

## **Death 561**

Death... and me

Chapter 561: Bloodline Mark's Ranks

Frandin sighed in relief as he sent a Spiritual Sense Message to Rean.

'Everything went quite well.'

Rean smiled and shook his head.

'The items for sale are there now. However, we did catch some attention. It seems like even your pure bloodline isn't enough to keep prying eyes away.'

Frandin was taken aback.

'What do you mean?'

Without showing anything on his face, Rean replied.

'Someone's following us. Th guy is quite good, though. His cultivation is low, which makes his Spiritual Sense blend with the other people around us. Also, he only uses it once every few seconds to find our location while following from far away.'

Unfortunately for the guy, with Roan as a teacher and Rean's own Spiritual Sense Bending Skill, it would take much more than that to follow Rean without being noticed.

Rean then entered an alley with Frandin when suddenly, the two of them disappeared from the guy's Spiritual Sense.

"What?!"

The guy quickly ran to the alley just to find that Rean and Frandin had disappeared without a trace.

"How's that possible?"

Somewhere else, a new Rean and Frandin came out and joined the crowd once more. Naturally, Rean changed his and Frandin's appearance once more before releasing Frandin from his Spiritual Sense Bending.

'This skill of yours is just too convenient. How do you do that?'

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he replied.

'It isn't that hard when you're born with Light Element Affinity.'

'What?! You're joking, right?'

Rean smiled but didn't say anything else.

Seeing that Rean didn't want to talk about it, Frandin asked something else.

'What do you plan to do now?'

Rean had already achieved his objective to come here. One of them was to get as many Spirit Stones as possible for their group to cultivate.

'Where can we find a map? If possible, one of the entire continent.'

'The entire continent? That's gonna be hard. The best thing would be to buy the countries' maps, which are already expensive. Then we can guide ourselves in the Tuvaro Empire's direction.'

Rean shook his head.

'That's the problem. You told us that the Tuvaro Empire was on the other side of the world. However, in which part is it located? We can't travel without aim.'

Frandin had to admit that Rean was right. The only thing he knew was that it was on the other side, that's all. He never cared about where it could be found.

'Hum... In that case, we can try the Shaz Treasures Hall. However, anything they sell there is extremely expensive. As for a map of the entire continent, it won't be any cheaper. Well, your Earth Middle-Level Weapons are definitely worth a fortune too. Still, we don't have the Spirit Stones from them yet.'

'Is this Shaz Treasures Hall some big organization?'

Frandin nodded.

'They are present in quite a few countries. Of course, there are many other Treasure Halls from other organizations. However, in our Tasman Country and the surrounding ones, the Shaz Treasures Hall is the most famous.'

Rean smiled after hearing that.

'In that case, we can use those weapons of mine to trade for the map, correct?'

'This... In theory, yes. Weapons of that level would definitely be worth a map of the country at the very least.'

Rean still had a few of these weapons in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. Since he could get a map with one of them, it was perfect. It would be a problem if he needed an Earth High Level one, though. He had many of those materials available, but it would take time to forge them into equipment in this world.

'Now that I think about it, I'm already in the Peak of the Core Formation Realm. Considering the Spiritual Pool that Roan and I have, I should be able to push for a breakthrough in my blacksmith skills.'

The more Rean thought about it, the more he liked the idea. The Black and White Stars that Rean and Roan used were even better than ordinary Earth Peak-Level Weapons. Nevertheless, they were still considered High-Level ones due to their material. Rean couldn't make a Peak-Level one before simply because he lacked the cultivation for it. As for the material, he got quite a lot of it in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm.

'Anyway, let's go to this Treasure Hall you talked about.'

It was then that Rean remembered something.

'Oh, right! How come people have decided to follow you even after discovering you had a Pure Bloodline with a Bloodline Mark? I thought that Pure Bloodlines were supposed to be something sacred, and few would try to find problems with them.'

Frandin shook his head as he explained.

'They aren't very common. However, it's not as if they're extremely rare either. First of all, our Pure Bloodline Marks have ranks. Mine, for example, is only a Rank Two Bloodline Mark. It's only rarer than a Rank One. Still, Rank Two ones are considered common between them.'

Rean nodded as he said.

'Because of that, your Bloodline Mark doesn't cause as much fear as the higher-ranked ones.'

Frandin didn't deny that.

'Exactly. There are nine Ranks of Bloodline Marks. The lords of small towns at the borders of the countries are eligible for Rank One Marks. My father is the lord of a somewhat bigger city. Because of that, he and his family were able to get Rank Two ones. Of course, they're far from being as notable as higher ones.'

'Who are the ones with the highest bloodline marks?'

'Who else would they be? They are the Royal Families and Imperial Families.'

'Royal Families can have up to Rank Six Bloodline Marks. The Imperial Family can have up to Rank eight, with the Emperor alone holding a Rank Nine Mark. As you can imagine, the higher your Bloodline Mark Rank, the purer your bloodline. Also, the rank of the mark can draw your bloodline power to a greater extent as well. That's why one could say that the Imperial Family, who already have the purest bloodline, can be almost unbeatable due to their higher Bloodline Marks as well.'

Rean was quite impressed with the mark system.

'You keep saying that one can be 'eligible' for these marks. Does that mean you're not born with them?'

Frandin nodded as he replied.

'We aren't. You need to earn it in the trials of the Empires. Each Empire has its own mark with its own specific characteristics. As I mentioned before, my father was eligible to try a Rank Two Bloodline Mark trial. Since he succeeded, he and his family were rewarded with Rank Two marks, which is the one I use.'

'Who decides who can enter each trial?'

'The Imperial Family, of course.'

Rean nodded.

'In that case, where did these trials come from? Was it the Imperial Families of each Empire that created them?'

'This... I asked the same thing, but my father didn't know the answer.'

Well, Rean already expected that it wouldn't be that easy. In any case, he wasn't a Zasfin, so it matters little for himself.

'Alright, let's go to the Shaz Treasures hall.'

As the most famous one in the country, the Shaz Treasures Hall was one of the biggest buildings in the city. The building had more than ten floors, and each one was very spacious. The higher the floor one reached, the rarer and more expensive the items became. However, each floor seemed to be guarded, so it wasn't like anyone could go up anytime they wanted.

'Can we go up to check the things?'

Frandin looked at Rean as he scratched the back of his head.

'I probably can go to the fourth floor, but...'

Rean immediately understood. Because he was a human, he wouldn't be allowed to go past the first floor.

'Anyway, let me try.'

Rean shook his head, though.

'There's no need. Just call some attendant and ask for the map. That's our main objective in this place anyway. Here, take this sword. It's also an Earth Middle-Level Equipment.'

Frandin really couldn't understand where Rean took that equipment from. He was sure this time that Rean wasn't holding anything else. But out of nowhere, there it was, another sword.

'Is this some kind of ability from the people of his planet?'

That was the only thing he could think about. Still, he nodded and took the sword from Rean.

Sure enough, an attendant came to receive them a few moments later. It was a beautiful female Zashin... or so it looked like. Rean couldn't be sure since she was from another race. However, he doubted the owner of this Treasures Hall would let ugly attendants take care of the customers.

Still, Rean noticed some disgust when she looked in his direction, which she quickly hid before looking at Frandin.

"Hello, young master. What can our Shaz Treasures Hall help you with today?"

Frandin then put his play to work as he asked with a proud expression.

"I want a map of the Empire. The more complete, the better."

"This..."

The Zashin lady looked at Frandin, who seemed quite young, before warning him.

"Sir, we do have such an item. However, it's bound to be quite expensive. I'm absolutely not saying that this young master can't pay it. But I should warn you that it won't be cheap."

Frandin snorted when he heard that.

"Here. Is this enough?"

Frandin then passed Rean's sword to her.

"An Earth Middle-Level Sword! And an excellent one at that!"

Immediately, the attendant's behavior became even more polite towards Frandin.

"I can't conduct such a high-level trade. Can this young master follow me to see the manager of the floor?"

Frandin nodded. Sure enough, Rean's weapons were no joke.

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Chapter 562: It Should Be Possible

Rean and Frandin were soon brought to a private room where the floor manager could be found. After explaining the situation, the manager quickly came out to receive them.

"Hello, friend. I heard that you wish to trade this sword for a map of our continent?"

Frandin nodded as he replied.

"I'm planning to travel soon, so I need the map. This is an exquisite Earth Middle-Level Sword. I'm highly certain that it should be more than enough to pay for a jade slip with the map inside."

The manager was all smiles after hearing that the offer was real.

"But of course! In fact, your sword here is worth more than the map, to be honest. How about this? I can allow you to go check the items on higher levels of our Shaz Treasures Hall and even give you a 10% discount on your first item on top of that."

Frandin pondered for a bit before summoning his Rank Two Bloodline Mark.

"I can already go to the fourth floor with this alone. Would it allow me to go any higher?"

The manager quickly nodded as he answered.

"Certainly. I'll give this young master access up to the 6th floor. How about that?"

Frandin then looked at Rean by his side before asking the manager.

"This human here is responsible for a few things in my family. That being said, he has some experience in treasures thanks to the display of items there. If you allow me to bring him together, then consider this a deal. Don't worry. I'll make sure to take care of him and not let his hands touch anything."

The manager pondered over it a bit. Sure enough, the higher levels wouldn't be accessible for humans. However, the sword was truly a good deal for the Treasures Hall. Although he said that the sword cost a little more, the truth was that they could definitely obtain a much higher price. In the end, the manager smiled again before saying.

"Very well. As long as this young master can guarantee that this human won't stir up any problems, we can allow you to bring him together. However, I should give you and your family a piece of advice. It isn't a good thing to let humans be so close to high-level items like him in your family."

Rean couldn't help but mentally sigh. Unsurprisingly, the Zasfin Race didn't have the least bit of intention of letting the human race ever obtain any footing in this world.

Frandin, of course, immediately accepted the offer.

'With that, you can now check if you want anything else from the higher floors.'

Rean nodded as the two went up. Of course, they already gave the sword to the manager and obtained a jade slip that had a map of the entire Palif Continent. The only problem was that, other than their country, the rest wasn't very detailed, only showing the main routes and cities. Nevertheless, it was still good enough since it at least told the right path to Tuvaro.

Rean didn't really have a reason to go to the floors above. He only wanted to check if he could find something of some use for them. They passed through the second, third, and fourth floors without

losing much time. Although there were a few items that Rean didn't recognize, they weren't anything special after Frandin asked about them.

However, Rean finally found something good on the fifth floor.

'Hmm? What is this thing?'

Rean was looking at a blue box that exuded very cold energy. Or, to be more specific, Yin Energy.

[Oh! Quite a good item! Well, I guess it makes sense to find such a good Yin Energy Material on a planet as cold as this one. Rean, buy it and give me. I can use it in the Soul Gem Realm.]

'In the Soul Gem Realm? Would it be of any use for me and the others?'

[Well, not directly. What it can do is help me regulate the Yin and Yang Energies of the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. You guys like to train inside here sometimes, right? It's quite annoying to keep it balanced since we have more Yin Energy users than Yang.]

Rean nodded, not minding it too much. The Soul Gem Dimensional Realm was just too important, so it was worth the price.

'Frandin, ask how much the item in this box is.'

Frandin nodded and immediately called an attendant.

"This customer has good eyes. This is a Soul Crystal Flower Petal. It's known for having very pure Yin Energy, which can be used together with Yin Energy Cultivation Techniques. Of course, it also has other uses, such as alchemy and crafting. Our Shaz Treasures Hall is asking for 200 Rank Two Spirit Stones for it. Since this young master has a 10% discount token, you can have it for 180."

Frandin couldn't help but take a deep breath. The items in this place were really expensive. As for Rean, he couldn't help but think about all the Spirit Stones that were consumed to go through that teleport. If he still had them, it would be a fortune on this planet.

'Well, it was also a very healthy amount on Sunkan Planet as well. It's just that they were worth a lot more here.'

Frandin then received another Spiritual Sense Message from Rean before saying.

"I want this item, but I don't have the Spirit Stones at the moment. Would the Shaz Treasures Hall be willing to reserve it for me?"

The attendant immediately nodded, replying.

"Of course. The token this young master received also allows you to save three items for two weeks. Would you like to keep this one?"

Frandin nodded as he said.

"Yes."

The attendant then called a servant on the floor and had him bring the item away.

"Remember that if the item isn't claimed in two weeks, it will be put for sale again. Also, failing to buy the things you reserved will result in your token being canceled. Make sure that you come back to take it so that you can reuse this feature later."

Frandin didn't mind it since he would have enough after the auction.

Rean and Frandin then went to the sixth floor, where Rean found another interesting item. It was a blue robe that had a few inscriptions on it.

'Now this is quite surprising. The level of the Formation Master who inscribed this robe was definitely high. It's the first thing I've seen on this planet that's above what I can make.'

Rean kept looking at it for a while longer before understanding what it was made for.

'What a peculiar arrangement of runes. It can draw the surrounding Yin Energy to oneself. The amount is very small and wouldn't be of much use in battle. But there's no doubt it could help with one's cultivation if they used a Yin Energy Cultivation Technique. With that, I'm pretty sure this robe was made by an Earth Peak-Level Formation Master.'

Rean was quite interested in the robe since he was already in the Peak of the Core Formation Realm. Just like blacksmithing, his much bigger Spiritual Energy Pool would allow him to step into the Earth Peak-Level Formation Master rank as well. He wanted this robe so that he could study it and replicate it later.

'Still, I thought only at the Heaven Level would one be able to use Equipment Formations. However, the runes on this robe seem to be quite sturdy. I don't believe the inscriptions would break unless the robe gets damaged.'

Rean pondered for a while longer until he finally understood why an Earth Peak-Level Formation Master succeeded in making it.

'I see... It's the environment. This planet is rich in Yin Energy. The Yin Energy of the surroundings keeps the runes in the robe intact even during movement. Back in Sunkan, Yin and Yang were very balanced, so the robe would lack Yin Energy to keep the runes running. It would only work if you moved to a place with a lot of Yin Energy. However, Sunkan Planet doesn't have many areas with one energy being dominant. Unless you were planning to live in a place like that, it wouldn't be a good idea to make a robe like this.'

Soon, Frandin called an attendant, who told him the price. It turned out that the robe was far more expensive. A total of 3000 Rank Two Spirit Stones were necessary.

Rean didn't think it was strange. After all, his Earth Middle-Level Sword would probably be sold for around 400 to 500 Rank 2 Stones. This robe was at the Peak Level, after all.

'Seems like I will need to put up one or two High-Level pieces of equipment in the auction. However, I haven't made more of them except for Roan, Malaka, and my equipment. I will need to find a blacksmith shop to craft them before the auction starts. Well, I still have three days left, so it should be enough. The only problem is to find a place where I can forge them without anyone watching.'

Rean then told Frandin to reserve the robe before the two of them left the Shaz Treasures Hall. Rean paid attention if they were being followed this time around, but it seemed like the Treasures Hall didn't try the same thing as the auction house.

'Frandin, is there a way to rent a workshop where I can forge a few pieces of equipment? It has to be an empty one where no one can see me doing it.'

Frandin pondered for a bit before nodding as he replied.

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Chapter 563: Forging

Frandin only had Rank One Spirit Stones with him. However, Spirit Stones were much rarer on this planet, so it was more than enough for him to rent a place. It's just that he couldn't help but feel a bit sad to see his Spirit Stones disappear like that.

Rean ignored him, though. He verified the workshop before asking Sister Orb.

'How is it, Sister Orb? Is anyone able to peer through it?'

[No, it's fine. There's a formation in this room, but it's related to the workshop itself. There are no formations used for spying in this place. Of course, you should still create a simple concealing one, just in case.]

Rean nodded as he took the materials for the formation out. Rean made a very basic formation that any Core Formation Realm cultivator's Spiritual Sense would be able to pass through. However, it wasn't there to stop others but to serve as a warning.

After that, Rean finally turned on the forger and began to make more Earth High-Level Equipment. At the moment, that was the best way to make a ton of money quickly.

While Rean occupied himself in the workshop, Roan and the others continued their training in the Demon Beasts' Core Region. It was then that Roan received a message from Rean through their Soul Connection.

'And that's about it, so I should stay in Lumeria City for the next few days.'

'I see. I know you want to buy that robe with the Yin Energy Inscriptions. However, make sure to forge more weapons, so we have some Spirit Stones for cultivation.'

Rean nodded as he replied.

'I know. However, after this auction is over, we will definitely attract a lot of attention because of the weapons I made. That being said, we better continue our travel once I finish buying everything.'

Roan didn't mind.

'Very well. Let me know when you're ready.'

Roan then looked in front of him before jumping to the side.

\*Bang!\*

Roan was battling a few demon beasts with Qia and Malaka when he received Rean's message. However, he didn't stop. It was as if Rean's words had no effect on his concentration at all.

'Death Style, Third Form, Three Claws of the Dragon!'

\*Swish! Swish! Swish!\*

With that attack, the demon beast fell to the ground, dead. However, that was far from over. Their group wasn't being attacked by a lone strong beast, but by a lot of them.

'Myriad Water Frame!'

Water Element gathered around Malaka before a few copies of herself appeared around. However, hers were different from Rean and Roan's skill. They were just illusions and had no attack power whatsoever.

Still, that was more than enough to trick the eyes of the Demon Beasts.

\*Bang! Bang! Bang!\*

Malaka's Staff moved everywhere, hitting the demon beast's heads. Each strike put one of them down. Some were lucky and just went unconscious. However, the majority had their heads smashed inwards by Malaka's Staff.

'Sand Storm!'

Qia, on the other hand, had an Earth Element Affinity. However, she was already able to use two elements at the same time. The second Element she excelled at was Wind. In her eyes, she could have the best defense and speed with those two. Not to mention that a few good combinations came from it.

The Demon Beasts around her couldn't help but close their eyes. With that, Calina had the chance to counter-attack.

'Earth Spikes!'

\*Puchi! Puchi! Puchi!\*

Many of the demon beasts were immediately killed off guard as the Earth Spikes pierced through their bodies. Qia just so happened to be like Calina, someone who didn't use weapons.

Roan looked at that and gave a mental nod.

'As expected of the Imperial Family. Although she isn't at Calina's level, she did receive very good training. As for Malaka, there are no problems. She's able to use her master's skills without issues. The same could be said about the Death Style Skills. All they need is more as their cultivation goes up. After all, our powers change a lot with each breakthrough.'

Somewhere else, Calina and Agis were also fighting. However, without Rean to give any Light Element Support, their prowess wasn't as good.

Still, Calina and Agis's combat power wasn't low. They just had to be more cautious with the enemies they chose to fight against. At the moment, they were fighting against an Initial Stage Four Armored Snow Bear. Agis wasn't as strong as Calina, but he definitely didn't hold her back. Besides, when it came to raw attack power, Agis was still superior because he used a weapon. With their power combined, they could more or less match that Snow Bear.

Later that day, in the auction house.

"What? Did they disappear from your view? Did they notice your presence, or were they being cautious?"

The man shook his head as he replied.

"I'm not sure. However, I don't think that Zasfin was the real person in command. He was probably being used by someone else. After all, an Initial Stage Foundation Establishment cultivator like him wouldn't possibly escape my eyes."

Paciu, the appraiser that received Rean and Frandin, narrowed his eyes as he said.

"Forget it. I was just hoping to find who forged these weapons. If possible, I wanted to make a deal with him or her. Spiritual Weapons are always in high demand, after all. If the other side is skilled enough to escape from your watch, it's better not to try anything that could irritate them. You can leave now."

The subordinate nodded and quickly disappeared from the room, leaving Paciu behind.

'I should take the chance and ask them about it once again when they appear next time. I can't let such a good deal slip through my fingers that easily.'

Paciu then called another employee of the auction before saying.

"If you see those two again, make sure to call me straight away."

The employee knew who Paciu was talking about, so he immediately nodded.

"Yes, Senior Paciu."

And just like that, three days passed in the blink of an eye. During this time, Frandin was forced to help him with the entire forging process. However, Frandin couldn't help but feel excited. That's because he was seeing and learning how to forge Spiritual Weapons himself. Since he was a hostage anyway, he might as well use it in his favor.

The only problem was that Rean never answered his questions. It was obvious that Rean had no intention of teaching him. It was basically a coincidence that Frandin was there to help with the forging process. Eventually, Rean put his tool back into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm's workshop.

"Phew... I forged all of them in a hurry, so they ended up as sub-par products. Nevertheless, they should match this world's High-Level equipment. Now that I think about it, the auction house got quite a good deal with those five weapons of mine. Those ones can definitely be compared to Peak-Level weapons."

Frandin was surprised to hear that.

"Is that true? Is it possible to make Spiritual Weapons stronger than their material's level?"

Rean looked at Frandin as he smiled.

"It is, as long as it's me who's making them. Hahaha!"

Rean then passed the weapons to Frandin before saying.

"Alright, the auction house should be close to its opening of the week. Let's head back there and give these weapons to be auctioned as well."

Frain looked at the 13 pieces of equipment that Rean made in the last three days. Without a doubt, he would make a lot more Rank Two Spirit Stones than he needed to buy that robe.

"Isn't it a bit too dangerous to bring this amount out?"

Rean looked at Frandin with a puzzled expression as he replied.

"Why would you care? If something goes wrong, there would be a better chance for you to capture me, no?"

Frandin was taken aback by those words.

"This..."

Rean laughed as he looked at Frandin's expression.

"Hahaha! You saw that I can heal the poison in your body without using the antidote pills Roan gave you. Naturally, you would think that everything will be okay if you somehow banded the Zafins around to capture me. After that, you just need to force me to heal your poison again. However, you were also afraid that I would escape. If that happened, you would be 100% dead since there would be no antidote for you."

Frandin dropped his head and didn't deny those words. In fact, one had to be an idiot to not think at least that much after seeing Rean's healing powers.

"It's fine, it's fine. I'm not angry or anything. It's obvious to me and the others how much your Zsfin Race hates humans. However, I would not try anything weird if I were you. Don't forget, I was able to leave Danve City even though your father came out. If a Nascent Soul Realm cultivator couldn't stop me, then no one you could possibly get in contact with could. Well, if you aren't afraid of dying from the poison, be my guest and try it out. I don't mind leaving you behind and capturing a new Pure Bloodline Zsfin to serve in your place."

Fradin couldn't help but let out cold sweat. His instincts told him that Rean wasn't joking at all. If he wanted to, he would leave, and no one would be able to stop him.

"Don't worry. I won't do such a thing. Also... I do despite the humans of our world. However, I have a slightly different opinion about your group since you aren't from here to start with. At the very least, you definitely aren't anything like the other humans around."

Rean shrugged his shoulders, not minding it too much.

"Well, that's up to you. Let's head to the auction house."

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Chapter 564: Offer

Rean changed their appearance once again before heading to the Auction House. There, they were immediately guided by the attendant to the room where they met Paciu before. Well, that was quite convenient since Paciu also wanted to see them. Sure enough, Paciu received the message and came out to see them himself.

"Welcome back, young master. I know you came here for the auction, so I was surprised to see that you wanted to see me before that. So, what would this young master want from our Auction House? Let me warn you. Now that you put those weapons for auction, we can't take them back anymore. After all, they have already been added to the list of items to be shown on stage."

Fradin smiled before shaking his head.

"I have no intention in taking those five weapons back. In fact, I found out that the Spirit Stones I would get from them was far lacking for my needs. Because of that, I brought with me a few more weapons I would like you to put for auction. Is it possible to add them to today's auction?"

Paciu couldn't help but widely grin. That was just the thing he wanted the most.

"Hahaha! But of course! Our Auction House will never reject a good deal. As long as they're of the same quality as the previous ones, we would love to fulfill your request."

Frandin nodded before putting a big sack on the table. In an instant, Paciu understood that there wasn't just one or two more weapons inside, but a lot of them.

"I have a total of thirteen weapons at the same level of quality. Feel free to browse them."

Paciu's smile froze when he heard that.

"Th-thirteen?"

Paciu opened the sack and saw the items inside. There were five swords, three sabers, three spears, an axe, and another pair of dual daggers. After confirming that they were indeed all at the Earth Middle-Level, he took a deep breath.

Paciu was an appraiser. Naturally, he could tell with a glance that these pieces of equipment had just been crafted. At the very least, they had never been used before. But he was pretty sure in his judgment of newly crafted equipment.

"Young master... I can tell that these weapons have just been crafted. Obviously, this young master knows someone capable of doing such an amazing job. Not to mention that the materials necessary to make Earth Middle-Level Equipment are anything but easy to find. As far as I can see, the blacksmith this young master is acquainted with has his own supply."

Paciu then offered.

"Young master, I would like to offer a deal with this blacksmith under you. Usually, our Auction House would take 30% of the value of the sold items as payment. However, we're willing to do 20% as long as your blacksmith continues to supply us with his weapons. How about that?"

Frandin narrowed his eyes as he talked with Rean through Spiritual Sense.

'What should I say? You're that blacksmith, you know?'

Rean immediately refused the idea as he replied.

'Tell him that the blacksmith has no interest in making deals. After all, we're leaving this city as soon as we finish buying everything we need.'

Frandin nodded, finding it a pity that Rean refused that deal. It definitely looked very profitable.

"Sorry, but I can't talk on the blacksmith's behalf. However, I doubt he will agree on this deal since he won't be staying in the city for much longer."

Paciu sighed after hearing that.

"I see... Then I should offer you one last thing. Putting all these weapons for auction at once would reduce their value. The best way would be for you to put only three each time. You can definitely make 20 to 30% more profit if you wait for that much."

Rean didn't care about that. He simply had way too many Middle-Level materials for forging in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. In fact, he had a lot of High and Peak-Level materials as well. One must remember that Kentucky found two Heaven-Level mineral deposits. Those same deposits had High and Peak-Level ores surrounding them. That being said, those Middle-Level weapons were worth nothing in his eyes.

Frandin understood the message and immediately replied.

"There's no need. We're in a hurry here, so we would like to have all the weapons sold today."

Paciu nodded, not minding too much. They would lose a good chunk of Spirit Stones if they sold it like that. However, they would lose much more if Frandin decided to take the weapons back.

"Very well. However, remember that my offer still stands. If your blacksmith decides that he wants some extra Spirit Stones, we will gladly sell his weapons again at a smaller fee."

Frandin nodded with a smile.

"Very well. In that case, I'm heading to the auction now. I'll leave these weapons with you to take care of it."

Paciu then offered something else.

"Oh, since that's the case, please let me offer you one of our private chambers. We keep everyone's identities inside those places a secret, so you can bid as much as you want."

Rean agreed with the idea. Frandin then accepted the offer and an attendant came out to guide them there.

'Rean, are you sure you don't want to accept his offer? It's very hard to get such a thing in these greedy auction houses.'

Rean shook his head as he said.

'Better not risk sticking around for too long. Besides, the next time I put something for sale, it won't just be Middle-Level equipment, but High and Peak-Level ones.'

Frandin didn't feel too surprised by that. He didn't know much about forging, but even he could see just how easy it was for Rean to create those weapons. Obviously, Rean's level was much higher than that. Besides, he very much wanted to see Rean making them.

'Alright, forget that for now, and let's focus on the auction. Perhaps there will be something worth buying here.'

Death... and me

Chapter 565: Frigid Clear Vine

Rean stayed standing in the private room while Frandin sat down on the chair in front of the window. Just as Paciu mentioned, it wasn't possible to see nor use Spiritual Sense to check the people inside. However, there was also an attendant present, ready to listen to all of Frandin's orders. That being said, Frandin had to continue to pretend to be the one in command.

The people kept coming into the auction house in waves. The auction house always released a list of the items that would appear there two days prior, so they all knew what they wanted. Without a doubt, Rean's weapons were one of the reasons. Still, there were many other interesting things for auction this time. After all, this city was still a gathering point of cultivators who wanted to train in the nearby Demon Beast Region.

Eventually, all the seats were filled with people. The stage then lit up as the host of the event came forward to introduce himself.

"Welcome to our auction house. My name is Turi. As always, we are now starting our weekly event. However, I have something to announce before that. It was featured in the auction list that we would have five Middle-Level Weapons available. Fortunately, we received another huge delivery just a few hours ago, so we have more than just that."

"The person who wishes to sell it seems to be in a hurry for money. Otherwise, we would have put only a few of them for auction every week. Rejoice, everyone. It'll be hard for you to snag such high-quality weapons for such a low price in the times to come."

\*Woooooo!\*

The audience immediately went into an uproar. Sure enough, many of them came for the Earth Middle-Level Weapons since they were hard to find.

"Alright. That's the only change to the auction this time. Let's not waste any more time. Let's check the first item, shall we?"

A female employee then came up to the stage while carrying a pillow with a gem on it.

"This is a Fiery Magma Gem. As you know, Fire Element Affinity is quite rare, and so are the items that can be used while cultivating those elements. This Fiery Magma Gem has a high concentration of Fire Element and Yang Energy. Anyway, those who have Fire Element Affinity should already know how useful they are. The initial price for this gem is 200 Rank One Spirit Stones. The minimal bid increase is 20 Rank One Spirit Stones."

Rean couldn't help but ask Frandin by the side with a Spiritual Sense Message.

'Is it true that Fire Affinity is rare?'

Frandin nodded.

'Yes. I won't say that you can't find them, but it's quite hard for them to be born. As you know, we have the five main elements—Fire, Earth, Water, Wind, and Lightning. Even so, for every one hundred newborns, you would be lucky to find 3 or 4 Fire Element Affinity kids. Was it different in your world?'

'Yes. The rate of Elemental Affinity was quite balanced back there. Well, there's no doubt that the environment of this planet made it turn out like this.'

Frandin couldn't help but become curious about Rean's world once again.

'Sister Orb, do you want that gem to balance the Yang Energy?'

[No need. As I mentioned before, we have more Yin Energy users than Yang Energy ones. That being said, I need extra Yin Energy to balance things out. Besides, that Fiery Magma Gem is several times worse than the petal in the Shaz Treasures Hall. You can see that when you think about their price difference as well.]

'Alright, then.'

The auction continued on the stage as the few Fire Element Affinity cultivators present voiced their bids.

"300!"

"320!"

"360!"

"400!"

In the end, the gem was sold for 440 Rank One Spirit Stones.

"The next item is the horn of a Deep Blue Demon Shark. It was acquired from a Peak Stage Three variant. As you know, it can be used for weapon and armor crafting. There are a few uses for it in alchemy as well. The initial price is 330 Rank One Spirit Stones."

And just like that, the action continued without any issues. Some of the items had fierce bidding battles over them. Others were so peculiar that they didn't even have a bidder in the end. Eventually, the objects began to be auctioned for Rank Two Spirit Stones were brought out. Obviously, Rean's weapons were in that category.

"Hmm?"

The next one attracted Rean's attention.

"This is a Frigid Clear Vine. As you can see, it is still alive and ready for use. The initial price is 100 Rank Two Spirit Stones. The minimal bidding increase is 20 Spirit Stones."

Rean immediately asked Frandin.

'What is that thing? The host didn't explain it at all.'

Frandin looked at Rean for a second before saying.

'You really didn't come from here. Otherwise, you would definitely know what that is.'

'Anyway, people use the Frigid Clear Vine to create what we call a Frigid Clear Pill. The Fire Element is uncommon in our world. On the other hand, Water Element Affinity is the opposite. From every 100 newborns, you will most likely have 40 to 50 of them being Water Element Affinity ones. Naturally, Water Element related items are the most used.'

'In the Frigid Clear Pill's case, it is used to increase one's Affinity Level with the Water Element. It's quite a good item.'

Rean was shocked to hear that.

'What?! You have pills that can increase one's Elemental Affinity Level?'

One must remember that the Affinity Test had many levels. Rean and Roan, obviously, were able to achieve the highest Dark and Light Element levels. At the very least, it was the highest that the test could show. However, others were not the same. They had to train hard to slowly increase it. For example, Calina's Yin Energy Cultivation Technique would improve one's affinity to Yin Elements over time, like water. However, a very long time was needed. This was the first time Rean heard about something that could improve it straight away.

Immediately, Rean sent a message to Roan explaining everything. After all, pills were his department.

'This is the first time I've heard of such a thing. At the very least, I didn't see such a thing in the Sunkan Planet. Anyway, buy it for me.'

Sure enough, Roan was very interested in that thing.

Death... and me

## Chapter 566: End of Auction

As mentioned before, Frandin received a decent number of Rank Two Spirit Stones for him to use in the auction. After all, the auction house was sure that the weapons he brought would go for at least that little. That being said, he immediately began to bid after hearing Rean's orders.

"140!"

"160!"

"200!"

"240!"

In the end, Frandin bought the Frigid Clear Vine for 240 Rank Two Spirit Stones. The vine was then brought to his room, which he put away. Following that, a few more items appeared until finally, Rean's first sword came out.

"Some of you were already expecting it to come out. This is one of the Earth Middle-Level Weapons for auction today. It's made with Katus Ore and is of excellent quality. The initial price is 250 Rank Two Spirit Stones. Each bid has to be at least 30 stones higher."

Unsurprisingly, the fight for the sword started. However, it didn't go as far as it could. After all, everyone now knew that there were more of those coming up later. Since Rean didn't want to sell just a few of them per week, he would have to give up a few Spirit Stones.

"400 Rank Two Spirit Stones."

"450!"

"480!"

Eventually, the first sword was sold for 480 Rank Two Spirit Stones. Following that, a few more of Rean's weapons came out, which increased Rean's own fortune. Well, Rean wasn't feeling too happy since it couldn't compare to how much he had in Sunkan Planet.

The auction proceeded smoothly without any issues. Rean's weapons didn't take too long to be sold since they were worth around the same price. In the end, Rean made 7460 Rank Two Spirit Stones with them. It's just that they would have to take it out after the auction was over. Besides, they might need to buy something else.

The rarity of the items then began to increase, including their prices. At some point, Rean found a nice piece of Peak-Level material for sale.

"The next item is ten kilograms of Goulan Ore. This is a Water Element Material mostly used for crafting equipment. The initial price is 500 Rank Two Spirit Stones, and each bid has to go at least 100 Stones higher."

Rean immediately asked Frandin to bid for the ore. Fortunately, there were almost no blacksmiths in the auction. That being said, the bidding war didn't go too far before Rean got the Goulan Ore for 1200 Rank Two Spirit Stones.

'Nice. I can use it to make a new staff for Malaka after I succeed in forging Earth Peak-Level Equipment. This one seems to be very compatible with the other Peak-Level ores in the Dimensional Realm, so I should be able to make a nice alloy with it.'

Rean had obtained a lot of Transten Ore back in Sunkan Planet. However, there wasn't much of a point in keeping so much. That being said, he took half of his amount out and traded it for other Earth Peak-Level ores. His actual ore collection in the Dimensional Realm was quite plentiful.

The auction had finished around an hour later. In the end, Rean wasn't interested in the rest of the items being put for sale. Because of the lack of Spiritual Energy on this planet, most of the things that the Zasfins thought to be good weren't anything that could catch Rean's attention.

Back in the private room, Rean and Frandin were received by Paciu once more.

"The auction was a success this time. However, it is as I mentioned to you before. Because you wanted to sell too many weapons at once, the price you got for them wasn't as high as it could be."

Frandin nodded, seeming to not mind it too much.

"It's fine. Just give me the Spirit Stones."

Paciu then knocked on the table before an employee entered the room with a big sack of Rank Two Spirit Stones.

"Do you need me to send some of my guards to help protect your Spirit Stones?"

Frandin shook his head.

"There's no need."

Soon after, he passed the bag to Rean.

"Take care of it. Remember, if you lose it, you will pay with your head."

Rean pretended to feel some fear as he grabbed the bag.

"Yes, young master."

Lastly, Paciu tried one last time to make a deal with Frandin.

"Please tell the blacksmith of your family that we would love to receive more of his weapons. The offer of a 20% cut will continue to be valid for a long time."

Frandin nodded as he said.

"I'll tell the blacksmith later. Well, then. I'll take my leave. Let's go."

Frandin and Rean left the Auction House after that. However, the big bag on Rean's hands quickly caught a few of the participants' eyes. Paciu, of course, expected that already. He then asked one of his subordinates to follow Rean and Frandin and intervene if someone tried to attack them for the Spirit Stones.

Unfortunately for them, be it Paciu's subordinates or those who followed them because of the bag, all of them lost Rean and Frandin from their Spiritual Senses a minute later.

Sure enough, Rean covered both of them with his Light and Spiritual Sense bending technique. No one could see them anymore. Following that, Rean sent the bag of Spirit Stones into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm before reappearing somewhere else with Frandin.

"Phew... now we have some Spirit Stones for cultivation. Let's head back to the Shaz Treasures Hall to get our items back."

Frandin nodded as he looked at Rean. He already lost the feeling of being surprised with the items disappearing around him. He didn't know how Rean did that, but it was obvious that he had some type of storage equipment that he didn't know about.

It didn't take that long for them to arrive at the Treasures Hall. Naturally, the Soul Crystal Flower Petal and the Yin Robe were reserved for them. Frandin then received 3200 Rank Two Spirit Stones from Rean and paid for them.

Rean and Frandin then went on to buy a few other things like food and some daily items. Following that, Rean disappeared with Frandin from Lumeria City. Even though quite a few ZASFINS looked for them, no one could find a single trace of them in the city anymore.

Death... and me

Chapter 567: Unbelievable

Back in the Demon Beast Region, Rean and Frandin met up with the others again. Malaka, Qia, and Roan seemed to be doing well, while Calina and Agis were quite injured. However, it was easy to understand why. Roan could still heal others much better than Calina could with her Water Element. Naturally, both sides ended up in that condition after being apart for several days.

Rean quickly took the chance and healed them before explaining everything that happened in the city. He also took the Rank Two Spirit Stones out and shared them with everyone. In exchange, Roan and Calina took out all of the Demon Cores they got and passed them to Rean. He could sell them later in the next city. That way, Rean wouldn't be the only one having to hold the burden of grabbing cultivation resources for them.

"Here, you can have 200 of them."

Frandin looked at the bag in his hand with the Spirit Stones with his eyes wide open. Why would he give Spirit Stones for his enemy?

"What's the meaning of this?"

"Hmm? Isn't that obvious? It was because you also worked a lot during these past days in the city. Without you, I wouldn't be able to get these things. Just consider it your payment."

"That's not what I mean! Why would you give Spirit Stones to your enemy? You do know how I feel about humans, right? Although your group is different, you're still humans. I truly believe that you're ahead of me in cultivation because you lived in a better world, that's all."

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he replied.

"Of course! However, you will at least have a reason to do well every time we need to enter a city. Isn't it better to know that you can obtain some advantages by helping us?"

"Aren't you afraid of me using it to find a way to escape?"

"Hahaha! You can go ahead and try. Even if you succeed by some miracle, it's not like it'll be an issue for us."

Frandin narrowed his eyes as he said.

"How could it not be an issue? I could tell everyone about the fact you came from ano-"

It was then that Frandin found a problem.

"This..."

Roan faintly smiled as he looked at Frandin.

"It seems like you noticed the problem here. That's right, who would believe that we came from another world? Chances are that everyone will think you're an idiot for believing this story. As far as we've seen, no one knows that other worlds exist to start with. In fact, can you guarantee that we're not fooling you? Could we really have come from another planet? Or could it be that we're from another part of this world instead?"

Frandin's expression turned ugly for a moment. Sure enough, if someone came to him telling such a story, he would laugh right in front of the face of that person. Like hell, he would believe that.

"Sigh... I guess I might as well make good use of these Spirit Stones."

However, Frandin couldn't help but feel a little excited. Even when he was Danve City's Young Master, he rarely ever got any Rank Two Spirit Stones at all. But lo and behold, he got 200 of them in just a few days. For his cultivation, that was a heaven-defying change. If only he wasn't their hostage...

Of course, compared to the amount of Spirit Stones the others got, he was quite far behind.

"Sigh... so little Spirit Stones, and only Rank Two ones at that. It seems like we're in for a hard time from now on."

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he said.

"Don't complain. It took me quite some time to get it, you know? However, we should obtain a lot more when we reach Kastran City."

"Kastan City?"

Rean and Roan nodded before passing the jade slip with the continent's map to them.

"Kastran is the next big city on our way to Tuvoro. We're planning to stop there to make a few things."

Fradin bitterly smiled when he heard that. First, they considered those Spirit Stones 'too little,' which hurt his feelings. Second, it seemed like he would have to keep up his act for them again.

Malaka couldn't help but ask.

"What do we need to do in Kastran?"

Rean was the first one to answer.

"In my case, I need to practice to become an Earth Peak-Level Formation Master. That's why I bought this robe. Also, I need to break through to the Earth Peak-Level Blacksmith rank as well. I have a ton of Peak-Level Materials, but I can't use them for forging yet due to my level."

Roan agreed with Rean.

"I also want to head to that place's Alchemist Guild to grab a few recipes. I want to see how this Frigid Clear Pill is made. Perhaps I can make more of these pills for other affinities."

Qia pondered for a bit and nodded.

"That's good. Rean and I are at the same level as Formation Masters, so we could help each other in breaking through."

Agis narrowed his eyes before saying.

"In that case, I guess I can try out my Talisman Skills once again."

Rean, Roan, and Malaka were taken aback.

"You have a side occupation? You? Are you sure you're not hallucinating?"

Agis's mouth twitched as he asked in response.

"What the hell do you think I am?"

"A prideful idiot who wants others to do everything for himself."

Agis felt like crying after hearing that. However, it was true that before that fated day, he was exactly like that. However, being saved by twins, who had cultivations smaller than his own, was a huge blow to him. That's why he changed his ways. It's just that he had always been out of the Dalamu Sect with his Master, so others didn't know what he was up to. It turned out that Agis had some talent for talismans, so his Master had him practice it during his free time.

"By the way, what level is your Talisman Drawing at?"

Agis looked away as he scratched the back of his head.

"Earth High-Level..."

This time, Rean, Roan, and Malaka's faces froze. It was as if they had heard something unbelievable! Naturally, Agis noticed their expressions.

"Do you really need to be this shocked? Fuck you!"

Death... and me

Chapter 568: Death Style Training

Calina and Qia didn't understand why those three were that shocked, so they ignored it. Instead, they asked something else.

"How are you going into the city? Are you going with Rean and Frandin again? Even if you bring Frandin together, would that be enough for you to enter the Alchemist, Formations, and Blacksmith Guilds? Chances are high that they won't allow humans inside, you know?"

Rean and Roan had to admit that the two girls were right.

"Hmm... to get access to those things, we would need a Zasfin who can at least reach the Earth Low-Level of each side occupation."

Rean and Roan then put one hand on Frandin's shoulders.

"We're counting on you."

Frandin felt like he had heard wrongly.

"What?! Me? But I know nothing about any of that."

Rean laughed, not minding it at all.

"Hahaha! It's fine, it's fine. I'll teach you the basics of forging, so it will be easy for you to become an Earth Low-Level Blacksmith. I believe Roan and Qia will have no problem teaching you the basics for a Formation Master and an Alchemist as well."

Agis immediately raised his hands.

"There's me as well. I'll teach Frandin the basics of Talisman Drawing."

Frandin couldn't help but sweat a little. It's very hard for a cultivator to have more than one side occupation. Now, they want him to practice four at once! Even if he succeeded in reaching the Earth Low-Level, he wouldn't be able to train all of them forever.

'Oh, well. They just want me to obtain access to the repositories of the guilds and bring the information from there. Perhaps I can bring one of them inside as if they were my slave again.'

Frandin decided to accept his fate since he was at least receiving Rank Two Spirit Stones now.

"Okay, that's enough for now. We can teach him the basics of each profession on the way. Now, let's make our way to Kastran."

"By the way, where is Kastran?"

Rean then pointed it out in the Jade Slip.

"It's in the next country to the west, Lacial. It's also on our way to Tuvoro, so it's convenient. Lacial is similar to Lumeria, a gathering hub for cultivators who wish to enter the Lacial Frozen Demon Beast Forest."

As Malaka looked at the map, she couldn't help but comment.

"How come the distances between each city are so big?"

Roan explained that.

"That's because the environment on this planet is incredibly harsh. That being said, the development of life here is several times slower. There are a lot less people here than there were in Sunkan. Not only that, but this planet is also bigger than Sunkan. Naturally, with fewer people and bigger space, the number of cities are lower. At the same time, the distances between each of them are farther."

Qia and the others nodded since that made sense.

"Alright, as per our agreement, we will separate into two groups while traveling so that we can optimize our training."

"Oh! Which group will Frandin be a part of?"

Frandin still didn't know anything about the Dimensional Realm, so they couldn't put him there.

Frandin couldn't help but look at Rean. He definitely didn't want to be on Roan's group.

Unfortunately for him, the world wanted him to suffer.

"It's relatively easy to teach him alchemy since I have the tools necessary with me. In that case, he will be staying in my group for the time being. Besides, Qia's at the same level as Rean in Formations. She can also teach him if he's free."

Frandin sighed, knowing that there was no escape from this.

With that, everyone nodded and departed straight away. As mentioned before, Rean and Roan kept a distance of close to 3000 kilometers between them so that their link wouldn't break. In the end, the planet was a lot more empty than Sunkan. After they left the Demon Beast Region close to Lumeria, they rarely encountered others.

On the other hand, they did find a few Zafins. After seeing their group, those Zafins tried to capture Rean and Roan's groups. Of course, the ones who received more of this type of problem were Rean's group. After all, Frandin could pretend to be the owner of Roan's group. His Rank Two Bloodline Mark still had some authority.

Well, the groups that tried to capture Rean, Calina, and Agis shouldn't have done that, though. They showed no mercy with their attacks, so Rean, Calina, and Agis didn't show any mercy either. When they finally understood just how stronger Rean's group was, it was too late. Rean and the others made sure that none escaped alive. After all, it was still better to prevent rumors from spreading. Not to mention that Rean, Calina, and Agis didn't think those guys would be lenient to other humans.

There was a good thing in receiving those attacks, though. Those who could usually travel between cities had good cultivations. There were even three groups with a few Core Formation Realm cultivators, which turned out to be good challenges for them. Besides, such groups always carried good spoils.

Rean had spent around 4500 Rank Two Spirit Stones for everything in Lumeria City, leaving his group with more or less 3000 stones in total for cultivation. But on the way to Kastran City, their small fortune had increased to over 5000! And that was already excluding the Rank Two Spirit Stones they used for cultivation.

Eventually, Rean and the others arrived in Lacer Country a month and three days later. Kastran City was now just a few days away from them. Because their destination was so close, Roan once again met up with Rean's group.

"You could take this chance to teach Frandin about forging in the next few days."

Rean shook his head as he said.

"I lack the tools for that. I will need to rent another workshop before doing that. I might as well buy everything and put it all in the Dimensional Realm."

It was then that Rean noticed Frandin's cultivation.

"Oh! You broke through to the Middle Stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. Congratulations."

However, Frandin didn't seem happy at all. Instead, the guy was so tired that he was on the verge of passing out.

"Hehe... Thanks..."

Rean then looked at Malaka and Qia, who didn't look much better. Immediately, he understood.

'That's the Death Style Training for you...'

Death... and me

Chapter 569: Kastran

Kastran City was slightly larger than Lumeria, so it had more Zasfins and a few higher-level cultivators. Of course, Rean still wasn't afraid since the chances of meeting someone who can pass through his Spiritual Sense bending skill would be too low. Naturally, if a Nascent Soul Realm Zasfin appeared close enough to him, he would be able to pass through the skill. Rean didn't think much about it, though.

This time around, Roan came together with Rean into the city while Frandin pretended to be their owner once more. As for Agis and the rest, they were sent into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm without Frandin being able to see.

Rean then looked at Frandin and asked.

"So, have you learned enough to at least pass the Formations Master Guild test?"

Frandin bitterly smiled as he remembered Qia's teachings. Rean also helped him a little in the last few days they had been together. Still, he had no confidence whatsoever.

"I don't know. I've never participated in any of the side occupation tests. I've focused completely on cultivation until now."

Rean laughed as he patted Frandin's shoulders.

"It's fine, it's fine. I'm not in a hurry since I've brought most of the materials I needed for studying from my world. You can take your time to learn a little more in case you fail. I just want you to obtain access to the study materials from this world's Formation Master Guild to compare with my own information. Of course, I also want to check the methods used to make that Yin Gathering Energy Robe."

Roan, however, wasn't in the mood to wait.

"You better succeed in the Alchemist Test. I want to check the Elemental Affinity Pill formulas of this world as soon as possible. That's why most of your free time was used in alchemy. If the parameters of this world are the same as mine, you should be able to become an Earth Low-Level Alchemist. That's all you need to do."

Roan had specially revised the teaching methods while he helped Frandin. Of course, it was all for his own sake, not Frandin's.

Frandin couldn't help but sweat a little, thinking about how Roan might treat him if he failed.

"I'll try my best."

Sometime later, Rean and Roan used Frandin to rent another workshop. There, Rean set up an Anti-Spiritual Sense formation before leaving Frandin and Roan on their own.

"Alright. This city has an auction house as well. It's time for me to make some real money, so you two can leave now."

Roan narrowed his eyes.

"Are you going to try and break through to the Earth Peak-Level Blacksmith rank?"

Rean nodded as he replied.

"Exactly. If I put this level of equipment for auction, it should give us much more Spirit Stones than those Middle-Level ones I made in the past."

Roan pondered for a bit before saying.

"It might not be a good idea to bring out such equipment. There's a good chance that you and Frandin would be forced to explain where you found it."

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he said.

"I think it's still worth a try. If things really get complicated, you know we can run away at any time. But if we get paid, we probably won't need to worry about Spirit Stones for a good while."

"Fine. However, wait for me to leave the city before you go auction the weapons."

Rean understood why he asked that. The Soul Gem System was frozen at the moment. Because of that, they can't leave behind save points. Rean can go into the Dimensional Realm, but he can't teleport away from the position he entered. That being said, he only had one choice: to leave the Dimensional Realm at the point where Roan was located. That's why it would be better if Roan wasn't in the city at that time.

Frandin found it strange that Rean had to wait for Roan to leave. He thought that Roan was trying to run away from the problems and leave Rean behind to deal with the issues on his own if things go south.

'Humans really only know how to think about themselves.'

He couldn't be blamed for thinking like that since he didn't know about the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm.

Roan then looked at Frandin before asking.

"Are you sure that no one will try to come into this workshop while Rean is working?"

Frandin shook his head as he said.

"There shouldn't be anyone doing that. However, I can't guarantee it either. It's just that the chances are quite low. Why would someone try to find problems with someone else for no reason?"

Rean nodded as he responded.

"That's good enough. Now, you two go away. It'll take me some time to grasp how to forge Earth Peak-Level Equipment."

The two nodded and left straight away. As for Rean, he activated the Anti-Spiritual Sense Formation and a small detection formation. If someone entered the workshop, he would feel it straight away. Following that, he brought Calina, Malaka, Qia, and Agis out.

"Are we in Kastran City now?"

"Yes. Now, I need your help during the forging process."

Agis and the others nodded. Rean already talked to them about what he was trying to do. For Calina and Qia, it didn't matter much since both of them didn't use weapons. However, it was very important for Malaka and Agis since they would love to obtain a stronger one. Especially Agis, who came to know about the special ability of Rean's weapons to draw in the power of elements.

Rean then brought out the tool he got from the Soul Gem Blacksmith Workshop and immediately began his work. Peak-Level Materials fell everywhere around the place. The forger was turned on, and the practice started.

Outside, Roan and Frandin headed straight to the Alchemist Guild. Sure enough, there were almost no humans in the place, only Zasfins. The only humans were the ones doing the chores of the guilds. Following that, Frandin and Roan went to the counter.

"How can I help you?"

"I would like to take the alchemist test."

Death... and me

Chapter 570: No Talent

The attendant nodded before giving him a list.

"These are the items you will need to bring for the test. We do not provide them on our own. However, we do sell them if you don't know where to buy them. As for the test itself, it will cost 50 Rank One Spirit Stones."

Frandin couldn't help but mutter to himself.

"So expensive..."

The attendant didn't find it weird, saying.

"It's expensive since it's a lucrative occupation. Just consider it an investment. Of course, if you fail to become an alchemist, then you will have lost your money for nothing, so think twice before taking the test. We do have part of the first floor of the repository open for those who are just starting. If you aren't confident, I advise you to go there and study a little first."

Roan didn't think 50 Rank One Spirit Stones was expensive at all. However, that was because of his experience in Sunkan Planet. He quickly put those thoughts on the back of his head, though. Following that, he sent Frandin a Spiritual Sense message.

'There's no need for you to study. I already taught you everything you need to know to make very basic Earth Low-Level Pills. Just take the test straight away.'

Frandin swallowed some saliva before nodding.

"I've already practiced enough. I would like to take the test straight away."

The attendant didn't mind it.

"Very well. You have two options. Wait for the monthly test or pay extra to have an alchemist judge your work. The monthly test will start in thirteen days. As for the paid test, you can take it straight away for 100 Rank One Spirit Stones."

Frandin glanced at Roan for a second and saw him nodding his head.

"Alright. Here are 150 Spirit Stones. I'm going to buy the materials for the test here as well."

"That's good, then. You can go to the alchemy store on that side. Just ask the guys there for the materials for an alchemist test, and they'll know what you need. Remember, you can only buy these materials. Any higher-level ones are not available for purchase without being an alchemist."

Frandin nodded and headed to the store with Roan. He quickly paid another 30 Rank One Spirit Stones and received the herbs that he would use for the test.

'Do you think I can really do it? You said the pills I made were of terrible quality.'

Roan nodded.

'It's fine. Even this kind of pill level doesn't change the fact that they're Earth Low-Level Pills. That's all we need.'

Frandin took in a deep breath and nodded. He never thought in his life that he would become an alchemist. Truth be told, the time Roan spent teaching him would have been insanely expensive in other situations. And that's considering that an alchemist even wanted to teach him.

After returning to the previous attendant, they were sent into a private room where they found the alchemy tools to make pills. A few minutes later, an alchemist came into the room, as well as his assistant.

"You're the guy who paid for the test?"

Frandin nodded as he showed his Rank Two Bloodline Mark.

"A rank two bloodline mark, huh? Not too bad. However, I won't give you any leeway just because of that."

Frandin didn't mind. He just used his mark to show that he couldn't be pushed around either.

"The pill you need to make is an Energy Dispersing Pill. The minimal level is obviously Earth Low-Rank. You can start concocting. I'll just observe and wait for you to finish."

The alchemist then looked at Roan in the corner of the room before ignoring him completely. It wasn't uncommon for Zasfins to bring their humans around.

Frandin began his concoction while thinking about the last month of training Roan gave him. Step by step, his concoction proceeded without much of an issue. Of course, Roan saw several mistakes here and there, but nothing that would result in failure.

The weird thing was that the examiner seemed to be quite surprised with Frandin's method.

Eventually, Frandin opened the lid of his cauldron and took a pill out.

"Let me see it."

The alchemist in the room quickly grabbed the pill as he analyzed it with his Spiritual Sense. In the end, he smiled as he gave it back to Frandin.

"That's quite surprising. This is a superb Earth Low-Level Energy Dispersing Pill. It even makes me wonder why you don't have an Alchemist Badge yet."

Frandin was taken aback by those words. A superb one? He had made a few pills of this level, but Roan only considered them below-average products.

'I see... It's most likely because the level of categorization of pills in Roan's world is much higher than ours. Nonetheless, a very good Earth Low-Level one is still a Low-Level one. This should be enough for me to pass the test.'

Frandin was right. The pill he made just now could be considered average in Sunkan Planet. Roan even regarded it as below-average, but that's because Roan's personal standards were even higher.

The alchemist then patted Frandin's shoulders before asking.

"Boy, how old are you?"

"M-me? I'm 23."

"Only 23? That's not bad at all. It won't be long before you become an Earth Middle-Level Alchemist. I can only imagine how many years you spent studying and practicing before taking the test."

Frandin's mouth twitched in response. Spent a lot of years? How come he doesn't remember it? He started his alchemist training a little over a month ago. Well... a hellish training, that is.

"By the way, you can call me Safran. How about it, boy? Would you like to be my disciple?"

Frandin was shocked to receive such an invitation. Could it be that he really had a talent for alchemy? Unfortunately, Roan pulled him back from his delusions.

'The alchemy methods of this planet must be really shit. This guy even considers that pill of yours to be something good. If he thinks like that, then I can make even a 5-year-old kid pass this test.'

Sure enough, Frandin immediately understood that he didn't have any talent whatsoever... in the most painful way.

'You could have at least let me dream a little, you know...'