Chapter 2601

Han Sen's Test

"Why is this process so familiar? Why do I feel like this is the same concept as the crystallizer glasses?" Han Sen looked at the God Spirit Touch on the table, deep in thought.

The people of Sky Palace were observing the God Spirit Touch. They didn't believe the God Spirit Touch could reveal such amazing information.

If their future was able to be decided by an insect, then what was the point of continued practice?

"It's just a bug. How can it decide our fate?" Thousand Feather Crane asked in annoyance. He was speaking aloud what everyone else in Sky Palace was thinking.

Bixi looked as cold as he always did. He looked at Thousand Feather Crane and said, "Although it is not 100% accurate, its margin for error is small. If you people don't believe me, you are welcome to give it a try."

"How do we give it a try?" Thousand Feather Crane asked, looking at the coin-sized God Spirit Touch ladybug.

Bixi didn't speak. He reached his hand out to tap the God Spirit Touch. The God Spirit Touch's body shivered. Then, it climbed back into the bug shells it had previously shed. Layer by layer, it pulled itself back into the bug shells to recompose itself. They fit around it without a single seam showing.

If they hadn't witnessed that, the crowd would never have suspected that the bug had nine layers of the shell to shed.

Now, Bixi said, "Give him a drop of your blood. It will eat your blood and start removing its shells per the genes within your blood."

Thousand Feather Crane didn't hesitate. He put out his finger and squeezed out a droplet of blood. He allowed the God Spirit Touch ladybug to swallow the droplet of blood.

But this time, the ladybug only shed seven layers of its shell. Then, it stopped moving. It looked exhausted again.

"Seven armor talent. Not bad. If your luck doesn't work against you, you can become deified and even reach the rank of transmutation," Bixi said, looking intently at the God Spirit Touch.

"I just say this bug has gotten tired, and that is why he stopped moving after taking off seven layers of its shell," Yun Suyi said with a slight sneer.

All of the Sky Palace students agreed. They all doubted the truthfulness of the God Spirit Touch's ability.

"Third Sister, why don't you show us?" Bixi said, looking at Exquisite. Exquisite nodded. She used her finger to touch the head of the God Spirit Touch. The God Spirit Touch put on its layers of shell again. Exquisite fed it a droplet of her blood. As everyone watched, the bug started to shed its layers of armor again. It removed nine layers of the shell.

"If you guys still don't believe us, you are welcome to try it yourselves. The genes of the Sky are quite good when compared to most of the higher races. A five-rank gene talent is most common, but it isn't hard to get seven or eight. Nine is very rare, though. Right now, in the Sky, we have only been able to confirm that Lone Bamboo and Yu Shanxi have a nine armor talent," Bixi said.

People still didn't believe it, and Yun Suyi suddenly said, "It is easy to tell if this bug is accurate."

"Please enlighten us," Bixi said while looking at Yun Suyi.

The Sky Palace students all looked at Yun Suyi, as well. Yun Suyi looked at Bixi and confidently said, "You said Lone Bamboo had a nine armor talent, right?"

"That is correct," Bixi answered with certainty.

"Then it is easy," Yun Suyi said with a laugh. She looked at Han Sen and said, "If Lone Bamboo has a nine armor talent, then I present to you Brother Han, who has the same skill as Lone Bamboo. I think he is as talented as Lone Bamboo. Would you not agree?"

"Right, right; Brother Han and Lone Bamboo are similar. Perhaps we should allow Brother Han to give it a try." The Sky Palace students were all in agreement.

Han Sen's reputation in Sky Palace was as solid as Lone Bamboo's, and he had done so much outside of Sky Palace to exceed everyone's expectations of him. He had even taken down the Extreme King's Fourth Uncle. If the bug said Han Sen wasn't talented, they wouldn't believe in the insect's accuracy.

"Maybe not." Bixi looked at Han Sen and coldly said, "The gene talents of the crystallizers have flaws in them. They are only advanced in their intelligence. They don't exceed others in any capacity. Most of their race is like that. Even a few of the mutated ones aren't much different; they might gain one or two additional shells. Having three more is incredibly rare."

"Having three more shells is great. If normal crystallizers have a six armor talent, then it isn't outlandish to believe Brother Han might have a nine armor talent," Yun Suyi said. "The Sky are a high race. Ordinary people of the Sky have a five armor talent. The crystallizers are not a high race. Ordinary crystallizers only have three or four armor talents. My race has seen many crystallizers and tested them with the God Spirit Touch. Four armor talents are very rare, and I have never seen one with a five armor talent," Bixi said levelly.

"If Brother Han cannot test and display a nine armor talent, then it proves the God Spirit Touch isn't accurate," Yun Suyi surely said.

"I agree. Brother Han's skill, if he doesn't get a nine armor talent, that means the bug is faulty."

"Yes. Yes. If Brother Han doesn't have a nine armor talent, then further testing is unnecessary. Even if he has a nine armor talent, it is useless. We cannot reach Brother Han's achievement. That means the results from this thing are pointless."

All of the Sky Palace students were excited. Some of them weren't actually suspicious of the God Spirit Touch, but this was about Lone Bamboo. Bixi and the others had made them mad. The Sky Palace students weren't fond of Bixi and Exquisite, and that was why they were so excited.

"I cannot tell you if it is real or not. We will have to find out through further testing." Bixi remained emotionless. It was like his face was wearing a mask that never moved.

Han Sen didn't want to participate in such a test. It was none of his business, but the Sky Palace students were begging him to. So, he stood up and walked next to Bixi.

Bixi didn't say much. He pressed the God Spirit Touch's head to have it scurry around, collecting all of its shells. Then, he told Han Sen, "It's ready."

"The genes of humans aren't stable, and even the crystallizer glasses weren't able to tell me anything. I wonder if this God Spirit Touch can do what the glasses couldn't," Han Sen thought to himself. Then, he squeezed out some blood from his finger and held it in front of the God Spirit Touch.

The God Spirit Touch sucked Han Sen's finger, pulling Han Sen's blood into its belly.

The people of Sky Palace observed the God Spirit Touch nervously. Bixi and Exquisite watched the God Spirit Touch, as well. They were interested to see how much armor talent he had.

As everyone watched, the God Spirit Touch's body shivered. It twitched slowly as it processed the blood it had taken in.

Chapter 2602 Han Sen's Gene Talent

After the God Spirit Touch's body shivered, it quickly emerged from its first shell. It left the empty shell behind.

"I wonder how many layers of shell Teacher Han can make the God Spirit Touch leave behind?" Some of the Sky Palace students had studied directly underneath him back when he was a teacher. So, they were used to calling him Teacher Han.

"It's difficult to tell. If that God Spirit Touch is accurate, Teacher Han's rating won't be that high. It's true that the genes of the crystallizers aren't very strong."

Everyone whispered to each other in hushed discussions as the God Spirit Touch removed its third layer of shell. Then it removed its fourth. It had removed four layers of shell in total.

Han Sen was excited about this. Glasses hadn't been able to determine the talent of humans, but this God Spirit Touch seemed to be capable of doing so. This ladybug could conduct a test no matter what level you were. If a person wasn't deified, Glasses showed a max rating of five stars.

But that was to be expected. Glasses could only collect a certain amount of information by scanning. That wasn't bad, considering that it couldn't directly analyze blood like the ladybug could. Glasses couldn't be expected to be as accurate as the God Spirit Touch.

"That pair of glasses is like some kid's education tool. The crystallizers must surely have some better tools somewhere." As Han Sen was thinking about this, the God Spirit Touch removed its fifth layer of shell.

"It's still peeling off its skin... It looks like Brother Han's talent is exceptional," Thousand Feather Crane complimented, as he watched the God Spirit Touch remove the seventh layer.

Bixi and Exquisite were both surprised. The evolutional capabilities of crystallizer genes were not high. It wasn't bad to have a four armor talent, but a seven armor talent was a little too much. He must have experienced a lot of mutations to see the gene potential reach such numerical heights.

But then, after the God Spirit Touch removed its seventh armor, it continued to peel off more.

"He has an eight armor talent?" Exquisite and Bixi were shocked. The concept seemed impossible. One of the crystallizers shouldn't have been able to evolve that much.

Even if a deified placed his deified genes into the body of a crystallizer, it still couldn't guarantee that a weak crystallizer could show an eight armor talent.

But it didn't seem to be ending there, either. The God Spirit Touch, after the removal of the eighth shell, continued to shiver and shake. It looked as if it had an itch, and that was why it was removing its skin.

When the God Spirit Touch removed another layer of its shell, the Sky Palace students were beaming with unbridled joy.

"It looks like this bug is accurate, after all! It is better than some guy making a random judgment."

"No wonder Brother Han is considered an equal to Lone Bamboo. His gene talents are excellent."

"Teacher Han is so smart. If he worked harder, he could be greater than the Very High."

"That is all a nine armor talent can do? Brother Han reached that prestige easily. What was that guy saying? Didn't he say crystallizers can't have a nine armor talent?" The Sky Palace students weren't fond of Bixi and Exquisite due to the Very High's treatment of Lone Bamboo. They wouldn't let this opportunity go. The Kings and half-deifieds didn't say anything horrible, but the nearby students wouldn't stop talking. They mocked the two Very High continually.

Bixi and Exquisite weren't paying attention to the snide remarks of the Sky Palace students, though. They merely looked at Han Sen and frowned. "The gene talent of crystallizers cannot reach nine armors, unless this Han Sen isn't one of the crystallizers. Either that, or his genes evolved due to some very unique circumstances. That's the only way he could achieve a nine armor talent. No matter what the cause, though, we should be wary of this Han Sen," Bixi said seriously.

Exquisite nodded. "Nine armor talents are rare. I didn't expect to see this result from a crystallizer. If he evolved, he must have received a boost that we can't possibly fathom. That is how his genes have evolved so much."

Exquisite didn't doubt that Han Sen was a crystallizer. Crystallizers were easy to recognize, and when Kong Fei lit up the lantern to create the race of the No, many of the elites saw Han Sen accompanying him. They had immediately known that he was a crystallizer.

Back then, Han Sen was too low level. The deified elites were able to see through his genes with ease, and there was no way for Han Sen to hide the identity of his genes back then. There was no way he could have masked his race.

So, Bixi and Exquisite believed Han Sen must have stumbled upon some ancient secret that allowed his gene talents to become so scary that they were almost as good as the Very High's.

But neither of them thought there was anything sketchy about the fact that he had a nine armor talent.

Nine armor talents, while rare, did exist. Some of the Extreme King and the Sky could produce the nine armor talent result.

That was especially true of the Extreme King. Their powerful King bodies could reach a nine armor talent. So, having a nine armor talent didn't interest Bixi and Exquisite. It all came down to a person's intelligence.

Bixi's silkworm was Yu Shanxin. Exquisite wanted Lone Bamboo. They were happy with their silkworms. Even if Han Sen had a nine armor talent, they still believed their silkworms were better.

But what happened next shocked Bixi and Exquisite. Even if they hadn't practiced the Very High Forget Love, their emotions would have been colder than the average person's. But now, their faces changed as they looked upon the God Spirit Touch.

That God Spirit Touch had removed nine layers of its shell, but now its body moved to peel off another.

"How is that possible?" Bixi and Exquisite were in shock. Even amongst the Very High, not many could produce a ten armor talent figure.

The Sky Palace students were overjoyed. Yun Suyi was smiling as she said, "Brother Han really is different! He has a ten armor talent."

"No wonder Han Sen has been able to achieve so much. He is so talented," Yun Sushang said with a smile.

The other Sky Palace students weren't as polite as the Yun sisters, though. They were all laughing. "I thought a nine armor talent was good, but apparently it isn't. Teacher Han randomly tested it and received a ten armor talent result."

"Right. I bet they just started gushing about how crystallizer gene talents would be bad because they only had a nine armor talent."

"You guys don't understand. Whoever is born first is bigger, and in that case, nine is bigger than ten."

"You are right. No wonder they're so confident."

As the Sky Palace students continued to mock, the God Spirit Touch crawled out of the front of its shell and left behind a layer of armor that was like a coin.

"A ten armor talent... He really does have a ten armor talent..." Exquisite and Bixi looked at Han Sen with astonishment. It wasn't hard to find a silkworm with a nine armor talent, but a ten armor talent silkworm would be very hard to achieve.

If there were no accidents, and he was given enough resources, a person with a ten armor talent had a high chance of becoming a true god.

But something even more shocking happened. After the God Spirit Touch peeled off its tenth layer, it continued to move.

Chapter 2603 Eleven Armor Talent?

Exquisite and Bixi were so shocked. A ten armor talent was the highest that a creature of the universe could achieve. Although legends said that a sacred eleventh armor talent did exist, that would be something reserved for mythical beings like God.

Everyone knew of the Very High Alpha, the Ancient God King, and the Sacred Leader. They were mythical figures who fought legendary battles in ancient times. They breached the geno hall and became known throughout the annals of history. There were many others, too, whose legends were passed down through the history of the universe.

But legends were just legends. No one knew if they had ever even been tested by a God Spirit Touch. Exquisite and Bixi, who were both born in the Very High, had never seen an eleven armor talent before.

But now, the God Spirit Touch was still moving. It looked as if it was actually going to shed its eleventh layer of shell.

"Is this crystallizer man as strong as the Very High Alpha, the Ancient God King, and the Sacred Leader?" Exquisite was in shock. Even with her personality, she couldn't keep her eyes from growing wide. She looked at Han Sen and the moving God Spirit Touch in disbelief.

The Sky Palace students were quiet, too. They thought something had to be wrong. They had been mocking Exquisite and Bixi only a moment before, but now they too were thinking these results were a little too ridiculous.

It was fair to admit that the Very High were the strongest race. Their talent was top dog, and even Bixi and Exquisite had a nine armor talent. But Han Sen had received ten, and the process still wasn't over.

"Teacher Han's talent is a little too much," the Sky Palace students thought in shock.

The students of Sky Palace always knew Han Sen had absurd talents, but it was too shocking to consider that his talent might have actually exceeded those of the Very High. They almost couldn't believe it.

After all, the crystallizers of the universe were famous for their technology. Their gene evolution was known to be poor. This was their weakest aspect, and right now, it was trampling the Very High. It was pretty ridiculous. Under the weight of every pair of eyes at the meeting, the beetle that looked around the size of a nail continued to shake. Its body contorted, twisted, and spun with its mouth open. And then, a smaller bug emerged.

That bug was only the size of a grain of rice. It was oval in shape, and it didn't look like a God Spirit Touch anymore.

Before, whenever it shook off one of the initial ten layers, it still looked like a ladybug. But this grainsized creature was like a silkworm. It was oval in its shape. It looked cute, and it was quite fat.

Everyone was looking at the bug in shock. Even Bixi and Exquisite looked stunned. They owned the God Spirit Touch, but this was the first time they had ever seen the God Spirit Touch behave this way. They had never seen it remove its eleventh shell before.

"Does he really have an eleven armor talent?" Exquisite looked at Han Sen and the God Spirit Touch with a queer stare. Her eyes kept twitching as thoughts ran through her mind.

Han Sen looked at the God Spirit Touch on the table. He kept thinking, "Weird. When Glasses tested me, it just told me that my genes were unstable. I was unable to get a result. How can this bug keep peeling away its layers? If Exquisite and Bixi are correct about its accuracy, then that means my talent is awesome."

But Han Sen didn't feel as if his talents were strong. At least, that was the way he felt when he practiced with The Story of Genes. Whenever he had to work with that, he felt practically useless. His ability to continue leveling up was completely dependent on resources.

As Han Sen was thinking, the God Spirit Touch moved. It shook and shivered frantically, as it moved toward Han Sen.

Bixi and Exquisite were shocked about this, too. The God Spirit Touch was just a xenogeneic Bixi had captured. Although it was half-deified, it wasn't deified yet. It couldn't fight. Due to the fact that it was very sensitive to the genes in one's blood, it was a very rare xenogeneic.

Usually, any Very High that encountered a God Spirit Touch would try to claim and tame it with secret skills. The God Spirit Touch was loyal until its master died. Only then would it try to find another master.

If Bixi didn't give a command, the God Spirit Touch wouldn't move. But right now, although Bixi hadn't given a single order, the little creature started moving over toward Han Sen. This shocked Bixi.

Bixi's heart jumped. He tried to call the God Spirit Touch back, but it ignored his command. It kept crawling over to Han Sen, and that gave Bixi a shock.

"What is going on?" Bixi looked dumbfounded. He couldn't understand this, and he looked at Han Sen and the God Spirit Touch with a befuddled expression.

The God Spirit Touch was a half-deified xenogeneic, but its power wasn't like that of an ordinary xenogeneic. Its body wasn't strong. It had the toughness of a half-deified, but not the attack power. It couldn't even fly.

In space, it could float. But on land, it could only crawl.

Han Sen saw it climb over to the edge of the table. Then, it fell off. Han Sen caught the little creature in his hand.

The moment Han Sen touched the God Spirit Touch, he felt its will enter his brain. His mind was full of messages that begged him.

It wasn't a language, just an overwhelming sense of desire. Han Sen was able to understand it was begging.

"I beg you... help me evolve..." That was what it meant. The little creature's mind was full of sincere begging.

"How can I help you evolve? You want more of my blood?" Han Sen wondered aloud. He didn't know how to help the God Spirit Touch exactly.

"I beg you... help me evolve..." The God Spirit Touch kept sending him this message. "It looks like this guy isn't so smart after all," Han Sen thought.

But Han Sen realized it might not have wanted blood. There were still traces of blood on the tip of Han Sen's finger, but the God Spirit Touch wasn't interested in it. It kept sending its pleading message.

"If it doesn't want my blood, then the only way I can help it is with my Blood-Pulse Sutra. But my body has yet to recover. I don't have much energy, and so, my Blood-Pulse Sutra is weaker than usual. I don't know if it will work on him," Han Sen thought to himself.

He cast his Blood-Pulse Sutra. He made his self-cogwheel connect with the God Spirit Touch's self-cogwheel. And then, they spun.

Han Sen wanted to see what the God Spirit Touch wanted.

Before, when Han Sen used his Blood-Pulse Sutra, it was difficult. Whether he was using it on Lando, Barr, or Gu Qingcheng and Elysian Moon, it had cost Han Sen all his strength to push their cogwheels.

But this time, Han Sen only had to use a small amount of power to push the self-cogwheel of the God Spirit Touch. It spun quickly.

Chapter 2604 Making a Butterfly by Hand

The people of Sky Palace could see the God Spirit Touch on Han Sen's hand. Then a red light manifested in Han Sen's palm. It was then that they realized what was going on.

"There it is! There it is! Here it comes again. It must be that thing... you know what I'm talking about."

"You jest, surely! It can't be that thing that got Brother Han the title of God's Daddy."

"I bet you it is. Did you know that I watched him bless Barr? What I'm seeing here is that exact same red light."

"What is this all about then? Isn't the beetle supposed to be testing Brother Han's talent? Why is Brother Han helping the God Spirit Touch evolve instead?"

"Maybe they're no longer testing. Brother Han's eleven armor talent is so strong. Did you not see the God Spirit Touch crawl over to Han Sen? Perhaps it's requesting his aid."

"I must confess that this really is starting to become an... interesting turn of events, to say the least..."

Exquisite and Bixi felt an odd swirl of emotions within their chests. They had heard the tales of Han Sen blessing Lando and Barr, but they thought there must have been some sort of trick to the whole thing. There was no way Lando and Barr became deified because of his power.

But the God Spirit Touch belonged to Bixi, and he knew a lot about the little creature. He knew the God Spirit Touch would never become deified. So, he was conflicted and confused when he saw what Han Sen was aspiring to do.

Everyone was watching the God Spirit Touch in Han Sen's and. It was covered by a small, red light. The crystalline body started to glow.

All of the red light rose from the God Spirit Touch's body. And its oval body grew smaller.

The God Spirit Touch had lived for God knew how long. The Very High had taken it in so it could repeatedly test people. It had absorbed the genes of many creatures, and the blood it had consumed featured many nine armor talents across the years. And all it had been given was for free.

Although the God Spirit Touch couldn't properly absorb the genes in the blood, it had received many benefits. With the amount of resources it had received, it should have become deified a long time ago.

But its talents were limited, and it couldn't break through the last stage. It stopped at half-deified. Right now, it was breaking through like the wall was nothing more than paper. And it was all attributed to Han Sen's Blood-Pulse Sutra. The God Spirit Touch was now becoming deified. Its genes no longer limited it anymore.

Han Sen had only cast a small amount of his Blood-Pulse Sutra to lightly push the self-cogwheel.

Everyone looked at Han Sen, holding the God Spirit Touch. And then, a light appeared out of the God Spirit Touch. It was such a small bug, but the light from its body reached all the way up into space. It lit up the whole system, and deifieds throughout the system turned to look in that direction.

Katcha!

Amidst the light, as the bug's body became smaller, cracks started to form. A small crystal claw emerged.

And then, another crystal claw came into view. And then a body. Through the shining light, onlookers could barely make out a crystal butterfly starting to emerge. It flapped its wings and happily danced around Han Sen.

When the crystal butterfly flapped its wings, its light became clearer. Its substance chains became visible. The substance chains formed together into a giant butterfly wing. It lit up the whole of Sky Palace.

Everyone was shocked. Before, they thought this was awesome because they had seen it on video. Seeing what happened through a screen hadn't left a terribly deep impression on them, though.

But now, they were seeing a creature become deified right in Han Sen's hands. His hands

ere like the hands of a god. They had an unlimited amount of power, and they were full of magic. He could turn even trash into the working of a miracle. It was difficult to believe.

As they watched Han Sen hold the deified crystal butterfly gracefully in his hands, it was like he was the creator of God.

"It really became deified?" Bixi and Exquisite were more shocked than the others. They had doubted Han Sen's blessing powers before. But now, he had lackadaisically made Bixi's God Spirit Touch deified. This power was more than Bixi and Exquisite knew what to do with. Even the Very High elders couldn't accomplish something like this.

The God Spirit Touch had just become a crystal butterfly, and it was now flying merrily around Han Sen's hands. It flew around Han Sen three times. And then, it suddenly flapped its crystal wings and disappeared. It just vanished all of a sudden.

Everyone was frozen, and they all looked at Bixi. They thought Bixi had returned it.

But Bixi was frozen, too. His coldness and calmness were now all gone. He looked at Han Sen, his expression rigid. It looked as if he was wondering where the God Spirit Touch had gone.

Katcha!

Bixi's face changed. He felt as if something in his pocket had just snapped. He felt bad. He quickly reached into his pocket. The spell that had the God Spirit Touch's symbol was now broken.

The Very High used a secret skill to tame the God Spirit Touch. That spell was the key to its control. It was like a leash for the creature.

As long as the spell was there, he could control the God Spirit Touch, and the creature couldn't disobey. If the master desired it, the God Spirit Touch would suffer pain that would make the creature wish it was dead.

When the God Spirit Touch became deified, Bixi hadn't immediately seen the problem. Now that the spell was broken, he realized what had happened. His stomach sank. No God Spirit Touch had become deified before this. The Very High's secret skill was only used on creatures that were half-deified or below. The God Spirit Touch was a creature that was easy to control. But now that it had become deified, it destroyed the secret skill. It became free and ran off.

The God Spirit Touch wasn't a top-class xenogeneic, but it was very rare. Most of them were given out by Very High parents. If Bixi lost it, he couldn't get it back.

"Mr. Bixi, did you put your God Spirit Touch away?" Han Sen looked at Bixi. The question was irrelevant, though. Judging from the perplexed look on Bixi's face, Han Sen knew that he hadn't. He knew that the God Spirit Touch had actually escaped.

He couldn't openly admit it had run away, though. Bixi might try to hold him responsible for what had happened.

Bixi frowned. He didn't blame Han Sen for letting the God Spirit Touch escape. He only coldly said, "The God Spirit Touch became deified when it transformed into a butterfly. It broke my restraints and ran."

The Sky Palace students, upon hearing that the God Spirit Touch had become deified right from Bixi's mouth, believed it now.

"It looks like the legends concerning you are true. Brother Han really can bless others."

"Well, duh. Of course, he can! Why else would you think Brother Han was labeled God's Daddy?" "This is too awesome... He is a King class that can produce xenogeneic deifieds! That is better than what most deifieds themselves can do!" The Sky Palace students discussed all this happily. They felt very hopeful. If Han Sen stayed in Sky Palace, perhaps Han Sen would be willing to bless them sometime.

Many of the Sky Palace elites that saw this were feeling flat-out strange. It had been a bewildering thing to witness, after all. But many disregarded their confusion to simply revel in the result. And the results made them more than happy. Still, more than anything, there was one emotion they couldn't deny, and that emotion was worry.

Other races would take Han Sen's abilities very seriously after seeing this. Sky Palace would no longer be a mellow place.

There were the Extreme King, first of all. They no longer had a good relationship with Sky Palace. That being said, Sky Palace wasn't afraid of them.

But now, the Very High had seen Han Sen's power in person. It was difficult to tell whether they would want to do something with Han Sen or not.

Chapter 2605 Swap

The meeting ended quickly. The story of Han Sen making a butterfly in the palms of his hands spread across all of Sky Palace. The Sky Palace students were delighted by the result.

When they were alone, Bixi and Exquisite discussed what had happened. Bixi frowned and asked her, "You want to make Han Sen your silkworm?"

Exquisite nodded and said, "If Lone Bamboo isn't willing to join the Very High, there is no point in forcing him to. I should use this opportunity to take Han Sen with me."

Bixi frowned even more. "Have you thought this through? Han Sen looks very talented, but I don't think things are as simple as they seem with him. Perhaps he has practiced a special and unique geno art that allowed him to access and activate the God Spirit Touch's gene potential and make the God Spirit Touch become deified. That might have been why he was able to make the butterfly and create the illusion of having an eleven armor talent. Perhaps that isn't his true talent. You should know that crystallizers can't have a gene talent that high."

Exquisite sighed and said, "It is impossible. Eleven armor talents exist only in legends. Han Sen isn't bad, but I know he can't reach those mythical heights. But still, there must be a reason for what transpired. In addition, I have seen for myself that Han Sen is talented. And the geno art he uses can make other creatures evolve. And that is impressive on its own. This power he has is very rare. Even if his talent was ordinary, I would be willing to make him my silkworm so I could study that geno art of his. Plus, there is the chance he still has excellent talent."

Upon hearing this, Bixi didn't deny the possibility. He said, "You are right. That power is so mysterious. Even our race doesn't have a geno art that could accomplish what Han Sen had done. That miraculous geno art is more than enough reason for you to take him on as your silkworm."

"Since you agree, can you please bring this subject up for discussion when we talk to Sky Palace tomorrow?" Exquisite said.

Bixi nodded and said, "But before that, I need to go and test Han Sen. I need to see his true power."

Exquisite didn't object to this. There were many stories surrounding Han Sen, but she had never witnessed his abilities directly. She wouldn't place her faith in Han Sen's skills until she saw them first hand.

"Han Sen's wounds have yet to heal. I don't think we should fight him. But if we don't, how else should we test him?" Exquisite asked.

"I have a way," Bixi said without explaining.

Han Sen returned to his little jade island to heal. Fortunately, the leader of Sky Palace forbade others from entering the island and disturbing him. If people had been allowed to go and see him after what had just happened, he wouldn't have had a single second of reprieve.

Han Sen had used his hands to produce a butterfly. That boosted Han Sen's reputation to a whole new level. Although Han Sen wasn't related to the people of Sky Palace by blood, his reputation was one of the best of that whole generation. He was on par with Yu Shanxin and Lone Bamboo.

When the story of Han Sen using his hands to produce a butterfly reached Narrow Moon, many of the Rebate stunned at the news.

Some of the Rebate hadn't liked it when Yisha decided to move Narrow Moon, but now they were starting to change their minds. They didn't hate the concept of moving anymore.

"Han Sen is Knife Queen's only student. Knife Queen offended the Extreme King on his behalf and moved Narrow Moon next to Sky Palace. So, Han Sen is with us. In the future, Han Sen will work for the Rebate. He will bless us. Perhaps we will have a chance to rise as well." Many of the Rebate were thinking along these lines.

After all this happened, a lot of the pressure that the Rebate had been putting on Yisha abruptly fell away. The Kings that had always been against her had changed their minds. They kept mentioning the idea of bringing Han Sen over to bless them.

Yisha pretended not to hear those constant whisperings. She had seen Han Sen's blessing, and she knew it was something amazing. But Yisha didn't think that power could turn a dumpster fire into a deified.

From what Yisha had seen, the people that were blessed by Han Sen were already quite close to becoming deified. For someone who already didn't have a chance of becoming deified, it wouldn't make a difference no matter how many blessings were bestowed.

Yisha knew that Han Sen wouldn't turn her down if she made a request, so she didn't ask just yet.

It wasn't like she was too full of pride to ask for the help of her student; there was simply no one in the Rebate that was suitable for the blessing.

The Rebate were considered a higher race, but their ranking was still low on that generous leaderboard. They had depended on the support of the Jade Toad and the Extreme King to become a higher race. Now that she was deified, she was the biggest supporter the Rebate had.

She was the only being of her level within the Rebate. The only Rebate close to being deified was Moon Wheel King, but he was old, and his lifespan had almost reached its end. It was unknown if he could become a deified after receiving a blessing. Even if he did, though, he wouldn't live long enough to do much for the Rebate.

Yisha couldn't stop thinking about the fact that the Rebate had no one special like Lando or Barr. It was giving her a headache. As Yisha continued working, Bao'er ran into the hall and leaped into her chest.

"Big Sister Queen!"

"Bao'er, why are you here?" Yisha stroked Bao'er's head and smiled.

Bao'er used to live in the palace with Yisha. Yisha had liked her a lot and spoiled her quite a bit.

"Daddy brought me here," Bao'er said with a smile.

Yisha looked ahead and saw Han Sen being led forward by a Rebate guard. He was brought into the hall. She told the guard straight away, "Let him in!"

"My Queen," Han Sen said with a bow.

Yisha looked at Han Sen and observed how weak and frail his body had become. She said, "Why aren't you resting on the little jade island? You shouldn't be running around in this shape."

Han Sen knew Yisha was referring to the fact that he had just blessed the God Spirit Touch. He smiled and said, "I was just going to listen to the Very High explain geno arts. I was pushed to the stage to do something against my will."

After that, Han Sen went on to say, "My body hasn't recovered yet. It will probably take a whole year. Maybe my Queen can pick two or three people from the Rebate for me, and I will find the time to bless them. It will help you all. If they aren't talented enough to become deified, they can still be made considerably stronger."

Yisha was very pleased. Han Sen had mentioned this without being asked to. She believed she had made the right decision.

"It is a shame there are no psychics here that can calculate the location of people. It is impossible to find Dollar now," Yisha thought to herself. She still hadn't let her grudge against Dollar go.

She wasn't really looking for Dollar because of her grudge, though. Yisha wanted to get the Rebate alpha's scabbard back.

Chapter 2607 Decision

Sky Palace Leader allowed Han Sen to go home and think the matter over. He could inform the leader once he had come to a decision.

"If I go, it will save me three years of healing. I will also be given the support of the Very High. It is a great deal. But I will risk exposing my true identity. If I don't go, nothing bad will happen, but it will take me some time to heal. And while I'm healing, there won't be much I can do to further myself. My ability to practice will be suspended, and I will have to locate my own resources." Han Sen was deep in thought the whole way home, wondering what he should do.

After a while of deliberation, he decided to stay in Sky Palace. His recovery would only take a short time, anyway. And he could get his own resources. It would just be a slower process.

But if his identity was exposed, that would be very bad. It would affect the safety of the entire human race.

When Han Sen returned to the little jade island, Lone Bamboo was there waiting for him. The man didn't look to be in poor condition. There was no sign in his countenance that he had just been released from prison.

"I'm going to the Very High," was the first thing Lone Bamboo said. And that surprised Han Sen.

"Why the sudden change of heart?" Han Sen asked Lone Bamboo with confusion. Lone Bamboo had been adamant about not going, and he had claimed that he would rather remain in prison. Now he was free, and he had changed his mind.

"I don't want to go, but I can't make you go in my stead. The way the situation stands, I have to go," Lone Bamboo said.

"Sky Palace Leader said he can figure this out. Perhaps there is a way in which neither of us has to go," Han Sen said.

Lone Bamboo shook his head. "There is no other way. We have to send someone, and that person is either you, me, or another Sky Palace student. So, I have decided that I will be the one to go to the Very High."

"Are you going to use Uncle Yu Shanxin's Extreme Evil Path?" Han Sen asked with curiosity. Lone Bamboo wasn't an easy person to sway. Han Sen was certain that Yu Shanxin would have offered his protection from the beginning. If Lone Bamboo wanted to choose this path, he could have from the beginning

Lone Bamboo shook his head again. "Using the Extreme Evil Path can avoid the prying eyes of the Very High, but it gives the user an evil mind. Evil will be watching you instead. You will still be watched, so it makes no difference."

Now Han Sen understood. Yu Shanxin deliberately left out the most important part.

"Then what are you planning to do?" Han Sen asked quietly.

Lone Bamboo quietly looked out across the clouds, and he said, "The Very High can feel everything I feel. So, all I must do is not think or feel anything. I will only do what they want me to do. Then, Exquisite will only see what I want her to see."

"That will be a very difficult thing." Han Sen knew how hard that task would be.

There were many ways to control someone, but controlling yourself was harder. The most dangerous enemy a person had was always themselves.

So, Han Sen really admired Ning Yue. He had used a parasite beast soul to watch Ning Yue once before, and Ning Yue spent years practicing Buddhism. Han Sen was unable to glean any smidgen of information from Ning Yue. Han Sen didn't think he had that sort of patience.

Lone Bamboo was planning the same. He was going to use his power to control everything about his situation. He wasn't going to allow Exquisite to see all of his secrets.

Although Han Sen knew Lone Bamboo was doing this because he didn't want Han Sen to be his replacement, there was nothing much he could say about it.

If he was alone, he would make the same decision as Lone Bamboo. He wouldn't mind fighting his inner demons.

But Han Sen had too much on the line. He was responsible for the countless lives in the sanctuaries. If his mind's fortitude failed, Exquisite would learn everything. He wouldn't only be hurting himself then. So, Han Sen couldn't afford to take that chance.

"Before I go, there is something I would like you to do," Lone Bamboo said softly. This was the reason he was there.

"What is it?" Han Sen asked.

"Help me take care of a child. Her name is Flower," Lone Bamboo said. "Is it a Sky Palace student? Is she related to you?" Han Sen asked with curiosity.

Lone Bamboo shook his head. He thought for a moment, and then answered, "Her and Purple-Eye Butterfly exist together. After I combined with the genes of Purple-Eye Butterfly, she became a part of me. She keeps wanting to kill me to avenge the death of Purple-Eye Butterfly. It might be a little annoying. So, after I go to the Very High, please take care of her."

"That sounds a bit tricky, but don't worry. If you want her to live, I will take care of her." Han Sen agreed to do this.

"That is great." Lone Bamboo sighed. It was as if a weight had been lifted from his shoulders.

To other people, it was hard to imagine why Lone Bamboo would care so much about someone who wanted to kill him, but Han Sen could understand. So, he didn't ask anything more about it. Instead, he just asked for more information concerning the girl Flower.

When Lone Bamboo took his leave, Han Sen felt something clench in his chest. He wished he could be like Lone Bamboo. He wouldn't mind going with the Very High, as it was just a battle of the mind. Ning Yue could do it and Lone Bamboo dared to. Could Han Sen not do it as well?

But then he thought about all the trouble he could bring down on the sanctuaries. Han Sen smiled wryly and shook his head to clear away the errant thoughts.

Han Sen thought that the matter had been resolved, but then something happened that Han Sen and Lone Bamboo hadn't foreseen.

Exquisite now refused to take Lone Bamboo with her. She was only interested in taking Han Sen, and no other would be considered.

That made Han Sen freeze. When he realized what was going on, he wanted to slap himself in the face.

"I shouldn't have gone to that meeting. Even if I went, why did I have to test my talent for all of them to see? And even if I took the test, why did I then go on to help the God Spirit Touch evolve? That was just asking for trouble." Han Sen cringed at his own stupidity.

But no one had expected the Very High to be so willing to change who they wanted. Han Sen should have been an outsider in these matters, but somehow, he had become the crux of it all.

If Han Sen knew this would happen, he would have stayed home and played games. He wouldn't have attended the meeting.

"I had it coming." Han Sen sighed.

"Han Sen! What do you think?" As Han Sen was going to visit Sky Palace Leader, a smiling Yu Shanxin appeared next to him.

"I'm going to the Very High," Han Sen said emotionlessly.

"Do you need me to use Extreme Evil Path?" Yu Shanxin asked with a smile.

"Uncle Yu, you didn't tell me that the demon would spy on me, as well," Han Sen said with a smile.

"Letting me see things is better than others seeing things. We are a family. It's fine, it's fine..." Yu Shanxin said with a smile.

Han Sen rolled his eyes and didn't bother responding. He and Yu Shanxin were on their way to the office. He had decided to go to the Very High. If he didn't, things would likely end poorly.

Plus, Han Sen had found a way to fight against the spying of the Very High.

Chapter 2606 Very Sky Family

Han Sen had just returned to his little jade island when Thousand Feather Crane and the Yun sisters dropped by.

Han Sen frowned. For his safety, the leader of Sky Palace had issued a decree forbidding students of Sky Palace from approaching the little jade island. If his three friends had been allowed to visit, it meant they must have received approval from a Sky Palace supervisor.

As expected, they brought good news alongside a serving of bad news. The good news was that Lone Bamboo was doing fine. He was going to be released soon. The bad news was that Exquisite of the Very High had selected Han Sen. So, Lone Bamboo didn't need to go to the Very High anymore. Han Sen would have to go and be with the Very High in his stead.

"Sky Palace Leader wanted us to tell you," Yun Sushang said. "If you don't want to go to the Very High, we will still find a way for you to stay here. If you don't want to go, you don't have to push yourself."

When Han Sen heard this, he felt a bit better. He didn't want to go to the Very High, no matter how many benefits and goodies he might receive. He had too many secrets, and so he couldn't allow Exquisite to pry open his mind and examine all his thoughts. He was more scared than Lone Bamboo of being naked and having his secrets leaked.

"Sky Palace Leader wants you to visit him. There is something he needs to tell you, face-to-face," Thousand Feather Crane said.

Han Sen nodded. He followed Thousand Feather Crane to Sky Palace Leader's house. The leader of Sky Palace didn't meet Han Sen in the hall. They met in the garden.

Thousand Feather Crane and the Yun sisters had to stop at the doorstep. Without the explicit command of Sky Palace Leader, they were unable to enter. So, Han Sen went through to the garden alone. He found Sky Palace Leader there, sitting in a pavilion and drinking a cup of tea. He was looking at the pond that resided there.

"Sit. This isn't an office, and I'm not talking to you as the leader of Sky Palace today. You are Yisha's student, and I am her teacher. I suppose that makes you my half-student, too. Let's chat." The Sky Palace Leader pointed to a place near him.

Han Sen sat down and made himself comfortable. He asked, "You want me here to talk about the Very High?"

The Sky Palace Leader didn't deny this. He nodded.

"Do you want me to go or not?" Han Sen asked.

The leader of Sky Palace didn't answer. He took a sip of his tea and said, "We have an agreement with the Very High. We cannot refuse to hand over the people they select. Anyone they select must serve them for four years. Over the years, many Sky Palace students have gone with the Very High. Most of them return safely, with a lot of benefits and a deified status. But if I had the power to prevent it, I wouldn't allow any student of Sky Palace to be taken by the Very High."

After pausing, the Sky Palace Leader said, "I believe you have heard about the Very High from Lone Bamboo. I'm not going to lie. Because many students have gone to the Very High over the years, Sky Palace has no secrets from the Very High. They even know about our secret skill Textless Book."

"In that case, why don't you refuse their requests?" Han Sen asked. He knew Sky Palace must have had its reasons, and he wanted to know what they were.

Sky Palace Leader sighed and said, "Have you noticed that the Sky look like the Very High?"

"You mean..." Han Sen's brow furrowed. It looked as if he had come to some sort of realization, but he still didn't understand.

"The Sky and the Very High were the same race in ancient times, but there were brothers that had different opinions," Sky Palace Leader explained. "They split up, and their descendants became the Sky and the Very High. Textless Book and the Very High Sense are quite similar because of this."

Han Sen opened his mouth wide in awe. He had thought Li Keer and Exquisite were Sky, at first. He thought the Very High had skills like the Foxes and could change their appearance.

Now he knew that in reality, Li Keer and Exquisite practically counted as Sky.

The Sky Palace Leader continued. "Because they have three eyes and they are very powerful, the Very High were the strongest in the universe in ancient times. Although they weren't as strong as they are now, they could travel between systems. It was pretty awesome back then."

"But the Very High reproduced very slowly. Their children were few and far between, and the race couldn't expand. At their most populated, they only had a few hundred people. Then one day, triplet brothers were born, and a lot of changes took place within the Very High. The three brothers were very talented. They became pillars for the Very High. The oldest one became the leader of the Very High. The second and third brothers became elders. The three of them worked together to spread the influence of the Very High. The Very High became the leaders of all races. They controlled the whole universe."

"However, population growth remained a problem for the Very High. Although they had many systems, they only had one or two hundred people. They had more power than any other group in the universe, but merely holding on to a few systems was hard. So, the three brothers began to fight."

"The second brother out of the three wanted to breed with other races to increase the population of the Very High. The eldest brother wanted to keep the blood of the Very High pure. The third one was neutral and believed both plans could work. The three of them were very smart, but none of them could convince each other. The third brother remained uninvested in the arguments, but the conflicts of the first and second brothers became worse and worse."

"The second brother wasn't a leader, so he couldn't do what he wanted. Instead, he rallied a few others to his cause and departed. They created what you now know as the Sky. And nowadays, we have Sky Palace. The mixed blood increased the ability of breeding, but it also made the genes of the Sky unstable. Our gene talents are shakier. After all these years of mixed blood, most of the Sky's gene talents aren't as good as the Very High's. But every now and again, there one of the Sky with greater genes. Their gene talents can be even better than those of the Very High." Speaking of this, Sky Palace Leader sighed and said, "But our origins still lie in the Very High. Their blood still courses through our veins. When the Sky are in danger, the Very High always lend aid and ensure our safety. So, back then, the Sky leader forged an agreement with the leader of the Very High. It isn't something we should go against. My people are in our current position of safety and security thanks to the efforts of the Very High. We should pay them back. It isn't too much to ask."

"Are you saying you want me to go with the Very High?" Han Sen asked.

The Sky Palace Leader shook his head. "It is entirely up to you. I'm just telling you the pros and cons. If you go, I will ensure your safety. For as long as I am here, and if you don't commit a crime of murder, I can protect you from any harm. So don't worry about that. Plus, there are some treasures in the belongings of the Very High that can help you with your wounds. If you go there, it won't take three years to heal. You will be healed in a short amount of time. Of course, if you don't go, it will be great for Sky Palace, too. You can stay here while I deal with the Very High."

Han Sen was very touched. He knew the Sky Palace Leader wanted him to go, but Han Sen didn't want to go. He couldn't allow anyone else to access his secrets. Otherwise, it could be disastrous for the sanctuaries and humans.

Chapter 2608 Fighting in the Pond

"Leader, I have been thinking about it. I'm willing to go to the Very High. But before that, I would like to speak with Exquisite alone." Han Sen went to see Sky Palace Leader and started explaining the reason for his visit.

"What do you want to say to her?" Sky Palace Leader squinted his eyes in the direction of Han Sen. He knew Han Sen and Lone Bamboo were the same. Convincing men like them of anything wasn't easy.

"I would like to discuss the terms and conditions of me accompanying the Very High. I'm an eleven armor talent genius, after all. It's okay for me to strike a bargain that will suit me, right?" Han Sen laughed.

"Tell me what you need. There is a team in Sky Palace that can fight for the best terms and conditions to benefit you." Sky Palace Leader didn't believe that Han Sen just wanted a better deal.

"There is one aspect of the deal that needs to remain private. Don't worry, I know what I'm doing. I won't do anything that will cause you trouble," Han Sen said seriously.

"Fine. Go home for now, and I will establish a private meeting for you." After Sky Palace Leader said that, he allowed his eyes to linger on Han Sen for a while. And then, he said, "If you really don't want to go, though, you don't have to. I can deal with the Very High."

"It's okay. I have decided to go. I thought about it some more, and I figure that it isn't a bad deal. It will take one and a half years for me to recover. If I go there, I can save at least a year. And I will be given lots of goodies. So, why not?" Han Sen laughed.

After Han Sen left, Sky Palace Leader looked at Yu Shanxin and asked, "Do you think he is really going to go to the Very High?"

Yu Shanxin bowed. "Leader, I cannot guess how Han Sen's mind works. But I don't think he is a liar. I don't think he will crap all over Sky Palace, given how we have treated him, and I don't think he means us harm."

"I thought that, too. But this little guy does cause us a lot of trouble. He's kind of annoying," Sky Palace Leader said as he rubbed his temples.

"Who isn't annoying when they are young?" Yu Shanxin said with a smile.

"You are right. You should go and get ready yourself. After reaching the Very High, your safety comes first. Do what you can, and don't push yourself further than that," Sky Palace Leader said.

"Understood." Yu Shanxin bowed.

Han Sen arrived back on his little jade island, and a Sky Palace butler came to see him shortly after. The man told Han Sen that Exquisite was going to meet him at the Sky Water House that night.

Han Sen followed the butler to the Sky Water House. Exquisite was there, as expected. She was sitting atop a staircase that led down into a pond. Her feet were in the water, displaying the pale skin of her legs.

"Tell me what you want. Do you want xenogeneic genes, treasures, or geno arts?" Exquisite asked, her expression unreadable. On her face, not a single human-like emotion was visible.

"I don't want any of those things," Han Sen said to her, sitting down next to the pool. He took off his shoes and rolled up his pants. Just like Exquisite, he allowed his legs to dangle in the water. A cooling sensation rushed against his feet, prompting Han Sen to shiver in pleasure. It was like eating ice cream in the summer.

The water in Sky Water House wasn't ordinary water. It was blue water, and it was filled with energy. It was able to quicken the growth of cells and aid in the rejuvenation of one's body.

"What do you want then?" Exquisite looked curiously at Han Sen, who was sitting next to her.

Exquisite had given up on Lone Bamboo and selected Han Sen. Aside from Han Sen's talent and power, the most important motivator was the fact that Li Keer had chosen Dollar.

Dollar had once beaten Lone Bamboo in the Geno Being Scroll. And Exquisite and Li Keer had both seen Dollar's power. If she chose Lone Bamboo, he would always be compared to Dollar. That wouldn't be much better.

Li Keer had a ten armor talent. Exquisite had a nine armor talent. So, Exquisite didn't want a silkworm that was inferior to Li Keer's. That was why she was taking a risk by going for Han Sen.

If Han Sen really had an eleven armor talent, then her silkworm would be better than Li Keer's. If Han Sen's talent wasn't great, she would only lose once. But this way, at least she would have a chance to win.

Han Sen looked at Exquisite. After a while, he laughed and said, "You can use me. But you need to be better than me. Why would I follow someone who is inferior to me? Don't you think there is sound logic to that thought?" "Of course," Exquisite said. She wasn't angry.

"If you think this is right, then it is settled. If you can convince me, I will follow you to the Very High. If you cannot, can you leave me and Sky Palace alone?" Han Sen said.

"Sure," Exquisite answered with haste. She sounded very confident.

Han Sen looked at Exquisite with interest. "How are you going to convince me?"

Exquisite looked at Han Sen calmly and asked, "What is your best geno art?"

"Knife skills, I guess." When Han Sen was Han Sen, he used knives the most.

"Then let us compete with our knife skills." Exquisite reached out her hand. A stream of water rose into her palm in a serpentine swirl, then formed itself into a knife. "I will sit here, and you can attack me. If you can make me stand up in one hundred attacks, you win."

Exquisite was very confident, which was evident in the way she had chosen to fight with a water knife. She hadn't even stood up. Han Sen smiled. He reached out a hand toward the pond. He sucked up some of the water to form a water knife of his own.

"Sure. One hundred attacks is the limit. Let us see who stands up first," Han Sen said to Exquisite with a smile.

"Please, go ahead," Exquisite said without argument.

"In my home, ladies always go first. After you." Han Sen wanted to see Exquisite's real power.

Han Sen had traveled with Li Keer and Exquisite for a long while, but he was never able to accurately gauge their real power.

"Sure," Exquisite answered. She didn't hesitate to attack Han Sen with the water knife.

She didn't apply much strength, so the knife didn't make much sound as it slid through the air. But even so, Han Sen felt a chill at the sight. Her knife was coming for his head. Her hand appeared to be moving in a smooth arc, but Han Sen felt as if he couldn't see where the knife was coming from. It was as if the water knife adhered to the rules of some strangely shifting space.

"Good knife skill," Han Sen complimented her. He swung his own water knife, using Teeth Knife's Fang.

Chapter 2609 Exquisite's Third Eye Pang!

Two water knives collided and exploded, becoming like a rainy squall scattering over the surface of the pond.

Exquisite frowned. Her knife skill was from a race that was now extinct. Its name was Twist and Turn. It was a knife skill that could twist space. The skill made it nearly impossible to follow the course of the knife.

Exquisite knew that when Teeth Knife reached its height, it could break through the fabric of space. But that didn't mean Teeth Knife could go against Twist and Turn. Unless, of course, Han Sen could somehow follow the course of her blade.

Exquisite reformed her water knife and used Twist and Turn again. The shadow of the water knife twisted in the dimensions of space to take on a strange shape. Only masters of space could see the shadow of that knife. Anyone else would block the knife that they saw coming toward them, but that would be a decoy. They would block a shadow, while the real water knife would still be flying toward them.

Han Sen didn't move. He waved his own water knife casually, blocking all of Exquisite's attacks. Exquisite attacked ten times, and not a single one came down on Han Sen. "He is definitely worthy of becoming

my silkworm," Exquisite thought. She nodded. She enjoyed Han Sen's performance. Unless he had real power, Han Sen would be a poor silkworm.

Silkworms had to be exceptionally talented and have a genuine drive for learning. The further they could go, the more use they would be to the Very High on the whole.

Now that she knew Han Sen had a potent mastery of knife skills, Exquisite wasn't going to hold back. She began to use all her skills, cycling through knife attacks one after another.

Her Very High knife skills combined with the knife skills of all the different races she knew. All her skills were a patchwork of knowledge gathered from across the universe. Although her attacks wouldn't be any stronger than the most famous knife skills in the universe, the rotation of skills she employed was quite unique.

In the next twenty or thirty attacks, Han Sen felt as if he was fighting twenty or thirty different people at once. And it was like each swordsman was trained differently, and they were each an incredible fighter in their own special way. All of the styles employed came pouring out of his opponent with natural precision and exceptional talent. Even Han Sen found himself shocked by Exquisite's knife skills.

An ordinary person that practiced a lot of knife skills would be limited by their personality and body. They had to follow one course.

If someone had excellent agility, their knife skills would be very fast and flexible. If another person was very strong, their knife skills would be simple and violent. People that had no patience tended to attack quickly.

But Exquisite's knife skills didn't resemble anything he had seen before. She was her own woman, and it was like her personality could change to perfectly accommodate whichever skill she used next. Not even Han Sen could do something like that. His knife skills followed his one true style. That was Teeth Knife. Han Sen's Teeth Knife was different from Yisha's Teeth Knife. People that knew Teeth Knife didn't need to look at who used it. Merely by seeing the skill, they could tell who used it and how.

Han Sen was shocked. He didn't know Exquisite was actually more shocked than he was. Her knife skills kept changing, and yet, no matter what technique she used, Han Sen was able to use Teeth Knife to block each strike. That wasn't because Teeth Knife itself was so strong; it was because Han Sen himself was too talented.

"It looks like the God Spirit Touch was accurate. Maybe he really does have an eleven armor talent." Upon seeing Han Sen's knife skills, Exquisite felt deeply moved. She wanted to fetch another God Spirit Touch to test Han Sen again.

But she hadn't brought a God Spirit Touch herself. If she wanted to conduct another test like that, she would have to visit the Very High.

"Beating him will be difficult. I will have to use this." Exquisite's heart jumped. She closed her eyes.

Han Sen was surprised when she closed her eyes. He didn't know what Exquisite was thinking. A ninthtier King should be able to see fine, even with her eyes closed. But Han Sen knew there had to be a reason for what she had done.

While Han Sen mulled over this conundrum, he saw the red mark on Exquisite's forehead open. A black and white eye appeared.

The Very High and Sky were the same. It didn't surprise Han Sen that Exquisite had a third eye.

Exquisite's third eye was different from the third eyes of the Sky, however. The third eye of each Sky was different depending on their elements and powers.

Exquisite's third eye was a tai chi symbol.

Her white and black eye was like a yin and yang fish. On the white part, there was a black dot. On the black part, there was a white dot. The yin and yang eye was spinning upon her forehead. When he gazed at it, Han Sen felt a sense of mystery within him, like this eye possessed all the answers in the universe.

When the tai chi eye opened, Exquisite's whole body started to change.

Although Han Sen might have thought that Exquisite was just some snobby and cruel woman who cast disdain on the ordinary, he knew that her heart still had some humanity in it.

But right now, Exquisite didn't look like a person. She looked like an emotionless machine.

No, she was scarier than a machine. At this moment, Exquisite was like someone who had combined with the universe, a machine that was as cold and uncaring as space itself. Exquisite's movements felt like they were powered by the forces of nature.

If a King body was like someone pushing their powers as far as they could go, and Ancient God was power concentrated into a single creature, then Exquisite with her yin and yang tai chi eye was like the world's law and order.

Han Sen used his Dongxuan Sutra to observe her. He saw that Exquisite now looked like a universal cogwheel. She had become a part of the universe, a piece of machinery that was no longer a person.

Han Sen frowned. His Dongxuan Sutra could only allow him to see the universal cogwheel's connections. He couldn't become a cogwheel himself like Exquisite was doing. His skill was totally different. If the universe was a car, the Dongxuan Sutra was like the person that was at the wheel. Now, Exquisite was acting as if she was a part of the car.

Han Sen didn't understand this. What Exquisite had done must be affecting her body.

"Strike! I will grant you one hundred free attacks," Exquisite calmly said as she looked on Han Sen.

If anyone else had said that, Han Sen would have thought it was a ruthless and arrogant taunt that dripped with pride. But hearing it from Exquisite's mouth, it was like the soulless voice of a machine. Everything she said sounded like she was merely stating a fact.

Han Sen didn't mind, though. He used his water knife to strike. And Exquisite, meanwhile, showed no intention of blocking. She sat near the pond, looking calmly at Han Sen.

When Han Sen's attack reached Exquisite, the water in front of her became a knife to block Han Sen's water blade.

Han Sen furrowed his eyebrows in a deep frown. He kept on striking, pushing his Teeth Knife to the max. It didn't matter how many times Han Sen attacked, though. Exquisite's water knife was able to block each attempt.

Exquisite gave Han Sen the feeling that this was supposed to happen, and the water knife was supposed to be there. It was an unavoidable rule. It didn't matter how many times Han Sen switched up his knife skill, he couldn't land a hit.

Chapter 2610 Cheating

Han Sen's knife skills kept changing, and thus far, he had used seventy different attacks. Not a single one managed to hit Exquisite. Her floating water knife was able to block every single strike.

To an ordinary person, Exquisite would seem like some unknown god. No matter how many times Han Sen attacked, Exquisite controlled her water knife with perfect finesse. She blocked every attack like a prophet.

But in Han Sen's eyes, Exquisite wasn't some omniscient being. Her reactions made sense.

That was because Exquisite had merged with the universe. Han Sen's movements would trigger the spinning of universal cogwheels, and whenever this happened, the disturbance in the universe would alert Exquisite and prompt her to react.

So, when Han Sen attacked, Exquisite was able to respond instantaneously. It was like Han Sen was attacking a mirror. It didn't matter how he used his knife; when the water knife touched the mirror, the reflection of the water knife would react and nothing would happen.

"Ha!" Han Sen stopped moving. He sat still. His water knife suddenly pushed forward, and a water silk appeared next to Exquisite. Almost a hundred water silks manifested like a horde of blades around Exquisite's body.

The Sky Palace skill called Under the Sky made every slash Han Sen had performed thus far into a water silk. They all appeared at once, and Han Sen was on the verge of breaking the enemy's defense.

A water knife couldn't block that many knife silks unless Exquisite used her body to fight back. She either had to do that or move her body to evade them.

Of course, the water knife in front of Exquisite moved. But it exploded under the force of all those incoming water silks. The water silks were like a net of knives coming down on Exquisite.

Exquisite, however, didn't move. She was like a jade goddess, still seated atop the stairs. Her jade feet were still comfortably dangling in the water. Holy, but cold.

The knife net was only a few inches away from her by this point, and then, it suddenly came to a standstill. Each silk froze in front of Exquisite, and there they remained unmoving.

Exquisite reached out her finger to pull the knife net. And then, the knife net came undone like a water stream. They all folded in on each other, gathering in her hands. They merged to become a giant water knife.

That water knife still contained Han Sen's power, but it was no longer under his control. Exquisite held onto it gently, cradling it like it was a delicate toy.

Han Sen's eyes were electric. He stared at Exquisite's water knife. Han Sen used his Dongxuan Area to watch Exquisite's movement.

"She can play like this?" Han Sen thought happily.

Han Sen could see that Exquisite was able to mess with the cogwheels of the universe. His Dongxuan Area was more useful at this than her ability, though. Han Sen felt as if he learned something.

"It is pointless to continue this futile effort. Let us end this exercise here," Exquisite said coldly. Her hands looked like they were touching a flower as she flicked the handle of the water knife. Then, the water knife flew toward Han Sen.

Han Sen wanted to generate another water knife to continue fighting, but he noticed that all the water in the pond was moving toward that big water knife that was headed for him. The water knife flew extremely slowly, but the closer it got, the more power it contained.

Han Sen was forced to generate another water knife. But when he struck the giant water knife, he was unable to break it. Han Sen's water knife blended in with the giant water knife to become a part of that giant water knife.

"No wonder the Very High are the number one race in the universe. She is good. Not many deifieds can manipulate the laws and rules of the universe to please their desires. And Exquisite is merely a ninth-tier King." Han Sen sighed. Han Sen had only complimented her slightly, though. He wasn't planning on giving up. He watched as the water knife gathered all the water in the pond to itself. It was like a giant blade that had risen to cut the sky. Han Sen's eyes flashed, and suddenly, he swung his hand like a blade. He used his body to fight back the knife.

Exquisite had her yin and yang tai chi eye, but she was still surprised to see this. That giant water knife's power was combined with Han Sen's seventy strikes of Under the Sky, in addition to her own powers. It had been buffed by the universe itself, too.

That strike was starting to form substance chains. It wasn't like a real deified's attack, but it was better than what most half-deifieds could achieve.

And Han Sen clearly intended to use his flesh to take the blow instead. Exquisite believed that was too dangerous to do.

But Han Sen didn't hesitate. His hand-blade struck the water knife, and the scary water knife suddenly fell under Han Sen's control. It now followed Han Sen's attacking stance, returning toward Exquisite.

Pang!

The scary water power was now in front of Exquisite. An invisible wall rose to block it, then exploded and fell back to the pond. The explosion shook Exquisite, sending her stumbling backward.

"You cheated!" Exquisite said, standing up. She looked at Han Sen's hand. In between his fingers was a crystal orb. It was Ancient Water God's Ancient God Origin.

Ancient Water God's Ancient God Origin was a water-element relic. If Han Sen held that item, not even water deifieds could harm him. And Exquisite was just a ninth-tier King.

"I wasn't cheating. I was just making reasonable use of my resources. If that is considered cheating, is it not cheating for you to use your third eye and receive the boons and benefits of the universe?" Han Sen said.

"That is my power. What you used was another person's power," Exquisite said.

"With my power, I don't think I would lose, either. But I'm heavily injured, so it wasn't as if you were challenging me at my full strength. Even if you won, I wouldn't concede," Han Sen said.

When Exquisite heard that, she fell silent. She closed her tai chi eye and looked more like a person again.

Although Exquisite's face was still rather expressionless, she looked far more like a human being than she had previously. With her third eye open, she was like a lifeless machine.

"Sure. I will wait until you heal so we can fight again, then," Exquisite said while looking at Han Sen.

"Then you are going to have to wait a long time. My wounds will take at least a year to fix. Maybe two or three years." Han Sen laughed.

Exquisite frowned. She knew that Han Sen was injured and his body was heavily damaged. She knew he wasn't lying. She was being too hard on him.

"Lady Exquisite, I have heard the Very High have a spring that brings good fortune. It can reverse one's luck and allow others to be reborn. Is that true?" Han Sen squinted his eyes as he looked at her.

"Yes. Do you want to use that spring to repair your body?" Exquisite knew what Han Sen was thinking.

"If you want to fight me again soon, I am afraid that is the only way," Han Sen said with a smile.

"If you don't want to come to the Very High, how can you use the spring to fix your body?" Exquisite frowned.

"I didn't say I wouldn't go to the Very High. However, until you beat me, can I keep my body free from your intrusion?" Han Sen finally spoke his true purpose.

Chapter 2611 Han Yan Beginner

"You would be receiving benefits for nothing. I'm afraid that you're somehow collecting all the resources in this universe for free," Exquisite said unsympathetically.

Han Sen shrugged his shoulders and laughed. "If I go to the Very High, do you think I'm going to take the resources you offer and run?"

"I'm not afraid of that, but your idea goes against the rules. It doesn't work the way you want it to. You can use the good fortune spring, but you agree to obey me first," Exquisite said.

"In that case, never mind. I can take my time and heal slowly. You don't mind waiting a whole year, right?" Han Sen said.

"I have all the time in the world. I will give you a year and a half. And then, we will fight again. If you lose, there will be no further excuses. Not even the Sky can protect you forever." "I, Han Sen, am a reliable chap." Han Sen made sure that his expression looked as noble as possible, but he still thought the result was a bit of a shame. Taking advantage of the Very High wouldn't be as easy as he had anticipated. But that meant Han Sen could delay this annoyance for another year. His ability to buy so much time surprised him.

Han Sen had thought that Exquisite wouldn't be able to wait a year. He was amazed she had so willingly agreed.

"When my body is healed, I will at least be more confident in the Very High." After Han Sen and Exquisite struck their deal, they left the Sky Water House.

Two days later, Bixi took Yu Shanxin and departed Sky Palace. Exquisite remained. She was going to live there for a year and a half in anticipation of Han Sen healing.

Han Sen wasn't too concerned about Exquisite, though. He continued to rest on his island every day so that his body would heal as soon as possible.

Sky Palace had been in talks with the Extreme King. Eventually, Bai Wuchang and the Extreme King knights were released in exchange for resources. Some of them were xenogeneic treasures designed to heal his body. They were all given to Han Sen.

The Extreme King weren't willing to let go of their grudge, but now that Han Sen was in Sky Palace, there was nothing that they could do to him.

In between the time he spent practicing in the White Jade Building, Han Sen savored the Extreme King's food.

Han Sen had trained in the White Jade Jing before. There were twelve towers and five cities. In one of the towers, fairies would descend from paintings to grow a practitioner's power.

Han Sen headed to the seventh White Jade Tower out of the twelve.

None of them were better than the others. They were all different. The seventh tower was called Hidden Skill Tower, because the jade wall there was full of skills. There was lots of knowledge to learn there.

When the jade air was released each day, the jade wall would present a skill book. A different skill was displayed every day of the year. It was a cycle that repeated endlessly, year after year.

When a book appeared on the jade wall, merely looking at it would allow Han Sen to understand the hidden power residing inside. If he copied it and read it outside the tower, however, it would seem like nothing more than boring gibberish.

According to legend, when the alpha of the Sky created the Textless Book, he used the Very High Sense and the skill books from the tower. Whether or not that was true was unknown, but the mere belief was enough of a testament to how special they were.

Han Sen's body still hadn't recovered yet. He couldn't accept strong powers from the outside, so he couldn't go to the other towers to absorb their jade air. And neither could he go and refine the jade spirit. Instead, he focused on reading the books in that tower.

"Brother Han, I have heard you recommended your sister be accepted as a student in Sky Palace. Is she your real sister?" Yun Suyi asked with curiosity when the jade air was depleted and the book on the jade wall disappeared. She had been studying behind him.

"Yes. She's my real sister." Han Sen nodded. He had asked Thousand Feather Crane to register her because the man owed him a favor.

"She must be incredibly talented. If there is a chance, I would like her to study beneath my father," Yun Suyi said.

Han Sen was shocked. He looked at Yun Suyi and asked, "Is that your idea or the Yun elder's?"

"Both. What do you think?" Yun Suyi laughed.

"If the Yun elder is willing to take on Han Yan, it will be very fortuitous for her. I would be immeasurably grateful," Han Sen said.

Han Yan was just like him; they had both gone to Sky Palace on the recommendation of another. They were both foreigners who weren't native to there. Ordinarily, no foreign student would be taken on by an elder. If Yun Changkong was willing to take her, though, it would be very beneficial for her. Having Sky Palace as a background would be much better for an ordinary foreign student.

"But Sky Palace still has its rules. Sister Han still has to walk the Sky Path to get to Sky Palace," Yun Suyi said. "Of course." Han Sen nodded. Han Yan should have no problem walking the Sky Path and the steps leading up to Sky Palace. "If that's all agreeable to you, we should not delay. Let's go pick up Sister Han. My father has already completed the registration process. If she can walk to Sky Palace, she will be an official student of my father," Yun Suyi said.

"Suyi, thank you." Han Sen bowed before Yun Suyi with sincerity. For a foreign student to have one of the ten elders teach them was something most prestigious. Yun Suyi must have worked hard to make that happen.

"Brother Han, what are you doing? I didn't help much." Yun Suyi quickly stopped him from bowing.

The two of them departed the White Jade Tower. Han Sen still rode his old, legless crane. Together, they left the xenogeneic space and headed to Narrow Moon, where they would pick up Han Yan.

Gu Qingcheng and Elysian Moon were practicing outside. They weren't the type of people to spend their free time relaxing.

With their powers, they could survive an attack from a low-level deified. There was no need to worry about them.

Han Sen's sister was registering to join Sky Palace. This story remained on the headlines of Sky Palace for quite some time. After they went to Sky Palace, Han Sen helped with the registration. With the help of the tenth elder Yun Changkong, it was over quickly.

It wasn't easy for a foreigner to become a student of Sky Palace. Without a considerable amount of power, it was a challenge to be accepted. Plus, Han Yan would have the tenth elder as a teacher. That was amazing, considering that she wasn't even one of the Sky. Yun Changkong had gone to a lot of effort to ensure this would come to pass.

Of course, the importance of Han Sen to Sky Palace played a part in the proceedings. It would have been impossible, otherwise, for a foreign student to be brought into the fold by the tenth elder.

Han Yan was so excited. She had grown very bored on Planet Eclipse, but now she could go to Sky Palace. It was what she had longed for.

Yun Suyi explained to her the things that she needed to be wary of in Sky Palace. She treated Han Yan like a real sister. When Han Sen saw this, he felt touched.

Bao'er sat on the red cloud, flying in looping circles around Han Sen. Han Sen had brought her there, and when Han Yan walked the Sky Path, he would ask Bao'er to go with her. Bao'er might be able to help out.

The Holy God's Holy Air was some good stuff, and there was a chance Han Yan would receive the same treatment.

After Han Sen brought Han Yan to Sky Palace, many of the Sky Palace elites turned their attention to her.

Many people wanted to know how she stacked up next to Han Sen. Maybe Han Sen was just a one-of-akind crystallizer, or maybe the gene talents of all crystallizers were that good these days.

Chapter 2612 Han Yan Walking Sky Path

"Bao'er, why don't you go with Little Auntie?" Han Sen asked Bao'er as they stood before the Sky Door.

"Sure." Bao'er nodded and flew over to Han Yan. She took Han Yan's hand and smiled. "Hey, Auntie. Bao'er is going to walk with you."

But before they went onto Sky Door Island, one of the Sky guardsmen stopped their approach. He looked at Han Sen and said, "Brother Han, the leader issued a command that only Sister Han may traverse the Sky Path. Bao'er cannot cross it again."

Han Sen was frustrated by that, but he couldn't actively go against a decree issued by Sky Palace Leader himself. So, Bao'er returned to his side.

Sky Palace Leader was drinking tea at the time, and he murmured to himself. "If the gourds rumble again, it will reduce the amount of holy air in the vine. If this happens again, the holy vine will be killed." Sky Palace Leader had good reason to be protective of the vine. That plant was the root of Sky Palace, and it was used to vet and grow the students that the Sky wished to train. If Bao'er was allowed to cross Sky Path every time Han Sen brought someone to Sky Palace, the holy gourd vine's power would fall precipitously. If that happened repeatedly, the holy gourd vine would end up destroyed.

Last time Bao'er traversed Sky Path, she had received enough blessings for tens of thousands of average students. They had lost a lot that day, and Sky Palace couldn't afford another hit like that.

That aside, the rules of Sky Palace only permitted one person to cross Sky Path at a time. Previously, Bao'er had only been allowed to go with Han Sen because she was so small. But that was why they lost as much as they did. Sky Palace Leader wouldn't allow that to happen again.

Exquisite watched the Sky Path from afar. She wanted to know how talented Han Sen's biological sister was. Perhaps she could learn more about Han Sen's real gene talent level.

An eleven armor talent was too scary. It was difficult to believe that it was a genuine result.

"Brother, don't worry. I won't embarrass you." Han Yan's entire purpose in life was to catch up with Han Sen. She looked confident in this.

"Don't exhaust yourself. Just cross it." Han Sen didn't want Han Yan to make a scene when she crossed the Sky Path. Making a name for yourself was never a good thing, he had discovered.

Traversing the Sky Path wasn't that risky, though; when she ascended the stairs that led to Sky Palace, that was when the opportunity to impress the Sky would present itself. If Han Yan performed extremely well there, she could forget about having a quiet life.

Han Yan didn't know what Han Sen meant. She thought he was saying that to alleviate the pressure she might have been feeling. "Sister Han, you can just stroll across. This is just a small crossing," Yun Suyi said to comfort Han Yan. She didn't want her to be nervous.

"Thank you, Sister Yun. I'm going now." Han Yan walked through Sky Door Island. The people of Sky Palace watched her traverse the narrow Sky Path.

Han Yan already knew that going across Sky Path might trigger the holy air of the gourds. So, when she walked across the gourd vine, she stared down at the holy gourds.

The holy gourds were big and small. They were each cute in their own way, but they showed no sign of activity.

"I have heard Sister Yun say that when Big Brother walked across Sky Path, he didn't receive the gift of holy air. But he made all the holy gourds shake and shiver. Why is nothing happening while I walk across it?" Han Yan frowned.

She continued to walk, and still, the holy gourds didn't so much as twitch.

"Of course, without Bao'er there—that naughty kid—the crystallizer couldn't have triggered the trembling of a thousand gourds." Han Yan had already walked halfway, and not a single gourd moved. Sky Palace Leader merrily took another sip of his tea. He liked this.

"Brother Han's sister doesn't look like she has any special talents. Not a single gourd has chosen to bless her with holy air yet."

"In this world, only one Han is known as God's Daddy. Not every Han of the crystallizer race can earn a title like that."

"It is useless to just be a Han. You should strive to become a God's Daddy."

"It is a shame Bao'er was stopped. If she was there, a thousand gourds might move for Han Yan."

Yun Changkong was a bit disappointed. He had never seen Han Yan before, but still, he had agreed to take her on as a student. He made this decision because she was Han Sen's biological sister and Yun Suyi had asked him to multiple times.

Yun Changkong didn't expect Han Yan's power to be as great as her brother's, but since she was his real sister, he expected something more. He had high expectations, to say the least. Even if a thousand gourds didn't move, she should have at least received some holy air.

But right now, it didn't look as if any holy gourd was going to give her holy air. "Although they are both called Han, this one is not Han Sen. Are you disappointed, Elder Yun?" Elder Six was smiling at Yun Changkong as he spoke. Yun Changkong had accepted a foreign student as his own. This was the first exception for an elder to take on someone foreign in Sky Palace. So, Yun Changkong had a lot riding on this.

Many people in Sky Palace were discussing these proceedings, and many whispers regarded Yun Changkong's petty attempts to please Han Sen. It damaged Sky Palace Leader's image, by extension. Many weren't happy with what Yun Changkong had done.

Elder Six had spoken in a mocking tone.

Of course, it made sense that the other elders were feeling rather sour. Many elders in Sky Palace wanted to build a relationship with Han Sen, but none of them were as close with him as those of the Yun family. When they heard that Yun Changkong had snatched Han Yan as a student, they didn't take the news well.

Han Sen's blessing powers alone made many people want to befriend him, and that wasn't to mention his ownership of the Charming God's Jian and the Shield of the Medusa's Gaze. Everyone wanted the best students possible, and if they had a few deifieds, their reputation would shift. How many deifieds did Sky Palace have? And how many could become primitive deified in the future? That rank alone was enough for someone to become famous.

Exquisite had watched Han Yan walk over half of Sky Path, and not a single gourd had moved to provide her with something. This disappointed her immensely.

Exquisite's knowledge of the gourds was that if a person had an eight armor talent or above, quite a few holy gourds of the same element would give out holy air. She hadn't received any holy air, though. And that meant her talent had to be below eight armor.

If Han Sen's sister had only ordinary talent, then it didn't matter how much the big brother mutated; there was no way he had an eleven armor talent.

Seeing that Han Yan was just about to finish Sky Path with no result, Han Sen thought it was a shame that Bao'er hadn't been allowed to join her. Han Yan didn't have a chance to absorb the holy air of a thousand gourds.

But this result didn't surprise Han Sen. After all, no holy gourd had given him holy air when he walked it alone. It was only because Bao'er was there the second time that he received something. She had been the reason that all the gourds released holy air for him.

He had expected that the gourds might refuse to grant Han Yan anything.

Han Yan's expression remained impassive. She walked all of the way to the end of Sky Path, ready to leave the holy gourds.

But then, Han Yan suddenly stopped. At the end of the holy vine, she looked back at the holy gourds on both sides.

Chapter 2613 Trying

Han Yan looked at the holy gourds hanging behind her. She hadn't expected to be the recipient of the thousand holy airs that were bestowed upon Bao'er, but it came as a surprise that not a single holy gourd had given her a holy air. It made her feel sick.

"I told my big brother that I wouldn't disappoint him, but I haven't even received a single holy gourd air. I have embarrassed my big brother. The people of Sky Palace will laugh at him." Han Yan looked at the gourds, trying to decide if she should do something more to prompt the activation of at least one gourd's holy air.

Han Yan didn't feel this way because she didn't understand Han Sen; it was because her living environment was different. Han Sen had grown up with danger, and he had led a very rough and tumble life. He never really cared about how people perceived him. He valued his own safety and the benefits he earned for himself more than other peoples' opinions.

But Han Yan was different. Han Yan had never suffered before. Even in the hardest times of the Han family, Han Yan had been doted on by Luolan. Luolan expected boys to take care of themselves, but she made sure to spoil her girls. So, Han Sen and Han Yan's personalities were bound to be different.

And when Han Sen became famous, Han Yan's childhood became even more advantageous. When she went to school, she went to a royal school. Her performance there was exemplary, marking her as the best in the school. She was the smartest out of all the girls in her classes.

Of course, Han Yan had earned that distinction through her own talent. Family support only played a small part.

Han Sen and Luolan had put a lot of effort into guiding Han Yan, and while she appreciated their efforts, it had put a lot of pressure on her. It made Han Yan feel that if she wasn't good enough, she would disappoint her big brother and mother after all the time they spent on her. So, Han Yan always worked as hard as possible to make herself the best could be. She wanted to be just like her brother.

The more Han Sen achieved, the more pressure Han Yan felt. Her workload increased, and so did her drive.

Now, she had taken her first steps into Sky Palace without receiving a single holy gourd air. She felt at that moment that if she gave up without trying, she would be betraying the effort and expectations of Han Sen and Luolan.

Han Sen had never felt that way about his sister, though. Not for a single moment. More than anything, he wanted Han Yan to be happy. Her success didn't matter at all to him.

Han Sen felt the same way about all the members of his family; he only wanted them to be safe and happy. He hoped no disaster would befall them and that they would be kind to the world in return. That was his wish.

Han Yan seemed to think of something. She turned to face one of the holy vine's gourds and moved toward it.

The nobles of Sky Palace looked at Han Yan strangely. They didn't know what she was planning to do at first, but to their horror, they soon understood.

They saw Han Yan walk toward a gourd that was twenty centimeters tall. She grabbed it with both hands and tried to pull it down.

Blergh! Sky Palace Leader spat out the tea he was drinking. Amidst wheezy coughs, he said, "What kind of family is this? Bao'er drained the holy vine, and now this Han Yan is rude enough to try and mug the gourds!" Sky Palace didn't have a law that prohibited people from touching the holy gourds, but anyone with a brain knew that the holy gourd vine was a deified xenogeneic plant. You couldn't gain the holy air by force. Unless the holy gourd was willing to give the holy air away, not even a deified elite could remove it by force. And Han Yan was just a Duke.

Han Yan's idea was simple. If there were no rules to keep her from touching the holy gourd, she at least wanted to try it and see if it worked. She wouldn't know unless she tried. She didn't want to disappoint Han Sen, so she had to give it a shot even if her chances of success were incredibly low.

The Sky Palace students stared at Han Yan as she focused an intense gaze on the gourd in her hands. It looked as if she wanted to yank the gourd right off the vine.

"She ... really is a family member of Brother Han. She is brave."

"This is very creative. I like Sister Han, but she should give up. She is just a Duke. If the gourd got mad, she wouldn't be able to endure its wrath."

"This woman is crazy! She wants to take a holy gourd with her."

"She is as brave as her big brother, but neither of them has a brain."

"What a shame. She has a lovely body. With her beauty and her relationship to Han Sen, she could have become a goddess in Sky Palace. Now, everyone knows that her brain is bad. She can't be a goddess. She will be recognized as a crazy woman for sure."

Even Exquisite stared at Han Yan with a strained look on her face. She had never seen anything like this before, either.

The Sixth Elder was happy about this. He laughed out loud and was unable to control himself. He looked at Yun Changkong and said, "Elder Yun, my brother, congratulations. You have an excellent student. I have heard she is your exclusive student. It is good that you have this student. She won't let go of anything." Yun Changkong's wry smile had frozen on his face as he watched Han Yan move to clutch the holy gourd.

"The Han family... who are these people?" Yun Changkong's mind had gone blank except for this small question.

The Dream Beast was near a lake. He saw all this, and his eyes smiled like a moon.

Yun Suyi and Yun Sushang, and all the others that were close with Han Sen, stood as still as statues. Sky Palace had a long history, and across those annals of time, very few had ever dared to try what Han Yan was doing.

Han Yan didn't care about what others thought. She held onto that holy gourd and tried yanking it down.

But the holy gourd was a deified xenogeneic plant. It was a treasure of Sky Palace. Not even ordinary deifieds could harm it. Han Yan's strength was ant-like by comparison. It didn't matter how hard she tried, the gourd would not budge. Han Yan noticed she wasn't able to pull it down, but she refused to give up so easily. She used her super god body, wanting to try her best. Even if it didn't work, at least she could say she tried. No regrets.

Thousand Feather Crane cleared his throat. "Brother Han, it is almost time. Lead your sister to Sky Palace."

He hoped Han Sen could convince Han Yan to stop yanking on the holy vine. He just didn't know how to tell her himself.

Han Sen hadn't expected Han Yan to try something like this. He was as surprised as all the rest, but he still pretended to be calm. He said, "It is fine. It's good when young people come up with ideas like this. Let her carry on."

Han Sen wouldn't undercut anything that Han Yan had decided to do. If the rules of Sky Palace didn't forbid her from trying to touch the holy gourd, then he certainly wouldn't stop her.

As this happened, Han Yan's body changed. Her long black hair became a black crystal waterfall. It reached all the way down to her feet. Her eyes were like black gemstones. Her whole body swirled with a mysterious, holy air.

Chapter 2614 Picking a Holy Gourd

Upon seeing this, many Sky Palace elites frowned. Although Sky Path wouldn't allow anyone to use their powers, provoking the holy vine like that wasn't a good thing. If Han Yan made the holy vine mad, it wouldn't go well for her.

Sky Palace Leader felt a headache coming on. "Why must the Han family always be like this? Don't they have a decent leader to instill good behavior into them? This girl is going to be an enormous pain in the *ss for Old Ten." Yun Changkong's face was conflicted. Before today, he never thought that he would end up taking someone like this as his only student. He didn't know if he should cry or laugh at the sight.

Sixth Elder was laughing so hard, and he said, "This Han Yan... is so interesting... Old Ten, you are going to be in a lot of trouble!"

Then, the Sixth Elder's laughter stopped abruptly. He was still smiling, but his features seemed to have frozen in place. His eyes were wide.

His face had changed expression so fast that laughter and shock occupied his expression at the same time. It made the Sixth Elder look very weird. Yun Changkong was about to reply to the Sixth Elder, but when he saw the other man's horrified expression, he spun back to look at the holy gourd.
When his eyes found the holy gourd, Yun Changkong felt like his heart stopped. His eyes bulged slightly as he stared in disbelief.

The two elders weren't the only ones who were shocked. The whole of Sky Palace had fallen quiet.

A teacup hung forgotten from Sky Palace Leader's fingers. He had been about to take a sip when his entire body grew still. His face looked as if he had laid eyes on a ghost.

Han Yan still held the gourd in her hands. A thin stem had once connected the gourd to the vine, but now, that stem was broken. Han Yan had managed to pick the gourd off the vine.

The nobles of Sky Palace were shocked. They didn't believe what they were seeing. They had never dreamed that the gourds could be picked like this.

Over the history of Sky Palace, a few people had attempted to pick a gourd from the vine. None of them had been ordinary students, though; they were deified elites.

And those deified elites hadn't merely been trying to obtain some holy air like Han Yan was. They wanted the vines and the gourds to craft deified treasures.

It was impossible to tear a gourd loose by force. Even if the Sky Palace Leader wanted a holy gourd, he needed to perform a special ritual and provide treasures that would provide energy to the holy vine. If the holy vine was in a good mood, it might give out a holy gourd.

At that time, Sky Palace had seventeen treasures made from holy gourds. They were all deified weapons. The most powerful holy gourd treasure was a scary butterfly level weapon.

Of course, some holy gourds had failed when the Sky tried to shape them into weapons. They weren't included in this number.

But everyone knew, regardless of all that, that the holy vine was a terrifying being. Even though Sky Palace had many deifieds, none of them would dare to mistreat it. Forcing a holy gourd off the vine had only been accomplished by two people in the entire history of Sky Palace.

However, Han Yan was just a Duke. She hadn't sacrificed anything in the vine's honor; she had just lackadaisically collected the gourd from the vine. It was very hard to believe. Everyone looked at Han Yan like she was insane.

Han Yan was so happy. And she thought to herself, "It looks like you really can take a holy gourd from this vine. If the holy gourd has holy air, I must take it back with me to research. I won't be able to open the gourd now, but after I become stronger, I'll find a way to break open the gourd and collect the holy air within."

"Right. I have heard each person can only walk across Sky Path once. Let me get one for Big Brother and another one for Bao'er," Han Yan thought to herself. She put the gourd in her bag and looked at the small gourds next to her.

Han Yan was worried that if she tried to pick a gourd that was too big, she might not be able to collect it. So, she took the small ones instead.

"What is she doing?" Sky Palace Leader stared at Han Yan with worried eyes. He felt terrible. He almost leaped out of his seat when he saw Han Yan reach for an additional gourd.

As Han Yan reached out and picked another gourd off the vine, she said to herself, "One for Big Brother. One for Bao'er. One for Meng'er. And one for our princess Ling'er. Oh, and one for Littleflower."

The holy gourds, which not even deifieds could harm, were plucked one by one. Han Yan collected them from the vine like she was picking grapes. She picked three or four. And after this, Sky Palace Leader's eyes turned green.

The elders, butlers, officers, and ordinary students of Sky Palace were all dumbfounded. They couldn't speak. They watched with gaping mouths as Han Yan in her super god spirit body picked the gourds off the vine.

"This... this... How is this possible? Why is the vine not reacting to her? How can it allow a Duke to collect its holy gourds..." The Sixth Elder rubbed his eyes hard. He thought his eyes were playing tricks on him, and he had been struck with some foul hallucination.

Yun Changkong turned back to the Sixth Elder. His heart was screaming with joy. He tried to play it cool, but his lips were still curled up at the edges. Everyone knew he was trying to hold in his laughter. "Brother Sixth, my student is quite foolish. She couldn't even get a holy gourd air on Sky Path, so she had to go and pick it up for herself. That is really silly... Hahaha!" After saying that, Yun Changkong began to laugh until tears rolled down his face.

A holy gourd could be used as the base for a deified weapon. The process of crafting such a weapon often failed, and other rare materials were required to supplement it, but a holy gourd was priced equally with a primitive deified xenogeneic gene. Seeing Han Yan pick up the fourth gourd and place it in her satchel, Sky Palace Leader found himself incapable of sitting still any longer. He got up and spoke aloud.

"Han Yan... hurry up and enter the Sky Palace Door. Stop loitering!" a voice boomed and echoed across Sky Palace. It was only in Han Yan's ear, though. No others could hear it.

Han Yan was a smart person. When she heard that, she knew she wouldn't be allowed to collect any more gourds. She felt that was quite a shame, and she thought to herself, "I didn't get one for Littleflower."

But Han Yan didn't remain by the vine any longer. She took her bag of gourds and left Sky Path. She headed to the Sky Palace Door.

"Were my eyes playing tricks on me? I think Han Yan took four holy gourds," one student asked with great confusion. He looked as if he had just woken up from a deep slumber.

"I thought I saw that, too."

"It must be Brother Han's sister. I want to know if he would like a brother-in-law."

"The women of the Han family are scarier than Brother Han. His daughter made the gourds shiver, and his sister was able to just grab them off the vine."

"That was so weird. Why do the holy gourds treat the Han family so nicely? The vine let Han Yan collect the holy gourds without reacting at all."

"This family... All of them are so strong!" "Are you stupid? If the holy vine wasn't willing to let the gourds go, do you think a Duke could have picked them?"

"I don't know about all the other ramifications of what just happened, but I do know that Sister Han earned a lot. Four holy gourds can make four deified weapons."

"Uncle Han, please take me..."

Chapter 2615 Exploding Minds

"Why didn't I think about collecting some gourds before I left the Sky Path?" Han Sen thought with regret. There would be far more than a single holy air in every gourd. He would have been rich if he had collected a bunch of them.

While Han Sen was regretting his oversight, Han Yan had reached the stone stairs that led up to Sky Palace. The words "Sky Palace" were shining brightly, and the sensation was so overwhelming that it was rather intimidating. It felt suppressive.

Dukes weren't the only ones who would feel the strain of those words. Even a King class elite would feel the suppression if they began ascending those stairs. Most Kings wouldn't dare to lift their heads long enough to do more than glance at those words.

Many of Sky Palace's nobles were eager to see how Han Yan fared on her ascent of the stone stairs of Sky Road. Han Yan's performance on the Sky Path had surprised all of Sky Palace. They were eager to see how she would perform in her ascent of the stone stairs of Sky Road.

"There is no doubt now that she is Han Sen's biological sister. She is so strong!"

"Did you forget what happened when Brother Han ascended the stairs? He had to be carried. I don't know if his sister will experience the same thing or not."

"Brother Han was carried because he understood the two words of Sky Palace and what they meant. It wasn't because he was weak."

"Do you think Sister Han will understand the two words of Sky Palace and their meaning as well?"

"She collected the gourds like she was picking apples. She took four of them. Understanding the meaning of two words won't be as difficult as taking those gourds." "Yeah, I think so, too. The crystallizers are likely to become significant once again, with this Han family backing them up."

As everyone discussed this, Han Yan reached the stone stairs of Sky Road. Han Sen, Yun Suyi, and Thousand Feather Crane stood outside the stone stairs. If something happened to Han Yan, they could step in and save her.

Han Sen wasn't worried about Han Yan being crushed under the two words of Sky Palace. He was worried she would end up like him, understanding the meaning behind the words and allowing them into her body. If she failed, as her big brother, he would have to carry her up the rest of the way. It wouldn't be appropriate for anyone else to do that.

In regards to Han Yan's talent, Han Sen was very confident. Han Sen thought his family had many people whose talent exceeded his own. He only surpassed them through his effort and determination. That was why he could do things others could not. It had nothing to do with talent.

Of course, luck also played a part in it all.

When Han Yan began to ascend the stone stairs of the Sky Road, she quickly felt the pressure of the words. She slowed under the sudden weight and had to lower her head.

"I'm not just representing myself here. I'm representing my brother. I cannot lower my head while I walk up to Sky Palace." With that thought, Han Yan's mind exploded forcefully outward. She tried to fight back against the two words of Sky Palace.

But those two words carried deified power. She couldn't force them back. The more she fought, the more pressure was applied. Her neck bone almost broke.

Her super god body opened again. A weird power covered Han Yan once more, sending her into King Release Sky mode. Han Sen didn't know much about Han Yan's super god body King Release Sky. He only knew that it was a Causal-element super god body. And in regards to how powerful King Release Sky was, Han Sen wouldn't be able to tell unless he fought her.

Han Sen had discerned that Han Yan was only able to collect the holy gourds because of her super god body, but he wasn't sure exactly how she had done it.

Right now, Han Yan was using her King Release Sky super god body again. Han Sen was paying keen attention, trying to understand precisely why it was so amazing.

Sky Palace Leader saw Han Yan fighting back against the meaning of the two words of Sky Palace. He smiled and spoke to the woman next to him. "She is still young."

"Everyone was young at some point," the woman said tersely. "Being reckless at such a young age isn't a bad thing. Sometimes, young people need that kind of drive."

Sky Palace Leader laughed and said nothing. He could tell that the woman's expression hadn't changed, but anyone who understood her could tell from the corners of her eyes that she admired what Han Yan was doing. As they spoke, Han Yan was being suppressed by the meaning of the two words of Sky Palace. Then, she suddenly straightened out her neck and body. She stared forward and continued walking toward the door of Sky Palace.

The elites of Sky Palace were all confused, wondering why the meaning of the two words of Sky Palace now seemed to be ineffective.

"No way! The meaning of the two words of Sky Palace only affects people and creatures the first time they ascend the stone stairs. It loses its effect the second time, but this is Han Yan's first time. Why isn't it working?" Sixth Elder looked confused. Something was wrong. "No, it worked in the beginning, but then it suddenly stopped. What kind of geno art does Han Yan possess to be so amazing?"

"Brother Sixth, stop blabbering these questions. It would be weird for the biological sister of a guy like Han Sen to be completely ordinary," Yun Changkong gently reprimanded the Sixth Elder. His quiet smile spoke for itself.

Yun Changkong had agreed to take Han Yan at the behest of Han Sen and Yun Suyi. He hadn't expected that Han Yan would already be so impressive. He felt as if he had just won some sort of student lottery.

Han Yan quietly walked up the stone stairs, and as she did, the others of Sky Palace thought something was amiss. They were quick to realize that the meaning of the two words of Sky Palace hadn't lost its effectiveness. It was working, and it was now becoming stronger. As this happened, the words shone. If the Sky Palace students looked closer, they could see that it wasn't real light. The brightness they saw was the waves of a mind that was too strong. It manifested as a physical light, shimmering with power.

The higher Han Yan went, the brighter the mind powering the two words became. It was such a powerful mind. Only deified beings could trigger it while they walked Sky Road. But Han Yan was just a Duke, and she was already able to trigger the meaning of the words to such a capacity. That was surprising.

Even more frightening was the fact that such a powerful mind was still proving to be ineffective against Han Yan.

The mind was like a moonlit spring. Han Yan ascended the stone stairs dressed in all white, like a fairy bathing in moonlight. Her black hair floated in the shimmering moonlight behind her. Many of the young students of Sky Palace couldn't take their eyes off her.

"I'm in love..." a male student said. He stared at Han Yan longingly, while clutching his chest. He almost had stars in his eyes.

"She is a true fairy." Many of the eyes of young Sky Palace students gleamed like hungry wolves.

As this happened, Han Yan slowly walked beneath the pressure of the meaning of the two words of the Sky Palace plaque. She had finished her ascent of the stone stairs. According to the past experience of the Sky, the power of the mind behind the words would now be reduced.

But this time, Sky Palace's two-word mind did not reduce. It exploded like a volcano.

Chapter 2616 White Elephant

As everyone watched in confusion, the meaning of the two words of Sky Palace exploded, and something flew out into the air.

"What is that?" Han Sen was shocked. He looked at Yun Suyi, never having heard of anything like this happening before.

"I... I don't know..." Yun Suyi was just as stunned as the rest. She had never heard of a physical item emerging from the sign that held the words of Sky Palace.

All the rest of the Sky were amazed, as well. The last thing they had expected was for an object to fly out of that sign. They stared at it blankly.

The thing that flew out of the sign looked like an elephant. It was white like jade, but only one foot long. The elephant's tusks appeared to be made of crystal.

Everyone looked at that small elephant in befuddlement. They had no idea why it had suddenly appeared there.

The defensive systems of Sky Palace were rock-solid. It would be impossible for them to be unaware of a xenogeneic hiding out inside that big sign.

The small white elephant flew over until it was right in front of Han Yan. It then expanded, growing to the size of a mammoth.

Strangely, after the white elephant appeared, the meaning behind the two words of Sky Palace disappeared. The sign went back to normal.

The white elephant reached out its trunk and wrapped it around Han Yan's body.

Han Sen's muscles tensed. He thought the white elephant was going to harm his sister, and he leaped forward. After he took a step forward, though, he realized that the white elephant was just lifting her up to sit on its back.

Once Han Yan was astride its back, the white elephant turned around and headed deeper into Sky Palace.

Seeing that the elephant wasn't a threat, Han Sen felt instantly relieved. But still, he made sure to follow closely behind them. Many Sky elders also hurried forward to examine the strange white elephant as it walked farther into Sky Palace.

It was so weird. No one had known that the Sky Palace sign had a white elephant hiding out in it. The situation was so odd that it was hard to believe.

Even Sky Palace Leader came down for a closer look. He ransacked his mind for an explanation of where the white elephant had come from, but he couldn't come up with one.

Just by feeling the white elephant's presence, he could tell that it was a deified creature. A deified creature had been hiding out in that sign, and no one in Sky Palace had known. That was simply embarrassing for the other deifieds inside Sky Palace.

But they knew immediately that the white elephant must have a long history with Sky Palace, so no one tried to attack it. They followed the white elephant, keen to see what it might do.

"Mister Leader, what is this White Elephant?" Han Sen was still worried about Han Yan, and so he asked Sky Palace Leader once the man arrived.

"Don't worry. I will assure her safety. I won't allow her to get hurt," Sky Palace Leader said as he continued to walk.

When Han Sen heard him say that, he relaxed a little, but he still didn't feel calm. He felt even more worried. That was because it sounded as if not even Sky Palace Leader understood what the white elephant was and where it had come from.

Although this entire scenario sounded a bit unbelievable-in which a deified creature had resided in Sky Palace without anyone knowing about its existence—this was actually happening.

Han Sen gritted his teeth and followed the white elephant. The white elephant showed no sign of being hostile, though. And it was moving forward at a rather slow pace. Han Yan looked down, observing her mount quizzically. While she was surprised to find herself atop its back, she hadn't been hurt in any way.

"Little Yan, are you okay?" Han Sen asked as he followed the white elephant.

"I'm okay. Is this some sort of induction ceremony for Sky Palace?" Han Yan asked with curiosity.

"Can you get off its back?" Han Sen asked.

"Yes. Do you want me to come down?" Han Yan asked.

"Yes, come down for now," Han Sen said.

Han Yan flew off of the white elephant's back. But as soon as she broke contact with the creature, the white elephant's trunk snatched her and made her sit down again.

The white elephant didn't hurt her, however. It placed her down gently and resumed its walk.

"Let her sit there for now. I promise not an ounce of harm will befall a single hair on her pretty head," Sky Palace Leader said with a squint of his eyes.

A white elephant had flown out of the Sky Palace sign. That was mysterious, to say the least. All of the Sky Palace students thought this was amazing, and they were curious about what the white elephant was.

But most of the students were eventually stopped and prohibited from following the white elephant. Only the elders and other leaders of Sky Palace were allowed to follow beyond that point.

The white elephant carried Han Yan through the Sky Palace hall. Then, they came to the gardens of Sky Palace.

This was where the rulers of Sky Palace had lived down through history. Now, it belonged to the man who was walking next to Han Sen. Ordinary people weren't permitted entry.

Han Sen and the others followed the white elephant in. It was like a natural garden, with mountains and the smell of grass. It was like a fairy's grove. Rare xenogeneic plants were scattered about here and there. Just the sight of them made Han Sen want to get out his knife and start cutting

The big white elephant carried Han Yan to the back of the garden. They went to a wall with a small pond beside it. The wall had two words that were roughly engraved: "Outer Sky."

Those two words were jaggedly carved. Even though Han Sen didn't know much about calligraphy, he knew those words had been written by a young man.

But how could a young man have made an inscription in this place? That was where the rulers of Sky Palace rested. Other people weren't permitted entry, and they surely couldn't leave evidence of their presence.

The white elephant walked in front of the mountain wall, then lowered its trunk into the water. As the water swirled around its trunk, the elephant seemed to be feeling around for something.

Everyone looked at the big white elephant, having no idea what it was doing. After a while, the white elephant lifted its trunk from the water. It was holding something. The object was a box made of jade, and it was a foot long. The onlookers glanced at each other, unsure what the appearance of this random box signified.

Sky Palace Leader looked at the jade box and frowned. He had an idea of what the box might be, but he wasn't sure.

The white elephant lifted its trunk and passed the jade box to Han Yan. And then, it lay down next to the pond and closed its eyes. It looked as if it had gone to sleep.

"Han Yan, come over here," Sky Palace Leader said to Han Yan, who had just received that box.

Han Yan saw Han Sen nodding. So, she got off of the white elephant. This time, the white elephant didn't respond. It allowed Han Yan to move away with the box in her hands.

"Open the box," Sky Palace Leader told Han Yan.

"Palace Leader, will there be danger inside the jade box?" Han Sen asked worriedly.

"No." Sky Palace Leader shook his head, a strange expression on his face.

"Is this..." Yun Changkong's face changed. He seemed to come to a realization, and he looked at the jade box in astonishment.

Chapter 2617 Sword Given to the Luckiest Person

Sky Palace Leader nodded to the Tenth Elder. "If I'm correct, then it is what you're thinking. I cannot believe it was in Sky Palace all along. It was right under my nose."

"This... is it possible?" Yun Changkong's voice trembled. He stared at Han Yan's jade box.

The jade box gleamed in the light. There weren't many adornments or engravings on it; it was a simple box, with no markings or patterns to identify it. Many Sky Palace elites wouldn't have been able to tell what it was.

"Old Yun, you should explain what is inside that jade box," the Sixth Elder couldn't help but ask.

Yun Changkong looked at Sky Palace Leader, who nodded. Yun Changkong's expression was difficult to read as he said, "You guys know about the Eleventh Leader, right?"

"Yes. The Eleventh Leader was a Sky Palace genius. Everyone knows about him. He was the strongest elite in Sky Palace that entered the geno hall." Sixth Elder rolled his eyes, but then his eyes widened and his face lost its color. "Is this jade box related to the Eleventh Leader?"

Yun Changkong nodded and said, "You guys should remember the records that were created before the Eleventh Leader went into the geno hall. He left behind words."

"The sword that will go to the luckiest person!" many elders shouted at the same moment. Everyone's eyes opened wide. They stared at the jade box Han Yan was holding.

Yun Changkong nodded solemnly. "The Eleventh Leader's sword skills were so fierce. He was like a god. He was a swordmaster from a family of swordsmen, and his talents brought him great strength. The Eleventh Leader's sword skills were remarkable, even from a young age. He practiced with swords at the age of three years old. His swordmind reached the level of deified before he was twenty years old. He became the leader of Sky Palace before he was deified. When our race was in crisis, he destroyed traitors and battled enemies. Back then, even all the deified elders listened to him so they could make Sky Palace the best it could be. We have been stable for a billion years because of him. Referring to his lifetime as the Sky's 'Golden Age' isn't even enough to describe him. He was the one who left the inscription near Sky Pond that reads 'Outer Sky.""

"Special people do special things. The Eleventh Leader's sword skills weren't passed on to anyone else in Sky Palace. He didn't educate a single student. Before he went to the geno hall, he said, 'Fate will search the universe, and the sword will be given to the luckiest person.' But no one has ever figured out who that luckiest person might be. Until now, no one has found any sign of the Eleventh Leader's sword skills. But people always knew he left his sword around somewhere. Many people have searched for that treasure across the universe, but they always came up empty-handed," Yun Changkong said. He stared at Han Yan's jade box. "How do you know the jade box contains the Eleventh Leader's sword skills?" the Sixth Elder asked with confusion.

Yun Changkong had a wry smile as he answered, "This jade box is made from Outer World Jade. It only exists in Sky Palace. It is so rare that no one else could have this much of it. Even if someone had some, they wouldn't come here and drop their Outer World Jade in the Sky Pond. Aside from our leaders, who else could do this?"

"There have been many leaders here over the years. How do you know this belongs to the Eleventh Leader?" the Sixth Elder asked. He was still confused.

Yun Changkong pointed at the white elephant who was fast asleep near the Sky Pond. "Don't you remember what the Eleventh Leader's mount was?"

"I have heard it was a Hitting Sky Elephant... but I thought the Hitting Sky Elephant disappeared when the Eleventh Leader went to the geno hall." When he realized what he was saying, the Sixth Elder trailed off in astonishment. His eyes opened wide as he looked at Han Yan's jade box. He screamed, "Is that really the Eleventh Leader's sword skill?"

"We should open it and find out," Sky Palace Leader said.

"Let me open it," the Sixth Elder said merrily. He walked close to Han Yan and tried to grab the box.

Before his hands could even touch the jade box, he felt a strong power come from behind. It sucked him backward.

Pang!

The Sixth Elder flew back through the air and slammed into the stone inscribed with the words Outer Sky. His face was almost crushed against the hard surface.

The white elephant near the pond had only moved his nose an inch. He didn't open his eyes. He was still sleeping.

When Yun Changkong saw the other elder's shaken expression, he chuckled and said, "Brother Six, you are in too much of a rush. Think about the Eleventh Leader's personality. He wouldn't allow just anyone to open his box."

The Sixth Elder stood up slowly, wincing in pain as he moved. He stared at the white elephant, but he didn't make any aggressive moves.

If the white elephant was the Eleventh Leader's mount, it would be stronger than a normal deified creature.

"Han Yan, open the box," Sky Palace Leader told Han Yan.

Han Yan looked at Han Sen, and Han Sen nodded for her to do as she was told. Han Yan felt as if she had gotten quite lucky. This seemed to be a very rare opportunity that she had received, and maybe the

Eleventh Leader had left behind great resources. If that was true, perhaps she wouldn't have to struggle so much to level up.

Han Yan held the jade box. It wasn't locked, so she lifted the lid and opened the jade box. A shadow flew out. It was in the shape of a gentleman.

His age would be difficult to guess, but he appeared to be rather young. He gave off an aura of someone who carried a great burden, however.

"It looks like you guys never thought I'd leave this behind at the bottom of Sky Pond. But don't worry. After all, you guys are my descendants. I wouldn't expect you to guess how my mind worked. Right now, whoever is in charge of Sky Palace needs to listen to me. The luckiest person, the person the white elephant selected, is the one who will receive my sword skills. Only that person can get what is inside this box. If anyone goes against this will of mine, bad luck will fall upon them. It is quite funny... I bet many creatures are looking all over the universe for this. I wonder which of the Sky was this lucky..." After saying that, the shadow disappeared. No one knew where it went.

Sky Palace Leader and the others looked strange. The legends said that the Eleventh Leader was a very heroic and smart man. They did not expect him to be such a... well, such a kid. It looked like he was quite the prankster.

"Old Elder, you are so unreliable. The white elephant chose a person who wasn't even one of the Sky. She is just a foreign student." Sky Palace Leader felt so depressed that he didn't know what to say.

According to the Eleventh Leader's words, the sword skills had to be given to Han Yan. The most secret skills of Sky Palace were about to be hers. If they didn't give the skills to her, that would mean they were betraying the will and direction of the Eleventh Leader. That decision would reflect poorly upon them.

The most important thing, however, was the fact that the Eleventh Leader's mount was still there. The white elephant was bound to intervene if they tried to take the knowledge away from Han Yan.

All the elders of Sky Palace looked confused. None of them said a word.

Chapter 2618 Taking a Student for Teaching

In an office of Sky Palace, a collection of elders, officers, and other high-class people were discussing the events with great excitement.

"We're talking about the Eleventh Leader's sword skill, here. It is one of Sky Palace's secret techniques. After being buried for all these years, it has finally been revealed. It should be a part of Sky Palace's armory. We can't allow an outsider to claim it. The one who got it was a foreign student, after all."

"But you're wrong. The Eleventh Elder left this request. How could we disobey his final wish?"

"This only happened because he was too old to understand that the white elephant might unwittingly select an outsider. A foreign student, no less!" The high-class people of Sky Palace had split into three different camps. One camp suggested putting the sword skill into Sky Palace's list of secret skills, where only the truly important figures of the Sky could view

Another camp believed they should honor the final command of the Eleventh Leader and allow Han Yan to practice the sword skill she had been given. The final group wanted to take the Eleventh Leader's sword skill to a place where they could research it. They wanted to modify it so all of Sky Palace's students could practice it.

"Leader, please say something." The Sixth Elder supported the group that wished to take the sword skill and put it on the restricted list. After the Sixth Elder spoke, everyone realized that Sky Palace Leader had yet to say anything in the discussion.

Sky Palace Leader said coldly, "There is no need to discuss this."

"What do you mean, Leader?" Sky Chance Officer asked Sky Palace Leader with confusion.

Sky Palace Leader looked at him. Then, he turned his gaze back to everyone else who was present. "It doesn't matter what decision we make if we can't get our hands on the sword skill, does it?"

"Why could we not get it? We can ask Han Yan to present it to us. Would she dare not to? It belongs to Sky Palace, and if you want to take it back, then we would be totally within our rights," Sky Chance Officer said flatly.

"You really think that would be an acceptable course of action? Yes, you are technically correct. But it sounds to me like you're not giving any consideration to the Eleventh Leader and his request," Yun Changkong said mockingly.

"I would never insult the Eleventh Leader... However, I don't think the Eleventh Leader expected that he would end up handing over his skill to someone who wasn't even a Sky. We are merely fulfilling our responsibility as leaders of our people. I am sure that his spirit in heaven would agree with our decision," Sky Chance Officer said confidently.

Sky Palace Leader squinted, smiled, and said, "Sky Chance Officer is correct. We could argue that we were merely using our authority, but clearly, the Eleventh Leader knew we would want to take advantage of this situation. He sent his mount Hitting Sky Elephant to protect the skill and prevent young ones like us from stealing it under the guise of protecting our people. Do you have another plan to sort this out that involves the use of our authority?"

"If... if Han Yan is willing to hand it over, the Hitting Sky Big Elephant shouldn't..." Sky Chance Officer said, before going quiet. He didn't believe a single word that he was saying. The skill wasn't recorded in text; rather, it had taken the form of a jade sword. The white elephant wouldn't part with the jade sword for a minute. The white elephant didn't care if Han Yan used the sword, but if anyone else came close to it, the Hitting Sky Elephant would attack them. The Sixth Elder was a prime example of what might happen if the white elephant got annoyed.

"The Hitting Sky Elephant is just a low-intelligence xenogeneic. I doubt it knows much. We can trap it and take the jade sword away. How could it stop us then?" an elder said with a hoarse voice. "Seventh Elder, this is Sky Palace. We aren't a den of thieves," Yun Changkong said disparagingly.

"Yun Changkong, don't let this become personal. Han Yan might be your student, but the sword skill is part of the legacy of Sky Palace. It isn't your personal possession..." the Seventh Elder said with a cold grunt.

Yun Changkong was enraged by this, and he said, "What is that supposed to mean?" "You know what I mean. You shouldn't have to ask."

"Changkong, what the Seventh Elder said makes sense. That is how we will settle this matter," Sky Palace Leader said to stop them both from fighting.

"Leader..." Yun Changkong said, looking sick.

"Leader, you are so smart." The Seventh Elder grinned widely.

Sky Palace Leader ignored Yun Changkong's icy stare. He smiled at the Seventh Elder and said, "Since you were the one to suggest this idea, Seventh Elder, please proceed with your plan to trap the Hitting Sky Elephant. Then, bring the jade sword to me."

"Palace Leader, how am I supposed to do it alone? I need you to send some more deifieds with me. I'll need them to trap the creature." The Seventh Elder's face changed. He could tell that the leader's proposal didn't sound right.

"I can't help you with that, I'm afraid," Sky Palace Leader said calmly. "I'm hoping Han Sen can make a few more deifieds to balance out Han Yan's acquisition of the skill, but I can't lend you aid at the same time. You should think of a way. It's your idea; don't you think you can do it? You are eligible for a grand reward if you do." "This..." Seventh Elder's face was turning green. Yun Changkong felt relief flow through him. Sky Palace Leader was protecting Han Yan. Many of the elders and officers who had wanted to take the jade sword by force had suddenly stopped talking.

Sky Palace Leader wanted to protect Han Yan. And with Han Sen's reputation as well, none of them were bold enough to try to get the jade sword by themselves.

By doing so, they would be disobeying the leader's orders and disrespecting Han Sen at the same time. Han Sen would likely never bless them if that occurred. Plus, Han Sen had two true god weapons, and he had drawn the attention of the Very High. He would only continue to gain power as time went by. If they stole things from Han Yan now, they'd be making an enemy of Han Sen.

"I will support whoever gets the sword skill back. If you can truly claim it, then I will reward you handsomely," Sky Palace Leader said while looking at everybody. No one chose to speak.

Han Sen didn't think the matter would be resolved so easily. The people of Sky Palace wouldn't let such an important sword skill land in Han Yan's hands.

But what he expected didn't come to pass. Sky Palace didn't come up with an excuse to take the Eleventh Leader's sword skill for themselves. But Yun Changkong also didn't take Han Yan as a student. Instead, he asked his teacher to be her teacher; in effect, he made Han Yan his little sister. That was another way of saying that she was on the same level as Sky Palace Leader.

After the teacher ceremony, Han Yan's standing in Sky Palace became obscenely high despite her young age. Even Lone Bamboo, when he saw her, would have to refer to her respectfully.

Han Yan had picked holy gourds, received the legendary sword skill, and become a fellow student with Yun Changkong. She instantly became a legend all across Sky Palace. Her reputation exceeded even Lone Bamboo's. Everyone knew Han Sen had an awesome sister.

Of course, what most students were fond of was her appearance.

Many students had discussed the subject of Han Sen potentially blessing her. Perhaps that was why she was so strong at such a young age. That made them want Han Sen's blessing even more.

Chapter 2619 Black King City

On the little jade island, Han Sen, Han Yan, and Bao'er were sitting at a table with four gourds of various sizes laid out across it. They were the four gourds Han Yan had collected from the holy vine.

The three of them had briefly examined the gourds, but they still didn't know how to get the holy air out of them.

"Bao'er, can't you make these things release their holy air?" Han Sen asked, glancing at Bao'er.

Bao'er shook her head. "I could if I was at the vine, but not right now."

"Does that mean retrieving them was pointless, then?" Han Sen felt depressed.

"Stop trying. Once the holy gourds are separated from the holy vine, the holy air inside of them solidifies. They won't release anything." Yun Changkong smiled as he walked over to them. Yun Suyi and Yun Sushang were following behind him.

"Greetings, brother," Han Yan said. She stood up and bowed to Yun Changkong.

"Greetings, auntie..." Yun Suyi and Yun Sushang bowed, as well.

"Why is this so messed up?" Han Sen thought. He bowed to Yun Changkong, too, but only referred to him as Elder Yun.

The Yun sisters said hi to him. They had been close for some time, so there was no need for a great deal of politeness.

After Han Sen instructed them all to take a seat, he had Zero come and pour the tea. Yun Changkong had a sip and then said, "The holy gourds cannot release holy air now that they have been picked. But they are a material that can be used to forge deified treasures. We should conduct a test and learn what elements they are associated with. Then, I will have Sky Chance's department make the treasure for

you. However, making the treasures will still require other materials, and they might be expensive. The process isn't guaranteed to be successful, either. I would wager it to be fifty-fifty."

"What kind of materials will I be needing?" Han Yan asked.

"We won't know that until we test the holy gourds. After we have decided what sort of treasure you want, then we can make a list of the materials that will be required." Yun Changkong smiled and went on to say, "Don't worry about it, little sister. I will pay for the materials in return for your willingness to join us. Please do not object to my insistence. It is settled."

Upon seeing Yun Changkong's certainty, Han Yan didn't turn down his offer.

After chatting for a while, Yun Changkong turned to Han Sen. "Han Sen, have you not been to the five cities?"

"No, not yet." Han Sen shook his head and said, "I wanted to go to the five cities, but a guard told me I need some sort of special

pass."

Yun Changkong pulled out a piece of paper with a black symbol written on it. "The five cities are different from the twelve towers. It is very dangerous there, and the cities are all different from one another. Until you heal, you shouldn't go to the latter four. This is the Black King City spell of the five cities. If you have this, you will be allowed to enter the Black King City. Perhaps it can help you. But remember: you cannot lose the pass if you enter there. And you cannot kill anything inside. Otherwise, you will land in a lot of hot water."

"What is inside the Black King City?" Han Sen asked with curiosity.

"I can't tell you. But you will find out as soon as you go there," Yun Changkong said, waving his hand with a mysterious air.

"This spell can only allow one person inside?" Han Sen asked with more curiosity.

Yun Changkong nodded and said, "In the future, little sister's spell will be handled by Sky Palace Leader. Her level is low now, so it is pointless for her to venture into the five cities. We will need to wait until she is King class. Then she will receive her five cities spell."

Although Han Yan was now Yun Changkong's sister, she was still his student. Yun Changkong was explaining things to Han Yan just like an average instructor would.

With Yun Changkong only being the senior student, the atmosphere was so unnatural. The Yun sisters were very quiet because of it.

Yun Changkong understood why, though. He dropped the info and left, leaving Yun Suyi and Yun Sushang behind.

When only the youngsters remained, the atmosphere became far more relaxed and comfortable. Amidst the liveliness, Han Sen was keen on asking the Yun sisters about the Black King City.

"Father said that our powers are too weak, and we cannot go in yet. That is why we don't know much about the cities. I have heard that Black King City is the safest of all the cities. As long as you keep the spell on your person, and you don't have any intent to kill within you, it shouldn't be too dangerous for you to go to the Black King City." Yun Suyi stopped to think for a moment, then said, "The legends claim that Black King City has many rare treasures in it. Many of the people that entered there came back with grand trophies, but they were never willing to say how they came into possession of them."

The Yun sisters didn't know much about the Black King City, which only made Han Sen even more curious.

The next day, he rode his legless crane to the White Jade Jing. He wanted to see the Black King City so he could see what was so special about it.

Of course, when he reached the gate of the city, Han Sen was stopped by a Sky Palace student.

"Mister Han, I'm so sorry. Without a pass from the leader, no one is allowed to enter the Black King City." That guard had once attended lessons taught by Han Sen, so he was very polite.

"Will this do?" Han Sen took out his pass and handed it over to the guard.

The student inspected it and then let him pass. Before Han Sen went, though, the guard reminded him that he must carry his spell at all times. He couldn't, at any cost, lose the spell.

Han Sen thanked the guard and entered Black King City.

From the outside, the city looked like an ancient place built from black jade. It looked old. It was mysterious and cold.

After entering the Black King City, Han Sen was shocked by what he saw.

He had thought Black King City was a mysterious place, and that there might be dark and dangerous creatures out on the prowl. He at least thought it might look like the White Jade Tower, albeit with the presence of creatures.

But as Han Sen stepped on to the city's main street, he saw that the place was quite populated. It was a town with all sorts of people. There were merchants and farmers. There were even restaurants in which people relaxed and chatted as they ate.

If Han Sen hadn't come in through the clearly defined entrance, he'd have assumed he had gone to the wrong place. This place shouldn't have been called Black King City. It was more like a small town on some underdeveloped planet.

"Peanuts! Walnuts! Pears! Dates!" a seller was barking down the street.

Han Sen could see a farmer leading a cow. There were chickens clucking in cages and dogs barking at one another on the street. Han Sen felt strangely unsettled as he walked down the street. When he was young, not even his home had been this underdeveloped. This was the sort of thing he might have seen in an old movie.

Han Sen looked at the ancient city people around him and noted that they looked very human. They were almost exactly the same as his own people.

"How is this possible? How can there be humans here?" Han Sen mumbled to himself in shock.

They looked exactly like humans. They were different from the Very High, the Sky, and the Extreme King. They did not have the additional features that the other races had. They were practically identical to humans.

"Am I having some sort of hallucination? They cannot be humans," Han Sen thought to himself.

Soon after, though, he realized that what he was seeing couldn't just be some sort of illusion. The beings around him were obviously living humans.

Han Sen wanted to use his Dongxuan Aura to examine them more closely, but he found that his power was all gone. Not a single speck of it remained.

Chapter 2620 Anvil

"What a weird city. It suppresses my power. Although my body is as strong as usual, I don't think I'll be able to any more powers than any ordinary creature can. I'm like an ordinary being now." Han Sen was shocked. He tried activating all kinds of geno arts, but he couldn't find any that were usable in that strange realm.

As Han Sen tried to figure out exactly how his power was being limited, a Sky man approached him and bowed politely. "Brother Han, my name is Bo Qin. I am a tour guide for Black King City."

"Brother Bo Qin, what is going on?" Han Sen asked, looking at the city's civilians. Bo Qin laughed and said, "There is a cafe nearby with excellent tea. Since we're close, let's have a cup of the stuff and discuss the city, shall we? What's going on in Black King City is rather complicated, so it can take a while to explain."

"Yes, please do that, Brother Bo Qin." Han Sen followed Bo Qin to a nearby cafe on a street corner. The two of them sat in a room on the second floor. They could look out across crossroads in front of them, which gave them a view of half the city.

Bo Qin ordered some tea. Han Sen was still partially convinced that the whole city was merely an illusion, but when he took a sip of his tea, he was forced to discard that idea.

The tea had a sweet fragrance, and its taste was just divine. It was definitely not an illusion.

"Don't worry, Brother Han. Black King City is a very real place. It's just different. This dimension only contains this town. The beings here can only live in the city. They live and die here, unable to practice or grow their strength. Furthermore, their lifespan is only a few decades," Bo Qin said with a smile.

"If these people here can never practice, why is the place so dangerous that I need a spell with me at all times?" Han Sen asked, confused.

If things were really as Bo Qing said, then nothing in that place could hurt him. Why would Yun Changkong have warned him so seriously?

"The beings in Black King City are ordinary, but the city itself is not. I believe you have already felt it, in that our power has been restricted. Aside from the strength of our bodies, our powers are lost."

"Even if we only have our physical powers, the beings here cannot hurt us."

Bo Qing nodded and said, "The beings here cannot harm us, but the rules that bind Black King City can. They might even kill us. There are two things you cannot do in Black King City. One is that you cannot lose your Black King spell. The second rule is that you cannot harm the other beings here. It doesn't matter how weak they are; if you hurt them, you will be punished by the rules of Black King City. Even if you're deified, the consequences are dire."

"Then what is the point of us coming here?" Han Sen asked with a frown.

"There is a point. The creatures here are weak, but the stuff in their houses isn't. There are 1987 houses here. Many generations of these people have lived in the same houses. They have treasures in their abodes that hail from eras that are long past. For the beings that live here, never practicing, they are a waste. If we were able to claim them, however, they might have some use. Think about it: there might even be deified treasures just hanging around like easy pickings." Bo Qin paused before going on to say, "But in Black King City, you cannot steal. You cannot rob. You cannot bring harm to the occupants. The people must give you their items willingly. If you violate these terms, Black King City will punish you even if you are deified."

"That is a very strange set of rules... But if the people here don't practice, where can these treasures possibly come from?" Han Sen asked.

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"I don't know. Just like nobody knows why the White Jade Jing exists, no one knows why Black King City operates the way it does and where the people that live here come from. And no one knows how they can keep on living in this small city. All we have to do is try and take the items that we might need," Bo Qin said.

"Can I trade with them?" Han Sen asked.

"Yes, but you cannot force them into an exchange," Bo Qin answered.

Han Sen asked more about the situation involving Black King City, and Bo Qin informed him of what he knew. He made sure to stress the taboos involved with living there.

As Han Sen was readying himself to leave, Bo Qin said, "Remember, Brother Han... We cannot use our powers here. Even if deified treasures are right in front of us, we can't tell what they are without our powers. We can only see what they look like. Sometimes you'll find that you've spent a lot of effort in return for a Baron class piece of junk. That is a frequent occurrence in Black King City. So, be careful what you select. If you find something you like, don't miss out. I sincerely hope you can get a deified treasure." "Thank you for explaining all of this to me, Brother Bo Qin." Han Sen said goodbye and departed the cafe. He hit the streets again.

After walking a few steps, he saw a blacksmith's smithy erupt with sparks. Two shirtless blacksmiths were swinging their hammers, with each strike of the anvil making a ding ding sound.

When Han Sen saw the anvil, his eyes brightened.

The anvil was pitch-black, and it was shaped something like the head of a bull. It was flat on its top and thin near the bottom. It looked quite aged, however. It seemed to be caked in rust, but Han Sen could tell that it wasn't actually rusty. The red color was rising from within the anvil.

The anvil was a platform that the blacksmiths used to hammer iron weaponry. When the iron was pulled out of the fire, they would use hammers to shape the red hot metal atop the anvil.

Han Sen could tell that the anvil was very old. God only knew how many years it had resided in the blacksmith's smithy, but it hadn't yet broken. And there were no dents or markings to testify to its eons of use. He could tell that it was quite a special item. If it hadn't been, there would have been the telling signature of hammer marks and scorched clumps of iron atop it. Not having any marks would be impossible for an ordinary item.

"Is this anvil a treasure? What level is it, I wonder?" Han Sen stood outside the smithy as he leered at the anvil. He couldn't use his powers, so he couldn't discern the rank of the anvil.

"This anvil must be a treasure, I just can't tell what level it is. It might not be too bad. Many Sky Palace students must have wanted that thing through the years, but the blacksmiths that live here cannot do their work without the anvil. So, after all these generations, no blacksmith has been willing to sell or part with the anvil," said a familiar voice behind Han Sen.

Han Sen turned around to see Exquisite next to him. She was robed in white clothing.