

EMPEROR 2351

Chapter 2351 How To Own

Yufor took Davis on tour, embarking on something that consisted of traversing a gloomy atmosphere.

As soon as they appeared on the first floor, Davis saw a straight pathway leading to the very end of the palace. He stepped out of the stairs and saw units aligned along the pathway. Each unit appeared to have a living room and enclosed restroom towards the corner.

It was like a prison but much more spacious and possessed the amenities required to live in hygiene.

Once the slaves in the units could see him walk along the pathway, some began releasing their undulations as they made enacted their skillful moves, while a few others didn't bother to cast a look at him. They didn't have vacant gaze in their eyes but had an unmotivated look, some sharp and some deadly.

Davis recognized that the slaves kept here at the entrance of the first floor were at Level One Immortal Stage. Evidently, most slaves held on the ground floor were a part of the slave roulette game. As for the valuable slaves, they were held on their respective floors and blocks.

This block only seemed to have Level One Immortals.

Nonetheless, it didn't matter if it was a magical beast, human, fey, or spirit. If they were in their human form, everyone wore white robes as though it was their uniform.

Led by Yufor, they headed further and saw a big divide appear. It split the pathway into five ways, and the signs hung above those pathways were self-evident, informing what kind of slaves were kept and where they were kept. Obviously, every slave on the first floor was a normal slave, but there were five pathways after the initial display, leading to the west, northwest, north, northeast, and east.

"As patron can see, the mortal realm slaves are held in the west pathway. The other four are all immortal pathways, but they're divided into the human pathway, magical beast pathway, spirit pathway, and fey pathway. Patron can choose which one to enter, but if you'd like me to show around, it's my pleasure."

"Show me around."

Davis's voice was bland, but Yufor wasn't the slightest bit disturbed as he led Davis to the west pathway.

In the west pathway that held mortal slaves, Davis saw all four races here, but the diversity was so huge that he mused that the western path took up most of the palace's space on the first floor. The western pathway was split into many other pathways, categorized over race, species, and law attributes.

It was like a maze, but Yufor had a composed look on his face as he took Davis around and explained everything he required.

If he had some doubt, it would quickly be cleared.

In the human mortal slave pathway, he found so many men and women, most of them trying to catch his attention with their strength or charm. Apparently, if they were not sold within a certain amount of

time, they would probably be sent to do dangerous tasks like exploring danger zones as though they were cannon fodders or most likely killed.

"We have no choice but to get rid of them. We'll finally try to sell them for a low price, but if even that does not work, then they will eventually be punished for the crimes they or their families have committed. They're only alive because someone decided to use their lives instead of making them disappear. To these slaves, being bought and used is akin to repenting for their crimes while their master is also responsible for keeping them bound in invisible chains so that they don't commit crimes."

Yufor explained many things.

The rules of acquiring and keeping slaves weren't simple. Besides, there were many intricacies in how to use them properly.

For example, there were captured ruthless killers here who were sold as slaves. They didn't have karmic sin in Davis's view because they possibly couldn't have killed a million people or a karmically virtuous person but still appeared as though they were a menace, possessing blunt and penetrating features that would cause the people in front of them to be intimidated.

Although these ruthless killers were considered normal slaves, they remained useful for people who liked their slaves to do their bidding. Sometimes, these slaves were just a scapegoat to them, but slaves belonged to their masters, so inversely, the master was responsible for the slave.

Any vile actions done by the slave will result in the master paying the price for it in the view of the city law. Therefore, it was a two-way street where the master is incentivized to treat the slave better so that the slave doesn't screw them when not looking, and the master doesn't instantly kill the slave with just a single thought after using them up.

However, these were just city rules. Any actions done outside cities, outside the world's view, are not applied by the law, and this is where the ruthless killers actually come in handy, so the master wouldn't be penalized by the city law.

Basically, these killer types of normal slaves were sold like hotcakes, but there were also others who specialized in other areas but couldn't be considered specialist slaves.

Davis learned many things, including rules he wasn't aware of by just reading a book as he saw through so many loopholes. Nonetheless, he took his time scrutinizing the slaves with his karmic vision as he walked past them, wondering if he would be lucky enough to find one with a big enough ripple of karmic sin.

However, for such individuals, he imagined that they would be battle slaves located on the second floor.

After checking the human slaves in the mortal realm, Davis was taken to the pathway where the magical beast slaves were kept.

Within a few steps of walking past three cells, his eyes flickered ever so lightly as he found a magical beast with dragon blood.

But unfortunately, it was a Roving Breeze Skylark, a mixed offspring between Sovereign Wind Skylark and the Wind Dragon. Both these immortal beasts were considered to be a part of the Five Grand Sky Supreme Beasts. They dominated the wind attribute in the magical beast world.

As for the other three Grand Sky Supreme Beasts, they were the Wind Phoenix, Wind Devouring Garuda, and Emerald Gale Roc.

Davis imagined that all five clans of these magical beasts existed in the First Haven World, and just like the Fire Phoenix Clan, they also probably owned one or two Prefectures to themselves. He couldn't help but imagine how vast the First Haven World was once again.

"Patron, look at this Roving Breeze-"

Yufor was perceptive. He noticed that Davis's gaze lingered on the Roving Breeze Skylark and started to explain about it. It cost about five hundred immortal crystals due to its dragon blood.

But Davis shortly interrupted him and asked him to move on.

Yufor didn't ask why but continued to take him on the promised tour, telling him that patron satisfaction was the most important to them and that the workers here would cater to the patron's preferences until they could choose the best slave possible for them.

Davis had crossed paths with many patrons by this time. He didn't talk with them, although they did glance at each other. However, he could see that each worker accompanying the patrons was well-informed, polite, and professional with a tinge of their own quirky attitude.

However, he couldn't see a single female worker here, making him wonder if they were careful not to cause their patrons to be attracted by their workers instead of the goods.

Chapter 2352 Chancing Upon

"Giant Butterfly-Winged Ocelot, costing a hundred immortal crystals, it is not bad for- "

"Golden Maw Wolf, costing a hundred and ten immortal crystals, its razor-sharp golden tooth will leave the- "

"Crimson Flame Bear-"

Davis saw many types of magical beasts, feasting upon their fantastic features with his own eyes while having his horizons widened. If this was not a slave house, he knew for a fact that it would be a magical beast zoo. However, he couldn't help but doubt one thing as he conveyed it to Yufor.

"Slaves kept in the cells are sometimes bigger than they appear."

Yufor uttered, causing Davis to glance at the two-meter-tall Crimson Flame Bear. However, there was no way it could only be two meters in height as he was aware that even its infants were ten meters tall. As for the mature Crimson Flame Bear, they were as tall as ninety meters!

But unlike Nadia, who was an immortal beast and could alter her size, these were mortal beasts! There was no way they could change their size as they pleased, so the only possible way he could think of was...

"Is this the work of a spatial formation?" Davis asked.

"Indeed. The magical beast cells are imbued with spatial formations but still, the maintenance cost to keep all our slaves in a healthy condition is extremely high." Yufor nodded.

Davis perfunctorily chuckled, finding it a bit funny to be gazing at a two-meter tall bear that was looking menacingly at him. Obviously, it didn't like him for some reason.

He no longer paid heed to it and continued on.

Surprisingly, Davis even saw a Burning Phoenix in the fire attribute block.

He was just about to pass by it when he suddenly stopped.

"To think that the Azure Radiance Slave Traders can even enslave a Burning Phoenix, a mixed offspring of the Fire Phoenix and the Vermilion Bird."

Yufor blinked before he reacted, "Ah, we usually can't enslave a Burning Phoenix in the Fire Phoenix Clan's Prefectures, but I heard that this mortal beast is different as I heard that it appeared from the Fifty-Two Territories, a mortal lower realm, so we can authorize its transaction without a problem."

"To acquire a Burning Phoenix as a slave is an opportunity that couldn't be easily lost. I wonder what are its crimes?"

"Let me check it for you, patron."

Yufor's eyes brightened as he walked to the cell and abruptly took out a status plate in his grasp. Reacting to it, the enclosure sealing the slave brightened and displayed some information in the air.

It was a projection.

It had all the details about the Burning Phoenix that was kept inside but looking at the information, Davis's pupils almost dilated in stupefaction.

This Burning Phoenix's father tried to court one of the many daughters of the City Lord and actually had the gall to spike her food when in a celebratory event but failed? Therefore, his entire family was captured and sold off to the Azure Radiance Slave Traders in bulk for his vile crime?

And by the City Lord, did it mean the dead City Lord of this city?

Davis suddenly had the vigor to drop his fake character, throw his head up, and laugh out loud.

After all, he felt like he obtained a suitable gift for Ancestor Cornelia's breakthrough into immortality.

"Seems like we have an approval from the City Lord to engage in a transaction involving a Burning Phoenix, although such a grand character ended up being killed by a core disciple from the Aurora Cloud Gate is unfortunate... truly depressing..."

Despite these words, Yufor's expression seemed like he was not lamenting at all as he smiled, "Shall I make up the slave contract? This Burning Phoenix costs almost the same as that Roving Breeze Skylark we had previously seen, around five hundred and fifty immortal crystals."

"No," Davis shook his head, "I don't want to deal with raising this mortal Burning Phoenix. Instead, I'd like to purchase its father or mother immortal beast, preferably the father. Is that possible?"

Yufor's eyes brightened, "Oh, patron wants to acquire a male Immortal Burning Phoenix that's on the second floor? I think it was considered a battle slave due to its prowess being one level higher, not to mention that it's at Level Seven Immortal Beast Stage, so it's better to assume that it would be expensive. If you want the mother and the others in their family, I imagine that they're here or in the immortal pathways of this first floor."

"No need. I don't have much wealth to spare in my spatial ring, but I can gather some uncollected funds soon, so I'd like to reserve that male immortal Burning Phoenix."

Yufor explained that there was interest added to the act of reservation, but Davis said that he didn't mind. However, Yufor also explained that walking around with Burning Phoenix slaves in the Fire Phoenix Prefecture wasn't a good idea.

After all, the Burning Phoenix, although mocked, was still considered a descendant of the Fire Phoenix. Parading a Burning Phoenix like it was a slave in their own territory was akin to mocking them.

"That's fine. I won't be staying in the Southwest Fire Phoenix Prefecture for long."

"That's good. We, the Azure Radiance Slave Traders, never wish misfortune to befall on our patrons." Yufor heaved a sigh of relief, appearing concerned.

"To safeguard you, the master's life against a Level Seven Immortal Beast slave, we'll also forcefully lower its cultivation to Level One Immortal Beast Stage so that when you, the master, reach the immortal realm, its full prowess can be released. It can also be killed with a single thought if it poses any threat to your precious life throughout all its life, so I am confident in my ability to say that such an immortal beast wouldn't pose any danger as long as the master is awake."

"Aha, that's my own burden." Davis produced a rare chuckle with his fake persona, seemingly disdaining that kind of talk.

This told Yufor that this patron he had was some kind of wealthy individual from an unknown power, a power that could afford to keep a Level Seven Immortal Beast, a Burning Phoenix at that, on a leash.

Quickly, they then continued on before Davis finally made it to the earth-attribute block, where Davis actually found what he was looking for.

Looking from the other side of the glass panel, there was a quadrupedal magical beast that was two meters long in length and proportionally taller. It had the face and the copper-colored mane of a lion. Its body seemed to be armored in bronze-crimson scales, and its tail also had a unique look to it, appearing to be in segments, although the entire tail was slumped at the moment.

"What a good mount." Davis's voice raised an octave, "I want this Rumbling Earthtail Lion as I heard that it has Earth Dragon's blood in its blood."

"Patron's eyes are akin to that of a treasure hunter's. However, I would like to remind our patron that this female Rumbling Earthtail Lion has lost its two fangs and lost its hard-hitting tail as its tailbone had been crushed. Would our patron still want it?"

Chapter 2353 Purchasing A Slave

"Hmm..."

Davis placed his hand on his black beard, appearing to be entertaining the thought when inwardly he was rejoicing that he actually found a magical beast with Earth Dragon Blood.

Obviously, he would be happier if he found an actual Earth Dragon for his experiment, but even if it was the Azure Radiance Slave Traders whose power seemed to be hidden under plain sight, would they dare to enslave real dragons?

He imagined that it would be impossible. Perhaps, if they had an underground auction, they might have an Earth Dragon, but would he dare, the patron, dare to buy it without enough power?

Therefore, Davis knew that there would be no dragons and phoenixes in any slave house, but mixed-bloods did not hold that kind of weight unless they wholeheartedly had their existence approved by their ancestors. As long as the mixed-bloods weren't used in their own territory, most powers wouldn't be offended, although that 'wouldn't be offended' couldn't be guaranteed even outside.

After all, if someone wanted to make trouble, was a valid reason even needed? At those times, aggressors could very well use this kind of ambiguous reason to play dumb.

"What is the reason for her being sold as a slave here? What kind of crime did she commit?"

Yufor replied, "Her crimes are similar to that Burning Phoenix son we saw before. Her father offended a person whom he shouldn't and ended up being slaughtered. However, different than that case, her mother then took on another Rumbling Earthtail Lion as her husband, so to pave her path, she sold this daughter of hers and other members of her family to us to pay off her previous family's debts."

"All of her family's members have been bought as soon as they were being sold here, but this lion over here is the only one remaining because her tailbone is crushed, causing her to lose an incredible amount of blood essence that her primal yin is no longer anything of worth. Otherwise, she would be on the fourth floor in the realm of pleasure slaves."

"..."

Was that supposed to mean that this Rumbling Earthtail Lion was still chaste?

Still, Davis didn't know how that was supposed to be this woman's fault, but he understood that as long as the parent or guardian was found guilty of a grave crime, the descendants were found guilty as well. That's why it was important to restrict one's actions, as it would end up implicating the entire family.

This kind of rule was entrenched because it was a power that allowed its members to grow, possessing control over their life and death, and hence was also responsible for every one of their actions.

Therefore, punishing the generations connected to the wrongdoers was justified, and in this case, since the mother felt that she had control over her children while the father messed up, she didn't hesitate to sell them for her own survival.

Perhaps, it was selfishness, or everyone just wanted to survive. Either way...

"Alright, I decided to buy her." Davis opened his mouth, causing Yufor to nod smilingly.

"That would be four hundred immortal crystals."

Davis passed on a lump of fist-sized crystal spheres to Yufor. The latter received them with a wide smile on his face before he moved his lips.

"The payment has been received. This female Rumbling Earthtail Lion now belongs to you, our patron. Would our patron like us to create a Blood Soul Contract between you two, or would you like to use your own enslaving technique on her?"

"I would like to use my own." Davis didn't hesitate to answer.

"I see. In that case, the Azure Radiance Slave Traders will not be liable for anything that happens to you or the slave in the case the slave defects, kills the patron, or kills himself. We will only be responsible if the slave has some kind of illness within three months of purchase, but that isn't possible since we have checked all our products before placing them in our displays."

'Just as I want...' Davis made a difficult expression instead before he sighed, "I understand. I still want to perfect my enslaving technique."

Yufor widely smiled, "Then would you like to receive her now or continue shopping for slaves?"

"Continue."

Davis walked away, causing Yufor to eagerly follow him, "Excellent. Once patron decides to leave, the female Rumbling Earthtail Lion will be ready for you. Our Azure Radiance Slave Traders will not stoop low enough to cheat our customers, so please remain assured of the quality of the product!"

Davis didn't even negotiate over this defective slave, causing Yufor to be overjoyed.

On the other side, the female Rumbling Earthtail Lion watched them leave; her topaz eyes fixed on Davis. She couldn't hear them but could only follow their lips' movements. However, from what she could tell, including the exchange of immortal crystals she had witnessed, she realized that she had just been bought.

However, this new master of hers seemed to pay no heed to her as he walked away.

"..."

A distorted smile couldn't help but emerge on her lion face, not knowing what kind of fate that lied ahead of her.

Davis continued to search for a slave who might possess even the slightest bit of karmic sin he needed. The dark crimson first-tier karmic sin was pretty much useless for him unless he could acquire them in abnormal amounts, like plundering from tens and thousands of them.

The one he wanted was the bright red, second-tier karmic sin that could satiate his needs.

Shortly after entering the other directional pathways where the immortal slaves were kept, he had his horizons further widened. However, if the mortal pathway held more than two thousand slaves, then the four immortal pathways altogether held less than five hundred slaves.

Unfortunately, he looked through the entire first floor but was unable to find someone with second-tier karmic sin. Even the ones possessing first-tier karmic sin were far less than what he saw in the streets, making him wonder if the normal slaves here were just... unlucky.

After all, most didn't have vile crimes pinned to their heads. It was just a case of being sold by their own parents or guardians for wealth after they messed with someone they couldn't afford to. Otherwise, it could only be another power that claimed ownership over their power because of some life and death dispute which led to these poor souls ending up being here.

Davis not only understood but also committed one such crime himself when he utterly destroyed the Vast Sky Emperor Palace. The resulting damage to their branches was unknown, but he wasn't foolish or optimistic enough to think that nothing had happened to them. There were high chances that they would end up as slaves once many powers caught hold of their throats.

He didn't profit off of them but still inevitably paved a path for them to end up as slaves.

Therefore, he didn't feel even a single hint of remorse for buying slaves at the moment.

'Well, I received Ellia as a personal maid, and she was bought when she was considered a slave.'

Surprisingly enough, he felt a bit of remorse at that time but now, there was nothing left. He felt that he was molded into the cultivation world's way of survival with his bold actions. However, he wasn't willing to lose his heart, intending to treat that lion well as he saw no valid crime posted on her head.

"Valuable patron, shall we head to the second floor to browse through battle slaves and also see the Burning Phoenix you reserved?" Yufor asked.

"Of course."

Davis was then taken to the second floor, where he came to browse the battle slaves.

The first slave he saw to the left was a human. It was a man. He wore azure robes that were dissimilar to the workers, seemingly possessing the speed of Wind Laws as his figure flashed from one corner to the other within the cell.

"..."

Davis tried to keep up with his movements, but he was unable to because not only was this man a Level Seven Immortal, but his prowess also appeared to be two levels higher, perhaps having an Earth Immortal Vessel or a better comprehension of Wind Laws.

A price tag was attached to the cell, causing Davis to glance a bit more before he kept walking.

Soon, they arrived before the Level Seven Immortal Burning Phoenix Battle Slave he had reserved.

Chapter 2354 Battle Slaves

A crimson-robed man sat on a boulder, simply nibbling on a blade of grass. However, when Davis appeared, he looked to the side and spat on the simulated grassy field. Not only was there a spatial formation, but there was also a projection that entertained the battle slaves.

This made Davis think that these so-called battle slaves were living luxurious lives.

'Is it because they bring in the most profit...?' Davis wondered between them and pleasure slaves.

Nonetheless, he obviously saw that the Level Seven Immortal was looking down on him, perhaps hoping to disgust him away so that a mortal human doesn't own him as a slave.

"So this is the Burning Phoenix that dared to do vile things to the City Lord's daughter. He must've gotten quite close to that daughter if he was able to spike her food."

"With that handsome face, I'm sure he was able to do it," Yufor added with a hint of envy but also spoke in a way that added a hidden meaning to it, as though it was better to use him as a gigolo.

Davis gazed at the crimson-robed man. It didn't take much time for him to identify that handsome and lady-killing face was one that belonged to the Rein Family of the Burning Phoenix Ridge, the Reins that lusted after his Shirley and even Esvele, who had come along with him to the First Haven World.

He almost let out some killing intent if he wasn't careful.

Nonetheless, looking at the price, even though he expected it, made him wonder why he had to spend so much to bring this scumbag out.

"Couldn't this disgraceful slave go lesser than for one million and five hundred thousand immortal crystals?" Davis's voice was icy, causing Yufor to tremble lightly.

"Valuable patron, the City Lord crippled this slave's lower body and maimed its wings, disrupting its reproductive capacity and the ability to fly faster, not to mention its grace as a magical beast mount. If it weren't for these reasons, then this slave would at least sell for three million immortal crystals."

"We have already halved the price, so please have some mercy on us."

Yufor explained in the gentlest and most convincing tone possible, causing Davis to look stumped.

Recalling the Level Seven Immortal that he had seen in the second floor's entrance go for a price tag of seven million immortal crystals, he wasn't taken aback. His stumped expression was just an act, but even though it was just an act, he did feel vexed because spending one million and five hundred thousand immortal crystals for a slave he was going to present as a gift and get it killed was just too much.

He would rather steal from the Azure Radiance Slave Traders if possible.

Moreover, his current wealth didn't cross more than two and a half million immortal crystals, disallowing him to be willful when it came to these matters.

Davis had gained some immortal crystals from the immortals he killed in the Grand Beginnings Continent. Furthermore, he obtained some loot from exterminating bandits while traveling with Evelyn. Other than that, he also gained fifty-thousand immortal crystals from the Blue Luan Immortal.

Even with all the expenditure, including the significant amount of immortal crystals used by Eldia and Nadia to become immortals, he still possessed about 123,845 Immortal Crystals. He wished that he could treat Nadia to more immortal crystals, but no, her prowess was already at a high level that she required immortal crystals in the millions.

Nonetheless, the rest of his immortal wealth was in the form of resources, amounting to over two million immortal crystals by his estimation, so he could only sell them to shady organizations before making some profit.

Or else, if he offered to barter here, then not only would he get a lower quote for the items he sold, but they might also be able to tell where he got those items from.

Right now, he was playing the part of the arrogant yet hidden young master archetype, so he wanted to keep it that way for the rest of the slave shopping. Most risks that could be avoided should be avoided as much as possible, or he wouldn't know what might be the precedent or the cause for a bubble effect to occur, leading to his downfall.

Being almost caught by that Blue Luan Immortal was still fresh in his memory. He was not ready yet, so he wanted to avoid such scenarios if possible.

'Actually, I had two million two hundred thousand worth of goods, but I just gave Myria and Mival Silverwind the Quarter-Century Million Kilometer Messaging Talismans...'

Davis couldn't help but lampoon a bit over this slight loss. However, he wasn't worried. When killing people for karmic sin, he wouldn't be failing to find immortal crystals in loot.

"Tch, fine." Davis clicked his tongue, "Keep this vile slave reserved for three days with no interest added to the final cost. If you can do that, then I might consider buying this slave for one and a half million immortal crystals."

"Valuable patron, I'm glad we reached an initial agreement over this particular deal." Yufor almost practically jumped. Instead, he rubbed his hands, appearing excited, "Then shall we look ahead?"

Davis's expression wasn't good, but he still nodded his head.

The price tags here on the slaves weren't good for his heart. However, he finally found what he was looking for after browsing for a few more minutes.

Stopping by a cell, he scanned the face of a black-robed man who sat crossed-leg on a boulder. He had scars on his face, but his brows were thin. Perhaps sensing Davis's gaze, the man opened his eyes as his gray hair fluttered in the wind, and Davis couldn't help but feel a shocking amount of killing intent pouring out from his somber crimson eyes.

"Who is this slave?"

Yufor was more informative about battle slaves that he quickly opened his mouth, beginning to explain.

"This battle slave here is an assassin. He possesses an infamous local name called the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin. All his victims either had their skulls broken or poisoned to death by a vicious soul-striking poison. However, after a certain apothecary family offended him, he killed its Level Four Immortal Leader by assassinating him with his fist and took care of the rest of the immortals the same way before finally killing millions of its members with poison."

"He was on the run for a long time before he was captured by a famous Level Nine Immortal Bounty Hunter who then sold him to us along with a bunch of assassins as we give more rates to bounty targets in exchange for bringing them alive. Shall we take a look at them as well?"

Yufor's expression was bright. After all, the more he sold, the more commission for him.

On the other hand, Davis didn't react as he stared at the battle slave while holding his breath.

Had killed millions of people from an apothecary family on top of killing their leaders, who would've gathered so much karmic virtue from saving people?

It was no wonder this battle slave had what he was looking for, a second-tier karmic sin that was twenty-two meters tall, not to mention a possible connection to the assassins he was looking for.

"I'm buying this intimidating slave."

"This battle slave is a Level Two Immortal, and due to his assassination skills, he is priced at a rate of ten times the normal price, which is about fifty thousand Immortal Crystals. Is that alright with pat-"

"I won't say another time. Pack him up and keep him ready."

"As you wish, valuable patron."

Davis and Yufor looked at each other with huge smiles on their faces.

They continued on their quest to buy or show more slaves, but unfortunately, Davis didn't find anyone suitable. The specialist slaves were obviously a plus, but he liked to rely on himself or his women for consuming pills. Besides, they were outright expensive, costing from ten times to thirty times.

As for pleasure slaves, there was no need to say how expensive they would cost.

Even a Level One Immortal Pleasure Slave cost as much as fifty thousand immortal crystals. In other words, that was fifty times the normal price that it would take for one to raise a Level One Immortal.

People could buy a Ninth Stage Pleasure Slave and raise them to immortality by only spending a thousand or more immortal crystals to save more funds, but these pleasure slaves were also priced according to their beauty and cultivation prowess, and cultivation potential, making it so that it was complicated.

Even at the same level, the difference in price for pleasure slaves was much wider and clearer than the difference between battle slaves. Many were sold for twenty times the price, and a few others were sold for fifty times the price, a rare few even at sixty times or more.

After checking out specialist slaves and widening his horizons, Davis challenged the fourth floor.

He went ahead and browsed all beauties who tried to appear arrogant, vulnerable, or tried to seduce him while wearing skimpy clothes, and when he came out, he held a hint of disdain in his eyes because none were able to charm him or even move his heart.

The trial that he had for himself without paying a single immortal crystal, whether he had turned into a complete womanizer, came out as false positive, causing him to rejoice. Otherwise, with their immortal charm that didn't lose out to most of his women, perhaps, even greater than some of his women, he might've at least taken a liking to one or two pleasure slaves, but he didn't tumble for a single one of them.

However, he did feel that Drake would have the time of his life here, wanting to save the slaves and, perhaps, having them if he fancied them as he did before in the Ethren Empire.

Nonetheless, Davis stopped right there and called it enough as he found no other slave with karmic sin as luminous as the one he bought.

He was taken to a specific waiting room on the ground floor, where he was about to receive the slaves he had purchased. He eagerly awaited the experiment he wanted to conduct and the karmic sin he wanted to plunder before finding out the hideout of an assassination-based power!

Chapter 2355 Branding

The exchange room was a humongous room or, perhaps, a hall, enough to accommodate the massive size of immortal beasts. There, Davis was seated on a throne, appearing to be a speck of dust in the vast space.

Davis couldn't help but think that it was very professional of the Azure Radiance Slave Traders to treat their patron like a master who was about to purchase their slaves.

Moreover, he found out that the material that this throne was made out of was at the Immortal Grade, perhaps at Level One Immortal Stage, and since the throne seemed new with no amount of detectable remnant aura on them, he figured out that the Azure Radiance Slave Traders accommodated their patrons with new thrones that were one level higher than them every time a transaction took place.

Honestly, he was surprised by their professionalism, and from it, he could see that they had probably been doing this for hundreds and thousands of years at the very least, especially with how the security and workers functioned with the utmost efficiency as though they were robots.

Nonetheless, his gaze fell on the two figures who were brought in one by one.

The first to enter this gaze was the black-robed man. There were a lot of talismans placed on the skin of his body, mainly on his head, heart, and abdomen, while the others were add-ons blocking his circulatory route. All three of his cultivations appeared to be absolutely sealed, with no inch of opportunity to break free.

The next to enter was the Rumbling Earthtail Lion. She was in her magical beast form, her copper-colored mane freely accentuating her look as though she was wearing a coat, while her fur adorned with earthly runes also seemed to be groomed.

Normally, a lioness wouldn't have a mane, but magical beasts sported all kinds of features on their body. Their evolution adapted to hide their sensitive parts like they were humans, so he wasn't surprised to see a female having a mane. Nonetheless, once she stood in her position, she was ordered to turn into her human form.

Quickly, her figure flashed in a reddish-brown light. The next second, she had turned into a copper-haired woman who was five feet nine inches tall. Her beauty was also good but not enough to match any one of his women. Even Natalya had her face perfectly refined like a jade sculpture after practicing so much yin. However, there was one particular trait about this woman that left Davis speechless.

"Is everything fine?" Yufor couldn't help but ask before he added, "If patron is not satisfied with the slaves, we can still cancel the deal and refund the immortal crystals a hundred percent. We definitely won't force our patron into a deal, but after the patron brings the slaves away from our palace, it is extremely difficult to return them, so please make your decision after giving the slaves a good look."

"No need." Davis stood up from the throne and walked up to them.

He appeared in front of the Rumbling Earthtail Lioness and asked, "What's your name?"

"Katherine Hilltail." A melodious and youthful voice resounded.

The Rumbling Earthtail Lioness's expression was indifferent, but the eyes betrayed the anxiety that she felt towards Davis, causing the latter to simply extend his hand and pat her head with an unknown smile cracking over his lips.

"I see. Katherine... a good name. From now on, you're my slave."

His thumb touched his forehead when he cast the Obscure Ghastly Bind Slave Seal.

Dark energy surged out of his thumb and entered Katherine Hilltail's soul sea. The magical beast core and a magical beast's soul sea were interconnected. That's why the destruction of a magical beast's core also meant the death of the soul sea, causing the magical beast's soul to dissipate and die. However, this didn't apply to magical beasts who have gained control over their souls, like the Cyan Soul Rats.

Nonetheless, Katherine Hilltail shuddered as she felt an overwhelming power seal her fate just like that. She was shocked to find out that she wasn't even able to resist a bit. Even though there were sealing talismans hindering her cultivation, what of her willpower?

How did she even fail to show a hint of resistance?

Her expression became aghast, realizing that even though she was at the Peak-Level Emperor Beast Stage, similar to the human in front of her, she was unable to put up even a hint of struggle, causing her to understand that his prowess was extremely high.

"Ma... master..."

Katherine's copper-colored eyes suddenly flashed as though she had come to a realization. She could never escape from this man.

"Good."

Davis's lips curved before he turned to look at someone else. His gaze fell on the black-robed man whose eyes were closed as though this had nothing to do with him.

"Valuable patron, let me hold this slave down for you. Even though we have sealed all his cultivations and forcefully lowered them, he is still a Level Two Immortal. Even with his pure physical prowess suppressed to a level that could be considered mortal to accommodate, he can still cause a significant amount of damage since he is an assassin."

"Then I'll take you up on your offer."

Yufor offered, which Davis accepted.

Yufor appeared behind the assassin and kicked his leg, causing the latter to kneel. His eyes that had been closed quickly shot wide when he turned around, his hands turning into sharp claws. However, Yufor sneered and moved ever so lightly, causing the assassin to miss.

The next moment, the assassin found himself kneeling with his hands tied behind his back. However, he didn't let out a single word, purely appearing to look like an overloaded fuel tank that was about to explode as his cheeks turned red from humiliation.

"Such an aggressive and intimidating slave. Valuable patron, are you sure that you don't want to use our Blood Soul Contract? I say that it is a Blood Soul Contract, but it is practically a slave contract that completely has the slave under the master's whims. At that time, if the master died, the slave would also die, so the slave will not dare attack the master and only try to run away."

"No, I'll have fun taming him."

Davis revealed an excited smile as his palm descended on the battle slave.

The assassin's expression changed as he felt terrifying dark energy penetrate his immortal soul sea. That layer of dark energy instantly gathered and formed a brand that etched into his soul. Something that would be difficult to find in his immortal soul sea was easily found by this man, causing him to turn shocked that he forgot his humiliation even though he was shuddering like Katherine.

Davis took his hand back from the assassin as he let out a satisfied smile.

What he used was the Obscure Ghastly Bind Slave Seal again. It is a Low-Level Emperor Grade Soul Technique, a dark-attributed enslavement technique that was difficult to detect and erase once placed on someone's soul. But in Davis's hands, its grade increased, causing it to become a powerful slave seal limited people's actions, warned him about their hostility towards him and allowed him to punish them by inflicting pain or causing them to die through the erasure of the soul.

On the other hand, Yufor's brows lifted in astonishment. He figured that Davis was most likely a young master from a wicked path power, and his prowess should definitely be three or four levels higher. In that case, this person was someone who had created an Emperor Sigil!

His expression instantly turned a few notches pleasing.

"Patron's enslaving techniques are quite marvelous. From their reactions, I assume that it has completely branded their souls, and even if they become stronger, I doubt that they could release it by themselves. But by that time, I'm sure our valuable patron will become an immortal, so there's no need to worry."

"Indeed."

Davis smirked before he clasped his hands, "Discussing the mundane affairs of the world with you has broadened my horizons. I had been home for many years, you see, but now, I'm a free soul who entered the world of cultivation, and thanks to you, these slaves would serve my purpose."

Yufor also clasped his hands but also gave a bow, "It has been a pleasure, valuable patron. I will be awaiting your word in three days."

Davis nodded before turning to look at the slaves he acquired.

"Follow me."

He walked out of the humongous room while Katherine Hilltail followed behind him. On the other hand, the assassin clenched his teeth, seemingly unable to accept this fate. However, a burst of intense pain in his soul sea quickly caused him to move his body.

Both of the slaves followed Davis out of the Azure Radiance Slave Trader Palace, coming to see the light of the day in many years that their eyes couldn't help but turn red.

Chapter 2356 Extracting Information

As Davis completed his objective, he took many twists and turns and exited the city. He didn't return to Klade's estate because he didn't know if someone was following him or not, but after reaching a particular distance away from the city, he felt that a certain someone might know.

"Nadia?"

"Master, I don't sense any gaze on us. My doppelganger also confirmed that there isn't anyone around us in a hundred-kilometer radius except a few native magical beasts living in the wild."

"Good."

Davis and the others had already crossed a huge distance in a flying boat. Right now, they were in a mountain cave which Davis customized to his needs at the moment, and lit a campfire.

As for the slave assassin and Katherine Hilltail, they stood before the campfire, not knowing why they weren't ordered anything yet. The silence made them feel uncomfortable. The slave assassin was fine with it, but the Rumbling Earthtail Lion could no longer take it.

"Ma... master. What do you require of me?"

"Sit."

Davis gestured to the side. He took out a huge chunk of immortal meat that he bought and used his flames to cook it. It was not heavenly flames but normal flames. The funny thing was that using normal flames cost him more energy, but he didn't pay attention to it as the exhaustion wasn't high.

The Rumbling Earthtail Lion looked left and right before she sat on a boulder nearby. By the time they left the city, it was raining. It chilled the atmosphere, so to be seated in front of a source of warmth caused her heart to ease slightly.

On the other hand, the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin also approached a boulder to sit. However, a nonchalant voice interrupted him.

"You, wait."

"..." The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin narrowed his brows.

However, there wasn't a reply, causing him to continue to stand there awkwardly even though he stood straight.

The chunk of meat Davis brought out was cooked in a few seconds. It gave off a mildly delicious aroma that caused Katherine Hilltail to gulp as she licked her lips. She was well fed in the cell. However, she gazed at the smoking hot meat, recognizing the dragon's aura on it. Her disbelief at the meat's source was overwhelmed by her instincts to eat it.

When Davis added some spices and further roasted it ever so lightly, her lips practically became dried that she had to lick her lips to moisturize them.

Davis unceremoniously handed over the Aqua Dragon Flood Meat to Katherine.

"Thank you, master!~"

Looking at her gulp the meat without any kind of restraint, he lightly chuckled. The Aqua Flood Dragon Meat was almost finished, but he couldn't digest the last few pieces as he got tired of eating it, but serving it to others sure did feel good, especially to someone who had just gotten out of a slave cell.

He could sense Katherine's naive character without even talking much to her but also knew that the world wasn't kind to such characters.

However, he didn't sigh but turned to look at some vile people who were still alive and unharmed after what they'd done.

"Why did you massacre the apothecary family?"

"Why should I tell you?"

The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin's lips curved in disdain when abruptly he grabbed hold of his head.

"Ahhhh!!!"

Intense pain swelled in his soul sea, causing him to drop to his knee as he shook his head. His reaction caused Katherine to flinch as she became anxious.

Was this the price of acting obnoxious to her master?

However, she saw that the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin stopped screaming after three seconds. She couldn't help but turn to look at Davis, wondering what kind of expression her master had.

"You look intimidating, but you're stupider than I thought. Can't you understand that your life is in my hands? Or, did you think that I wouldn't kill you just because I bought you?"

Davis indifferently started to roast another chunk of meat from another magical beast. Within dozens of seconds, he stuffed the meat into his mouth, slowly enjoying it.

Only after five whole minutes did he finish the chunk of meat.

"Now, do you feel like speaking? You should know lying in front of your master is useless as I can feel your soul's fluctuations."

"I'll say it." This time, the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin didn't seem to want a confrontation.

"It's because the apothecary clan was an eyesore. They kept coming up with antidotes to the poison I worked so hard to create and assassinate, and when I threatened them all, they refused to stay clear of

my work, healing my assassination targets even more aggressively, so I assassinated their higher-ups and poisoned them all."

"If I'm right, I should've killed about sixty million people. Those dead fools should've learned a lesson by now as they come to realize who killed them in the well of reincarnation."

"Even I haven't killed so many people." Davis couldn't help but smile.

A vengeance that was indiscriminately enacted on an entire clan for no justifiable reason whatsoever? For what? Just to make a point?

His smile was cold, but the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin perceived it to be a form of approval, causing him to look smile even more, a hint of disdain appearing within his pupils as he gazed at Davis.

The other party didn't have much killing intent as him nor a track record of slaughter. He felt he could guide the other party as long as he treated him well, but he didn't know what to think with a hidden intent still lingering in his heart.

"Which assassin organization did you belong to?"

"I belong to the Ghost Tear Hall."

Davis's eyes narrowed, "That's..."

"Indeed. It's a grand assassin power that doesn't own a domain nor a prefecture but has spread all over the First Haven World. It is the best assassin organization to have ever existed, besting even the likes of the Soulsteal Pearl Temple and Oracular Reaver Abode."

Davis didn't know crap but made a solemn expression, "Tell me where the nearest branch is."

"..."

The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin's eyes widened.

"I'm bound by a Blood Soul Contract, so I can't betray-"

"Who said for you to betray?" Davis cast a look of disdain, "I want to join that organization, so obediently cough up their location. This can be considered recruitment."

"As I thought. You're a wicked path cultivator like me who wants to become the strongest assassin in the world. Brother- ahhh!~ "

The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin held his head again as a piercing pain struck his soul again, causing his legs to tremble.

"It's master for you, dimwit."

Davis reminded in a bland tone, causing the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin's expression to become unsightly before he looked away.

"Fine... master."

Shortly after, Davis received the details of the branch in the Thirty-Second Fire Phoenix City after a thorough bout of question and answer sessions. There was none here in this city, but he also heard about other branches located within this prefecture, and that was about it.

Davis didn't doubt Skull Breaking Poison Assassin's words as he found no lies through the slave seal and Enigmatic Heart Intent.

The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin's soul was not only sealed but seemed to have not increased along with his Essence Gathering Cultivation and Body Tempering Cultivation, remaining at Level One Immortal Stage. His senses were also partially sealed due to the talismans stuck to his skin. Therefore, he was unable to sense Davis's Enigmatic Heart Intent scanning him.

"Well done. You came to know how to act like a slave. Now go stand guard outside."

"Yes..."

The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin turned around and walked away, but the way he walked was recognizable to Davis. It held a ton of grudge, wishing to turn around and behead him in an instant. He could only crack a smile full of disdain before he turned to look at Katherine, who sat all this while silently.

"Say something about yourself."

Katherine seemed to be waiting for a question that she quickly opened her mouth.

"There's nothing much to say about me other than the fact that Rumbling Earthtail Lion with low prowess. If it weren't for my dragon blood, I wouldn't even be able to match a human with a Cracked Immortal Vessel. However, please don't abandon me. I'm willing to work hard for you, master."

Davis perfunctorily nodded, "What's your age?"

"I'm fourteen years old this year."

Davis was astonished as Mira was also of a similar age. However, the concept of maturity differed for magical beasts. Although they would gradually mature in the body as time passes, if they ate more resources, they would mature faster.

It wouldn't even take a year for a magical beast to mature if it possessed enough resources.

Nonetheless, he continued to ask questions.

"Who crushed your tailbone, costing you the loss of a significant amount of your blood essence?"

Chapter 2357 Naive or Kind?

Katherine didn't hesitate to answer Davis's question.

"The ones my dead father offended."

"Why?"

"To force us to pay back the debt we owed them."

Katherine diligently answered as she possessed a calm expression while speaking, causing Davis to continue.

"So your mother sold you to pay back those debts?"

Davis raised his brows, causing Katherine Hilltail to become dejected.

"Yes... she... she's not a bad mother."

"Wha-" Davis was flabbergasted that he couldn't help crack an amused smile, "Are you naive or kind?"

"Eh...?"

However, looking at her confused expression, he became taken aback, understanding that she said what she truly felt and not sarcasm.

"Perhaps, your mother sold you to protect you and all other siblings from those debtors while she herself chose a new life to allow you to stay clear of trouble, choosing the life of enslavement for you all over your deaths. Is that what you're trying to say?"

Davis guessed as he asked, causing Katherine Hilltail's eyes to go wide. Has this person been watching her family? How was he able to tell!?

Nevertheless, she nodded her head.

"If mother remarried, her new husband's clan wouldn't accept us. In that case, we will be targeted and thrown away, most likely killed. If she doesn't remarry and gain protection for all of us, we will all be enslaved or killed instead by the debt collectors. I think that's why she sold us to the Azure Radiance Slave Traders, who excel at selling slaves to their patrons as they care both about their slaves and patrons. I may complain over being enslaved, but their treatment towards us was way better than most slave houses I've seen."

Davis couldn't help produce a wry smile. It seemed that Katherine's clan also owned slaves.

"Do you want to know the true reason why your mother sold you all?"

"No." Katherine Hilltail immediately shook her head, "I'll follow master."

"Are you afraid that I'll berate you for it?"

"Whatever mother chose for us, I believe in her decision. If she felt that we had better chances at life by causing her children to become slaves, then I will abide by it."

Davis became speechless, thinking that it was a matter of choosing between the lesser evil and the greater evil. If that was the case, he could understand why her mother would sell them off. Her mother chose the lesser evil as that was the only path to survival for all.

However, his expression couldn't help but churn as his voice rose.

"Guess your mother was wrong. Strip yourself."

"...!"

Katherine Hilltail shuddered. Was it time already?

Her muscles stiffened, but she forcefully moved her hands, trembling all the way to her belt. However, Davis captured her wrist and shook his head, causing her to become dumbfounded.

"Start to moan..."

"What...?"

He whispered as he held a finger against his lips, causing Katherine to become stupefied. Just what was he asking for?

However, with Davis egging her to moan, she gulped and opened her luscious mouth.

"Aahn~ aaaahn~?"

Davis quickly smiled and nodded, gesturing for her to continue doing it. Initially, Katherine was confused, but because she saw her master shake his head as though dancing to her tune, she became bolder and bolder.

"Aaaaah! No... Aaah~ Hnaa~ Hsss~ Master!~"

"Fuck, you're too good! Katherine~"

Davis kept nodding and swung his index fingers in the air like a maestro. Each time his hand raised, Katherine released a high pitch moan, while as his hand went low, her voice became raspy and needy. However, two minutes into the act, her magical beast instincts flared, causing her to feel extreme danger.

Instantly, Davis covered her nose and mouth with his palm, causing her copper eyes to tremble.

He had his index finger on his mouth, telling her to be silent.

"Ahaha! Idiots. One should never underestimate an assassin, much less a poison master. A single whiff of my colorless and odorless poison could kill a Level Three Immortal in an instant, but you, a mortal, dared to enslave me? However, with a slave woman by your side, I can understand wanting to vent out the sinful yang, but-"

The Skull Breaking Poison Assassin audaciously walked into the cave as his gloating voice resounded. One of his arms was missing, his shoulder connected with that missing arm dripping blood, but he suddenly froze, looking at his enslaver and fellow slave perfectly dressed. Not only was blood that should've been coughed out to death nowhere to be seen, but they looked perfectly fine as well.

"You really took the bait." Davis couldn't help but scratch his head, "I still can't understand how you're an assassin..."

"How!?- " was what the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin asked, but he quickly turned around to flee.

Just as he traveled a hundred meters to the skies in an instant, intense pain surged in his soul, causing him to tumble down as he fell into the dense forest below. However, just as he hit the ground, Davis was already beside him, a foot landing on his head.

'How fast...! And heavy like a mountain...!'

This time, the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin felt intense fear emerge within his soul despite the immense pain no longer activated on him. He struggled underneath but was unable to display a hint of his power, causing him to quickly understand that this master who had bought him was a heavenly genius!

"How do you want to die?"

He felt his skull being crushed, causing his eyes to bulge out of his sockets.

"No!!! Wai-"

Splat!~

Davis's foot completely crushed the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin. In his final moments, he could only wonder why his master bothered to ask a question if he was going to give him a taste of his own medicine. After all, it was unknown how many skulls he had broken using his fists and soles, but now, he met the same fate of being crushed by a foot.

As Davis looked at the missing arm, he guessed that the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin sacrificed his entire arm, refining it into energy to unleash such a deadly poison that lasted for a few seconds or so, all because his cultivation was sealed.

Otherwise, the poison he unleashed could've laid corrosion to an entire mountain forest.

However, his body, tempered by chaos, was practically immune to poison of his level. For poison to work on him, he would have to be truly vulnerable or run out of chaotic energy in the first place.

Still, although Davis refused to acknowledge this person was an assassin, he had to admit that he was a ruthless poison master, willing to lose an enormous amount of blood essence to kill him, his enslaver. This wouldn't have been a problem if he had enslaved the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin with a slave contract, as Yufor said, but isn't this exactly why he told no to it?

Davis wanted to kill and plunder this assassin, not wanting to let him live after what he got. Originally, he had been planning to keep him until getting into the assassin organization, but since the bait was taken and murderous intentions were fully revealed, he ended the poison master's life.

Nonetheless, with a lazy clench of his fist, he plundered the karmic sin and soul essence before his smile became one of satisfaction while turning to look at the other figure who landed before him, maintaining a slight distance as her expression remained aghast.

She couldn't believe that she was a slave to a mortal who could flatten an immortal's head. Did a heavenly genius just enslave her!?

"Katherine, I didn't expect you to cooperate this well. I look forward to cooperating with you once more."

"That..." Katherine Hilltail's lips twitched, not knowing what to say to the praise as she replied, "That's how my mother screamed when she was with father in bed..."

"She called him master in bed?" Davis became taken aback.

"Yes." Katherine Hilltail nodded, but then she blinked, suddenly realizing something, "Wait a minute..."

"Your mother was once a slave, it seems." Davis also realized, "She probably had an experience of being bought as a slave by your father but in truth was saved, unexpectedly having a better life, so she chose that route for you all over leaving your lives vulnerable to the ruthless debt collectors who killed your father."

"No wonder..." Katherine Hilltail's eyes slightly became wet. However, she sniffled and bowed her head.

"Thank you, master. You're a wise human."

"Hmm. Come with me."

Davis stored the Skull Breaking Poison Assassin's corpse in his spatial ring before returning to the cave.

The campfire was still burning while the poisonous air seemed to have already receded. However, being alone with Davis, Katherine started to shudder ever so lightly.

Perhaps this time, she really was going to be stripped? How could she resist a heavenly genius? It was impossible.

"Do you want to become strong like me?"

Davis's amused voice echoed out, causing Katherine to blink. She shook her head twice but then nodded the third time. Her figure also slumped slightly, thinking that she was being presumptuous towards her master.

"In that case, I'll give you two choices." Davis raised his hand, lifting two fingers.

"One, you become my subject for an experiment that will either cause the course of your life to change for better or worse. If it succeeds, I will allow you to become free in a decade. As for the other choice, leave now to become a free being."

Davis gestured to the exit of the cave as he continued, "Four hundred immortal crystals are nothing to me. Just consider it some charity work, so there's no need to return it either, but obviously, I would like it if you took the first choice, as that was why I got you out from there in the first place."

"However, it's your life and future, so I hope that you will choose wisely."

Snap~

Davis snapped his fingers, and Katherine Hilltail was further shocked to find out that the slave seal in her soul sea had dissolved.

Chapter 2358 Crushed Pride

Katherine Hilltail's expression shook as she felt herself become free of a slave seal. However, she didn't believe for a single moment that she was truly released. In other words...

"This... is this a test?"

"No." Davis shook his head, "Do you think I will bait you as I did for that dumb poison master? No, you have done nothing wrong for me to mistreat you. Or is there something that I should know about your past?"

"Master..." Katherine Hilltail pleaded as she touched her chest, "I swear I'm a virgin. Although my breasts aren't up to par, I can still please you. I'll be your mount. I'll fly through the skies, cross mountains and rivers for you, so please don't abandon me."

"..."

Davis's expression turned speechless. He recognized that Katherine Hilltail was almost flat as a board but still, did she really think he was testing her right now? Even after he released her from the shackles of a slave seal?

"I swear I won't do anything to you." Davis gestured to the exit, "You can really walk away and start a new life if you want."

"Master, I may be fourteen years old, but I've at least grown enough to be able to tell that I can't survive by myself. If we could, mother wouldn't have taken such a decision."

Katherine Hilltail's copper eyes became moist as she knelt, "I watched my siblings leave one by one until I was the only Rumbling Earthtail Lion left. I hope they've all found a good master who takes care of them, so I only wish the same for me. I can't survive alone, not with my low prowess. Please don't abandon me, master..."

Davis placed his hand on his mouth, understanding her reasoning. So she was afraid of surviving alone and thought that she had better chances with him, causing her to be unable to leave him. However, he couldn't help but want to ask a question that had been irking him.

"Don't tell me you weren't chosen because of your flat chest?"

"..." Katherine Hilltail's cheeks quickly became crimson. Even though her lips quivered in shame, she still opened her mouth to answer.

"As you can see, my brown skin isn't necessarily attractive. My flat chest is also a disadvantage when it comes to attracting a patron's eyes. Even then, someone did reserve me for my flat chest... but, two weeks ago, I received word that they died from those terrifying beasts that descended from the skies."

Davis nodded lightly as he looked at her light-skinned face, having a medium brown skin tone. She was plenty beautiful in his eyes, reminding him of Nadia when she was a Sunset Mountain Wolf, but her facial features didn't match his women's current beauty. If Katherine Hilltail was even a bit more beautiful, then she would've been long purchased regardless of her flat chest because she was still a virgin.

However, unlike him, who thought to treat this lioness better, the others were most likely looking for something else, something that would only bring benefits to them. Her prowess wasn't high, and she could possibly die easily since her blood vitality was lacking. As a slave, she lacked the able-bodiedness that one would require for her price. It was no wonder that only a select few would buy her, especially someone who had a liking for flat chests.

'Very sus... but since that patron's dead, I take it that karma struck that him...'

Davis shook his head before he asked something else.

"You don't have the pride of the lion or the dragon. What's wrong with you?"

"Excuse me, master. I'm not leaving."

Katherine Hilltail quickly exited the cave and moved a hundred meters away before she hovered mid-air. However, a wave of copper light shone on her body before she transformed into a forty-meter tall lion with a long proportional body. Her features were spectacular, reminiscent of an armored lion and the Earth Dragon since she had dragon-like scales on her body.

However, her sixty-meter-long tail fell and lay limp, unable to be even lifted or shaken. It seemed completely useless.

"My pride as a Rumbling Earthtail Lion was crushed..." resounded her dejected voice.

"I see."

Davis saw her limp tail.

That long copper tail had nine segments and seemed like steel weights wrapped around her in a conical shape. Her tail was like a rattlesnake's, but they didn't make such sounds but seemed heavy. However, he knew this magical beast's tail was the strongest in its body. Its power was such that even if the Rumbling Earthtail Lion was at Peak-Level Emperor Beast Stage with no higher prowess, when its tail strikes, it would be as heavy as nine mountains striking together, making it so that strike was one level higher in prowess.

The Rumbling Earthtail Lion was quite slow yet possessed a high defense. What made its offense possible was the nine segments would unleash an explosive power at the same time, causing the tail to strike with immense power that would shatter the mountains and rivers. It was mostly not a threat until someone got hit with that long tail, and yet, Katherine Hilltail had her tail crippled, causing her confidence to be dragged to the mud.

One would think just because the Rumbling Earthtail Lion was the descendant of an Earth Dragon that was they were extremely strong. However, it was not the case when the other parent was nothing but an ordinary earth-attributed armored lion. It was only through the strong seed of the Earth Dragon that the Rumbling Earthtail Lion came to possess a mountain-crushing tail but for Katherine Hilltail to have lost control of it was a huge blow.

"If it was not crippled but back to form, would you be able to make a better decision then?"

"Eh...?"

Katherine Hilltail became confused. However, before she could even say anything, her eyes lost their luster, and her massive body began plunging toward the surface.

Bang!~

Her body hit the mountain forest, creating a slight tremor. However, she didn't appear to move, seemingly unconscious. Davis hovered at the location where Katherine Hilltail's nape had been. His hand was reached out, appearing to have knocked her out even through her thick mane and armored skin.

"Nadia, is anyone else here?"

"No one has entered our detectable range, master."

"Good."

Davis descended. Soon enough, a pure white light overflowed the area before it disappeared.

Shortly, Katherine Hilltail regained consciousness.

She quickly shot up and raised her head, around up as she crouched. But then, her pupils dilated as she sensed something strange about her body. Turning to look back, she saw her tail moving. Almost instinctively, she brought it down, the nine segments abruptly shaking at the same time.

Bang!~

The copper tail struck the ground, devastating the area as she created an explosive crater. It caused her eyes to turn wide in sheer disbelief, realization hitting her face.

"Ho- How...?"

Her expression quickly turned into panic, her body trembling as she failed to catch Davis's figure in her vision. However, noticing the energy of the flame from the campfire still burning, she hurriedly transformed into a ray of light, turning into her human form as she shot towards the cave.

"Master?"

Arriving inside, she still saw him seated inside, crunching on a piece of succulent meat that softly tore from the edge as he bit and pulled with his teeth. However, he was not the only one who was eating the meat.

There was also a tiny dark winged-wolf on his shoulder, sharing the meat with him. Its razor-sharp white teeth sank and took a bite, licking its lips and whimpered in joy as soon as it finished before taking a bite again.

The whole thing felt surreal to her as she couldn't tell what kind of level this wolf was...

However, just where did it come from? And why, in its presence, did she feel like losing all forms of defenses as though her life no longer belonged to her?

Chapter 2359 Third Pact?

"What? You haven't left yet?" Davis chuckled.

His amused voice caused Katherine Hilltail to come out of her reverie.

"Ma-master, did you cure me?"

Davis's expression became confused, "Why would you think that?"

"That... that's because... there is no way I could've regained my blood vitality in such a short amount of time or have my tailbone reconstructed, allowing me to control over my tail!"

Katherine Hilltail screamed out as tears ran down her face.

"What? Your tailbone is healed!? Your blood essence has rejuvenated? Looks like I have gained an immense benefit by purchasing you. The heavens have blessed me!"

"Wha-" Katherine Hilltail saw Davis stand up and act dumb that anger surged in her crying eyes, "Master, I know it's you. You asked me if my tail was not crippled, would I be able to make a better decision? I still remember those kind words. It cannot be a mistake! You are the one who healed me!"

Davis's wide smile receded once he saw anger appear on her face.

'Looks like her pride as a Rumbling Earthtail Lion has been restored a bit...' He couldn't help but chuckle before he waved his sleeve.

"Alright, you can think properly now. Since you didn't leave upon waking up but came back here, I'll ask you once again. Are you willing to participate in an experiment that has a fifty percent chance of survival? If you survived, perhaps you'll become strong as my Nadia over here."p

Davis gently smiled as he caressed Nadia's small puppy face. She also gently stroked her head against him, wanting to be caressed more.

"..."

Meanwhile, Katherine Hilltail's panic receded, replaced with some calm as she thought about his words. Her gaze stayed on Nadia, wondering just how strong she was, but even at such a close range, she couldn't tell her cultivation.

Moreover, she still didn't know how Davis had healed her, but she imagined that he treated her with some heavenly resource that restored her blood vitality and also caused her body to heal. There were some heavenly resources like that in her inherited memories. However, obtaining them was extremely difficult, causing her to feel indebted to him.

She couldn't understand head or tail about the situation. After all, what use did she have for him to use such a grand resource on her? But clenching her teeth and fists, she decided.

"Master, I want to become strong and serve you for saving me. If I die in the process, I'll just consider myself unlucky."

"Fine determination."

Davis's black eyes flashed as he could tell that her determination wasn't faked. She really was prepared to die, adopting a do-or-die attitude. Perhaps, healing her was the right decision, after all. Now, he can say to himself that he didn't force her as opposed to his conscience.

"Come here. Let's form a beast pact."

"..." Katherine Hilltail blinked before she recalled that the slave seal on her really was destroyed.

She had been freed. But with this, she would once again belong to him. Taking a deep breath, she walked towards him with her dainty steps like a cat, making as little noise as possible before hesitantly taking his hand.

Davis cast the Transitory Beast Taming Pact he had with Nadia and Everlight.

Instantly, Katherine Hilltail could feel a burst of closeness with Davis. However, her expression turned shocked.

"This... this is an equal soul pact?"

It didn't take a genius to tell that she wasn't restricted in this soul pact. If she wanted, she could break it and leave, causing her to become dumbfounded.

"What did you expect?" Davis's lips curved, "That I would force you to sleep with me today using the slave seal or tyrannical soul pact?"

"..."

Having her thoughts laid out, Katherine Hilltail was not only speechless but also ashamed. Was she the only one thinking about how she would be conquered by some stranger today?

Nonetheless, the Transitory Beast Taming Pact was a success, but at the same time, she felt a terrible shock as she turned to look at Nadia.

"A Level One Immortal Beast..."

To think that her Master had tamed such a beast while still being a mortal, she was truly in awe.

"...!"

However, upon feeling another aura that made her soul quiver, she took her hand off Davis's palm as she flinched, falling to her butt as she saw Nadia's purplish-golden eyes staring down at her.

"Emp-Emperor Tier!!!"

Katherine Hilltail was mortified. Her copper pupils were dilated in fear. After all, even if the Emperor-Tier Immortal Beast wasn't from her species, it still had her reeling in shock and apprehension because this beast's prowess was six levels higher!

How come such a terrifying beast also possessed a beast pact with her Master!?

'Wait...! How come I possess a beast pact with such a master!?' Her mind was in chaos, causing her to be unable to think properly.

"What a good reaction you've shown me. It makes me satisfied, Katherine. Now, take my hand."

Davis chuckled as he reached out his hand, causing the adorable Katherine Hilltail to subconsciously rely on him. She appeared to have reacted to the well-known defense of hiding behind the Master so that the fellow beast wouldn't bite her, but the moment she held his hand, she transformed into a ray of reddish-brown light and entered his soul sea.

Suddenly finding herself in a vast oasis that was tinged with black and white, Katherine Hilltail didn't know what to think. Her senses suddenly became clear, and the surroundings seemed mysterious, revolving with mysteries she had never seen in her life, unable to even recognize what kind of energy it was.

Slowly, she felt Davis's soul interact with her being, making her feel that he was everywhere. But soon enough, she understood that she was in a space where she could stay safe.

"How is it? Your new temporary home for ten years."

Boomed an amused voice around, causing Katherine Hilltail to smile lightly, "Master, is this your soul sea? It feels warm and cozy."

"Oh, that's the experiment."

"Eh?"

Katherine Hilltail's smile froze. Was she already being subjected to the so-called experiment?

"Don't be worried. Although I said that there's a fifty percent chance for you to die, I won't let that happen to the best of my ability. Just rest assured and allow the fog of strange energy to enter your body."

"... Okay..."

Katherine Hilltail crouched a bit as she looked around at the empty shelter. She found herself in a comfortable corner and sat, swinging her tail back and forth as she felt that nostalgic feeling fill her heart with confidence and warmth. A few minutes later, her head started to ache, but she ignored it, still playing with her tail like a little cat.

Meanwhile, Davis's expression was solemn.

Katherine Hilltail's presence in his soul sea didn't elicit a response from the Transitory Beast Taming Pact.

Did it have anything to do with Everlight still receiving the fog of life energy from Fallen Heaven? However, he didn't think so, as Fallen Heaven was capable of doing multiple tasks at once. Then was it a limit on Transitory Beast Taming Pact Technique?

To find out, he manually sent the fog of life energy from Fallen Heaven towards Katherine Hilltail since sending death energy was more dangerous. Surprisingly, it worked.

It formed a connection and was now automatically sending the fog of life energy towards Katherine Hilltail without his help.

'Good, it works...'

Davis sighed, knowing that this meant that there wasn't a limit, at least not for two, but he still kept monitoring Katherine Hilltail.

A few more minutes later, Davis noticed an abnormality.

Katherine Hilltail's teeth began clattering. Her body seemed to be quivering from chills, causing Davis to feel that something was wrong. When he checked, he found that she was experiencing immense pain from their soul connection.

'What the...? Both Nadia and Everlight displayed no pain when receiving the essence fog from Fallen Heaven... Is Katherine Hilltail incompatible because Earth is not directly related to Life and Death as I initially thought...?'

Chapter 2360 Mutating Lion

Many thoughts revolved around Davis's mind as he witnessed the gravity of the situation. It was different than what he had previously encountered, causing him to voice out.

"Katherine, are you fine?"

"Master..." Katherine Hilltail's voice sounded weak. She opened her eyes, revealing her copper-colored pupils. However, they seemed to be trembling.

"I am fine. I... can endure."

"Is that so?"

"Is master worried for me...? That makes me happy..."

Katherine Hilltail's body continually shuddered, but her lion face produced a pained smile.

"..."

Davis didn't know what to say. A normal beast would be scared to death at this point. Perhaps, learning that she could become as strong as Nadia ultimately fueled her determination to the point of death?

After all, she must've realized that she could get to Emperor-Tier this way or, at least, the King-Tier.

"Nadia, was it like this for you?"

Davis asked, causing Nadia, who was also witnessing Katherine Hilltail's situation narrow her eyes.

"There was some uncomfortable feeling in the beginning, but not like this, master. I didn't experience pain, and neither did Everlight, from what I've seen. Shortly, it would turn comfortable, but Katherine Hilltail seems like she is in more and more pain. Clearly, something is wrong."

Davis also nodded.

From what he could see, the infusion of Fallen Heaven's influence was most likely a failure. However, he was unwilling to stop the process just like that. Perhaps, the incompatibility was only at the initial stages, and that's why Fallen Heaven's influence was forcefully making Katherine Hilltail adapt to its powers?

He felt that he had to monitor for some more time. Katherine Hilltail also said that she could endure, so he adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

However, the more time passed, the more he became worried.

"Roar!~~~"

Katherine Hilltail had started to moan in pain before she let out a wild roar. Her eyes turned bloodshot, causing Davis to sigh inwardly. His soul force churned and began to form a blockade around her shelter, disallowing the fog of life energy to intrude, or so he thought, but the foggy life essence still penetrated through his soul force and enveloped the shelter.

"What?"

Davis's eyes narrowed. Why couldn't he stop it? Wait, was he ever able to stop it?

Just as he brainstormed for a few ways to stop it, his vision bulged as he saw Katherine Hilltail's right head swell.

Splat!~

It burst, causing a tidal wave of blood to splash and stain the shelter.

"Rampant proliferation of cells!" Davis's scalp turned numb.

He quickly set up another layer of deathly soul force around the shelter and his soul essence. However, it seemed useless. Katherine Hilltail's abrupt change was unexpected. Her left leg also started to swell, followed by one of her tail segments and even her abdomen.

"Fuck, stop!"

Davis tried two more methods, but he was unable to stop the process.

"Fallen Heaven, help me stop it!"

"I can't. I thought you would be able to, but you also can't. I guess once the infusion process starts, it won't end. Quickly dissolve the beast-taming pact with her. That's probably the only way out of this situation."

Davis clenched his teeth. Of course, he knew of this method, but who knew what kind of result it would bring? However, running out of options, he had no choice but to use them.

Bang!~

He appeared outside the cave and let out Katherine Hilltail. Her huge body appeared outside, missing some parts. Even her tail seemed to have snapped while blood was dripping from all over her body. Just a look at it, and he could tell that this was the kind of mutation Evelyn went through from the story Isabella told him, intensely painful, yet the chances of survival were unreasonable.

However, Fallen Heaven's influence on mutation should've caused Katherine Hilltail to turn into a cocoon. But instead, she didn't and started swelling from the proliferation of cells as though she was going to explode from the over-absorption of life essence.

When he realized that this was definitely not a mutation but failing to mutate, how could he not stop it?

His soul force wrapped around Katherine Hilltail's body, lowering her effortlessly to the ground. He instantly checked her body and saw that the proliferation had come to a stop. However, every one of

her cells had an influx of life essence. It was not an amount that they could hold, meaning that he couldn't heal her with his life energy.

Once the life energy receded, Davis assumed that Katherine Hilltail's body would automatically heal itself. However, his expression turned unsightly as his senses penetrated her soul sea.

Katherine Hilltail's soul had proliferated into becoming a vast expanse in her soul sea but unable to endure, it was collapsing upon itself.

Katherine Hilltail's copper-colored eyes were nowhere to be seen. One of the eyeballs was white while the other had simply exploded, blood dripping out of her right eye socket, but a soul transmission fell on Davis's ears in a weak yet self-aware tone.

"I'm going to die... Hehe~"

Hearing that feeble voice, all Davis could think was that she was experiencing her last moments, able to see clearly as though time was incredibly slow for her. However, his expression couldn't help but turn angered.

"Idiot! You could've destroyed the pact by yourself if you knew you were going to die. Why didn't you-?"

"Mas... ter... although I was... useless as ever... I was happy to have served-"

Katherine Hilltail's words stopped right there, never to be heard again, even though Davis waited a few seconds. His soul sense once again swooped over her body, and despite the remnant soul undulations he felt in her soul sea, he could tell that she was lifeless.

Katherine Hilltail was undoubtedly dead as of this moment.

Not saying anything, Davis turned around and flew towards the mountain.

Brrk!~

His death energy surged and carved out a humongous cave out of the mountain. Holding Katherine Hilltail's corpse with his soul force, he brought her inside. His chaotic energy churned, causing earth martial energy to surge out from his pores and directly caused them to turn into a mountain that blocked eyesight and senses.

The humongous cave became pitch black, but a wisp of flames lit up within the cave, causing the enclosure to illuminate.

At the same time, he made hand seals as reincarnation energy surged out from his ten fingers, swirling like ten dragons creating a massive vortex. That black and white vortex gained devoured the surrounding heaven and earth energy, but since the space was sealed, even the mountains and earth around him started to lose their heaven and earth energy.

Rumble!~

The skies above thundered. Even though it was clear as the day, the weather suddenly changed as dark clouds appeared.

Bzzz!~

Lightning bolts struck the mountain Davis was at. However, it failed to penetrate, and neither was it a heavenly tribulation.

As Davis formed the reincarnation vortex at the center, he tried to remember the familiarity of the technique he used on Glyn as much as possible before waving one of his hands. Katherine Hilltail's soul essence flew into that vortex, seeping into it like the last time.

Till this stage, Davis confirmed that nothing had gone wrong, causing him to open his mouth.

"Deceiving the reincarnation cycle, bring forth the cardinal essence of the fallen. Churn with the might of life and death and release the reincarnation locked within, threatening the balance of the cosmos as I give ordinance for the dead to rise: Fallen Soul Resurrection."

The iridescent vortex abruptly changed its spin, rotating in the opposite direction as it went against the balance of the world. The heaven and earth energy rumbled. The skies thundered. The illuminated space of the sealed cave was quickly overwhelmed by a blinding light.

The blinding light receded instantly, leaving behind a tiny sphere of iridescent black and white hue hovering in mid-air.

Davis's eyes were quite calm as he saw the tiny sphere blossom into a lotus.

Just as the lotus completed its formation, it abruptly shook and shattered.

"...!"

Davis became shocked.

The Fallen Soul Resurrection Technique was a failure.

But how!?"

Numerous thoughts swirled past his head before he found a plausible reason.

"I see. One of Katherine Hilltail's three spiritual souls is damaged..."

Mutation into another species also meant a profound change in the soul essence. Something like all seven physical souls would be affected, making it so that this life's spiritual soul would also be inflicted with a comprehensive shift in essence.

For example, Ancestor Cornelia's husband Klade had transformed into a Fire Phoenix Variant, but before he could fully transform and his soul integrated, he was killed by the heavenly tribulation. Fortunately, he had been revived by the momentary gain of nirvanic rebirth, but still, when he rebirthed, he was no longer a Fire Phoenix Variant.

That was because all of his physical souls hadn't experienced that change yet, and consequently, his spiritual soul hadn't recorded that information, causing him to return to his Burning Phoenix form.

In the same way, this forced mutation that he made Katherine Hilltail go through chipped her spiritual soul.

Therefore, his Fallen Soul Resurrection Technique that worked on Glyn was unable to revive her because her spiritual soul was incomplete. It must go back to the reincarnation cycle to be healed, or so he thought.

Coming to this point, Davis also felt that he had only one choice left. However, he had intended not to use it unless absolutely needed so that it may not create greater chaos along the lines of fate, but the thing he hated the most was letting an innocent person that he had interacted with die because of him, especially on his call, causing him to feel responsible for this matter, more than he thought he was.

Davis reached out his hand as a blinding light surged out from his palms, enveloping Katherine Hilltail's soul essence and swelled corpse.

'One of the spiritual souls may have been damaged, but to Fallen Heaven, the purest artifact of life and death that I have ever seen, reviving a simple Emperor Stage Beast is nothing...'

As he thought, the blinding light receded, leaving him with a glowing figure amidst the dimly lit cave.