Death 41
Chapter 41 - Healing
The Leopard still hasn't recovered its vision, so it could only hear the scream at his side.
Inna Malaka might be a genius, but she is still a kid. Also, her cultivation is still far from being able to deal with that Horned Shadow Leopard.
The Leopard turned to the direction of the scream and instinctively pounced at it. Inna Malaka froze in place, and her legs simply didn't move at all. She wasn't like Rean and Roan, who had adult minds. So Inna couldn't deal with that situation and was scared out of her mind.
Opril and Diakar rushed over, but they were even further behind.
Roan tried to move as fast as he could, but speed wasn't precisely his fort.
Rean knew that he was the only one able to arrive there fast enough. But that would require him to overexert himself, forcefully keeping his Light Element over his legs for longer.
"Fuck it!"

Light Element instantly gathered on Rean's two legs, and he burst forward. Just as the Leopard attack was about to hit Inna, Rean appeared in front of her and used his sword to deflect the attack. However,

he did that in a wrong position, and his legs gave in right after. The Leopard next claws ended hitting, leaving behind a deep cut on his chest. The attack's force threw Rean back, making him bump on Inna.
The Leopard finally recovered his vision partially and saw those two on the ground. But as it was about to attack again, Roan swiftly arrived and slashed down. The Leopard was taken by surprise, and the sword cut one of his legs. Diakar had higher cultivation, so he was the second one to arrive.
The Leopard tried to retaliate, but both Roan and Diakar were not weak. Once Opril arrived as well, its fate was sealed. With one leg missing, blood loss, and three cultivators attacking simultaneously, it didn't take long for it to breathe its last.
The three of them ignored the Leopard's corpse and immediately rushed to Rean's side. Inna had only a few bruises on her body while she held Rean.
Roan looked at the cut on Rean's chest and narrowed his eyes. Roan is Death, he had seen way too many people dying. Because of that, he knew that Rean's injury was far from good. Rean was almost losing his consciousness as well.
But surprisingly, he snorted.
"Hey, idiot. If you keep bleeding like this, you will die. Use your Light Element to heal your body. Well, if you don't want to, that's okay for me. It just means that all the desserts will be mine after you pass away."
Rean's expression immediately changed after hearing that.

"Ke-keep dreaming!"
Light Element gathered around the injury of his chest, and it started to heal. Of course, Rean was far from being able to completely heal a wound like that, so the effect quickly disappeared.
"Again! Keep using it. If you lose control over the Light Element, just try again and keep healing the wound little by little. Make sure to focus deep inside and ignore the outer cut."
Rean gritted his teeth and did as Roan suggested.
Sure enough, his wounds started to heal. Every time he lost control, he would take a deep breath and try another time. Rean kept doing it until he completely ran out of Spiritual Energy in his Dantian. After that, he finally lost consciousness.
Roan looked at the cut on Rean's chest and sighed in relief. Rean was at least able to avoid leaving behind a fatal injury. It was still bad, but with Diakar and Opril's aid, they were able to stop the bleeding entirely as well.
Not long after, Alanda appeared in the scene like a ghost. Roan had crushed the Red Bead that he gave them some time ago, but he was quite far and took this long to arrive. His group had noticed Inna Malaka's disappearance, and he sent quite a few warriors to look around. But seeing the scene in front of him, he immediately understood what happened.

Other warriors soon arrived at the scene as well. Alanda passed the crying Inna to them and used his Spiritual Energy to check Rean's condition. But it was at this moment that he heard Roan.
"Don't worry, he will be fine. The way the injury is at the moment will not be enough to endanger his life. Once he recovers his consciousness, he will be able to use his Light Element to finish healing his chest."
Alanda was surprised to hear that.
"He can heal himself?"
Roan nodded.
"His Light Element stimulates life force, which greatly improves the body's healing ability."
Roan then explained everything that happened. And Alanda was obviously amazed to know that Light Element had this ability.
"By the way, how did Inna Malaka appear here?"
Alanda shook his head.

"She snaked out when all the kids were cleaning the demon beasts bodies. Because they were all concentrated around the corpses, the other warriors didn't notice that she wasn't present until a long time later. As for me, I was far ahead of the group, taking a look at the surroundings to see if any mob wouldn't be attracted by the smell of blood."
Roan and Alanda then glanced at crying Inna, who was being dragged back to the leading group.
"For her to be able to sneak out without any of the warriors noticing was quite impressive."
Alanda nodded.
"Her talents are not only in cultivation, after all. Still, she better be prepared for a very heavy punishment when we go back to the Tribe. When I found out that she had disappeared, my heart almost froze in place."
After hearing those words, Roan couldn't help but send a Spiritual Sense message to Alanda.
"Is she really just a Green Aptitude Level kid? It doesn't matter how I look at it; she is way above Rivio, who has the same aptitude."
Alanda grimaced and sighed in the end. First, because he was impressed that Roan can already use Spiritual Sense messages, and second because he noticed Inna's talent difference easily.

"With your intelligence, it is not a surprise that you saw that. Make sure to not say spread this information. Inna is, in fact, a Blue Aptitude level kid, far above Rivio in talent. She only loses for you and Rean."
Roan nodded and didn't say anything else. He is aware of what could happen with the Tribe if this information is to go out.
Chapter 42 - Out Of Luck
With Alanda's help, it didn't take long for Rean to regain his consciousness. That being said, he immediately started to use his Light Element to slowly heal the injury in his chest. It took him an entire day to finish it, though. When he was finally standing again, it was already the last day of the group hunt.
Inna Malaka looked worried at Rean from a distance, which was quite funny.
"Well, what were you thinking to appear in that place?"
Inna looked down, ashamed, and murmured.
"Vice Tribe Leader always let you two do whatever you want, but when it is me, he still refuses. I also lightened up 7 small affinity orbs and have the same green aptitude level, so why is it only the two of you? That is not fair."
Rean looked at her and sighed. A kid is just a kid, after all. In the end, their reasons are always that simple.

"You watched our battle before the Leopard attacked you, right?"
Inna nodded while still looking at the ground.
"Then you should have noticed that we are a lot stronger than you. We can even fight adult warriors. Can you do that?"
Inna shook her head this time.
"There you go. Vice Tribe Leader let us do that because we are strong. Only the strong can do things like that. You are still too weak and need to cultivate a lot to reach our level. When the time comes that you are in the Energy Gathering Realm, the Vice Tribe Leader will let you do the same. Understood?"
Inna begrudgingly nodded.
"I'm sorry."
Rean laughed and then patted her head. He couldn't force himself to be that harsh with Inna. After all, his mental age is already 36 years old. Being angry at this kid would bring him nothing in the end. Things like punishment would be applied by Alanda later.

"It is good that you understand. Let's do this way. Once you reach the Spiritual Vision of the Body Transformation Realm, I will let you follow us to fight a little. But you will need to put an extra effort into cultivation."
Inna's eyes immediately shined, and she showed a smile as bright as the sun.
"You said it! You can't go back on your promise."
Rean laughed inwardly.
"What are you happy about? You still have Tribe Vice Leader's punishment awaiting you when we get back. Considering his harsh character, it definitely won't be anything nice."
Inna's smiled disappeared as fast as it came. On her face, fear could be seen now. Still, that only made Rean laugh even more.
Roan looked at him on the sides and saw that he was fine.
"Stop bullying the kid, and Let's go. We still have enough time to finish the last two Demon Beasts."

Rean nodded, and they immediately departed with Opril and Diakar. Of course, they told Alanda that they would be leaving again. Alanda didn't mind since he knows that the last event only happened due to Inna Malaka's actions. Otherwise, those two wouldn't have had any problem until the end.
Alanda then looked at Inna and said with a severe face.
"If you do that again, I will kill you myself."
Poor Inna almost pissed her pants.
Alanda then looked at the direction that Rean and Roan disappeared.
'What a frightening healing ability. Even the Alchemists in the City wouldn't be able to concoct a pill that efficient. In just one day, a fatal injury completely disappeared. Not even a scar was left behind. As for Roan, his Darkness Element can destroy life force. It is as frightening as Rean's Light Element. Juri is right, those two are fated to leave this remote place one day.'
Alanda put his attention back into his group and shouted.
"Let's go, we still have one last day in the forest, so let's make up for the wasted time. Also, Inna Malaka, you will have to clean one of the beasts' bodies alone."

Inna trembled and almost cried. But looking at Alanda's face was more than enough for her to understand that she would have no other choice. Crying would be utterly meaningless in front of that old man.
Their group quickly departed to continue their hunt.
On Rean and Roan's side, they had it quite relaxed. It didn't take more than a few minutes for them to find another demon beast. With Rean and Roan's teamwork, the battle was finished quickly.
[Stage One Demon Beasts Killed: 09]
"Phew I guess I'm started to understand how to use the sword."
Roan nodded.
"You can thank this grandfather any time you want. If not for my teaching and the images that I'm sending to your mind, you wouldn't be even 1/10 as good as you are at the moment."
Rean nodded.
"Sure, we will be back to the Tribe tomorrow. You can have my dessert during the meal at that time."

Roan felt a chill on his back and immediately took several steps away.
"Who are you? What did you do to Rean?"
Rean's mouth twitched.
"Fuck you! I tried to thank you for once, and that is how you react?"
Roan kept rubbing his arms while looking at Rean. It was as if he was seeing something disgusting.
"Stay always from me, I don't want to get infected Though I will accept your dessert."
Rean felt like crying but had no tears.
"Hmph!"
Diakar and Opril only shook their heads.

"Those two are beyond any salvation, just ignore them and let's bring this beast's body back to the leading group."
But it was at this moment that Rean felt a presence nearby. Or to be more specific, he felt life force! Not only that, but this life force was way bigger than any other Demon Beast that they killed so far.
"Diakar, Opril, get away from the corpse, now!"
The two guards didn't understand the problem, but seeing how panicked Rean was, they didn't dare to delay and jumped back as fast as possible. Suddenly
Boom!
The ground caved under the Demon beast's corpse, and an enormous mouth grabbed it. Seeing that scene made Diakar and Opril's face go pale. If they had delayed just a second, it would probably be them in that place.
"It's a Scaled Earth Python! Why is it here on the outskirts of the forest? Rean, Roan, retreat!"
Diakar immediately took out the red bead and crushed it while they ran away. The Earth Python only took two seconds to send the entire beast's corpse down its throat. It then looked at those four runnings away and immediately gave chase.

"Don't stop! That is a Stage Two Demon Beast, we have no chance against it. Only Tribe Vice Leader Alanda will be able to do so."
Rean couldn't help but think.
'Just what kind of luck is this?'
Chapter 43 - Exchange
Alanda was with the leading group when suddenly, he rushed out. As soon as Diakar crushed the red bead, he immediately noticed it.
'What is happening with those two? There shouldn't have been another accident.'
Back on Rean's group side, they were not as fast as the Python, it only took it a few seconds to reach their group. It then pounced at Roan, but Diakar, who was beside him, took out his Sword and slashed against it. The Sword hit the enemy's body, but nothing more than a small cut was left behind. Diakar has the highest cultivation, being in the Middle Stage of the Energy Gathering Realm, but even he couldn't damage it.
Fortunately, it was still strong enough to deflect the attack, giving Roan more than sufficient time to dodge. Roan didn't run after that, though. Instead, he took that chance and slashed against the Python's eyes. Because of the speed of the Python, Roan already understood that running would be meaningless. They need to resist until Alanda appears.

The Python closed its eyes, but it wasn't enough to prevent the cut. Especially since the power of the Darkness Element immediately started to erode the surrounding area. Rean had heard Roan's call, appearing on the other side in a second. He was planning to hit the other eye as well. However, the Python understood the danger and immediately dodged while swiping its tails against Rean.
Although Rean used his Sword to block, his body was too small, so he was still sent flying. The only good thing was that he didn't get injured. The Python didn't take this group seriously before, but it won't hold back anymore.
Roan looked at it and then told everyone.
"Don't try to run, we are not as fast as it. Try to stall for time. Attack together, and defend together. Alanda should be here in any second."
The Python didn't waste any time and attacked once more. However, it circled around and went to Rean, who landed further away from Roan, Diakar, and Opril.
Rean didn't panic. He waited for the moment that the Python pounced at him and used his Light Element on his legs, dodging the attack in the last second. However, the Python's tail came once more while still on the air after jumping to avoid the previous attack.
"Fuck!"
Bam!

Although Rean had used Light Element in his arms this time to block the tail with his Sword, he didn't have a foothold. Thus, Rean was sent rolling in the air, even further away from Roan and the others. Noticing the chance, the Python immediately ran after him.

Roan and the others were close but would need another second to help Rean. As for Rean, he hasn't landed yet, so he couldn't see things clearly. Roan could see that Rean would be swallowed whole if he didn't arrive there in time, but he couldn't use the enhancement in his body like Rean.

[Are you two idiots? Why haven't you traded Elements through the connection of your bodies yet? Just have Rean send Light Element within the thread and use it on yourself. At the same time, send Dark Element back for the exchange.]

Sister Orb!

Rean and Roan didn't have time to think, so Rean gathered Light Element while Roan did the same thing with Dark Element, quickly making the exchange. This was the first time they tried something like this, but surprisingly, it felt as natural as breathing. Light and Dark Elements passed through the thread in an equal exchange. Two opposites, still, one couldn't exist without the other, the real meaning of Yin and Yang.

For a moment, a small part of Rean and Roan's hairs changed, showing a mix of Black and White colors. Roan ignored this fact and immediately used the Light Element in his legs. He hasn't tried something like this before, but he had seen Rean enough times.

For a second, his speed soared, and he was able to reach the side of the Snake's head just as it was about to swallow Rean. He slashed down against the same eye he hit before, leaving behind an even

deeper cut. Not only that, but he had used Rean's Light Element to increase the power of his arms in the last moment too. The Python's attack direction changed, and Rean finally landed on the ground.
Rean didn't waste this chance and did the same thing, slashing against the Python's other eye, who had lost its balance due to Roan's attack. Light Element increased the power of his arms while Dark Element was used on the Sword. The enemy had no time to dodge, and its other eye was hit as well. Greater damage while leaving the erosion of the life force effect behind.
The Python was now blind! Because it couldn't see anymore, it immediately went berserk, swiping his tail around. Rean and Roan were once again sent flying, but the Python didn't pursue. Instead, it tried to go underground one more time to escape. It needed time to heal its eyes.
"Hmph! Since you are already here, why don't you stay for a while longer?"
It was at this moment that Alanda arrived. He grabbed the Snake's tail and swung it around. The half part of its body that was already underground quickly came out. Alanda is at the Foundation Establishment Realm, so he and the Python should have similar combat power. But because the Python was blind, it didn't pose too much of a threat to Alanda.
Rean, Roan, Diakar, and Opril also helped on the sidelines. With Alanda's Sword piercing through its skull, the Python finally stopped moving. It was dead!
Seeing its body, Alanda let out a sigh of relief.
"It is finally over."

It was then that he looked at Rean and Roan. He could see their hairs, which are black and white, slowly turning back to their original colors. Not only that, but he was also close when Rean and Roan used the other's Element. However, he decided to ask about it later.
"Just why is there a Stage Two Demon Beast in this place?"
Rean's group shook their heads. They, too, had no idea.
[Number of Demon beasts Killed: 10]
[Reward List is Now Open]
Chapter 44 - Back To The Tribe
Hearing Sister Orb's voice, Rean and Roan were surprised.
"It seems like that our contribution was big enough to be considered a kill too. Most likely because it is a Stage Two Demon Beast, so the efforts were equivalent."
Rean nodded.

"However, Sister Orb had spoken normally a few moments ago, why does she need to go back to this machine-like speech right after?"
Roan didn't care, though.
"Anyway, we can take a look later. For now, this exchange of elements is of greater concern. Did you feel anything blocking you when we did the exchange?"
Rean shook his head.
"No, it was very natural, as if it was already part of me."
Roan agreed with Rean.
"Exactly. That means that our connection through that Black and White thread is stronger than I imagined. I guess it will be a lot harder to get rid of it in the future."
It was then that Rean mentioned.
"We tried to go to two opposite sides of the Tribe, but the connection was still there. However, the Tribe is just so big. If a chance appears, we should try to move even further away to see if it would impact our souls or bodies in any way."



"However, there are also a few signs of Life Force on its rear."
"What?!"
Alanda immediately went there and carefully opened the Python's body.
"I see, no wonder it came to outer skirts of the Forest. It is female and pregnant on top of it. It was about to lay its eggs, so it needed somewhere safer since it would be in a weakened state after that. I really can't say if you four are lucky or not."
Hearing that, Roan couldn't help but ask.
"Are those eggs worth anything?"
Alanda smiled and nodded.
"This demon Beast will naturally reach a Stage Two level when it reaches the adult stage. As long as you have the resources and the ways to train it, you might be able to get a powerful helper. So its eggs are worth at least 200 Spirit Stones each, and there are three of them. Not to mention the Demon Core in its head."

Rean's group eyes immediately lit up.
"But! 50% of it is for the Tribe. It was also because of me that we could kill it, so I'm getting half of the remaining value, which is 25%. It leaves 25% for the rest of you."
Rean and Roan's expression changed immediately. But they couldn't complain since it was the truth. As much as blinding it was helpful, the fact is that the Python would have escaped had Alanda not arrived. Rean, Roan, Diakar, and Opril definitely didn't have the power to stop, much less kill it.
"Alright, the three eggs will be worth around 600 Spirit Stones. As for the Stage Two Demon Core, it is worth 500 Spirit Stones. In the end, it will give us 1100 Spirit Stones. 550 are the Tribe's share. 225 are mine, while the other 225 are yours. The four of you can decide how to split it."
Diakar then stepped forward and said.
"Opril and I didn't do much this time. It was also Rean and Roan who blinded it. So we are fine with 30 or so Spirit Stones."
Alanda nodded.
"Very well, so 60 Spirit Stones of your 225 will be given to Diakar and Opril, 30 each. The remaining 165 will be used to pay part of Rean and Roan's 200 Spirit Stones debt. Very good, the two of you only owe the Tribe another 35 Spirit Stones. Work hard, young ones."

Rean and Roan wanted to cry but had no tears. After everything that passed through, they weren't even able to clear their debts. Alanda didn't give any leeway to them either. So they could only sulk it.
"I swear that I will give this darn geezer a good beating when I get into the Foundation Establishment."
Roan nodded.
"What a surprise, I also feel the same way as you."
Alanda heard that but completely ignored the two.
After that, they grabbed the Python's body and brought it back to the leading group. After seeing the enormous demon beast, all the warriors and kids were shocked. It wasn't every day that they can see a Stage Two Demon Beast, after all. The group's hunting immediately stopped, and they took their time cleaning the Python's body of all its useful parts. Everything that could be used was carefully kept.
After they finished, Alanda announced the hunting time's end, and everyone started to make their way back to the Tribe. After arriving there, Rean, Roan, and Alanda went to see Juri in his home.
"I see, so you can use each other's elements. Well, even if you haven't told us that, it wasn't hard to ascertain. After all, even your hair changed when Alanda saw you using the opposite Element. Still, how did you manage to do that?"

Rean and Roan shook their heads.
"You can consider it a link between him and me—a type of connection that the two of us were born with. In fact, we only noticed it during that moment against the Earth Python, so it is also new for us."
Juri nodded.
"Anyway, this is a good thing for you. Still, try to not show it around to avoid unnecessary attention. That's all."
Alanda and the twins then bid farewell to Juri and returned their homes.
Sure enough, that night, Roan mercilessly ate Rean's dessert without the least bit of remorse, much for Rean's regret. Subsequently, they returned to their room and immediately entered the Soul Gem dimension. It was time to check the new Reward List.  Chapter 45 - Destiny Points
Chapter 45 Destiny Forms
Rean and Roan touched Sister Orb at the same time and sent Spiritual Energy inside. Immediately after, they selected the Reward List option.
[1- Light and Dark Elements Cultivation Techniques - Free]

[2- Ape Bones - 10 Destiny Points]
[3- Spiritual Energy Absorbtion Upgrade Level 1(Necessary to have Light and Dark Cultivation Techniques) - 100 Destiny Points]
[Further Rewards will be available once authority level increases.]
Rean and Roan couldn't help but ask.
"What are Destiny Points?"
[The presence of hosts in this world has changed the natural order of things. Every time the hosts create a great disturbance, they will be rewarded with Destiny Points. The hosts' final goal is to change the destiny of the two halves of the Universe, merging them together once more.]
Roan pondered a bit and made another question.
"What level of disturbance is necessary to generate Destiny Points?"
[It depends on the scale.]

"In that case, if we do something that changes the destiny of our Varen Tribe, would it be enough to get Destiny Points?"
[Yes, but this would be considered the smallest scale change, giving the lowest number of points.]
It was then that Rean thought about something else.
"Sister Orb, how many points do we have at the moment?"
[Zero]
Rean and Roan nodded at each other.
"Our presence in the Tribe has definitely changed its destiny to a certain extent, but not enough to get destiny points. We would need to make something more significant."
Suddenly, Rean's eyes shined as he looked at Roan.
"What about the ores? Because of our Ore Mine, our Tribe has a few blacksmiths, right?"

Roan nodded.
"It does, but what do you need them for?"
Rean laughed out loud and continued.
"Have you forgotten what my job was back on Earth? I was already a 31 years old grown man, after all. Not to mention that I had also finished college."
Roan pondered a bit and tried to remember the information about Rean's job before his death.
"Oh! If I'm not wrong, you were something called metallurgist. Looking at the name, it seems like it has something to do with metals, right?"
Rean nodded.
"Yes. Of course, back on Earth, I was nothing more than an average one, but in this world, you could say that I'm the greatest blacksmith ever! At first, I wasn't planning to show my skills before I got older. But considering that we need those Destiny Points, I guess it is worth a try."
Roan admitted that Rean was right. The Tribe doesn't even need to sell the equipment made by Rean, just by equipping themselves with it, the Tribe's overall strength would increase a lot. That should be enough to generate destiny energy.

"Well, I already taught you swordsmanship, and I will keep doing so in the future. So for now, I will leave this Destiny Points Generation up to you."
Rean nodded and didn't mind that answer. Knowing how to use a sword might make things even faster during this process of teaching the Tribe's Blacksmiths about Metallurgy's concepts.
Having that decided, they went to the next topic, the Cultivation Techniques!
Rean and Roan didn't waste anytime and immediately selected the first option. They had been going with nothing until now, and they could see the difference between themselves and the others who had it. It simply wasn't at the same level at all!
As soon as they selected it, a stream of information flowed into their minds. Both techniques were almost identical, with only the exception of the Element used for it. Also, there was a unique trait for the techniques. They allowed the cultivator to use the opposite Element to reach a balance, which greatly improved the cultivation speed.
Of course, for such thing to work, Rean and Roan would need to work together.
"Why does everything have to be together? Sister Orb, can't you give us some individuality?"

[The techniques were created using the hosts' compatibilities. This is the best result. It is still possible to cultivate without the help of the opposite Element, but the speed will drop several times. It might be even slower than the other elemental techniques you got before.]
Roan glanced at Rean and sighed.
"Forget it. It is for the sake of getting strong. Besides, we just need to send the other's Element through the Black and White Thread, it is not like we need to stay close to each other. So stop complaining and be happy that there is at least a cultivation technique for our elements."
Rean sulked a bit and decided to give up.
"Anyway, what are those Ape Bones? I don't think I heard anything about it in this world before."
[Ape Bones is the first level of upgrade for the bones. The Body Transformation Realm's Bones Enhancement Stage could be said to be the initial level. It will improve your overall bodily strength. Speed, Endurance, Defence, all of that will reach a higher level than the ordinary cultivators.]
Roan already expected this something like that.
"This is a good thing. However, it will take a long time for us to gather that amount of Destiny Points. So let's just forget it for now."

Rean then added.
"As for the third reward, it is pretty much self-explanatory. Sister Orb, how much is the improvement in Spiritual Energy Absorbtion?"
[Each level increases the absorption rate by 5%.]
If Rean and Roan were kids, they might have complained about that amount, but they are not. They know that a simple 5% now would make a gigantic difference in the future. The further they go into the path of cultivation, the greater the difference would be.
"Anyway, let's first focus on the Ape Bones, we can think about the Spiritual Energy Absorbtion later."
Roan then got up.
"Alright, we got everything we needed, let's go."
Rean, on the other hand, shook his head.
"Not yet, there is still one more thing."



During the next day, Roan stayed in the class to teach the kids with the other warriors while Rean and Alanda went to talk with Juri. Roan knows nothing about metallurgy, so his presence there wouldn't have much of use anyway.
"So, what is it that you wanted to talk about?"
Rean then started to explain.
"As I told you before, I came from another world. I worked with metals in that world, so I would like to teach the blacksmiths in the Tribe how to forge something new."
Alanda and Juri looked at each other before asking Rean back.
"Didn't you say that you were not a cultivator in your previous world? If it is just common weapons and armors, we already know how to make them."
Rean shook his head.
"You don't understand. Indeed, that was a world where Spiritual Energy didn't exist, nor did cultivators and demon beasts. However, it is precisely because we didn't have them that humans there choose another path. So I can tell that there isn't a single person who understands metals better than me in this world. Simply put, our methods were hundreds if not thousands of times more advanced than yours."

"The fact that we didn't have cultivators led people to use their intelligence. In my world, it means nothing to be strong. It doesn't matter how much strength your body has, the ones who are at the top of the food chain are those with intelligence."
"Anyway, even if I explain how my world worked, you two wouldn't understand very well. I would need several years just to describing the general common knowledge of my previous life, and you probably wouldn't even believe it. Don't misunderstand me, I'm not trying to be rude. It is just that both worlds' methods are totally and utterly different from each other. I could be said to be an idiot regarding cultivation as well. You two definitely know a lot more about it than me, that's what I mean."
Juri pondered a bit and then nodded.
"Very well. I will give it a try since we don't have much to lose. What do you need?"
Rean smiled after hearing that.
"At first, I need three blacksmiths. Their talents don't matter since my methods are entirely different from yours. I will need as many samples of metals possible. Since we already have an Ore Mine, I'm sure you also used it to trade for other ore types that we don't have."
Alanda confirmed.
"Indeed. Our ore mine is for iron, and at its depth, we have some spiritual iron. Of course, it doesn't have much of a quality."

"Spiritual Iron?"
Alanda nodded.
"It is Iron Ore that was able to retain some Spiritual Energy. It is a lot sturdier and can make much better weapons. I heard that some high-level cultivation blacksmiths can even make Spiritual Equipments with it."
Rean nodded and didn't ask any further. As a metallurgist, he would know what to do when he gets it. He even had some ideas on his mind on how to use this so-called spiritual iron.
"Very well, at first, I will also need coal and limestone."
"Limestone?"
Seeing Juri and Alanda's puzzled face, Rean could only sigh.
'As expected, with another language, other names come with it. It was good that they had iron and coal before, so I learned how they were called here.'

As mentioned before, the language of this world is different, so even iron and coal were called different. Sure enough, limestone would have a different name. Rean pondered a bit and then explained how limestones looked like.
Juri and Alanda looked at each other with surprised faces.
"Is this thing good?"
Rean immediately nodded.
"The metal I wish to create here first needs a lot of limestones. It is essential for the entire process."
Alanda then pointed at another mountain not too far away from the Tribe. It is even part of the Tribe's territory as well.
"Well, there are loads of it there, but since we never had any use for it, we never bothered collecting any."
Rean couldn't help but laugh out loud. They had iron, and coal was easy to produce, but limestones were what he was most concerned about.
"Great! You guys simply have no idea that that stone will be a mine of gold for you. But that also brings us to another problem, and a gigantic one at that."

Juri nodded. He immediately understood what Rean meant.
"Secrecy. If this new metal that you create is really that strong, we would be a Tribe holding a treasure that we cannot protect. It might even bring calamity to us."
Rean nodded.
"So far, all the weapons and armors I saw our and the other tribes using didn't have this type of metal. I guess it is safe to say that no one knows about it yet. First, I need to try my hand on it and see the results. If it turns out to be practical, I will stop immediately. After all, before going ahead with this plan, our Tribe will need a backer and not just any backer. It has to be someone capable of protecting our Tribe even against a force like Hanoi Tribe."
Juri started to massage the space between his eyes. He couldn't help but feel a headache coming. Juri doesn't think that Rean is lying since it wouldn't bring him anything good. By this point, Juri totally believes that Rean and Roan are definitely not kids, at least not in mind.
Alanda couldn't help but comment.
"The Nari Tribe will be far from enough to do something. In that case, we only have one option, the city lord's protection. However, they will absolutely ask for the formula to create this metal that you are talking about. Once they get it, there won't be much of a meaning to protect us anymore."

Juri shook his head.
"No, there is one more option that would allow us to keep the secret while getting good enough protection."
Alanda and Rean immediately looked at him.
"The Zafa Bank."
Chapter 47 - Success
"Zafa Bank?"
Rean looked at Juri, waiting for him to explain.
Juri sighed and then continued.
"It's the biggest bank in the country. They have branches everywhere, including Astreg City. Due to its size, even the cultivation sects don't take them lightly. Still, what they want is profit. By the way, what is the name of the metal that you wish to create?"
"Steel. But this is just the first one. There will be even more different combinations in the future. Especially since this world seems to have several different types of ores as well."

Juri nodded and continued.
"They would be able to protect our Tribe, but there will also be a need for part of the profit generated from the Steel Metal that you talked about. Also, they don't just take anything, it has to be something that will create a large amount of revenue. Otherwise, it won't even be worth the time of their experts."
Rean pondered a bit and then offered another option.
"Now that I think about it, it will be better if our Tribe doesn't get involved. Or to be more precise, not in the open. What about acquiring a workshop in the City? It would be a lot easier to protect due to the City's rules. Also, since the Tribe wouldn't be directly connected to it, it should be safer."
Juri's eyes narrowed.
"It is not that it is a bad idea, but that a workshop in the City would be too expensive. First, we would need to see one of those weapons completed. Not only us but the Zafa bank as well."
Rean nodded.
"That's not a problem. Give me just one blacksmith this time. Obviously, someone that you trust. He and I will then create a Steel Sword. I will give it to you to test, and then you can make your decision."

Juri nodded and immediately made the preparations. On the same day, Rean was brought into a workshop of the Tribe. When he arrived there, everything was closed, there were even a few warriors around it, preventing anyone from getting close. Inside, there was only a burly old man preparing the tools.
Alanda then introduced him.
"This is Erkil Titola, the chef blacksmith of our Tribe. He is also our most trustworthy member. As long as it is him, you don't have to be afraid of anything leaking out. Also, he is a Middle Stage Energy Gathering Realm Warrior."
Rean bowed to the Erkil, but the other part only narrowed his eyes.
"What is the meaning of this? Did you make all these arrangements just to introduce me to a kid?"
Alanda shook his head.
"During the next 7 days, we need you to follow his orders. I know that you have a lot of questions. But for now, I wish you to ignore his age and just trust what he says. For this, the Tribe will double your amount of Spirit Stones this month."
Erkil was taken aback by those words. Why would they want such a thing? Other than Rean's white hair, he couldn't see anything that could catch his attention.

"Sigh I don't know what Juri is planning. But since this is his orders, I will follow them. However, I don't need any extra spirit stones. That man only does things for the Tribe, and I'm sure this situation is not different. If I take those Spirit Stones, I wouldn't be able to sleep at night."
Rean and Alanda smiled after hearing that. It was at moments like these that Juri's reputation came in hand.
Rean then looked at Alanda and asked.
"Are the warriors that I asked ready?"
Alanda nodded.  "I gathered 10 warriors with wind Element Affinity. They are outside waiting for your orders."
"Great!"
Rean then looked at the materials around, Iron, Coal, Limestones, and a few other things that were already there for his use. Seeing Rean holding the limestone on his hand, Erkil couldn't help but ask.
"What do you need such a stone for? And why so much coal too?"

Rean smiled at and said.
"You are about to create history. Just follow my orders, and you will see what those two things are able to do. Tribe Vice Leader Alanda, call the warriors inside."
Alanda nodded, and the warriors quickly came in. But Rean didn't keep then in the workshop, but behind it. They were here for a reason only, increase the temperature of the fire in the furnace. Fire Element Affinity Warriors would not do since the fire they can create is far from having high enough temperature. Perhaps, only after a few realms would a cultivator be able to do it.
This also prevented them from seeing the creating process and the material used. These secrets would be known only for Rean, Alanda, Erkil, Juri, and Roan.
"Let's start!"
Erkil followed Rean's order, and they began the creation of Steel. At first, Erkil was puzzled about the amount of coal. There shouldn't be a need for so much of it. But in the end, he was surprised that it was not used to make fire, but in the metal instead. Coal is such a weak ore, so he couldn't understand what good could come from it.
The Limestones were the same thing. However, Rean didn't offer an explanation. All he said was that he just needed to follow his steps. During the forging process, Erkil finally found out that Rean is in the Energy Gathering Realm, just like himself. That was, without a doubt, the greatest shook he received today.

Because of how primitive the installations of this workshop were, Rean had to try several times until he found the right balance. However, as a metallurgist, he could identify where the errors happened every time and correct them in the next attempt.
Finally, after five days of work, the first plate of Steel was forged successfully. When Erkil tried to put it into the water to cool down faster, Rean immediately stopped him.
"Are you trying to ruin the metal structure? Here, I especially prepared this hot oil for that."
Erkil ultimately found out what the oil that had been sitting and heating on the corner was for.
"Wouldn't it take longer to cool down?"
Rean nodded.
"That exactly what needs to happen. Just trust me and put it inside."  A few bours later, the Steel was completed. Been smiled at Erkil and said.
A few hours later, the Steel was completed. Rean smiled at Erkil and said.  "Why don't you give it a try? I'm sure you know how to test how resistant something you made is."
verily don't you give it a try: Thi sure you know now to test now resistant something you made is.

Erkil couldn't help but nod. He was by far the most curious person in the world at the moment.	
Chapter 48 - First Reward	
Erkil passed the next hour doing all kinds of tests he could think of. By the time he finished, only disbelief could be seen on his face.	
"How is that possible?! How can Coal and Limestones, such weak ores, transform Iron into somet resistant? It makes no sense!"	hing so
Rean only laughed out loud. He could explain, but Erkil would have a hard time understanding sin required knowledge about compositions of materials. In this world, no one knows what attoms at they might even think that you are crazy.	
"You just need to remember the process. Besides, although this first creation was a success, this i flawed product. There are several things I need to revise again before the real good stuff comes of put it away, and let's restart. We won't stop until I'm satisfied."	
Erkil was frightened by what he heard.	
"Wait! Are you telling me that it can be even better than this one?"	
Rean nodded.	

"It can. Also, this is just the first product, just wait for the time when I introduce you to other types	of
alloys. That will really change your view of how metals can be forged."	

This time, Erkil didn't ask any questions. For him who dedicated decades of his life to forging, this was a dream. As for why Rean knew such things, he already didn't care about that anymore.

Rean, too, was having quite some fun. Because of the problem with his Soul back then, his work had never proportioned such a feeling. He couldn't help to imagine just what kind of changes his Steel would bring.

By the end of the seventh day, Rean exited the Workshop with Erkil. On the other side of the Workshop, the 10 warriors with Wind Element Affinity left as well. However, they looked a lot more tired than Rean and Erkil. Rean had really made them give their blood during the past seven days.

On Erkil's hand, a sword that looked different in appearance of their previous Iron Swords. It was a lot smoother and gave a feeling of sharpness.

During the creation of this Sword, Rean found out that Spiritual Energy could be used to enhance the final result even more. It was a great surprise that made several other ideas pop on his mind. But first, they needed to show the results of their work.

Alanda came to get them and brought the two to Juri's house once more. In front of Juri, there were two swords, one of the ones used by their Tribe, and the new Steel Sword. Just looking at them, it was already possible to see the difference. The steel sword definitely looked much better than their Iron Sword.

Seeing that scene, Rean laughed and then suggested.
"Go ahead. Take both swords and strike them against each other. I'm sure you will love the result. Especially since this Steel Sword was made with Spiritual Energy as well. So it should be even stronger than you think. Even its sharpness increased a lot."
Juri and Alanda nodded, grabbing one Sword each. They didn't need to use Spiritual Energy. With their Foundation Establishment Realm, their bodies' power already surpassed any ordinary person. The two took some distance and attacked each other's Sword.
Well, it couldn't even be considered an attack. That was basically the same as throwing an Iron Hammer against a Glass Window, the two simply couldn't be compared. The Iron sword was slashed in half, while the Steel Sword barely got any collision marks. Juri was sure that even if he brought a hundred Iron Swords here, that single Steel word would destroy all of them!
"Impressive! Even the Sword I bought in the city can't compare to it. No, they are in two completely different categories. If this Sword appears in the town, it would inevitably cause an uproar."
That being said, Juri looked at his Sword and then gritted his teeth.
"Let's try again."
Alanda was taken aback.

"But you paid 300 Spirit Stones for this Sword!"
Juri nodded.
"Yes, but it doesn't matter. According to the blacksmith shop, they used Spiritual Kaz to make it. Oh, right!"
He looked at Rean and commented.
"Kaz is an Ore that is similar to Iron, but a lot sturdier. The Spiritual Kaz is even more so. I have used this Sword for a long time, and it is indeed a good one. However, I can't hold this feeling to try out against your Steel Sword. I must know how much stronger your Steel Sword is!"
Rean laughed and nodded.
"Sure! I'm also curious to see how good a sword made with this Spiritual Kaz is. After all, my Steel Sword was made with nothing more than common ores that couldn't be more ordinary. But first, let me take a look at your Sword."
Juri nodded and passed it to Rean.
After making a few simple tests, Rean's eyes lit up.

'Such an incredible metal, and I've never seen it before. I wish I had some to work with. I'm sure I could create something several times better than what they did with this Sword.'
Still, Rean didn't point it out and simply gave it back to Juri.
"Alright, you can start now. However, you better be prepared to lose 300 Spirit Stones."
Juri laughed out loud after hearing such a comment.
"No problem at all, I very much wish to lose those Spirit Stones at the moment."
This time, Juri and Alanda didn't only use their physical strengths. The Spiritual Kaz Sword was a lot sturdier, so only with Spiritual Energy involved would Juri be able to bring out its full potential.
Alanda also did the same thing and imbued the Steel Sword with Spiritual Energy.
Juri and Alanda nodded and each other and immediately attacked.
Swish!

The result was as Rean expected precisely. Juri's Spiritual Kaz Sword was also split in half and was completely lost. However, Juri couldn't be happier with the result.
"Great!"
Rean, on the other hand, looked at his Steel Sword. An enormous dent was left behind, and there was quite some damage to the structure.
'Indeed. There is a limit to what ordinary materials can achieve. Even though my Steel Sword won, it wouldn't be able to cut through another Spiritual Kaz Sword. It would definitely break apart. At most, both weapons would be destroyed. However, the Steel Sword is already better than a 300 Spirit Stones Sword, so it is a good start.'
[Congratulations, Host has created Steel. Reward: 15 Destiny Points.]
[Steel will create profound changes in the world. As time passes, the bigger will be those changes. Further points will be rewarded when the impact of Steel in this world increases.]
Both Rean and Roan received the same message, and they couldn't help but faintly smile.  Chapter 49 - Death Style
Having the product necessary, Juri looked at Rean and asked.

"I will be going to the City tomorrow to rent a workshop. Can Erkil make this kind of Sword on his own?"
Rean nodded.
"By the time you are back, he should be able to reproduce this effect. The rest is up to you whether you can convince the Zafa Bank to help us or not."
Juri nodded, excited.
"Very well. First, we will need to make these Steel weapons gain recognition. Once the word spreads, there will be eyes aiming at our product formula. But it will be at this moment that I will bring the Zafa Bank in. Whether they want it or not, they will need to recognize this new metal's value."
Juri took a deep breath after that.
"Alright, now we need to discuss your part of the profit. As the creator of this metal, how much you wish?"
Rean smiled and extended three fingers.
"30% is more than enough."

Juri and Alanda were taken aback.
"Only 30%? This Sword definitely can be sold for at least 300 Spirit Stones, you know? Not to mention that all the materials are ordinary. Let alone 300 Spirit Stones, even a single Spirit Stone would be more than enough to buy the stuff necessary to create it. You can ask for some more. I won't mind even if you ask for 50%."
Rean shook his head.
"30% is more than enough. This amount of Spirit Stones can be used for cultivation at our current levels without having to care about running out. As for using it to buy other things, I don't have anything I want at the moment. Besides, don't forget that the Zafa Back will ask at least 20 to 30% as well. Considering the earnings of the Tribe as a whole, the remaining value of every equipment won't make that much of a difference."
Juri couldn't help but feel a little emotional. As someone who did everything for the Tribe, such words really work well on him.
"Very well, 30% it is. Make sure to teach Erkil correctly."
Juri then looked at Erkil and ordered.



Alanda nodded and took a look at the book. Roan had already proved to Alanda that his sword style is better. But after checking the book, he had to admit that it was a lot more profound than he expected.
"Impressive. By the way, how do you call this Sword Style?"
Roan was taken aback by that question.
"Name? I've learned it by myself, so I don't really have a name for it. Let's see Oh well, just call it Death Style."
Alanda's mouth couldn't help but twitch.
"Isn't it too generic?"
Roan glanced at Alanda.
"Who cares? Since I say it is Death Style, then it is Death Style. That's all."
Alanda sighed and just left.

Roan also changed the fighting classes, adding wooden swords for practice. In fact, he also put other weapons for the kids interested like wooden staffs, daggers, spears, etc. He also asked for those wooden weapons to be made according to the kids' sizes, so they were a lot smaller. There wasn't a single type of weapon that Roan didn't try before. The only difference is that he had never incorporated Spiritual Energy into them, so he had to change a few things.

Still, the significant majority of the kids are in the Blood Replacement Stage of the Body Transformation Realm. It will take them quite a few years to be able to bring Spiritual Energy out of their bodies. Because of that, he was able to teach them according to what he knew from his past life. There was no need to use the changes for Spiritual Energy.

Not too surprisingly, most of the kids selected Swords. Even those who showed interest in the other wooden weapons ended changing them in the end. The only exceptions in the entire group were Rivio, who seemed to like the Spear a lot, and Inna Malaka, who preferred the staff.

Because of that, Roan had to separate a particular time just for those two. He didn't mind, though. Without Rean around, cultivation was quite slow anyway, so he might as well wait. As much as he doesn't like it, the difference without using Rean's Light Element to achieve a balance between elements is just too high.

Rivio's talent for Spear could be said to be good. So it was nice to see his improvement. However, Inna Malaka was really a monster. She absorbed everything he taught her about the staff like a sponge. Not only that, but she seemed to have a lot of fun while using it.

'No wonder Juri said that the Sects would come for her if they knew. The difference between her and Rivio is just too great. Be it intelligence, cultivation, or talent with weapons, she is far above him. It's impressive what the difference of a single aptitude level can do. I wonder just how frightening those Red and Purple Aptitudes are.'

Just like that, Rean and Roan were kept busy during the entire week.  Chapter 50 - Juri Left
Juri's visit to the City took longer than expected, and he only came back ten days later.
"Why do you think there are so many Tribes around Astreg City? That's because there isn't enough space for everyone there. So as you can imagine, even a small workshop in a not much bustling street was quite expensive. Well, when I say not much bustling, it is only compared to the main roads. Due to the enormous number of Tribes and the fact that the City is full, even this place has many people passing by."
Alanda couldn't help but ask.
"How much was it to rent the workshop?"
Juri smiled bitterly and shook his head.
"Please don't ask. Just understand that we won't be able to keep that place for more than two months if we don't sell anything."
Rean laughed, though.

"Don't worry, the swords and other weapons will definitely sell. You guys saw it yourselves, my sword was even better than a Spiritual Kaz one."
Erkil and his two apprentices then stepped forward, and Rean took the opportunity to say.
"Erkil has already understood how the process works. His two apprentices should be able to do that as well to a certain extent. The only thing is that Erkil will have to be by their side when they are forging it. After all, he has to guarantee quality. Anyway, they are ready to go with you anytime."
Juri was happy to hear it.
"Very well. As I said, if you have families that you are worried about, I can let you bring them. Just make sure to keep the Steelwork a secret from them as well."
Erkil's two apprentices shook their heads. As Erkil mentioned before, they are not married and have been dedicating their life to Blacksmith so far. As for Erkil, he would be bringing his wife only.
"Our kids are already grown-ups and married off, there is no need to bring them together. So I already talked to them. This time, only my wife will be coming with me."
Juri didn't complain.

It was then that Rean spoke.
"Tribe Leader. I understood your plan to make the Steel weapons recognized first. But someone might be faster and come for it earlier. If a high-level cultivator uses their Spiritual Sense, they would be able to check Erkil and his apprentices working with it."
Juri agreed with Rean.
"I know. That's why I have already planned things out. At the moment, no one cares about us, so I'm sure we are safe for the moment. That being said, I will have Erkil and his two apprentices forge quite a few Steel Weapons. After that, I will get rid of all limestone and the majority of the coal, leaving only Iron behind."
Rean's eyes lit up.
"That is indeed a good idea. By forging everything we need before putting any to sell. You will be able to spend a few days without caring about running out of Swords. Even if someone comes to spy later, since the blacksmiths will not be working anymore, there will be nothing for them to watch. The limestones will be gone, and the remaining coal will only be seen as the way to make fire."
Juri smiled.
"Correct. Also, I'm planning to forge a lot of Iron Swords and leave them outside. I will be making demonstrations with the people in the streets. They will be able to select a sword and test it against the Steel Sword to check the results by themselves. There will definitely be those who will want to test their

very own weapons against as well."

Rean had to admit that it was a good idea. Seeing is believing, after all.
"Anyway. I will be going. Alanda, you will be in charge of the Tribe in the meantime. If everything goes alright, I should be back in three or four weeks."
Alanda nodded.
"No problem. I already prepared a few warriors to go with you, especially a batch with Wind Element Affinity to help with the forging."
Juri smiled after hearing that.
The next day, Juri left with Erkil and the rest.
As Juri disappeared in the distance, Alanda couldn't help but ask Rean.
"Don't you want to go with them? You would be able to check their work firsthand."
Rean shook his head, though.

"It is only Steel, there is no need for me to check on it. Instead, I will be cultivating for the time being. I haven't done any training in the past two and a half weeks at all. This world is too different from mine, intelligence can only bring you so far. Without the strength to back it up, I will only become a target in the future with what I have in my head. Besides, mother would definitely be worried sick."
Alanda nodded, satisfied. He, too, believes that one's own strength was the most critical part. Nothing else will matter if you die, and in this world, death is a common occurrence.
"Good, then go back to classes tomorrow. Roan had been teaching the kids with me while you stayed in the workshop, so you need to catch up."
Rean looked at Alanda.
"Considering the amount of Spirit Stones I will get from my Steel Weapons, why should I keep working as a teacher? I will have more than enough to pay the last 35 Spirit Stones to you."
Alanda shook his head.
"It is not about the Spirit Stones anymore. All the kids take you and Roan as their model. If you disappear, wouldn't it affect their own improvement? How can you be so cold-hearted?"
Rean's mouth couldn't help but twitch.

"You just want someone to do your job, right?"
Alanda looked away and pretended that he didn't hear anything. However, he wasn't wrong. The kids really looked up to him and Roan. Besides, Rean had to admit that it had already become part of his routine.
"Sigh Fine. Since Roan is still there, I might as well continue. It is not like I have Spirit Stones to cultivate anyway."
'Not to mention that I had never had the chance to enjoy my school life back on Earth.'
Rean then went back home to wash. After all, Steelworks in an ancient world isn't exactly the cleanest type of job.