landed on the board. His eyes contracted into a slit when he saw the first name.

"..."

Nine mouth was wide open as he pointed his trembling finger at the board.

"Impossible!"

He cried out loudly. Alec and Carcel looked at him with pity before both of them stepped forward and patted his shoulders with a sigh while exclaiming simultaneously.

"It's fate."

Nine slapped their hands away with a glare. He was the one who had to give away his mana stones!

"The hell with fate! I don't believe this result! I want a refund... I mean I want to check Kyle's papers with my own eyes before I believe this board!"

"Oh?"

Kyle's voice resounded behind Nine and Nine finally shut his mouth but inwardly he was crying.

Kyle pushed him back and looked at the result. Even he was surprised.

-'Wow you got the first rank.'

Bia's surprised voice resounded inside his head as she peeked from his hoodie. Even though she didn't understand much of the written words on the board she was sure the top name was 'Kyle'.

-Practical exam result;

"1_ Alec= 3000 and Kyle= 3000

2_Lara=2700

3_Carcel=2560

4_Mia=2450

5_Nine=2270

6_Lily=1990

7_Jake=1260

..."

-Theoretical exam result;

1_Kyle= 100/100

2_Jake=100/96

3_Luna=100/86

4_Mia=100/84.5

5_Jessica=100/83

6_Carecl=100/82

7_Alec=100/79

8_Lara=100/77

....

200_ Nine=100/9.5"

-Final result;

"1_Kyle

2_Alec

3_Lara

4_Carcel

5_Mia

6_Jake

7_Luna

....

17_Nine

..."

When Kyle's gaze landed on Nine theoretical exam results. He burst out into laughter. He was happy to see himself at the first rank but seeing Nine at the last was more amusing.

"I remember you said I will be the last no matter what!"

He patted Nine who was dazed after seeing Kyle's result.

"Huh?"

Nine looked at Kyle who was pointing at the last name in the theoretical exam. He followed his finger and almost fainted on the spot.

"Impossible! I am last! No way! This result is fake!"

His face was red with embarrassment and he wanted to bury himself underground.

Just a week ago he was saying Kyle would take the last spot no matter what and now he was the one who was in the last spot? How can he accept this? It's too unfair!

'Also, why is my score even lower than 10!'

The students around them whispered and because of Nine's loud voice, the two Professors sitting in the middle of the hall frowned.

One of the Professors shouted at them.

"What's the problem? Which brat is shouting inside the hall? Come here I will tell you if it's unfair or not!"

Nine shuddered. He instantly took back all his words and smiled at the professors.

"I was just joking."

"Right, bro?"

He placed his arm on Kyle's neck with a forced smile.

Alec and Carcel stopped their laughter. Even Mia placed her fingers on her lips.

The Professor raised his brow with an amused expression but then he pointed at the exit.

"Leave if you have seen your results don't make a scene here."

Nine nodded and with the others, he instantly left the hall.

After they stepped outside, Kyle rubbed his hands and looked at Nine with a smirk.

"So, what about the mana stones?"

Nine wanted to curse. His heart ached when he thought about the mana stones he gathered with 'sweat and pain'.

Alec, Carcel, Mia, and Lara stood beside the duo with amused expressions. They wondered where Kyle and Nine got so many mana stones to make such a big bet over a small exam.

With a reluctant expression, Nine looked at his storage ring before looking at Kyle while flashing a smile.

"Bro we are friends how about we forget about the bet? It's just some mana stones!"

Kyle raised his brow. His smirk widened as he placed his arm on Nine neck.

"You are right. It's just some mana stones that means it's not a big deal to give them to me."

He gazed at Nine who laughed dryly.

"Right, Right... It's not a big deal."

Alec and the trio watched while laughing how Kyle took the exact amount of mana stones from Nine without giving the latter even a one percent discount.

They were surprised because Nine actually took out so many mana stones.

The most shocked one was Alec. He remembers how Nine, Carcel, and Kyle forced him to pay the restaurant bill when they went out for fun.

Now seeing Nine wealth he was feeling very poor.

'Damn! They are rich and still forced me to use the only gold coins I had! Pity bastards!'

Chapter 168 Hidden danger

After Kyle took the mana stones from Nine. Everyone went to train for a while.

Kyle wore a satisfied expression the whole time. He spent two hours inside the training ground with the others before leaving for the library.

Elder Han was already waiting for him inside the secret room and unlike before he was free today.

With a serious expression, Han sat opposite Kyle and taught him about the weak points of Arrays.

All the Arrays had a weak point. It was something that would destroy the Array if not handled properly. Usually, the weak points would be present in the middle of the Arrays but some more complicated Arrays had their weak point hidden underneath layers of symbols.

He asked Kyle to draw an Array on a page.

Kyle nodded and unlike before he only took a few seconds to draw the nine basic symbols on the page and completed the defensive Array.

Elder Han was surprised at his speed but he stopped himself from praising Kyle and took out some mana stones before placing them on the page.

The Array lit up and a circular defensive shield formed inside the page.

"Look closely."

Kyle nodded and saw how Elder Han just touched a specific part of the shield and it burst into particles.

"?"

"This is a weak point that can destroy the Array. Your Array was fine but I found the weak point very easily because you just copied everything from the book."

Kyle listened to everything with a serious expression. Elder Han nodded inwardly with a smile seeing Kyle's serious face.

"To hide the weak point of an Array you have to change the placement of the symbols and make it unique in your way. Don't just copy everything."

"Usually it's very hard to find the weak point with the naked eye because each Array has a different weak point. You have to sense the mana around the Array."

"It's complicated because unlike normal mana the mana around Arrays is very thick but when you start sensing you can see small symbols floating around the Array. To find a weak point you have to look for a tiny hole within those symbols. It's very rare to see no weak point in an Array because it's not possible."

Kyle nodded. After Elder Han finished his explanation he gave him a book related to weak points.

"Just focus on the beginner Arrays for a while because finding a weak point inside an Array is very hard."

Han gazed at him one last time and stood up to do his work.

Kyle sighed and made another Array on a new page. He closed his eyes and sensed the mana around the Array but he didn't find any floating symbols.

'Destroying Arrays is harder than drawing them.'

He shook his head with a sigh but then Bia looked at the Array curiously.

-'I think I can sense the mana around the Array you made but I am not sure about the weak points.'

'You can, how?'

Bia blinked her eyes and came out from his hoodie before sitting on the table.

-'I can naturally see it I am now sure about the reason.'

-'Don't close your eyes. Just like how you can sense the faint feeling of mana around your body. Try to sense it around the Array. If you focus on it instead of feeling you can see faint needles like threads made of mana. They are continuously floating around the Array. Maybe the threads are the Array symbols?'

Kyle listened to Bia's words and did what she asked. After trying a few times he was able to sense the threads but it was so faint that he had to concentrate on a single thread.

He sensed that thread for a while and tried to follow its movement. He wanted to see the other threads as well but after a few minutes, his head started aching.

On the other hand, Elder Han almost broke the glass vial present inside his hand. His eyes showed shock and disbelief.

'He sensed it already?'

It took him more than three months just to sense a single symbol and Kyle sensed it within half an hour.

He took a deep breath to calm his troubled heart.

"Don't concentrate on a single spot for a long time or else you will get a headache. Try to sense it naturally. Sensing mana can place some pressure on your mind so take your time no need to hurry."

Kyle nodded and after taking a small break he started observing the Array again. After a few hours, he left the secret room.

He went back to his room and fell asleep. His everyday schedule was very similar. As he has to wake up early for classes. Then he would train with the others in the training ground for a few hours. Afterward, he would go to the library to get Array lessons from Elder Han.

It was a normal routine just like any other student but Kyle liked this peaceful life.

...

Inside a dimly lit room. Professor Aster was pacing around a communication crystal with a serious expression.

A projection of a middle-aged man wearing dark clothes was seen on top of the communication crystal.

With a deep breath, Aster stopped and gazed at the Crystal.

"Are you sure you want to do it? If yes I am out of this plan. My life in the Academy is pretty good I can't risk getting caught."

The other person snickered. He had deep red eyes and black hair.

"I want that beast no matter what! I know the other Kingdoms are keeping an eye on the Academy but I don't care."

"The Principal won't come back for a while and I have already sent a few spies inside the Academy. You just need to do a single thing and you are still hesitating?"

"I am not giving you so many resources just to get a negative response every time I ask you to do something!"

Professor Aster gritted his teeth when he saw the latter crazed expression.

"Why? Just why do you want it so badly? It's just a beast. It's not like it will reach (SSS+)-Rank within a few months. There's no point in getting your hands on it because you have to use many resources just to let it grow! Also, unlike the Royal Academy where no one is willing to make a move, they won't hesitate to attack you if they knew about this."

The man present in the projection chuckled. He didn't care about Aster as he could kill the latter anytime but he needed Aster's help that's why he was willing to hear him out.

"Who said I am like those idiots who want to just acquire a strong pet? I don't want to make it grow. I want to use it for my new experiment. If I succeed I will be able to increase my talent! I will write history! hahaha."

"Now that we are doing it the hard way. Just bring me all the talented students from the Academy. After my experiment is done I will dig their hearts and make some incredible life-increasing potions!"

"It would be a very beautiful sight when Principal Ratric returned and saw everything, hahaha."

A crazed laughter echoed inside the room and Aster's eyes widened slightly.

Talent is something that can never be changed. It was everyone's potential and no matter what after reaching their potential no one could advance further but the man inside the projection claimed to increase his talent.

Aster took a deep breath. He was still against the idea of doing something risky inside the Academy but he agreed after the black-haired man promised to give him some of the benefits.

Chapter 169 The tournament

Kyle's time in the Academy seemed to be passing very peacefully as the only thing he did for the next five months was to attend lectures, train, and learn about Arrays.

Even though he was confined within the Academy he didn't mind it because he knew he wasn't strong enough yet.

During these months he didn't notice any changes in his body. Everything stayed normal. The disadvantage was that it was too normal and Kyle became worried because he showed no sign of a breakthrough even though he was working as hard as everyone else.

Unlike him, the others were progressing at the same speed as before.

Alec was already (C-)-Rank so everyone knew it would take some time for him to break through again but two months later Carcel broke through to (D+)-Rank while training.

His breakthrough was a surprise for all the students and professors but the excitement died down and everyone became numb because Mia also broke through to (D)-Rank after a week.

Even Nine the one who for some reason always slipped out from the Academy and would return after a few days broke through to (D)-Rank.

Nine was very happy after he broke through. He laughed and boasted to almost everyone in the classroom.

He even challenged Kyle because he was still sour about the mana stones he lost. In the end, he lost within half a minute. It was a very miserable defeat because even though Kyle didn't break through to the next rank, he was stronger than Nine in terms of combat.

Kyle was very frustrated because of his progress but in the end, he just sighed because he wasn't able to do anything.

At the end of the fifth month, after thinking for a week he made a big decision and decided to tell Elder Han about his bloodline so the latter could see if anything was wrong with his body but when he went to the secret room he didn't find Elder Han anywhere.

He waited for a few days but Elder Han didn't return to the secret room.

With a sigh, he was going to give up when another Elder from the Academy approached him and gave him a letter and a life-saving Artifact that Elder Han left behind before leaving the Kingdom for some reason.

Kyle thanked the Elder and read the letter. He was shocked because inside the letter Elder Han told him that he knew about Kyle's actual talent which was (SS)-Rank. The letter even gave him information regarding the 'Secret Realm'.

Han said it was a very dangerous place but if Kyle wanted to enter the Realm he would talk to the Principal about the matter regarding his talent and take care of everything.

At the end of the letter, Elder Han apologized as he wasn't able to tell everything directly to Kyle because he had to leave due to some matters related to the secret Realm.

Kyle was frozen on the spot. He massaged his temples, the old man was sly. He found out about Kyle's talent through some artifact without his knowledge!

With a sigh, Kyle looked at the life-saving Artifact Elder Han left behind with the letter.

It looked like an ordinary white broach. Even when Kyle placed it on his shirt it wasn't much attractive to the others.

"I didn't know the details about this Artifact because master didn't explain anything about it in the letter."

Kyle shook his head and went to the training ground because today Professor Aliza was going to announce something important.

After a few minutes, he arrived at the training ground. It was filled and all the first-year students were standing in rows. In front of them, Professor Liam and Aliza were standing with serious expressions.

-'We are a little late.'

Bia's voice resounded inside Kyle's head. She was flying above him because recently she gained a lot of weight and Kyle forbade her to sit on top of his head.

Kyle gazed at Bia.

'She should increase her size instead of weight.'

He chuckled inwardly and stood with the students. He gazed around and could see many familiar faces. Alec, Carcel, Tray, and the others. The only one missing was Nine.

'Did he go out again?'

While Kyle was thinking, Professor Liam clapped his hands and gathered the student's attention.

"Kids, please listen carefully as to what Professor Aliza is going to explain because it's very important."

He stepped back and Professor Aliza nodded at him before looking at the first-year students.

"As you all know within two months, the final exam for each year will arrive but this year we are doing something different."

His gaze swept through the students who were listening carefully.

"After careful discussion with the King. The Principal had decided to hold a friendly tournament between all the Academies present in the Kingdom. So the students of each Academy can exchange combat experience with the students from the other Academies."

She wasn't finished, when the students erupted into a huge uproar.

"A tournament?"

"Something like this never happened before. Why did they want to hold a tournament so suddenly?"

"I think the King wants to recruit some talented individuals through this method."

"But the students of the Royal Academy are the more powerful. Why do they need to hold a tournament?"

Their whispers were disturbed when Professor Aliza shouted.

"Silence."

Kyle looked at the Professor he already knew about this topic so unlike the others he wasn't surprised at all.

"It's just a small friendly tournament between Academies. So I don't think there's any need to become anxious."

"Even though it's a friendly tournament there will be a lot of rewards for the students who will participate but not everyone can participate in the tournament."

The whole training ground was silent as Professor Aliza narrowed her eyes slightly.

"Only the top ten students from each year can participate in the tournament. After the mid-terms, the ranking of each class was adjusted and I believe you all know who are the top ten students from your class."

"I know you all are feeling bitter and think it's too wrong that except for the top ten students, others are not given a chance to prove themselves even after so much hard work. That's why after careful consideration the Academy has made a new rule."

"For the next two months, all the students can challenge the top ten students for a battle. If you can defeat any one of the top ten students you will get their spot for the tournament. Of course, this will continue for two months. In these two months you can challenge the top students whenever you want but to make the process fair each student is only allowed to challenge all the top students a single time."

Professor Aliza nodded when she saw the series of expressions of the students.

"I hope I get to see some surprises in these two months because one of the rewards for the students participating in the tournament is that Principal Ratric will give them a special training session himself."

Some of the students gasped when they heard the Principal was going to give a special session to the students who entered the tournament. It was not every day they stumbled upon such a big chance. Principal Ratric was the strongest in Kingdom Escalante and his lessons would surely bring benefits to the students.

Even if they didn't get any other reward, getting a training session from the Principal was already enough to ignite the flames within each student!

All the students turned their heads and stared at the top students with serious expressions. They were ready to fight and snatch their spots! But when they saw Alec they instantly shook their heads because the target was too strong.

Then their eyes landed on Carcel. He was too strong as well. Afterward Kyle, Mia, and Lara. They were also out of the list because no one was in the mood to get beaten up.

Professor Aliza saw their serious expressions and sighed. She clapped her hands.

"That's it. I don't have much to say. Remember you can only challenge the top students in the training ground in front of Professor Liam who will judge your battles. Alright, now leave. I know you have a history class an hour later."

When she was done suddenly a voice resounded from behind her.

"Sorry, I was a little late!"

Aliza turned around to look at the person who just entered the training ground. Her eyes narrowed.

"You are not just a little late Nine! The announcement is already over. I hope you have a good reason for being so late or else I have to give you a proper punishment."

Her voice turned angry.

Nine blinked his eyes innocently.

"The Vice Principal called me. I am sorry for being late."

He said with a sigh. Aliza wanted to scold him but when he talked about the Vice Principal she stopped.

"I will confirm your words. If you are lying don't blame for being merciless."

She said and instantly left the training ground. With a smile, Nine approached the students. For some reason, he felt like a lot of students were staring at him with burning eyes.

"Huh?"

He approached Kyle and whispered slowly.

"Why are they staring at me like they found their prey? Also, what did Professor Aliza announce?"

Kyle looked at him from head to toe with a raised brow.

'Why do I feel like his skin is glistening?'

He thought inwardly and explained everything to Nine who was late. Nine facial expression darkened when he heard about how the students were allowed to challenge any top student.

He looked at the other students with a snort.

"I am not an easy prey! Don't pick me for a battle or else you will regret it!"

Chapter 170 You are not in the top ten

Nine looked at the other students and shouted at the top of his lungs.

"I am not an easy prey! Don't pick me for a battle or else you will regret it!"

Kyle blinked his eyes. He tapped at Nine shoulder with an awkward expression.

"Why are shouting?"

Nine turned around with a frown. He flipped his sleeves and looked at Kyle with a serious expression.

"Can't you see how everyone around us is staring at me? They probably want to challenge me to a battle because they think I am a weak prey! They want to snatch my place!"

The students who heard Nine words scoffed with mocking expressions and some of them even laughed a little.

Kyle wanted to slap Nine head because it seemed the latter had forgotten his final result but before he could, Alec stepped between them with a laugh. He looked at Kyle with eyes saying, 'Leave it to me'.

Alec placed his arm on Nine neck and looked at him with a mysterious smile.

"I don't think they want to fight you."

Nine was confused as he gazed back at Alec and Kyle.

Carcel looked at the trio with a sigh but there was a smirk on his lips.

With a chuckle, Alec said in a very loud voice so everyone around them could hear.

"My apologies but if I remember correctly you are not in the top ten."

Nine body froze he blinked his eyes twice, trying to digest everything he just heard. After Alec's words seeped inside his head he hurriedly recalled his final result and his eyes widened.

He was so busy looking at Kyle's mid-term result that's why he forgot about his final result!

His face flushed and he could hear the laughter of his classmates. With an awkward smile, he slapped Alec's arm away.

"Hmm, it's not that I forget about it I was just joking."

Nine was so embarrassed that he wanted to dig the ground and bury himself but he was too thick-skinned to admit that he forgot about his result.

He cleared his throat and looked at Alec with knitted brows. He wanted to change the topic.

"Then why are they all staring at me like I am their prey?"

Carcel chimed in with a smirk.

"Actually you are a prey. Not just for all of them but for me, Alec, and Kyle as well."

Nine looked at the trio who had evil grins on their faces. He was having a very bad feeling about all this.

While his mind was in overdrive, thinking about all the bad things he did in the last few months, Kyle tapped at Carcel's shoulder.

"Let me."

Kyle looked at Nine while rubbing his palms.

"Yesterday, a certain second-year senior who you have been avoiding for the past five months put a huge bounty on your head. The person who can beat you up will receive 200 mana stones."

Nine expression instantly paled. Now he knew why the moment he entered the training ground all the students looked at him with hungry eyes.

It seemed Senior Blane was still angry after he used him to leave the Academy. Nine had been avoiding Blane at all cost but it seemed the latter found a way to take revenge! He looked at Kyle with a pitiful expression.

"Bro, you are lying, right? Senior Blane won't do it. He is a big-hearted person!"

Kyle looked at him with a nod.

"Yes, he is a big-hearted person that's why he is giving 200 mana stones if we beat you up for him."

Nine stepped back with a dry laugh. He could see that Alec, Kyle, and Carcel were very serious. They were ready to beat him just up for 200 mana stones!

Not just the trio, the whole class was ready to try their punches on him!

'I know mana stones are precious and 200 mana stones are a lot but how can they beat their friend and classmate just for the sake of some meager stones!'

'Also, aren't 200 mana stones too little? If Senior Blane wanted to put a bounty on me he should have at least used 2000 mana stones!'

Nine grumbled inwardly but his gaze was fixed on Alec, Kyle, and Carcel who were ready to make a move.

The trio stepped forward followed by some other students and Nine panicked but then he suddenly pointed at the training dummies while shouting with a serious expression.

"Tsk, we are getting late for the history class."

"Huh?"

His move was very sudden that's why a few students even stopped and looked back but Kyle chuckled as he saw Nine fleeing back. Even Alec and Carcel burst into laughter.

Mia who was standing at a side and watching everything looked at them with a giggle. Even Lara had a thin smile on her face.

On the other hand, it was the first time Nine ran so fast. With large strides, he was at the exit within a few seconds.

"I am leaving for class. See yah later."

He shouted and disappeared from everyone's view while cursing Alec, Carcel, and Kyle inwardly.

'Damn it! They ruined my young master image! I will take revenge! How can you three do this to me just for the sake of 200 mana stones!'

After Nine left, Bia stopped flying and landed on Kyle's shoulder with a sigh.

-'What a pitiful soul!'

Kyle gazed at Bia. Even though she liked sitting on top of his head after he stopped her she didn't do it.

'He isn't pitiful. He even gave the Elder in charge a headache because he is leaving the academy too frequently. It's not safe outside.'

Bia nibbed on her left wing while thinking something inwardly. Just like Kyle, she noticed Nine glistening skin but her sight was more sharper than Kyle that's why she saw the slight blue glow around Nine skin. She had a hunch but it was too ridiculous.

Also, her knowledge regarding that race was too lacking because even the Phoenix her birth parent didn't know much about it.

-'I wonder why is he going out even though he knows it's dangerous.'

Alec finally calmed down and looked at the others.

"Let's leave for the class as well."

Kyle nodded and followed behind him. The other students were a little disappointed because it seemed Alec, Kyle, and Carcel were only joking when they said they would beat up Nine.

They sighed, the offer of 200 mana stones was very tempting but they knew Nine was strong and his friends were even stronger than him that's why they silently threw the matter at the back of their heads.