Gacha 811

Chapter 811 - Each Side's Perspective

"Young Lord... Are you sure about this?" The one that seemed to be the leader of the men in black asked the mysterious guy.

"What do you mean?"

"I don't know if you have known it or not, but according to our information, the guy in front of us is related to the Spirit World. Seeing so many high-level spirits amongst them, I am afraid this guy is someone extraordinary."

"The Spirit huh..." The mysterious guy thought for a moment and smiled. "If I remember correctly, the previous Spirit God... No, wait!"

"Young Lord?"

"Ah, I see. So that's how it is all along." The mysterious guy smirked. "Do you trust me?"

"Young Lord?"

"Answer me. Do you trust me?"

"Ye-yes. With every cell in my body."

"Then, beat them up!"

"What?!" The leader was startled upon this request. He suddenly remembered why this person wanted to come here.

It started a few days ago in a rundown house where they usually met.

"Young Lord... This is the information about the Spaceship that we saw not long ago." The man handed a paper full of information.

"Hmm?" The mysterious guy furrowed his eyebrows. "So, there was an interesting war like this, and the spaceship seemed to be one of the allies. Have you confirmed the information about this leader like figure?"

"I don't know. I can't find anything besides the fact that his companions seem to have cultivated a technique that can boost their power after transforming a few parts of their bodies into animals."

"Then..." The mysterious guy finally finished reading it and looked back at his subordinate before dropping the paper unconsciously.

"Young Lord?" Obviously, such an action guaranteed a weird face coming from that man. He looked at his master that seemed to have witnessed something outrageous.

"Ha... Haha.... Hahaha..." Suddenly, he laughed out loud, creating more and more confusion.

And yet, his subordinate didn't ask and waited for him to calm down before he asked. "What happened? Why would you laugh like that?"

"The time is moving again."

"The time?" He tilted his head before remembering a certain matter that sent a chill all over his body. "Young Lord, do you mean..."

"Yes. It's not that long, but it's certainly moving again." He picked up a mirror and looked at his own face. "My time is moving again. It seems he is the piece that I am looking for."

"Are you going to that place?"

"Of course."

"For what reason? Are you going to make him your subordinate?"

"No. He is indeed one of the keys, but I will still beat him up. And in case I am disappointed, it's better to kill him myself. There is no need to be fixated over a broken 'key'. We can simply search for another one."

"Still, he must be something else if he can move your time again."

"I don't know. At the very least, I am going to test him myself."

"I know your way of handling things, but if you are not careful, you might get a huge problem, you know. In the case that he holds a grudge against you and haunts you, I am afraid..."

"It's fine. I don't mind. Every key is precious, but at the same time, they are not. That's why I shall gamble all of it every time I meet a key and throw them out if they do not meet my expectation. Even if they are going at me in the future, I don't mind running away. Because if it means the time can be extended, then I will have more time to find my wife. At that time, I will cross whatever tribulation is coming to me."

"..." The guy fell into silence. His wife... is his only motivation to keep going. He wanted to become a God Rank Expert or an influential figure because of his wife. For the sake of finding his wife, this guy became an absolute madman. However, it is also because of that loyalty that he could follow him with all his heart.

"Well, I guess I need to borrow a small ship from that old man to go to this world." He scratched his head.

"Ahaha... Yes. Unfortunately, I can't help you with this matter."

"Fine. This will take a while."

"And it seems their world is attacked by that world... The one that is filled with beasts."

"Oh! Maybe we can disguise ourselves as one of them. Well, if he is worth my time, he should be able to see through something this simple."

"I understand." The man paused before saying the last piece of information. "There is one more thing you need to know."

"What is it?"

"It's better for us to go together. I am afraid, but this guy has a Space Element. There is a chance of him escaping or fighting calling his teammates. That's why..."

"Fine. Bring all your friends. We shall head out tomorrow." He nodded, rose from his seat, and left the room with a troubled face.

Recalling this, the guy didn't know what to say to his Young Lord.

"Young Lord. I would like to ask it one more time. Are you sure?"

Offending the Spirit World would be a tremendous offense that his backing wouldn't dare to take. And yet, the mysterious guy only said. "The time is still the same. None of us will die anytime soon. You should have known my ability, right?"

"!!!" The men in black glanced at him and nodded their heads. The leader then signaled them to move out. "Hold their people back. Let the Young Lord do whatever he wants."

"Yes, Sir!" They leaped.

While they were conversing, Alex was also planning to do something. On one hand, he wanted to escape first to ascertain his identity. On the other hand, he was worried about the people that went inside just now. If they had many thoughts, it would be troublesome because they couldn't really delay their plan.

"Master... Who are they?"

"I don't know." Alex shook his head. "At first, I thought they were on the same side as those monsters, but it isn't the case. I think we should fix this troublesome thing first before we can proceed with our plan."

"How about creating another portal on that hole? I believe we should get more reinforcement in this situation. Our opponents are either 9-Star or 10-Star Martial Saints. Even with our strength and number, it's still hard to beat them." Anya gritted her teeth.

"I know. Still, that guy cut my portal earlier. The time needed to bring the reinforcement... I doubt we will have that time. As long as we kill one of them, we should be able to create an opportunity."

"I understand."

"Seeing that guy is targeting me, I will handle this person myself. Even though our gap is big, I should be able to contain him. By using that, you guys need to get rid of the rest."

"Making yourself a bait?" Anya frowned.

"His obsession in me is too great. It's better to do this, so all of you can focus. If needed, I am ready to use the EXP Cards."

"..." Anya fell into silence and nodded. "Alright then."

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At the same time, there was another party that seemed to have their own discussion.

"Milady. I have canceled all your matters for today, and the spirits have also returned home." Korzan nodded.

"Korzan... Do you doubt my decision?"

"No..." Korzan, previous life Alex's right-hand man, paused for a moment before letting out a long sigh.
"A little bit."

"I know that it's hard to swallow. However, there is something you need to know first. Come here." Lin Xingzhi waved his hand, asking him to come closer.

Korzan walked carefully. Before he looked at the screen, he looked at Lin Xingzhi's hand first. "Milady. Your hand..."

"It's fine. I just clench it a bit too hard earlier."

"..." Korzan fell into silence. She said it was a bit too hard, but he could see that it penetrated too deep to the point he could see bones from the wound. From this alone, he realized that Lin Xingzhi didn't want this more than him.

In other words, there must be something serious going on. Since Lin Xingzhi didn't want it to be treated, Korzan decided to look at the screen. It was at this time, he saw the picture of that man, especially his eyes.

"Those eyes..." Korzan opened his mouth in surprise.

"You should know that my Father is the former Time God, right?"

"Yes. However, his excellency didn't have these eyes..."

"Because he chose another path. My father told me when I was a child. There were two paths to awaken one's time element. First would be a huge emotional fluctuation. As you know, people usually realize their elements and unintentionally awaken them before five years old.

"However, if one possessed Time Element and got a huge emotional fluctuation without him knowing his own element along with other conditions... He would awaken the second path.

"My father awakened his Time Element normally. Because of that, his Time Element got strengthened, and he became a master of time manipulation. On the other hand, the second path would be the awakening of Time Eyes." Lin Xingzhi explained with a troubled look.

"Then, this young man has awakened his Time Eyes?"

"Yes. The ability of Time Eyes is different for each person. And because of this awakening, the power in his Time Element will be weakened. That's why he needs Sword to complement his time ability." Lin Xingzhi paused.

"If everyone is different, then milady..."

"From all the information that I got from my father, his eyes seemed to resemble one type of eyes."

"And that is..."

"Eyes of Death. Its ability is a bit complicated, but there is one thing for sure. It can calculate someone's lifespan."

"!!!" Korzan opened his eyes wide. "I see. Master shouldn't meet this person in a normal situation. There must be something going on for a person like him to visit our Master..."

"Yeah. I am still unsure whether what I am thinking is true or not, but no matter how hard it is, I need to watch this fight to its conclusion."

"Still, I believe milady will still visit this guy after this fight."

"Hmph! Although he doesn't have an intention to kill my husband, he still attacks him. That's why he should pay the price. Besides, he should have guessed Alex's identity by now. Even so, he still uses himself as bait... In that case, I should pay a visit to this person, right? Maybe 'correcting' him a bit."

Korzan smiled, knowing she was planning to beat him into pulp.

"Seeing this scene, I believe the time is near. Alex needs to get stronger as quickly as possible because there is no telling what will happen in the future."

"I understand. We should be able to get his home plane easily, and I will personally work on this." Korzan nodded before asking another question. "By the way, if I may ask, what is Milady's prediction about this problem? No, what is this problem itself?"

"Korzan..." Lin Xingzhi closed her eyes for a few seconds before a chilling killing intent leaked out of her body. "Do you want to lose your Master twice? I have no plan to lose my husband twice. Even if it means I need to lie to my own husband or he will be angry at me for eternity, I am still not prepared to lose him twice."

"!!!" Korzan didn't know why, but he somehow understood the real meaning behind her words. Even now, he still occasionally has a nightmare about that accident. If not because of that incident, their master would still work as the Spirit God. "Still, even if he is different... Master is still with us. This Korzan is ready to offer his life at any moment, let alone lying. Even if I need to go for eternal torture, I shall keep this a secret."

"Remember. Tell no one about this. Even Alex asks personally, you shall never tell the truth. Only you and I can know this matter for the time being. When the time comes, I will tell Alex the truth myself."

"I understand." Korzan nodded with a solemn expression. "Then may I request another thing from you?"

"What is it?"

"I would like to watch Master's battle with my own eyes."

"..." Lin Xingzhi thought and nodded. "Suit yourself."

Chapter 812 - Another Round

In the midst of the battlefield, these two groups were facing each other. However, the monsters also joined this clash as if these two were on their way.

Roar Roar!

A series of roars resounded across the Ancient Ruin.

Alex and the mysterious guy glanced at the monsters, and every single person on their side struck the incoming monsters.

At the same time, Alex and the guy seemed to have the same idea. The moment they killed the monster coming their way, these two slashed their swords forward.

"Mythical Fire Slash."

"Blade Rite."

The two sent their Sword Waves. The guy seemed to produce a very powerful Sword Wave that seemed to be able to bend time around it.

Alex's Mythical Fire Slashes were affected almost immediately. The moment it clashed with his Blade Rite, the Sword Wave slowly shrank as if it never existed. No, the Blade Rite was turning back the time and made the Sword Wave go back in time to the point where Alex had yet to use it.

However, the Blade Rite suddenly broke as if it was cut by something.

"!!!" The mysterious guy never expected that because he believed he managed to destroy Alex's attack. And yet, he felt a sharp and overbearing pressure coming toward him. He instinctively slashed his swords many times.

"Paradox Slash."

"!!!" He was shocked again when he slashed the empty air. He seemed to have cut something invisible, and it wasn't just one. Because of this, he raised his guard, knowing Alex wasn't a joke.

Roar Roar!

Two dragons appeared from Alex's weapons and roared in the sky.

'I don't know what happened earlier since that attack was very weird as if he skipped time... Now that I think about it, his ability is time, right? What kind of ability is that?" Alex furrowed his eyebrows. 'Looking back at what happened... That Delayed Slash seemed to symbolize its characteristic.

'The man cut that place before but only made it appear after Leoz and Jeanne showed themselves. In other words, he has known they are here. On the other hand, his Paradox Slash is something similar to my Tripe Draws.

'It can throw multiple attacks in a single swing. My Triple Draws can only make three slashes for each weapon, while his Paradox Slash is able to get more... Let's see... Isn't it like ten of them?' Alex thought while observing his ability. 'Still, time ability huh... What kind of ability does he possess?'

When he thought about it, the guy appeared right in front of him. Alex used his Spirit Eyes to follow his movement, but he was surprised by the amount of strike in that single instant.

Clang Clang! After two clashes, all that left was more injuries on Alex's body. At the same time, the guy already passed him.

"!!!" The spirits opened their eyes wide. They were thinking about killing this bastard that injured Alex, but the seven men in black suddenly appeared by their side, attacking them to stop them.

Alex checked his body. Luckily, he had his Phoenix Aura that had turned into armor, so the wound wasn't too deep. He took another deep breath while facing the guy.

"All of you will focus on my armor. Whether it's a fire armor or my Phoenix Aura, make sure I have something to protect my body. I don't want to have a huge wound and lose too much blood." Alex informed the three contracted beasts.

Suddenly, a monster appeared between them, heading toward Anna. However, both Alex and the mysterious guy immediately waved their Sword, releasing a Sword Wave. And as expected, the clash was equal.

Alex had been using his Spirit Crown and Fire Authority to boost his power. At the same time, Anya also increased his cultivation base temporarily by using her usual support ability.

"This will be a hard fight, and I don't know if I can win or not." Alex took a deep breath while lifting his finger to create many Spatial Plates to hinder his opponent.

The guy also felt something in front of him, but he could barely tell where and what they were. He furrowed his eyebrows.

Alex and the guy leaped toward each other. The guy was avoiding the Space Plates. However, his aim was no that. Suddenly, a monster appeared between them, trying to attack someone past them.

Alex immediately recognized his intention. He was planning to use that monster to attack him. Because of that, he decided to do the same as they slashed their sword at the same time. Because both of their visions were covered by this monster's large body, they thought they were able to make a sneak attack.

Little did they know, whether it was Alex's Spirit Eyes or the guy's Time Eyes, both of them seemed to be able to see through this monster, focusing their vision on each other.

The moment they slashed the monsters into two, their swords collided and created a shock wave that blew the body away.

"!!!" The two seemed to be surprised by their own actions. In that clash alone, they had the same thought. ??He could see me?'

Alex immediately leaped back to create another distance. The first strike where he wounded him was one of the worst attacks that might not be possible to be blocked... Or at least, that was what he felt for the time being. Whether it was coming from the gap in their cultivation base or his time ability itself, Alex still felt the danger of challenging him in that clash.

"What should I do?" Alex thought for a moment while looking left and right to see an opportunity but to no avail. He didn't have anything to take advantage of and sighed. "It seems I can only clash with him for a few more minutes to see any opportunity while learning about his ability."

Having decided what to do, Alex leaped toward the guy with both weapons. Despite his objective, Alex wasn't reckless at all. He kept his distance to make sure the guy didn't use the same technique and injured him again.

Of course, the task of maintaining his distance fell upon his spear. When the mysterious guy tried to get closer to him and his spear didn't make it, he immediately used his two Dragons to ram him, albeit both dragons got cut with his weapons.

That strange ability was something Alex needed to take down if he wanted to win against the person in front of him. Still, he was pretty lucky because his opponent is a 10-Star Martial Saint while he is a 6-Star. If he were to fight him while he was 1-Star, the gap would be higher even if the guy only had a 4-Star Martial Saint cultivation base.

Normally, he would be able to fight even if his enemy was stronger than him. And this mysterious guy was the same. Yet, if they were asked, could they defeat the weakest God Rank Expert? The answer would be no.

It was because of the huge qualitative leap from a mortal to a divine being. That was why the 10-Star Martial Saint got his ability limited by the current cultivation base. If not, Alex might be more miserable than now.

And with this, ten minutes had passed.

Alex's situation became a bit worse, but he seemed to have completed his objective.

"Ah! I can finally see it." Alex smirked. "I think I have grasped your ability. You can see something... But it's not me. There is also another time where your vision is blocked. Even though you somehow can see me, I am sure it's not my figure. Instead, there is something else that indicates something that allows you to figure out my move."

"..." There was no need for an answer. Alex already knew he was right because his expression turned serious.

Clap Clap! The guy smirked while giving Alex applause. "To think you have grasped the ability of my eyes in just a few exchanges... I am impressed."

"Now, you have finally talked." Alex furrowed his eyebrows. "We don't have any grudges. Yet, you come here from another world, suddenly attacking me. Who are you? What is your objective?"

"Have you fought so many idiots to the point you ask this pointless question?"

"No... I am just testing whether you are an idiot or not."

Veins bulge on their heads, knowing that the enemy before them is the pain in the ass.

Alex sensed his spirits and knew they were still alright. Although it was a bit rough for them, they made good progress.

The guy took a deep breath. "Still, I will give you a hint of my objective.... If you don't become stronger as quickly as possible, you are going to die."

"..." Alex's expression turned grim as he asked. "What do you mean by that?"

"It's as I said. You are too weak to live."

"Then, let's see whether I have the power or not." Alex smiled as he channeled his Spiritual Energy to his Spirit Crown, utilizing his Spirit Step and Dragon Aura to enhance his strength.

The flame rose even further as it was also fueled by Sherry and the couple. Despite saying this, Alex knew that he could not defeat the person in front of him even with Anya's support. That was why the only way to close the gap was with the help of his Contracted Beasts.

His Pure Fire started scorching and heated up the air. That hot air brushed his skin as he noticed that his Pure was no joke. Coupled with his Space Element, Alex might be able to defeat him even with a stronger cultivation base and Time Element... But as long as he carefully approached him, it shouldn't be that hard.

"Heh... Your Pure Fire is strong, but it can only burn something that is used for a period of time. Or at least, it should have a physical body. It doesn't matter whether it is visible or not. Still, it is useless against my Time Element. It won't be able to burn time!" The guy smirked.

"Say no more!" Alex slashed his weapons forward, sending twelve Sword Waves.

"This again..." The guy sent the same Sword Wave to block this attack. But like their previous clash, Alex's Space Cut was still able to break through this attack, making their way toward the guy. The guy slashed the remaining attacks. "Paradox Slash!"

"It's futile. You won't—" Before he finished, he saw Alex opening his Spatial Gate as if he wanted to escape to the Space World. The guy clicked his tongue and leaped toward Alex with all of his strength. "Acceleration!"

"!!!" Alex swung his spear to the left, feeling the hit. However, the guy's figure never appeared in his vision. Instead, that guy seemed to have teleported to his right side.

This confused Alex, but before he knew it, the pain appeared again. This time, it originated from his arms and stomach.

"Gah!" He spat another mouthful of blood, never expecting he got cut again. Not only that, but his Spatial Gate was also split into half.

He gritted his teeth, knowing he must catch this guy off to create a Spatial Gate.

Taking another glimpse of that guy, Alex lifted his finger as many tentacles appeared around that guy.

"Space Bind!"

"Delayed Slash!"

The Sword cut every single tentacle again as the guy leaped forward.

Alex created another Spatial Gate to escape.

However, the moment the guy almost cut him, he suddenly let go of his control over the Spatial Gate and turned around with both weapons in his hands. Smiling, he swung both weapons at the same time.

"!!!" The guy immediately recognized Alex's movement. It was to bait him, and he realized that he was in a pinch. "I won't make it!"

"Heaven Light Slash!"

"Paradox Slash!"

Clang!

What was shocking about this was the fact that only one clicking sound reverberated in their ears.

"Kah!" Alex spat another mouthful of blood as his waist got another injury. But this time, he smiled.

"Impossible!" That guy also spat blood. Two wounds appeared on his right arm, two on his chest, and one in his left arm.

Alex panted as he smiled, looking at this guy. This was the first time he managed to land a clean hit, so he said, "Now that I have seen through your move, how about another round?"

Chapter 813 - Another Round? Are You Sure?

"How about another round?" Alex smirked as he looked at the guy with a sly intention.

The mysterious guy somehow halted his step and glanced at him. "Do you think those techniques can help you defeat me?"

"It's true that our gap is high, but you are still a 10-Star Martial Saint, not a God Rank Expert. The chance is still there." Alex took a deep breath and added inwardly. 'Although the chance is small due to my injured body, as long as I know what to use as the main attack and bait, I should be able to get the best of him... Ah, if only I have mastered a few more arrays, I can make my attack more diverse to the point it's hard to see which one is the bait or the attack...'

"Then, I will show you what it means to have Time Ability." The mysterious guy smirked as he leaped again.

Alex thrust his spear toward him, so he could maintain the distance. However, he found out that the guy was using his time element again.

"What is this?!" Before long, he suddenly realized something was wrong. The guy, who was parrying his spear, suddenly moved faster and slid his sword on the spear body. 'No! He is not the one faster. I am the one getting slower!'

It was at this time Alex realized what was going on. Yet, the clash had ended as the guy passed him.

Two more wounds appeared on Alex's body. Blood started dripping out. The pain began to cover all his body, but it was still endurable for him.

"You won't be able to defeat me, and this will be the place where you fall." The guy closed his eyes as if he just won.

"Is that so?" Alex smiled.

As soon as Alex uttered that question, a wound appeared on his arm, covering his hand with blood.

"!!!" The guy turned around, finding this unreasonable. However, he soon realized what just happened when he saw Alex was covered with his Pure Fire.

"I can't burn your time element with my Pure Fire earlier because your techniques are purely influencing you. There is not enough time for me to burn it. Unfortunately, this one is sticking around my body. Even if you have Pure Time Element, it still won't be able to withstand my Pure Fire." Alex smiled, moving his body like normal.

'To think that his Fire can react that fast... And that ferocity, this man might prove to be the main key that I have been searching for. I should push him again, hoping he will unleash his full potential.' The mysterious guy smiled.

"Why are you smiling?"

"It's simple. Do you think I only cut you twice?" The guy suddenly used his Time Element again. "Delayed Slash!"

The slash that had been frozen in time emerged, trying to cut Alex's from behind. Yet...

Crack!

The attack stopped after cutting a few Space Plates. Alex looked at him again and asked, "What did you say again?"

"Heh... Interesting. It seems I need to get serious." The guy smiled as he released all his aura, starting from his 10-Star Martial Saint cultivation base, his Sword Path, and his Time Element.

Alex also utilized his Pure Fire with the trio's help. He channeled his Spiritual Energy to the dragons and weapons, powering them up even more.

The two then leaped toward each other again, slashing their swords at the same time.

Clang!

The clicking sound reverberated in their ears, but the Spiritual Energy and their intent still passed each other's sword, creating a shock wave that somehow made a crater on the ground. They were only ten meters in the air, so it was pretty normal. In fact, most of the fight between Martial Saints would cause something like this.

Alex thrust his spear toward the guy's head, but the latter seemed to have realized this move.

"Delayed Slash!"

In just a single swing, he somehow saved a portion of that to create this Delayed Slash and the other half to attack Alex's sword. It was amazing, but Alex already knew about it. That was why he thrust his spear.

It immediately pierced through the Slash before it was fully activated.

"Deceleration."

"Pure Fire!"

The guy activated the technique to slow down Alex, but the latter burned it with his Pure Fire.

At the same time, Alex finally made his move. "Space Bind!"

"Hmm?" The guy glanced over the feeling of incoming objects. He immediately raised his other hand. "Blade Rite."

Just like how a Sword King could utilize his hand or other objects as a sword, the guy used that ability to send a Sword Wave to cut his tentacles.

However, Alex didn't stop here. He created a Spatial Gate to swallow this attack and allowed his tentacles to grasp the guy. At the same time, another Spatial Gate appeared right above him as Alex leaped back.

"Hmph!" The guy only snorted when he saw this. He only activated his Time Element, and before long the Sword Wave disappeared. At the same time, he cut the tentacles with his sword.

Alex created another Spatial Gate, so he could escape, but the guy immediately leaped again to prevent it.

'He is not going to escape...' It might be due to him having seen it once, he could tell that Alex wasn't really going to escape with his Time Eyes.

The moment Alex turned around, he immediately activated his technique again.

"Acceleration!"

"!!!" Alex opened his eyes wide as a few more wounds appeared again. "He read me? Or did he know that was a bait?"

"Mythical Fire Slash!" Alex sent a Sword Wave before leaping in the opposite direction, creating another Spatial Gate.

"Blade Rite." The guy sent his Sword Wave to catch up with Alex, but he already knew there would be another Spatial Gate that absorbed his attack.

That was why the guy used his Acceleration technique and flew together with his own attack before destroying the Spatial Gate himself, so his Sword Wave could fly toward Alex.

"!!!" Alex was startled, never expecting the guy to use this kind of approach. He immediately activated his Spiritual Weapon to form a barrier. The two dragons also returned back to him, trying to pummel this guy if he dared to come.

The guy furrowed his eyebrows. Alex was in his front, but the dragons came from below and his right. If he used his Delayed Slash again, he could only cover one of the dragons and Alex. After all, the swing would be for a single line, not like how a bird flying.

'I see. He also has understood my slash... Interesting. Let's see what you've got!' The guy smiled, still heading toward Alex. The moment he arrived in front of Alex, he immediately swung his sword. "Delayed Slash!"

Alex didn't care about what he thought and struck him. The strike went as planned as his sword, and one of the dragons got stopped by that Delayed Slash, but the dragon from below was let loose, ready to swallow him.

It was at this time the guy suddenly slowed down the dragon as he stepped back.

Alex hadn't seen this kind of thing yet and would never expect for him to slow down the dragon... That was if Alex didn't have his Spirit Eyes. He kept watching the flow of energy and noticed his Time Element was about to reach the dragon. Hence, he channeled more Spiritual Energy to the dragon. Originally, it would already have an overbearing Pure Fire inside its stomach, but Alex reinforced the outer appearance with his Pure Fire.

The Dragon is now covered with Fire. Alex didn't know at this time that he was progressing with an insane speed. It might be due to the stronger enemy, life and death battle, or someone who was beyond his understanding. Nonetheless, Alex kept creating one move after another that originally he could make but lack of opportunity.

It was only at this battle Alex realized that and unleashed the potential he had been stopping. And the way he handled his every attack became even more refined.

"Die!"

The dragon opened its mouth wide, trying to swallow the guy.

"This is a good one, but it still can't reach me." The guy simply smiled. He grabbed the scabbard on his waist and swung it like swinging a sword.

"What?!" Alex widened his eyes. He never expected this because none of the people he met in the past had this kind of fighting style. That was why he forgot, no, not paid attention to the scabbard on his waist from the beginning. He frowned and clicked his tongue. 'To think this is the one that made me fail to attack him...'

The dragon was cut into two with the scabbard alone.

Alex clicked his tongue and struck him with his spear, only to find the guy to block it again with his sword. Even so, he pushed him back as far as he could before retreating to a safe distance.

'How should I do this? My attack is working, but neither of them can hit him. Unless I am prepared to get a few wounds, I won't be able to hit him. The problem is, how should I do it without getting injured? I will be dead before I can kill him at this rate.

'And another concern is his ability... If I don't have my Spirit Eyes, I am afraid I won't be able to react fast enough to cover all my vitals with my flame.' Alex took a deep breath, searching for a way to attack him. 'Should I use Space Element? Pure Fire? Or my weapons?'

He needed something that could catch him off guard. Something that could hinder him for even a split second... "!!!"

Alex suddenly remembered what this place is. They have been fighting in the middle of Ancient Ruin filled with beasts. Although most beasts were avoiding them because of the scale of their fights, some of them were still charging toward them.

A monster came to the corner of his vision. He immediately activated his Space Element and made Space Bind, summoning a few tens of tentacles.

The monster was a giant boar, which had a perfect size to do this. The moment he saw Alex raising his hand, he became vigilant because he didn't want to get restricted by the tentacles.

Unfortunately, the tentacles only appeared around the boar. It strangled its feet, so it fell down. Using that kind of weight and its momentum, Alex threw the boar toward the mysterious guy.

"!!!" He glanced slightly to the left after noticing the big incoming object, but Alex had disappeared by using that line of sight. 'How did he disappear just like that?'

He split the boar with his Sword before looking for Alex. Little did he know Alex actually hid behind that boar.

Alex knew a little bit about misdirection, and he used that boar to make the guy looked to the left. The moment the black part of his eyes moved, he followed it until he reached behind the boar. By that time, the guy wouldn't find him.

When he saw the boar got slashed, he used that chance to appear right before him, swinging his sword down.

"Acceleration!" The guy's action was completely unexpected as he suddenly used his technique to increase speed. Yet, the one who felt the sudden increase in speed was Alex.

"!!!" Alex's swing was too fast, but that precisely the reason his attack missed its target. 'He used Acceleration to me while using Deceleration to himself, so he could make me miss the target? And with that single chance, he will... Sh*t!'

Just like how Alex predicted. The moment his attack missed, the guy used his Acceleration again, and he used it on himself. From max speed to zero, from zero to max speed... Although this seems to be the basic skills of Time Element, it was so deadly if it was used at the perfect moment! And Alex was experiencing it right now.

The guy smiled as he struck Alex again.

Alex spat blood as more injuries appeared on his body.

"Now... Are we going to have another round?"

Chapter 814 - No U

"Now... Are we going for another round?"

Alex clicked his tongue. 'What the heck is his objective? Why would he suddenly come to this world and attack me? From all things that happened in this world, I don't think my name and existence are known by many worlds yet.

'Never mind. I need to hinder him until the rest defeat those men in black. If possible, I want to defeat him, but it will be very hard. Anyway, I shall have Jeanne to extract information from him.' Alex thought before taking a deep breath.

He checked his injury. His blood loss was a problem, but he should have a pill that could replenish his blood. The problem would be whether he could eat it in front of him or not because he knew the mysterious guy wouldn't let him.

'Wait! Should I just find an escape route to the Space World? Although it might be bad if I escape from this place because who knows what these guys will do, I can still attack him from the Space World like how I use my Space Techniques to influence reality.

'His eyes might be able to follow me, but I noticed that his reaction was slightly lower when I hid behind the boar. In that case, I will gain a tremendous advantage the moment I hide inside the Space World. Defeating him might not be impossible. I will only need to find a way to go there.' Alex nodded inwardly as he had finished making his plan.

The mysterious guy seemed to use the time to study Alex's ability.

They didn't know why, but both of them thought the same thing. 'He is the most amazing person I have ever fought!'

However, this thought raised another fighting spirit in their heart. They wanted to beat the other party themselves, not kill because the mysterious guy found Alex useful while Alex still needed information from him.

That was why not a single of them actually released killing intent from the start to finish other than to startle their opponent.

The shockwave kept shocking the area as the rest of the people seemed to have a great fight among themselves. Although Alex's Spirits gained an advantage with their number, the men in black had gotten used to their attack pattern and removed that gap by utilizing their stronger cultivation base.

Alex and the guy took a deep breath before they leaped forward.

"Heaven Light Slash!"

"Acceleration!"

Alex summoned his six Sword Slashes while the guy used his Acceleration. The result should be like the first clash where the guy cut Alex, but this time, Alex had got the hang of it. On top of using his Triple Draws, Alex created a few Space Plates to stop his movement.

His opponent immediately waved his scabbard to destroy the Space Plates, but Alex was one step ahead this time.

"Space Bind!"

"!!!" Noticing the surrounding tentacles, he changed his target from the Space Plates to the tentacles. And Alex's relentless attack had yet to finish.

The two dragons emerged again, ramming the guy from above and his right.

"Ah! I have seen it through your Martial Art now! No matter how powerful the dragons are, they are still a Martial Art. As long as I return their time to before you create them, they will..." The dragons began to dematerialize and vanish into thin air. "Disappear... Just like this."

Alex furrowed his eyebrows. After having so many surprises, he was sure he wouldn't get surprised by what this man did in the future. That was why he immediately used every ounce of his strength and pushed the guy back.

Unfortunately, the guy's physique seemed to be a bit stronger than Alex because he was the one pushing Alex back.

Because of that, Alex chose to lose in this exchange and used the force to launch him back.

"Mythical Spear Cannon!" Alex thrust his sword, shooting a big laser toward the guy.

"This is not enough." The guy shook his head after witnessing the power of Alex's Original Spear Skill and waved his sword. "Blade Rite."

The Sword Wave, along with its shock wave, cut Alex's attack before he found himself getting startled the moment the attack was completely cut into two.

Behind the attack turned out to be Alex's spear. He must have thrown it after using this technique with his sword. No, it should be precisely the reason why he used the sword instead of his spear.

"Kh!" Because he just swung his sword, it took him a while before he could react. Luckily, he had held his scabbard this whole time and used it to block the spear. 'If I don't have a scabbard, I might get injured for that one... It might even take my ear if I dodged it. What a scary—'

When he was thinking how scary Alex's attack was, the owner of that attack appeared right above the spear, swinging his sword.

"What?! How?!" The guy immediately spun his body, so his scabbard could block this attack.

"Heaven Light Slash!"

As expected, Alex wouldn't let this chance go and struck him with all of his strength, blowing him to the ground.

"Fire Sword!" He and Sherry summoned their Fire Swords, resulting in one hundred Fire Swords. Alex then coated the sword with his Intent while Sherry rained them down to the mysterious guy.

Boom Boom Boom!

A series of explosions occurred on the battlefield. Still, none of the people there actually believed that any of those hit the guy. Even Alex immediately turned his vision forty-five degrees to his left, finding the man somehow rolling his body on the ground. It seemed he used Acceleration to roll too, making him the fastest rolling man.

Unfortunately, Alex had prepared the follow-up. The moment he found the guy, the two dragons immediately appeared from his left and right, leaving him only one escape room.

Alex appeared right above him, the only escape route he had.

"This is still not enough." The guy smiled. He had once removed these Dragons, so he simply needed to erase it once again.

Alex also smiled as if he had predicted this move. He raised both hands and summoned three Spatial Gates. The first two Spatial Gates swallowed the dragons before the guy could erase them, while the last one summoned them back right in front of Alex.

Roar!

"Not good!" The dragons swallowed the guy and exploded. The explosion also engulfed Alex, but his Pure Fire wouldn't let him get hurt from something like this.

At the same time, he tracked the Spiritual Energy inside the smoke. He was surprised to see him uninjured, or at least, that was what he saw with only his Spiritual Energy.

When the wind blew the smoke away, the guy seemed to create a shield to block the dragon from swallowing him at the last minute. Then he returned the time of that explosion, preventing it from bringing him down.

The guy took a deep breath and punched the ground with his fist, raising his body to the point it flew toward Alex. He adjusted his position and swung his sword.

"Acceleration!"

Alex utilized his Spirit Nest and swung his sword according to what he saw.

Clang Clang Clang!

A series of clicking sounds reverberated in their ears. It might be due to his position, the strikes he threw earlier were fewer than the previous one. And it was what allowed Alex to receive the attacks completely.

"I have gotten used to your speed. Now, it's time for you to be hunted." Alex smirked and leaped toward him.

"Let's see you try then." The guy smirked.

The two started clashing again. From Martial Arts to Elements, from Elements to Physical Prowess, they tried everything they could to gain an advantage. And yet, the battle came to a halt. Not a single bloodshed occurred for another five minutes due to them getting used to their opponent's ability.

Alex didn't know why, but he felt something changed inside him. He never lacked powerful opponents, he just never faced them head-on like this one. And this was the one hindering his progress. That was why this battle increased his battle prowess to another level by evolving his technique and combination.

...

Meanwhile, Lin Xingzhi behind the screen was watching the battle intensely. Korzan couldn't take away his eyes from this fight and unconsciously remarked. "So, this is the Time Element. One of the rarest elements in our universe. Then, Sir..."

"No. This is just a basic version of Time Element. As expected, you gain some, you lose some. That boy gained the Time Eyes but lost most of his Time Element power. If my father were to fight Alex, he could simply turn Alex's body into that of a child or an old man, making him unable to move.

"There is also a skill that can stop Alex's time, preventing him from escaping. Of course, it can be stopped by Alex's Space Element and Pure Fire, but he has yet to know that is possible." Lin Xingzhi sighed while shaking her head.

"Milady doesn't want to inform Master about this?"

"No. Korzan... Can't you look at it?"

"What is it?"

"Alex's ability is growing faster than we can imagine. Maybe I was too fixated with Alex to the point I don't want him to get injured beyond his capability. However, I unconsciously restricted his ability to grow."

"Ah!" Korzan opened his mouth, just realized it.

"In fact, the precious experience is a life and death battle. Alex knows that the moment they get captured, they will be put in great torture and may even die. Or at least, that is what he thinks. That's why he is trying to break his own cocoon to turn into a beautiful butterfly.

"Just watch this battle silently. No matter if he loses or not, this is the perfect time for Alex to grow his ability even further." Lin Xingzhi closed her eyes and leaned back.

Korzan listened to her shaking voice. Even though it was for Alex, she still felt pain. Whether it was an obsession or not, what is wrong for a wife hoping for her husband's well-being? Korzan knew how much Lin Xingzhi suffered for the past few thousand years, so he understood why she was acting like this. The only thing he could do was to stay silent.

•••

In the meantime, the battle between Alexander and the mysterious guy escalated to another level. Alex threw his spear again after using his Mythical Spear Cannon.

However, the guy seemed to have realized Alex's intention and perfectly blocked the spear.

"Hmm... Losing your spear this early? Are you—"

"I am sure." Alex's voice suddenly resounded in one of his ears as Alex appeared right before his spear and grabbed it while slashing his sword.

"I have seen this attack already." The guy clicked his tongue and stopped Alex's attack with his sword.

"Yeah. But how about this?" Alex smirked, channeling his Pure Fire to his sword. The Pure Fire spread on the sword's body, making its way toward the guy's hand.

"!!!" The guy infused his Time Element to his sword to stop the fire from spreading, but the fire only burned even stronger after engulfing the Time Element. He clicked his tongue and swung the sword with all his might.

Alex got pushed back, but his objective was already completed.

The fire would cover the sword. Even if it couldn't burn the sword completely, it should be able to prevent him from using it.

And as he predicted, the guy threw the sword without hesitation before getting another one from his Space Ring.

"Throwing your sword this early? Are you sure?" Alex threw the exact line he said earlier.

"No, you!" The guy smiled.

Alex suddenly felt a sharp pain on his right arm as another wound appeared again.

'Impossible. I didn't see anything before.' Alex widened his eyes, wondering how such an attack could land on his body.

The guy simply pointed his finger while smiling like a sly fox as if everything had gone according to his plan. He then asked with a bit of an evil tone.

"Do you think I have used all my strength to fight you?!"

Chapter 815 - Space Vs Time

"Do you think I have used all my strength?" The mysterious guy smirked.

Alex frowned, wondering if what he said was true or not. 'He is still holding back? But do I need to slow down my pace to study this man again? Or is it just an empty threat? I often used something like this, so my enemy thinks I still have another trump card. Because they will most likely make a mistake in this situation... Still, what if it's true?'

He arrived in a dilemma. Even though they had been fighting for half an hour, their position returned to square one. Of course, Alex had been trying to lure him either to the Ancient Ruin or the army far from here. But none of it mattered because this mysterious guy stopped him from going in all that direction.

In fact, it was the one that seemed to be restricting him from going all out. Yet, if that guy were holding back this whole time, he would lose sooner or later.

A thought suddenly came across in his mind. It was a simple but daring plan, but Alex couldn't contain his smile.

The guy squinted his eyes upon that smile. 'Does he have another trump card too? Or that smile is only to bluff me and make me think he has one?'

When two smart men doubting each other was the time mind battle began.

Nevertheless, his objective didn't change. He stepped forward and slashed his sword. "Blade Rite."

Alex looked at this incoming attack along with the pressure it brought. He took a deep breath and jumped forward with both hands in front, making the other guy think he would destroy the Sword Wave.

'He is going to destroy that attack? There is only one technique that he can use to destroy that... Wait! No, he is not going to destroy it. He is...' When the mysterious guy thought of it, he became aware of Alex's real plan.

A Spatial Gate appeared before Alex, swallowing his attack. The guy immediately raised his guard to search for the incoming attack and returned its time.

However, Alex smiled as he summoned five Spatial Gates in his surroundings, confusing him as to which one would summon his attack.

'Which one? No. I shall cut everything!' The guy gritted his teeth and used his Blade Rite again, cutting the five Spatial Gates into half before lowering his vision. He found out Alex was summoning another Spatial Gate for him to go through. 'No, you won't!'

"Acceleration!"

The guy stomped the ground and released his full speed, heading toward Alex to prevent him from escaping.

It was at this time, he suddenly felt a fluctuation of Spiritual Energy above him and realized it was a trap all along.

Alex left the control of his Spatial Gate and slashed his sword, sending a Sword Wave that cut through his own Spatial Gate. At the same time, the guy's Blade Rite appeared from above. Without anyone realizing it, the two dragons from Alex's Swallowing Heaven also made their appearances from left and right.

'With this, he shouldn't be able to escape. The only way to escape is...' Alex glanced and disappeared.

The guy, on the other hand, looked at his surroundings. His current speed didn't allow him to stop and change direction. In fact, this must be Alex's scheme by trapping him with those five Spatial Gates and using his fastest speed to catch up.

However, Alex miscalculated one thing. The guy looked up, finding Alex behind his own Blade Rite and smiled.

"Deceleration!" He forcefully used the maximum output from his Deceleration on himself, killing his momentum almost immediately as if his time stopped for a second.

That technique allowed him to make a very long distance between him and the attack due to his original speed.

Even Alex was surprised by that.

"I found you!" The guy smirked, stepped on the ground once, and leaped toward Alex with his speed.

"!!!" Alex, who was following the guy's movement, had himself cornered once he predicted it wrong. The flame rose =to protect Alex from the incoming attack.

"Paradox Slash!"

The same multiple attacks struck Alex's barrier and armor. At the same time, he made a few Space Plates to hinder that attack while using Space Bind to stop the attack completely.

"Ho?!" The guy was amazed. "Although my attack is not as powerful as yours, this was my strongest attack. To think you have the ability to stop it without your weapons..."

Alex didn't say anything and leaped back. He immediately checked his body. 'Ugh. Sherry and the others just used too much power to block that attack. The Spiritual Weapons also used two shields. I have lost that much just with a single strike... Still, if I don't use it, that attack might become fatal to me. This is turning bad for me.'

'Master... I think I know how to beat him.' Sherry suddenly sent a thought transmission.

'You are not going to say you want to use Hell Inferno to destroy this place along with him, right?'

'At first, I thought of that, but I realized he would be too fast for Hell Inferno to be activated. Hence, I think we still use Hell Inferno.'

'0i!'

'I know. But I am not planning to use Hell Inferno here.'

'Not here? Then where...' Alex thought for a second and smiled. 'Ah. I see. Thank you for your idea, Sherry.'

'I am glad I can help Master.'

Alex suddenly smiled. "System, use all my EXP Cards to the Spirits. We should have enough for each spirit to gain one level, right?"

[Yes. But are you sure, Host?]

"Yes. Leoz will probably be the closest one to 8-Star. Even if he levels up, there is still 9-Star and the rest of 10-Star. At that time, I should be able to catch up within the next three years since I am confident in raising my cultivation to 9-Star within that time.

"Although I need to learn about Alchemy and Array Mastery, I think I can still reach 8-Star even with all of that training. In the worst case, I can make them leave the Spirit Nest for a bit, so they don't get any EXPs.

"And I believe this fight is very important to me. Not only can I scare that person away, even if I can't kill him. It gives me time to investigate his ability and identity, so he doesn't harm Rose and Letizia when I leave."

[I understand.]

[Processing...]

[Complete.]

Suddenly, the spirits got a power-up as their Spiritual Energy was filled again. This sudden phenomenon immediately took everyone's breath away.

"What is that? Why did all of them suddenly get an increase in their cultivation base? Increase? Or should I say they have a breakthrough just now?" The men in black widened their eyes.

Although the spirits didn't know why Alex suddenly used the EXP Cards, they still took the enemies before them as their priority, beginning their relentless attack.

It gradually became one-sided because of the shock. Not only that, but they also had used a portion of their power, so it was a bit hard for them to maintain this fight.

When everyone in their confused state, Alex already made a Spatial Gate escape in the real world.

"!!!" The mysterious guy opened his mouth in surprise. As much as he wanted to help his comrades, Alex was still his priority. Yet he realized that if he didn't bet it all here, Alex would surely escape to the Space World. "Acceleration!"

He used his Acceleration to the maximum.

Alex was astonished and panicked. He threw his Spear in panic, hoping to hinder him.

The guy didn't use his Deceleration and let the spear fly past him. Seeing Alex's expression, he was sure that Alex didn't think he had this kind of speed... Only to find that he was fooled.

Alex's panicked expression turned into a calm as he smiled as if everything was going according to his plan.

It was at this moment the guy realized everything was a trap. Alex confused and slowed his train of thought for a moment by that sudden breakthrough. In fact, his people might have hidden their real power to begin with, just like him.

He then turned around and saw Alex appear above his spear using his Space Mark before entering a Spatial Gate. Because of his momentum and delayed thinking, he let Alex escape into the Space World, only leaving him that smug smile of his before he entered.

"No! I won't let him go away!" He gritted his teeth and released all of his Spiritual Energy, and spread it all around the region. Even if this would drain his Spiritual Energy, he needed to grasp Alex first.

This was the reason why Space Beast was feared. They were fighting inside the Space World, where they could see their enemies while the enemy couldn't see them. At the same time, they had their own specialty that made them dangerous.

That was why the cultivators were troubled. Not only they needed to spread their Spiritual Energy and Intent to check their position that would require a huge amount of Spiritual Energy, but their reaction time was slightly reduced because they couldn't see them.

Even so, the mysterious guy was adamant to not let Alex get away. He closed his eyes to find Alex, albeit once again, he got played. When he sensed his Spiritual Energy got reflected, it was right before him.

"!!!" He instinctively raised his sword before finding himself blown away by the power.

'Impossible. That Alexander got me again.' He thought while using his Deceleration to stop his movement, so he had time to react and launched him back up.

Alex didn't let him do so and pursued him. When the guy stopped mid-air, he thrust his spear.

"Mythical Spear Cannon!"

"Tch." The guy clicked his tongue and created a barrier in front of him.

Alex saw a huge amount of energy behind this shield, but he realized that the shield itself had the same energy like his Deceleration. The moment his Mythical Spear Cannon hit the shield, it slowed down to the point the tail caught up, resulting in an explosion due to the crash with its own body.

"What?!" Alex widened his eyes. "That is not a barrier, but a concentrated plate of Deceleration. My Mythical Fire Cannon is like a long stick filled with energy. Because the head was stopped, the butt arrived first and collided. If he could use something like this, I can't use an attack like this again... A Sword Wave... might still be possible."

The mysterious guy, on the other hand, leaped toward Alex and struck him with his sword.

Alex stopped him with his sword, but the other guy had another intention as he smiled and said. "I have found you! And I won't let you go now!"

"..."

Chapter 816 - Weird Ending

Alex and the mysterious guy continued to clash. From one place to another, they kept changing places. However, it was Alex who was at a disadvantage. After getting caught earlier, the guy stuck on him, never letting him go.

Alex would be a bit too much if he got away due to him being in the Space World. In fact, the mysterious guy was slashing the air in other's perspective this whole time. If there were no shock wave in each clash, people would think him insane.

The mysterious guy was looking at Alex with great interest. However, there seemed to be a doubt in his heart.

'He has been improving so much during the fight, but if I keep this up, I might not be able to return to my world. I think I should finish this as soon as possible... The problem is whether I should defeat him or escape.' He thought while sticking to Alex.

Alex realized the difficulty in using his technique against someone in the real world. It seemed the Space Beast was rather special because they used to live inside this Space World and fought from the Space World.

When he tried to use his attack, most of his attacks were either stopped by the Space World or the Real World limitations. At the same time, the guy kept his back facing his comrades. Alex thought he would sacrifice his comrade if the attacks slipped past him, but he realized it wasn't the case.

He believed Alex wouldn't attack him with a long-range attack because it might hit the spirits. Hence, Alex didn't gain much of an advantage despite being in the Space World.

After knowing this, Alex suddenly thought something ridiculous. Because of that, he decided to return to the real world.

"Hoh?! To think you chose to return here." The guy smiled.

"It's better than the guy who talks like a gay." Alex snorted.

The two twitched their eyebrows.

"Still, since you choose to fight against me in this world again... I will make sure you can't return to that Space World." The guy smirked.

"..." Alex frowned. "If you have the ability, you can keep me in this world instead of the Space World."

"Hmph. Then I will let you see it!" The guy leaped toward him using his Acceleration. He arrived right in front of Alex and swung his sword.

At this time, a very thin layer of Spatial Gate appeared right before the sword struck him. Due to its size, Alex certainly could make a Spatial Gate that small and stabilize it within an instant. It might not fit even a fist of a human, but it certainly was a perfect fit for a thin but sharp sword.

And most importantly, Alex opened another gate similar to the size right on the guy's main hand, trying to cut his arm.

"..." The guy was shocked, but there was another thing that bothered him. He knew Space Element to a certain extent, but he knew how hard it was to create one that was small. It might take time to create a bigger Spatial Gate, but it took more concentration to make a smaller gate, especially the one like Alex used. He thought, 'Has he awakened his Space Element even further?'

Alex didn't have that kind of thought. He simply wanted to connect the Space World to the Real World as quickly as possible and thought, 'Ah, I can build a small one only to let through a small attack like a thin sword.'

As for his concentration... After training so much with much harder tasks like Alchemist and Array Master, Alex had gotten used to it. He might not be able to summon many Spatial Gates right now, but a few should be possible, thus the two thin Spatial Gates.

As a result, the sword suddenly returned to its owner, trying to cut his own hand.

"Acceleration!" The guy felt something was odd, so he immediately used his scabbard to block his own sword. And he didn't use force behind it, so the sword launched himself at his comrade in his back.

"Young Lord?!" The men in black were obviously flustered to see that their Young Lord, who usually fought against stronger people, lost in the hand of a mere 6-Star Martial Saint.

The guy didn't say anything for a few seconds, looking at Alex, who was going to come at him. The moment he looked at his subordinate, he was shocked. The time on his head changed. But that change was the one that made him worry.

It might be due to Alex's transformation, or there might be another cause that could change the time. But neither of them was something he could brush away just like that. He checked on everyone's time

and realized they had the same amount of time. In that case, he gritted his teeth and ordered with a grim expression. "Jiu! We are leaving!"

"Young Lord?!" The leader of men in black was startled. They could still fight them at least for another thirty minutes, but he wanted to leave so early? He couldn't comprehend the meaning behind this order.

"Your time is five minutes right now!"

"What?!" He certainly understood what it meant. The guy simply told him he would die in five minutes; this was certainly insane. That was why he thought there must be something going on that could make his lifespan turn into five minutes. 'Reinforcement?'

"Come back here. We will retreat!" The mysterious guy clapped his head and used most of his Spiritual Energy to use his technique. "Deceleration."

Only Alex's Pure Fire could break free from this, so this was pretty effective for the spirits. Using that sudden stop, they immediately leaped toward the portal.

As much as Alex wanted to chase them, he saw the same energy as Delayed Slash and realized he needed to break it.

"Leoz!" Of course, the moment he broke it, he burned the time element that surrounded them and shouted.

"I understand!" Leoz raised his hand and summoned a few lightning balls. They connected with each other and released a mighty attack. "Thunder God Cannon!"

Because they were together in one place, Alex thought it would be a good time to kill them altogether, but they seemed to be better than Leo or Liza. The moment they saw Leoz's Thunder God Cannon, the seven guys appeared and struck it at the same time.

It wasn't a random spot. Instead, they chose right in the middle of that cannon, and the laser-like attack got dispersed in all directions due to that extraordinary pressure in the middle.

By using that, they could cross the portal safely since Alex and his spirits wouldn't come just to get stung by Leoz's attack. They then arrived in a place filled with green scenery, but couldn't relax just yet because they needed to get away from this place as soon as possible.

The mysterious guy used his Time Element again to slow down these monsters as they flew away, finding a small ship that brought them here. They entered the ship and flew away.

"Young Lord ..." The leader came because of his doubt.

"It's inevitable... Still, I see one interesting man. If I am not wrong, the Spirit God used his life to seal a beast in his past life, right?"

"Yes."

"Hmm... I don't know if this is related to that ancient being or not, but I will look at it in the future. Still, I wonder what kind of key moved earlier to change your lifespan to five minutes... Reinforcement? But

they are inside a strange place, no? It's weird, but I don't have time to think about it." The guy thought for a moment. "I don't know if the relationship of this person with the Spirit God, but he might be the main key to solve the problem."

"You should worry about yourself, Young Lord. Isn't he the one you can call the Main Character?"

"Haha... Saving the world as the main character, it's bullsh*t. Humans are selfish creatures. Even if he saves the world, it is not because of the greater good. Just like how I am risking my life to make him evolve, he must have something to protect or another objective. In any case, it's not for everyone's safety or something."

"Still, I am worried that he will find you in the future. And what do you mean by risking your life to make him evolve?"

"It's fine. My eyes allow me to see my own lifespan. However, if there is a key that disrupts the normal flow, it has the power to change that. Just like when I was a weak person, I decided to hide when I saw my lifespan shrunk, as you already know. Anyway, it's too complicated to explain. You only need to know that I decide to trust these eyes.

"As for the second matter... It's simple. At first, I plan to see whether this guy is at his peak or can be polished again. And it turned out the guy had an intriguing fighting style, but it was still unknown to him.

"From the looks of it, that guy used to think like this, 'I have an absolute plan that can topple everything.' And when I saw how those Spirits broke through, I was certain that he must have relied on them a lot... I mean, A LOT!

"I believe he has become too comfortable with his current lifestyle. With subordinates exceeding my level, I would have them fix all my problems that would require their power. Meanwhile, I will be killing the opponents of my level... Unfortunately, all his capability and quality didn't allow him to have a hard fight where he needed to awaken his potential or think of a creative way to use his ability."

"So, he got too relaxed to the point he couldn't unleash his potential?" The man in black furrowed his eyebrows.

"Yeah. And I believe he used so many new attack patterns and abilities in our fight. The proof is the fact that I can see his lifespan increasing. Whether it's him escaping or surviving, it's still good progress."

"I see. We are truly in a bind... On one hand, we might lose our lives because of the Spirit World. On the other hand, if we didn't do this, we would lose our lives sooner or later."

"That's why I decided to risk my life. Anyway, since he has grown so much in our exchange alone, I don't need to worry about him for the time being. If I help him from time to time, his anger toward me should be pacified unless he is someone too petty."

"Young Lord... You looked like a hero just now."

"Hmph!" The guy shrugged. "It is simply my selfish desire. I couldn't count how many times she helped me in the past... Is it wrong to have her again in the same life?"

"If you believe it is wrong, then it is wrong. If you believe it is right, then it is right."

"Fair enough. Anyway, I have used too much Spiritual Energy, so I will recover first. If that guy is someone so close to the Spirit World, someone from there might probably come to me sooner or later. In the meantime, I will advance to God Rank first." The guy waved his hand and left the room.

...

As they had a peaceful return journey, Alex was suffocated by the worries from others.

"Master!" Sherry was the first to come out and hugged him as if he was going to die. She kept calling his name while shedding tears.

The other spirits were the same, but Alex managed to calm them down by changing the topic.

"Do any of you know anything about that man?"

"I don't know about his identity, but seeing he has Time Element, you should ask Sister Xingzhi instead of us." Anna shook her head, disappointed.

"Yeah. It's nonetheless one of the rarest elements in the world." Anya nodded in agreement.

"I see. As much as I want to ask about it, I think I should go to the..." Before Alex finished his words, he saw a few figures approaching them.

"Yo!" Alex raised his hand, feeling awkward. Not only was his body full of wounds, but he had used so much of his strength in the battle earlier.

"What happened here?" Manness frowned.

"I will explain later. By the way, why are you here?"

"We are worried about you because you might have an accident outside." Manness shrugged.

"I see. Thank you." Alex nodded. "In any case, I still need to go down again... Or have any of you met the Gods and Goddesses?"

"We met them, but we didn't have time to converse."

"Ah! I am sorry." Alex scratched his head, embarrassed. "Anyway, Let's go inside again. I will be going with you this time."

They didn't say anything and simply looked at his injured body, wondering if he could still move.

Alex ignored them first and looked at his spirits. "I don't have a problem right now. Just ask Firia to make me a pill to recover when you go back."

"No! I will be going with you." Anya shook her head. Her ability should be able to heal him faster than Firia making a pill. After all, most of the injuries were shallow and superficial. She believed she only needed to close the wound without any additional treatment.

"Then, I shall follow you too for your protection," Leoz added.

Seeing how the two wouldn't be easily convinced because of this, he decided to agree before the others started showing their interest to follow him. "Alright. Only the two of you can follow me. The rest can return!"

As much as they hated it, they could only nod their head.

The four that just came out were dumbstruck, never thinking they would see Alex in this state.

"Let's go down first." Alex nodded and went to the hole near the Ancient Ruin, creating another Spatial Gate to go through.

The spirits were escorting him until he entered the Special Realm, not wanting to see Alex got ambushed like earlier. Although there were many things they needed to talk about the sudden attack, they could discuss it after this.

And just like that, the battle between Alexander and the mysterious guy ended. Who won? No one knew.

The people inside were flustered as well when they saw Alex's wounds, but it started to close because of Anya's healing ability.

They decided to go toward the pillar while Alex told them what just happened.

Chapter 817 - Talk

"Alex... What do you think about the earlier incident? The battle resolved pretty anticlimactically, but I think there is something hidden behind that battle." Anya asked.

Not long after Alex arrived, they went toward the pillar where Alex used his Space Element to bring them to meet the Gods and Goddesses, of course, with the representatives of the four kingdoms.

As soon as they arrived, they were bombarded with questions, especially about how Alex could receive such injuries.

Still, they were never expected to have another world that needed to be watched, but Alex assured them that if they could close this portal, those people shouldn't come to this world again because a few of them were very close to achieving God Rank.

And he promised he would see what the real reason they attacked as soon as Alex left this world. Hence, they decided to drop the matter and focused on the monsters first.

Alex decided to sit on the side while receiving treatment from Anya, where he could also talk about this matter.

When Anya uttered her question, Alex looked down, falling into deep thought. It was also in his mind this whole time because it was too fast for the guy to leave.

"True enough. I don't know, but I have understood a few usages of my Space Element. In fact, all of it was coming from what I have understood this whole time. Do I lack something?"

Anya fell into silence. She leaned back and let out a long sigh. "No. I think this is our fault."

"How so?"

"Because we are too strong, your opportunity to challenge the limit is only a glimmer... Now that I think about it, there were only a few occasions where you fought alone, right?"

Alex looked up, counting all those occasions. "Hmm? Only some tournaments... And the one that helped me the most was Mithra..."

"Ah. She was the one who helped you attain Sword Body and your Martial Lord tribulation." Anya remembered such a person.

She was Maxwell's former friend, and Alex also used her element to bring her into the cycle of reincarnation. How could she forget such a person?

"Yeah. The rest... I don't know. Only a few trials from Stina's World, Teodross's trial, and Potential Tower. I don't think I have fought alone besides that time?"

Anya facepalmed, sweating profusely. She looked frustrated as she said. "Ugh. Now that you mention it, we fought many people, but most of the time, the leaders behind them would be killed by either Leoz or Jeanne..."

"It's fine. Everyone, including you, wanted to see me safe and sound. I have nothing to say but thank you. Everything was my fault." Alex shook his head. He never realized this. It might be due to the N squad's perfect information network or his extraordinary spirits... Nonetheless, he realized he never had his plan go wrong. It was as if everything went according to his way.

That was why he never challenged his limit, let alone did something to turn the tide with his own thinking. He forgot that when he reached God Stage, the opponents would be far stronger, and their intelligence network might include the whole world's power.

No way he would understand everything. His N Squad might claim to be the best in a lower world like this, but they wouldn't be able to say the same in the face of many worlds, especially Divine Worlds.

This might be the first time he felt very helpless, wondering why he didn't realize it until now.

He took a few minutes to calm down before he opened his mouth, changing the topic. "I have a lot of reflecting to do, but I will do it later. For now, I want to discuss the appearance of that man with you."

"I... I understand." Anya hesitated at first, but that hesitation disappeared the moment she saw Alex's determined face. "Have you asked the system?"

"Yeah. She didn't tell me anything."

Anya furrowed her eyebrows. 'Time Element is one of the rarest elements in the universe, so I don't really have that much information about them. If Sister Xingzhi didn't tell him anything, it was either she didn't know or she refused to tell him. It is probably the latter since Sister Xingzhi's father was the former Time God. Still, seeing there is no notification... It means I don't have to worry about hiding anything and discuss to the best of my ability, right?'

Alex looked at her with a gentle expression and asked. "It seems you know something."

"I don't know that much because there is practically no research about it. Even the Time Element art is considered a rarity. How do you think there are many Martial Arts or Element Arts in the world?"

Alex contemplated for a few seconds before he stared at her with sharp eyes. "Original Technique?"

"That's right. Take an example of your Triple Draws and Mythical Spear Cannon. They are original techniques that can't be used by another person in a normal condition. However, there is no saying that the person itself can't copy such a movement, right?"

"Ah!" Alex nodded in agreement. Although he suspected there must be some relations between the Martial Arts with the Original Techniques, he had yet to realize the detail before Anya explained.

"That person tries to copy and imitate it to the highest degree. Of course, something that is not yours won't be yours. Hence, you only need to make it your own by mastering it in your own way. Because of that, the Original Techniques become Martial Arts.

"After that, since that person can learn it, then other people can master it too. At that time, it will be the start of the generalizations as it gradually becomes a genuinely proper Martial Arts that anybody can use.

"Of course, there are some cases where the generalizations increase or decrease the power from its original. It depends on who is the first person copying such a technique. If it's a genius, he might get a solution to make it stronger. If it's a normal person, he might downgrade it.

"After thousands of years, the number of techniques increases to the point it is now. And I believe this world has history from hundreds of thousands of years that they might not be aware of." Anya finished her explanation.

"I see. So, that's how Martial Arts were born." Alex nodded with a calm expression. "Still, there are times that you can't copy it, right?"

"I don't think so. Even Pure Element Arts can be copied, let alone normal elements. It depends on whether you have the qualification to do it or not. And take a look at your Sword Mastery or Spear Mastery once again.

"After understanding many techniques and deepening your knowledge about it, I believe you can copy someone's original techniques. You just need a bit longer than the usual one."

Alex thought for a moment and opened his mouth in amazement. "I think I can."

He had a hunch while recalling the memory about his past opponents that either used spear or sword. And it turned out, he might understand their move if he observed them using it for days or months.

"Still, I am not planning to copy one because I have too many techniques already. Only after reaching God Rank that I will need Divine Techniques. But for now, I don't have any plan in getting another one."

"I can relate." She nodded. "By the way, what are you planning with that mysterious guy?"

"Hmm?" Alex frowned, thinking about it seriously. This matter was his biggest concern. Although he didn't bring any 'Ship' to come here, he surely had come to the other world and gone through the portal just to meet him. And yet, he couldn't ascertain his identity and objective. He didn't want to have any

enemies as soon as he reached God Stage, so it was troubling him. "First... I want to know about the Time Element. Do you know anything about it?"

Alex asked this question because he couldn't get much information from the knowledge that he got from the Lightning Tribulation. That was why he decided to ask her.

"I don't know much, but I can assure you that his time ability is not that powerful." Anya nodded.

"Not powerful? Are you serious?" Alex opened his eyes wide.

Anya smiled and told the story about the previous Alex and Lin Xingzhi's father. How the old man turned Alex into a kid and slapped his ass countless times to the point it was uncountable.

"Seriously?" Alex twitched his eyebrows.

"Yeah. However, it turned out that father-in-law wasn't against your relationship with sister Xingzhi. He only wanted to make you frustrated, so you can go stronger. Of course, he also wanted to have some fun himself." Anya shrugged while chuckling.

"..." Alex let out a long sigh. "That must be very embarrassing."

"Yes. Well, I won't say anything more because it was your past memory. But those techniques were the ones that father-in-law used when he fought you. It took you a very long time before you reached God King Stage and became equal to him. Only at that time, he stopped spanking you." Anya nodded with a serious expression.

"Never mind then. Listening to all those techniques... I understand how his Time Ability is not on par." Alex nodded.

"Yeah. That's why I think he must have a reason as to why he suddenly came and returned so anticlimactically."

"Do you have any idea for what reason he came to me?"

"I am afraid... No. Time Element is very weird, weirder than Space Element. I can come up with one thousand reasons, but it might not be his reason. So, rather than assuming too much, it's better to investigate his identity first as soon as we reach God Stage."

"Alright." Alex nodded. "I will have Nelson take care of it."

"You can even move the spies from Eulja, you know."

"As I said previously, even if I have this Spirit Crown, my mind and body have yet to accept such a title. Besides, I know that the spirits from Eulja respected me because of my past, not the current me. That's why I might visit there, but I won't use their power."

"That sounds like you." Anya smiled. "Then, I have one thing I want you to know."

"What is it?"

"Just enjoy yourself and do what you want."

Alex was surprised to hear those words but still smiled while closing his eyes. "Yeah."

"For now, I will wait and see the progress. If that man wants to harm my family, I won't hesitate to annihilate him. Still, I think he has another reason to do it. Despite being the offender, he seems to have no intention to kill me." Alex frowned.

"Another intention? Did he not release any killing intent?"

"Yeah. Other than when he wanted to startle me, I think he didn't release it no matter how dire the situation was."

"This is weird." Anya looked down, falling into deep thought. "Let me see what kind of trope that usually comes around this time..."

"Trope?" Alex stared at Anya with a weird face.

"I mean... What you have experienced all this time... Don't you think at least half of them are according to a trope in those stories you learned in your previous world?"

"Ah?" Alex scratched his head, not knowing what to respond.

"Let's see... Maybe sister Xingzhi has a secret admirer? And because of jealousy, he attacked you? Even if it wasn't sister Xingzhi, maybe Alicia? Alicia must be training in another world to accumulate experience right now, so there might be someone there that got entranced." Anya's eyes flashed a dangerous glint.

"I don't know if you are joking or not right now..." Alex chuckled. "Never mind. In that trope, all of them will show even a glimmer of emotion, but his... He was purely thinking about another thing."

As they were talking about this while joking, Shakdi suddenly intruded their personal space with a guilty expression. "Ehm... Excuse me. We need to trouble you to decide what kind of course we are going to choose."

Alex looked at his body and noticed that his wound had fully closed. He glanced at Anya and nodded, asking her to come with him to discuss this.

Chapter 818 - Next Plan

In the middle of the tower, fourteen people were discussing the solution to this situation. Eight of them were the representatives from the surface, including Alex and Anya. Four of them were the kings of the four kingdoms in this place, while the other two were Shakdi and another God.

"We have decided to enter the gate according to your plan. Because of the situation, the Freedom Sect and the Divine Kingdom have promised to build a tunnel toward this place. At that time, we will rely on you in creating a hole, so everyone can enter." Shakdi informed him about their meeting.

Alex nodded. "Leave that matter to me."

"The remaining influences will keep the monsters in check. And you shall not bring any 10-Star Martial Saint monster down."

"Why?" Alex furrowed his eyebrows.

"It's simple. Their 10-Star must have a connection with the hosts there. If we kill them, they will know. That's why we will only kill those monsters after we kill the remaining seven parent monsters here."

"Alright. I can guarantee that my Spirit Nest won't kill it." Alex nodded. "Still, three years is the limit. Any more than that, the morale and our resources won't be enough to stop them. At the same time, from what I have understood, the monsters coming here are relatively weaker monsters.

"Seeing that the other world is a Divine World, 10-Star Martial Saint is nothing but a grain of sand on a beach. The longer we take, the more monsters we need to face. Hence, it's better to settle it within three years."

"Yes. That's our plan right now. No matter what sacrifice do we need to make, we shall kill the seven parent monsters within three years." Shakdi nodded with a serious expression. "Besides, just like your plan, we will only have those 5-Star Martial Saints or below to enter. We have fought them in the past, so we know they are going to concentrate their force here, so the elites coming from seven influences will surely be able to hold them for several days."

Alex nodded. "How many days do you think everyone can hold on? I am not saying they are weak, but if they need to fight against twenty or thirty 10-Star Martial Beasts, I think it will be insane, right?"

Shakdi glanced at their expression and nodded. "Yeah. And I believe they can safely hold the enemies back for a week. More than that, the loss will be too big."

"In that case, we shall clear it within a week. It's not like the seven gates have a difficulty like the Space Gate, so I believe it won't be that hard. Of course, I am not underestimating them." Alex smiled.

"The problem is who will enter each gate?"

Alex thought for a moment and glanced at Anya. "Anya."

Anya nodded and stepped forward. "Spirit Nest will take the Fire Gate. As you already know, we have Alex's Pure Fire, so this will be giving us a tremendous advantage. Drunken Pavilion will take the Water Gate since you have been dealing with so many wines... Just kidding.

"I believe the Lightning Gate suits the Divine Kingdom the most. Although most of the monsters here have powerful strength, with how organized they are, they will most likely bring them down with a good strategy.

"The Ancient Blue Family will take on the Earth Element. They have a powerful defense, you have an overbearing offense. Don't tell me you can't fight them, right?

"Freedom Sect will take the Light Gate. I know that you have many experts in light elements, so they are most likely to understand the monsters behind this gate. The Dark Gate will be put to Phantasm's Sect. I don't know about your weaponry, but since you have a good weapon from your heart, it means your heart is strong. Illusion won't work on you while Curse can be broken as long as you make some preparations. You have a strong heart to resist the curse to a certain degree anyway, so good luck.

"Lastly, Blackwade Clan will take on the Elementless. To be honest, this is the most concerning thing. Although the monsters here don't know how to use Element, their physical ability is far beyond the other gate. You have a huge wallet, so if you equip your people with good items, I believe they can take

this gate down. Besides, you will surely get more if you kill those monsters outside, right? So, don't be a cheapskate." Anya finished assigning everyone's task.

And yet, not a single of them could say anything. The people from the four kingdoms or Shakdi himself were confused by their actions.

If he probed why they became like this, they would certainly say Alex is a monster. He perfectly described everyone's strength and how the fight should go in an instant. No, it was Anya, instead of Alex.

They were wondering if the plans they had seen in the past came from Alex or her. If it turned out those plans came from both of them, no wonder the Spirit Nest could destroy Fire God Clan and Snow White Mountain.

"Thus, the distribution. Do any of you have an objection?" Alex smiled. He took pride in their shocked expression because everyone knew how powerful his wife was.

The six influences thought for a moment and shook their head. "We are perfectly fine with the arrangement."

"Then I will tell you what we will do when you challenge the tower." Shakdi nodded and continued. "First of all, I am going to turn off the tower. Without any protection from this tower, the monsters will surely come here. However, it's a necessary thing because we need that energy to close the portal later and seal the entrance completely."

"At that time, our four kingdoms shall be the strongest shield for the tower." One of the kings added with a nod.

"Yes." Shakdi nodded. "I am leaving it to you."

"If that is the case, the monsters will be going to this place, right? Then I think it's better for the disciples on the surface to start cleaning up the monsters before making their way toward this place. What do you think?" Alex asked.

"Yeah. That's my plan. We will pincer them from two sides and thoroughly eliminate them." Shakdi nodded in agreement.

"I want to inform you about one thing then. All the people from my Spirit Nest will be going with me inside. Of course, I will bring some Array Plates for you guys so I can still help despite not being with you." Alex smiled. He was going to practice Array after this, so his Array Plates could still be considered training. That was why he didn't mind sharing them. In any case, they would be a perfect rank 8 Arrays anyway, so the other influences surely wouldn't reject it.

"Now that I think about it, your Spirit Nest... Isn't it a small group of elites? Before coming here, I took a glimpse of their power and noticed the weakest were 7-Star..." Elizabeth glanced at Alex as she appeared to have some doubts.

"Do you want me to send them to help you?" Alex smiled.

"No..." Elizabeth wanted to say yes, but she couldn't say it due to the fact it looked very selfish. Their number was already too few to begin with, so taking a few more from them would be considered as making trouble instead.

"I am planning to do that though." Alex smirked. "You can say that our Spirit Nest has some secrets about the Space Element. A few of them can teleport to any of our members, so if I see you have a problem in defeating your opponents, I might send them to help you. Besides, I don't think the monsters in the Fire Gate will be a trouble for me, so three days is enough for me."

The group furrowed their eyebrows. Shakdi smiled, never expecting Alex to have this kind of confidence. And yet, he precisely knew he wasn't boasting, especially after destroying the monsters in the Space Gate. He was very weak back then too.

"I believe it's better to receive his solution. I don't care about your pride because the world will be destroyed if we lose this war. I hope the rest can accept this. If you want to hate someone, you can hate me because I am the one forcing you to accept this condition." Shakdi helped Alex in persuading them.

"How can we..." The other leaders were startled to see Shakdi acting like this. A proud Space God turned into a humble person in front of Alex. They couldn't comprehend Alex's secret that allowed him to do such a thing.

"We... We understand." In the end, they agreed to put their pride down.

"I will send Letizia to aid the Water Gate. She is a Pure Ice Element, and I believe three years later, she should have reached at least 3-Star under my tutelage. Leoz will be helping the Earth Gate. He is the most powerful guy in terms of attack power.

"Jean will be helping the Lightning Gate. Although his element is water, he is a bit special because it won't conduct electricity. I believe this should make your team stronger. As for the Light... I will just send you Artur. He is a special guy. A bit dumb, but he is strong and understands the matter clearly. I believe he can help you.

"As much as I want to send Nelson to the Dark Gate, Anya will be more suited than him. She can remove poison and curse. But because of her ability, I will assign Greg with her as her personal bodyguard, so you guys don't need to worry.

"Lastly, Jeanne will go to the last one. She will surely act her part. If she doesn't, I will be super 'Nice' to her. Just make sure you don't mess around with her, especially throwing an insult about her stature. You are going to experience pain. I certainly guarantee you it won't be a simple pain." Alex smiled. "These people will surely help you more than enough, so the rest won't probably go unless the situation turns wrong."

The rest thought for a moment and nodded. Since Alex wanted to lend them his elites that seemed to have extraordinary power, they gladly accepted it.

"It is settled then?" Shakdi asked.

They looked at each other, confirming they didn't have any more questions or objections, so they nodded their heads at the same time.

"Then, follow me. I will guide you to the tower's treasury. You can choose anything you deem useful for the battle. As for the remaining ones, I will distribute them after we finish this problem. At the same time, the four kingdoms might probably come to the surface because they have served their purpose... As their ancestor, I feel relieved because I know my descendants can see the real sky and sun. I have troubled them too much for the past few thousand years." Shakdi sighed.

"No, no. Please don't be like this. This world wouldn't be safe if all seniors didn't fight in the past. It is our duty as your descendants to protect the world." The kings immediately tried to soothe the sadness in Shakdi's eyes.

"Thank you. That's why I want all of you to go to the real world after this. And please take care of them..." Shakdi looked at the four kings first before turning to the other leaders.

However, before they replied, Shakdi had one last announcement he needed to make.

"After this, I will seal this tower Rank 9 Divine Array. Unless you have the necessary knowledge about it, you won't be able to break it. At the same time, it's better, so no one has thought about using this to disturb the peace.

"And since you have gotten yourself comfortable with the trial... I will try to see whether it is possible. Just come back when the next trial comes, the answer will be there." Shakdi certainly controlled the conversation because as soon as he finished his explanation, they had arrived in their treasury. "Now pick your items."

The group started roaming around, asking Shakdi so they could bring such an item. Of course, they tried so hard to suppress their greed for this time alone.

After another hour, the group finally left as Shakdi suddenly said. "In that case, I will teleport you to where you belong."

Shakdi clapped his hand and summoned a Teleportation Array, sending them either to the four kingdoms or the surface.

Chapter 819 - Arrays

As soon as they returned to the surface, Alex said his goodbye after agreeing that the Freedom Sect will help in mobilizing the force from each influence by using their Spatial Gates.

Of course, he didn't forget to bring Letizia and the others who were fighting the monsters with Freedom Sect.

They went straight to the meeting room and discussed their next move.

"The spirits will be in charge of defeating the monsters for the time being. And make sure you level up a lot because I plan to go straight to God Rank after this battle. I just hope there won't be any incident before going up," Alex stated his first task.

"I will take care of their deployment and make sure they will be at least 9-Star Martial Saint when the three years come." Anya nodded with confidence as if she had planned everything.

"I will leave everyone in your hand." Alex smiled at her before stating his second plan. "Sherry, Stina, and Kyle will be cultivating like usual. Just a bit more to reach 7-Star. I hope you can enter 8-Star if not 9-Star before the battle."

"We understand. We shall work hard so as to not betray your expectation."

"Firia will be making a few pills to help the alliance. You are currently the best Alchemist in this world, so I want to make a contribution a bit more before leaving this place. After all, I want Rose and Letizia to have a good time after I leave this place."

"Alright. That's right. Do you want to learn Alchemy during these three years?"

"No. I don't plan to learn Alchemy. Instead, I am going to learn Arrays first since I know I need to increase my attack a bit more because I don't know whether the mysterious man will appear again or not." Alex shook his head.

Firia stared at him for a few seconds and nodded. "Alright. We can practice Alchemy together after the battle ends."

"That's my plan." Alex gave a confirmation before staring at Letizia. "Since I am practicing some attack type arrays, you are going to be my practice partner. And I also want to train you as well as to see your current progress. I hope you can reach 3-Star if not 4-Star Martial Saint during this period."

"I understand. I will not disappoint Master." Letizia nodded.

"As for Rose... You will go to the battlefield every other month. I want you to understand the power of your Bow, Lightning and Space Elements on the battlefield. After you master fighting an army alone, then you can focus on your cultivation."

"Yes. I didn't really have much time to fight against another person when I reached the Northern Continent, so my skill might have gone rusty. I will sharpen it once more, Master." Rose nodded with a determination filling her eyes.

"I am counting on you, Rose." Alex finally finished assigning everyone a role, so he stood up and stated out loud. "Today's meeting is over. You can retire for the day and start doing your job tomorrow."

After that, Alex walked to his room because he wanted to search for a few arrays to practice.

"Hmm... Even though I know I want an attack-type array, I don't know which one to get. Firstly, I can build up my foundation in mastering the attack type array, so I won't have that much problem in mastering the rank 9 array in the same type. However, I want one that can be enhanced with my Pure Fire and Intent, so I believe it's better with one that has a physical body.

"I can also learn all the peak rank 8 Arrays with that type, but I also need to consider whether they are compatible or not. If I can't use them in the fight, it's better to not practice it. As for the rest of the arrays, I can simply learn them or understand their principle, so if my enemy is an Array Master, I know how to handle him.

"Still, the battle between Leo and the Freedom Sect has truly opened my eyes about Array Master. I usually think that my attack has always been good due to my Pure Fire and Intent, but I realize that I can

actually use Arrays to increase my performance. And the fight with that mysterious guy just raised my need even further.

"Although I don't know who he was, where he came from, or why he attacked me, I am glad that I could raise my combat ability using that battle." Alex let out a long sigh before continuing. "For now, let's search for an array first."

Alex closed his eyes and pried upon the knowledge inside his mind. It was like a giant whirlpool that contained all sorts of memories he didn't master. Although he knew it was wrong, he didn't have time to learn them because he was too busy to do it.

Because of that, he changed his plan and intended to learn it after reaching God Stage. At that time, it wasn't like he needed to do so much stuff like this anymore.

Alex browsed all the knowledge inside his mind, wandering in the sea of books for half an hour before finding his first scroll.

"Hmm? Sky Spear? The sky spear consists of eight hundred thousand symbols, consolidating its rank as a high ranking array. Hmm... I know that the rank 8 Array consists of one hundred thousand to one million symbols with one hundred to three hundred thousand known as low rank 8 Array, three hundred to six hundred thousand known as mid rank, six hundred to nine hundred thousand known as a high rank array. The last one hundred thousand can be considered the peak rank 8 Array.

"This array will construct a blue spear made of Spiritual Energy that can be equal to a High Heaven Tier Art. If I use my Pure Fire and Intent while using it, it can increase its attack power. And what is terrifying is the speed and the piercing power of the spear, it is hard to dodge and have a ridiculous penetrating power... And if I combine it with my Pure Fire and intent, it will be even more powerful.

"The problem is the complexity of the symbols. Although I recognize most of the symbols, it's hard to make them because they are too diverse. Normally, I will create all the matching symbols and place them like a puzzle, but because of this one, I need to concentrate in one place and spread it.

"There is another solution, which is to make this one as an Array Plate, but if I fight against a quick opponent, he or she will cut the array plate first before it can be activated.

"That's why I will be relying on my Array Plate to make this one in the battle. Still, I don't like the fact that I need to bring the Array that I draw in the Space Plate to the real world first because it can't be activated inside the Space World. If I can, I would already blast everyone with that strategy.

"Never mind. I should focus on what I can do first. If I want to make an array like this with my fastest speed, it will take me around five minutes. It's already considered fast as the normal Array Master needs ten to fifteen minutes. That's why they mostly need a low rank 8 Array to buy time since it's easier to build.

"However, I don't need that because I have my elements and weapons. They can't beat me before I complete my array. And I even construct it inside the Space World, so no one knows about it. Although it's a bit hard to construct one while moving at high speed, as long as I can get used to it, I believe I can make one as if my body naturally draws the symbols.

"Alright then. With all of this consideration, I will proceed in learning this Sky Spear Array. I can treat it as another Mythical Spear Cannon, right? Of course, it's more powerful than it." Alex smiled after reading the scroll and considering whether it was worth it or not.

"That's right. How many do I need to master? I might need a binding array as well, because Space Bind and Space Plates are not enough to chain up that guy. If I add another one... I should be able to win this time. In that case, I should add one binding array and one more attack array to my repertoire." Alex nodded and kept searching for the one that suited his taste.

Not long after that, he found another attack array.

"The second array will be this Saint Explosion Array. This one is a hard one because it has nine hundred thousand symbols. And what it only does is an explosion only in the array area... However, it also means I can make a powerful explosion as a trap. I have all the time I need because I construct it inside my Space Plates anyway, so I don't really have any problem in stopping the progress and bait my enemy inside there." Alex nodded with a solemn expression.

After settling the second attack type array, he moved on to the next array he wanted to learn. He stumbled upon a certain interesting array called Sphere Chain Array.

"This Sphere Chain Array is the peak Rank 8 Array, consisting of one million symbols. The moment it's activated, the person inside it won't be able to escape unless they have the power to break the array.

"But what makes this array unique is the fact that it's similar to the one called formation. If many arrays are linked together and become a part of a whole array, it's called formation. It's slightly different from the Special Realm with Gathering Array and Illusion Array because if one of them gets destroyed, the others will be fine.

"However, if one of the arrays inside a formation breaks, the formation will fail... However, a formation also has its own advantages. The fact that it is acting like one, you can control that array more accurately without wasting too much time.

"And in this array, there are around a hundred smaller arrays. Each of these arrays will release a chain. The usage itself is a bit complex, but I think this is perfect as training before I learn Divine Array." Alex thought for a moment and nodded, satisfied with his own choices.

He browsed a bit more but didn't meet any array he liked. He started reading the scrolls carefully, memorizing everything about the information in his head.

The papers on his table slowly got painted with black ink, covering it with many symbols. It was Alex's way of practicing to make sure he could draw such a symbol until it was perfect.

He kept doing it until tomorrow, and when the sun came out again, he finally left his room.

Chapter 820 - Progress

The next day.

Alex fought Letizia with only a sword, trying to see her progress in the sword. After that, he gave her a few pieces of advice and told her he would come every few days to check on her progress.

He then left her alone and began his training.

This might be the longest training he had ever faced because it took him a whole half-year to first create the three arrays. And it took him another half year to master it to make it combat-ready. Of course, Letizia became Alex's guinea pig for these arrays.

Luckily, Alex used his Simulation Room to create a battlespace that could replicate such a battle. With this, Letizia also got a precious experience.

She always tried to land a hit on his body while Alex used everything in his repertoire. Nonetheless, the fight lasted pretty long due to Alex could only use his array to attack. In the end, Letizia died many times in that Simulation Room.

What made Alex surprised was the fact that Letizia seemed to think nothing of her death in the training. Instead, she looked very eager to fight Alex. As a result, she often thought of something new to defeat Alex.

Whether it was intentional or not, what Alex did was precisely like the fight against that mysterious person. Facing overwhelming odds to unleash one's true potential, it was a unique but useful approach to the point he wished to experience it when he was only a Martial Master.

At the same time, when Alex used his array, specifically his Sphere Chain Array, he ended up in a very troubling situation... In a different meaning.

The chain wrapped Letizia's body in every corner, binding her to the point she couldn't move. However, the bulging area slipped out of that chain, creating a very erotic situation.

Alex didn't know what to say at that moment. Of course, Alex didn't let her go and continued using it to its fullest potential. In the end, she was wrapped and ended up like a cocoon.

Finally, one year has passed.

Letizia was able to master her sword to the point she reached Alex's level but, in a sense, where Alex had reached the mortal aspect of the sword. If he became a God Rank Expert, he would become far stronger than her.

Even so, Letizia was very grateful because this was a feat she would never hope to achieve. She didn't know why, but the foolish things she did in the past became the most precious memory of her. Because if she didn't have that attitude, she might not be someone close to Alex.

Alex, on the other hand, didn't understand what Letizia thought about the whole matter. He himself never felt he wanted to follow a person for the rest of his life, so he didn't know how she felt. Still, the smile on her face that looked pure and had no resentment behind it made Alex feel happy too.

Alex didn't forget to check the war situation.

Anya told him that the situation was still under control, with the first 10-Star Martial Saint beast appearing a week ago. The Saint Beast didn't go around the continent, so all influences felt relieved. From their information, the beast seemed to be waiting for something.

It didn't take too long before they realized that the beast might be waiting for their boss to give an order.

They had promised Shakdi to not lay their hands on the 10-Star Martial Saint monster yet, so they continued fighting the normal monsters. Even if that beast came to the battlefield, they would only fend it off.

After settling the first issue, Alex decided to go for the second stage of training. He was planning to increase his cultivation from 6-Star to 8-Star within two years.

It was impossible at first glance, but Alex had reached 6-Star a long ago, so he almost broke through to the 7-Star. And it turned out he was right. In only five months, Alex managed to advance to 7-Star Martial Saint.

And with more than one and a half years to cultivate, it was more than enough for Alex to reach another level.

That kind of progress was terrifying in the eyes of the mass. Most people in this world didn't know they needed to consolidate their power anyway, so it was pretty hard to raise their power through Spirit Crystals alone. Hence, the geniuses might have the ability to advance faster, but they wouldn't be as abnormal as Alex.

In the meantime, Sherry and the others had reached 7-Star, making their way to 8-Star Martial Saint. Even if they were not going to be able to 9-Star, they wouldn't be far from it after these three years.

And due to Firia's Alchemy, the pill supplied by the Spirit Nest really helped many people. They recovered their Spiritual Energy faster and healed their wounds in an instant. After all, her pill was a rank 8 Perfect Purity pill. It was very hard to make, but her success rate was one hundred percent.

Of course, Alex also started making Sky Spear Array Plate and Saint Explosion Array Plate. The Saint Explosion Array Plates were a hit on the battlefield. They simply needed to place it on the ground and activate it from a distance when the monsters arrived.

Alex even specifically made a very big Array Plate since the explosion area was only inside the array. And just like that, many saint monsters fell in the hand of this array. Although some of them wanted to ask or buy some additional plates from Alex, they didn't dare to antagonize him with his current strength. With one wrong move, his Spirit Nest might chop your heads.

As for his Sky Spear Array Plate, they were used to fight high-ranking monsters. There were a few monsters that were either 8-Star or 9-Star, and they used this one, injuring it heavily. Although it was also an effort to stop them from moving, it was worth the effort because even a group of 5-Star Martial Saints could take down such a monster.

Nonetheless, the situation on the battlefield settled down. And in fact, turning in their favor due to the additional help from the Spirit Nest. Alex's titles such as Divine Slayer, Battle Emperor, or Harbinger of Death were almost replaced by a new title, Omnipotent.

Alex surely didn't care, and the spirits kept charging the enemies without looking at such a rumor. And not long after, the people started getting used to those items and began to treat them as normal items. Thus, it became the failure of the rise of the new title.

Though, the real person who received such a title was still in the middle of the training. When Rose returned from the battlefield and brought such information, Anya laughed out loud, teasing Alex with the new title.

Unfortunately, the same happiness and warm atmosphere didn't happen in another place.

In the Drunken Pavilion, a woman with long black hair hopped on a big rock near the pond of her courtyard. Sadness, anxiety, and longing were mixed in her expression. Under the night sky, she gracefully tied her hair into a ponytail to prevent the breeze from messing with her hair. The water on the pond became slightly wavy due to the wind, but it still gave a clear picture of her face reflected on the water.

The lady looked at the dark sky and let out a long sigh. "Not long after this... What will I become? Master doesn't have an heir worthy enough to lead the sect, so I need to watch over the sect in the future. This is the only thing I can repay Master for his kindness and for taking care of me for the past few years.

"But I never thought it would be this sad to be chained down..." The lady closed her eyes as tears flowed out of her eyes. She remembered a certain person that seemed to be able to do whatever he wanted or visited wherever he wanted. Even though he had the burden of a leader, he had the freedom to do many things.

She aspired to be someone like him, but it was all for naught. The shackles on her feet could never be removed in an ordinary way.

"Am I wrong to have such a wish? I have been with him for a long time before that incident... But the longer I know him, the longer our distance... Is it wrong to fall in love with someone? Is it wrong to fulfill one's duty and promise before talking about love? Is it... Wrong for me to fall in love with my own mentor? He is not my teacher nor my master, I don't break any taboo.

"Still, the way he sees me is just like that of an elder brother, why? Why wasn't I born a few years earlier? Why didn't I choose a different path that guaranteed me freedom? Master said, "I can be the strongest person in the world", but I know that the promise bound me to this place. If only there is someone who can replace me..."

She always had time to think about this because it actually gave her peace of mind. Sitting on a rock near the pond, looking at the moon reflected on the water, and reminiscing the past memory threw the stress from the cultivation away.

Suddenly, she remembered a certain line coming from him.

"No matter how low the probability is, it will never reach zero unless you give up. So, even if it's one in a million chance, I will gamble it all in that one."

The woman slowly opened her eyes as a thought came across her mind. "That's right. Master needs a worthy heir, right? If there are two worthy heirs, doesn't it mean one should lose their right so the other can become the next master?

"Senior Sister is a powerful cultivator and a talented one on top of that. Her talent might not be the best, but she can rival those geniuses from other influences. The only thing that makes her unworthy is her heart. She is too soft.

"In that case, if I can turn her into a worthy heir by changing her heart, doesn't it mean I can be free from this task? Can I continue to pursue my cultivation as well as my heart? Although it might be a long journey, it might be more fun for me.

"As long as I don't give up... Yes. If I don't give up, I can still chase his back. I don't know what the future will hold... Whether he still sees me as a younger sister or not, I will not give up. I will continue chasing him, so in the end, I can say that I won't regret it no matter the result."

The woman seemed to have found the answer she had been seeking for. Joy and determination fully replaced the previous expression.

She rose, jumped off the rock, and started walking to her own path that she chose. She smiled and muttered. "Future... I challenge you right now."