

Death 1391

Death... and me

Chapter 1391: Two Affinities

Before Hurio could say anything, his body was dragged to Wekil's side, who immediately took out the fragments Hurio had gathered. Following that, Wekil used a strange technique that made those fragments resonate with Hurio. After that, the Light Element inside those fragments came out and quickly enveloped Hurio's body, ultimately reaching his soul.

Arrrrgh!

Hurio couldn't help but scream in pain as the energy accumulated inside him. However, he could also tell that something different was happening. It was as if his own blood was awakening. The painful sensation in his soul gradually disappeared sometime later. At some point, Hurio felt more like he was welcoming a lost friend than being forced to accept it.

Eventually, all the pain was gone as the Fallen Light Star Fragments Hurio had gathered fell to the ground. It's just that they had lost all the Light Element they contained, so they looked more like normal rocks. Hurio, on the other hand, couldn't help but look at himself after that. Surprisingly, he could feel the presence of Light Element in the air. With a small amount of Divine Energy, he was able to instantly gather Light Element around him. "Is this what it means to have an elemental affinity?" He only had Energy Affinity until now. Being able to feel a real element as his affinity was a completely new experience for Hurio.

Rean was quite surprised to see that. It was the first humanoid race member he had seen using Light Element. Of course, not counting Wekil himself.

Wekil then nodded in satisfaction. "As I thought, your bloodline is truly pure. No wonder your clan puts so much importance on you. Even among the Crystal Angels, you're definitely above the average."

Hurio couldn't help but ask, "What about my Energy Affinity? Does that mean I lost it?"

"Of course not!" Wekil shook his head in response. "However, that doesn't mean you have two elemental affinities either."

Those words puzzled Hurio and Rean's group, so Wekil explained, "Energy Affinity is not really an Elemental Affinity. Energy is just energy. Our Crystal Angel race can have two affinities at the same time. However, those with such capabilities are extremely, extremely rare. Usually, we only have Light Element Affinity, and that's about it. I'm also included in this group. To be honest, even I feel jealous of you. Do you understand now why the elders of your family put so much importance on you? They knew you had what it takes to help our Crystal Angel race recover."

As Rean looked at that, he noticed something different, though. 'His Light Element Affinity...'

[Oh, you noticed?] Sister Orb said through their Soul Connection.

Rean nodded in response. 'Yes... it's not as good as mine.'

[Exactly. You could say that Hurio is at Roan's level when he exchanges Light Element with you for his own use. Of course, he can use healing abilities and things like that. However, he would never reach your level. Besides, his Light Element Affinity is a little different than yours.]

Rean couldn't help but ask, 'You mean that it's more related to his bloodline, right?'

[That's correct. Your Light Element Affinity is simply perfect on any occasion. However, his Light Element Affinity has better specific uses. Of course, he can still do almost everything you can, but to a lesser extent. In exchange, it's as Wekil mentioned, Hurio also has Energy Affinity. If not because of the Soul Gem System, you might fall short in comparison. Well, you do have it, so it's fine.]

Hurio was still shocked to find out about all of that. Obviously, Lilia and the others were left speechless as well. "This is a lot to take in."

Hurio then looked at the others and asked, "Ancestor, won't you awaken their Light Element Affinity as well?"

Wekil immediately shook his head. "I could, but it'll depend on their choices. As you can see, they already have other Elemental Affinities. If I awaken their bloodline's Light Element Affinity, it will conflict with their current one. Only one Elemental Affinity will prevail, but that conflict might end up with their bodies not being able to take the burden."

Hurio was taken aback after that. "What are the chances of them dying?"

"At least 90%," Wekil responded.

Mira and Lamanto didn't seem surprised at all. Obviously, they already knew of this before coming into the Lost Star Realm. "It's fine. The important thing was to help Ancestor come out. As you know, we are mixed-bloods, so it's to be expected."

Wekil then looked at Lamanto before saying, "I'm opening a spatial gate straight to your home here in Lanqueas Continent. Tell everyone there that the Lost Star Realm will be leaving the Realm of Gods, and those who wish can come together."

Kentucky couldn't help but ask, "You can move this entire place?! We took over a year to travel its total distance, you know? First of all, is it really okay to move this gigantic thing away?" Kentucky's doubt was basically the same doubt in everyone's minds.

Wekil pondered over it for a bit before saying, "Well, this place has indeed become the silver lining of the Lanqueas Continent. Besides, it's extremely rundown and would take too long to fix. Not to mention how expensive it would be to repair it."

Eventually, Wekil reached a decision. "Alright, let's leave the Lost Star Realm behind. It would be hard to hide this thing on the other side, so I guess it's a better idea to leave it here instead."

Kentucky felt like crying after that. Didn't that mean Wekil could still move the entire thing if he wanted to? He even talked as if it wasn't anything that impressive. "Sigh... whatever. We won't stay long here anyway."

Lilia then looked at Hurio and asked, "So we're part of the Crystal Angel race, huh?" She obviously received an explanation through Divine Sense from Mira as well. "I wonder how the things on the other side are."

Hurio grabbed her hand with a smile, making the girl blush a little. "We always knew that our clan had some big objective behind it. It's just slightly bigger than we thought."

"Slightly?" Lilia could use any other word than slightly.. In any case, she was happy enough to stay with Hurio, so it didn't matter.

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Chapter 1392: Considering The Idea

Wekil's eyes narrowed when he saw Lilia and Hurio acting like that. "What's going on between you two?"

Only then did Hurio remember, saying, "Oh, right. Ancestor doesn't know it yet due to being confined in this place for a long time. She's my girlfriend."

Lilia's face went red after that since it was the first time Hurio said it out loud. Well, everyone always knew that they liked each other. Besides, she was even happier now that he said that.

Unfortunately for her, Wekil immediately rejected the idea. "No can do. You two better get away from each other right now. Hurio has an extremely pure bloodline, which is rare. It could as well be called a miracle since he was born a mixed-blood, but his Crystal Angel race bloodline took over during his life. His identity as a dual affinity Crystal Angel is too important to be mixed with just anybody, especially someone with so little talent and mixed blood like you. We need him to procreate with another member of our race, one with a bloodline as pure as his or as close as possible."

This time, even Mira and Lamanto were taken aback. Looking at their faces, it was obvious that even they had no idea about this. Hurio, of course, hated the suggestion. "To hell with that. I won't take anyone else other than Lilia!"

Wekil's expression darkened after that, seeing that things were not going as he wished them to. "Are you two really willing to put the future of our race, which includes the same people behind you, in jeopardy? All because of some love bullshit? Before you answer, know that your decision will implicate the lives of countless Crystal Race beings, pretty much dictating their life and death. Are you really okay with that?"

Hurio and Lilia were taken aback after that. "This..."

Rean couldn't help but look at Roan and ask through their Soul Connection, 'Errr... should we even be here to hear such a discussion?'

Roan shook his head in response. 'I believe they simply forgot we existed.'

'Oh, so I wasn't the only one,' Rean replied. 'What should we do?'

Roan shrugged his shoulders as he replied, 'Isn't that obvious? We stay where we are with our mouths shut. I know what you're thinking. If it was just a problem between Hurio and Lilia, then I wouldn't mind if you tried to vouch for them. However, do you really want to meddle in a topic that can ultimately decide the future of their Crystal Angel race?'

Rean immediately shook his head. 'Not at all. I do consider them to be more or less friendly, but our relations don't go any deeper than that.'

Roan agreed with Rean. 'Exactly. Besides, siding with their relationship might anger Wekil, and it's definitely not a good idea to anger someone like him. We still need his help to reach the Treavin Continent.'

With that, Rean called their attention, saying, "Ahem... I believe this problem doesn't have much to do with us. Would it be okay if you teleport us to Treavin Continent already?" Sure enough, he truly didn't want to get involved.

Only then did Wekil remember the twins' group was still there. Surprisingly though, Wekil pulled Rean into the problem. "You seem to have some relationship with those two. Since you already heard what I said, help me convince these two as they still seem pretty unwilling."

Hurio and Lilia's eyes lit up as they looked at Rean. Perhaps he could convince Wekil to let them be. After all, Wekil owed Rean for his escapade.

Rean's mouth twitched in response. 'What's with all that sparkle in your eyes? You can't really expect me to go against this monster's words, right?' Nevertheless, he had to say something. "Cough, cough... this is a family issue. I don't think it's a good idea to let an outsider like me meddle with it, don't you think?"

Wekil shook his head, saying, "It's fine. Go ahead and say what you think."

Once again, Rean internally complained, 'Why the hell do we still get involved in all this bullshit? Can't we have some nice life and death situations, escape from them with good rewards, and get out? We were about to be sent to Treavin Continent without having to worry about anything else anymore, for fuck's sake!'

Of course, Rean didn't say that out loud. "Well... how about this? You said he only needs to procreate with pure bloodline Crystal Angel race members, right? So, how about you let Hurio and Lilia stay together but get him to do some loveless procreation with others?"

Lilia couldn't help but tear up as she looked at Hurio and asked, "Are you going to betray me?"

Hurio immediately shook his head. "Of course not!"

Wekil's expression went dark after that. "What kind of upbringing did you have in your life?"

Rean had already started to get angry. "Hey! I simply tried to give a solution where everyone would be happy. Hurio and Lilia can marry, while Wekil would get the pure bloodline children he wishes. If you have a better idea, then go ahead and say it! First of all, it was you guys who asked for my opinion."

Mira couldn't help but say after that, "To be honest, that was quite the shitty opinion..."

It was then that Kentucky remembered something, saying, "Rean, Roan, can't we use artificial insemination?"

The twins could already imagine where Kentucky heard that from. 'It was definitely Sister Orb.'

However, those words caught the attention of Wekil's group. "What do you mean by artificial insemination?"

Rean pondered over it for a bit, eventually explaining how it worked. "Simply put, Hurio would never touch any other woman, but he could still have children with them. From where we came, quite a few couples used this method. To be honest, the chances of impregnation are much higher like that."

This was such a novelty for Wekil and the company. It was the first time they heard about it. "What about the Yin and Yang of men and women to generate the new life?"

Roan snorted in response after hearing that. "I'm impressed that someone at your level believes in that bullshit. As long as you have the sperm and the egg, everything else doesn't matter."

Lamanto was even more curious, asking, "How come the chances are higher?"

"Because the seed is delivered directly into the right place. It wouldn't need to make its way to the egg, avoiding most obstructions," Rean explained. He then proceeded to give a more 'modern' explanation of the subject.

Surprisingly, Wekil and his race's members seemed to be seriously considering the idea.

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Chapter 1393: Another Time

Lilia then looked at Hurio with a conflicted expression as she said, "I think... I can accept this much. Otherwise, it would be better for us to separate here. As Ancestor Wekil said, I don't think our feelings are more important than the race's affairs and future."

Wekil would still prefer for them to simply move away from each other. However, it was also true that he liked Rean and Roan's ideas. After all, Hurio wouldn't need to cheat anyone and would still be able to have several children. For the race as a whole, which was now very few in terms of how many members it had, that was definitely a good thing. The only problem would be to explain this method to the others once they left the Realm of Gods.

However, Wekil decided to leave that topic for later. "Alright, they already explained how to do it, so we can talk about that another time. For now, Lamanto, go fetch everyone." Wekil then used his spatial powers to open a portal straight to their family's front door. Since it was inside the Lanqueas Continent, it wasn't anything difficult for him to do. "You have three days. Tell the head of the family to come to

me. I need to discuss a few things with him. If everyone isn't here by the end of the three days, we will depart without those who didn't appear. That's because it would be dangerous to stay here for any longer than that. I'm sure Braga already organized a team to come after us in this place."

Lamanto immediately nodded in response. All his injuries had already been healed by Wekil, who also had Light Element Affinity. Due to his cultivation, he was even faster than Rean in that regard. Of course, Rean would be much faster if he was at Wekil's level. That's the advantage Sister Orb talked about.

As soon as Lamanto passed through the portal, Wekil looked at the twins and said, "To be honest, I have a lot of doubts about you two. However, the fact is that you did help in setting me free, so I owe you for that. Our Crystal Angel race has always paid its debts, and it won't be any different this time. Is there anything else you wish for before I send you to Treavin Continent? After I'm done with it, I doubt we will ever meet again."

Celis immediately asked, "Maybe a lot of high-level Divine Stones? Rank Seven and above would be best." As mentioned before, Divine Stones at Rank Seven and above had Divine Origin Energy instead of simple Divine Energy. Unfortunately for Celis, Wekil shook his head as he told him, "I don't have any Divine Stone of that level here. As for lower-level ones, they were useless to me, so it has been a very long time since I had any of those."

Wekil pondered in silence for a bit before looking at the chamber that had kept him imprisoned. He then made a grabbing motion with his hand, and a flash of light came from inside. Right after, it stopped right in front of the twins' group. The light around it slowly faded, revealing an item that looked like a small cross. "You can have this, though. If you ever come to the place where the angel races live, this cross will help you contact us. At that time, we might be able to offer you some help if you need it."

Rean took the cross and sent it into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. Who knows, there might be one day that they'd really go there. "You said that the place where you live is not in the Realm of Gods, right? Is it some kind of Dimensional Realm?"

Wekil was surprised to hear that as he asked back, "You know about angel races, but you don't know that?"

Rean shrugged his shoulders, saying, "Sometimes things simply don't play as you expect."

Wekil didn't try to pry any further, though. "Whatever. Since you don't know, let's leave it at that. Perhaps it would be better for you to not know about it."

Rean's group didn't like the answer and insisted on the information. However, Wekil was adamant about not talking. "Now then, I'll teleport you to Treavin Continent. Let me tell you again that Treavin is really the limit of how far I can send you, so I can at most leave you close to the border between Yubisval and Treavin Continent. The rest of the trip will depend on yourselves."

Seeing that Wekil wouldn't talk anymore, Rean and Roan could only give up on it. "Alright then. Please send us over."

Hurio and Lilia sighed and then came forward. "Well, I guess this is farewell."

Rean and the others nodded. "Indeed. Then again, it was a partnership where both of us gained something. Plus, it did end with great rewards for both our groups. Perhaps we'll have the chance to repeat it again in the future."

At the same time... "Lilia, if you wish, you can still follow me. The great Kentucky shall take care of you."

Rean and Hurio's mouths twitched after that. Not because of Kentucky's words, but because Lilia seemed really interested in the proposal. 'Just why do girls like this guy so much?'

However, Lilia quickly recovered and shook her head, saying, 'I love you, Kentucky, but I love Hurio more. But do not worry, I'll pray for your future.'

Hurio felt like crying after that. 'So you love him as well?!' If Kentucky wasn't a Demon Bird, Hurio might have challenged Kentucky to a battle already.

Wekil didn't know what to say about that scene, nor did he want to. He simply waved his hand as the laws of space gathered around him. Soon after, they changed direction and covered Rean's group instead.

Vup, vup, vup, vup!

Four flashes of silver light soon covered them before it disappeared. Obviously, Rean's group was gone, just like the flashes of silver light.

Sometime in the future, a storm began to converge in the Lanqueas Continent. Out of nowhere, the top ten powers acquired immortal cultivation techniques, solidifying their positions in there... or so it should have been. However, some of those cultivators didn't want to share the immortal cultivation techniques they had and immediately escaped somewhere else. At the same time, the news reached the surrounding continents. Afraid of what the Lanqueas Continent could turn into, they decided to invade it.

Well, such a thing would take many years to even unfold, so the twins knew nothing about it.

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Chapter 1394: Absolutely Not The Case

A desert...

That was the best way to describe Treavin Continent. There were no such things as forests or seas. It was truly a continent filled with nothing more than sand, sand, and even more sand. Rean's group just so happened to appear inside this continent, close to the border between Treavin and Yubisval.

"So hot..." Rean said as soon as they appeared. "How hot is it? Like 50 degrees?"

Roan nodded in response, saying, "Probably something along those lines." He then looked around, but all he could see was an endless amount of sand dunes. "Celis, I'll send you back into the Dimensional Realm."

Celis also wanted the same thing, so he said, "Sure, I'll go back to cultivate." Celis then disappeared from the desert.

Rean and Roan then jumped on Kentucky after that. "Kentucky, let's fly. We don't really know where we are at the moment, so you can just fly in any direction. Of course, ignore the continental barrier behind us. Fly somewhere in the opposite direction."

Kentucky didn't waste time and immediately took flight. "Hmm... since the continental barrier is behind us and beyond it is Yubisval, then the Jhiod Continent should be on the opposite side. I guess I'll simply fly straight in that direction."

The twins didn't mind and instead sat down to focus on their newly acquired power. They had just jumped an entire realm in cultivation, so they needed to get used to it.

Rean didn't use the Light and Divine Sense bending skill, so Kentucky, now even bigger due to his breakthrough, could be easily seen. Not only that, but he also flew close to the ground, trying to attract the attention of possible cultivators or demon beasts.

Sure enough, the very first lifeform they encountered was a desert demon beast, a twin-tailed sand scorpion. When Kentucky passed, flying leisurely over its resting place, the scorpion immediately attacked. The sand beneath Kentucky exploded in a storm of sand that immediately covered Kentucky's group.

The scorpion then jumped from within the storm and aimed its two pincers at two different positions of Kentucky's body. Even if he defended against one, the other was sure to prevail... or that was supposed to happen.

Clang, clang!

Crack, crack!

The two pincers hit Kentucky's body... and broke apart like glass. The scorpion's double pincer attack was completely unable to break through Kentucky's defense. Seeing that it had chosen the wrong opponent, the scorpion immediately dove into the sand, trying to escape. Unfortunately for it, Kentucky didn't let him go. "Hey, look! We finally found a demon beast."

Kentucky didn't even need to move his body. Just his own Divine Energy alone was enough to hold the scorpion in place. Kentucky then focused some Divine Energy in his wings before flipping them once.

Vuaaaa...

Just like that, the sand storm the scorpion created dispersed as if it had never been there to start with. Kentucky then landed with the twins as they looked at the scorpion. "Stage Four Demon Beast, huh?"

"No wonder it risked an attack. If its cultivation was higher, it would have understood that Kentucky wasn't an opponent for it to meddle with from the very start," Rean said.

Roan narrowed his eyes, though. "Why did we even stop? Just let it go and continue."

Kentucky then looked at Roan and said, "Oh, it's just that I thought it to be quite surprising that the first demon beast we found is already at Stage Four. After all, demon beasts at Stage Three and below should be several times more numerous."

Rean shrugged his shoulders in response. "It's fine. In the end, us two are in the Peak Stage of the Elemental Transformation Realm, while you're at Peak Stage Eight. On top of that, we can easily dispatch average Transition Realm cultivators. It'll be way too hard to find demon beasts here in Treavin Continent that can possibly pose a threat to us." Rean then touched the locked scorpion and used his Instant Recovery skill. In a matter of seconds, both of the scorpion's two pincers regrew.

Rean couldn't help but comment, "Too bad it doesn't have intelligence. Otherwise, we could at least ask for directions..."

However, it was then that Kentucky intervened, "Oh, I don't think that's a problem. Look over there. There seem to be some people coming at us."

Rean and Roan had to narrow their eyes to barely make out the dots in the distance. If not because they were in an advantageous position, it would be very hard to notice those guys. "Your vision is impressive as always, Kentucky."

Surprisingly, all those people had their own mounts, and those mounts were also twin-tailed sand scorpions. Although it didn't look like it, the scorpions were really very fast in the desert.

However, when those people got closer, they also noticed Kentucky. After all, the Minokawa was several meters high already. Kentucky still needed to reach the Transition Realm before he could take a human form or shrink his body. Only Celis could do that because he was at the Transition Realm in the past.

Sure enough, those people stopped in their tracks and pondered if they should get close or not. Rean's group didn't seem the type of people they should offend.

Of course, Rean's group wouldn't let the chance pass up. Kentucky immediately took flight and shot in the group's direction. Due to the difference in cultivation, it looked more like Kentucky was coming to attack them, although he was flying leisurely instead. Everyone then braced for the impact, expecting Kentucky to land a huge blow to their group.

However, Kentucky simply flapped his wings once, and he came to an instant halt in midair before landing in the middle of the group. He didn't say anything, though. Instead, Roan and Kentucky let Rean do the talking as always.

"Hello, everyone! It's nice to meet you all."

The people on their scorpions looked at each other and couldn't help but feel a little nervous. Now that Rean was closer, they could check him with their Divine Senses. However, they couldn't feel the cultivation of anyone in Rean's group at all. That could only mean two things. Rean's group had no cultivation whatsoever, or their cultivation was so much higher that their Divine Senses couldn't detect them.. Of course, after seeing Kentucky's display of speed, the first option was absolutely not the case.

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Chapter 1395: Feeling Like An Idiot

Even though Rean complimented all the guys, he couldn't help but think, 'These guys totally look like bandits... oh well.'

"Ahem... We're in need of information about this place. Can anyone here tell me where we are and where the closest city is?" Rean asked.

The leader of the group could only step forward to talk in response. "Sir, you are in the South Miglia Desert. As for the closest city, it is located five days of sand scorpion ride to the north-northwest."

Rean nodded, satisfied. "Is that so? In that case, let me have one of your members show me the way to it. Who's willing to come?"

Immediately, everyone took a few steps back. No one wanted to get involved with those monsters in front of them.

Seeing that, Rean pondered over it a bit and looked at the Stage Four Sand Scorpion they captured. "The one who shows us the way can have this scorpion in the end. That's why you're all here, right?"

The leader of the group couldn't help but nod, saying, "That's correct. We have been following this scorpion for several days, trying to capture it. Would you really give it to us if someone shows you the way?"

Rean smiled after hearing that. "Of course. Kentucky, put it down. Just make sure to knock the scorpion out as well. Otherwise, these guys will have some trouble controlling it with their cultivations."

Kentucky nodded and hit the head of the scorpion with his beak. The scorpion immediately lost its consciousness because of that but didn't suffer any big damage. With enough rest, it would definitely recover in a few days.

The leader didn't expect that their group would be able to get the scorpion that easily. They had prepared many traps for that thing, and even with that, they weren't sure if everything would work out or not. "Thank you, sir."

Soon after, the leader of that group looked at one of his subordinates. "Falangia, you guide them to Dry Sky City."

The female cultivator was taken aback. "What?! Me?!" Obviously, the girl wasn't the least bit willing to be the sacrifice for that.

However, the leader was adamant. "Or you do that, or I can use you to feed our new Double Pincer Sand Scorpion King. Which one is better?"

Double Pincer Sand Scorpion King? Rean then looked at the scorpions the group was riding, and they were all Stage One or Two scorpions. As for the one Kentucky captured, not only was it Stage Four, it had a few different traits compared to the others. 'I see... if they tame this scorpion, it will be a great help to their own sand scorpions. The presence of a king would boost the lower-level scorpions' powers.'

The female called Falagia obviously knew that the leader wasn't kidding. The guy wasn't exactly known for being merciful. "Fi-fine..."

Rean then used his Divine Soul Power to grab the woman and put her on Kentucky's back. Seeing that, the other guys showed a knowing smile. It was as if they expected Rean and Roan to do something to her... and the female thought the same thing.

Rean and Roan looked at each other but didn't say anything. As long as she pointed the city's direction correctly, they would simply let her go once they arrived.

Kentucky then took flight and shot into the distance, leaving the group of bandits behind.

Ahhhhh!

However, the girl almost got thrown out of Kentucky's back and had to hold onto his feathers as tight as possible, or she would definitely fall. Only then did Kentucky pay attention to the girl's cultivation. "Oops, I didn't notice she was only at the Initial Stage of the Core Formation Realm." As soon as Kentucky said that, he released his Divine Energy and created a barrier that shielded the girl against the strong winds. Only then did the female bandit stabilize herself on Kentucky's back. Of course, Rean and Roan didn't need that. Such a thing could barely bother the two at all.

Rean then laughed before patting the girl's shoulder, saying, "Hahaha! It seems like your friends back there don't care too much about you, huh?"

The girl bitterly smiled and nodded. "It has always been like this, and I'm no different. Since I was the weakest link, the best was to use me as a sacrifice. I would have done the same thing in that idiot's place."

Rean was surprised that the woman admitted that so openly. "Seems like you have quite an eventful life."

Falangia sighed and then pointed in a certain direction. "Go through this route. It will avoid the sandstorm along the way, which should allow you guys to arrive faster."

She wasn't surprised that Kentucky talked, though. At the very least, she knew that Transition Realm demon beasts could speak, and she thought Kentucky was one of such demon beasts. That also confirmed how much stronger this group was compared to her. Well, Kentucky was still one stage away from the Transition Realm, though.

"You heard her, Kentucky. A sandstorm would barely affect your speed at all, but it's better to be safe than sorry," Roan said, wanting to arrive as fast as possible.

Roan then looked at the girl, who seemed quite nervous. "We won't kill you as long as you do your service well."

Falangia was taken aback for a moment but nodded in the end. "Th-thank you..." Soon after, she started to take her clothes off... In the end, she thought she would have to please the two guys if she wanted to survive. That's the service she thought Roan was talking about.

Roan narrowed his eyes seeing that, asking, "What are you doing?"

Rean shrugged his shoulder while the girl got completely naked. "Can't you see where we are? This is a desert. Since Kentucky is blocking the wind, she's probably feeling a bit too hot. Naturally, she had to take her clothes off."

Roan had to admit Rean had a point. "That makes sense..."

As for Falangia, she looked at the two with a weird expression. 'Who the hell would get naked just because they're feeling hot? I thought you wanted me to serve you. Isn't it all about sex?'

Unfortunately for her, Rean and Roan showed no interest whatsoever, making Falangia feel like an idiot for taking her clothes off.

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Chapter 1396: No Clothes

Of course, Falangia simply thought the twins were making fun of her and that they would eventually want to have sex in the end. She decided to stay like that until everything was over...or so she thought. Unfortunately for her, Rean simply looked at her to ask some questions. As for sex, that never happened.

“Well then. Can you tell us a little more about this place?”

Falangia, obviously, wouldn't go against the twins' orders. “What would the two sirs want to know?”

Roan immediately asked, “First, is there a teleport formation in the city we can use?”

“Teleport formation?” Falangia couldn't help but take a deep breath before replying, “It does... but it's extremely expensive to use.” One must remember that for the average low-level cultivator, even a single Rank One Divine Stone was hard to get. “I just heard about it, but to use the Formation Guild's teleport formation, you need hundreds of Divine Stones.”

Rean nodded in response, asking, “Which rank?”

“What rank?” Falangia asked back in response.

Rean looked at her with a weird expression before saying, “What else would it be? I'm asking which rank of Divine Stones the Formation Guild is asking to let others use their teleport formations.”

Surprisingly, Falangia didn't even know that there were different ranks of Divine Stones. “I... don't know. Was there supposed to be more ranks of Divine Stones?”

Rean and Roan looked at each other after that. 'Seems like this place is even poorer than Lanqueas and Huring. She doesn't even know about the Divine Stone ranks...'

Roan nodded after hearing that. 'That's to be expected. If Treavin is really just a huge desert, then Divine Stone mines are probably scarce compared to the other continents. But then again, it's exactly because they're poor that other continents probably don't want to waste their time dominating it.'

'That's true,' Rean agreed. Soon after, he looked at Falangia before taking three Divine Stones from his spatial ring. "The first one is the Divine Stones you probably see every day, a Rank One Divine Stone. The second is a Rank Two Divine Stone. As for the last one, it's a Rank Three Divine Stone. Well, the Rank Three ones are quite hard to get."

For Falangia, who had rarely ever touched Rank One Divine Stones, just feeling the Divine Energy inside the Rank Two Divine Stone left her shocked. As for the Rank Three Divine Stones, it made her think she could have an instant breakthrough with that thing. There was just way too much Divine Energy inside that one. "To think such a wondrous thing exists..."

Rean then threw a Rank Two Divine Stone to Falangia and said to her, "I can't give you a Rank Three Divine Stone since they're expensive, but you can have this Rank Two. You are at the peak of the Initial Stage of the Core Formation Realm, right? To be honest, that's a very low cultivation for your age. You're what? Twenty already?"

Falangia looked at the Rank Two Divine Stone Rean gave her and barely had the capability to answer. "I'm... nineteen..." She then looked at Rean and asked once more, "Can I really have it?"

Rean nodded. "Such Divine Stones are very easy for me to acquire more, so just take it. Consider it the payment for showing us the way to the Dry Sky City."

Falangia was obviously excited. However, she didn't forget Rean's first words. "You said my cultivation is low? I'm quite good to be at this level at my age if you compare me to others."

Roan glanced at Rean and told him, "Don't forget how much poorer this continent probably is. Haven't you felt the Divine Energy in the air yet? This place doesn't have even a fifth of the normal Divine Energy we had in the other continents."

Rean nodded after hearing that. "Well, that makes sense."

Because Falangia lived close to the continental barrier, she obviously knew about other continents. It's just that it was the first time she saw someone who said they come from there. "You're not from here?"

Rean nodded again. "Exactly. That's why we're a little lost in this place."

Falangia then took a deep breath and began to explain. Who knows? Perhaps this was a great opportunity. "Then let me tell you what I know. We're in Miglia Desert, located on the south side of Dry Sky City. Dry Sky City is located in the Terga Country's southeast side."

Well, Rean and Roan already expected that location. They came from Huring, after all. Jhiod was supposed to be in the northwest portion. Naturally, if nothing went wrong, they would always enter the next continent from somewhere on the eastern side.

Falangia continued, "I heard that we're part of the Vankotis Region, but I don't know much about it. I can't say much more than that, though. I've always lived in Dry Sky City."

Rean was satisfied with that. He had the jade slip with the general locations inside. With just that much information, he was already able to see where they were at the moment. "That's more than enough. Which power is controlling your Terga Country?"

"Power?" Falangia was puzzled. "You mean the lords of the cities?"

The one who was puzzled now was Rean. "Not really. For example, is there a royal family? Maybe some government? Things like that."

Falangia shook her head as she explained, "As far as I know, each city has its own rulers. However, I've never heard about some bigger power controlling them. Everyone fend for themselves. Anyone who wants to control a city can simply kill the actual city lord and take over. No one will complain about that."

Rean couldn't help but mention, 'It feels just like Africa back on Earth.'

Roan agreed with that. 'The difference is that Africa was rich in resources, but this place is the opposite. In any case, such a lack of controlling power should only be present in the outskirts of the continent. The center is bound to have some big power taking care of things.'

Kentucky then warned the group, telling them, "Hey, I think I can see the city."

"What?! Already?!" Falangia was taken aback. They left the bandits no more than an hour ago. Just how fast was Kentucky?

Rean then looked at Falangia, who seemed shocked by every single thing that happened. "By the way, even though you're feeling hot, is it really okay to enter the city naked?"

"Ah!"

After so many mind-blowing surprises, only now did Falangia remember that she hadn't put her clothes back on yet.

Death... and me

Chapter 1397: Small Help

Seeing Falangia put her clothes back so fast made Rean laugh out loud. "Hahaha! So you weren't feeling hot, after all. Still, why the hell would you think we wanted to have sex with you? Is that a common thing in the Treavin Continent?"

Normally, Falangia wouldn't feel embarrassed with this kind of situation. She then remembered the twins came from outside Treavin, so she explained.

In this place, raping and things like that were normal. It also went both sides, so both men and women suffered from it. Of course, women were assaulted several more times for obvious reasons. Here, good had no meaning. That's why Falangia immediately thought she had to have sex with the twins. It wouldn't be the first time she was forced into this situation, and it wouldn't be the last either. Recently, such problems diminished because she entered the Core Formation Realm. That meant she had some strength for protection.

Then again, it was useless if the other side was at the Nascent Soul Realm or above. Naturally, Nascent Soul Realm cultivators were still relatively common. It's just that in the Treavin Continent, the average age of those who reached the Nascent Soul Realm was at least double compared to Huring and Lanqueas Continent, for example.

Rean's smile disappeared as he heard more about it. "This... sorry for asking such a thing."

Falangia was even more surprised. Someone with Rean's power could dominate a city, so one would never hear them apologizing for anything. "It seems like the outside is quite different..."

Rean nodded and said, "I won't say it is perfect. The strong are those who rule outside as well. I'm sure that things like that happen from where we came from since there's no such thing as a perfect world. However, raping is looked down upon by the majority, with the exception of countries governed by evil path cultivators. Here, however, it seems like to be a common thing regardless of the place."

Falangia couldn't help but ask, "Are you really not going to ask me to service you? You do have the power to do that."

Rean and Roan had absolutely no interest in doing such a thing, though. "Don't worry, we have principles. Even if you were willing to, we wouldn't do it anyway since we have our own loved ones. They're the only ones for us."

Falangia thought that to be strange. "So what if you have someone else? There's no lack of strong cultivators in this country who build their own harems. There are even a few female cultivators who have become strong enough to make their own male harems as well."

Rean shrugged his shoulders after hearing that. "Sorry to disappoint you."

Falangia sighed in response. "No, I guess I'm at fault here... it's just that this is the kind of reality I've been living my entire life. Even before my body was old enough to have such a relationship, I had already lost my virginity to some drunk guys. Here, you have to cope with it and press forward if you want to survive. Only when you get a high enough cultivation will you get to make the rules."

Falangia saw the dark expression on Rean's face and continued, "There's no need to feel sad for me. Sure, I've been used many times, but you saw that, didn't you? I was also part of that bandit group. In the same way I was brutalized, I have brutalized many people too. That's the law in this country and possibly the entire continent. I don't know much about the entire Treavin, but I at least know it is a desert everywhere. Maybe things are a little different at the center of the continent, though. Anyways, I'm far from being an innocent girl."

Rean looked at Roan, who nodded. 'I can't detect any lies in her words. It's probably because we're much stronger than her that she doesn't dare to invent things. She should know that trying to deceive those with higher cultivation comes with great risks, especially in a place like this. She's very intelligent to admit she wasn't any better than the others who did everything to her, so you have to give some praise there.'

Rean agreed with Roan. 'Sigh... the cultivation world really makes Earth look like a paradise.'

Suddenly, Kentucky stopped several kilometers away from the city. "Alright, this should be enough." Kentucky then looked at Falangia and said, "If things really are like you described, then you're just asking to be killed if you enter the city while holding that Rank Two Divine Stone. You should use it to break through before we continue forward."

Rean was surprised by Kentucky's insight. "That's very thoughtful of you."

Kentucky laughed in response, saying, "It's my mission to protect all females of the world, regardless of their race. Hahaha!"

Falangia couldn't help but ask, "What's wrong with him?"

Roan shook his head in response. "Just ignore the perverted bird. However, he is right. Since Rean gave you that Divine Stone, you should use it right now. It should be enough for you to enter the Middle Stage of the Core Formation Realm."

Falangia couldn't help but ask, "You know I'm not any better than others, so why are you trying to help me?" It was in her nature to be doubtful. No, it was better to say it was in everyone's nature when it comes to Treavin Continent. As far as Falangia knew, the twins might be doing that with some ulterior motives behind their curtains.

Rean didn't seem to care, though. "I told you, we're different. Alright, if you don't want the Divine Stone, then I'm taking it back. We can't stay here forever."

Falangia immediately shook her head, clutching tightly onto the stone. "No, wait! I want it!" She then sat down on Kentucky's back and took a deep breath. Soon after, she started to absorb the Divine Stone's energy. She had never felt so much energy like that before, so her bottleneck shattered like a stone being thrown against glass.. Naturally, she easily reached the Middle Stage of the Core Formation Realm.

Death... and me

Chapter 1398: The Oasis

It didn't take long for the Divine Stone to shatter due to the lack of Divine Energy inside. It was a breakthrough, after all, so it's normal for a lot of Divine Energy to be used. Seeing that she was finished, Rean smiled and said, "Congratulations. Now then, let's go."

With that, Kentucky immediately flew to the city. Unlike the outside, this city in the middle of the desert didn't have walls. It was really the first city Rean's group saw without some protection formation covering it or something of the like. In fact, Kentucky even saw some desert demon beasts attack one side of the city. Then again, it didn't seem like anyone other than those being attacked cared about it.

Kentucky's size obviously caught a lot of attention. Stage Eight Demon Beasts were several meters high, after all. Yet, even after flying over the city for a while, no one tried to stop them. Well, they probably thought that Rean's group was related to the Beast Tamer Guild, so it wasn't that unusual.

Eventually, Falangia saw the thing the twins were looking for. "There it is. That's the Formation Guild, and also the place where you can pay to use the teleport formations."

Rean and Roan nodded and immediately landed on an open space. The people in the street quickly opened up a clearing, not daring to get close to that group. However, what truly impressed everyone was how that enormous demon bird suddenly disappeared in thin air.

"What?!" Falangia was also shocked, of course. "Where is he?"

Rean and Roan didn't really need to hide that capability anymore. They could simply say that they had spatial rings capable of holding life. At their cultivation level, they didn't have much to fear anymore, at least not in a place like this one. No one would find out about the Soul Gem System because of such a thing, either.

Rean then used his Divine Soul Power to cover Falangia before he and Roan shot forward. They were too fast for the people around to follow with their eyes, so the twins simply disappeared as fast as they appeared. Only when they arrived in an empty corner did the two stop.

Poor Falangia was feeling all dizzy at this point. In the end, the twins' speed was too much for her body to resist. "Wh-what happened?"

Rean then touched her body and immediately sent a wave of Light Element into her body. Not only did her dizziness disappear in a flash, she had never felt so good before. Rean controlled himself this time, though, so the girl didn't moan, at least.

"How do you feel?" Rean asked with a smile.

Falangia couldn't help but turn slightly red before nodding. "I'm... I'm fine."

"Let's go to the Formation Guild, then." Rean's group then joined the crowd on the street as no one paid attention to them. The place where they stopped was located by the side of an oasis, and the Formation Guild was also close to it, just a few kilometers away. "This explains why the city was built here."

Falangia nodded, explaining, "The city itself isn't that old. Oases aren't things that last very long. This one, for example, took form around 400 years ago. In fact, it's quite small compared to back then. At least that's what I heard. I don't know if I'm going to be here when it dries up, but some believe this one won't last more than a hundred years."

Roan couldn't help but ask, "Can't the cultivators simply gather Water Element and fill it up? With this many cultivators, it shouldn't be a hard task."

Falangia shook her head as she replied, "It doesn't work. The problem is the land itself. It will absorb any extra water thrown into it. It's like this everywhere in this country. Once the lake dries up, this city will probably fall, and another one will rise somewhere else when a new oasis appears."

"That's quite an interesting concept," Rean said as he walked. "Well, people here should already be used to it anyway."

"That's true." Falangia agreed with Rean.

Rean could also see that there was an island in the middle of the oasis with a building that looked like a palace. "Let me guess. That's where the actual city lord lives."

Falangia nodded in response. "Indeed. This City Lord has been in control for twenty years already. He rose into power a year before I was born. Considering how fierce the competition is, it's quite impressive he lasted this long. It's probably because of his cultivation. Some say he's in the Initial Stage of the Transition Realm, which no one City Lord had achieved before."

Sometime later, they arrived at the Formation Guild. "Here we are. You can inquire about the teleport formations inside."

Rean nodded before saying, "Well then, thanks for guiding us. We can move on our own from here. Also, there's no need to worry. I used a concealing technique on you, so no one was able to see your face when we arrived. No one will come after you later, thinking that you have something good to steal."

Falangia was obviously surprised to hear that. "Th-Thank you..."

"Well then, until we meet someday." The twins didn't waste too much time and bade farewell. The breakthrough into the Middle Stage of the Core Formation Realm should have been more than enough payment, after all.

The twins then entered the Formation Guild, leaving Falangia on her own. In the end, she couldn't help but murmur to herself, "Perhaps we can leave Treavin Continent one day. Now that I think about it, I haven't even asked their names..."

Unlike the cities in Lanqueas and Huring Continent, the cities in Treavin Continent were rather small. Dry Sky City, for example, didn't have more than four million people. One must remember that even a small city on the other continents would usually have more than two hundred million in them. The good thing was that since Falangia had lived here since she was born, she knew pretty much the entire city like it was her backyard. "Well, let's go home."

Death... and me

Chapter 1399: Lucky Child

Little did she notice, but a certain white-haired man was looking at her from not far away with his Divine Sense. By his side, an identical man with black hair instead seemed quite annoyed. "Why the hell are you following her?"

Rean smiled in response, saying, "We have been traveling and getting into dangerous situations nonstop during the last few years. We're always on edge, aren't we? We might as well take this chance to rest a little."

Roan narrowed his eyes after hearing that. "Rest is indeed essential for one's progress. Especially since our cultivations went up an entire realm in just a few days. However, that doesn't explain why you decided to follow that girl. Is this your idea of resting? I wonder what Qia would think about it."

Rean shook his head, though. "I'm not following Falangia because I have an interest in her as a woman. It's just that when she said she wasn't any better than the bandits outside, I felt like that wasn't the entire truth. You know how I am. I like to help people. That's my way of resting."

Roan shrugged his shoulders when he heard that. "That's nothing more than indulging in your own desires."

Rean didn't deny it. "Maybe. But since I can do some good with it, I don't see the problem."

Roan shook his head but didn't tell Rean to stop. "In any case, I was going to have us rest for a few days anyway. Since that's what you want to do, so be it. I'll be heading to the Alchemist Guild to check on a few things." Without waiting for Rean's answer, Roan immediately disappeared.

Rean didn't mind and followed Falangia to see how was the life of the weaker people in this place. Of course, Rean didn't only follow her. He also spread his Divine Sense to watch everything around. Now that Rean had reached the Peak Stage of the Elemental Transformation Realm, his Divine Sense finally had a good range of coverage. It went as far as eight kilometers, which was just a dream before. Of course, part of the reason it went that far was that Rean's Divine Energy was fused with his Soul Power. Otherwise, it would be around half that distance.

Along the way, Rean noticed how chaotic this place was. It's not that he hadn't seen it in the cities of Lanqueas and Huring, but it occurred several times more often. Killing, robbery, raping, everything that could be done was done. The worst thing was that everything happened in broad daylight, but no one seemed to care. Even Falangia passed by a scene where a younger girl was being raped. Although she narrowed her eyes in response, she didn't intervene and continued forward. That situation happened way too often for her to care anymore.

Rean couldn't help but sigh at all of it. 'The thing that bothers me more is the fact that the victims probably aren't any better than the assailants themselves. The killing intent coming from that girl being raped wasn't something you would find in an innocent person. No doubt she killed her own share of people as well. It might be happening exactly because the guys assaulting her wanted revenge.'

Nevertheless, Rean just couldn't hold himself back in the end. After Falangia disappeared from that scene, two rays of light shot forward, piercing through the heads of the assailants. All three fell to the ground, unconscious. Rean didn't kill them, though. Without knowing the full story, Rean wouldn't pass the judgment that easily.

The girl saw that and didn't know what had happened. However, she saw a change, and her killing intent immediately intensified. That was her chance to simply kill those guys. However, it was then that she received a Divine Sense Message. 'I didn't kill them because I don't want them to die. Now, you better leave before I make you go unconscious, just like them. I wonder which one of you will wake up first after that.'

The girl felt a chill on her back, and any thoughts of killing immediately disappeared. Soon after, she took their spatial rings and ran away. Then again, Rean said that she just couldn't kill. He didn't say she couldn't rob the guys. Seeing that scene made Rean's mouth twitch a little. 'Even though she knew I'm much stronger, she still risked taking their belongings. I guess everyone here is always risking their lives.' Rean didn't do anything to the girl, though. 'Let's just say that's the payment for their actions... I guess? Sigh... I feel like a hypocrite.'

In any case, Rean did intervene a few more times on his way, especially if kids were involved. It's just that he never killed anyone.

Dry Sky City wasn't as big as the cities Rean had been before, but it also didn't have the infrastructures. That being said, there were no teleport formations to send people around the city. If they wanted to go somewhere, they had to walk there. The good thing was that cultivators were much faster than common people, so Falangia still arrived at her destination in just thirty minutes or so.

With that, Rean understood something. 'No wonder she said maybe 'we' could leave the Treavin Continent one day. She has a child.'

Falangia entered a rundown house that had a very simple concealing formation inside. The good thing about it was that the scarce Divine Energy in the air was barely enough to keep the formation running. Her child seemed to be around eight years old, which showed that Falangia was impregnated when she was around ten or eleven years old.

Along the way here, Rean had seen plenty of pregnant women, especially women who had low cultivation, like those at the Body Transformation and Energy Gathering Realm. Many were below eighteen for sure, so Rean couldn't even feel surprised with that scene.

What surprised Rean was the fact that Falangia didn't abandon her child. Now, that's a rare thing in a place like this. 'Seems like I wasn't wrong. She isn't as bad as she portrayed herself. As far as I've seen, most of the kids in this city don't seem to have any parents to take care of them.. Falangia's daughter could be said to be a very lucky one already.'

Death... and me

Chapter 1400: Roan The Hero

Of course, once again, it wasn't just an issue for females. Everywhere Rean looked, he could see those with low cultivation being abused in some way. Men were absolutely no exception. It's just that in the end, men couldn't get pregnant. It was as simple as that. 'Well, if there's one thing you can get from such an environment, it's experience. If you survive, that's because you stood out compared to the others.'

Falangia was still far away from such a thing, though. Being nineteen at the Core Formation Realm would be considered a super genius back in Sunkan Planet or the Zasfin Planet. However, in the Realm

of Gods, that wasn't anything at all. It's just as she mentioned. Her cultivation could only be considered something substantial in the Treavin Continent or some other place with similar standards.

Meanwhile, Roan decided to not do anything cultivation or battle-related for now. After they left the Lost Star Realm, Celis went back to cultivate with the remaining Rank Three Divine Stones. Their cultivation simply advanced too much, so those Rank Three Divine Stones would only last until they reached the limit of the Elemental Transformation Realm. Not only that, but Celis calculated the time and told them that it would take at least three years for that.

Roan soon found a problem, though. 'When I'm not training or battling, I basically have nothing to do. Maybe I should pay a visit to the Alchemist Guild? But then again, the level of the Alchemist Guild in this place should be quite low. Earning Divine Stones wouldn't be a good idea either as the people here are much poorer.'

Roan wanted to relax for once, but he simply had no idea how he should do it. It was then that he noticed a kid being assaulted just for fun in his Divine Sense. That wasn't all. Just like Rean, he noticed similar things happening every few kilometers around him. He simply hadn't paid much attention before.

Roan had never been a good samaritan. But surprisingly, perhaps out of boredom, he decided to help the kid. With a flash of Dark Light, the three cultivators beating the kid dropped to the ground, dead. Sure enough, Roan wasn't as merciful as Rean, even though they did the same thing. The people near that scene noticed it and immediately opened distance, not wanting to get involved with whoever did that to those guys.

As for the kid, he didn't know what had happened. He only got up quickly and tried to leave the place. Unfortunately, he had a few bones broken, so he moved very slowly. Roan was a little surprised, though. The kid definitely wasn't more than five or six years old. In fact, his injuries were anything but minor. However, the kid still didn't cry. He bore the pain that even most adults would have difficulty bearing.

"Not too bad, kid," Roan said, appearing in front of the kid like a ghost.

"Ah!" The kid might be able to deal with pain, but that didn't mean he couldn't be scared. The poor guy fell on him, but when Roan suddenly appeared like that, he couldn't do much. "Wh-What you want? I already ate the bread! I can't give it back. I didn't kill those guys either!"

Roan immediately understood what had happened. This boy had stolen food from those cultivators a while ago and got caught. That's why they were giving him a beating. Well, Roan didn't feel pity for them. He could tell with a glance that those guys were from the evil path. The bloody aura around them was too easy to identify. "I know. I was the one who killed them. What's the point in fighting someone so much weaker than you? It disgusts me."

Roan then touched the boy's shoulder.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

With the difference in cultivation, Roan didn't even need to exchange elements with Rean. Just his scythe's Light Element Gathering ability was more than enough to heal the boy, who was just in the Foundation Establishment Realm, in a few seconds.

The boy looked at his body and how the pain had disappeared. Not to mention how good he felt with Roan's Light Element. Nevertheless, he was suspicious of him. "What do you want?"

Roan snorted before walking away. What did he want? Roan doesn't want anything. He was just bored. Roan then spread his Divine Sense once again and looked for more cases like that. However, he didn't help everyone he found. He only intervened when it was a case of adults bullying kids. That's because, in a place like this one, there's probably no such thing as innocent adults. Falangia was a very good example of it. Kids, on the other hand, didn't have the strength to fight back, so it was still somehow okay to help them. At least until he got bored of doing that as well.

Because of Rean's Light bending skill, no one saw Roan walking around... except for the first kid he saved. 'Seems like this kid is from some race with a good sensory ability...' Well, it wasn't like Roan was putting much effort into hiding anyway. The funny thing was that the kid tried to stay hidden so that Roan wouldn't notice him.

After that, Roan walked around and ended up crippling or killing a few more people during the next three to four hours. In a certain way, he didn't dislike getting rid of those trashes. It made him relax a bit, so he simply continued in that hero-like behavior until he got tired of the kid following him.

He entered a less crowded alley and waited for the kid to appear. Yet, the kid stopped a few tens of meters away from there, as if he knew Roan was not moving. 'Oh... Now, that's a better sensory ability than I thought.' Roan's body then flashed, disappearing from his position.

"Ah!" Once again, the kid was scared by Roan's sudden appearance. It's not that he didn't feel Roan, but that he didn't even have the time to react before Roan arrived.

Roan then looked down at the kid and asked, "So? Why are you still following me?"