RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 51: Watt

Sam observed the state of Sky for sometime before sitting down in contemplation. He observed that the bloodline of the Sky sovereign rock, even though small in quantity it is high in quality. He really didn't want to let the beast die in front of him. The bloodline is the most important thing that is fighting against the fire poison.

After some contemplation, Sam looked towards the boy and bird duo. "What about these guys?"

{Well, Watt is a kid from the slums. His parents are dead when he was an infant and he grew up with a neighbour who took him in. A few years ago, he stumbled up on Falck who is badly injured. He saved him and both of them became friends. I don't know how he does it, but he and Falck communicate quite well. He can understand whatever Falck is saying. He wrote the letter with the help of Falck only.}

Sam walked to him closely and said. "Thanks." Watt just nodded and he is still looking towards the floor. He seemed to be quite timid and shy and Sam's aura is not helping the situation at all.

"How old are you?" Sam asked with a smile.

"Fi-fifteen." Sam immediately got surprised when he heard the answer. This guy didn't get to the later stages of initiation even after one year of awakening. He took Watt's hand into his hand and infused his spiritual energy. He got a clear view of the situation in his body. He seemed to be weak and malnourished. If not for his awakening and this one year of development, he might have been even more lean and weak. His spiritual core doesn't have any problems as he previously thought.

After some thinking on why he wasn't able to cultivate, Sam asked. "Don't you know a cultivation technique?" Even he felt a little ridicule towards his question. After all, even in the rural place like Lava rock village has one or two cultivation techniques for common public, let alone a Count city like Falcon Cliff city. But the answer gave him a surprise.

"N-no. Slum p-people are not a-allowed."

When Sam heard it, he has a new understanding towards this world, that is, it is similar to the modern earth in more ways than he thought. In both worlds, slums are always abandoned unless they have any material value.

"You are a wind elemental mage. Do you know that?" Sam asked as he sized the other party up. He really felt pity for this boy who is almost same age as him. But it was only pity, nothing much. The boy shook his head.

Then a painful growl was heard from behind and Sam turned around only to see Sky waking up and opening his eyes, his expression full of pain. When he finally opened his eyes, Yanwu introduced.

"Sky, this is Sam. The one who made a contract with me." Sky nodded his giant bird head. His brownish black feathers lost all the vigour are almost like the dead ones. Falck and Watt looked at Sky in a fearful manner.

Sam walked towards the Roc and said. "Your body's condition is not good at all. Your cultivation level will be kept on reducing and you will eventually die. Even though, I can divert your energy outside, I can't absorb all of it, even if I tried. Because, me and Yanwu are linked, the burden will be less, but we will take sometime to digest the energy and this will increase the risk of you dying due to the constant fluctuations of fire poison."

Sky looked down in a dejected way. Sam is the last hope for him, because others can't even take on the fire poison even if they recognise it or their cultivation is far higher, because of the weird blood line nature of the Bifang,

an equally powerful and quality bloodline is required to refine it. He already lost his hope when he fled to this place, but his hopes reignited when he saw Yanwu and heard about Sam, now the hopes seemed to be in vain.

Just as the dejection was about to turn into depression and despair, he heard Sam speaking again.

"I have another idea, which might work. But I want your consent, it might be a little painful for you."

Sky looked at Sam again, this time he is hearing with full concentration and was hoping he would hear good news.

"If I take your energy bit by bit, you will have some problem with the fluctuations, So I will try and take as much energy as I can and stay here is seclusion, until I reach the peak of the Acolyte, that is my limit, as I cannot breakthrough directly. After that, your cultivation level would be dropped by a lot and the fire poison which is already depleted by time will also reduce its effect. Then I will use my spiritual core as conversion point to change the nature of the fire spiritual energy into light spiritual energy to heal you. In this process where your organs healing and attacked by the fire energy at same time is extremely painful. That is the reason I am asking for your consent. Trust me, the pain will be much worse than a swift death, I hope you think it through." Sam stood up and said to Yanwu.

"You stay here and take care of him. Don't absorb anymore energy. The fluctuations are making it worse for him. I will be back tomorrow after settling somethings over." Yanwu nodded his head.

Sam then turned over to Watt and asked. How did you come here?" The latter timidly showed a direction. Sam gestured him to lead the way and both of them started walking with Falck following them in the air.

"Do you have any relatives?" Sam asked while walking. Watt just shook his head.

"The neighbour who took you in?"

"She died recently."

"Oh." Sam didn't talk anything else and they finally came out of the woods and entered the slums of the city. The funny thing is that the slums are at the North-eastern corner of the city. Connecting the two most prosperous areas. Sam chuckled at the thought. Suddenly a shrill cry came as Falck fell down. When both of them saw it, there was an arrow pierced into its stomach. Sam wasn't able to sense it because, he didn't feel any ill intent towards him. Watt immediately ran towards it and knelt before the bird. He just shivered all over and didn't know what to do to help his friend. Sam heard some footsteps, then a group of kids of same age as him can be seen running towards them. The boy in the lead has a bow in his hand. He walked towards Falck and kicked Watt away and said.

"This is my hunt. Get your filthy hands away." The boy is late stages of initiation. Even though from his appearance, he seemed to be from slums, he at least fit with body. Watt stood up hurriedly and blocked the way for the group. The group has four people and the three are the lackeys of the guy with bow.

"No, please. He is my friend. Please, leave him alone." Watt spoke a full sentence loudly for the first time. Then he looked at Sam, as if he was pleading for his help. Sam just stood there and didn't say anything nor showed any movement. The boy with the bow noticed Sam and seeing that the other party is neatly dressed and might be stronger than them, he immediately said.

"You don't do anything funny. My brother is a member in Eastern gang. If you do anything to me, he will kill you." He looked at Sam cautiously. Seeing that

Sam didn't have any reaction, he turned towards Watt, who is blocking their way. The four of them started kicking and hitting him. But Watt tried his best to stay still without letting them near Falck. But after some good beating, his legs gave in and he collapsed to the ground. The lackeys were about drag him out of the way, when he suddenly caught one of them with remaining strength and bit the other party's neck. The teeth dug deep and when he pulled out a chunk of meat was pulled out of the other party's body. Both of them collapsed. One with his expression tired and ferocious and blood sprayed all over his face and other face full of pain and lifeless expression. He killed the other party.

The remaining group became terrified at the scene and they took a step back. After a moment, they came out of daze and looked at Watt, who is completely tired and exhausted. The leader of the group immediately aimed an arrow at Watt and just before he released it, a fire ball exploded at his feet, when he saw in the direction it came, he saw Sam aiming at his hand with a smile.

"You guys better go, before I aim right at your heads." Sam said in a cold voice. The three of them immediately got scared and left the scene, even leaving their dead friend there. Sam walked towards Falck and removed the arrow and healed the wound. Then he walked towards Watt, who is almost unconscious and made him sit forcefully. Then he started to heal the latter and asked.

"you feel unfair, don't you?" The latter nodded.

"you feel helpless, don't you?" nodded again.

"you feel angry, don't you?" again nodded.

"you want to punch my face for not helping you, don't you?" Watt nodded.

"That is how life is. You better understand that. Nobody, will f.u.c.k.i.n.g care, if you feel unfair, helpless or angry, because it is none of their f.u.c.k.i.n.g

business how you feel. If it wasn't for the fact, you tried to fight back in the last second, I wouldn't even care about healing your sorry ass.

Everyone in the world is like that. If you need help, you have to ask and pay a price for that. Nobody, will come and help you after they saw your pitiful and pleading looks. You are the only one who can help you without paying any price. So, stop looking for pity and grow some balls and learn how to save your ass yourself, understand?" Sam looked straight in his eyes and said word by word. Then he stood up and said. "You better think it over. This is the first and last time I am doing you this free service. Next time, you have to pay a price and that too you have to ask before." He said and left to his house without turning back.

Watt, just sat there as he mulled over what Sam said. The words are still repeating themselves in his head. He thought of all the fifteen years he lived in this world. What Sam said is true. He was the only one remained for himself to take care of. At most Falck will help him, that's it. He has no one and no one will take care of him. He has to ask for help, if he need it and he has to pay a price for the help he received.

He doesn't care have to care about what others view him as. He doesn't have to wait for the help that will come to him on its own. He can't ask for pity, because he is weak. He looked at the dead body and touched his lips full of blood. His heart became cold and resolute.

'I have to help myself to live and if I can't, I have to pay a price and ask for help.' He thought and looked at the direction where Sam left. He resolutely stood up and along with Falck walked back into the woods.

Sam thought about Watt while he walked back to his mansion. He enjoyed the night view as he walked towards the eastern region of the city. He said those words to Watt, because he was like that before. In his previous life, when he was still a little kid far younger than Watt, he learnt this lesson in much

harsher way than him. That is the day, that changed his life. That is the day he gave himself the same advice he gave to Watt today.

Soon, he came to the Mansion and what awaited him made his mood gloomier.

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Chapter 52: Gloomy mood

When Sam was back at the Mansion, there was no one inside, he searched for them and he found out that all the people are in the yard. When he went there, all of them are looking at something silently.

"What are you guys doing here?" Sam asked as he walked towards them. Everyone looked at him and all of them felt cold sweat on their backs.

Nobody, dared to open their mouth and tell them what happened. When he saw what they are looking, his world seemed to come to a standstill.

There is a pool of blood in the yard, making the green grass turn red and in the centre of the pool, the two panthers lay fainted with their four legs chopped off and the legs are just thrown along with them. Their expressions are filled with pain and despair.

Sam felt his blood run cold. He looked at the two panthers and clenched his fists. Rest of the group all sensed the killing intent emitting from Sam. They felt the air coming to stand still. They can almost smell the blood l.u.s.t from Sam. It is as if he was craving for blood now.

If Sam knew of their thoughts, he would definitely agree, he is really craving to kill and craving for blood now. He never had this much desire to kill, since he came to this world.

The rest of the group, felt suffocating from Sam's aura. It is as if he will cause blood shed at any second. Their legs felt weak as they took a step back slowly.

They expected Sam to get mad, get angry, go berserk and curse at them. But never did they expect that he would be this calm. But this calmness is even more threatening to them, than all the other scenarios. Sam slowly walked to the Panthers bodies and checked their condition.

After confirming that both of them are still alive, Sam placed the legs in the position and started healing one by one. The attacker seemed to have done this recently, their legs are still warm and are in condition to join. The group looked at him nervously. They didn't even dare to ask, since when he can heal. After an hour, Sam completed the healing and carried the panthers one by one carefully to his room and then, he laid a formation and placed all the fire elemental spirit stones left on him to give the panthers time to recover.

He walked out of the room and asked the group. "Who did this?" This is the first sentence he spoke since he saw the scene.

Philip picked up the courage and said in a low voice. "We don't know. Some seemed to be sneaked in to the yard and then did that. We only knew it when we heard the growls." By the end of sentence, Philip's voice almost sounded like a mosquito buzz.

"You guys can go now." Sam said and walked into the room. There he sat down in the connected study and called for the shadow mice. Only four mice came.

"What happened?" Sam asked in gloomy voice.

squeak *squeak* [Boss a guy dressed in black came. His cultivation level is higher than yours. He came like a shadow and left like a shadow. Number 3 followed him to find out intel on him.]. One of the mice spoke. Sam named the mice with numbers from 1 to 10. He dismissed them and waited there patiently. After sometime someone knocked on the door.

Knock *knock*

Sam opened the door and saw Kelly standing there. "Eisen came. He said that he has a message from Principal." She said in a low voice.

Sam didn't reply and just walked out of the room and went downstairs, she hurriedly followed him. Sam saw Eisen sitting in a chair comfortably. He saw Sam's gloomy expression and became smug. His plan succeeded. That is what he thought. When Sam finally came and sat down, he said.

"Principal told me to warn you. With your arrogant attitude, don't piss of every person you meet. There are some people in this world you shouldn't provoke. There would be people who will teach you a lesson. They don't care what status you have." When everyone heard these words, they felt confused, but didn't say anything. But Sam narrowed his eyes and looked at Eisen with a cold gaze. He knew better than anyone else, that Principal wouldn't say anything like that. Because, they are like equals in business and they don't have student and teacher relationship.

There is only possibility and that is Eisen's words are implying something. Eisen didn't know Sam's thoughts. He just wanted to see Sam's gloomy expression and wanted to say those words. But he felt that it would be better to use Principal's name, because he thought that Sam would never confront Principal. But he didn't know at the moment that he was dead wrong. He stood up and gave Sam a smug look and left.

Sam also stood and without talking to the group, he walked towards his room. By this time, the shadow mice appeared again and there are five mice. Number 3 came forward and said as soon as Sam appeared.

squeak *squeak* [Boss, the attacker is from Piranha organisation. Someone hired him to teach you a lesson, and that is by crippling your panthers. I followed him and went found out the assignment hall, where they accept customers. I came after that to report to you]. Number three just said everything without Sam asking in a single breath.

Sam nodded and sent the remaining mice out of the dimension and said. "From today onwards, you guys have only one duty. Find out where the hide outs and head quarters of Piranha are. I want you guys to take note of every possible place they occupied. Their businesses, their meeting points, everything. You guys will report me everything about them at the cave I went in the morning. Number six to ten knows the address. You have time till the tournament is over. The day the tournament is over, you should be having all the info. First, I will give you guys an upgrade."

Sam said and took them all into the tower inside the divine dimension. He took out a large brush used to make the inscriptions and then started drawing a huge circle and various runic figures. Then after half-an -hour of drawing when the circle is completed, he took out some formation flags and started placing them in various places within the diagram, after a long while, he took out more than a thousand dark element spirit stones and placed them in various places inside the diagram. He stood at a place which is similar to the node he used to stand in an inscription and injected the spiritual energy in neutral form.

"Number 1" Stand in the circle. He ordered and the mouse came and stood in the centre of the diagram. The diagram activated and the dark elemental energy started seeping out of the elemental spirit stones and entered the mouse. The mouse trembled at the tremendous amount of spirit energy entering it body and then the blood flow. It started purifying the blood as numerous amounts of black particles seeped out of its pores.

Sam just continued injecting the spiritual energy and this process continued on for hours until all the spirit stones turned into dust.

Sam fainted and the mouse came out of the dark light. Its fur became darker and more luscious. The aura emitted from it is more superior then the rest of its peers. The rest of mice became excited and then they looked at unconscious Sam and became worried. They waited for him to get up.

Sam woke up after sometime, he took out some spirit stones and started absorbing its energy frantically. The technique he used, is a part of Bloodline refinement and Evolution manual. It is used for purifying the blood line. After recharging himself with energy, he placed another batch of Dark elemental spirit stone and proceeded with another mouse. The process repeated for hours in the tower and the outside dawn appeared.

After he was done with the refinement of all the mice, he came out of the dimension and sent them off to the duty. He washed up and went outside to see Philip and others.

"I am going into seclusion; I will come to the academy directly on the day of competition." He didn't wait for his reply and walked out of the mansion. There are five days for the competition. He wants to completely cure Sky as well as form a contract with him as soon as possible. But before that.

"Call Eisen over here." Sam went to meet with the Principal.

Principal felt a little weird by Sam's cold mood, but he didn't ask anything and sent someone over to call Eisen over.

When Eisen came inside the room and saw Sam sitting like he owns the place in front of Principal, he felt a bad premonition.

"Sir, you called me over."

Principal didn't see anything and looked at Sam. Sam looked at Eisen but talked to principal.

"Sir, did you send Eisen to pass me a message yesterday?" Eisen immediately became tensed.

"What message are you speaking about?" Principal frowned and asked.

"Nothing much." Sam replied and recounted what Eisen said yesterday. Without waiting for Principal's reaction, he stood up and walked towards Eisen and slowly whispered.

"You better not be related to what happened yesterday. Or you better pray that you will stay alive if you are related." When Sam said these words, Principal also heard faintly and immediately asked.

"Sam, what happened? We can talk it over."

"Well sir. Yesterday before Eisen came to my mansion, someone sneaked and chopped of the limbs of my panthers." Sam said and left without waiting for his reply.

Principal understood something and immediately looked at Eisen and asked. "Are you related to this?" His voice became cold with anger.

"N-no sir. He is just maligning me." Eisen immediately refused to admit.

"Why would he do that?" Principal asked in an even colder tone.

"He- He might have been jealous of me because you made me the leader of team." Eisen blurted out after thinking a bit.

"Bahahaha" Principal laughed sarcastically. "You better tell me truth or you won't be able to handle the consequences. You might not have seen his admission test, but he killed seven seniors from noble families, just because they called him 'bastard'. Now that his pets are crippled, you can count your lucky stars if he doesn't torture to death."

Hearing this Eisen's face lost colour. He didn't think that Sam was this ruthless, even though he heard some rumours in the academy, he simply thought they are exaggerating and brushed them off. He started to feel scared. Even though he is stronger than Sam now, he is five years older than

latter and his improvement is far slower compared to latter. He might not be in danger, but what about in the future?

Looking at his pale face, principal immediately understood and walked out of the room. He saw Sam on the road walking slowly and hurriedly caught up with him.

"Sam, the thing with Eisen. Can we talk about this?" Principal asked, but he only got Sam's arrogant smirk as response and then walked away. He immediately held his head. He really can't use force against Sam because of latter's status and Eisen is also not someone with lower status. He got struck in between rock and hard place.

Sam walked towards Vickers's store. He entered the shop and was greeted by the mischievous smile of the middle-aged man.

"What do you need Sam? It is rare for someone to meet me this frequently." Vickers's said with smile.

"I need that thing." Sam pointed towards a long pipe like thing which is red in colour with an irregular surface, displayed on the shelf.

"Oh, trunk of the Giant Blood mosquito. A weird choice. May I know what are you planning to make?"

Sam only gave him a cold look.

"Okay, okay. 1000 spirit stones."

Sam placed the stones on the table and took the trunk and left the shop. He walked towards the slums, to go to the cave.

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Chapter 53: Insane Breakthrough

When Sam came to the cave, he saw Watt and Falck sitting there. While Yanwu is waiting for him. As soon as Sam walked in, Watt stood up and walked towards him and said.

"I need help." Sam raised an eyebrow as he sized up the boy. He is not that much timid anymore, well at least he is not averting his gaze even when his hands and legs are trembling in fear. Sam chuckled and said.

"You know, you have to pay a price, right?"

Watt nodded at the question.

"Okay tell me, what do you want me to help you with?" Sam asked with an amused expression. Never would he thought that there would be change in this guy in one night.

"Make me strong." Watt answered in a low voice. Sam raised an eyebrow and asked.

"How strong?"

"Strong enough to not to ask for help from others and strong enough to always help myself." It took all the courage he had to say this. Sam stayed silent for a bit as he looked at Watt's expression and said.

"You do know what you ask, right? You want to strong enough to always help yourself. Do you know how strong you have to become? You have to be at the pinnacle of the world to claim that. Otherwise, there would always be someone stronger than you and there would be a time, where you have to face them and there would be a time where you feel helpless again. Think carefully."

Sam walked towards Yanwu and sky and just as he was about to speak, Watt shouted from below.

"Then make that strong. Take me to pinnacle." Sam turned around and asked.

"What is the price you are willing to pay?"

"Anything you want."

"Are you sure? Anything?" He asked with a cold smile. Watt nodded.

"Okay, then. From now on you will be my lackey. I will give you resources, opportunities and strength. In return, you will be my lackey and you will only be my lackey. You don't have to follow anybody's orders except mine. Even if the other party is the emperor or the ruler of heaven himself, their words would be nothing. If I tell you to kill, you will do so. If I tell you to fight, you will do so. Are you willing to pay this price?" Sam said with a cold aura surrounding him. His back straight and hands behind his back, with his handsome face, he looked majestic as if he is superior to anything this world has to offer.

"I am willing." Watt said.

"I can't hear you are you willing?" Sam asked as he raised his voice.

"I am willing." Watt also increased his voice.

"ARE YOU WILLING?"

"I AM WILLING!!!!!" Watt shouted at top of his lungs as tears formed in his eyes. This is the only time he felt free and brave for the first time in his life. This is the only time he felt that a huge burden has been taken off of his shoulders. This is the only time, he felt that his life has a meaning. This is the only time he felt that; he did something worthy.

All these days, he bawled his eyes for not having his parents, for not having proper education, for not having enough food, for not having resources and wallowed in his own self-pity. But now, when he was shouting on top of his lungs that he would be willing to a pay the price to obtain the strength he wanted, he felt more alive than combined fifteen years of his life.

Sam walked towards him and patted his shoulders and said. "From today onwards, you are no longer an orphan in slums, but you are my subordinate. You work for me and live for yourself." Then he closed his eyes and looked for through the library of the tower in divine dimension. When he found a suitable cultivation technique, he opened his eyes and said.

"Sit down and wait for a while." Sam then absorbed the knowledge of the cultivation technique and started copying it in a book. After half-an-hour of rapid writing, he finally finished and passed the book over.

"This technique is called a beast warrior cultivation technique, suitable for a wind elemental mage having a beast companion of wind element with him. Remember the manual by heart and destroy it immediately. Under any circ.u.mstance, you shouldn't share the info of the manual with anyone." Sam paused for a moment and passed him am spatial ring. "There are some normal spirit stones in this ring. Go to Vickers's shop and exchange it with the wind element spirit stones. Tell him that Sam sent you. Before that change wash up and change your dress." Sam passed a set of normal vest and pants he usually wears. Watt took the ring and dress and walked out in a rapid pace.

Sam looked at the lean figure and smirked. The beast warrior cultivation, he gave to him is a unique cultivation technique created by Ling tian himself. In fact, the Myriad beast bloodline technique, he is using now is also a special type of beast warrior technique. This type of cultivation technique, when cultivated by a mage, will make a contract with a beast and cultivates along with it as well as his body will be as strong as beast at same level, giving him qualities of warrior as well. Just like Sam, this will increase not only the speed of the cultivation, but also the chances of having better spiritual energy and elemental fusion. If there are any bloodline secret arts, they can be used as well.

He turned over and said to Yanwu. "Let us get to work."

Sam took out some formation flags and laid down a formation in order to conceal the energy fluctuations and then he laid another formation. This formation is not a regular formation that can be seen in the books. This the formation, Sam created by himself. He started drawing various runes in between the formation. This is a special type of sealing inscription which Sam created by repeated experimentation.

This inscription is done on a scroll and it works with the formation. In this process, within the formation, Sam will control an elemental attack or he himself launch an elemental attack, while providing the spiritual energy to the inscription circle through the formation. He will direct the attack towards the scroll at the centre and seal the attack in the scroll.

Generally, the attack inscriptions are done by normal inscriptions by using various combinations of the rune diagrams which are made based on the hand seals of the attack. But Sam created this technique only because, his attacks are not conventional and instead based on the science he knew. That is why, he created an inscription sealing method to seal his special attacks, so that they can be used in an emergency situation.

Then why is he using this now even when there is no plan of using it before. Well, he thought of new use to the fire poison, other than increment in his cultivation. So, what he wants to do now is to seal a small amount of fire poison for future use.

By the time Sam laid made all the preparations, Watt returned.

"You can take the wind elemental stones and cultivate. I will be helping sky in following days. If I am not done by the third day from now, go to this address and pass this note to a person named Jack." Sam said and passed over a note to him.

Then he walked towards the inscription circle and stood at the empty node, which he made near Sky's body. He kept one hand on Sky and started extracting the fire poison. At the same time Yanwu placed the spirit stones, responsible for providing the energy to the inscription circle.

After much effort, the fire poison started showing reaction. Sam concentrated on extracting the fire poison near the heart. Sky growled in pain as fire poison separated. When the portion of the poison is separated, Sam didn't absorb it and directed it towards the scroll placed at the centre. The moment the fire poison hit the scroll the inscription circle which was illuminated completely by now converged and sealed it completely. Sky fainted again into sleep and Sam panted for his breath.

After this was done. He removed the formation and laid another spirit condensing formation at the side.

By this time, the sky became dark again. Watt watched Sam sealing the fire poison and opened his mouth in awe. Then he walked to a corner and started cultivating along with Falck.

Sam placed the Fire poison scroll in the middle of spirit gathering formation. This is to use the scattered fire elemental energy that would spread in the cave to enhance the fire poison. After the preparations are completed, Sam sat in front of sky, while Yanwu sat behind him.

He looked at the huge roc and said. "I will begin the process. this might be painful, but I will try my best to make sure that you will stay alive and get rid of this cure."

He then closed his eyes and placed both his palms on the body of Sky and slowly started absorbing the fire poison. He made it so slow that there is no reaction in the poison until half-an hour. He started absorbing the poison and

started refining it in his body meanwhile, Yanwu shared the energy along with him, to make sure that he wouldn't reach his limit easily.

In this way a human and a Golden sun crow are working together to save a great roc from the Bifang fire poison.

The night passed quickly; Sam's skin turned red due to the potency of the fire poison. His skin started to become dry. When the morning son came.

Phew Sam broke through to the level 6 Acolyte. There are only four days to the competition. But Sam is not even thinking about that. He is fully concentrating on the fire poison and slowly started extracting it. His newly expanded spiritual core, started filling up again, Yanwu is also kept on absorbing the energy from behind. This seemed to be a never-ending process. By evening, both Sam and Yanwu had another break through together. Both of them entered late stages together. While Sam into the late stage of Acolyte while Yanwu into Late stage of Level 2 beast.

Sam who just broke through kept on absorbing the fire poison.

The process continued and the day passed. There is still three days until the competition. If Sam is not done today, Watt is ready to deliver the note to the address and Sam was not done so he went to visit the mansion.

When he entered the Mansion, he was in complete awe. He never entered the mansion as luxurious as that. He is really surprised. He met Jack and passed over the note. Jack right now is preparing to create an 'accident' to Eisen along with Shawn. But when he received the note, Jack smiled and modified the plans. He changed his target to the two lackeys of Eisen.

He met with the other extra person who came along with them to the City to make a deal.

"Do you want to participate in the tournament?" Jack asked without beating around the bush.

The other guy immediately nodded his head.

"5000 spirit stones. There will be a spot ready. You can make your preparations. You can pay on the day of tournament." Jack said in a single breath. The other guy almost couldn't believe his words. He was still in daze when he saw Jack leaving and the he immediately went to make some preparations for the competition. Even though, getting him a spot might be hard, who knows what would happen.

Jack felt that he did a good job in selling the extra spot for 5000, he was thinking how Sam would react.

Time passed quickly. The cultivation level of Sky is getting reduced minute by minute. From the cultivation level, Sam wasn't able to sense at all. He fell into Level 3 middle-stage. Days changed and finally the day after tomorrow will be the tournament. Sam is almost about to break through the Level 9. He is verge on breaking through since morning and he is waiting patiently.

Finally, by night Sam and Yanwu both broke through to the final stages of their respective cultivation. After consolidating for a while, Sam opened his eyes and finally took a good look at Sky.

The great roc, is now in a much better condition, but it is still in pain. Sam slowly stood up and whispered to him. "The next thing I will do to you will pain you so much that, you will prefer death over it. But I want you to endure and hang in there." He didn't even know if sky could hear his words, but he still said it. Sam placed his hands on him again and got ready to proceed with next step.

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Chapter 54: Tonic food

Sam closed his in concentration as he placed both of his palms on Sky. He started observing the fire poison in his body. According to Sam's classification

of this fire poison is Passive and Unstable type which leads to attack the recipient.

He concentrated all his energy on the fire poison and observed its up to the level of the spirit particles. Then he took a deep breath and just like how he did with metals to form them into powder, he manipulated the passive spiritual energy forced the molecular structure to collapse and converted to fire spiritual energy.

"CWWWAAAAAAAAAAARRRRRRRRR" Sky opened his eyes and screamed on top of his lungs as he took the full brunt of the fire spiritual energy on his beast core and internal organs. Yanwu, Watt and Falck were all startled and trembled when they heard Sky's painful cry.

But Sam didn't dare to let his concentration slip away. He needs delicate control over the spiritual energy in order to not make it effect Sky. He controlled the spiritual energy and let it enter from one hand and directed towards his spiritual core.

Meanwhile, in his spiritual core. In the transparent globe, the wisp of golden flame and golden light are floating in between the spiritual energy. Sam concentrated and divided the space into two with an invisible barrier such that golden flame would be one side and the light would be another side. The energy he took from Sky right now through one hand is entering the core from the side of golden fire and merged along with the fire spiritual energy, then it flowed along and met with the barrier where it converted to the light spiritual energy with the help of Sam's spiritual core ability. Now, instead of refining this excess spiritual energy, he directed it out in its light elemental energy form and let it out from another hand as he started healing Sky from other side.

In this way, he is healing Sky, with the help of the very fire poison that is meant to harm him. Sky stopped his painful screams after sometime as the fire elemental energy that ran rampant stabilised a bit and flowed towards Sam's hand and the effect of the healing from the light elemental energy, he soon felt some relief. Night passed. Sam is still standing rooted in his spot. He is sweating profusely as he furrowed his brows in full concentration.

The lesser the amount of fire elemental energy became, the higher concentration he required. The nerves on his forehead popped over and blood started to flow out of his nose. His face turned pale and he is soaked in sweat. But he didn't dare to divert his attention. He stood there are continued on healing.

Soon, there is no pain on Sky's face.it is replaced with relief. The obvious burns on his body started healing. The feathers got their l.u.s.tre back. Slowly, it regained its vitality.

Sun is high up in the sky, when Sam looked finally finished the process. He fell down immediately as he fainted. Yanwu quickly caught him and slowly laid him on the floor. It looked at Sky and Sam and then flew out of the cave. After a while, he came back with some dead animals, which he hunted just now. He saw Watt taking care of Sam, by cleaning his blood over and laid a blanket to make him sleep comfortably. Sam woke up a few minutes past noon, to see the Yanwu and Watt are grilling the meat, his stomach rumbled with hunger. He walked to them and picked up a piece of meat and took a huge bite.

They are having a peaceful meal, when a big rumbling sound came from behind. Everyone turned around to see Sky opening his eyes with a rejuvenating glow.

{Can I have some too?} Sky asked as he slowly made his way to with his body which is larger than Yanwu a bit and sat beside them. He took a piece of meat and started gobbling on it.

After the meal, Sam stood up and said. "Tomorrow is the tournament. I have some scores to settle today, you guys stay here till then. If any shadow mice

come here, don't eat them up and hear what they say." He said to Yanwu and turned towards Sky. "You just recovered. Rest properly and we can talk after I am done with dealing some things." He looked at Watt and said. "Cultivate properly." Then he left the cave and went back to his mansion. Today he has to collect some debt.

Sam went to the Artisan tower on the way and bought a claw type and weapons for both hands, the he took a private forge and made some modifications. He pulled out the original claws and replaced them with the claws of the Golden Blood tiger.

"I will make do with it until I make myself some quality ones. He made sure that they are comfortable and placed them in the storage. Tomorrow is the day of tournament, so he was pretty sure that Principal is going to make send someone to remind him.

His guess was right. When he arrived at the mansion, the extra guy came to send the message and was leaving. He looked at Sam with a doubtful look before leaving. Sam entered the mansion and was greeted by the people who are about to prepare for the tournament.

He met with Jack and Shawn and they moved to their room to have a private talk.

"We took care of the two lackeys." Jack said as soon as they sat down.

"I will take care of the rest. Did you make a deal with that extra guy?" Sam asked.

"Yeah, I made a deal for 5000 spirit stones." Jack said with a smile. He is satisfied with the deal. But both Shawn and Sam were looking at him as if he was an idiot. Shawn didn't know that Jack made the deal only for 5000, that is why he was shocked by revelation.

Sam looked at Shawn and said. "Why didn't you go there?"

"He said he would take care of it and I thought he would really do." Shawn said with a dejected expression.

"What is wrong?" Jack asked a bit confused.

"How did you even come up with the price?" Sam asked with a wry expression.

"What do you mean?"

"Jack, he took 1500 just for the trip to Falcon cliff city. Why do you think he took that much money? Because, they will have a chance to get a spot, which is almost impossible unless someone played their hand properly. Then a guaranteed spot. How much do you think we can sell it for?" Shawn asked with exasperation.

His friend is a genius at fighting. Then why is he not even a little bit intelligent at these ways of world.

"Forget it." Sam sighed. "I will take care of everything. I need a favour. Make a big pit around six feet long, 2 feet wide and foot deep in the yard and tell everyone in the mansion, not to come out to the yard at night." Sam said and left. He walked towards the inn and he entered the inn opposite to the one Principal, Eisen and the rest are staying. When the sky turned dark, they came to eat their dinner and Principal is giving a speech and telling them not to make them nervous. Eisen is fidgeting his finger and was completely out of sorts. When he was finally done, he immediately went to his room and locked the door. He is feeling tense. From the past two days, his lackey and his brother got attacked mysteriously. He had a feeling that he is going to be in danger. Just when he was about to take a step forward towards his bed.

Crack a glass breaking sound could be heard. A red vapour filled the room and before he could know what happened, he felt a little dizzy and his reaction speed slowed down.

Just as he tried to calm down and get control of the situation, a black figure stood in front of him and that figure opened a scroll suddenly as a big orange coloured magma like thing hit him and entered his body, the sudden change hit made him faint as he felt a burning sensation inside his body.

After sometime. Eisen opened his eyes, he felt a searing pain inside his body and when he tried to move, he felt like his body was tied up to something. He was laid down on something and tried to look around to see where he is and who took him here.

Suddenly a flame lit up and a figure came into his sight. When Eisen saw who it is, he immediately fell into despair. The thing he most feared happened. He tried to struggle and use his spiritual energy, but he felt his blood burning and he stopped.

Sam looked at him with cold eyes. He has his two panthers on his side as he ran his arms across their fur and snuggled into him with warm expressions. But when Eisen saw this scene, he immediately felt shocked and confused. Sam slowly stood up and walked towards Eisen, leaving the panthers with some food.

"How are you feeling Eisen?" Are you warm enough?" Sam asked as an evil glint flashed across his eyes.

"Sam, please leave me alone. I apologise. I will compensate you with a huge sum of money. My father is rich. I will ask him to pay you a huge ransom. Please, Sam just let me walk away." He said in a trembling voice as he felt his body burning in heat. His spiritual core is completely infected with the poison. He felt pain and distress at the same time.

Sam just chuckled. It is too late Eisen. Don't you think? You dare attack my friends and you expect me to release you for just some ransom." Sam said in a sarcastic tone.

Eisen felt his throat run dry. He regretted pissing this guy off. He tried to struggle again.

"Don't bother struggling. It will only increase the pain you feel." Eisen stopped as soon as he heard it. This fire poison is what Sam collected from Sky. Even though the amount is small, he used the vestiges of the fire spiritual energy spread inside the cave to enhance the poison for the past days while he treated Sky.

"I really admire your stupidity Eisen. Of all things you could do, you have to piss me off time and again. You dare hurt my panthers? Then I will use you to assist them in breakthrough." Sam said and threw a small fire ball towards him.

Eisen closed his eyes in fear, but the expected impact never came. He slowly opened his eyes as he felt a burning sensation in his back. He opened his eyes and looked at Sam's evil smile. He felt despair looming over him.

He was laid over a pit filled with fire. He is being cooked alive. The thought itself made him fall into abyss. Sam took out a bottle of red liquid from his storage and started pouring all over Eisen and said.

"I don't want my panthers to get used to human meat. That is why I made this special c.o.c.ktail of beast blood to mask over your scent. You, Eisen will be tonic food for my panthers and assist them in breakthrough. Thank you for your service". Then he flipped Eisen over to make his front side to touch the fire.

Eisen screamed on top of his lungs while he was being flipped like a chicken wing.

"NOOOOOOOO."

"Pleaaaaaaaaaaaaseeeeeee."

"Saaaaaaaaaaaaammmmmm"

But the rest of the mansion wasn't able to hear his screams because Sam laid a formation to conceal everything that is happening here. Sam only stopped his flipping when Eisen has a final breath left.

"Medium rare. You guys can dig in." Sam said as he tossed Eisen over to the two panthers.

The two panthers immediately started eating as they smelled the scent of the various beast blood, while Eisen himself lost all the energy to even scream in pain, when he felt the teeth and claws tearing his seared flesh apart being eaten alive. Then before his last breath, he heard Sam's voice.

"Don't worry, you won't be alone. The Piranha will also join you soon enough." He died after he heard these words with a lot of regrets.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 55: Opening Ceremony

Sam slept peacefully that night. After what happened to the panthers, this is the only time he felt a little peaceful. His mind calmed down a little as he drifted to sleep in his comfortable bed. Next day early in the morning even before the sun rose, a series of knocking sounds woke him up.

When he went outside, he saw Philip standing there.

"Sam principal came. He said that he has something important to talk to you." Philip sounded fl.u.s.tered. Sam just nodded and walked downstairs and saw the Principal, who is sitting in a chair with a gloomy expression. When Sam took a seat in front of him, he took a deep breath and asked.

"Sam, did you do it?"

"Do what exactly sir?" Sam replied with a smile. When he saw Sam's smile, without a hint of malice and coldness, he wasn't even able to relate to the

person he saw a few days back when he came to confront him about Eisen's 'message'. He immediately understood what made this young man feel so happy.

"Why did you have to go too far? We could have talked it over. Will you take every small matter to this extent?" Principal asked with a dejected expression. Eisen is a good candidate for this competition. He is not only a person with good cultivation for his age, he is also a person with expertise in auxiliary professions as well. He is a very valuable person on the roaster now. But he slipped away just like that because his own self- centred egoist actions.

He is also dissatisfied with Sam. Even though, he can understand him being angry, he never would have expected that he would just kill the person because his pets got attacked. If they were killed, he might understand. They were injured badly. If there is any person other than Sam, they would take a huge ransom, and let this matter go. After all, there are lot more powerful beast pets that could be bought with money. Any normal cultivator will do so. At least, he himself would so. But Sam's answer stunned him.

"To be honest sir. I do. I will take every small matter to this extent." Principal was dazed for a bit and said.

"He is a main part of the roaster. He can be used to gain some actual results for the city. Did you at least think about what you have done? How much loss, is it for the academy and the City?"

"And why should I care about that?" This time not only principal, the rest of the team also left stunned. At first, they were confused, but they understood something that this discussion is related to Sam and someone else who was supposed to be the part of the team, but was unable to do so because of Sam. But what Sam said shocked them rather than confused. 'what does he mean, why should I care?' He is part of this freaking team for crying out loud.

This is thought that ran through everyone's mind. Without giving a chance for Principal to speak, Sam continued.

"Probably you forgot, let me remind you. This is a part of business deal between both of us. You paid me and I will participate in the competition on behalf of your academy. The deal doesn't include me tolerating what ever your students throw at me and lay on the floor to let them walk over on me. You are here asking me explanation on why I did that? Where were you when your beloved student got so carried away and hired the most notorious organisation in the city to make a hit on my pets. I didn't see you demanding an explanation from him."

Sam asked in a solemn tone. The gentle smile is gone.

"But I would have given you a compensation. You could have healed them or you could have taught him a lesson. Why go to that extent?" Principal asked with an exasperated tone.

Sam just chuckled. Then he took a sword and threw it at the feet of the Principal, then he took a bag full of spirit stones which seemed to be a lot from his storage and placed it on the table. He looked at Principal straight in the eyes and said.

"200,000 spirit stones. Would you be leaving your arm here, please? You can heal your arm at the healer and I will pay you that also. Are you willing?"

The whole seemed to freeze on the spot. All the students felt their blood run cold. Principal also stared at Sam as his aura grew wilder. Sam didn't avert his gaze even under the pressure of the superior cultivator and just looked at Principal straight in the eyes.

Why is he so daring? Because he knew that Principal won't attack him. There is no other option. Sam is the only hope, if he needs to get some benefits through this tournament.

Principal tried his best to calm himself and left after saying. "Whatever happened, happened. I hope you will fulfil your end of the deal Sam. I will see you all at the academy in a while." He then left without even taking a look at the group.

Sam also didn't say anything and left to his room to freshen up. He changed into his usual black vest and coat and walked downstairs. By now, all the members in the group are ready to go.

The group started their walk as they went to Falcon Cliff academy.

The Falcon cliff academy is also part of the northern region of the falcon cliff city. Sam and his group came here and sat with the people from the Starwood city.

There are separate seating arrangements for them as well as other cities under the jurisdiction of the Falcon cliff city. Other than those five groups, there are another group from the Falcon Cliff academy themselves. All the groups which comprised of total of 60 candidates along with their supervisors sat there.

Sam observed other city lords and he was surprised a bit. The other city lords are at most at middle stage of Novice stage and so were principals of the academies. Some principals are at most at the level of elders of the academy. This left him surprised and confused at the same time. He observed something else that is the other people are looking at their group strangely, the principals and city lord of other groups are looking at them and whispering with in themselves. Even though, he felt it was weird, he didn't think much of it and waited as his gaze was fixed on the seats at the top most platform.

The seats were for the Count and the Principal of the Falcon Cliff city. The two strongest of the people in the territory.

After a while a huge bird screech could be heard and everyone looked at towards the sky. There is a huge Whirlwind falcon, which is obviously at the Level 3. On top of the falcon, a middle-aged man with a dignified countenance stood proudly with his back straight. He is none other than the Great Mage Falcon also called Count Falcon. He is the superior of the territory of not only the Falcon Cliff city but also the other five subordinate cities.

He is followed by a group of Novice warriors and Mages riding on level 2 Whirlwind Falcons. They are called the Falcon guards, the elite guards of the Falcon Cliff city.

Sam looked at the various people standing up in respect for the Count and he also stood up. He is in distaste for bowing and kneeling, but standing up as respect is still not overboard and neither did, he feels undeserving.

Great mage or Great Warrior is cultivation stage above Novice stage and Falcon Cliff city has at most a handful of them. They might even exceed ten people and strongest of the Great Mages/Warriors is undoubtedly the Count followed by the Principal of the Falcon Cliff academy.

While everyone is deep in their own thoughts, an entourage arrived from the depths of the Falcon Cliff academy lead by a Middle-aged man with extreme scholarly aura. He has a long beard and long hair which reached his shoulders. The second most powerful person in the Falcon Cliff city is here.

Both the big shots gave each other a warm hug as they exchanged greetings, they seem to be rather close. After sometime both of them took their seats and gestured to the audience to take a seat. They didn't expect everyone to bow. Sam heard from whispers of the spectators that the City lord doesn't like people bowing to him at all and mentioned in many occasions to not to bow.

After everyone settled down, Count Falcon came forward and addressed the people.

"Dear citizens of my territory. On this auspicious moment, I am very happy to see that the City lords and the Principals of the academies from the subordinate cities brought the candidates for this grand occasion. I appreciate the candidates who came to this event and I wish them all the best for their future.

Today the young talents from all over my territory are here in order to participate in a tournament that is going to be held by the joint administration of Principal Castor and me. This tournament is to assess the younger generations with potential and give them new opportunities, such that they will excel in the future. I hope all the candidates give their best in the tournament and strive to be the best. The tournament rules will be explained by Principal Castor.

After finishing his speech followed by an applause from audience, he took a seat and Principal Castor took his place and waited for a moment for audience to settle down. After the audience came to silence, he started speaking.

"As our Count Falcon said. The young people will be participating in a tournament. The qualifications to enter the tournament are that the candidate must be younger than or at twenty years of age and he must be one of the chosen ten of the respective cities.

We also conducted a tournament a few days ago to select the top 10 people in our city who will compete along with the other five groups of the sub ordinate cities. There would be an age assessment later on to proceed with and the people who didn't pass the requirement will be eliminated immediately and the respective cities must find a substitute themselves. If they don't have a substitute, a candidate from Falcon Cliff city will take his place.

The tournament is for a very important cause, so you the evaluation will not only be diverse, but also considers all traits of a person not just focussing on the battle prowess.

There are two types of final rankings. One is the team ranking which will be ranked by the c.u.mulative performance of the team of city. The second ranking is the individual ranking. The rewards for both the rankings will be given adequately.

The candidates will be assessed in three rounds.

The first round will be an endurance challenge. The challenge is to travel in a tower as high as possible. The tower is filled with various formations, obstacles and other restrictions. The tower is a part of our testing ground, which has thirty levels. The higher level a person climbs, the higher the points they will obtain.

I wish you all the best." Principal concluded his speech.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 56: Tower of Will

After Principal ended his speech, he gestured to an elder to lead the group to the testing grounds of the academy. All the spectators followed them to the spectator's area provided at the testing grounds. After all of them left the bigshots in the place were guided by the attendants of the academy to the private cubicles to get a better view of the test.

The Elder led the candidates and their supervisors of the six groups and made them take their positions in front of a huge tower. There was a huge plaque written with characters 'TOWER OF WILL'. Sam looked at the ancient looking tower and was in awe about its exquisite structure.

The tower is tall and may be the tallest of all the buildings in city, but nobody was unable to see it when they normally roam in the city for which the credit went to the arrangements of testing grounds.

The Elder turned towards the six groups of people and said. "This 'Tower of Will' is testing place to know how strong is your will and how strong is your

belief in yourself. There are thirty levels in this tower and the higher you go the higher the points you will gain. These points will be added to the c.u.mulative score of yours for the final evaluation of the tournament.

If you are unable to step forward after you reach a certain level, don't be stubborn and learn to back down, when you can. Otherwise the repercussions will be dire and hinder your future development.

The best record for the tower is of 27 levels and that is done by our current emperor, when he came here to test his will especially in this tower.

I wish you all the best." He finished his speech and gave the position to another attendant who is in charge of sending candidates in to the tower.

The attendant came forward and said.

"The first participants will be Falcon Cliff city." As soon as he said that all the participants from the Falcon Cliff city came forward. Attendant pointed at one guy among them and gestured him to enter the tower. The first floor of the tower illuminated a little confirming the tower begin testing the candidate.

Soon, the dimly lit first floor began illuminating brightly in white light. The first floor was passed. Now the candidate will be moved to the second floor and the that also illuminated with a dim light. This time ten minutes passed and the second floor also passed. The candidate was moved to the third floor. Seeing that the testing takes sometime the candidates and the spectators started chatting. Sam observed all the candidates from various cities and some interesting info was heard from two people from Mountain lake City which is one of the close neighbours to the Starwood city. He heard two guys talking secretively.

"Hey, do you know why the cultivation levels of the City lord and Principal of the Falcon cliff city are higher?"

"No, I am also curious. Do you know anything about it?"

"Yes, I overheard when our City lord explained to his son just now."

"Really? What is the reason then?"

"Apparently, Starwood city is like an exiling zone to the dukedom we are part of. The officials of various departments and organisations, who offended their superiors at their early stages of career will be transferred to this city. This city has literally no resources except for that Starwood forest and some other common herbs. So, every big shot in the city from another place, who has beef with the higher ups and were transferred there to stomp on their progress. The opportunities are less and resources are scarce. They said that even the Noble families in that city are exiled branch of a big noble family because of their internal strife. That is why other cities are controlled by a single noble family and there might be at most an extra noble family which are deployed by a big- name noble family to get the resources, but the noble families in Starwood city are different.

Principal added that, if not for the fact they don't have any strong evidence against them to be dealt directly and the organisation can't do it due to their reputation, they might have been already dealt with by their superiors.

So, long ago the upper echelons of various organisation, reached a consensus together discreetly, to send all these people who offended them to this City."

When the other guy heard this, he was shocked and Sam who heard it discreetly was given more huge shock from the info. Never would he have expected that there would be a city like this where the people who offended their bosses were transferred. He didn't expect that this would be the reason for the higher cultivation base of City lord and the Principal. He thought that the Starwood city might be somewhat impressive or something. But the reason made him almost burst in laughter. So, most of these guys are people who were kicked by their bosses to the curb.

Sam looked at the Principal and City lord who is looking at the tower with a serious expression.

"Hello, Kelly." His thought process was interrupted by a person's deep and cheerful voice. He turned his head only to see that a young man who is from the Falcon Cliff team greeting Kelly. Sam didn't bother with it and diverted his attention to the tower as the candidate came outside just now.

"Candidate Logan from Falcon Cliff city. Twelve levels passed and failed in thirteenth level.12 Points." Attendant announced as the candidate came back with a dejected expression.

"Sam." A sweet voice came from beside him and he saw Kelly calling him. He turned towards her and saw the young man who spoke to her earlier standing beside her with a smile.

"This is Hawk. Son of the Count Falcon. He is my childhood friend." Kelly introduced him and Sam was a bit surprised. This time he observed the young man closely and indeed found some similarities in facial features between him and the Count.

Hawk extended his hand and said. "Nice to meet you Sam." His tone was polite, not like some random young masters he used encounter.

"Nice to meet you too." Sam also said in a same polite tone. Even though there are no signs of friendly smile on his face like Hawk, his face didn't show his usual coldness and temper or any signs of displeasure as well.

"I heard a lot about you from Howard recently and Kelly also said that you are quite unique. That is why I became curious and came here to meet you." Hawk said with same smile. Sam didn't feel repulsed by his smile.

"By Howard you mean, Kelly's uncle?" Sam asked. He didn't remember any other guy named Howard which he met with recently. But there was still a

doubt as he didn't see any reason for the Artisan tower head to say something about him to Count's son.

"Yes. Howard and my father are friends. Kelly used to live here when she was still a little kid. That is how we became friends. Recently, when Howard came to meet my father, you are one of the main topics they used to discuss." Hawk explained.

"Oh, really? I never expected that. I don't think there is not much to talk about me." Sam replied. And they made small talk. Hawk was polite all the time. He observed that Sam is a guy with cold personality and is not one to make friends easily, so he also kept his distance and just talked with him normally. They talked about various things and when Sam learned that Hawk is a formation master, they had some more interesting things to talk about.

"Candidate Yash. Twenty floors. Failed in twenty first floor. Twenty points."

The announcement put a brake to their conversation and they looked at the candidate curiously. He is a young man with a peculiar around him, wearing black. He is a seen with another two people having same aura as him in the Falcon Cliff city team.

"Your team seems to having some good contenders." Sam noted as he observed the trio with peculiar air. He felt that something very familiar from them, but wasn't able to put his finger on it and went into deep contemplation. When he finally made a guess, he was shocked. The peculiar feeling is blood l.u.s.t. He looked at the boys in their late teens, they are at peak of Acolyte or initial stage of Novice, but the blood l.u.s.t from them is not something that normal amateurs will have. They are used to killing and the body count must be high for their age.

Sam thought and looked at the trio for a while before directing his gaze towards another participant who just finished his test.

Time slowly passed by and only three people left from the Falcon Cliff team. Hawk and the other two from the peculiar trio.

"Candidate Yaar. Twenty-one floors. Failed in twenty second floor. Twenty-one points." After another forty-minute time one of the guys from trio completed his test. Time passed.

"Candidate Yuv. Twenty floors. Failed at twenty- first floor. Twenty points." Finally, Hawk's turn came.

"I will see you later." Hawk said to Sam and Kelly and went inside the tower.

The first floor of the tower dimly lit and with in a few seconds it illuminated brightly. Hawk completed the first trail faster than anyone else. He proceeded to the second floor and in the same way, he completed that in a very small time. Sam looked at the tower with an amusing smile. Hawk climbed the tower until he reached the tenth floor in no time. At tenth floor, he took some time to pass.

Even though the time taken to complete the floors increased significantly. His completion time is way faster than other people who participated before. With in twenty minutes he reached twenty-first floor. This surprised everyone at the venue. Even though they felt surprised at the performances of the trio who made to the twenty floors, the time they took was rather high compared to Hawk.

Just as they were discussing in whispers another floor illuminated brightly and Hawk entered the twenty-second floor. Another ten minutes passed; another floor lit up. Everyone burst into uproar and the crowd looked so excited. They wanted to see someone set a record from their city.

Count Falcon is grinning ear to ear at his seat.

"your son is truly good." Castor said from side.

"He still has ways to go, to be as great as me." Count Falcon said in a serious tone, but his grin clearly told that he is proud of his son."

Then crowd shrieked again as they another floor illuminate. Hawk passed twenty-second floor and climbed his way to the twenty third floor. Until now, this is the best performance. They were eagerly waiting but they were disappointed when tower returned to normal and Hawk came out with a bitter smile.

"Candidate Hawk. Twenty-two floors. Failed in twenty third floor. Twenty- two points." Crowd applauded for the young man.

Even though they were a bit disappointed as they had high expectations on Hawk, the competition has to go on. And the candidates from the next group went forward.

Starwood City was last on the list and they have to wait until every other candidate is done with and within that group Sam is the last candidate. So, he stood there and waited patiently.

Even though there are some significant results in the next candidates, there are nothing remarkable. Only one person achieved a result of twenty points from other cities, before the turn of Starwood city came at time of sun set.

Kelly entered first to the tower as the rest of them waited for their turn. Kelly got 18 points which is not bad. The remaining teammates like Freya, Haley scored around 12 to 15 points. Just as crowd gave up. Jack entered the tower and gave a huge shock to everyone.

His speed his comparable to Hawk and he didn't seem to stop at all. He cleared the floors after 10th level even faster than Hawk. Hawk was staring at the tower with a surprised expression, but with in the surprise there is a competitive spirit burning making him excited. When Jack arrived at the twenty third floor where Hawk failed everyone became silent.

Five minutes passed

Ten minutes passed

Twenty minutes passed. To everyone's shock the floor illuminated brightly. Just as they thought that Jack would go to twenty fourth level. He withdrew.

"Candidate Jack. Twenty-three floors. Withdrew from twenty fourth floor. Twenty- three points.

Jack's face doesn't look good, even after he came back. His face was pale and his eyes are blank. The test almost broke him apart.

There are only two candidates left. Philip and Sam. Sam helped Jack to take a seat and passed him some water as Philip entered the tower.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 57: Sams turn

Sky turned dark and night arrived. But at the testing grounds of the Falcon cliff city, neither spectators nor candidates are ready to leave. Right now, all the spectators are staring at certain disbelief. They were shocked out of their senses for the feat the person accomplished.

The said person though, is smiling and didn't speak anything else. Sam looked at Philip who stood beside him as nothing happened.

Philip just came out of the tower, but he shocked everyone with his performance. The person responsible for announcing the result is also staring at him disbelief. Because, when he entered the tower, his performance is similar to that of Jack. Rapidly climbing the levels easily. That didn't give them much shock, but the fact that he took less than half the time to complete the same twenty-third level in which Jack almost collapsed made them surprised.

When everyone thought he was going to attempt the next floor, he withdrew and came back smiling as if nothing happened. If not for the fact, that Sam

noticed some signs of exhaustion on his face, nobody would believe that he achieved such high score on the tower of will.

After sometime Sam took a step forward and coughed to get the attention of the attendant responsible for the score. The attendant came out of the daze and shouted the results.

"Candidate Philip. Twenty third floor. Withdrew from twenty fourth floor. Twenty-third points."

After noting down the scores, he gestured Sam to enter the tower.

Sam walked inside the tower and was baffled to see the walls inside the room. The walls of the room are filled with runic diagrams. Sam instantly recognised what the technique used for the creating these structures. These structures are done by a technique named inscription etching. To be able to use this technique one must be proficient in inscriptions as well as painting Artisan. But judging from the complication of the runic arrangement it must be some kind of formation which means he must be a formation master as well. Sam looked at the room and only saw a circular platform in the middle of the room which seemed to be seating arrangement. He walked to the platform and sat down.

As soon as he sat down, he felt a jolt in his mind as his consciousness slipped away. When he opened his eyes, Sam saw himself in a familiar place. This is the street he used to live in when he stayed at the Lava rock village. When Sam started to look around, he saw a familiar person standing at a distance away from him.

The person in front of him was none other than the Village head of the Lava Rock village. He walked towards Sam with an evil look on his eyes. "How dare you hurt my son? I will kill you today." Village head said in a cold tone. Sam looked at the village head coldly. He tried to move but he felt his strength

completely suppressed by the Village heads aura. Sam felt cold sweat, but he didn't falter. His strength seemed to weak in front of the village head and he felt like he would be dead at any time. Danger loomed over his heart as he saw village head walking towards him.

Sam closed his eyes and gritted his teeth. 'Even I have to die. I will at least die trying.' He thought in his head as he made his move and leapt towards the village head. He balled his fist and punched the other party in daze, but the other party didn't dodge at all. As his fist made impact to other party's face.

BOOM Sam woke up with a jolt. His mind felt a buzzing sensation. He is extremely familiar with this feeling. This is the time acceleration he felt in the tower when he simulated.

Sam slowly stood up and looked at the runes on the wall as he tried to comprehend the test. When he entered that illusion, his memory seemed to be erased. He only saw the more powerful Village head and himself are in confrontation and he is in helpless situation.

He felt weak. He didn't even have a thought that this is a test and not reality. Not even an inkling came to his mind.

Sam thought in contemplation. 'Here losing the battle is not the real loss. Losing the battle without even having will to fight is the real loss'. He seemed to understand what the test of will is.

He slowly walked towards the entrance which opened for him to enter the next floor. When he entered the next floor, he saw that the room is similar to the one in first floor. But the only difference is that the second-floor walls have more complex runic structures.

"This tower is definitely not created by the people of this city. This is way too high level for them to make. I will not believe even if they beat me to death." He thought out loud and sat down on the platform again.

Sam again felt his memory lapsed. His conscious drifted as he came into another familiar scene. Testing grounds of the Starwood academy, Carl and his friends surrounded him as he felt his whole-body spasm in pain and bled with several wounds. All of them are looking at him with an evil look...

Third floor, Sam entered another familiar place, the healers experimental lab in the tower, he felt his body tied up to the chains which used to restrain the green scale lizards. Albert and Alfred are walking towards him...

Fourth floor,

Fifth floor,

.

.

Tenth floor, Sam looked at all the people surrounding him. All the people he had conflicts with are right in front of him. Even though he has his full power and he was full of energy, there are so many people for him to handle. Village head, Oliver and his lackeys, Carl and his friends, Carter, the seniors who lost to him in the assessment, the noble family heads, Leonard, Raymond, Eisen and his father. He is surrounded by everyone as felt suppressed and tiny in front of all the auras of all his enemies. He has Golden Crescent in his hand and tightened his grip.

He wants to live; he doesn't want to die and he really doesn't want to die in hands of these people. But he saw the looks in the eyes of these people that had no emotion but extreme rage in their eyes. There is only one way for him. Get to live or die trying. He swung his golden crescent as the blade keened in the air and slashed the person in front of him......

Sam opened his eyes as he looked at the walls and shook his head. He felt dizzy all over as he remembered the sensation. In all the ten situations, Sam always met with the enemies that are powerful than him and all these times he doesn't have any memories or recollections that this is the illusion for the test.

All that registered in his mind is are his power level at the situation, his enemies power level and the difference in between both of them. His helplessness, his hopelessness. That is the only thing he had in mind and the test how he will face it.

Each and every time, the only test he has to do is how can he overcome the situation. Every time he has no choice but to die due to his powerlessness. But his evaluation laid on the way he died. Did he die while trying or did he give up? That is the basis of evaluation.

Sam slowly stood up and walked towards the eleventh- floor stairs and went inside another room. This room is almost similar to the rooms before, but the walls are etched with a different form of runes compared to the other times.

Meanwhile, outside. The people are numb for the surprises now. They saw how fast Sam moved in the ten floors and eleventh one, they had a sense of dejavu and they eyed the candidates who cleared the floors just as fast.

Sam looked at the platform and the different type of runic patterns than before.

He doesn't know what type of change it will make to the illusion types, but the change will definitely be there.

Sam went to platform and sat down. He closed his eyes slowly and again there was a jolt in his mind.

Sam opened his eyes only to see and endless desert in front of his eyes, he saw the miles and miles of sand carpeting the earth as far as his eyes could see. He doesn't have anything on him except for the cloths he wore. The

scorching sun and the hot sand beneath him gave a burning feel over to his body. He tried to use his spiritual energy but nothing happened. He tried a few more times and then only he realized, he is an ordinary man. Now, he is nothing but an ordinary man who is struck in between an endless dessert. He looked around a bit and then picked a direction where he could see a faint image of mountain ranges and started walking.

He walked neither fast nor slow, he just maintained his pace and walked without caring about sun and heat. Soon, he found a dead tree on his way but didn't mind it and walked forward, his throat started to feel dry, his cloths are soaked in sweat, he is dehydrating in a fast pace. But he didn't stop.

After walking for a long distance, Sam froze on the spot. The dead tree appeared again, He looked at for a while and just thought that it might be another tree and he might have been feeling dejavu. He walked past it, this time his body became dry, his cloths that are soaked in sweat also started to become dry. He felt an unimaginable thirst, he walked for another long distance.

He looked at the dead tree that came again. His heart screamed of despair, he felt that something is wrong. He slowly walked towards the tree and with the little bit of meagre strength he left, he broke a small tip of a branch and took it along with him. This time his skin started cracking and his lips broke.

After another long distance, he spotted the dead tree again, he walked towards it and looked at the branch tip, he pursed his lips and placed the broken tip on the branch, which obviously matched, his heart went cold. He is looming with despair. He looked at the dead tree and at the mountain ranges that can be seen far away. He thought. 'Am I going to die like this?' Then he shook his head and thought again. 'I will try until the last breath.'

He took another step forward with determination and walked towards the mountain range. He walked miles. His feet started to bleed, he encountered

the dead tree again but this time he didn't stop, he increased his pace and walked again, after sometime his legs gave in, he crawled with his hands, his hands gave in he still crawled with his remaining strength. His clothes were tattered. His body was full of abrasions from the sand and bleeding. He can't see what was in front of him, but he didn't stop. Soon, he felt weak and tired. He closed his eyes and breathed his last breath and final thing he saw is the dead tree which he saw for the tenth time.

Sam opened his and looked at the platform. He shook his head to come out of that feeling. His body broke out in cold sweat. He stood up from the platform and walked towards the door for next floor. He was thinking what would be the next test. He walked towards the room in the next floor and sat on the platform and closed his eyes again.

Sam opened his eyes and he felt wet all over and looked around in daze. He was floating in and endless ocean, he instinctively started kicking his feet to stay afloat. His memory is blank. He doesn't remember anything. All he had in his mind was that he fell into the sea and he has to move in order to be safe.

Sam started to swim and he did so in a direction where he could see an island. He swam in a moderate pace to keep his stamina in check. He swam for miles and just when he thought he would have reduced some distance and looked towards the island; he only saw the same black dot he saw when he just arrived. Sam looked around and again started to swim.......

Sam opened his eyes on the platform and walked towards the next one.

Meanwhile, outside.

Spectators looked at tower. They saw Sam clearing levels, just like the other high-scorers. They are not waiting whether he would make a good score or not. There are more inclined on thinking, whether he would beat the score that Jack has set. They are waiting in anticipation and they are not the only ones.

"How far do you think, he would go?" Hawk asked Kelly who stood beside him. Jack also stood with them. He had enough rest to stand and Philip is looking at Hawk and Kelly to hear what she would think.

"I don't know. But I hope, he would make it far." Kelly answered in a sweet tone. Freya and Haley are sitting a little away from them. They are feeling dejected at their low results. They both scored only 14 and 15 points respectively. They didn't even see what the third set of tests, which are twenty-first on wards are. Now only they understood that they are full of themselves. Even Philip who always goofs around and has a very 'average talent' compared to them beat them big time. They sighed and looked at the tower as another floor illuminated brightly.

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Chapter 58: The third set of trails

"He is already at twentieth floor. Do you think he will beat the others and win first place?"

"I don't know. But he is not faster than others. Maybe he might be same as the other two guys who are in the lead."

"I think so too."

"I don't think so. He might even withdraw from the next floor."

Some candidates and spectators are discussing about Sam as they spectated the tower.

Meanwhile Sam is being under the test that will lead him to the last set of the tests in the tower. The test to enter twenty-first floor.

Sam is sweating all over as he looked at the time as he sat on the platform. His conscious is wide awake. In his mind.

Sam is hanging on to a tall vertical rocky surface. He looked down and beneath him is a pool of hot lava, from which the hot vapours came out searing his skin. He looked upwards towards the mouth of the volcano. He can clearly see a blue sky filled with white clouds.

Sam started climbing. His spiritual energy is sealed and his memory is blank. The only thing he knew is that he cannot hold on to the rocky wall at the same spot if he wants to survive. His body has several cuts and bruises and some of the wounds are bleeding. He slowly started getting near the mouth of the volcano. When he finally placed his hand over the mouth and pulled himself up, a light flashed and he found himself at the point he started.

"F.u.c.k" He cursed out loud as he looked at the pool of lave very near to his legs. This is the fourth time this happened. Every time he climbed up with all his might, he will come back down as if he was struck in a loop and worse every time this happened, his injuries will worsen due to the close exposure of the heat from the lava. He is growing tired and he wants to rest, but something in his mind is telling him that climbing is the only escape route. If he wants to live, he needs to climb.

He started climbing and again reached the top and again came back to the bottom in a flash.

Fifth time.

Sixth time.

Tenth time. Sam is fully wounded. His skin cracked. He has third degree burns; he is holding the rocky protrusion with all his might. But he refused to give up. His palms are covered with blood and burns. He is hurting all over

and he still tried to pull himself up, but this time his hand lost the grip and he fell into the lava pool.

splash

Sam opened his eyes on the platform. He is drenched in sweat. His skin became cold.

pah *pah* He slapped himself twice to make himself more awake. He looked at the door which just opened and he felt anxious as to what to see in the next round.

His first ten rounds, he was put against powerful enemies, which he cannot win against. But he was given a fighting chance and the next ten rounds, he was put against the nature and was thrown into a helpless situation which he can't even put up a fight with. He really wants to see what would he up against next.

He slowly made his way to the next floor and the style of the runic patterns really changed. He sat on the central platform and closed his eyes. Suddenly a voice came in his mind.

[Oh, another young man. Seems like the younger generation is getting stronger and stronger. In one day, there are already seventh one. Let me see what you have in your head.]

The voice sounded like as if it was belonged to an old man. It sounded coarse. Just as the voice finished, Sam felt someone enter his consciousness and read him like a book. He found an old man's silhouette in his consciousness and all his memories flashed past him one by one and the memories were not just after his rebirth, but also the memories of the previous life. The Old man looked at the memories with a surprised expression. Then he turned towards Sam's conscious and said.

[your soul belongs to another world. I wasn't able to see how you got here; he seems to be of someone who is far more powerful. Anything related to him in your memory is unable to read. Coming back to your situation. You really seem to have gone through a lot in your past life. This might be a bit unfair to you, but I can't do anything about it. I hope your will is strong enough to make it to the top.] The Old silhouette disappeared as soon as he spoke without giving Sam any chance to speak.

Sam again felt a jolt in mind and his consciousness drifted again. He opened his eyes and saw a familiar place, very familiar that it etched into memory and into his very soul.

Sam looked at the shed he was in and looked at the kids of various ages from three years to ten years in ragged cloths. He is right now back to his past, this place is familiar to him, because this is where his four-year-old previous self, lived.

Sam looked at the door and had a bad premonition, he tried to remember why he was back here, but nothing came to his mind, The memory of his was only remained until the situation, the rest of the memory is blank, even though he knew that he got past this, but he doesn't remember how he got past this.

Suddenly, door opened. A young man in his twenties came in with a loud bang and looked around as if searching for someone, when his eyes landed on Sam, he immediately walked towards him and without any word he kicked him in his guts. Sam flew over and landed on the floor all the kids frightened and stood up from the grounds and huddled to other side of the shed.

"You little piece of shit. Why didn't you go to your shift today? Who will pay for the food you are going to eat?" He walked towards Sam and held him by his throat and felt Sam's skin was warmer and his voice grew harsher. "So, you have a f.u.c.k.i.n.g fever and slept in. Do you know what kind of opportunity you missed? If you have a fever, you should go and beg even more and you will make even more money. You made me lose so much today." He threw Sam on the floor and kicked him again and again. Then he turned towards the rest of the group and then said.

"You better not give this guy any food. If he wants to eat, he should go out and beg for money and submit the collection. Then only he will have anything to eat understand?" His voice grew louder and louder and the rest of the kids nodded their heads weakly.

After that guy left, Sam sat up slowly and leaned against the wall. He is looking at the bowl he was given for the begging and looked at the door.

He clearly knew the young man. When Sam was in the street, this young man reached out to him and said that he can go to the orphanage where he can eat, sleep and go to school like any other school. But he was smuggled to this place, where he has to beg all day to eat food. But he clearly didn't understand what to do. But he knew that once a kid tried to escape, he was beaten so bad that the kid died.

Sam looked at the door weakly. He picked the bowl and walked towards the door. He made his way to the streets and started begging. When he walked towards a deserted alley to sit, he saw something.

A van is there with a door opened and two men are talking. He overheard their conversation.

"When are we going to leave?" One person asked another.

"I don't know either. But before we leave, we need to find out that last group. Even though we caught almost all the leaders of these, we need to find that bastard who stole our goods silently. I heard that he is in this city and he is using our goods to make money." The man spoke as he waved a photo. Sam sneaked a peak at the photo and was surprised to see that.

Even though he wasn't able to understand what the two men are speaking, he knew that they are angry at the young man in the photo and the young man happened to be the person who beat up Sam.

Sam looked at the two men and hesitated a bit. He immediately left the alley and continued begging before he went back to the shed silently. He went to the young man and silently gave him the money he got through begging.

Young man took the money and still seemed to be a bit disappointed, he took the money and slapped Sam.

"Why is your collection still low? You are a waste for me." He scolded and threw a piece of bun at Sam and left the room.

Sam slowly made his way to the room and ate the bun which is definitely not enough for him. He tried to sleep and was thinking about the two men and whether to lead them here or not.

Last time, a boy tried to lead police here and what happened is that the police was bribed by the young man and the boy became victim and got his leg broken.

Sam was afraid that if he does this and get caught, he will also suffer. This is too much for a four-year-old boy. He can't seem to come to a decision and he only slept when he was unable to stay up due to his fever.

Next day he woke up again with a round of kicking. "How dare you to sleep again today? Didn't I make myself clear last night?" The young man kicked him again and again. Sam wept as he hugged his head.

Why? He asked himself. He was tired of this. He was clearly tired of this. After the beating was over, he took his bowl and went to the streets but this time he didn't beg anyone. He walked to the alley where the two men talked yesterday and waited there. He sat there for a whole day and when it was evening the two young man came again.

"There are no leads."

"For me neither." Two of them spoke with frustration. Sam walked towards the two men from his spot and then pointed at the photo in their hands.

When they looked at the kid pointing at the photo they were confused and shooed him away.

"Kid, get away from here. It is not a place for you to stay."

Sam didn't move and tugged one man's pants and pointed towards the photo and then towards the street.

"You know where this guy is?" One of them asked as he looked at Sam.

"Yes." Sam said and nodded his head. His throat hurt when he tried to speak. That is why he is refraining himself from speaking.

The two men exchanged glances and gestured Sam to show the way. When they reached the hide out and found the young man, they immediately started beating him up and only stopped until the young man is dead. The young man looked at Sam with resentment as he breathed his last.

"Don't worry, we will take care of you." One of the two men said with a smile. At the time Sam nodded. But he didn't know that this is situation that led him to a scenario of leaving the pan only to land in stove.

As soon as the young Sam closed his eyes, Sam who is sitting in the tower opened his eyes as he shivered heavily. That is one of the most painful memories in the past. The decision to rat out the young man, took everything a four-year-old has to offer.

He understood now. This is the third set of the trails. He has to live through the same scenarios of the past and take the same decisions he took. But it is not easy. Because, he would rather not live the scenarios again. When the door to the next floor opened, he started hesitating for the first time.

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Chapter 59: Last test

When the candidates who also passed the test of the twenty-first floor, Jack, Philip and the other guy from the trio, saw that Sam took more time than them to complete the same floor, they felt that he would withdraw from the twenty-second floor.

But before they could finish their thought process, they saw the twenty second floor lit up dimly. They didn't think that he would go further. Philip and Jack are confused. Then they heard Hawk saying.

"You guys know what the twenty-first round is. The test is according to one's own memory and the memory may not be of same time. So, we can't judge the ability by the amount of time we took."

After hearing that, they realized the situation. They also felt that they couldn't judge it like that.

Time passed and Sam slowly climbed from one floor to another and passed each trail. But the time required for each test kept on increasing. Sam came to the twenty fourth floor which the other guys failed or withdrew from. Sam is already in the floor for almost an hour. They felt like he might be pushing it too far. Just as they thought he would fail, the twenty fourth floor illuminated brightly.

The twenty fifth floor also dimly lit up. Sam didn't stop. He neither failed nor withdrew like all the other people thought. Instead, he advanced forward.

One hour passed, twenty fifth floor illuminated.

One and half hour passed. Twenty sixth floor illuminated. Slowly, Sam is getting higher and everyone in the crowd, including the bigshots are getting excited. They are anticipating what would happen.

Sam is right now, in a floor where the current Emperor set a record. This floor is the limit of the emperor and is the highest anyone has ever climbed. Now, another person is on the floor and he is a young man who is not even in his late-teens.

"Do you think this kid will make it?" Count Falcon asked Castor who is looking at the tower intently. He didn't answer to the question of his friend. He also wants to know. Will there be a genius who could beat the record set by the emperor himself? He is also curious.

Then another uproar broke in the audience attracting the attention of the Count. The twenty seventh floor illuminated after a long, long time. Someone reached the same level as emperor did. But they didn't see Sam coming out of the tower. Then they saw the twenty eighth floor dimly lit up.

"Damn, it."

"It can't be."

"Is he insane."

"Oh my god."

Everyone gasped as they saw the tower. Never did they expect that Sam would advance further.

Three hours passed. They just looked at the tower with mouths wide open. Even though it was almost midnight, no one is in a hurry to leave. They are all looking at the tower in anticipation. Then suddenly, the twenty eighth floor illuminated. Sam broke the record. He broke the record that was set by the emperor.

"He did it. He really did it." Count Falcon stood up from his feet as he spoke. Castor also looked at the tower with a surprised expression.

He saw the moment the Emperor's record is broken.

Twenty ninth floor. Sam is sitting there for a long time with his eyes closed. After he entered the twenty first floor, he has relived the worst scenarios of his past life. He has seen the past which he desperately wanted to suppress within his mind, but now they resurfaced again and he has to experience them all over again. Many times, he wanted to give up after a test is passed, but he gritted his teeth and just went along because, there is a voice in his mind telling him. 'Just one more step.' Every time he wanted to step back, his heart and mind are not allowing him to do that. They are urging him to take another step forward and he is finally at the twenty ninth floor. If he can get past this, there is only one more test, to complete this tower.

Sam opened his eyes with a jolt. The twenty ninth floor is over. He laid on the floor for a while to catch his breath. He is exhausted mentally. He looked at the door which opened and looked at it intently. He stood up and walked to the door slowly. He really wants to see, what he would be the final test. Because, he knew one thing about his memories. All the tests he passed now, there aren't even half of them, hell they might not even be a quarter of them of the whole incidents in his whole life.

When he entered the thirtieth floor, he is nervous and anxious to take a seat on the platform. But the spectators are just as anxious. They want to see, if the person would complete the Tower of Will. Would he be able to complete the quest even the emperor failed to? These are the things that everyone has in mind.

Sam slowly walked towards the platform and sat down. He closed his eyes and prepared himself to face whatever he has to face now. With a jolt, his conscious drifted to the distant past.

Sam opened his eyes only to see a familiar luxurious ceiling. He is in his eight-year-old self. He tried to move his arms but was unable to do so. When he looked at them, he saw that he was tied up to a bed. He immediately felt anxious, because he knew what would happen to him next. He sweated profusely and looked at the door of the room. He wished that the door would never open if possible.

But his wishes weren't fulfilled. The door opened and a mature woman walked inside the room in a revealing dress. She seemed to be in her late thirties, but actually she is in her early forties. She walked inside as she swayed her h.i.p.s and looked at Sam as if she was seeing a piece of meat served in a plate.

Sam clearly knew the situation. He was 'adopted by a big shot couple who are very popular and rich in India. As technology developed and country progressed, the people who practised their traditional arts became lesser and lesser and particularly in a country like India, where people are used to behave like a mob. If they see a person succeed in information tech, they will push their children to IT. If they see their neighbour's son earn high by working overseas, they will push their son to do the same. This is the most common thing that happens in India and it stayed even when they improved in tech and development of Economy and soon came a day where the people who are extremely proficient in traditional skills are treated like national treasures and the couple who 'adopted' him are actually to people who inherited the skills like 'Kancheepuram's textile making', Aari or maggam work etc.

But why was he tied up? Because the truth behind his adoption is that he was sold by someone to this couple who has weird s.e.x.u.a.l preferences and he is their new 'toy' who they bought to 'play'.

The lady slowly walked towards Sam and said. "You said, you wanted to study right? I will help you. But you have to be obedient and do whatever I ask you to. Understand?" She spoke and didn't wait for Sam's response as she climbed the bed with some 'tools'.

The next day morning. Sam walked out of the mansion, with a driver who is taking him to his private tutor's place. The lady agreed to let Sam study, but she will never agree to let him go to school, as it would be risk of getting their secret out. At the same time Sam looked at the young girl about the same age as him, coming out of the room of the husband of the lady. He only looked for a second and boarded the car.

Sam life continued like that for days. He will be going to the various tutors' house to learn different subjects. Even though, it was more tiring than going to school, it has some perks too. Sam's learning is extremely high that the teachers were stunned completely. They never seen any kid like that. But there is only thing that is different about this guy. He will never ever talk. He is completely aloof.

Sam days passed and the nights...

A year passed and Sam had change in the tutors for a third time. Due to his quick learning ability, he is far ahead of his peers and learning quickly. The couple who 'adopted' him though, didn't really care about that. They have money to hire tutors and they will have a 'toy' who is obedient.

But this time someone came into Sam's life. A young lady teacher, who is in her twenties became his art teacher. She tried to become closer to Sam and did so with her utmost effort. But Sam was completely repelled by her behaviour.

One day when Sam came to the art class, he wasn't able to sit his chair. Last night the 'play' affected him too much. As he was being obedient for sake of classes, the lady took it too far.

When the young teacher looked at Sam's situation, who is feeling vexed and didn't have any outlet to vent his frustration, she approached him and started talking. She told him her story and Sam was completely dumbfounded when he heard that.

She is also once 'adopted' by the same couple and that was when she was ten years old. She has been their 'toy' for more than three years until she crossed the age of their preference. She was again 'adopted' by someone else.

Sam looked at her and hugged her as he cried. He is after all an eight years old kid. How can he take all this abuse? Then from that day on Sam and the lady came to become closer and one day the lady said something to Sam.

"I have a way for you to escape this. If you do what I say, I will take you out of that house and you can study and play as you like." Hearing the young lady's words, Sam became tempted. Seeing his expression, the young lady passed him a vile and said.

"Mix this in their food and they will sleep for a long time. Then I will come and take you out of the mansion. Do it when they are alone." Sam took the vile and went back to the mansion. He hid the small vile carefully and went to his room.

Every night the couple will send all the workers of the mansion back and the couple and their two 'toys' are the only people left in the mansion before dinner. Sam walked to the kitchen slowly and emptied the vile in the juice the couple will have after dinner.

After dinner, as usual the couple started drinking the juice as Sam watched them from behind a wall sneakily. As the couple was talking and drinking, slowly they started losing consciousness. When they finally collapsed, Sam walked towards them and looked at their faces.

But when he looked at them his face paled in horror. The couple is bleeding from their mouths and nose. He just stood there rooted after realising what he did.

The young tutor sneaked into the mansion silently and looked at Sam and said. "Come here Sam. Let us go. They are just sleeping. We have to leave before they wake up." She said in a gentle voice.

But would Sam believe her? He has seen too many people die right in front of him and even though he was young, he can differentiate between people from being dead and alive.

He killed someone. This is the thought that came into his mind. He didn't know what is happening as the young lady dragged him out.

His world turned upside down. He became a murderer. Without even knowing why, an eight-year-old Sam became a murderer.

The Sam in the tower opened his eyes all of a sudden and saw the same old man's silhouette he saw when he entered the twenty first floor. The old man's face is not clear at all, but he can faintly sense that the old man is smiling at him.

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Chapter 60: The Old mans will

The old man and Sam looked at each other for sometime with out speaking anything. Finally, the old man himself broke the silence.

"Okay, you are a lot more patient that I thought. Don't you have any questions at all?"

"I do." Sam replied.

"Then why are you not asking?"

"Okay then. Why am I still here?" Hearing Sam's question, the old man got stunned and didn't know what to say. He thought inwardly. 'you have an unknown old man who read your mind like a book and the old man came directly to face you after the test is over and you have only one question and that is why are you still here. Why are you not following the norm? You should really ask who am I right? And why am I so awesome that I can read your memories right? But why are you in a hurry to go?' He heaved a sigh and finally said.

"Okay then I will say it myself. My name is Murali and I was an old expert once in this western continent. Right now, the one speaking to you is one of the wills I left behind."

"I understand. So, can I go out now?" Sam asked. This time Murali lost it again. After all, here he is saying that he was an expert in past and this kid is concentrating on when the conversation will end. Shouldn't he be awe and admire him? Shouldn't he be asking me for guidance and request me to take him as a disciple? The old man thought inwardly. He is supposed to be genius, then why is he acting dumb.

But did Sam really didn't know about the opportunity? Of course, he understood and that is the main reason he is trying to end the conversation. If he listens to more information, the deeper he would be in this shit. If Murali knew what Sam was thinking he might puke blood in exasperation.

"Okay kid, I will get straight to the point. I died a long time ago and before I died, I left my inheritance some where in this western continent and this tower one of the keys of that inheritance. There is a total of four towers like this each having different type of tests. To open the inheritance, the four keys has to be

put together. By now the other three towers already has a successor and this fourth one the tower of will, being the most difficult one of all, is late in finding one. The successors should be less than twenty years of age and has to be below Great Mage/Warrior cultivation. And the inheritance will open only when all the four successors are selected with the required criterion and now that happened.

I will transfer the ownership of the tower to you and the four of you can communicate together and open the inheritance at the same time. If you don't like it, you can bring a companion along with you and you can give them the inheritance. After all, it shouldn't be forced.

I saw that you have gone through a lot kid and I hope you will think it thoroughly before making a decision." The old said and waved his hand as he disappeared with a wave of light entering Sam's mind with some information regarding the tower and the inheritance. A small platform appeared in front of him and there is a palm shaped groove on it. Sam placed his palm on it and the tower ownership has been transferred.

Sam went through the info given by the old man and looked at the method to move the tower. He can decrease the size of the tower and store it away if he wants to do so, but Sam didn't do it and came out of the tower first.

When he saw the gawking crowd as if they are seeing an animal, Sam felt weird and walked towards the attendant responsible for the scores. Seeing him coming close, the attendant came to his senses and spoke loudly.

"Candidate Sam. Thirty floors. Cleared the tower of will. Thirty points." As soon as he finished every person stood up and started clapping loudly. Sam slowly walked towards the group/

"Congratulations Sam. You really are as good as Kelly made you out to be." The first one to congratulate him is Hawk. Sam nodded at him with a smile and latter walked away to give the group sometime for themselves.

Philip and Jack looked at each other and at Sam. This is the difference between them. That is what they thought inwardly. One by one candidates of the Starwood academy came and congratulated him. Even the Principal and City lord came. After some time, a voice silenced the commotion.

"The first round of the competition ended now. And the rankings are going to be displayed. As soon as he said that a screen appeared at the stage and there are two rankings that are being displayed.

The first one is the individual ranking and the second one is the group ranking. Both of which the first places were occupied by the Starwood city. The first three places are occupied by Sam, Philip and Jack respectively in the individual ranking followed by Hawk and in the same way, the first place in the group ranking, the Starwood city occupied the first place followed by the Falcon Cliff city.

"The second round of the competition will start at the noon and the candidates are requested to rest till then in the accommodations provided by the academy. You will be led there by an attendant. Come to the academy entrance at the time of competition."

As soon as Count Falcon finished speaking everyone started moving and left in their own ways. An attendant led the six groups along with their supervisors to the accommodation provided. Soon, they were taken to six stone houses inside the academy and each group was allocated one.

Sam looked at the shoddy house they were allocated compared to the rest of the houses and felt that something is wrong and looked at the attendant with a questioning gaze. When met with the sharp gaze, attendant who is far weaker than him immediately cowered and said. "Elder Arlo was the one who arranged the accommodations. I don't know anything." He said and left the place immediately.

Sam looked at the City lord and shook his head as he entered the stone house and picked a room to relax. After sometime, someone entered the house and there was some commotion outside which disturbed him from the rest.

He walked outside and looked at the person who came and is in confrontation with the City lord.

"Hello, my old friend. I hope the service is satisfactory." The middle-aged man with brown hair said sarcastically.

"Arlo, is it really necessary for you take it out on the candidates due to our personal grudge. I was the one who made a mistake and offended you and I am already facing the consequences, but why are you making it hard for the candidates, they are kids after all and have nothing to do with our grudge." City lord said dejectedly. But he only heard Arlo laugh sarcastically.

"Nothing to do with us? I don't care. They came here depending on you and everyone depending on you will be having a hard time in my turf." He said and then looked at Sam and others.

"Even though, your candidates did well in the first round, they still have to go through the second and third round and anything might happen. And if anything happens to them, you are the one who caused it." After that he gave a mocking look to the City lord and left the place.

City lord looked at the students with a dejected expression. Just as he was about say something, Sam walked back to his room. He already guessed this scenario and was not surprised that someone will come and give a warning.

Sam sat there and meditated to recover himself.

Meanwhile, at another stone house, the peculiar trio are in same room and are discussing something.

"Do you think he got the ownership?" Yuv asked the other two.

"He should get it. But the tower didn't show any signs. It didn't shrink and disappear from the spot like other towers. Do you think, he rejected it?" Yaar said.

"We don't know that for now. We can see that after the competition is over. We will try the method we used for another tower and see if it works after the competition. If it is successful, the ownership hasn't been taken and if we fail, we have to capture that kid named Sam." Yash said and the other two agreed.

Sam didn't know, that the trio which he noticed are plotting against him. He is deep in thought as he was thinking about something. He is going through the info provided by the old man about the inheritance. Even though, Sam knew that this might bring some problems, he still took the ownership, because the old man said that he can pass the inheritance to other person if he doesn't want it. Sam took ownership, so that if the inheritance is not useful for him, he can use it to obtain some resources from the site of inheritance and also, he can make use of the inheritance to get some benefits to himself.

Time passed and noon came. All the candidates and spectators gathered at the academy entrance. Soon, Count and Principal along with the elders came to the spot.

"Dear Participants, I congratulate you all for passing the tower of will and even if some of you guys aren't satisfied with your results, you shouldn't let it to hold you back. Will is important to the cultivators but it is not the only thing that is important and it is only one of the qualities which can be improved with time. So, don't be dejected and move forward.

The second round of competition will take place in the woods that are near the academy. We cleared a patch of woods and made some arrangements for the competition specifically. The rules will be announced by the Principal Castor when we arrive at the spot. I wish you all the best." Count falcon finished his speech and all the participants and the spectators applauded.

After sometime everyone arrived at the entrance of the woods.

Principal stood in front of the participant groups and said. "This round is a team competition. But you will not be participating along with your teammates directly. The teams will be jumbled." As soon as principal said that everyone broke into discussions. But Castor paid no heed and continued.

"In a few moments all the participants will be picking a token and will be divided into teams randomly. After that all of your cultivations will be sealed and you will be an ordinary human before we escort you to a place in the woods. Candidates will be blind folded and will be led into the middle of woods. Each team will be left in a different place and each team will have to work together to find the clues we have hidden and you can only use the resources we hid in the forest or the resources you obtain in the forest. You guys have to figure out the clues and find the scrolls which will unlock your cultivation in stages.

The teams can confront each other for the scrolls, food, resources and even for no reason. Each person's score will be calculated individually. And there are various ways to obtain points in the forests, which you will know a bit later.

But before that let me tell you guys something. Strength is not the only thing that will save you. You have to develop sufficient awareness and adaptability to be safe as well as to grow. I hope the candidates will keep that in mind and will do their best. I wish you all best of luck.

Now, please pick the tokens in the box." Castor finished his speech and the candidates proceeded towards the box which has tokens in it to pick their teams.