

The Mans Decree Chapter 2457 -

Chapter 2457 How Did This Happen

Staring at the clear water of the lake, Flaxseed couldn't resist kneeling down to wash his face with it. I can't wait to wash off all the dirt from the last few days.

"No, don't!" Hammerhead cried out when he saw what Flaxseed was about to do.

Unfortunately, it was too late. Flaxseed had dipped both his hands into the lake. The moment he made contact with the water, rays of piercing aura shot out of it.

Looking like sharp swords, they flew rapidly in Flaxseed's direction. Fortunately, Flaxseed had gone on his guard upon hearing Hammerhead's warning. Just as the piercing aura was about to strike him, he jumped backward and rolled on the ground, avoiding the attack in the nick of time.

Covered in dust, Flaxseed got back to his feet and wiped the cold sweat off his brow. "Why does the lake emit such a fearsome aura? I was so close to being killed by it."

"Mr. Flaxseed, are you all right?" Kai frantically inquired.

"I'm fine," Flaxseed responded with a nod.

Kai turned to Hammerhead and asked, "What was that, Master Hammerhead?"

Hammerhead explained, "This is a sword-cleansing lake. After years of having magic swords washed and refined in it, it has accumulated significant amounts of sword energy. With time, this energy evolved into sword spirits that protect the lake and prevent anyone from touching it."

"What? Did you just say that the lake has sword spirits in it? Where are they? Why don't I see them?"

The shocked Flaxseed began looking into the water but couldn't see any sword spirits at all.

Kai, who was equally curious, scrutinized the lake carefully. Even though the

surface of the water was clear, one could only see a few meters deep. Beyond that was an opaque layer of white that obscured the view of the bottom.

Nonetheless, Kai could clearly sense the sharp rays of sword energy moving through the water as if there were fish swimming in it. If one were to jump into the lake unawares, one would instantly be cut to death by the sword energy.

“Master Hammerhead, what should we do next? Do you have any ideas?” Kai asked Hammerhead.

“Of course I do. As a blacksmith of the Divine Smithing Sect, I obviously know how to deal with our own sword-cleansing lake.”

Hammerhead nodded before continuing, “Give me the Dragonslayer Sword. I’ll throw it into the sword-cleansing lake to be refined.”

Kai subsequently handed Dragonslayer Sword to Hammerhead.

With Dragonslayer Sword in hand, Hammerhead began chanting something. Thereafter he raised two pinched fingers that fired off a golden ray of light into the sword-cleansing lake.

Once the golden light entered the lake, its calm surface began to gurgle, causing the water to splash upward.

At the sight of the phenomenon, Hammerhead threw Dragonslayer Sword toward the center of the lake. It disappeared the moment it entered the water.

Immediately after, the water stopped gurgling, and the lake regained its previous calm as if nothing had happened at all.

The turn of events stunned Hammerhead, who stared at the lake in disbelief.

“Master Hammerhead, what’s going on? Where’s my sword?” Kai inquired anxiously when he saw the look on Hammerhead’s face.

“H-How did it turn out this way? This shouldn’t be happening.”

The panicking Hammerhead began to chant a spell that shot rays of golden light into the sword-cleansing lake.

However, the lake remained silent with no motion whatsoever. Even Dragonslayer Sword was nowhere to be seen.

Regardless of how Hammerhead intensified his spell, there was just no movement from the sword-cleansing lake. Frustration filled the blacksmith.

Kai, equally concerned, could feel cold sweat beading on his forehead. By now, he had become so attached to Dragonslayer Sword that it felt like a part of his own body. If it were to be lost just like that, there was no way he could accept it.

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Chapter 2458 Unworthy

Just as Kai and Hammerhead were filled with anxiety and had no idea what to do, a giant bubble suddenly appeared on the surface of the lake. It heralded the subsequent rise of a white-haired old man from the water itself.

The old man's body took on a transparent look as it floated above the water. One could clearly see that he was a spirit given the absence of a physical body.

The sight of the old man caused Hammerhead to behave in a respectful manner. He stepped forward and greeted cordially, "Greetings, Sworder. I am Hammerhead, a disciple of Divine Smithing Sect."

Sworder gave Hammerhead an icy look and said, "More than ten years have passed. And here I was, thinking that all the members of Divine Smithing Sect were dead. I hadn't expected one of you to still remember this sword-cleansing lake."

"Given that you have helped our sect refine countless sacred swords, there's no way we would ever forget you. Just a moment ago, I was trying to repair my friend's magic sword. Unfortunately, it has sunk to the bottom of the lake. I hope that you'll be able to retrieve it for us," Hammerhead said to Sworder.

"Are you talking about the sword from just now? That's one of the magic swords that I prided myself in refining. I can't believe that it has been reduced to such a terrible condition," Sworder commented with a displeased look on his face.

"Sworder, that's because the sword spirit of Dragonslayer Sword was injured when it was lost in the mundane world. It also hasn't been long since I obtained it. As a result, it was damaged due to its inability to withstand my

power. That's why I hope that you will repair the sword, as I'm confident that its true potential can be unleashed in my hands," Kai beseeched Sworder.

Sworder scrutinized Kai, his eyes brimming with contempt. "There's no way Dragonslayer Sword would fail to withstand that meager strength of yours. It seems to me that it has fallen into such a decrepit state due to your neglect. Now that the sword has been returned to my hands, I'm not going to hand it over anymore. Instead, I want to refine it into an even more powerful magic sword," Sworder declared in an icy tone.

"Sworder, Dragonslayer Sword has already become one with Kai and sees him as its owner. I implore you to hand it back to Kai," Hammerhead pleaded quickly.

"The only reason it has done so is that its sword spirit has been damaged, thereby allowing the kid to take advantage of the situation. Otherwise, there's no way it would acknowledge the kid as its owner. Dragonslayer Sword is like a child of mine, and I'm not going to allow my child to marry an incompetent man. From the aura he's exuding, he is no more than a Manifestor and doesn't deserve to wield the sword at all!"

While Sworder was speaking, ripples began to appear on his body as he started to gradually fade away.

Furrowing his brows in response, Kai concentrated the Power of Dragons in his right fist.

"Sacred Light Fist!"

He unleashed a punch in the direction of the sword-cleansing lake, enveloping the entire lake with the golden glow of his fist.

Since Sworder refused to hand over Dragonslayer Sword, Kai had no choice but to seize it by force. The sword had already become part of his body, and no one was going to take it away from him.

"Stop, Kai!" Hammerhead shouted frantically when he saw Kai attack Sworder.

Unfortunately, Kai's punch had already struck the lake. Its devastating impact sent water bursting into the air.

The disappearing Sworder materialized immediately in response to the strike.

“Insolence! How dare you attack me!”

The scowling Sworder fired off countless sword energy strikes with a wave of his hand, piercing Kai’s golden fist in the blink of an eye.

“Ever since Divine Smithing Sect was destroyed more than ten years ago, no one has dared to lay a finger on my sword-cleansing lake. Yet a young punk like you has the audacity to attack me?”

As Sworder glowered, the piercing sword energy that blanketed the sky flew toward Kai.

Watching Kai’s fist shatter and how the sword energy was descending upon him like rain, Flaxseed and Hammerhead turned pale in shock.

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Chapter 2459 Do You Have The Guts

Meanwhile, Kai’s expression turned grim as he faced Sworder’s overwhelming sword energy. Even though the latter was just a spirit, the sword energy he fired out was not to be underestimated.

Out of precaution, Kai deployed Golem Body, covering himself with shining golden scales before pulling out Divine Bow.

Upon drawing the bow, countless sparkles began to illuminate the bowstring as glowing golden arrows appeared on it.

Kai let out a ferocious roar as he released the bowstring, firing innumerable arrows toward the approaching sword energy.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Consecutive explosions rang out in the air as Sworder’s sword energy strikes were all countered by Divine Bow’s arrows.

As for Sworder, he simply stared blankly at Divine Bow with his brows tightly knitted.

“I’m surprised to see a divine weapon in your possession. It seems there’s more to you than meets the eye,” Sworder exclaimed.

“Sworder, I just want Dragonslayer Sword back and have no intention to fight you. Please return it to me,” Kai said to Sworder calmly.

Staring at Kai briefly, Sworder replied, “You can have Dragonslayer Sword back, but you have to get it yourself from the bottom of the lake. Let’s see if you have the guts to do it.”

“I’ll get it. What’s the big deal?”

No sooner had Kai finished than he prepared to jump into the lake.

Even though the sword-cleansing lake was brimming with sword energy, Kai expected Golem Body to protect himself from them.

“Kai, the lake is filled with countless sword marionettes. There was once a drunk elder of Divine Smithing Sect who jumped into the lake to bathe. He never came out after that,” Hammerhead warned Kai.

The words stunned Kai, who had assumed that Sworder was the only inhabitant of the lake and never expected there to be sword marionettes. He was well aware that the power of sword marionettes grew accordingly with the sword energy available.

The fact that the lake was brimming with sword energy meant that the sword marionettes inside were definitely formidable foes.

“Are you afraid, kid?” Sworder let out a snigger. “If you’re able to retrieve Dragonslayer Sword, I promise to not only repair it but also upgrade it for you.”

Kai readily nodded in response. “All right. It’s a deal.”

With that, Kai dived into the lake without hesitation. Barely had he entered the water when he felt his body cut repeatedly by the sword energy.

Fortunately, they were not able to cause him any harm, allowing Kai to dive deeper into the depths of the lake.

The deeper Kai went, the water clarity close to the surface began to transition into darkness. By then, Flaxseed and Hammerhead could no longer see Kai's figure from the shore.

Meanwhile, Kai fully unleashed his spiritual sense to resist the sword energy while searching for Dragonslayer Sword at the same time.

Soon, Kai seemed to come into contact with a barrier. The deeper he swam, the stronger the resistance he faced. In fact, it was powerful enough to push his body back.

Unleashing his energy in an explosive burst, Kai charged forward abruptly. After a brief feeling of tremendous pressure, he felt the tension suddenly disappear as his body rapidly descended.

As he continued to pick up speed, he saw a layer of light in front of his eyes. Only then did he realize that he was no longer surrounded by water. Raising his head to look up, he noticed that the space he was in was separated from the water by the layer of light.

It turned out that there was a huge hole beneath the lake. Floating in the air, Kai could feel his body continue to fall.

In the midst of his descent, he felt waves of violent aura rising from beneath him. Kai squinted his eyes to look and was quickly greeted by the sight of a sword marionette horde. All of them were wandering around with magic swords in their hands.

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Chapter 2460 Resurrection

On top of that, Kai could see that they had Dragonslayer Sword completely surrounded.

In order to retrieve it, he knew that he had to either annihilate all the sword marionettes or draw them away.

There were tens of sword marionettes, and every single one exuded a ferocious aura. Given that the weakest among them was at least a Manifestor, it would be impossible for Kai to defeat them all at once.

If there were only one or two Manifestor sword marionettes, Kai would have

nothing to fear. Faced with tens of them, Kai was under no illusion that he wouldn't be instantly ripped apart if he attempted to retrieve Dragonslayer Sword.

Hence, he quietly observed the sword marionettes below while floating in midair. There, he racked his brains for a plan while wearing a frown on his face.

Fortunately, the sword marionettes didn't possess spiritual sense, preventing them from detecting Kai above their heads. Otherwise, the latter would have long been annihilated.

After watching them for more than ten minutes, Kai knew that procrastinating would solve nothing. As a result, he began to drift slowly down toward the sword marionettes.

While doing so, he tried his best to suppress his aura so that they wouldn't detect him.

However, once he descended a certain distance, several of the sword marionettes below him stopped moving. One by one, their bodies exploded with blistering light, unleashing a terrifying aura that sought to envelop Kai.

Thereafter, the sword marionettes raised their heads and charged toward him. In response, Kai backed off swiftly to put some distance between himself and his attackers.

However, the sword marionettes chased him down, refusing to give him the opportunity to flee.

Staring at the small group of sword marionettes in hot pursuit, Kai realized the others seemed to be oblivious to his presence. With that thought in mind, he continued to drift away.

"Can it be that they can only detect me at a certain distance?"

At that moment, Kai came to a stop. With his eyes on the approaching sword marionettes, he pushed both palms forward to shoot a wave of piercing aura out.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Struck by his barrage of palm strikes, the sword marionettes exploded into sword energy that gradually faded away.

“This seems like a good idea.”

The sight of the decimated sword marionettes filled Kai with delight.

He could lure them out a few at a time and destroy them in smaller numbers. Doing so would allow him to retrieve Dragonslayer Sword once their numbers had been sufficiently reduced.

Putting his thoughts into action, Kai slowly approached a group of sword marionettes. Once again, those few sword marionettes closest to him began their pursuit upon detecting his aura.

Kai was elated that his plan worked as expected. He swiftly made quick work of them after luring them away.

By using the same method, he managed to exterminate more than a dozen sword marionettes. Even though the process was slow and would take a long time to kill tens of them, he couldn't think of any better ideas.

Just when he slowly approached the next group of sword marionettes, a sense of dread suddenly gripped him. He could feel waves of aura bearing down upon him from the lake above his head.

Jerking his head up to look, the sight before him caused him to gasp.

More than a dozen sword marionettes brandishing magic swords had broken through the light barrier and were charging in his direction.

“What's going on? Did the sword marionettes I killed earlier come back alive?”

The shock caused Kai to break into a cold sweat.

The sword marionettes Kai had killed earlier had dissipated away as sword energy and returned to the lake. There, the sword energy was reconstituted back into sword marionettes.

In other words, Kai hadn't killed any of them at all. And now, sandwiched between the newly-formed sword marionettes above and the ones below, he had no place left to hide.

