Gacha 971

Chapter 971 - Spaceship

Inside Alex's room, the person in question was still concentrating on his cultivation, trying to advance to the next level. It might be due to his current body condition that he could sense the breakthrough like how he used to be.

This made him wonder whether the clogged body actually caused him unable to sense this anymore. Either way, he had the feeling he was already in front of a door, only waiting for him to open it to advance.

Five minutes...

Ten minutes...

One hour...

He still couldn't break through his current self. Meanwhile, Aria and Silvia practiced outside, not bothering him for today.

When he cultivated for more than twenty hours, he finally pushed open the door and stepped forward, officially advancing to Rank 8 God.

The surge of power coming into his body flooded his veins and organs, strengthening them even further.

He needed to consolidate his strength first by channeling this extra energy to the place they belonged to. It took him a full day before he finished everything and opened his eyes.

"Fu." Alex let out a breath of relief before checking his cultivation. "It's Rank 8 God indeed. I can go to Encore again and open another gate. Well, I can finish my job first before going there. No big deal. Besides, can I open two gates in one go if I become a Rank 7 God first before going there? Probably I shouldn't. Anyway, it's going to take a long time to reach the next level, so I will be taking my time for it."

Having come to a decision, he stood up and went straight to the field to check Aria and Silvia.

When they noticed him, they stopped for a second and continued doing their job.

"To think you have broken through to... Never mind. Congratulations on your Advancement." Silvia shouted from afar.

"Thanks." Alex smiled. "What is your status?"

"Single," Silvia playfully answered him.

"I mean your cultivation status..." Alex facepalmed while shaking his head helplessly.

"I can reach Rank 4 God within three or four years. Unlike you who have been doing this, my body still needs to adapt first, so I can't really force it." She sighed. "I wonder if I should boost my strength with Medicinal Herbs?"

"It's up to you. You are a doctor, right? You shouldn't have a problem boosting your strength with those resources, no?" Alex narrowed his eyes. "I mean, you can solve all the problems in your body."

"I know my body's condition, but it doesn't mean I can treat myself."

"If it's only to see what happened, I can do that. However, there is one thing that I need to warn you about. I can't treat you."

"Well, I don't have a problem with something like this, so you don't need to think much about it." She shrugged. "Anyway, I think Aria will advance to 5-Star Martial Saint in the competition."

"That's good. However, you..." Alex stopped, not knowing what to say.

"Don't worry. I don't belong there, so you should have your fun out there." She smiled. "Just make sure you don't bring any illness from there, alright? We don't want to have a pandemic that even a God Rank Expert had trouble with."

"I don't know if they have something like that, but my Fire should be able to purify anything." Alex nodded.

"Right? Even though you are a Pure Element, you shouldn't underestimate something like that." She facepalmed.

Alex only smiled, not continuing the conversation. Silvia had yet to realize the fact that his flame was none other than Phitrus's Godly Pure Fire.

"Anyway, both of you need to prepare yourself for the tournament. You need to go in another three days, you know."

"Yeah." Alex nodded with a smile.

...

Three days later.

Alex and Aria both put their mask on this time, not wanting to have their faces seen by the people in the sect. Of course, Alex suggested it.

"Are you ready?" Alex smiled, waiting for her in front of the house.

Fixing her hair a little bit, she nodded. "The peak master told us to gather in the First Peak since that's where the spaceship is...Ehm...Can I open my eyes at that time? I am a bit curious about this."

Alex thought for a moment and nodded. "Sure. I don't mind. We both have masks anyway, so you can open your eyes all you want. It shouldn't be a problem as long as you don't open it too big, lest someone notice."

"I understand. I just want to see the ship. I won't move my head too much as well, so it doesn't look like I can see my surroundings." She smiled, happy with the arrangement.

"Let's go then." Alex then turned to Silvia and said with a smile. "We are going."

"Unfortunately, I can't join you guys here, so I will be continuing my training alone while waiting for you. May fortune blesses you with its presence." Silvia put on her warmest smile, sending them without any sadness.

"It's only for two months." Aria waved her hand as the two flew to the sky.

"We need to get the token first, right?"

"Yes. The token is needed to record our progress. They have a measurement system that recognizes this other world's currency since it's not a Spirit Crystals. Our mission is to get as many points as possible while the elders are checking whether we are telling a lie or not. We can get our tokens in front of the spaceship, so let's go."

Alex nodded and sped up, taking only a few minutes before reaching the First Peak.

"Hmm...Their peak isn't really that different from us," Alex commented while observing the peak with his Spirit Eyes.

"Is that so? Do you know anything about the First Peak?"

"Nope. But I have found the spaceship." Alex fell silent before changing his direction. "Follow me."

She followed him for another minute before landing in the nearby land where not many people gathered. They then made their way toward a stall that seemed to be registering them.

Alex and Aria lined up like other disciples, only to find a familiar old man at the counter.

"Welcome." The old man smirked.

Alex was stunned before giving his and Aria's token to him, acting as if he didn't know the elder. Who else would become like this other than the old man he met back in the test, the Sword God's teacher.

"I see...So, that's how you want to play." The old man nodded.

Alex twitched his eyebrows, hoping that this old man didn't do anything reckless or he might need to change his plan.

Aria also understood the dilemma and stayed silent the whole time.

"Here is your token. I hope you enjoy your competition." The old man smiled and handed both tokens. "There are three numbers in your token. The first is your point, the second number is your room inside the spaceship, and the last one is the clock. Make sure to check it out."

"Thank you, Elder." Alex gave one to Aria before taking her elsewhere.

When they found the spaceship, Aria was startled by how big it was. The spaceship alone could cover her hometown as a whole, and it would be bad if such a thing flew on top of her city because it could crush the city without a problem.

Still, the gigantic chump of metal mesmerized her as if she just witnessed a flying town. Then, she realized the fact that this ship had several layers, so it was even bigger.

As for the design, it didn't look that much different than the one that Silvia used to travel.

'Still, this is a massive ship.' Alex exclaimed in amazement before a blue screen appeared.

[This is their mothership? Are they crazy? Or is it because one of the three sect masters is that special?]

"Mothership? That kind of mothership?"

[Of course. Divine World usually has at least two Spaceships. However, the one leading the ships is the mothership. You can say that this one requires the most resources. Not only is it massive, but it also has many features that no other ships have.]

"To bring such a ship...Is this the way of them telling us that something is different in this competition?" Alex narrowed his eyes.

[I am not sure, but the possibility is there. You should be careful when you are there.]

'Still, I wonder if Eulja has a spaceship too?' Alex asked.

[As I said, we have several. However, you should know that the spaceship might be able to transport so many people, but we put them at risk too. If there is no one protecting it, the moment a God Rank Expert manages to destroy the spaceship, the people inside won't be able to stay alive.]

[I mean, sure, we can build a spacesuit for them, but one wound will be all it takes to kill them as a mortal body can't withstand the pressure in outer space. That's why every time a spaceship is sent, their high-ranking Gods should supervise it.]

[In our case, there should be one or two Rank 2 Gods inside before we can give it a go. As for you, three Rank 4 Gods are supervising it instead of your sect master, a Rank 3 God. It should be enough for most of the time.]

"I see. But the spaceship still has some weapons, right?"

[Some have, some don't have. If they have, they are usually powerful. It can be a cannon or even some arrays, depending on their world. Of course, it is not that easy to manufacture everything since essentially you are losing a Rank 8 Weapon for each shot.]

[For example, a cannon. You can imagine the cannon as a bow and the bullet as an arrow. However, in this case, the cannon and the arrow are both Divine Weapons. In other words, you need to get ready to lose a single Divine Weapon every time you shoot. And a spaceship is huge, so the bullet. In other words, you are shooting multiple Divine Weapons at once. Just take a look at the cost... It's better to hire a God Rank Expert to supervise them.]

"Fair enough. It's something costly. How about those sci-fi movies?"

[If you are thinking about plasma or whatever it is, they will lose against the cultivation power. The property of a Divine Weapon is far stronger than that of physics. That's why cultivators are known as those who defy Heaven, not physic.]

"I see. Well, we need more resources for each ship I guess." Alex nodded before thinking of another thing. "Anyway, do you think it is profitable to make war with a huge number of soldiers? I mean, we can employ guerilla warfare by a few elites only."

[It's true that we can do that, but you should know that the enemies can use Teleportation Array, right? A normal Rank 9 Teleportation Array can transport around two thousand people at once, and if they are transporting either God Rank Experts or Martial Saints, what will you do with that? Run away? And do you think you can if they use a treasure or array to block your Space Element for a moment?]

"So that's why." Alex nodded, understanding the real meaning of the number for the first time. He had a laid-back attitude due to how scarce the Space Element masters were in the previous world, so he had yet to get used to having many Space Element masters.

After learning it here, he finally grasped the real warfare and why Lin Xingzhi wanted him to be prepared for what he needed to face when he went to Eulja. The warfare between Divine Worlds would be much more complicated, so Lin Xingzhi wanted him to get all the experiences, especially the unique ones, as much as he could.

When he was in deep thought, Aria tugged his sleeve and called his name. "Nyx? Do you have something in mind? We need to get on board right now."

Alex was recovered from his daydream and scratched the back of his head, embarrassed.

"Let's go, shall we?" Alex smiled and entered the spaceship.

Chapter 972 - Country Bumpkin

When he was about to walk inside the spaceship, the situation turned into an uproar when people screamed on top of their lungs over a few people in the sky.

"They...They are..."

"They are the Favorite Disciples from each peak!"

"Kyaa—!"

"I have been waiting for them since this morning. That's why I haven't entered the spaceship yet."

Alex twitched his eyebrows before looking to the sky, finding sixteen people flying in the sky. Of course, one of them was Melvie.

However, Alex had no intention of calling her out like the people around him. He simply tapped Aria's shoulder and sent a thought transmission. 'This is going to be messy. We better wait for them to enter first before going inside.'

'I understand.' Aria nodded while looking at the sixteen disciples. 'Can I ask you something?'

'If I can answer.'

'Can you beat them all?' Aria's tone was serious as she was curious about Alex's real strength. Instead of asking about his current power, she decided to learn with the comparison.

Alex raised his vision again, scanning each of them with his Spirit Eyes before smiling. 'I don't want to answer then.'

'Tch.'

When he saw these people, he realized that none of them surpassed Rank 8 God. In other words, if he fought them, no one would be able to withstand his power that coincidentally was the same.

Alex noticed something and thought. 'It seems Rank 7 God is the limit before becoming an elder. After all, Rank 3 God is already the sect master. The Rank 4 Gods are to assume similar positions, like Grand Elder or any special elders, to take charge of the entire sect instead of a single peak.

'Meanwhile, they have their Rank 5 Gods to be a Peak Master, nurturing the sect's new generations. This is indeed a good system.' Alex complimented the sect for its system, even though it was merciless.

He had another thought regarding the appearance of these sixteen people as if they had a schedule like this. After all, there was no way these important people would come together, considering their rivalry.

Alex thought for a moment before an old man stood in the sky.

The disciples were shocked by his appearance as they pointed their fingers at the sky.

"Sect Master!"

"That's the sect master!"

The silence brought by his appearance turned into another uproar. The old man, whose white beard was so long that it was even longer than female hair, raised his hand while clenching it, asking the disciples to shut their mouth.

Slowly but surely, they controlled themselves and focused their attention on them.

"Although we are forcing you to complete, you shouldn't think bad about this event. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for you because we will also give you another reward if you get a certain amount of points.

"Of course, we won't be announcing it right now. The Core Disciples and Inner Disciples will have their own planet to compete for this event, so you won't clash. Due to their strength, we shall drop all the core disciples first before moving to the Inner Disciple. I hope you can understand that.

"There is no rule in this competition. You can treat it as a survival in the outside world like how our tradition takes place. No need to hold back and combine your wisdom and strength to show me that you are the proud Unsurpassed Blade Sect's disciples.

"Since I am here to announce this, I should tell you once again. The grand prize of this competition is the successor seat. I won't see whether you are God Rank Experts or mere Martial Saints. Show your talent in this competition and make me think you are worthy.

"That's why we are using this ship that can accommodate one thousand core disciples and one hundred thousand Inner Disciples. There will be three hundred Elders joining you, and the one in charge of this competition are two people.

"The first one is the one supervising the Inner Disciple's competition, Elder Ravagera. As you know, Elder Ravagera was the Sword God's teacher and our proud father figure. He would ensure all your safety and made sure that none of you was cheating.

"The second person will be supervising the Core Disciple's competition, Elder Jane. Yes, she is none other than the one who has helped me manage the sect this whole time, our vice-sect master. Since Elder Ravagera is shy, let's just call our vice-sect master to deliver her speech."

After a long speech from the sect master, an old lady appeared in the sky. All eyes were locked on her. Despite being so old, she had this aura that threatened all people in the plaza. Her stern face made people back away.

However, she thought nothing of it and released her killing intent instead. "If you are enemies of my Unsurpassed Blade Sect that wants to attack the disciples during this mission, I promise to destroy you and the influence behind you. If you are my beloved sect disciples, work smart, not hard, you will then get the best result. I will be looking forward to your result...My child."

When she called the disciples her children, everyone got a shiver. It was like when your strict father finally complimented you for the first time. The joy you got made you want to leap to the sky. The same applied to these disciples as they shouted together.

"Ooh!"

They kept screaming on top of their lungs for several minutes before the sect master stopped them.

"Alright. We shall stop here. You will get detailed information inside the ship...I wish you luck. Don't disappoint me...All of you, including you who have entered the ship." The sect master nodded with a smile before leaving. However, he didn't forget to say. "On board. The ship will go in another three hours."

With his command, the disciples orderly entered the spaceship, starting from the Favorite Disciples in the sky.

Alex was curious about this as well since he never rode a spaceship. He had seen it multiple times, but he never traveled with it. Wanting to know the mechanism, he entered together with Aria while holding her hand to avoid them from getting separated.

'By the way, what is your room number?' Aria asked while taking out her token, finding 2020 in her token.

Alex looked into it as well and found it was 2021. "It seems we will be next to each other."

"Yeah." She nodded before entering a large room.

Alex and Aria widened their eyes to find a large room when they just entered the ship. This place alone could accommodate tens of thousands of people at once. It was even filled with many attractions from gambling and games.

'Alright. It looks like a casino.' Alex thought while looking around, finding a futuristic-looking wall. He used his Spirit Eyes and looked whether he could find something amusing or not.

Unfortunately, there was nothing special other than a huge source of power under the ship. It must be the power generator where they used millions of Spirit Crystal to power up the ship.

"The first number of your room number is the floor. You are currently on the first floor, so you may want to check your room first." A voice suddenly echoed across the hall as Alex and Aria looked around, finding a speaker on the ceiling.

'It seems the technology has been enhanced by future technology...Even though it shouldn't go well with cultivation. Well, there is always a way to incorporate them, and the speaker seems to be running like a normal electric speaker does, albeit with Spiritual Energy.' Alex thought.

"Do you want to check the room first or wander around this ship?" Aria whispered.

Alex thought for a moment. "I don't know if you are familiar with this ship or not, but I don't think there is something that we can see. I mean, sure, there is an attraction like this, but we don't have anything to see other than this place. If possible, it's better to stay inside the room all the time."

"Is that so?" Aria looked down but still understood what happened if she wandered around without a purpose.

"Don't worry. You can do it on our return trip. Not many people will be curious as you anymore." Alex smiled, comforting her.

"Ah!" She scratched the back of her head, embarrassed since she never thought of that. "True enough. I shall suppress my desire then."

Alex nodded. "Well, let's go to the second floor...How are we going to get there?"

He could see a few openings that could be used to get into the second floor, but he wondered if he could climb just like that.

Alex looked around and found something that amazed him. That one camouflaged itself from the main room, so no one realized it yet.

He then grabbed her hand and slowly walked toward that as if he went to his room.

"Where are we going? Our room is on the second floor, no? That's right. If others look at us, they will think you are dragging me so we can have sex in the room, you know." Aria commented.

"They don't know us." Alex shrugged. "If you keep being conscious of what others think about you, it will soon force you to do something that you don't want to do."

"Since you said so, then I don't really care." She shrugged.

When he arrived, Alex found two buttons on the wall beside a metallic door. He pushed the button that pointed up, and the door was slowly opened.

Yes, it was opened by something that couldn't be seen. The identity of this room was none other than the elevator, albeit looking a bit more futuristic than the one he saw on Earth.

However, Aria, who never saw this, gasped and pointed at the door. "It's opened by itself? Is there a ghost or an array?"

Alex ignored her for the time being and searched the room, wondering if there were a memory crystal or a camera inside that would blow his identity.

Luckily, he found none of them, so he dragged her inside.

Next to the door were several buttons with numbers on them. He instantly pressed the one with "2" on it and closed the door.

"What is this? The door is closed again!" She dropped her jaw before feeling her body become weightier. "Nyx! What is happening?"

"I am just using my own vocabulary, not this world's. This one is known as an elevator. You basically enter and press the button, and it mechanically brings you to the floor you want. It is easier to go to the other floors using Spiritual Energy since you only need to jump, but this is a more elegant way. Of course, my reason is just to hide from the crowd." Alex shrugged.

"Elevator..."

"Yeah. Well, this kind of technology is not needed in the world due to the aforementioned reason. However, it surely increases the appearance of this ship. And..." Alex paused for a moment, thinking about something.

"And?!" She tilted her head in confusion.

However, the elevator had arrived on their floor, and he immediately went out. Aria followed him since she didn't have knowledge about this mechanism at all, so she let the expert lead her.

To his surprise, his room seemed to be not far from him. It was only a few meters away from the elevator, and what waited for him there really surprised him.

Alex saw the door handle and found an array there. He facepalmed and took out the token he just got, placing it right before the array.

The array then glowed before the door opened itself like the elevator.

Aria couldn't contain her shock and was about to ask again. However, Alex already went inside.

She ignored the room completely and went straight to Alex while asking. "Nyx...You...How do you know all this? Have you experienced it before, and do you know all of this mechanism? You...Are you God?"

"I am God..." Alex made a weird smile, looking at this shocked girl. If cultivators looked at mortals who developed technology like looking at ants, then the mortals who saw cultivators like this would call them country-bumpkins.

Thinking about it, he couldn't help but laugh.

Chapter 973 - Set Off

After waiting for several minutes until Aria calmed down, Alex finally asked her. "So, what do you want me to explain first? Anyway, your room is next to me, so you can go there after this explanation."

"Yes." She nodded with a serious expression and thought which one she wanted to ask. "Can I ask about this ship itself? Although I already know that this ship can travel to another world, I don't know the details."

Alex looked down and smiled. "In that case, you need to know about outer space first. Do you know what are the stars that you have been watching this whole time?"

"Yes?!"

"They are a kind of this planet, but incandescent. It's due to the gas that keeps flaring up. And when it settles down, you will have a planet like this. This is the most basic thing that I can explain. Anyway, those who are shining in the night sky are the stars. Your sun is also a star.

"Anyway, you might have realized the fact that they have a distance from each other, right?"

"Yes." She nodded.

"How far are they with each other?"

She thought for a moment. "Maybe like flying around this world?"

"Well, if you fly from this place straight to the north until you return to this place, you will need around millions or billions of times before you reach the nearest one."

"What?!" She widened her eyes before looking at him weirdly as if he just told her a lie.

"I am not lying. When you become a God Rank Expert, you will realize how small you are compared to this universe. Everything that you think is so big like the sky or whatever, it will feel so small when you have reached there. In fact, you will realize it soon." Alex turned around and found a window. "You can see it from there."

"Then...Can I stay here for the time being? I want to watch it with you, so maybe I can ask a few questions regarding this." She asked politely, wondering if Alex wanted to cultivate or waited like this.

"Sure enough. Just for today." Alex nodded. "It's nice to have a day off once in a while."

"That's great." She smiled from ear to ear before asking another question. "If they are that far apart, won't we need thousands of years to reach there?"

"Not really. Do you know the real speed of a God Rank Expert? Anyway, if a Martial Saint can surpass the speed of sound easily, close to lightning speed according to science. You can surpass light speed when you become a God Rank Expert. It's almost ten thousand times of that speed of sound."

"That fast?"

"That's why no Martial Saints can win against God Rank Experts. Even myself included." Alex nodded with a serious expression.

"I see. My family doesn't have a single God Rank Expert, so I don't know about this. No wonder God Rank Experts are feared." She stroked her chin and thought.

"Of course, if you get stronger and stronger, your speed becomes faster and faster, albeit it still won't beat the speed of Teleportation Array." Alex paused. "Considering we are using a spaceship instead of Teleportation Array, it means two things. First, this world doesn't have a Teleportation Array formation that can travel so far away. Secondly, the place we are going to is too far to be covered by a formation."

"Teleportation Array Formation?" She tilted her head in confusion.

"What? Never heard of it?" Alex furrowed his eyebrows, wondering if this world didn't have one. However, it was impossible since it was a kind of necessity for a Divine World.

After thinking for a minute, he assumed that the world hid it, so no spies would target such a thing. It was an important asset after all.

"Anyway, we are going there, and that's the end. I don't know the ship's speed, but I guess it will have the same speed as a Rank 5 God. With a giant body like this, it's like having a Rank 5 God carrying hundreds of thousands of people. You know what I mean?"

"I see. That's indeed something awesome when you think it that way. Now, I can understand the value of this ship."

"Of course. There are many dangers out there. First of all, the Mortal Body couldn't withstand the living environment in outer space. I think a 10-Star Martial Saint can last for a few hours before dying due to exhaustion, so you can figure it out. Only a God Rank Expert has enough power to withstand the condition and stay as long as they like."

"Woah?! I wonder if this can be a business?" She thought for a moment.

"Nope. Not very cost-effective and the risk is too great. It's better to create a Teleportation Array Formation." Alex shook his head, shattering her dream in a second. "Anyway, this ship will probably travel for a few days before reaching its destination. If my calculation is correct, that is."

"I understand. I will just wait and see it with my own eyes. I am pretty curious about it as well."

"Even so, you shouldn't forget about your training, alright?"

"Yes, sir." She shrugged. "By the way, onto my next question. What is the thing that brings us to this floor? It's so magical."

"It's technology. I believe it has been incorporated with cultivation too, so it uses Spiritual Energy instead of electricity." Alex thought and continued. "I can't really explain the details since I have limited knowledge about it."

"Then what about the door? It's so magical that it can open itself."

Alex took out his token and pointed at the number. "Can you see our room number?"

"Yes."

"There is a small array inside. This is used for the identification of the array on the door's handle. I simply put it there so the other array can understand it and open the door for us. It's like having a key and its hole but with technology."

"Technology is so magical...I don't think I have seen this anywhere in the world. I wonder why they are hiding this from us..." Aria pouted.

"I can think of several reasons. Firstly, it is hard to incorporate Spiritual Energy with technology. Some basic things can, but complicated things are hard. Just like this spaceship, this is one of the hardest that can be created, albeit only due to its strong body and function.

"The second reason is the cost. Instead of wasting their resources on this, they can use the resources to strengthen themselves. After all, the ruler of this world is the strongest, not the one having too many technologies.

"Thirdly, it's so brittle. Once crushed, you will need to fix it and take a very long time. Just take a look at the house and mansion before imagining how long it will take to build this ship? And if we calculate the research time? Do you think many will do it? No. They don't want to, especially due to the fact they are not useful.

"Last but not least, pollution. Even with incorporating Spiritual Energy, I bet it still emits a huge amount of pollution. This ship alone might not have an impact, but if the whole world relies on it, the pollution will be too much for the world to handle..." Alex let out a long sigh and added inwardly. 'Like Earth.'

"I can understand the contradictions. Besides, it doesn't mean anything despite using so many resources. For example, I can break the door with my sword alone. If creating that door requires more resources than a wooden door, why don't I just use the wooden one? After all, both of them can be destroyed with a single punch. The elevator is the same. If I need to spend a thousand Spirit Crystal to replace the fact that I can leap to the second floor in a second without spending, it's easy to choose." She repeatedly nodded, understanding Alex's explanation.

"Yeah. It's something like that." Alex nodded. "Do you have any more questions?"

"Hmm...Your world has a ship like this, right?"

"Of course." Alex nodded.

"I don't know what I want to say anymore." Aria found herself overwhelmed by the information about the technology, so her mind went blank.

"Anyway, I suggest you look at your own planet. I bet you will like it."

"My own planet?"

"What is the shape of your planet?"

"It's flat, no?" Aria tilted her head in confusion. She never learned maps or anything, so she didn't know about it.

"Nope. It's round. Anyway, I won't explain too much about it and just let you see it in a few hours. There are also some reasons why you can return to the exact same spot if you fly in the same direction continuously. Why the sea doesn't fall to the void or whatever mysterious questions...It's better to read a book first." Alex shrugged. "I don't have time to explain it."

"I understand. You are a cultivation maniac after all." She chuckled.

"Heh, you can even say something like this to me now?" Alex smiled.

She took off her mask and looked at Alex with her beautiful eyes. "Yes. I can do it now because you are a gentle person. Of course, as long as it's not about training."

"As a result, you are improving leaps and bounds, no?"

"Yes, I am grateful for it. But I am assured that you are a gentle person out there. Even though I usually collapsed first, you always brought me to my room and stripped me."

"Why does it sound like I am a sex criminal..." Alex twitched his eyebrows. "I just cover you with a blanket and store your clothes in the space ring. Since there is no resistance, I can do it. I wonder if you can't protect anything you wear to be stored by the Space Ring, won't it mean men will start attacking women to strip them naked?"

"Haha...That's why I am calling you a gentleman." She laughed.

"Anyway, let's move on from this topic." Alex sighed. In the Upper World, he had Anna or Anya help the girls when they collapsed, but he didn't have a single person helping him in this world, so he needed to do it.

"Fine..." She playfully nodded before continuing the conversation.

...

After waiting for another three hours, Alex and Aria felt they were shaking. No, the whole ship was shaking.

Alex turned his head and looked through the window, seeing that they had started floating. He pointed his finger to the outside and said to Aria. "Look outside."

Following his instruction, she looked at the window and noticed that they were already above the ground.

Suddenly, an announcement echoed across the room.

"Please maintain your balance. If you can't, you are a failure as a cultivator. We will have a rough start for about five minutes."

Alex closed his eyes and smiled before feeling that someone pressured him, forcing his head down. Aria also felt the same and saw Alex pointed his finger outside again.

When she turned around, she found that they were already above the clouds and kept going upward for two minutes.

She then found a "night sky" all over the world with many shining dots far from them.

"This is your chance. Look below you, and you will see what your world looks like." Alex added. "Hurry up. Before this ship accelerates."

Aria heard it and didn't bother to look back. She instantly tried to look at her planet and found a giant round ball with something white covering a portion of the blue and green on it.

"The blue is water, the green is the land, and the white is the cloud. What do you think?" Alex explained with a smile.

With mesmerizing eyes, she opened her mouth. "Beautiful."

It took her a moment to realize that the spaceship started to move, and this breathtaking sight made her forget that she needed to maintain her balance. When the ship accelerated to a few times of the speed of light, she was thrown toward Alex.

Alex already anticipated this and caught her in her embrace.

She couldn't help but look at him before closing her eyes again as how it should be and smiled. "It's beautiful like a jewel."

"Agreed." Alex nodded with a smile before scratching his head. "Albeit, this ship still can't escape from Newton's first law, I guess?"

Chapter 974 - World's Information

After taking off, the ship was stabilized. Aria kept looking around, finding one planet after another. She looked so happy when she found something like this.

After all, she never saw anything beyond her sect and had already witnessed this, it was insane. This might be the best day of her life.

What shocked her was asteroids. Due to the fact that most of them had been mined, they couldn't find anything useful anymore. Of course, the spaceship didn't care about these asteroids and went through them without a care.

It seemed there was a Rank 9 Barrier Array that acted as the last support. And with this size alone, there should be a dozen of Rank 9 Barrier Arrays, capable of fending off hundreds if not thousands of God Rank Experts' attacks.

"Is our spaceship geared with this array formation too?" Alex asked.

[Of course. We even have a variation of metals that can enhance the array formation, allowing us to deal with any kind of attacks with different types of elements, except time.]

"Now that I think about it, is there an element like swallowing or devouring?"

[I think you are thinking about Dark Element. The so-called devouring is nothing that fancy. You might be able to devour someone, but I haven't seen any single Devouring Technique that could absorb the enemy's whole skills or cultivation. That's why it's not very popular unlike the stories.]

"Fair enough. Even this system has many limitations." Alex nodded. "It's not like I can level up while the others only get their power back after sealing it inside the system."

[Exactly. Nothing is perfect. That I can assure.]

"In that case, can the spaceship withstand the attack of a God King? You should know about my previous life, right? If he is the attacker, can our ship withstand him? And how many attacks can it be?"

"One?" Alex furrowed his eyebrows.

[Yes. For a God King specialized in fight, their power is immeasurable. For example, Phitrus. He can manipulate the Fire Element, including Spiritual Energy that contains Fire Element. In other words, when he attacks a barrier array like this and we use Fire Element Array to lessen the damage, he can simply bypass it using his power.]

[The same applies to that Sword God, he cut everything, including this barrier. That Pure Sword Qi is too unique to be stopped. I am sure you have realized it yourself. As for your previous self, although your offensive power is the third strongest, your fighting style is the best.]

[What we are talking about is firepower this time. Unless you bring another God King, I doubt the spaceship will last.]

"I see. They are that different, huh. How about you?" Alex asked.

[I am not battle-oriented, so my offensive power is so-so. Still, I believe I can destroy the ship. After all, I am known as Nature Goddess. I control Nature, including the Spiritual Energy around. If I gather the Spiritual Energy in one place, I can create an Element Disturbance. Of course, I don't have the control over what element it will be, so it will depend only on what element has the highest concentration.]

"That's pretty sick, you know." Alex twitched his eyebrows. "Just imagine creating a star inside a planet..."

[Mini star. No, it's like a core instead? Well, I did it once, and the surface melted, turning it into a deep five hundred deep crater. And the size... Don't ask me.]

"As expected, Rank 1 God is incredible."

[Of course, the effort is also...Ugh, I don't want to talk about it. Anyway, with this training style of yours, I don't think it will be that hard.]

"Well, who knows?" Alex shrugged. "Anyway, that beast is stronger than that of a God King, so I need to surpass that stage."

[Good luck. I doubt I can do it, so the rest is in your hand.]

"Yeah. Thanks." Alex nodded.

Aria kept looking at the window as she was mesmerized by the sight. It looked like she wouldn't get bored anytime soon.

Alex only closed his eyes and waited while resting his mind before he heard another notification from the speaker as soon as the ship had reached its speed.

Even Aria retracted her gaze and returned to the speaker.

"We will reach our destination within five days. Make sure you don't break anything in this ship because it will endanger all people inside this ship. We have our own surveillance system with the help of the

elders, so don't break anything unless you want to die. Fighting is also forbidden. The list of the rules is on the table in your room, so make sure you understand them first. Breaking the rule means death.

"You can use any facilities inside the ship and don't cross anything that has been blocked by our elders. And don't forget to look outside. This might be the first and last time you can look at outer space. They are beautiful. There is also information about the planet in it, so you should read it. Thank you."

Alex immediately looked at the table, finding a few papers on it. He only took the planet's information and read it. Aria also walked toward him and read it together.

Aria had been learning about color, reading, writing, and other basic stuff due to her blindness. So, it was no wonder that she could read the letter that her father gave back in an emergency situation.

"Let's see." Alex took a glance at Aria's face that came close to his and asked her to sit before holding it so both of them could read it together. "The planet's name is Natec. It doesn't have a human in it, but the planet knows that humans exist.

"It seems they are going to test our ability to adapt to this environment and understand other races. That's good, but I think many of them would die due to racism. Anyway, next is about the rotation. One day only has six hours...A tenth of our time. This is going to be absurd because we will see the change easily."

"Six hours a day? There is a time difference?" Aria gasped and looked at Alex. "You...In your main world...Your time...was it faster or slower? What is your real age?"

Alex thought for a moment and smiled. "What do you think?"

This instantly frustrated her. Even though Alex's world seemed to have more hours a day than her, she just couldn't believe it after seeing how Alex advanced like none other. Even she had experienced it.

If she kept going at it, the latter looked more convincing to her.

"You are even younger than 47 years old in our world's time?" She was shaking, slowly kneeling in front of him. "Ehm...How do I sign up as your wife? I mean it!"

Alex smiled and put his hand on her head before tightening it.

"Argh! I was kidding...Wait, no! I wasn't kidding. Let me be your wife. I can warm your bed and take care of our children." She hurriedly made a promise. "This elder sister is good at everything."

Alex let out a long sigh and said, "If you keep doing this, should I throw you out of this room?"

She instantly turned docile and stopped moving. When Alex released her, she sat back on the chair. "Your achievement and your age are too ridiculous. You will be chased by the whole world...No, not only my world but also the worlds we have passed. Now I can understand why you are hiding your ability."

Alex shrugged. He knew that Aria was smart enough to speculate this.

"Can I ask you this one thing...You...According to my world's time, are you below or over 20 years old?"

Alex fell silent and wondered if he should tell her. He had expected that Aria would be able to calculate his training time and cultivation speed to know his true age, but she seemed to want to ask the question and be done with it instead of calculating it.

After thinking for a minute, he decided to answer her. "Almost."

Hiss

She sucked a cold breath before sighing. "How many suitors have been lining up in front of your home?"

"None. There is no one like that. You already understand my principle after seeing how I deal with Mya, so there is none."

"Fair enough. It must be hard for you. I wonder what will happen if they know that there is someone who reaches the Sword God's level under one hundred years old."

"It will throw the world into panic. Anyway, I am planning to abandon my identity after leaving, so you won't know about it." Alex smiled.

"Then, how can I contact you in the future? I mean, I will join your influence... That's not because of your age and achievement but because of your kindness to me this whole time."

"When that time comes, I will send someone to get you." Alex smiled before his gaze returned to the paper. If he continued to talk about his age, there wouldn't be an end. "Anyway, next information. The citizens of this world will be treating you with a smile if you are their friends. Fair enough. Basic information.

"There are three suns and one hundred moons. Oh wow. The sky will be filled with this. Anyway, the world itself is an Upper World, only limited to 10-Star Martial Saints. However, it seems to be higher than the normal Upper World, so a huge portion of the population are Martial Kings and above.

"Due to the constant change of daylight, everything doesn't look like our original world, so we need to adapt as well. Because of that, the majority of them have speed far faster than us, so we need to be careful.

"That's quite interesting." Alex nodded and kept reading. It was a full thirty pages of basic information about the world, taking around one hour to finish.

Aria was tired after using her Sword Eyes continuously, so she decided to rest on Alex's bed for a while since he had promised her there wouldn't be any cultivation on the first day.

•••

A few days later, they arrived at a certain Divine World where they dropped the God Rank Experts. Due to their body, the God Rank Experts didn't need any kind of protection and entered the world without any difficulty other than burned by the atmosphere. However, their body was stronger than that, so they didn't have any kind of injuries and landed safety.

When Alex saw that, he wondered if that would be the scene when another planet invaded Eulja, albeit he could only shake his head because he wouldn't let something like that happen. It would be better to fight in outer space than let his enemies burn his home.

As for Aria, she already went back to her room and watched this with great interest but couldn't ask anything since Alex forbade her to enter his room until they needed to leave as well.

Another two days then passed as a certain announcement woke everyone up.

"If you can find a big planet filled with lands, that is our destination. We won't be parking the ship inside the planet, so head to the teleportation room according to the floor your room on. Find the room yourself. Those who haven't reached the planet will be eliminated.

"And as soon as you get there, don't go anywhere for six hours, so the elders can brief you as well. Other than that, you are free to do your own thing. The time limit is one year of this planet's time or 360 days. Let's go!"

Alex gradually opened his eyes, knowing that the time had arrived. Aria even knocked on his door as soon as the announcement ended as if she was anxious.

When he opened the door and let her in, she looked very eager to go to the new planet, wanting to experience living on another planet like Alex.

"Let's go."

"It's too crowded." Alex shook his head. "We can go after most of them go."

Chapter 975 - Going Toward The Destination

As soon as Alex and Aria arrived at the planet using the Teleportation Array inside the ship, Aria looked at him as if she wanted to ask another question.

'What?' Alex asked with a thought transmission.

'Do you know that the world is actually rotating?'

'Yes. That's why you can experience night and day.' Alex nodded.

'But don't you think this one is a bit too fast? It's far faster than my original world. And how can they be spinning like that even though we don't feel anything right now?'

'It's complicated. One of the simplest answers is gravity, a pulling force from the world itself. Don't you feel that your body is actually several times weightier than normal?'

'Yes. I am not sure, but it is close to one hundred times, I think.' She nodded.

'The people will surely try to adapt to this environment first before, so it's better to stay close to me since we are going somewhere else.'

'Do you find something?'

'No. We are going to the cave first to get the mouse. After that, we can search around for treasures. As long as we have a few thousand points, it shouldn't be too much of a problem.'

'I understand.' She thought for a moment. 'What are we going for the rest of the year then?'

'Treasure hunting.' Alex smiled. 'Anyway, we have a year here which is equal to a month or so. If we sum up the traveling time, we are leaving the world for two months. Make sure that you are not wrong with that.'

'Don't worry. I have considered this.' She nodded and looked around, finding Elder Ravagera. He stood in the sky and observed the condition, finding that the disciples had begun to be impatient.

"There is one more hour, but most of you have left the ship, so I should begin explaining the whole situation too." Ravagera started with this to get all their attention. When the silence came, he continued, "No one shall pick a fight against each other within this hour unless you want to face me in a life and death battle.

"Because this world is only a tenth of our world, you will find yourself traveling faster than you can think. However, I believe you won't get too far...Well, just make sure that you know when to come back since we will leave you on this planet if you haven't come back when the time comes.

"Anything that happens after this one-hour grace period is outside my jurisdiction. Even if you are killed by the people of this world, we won't do anything. Hence, do your best and use your wisdom to reach the top. You may begin now!"

When Alex heard that, he grabbed Aria's hand and dragged her, following the first group that also left as soon as the competition began.

'What are you doing?' Aria asked while stabilizing her body and flew by herself.

'We need to get away from this place as soon as possible. The farther, the better.'

'Shouldn't we aim at the continent that has the most resources? If I am not wrong, this continent is the strongest one.'

'I can find a weak Divine Plant that can only sustain its life in a low-level world. If you think that every resource can be gathered only in the most powerful area, then you are wrong. I will gamble this chance.'

'Well, I don't have a problem since you are the leader.' Aria nodded. 'Besides, I notice how thin the energy connecting the compass to the place that has the mouse, so it must be far away. We should go there.'

'That's my plan.' Alex nodded. He had been heading straight to the mouse location no matter what he needed to find, but he actually had another plan if the original plan failed. He simply needed to choose a location and used his power to travel inside the ocean.

After another three hours, the light slowly disappeared, and the darkness came.

"The night has finally come," Aria exclaimed in surprise. "Do the people in this world sleep during the night?"

"Probably." Alex nodded. "Still, we arrived in the afternoon, so it seems we have covered a great deal of distance for the first three hours since the night just came. I mean, we are moving toward the sun direction, so the night comes a little slower."

Aria thought of that simple logic and interpreted it with the knowledge she got during the trip. And she confirmed that what he said was true.

This might be her first time to be this curious to see another planet, learning more about them.

"Well, there is one more thing that you can expect from visiting another planet. You will meet a unique power that has been polished by the inhabitants for thousands if not hundreds of thousands of years. That's why I come to your planet."

Aria nodded with a serious expression. "I can finally understand your motive right now. It must be so refreshing to experience a time difference. Well, as long as it's not for too long, I don't think I will get bored anytime soon."

"Yeah. Boredom might be the enemy of a cultivator. I mean, they can live long and witness everything the universe can offer...Well, not really. The universe is infinite because there will be a bigger universe waiting to explore, but they are too far to be reached." Alex sighed.

"Cultivators don't really get bored. I mean, if you are talking about yourself, sure, you will reach God King Stage soon, so you don't need to think about cultivation anymore. But for others? They are still trying to improve themselves, myself included." Aria just couldn't understand what kind of view he had, so she only gave a general answer.

Alex heard it and scratched the back of his head. It was true. When the time he reached God King Stage or even higher, he wondered whether to pursue the cultivation path or enjoy his life? He would probably choose the latter. After all, who would make another unknown enemy elsewhere when you could enjoy your life as a king here.

Alex didn't say anything more and continued traveling. Even though the planet rotation was very fast, they kept moving toward their target, not wanting to waste time. Instead of counting the days, Alex counted the hour instead, which was more reliable.

After several days of flying, he finally found the first ocean they needed to cross before reaching the target.

"Hmm...It seems the mouse is in another continent. However, I feel that we are not that far anymore." Aria looked down, wondering if it was safe to cross this sea. "What do you think?"

Alex activated his Spirit Eyes and found nothing great in their journey. In fact, he had been looking around with his Spirit Eyes from the start, looking for a great thing. Unfortunately, he couldn't find a single thing, even a settlement.

"Well, we should cross the ocean. If I am not wrong, it will take at least a month to reach the target. At most, we can only go around that place for nine months before returning here." Alex nodded. "If I don't have an intention in coming to the Sword Pavilion, I might choose to fake my death here or just let them leave without me."

"True enough. The Sword Pavilion is a big opportunity for you." She nodded. "Anyway, I will help you in any way I can since I will get my own benefit just from doing so, right mister?"

Alex shrugged. "If you have too much energy, why don't you fly first. Don't worry. I didn't find any powerful sea creatures inside...Well, probably some later. You are going to finish it off."

"Geh. Just when I praise you, your personality changes into a devil instructor." She pouted before taking out her sword. "Well, it's a free training, so I don't really mind."

They nodded at each other and flew across the ocean.

After a few hours in, Aria had killed around one thousand low-level monsters before realizing something. "When I look at this sea and the creatures reside within it, a question appears in my mind."

"Ask away like you always did when we traveled." Alex nodded.

"I heard that the Sword God could split a world into two, but I couldn't imagine something like that. A planet is this big, so it looks impossible."

"Of course, this is an Upper World. If you search for a Low-Level Planet, you can understand that a person can destroy a planet with a single swing. Although it's only for the best of the best, it is still an amazing achievement.

"I myself can't tell you anything yet since I haven't done it." Alex shrugged.

"So, you are aiming for it?" She smiled.

"What? Is your goal not that? Do you not want to be a God King?"

"That's just a pipe dream for me." She shook her head. "It's true that I still want to be an expert, but my original expectation is only a Peak Master in the Unsurpassed Blade Sect. When I understand you more and more, my expectation has risen to another level which is the sect master. But that's all."

"You should aim for more. Besides, you have the same chance as my wife, so I don't think you should set your expectation too low. It might take a bit longer, but you shouldn't give up." Alex smiled, encouraging her.

"It's easier said than done, but I guess I should follow your advice. If I can't reach it, you need to take responsibility and marry me."

"Enough with the flirting when you don't mean it. You just see the benefit." Alex shrugged. "Anyway, it's better to focus on our objective first. I am not planning to search around for the whole nine months, alright?"

"Hoh?! You don't want to search the whole planet?"

"I don't want to be that greedy. I will search only this continent for six months and focus on my cultivation. Maybe, I can slip a one-week vacation in the schedule, enjoying myself on the beach or something." Alex shrugged.

"You should tell me! I didn't bring my swimsuit...Oh, wait, mister, are you more interested in nude be—Gah!" She stopped talking since Alex grabbed her head again.

"You are getting more and more brazen by the day. Maybe I should discipline you a little bit." Alex suddenly threw her to the front.

"Ahhh! Are you going to kill me with this speed?"

"You are not that weak. Your Spiritual Energy can protect you easily!" Alex shouted before speeding up to catch up.

Alex decided to bully her for two weeks before they finally finished crossing the ocean. Even so, she still teased him the whole time until Alex gave up.

It wasn't like she was serious about it, so he just let her be to spice the journey up.

After a total of thirty days, they finally reached their destination that seemed to be buried inside a tall mountain that pierced the sky.

Alex looked at this mountain that seemed to be a few times higher than Mount Everest. "Let's climb this mountain. Our target is up there."

"Alright."

Chapter 976 - Leka

Alex and Aria leaped to the sky, heading straight to the top of the mountain. The mountain itself was the biggest one he had ever seen. Not a single peak in the Unsurpassed Blade Sect could hold a candle against this one.

The air started getting thinner and thinner. Aria was the first to experience it and covered her body with Spiritual Energy, so she could act like nothing happened.

"What? You can still—"

"I can. Trust me. I have never expected that the peak master gives this type of challenge for the mouse." She clicked her tongue. Her breath blew the cold air around her nose, but her complexion remained the same.

Alex calculated the height and furrowed his eyebrows. "This is going to be a bit hard for you. Do you want to wait on the bottom?"

"You should already know my answer, right?"

"Fine." Alex nodded before using his Pure Fire to warm her up, so she could focus on getting higher. "I feel that there is another way to reach the top."

"This is the fastest way, don't consider it. We can try it when descending." She shook her head.

After another few seconds, they finally reached the peak. It was a quite large peak, spanning over one kilometer in diameter. It wasn't a volcano, so he didn't see anything from this height.

"This is a dilemma. If I use my fire to burn the snow, it will create an avalanche to the bottom, leaving a mark for others to see." Alex furrowed his eyebrows and looked around to find an entrance.

Aria also started searching after stabilizing herself. What made her look exhausted earlier was the difference in temperature and air pressure that significantly dropped. She needed to adjust her body to match the environment, taking more energy than she thought.

After reaching here, she poured all her energy to adapt and managed to finish it within a few breaths. She then started using her Sword Eye to check the surroundings.

Alex's Spirit Eyes were also working perfectly, searching for an energy leak. He could see a Martial Monarch beast inside the peak, so he needed to find a way to enter. If he didn't find one for a period of time, he decided to enter with the Teleportation Array.

Three minutes later, Alex shouted. "Aria, here."

She turned around and flew toward him. "Alright."

Alex found a block of ice that seemed to be blocking the entrance or they could say it was an exit instead. After all, if they climbed the mountain from the inside, they would use this and jump down.

Nonetheless, Alex moved the block, and the snow fell inside, showing an entrance.

"Let's go." He looked at Aria with a nod as both of them jumped inside.

It turned out that there was quite spacious inside. The cave didn't have anything in particular, but one could find a fluctuation of Spiritual Energy here.

"Can you feel it?" Aria asked and closed her eyes, focusing her sense on the fluctuation, trying to decipher where it came from.

However, Alex already saw everything through his Spirit Eyes and pointed at a wall like how he discovered the fake wall inside the Sword Cave. "That's where it comes from."

"Why don't you let me do it? I mean, I can experience how to find it with my own senses." She pouted.

"Sorry. I just want to be faster than anyone else. Besides, I don't think we can stay for too long."

"What do you mean?"

"Do you think I threw you because I didn't like your joke?" Alex asked.

"Yes?!"

Alex let out a long sigh. "Did I actually have credibility in front of you? Anyway, I have a reason. It's to avoid having the people behind us catch up. I know there is someone far behind us, heading straight to the mountain, so I believe there is someone aiming for this too...Not someone, maybe two people."

"What?!" She furrowed her eyebrows. "I see. Are you going to exit this place the same way?"

"Not really. Two weeks have given us enough time to test what kind of trial we will face if we go up normally. If the ones chasing us also have the same thought as mine and chose the easier travel, we could use the exit on the ground to escape." Alex smiled. "Don't worry. I have calculated all this."

"I am confused. You are basically doing anything while maintaining your cultivation speed. Why won't you calm down and just focus your cultivation for a bit? I mean, it will surely allow you to reach a higher realm faster, no? Even without Sword Qi, I think you don't have the problem in your fighting prowess."

"My enemy is far stronger than me," Alex said mysteriously. "Knowing that, do you think you will still come to work for me?"

"I do. This is a gamble. Rather than satisfied with only Rank 3 God, I will be aiming for God King from now on. And the only place that can let me achieve that faster than anyone is your place." She smiled. "That's why I dare to gamble it with my life on the line."

Alex looked at her face and nodded. "In that case, I will welcome you when you reach there."

"Hoho, the reception from the master itself? I am honored." She smiled before halting her steps and looking at the wall in front of her.

Alex didn't wait for her and entered inside the wall as if everything was just an illusion like the one in the Sword Cave. "They do like to create something like this, eh?"

"Haha...It indeed looks like the work of someone from the sect." Aria agreed with a chuckle.

He then raised vision up and found a hanging cage that seemed to be made of Rank 8 Metal. Inside that was a small mouse. It sensed Alex and Aria and turned around, looking at them with a sad face as if he wanted to leave.

Alex smiled and waved his hand, putting down the cage to the ground. "I have one question for you before releasing you outside. No, not a question. It's a choice."

"Squeak?!" The mouse tilted its head with confusion.

"You can sense a treasure, right? If yes, then this is the choice. Firstly, you can leave this place and never meet us again. We will make a contract that you need to find us three treasures that we find useful and go our separate ways.

"Secondly, you follow us, and we won't treat you badly. In fact, I can help you to become a Divine Beast. Well, to be honest, I have a Divine Beast in my current house, so you will have a friend. Besides, my wife is also a Divine Beast, so you can be assured that I won't treat you badly." Alex smiled. "Your choice. Which will you choose?"

Just like Heilo, the mouse could understand his words as well. After confirming that Alex was genuine with his instinct, it looked down before stretching its hand to him. "Squeak!"

Alex smiled and said, "Nice to meet you. I am looking forward to our time together."

"Squeak Squeak."

"What? You can eat treasure to boost your cultivation? That's even easier. Unless it's something that she or I need, it will go to you. How about it?" Alex nodded in agreement.

"Squeak!" The mouse raised its hand before waving it cutely.

Aria was already captivated with its cuteness and remained silent this whole time, hoping Alex to free the mouse as soon as possible.

Suddenly, Alex got a notification and read it.

[Alex. The mouse is the Spiritual Mouse. This mouse is the most sensitive mouse for treasure. I think that Ilevis didn't know the real worth of this mouse because if she were to sell this in the market or auction, it could reach as high as one hundred billion Spirit Crystals.]

"Fighting power?"

[None. But if this guy can be cultivated greatly, it can even sense any Spirit Crystal Mines underground or even the sea. Basically, it's more powerful than your Spirit Eyes. Of course, you need to cultivate it properly.]

"No wonder." Alex nodded and thought for a moment. "Well, I have never had that intention, but I should be able to ask the little mouse from time to time."

[Alright. You can do everything you want.]

If the mouse indeed could sense a Spirit Crystal Mine better than him, it was surely something amazing. After all, it was the same as having another source of income. He thought for a moment and understood that he just found a very powerful mouse.

Suddenly, a thought appeared in his mind regarding the mouse. He thought, 'If there is a Spiritual Mouse like this, there should be a monster that can sense pills, treasures, or any other things, right?'

[Yes, but they are not a mouse. This mouse is only specialized in getting the Spirit Crystal. There is a Metallica Dog, Five Colored Golden Crow, and Rainbow Peacock. They are able to sense raw metals, treasures, and pills.]

"I see. Anyone have them yet?"

[The Blackwade Clan has Metallica Dog. If I am not wrong, the place where I originally sent Firia to compete in Alchemy had Rainbow Peacock. I don't have other information for the other beasts.]

"That's enough." Alex nodded before looking at the mouse. "What is your name?"

"Squeak!"

"You want a name?" Alex thought for a moment before Aria suddenly appeared beside the cage and shouted. "Ragur! Your name is Ragur!"

"Squeak!" The mouse complained while pointing its finger to its stomach.

"Female mouse?" Alex understood her again.

The mouse repeatedly nodded before looking at Alex as if Aria just wronged her with that name.

Alex shook his head helplessly and smiled. "Your name shall be Leka."

"Squeak!" Leka leaped out of joy.

Aria felt dejected how she got rejected like that. This was the cutest thing she had ever seen, so she just couldn't contain herself. She tried to open the cage with her sword, but Alex stopped her, especially after seeing the terrified expression from Leka.

She completely misunderstood Aria.

"She is not going to kill you. Anyway, move a bit from the cage." Alex smiled, assuring her before placing his hand on the cage. His Pure Fire appeared and melted the cage, letting Leka out.

When it first stepped outside the cage, Aria's hands instantly caught her, and she brushed her cheek against the mouse, showing the appreciation of its cuteness.

Alex let out a sigh, wondering what she would do when she met Sherry in her small form.

Leka looked at Alex and waved her hand, asking him to save her.

He only took out a Divine Mace and smiled while transmitting his thoughts. 'She was able to see just a few months ago, so this is the first time to see a cute creature like you.'

The mouse seemed to understand him and tapped Aria to wake her up from her bliss.

Aria furrowed her eyebrows and looked at Leka for a while.

Within that time, Leka patted her forehead a few times. "Squeak!"

"You are so nice!" She brushed her cheek again.

Leka then turned back to Alex, finding him smiling.

"By the way, why do you agree to come with me?" Alex asked.

"Squeak Squeak."

"You find that my Spiritual Energy is purer than her? And because I can understand you?" Alex was amazed before replying. "Well, I am a God Rank Expert, so you must find my Divine Energy...Even though I have sealed it completely. It seems I will meet someone that can see through the seal in the future, I should be prepared for this.

"As for why I can understand you, it's because I have experienced it. I have several phoenix friends and my wife herself is a Divine Beast. That's why." Alex smiled before giving the mace to Leka.

To his surprise, Leka carried the mace without a problem and started munching it, slowly but surely.

"Squeak!" There was a star on her eyes while looking at the mace.

"Delicious? You're welcome." Alex smiled.

She then continued to eat while ignoring whatever Aria did in the meantime.

Chapter 977 - That World?

Aria calmed down not long after that, and Leka instantly leaped to Alex's hand.

"Let's go down, shall we?" Alex asked with a smile.

"Yes." Aria nodded with her eyes closed again.

"Squeak Squeak!" Leka stopped him as if she wanted to tell him something. "Squeak Squeak."

"You feel something in this mountain?"

She repeatedly nodded before pointing the half-eaten spear and hitting it a few times.

"You want to get stronger first because the energy is enough to have a breakthrough? Sure, I will be making my way to the bottom. Don't worry. Although my sense is not as sharp as yours, I have my own way of recognizing such a thing. Do you need a private space or something?"

"Squeak." She sat on his shoulder and slowly laid down.

"Alright. You can breakthrough on my shoulder. I am looking forward to your breakthrough to Martial Saint." Alex smiled before taking the half-eaten spear from him and stored it inside a Space Ring. "Go on."

Leka then closed its eyes and had a relaxed posture before starting to cultivate. Of course she would advance to 1-Star Martial Saint from 10-Star Martial Monarch, she just ate half of Alex's Divine Spear.

Although the spear quality was one of the lowest, it was still a Divine Spear.

Alex took another look at Leka's condition and turned to Aria. "Let's go descend this mountain."

"But there is no other way to go there..." She furrowed her eyebrows while looking around, finding no hole or something.

"Don't worry. Just follow me." Alex smiled as he already found the path. He walked toward a wall without any special marking on it and took out his weapon.

Behind the wall was the stream of Spiritual Energy leading to the bottom, so he knew there must be a path behind it.

He cut down the wall and let it crumble, but when he realized it fell down, he caught it with his Spiritual Energy and put it inside the room.

"Fu. I don't want to have these rubbles to mess up something in the bottom." Alex shook his head before walking straight to see what he could find on the other side.

Aria also followed him and looked down, finding it covered with mist. "Can you see anything?"

"Nope. I feel a powerful Dark Energy under this mountain, so I am not sure whether we should go down or not. From what I see, this mist contains energy that makes us hallucinate." Alex furrowed his eyebrows. He was immune to illusion due to his Spirit Eyes, but Aria wasn't.

"There is one solution there." She smiled and grabbed Alex's hand. Her eyes were closed. "I can hold your hand and go down while closing my eyes. Besides, I am a blind girl, so it won't be a problem. If it's just a sound, as long as you don't mention something, I will just believe it as an illusion."

Alex never thought that she was this decisive. After considering a few aspects, he agreed to this and looked around this bottomless pit with nothing but mist.

'Should I burn it with my Pure Fire? Nah, I shouldn't. There is a possibility that the peak master will check this place again. The ones who are chasing me might do the same, but that's something I need to worry about later.' He decided to just go and used his Spirit Eyes to check everything when they were going down.

"Here I go." With that plan, he pulled Aria and jumped to the pit while covering Leka with his Spiritual Energy so she didn't float. At the same time, the remaining energy went to the bottom of their feet, decreasing their falling speed.

Meanwhile, Aria didn't plan to sit still. She used her heightened senses due to her blindness to check the surroundings like Alex did with his Spirit Eyes. Unfortunately, she couldn't find anything yet.

They fell around one kilometer within a minute, and it took them half an hour before reaching the ground.

"That's all?" Alex asked while furrowing his eyebrows. "You can open your eyes. There is no challenge at all."

Aria shook her head. "Are you seriously saying that? You must be a freak. When I went through there, I had many things in my mind that wanted to make me crazy, you know. I don't know what will happen to me if I open my eyes. And if we were falling too slow, I would have experienced it longer. I don't know if I can handle that."

"..." Alex fell silent. The fog must contain a powerful illusion inside, but he didn't know whether this was something natural or not. He thought, 'Should I gather the fog?'

[It's a phenomenon, I guess. There must be something powerful in this mountain to create something like that.]

'Really?' Alex contemplated for a second and looked around the mountain, finding no suspicious energy. "What should I do now? There is nothing here, the top, and the bottom."

"Should we search for an exit first?" Aria offered a solution, especially since Leka was trying to breakthrough.

"Alright then." Alex nodded and looked around. They had been inside a ten-meter pit this whole time while being surrounded by different types of rock formations. Alex saw around three or four rock formations, so he felt something was different in this mountain.

"Still, I could feel metals and gemstones when we fell earlier."

"Most of them were Rank 7 materials. I have no need for them. Maybe I will come back for the Rank 8 materials, but that's it, I guess?" Alex tilted his head in confusion, wondering what he could do with those materials.

[You can donate it to the Gacha Inventory, so when you start the Gacha System in another world, you will have enough stock to give all of them.]

"Well, the stock is already big enough. I was utterly speechless when I saw there are more than a trillion water bottles in the Inventory. In addition, there are Water Gallons and Tanks..."

[Go for a big world composed of water and process everything there. Besides, you could make an endless supply of water by becoming a cultivator and learn the composition. I mean, if you have Water Element, you will naturally water energy around you that can be turned into water itself.]

"Welp. It won't be depleted very soon. It's not like the world we search for will have billions of humans. Even so, it will take years to deplete all the water." Alex shrugged while looking around to find a way out.

"There is something weird with this." Aria tugged Alex's hand and pointed at the side.

Alex turned around and found a marking, specifically blue lines. He walked there and furrowed his eyebrows. "This looks very familiar..."

"Do you know this?" She asked.

"Yes..." Alex mysteriously nodded and answered. "This is a rune."

It was a similar rune to the one the undead used back in the Upper World. "Why is this here?"

"What are we going to do with this?" Aria asked.

Alex channeled his Spiritual Energy to fill the lines that hadn't been used for generations. The blue light slowly brightened the entire room before he realized that the glow slowly rose.

"Wait...This is..." Alex narrowed his eyes before narrowing his eyes, stopping channeling the Spiritual Energy to this rune.

"What is that?" Aria asked, never expecting to see the blue light spread to the top. Luckily, Alex stopped when it reached only one hundred meters.

"This is Rune. I think I have seen this myself, but if I am not wrong, this rune is for a tower..." He narrowed his eyes, recalling every single memory about the tower he happened to see in that Special Realm and came to a realization. "Seriously?"

"Do you find—"

Alex stopped her and nodded with a serious expression. He pointed at the runes around and explained. "This is the rune for the tower. Don't tell me...This is a tower? Or is this actually a natural mountain that has been turned into a tower? Wait a minute. Now that I think about it, this is an Upper World, not a Divine World. The elders..."

"The elders returned to the ship after explaining a few things. It seems they can't really come to this world and will get expelled soon." She nodded.

"If that is the case...The only one that can make a rune is only that race..." Alex facepalmed and asked. "Have I once asked for their world's name?"

[I believe not.]

"Haha..." Alex laughed uncontrollably. "This is their planet, no? There is no information regarding their races, so I believe what they are talking about the nomadic race is actually the beastmen. Considering their humbleness and their understanding of the other races, they should know about this as well. For an Upper World to know about this is amazing, so I believe the so-called currency is what the dwarves made."

"Do you know this world?" Aria found something weird and asked.

"Not really, but I have once met people from this place." Alex nodded. "I haven't confirmed whether this is their planet, but I think I am going to check it."

"Seriously? What will you do then? And...Are they your friends?"

Alex thought for a moment. "Not really. I just helped them in the past under an agreement."

"..." Aria made a complicated expression and asked. "If there is a war between the two planets, which one will you help?"

"None." Alex shook his head. "I will remain neutral and let them solve the problem. Besides, if my memory is correct, they love peace. Unless they are threatened, no one would be harmed."

"This is going to be bad, no?"

"Yes. Even though the sect is indirectly telling the disciples to avoid unnecessary conflict and trade with them, no one can easily control the entire one hundred thousand people." Alex nodded with a serious expression.

"What should we do then?" Her heart started beating rapidly, knowing that this world might turn into chaos soon.

"I am not sure. There is a possibility that these people already know about us coming here and have a certain agreement with them. But I need to meet their leaders first to see whether it is indeed them."

"Do you know where we should go?"

"Nope. We are only at the edge of the continent, so I bet this is a pretty high-level continent as well." Alex thought for a moment. "For now, we will explore this mountain first and secure an escape route before investigating the outside world."

He also had a mixed feeling about this since he knew both of them, especially the leaders of the three races.

If the two were fighting against each other, he would probably stay here without doing anything.

With that thought in mind, Alex then started walking around the hole to see if he could find a clue or not.

Chapter 978 - Questions

"This one?" Alex thought for a moment before shaking his head. "I think we have nowhere to go from this small place. The only way is to go up or teleport."

"So, we go up now?"

"Wait a minute. Just wait until Leka advances to Martial Saint. It will take one or two hours." Alex nodded.

"Alright then. Can you tell me anything about this world's inhabitants?"

Alex looked at her for a while before shaking his head. "I will need to refuse to do that. For now, I don't have a plan to tell you anything. I need to make sure if this is their worth first before doing anything."

He started contemplating whether to use Njomo to check his surroundings or not and decided to do it after sending a thought transmission to Njomo that had been hiding inside her shadow.

'Njomo. Can you jump to my shadow and reveal yourself?'

'Woof.'

'Alright.' Alex felt he was saying "yes," so he didn't hesitate to call him out. "Njomo. Are you there?"

A figure emerged from his shadow as if responding to his call. He lowered his head to Alex, greeting him politely.

Aria opened her mouth in surprise. She never saw Njomo this whole time, so she was completely baffled by the entire situation. After all, this meant there was another Divine Beast that had been hiding in his shadow this whole time, and not a single of them could see it.

Alex ignored her reaction and asked. "I am sorry for asking you this, but can you check our surroundings. It can be anything. I just want to know whether this world is the one I know."

Njomo nodded and turned into a shadow, flying upward. Aria couldn't see it as if Njomo just vanished from the world once again. She kept glancing at Njomo's previous location and Alex back and forth with a dumbfounded look.

"You have become too curious when you can see." Alex fell silent. "I am not mocking about your disability, but I am starting to worry. Just like a poor man who suddenly gets wealth that can only appear in their dream will use all the money without thinking about his spending at all.

"If you are becoming too curious, I am worried because you will be in danger sooner or later." Alex scratched the back of his head. "I had once experienced that. When I had little power and became a bit too proud, I actually decided to do something foolish like observing a war that was clearly beyond my power.

"At that time, I almost died. If not because of my wife, I wouldn't live here. This is not for shutting you down, but this advice is for you to calm down. I know that you are excited, but that excitement will slowly go down after a period of time.

"It's fine to be curious and question everything, but yours is... Anyway, it's better for you to experience it yourself and hope that you don't make a mistake that you can't escape from it." Alex sighed.

Aria couldn't find a single word to say to Alex. She perfectly understood his meaning and took a deep breath, reflecting upon her current self. It was true that she had been questioning many things after getting permission from Alex to use her Sword Eye to capture few important details, but her reaction was too obvious.

It could be picked up by enemies. That might be the reason why Alex reprimanded her as her tutor. Knowing her mistake, she lowered her head and said, "I apologize. I will reflect on my action and thank you for reminding me."

"It's fine. People will change with time, so I don't blame you. I just want you to remember that everything has a consequence." Alex smiled and patted her shoulders.

After that, she decided to use the waiting time to think about her actions this recently and notice how different she had become the past few months. Everything started to change when she finally learned the Sword Eye.

When seeing this point of view, she just noticed that the Sword Eye was actually a double-edged sword for her. There was nothing such as a perfect technique, and this one might be the weakness, specifically for someone like her.

Meanwhile, Alex kept watching his surroundings, trying to find anything suspicious but to no avail.

Two hours finally passed, and Spiritual Energy suddenly fluctuated, becoming the mark of Leka's breakthrough.

"Have you finished, Leka?" Alex smiled and stretched his hand for her to leap.

Leka didn't leap first. Instead, she looked at Alex and hugged his neck as if it was the way saying her thanks.

Alex only smiled at her before feeling another fluctuation of energy. To his surprise, Leka actually initiated a life and death contract with the same condition as Sherry.

"You..." Alex was surprised by the sudden action and asked. "Are you fine with this?"

"Squeak." She nodded before the Spiritual Energy surrounded her and increased her cultivation even further.

- 2-Star Martial Saint
- 3-Star Martial Saint
- 4-Star Martial Saint

The energy finally began stabilizing itself inside her body after reaching 4-Star Martial Saint. She looked at Alex and sent a thought transmission. 'Master...Can you hear me?'

'Yes. You can send a thought transmission now?'

'Because of the life and death contract, I am able to get closer to Master's ideal form to a certain degree. In that contract, I gained a bit of understanding of your normal language, thus allowing me to talk with Master.' She nodded before looking at Aria, who gradually opened her eyes because of this commotion.

"This is Leka. She can talk with a thought transmission just now. She will surely have a talk with you later, but I need to sort my thoughts first." Alex explained the whole situation to Aria.

"I understand." She nodded with a smile. It might be due to her meditation earlier. She looked calmer than before. Although it was a bit of a force, Alex believed she would become a great person in the long run.

However, Alex had no time to check on her and turned to Leka first. 'Do you know anything about me?'

'Not really. I only know that Master is a God. That's all.'

'I see. At first, I am planning to have you as my friend and have an equal contract...'

'Don't think about it, Master. I can feel that you are different from others. I can smell a fox, birds, and a monkey in your Spiritual Energy. In other words, you must have a contract with them. Seeing that your energy is pure, I feel like I can trust you.'

'Is that so?' Alex smiled before explaining to her. 'The fox is my wife. She is a Celestial Fox that governs over the fire element. As for the birds, they are my contracted beast as well as husband and wife. There is also one more which is their child, but they are not together at the time being. As for the monkey, I don't have a contract with him yet, and he won't be with me.'

'Well, I don't really understand the complicated stuff like that. Anyway, that is my basis for choosing the contract. I know that I am basically forcing this, but please take care of me, Master. I will do my best to help you too.'

'We are helping each other, but if you are sincere, I will probably treat you as my family.' Alex nodded.

'Hehe...Should we explore this first then?'

'There is no other way though?'

'I can certainly feel it. Maybe because you gave me that spear earlier, my senses are heightened now. I can locate it. It's beneath us, two or three times the fall we have earlier.'

'Really?'

'Yes. Actually, there are a few layers of rock like this underneath us, but they are not that thick. I think Master should have no problem in breaking them and head down.'

'Two or three times of thirty kilometers...No wonder I can't see it. My Spirit Eyes are not capable of seeing through that far.' Alex nodded. 'Wait a minute. Your element is not Earth, right? I feel like you are having a special element but also like one of my wives.'

'I am Nature Element, but mostly about rock and other materials. If it's about plants, I can't feel anything.' She explained.

'No wonder.' Alex nodded. He perfectly understood now why this mouse was called the locater of Spirit Crystal Mine. He simply sensed the rock formation and Spiritual Energy that coated it. As for Metal? It might be an impurity in his sense. The same applied to herbs or pills.

'Before that, I want to ask you a few more things.'

'I understand. What do you want to ask me?'

'Why were you inside that cage?'

'Originally, I was sacrificed here. They planned to use me to find sources of energy.'

'And that were Spirit Crystals Mines.'

'Yes. I found many mines in this world so they could build this big tunnel. If I were not wrong, they called this tower or natural tower. After being used, I was thrown away and locked inside that.' She sighed.

'Really? Then do you want to have your revenge?'

She took a moment to answer him, but her answer amazed him. 'No. I don't plan to involve Master in this because I believe this matter and Master is a separate matter. Besides, if they don't lock me up for three thousand years, I won't meet Master. There is something that I have been wondering, what kind of world is outside there. Is there only a single me? I would like to know.'

'You are curious like my sword, eh?' Alex smiled.

'Are you talking about me?' Eve pouted, entering their conversation. 'I couldn't see the outside world this whole time since we were stuck in this world. Well, I found interesting things in Outer Space, so I am satisfied for the time being.'

'Haha...The one talking is my Sword Spirit, Eve. I will let you see her later, but for now, let's finish our matter first.' Alex paused. 'The second question. If you don't have any more desire in this world, are you going to follow me in exploration? Although I am happy to let you do just that, I can't really afford to show you to anyone else other than those I trust.

'I still need to do a few things for around one hundred years. After that, you can follow me on my travels. What do you think about it?'

'I have been here for three thousand years. One hundred years is nothing.'

'You answered like Eve here.'

'I see a comrade.' Eve confirmed with a playful tone.

'Haha...Anyway, my last question is...Are you afraid to die?' Alex smiled.

'Nope. It was true that I was afraid in the past, but when you got abused by them and locked up for too long, that sense would become dull. For me, I just believe and enjoy whatever I can.'

'In that case...' Alex paused for a moment, asking Lin Xingzhi to do something.

Suddenly, a blue notification appeared that only Alex and Leka could see this.

'This is my power. Since we have a life and death contract, you should experience this yourself as soon as possible. Just make sure you don't tell anyone about this because this is one of my biggest secrets.'

'I understand. Besides, you can take my life at any time if you think I have talked about it to anyone.' She nodded.

'Well, we might get separated soon for the time being, and you will be staying in my world. I don't think people will use and abuse you like the people here since I will be asking my wife for it. However, don't be too proud of that as well because even if you are my contracted beast, you are the newest one there.'

'Don't worry. After knowing how to feel about getting abused, you will definitely see that you won't make people feel like that.' She nodded.

'Alright then. I am looking forward to our cooperation, Leka.'

'Yes, Master.'

'Now, it's time to drill this place.' Alex smiled and asked, 'Are you ready, Eve?'

'Of course. Do you want to use a single slash to pierce the bottom layer?'

'Haha!'

Chapter 979 - Who?

Alex asked Aria to come close and slashed the ground underneath them after briefing what he wanted to do.

The two then fell down with the rubbles around them, and Alex used his Spiritual Energy to store them to make sure they didn't bother anything with their weight.

Aria noticed it as well but didn't say anything, knowing that Alex just did something they needed to do.

They fell down for a whole minute before Alex used his Spiritual Energy to slow down their speed, finding another layer they could step on.

"This...Are we below the ground now?" Aria asked. She didn't use her Sword Eye this time due to Alex's advice and the fact that she felt pretty tired from using it continuously.

'Yes, I can feel the Spiritual Energy that permeates the ground around here has a higher concentration. I feel no air or whatever, so we are surely getting surrounded by rocks.' Leka answered her question first since Alex decided to look around.

It turned out the runes didn't stop here. From below, it would continue to the bottom, and Alex knew that they would go deep inside the hole. This made him a bit worried because the place would have a high temperature.

He never cared about the temperature, but Aria might know that his fire was a Pure Fire Element. This would be the most obvious action to show his flame's prowess, so Alex took another minute to think about this.

When he looked at Aria's face that had no doubt about him, he gave up. 'She won't spread it anyway. I should trust her a bit more.'

With that thought in mind, Alex walked toward her and asked. "This will start to become dangerous from now on."

"Are you going there? Or do you want me to leave here?" She asked with a serious expression, wanting to know Alex's real thoughts.

Alex fell silent and sighed. "This is not an order but a question. Do you want to go with me?"

She couldn't contain her happiness and said, "I do. Please take care of me."

Alex nodded. There was also another reason why he didn't want to bring her. The fact that there would be too many poisonous substances would endanger her. Without his Pure Fire, he wasn't sure whether she could endure something like that.

After all, she didn't have a Divine Body like him, so the immunity was significantly different.

"In that case, make sure you are close to me. We might find something amazing." Alex said before cutting down another layer of rock below him.

They then started going down without stopping again. To his surprise, it kept going down. He never expected to see a mountain this big. This might be the first time he could see something this wondrous. In fact, if the mountain actually had its foot on the surface, it would no doubt go as high as Outer Space.

Alex didn't care and kept going down until he dug up two times of the length between the ground level and the top level. In other words, they had traveled forty thousand kilometers below the ground until this point.

His Pure Fire was already covering his body and Aria's, not wanting her to feel the heat.

Aria, on the other hand, was completely in awe. She never saw something this deep. However, what made her baffled was the fact that she could hear many disturbing noises from the surroundings as if there were people getting tortured around them.

Alex didn't hear it, so he kept going before finding that the rune had stopped. It was exactly forty-five kilometers from the ground level.

"This..." Alex fell silent and checked his surroundings. "What are we going to do with this? Leka, are you there?"

'Yes, Master. I have never thought that they are using this place for something like this.'

"I agree. If this is their tower, I am worried about the fate of humanity when they fight back. This tower is seriously a very powerful power." Alex furrowed his eyebrows and looked around. "I am not sure, but it might even reach God Rank Expert."

"Seriously?" Aria couldn't let the last sentence go and exclaimed in surprise.

"Yes. If I am not wrong, there will be a huge amount of Spirit Crystals beneath us that can power up a massive tower like this. After all, I have once seen a tower like this, but its height is only a fifth of this. Although I admit that the tower is far bigger than this hole, I am afraid it has twice or thrice of its power." Alex nodded with a serious expression.

'There is indeed a huge amount of energy, but it's still a bit far from us. I have found many impurities as well, so I doubt it has been touched by any hand.' Leka nodded.

Alex thought for a moment. "We will go there and see whether we can take any of them back without harming either side. If not, we will leave this place."

Leka and Aria nodded.

Alex began the journey again until they stumbled across a certain platform where he could sense the leaking Spiritual Energy.

'Master. If you are destroying this one, the Spiritual Energy will leak to the surface.' She furrowed her eyebrows. 'Leka concludes that this stone is different than the rest, capable of restricting a huge portion of the energy from going outside.'

"Yes. I can see that. If my understanding is not wrong, the last few kilometers runes are used to extract the energy from this place to be used for the source of the tower." Alex thought for a moment before turning to Aria. "Can you not tell anyone what will happen afterward?"

Aria finally realized how far Alex had thought about this. It was kind of selfish for her to ask Alex where he had no choice other than to use his ability.

Due to this, Aria smiled and swore a Universe Oath instead. "I, Aria Cypress, swear upon my name that I won't tell anything about the man whose name is unknown to me but known as Nyx to me. I won't tell anyone about his power even if I need to face death."

The Spiritual Energy fluctuated, acknowledging her Oath. Even Alex was slightly surprised for her to go this length. After all, her promise alone was enough, but she chose the path with no return with this Universe Oath.

Alex had no doubt anymore and raised his right hand before snapping his fingers.

Snap.

With a single snap, an array was suddenly constructed. This was a Rank 9 Special Realm that could stop the flow of Spiritual Energy completely, so it wouldn't be possible for Spiritual Energy to leak.

After that, he didn't wait and used his sword to destroy the last barrier before jumping down inside a quite large cave.

He was shocked by the appearance of the cave because he never thought it had enough strength to prevent the upper ground from crushing it.

Meanwhile, Aria understood why Alex actually asked her for that promise. She believed her choice was the best she could give for him, so she didn't regret it. Instead, she took the promise seriously and decided to look around first.

To their surprise, they found a very beautiful cave with rainbow-colored crystals brightening the cave room.

There was even a huge amount of Spirit Crystals they could get without mining them. However, Alex had no thought about it for a moment.

"This is a quite big Spirit Crystal Mine." Alex looked around with his Spirit Eyes. He had seen the size from above when they were only three kilometers left and felt surprised by the size. Even so, not everything was actually connected, so the cave looked smaller from the inside.

[This is indeed a big one. I have once seen a Spirit Crystal mine that contained twice the amount. If I am not wrong, that one had a total of one hundred billion Spirit Crystals. Of course, it wasn't that deep inside, so many could still get it. If it was something like this, only God Rank Experts could extract it, which not many wanted to do something like this without a big payment.]

"I agree. It will take a while too." Alex thought for a moment. "This is really tempting. After all, I will need a few hundred billion to level up someone to God King with the system power, but I shall not extract this one. Is my decision wrong?"

[Nope. Your choice. We can simply search for another star or uninhabited planet to get it, so you don't need to mind.]

"However, I will take all sorts of gems and metals that I can see here and there." Alex looked around, locking the metals and other things. The weakest of them was a Rank 8 Metal, so it was enough for the payment for this trip.

He believed that the rune didn't need a gem to supply them with the Spiritual Energy, so he just chose this, not emptying their mine.

[Alright then.]

"Aria, can you help me?"

"What do you want me to do?"

"Can you see the materials around us? Other than the Spirit Crystals and the Rainbow Crystals, we can mine it. If you think a gem will take too long to excavate, then don't bother with it."

"I understand. However, you should know that my performance will be a bit lower if I don't open my eyes, right?" She asked while opening her eyes to get all the information about the cave.

"Take your time. Since you are doing this with me, we will probably use this to get enough resources until you can become a God Rank Expert. After that, I don't think it will be a problem to let you cultivate in this place with a dense Spiritual Energy." Alex smiled.

"I understand. I won't disappoint you." She nodded.

Leka suddenly leaped to Aria's shoulder and sent a thought transmission to both of them. 'Master. I am going with her. I can help her locate every single gem.'

"Is that so?" Alex was surprised to see Leka this way, but he didn't stop her. She must have talked about it with Aria during the fall and just wanted to help him. Finding such a pure intention, he couldn't say no. "Do your best."

"Understood (Yes)!" Both of them answered at the same time as they turned around and walked toward a nearby metal.

Alex took another look at them before doing his part too.

Meanwhile, in the center of the island was a massive civilization. There was a huge building in the center of the city that looked like a castle, but the shape had the same appearance as the ziggurat that Alex saw back then.

There, many people were discussing a certain matter. They were all skeletons. Though different, it was still hard to recognize them.

"What are we going to do, Brother?" A skeleton asked.

"We have an agreement with them, so we will intercept them accordingly. For now, I have asked someone to activate all our towers around the world to prepare for the interception. If a war can't help

but break, I will use that to eliminate them." A skeleton nodded with a serious expression while standing on his golden throne.

Bang.

Suddenly, another skeleton pushed open the door and shouted. "Emergency. We can't activate the tower. I believe the main tower in Scavala Mountain is not working. We don't get any input of Spiritual Energy from there, so we can't send a signal to the other towers, let alone activate them."

"What?! Send someone to the main tower and check what is wrong. They just came here, so they shouldn't know something about this yet."

"Wait, Brother. I have just come back to this planet not long ago. Let me contribute myself to society, so I don't bring shame to the name of our Royal Family." The same skeleton interjected. His eyes were full of determination and even shone a bit, telling him that he was ready to fight.

"Do you really want to go...Atlas?"

Chapter 980 - Protection

While Atlas flew toward the main tower, the people in the castle had yet to regain their calm. Instead, another messenger appeared. This time, the messenger was not an undead like them but a beastman. He had a robust lion body and a giant sword behind his back.

"Igor?!" The undead king stood with a surprised look. "Why did you come here? And without any guards and notices."

"A conflict has appeared. I am afraid this will soon become a battlefield."

"You should know about the agreement, right?" He asked.

"Yes. Even so, this is very painful. I was with my brother on the front line. Some of them were pretty generous in this term, but some of them were not. Those people even didn't care about race and tortured some of us. I couldn't handle this anymore." He shook his head before finding that Atlas wasn't here.

Due to the experience on the previous planet, he had a special attachment to him, so he frowned when he realized this. He asked, "Where is Atlas?"

"Our main tower can't be turned on at the moment. I have expected this, so I would like to minimize our loss. Luckily, as they have suggested, their God Rank Experts, mostly the strongest out of them, have landed on this island, getting locked by the world's will.

"However, I do believe they still have a few to prevent their disciples from getting massacred. So, to minimize our loss, I am planning to activate our tower from all around the world. This way, they would start to fear us. If they keep doing this, we will butcher their entire group as long as one of them is bad.

"We indeed don't like fighting, but we don't fear it. We have endured far too long."

Igor, the beast king that Alex met in the past, thought for a moment before uttering his opinion. "I have seen a trustworthy person that can wash away all those bad people. He is a true leader. What if..."

"Seeing you suggest something like that, you must have learned the true agreement, right?"

"Yes." Igor nodded.

The Undead King thought for a moment and sighed. "When they first came here, they wanted to destroy us or enslaved us because of our ability. Fortunately, I still managed to fool them once, making them abandon their plan.

"Even so, it's still not enough. They come up with another strategy in which we don't have any more choice other than agreeing to their terms. At the very least, I came up with a few favorable terms for us.

"First, they would like to take over this world by themselves, including our building and technology. However, we can leave this world with our spaceship, and they won't attack us. This is agreed by their Rank 3 God, the true ruler of their planet.

"That's why we are going to fight them and kill some of them to wash the hatred of our brethren. With this agreement, I can bring every single person on this planet and migrate to another planet. I have a few uninhabited planets in mind, but everything will depend on our situation.

"What I know is that we should get away from them as far as possible, and we need a Divine World for our new place. I want us to get stronger there, giving us the possibility of revenge. Although I don't have a plan for that, there is no telling in the future.

"I just want to give this world more choices, so our later generations won't be bullied by others. I hope you can understand me." The Undead King looked down, feeling sad.

"I know this agreement. That's why I come here."

"They are in your continent, right?"

"Yes. There is a possibility that they are aiming at the Dwarven Territory after this and destroy our plan. That's why I want all of us to join hands. And I also agree with your choice to have a Divine World as our next home. If we are not strong enough, we will always get bullied. Even if we can't become a God Rank Expert, I won't lose hope to get our later generations." He nodded.

"So, what do you want to suggest earlier?" The Undead King asked with a serious expression.

"I have once met a true leader, one that is caring to his subordinates and friends. I would like to ask for his protection even if it means becoming his vassal."

"Are you joking with me, Igor?" The Undead King was furious. They had been bullied this whole time, and if they went under someone, their standing would become lower.

Igor shook his head calmly. He didn't fear him. Instead, he smiled and said. "I have discussed this with my brother, and he's agreed."

"Your brother?" The Undead King's anger turned into surprise. The most prideful person in this place was his brother, the current Beast King. He wondered who could make such a prideful person lower his head.

"Unfortunately, my brother said that only you could listen to his name. As much as I don't want this, I would like everyone to vacate the hall."

The Undeads in the room obviously didn't want to, but the Undead King instantly nodded and asked them. "Please leave, gentlemen. Trust me. I won't make a bad decision."

They had been serving this king for long, so they had no choice other than to trust him.

As soon as the last undead left, the Undead King asked. "Who is the person that can make your brother lower his head?"

"Alexander Sirius."

"Who is—" The Undead King fell silent before finishing his sentence. Although many people could become one, only one person had the qualification. Even so, he had no knowledge about this person, especially after he died.

"This was the only thing we lied to you about because of our promise to him. However, if we decided to become his vassal, I believed there is no need to hide it anymore." Igor clenched his fist. "He is THE Alexander Sirius."

"The Spirit God?!"

"Yes. We have met such a person." Igor nodded. "The Dwarven representative, Zekhram, back then had a private meeting with his assistant. It's said to be the message from Alexander Sirius's wife, the Nature Goddess, Lin Xingzhi.

"Firstly, he told us about the plan to assist him in his last fight in that world, which we agreed. The second thing he told us...If we have no way out, come to Eulja. They will accept us."

"What?!" The Undead King stomped the ground before looking down. This was the most shocking thing he could learn.

Although even the person herself denied the fact that she was the ruler of Eulja, she undoubtedly was the one having the highest command there. And if Alexander Sirius, the Spirit God, actually emerged once again, this would be a perfect time to move over as his vassal. This way, their relationship would become a bit more solid than those who come after he is crowned.

In terms of treatment, Eulja might not be the one giving the most freedom out there. But no one could deny their protective nature of their own subordinates. This was believed by the spirits as the Spirit God taught it himself by his action.

When presented with this matter, he fell silent, feeling that everything had been going on for a while. In other words, Lin Xingzhi had managed to fool all people. The moment the people knew that the Spirit God finally came to this world again as a King, the Universe would tremble.

He thought for a moment and asked once more for the confirmation. "Are you sure about this?"

"I have met the person in question myself. He might be his reincarnation, but his principle is similar to his hearsay. I would like to gamble on this for a better future. One where we can get stronger and have

protection. I believe in the future where we don't need to be bullied again." Igor nodded with a serious expression.

The Undead King paused for a few minutes before nodding his head. "I understand. I agree with you. Becoming his subordinate is not that bad, especially since their side is the one inviting us. If I am not wrong, they are aiming for our construction ability since they are experts in medicinal herbs. It seems they are planning big."

"Hoh?!" Igor just realized it after he talked about it. No wonder that the more people thought about it, the more opinions he would get. In the end, he smiled. "Thank you."

"No. I should be thanking you. This might be fate, but you being there is the best opportunity we have." The Undead King shook his head, feeling ashamed.

"This is the luck that our ancestor gives us. Eulja's current situation is not that good because most of their allies have forgotten about them. Some even left them because of the lack of absence of the Spirit God. If we can endure the passing storm, we will become one of their allies...A genuine one." Igor nodded. "That's what my brother believes."

"Yes, I do agree with you. For now, I can't tell the others because there is no sure chance that they will remember their own agreement, considering their scale. That's why we are heading there and tell them when we reach that place. This is a win-win relationship." The Undead King nodded.

"What should we do then?" He asked.

"There is one more thing we need to do. First, we need to inform the Dwarf and have them prepare their spaceship. The agreement will end in one year, so we only need to withstand them for that long. For now, have your beastman tribe evacuate to either my territory and the Dwarven Territory.

"When the last stage comes, we will go to the Dwarf Territory for this and leave this world. Remember. Make no mistake." The Undead King warned him.

"Of course. I have learned many things when living in that world." Igor nodded with a serious expression.

"Good."

Suddenly, they were startled by the loud noise echoing in the room.

Bang.

"Brother!" Atlas slammed the door and entered the room.

"Atlas? What happened to you? Why did you rush into this room? Did something happen?" The Undead King asked worriedly. He feared Atlas was attacked by those people outside.

However, it seemed his worry was unnecessary. The latter shook his head before realizing there was Igor in this room. "What are you doing here?"

"I am discussing something with him."

"Wait...That's not it! I have an emergency that requires the three races to gather." Atlas gripped his brother's shoulder.

"Wait, wait. What happened?" He asked.

"I have one important thing that I need you to know...I want you to meet a human."

"What?! I don't like to meet them, especially since they are trying to threaten us to come to an agreement with them."

"No, no. The person I would like you to meet is THE Alexander Sirius. He is the reincarnation of the Spirit God!"

"..."