

Chapter 2091

Kahn

Han Sen followed Li Duo through Night Ring 12th Street. They checked out a few places, with many of them being murder scenes. Han Sen used his Dongxuan Aura to scan each area for details.

The strangest thing was that the only traces Han Sen picked up had been left by Night Ghosts. He couldn't see any sign of there being any other creatures around.

"Strange. Normally, any creature that passes through would leave behind a substance to trace. There cannot be nothing. Unless the murderer can control its physical form to the molecular level, this suggests the murderer might very well be a Night Ghost. There is no evidence of any other being around here, after all," Han Sen thought.

"Did you find anything?" Li Duo couldn't help but ask. She had already taken Han Sen to several locations.

"No." Han Sen shook his head.

"I told you that we need the Sky to sort this out. We'll need your Sky people to come and check out these crime scenes," Li Duo said.

"He is on his way. I'm just trying to do some of my own investigating. Take me someplace else, so I can report to Brother Sky," Han Sen said seriously.

Hearing that, Li Duo led Han Sen to another crime scene.

"Are there any other intelligent creatures around this planet?" Han Sen asked as they walked.

The universe was comprised of a variety of races. It was rare to see one race govern more than their own small area. Han Sen had been in Night Ring 12th Street for a while now, and all he had seen living there were Night Ghosts.

"The environment of this planet is special. Most races couldn't fathom living here," Li Duo said.

"There aren't any other races living in Night Ring 12th Street?" Han Sen asked.

Li Duo thought and then said, "There are a few on the planet, but they aren't in Night Ring 12th Street."

"Oh, what does that mean?" Han Sen looked confused.

Li Duo hesitated for a moment, but then said, "Night Ghosts love eating meat, but there aren't many creatures on Planet Night Ghost. So, the meat is imported from another planet. Over the last century,

we have been cooperating with the Taurus. They have a base not far outside of Night Ring 12th Street. If you want to find a foreigner, they would be it.”

“I recall that the Taurus belonged to the Demon. Why don’t you buy food from Sky Palace, anyway? Why rely on the Taurus?” Han Sen asked after a moment.

“We have no choice. The food we require is special. Normal races cannot satisfy our needs, and the Taurus are the only ones who can supply what we need. The Sky Palace leader has approved our ties,” Li Duo said.

“Where is their base now?” Han Sen thought he’d have to go and take a look. The Taurus were dangerous, and they very well could have been the ones doing this.

“It cannot be them,” Li Duo said immediately.

“Why?” Han Sen was surprised by her certainty.

“We have a contract. They only live in their base, and they do not venture beyond it. And furthermore, there are cameras all around their base. If they left their zone, they would be discovered. If they entered Night Ring 12th they’d be found out because they look so different.”

After a while, Li Duo resumed talking. She said, “The leader of that base is Marquise Khan. He is of the Demon. He is a noble gentleman, too. He wouldn’t be the one doing this.”

“It’s okay. I am just going to go scope it out on behalf of my brother. It’s so I can have answers for him if he asks me about them.” Han Sen smiled while he spoke.

He followed Li Duo out of Night Ring 12th Street. They were going to the Taurus base. Han Sen was thinking, “The Demon are the leaders of the Taurus. I guess it isn’t too strange for a Demon to be here, but still, the Demon might have motive... Is it just a coincidence?”

When they reached the Taurus base, he realized that it was actually like a space station. The interior was wholly sealed.

“It looks like they can’t cope with the environment here. They needed to create a place that was suitable for them to live. Otherwise, they could not stay here for very long.” After Han Sen entered, he felt that it was a far more comfortable environment for a human as well.

“Miss Li Duo, why are you here?” Two Taurus guards smiled. It looked as if she was well-known around there.

Han Sen was not surprised. He hadn’t thought that an ordinary Night Ghost would try to prohibit his passage. She must have been sent by Sleepless Duke, but her exact identity was still unknown to him.

But through their conversation, Han Sen had quickly realized that Li Duo was Sleepless Duke’s daughter.

“Miss Li Duo.”

Han Sen and Li Duo led to a meeting room, and shortly after, a Demon wearing a black suit entered. He looked very refined, and he said hello to Li Duo.

Li Duo stood up and said, "Marquise Kahn. I am sorry to bother you."

Han Sen was checking out Marquise Kahn. He was an attractive Demon. His face was handsome and memorable.

Something about him gave Han Sen the sense he was dangerous, though. It was the same feeling Han Sen got when he encountered Sharon.

"A small Taurus base has a Demon leader? This whole thing is getting interesting." Han Sen was sizing up Kahn with interest.

He had been focusing on practicing geno arts lately, and he had only learned a little bit of Suppress Evil. He had only come here because he had been ordered to. But now Han Sen had an interest in the affair. He didn't think the mission was as bad as he initially believed it to be.

"Marquise Kahn, this is an assistant of Sky Palace. He is merely here to look around. This is just a normal investigation." When Marquise Kahn showed up, Li Duo could barely keep her eyes off him. Anyone could tell Li Duo liked him very much.

"I'm Kahn. It is nice to meet you, Mister Han." Kahn looked at Han Sen and smiled. Then, he extended his hand.

You know him?" Li Duo was surprised. She didn't say Han Sen's name, and she hadn't introduced him. If Kahn knew his surname, then he was already familiar with Han Sen.

"Han Sen from Sky Palace. I'm afraid the whole world knows who he is," Marquise Kahn said.

Li Duo looked at Han Sen with confusion.

"Marquise Kahn, can you answer a few questions?" Han Sen shook his hand and smiled.

"Of course, but before that, I hope you can come take a look at something. Murders like those in your investigation have occurred here, too," Kahn said.

Chapter 2092 The Secrets of Night Ghos

In the base, Han Sen was led to two puddles of black water. It was the same manner of death that the others had died. When Han Sen scanned the area, he could only detect traces of the Taurus and Kahn. There were also some Night Ghost substances, but there was nothing beyond that.

After checking all the cameras, they could not locate the murderer. Those two Taurus officers had died in their rooms.

From the security feeds, no one else had been seen entering the rooms. And the locked doors showed no signs of forced entry, until they were broken down when rescuers had entered to search for the missing Taurus. There were no other creatures around. Nothing else had shown up.

Just as with the other victims, there were no clues to be found.

Han Sen was not a detective, and he planned on letting Lone Bamboo be the one to handle this matter. Before Han Sen took his leave, he turned back to Kahn.

“Marquise Kahn, may I ask why you are here?”

Kahn’s expression did not change, and he calmly said, “Because the Night Ghosts ordered something quite expensive. Because of that, I delivered the goods myself. I didn’t expect things like this would transpire after my arrival.”

“May I know what these expensive goods are?” Han Sen asked.

“I am sorry, but we are committed to the privacy of our customers. If you would like to know what the items are, you will have to speak with Sleepless Duke,” Kahn said.

Han Sen nodded, and he readied himself to leave. After walking two steps, he stepped back. “Have those products been delivered?”

“Yes,” Kahn affirmed.

“Thanks.” Han Sen then left the Taurus base.

“Are you famous?” Li Duo asked Han Sen as they walked back.

Kahn knew who Han Sen was, and he had been quite polite to him. It surprised her. The only other person who received such deference from Kahn was Sleepless Duke herself, from what Li Duo could recall.

But when Li Duo thought about the way Kahn had treated Han Sen, it was more like Kahn was simply wary of him.

“Not really. It’s just because I killed a Demon that they focus on me. They kind of hate me.” Han Sen laughed.

“I see.” Li Duo was surprised.

Han Sen looked at Li Duo and randomly said, “It looks like you’re close with Kahn.”

Li Duo blushed. “Not very close. He and my mother conduct trade negotiations in Night Ring 12th Street, and he has beaten a few of our strongest warriors in an event. It’s how I recognize him.”

“What did your mother buy that required a Marquise Demon to deliver it?” Han Sen asked.

“I don’t know.” Li Duo shook her head.

Han Sen asked a few other questions, then returned to the Duke manor with Bao’er to look for Lone Bamboo. When Han Sen tracked down Lone Bamboo’s room, he found the man taking a nap.

“What did you find?” Han Sen asked.

“There is a problem with Sleepless Duke,” Lone Bamboo said with certainty, opening his eyes.

“What problem?” Han Sen quickly asked.

“I do not know, but I can tell she is hiding something. With my power, I can’t uncover whatever she is refusing to reveal,” Lone Bamboo said coldly.

Han Sen told Lone Bamboo what he had found, and Lone Bamboo sighed. “As far as I can tell, Night Ghosts need sustenance to survive. But they only eat fresh food. They don’t eat anything that has been dead for more than a day. The Taurus bring them living stock. Because of the Sky Palace ruling, the living creatures need to be killed before reaching Night Ring 12th Street. Nothing alive can go there.”

“Why does that matter?” Han Sen said.

“Night Ghost is a disturbing race that dines on flesh, but as for why they must eat goods that are alive... It’s not as simple as filling their stomachs. They don’t just eat meat. They consume something we don’t quite understand. The best comparison we can make is that they eat the souls of their prey.”

“Souls?” Han Sen was surprised. So far, no one had proved souls actually existed.

“It’s just a description. When Night Ghosts eat, they can absorb a mysterious substance. It boosts their levels, and especially the strength of their wills. There was a Night Ghost Duke that had a will that was stronger than a King class,” Lone Bamboo said.

Han Sen was surprised, and he said, “Even better than a King class? Was it deified or half-deified?”

“It should have been a half-deified.” Lone Bamboo continued to say, “But evolving that way is like cheating. Their minds grow confused, and their own souls might merge with the consumed creature’s. They go crazy and become filled with bloodlust. They can even kill their own families. So, Sky Palace forbids them from eating creatures that are alive.”

“You think Kahn gave something alive to Sleepless Duke?” Han Sen now understood his line of thinking.

Lone Bamboo nodded and said, “It’s just a guess. Sky Palace keeps a keen eye on things here, though. They check all creatures that are ferried to Night Ring 12th Street. Things have run smoothly for years, but maybe the guard slipped up, and now someone is taking advantage of things. Like you said, Kahn’s presence seems suspicious. What item delivery might require the supervision of a Demon?”

“This is all possible, but why would the Demon agree to this? Do you think this is all connected to the murders on Planet Night Ghost?” Han Sen asked quietly.

“I’m not sure, but we will have to ask her,” Lone Bamboo said coldly.

“Will she admit to this?” Even if she was involved, Han Sen didn’t think it was likely that she’d just volunteer that information.

“She has no choice,” Lone Bamboo replied calmly.

Han Sen slumped his shoulders. He wasn’t good at this sort of thing, so he was just going to follow Lone Bamboo’s lead.

Lone Bamboo wanted to find her right away, but the people of Duke manor told him she was out. It took another two hours before they had the chance to see her again.

Chapter 2093 Blueblood Crystallizer?

“Mister Lone Bamboo, I’ve heard that you are in a rush to find me. What is the matter?” Sleepless Duke asked Lone Bamboo.

“Kahn delivered some special goods to you. I would like to know what they are.” Lone Bamboo told her directly.

Sleepless Duke sighed and said, “I suppose there is no use hiding anything. The goods Kahn gave me were a bunch of living creatures.”

“Why would you do that?” Lone Bamboo asked.

“You should both know that after we eat living creatures, our mental fortitude may develop problems,” Sleepless Duke said tiredly. “Eating them is indeed a very dangerous thing for us to do.”

Then why are you buying them?” Han Sen asked.

“It is simple: if I don’t eat living creatures, then I will never improve. We level up faster that way. Without eating living creatures, our gain of power is slow. I am a Duke, and if I don’t eat living creatures, I will not become a King. This is our goal, is it not? No matter how much treasure I am given, I will never level up. Eating living creatures is the only way to accomplish this.” Sleepless Duke spoke with a mournful voice.

“Are you or one of the creatures responsible for the murders?” Lone Bamboo frowned.

“One of the living ones escaped. I was afraid of Sky Palace finding out, and so I did not report it.” Sleepless Duke gave a wry smile. “I never thought things would come to this. I thought that since this was taking place on Planet Night Ghost, I could find the foe quickly and kill it. But I have failed to find it, and as a result, so many innocents have lost their lives.

I cannot hide this any longer.”

“What is the creature that escaped you?” Han Sen asked Sleepless Duke.

“I do not know.” Sleepless Duke shook her head.

Han Sen’s voice grew hard. “How could you not know? You were the buyer! How can you not know what you were buying?”

Sleepless Duke’s expression was bitter now. “I needed high-level creatures. I couldn’t go for something too big, as I would be found out. There weren’t many that were suitable for purchase, so my requirements weren’t strict. I asked for anything that was a Duke. I checked the receipt, and one of them said it was a crystallizer. It did look like a crystallizer, but how could it be that powerful?”

“Crystallizer?” Han Sen frowned. He did not expect this would have something to do with a crystallizer.

Sleepless Duke went on to say, “A crystallizer cannot escape from its cage and kill so many Night Ghosts without leaving a trail. I think it must have been a race that merely looked like a crystallizer. I tried to confirm this with Kahn, but he told me it was just a Duke crystallizer, and that he did not know anything further.”

Sleepless Duke started to say something more, then hesitated.

“Say it,” Lone Bamboo commanded.

Sleepless Duke hesitated again, but she went on to say, “It is rare to see a crystallizer in the geno universe. I don’t know too much about them. I have searched for information about them after the murders began, but there is little to learn. One strange thing, however, is that crystallizer blood should be red. The crystallizer that was sent here, however, had blue blood.”

“Blue blood?” Han Sen jumped.

Yes, blue blood. It was injured when it was sent here, and it was bleeding. It looked as if it had been badly damaged, and that was why I planned on eating it first. So, I removed the spell that had been put on him, and I locked him in a room. But when I was ready to eat and went there to see him, he was gone. Nothing in the room was damaged or out of place. It was as if he had just vanished.”

“Take us there,” Han Sen said.

The blueblood crystallizer sounded an awful lot like a Blood Legion member. They looked just like crystallizers, so anyone in the geno universe would assume that’s what they were. And furthermore, blue blood was exclusive to members of Blood Legion. Crystallizers and humans were supposed to have red blood.

Sleepless Duke brought Han Sen and Lone Bamboo to the prison cell. Han Sen used his Dongxuan Aura, but he couldn’t catch the trace of anyone other than Sleepless Duke.

You really locked him in here?” Han Sen looked at Sleepless Duke. An injured creature must have left a substance behind, and it would at least be dripping blood.

Yes. He left some blood behind, but I cleaned it up." Sleepless Duke brought out a box and showed it to Han Sen and Lone Bamboo.

Lone Bamboo, when seeing it, frowned. "That is its blood?"

Han Sen's eyebrows rose. It was just a blue crystal in a box, and the crystal looked similar to Han Sen's own crystal blood.

"I feel strange, knowing that its blood turned to crystal. They are crystallizers, but they aren't supposed to have this ability. It's what has got me thinking that he isn't actually a crystallizer," Sleepless Duke said.

Han Sen picked up the blue crystal from the box. He knew that it was indeed a blueblood crystal. And just like his own blood, it left no molecules behind for him to detect. That was why he could not find a trace.

"It looks like the person Kahn sent was from Blood Legion," Han Sen guessed to himself.

"Gentlemen, what I have told you is the truth. If you want to punish someone, punish me. But this has nothing to do with my people. Please help them and find the creature responsible. It cannot be allowed to kill more Night Ghosts," Sleepless Duke begged.

You're coming with us to talk to Kahn. We have to find out where he got that crystallizer Duke from. If we find out who he is, we will be able to take action," Han Sen said to Sleepless Duke.

"Okay, I will follow you." Sleepless Duke really was eager to cooperate.

Han Sen went back to the Taurus base, but when they reached it, the gate had already been smashed open. They ran in, and they found black water and scattered bits of armor all over the place. The armor belonged to the Taurus.

They ran in and soon noticed that not a single Taurus had survived the assault.

Pang! A noise echoed out of a nearby hallway.

"What is that place?" Han Sen asked Sleepless Duke.

"That is their company's warehouse," Sleepless Duke said.

The three ventured toward it. After a few turns, they did indeed reach a very large warehouse. Outside it, Kahn was fighting a human-looking man.

“Please give me a hand taking down this *sshole! He is the one that slew my workers, and many Night Ghosts as well,” Kahn called out when he saw Han Sen and the others coming. He looked joyous in relief.

“We have finally found it!” Sleepless Duke shouted happily as she ran to join the fight. “Please help us.”

Han Sen and Lone Bamboo looked at each other, then moved forward to help.

The man glowed blue as he fought. He looked injured, but he was still more than a match for Kahn, who was a Marquise Demon. The man was impressive.

When the three of them join Kahn, the fight became a four-on-one. That imbalance of power should have ended the fight immediately, but although they managed to suppress the man, they were unable to kill him.

Han Sen could confirm right away that the man was a member of Blood Legion. He was very much like God’s Retribution, and the presence he had was something only members of Blood Legion tended to carry.

The man roared like a beast. His fist punched the knife out of Kahn’s hand. And then, another fist came to knock Sleepless Duke’s claws away. He could fight two people at once, and that meant he was really strong.

Kahn used Sky Demon powers, and even so, the man was able to shrug off the attacks that came crashing against his body. Sleepless Duke was a Night Ghost Duke, but not even she was able to claim an advantage over that man.

As the man used his fists to attack Kahn and Sleepless Duke, Lone Bamboo’s sword swept toward the man’s chest. He shouldn’t have been able to block Lone Bamboo’s simple, albeit powerful attack.

The man exploded with blue light, though. He stumbled back a bit, losing his balance. It also meant he dodged Lone Bamboo’s sword.

But Han Sen, who had silently moved behind the man, went at the man’s throat with Ghost Teeth Knife.

Kahn and Sleepless Duke rushed forward, with knives and claws respectively, to attack the man.

Dong!

There was a loud noise, as Han Sen grabbed the man and threw him at Lone Bamboo. He had to use his own knife to repel Kahn and Sleepless Duke’s incoming strikes, though.

Han Sen’s legs dug a pair of trenches into the ground as he was knocked back ten meters. But now, Lone Bamboo’s sword was at the man’s throat’ not letting him move.

“Han Sen, what are you doing? He killed so many of our people; he should die!” Sleepless Duke looked incredibly angry. She flared up with a black, demonic fire. With her claws, she came in to attack the man.

Han Sen flapped his dragon wings and teleported in front of her. He used Tooth for a Tooth, slashing across her claw air to deflect her strike.

Han Sen's body fell back, and Sleepless Duke flapped her wings. She looked like a demon as she screeched, "Han Sen! Is it because you are of the same race that you protect him? Our people cannot die in vain. No matter what!"

"Yes. Our workers cannot have died in vain, either. He must pay." Kahn threw a slash towards the man in Lone Bamboo's grip.

"Lone Bamboo, keep him alive." Han Sen lifted Ghost Teeth Knife and sprang toward Sleepless Duke. He was pushed back.

Sleepless Duke was much stronger than Han Sen, and Han Sen knew he couldn't beat her in a direct fight.

Lone Bamboo's sword was still at the man's throat. He ignored the knife Kahn was using and raised a finger to point at Kahn. A swordlight swiftly shot toward the dead center of Kahn's forehead.

Lone Bamboo could not dodge the Sky Demon power that never missed. If Kahn attacked that way, Lone Bamboo was sure to be hit. But also, Kahn's head would get perforated at the same time.

Kahn frowned and changed his skill. He fought Lone Bamboo with his knife.

But no one had an advantage. Kahn couldn't commit to an attack without leaving an opening that Lone Bamboo could exploit. So, he had to change up the techniques he employed.

"You are Han Sen?" The man under Lone Bamboo's sword did not look scared. He watched Han Sen fight Sleepless Duke.

Han Sen was weaker than she was, but he had speed and Break Space Flash. He could stop her from going after Lone Bamboo anytime he needed to.

"I am," Han Sen answered.

The man immediately said, "God's Retribution has spoken much about you. You should know about where I come from."

"Spill the beans," Han Sen snapped. This was the last confirmation he needed that the man was from Blood Legion.

"I don't know what happened. When I was badly injured, the Taurus brought me here. I had some power, so I broke out. But I was stuck in that warehouse. I do not know what they are saying or what has supposedly transpired, but I haven't left this place since they brought me here," the man said.

"Nonsense! Do you believe him, Lone Bamboo? Are the deaths of our many Night Ghosts all a fabrication? Are the deaths of the Taurus all faked, too?" Sleepless Duke shouted. Her attempts to attack the man never paused.

Han Sen slashed towards Sleepless Duke to stop her from moving. He coldly said, "Sleepless Duke, I assure you that he has never been to Night Ring 12th Street. He was never placed in your captivity. You are lying!"

"What makes you so sure? You are merely protecting your kind," Sleepless Duke screamed, then threw another claw air at Han Sen like she was hurling a net.

Han Sen flapped his dragon wings and disappeared. He re-appeared next to Sleepless Duke and coldly said, "Brother Lone Bamboo, take him away."

Yes," Lone Bamboo agreed. He began pulling the man back, still fighting Kahn as he went.

Seeing Lone Bamboo dragging the man away, with Kahn unable to stop him, Sleepless Duke screamed in rage. It was so loud that it reverberated from every corner of the base.

"None of you can leave!" Sleepless Duke screamed at ear-shattering volume.

"Sleepless Duke, do you know what you are doing?" Lone Bamboo ground out.

"Of course I know what I am doing. The Night Ghosts have been imprisoned by the Sky for many years. We will no longer obey you!" Sleepless Duke screamed.

Many shadows were gathering in the sky. They were like black clouds, and they were all Night Ghosts.

The Night Ghosts that appeared in the sky were different from the usual ones, however. They looked murderous, and the scariest thing about them was the fact that they were mostly Marquise. And many of them were Dukes, too.

Lone Bamboo frowned. The Night Ghosts were only supposed to have one Duke, and that was Sleepless Duke. If they now had so many, it meant that they must have all been eating living creatures to level up quickly.

Chapter 2095 Night Ghost Betrayal

The whole base was infested with Night Ghosts. Han Sen and Lone Bamboo were trapped. If they wanted to escape, they would have to fight and kill their way through the host of Night Ghosts.

But there were thousands of them, and there were more than a thousand Dukes. Han Sen and Lone Bamboo had only just become Marquises, and they were carrying an injured man between them. It would not be easy for the three of them to escape. Han Sen looked up at the Night Ghosts that were looking down at them like hungry tigers. Then he turned to her, emotionlessly.

"Sleepless Duke, do you know what will happen if the Night Ghosts betray Sky Palace?"

“Ha! We will go and join the Demon, anyway. Sky Palace will not be able to do anything,” Sleepless Duke snarled.

“It makes sense that Marquise Kahn is here, then. It has always been your plot to betray Sky Palace!” Han Sen looked at Kahn next, and he asked, “But I don’t understand. If you were planning to join Demon, why bother getting us involved?”

Sleepless Duke grunted and said, “That it was merely an accident. We planned to use these living creatures to turn all our warriors into Dukes. Then we’d have the strength to smash through Sky Palace’s defenses. We did not expect one to run out and rouse the attention of the Observation Department.”

“With the power you wield, you could have easily killed a wounded man.” Han Sen looked at the man who was badly wounded. Kahn and Sleepless Duke should have been able to defeat him. With the injuries he had sustained, there was no way he could have fought off so many Night Ghosts.

Sleepless Duke did not answer, but the man laughed and said, “I controlled the lives of those creatures. She wants me dead, but she doesn’t want those other creatures to die. That is why I am still alive.”

“I told you to give those creatures up! Kill him and go to the Demon. If you had listened to me, none of this would have happened,” Kahn told Sleepless Duke.

“Without these creatures, my people would not be able to become Dukes. God knows how many of our people would have been killed breaking through those defenses. I had no choice in this matter,” Sleepless Duke said.

“So, you planned all this? All for us to be the ones that killed him?” Now Han Sen knew the truth of the matter.

“Something like that. But I did not expect the two of you to come here together.” Sleepless Duke coldly went on to say, “But it does not matter now. Since it has come to this, we cannot fall back. You can all go to hell!”

After that, Sleepless Duke screamed. The horde of Night Ghosts flapped their wings like demons and came racing down to Han Sen.

Lone Bamboo let the man go, thrusting the three of them into a horrendous battle.

The power and speed of the Night Ghosts were terrifying in the dark. It was no wonder why they were good at fighting. They were high level, and they had strong wills. The Duke Night Ghosts were a serious threat.

Bao’er was sitting on Han Sen’s shoulder, observing Han Sen’s fighting with curiosity.

Instead of participating in the battle, Kahn merely watched Han Sen from afar. "Han Sen, you are a powerful being to defeat Sharon. I would have liked the opportunity to kill you myself. I did not expect you would come here. That is disappointing."

"Disappointing? What?" Han Sen flapped his dragon wings and teleported in front of Kahn. Then, he slashed towards him.

Dong!

Kahn's demon knife came up to block. The impact sent them both wobbling back. Neither attack did anything.

But Han Sen was immediately surrounded by Night Ghosts. It was a very dangerous position to be in.

"It is disappointing that you'll die here today, and I will be robbed of the chance of killing you myself in a one-on-one. It is a shame whenever people like you and Lone Bamboo have to die this way." Kahn sighed.

"In that case, you won't be disappointed. We will fight," Han Sen said.

"It is a shame, but I do not see how you plan on surviving. The Night Ghosts are good in the dark. It wouldn't matter if you and Lone Bamboo had a clone army of yourselves; on Planet Night Ghost, you would still be destroyed," Kahn said.

"Maybe not." Han Sen teleported away from the attacks of the Night Ghosts. And then, he spoke to Sleepless Duke. "Sleepless Duke, there is still time for you to reverse this mistake. The Night Ghosts can still be allowed to live. If you continue down this path, all of the Night Ghosts in this universe will be wiped out. Do you want your daughter Li Duo and the rest of your people to die with you?"

"I would rather die than remain a prisoner. Whoever gets in the way of us becoming free will die," Sleepless Duke shrieked. She flapped her wings and came at Han Sen.

Han Sen petrified his body and stomped the ground, unleashing a shockwave of petrification. But the Night Ghosts around him did not petrify. This shocked Han Sen.

"Do not waste your energy. The only thing that can defeat the Night Ghosts is light. Petrify won't work on them! Their bodies aren't made of flesh, so they won't be petrified!" Kahn smiled.

If the Night Ghosts weren't so excellent, the Demons wouldn't have spent so much time trying to recruit them.

Han Sen frowned. The Night Ghosts were harder to handle than he thought.

Things were going badly for Lone Bamboo and the injured man. They were holding on, but they couldn't escape in their current condition. They would die the moment they became exhausted.

"Come to me!" Han Sen shouted at Lone Bamboo and the man.

Lone Bamboo heard that, and his jade sword began to shine. The Night Ghosts near Han Sen backed away.

The man exploded with blue light as he came running towards Han Sen.

Han Sen waved his Ghost Teeth Knife. The Night Ghosts that he had cut suddenly found their wounds cracking and widening.

Sleepless Duke screamed and leaped at Han Sen. Han Sen teleported away to evade her.

The three of them stood together, back-to-back, as the Night Ghosts came at them from all sides. Ghost airs were everywhere. It looked as if they had gone on a trip to hell itself.

Lone Bamboo and the man wanted to start killing their attackers in earnest, but Han Sen stopped them. A blue light came out of his body, covering the three of them.

The blue light became a giant, translucent eggshell. It encased them.

Powerful ghost airs were everywhere as countless ghost claws came against the translucent eggshell. The impacts made squeaky noises, and Han Sen could feel each blow as a sort of pressure.

But when those ghost airs broke, the translucent shield was unmoved. It did not even vibrate.

Chapter 2096 Shield

“Let’s see how many attacks you can block,” Sleepless Duke shouted. The other Night Ghosts began to cackle, gathering up a force of ghost air.

Han Sen had raised a single shield against an entire army. Sleepless Duke thought he must have a death wish.

When the three defenders had been actively fighting, the Dukes and Marquises were unable to gather up power. There was too much danger that their attacks would hit other Night Ghosts, so they intentionally weakened their attacks.

But now, the three of them had made themselves into an incredibly tempting target. The Night Ghosts gathered up all the power they had, then focused on a single part of the shield. Not even strong creatures could withstand the strength of what was coming.

Sleepless Duke had a plan. She needed to take Han Sen and Lone Bamboo as hostages. If she did that, she’d have an even easier time getting through Sky Palace’s defenses.

Han Sen and Lone Bamboo were important to Sky Palace. They wouldn’t be sacrificed easily.

The roiling mass of ghost air covered the sky now, and it was trying to consume the blue light. It was like the world was about to be consumed.

Boom!

When the ghost air landed, the entire base was annihilated. The construct was practically vaporized.

A thousand Dukes and ten thousand Marquises were attacking simultaneously. The area was brought to ruin, and the power continued down into the ground, creating a substantial crater.

Under a scary power such as that, even a Duke would have been blown to bits.

When the dust settled, Sleepless Duke and the Night Ghosts could only stare. Kahn's eyes were full of surprise.

A blue translucent shield sat on the ground, appearing unblemished. Han Sen and the other two stood inside, uninjured by the attack. It was hard to believe that such a frightening amount of power could descend upon that simple shield and leave it undamaged.

"Is that all the power the Night Ghosts have?" Han Sen asked casually.

"Let's see how well you can block this," Sleepless Duke screamed. The Night Ghosts gathered up another enormous mass of ghost air. They became angry ghosts that descended on the blue shield.

Countless ghost airs slammed repeatedly into the blue shield. Even the nearby mountains were shattered by these attacks.

But the blue shield did not even shudder or shake. Even the ghost airs that could destroy mountains were reduced to a firework-sparkle against it.

Sleepless Duke kept on screaming. Thousands of Night Ghosts kept attacking from all angles, but still, they could not undo the blue shield.

Han Sen floated in the shield, while Lone Bamboo had sat down for a bit of rest. The man was in the middle of healing himself.

Sleepless Duke's face was white with fury, and she was unable to fathom what sort of treasure Han Sen had brought with him. It could block each and every attack that was thrown at it.

Han Sen's treasure wouldn't actually cost him his power, either. If it did, he would have reacted in some way when the Night Ghosts attacked him.

"You guys can continue." Han Sen looked entirely unconcerned. It was as if nothing was going on. Han Sen stood up and stretched, and then he began walking up into the air. It looked as if he was going to walk off the planet, right into space.

The blue shield around Han Sen was like a godlight. It continued to encase Han Sen, unwavering in the slightest.

“Kill him!” Sleepless Duke’s scream became a roar.

Countless Night Ghosts tried to attack Han Sen, and ghost auras hit the blue shield continuously. Some Night Ghosts used knives, and some used claws or even hammers to attack.

But even so, the attacks were still useless. They couldn’t prevent Han Sen from walking off into space. The attacks against the blue shield were like nothing at all. They couldn’t even make the shielding orb shake.

Sleepless Duke had bared her teeth in a grimace as she tried her hardest to attack the blue shield. Her fingers started to bleed, but even so, she was still unable to bring it down.

She felt scared. Powerless. And most of all, she felt hopeless. She knew what would happen if Han Sen and Lone Bamboo were able to escape; it would be a disaster for the Night Ghosts. But they couldn’t do anything against the blue shield. They were hopeless.

“Sleepless Duke! There is one more thing we can do.” Kahn’s voice rang through Sleepless Duke’s ears.

“Tell me! How can I kill them?” Sleepless Duke turned to him frantically, looking like she was clutching a lifeline.

Kahn waved his hand, and a spear with a red-pattern appeared in his palm.

Kahn threw it to Sleepless Duke and said, “This is a treasure of a King-class Demon. It is called a Blood Demon Spear. With its power, it should be able to break Han Sen’s shield.

Sleepless Duke frowned. “We don’t have a King class elite to wield it. If I use it, I cannot make use of all of its power.”

Kahn smiled. “That is what is so amazing about this spear. It does not require its wielder to be King-class. It can use its max power regardless. If this wasn’t the case, I wouldn’t have told you it could break that shield.

“Really?” Sleepless Duke lifted the Blood Demon Spear and felt a savage grin pull at her mouth.

But when Sleepless Duke put her power into the spear, the throw wasn’t that strong. It was far from the effectiveness of a King, and from what she could tell, it was only a little better than Duke level.

“Kahn, are you lying to me?” Sleepless Duke looked at Kahn angrily.

Kahn shook his head. “Sleepless Duke, you are the leader of the Night Ghosts. How can you be so naive? There is no power without effort. The Blood Demon Spear might not require you to be a King to use it, but it has its own terms to adhere to.”

“What are these conditions?” Sleepless Duke asked quickly.

“Sacrifice blood to the spear. The higher quality the blood and the more you offer, the stronger it becomes. If the^^ enough blood, it is not too difficult to muster a King class attack,” Kahn said.

“Blood? From where?” Sleepless Duke suddenly froze. She knew exactly what he meant. The only blood she could sacrifice was from the Night Ghosts.

“No! No way!” Sleepless Duke gnashed her teeth.

“Do you have a choice right now? And besides, you only have to sacrifice a few of your people to kill them. Do that, and you can save the majority of your people from Sky Palace’s wrath. Otherwise, if Han Sen escapes this planet, death is all that awaits the Night Ghosts. You know how Sky Palace treats traitors,” Kahn said grimly.

Sleepless Duke clutched the Blood Demon Spear. Looking at the blue shield moving further and further away, her face kept cycling through emotions.

Chapter 2097 Blood Demon Spear

Sleepless Duke bellowed to the sky in rage.

Many other Night Ghosts screamed, too. They gave up attacking the blue shield, and instead, they used their claws to cut their own bodies. Blood flowed down like rain.

Sleepless Duke swung her Blood Demon Spear in slow arcs. The red-pattern on it started to glow, and the rain of blood was drawn towards the spear. When droplets of blood began to land on the spear, they soaked into it, dyeing the weapon a deeper red.

It looked like the blood was pooling on the spear’s metal surface, but no matter how much blood dripped onto it, not a single smidgen was lost. The red light of the spear became brighter, and the spear’s tip shone crimson.

That bloody light looked as if it could destroy space. It left shadows in the air.

Sleepless Duke roared. She flapped her wings, lifted the Blood Demon Spear, and flew toward the sphere like a waterfall. From the ground, she looked like a red comet flying across the sky. The atmosphere was tinged with the scent of blood, and then, she struck the blue shield. The red light exploded against it, but the blue shield did not break.

“There is not enough power in the spear yet! If you attack too soon, you’ll waste the power of the blood you have already amassed. Do you see the Blood Demon Orb on its end? Only when it begins to shine will the max amount of power have been stored inside the spear. Strike when it is bright! Han Sen and the others will all be destroyed in one fell strike,” Kahn said, blinking.

There was nothing else Sleepless Duke could do. Looking murderous, she called to the Night Ghosts again. The Night Ghosts heard her scream, and they began tearing into their own bodies again, trying to draw enough blood to power up the Blood Demon Spear.

The Blood Demon Spear was getting brighter. Blood rained down on the weapon like a storm, and the spear grew stronger and stronger. But the Night Ghosts were running out of strength. Many had lost so much blood that they fell limply to the ground.

“Why hasn’t the orb lit up yet?” Sleepless Duke shouted at Kahn.

“This is a King class weapon. It isn’t that easy to activate. At least half of these Night Ghosts need to die to trigger its power,” Kahn said.

“I cannot let them die!” Sleepless Duke roared.

“There is no way back. We have to kill Han Sen now. If they escape this planet, they will contact Sky Palace. And then, we will all be killed. None of the Night Ghosts will be spared,” Kahn said calmly.

Sleepless Duke gripped the Blood Demon Spear tightly. She looked as if she was in pain. She looked around at the falling blood, at the Night Ghosts who had already collapsed.

Those Night Ghosts had eaten many living creatures, and as a result, their will was messed up. But they still followed Sleepless Duke’s orders. They were all willing to bleed and bleed. None of them chickened out or took the time to heal themselves.

“I am going to kill you all. It is because of you that the Night Ghosts have become like this...” Sleepless Duke held the spear as it glowed brighter and brighter. She ran in front of the blue shield, snarling through her bared teeth, and roared at Han Sen. Her pretty face was twisted.

“Sleepless Duke, you had it coming!” Han Sen smiled.

Han Sen’s words filled her with white-hot fury. She looked murderous, and her eyes gleamed red. She began hurrying the Night Ghosts to sacrifice even more blood.

“Quick! Hurry!” Sleepless Duke watched the Blood Demon Orb, hoping it would light up soon. Otherwise, all the Night Ghosts would be dead.

“Han Sen! Can your shield block that? That spear’s power looks like it is King class,” the man said to Han Sen. He was still in the process of wrapping up his wounds.

The blue shield was obviously very tough, but it looked like thin glass. The man found himself doubting its ability to withstand a King class attack.

“It should be fine,” Han Sen said. In truth, he wasn’t sure.

The Demon Bug King’s Bai Sema was a Mutant King beast soul. That meant it was half-deified. It was a higher level than a King class strike, so it should have been able to take whatever strike was being prepped for him.

But that was all just theory. Han Sen had never tested how much power the Demon Bug King's Bai Sema could take. He didn't know.

"What does should mean?" The man's eyes opened wide as he looked at Han Sen.

"That means probably." Han Sen laughed.

"Oh my God." The man held his forehead. He looked depressed as he said, "I always have the worst luck. Never bet on luck."

"Our only option here is to throw the dice, though. Do you have a better idea?" Han Sen laughed.

"Oh no! It looks like Old Xi is going to die here." The man started to cry.

"What's your name?" Han Sen asked, looking at the man.

"My name is Xi Menxiaong. You're asking me this now? At a time like this? Think about how we might dodge that scary power and avoid death!" Xi Menxiaong said.

The blood was a downpour, and the spear was like a dragon.

It seemed like the whole of Planet Night Ghost was flooded with a layer of blood. Its smell was everywhere, and even the sky was choked with red clouds.

Half of the Night Ghosts were dead. It was too high of a price to pay for King class power.

Sleepless Duke was full of hatred as she stared at Han Sen. If that horrible stare had been solid, it would have peeled Han Sen's flesh from his bones.

The place was in ruin, and many of the Night Ghosts were dying of blood loss. The ones in the sky were all trembling. It looked as if they could all keel over and perish.

Sleepless Duke's eyes were filled with blood tears, but she had no choice but to continue.

The sky turned red like hell itself.

Boom!

The Blood Demon Orb was shining now. The red light lit up the entire Blood Demon Spear. Sleepless Duke looked as if she was holding a red laser.

"Go to hell!" Sleepless Duke spun the spear toward the blue sphere. The shocking red light was coming at Han Sen. It looked as if it could obliterate a galaxy.

Han Sen tried to dodge, but the red light was too scary. It looked as if it had locked on, too. The red light was like a volcano that had just erupted. There was nowhere that Han Sen and the others could go to get away from that red light, and even the air was torn apart by its passage.

Chapter 2098 Invincible Bai Sema

The red light tore through the clouds in the sky. It was like a volcano, erupting without any restraint or signs of ceasing.

“Sky Palace’s future deified elites are now gone. What a shame.” Kahn looked at the red light in the sky, and then he sighed like it was something genuinely pitiable.

“But that is how the world should be. Many geniuses die and become nothing more than dust. The ones that can become deified aren’t always the strongest; they are the best at surviving. It is a shame your lives are so short.” Kahn blinked. He looked at the red light that was about to fade.

The rest of the Night Ghosts fell, then. They had lost too much blood. They looked shaky, and their strength had left them.

Ten thousand Night Ghosts had heeded Sleepless Duke’s call, but only four or five thousand were left alive. They were all low on blood, though, and so they were all much weaker.

Sleepless Duke stared at the Blood Demon Spear in her hands, noting how ordinary the weapon looked after being discharged. She looked over the remaining Night Ghosts. It would be very difficult to break through Sky Palace’s defenses and join the Demons now.

“What follows, at least this nightmare is over.” Sleepless Duke sighed. But just as she was going to return the spear to Kahn, she froze. Her eyes opened wide, and her body stiffened. She stared up into the sky.

When the red afterglow of the attack disappeared completely, Sleepless Duke saw a blue light in the air. It was the same translucent blue shield.

Despite being struck with the Blood Demon Spear, the blue shield hadn’t broken. Its surface was still clean, and it didn’t look like it had been dealt a single speck of damage.

Han Sen, Lone Bamboo, and the man were still inside the shield, too, looking totally uninjured. They sat comfortably, with clothes and hair still tidy.

“Impossible...” Kahn’s eyes opened wide in shock as he stared at the blue shield. He could not believe what his eyes were telling him.

The Blood Demon Spear was a King class weapon, yet it had failed to break through a Marquise’s shield. It did not make sense to him. Even if the shield was a King class or deified weapon, Han Sen’s limited power should have kept him from using all of its strength.

It was the same as Sleepless Duke using the Blood Demon Spear; she had paid an enormous price for her weaker body to cast a King class power. But Han Sen's shield had held that power the entire time, without any sign of strain or sacrifice. It blocked the Blood Demon Spear without any cost of energy.

This was against how xenogeneic weaponry worked. Even defied treasures shouldn't possess power like that.

Kahn had no way of knowing that Han Sen wasn't using a xenogeneic treasure, of course. Han Sen was using a beast soul. They were items that no other being in the geno universe could use. They were different things entirely.

"It looks like we don't have to leave now." Han Sen released the demon bug's bai sema. He pulled out Ghost Teeth Knife and flew back down to Planet Night Ghost on his wings.

Lone Bamboo put his jade sword away. His fingers were like swords now, and they created sword airs. He followed Han Sen back down.

The Blood Demon Spear's strike had exhausted all the power the Night Ghosts had possessed. There was no need for them to run away now.

When they saw Han Sen and Lone Bamboo coming for Sleepless Duke, the Night Ghosts wished to stop them. But they had all bled too much, and their powers had decreased. Han Sen and Lone Bamboo were like a pair of tigers leaping into a flock of sheep.

The dark purple knife air tore the weakened Night Ghost bodies apart with Teeth powers.

"Xenogeneic Marquise hunted. Night Ghost: xenogeneic gene found."

"Xenogeneic Marquise hunted. Night Ghost: xenogeneic gene found."

"Xenogeneic Marquise hunted. Night Ghost: xenogeneic gene found. Obtained Night Ghost beast soul."

The bodies of the Night Ghosts were sliced to pieces by the Ghost Teeth Knife. The killing announcements played over and over in Han Sen's head as he killed scores of Night Ghosts.

Lone Bamboo's ten fingers were like swords of their own. The swordlights swept down like a net, slaying every Night Ghost in front of him.

"Oh no!" Sleepless Duke felt dizzy, and she almost fainted. She had sacrificed so much for naught, having failed to hurt Han Sen and Lone Bamboo in the slightest. The Night Ghosts were done for.

She screamed, and with a mind that had no fear of death, she ran for Han Sen.

"You can handle this." Han Sen flapped his wings and teleported past Sleepless Duke. He was going for Kahn, who was in the midst of making his escape.

Sleepless Duke wanted to kill them all, but it was still the Demon that were behind all this. Han Sen wouldn't let him get off scot-free.

Kahn saw Han Sen pursuing him, and while he was fast, he wasn't as fast as Han Sen. There was no Marquise alive that was faster than Han Sen.

"Han Sen, you still have a long way to go. You may have won this time, but you won't be so lucky when next we meet," Kahn promised, then pulled out a metal box. He threw it ahead of himself.

The metal box was some sort of machine. There were cogwheels spinning inside it. It became a metal peacock near Kahn's feet.

"Go!" Kahn commanded the metal peacock. It spread its wings, and its tail gleamed with green light. It flew away with the speed of a rocket, and the distance between Kahn and Han Sen quickly widened.

"Running away won't be that easy." Han Sen patted Bao'er, and Bao'er knew exactly what to do. She picked up her gourd and summoned the red cloud.

"Red cloud, if you wish to live well, then chase this man. If you don't, I'll lock you up for five hundred years," Han Sen said, stepping onto the red cloud with Bao'er.

The red cloud shuddered, but then, the back of the red cloud released a mist of sorts. It flew off into the sky after Kahn and the metal bird.

Kahn rode the metal peacock through space, feeling absolutely terrible. He hadn't been injured, but the plan with the Night Ghosts had utterly failed. He would be crushed by his rivals inside Demon.

He thought about Han Sen's strange shield that could block the Blood Demon Spear. It surprised even Kahn.

"Fortunately, I brought the Duke xenogenic mount Metal Peacock with me. That was too close," Kahn thought gladly.

Kahn looked back at Planet Night Ghost, but then his jaw went slack. Something colorful was coming. When he saw how quickly the red cloud was approaching him, it seemed like the Duke class Metal Peacock had stopped moving entirely.

Chapter 2099 Killing Giant Demon

"How is he moving so fast?" Kahn exclaimed, but it was too late. Han Sen had already caught up to him via the red cloud.

Kahn put away the Blood Demon Spear, and his eyes started to turn purple. The purple horn on his head burned like red steel, releasing a purple light.

Katcha! Katcha!

Kahn's muscles began to swell, growing rapidly until they burst through his armor. In an instant, the ordinary humanoid body had grown into a terrifying giant.

Kahn's sinews writhed under his skin like snakes, and his skin turned a weird purple. His hair flowed crazily down his back, almost reaching his feet. Finally, a disturbing demonic presence began to radiate from Kahn, like some brutish god hailing from ancient times.

Boom!

Kahn punched Han Sen. Sky Demon powers started to rain down, each possessing the might of a mountain.

The demonized giant Kahn was so powerful. He was far greater than a Marquise now; in this form, he could probably kill most Dukes. With the accuracy of Sky Demon powers, he would be invincible against other Marquises.

In this Giant Demon form, his strikes couldn't be blocked or evaded. He really did seem like an indestructible foe. In terms of might, Kahn's giant devil powers were on par with the red cloud's speed.

But power like that was nothing against Han Sen. He used his Dongxuan Aura, and in his mind, sequence structures appeared. One sequence structure looked ready to bind Han Sen.

Han Sen pulled at that threat, though, and broke it. The speed of the red cloud let him dodge Kahn's incoming attack as he did.

And then, Kahn's pupils grew smaller. He hadn't thought that anything could evade the accurate attack of Sky Demon powers. And furthermore, he didn't have time to reel his giant fist back to go defensive.

The red cloud was like lightning, and it raced towards Kahn's neck. Han Sen swung Ghost Teeth Knife across it.

Katcha!

The muscles were cut through by the purple and black knife air, and blood began to fountain from the giant's neck. But the giant was too big, and doing more damage would be difficult. Han Sen's attack had only left a comparatively small wound, given the sheer size of the giant. It was far from a fatal strike.

Kahn roared. He kept swinging his fists in the vain hope of landing a hit on Han Sen.

He was as strong as a Marquise could be, but even the precise attacks of Sky Demon powers couldn't land a hit on Han Sen. The red cloud flew around Kahn like lightning.

Knife airs also started to shine, and every time the purple and black knife air flashed, it left a wound on Kahn's body that drained him of even more blood.

The demonized giant continued to roar, but his powers could not land on Han Sen. He was like a big dumb baby as he flailed at the flying red cloud.

“Why... Why does my Sky Demon power not work? How is this possible?” Unwilling to give up, Kahn kept attacking like mad. His giant body kept on releasing scary power, breaking the fabric of space.

Everything he tried seemed useless, though. Han Sen continued to release knife airs from his seat atop the red cloud. After a few more hits, the red cloud flew away from Kahn and hovered directly before him.

“Kahn, when you learned that Lone Bamboo and I had arrived on Planet Night Ghost, you had already planned on getting the Night Ghosts to dispose of us. Isn’t that correct?” Han Sen looked right at Kahn as he spoke lightly to him.

Kahn turned around without saying a word, wishing to flee into the reaches of space.

Han Sen just grunted and swung his Ghost Teeth Knife once again. Purple and black knife airs that were thinner than a strand of hair began to appear around Kahn’s body. In no time at all, they encircled Kahn and tightened, binding him.

Kahn was infuriated and roared in anger. He released his demonic air in a bid to cut the knife silks.

However, he had underestimated the effectiveness of the knife silks Han Sen had cast, and even his tremendous power wasn’t enough to break them all. His squirming only made the silk dig into his flesh even more.

Han Sen kept waving his Ghost Teeth Knife, tightening the knife silks even further. They cut into Kahn’s demonized giant body and dismembered him in less than a second’s time.

The chunks of gore and demonic blood swirled in a disgusting cloud. The Blood Demon Spear and Metal Peacock were released amidst the carnage.

Suddenly making up his mind, Han Sen grabbed the Blood Demon Spear and Metal Peacock. There was also a purple light next to the giant’s corpse, which swiftly disappeared into space.

“What was that?” Han Sen frowned. That purple light had been too fast, and Han Sen hadn’t been able to see what it was.

But he knew that Kahn had not truly been killed. It was obvious that Kahn was a xenogenic, and Han Sen hadn’t received the announcement for taking him down.

Han Sen rummaged through the remains of the giant demon body, and he couldn’t find a xenogenic gene, either. That purple thing that escaped just now must have been Kahn’s xenogenic gene.

He did not know how Kahn escaped into space, but regardless, he was gone now. Han Sen wouldn’t be able to find the Demon. He took the Blood Demon Spear and Metal Peacock, and then returned to Planet Night Ghost.

Lone Bamboo had locked Sleepless Duke up. The rebellion of the Night Ghosts was over, and it seemed as if things were calming down.

When the teams from Sky Palace arrived, they took Sleepless Duke and the Night Ghosts back with them to Sky Palace. Han Sen and Lone Bamboo had halted their betrayal, earning themselves another reward from the elder.

Aside from geno fluids and treasures, though, they received another opportunity to go to the Holy House to select a new geno art.

However, Han Sen did not have time to practice other genetic techniques. He actually only had a small amount of time left to learn Suppress Evil, so there was no reason for him to go to the Holy House yet.

Han Sen still wanted to ask Xi Menxiaong a few questions, but when he returned to Planet Night Ghost, Xi Menxiaong was nowhere to be found. However, the man left a communication number on the big stone he had been sitting on.

Back in Sky Palace, the leader of Sky Palace wanted to see Han Sen. He stared at Han Sen for a while, and eventually said, "You are not a real student of Sky Palace, and yet, you have done so much for us. If you need anything, I will grant any reasonable request."

"Leader, what do you mean by a 'reasonable request'?" Han Sen did not think the leader was being sincere. The leader could turn down any request he wanted to, simply by claiming it was "unreasonable." It sounded nice on paper, but it was actually quite stingy.

"It means I will try to satisfy what I feel is reasonable," said the Sky Palace leader, squinting his eyes.

Han Sen shrugged, thinking that the man was rather manipulative. He wasn't mad, but he wasn't sure how much this offer was really worth.

"He won't give out too much, but I don't want too little, either. What should I ask for, then?" Han Sen wondered.

2100 Path Hidden Cave

Suddenly, Han Sen's eyes brightened. It looked as if he knew what he wanted.

Sky Palace's leader smiled at Han Sen. "Tell me. Whatever you need! I see your Master Yisha as a genuine student, and you are my student by extension. So, shirk any guilt and ask of me whatever you desire."

"Leader, I will not ask for much. I recently learned Suppress Evil. The technique is quite amazing, and I would appreciate it if you would help me progress further with it. I would like to learn it faster." Han Sen bowed.

Sky Palace leader stared at him in silence. He would never have guessed that Han Sen would request this. This could be either be very easy or very hard.

The Sky Palace leader had been asked to teach Suppress Evil to Han Sen, but how much would Han Sen be able to learn? There were eleven tiers to Suppress Evil, and many Sky Palace Kings had not learned them. The Sky Palace leader couldn't even guess how long it might take to teach Han Sen this.

But he was the leader, and Han Sen had just asked to be taught a skill. It would be bad form if he was unable to teach one geno art to just one student.

Sky Palace leader went silent for a bit, and then said, "Suppress Evil is a secret skill belonging to Sky Palace. It is complicated. It is not something you can learn over the course of a couple days. That being said, there is a riskier method that would enable you to learn it far faster. Would you like to give it a try?"

Han Sen frowned. The Sky Palace leader had put the ball back in his court. The man said it was risky, but he did not mention how risky. If Han Sen didn't agree to the offer, then the blame for not accepting the teaching would be at his feet.

Of course, if Han Sen agreed, he did not know the dangers he might be walking into. He didn't know if he could handle the risks.

Han Sen went silent a little bit, and then he gritted his teeth. "I would like to give it a try."

"Good. You are definitely Yisha's student. I have faith in you. Go prepare and look for me on Hidden Path Island." The Sky Palace leader then waved his hand to dismiss Han Sen.

Han Sen bowed and departed Sky Palace. On his way, he mulled over why the leader might be sending him to Hidden Path Island.

Han Sen knew Hidden Path Island was a restricted section of Sky Palace. Without the leader's permission, no one could go there. As for what the place contained, he did not know. He'd have to find out the next day.

But Han Sen did not think the leader would put him through too much harm. At the most, he thought the leader might only make him endure a little bit of suffering. If accepting a little risk could truly allow him to skip through five or six tiers of Suppress Evil, it'd be well worth it.

That geno art was too complicated. If he learned it like normal, it'd take him a few years to master it.

Before going to Hidden Path Island, Han Sen invited Lone Bamboo, Thousand Feather Crane, and the Yun sisters for a meet up. He also tried to find out more about where he was going.

Yun Sushang, hearing the leader would take Han Sen there, was given a shock.

Yun Suyi immediately said, "Hidden Path Island is not a place ordinary people can go to. King class elites are only permitted there when they are on the cusp of leveling up. That place is extremely dangerous. Many Kings have failed to level up there and suffered grievous injuries in consequence. I can't fathom why the leader might want to take you there."

The few of them told Han Sen what they knew about Hidden Path Island. They did not know much, and more than anything, it sounded as if it was just a place for Kings to level up.

The Kings that entered would either come out half-deified or half-dead. It was very dangerous, and none had ever been known to go there without first being King class.

Thousand Feather Crane thought and said, "We don't have to worry too much, though. Our leader won't want to hurt Han Sen. He obviously has his reasons for bringing Han Sen to such a place."

Han Sen thought this, too. If the Sky Palace leader wanted to bring him harm, he wouldn't have to go to this much trouble.

The next morning, Han Sen took Bao'er with him to Hidden Path Island. Outside the island, he found the Sky Palace leader standing atop a mountain peak. He smiled and waved, as if he was some sort of angel.

"Greetings." Han Sen set the legless crane down on the mountain. Then, he bowed to the leader.

The Sky Palace leader waved his hand. "These are the stairs that lead to Hidden Path Cave. Walk these stairs and see how much you can learn from them."

Han Sen was shocked. He hesitated, blinking down at the stairs. "Leader, are you not going to teach me?"

"Suppress Evil is an unusual art. Even if you were to listen to me lecture you, you wouldn't learn very much. This place is different, however, and you will understand that when you walk these stairs. If you are talented enough, you can level up Suppress Evil quickly. It won't be too difficult to knock down a few tiers this way." The Sky Palace leader smiled at Han Sen.

"I've heard that this is a place where Kings come to level up. I am merely an Earl, so I don't think I have what it takes." Han Sen didn't really want to go into that cave.

"You can back out now, if you wish." Sky Palace leader bared his teeth in a grin.

Han Sen clenched his jaw and started to descend the steps. The steps were circular, and when he looked down, he could not see the bottom. It was like a spiral that continued down forever into some abyss.

The endless spiral staircase was dizzying.

Han Sen looked back up and saw the Sky Palace leader smiling at the exit. Han Sen couldn't go back now, though. He lowered his head and kept going. Bao'er sat on his shoulders, curiously looking around.

There was nothing except for stairs. Han Sen followed the steps that led down into a bottomless pit.

He did not know how many stairs he had descended when he came to a stone door. On its frame were a bunch of numbers.

“00001... What does that mean? Are there ten thousand doors up ahead? What might be beyond those doors?” Han Sen frowned.

As Han Sen wondered this to himself, the stone door opened by itself.

At the entrance of Hidden Path Cave, there was a woman wearing a black mask. She appeared next to the leader. The leader looked inside the cave and spoke to the black-masked woman. This is your territory. Watch him, and do not allow him to die.”

You brought him here. This is your responsibility. I do not care about what happens.” The black-masked woman said, then entered Hidden Path Cave.

The Sky Palace leader smiled when she turned. He stepped onto a cloud and left the island to return to the Sky Palace Garden.