

Death 211

Death... and me

Chapter 211: Late Stage

The night quickly arrived, and Rean left for the Cultivation Tower with Roan. There, Roan passed him a bottle with ten white-colored pills that exuded the power of Light Element.

"Oh, so these are the Cultivation Estabiling Pills..."

Roan nodded.

"Yes. This should help us with the Cultivation Stabilization process. Let's start our breakthrough straight away."

Rean and Roan had already finished the Heaven's Might Water they acquired from Elder Buran. As expected, the results were not that impressive. Still, it would help them nonetheless. It's just that there was one thing Rean was puzzled about.

"I thought we got enough materials to make quite a lot of pills, no? After all, they are still only Foundation Establishment level ones."

Roan agreed with Rean.

"Yes. I do have more material to make at least twenty or so more pills. However, the more pills we take, the smaller will be their effects as our bodies will begin to reject them. Besides, we are far ahead in our cultivation schedule. It should be fine for us to keep the rest for after we enter the Peak Stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm."

Rean had to admit that Roan was right. At the moment, they are still eight months away from the Universal Restraint day. Since they are already making a breakthrough, there should be more than enough time to accumulate energy for the next one.

"Alright. Let's start then."

The twins then entered a room each and used the Energy Gathering Formations. As mentioned before, the Energy Gathering Formations of this place could also use Spirit Stones. That being said, Rean and Roan took out several Rank Two Spirit Stones to use during it.

'Sister Orb, is everything ready?'

[Yes. The Soul Gem System's cultivation manuals are flawless. As long as you follow it to the letter, your breakthrough should go quite smoothly. Not to mention that you already reached the limit of what you could do in the Middle Stage, so it should be even easier for you two.]

But it was then that Sister Orb asked.

[By the way... what about this Chick?]

At the moment, the Chick was swimming in the Yin Yang Water inside the Bathhouse. The bath was still a few months away from accumulating the necessary energy for another Bath Time. However, there was a problem. The Chick was absorbing the little bit of Yin Yang Energy that accumulated inside every time. Because of that, the bath wasn't able to accumulate energy at all.

Rean couldn't help but shrug his shoulders, though.

'Well, it keeps following me everywhere. If I leave it behind, the Chick will begin to go crazy. In the end, I could only bring it with me. The problem is that I can't have it following me into every corner, so I could only send it into the Dimensional Realm. It seems like this is the only place where the Chick doesn't cry when it is not with me.'

[But... What about the Yin Yang bath? It was supposed to be used by the two of you.]

Roan agreed with Sister Orb.

'That's why I told you to fry the chicken for us to eat. Since you already gave so many Spirit Stones to it, this chicken's meat is probably quite nutritive.'

Rean narrowed his eyes after hearing that.

'Can't you feel the connection with the Chick? You should be able to tell that it can also use Dark Element.'

'So what? It's still a chick. Then what? We will have a Chicken or a Roaster that can use the same element as us? What's the point in that?'

'Don't be ridiculous! Where have you ever seen a chick of this size? I only call it Chick because it looks like one while it's young. First, let's give it a few months. If it turns out that it can't do anything else, then we can think about what to do with it. Besides, it is not like losing just a single Yin Yang Bath will make that big of a difference.'

Roan sighed but didn't say anything else. It's just that he wasn't sure about the Chick's power either. Otherwise, he wouldn't have stayed silent.

With this issue out of the way, Rean and Roan finally started their breakthrough. The Spiritual Energy of their Rank Two Spirit Stones and the Heaven and Earth's one immediately surged in their direction. At the same time, Rean and Roan's hairs changed into white and dark colors.

Dark and Light Elements began to gather and enter their foundations. Thanks to the Light and Dark tenth pillar of each of their foundations, it was even easier to do the exchange. As mentioned before, Rean and Roan's manuals used both elements to help them progress in their cultivation.

The Spiritual Energy then entered the pool inside their Yin and Yang Dantians, quickly flooding it. After the pool reached its limit and couldn't take it anymore, the Twins used all the Spiritual Energy for the breakthrough.

Dark and Light Elements raged inside their dantians as the pool of Spiritual Energy increased in size. The Spirit Stones outside broke one after another, just to be replaced by new ones that were already prepared beforehand.

Finally, a final burst of Spiritual Energy came out of the twins' Dantians, sending everything around them flying. Fortunately, this was a room made so that the cultivators didn't need to be worried about it. The only things that were swept away were the Spirit Stones the twins were using, and nothing else.

Right after, the Spiritual Energy on the surroundings began to stabilize once more as their breakthrough into the Late Stage of the Foundation Establishment finished. Of course, just as predicted, the Spiritual Energy inside their Dantians was as chaotic as it could be.

"Phew... it is finally over. Alright, take one of the Cultivation Stabilizing Pills."

Finally, the pills they worked so hard for made their appearances. As soon as they swallowed the pills, a surge of Light Element, Dark Element, and Spiritual Energy entered their Dantians. However, they were several times more gentle than the ones present there at the moment.

Soon, the chaotic and gentle energies began to mix together into one. That process forced the chaotic energy into a calmer state, which helped Rean and Roan to stabilize their cultivations. Still, the effects of the pills didn't happen in a second. This process takes time to complete, which means that there is no use in taking more than one pill at once. Nonetheless, the effects were amazingly good.

"No wonder so many people look for these Cultivation Stabilizing Pills. This thing is simply too helpful."

Roan nodded.

"Indeed. If I'm not wrong, it will take two days to finish absorbing one Cultivation Stabilizing Pill. Once that happens, wait a day before taking the next one. Otherwise, your body will develop resistance against it much faster. Keep doing it until the ten pills are finally gone. By the end of it, our Cultivations should be good to go again. That will give us seven entire months to accumulate energy to enter the Peak Stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm."

With everything set up, Rean and Roan left the cultivation tower to do their own things. Rean went back to the Formations Hall and once again started his studies with the books left behind by Droman. The good thing was that he could both absorb the pill's effect while reading.

'Sigh... it will really take a long time to finish this pile. As for memorizing everything, I'm not sure if I can do it before Droman is back.'

As for Roan, he preferred to go back to Old Worm's hut to practice alchemy some more. He can now make Cultivation Stabilizing Pills, but he didn't want to stop there. Perhaps, he will have a need for other pills in the future. For example, Energy Gathering Pills at the Foundation Establishment Level would be very handy. Especially if he makes Light and Dark Elemental ones.

'Hum... let's first try to build a list of items that I could use to create those pills. I can use Hulian to put some missions up for the items I can't buy. If I can't come up with something, I'll go ask Old Worm about it.'

Just like that, the days began to pass in a flash. Soon, two months were gone.

During this time, Rean and Roan had completely stabilized their cultivations and began to cultivate again. Since Rean wasn't taking Metals as payment for the Steelworks sellings anymore, he got even more Spirit Stones. Obviously, they didn't lack any Spirit Stones for cultivation.

Rean pondered if he should begin to ask for Peak Quality Forging Materials. However, he quickly gave up the idea. The problem was that usually, one wouldn't be able to make them before the Core and Soul Fusion Realm. Rean wasn't even a Core Foundation Realm cultivator yet, let alone Core and Soul Fusion. He doesn't believe he will make a weapon at that level before he is at least a Late or Peak Stage Core Formation one. Of course, he only considered making attempts at those cultivations stage level because of how much bigger his Spiritual Pool is compared to others.

Today, Droman had finally found some time to go back to the Dalamu Sect. The installation of the cables for the communication system wasn't much of a problem. The issue was the new Router Formation. Even after two entire months, he still hasn't finished devising one. In the end, he decided that it might be better to consult Rean about it. Also, it was an excellent opportunity to test Rean's progress in formations.

'Perhaps he can even help me with this new formation somehow.'

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Chapter 212: I told you, didn't I?

As Rean was busy with his Formations Master Study, Roan occupied himself with Alchemy. However, Roan had another duty that he couldn't ignore. As one can remember, he was the one who gave the girls of the Blue Orchid District the Death Style Manuals.

There was nothing much he could do about it. There were several moments that Amanda or the other sisters of the Blue Orchid District would get lost at what to do. Of course, Roan wasn't free every time they needed him. That being said, he and Amanda reached an agreement. Once per week, Roan would take three hours of his time to help the girls with their questions and training of the Death Style. Naturally, that was only the case if he was in the sect. If he were on a mission or sect duty, he obviously wouldn't be able to. However...

Bang!

Suddenly, a female cultivator of the Blue Orchid District was sent flying, crashing against the ground on the other side of the training field.

"Why the hell are you using the meridians on your wrist during the skill release?! Are you an idiot to that point? Or maybe you think you are so great that you can ignore what I taught you and do your things, uh? If you really want to do that, at least think about the output of Spiritual Energy, fool! To increase the power of the attack, you disregarded your elbow stability. It made it so easy to parry your attack that I might as well use my finger instead of a sword during the next time."

He then looked at the other girls waiting on the side and shouted with a cold voice.

"NEXT!"

Another female cultivator then entered the field. Too bad that she was trembling as she looked at the demon in the form of a 12 years old kid. Although it was them who called him over to help with their doubts, he would often use straight combat to show how it was done.

Because of that, his position in the girls' heart was quite complicated. On one side, they were happy since his instructions would always target the very essence of their abilities. Not to mention that he did all of that almost for free. One must remember that he exchange those teachings for permission to come to see Malaka when he or Rean felt like it. That was indeed a trade that was very disadvantageous to him.

On the other side, he was merciless! That was quite a strange feeling for those female disciples. Usually, the boys would try to please the girls of the Blue Orchid District. After all, Inner Sect Elder Zaia only recruited talented female cultivators. They were the perfect dao companions that most of the male cultivators of the sect dreamed about. However, it looked like Roan saw all the girls as nothing more than bags of flesh and bones. Well, they were right. Roan simply couldn't care less whether they were beauties or beggars.

It was a good thing that Roan didn't try to gain their favor. It was proof that he was more interested in their skills as cultivators than how beautiful their outlines were. Still... Roan really frightened them to their bones!

"Why are you taking so long? Attack me already!"

The girl then gritted her teeth and initiated her attack.

clang, clang, clang...

Roan exchanged a few moves with the girl when suddenly, he saw an opening. His sword moved in a ridiculous pattern, blocking her saber completely. Right after, he used his leg to kick the girl's one. The girl then lost her balance and fell on her butt.

Swish!

Suddenly, a sword made of black energy passed through her neck.

"Ahhh!"

She couldn't help but close her eyes as she screamed. Not only her, but the other female disciples outside the field cried as well, thinking that Roan would cut her head.

However, all that happened was that a tiny cut appeared on her throat. A little bit of blood came down from it, but that was basically the extent of the injury. A day would be more than enough for a cultivator like her to have it healed completely.

"Are you fucking kidding me? Who the hell would close their eyes in front of a killing blow? That will only make you die faster!"

Roan then turned to Amanda outside.

"What the hell are you guys teaching these girls? Sure, you all have very high talents, I admit this much. You were able to use my Death Sword Style quite well too. However, how come there is such a massive lack of experience? It's a miracle that these girls are still alive!"

Amanda couldn't help but get angry.

"It's not that they lack experience. It's just that your training methods are as scary as hell!"

All the other girls around nodded their heads unanimously. They weren't lying. If it was someone else, they wouldn't be trembling every time they heard the person's name.

"Yes! It's because it is you that we get like this!"

"You could be more gentle!"

"Don't you know how to treat ladies? What did your parents teach you!"

"It's because you are a demon!"

"I had gone out for mission several times. Obviously, I had my own share of fights, danger, and killing. But I've never confronted someone as terrifying as you!"

"I even started to have nightmares about you!"

All the girls then lost their patience and began to nag Roan without stopping.

Roan narrowed his eyes for a second when suddenly, he snorted.

"I didn't expect to achieve this result so early. That's great! This is enough for me to start the second part of my plan."

The girls got puzzled at those words. Amanda, as the leader of the girls, immediately asked while a foreboding feeling overcame her.

"What... second part?"

Roan coldly smiled as he looked at her.

"Oh! I just had an idea some time ago. I have a few contacts in the Mission Hall, you know? From now on, I'll check the reports of your missions when I come by for these training sessions. If I find out that you failed or performed badly... Hehe!"

The contacts were obviously none else other than Elder Hulian or even the Sect Master. Unless it was something secret, Roan was sure he could get ahold of all the reports of missions performed by these girls.

The girls couldn't help but feel a chill on their backs when they heard that, though.

Roan then continued.

"Pay attention. I want you to remember my face when you get into those life and death situations you talked about. I want you to ask yourselves, is this enemy as scary as what I'm going to do with you if I find out that you failed a mission? I'm really looking forward to the next training sessions. I'll make sure that the ones who do not perform to my liking will receive a very special... treatment."

Before Amanda or any of the girls could even reply, Roan looked at another two figures present at the moment.

"You two better not think that I will leave you aside. In fact, due to our long-lasting... friendship... I will require much greater performances from your tasks."

Those two just so happened to be Julio and Lenna. Roan had passed them his Death Sword and Spear Styles, so they could be said to be under his tutelage too. Still, he didn't want to waste too much time on other things, so he packed them together with those girls of the Blue Orchid District. Amanda couldn't really refuse it since that was his condition to keep these training sessions. Of course, she warned them to keep their mouths shut about anything they see inside.

At first, Julio and Lenna were quite happy to be able to participate. But they soon were forced to remember the time back in the Sect Entrance Exam. Too bad, though. They had already been dragged into this. In the end, they became fellow sufferers with the Blue Orchid District girls.

"W-w-w-we will do... our best."

Roan nodded and showed a faint smile.

"Of course you will. After all, I don't think you can survive what I have prepared for you two if you fail."

Julio and Lenna's faces became pale as ghosts. For some reason, they didn't think Roan was kidding at all.

Finally, Roan looked back at the Blue Orchid Girls and shouted.

"Why are you still wasting my time? NEXT!"

While the girls and Julio receive all of Roan's 'love' in the training field, Malaka had just returned from another cultivation session with her Sect Master.

"Master is just like Roan. She doesn't give me free time at all! All my bones are hurting already."

Together with Malaka, there was a woman who also served the Sect Master as a maid. When she heard that, she just shook her head.

"Sect Master had never taken a disciple before. You should be happy that she is putting so much effort into your training. Trust me, you will not regret it in the future."

Malaka looked gloomy but nodded in the end.

It was then that she noticed that she arrived in the training field. Suddenly...

Bang!

Crash!

Julio had just been blasted away by one of Roan's attacks, falling right beside Malaka.

"During the last attack, your Spiritual Energy wasn't in synch with your Element. It made you lose your balance when I applied just a little pressure on the spear shaft. Go back and ponder about it."

Roan then looked at the two girls who just arrived, and his eyes lit up.

"Oh, you are here. Great! Come insid-"

Before he could even finish his words, Malaka had already turned around and... fled! Not only that, but she was really, really fast! Her training sessions with the Sect Master were obviously showing concrete results. However...

"Inna Malaka! If you make me leave this training field to catch you, I promise that you will want to die!"

Well, Malaka completely ignored the warning. She just got herself free from one demon. How could she accept to fall on the hands of another one?

Roan saw that and snorted, though. Suddenly, his hair changed into a mix of white and dark colors.

'Life Style, First Form, Enhancement!'

Malaka was just about to disappear in the distance when suddenly, a hand appeared on her shoulder, bringing her body to a complete stop. Right after, a voice capable of freezing hell sounded in her ears.

"I told you, didn't I?"

So what if she was much faster and stronger now? In front of Roan and Rean's Life Style, escaping wouldn't be more than a pipe dream!

"Noooooooooooo!!!"

The hand then began to drag Malaka back to the training field, completely ignoring her scream. Poor Malaka's lucky star had not been shining recently...

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Chapter 213: You are still my little sister

The maid that accompanied Malaka was called Mila. The truth was that she wanted to help the girl. However, she couldn't do so. Sect Master Mia had told her to take care of Malaka while inside the Sect. If someone tried something, she should deal with it as she sees fit. There was an exception, though.

"Mila, help me!"

"Sorry, my lady. But Sect Master gave me an order to not do anything if your two brothers were involved."

Mia made it very clear. If Rean and Roan were the ones to try something, she must not intervene. Because of that, she could only look at Malaka's teary face as Roan dragged her back to the training field.

Malaka also looked at her senior sisters with a pitiful expression. Too bad, though. Roan gave them an 'if you try to bother me, you die!' stare. All the girls trembled from bottom to top. As much as they were united in the Blue Orchid District, there were limits. Well, Roan was definitely above that limit... by far!

In the end, they all paid their respects to Malaka as if they were in front of a dead person in a coffin.

"Your memory will always live in our hearts, little sister. Rest in peace."

"I'm not dead yet!"

Roan ignored all their antics and kicked Malaka's butt inside the stage.

"Stop with this bullshit. You had been under the Sect Master's tutelage for some time already. I want to see what you learned so far."

Roan then went to a weapon's rack on the side and took a simple wooden staff. Malaka had Rean's High-Quality Flowing River Staff. That was the name he selected for it. Malaka has an affinity with Water Element, so he made that Staff gather Water Element from the surroundings once Spiritual Energy was used with it. Since Malaka was already a Water Element user anyway, no one thought it was the Staff alone who gathered the Water Element. However, Malaka's High-Quality Staff was definitely far stronger than other High-Quality Equipments.

However, even though that was the case, Roan took one of the most simple wooden staves for training on the side.

In fact, Roan acted in the same way with all the girls and Julio. The girls of the Outer Sect were at most at the Peak Stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. Any other would have already entered the Inner Sect or applied to become an elder. Some would even return to their home to work for the Sect around their region. That being said, no one could force Roan to bring out his White Star.

Of course, Roan wasn't any less scary just because he was using standard weapons to train them. So what if they could use their Spiritual Equipments? Neither of the girls or Julio thought that they would have an advantage while fighting him on the stage for even a second. Malaka knew Roan a lot better than the rest. She knew that the reason Roan took a wooden staff wasn't to give her an advantage. Oh no, not at all! It was just that with that wooden Staff, he wouldn't need to be afraid of injuring her... too much!

"Rooaan~. I-I can't fight now. I just came back from an intense training with Master. My entire body is aching~. You see? I won't be able to show anything good. What about we leave this training session to another time, yes, yes?!"

Roan narrowed his eyes. He then got close to her and began to squeeze her body everywhere, making Malaka feel like laughing. If Roan wasn't Malaka's 'brother' and a 'kid,' the girls and Mila would have jumped in, thinking that Roan was taking advantage of her. Of course, Even if Roan was not a 'kid,' he would not harbor such useless thoughts towards her anyway. Well, he wouldn't do so for any other woman in the world either. Once again, they are all just bags of flesh and bones in his eyes.

"Hum... interesting. It seems like Mia is really putting some effort into your training. Somehow, she brought your cultivation all the way up to the Middle Stage of the Foundation Establishment. However, I can't feel any instability in your foundation at all. I guess this was to be expected considering her status and access to cultivation resources. Not to mention that different from Rean and me, the Sect definitely doesn't lack cultivation manuals and skills for Water Type cultivators."

Malaka nodded vigorously.

"Yes, yes! See?! I was really training hard! That's why she gave me the rest of the day free to rest my body. It is not good to keep training without stopping. Sooo~ can we have this fighting lesson another day? Pleaseeeee~?"

Mila then came onto the stage and bowed to Roan before saying.

"Lady Malaka is not lying, Junior Roan. Although she tried to escape several times, Sect Master made sure to keep her in her place and complete all the tasks. It is also true that her body needs some rest before she returns for more training tomorrow."

Roan glared at Malaka.

"Tried to... escape?"

Malaka felt like crying.

'Couldn't you simply say that I completed all the tasks? Why did you have to mention I tried to escape?'

Of course, she didn't dare to say those words aloud.

In the end, Roan simply snorted as he put his hand on Malaka's shoulder once more.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

Roan's ability to control and to lock Light Element was far from being as good as Rean. However, he could still use his skills. First of all, it wasn't as if Malaka was injured. Only that her body was strained after a long period of hard training. With Rean's Second Form of the Life Style, that would be more than enough to recover her body. Of course, Light Element can't eliminate the necessity for resting. Still, that was more than enough to allow Malaka a few more hours of 'harmless exercises.'

"Done. Now you can keep going for a while longer."

Roan then ignored Mila's shocked expression on the side and opened some distance from Malaka.

"The maid over there, you are in the way. Get out of the stage."

Mila's mouth twitched, but she still complied.

Once she was gone, Roan suppressed his own strength to Malaka's level and pointed his Staff in her direction.

"You better take it seriously, or it will hurt even more."

Malaka was really feeling helpless. Why can't she simply have a carefree life? Is she asking for too much? But before she could finish lamenting, Roan had already stepped forward and attacked. He covered the wooden Staff with Spiritual Energy and Light/Dark Elements to protect its integrity too.

Malaka's eyes narrowed as she immediately entered the Death Style Combat stance.

Bang, bang, bang!

The two then exchanged several hits before they were forced to separate from each other by a burst of Spiritual Energy from both sides.

Roan and Malaka then used their staves against the ground to stop themselves from drifting further away.

All the girls outside looked at that with wide-open eyes. Of course, Julio was impressed too. When Roan went against the girls or Julio, Roan would always suppress his own strength to their level. Still, no one could last for that long or force him back like that. After all, Roan's Death Style always aimed to finish the fight as fast and deadly as possible. However, just now, Malaka had fought Roan at the same level.

"Ohhh!"

Roan couldn't help but show a faint smile.

'Mia is doing a good job with this brat. She didn't make Malaka change weapons and kept my Death Style. That's obvious since I doubt she would be able to develop a better style than mine. Especially after Malaka practiced it for so long. However, I can see that she made a few arrangements in my formula. Not only that, but they were even more fluid. It's not that my teachings were wrong, but that I'm not a

Water Element user. As much as I want to, there will always be things I can't account for. However, Mia is a Water Element user, just like Malaka. The small changes she added to the manual turned out to be very effective.'

Roan then stepped forward and attacked once again.

As for Malaka, she couldn't help but feel a little excited. It was the first time she was able to keep up with Roan.

Bang, bang, bang, bang.

The two of them kept fighting until suddenly, Roan used an opening to strike Malaka's right side on the ribs. However...

'Death Water Style, First Form, Flowing Dragon!'

Malaka's Flowing River Staff glowed with blue light. Right after, an Azure Dragon's Head and Tail Spiritual Energy Projection appeared on the two sides. During that split of a second, Malaka's Staff moved like a snake, bending into a complete arc and blocking what seemed to be a sure hit blow.

Roan's eyes couldn't help but show a hint of surprise.

But that wasn't all. What blocked Roan's attack was the Azure Dragon's Head. Malaka used that bending to attack with the other side of the Staff that had the Dragon's Tail. For a moment, it really looked like the Azure Dragon spun his body to make a Dragon's Tail attack.

Roan only had time to bring his Staff back to block the attack head-on!

Bang!

Crack! Shatter!

Roan's Staff couldn't really compare to Rean's High-Quality Flowing River Staff. It was just a wooden one, so it immediately shattered even though it was covered with Light and Dark Elements and Spiritual Energy. Right after, it hit his chest, sending him flying back.

However, Roan was still Roan. He used the Spiritual Energy and Elements' dispersion as a driving force that sent him in the same direction. Since his body and the attack were moving in the same way, the damage was mitigated by more than 50%. Not only that, but it also forced Malaka to retreat in the opposite direction.

Finally, Roan and Malaka ended that exchange with Malaka coming up on top.

The girls and Julio's mouths were almost hitting the ground. It was the first time they had seen Roan getting injured. Right after, they exploded in cheering!

"That's it, Malaka!"

"Show him what our Blue Orchid Faction can do!"

"Take the demon down!"

"You can do it!"

"Yay, yay, yay!"

Malaka, of course, was even more excited than the girls.

"Hahaha! Did you see that, Roan?! I want to see how you will bully me from now on! Hahaha!"

However...

"Hehe..."

Suddenly, everyone felt like a cold wind passed through their bodies.

"Hehehe..."

Roan looked at the purple mark on his chest as he laughed.

"Good! Good!"

He slowly made his way to the weapon's rack once more and took out another wooden staff. Then he began to walk back in Malaka's direction.

Roan's strength was still suppressed to her level. Not only that, but he didn't change the weapon and took another wooden staff. Simply put, the initial conditions of this battle haven't changed at all.

However, everyone around the stage and Malaka herself could tell one thing. This Roan in front of them was several times scarier than they had ever seen before.

"That was a good skill. It seems like Mia fused the Staff Skills in the Death Staff Style Manual with her own ideas, giving birth to that Azure Dragon form. The Dragon's head to defend, and the Dragon's Tail to counter-attack. I have to admit, she really knows what she is doing. No doubt, you had been improving by leaps and bounds with my Death Staff Manual and her teachings. It's finally time for me to begin to take your training seriously."

Roan then looked at the girls and Julio outside the arena.

"I told you before to remember my face when you were out doing missions, right? That you should think about what I will do with you if you fail or perform them poorly. Very well, I'll show you now what will be waiting for you if that happens."

Malaka heard that and began to sweat rivers!

"Wait, wait, wait! There is no need to go that far, right? I'm your little sister. Don't take it this seriously!"

Roan smiled after hearing that.

"Why are you so scared? I'm still using the same weapon. My strength is still suppressed to the same level as yours too."

Those words didn't comfort Malaka even a tiny bit.

"Oh well, there is no need to worry. You won't die. After all, you are still my little sister, right? You will just wish that you were dead, that's all. Trust me, I'm doing it for your own good."

Malaka wanted to flee, but reason told her that things would get even worse if she tried to do so. All the confidence she had a moment ago was completely gone too. Roan exuded an aura that made one think a demon had been reincarnated in his body.

Well, as one can imagine, what happened next was not a fight... It was a one-sided massacre!

If the girls and Julio were already scared of Roan before, now they didn't even dare to look directly at him.

They all reached the same conclusion. They will complete their missions perfectly even if they have to die trying!

Death... and me

Chapter 214: Elder Faulk

Roan usually stayed at most three hours in the Blue Orchid District but ended extending this time because of Malaka's sudden appearance. After making sure he put Malaka in her place, he finally left, but not before leaving a final warning.

"I believe you saw just now what is waiting for the lazy ones. I'm looking forward to seeing the results next week."

The girls trembled once again and immediately avoided his gaze. They understood that Roan had been hiding his real scary side all this time. Only after Malaka gave him a good hit did he finally show what it meant to be ruthless.

Of course, even though Roan made Malaka suffer quite a bit, he healed her completely with Rean's Life Style. In the end, she just had to go back and rest. The impressive thing was that Malaka still had enough energy to sulk after everything was over. It was quite remarkable since none of the other girls would be brave enough to complain right to Roan's face after receiving such a beating.

Roan didn't care, though. He simply turned around and ignored the angry-looking girl. Well, Malaka's angry face couldn't really scare anyone to start with...

Still, on his way back to Old Worm's hut, Roan seemed quite satisfied.

'I created that Flowing Dragon Skill for Malaka back then. It is part of the Death Staff Style Manual. However, it was a little too dependent on Spiritual Energy manipulation. Malaka was in the Energy Gathering Realm, not to mention that she was still a kid, so she couldn't use it before. Now that she is in the Foundation Establishment, she was able to bring it out. However, it looked completely different from what I devised. The essence of the skill was still there, but its form was not the same as what I created. There is no doubt, Malaka showed the real Death Staff Style Manual that I made for her to Mia.'

Roan had mentioned it in the past. The Death Style Manuals that he made for others to use was not at the same level as what he and Rean practiced. Of course, they were usually at the same level or were even better than the others.

Nevertheless, there were exceptions. For example, Juri, Alanda, and his Parents got a version that was almost at the same level as his one. The only reason it wasn't at the same level was that none of them used Light or Dark Elements. Still, he made his best with what he knew, bringing them very close to it.

As for the last exception, it was obviously Malaka. Her manual, too, was at the limit of what Roan could create at the moment for a Water Element User. Every time he made some new breakthrough in his Death Style, he would send a copy to Varen Tribe and revise Malaka's one in the Sect.

In Juri, Alanda, and his parents' case, he warned them to never show them to anyone else. If possible, they should do their best to memorize everything and destroy it right after. Malaka, of course, was the same.

'Still, Mia seemed to have been able to obtain it.'

However, after what he saw today, he didn't think it was a bad thing.

'Mia completely modified the Flowing Dragon Skill with her own understanding. Not only that, but it turned out better than my own. Although it lost a little of its deadly power, the defensive and surprise elements got several times better. It was an excellent trade as far as I can see.'

Roan couldn't help but feel a little excited.

'Indeed, there is just too much about the application of Spiritual Energy that I still don't know. I was afraid that I would get to the limit soon, but I was so wrong that I feel like I'm an idiot. If Mia can already improve my Death Staff Style like this, then I still have a lot to learn. Perhaps, this was Mia's message, showing that I'm still far from understanding the principles of Spiritual Energy. No, I can't even tell if I'm at the starting line or not. That's how big the difference between Mia and me is at the moment.'

Roan's eyes shined for a second as he looked ahead with a newfound resolve.

'So what if I'm far? That's perfect. The further it is, the more interesting it will become. I'm truly looking forward to it.'

However, Roan also understood another thing.

'She modified my Death Staff Style Manual. However, she didn't let Malaka give up on it. That being said, one thing is sure. When it comes to the use of weapons without Spiritual Energy, even she can't beat me. That's why she didn't pass a different Style for Malaka to practice. At least, it seems I'm on the right path.'

Roan then increased his speed and returned to the Alchemist Hall to continue his alchemy practice.

Back on Rean's side, Droman had just returned to the Sect and went straight to pay him a visit. Rean was quite relieved since Droman took longer to return than he thought. That gave him enough time to finish studying the Formation's Books that Droman passed to him.

"So, how was it? I chose those books because I thought they would give you the best results based on what you showed me."

Rean nodded.

"Indeed. If I make the same Energy Gathering Formation now, I can increase its power by at least 5%. But I also noticed one thing. Did you select those specific ones because they were also connected to the Communication Formations?"

Rean found out that some of the books were not related to the Energy Gathering Formation but to Lightning Type ones. Still, they were just basic books that were far from enough for Rean to become proficient in it. Besides, Rean hasn't tried creating any Lightning Type Formation yet.

Instead of answering Rean's question, he made another one.

"Did you comprehend them?"

Rean pondered a bit about their contents and nodded.

"I did comprehend them. In fact, they were the easiest ones in there. I haven't tried making any Lightning Type formation yet, but I'm pretty confident I could make a very simple one."

Droman couldn't help but nod in satisfaction.

"As I thought, that's where your talents reside. The Lightning Type ones were easier for you because your mind works around the Lightning Runes much better than it does on the other types. You might not know this, but every Formations Master has a field they excel at. In your case, Lightning Type formations

are definitely the right one. In fact, I'm also the same. Even before you showed me the Communication Formation, I was already used to build Lightning Type ones."

Droman continued.

"However, I had to initiate you in the most common type ones first because they were the basis for all the rest. For example, that Energy Gathering Formation you used has no need for any kind of special knowledge. Any Formations Master can build it using thousands of different combinations."

"Without the knowledge of the basics, it would be several times more difficult for you to understand the Lightning Type Principles in those books."

Rean nodded. It was a fact that all the examples he found used several neutral elements.

"I see. Well, that's good then."

Droman smiled.

"Still, you surpassed my expectations once again. Even if you have an affinity for Lightning Type Formations, I thought you wouldn't comprehend them this fast. It seems like I was wrong."

"Anyway, it is true that I gave you those Lightning Type Formations' Books so that you could help me with the Communication System. That being said, I have a proposal for you. How about you follow me for the next few months while we build the System? I believe that would be of great help to you in your Formations' Path. Not only will I show you what I know about Lightning Type Formations, but all the other types too."

"Also, you have no need to be afraid of assassination. Now that I'm at the Soul Transformation Realm, I doubt someone will be crazy enough to try something with me there."

"This..."

Rean pondered a bit before saying.

"Unfortunately, I have to decline. I need to focus on my cultivation as well, so I can't leave."

Droman then thought about something.

"Is it because of the Cultivation Tower's Formations? If that is that case, you don't need to worry. I can make similar formations as those ones with my eyes closed."

Rean shook his head, though.

"That's not it. As Elder Droman knows, cultivation has a lot to do with the elemental affinity of each person. However, I'm a special case. I can't rely on Light Element alone. I also need my brother's Dark Element to progress. It is not that I can't cultivate without him, but the results would be several times worse. I wouldn't be able to do even 1/10 of what I do while I'm with him."

Only now did Droman remember that Rean and Roan have some kind of connection that allows them to use each other's Elements.

"I see... Well, you can ask him too. I don't mind bringing two people with me during this time."

However, it was then that a voice appeared in the room.

"Out of the question. That kid is mine."

Droman narrowed his eyes and looked at the newcomer. He was quite displeased that someone eavesdropped on his conversation with Rean. However, his eyes changed when he saw who it was.

"Oh! So it is you, Elder Faulk."

Rean also recognized that person. After all, he had seen him a few times with Roan. However, it was the first time he heard his real name.

"Old Worm!"

Death... and me

Chapter 215: Decaying Roots

Old Worm simply nodded at him and looked back at Droman.

"He has a talent for alchemy. I'm not letting him go."

As always, Old Worm kept his words as short as Roan.

Rean was expecting that Droman to complain. However, Droman simply bowed in the end.

"I understand. In that case, I will do my best to teach Formations to Rean during the time I'm at the sect."

Old Worm nodded, satisfied.

Still, Droman was curious about something.

"By the way, Elder Faulk. What brought you here?"

Droman knew the Old Worm was definitely not the type to eavesdrop on others' conversation.

"It's about the formations in my place. I need you to do some modifications for me."

Droman immediately shook his head.

"There was no need for elder Faulk to come here. As long as you had sent the message, I would have dropped everything to help you with it."

Rean was quite surprised with the way Droman treated Elder Faulk. He is now a Soul Transformation Realm cultivator. Other than Mia, he should be the only one at this level in the sect at the moment. Still, he treated the other with extreme respect. In fact, Rean felt like Droman even feared the man.

"I was close by, so I just used the chance to come. Anyway, I'm leaving now."

Old Worm then turned around and left.

Finally, Rean couldn't hold his curiosity anymore and asked Droman.

"Elder Droman, is Old Worm some kind of important figure in the sect? You conceded to him so easily that it was quite embarrassing."

Droman's mouth twitched.

'Can't you at least put it in a way that won't hurt someone's pride?'

"Ahem... Elder Faulk is indeed a very prominent figure between us elders. He is our best alchemist, after all."

Rean narrowed his eyes after hearing that. For some reason, he felt that it wasn't the only reason Droman treated him like that. Still, it was not his place to complain.

"Well, so be it. In that case, I won't be able to go out with you, Elder Droman. Anyway, there is no need to worry. I'm confident that I will be able to learn things well as long as you show me the correct path. Besides, there are other Formations Master in the Formations Hall. Although they aren't at your level, they can at least answer the questions of an apprentice like me."

Rean wasn't lying. During the time Droman was out, he had asked the other more experienced Formations Masters for advice. After all, he had only started. Whatever questions appeared in his mind could already be answered by most of the Formations Masters present.

"I see. Very well, then. Let's continue with your training. First, show me one of the basic Lightning Type Formations. For example, try to make a Lightning Element gathering one. It follows a similar concept to the Spiritual Energy Gathering. At the same time, you probably will use it a lot in the future. All the formations in the communication system use this kind, after all."

Rean nodded and immediately began to work.

While Rean and Roan were occupied with their own things and cultivating, Elder Reliance had finally arrived at the Profound Abyss location.

"Sigh... because this shit is in another country, it took me this long to come here."

Elder Reliance looked at the enormous chasm that stretched for hundreds of kilometers. But what really caught one's attention was the yellow light covering the entire extent of it. That was the Formation that impeded anyone from entering. Only during the next Profound Abyss aperture will that Formation allow the cultivators to enter. Of course, anyone above the Core Formation Realm will not be able to participate.

Suddenly, a shadow appeared beside Reliance. Right after, it began to leave the ground and take the form of a spider. Reliance smiled as he threw what seemed to be a black stone to the shadow-like Demon Beast.

"Bilibili, be a good girl and bring some Decaying Roots to this old man, will you?"

That was none other than Elder Reliance's Obscure Spider that Mia mentioned. As for the name Reliance gave her... well... let's not enter into details.

The Obscure Spider happily finished the weird black stone and felt quite satisfied. It then hissed at Reliance as if acknowledging his order. Right after, it began to turn into a shadow once more so that it could enter the Profound Abyss. However, it was at this moment that someone appeared.

"Hey, the old man over there."

Reliance turned around just in time to see three other cultivators staring at him. He immediately found out that all three of them were at the Nascent Soul Realm, just like himself. Also, from the looks of their robes, they all came from the same sect. It's just that Reliance couldn't recognize which sect it was. Nevertheless, Reliance seemed to not care the least bit.

"I'm busy, so be fast."

The newcomers narrowed their eyes after hearing that. Still, their leader didn't lose his patience and spoke his mind.

"I'm Fabiak Turwin, an elder of the Flowing Magma Sect. I saw that you have one of the Profound Abyss Demon Beasts tamed. The next opening will happen in a year, but there is a good chance that it will come together with the surge. We were struggling to get some Decaying Roots here. However, since you have one of those Demon Beasts that can enter and leave as they wish, why don't you help us get some?"

Reliance pondered a bit before saying.

"One thousand Rank Four Spirit Stones."

The elders of the Flowing Magma Sect were taken aback by that price.

"Are you taking us for fools? If I bring that many Rank Four Spirit Stones out, why would I even ask you? I just need to post an order, and someone will definitely come to deliver them to me."

He wasn't lying. Back when Reliance was talking with Mia, she had first offered him a bag with the same Rank of Spirit Stones. However, she had only brought out one hundred of them. Still, Reliance commented that in normal circumstances, he would definitely have accepted it. That shows just how rare and expensive those Rank Four Spirit Stones are.

Now, Reliance was asking for ten times that value to get Decaying Roots for this group.

Well, the fact was that Reliance simply didn't like how they acted towards him. It was not a problem of number. Instead, it was because of his different skin color. Reliance was not someone from this side of the world. But because of some events in the past, he was brought to this place. The number of black men and women here is ridiculously low. Although Reliance got used to the weird looks after so many years, it didn't mean he liked it.

"Since you can get it from others, stop bothering me. I have no interest in poor people."

Reliance then turned around and completely ignored those Flowing Magma Sect Members. However, it only made those elders even angrier.

"These shit foreigners really don't know their place. Just because there are no rules saying that they can't live here, they already think they own the place."

"Last warning, charcoal, you will get those Decaying Roots for us, or we can force you to do so. However, there will be no good end if you chose the second option."

Right after, the three of them surrounded Reliance to prevent him from escaping. Yet, Reliance didn't seem to be the least bit concerned with the number's disadvantage.

"I just found something very interesting some time ago, so I'm in an excellent mood. That being said, I'll add a third option. If you take out everything you have and get your asses out of my sight in the next minute, I will let you live. I advise you to accept the third option since you won't like the results of any other one."

Fabiak finally lost his patience.

"Courting death!"

Fire Element immediately gathered around Fabiak, and he charged forward. As a Nascent Soul Realm cultivator with a Fire Element Affinity, his Fire Control was already capable of making the surroundings

burn to ashes without even touching anything. Fabiak looked like a miniature sun that was ready to blast Reliance to pieces.

The other two guys didn't even move. Instead, they just paid attention to prevent Reliance from escaping. After all, he is still in the same Nascent Soul realm as them. However...

Fu~~~~~

Suddenly, Reliance whistled.

Fabiak ignored that and continued his attack, though. Still, just as he was about to strike Reliance, the ground below him opened. Right after, an enormous Dark Green Centipede came out.

Fast! It was just too fast! Fabiak had no time to dodge at all! Without another choice, he could only redirect the attack to the Centipede instead. Too bad, though. The Centipede completely ignored the scorching flames and swallowed the enemy whole!

It was then that a muffled explosion sound came from the Centipede's body. It didn't stop there. A few more explosion sounds continued to come from there. Still, the Centipede seemed to not care at all.

Finally, the sound stopped and suddenly.

Burp~~~~

The Centipede burped. Just like that, a Nascent Soul cultivator became a Demon Beast's meal.

Reliance then looked at the other two guys before saying.

"Some people really don't know how to grab opportunities."

The two guys looked at the Centipede with terrified expressions. The aura left by the Centipede was far above what they could deal with.

Suddenly, they heard a voice coming from that same Centipede.

"Master, can I eat those two as well?"

Their expression went pale after hearing that.

"Run!"

They ignored everything and immediately dashed away.

As for Reliance, he simply shook his head.

"No need, Lanlan. Leave some food for Jinjin and Zunzun as well."

A few moments later, Reliance heard another two screams from a distance and smiled.

Death... and me

Chapter 216: Partnership

That was the main reason Bob Marley didn't have a problem keeping his status as the Beast Taming Faction Leader. However, very few people know about it. Elder Reliance was more like a trump card that could be pulled out in a critical moment. In the Dalamu Sect, only Mia, Tiria, and Droman knew about Reliance's Demon Beasts. Of course, we're only talking about the powerful ones.

Around a minute after Reliance heard the screams, two more Demon Beasts returned to where Reliance was staying.

One of the beasts looked like a palm-sized fiery red bird, the type that anyone would ignore even if they had noticed it. At most, some girls might find it cute. However, the fiery red bird looked at Reliance and... talked!

"Master, I got the long-haired one!"

Reliance nodded.

"I know. Good job, Zunzun!"

The bird then began to jump on Reliance's hand gleefully after receiving Reliance's words of approval.

The second demon beast was a lot bigger than the palm-sized bird. However, compared to the Dark Green Centipede that came from the ground, it was still smaller in comparison. It looked like a dark snake around three meters long. However, it had a horn protruding from its head. This was another Demon Beast that other cultivators wouldn't find in the Sasamil Empire.

"Thank you for the meal, Master. That guy's dantian was quite good."

This Dark Snake could also talk, but it gave a more refined air when compared to the energetic red bird.

Reliance also petted the Snake's head on the side.

"That's very good, Jinjin."

He then looked in the direction where those guys tried to flee earlier and asked.

"By the way, did you get rid of the bodies?"

The fiery red palm-sized bird and the Dark Snake nodded in unison.

"I burned his body to ashes after I ate his dantian."

"I dissolved him with a little bit of venom. He should be nothing more than a green pool now."

Reliance was satisfied to hear their responses.

"Great. Now, let's stay here and wait for Bilibili to come back. He will probably need quite a few more travels until he gathers enough Decaying Roots. Make sure you stay hidden so that no one finds you."

Elder Reliance's three Demon Beasts are all at the Rank Six Level! That was also why the other two cultivators fled the moment they heard the Centipede's voice.

Nana, Elder Tiria's Snow Crane, was at the peak of Rank Four. Because of that, she already had some intelligence.

At Rank Five, demon beasts' minds would finally evolve to the level of being as intelligent as humans. Of course, they will start like babies and will need a lot of time to learn. That's not a problem though since demon beasts at that rank already have long lifespans, just like cultivators at the same level of power. However, they can only convey their thoughts through Spiritual Sense Messages. If they tried to talk, only grunts and growls could be heard coming out of their mouths.

Finally, at Rank Six, a demon beast would be able to really talk without needing to use Spiritual Sense. A demon beast at this level would be the same as a Soul Transformation Realm cultivator. That shows just how terrifying Reliance is to have Three Demon Beasts at this level. Of course, he didn't tame them when they were already like this. Instead, he took his time and effort to help all three of them reach this level. Also, he really treated them as if they were his real family. Naturally, Elder Reliance was extremely important for all three of them.

Now and then, Reliance would tame other demon beasts, but he didn't keep them with him since it would be too much of a hassle. The only ones that really followed him were always these three.

In fact, Reliance was someone with outstanding talent. If he didn't spend so much time with the demon beasts' issues, Mia believed that he would have entered the Soul Transformation Realm already. Of

course, the Soul Transformation Realm wasn't only related to Spiritual Energy. One also had to find their own path first. Hence, Mia never tried to intervene with his own choices. After all, Reliance's own path might be related to the Demon Beasts that he loved so much.

A few hours later, the Shadow-Like Obscure Spider returned from the Profound Abyss. It then opened its mouth and spat out two small roots. Those roots seemed to have some kind of dark smoke coming from them as if they were burning. However, it was not the case. That was the effect of growing inside the Profound Abyss where Decaying Energy is constant. That was also the ingredients that Mia asked from Reliance.

"Very good, Bilibili. I need at least 10 more of this. Go back and bring them to me."

Reliance then threw another black stone to the spider, who ate it as if it was the world's best delicacy. Right after, it became a shadow that entered the ground once more and disappeared in the Profound Abyss' direction. The spider was only a Rank Three Demon Beast. However, it wasn't hard for Reliance to train it to do some simple tasks. Getting those Decaying Roots were one of them.

Reliance then looked at the direction of the Dalamu Sect and smiled.

'My little chick, I'll come back for you soon.'

Back in the Dalamu Sect, Droman had been helping Rean, teaching him all he knew about Formations. Old Worm did the same thing as he helped Roan with alchemy instead. Of course, Roan and Old Worm were totally different from Rean and Droman. Those two rarely spoke beyond the necessary words, while Rean and Droman liked to constantly talk about everything.

Other than that, Rean would spend his time checking the steelworks in the Jamaris Weapon Store. The business had been booming continuously, which brought a lot of money to Rean, the Weapon Store, and the Zafa Bank.

As for Roan, other than cultivating and alchemy, he only had to deal with the Blue Orchid District's disciples.

Of course, Rean and Roan still had the Sect's Duties to perform every now and then. That was an absolute rule that no one could escape from. Even Malaka, being the Sect Master's Disciple, had to do them.

Still, Rean and Roan didn't leave the Sect even for a second. Not that they were afraid of being pursued, but that they wanted to reach the peak of the Late Stage of the Foundation Establishment before anything else. With the unlimited supply of Rank Two Spirit Stones that Rean was getting, they simply didn't lack Spiritual Energy anymore.

Back in the communication system process, Droman had been working on the Router Formation whenever he wasn't teaching Rean. Of course, he also called Rean over every now and then to ask a few questions or to see if he could come up with some ideas. After all, this Formation was the most complicated one he had made so far.

"You see? I tried to use Lightning Beads to record the information that reaches the Formation before it gets added to the queue. At first, it was working fine. But soon, I noticed that the sequence and length of signals became disordered as I kept using the same bead. The weird thing is that there is nothing different in the Lightning Bead."

Rean couldn't understand most of the Router Formation that Droman was creating. Still, he already learned enough to understand the basics, especially the electrical signals that Droman was talking about.

"I see what's happening here. The power of the electrical signal is enough to display a message. After all, the message is not shown by the electrical part of the Formation. Instead, it's shown by the Spiritual Energy part. However, as I mentioned before, converting Electrical Energy into Spiritual Energy and then back into Electrical signal once again is not efficient at all."

"Because of that, you made an amplifier that increases the signal's power but can still keep the sequence and length of the signal. Only then would it have enough power to record the signal it has received until its time in the queue comes. However, the bead is keeping what I would like to call 'residual data.' On its own, this residual data is not enough to damage the next signals that arrive. However, because you used the amplifier, this residual data that was also made of Electrical Energy comes back."

"At first, it doesn't make any difference since it is only a few pieces of signal that make no sense. The receiving formations on the end of the line will ignore those meaningless signals. However, as more and

more residual data accumulates in the Lightning Bead, the more they fight for space in the Lightning Bead itself. The Lightning Bead doesn't know which signal is right and which one is wrong, so it tries to keep everything. Naturally, it runs out of information space, which causes the problem you see."

Droman nodded his head.

"I see... so Lightning Beads seem to be a bad choice since it can't get rid of the useless information."

Rean shook his head.

"It depends. Is this Lightning Bead something created by us cultivators, or is it a natural treasure?"

"It's created by cultivators. To be more precise, it was created as a means of defense. As long as you pour enough Spiritual Energy into it, you can release an attack at the late or peak stage of the Energy Gathering Realm. To be honest, it's quite popular with the clans with the money to spend since it can be used by their weak members to defend themselves. Ah. It's registered in the Empire's bureau office as the Lightning Sect's product, just like your Steel Weapons. Also, the Zafa Bank is the one who helps them with the ."

Rean nodded.

"Was this the only material capable of saving information?"

Droman shook his head.

"I still have a few more candidates that have a good chance of working better. However, they are a lot more expensive, and I mean it when I say expensive!"

Rean's eyes then shone as he showed a greedy smile.

"Then, I think it's time to buy the copyrights."

Death... and me

Chapter 217: Profit!

"Copyrights?"

Rean nodded.

"Copyrights work like this. They will still be the ones to produce and develop the Lightning Beads. However, we will be the ones selling them from now on. We will make a contract with them and the Zafa Bank as an intermediary so that they can't go back on their words."

Rean continued.

"Elder Droman doesn't think that we are the only ones that will need it, right? Their Lightning Beads are already registered in the Bureau Office. That means we can't create them ourselves even if we have the blueprints. Otherwise, we would just have a fight with the Zafa Bank."

Droman was still puzzled after listening to Rean's words.

"But why would you want to buy their... errrr... copyrights? Their Lightning Beads are not working correctly. What use will there be even if we get more of them?"

Rean shook his head in response, saying.

"That shouldn't be much of a problem. The fact is that given enough time, these beads can wipe out previous information, right?"

Droman nodded.

"Yes. However, the time it takes to do so is too long. A lot of information will arrive and be saved inside before it can be wiped o- Ah!"

Droman finally understood what Rean meant.

"I see... that really might just be feasible."

Rean couldn't help but smile after hearing those words.

"Seems like Elder Droman has found the crux of the issue."

Droman nodded once more.

"Yes. It was basically a coincidence that I remembered about these beads and tried to save the electrical information. Fortunately, it worked. However, the fact is that these beads were made for attacks, not for keeping... errr... data...? Anyway, the Lightning Sect has the blueprints of these little guys. As long as we work with them, we might be able to modify them for our use."

Rean nodded, satisfied.

"Exactly! To be honest, considering how long they have been making these beasts, I believe they are quite proficient in tinkering with it. There is a very high chance that they can be modified for our use. After all, we just need them to wipe out any residual information faster. I believe the reason they don't do it at the moment is propositional. After all, the more energy the beads can keep, or the less energy they allow it to escape, the faster they will charge. That is an excellent thing when you want to use them for protection."

"As long as we ask them to remove this property, everything will be wiped out straight away."

Droman couldn't help but feel excited.

"Yes! I can only change the formation to keep feeding spiritual energy to the bead until there is no need for them anymore. After that, the formation would stop doing that, and all the data inside the bead would be gone automatically. After all, there is no need for long term data saving. It's perfect!"

Rean also added.

"That's not all. This router formation that we are creating will definitely spread as the communication system grows more famous. Until now, people only know about the common communication formation that sends point to point messages. Once they find out about our improvements, they will all need the Router Formation. To make the Router Formation, these Lightning Beads will be necessary."

"As you can imagine, the more these Lightning Beads are needed, the more expensive they will become. Do you really want to wait until they notice the real value of these things before paying more?"

Droman shook his head.

"Of course not!"

Rean then continued.

"Correct! With the Copyrights, we will have an unlimited supply of them. After all, we will definitely prioritize our own sect's needs. However, that is not all. With the Copyrights, we can sell them to the other sects, countries, organizations, and other governing bodies that will need them in the future. As long as we don't surpass the value of the other materials you talked about, they will definitely buy the modified beads. This will bring a fortune!"

Droman nodded vigorously, becoming delighted at the idea.

"Yes! That's a great idea! I love this... copyright... thing. Come with me, we will go to the Sect Master straight away. Buying the Lightning Sect copyrights will be quite expensive, after all."

Rean didn't mind, and the two of them went straight up to Dalamu Mountain to talk with Mia. Obviously, Mia was surprised to hear such an idea and immediately approved it.

"Droman, you can leave the cable work to someone else. Take whatever you need and go directly to the Lightning Sect. However, before offering this... copyright... thing, make sure that the beads have been

modified and that they work as you wish. If they work, pay whatever you need to convince their Sect to sign this contract with the Zafa Bank as the intermediary."

Droman then showed a playful smile.

"That won't be hard to do. It will take quite some time for the Imperial Family of our Sasamil Empire to allow the construction of the communication system in their area. However, as the Sect who created it, we can give them this right to start before everyone in their area. Even if we don't pay anything, I still believe they will accept this copyright contract. Of course, I'll need Sect Master's permission to do so."

Both Mia and Rean were surprised to hear that. Indeed! Didn't the other four sects and the royal family come to their Sect asking for the same thing? In the end, Mia made quite a deal with them for the rights to build the communication system ahead of time. There is no doubt that the Lightning Sect would be very interested in it. After all, their Lightning Beads are not that famous or take a big part in their annual revenue anyway.

"Permission granted! As soon as you are ready, you can leave straight away."

Droman nodded and left to prepare a few things. However, Mia asked Rean to stay behind to talk to him. Such a thing was becoming quite common already, so Droman wasn't even surprised anymore.

"Rean, this copyright idea of yours, was it you who thought up of it?"

Rean pondered a bit and then shook his head.

"Not really. I'm sure that some other organizations, sects, etc., already used it in the past. It's just that it is not anything famous. If you ponder about it carefully, you will see that it is a great deal."

Mia knew that it wasn't the whole truth. Rean was definitely hiding more things, just like Roan. However, she wanted them to grow loyal to the Sect, so she didn't insist on the question. Not to mention that what Rean and Roan did so far had been of great benefit to them. In the end, she simply nodded and changed the topic.

"This deal with the Lightning Sect will most likely turn into a huge profit for our Sect. That being said, is there anything you would like as a reward for it?"

Rean pondered a bit before saying.

"I will soon start to need higher rank Spirit Stones. However, the common stores can't acquire Spirit Stones above Rank Two. Would Sect Master be willing to exchange Rank Two Spirit Stones for Rank Three ones?"

Rean wasn't lying. He tried to ask the Jamaris Weapon Store to send him Rank Three Spirit Stones instead of Rank Two. However, they told him that Spirit Stones above Rank Two are monopolized by the sects and the Royal Family. It is too hard for them to acquire those Spirit Stones in the common market.

Mia then pondered a bit and said.

"Indeed. It is very hard to obtain them outside. Usually, the exchange rate would be ten Rank Two stones for a Rank Three one. However, the fact is that everyone wants Rank Three Spirit Stones and above. Because of that, the price in our country and the surrounding ones increased a lot. At the moment, the exchange rate is around fifteen Rank Two stone for one Rank Three stone. Are you okay with that?"

Mia lied as she said those words. In fact, the exchange rate was around twenty Rank Two Spirit Stones! However, she didn't want to ask for too much from Rean. After all, chances are that the Sect will get a lot of Spirit Stones in the future thanks to his copyright idea. Rean didn't know it yet, but Mia intended to give him a percentage of the earnings if the idea really worked out in the end.

Rean, of course, already knew the real exchange rate. It was evident that the Sect Master was giving him a great discount here.

"Great! I accept!"

Mia nodded before throwing him a token.

"Bring it to Elder Nalal in the Treasure. As long as you show it to him, he will make the exchange for you. I will send a message to him later telling him about the deal we agreed on just now."

Rean bowed and thanked Mia before leaving right after.

Right after, he sent a message to Roan through their Soul Connection.

"I can get Rank Three Spirit Stones now. Do you want to start using them? If we do, we probably will reach the peak of the Late Stage a lot faster."

Roan heard that and shook his head.

"No need. It's probably too much Spiritual Energy for our cultivation. Just try to save them for when we enter the Peak Stage. It's not like we are in a hurry anyway."

Rean nodded.

"Very well."

On that same day, Elder Droman departed to make one of the most profitable businesses the Sect had ever seen.

Death... and me

Chapter 218: Electrical Formations Repository

The days passed without much to worry about. Rean and Roan cultivated without many issues as well. However, Sister Orb called the two of them at some point.

[Hey, you two. You asked me to call you out when enough Destiny Points accumulated. I just received the last update of the system. At the moment, your total number of Destiny Points has reached 2089.]

Rean and Roan nodded.

"Good. Tonight, we will enter the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm and check what we want to buy."

Sure enough, they finished whatever they needed during the day and returned to their rooms. Right after, they went straight into the Dimensional Realm.

It's just that as soon as they entered...

Chick! Chick!

The chick left the Bathhouse and jumped directly into Rean's arms. However, it put a little bit too much strength into the dash...

Bang!

Rean was sent flying away while the chick clutched its wings around him. In the end, the two fell on the ground and rolled for quite a few meters.

Heavy! That was Rean's first thought when he was hit by the chick.

Somehow, the chick had grown several times taller, reaching half of Rean's height!

"What?! How did it become so big? I came inside just a few days ago, and it was still the same chick as before. Did it happen inside the Yin Yang bath?"

[As if! Do you think it simply stayed in the Bathhouse and never came out?]

Hearing Sister Orb's remark made Rean have a bad premonition. He looked at the place where he kept their Spirit Stones. Right after, a tear fell from his eyes... In fact, even Roan was taken aback by the scene. After all, he knew how many Spirit Stones were there. At the moment, just a few lonely ones remained there.

"My Spirit Stones... are gone."

Rean then looked at the chick just in time to see it...

Burp~~

Rean's mouth twitched. The chick looked very... satisfied.

"Aren't you a little too overpowered?! How did you eat all those Spirit Stones and not explode?!"

Chick?

The chick didn't understand anything as it looked with a puzzled expression.

Suddenly, Rean heard the sound of a sword being unsheathed. When he looked at the origin of the sound, he saw Roan walking in the chick's direction with his White Star in hand.

"I told you, didn't I? We should have fried this chick a long time ago. That's an excellent opportunity. Look at how fat it is. It will definitely have a lot of nourishing meat."

The chick didn't only eat the Spirit Stones on Rean's side of the Soul Gem Realm, but Roan's as well.

The chick saw Roan's dark face and trembled all over. It quickly ran away and hid behind Rean.

"Stop scaring the chick! It was just hungry. Besides, look! It has already advanced into Stage Two!"

Only then did Roan use his Spiritual Energy to check the chick's core. Sure enough, the power coming from inside showed that it was definitely a Stage Two Demon Beast.

"Still, don't you think it is a little too expensive? How many Rank Two Spirit Stones were there? Over five thousand at the very least! If it took this amount to send the chick to Stage Two, then how many will you need for it to evolve to Rank Three?"

"This... I just need to find a way to make more money, that's all. Don't worry, the next payment from the Jamaris Weapon Store is coming in three days. I will make sure to keep the Spirit Stones away from the chick, so we will have enough to cultivate."

Roan still had a dark expression but decided to let it go in the end. After all, the one who earned the Spirit Stones was Rean, not him. Besides, they always kept Spirit Stones in bags in the outside world, so they had enough to use until then.

"Fine! Let's get over with it and buy the things we need."

"Wait! Sister Orb, what happened with the chick during these past few days? It hadn't taken the Spirit Stones before, so why now?"

[It kept absorbing the Yin Yang energy of the Bathhouse all this time. At first, nothing different happened. But a few days ago, the black and white crown on its head began to shine. As soon as that happened, the chick dashed out of the Bathhouse and attacked the Spirit Stones. It was then that it began to get taller and fatter until it finally stopped at this size.]

"Once again, why didn't you warn me beforehand?"

[It was just some Rank Two Spirit Stones, was there a reason to call you out?]

Rean almost cried.

'What are you, the reincarnation of the goddess of wealth?'

In the end, he simply shook his head.

"From now on, I'm going to call you Jennifer."

[Jennifer? Who's Jennifer?]

"Bill Gates' eldest daughter."

[...]

"Oh, right! Now that the chick reached Stage Two, perhaps it can do something different."

Roan didn't care about any of that though.

"Stop wasting my time. If you want, you can check it later. Let's take a look at the reward list."

Rean pondered for a bit before nodding. It is not like Roan has to be there anyway.

The twins quickly touched Sister Orb and sent their Spiritual Energy and Sense inside.

[Tiger Bones - 500 Destiny Points]

[Spiritual Sense Absorption Upgrade Level 2 - 1000 Destiny Points] (10%)

[Soul Gem Dimensional Realm Upgrade 2 - 800 Destiny Points]

[Yin Yang Bathhouse - Reward from Destiny Strugglers' Title]

[Soul Connection Range Upgrade level 2 – 1500 Destiny Points] (300km)

[Soul Gem Blacksmith Workshop - 400 Destiny Points]

[Soul Gem Alchemy Workshop - 400 Destiny Points]

[Soul Gem Electrical Formations Repository - 400 Destiny Points] (New)

"Electrical Formations Repository? Was there such a thing before?"

[Of course not. When you first built the Lightning Element Gathering Formation, the Soul Gem System recognized your side occupation and added it. Not only that, since your affinity was with Electrical Formations, the Repository was also focused on it. It might be because you came from a world where Electronic Equipments were involved.]

Roan and Rean nodded. It was not like they didn't think about this possibility before. After all, it would be too much of a coincidence for them to simultaneously have an option to obtain an Alchemy and Blacksmith Workshop in the reward system.

"I was intending to get the Blacksmith Workshop. However, I won't be able to make Peak-Level equipment before reaching at least the late Stage of the Core Formation Realm. Maybe I should try and see what this Electrical Formation workshop is about..."

Roan agreed with Rean.

"There is a bigger chance that it will bring us Destiny Points faster than expected. After all, most of the Destiny Points are coming from it. Unless, of course, you decide to release the secret behind the Element Gathering Equipments. In that case, it might bring more Destiny Points in the short term."

Rean thought about it and made his decision.

"No, I'm not going to release the secret behind the Element Gathering Equipments yet. I will take the Electrical Formations Repository."

Roan didn't mind.

"Then, so be it."

The twins focused on Sister Orb and made their choice.

"We want the Electrical Formations Repository and the Alchemy Workshop."

The automatic voice of the Soul Gem System appeared on their mind right after.

[This will cost a total of 800 Destiny Points.]

[Do the hosts confirm the trade?]

"Yes!"

[The trade has been concluded. Hosts now have 1289 Destiny Points remaining.]

Right after, the Space close to where the Bathhouse began to distort. At the same time, Spiritual Energy gathered around the area as two new buildings appeared beside it. The process was relatively fast and uneventful.

[Alchemy Workshop Concluded.]

[Electrical Formations Repository Concluded.]

Finally, the emotionless Soul Gem System's voice went silent once more.

Rean and Roan immediately got up and went to check them.

Roan was the first one. He entered the Alchemy Workshop, wondering what would be different about it, however...

"Ahem... Sister Orb... Where is the workshop?"

[What are you talking about? It is right in front of you.]

Roan's expression went dark after hearing that. That's because...

"Are you fucking kidding me?! This shit is empty!"

[How can you say that? Can't you see the wall on the side?]

Roan looked at the direction Sister Orb talked about... and felt even worse.

There, he saw a tool... one of the most common ones when one is practicing alchemy... a pestle.

A pestle was basically used together with a mortar to smash the herbs. Roan used it hundreds of times already.

"That's all?"

[That's all.]

"Where is the rest?"

[What rest?]

Roan began to lose his patience.

"The fucking cauldron, alembic, mortar, the ores and woods used for fire, everything! How do expect me to practice alchemy with just this thing?"

[Oh! That's simple. You just need to upgrade the Alchemy Workshop.]

Roan almost vomited blood.

"I know I'm going to regret asking it, but I'll do it anyway. How much does the next upgrade cost?"

[The Alchemy Workshop Level 2 Upgrade costs 1000 Destiny Points.]

Sure enough, Roan regretted that.

"Go to hell!"

Meanwhile, Rean had just arrived at the Electrical Formations Repository. However, his situation didn't look much better. Shelves full of books, there wasn't a single shelf to start with. All he found there... was a note laying down on the table.

"For some reason, I'm not surprised..."

It seems like Rean already got used to being disappointed by Sister Orb.

Death... and me

Chapter 219: Back To The Forest

Rean bent down to take the note.

-Congratulations, you now have an Electrical Formations Repository. You can find everything about it in this place. The higher the level, the more knowledge will be available. Please access the System for more details.-

Right below, there was another small piece of information.

-Number of articles available in the System: 01-

"System? Are there no books?"

It was then that Rean noticed a small orb attached to the wall beside the table.

'It kinda looks like Sister Orb... but a lot smaller.'

He touched the orb and sent his Spiritual Energy and Sense inside. Right after, an interface very similar to the Soul Gem System appeared in his mind.

[Welcome to the Electrical Formations Repository System.]

[Please select an option.]

[01- List of articles available.]

[02- Formations Test Field (Upgrade needed).]

"Hum... So this is what's happening here. Well, that does make sense. Why should the Soul Gem System use books? It would save a lot more energy to simply use a system with everything inside. I guess the entire place is empty so that I can test my formations here. Still, I wonder what the Formations Test Field looks like. Since I can practice Formations anywhere empty, there is probably something extra to this Test Field that I can't find outside."

Rean then changed his focus.

"Sister Orb, how much does it cost to upgrade the repository?"

[Same thing as Roan's Alchemy Workshop. 1000 Destiny Points.]

Rean sighed and returned his attention to the System.

"Open the first option."

[List of Articles.]

[01- Introduction to Circuitry Formations.]

"It indeed has only one article available... But what does it mean with Circuitry Formations? Is it talking about the Electrical Formations we have been doing so far?"

Rean then opened the Introduction to Circuitry Formations and began to read it. However, he soon lost himself in the contents of the article. It was simply too marvelous!

"These things are really Circuitries! However, they have been fused with the runes and materials used for formations. It is a mix of Earth's Technology and Spiritual Energy Formations. Impressive! "

Rean read through the several examples used by the introduction and felt like a new world appeared in front of him. Although he had just started learning about Formations, he could still tell the huge difference it has. The formations that Droman worked on looked like child's play at the moment.

However, Rean could only sigh in the end.

"This is indeed just an introduction. It doesn't go further into how to build and work with the runes."

Without another choice, Rean could only close the System and wait for when he gathered enough Destiny Points to buy the next level.

Back on Roan's side, he finally calmed down as he went to the wall to take the pestle. However, as soon as he touched it, he felt something different.

"Dark and Light Elements? I can feel that both my and Rean's element are inside this thing. Sister Orb, is it part of the Alchemy Workshop's features?"

[Of course! What use would be there if you got an Alchemy Workshop that is just a copy of the others outside? It wouldn't be worth your Destiny Points at all! This pestle, for example, can use the elements of both you and Rean to help with the Medicinal Extraction of the herbs or other materials used for alchemy. Not only that, but it will also prevent damaging the medicinal properties during the process. Of course, you don't have the mortar to make the combo yet, so it is not as good as it will be in the future.]

Roan's dark expression finally eased a bit after hearing that.

"I see... I guess I might as well bring it out and use it in Old Worm's hut for the time being."

[You can't. Any equipment of the Soul Gem Dimension cannot be removed from their workshops.]

"What? Then what's the use of this thing?"

[You can't bring the Soul Gem tools out, but you can bring tools from the outside world inside. Simply put, you can mount a temporary Alchemy Room inside this workshop while you take your time unlocking the other tools. Don't look down on this workshop just because it is empty. Most of the 400 Destiny Points were used just to build it.]

Roan noticed the meaning behind Sister Orb's words.

"Does that mean there is something special about this building?"

[Yes. Here, you can control the environment.]

"What do you mean? Like, the temperature of the room? I could already do it in Old Worm's hut. He has a formation under that place that can achieve the same effect. Besides, it is not like there was too much of a difference doing it anyway."

[That's true, but it won't reach the level of this workshop. The Yin Yang Energies in the Soul Gem Realm are perfectly balanced. However, inside this workshop, you can change them at will. It is not as simple as changing the temperature of the room. Anyway, you will come to understand it in the future as your Alchemy Skills increase.]

Roan knew that he was just at the initial stages of alchemy. With the conclusion of his Light/Dark Cultivation Stabilizing Pills, he had barely reached the level of an Earth Middle-Level Alchemist. There were a lot more things for him to try in the future.

'Now that I think about it, it was Old Worm who insisted that I should always pay attention to the environment of the Alchemy Room. It's just that he didn't say much about it after that. Oh well, I guess I can only wait and see what will happen in the future.'

Roan then put the pestle back on the wall and left the Alchemy Workshop just in time to see Rean leaving the bathhouse with the chick. From the looks of it, the chick had gone straight back into the Yin Yang bath after they left. Still, he simply ignored that scene and said.

"I'm going back to Old Worm's hut."

Rean then asked.

"Wait a minute! Don't you want to stay and check the chick's power? It's not like waiting a few more minutes will change anything for you anyway."

Roan pondered a bit as he looked at the chick hiding behind Rean. It was evident that it still feared him. Still, Roan had to admit that he was a little bit curious about what the chick could do after absorbing so much Spiritual Energy.

"Alright. What do you want to do?"

Rean immediately told his plan.

"Let's go back to that private forest of Dalamu Sect and have it battle one of the Stage Two demon beasts there. Since it is also a Stage Two, it should be able to at least defend itself, right?"

Roan nodded.

"Alright. But I won't help it if it's about to die."

It was evident that Roan was still resentful about having all his Spirit Stones eaten by it.

Rean and Roan then exited the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm and left their room. Still, seeing that oversized chick following Rean while trying to keep equilibrium was quite a funny sight.

Before going into that place, they had to ask for permission. After all, that private Demon Beast forest only opened during the exam times. That being said, they went straight to Elder Hulian in the Inner Sect.

"Hum? You want to go there to test this... chick? By the way, where did you find such a big chick?"

Rean shrugged his shoulders.

"I got its egg during the last mission where we dealt with the Gold Hands Bandit Group."

"Oh! That mission..."

"Wait! That doesn't make sense. It has been just a few months since you went to that mission. How come this Demon Beast is already at Stage Two? Could it be that it was already born at this level?"

Rean understood why Elder Hulian asked that. Some races of Demon Beasts were really born already in higher Stages.

"Not really, it was really just a Stage One Demon Beast when it was born. To be honest, I'm also perplexed at its growth rate. That's why I want to go there and check if there is something special about it."

Hulian pondered a bit and nodded in the end.

"Alright. I'm quite free right now, so I will bring you there. You don't mind it, right?"

Rean and Roan shook their heads. There wasn't much of a point about hiding the chick anyway. After all, Elder Javiu and Reliance already saw it in the Beast Taming Sect.

Hulian then used his Spiritual Energy to grab the three of them and took flight straight away. He was already in the Core and Soul Fusion Realm, after all.

They quickly arrived at the teleportation's building, where they used the same one in the past entrance exam. On the other side, their group appeared with a flash of silver light.

"Alright, what do you want to do?"

Just as Rean was about to say something, the chick looked at the forest's direction and began to run.

Chick! Chick!

"Eh? It's the first time it leaves my side on its own volition."

Hulian, Rean, and Roan looked at each other and nodded. Soon after, they began to follow the chick from a distance.

The chick kept running while it flapped its wings as if it was trying to fly. Unfortunately, it was just too fat to bring its body out of the ground. Soon, it arrived at the forest's entrance and rushed straight inside.

"Just what is it looking for?"

Death... and me

Chapter 220: Super Chick

A few demon beasts noticed the chick. However, due to its Stage Two aura, they all avoided it. Even the weak ones knew how to avoid battles against Demon Beasts stronger than themselves. It's just that... well... the chick didn't seem that scary to start with. Still, all the Stage One Demon Beasts knew better to avoid it.

Rean, Roan, and Hulian followed the chick from far behind but kept it in their field of vision. Suddenly, the chick changed direction and ran even faster... or well... tried to run faster. Finally, after running deeper into the forest did the first Stage Two Demon Beast appear in front of the chick. Hulian then explained.

"It's a Blood Hound. With the blood-red fur and its form, there is no doubt about it. The young ones are at stage one. Once they reach the adult phase though, they can display the strength of a Middle Stage Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator."

Hulian then looked at Rean and Roan to confirm.

"Will your chick be fine?"

Rean and Roan had their doubts. Still, they decided to see what would happen first.

The chick also noticed the Blood Hound and showed a surprised expression.

Chick! Chick!

It then began to run in the hound's direction as fast as it could. Well, it was still relatively slow, though.

The hound, of course, noticed the chick as well. Not only that, but it didn't feel any danger coming from it. Without wasting any time, it immediately dashed in the Chick's direction as well.

"The hound is also attacking! Now we can see what the chick is capable of!"

The two quickly reached each other's range. Rean's group then grew tense (except Roan), waiting to see what would happen next.

Seeing that the chick was close enough, the hound pounced at it, aiming at its neck. However, just as it was about to bite it...

Thud!

The chick tripped and fell with its face on the ground. As the Hound attacked, it passed right above the chick, missing its mark.

Rean's group looked at the current situation with weird expressions.

The chick got up again with its face all dirty. On the other hand, the hound landed on the other side and quickly made a turn, rushing at the chick once more. As for the chick, its eyes were watery, as if it was about to cry. Nope, it did really cry in the end. However...

CREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!

Boom!

Immediately, a powerful sound wave spread outwards. Rean, Roan, and Hulian couldn't help but cover their ears with their hands straight away. They felt like their heads were about to explode! Only when

they redirected their Spiritual Energy to their ears, nullifying the shrill scream, did they finally regain their composure.

As for the Blood Hound, it was right beside the chick when it began to cry. Right now, it was lying on the ground, as dead as it could be. In the end, Rean's group could only see blood coming out from its orifices. As a hound, its hearing was several times better than humans. If the chick's cry already made Rean's group suffer while they were far away, the hound who was just beside it undoubtedly fared worse. The cry messed up its brain completely.

The chick continued to cry while it sat on the ground for another minute or so. Only then did it finally regain its calm and tried to move again. It then looked at the hound, which was dead, lying on its side. Suddenly, its sad expression disappeared as its eyes shone once more. It walked beside the hound's body when suddenly...

As fast as lightning, the chick's head attacked the hound's head. But that wasn't all. During that split second, Rean and Roan could feel the power of Light and Dark Elements coming from the chick's body. The Dark Element concentrated on the chick's beak as the Light was used by its body.

Zap!

That single attack came with a burst of Spiritual Energy that spread a few meters around. In the end, a big hole appeared on the hound's head. As for the chick, it now had a Demon Core in between its beak. However, there was no blood. The Demon Core was as clean as it could be. If not because of the perfect hole on the Hound's Head, no one would be able to tell that the Demon Core came from there. Even Roan didn't have any confidence in removing that Demon Core without leaving a single drop of blood behind.

Hulian couldn't help but mutter.

"Too fast! How can such a fat chick move like that?"

Rean then replied.

"It's the support of Light Element. It's a lot cruder than my Life Style First Form, but I can tell that it can also use my Enhancement Ability."

Roan agreed with Rean.

"It also has high control over my Dark Element. Look at the hole on the hound's head. The Dark Element made the life force around it disappear instantly. Logically, there's no blood left anymore. Not only that, but I can tell that it also fused the Light Element in that Dark Element attack, increasing its power."

So far, only Rean and Roan could fuse those two opposite elements together. Well, they were the only ones that could use them to start with. Still, it came as a surprise that the chick could do it on its own.

The chick then swallowed the demon core as if it was a delicacy.

Burp~~~~~

Not long after, the chick turned in another direction and began to run once again with its plumpy body. Rean's group, of course, followed it straight away.

"Wait. The chick had been running in the forest for a long time. It only stopped when it found this specific Blood Hound. How did it know that it had a Demon Core?"

Only now did they notice this small detail. Although the chick didn't find other Stage Two Demon Beasts before, it did pass close to places where they were present. Still, it seemed to know exactly where it was going, avoiding the others. One must remember that low-level Demon Beasts had small chances of having condensed Demon Cores. Of course, the chances increased as their Stages got higher. It is known that all demon beasts will definitely have a Demon Core condensed by the time they reached Stage Five.

However, Stage Two was still too low. Not to mention, this Blood Hound had only reached the strength of a Middle Stage Foundation Establishment Cultivator in power. The rate of Stage Two demon beasts with demon cores wasn't even 1 to 100. Of course, there were a few exceptions, like Rare and Strong Demon Beasts. But this was definitely not the case for the Blood Hound as it was a relatively common and quite weak race.

Rean then thought up of a possible statement.

"I can use my Light Element to feel the presence of Demon Cores. That's because those Demon Cores have a lot more Life Force inside them than the rest of the body. The chick can also use the Light Element, so it shouldn't be a surprise that it can do the same thing."

Roan found it weird.

"In that case, the chick is much better than you. After all, it could feel the presence of a Demon Core from outside the forest. As for you, you can only do that when you are close to the Demon Beast."

However, Rean immediately shook his head.

"No, that's not it. The chick's sensory abilities are definitely not this heaven-defying. Instead, it's probably its instincts."

Roan and Hulian looked at Rean before simultaneously asking.

"Instincts?"

Rean nodded in response.

"Yes. It's not that the chick knew where the Demon Core was located, but it was because it knew that it could find Demon Cores in this Demon Beast forest. It's a hereditary ability of its race. Of course, its sensory abilities are still powerful. After all, it was able to prevent being found by nearby Stage Two Demon Beasts. It most likely used the same trick I've been using since I entered Foundation Establishment. It is using Light Element to feel the Life Forces in the surroundings. From what I can see, the chick is just a little worse with it than me."

Roan then asked.

"But how did it know that the Blood Hound had a Demon Core? Even you need to be a lot closer to the demon beast to tell if it has a Demon Core or not, right? The chick obviously noticed the Demon Core's presence from further away than you can."

Rean pondered a bit and then said.

"Well, this is just a theory, but I believe it has something to do with the fact it is also a Demon Beast. Perhaps, its own Demon Core is enhancing its perception ability regarding other Demon Cores."

"It has a demon core?"

"Of course! I have found it the moment it was born. Otherwise, where do you think all that Sprit Stones' Energy went to?"

Hulian couldn't help but ask.

"In the end, what race is this chick from?"

Rean shook his head.

"No one in the beast taming faction has any idea about it. I wanted to ask Elder Bob Ma- cough, cough... Elder Reliance about it, but I didn't get the chance yet."

Roan kept paying attention to the chick, though.

"Look, it changed direction once again."

Rean and Hulian nodded.

"If it is another Demon Beast with a Demon Core, then we will be certain about the chick's ability."