

The Mans Decree Chapter 2841 -

“Well, you know arcane arrays better than all of us here, Mr. Chance!” Ghaylen said. They knew nothing about arcane arrays, so they couldn’t possibly detect spiritual energy waves like that. Kai stopped talking and carefully observed the building in front of him.

Given how lavish the surrounding architecture is, it doesn’t make sense for the count to leave this house unrenovated. As old and worn-down as this house may seem, it would still cost a lot of spirit coins to build. If the count stays here and is keeping it the way it was, then it must be something special to them!

Kai was snapped out of his train of thought when the door opened all of a sudden. Hester then stepped out of the house and said, “The count welcomes you all inside.”

Nodding, Kai proceeded to lead the group into the house. They were all feeling excited and curious as to what kind of person the count would turn out to be.

Upon entering the house, they saw a veil hanging from the top of the living room. Behind that veil was the silhouette of a person, which they all assumed was the count. Due to the veil obscuring their view, they couldn’t tell if the count was male or female.

“Please take a seat...” the count said. Kai and the others were stunned when they heard a female voice coming from behind the veil. The countess’ voice sounds so clear and pleasant to the ears!

Ghaylen and the others had their jaws dropped in shock as they did not expect the count of Jipsdale to be a woman. Kai maintained an expressionless look on his face as he stared at the silhouette with a frown.

“So, you’re Kai Chance, the guy who won first place in the Alchemist Fair and owns a Divine Cauldron and heavenly thunder fruits?” the countess asked. Kai knew he couldn’t possibly keep those a secret from the countess, so he replied with a nod, “That’s right!”

“You’re quite the honest one, aren’t you? So, what special prize would you like now that you have won first place?” the countess asked. Kai responded to the countess’ question with one of his own. “What would you like to offer me?”

Since the countess announced long ago that there would be a special prize for this year's Alchemist Fair, then she must have thought of a prize beforehand! The countess fell silent for a moment before replying, "This is the special prize I have prepared for you."

A white beam of light then came toward Kai at high speed. Kai reached out and caught the item mid-air, only to realize it was a chipped emerald badge.. While holding it in his hand, he felt a sudden chill spreading through his body and had to channel his spiritual energy just to block out the cold.

The cold from the emerald badge was a lot more intense than the one Jerison unleashed. For some reason, Kai found the emerald badge somewhat familiar. After racking his brain for a bit, his eyes went wide as he recalled something.

He then quickly retrieved the emerald badge that Vasily had given him and held it against the one from the countess. The two pieces of emerald badges fused together perfectly. As it turned out, they happened to be two pieces of a single emerald badge.

Kai was shocked to the core as he stared at the emerald badge in his hand. Who is this countess? Why does she have a treasured emerald badge from Archaic Body cultivators?

With that in mind, Kai asked curiously, "Who are you? Why do you have an emerald badge from Archaic Body cultivators?"

"That is not your concern. All you need to know is that you can now find the Archaic Body cultivators' treasury and open it with this emerald badge. There are tons of magical items inside, so countless people are searching for it," the countess replied calmly.

"This is the special prize you were talking about?" Kai asked. "Is this not good enough for you? Just so you know, the treasury contains Ice Soul Pills, which you can only obtain from Ice Soul Beasts that live thousands of meters underneath the icy grounds. Do you know how much Ice Soul Pills are worth?" the countess replied.

Kai shook his head. "I'm not interested in finding out, nor am I looking for any treasure."

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“You don’t want to find the treasure? Are you sure you can withstand the temptation?” the countess asked with a tinge of curiosity in her voice.

“Indeed, I can. I’m well aware that even if I were to discover the treasure and the Ice Soul Pill, I wouldn’t be able to retain them. You’d confiscate everything from me, right?” Kai inquired with a solemn tone, his eyes narrowing slightly. The countess was taken aback by his response, but she swiftly regained her composure and let out a hearty chuckle.

She remarked, “You’re smart. However, I won’t forcibly take them from you. Instead, I propose a deal. I can neutralize your friend’s poison, and in return, all you need to do is locate the treasure and retrieve the Ice Soul Pill for me. I have no interest in the other treasures, so you can have them for yourself. Does that sound like a fair arrangement?”

Kai frowned. “How did you know I’d ask for your help to neutralize my friend’s poison?” He had never told anyone about the matter, so only Gregory and a few people in Solaris Sect knew about it.

In fact, it was Gregory who had recommended that Kai seek the countess’ assistance in removing the poison. Kai couldn’t help but feel perplexed as to how the countess was already aware of this matter.

“I know everything that happens at Jipsdale, including the fact that Vasily gave you the other half of the emerald badge. However, I won’t force you against your wishes. If you say no, you can leave with the emerald badge now. Nevertheless, I’ll have you know that I’m the only person capable of neutralizing your friend’s poison. Unless you’re able to find the person who administered the poison to get the cure, of course,” the countess replied calmly.

Yuven swiftly interjected, “Mr. Chance, please don’t agree. I believe the treasure won’t be easy to locate. Furthermore, acquiring the Ice Soul Pill is no simple task. It’s bound to be a perilous journey! I don’t want you to endanger yourself on my behalf.”

It was clear Yuven didn’t want Kai to risk his life. If something were to happen to Kai, he would be blamed by the entire Dragon Sect!

“As the countess, why didn’t you personally seek out the treasure and acquire the Ice Soul Pill? Don’t tell me Jipsdale isn’t capable of obtaining it.” Viola

voiced her skepticism. She had no idea why the countess insisted on asking Kai to risk his life to find the treasure.

“That’s because she cannot leave this building. She relies on the Soul Nourishing Formation within this structure to sustain herself. To be precise, she’s merely a spirit, not a living entity. If she departs, her spirit will scatter and vanish.

The Ice Soul Pill can amass one’s soul and vitality to create a physical body. That’s why she tasked me with obtaining the Ice Soul Pill for her. Am I correct in my assumption?” Kai inquired, directing his gaze at the countess after revealing this insight.

The countess said nothing for a long while after he finished speaking. It was evident Kai’s guess was correct.

After a brief pause, the countess finally replied, “You’re smarter than I initially presumed. You possess a profound understanding of arcane arrays for an alchemist, and you even have the demonic fire within you. I can only imagine the trials you’ve endured.”

When the countess mentioned “demonic fire,” Kai’s expression underwent an abrupt transformation. He had never shown his demonic fire to anyone. Back when he battled against Jerison, he had harnessed the demonic fire beneath his feet, preventing the frigid aura from approaching him. I don’t think anyone saw me using the demonic fire. How did the countess find out about that?

Kai couldn’t fathom how the countess discovered he was in possession of the demonic fire. Sensing Kai’s displeasure, the countess continued, “Don’t worry. I won’t ask where you got the demonic fire from or your background. All I want is the Ice Soul Pill. Help me get it, and I’ll expel your friend’s poison. It’s a win-win situation.”

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“Fine. I agree to this,” Kai replied with a nod. “Mr. Chance...” Yuven was about to protest, but Kai raised an arm to stop him.

“I agree to find the treasure and locate the Ice Soul Pill, but I’m presently unable to leave Jipsdale as Thunderhawk is waiting for me outside! If I venture out, I’ll be killed and won’t be able to locate the treasure under those circumstances,” Kai informed the countess.

“That’s easy. Jipsdale has more than one exit. Just leave through another exit. Nevertheless, whatever you encounter beyond Jipsdale is no longer my responsibility,” the countess replied.

“Sure. I hope you’ll keep your word and treat my friend.” Kai gave a curt nod. The countess instructed, “Have your friend remain here. Upon your return with the Ice Soul Pill, your friend will regain their health.”

Kai couldn’t discern if the countess wanted Yuven to stay for his treatment or if she intended to use him as leverage, fearing that Kai might not return after obtaining the Ice Soul Pill. Glancing at Yuven, Kai eventually nodded. “Sure.”

Yuven’s strength was being suppressed, so if he were to follow Kai on the treasure-seeking journey, he wouldn’t be able to help and might even be in danger.

“Kai, don’t be disheartened. I’ll stand by your side, no matter what comes our way,” Viola offered comfort when she noticed his somber mood.

Kai let out a sigh. “I’m still quite weak and constantly confronted with limitations. I must enhance my strength as swiftly as possible!” If only I were strong enough, the countess wouldn’t dare to negotiate with me!

“Mr. Chance, achieving what you have at your age is already a remarkable feat. While you may only be in the Second Level of Body Fusion Realm, if you were to encounter a cultivator in the Fifth Level of Body Fusion Realm, you could easily defeat them. Finding a talent like you in the Ethereal Realm is rare! Advancing one level for you is equivalent to others advancing several levels, so your cultivation demands more resources! The path of cultivation should be gradual, and to avoid losing control, you mustn’t rush it,” Ghaylen advised him.

He was concerned that Kai might lose his mind and opt for Demonic Cultivation as a means to enhance his strength rapidly. “Don’t worry, Mr. Samoll. I won’t be eager for a quick success!” Kai assured him.

Back at their accommodation, Kai decided to find the treasure himself. However, Viola insisted on tagging along. Ghaylen was tasked with transporting all the rewards and resources back to Emerald Cauldron Sect.

Sigurd had been in charge of Emerald Cauldron Sect's affairs for way too long, so they were afraid he couldn't manage. After Kai and Viola parted ways with Ghaylen, they departed from the inner city to seek out the Three Bandits.

This time, they hoped that the Three Bandits could fully utilize their thieving abilities, as the trio was renowned for their skills in theft. When Kai and Viola arrived, they saw the Three Bandits in a heated argument.

"It's entirely Crixus' fault! I said we should stop gambling, but he insisted on persisting. And now, we've lost everything!" Salazar lamented.

"Is that my fault? I simply wanted to recover our losses. Mr. Chance provided us with a lot of spirit coins, and we squandered them all. How are we going to explain this to him?" Crixus defended himself.

"Stop arguing. If there's no other way, we can return to our old ways and become thieves!"

Juan chimed in. Both Crixus and Salazar shot him fierce glares. "Do you have a death wish? We're in Jipsdale. If you have the audacity to steal, you'll meet a gruesome end," they warned.

"What else can we do? Are we forever stripped of the chance to enjoy delicious food and the company of beautiful women? I'd rather die..." Juan said dejectedly. Right then, Kai approached them with a smile. "What's the big deal about losing some money?"

The Three Bandits were delighted to see Kai.

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"Mr. Chance, we heard you snagged the top spot in the competition, right?" Crixus said excitedly. Kai nodded. "Looks like word travels fast around here."

"Getting that first place must've scored you some sweet rewards! I was wondering if us three..." Juan chimed in, eyeing Kai with a grin.

"No worries. As long as you stick with me, I promise you three meals every day," Kai reassured, giving Juan's shoulder a friendly pat.

“Exactly what I was thinking! Mr. Chance wouldn’t leave us in the dust. From now on, we’re ride or die with Mr. Chance!” Salazar spoke up, thrilled. After all, joining forces with Kai beat living a life of petty thievery and scraps.

“Okay, we’re about to leave Jipsdale. Better get your gear in order,” Kai said to Salazar. “Mr. Chance, where are we headed? Back to Emerald Cauldron Sect?” Juan asked.

“I’ve heard rumors of a treasure showing up to the north of Jipsdale. Why not go on a little treasure hunt?” Crixus suggested to Kai. Kai’s brows raised at the mention of treasure.

“Treasure? What kind of treasure? How did you find out?” The thing was, Kai had never shared his treasure-hunting plans with anyone other than the countess of Jipsdale, and he doubted she would spill the beans.

Yet now, Crixus seemed to be clued in. He wondered if Crixus’ treasure and his own were the same. “Word’s out that there’s a guy named Vasker selling treasure maps around here. Lots of folks in the outer city have bought them, and apparently, they don’t come cheap,” Crixus explained.

“Yeah, they’re real pricey. Vasker claims to be some kind of Archaic Body cultivator. He says the treasure belongs to his Archaic Body Cultivation clan and has been in their possession for ages,” Juan added.

In an envious tone, he added, “The only problem is that his map’s incomplete and doesn’t show the exact location of the treasure. Still, folks are flocking to buy it. Vasker’s rolling in dough.”

“Vasker? Vasily?” Kai’s brow furrowed slightly. He wasn’t sure what the connection was between Vasker and Vasily. What are the odds of another Archaic Body Cultivation cultivator popping up?

“Mr. Chance, you’re mixing up names. This guy’s name is Vasker, not Vasily,” Crixus corrected.

“Oh. Take me to meet this Vasker now,” Kai said. Kai wanted to get a firsthand look at who this Vasker was and the story behind his treasure map. He needed to ascertain whether this guy was truly an Archaic Body cultivator.

“Mr. Chance, I’d advise against it. This guy’s a real swindler. He’s charging a hundred million spirit coins for that treasure map. Just the entrance fee to get

in line costs ten million. I feel like his treasure map is fake. We don't need to be tricked into spending money on it," Crixus warned, trying to dissuade Kai.

"A hundred million spirit coins? Is he out of his mind?" Viola exclaimed upon hearing the sum. How could an incomplete map with doubtful authenticity fetch a whopping one hundred million spirit coins?

Moreover, this guy had made copies of it so that he could sell it to multiple people simultaneously. It was evident that Vasker was raking in the riches.

"That's exactly why we should check it out. If it's able to command such a high price, there might be some truth to this treasure map," Kai asserted.

"But Kai, we don't have a hundred million spirit coins now. The resources were taken back by Mr. Samoll, Viola pointed out. Kai smiled faintly. "Don't worry, we have as much money as we need. Once I talk to the folks in Jipsdale, I'm confident they'll provide."

Kai knew he could ask the countess for the money he needed to get the Ice Soul Pill. She would surely oblige, as a hundred million spirit coins were pocket change for Jipsdale.

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With that, the Three Bandits led Kai and Viola off to find Vasker. Before long, they arrived at a rather discreet courtyard, which wasn't very large but was guarded by two individuals at the entrance.

As Kai's group approached, they were stopped and questioned. "What brings you here?" "Sir, we're here to purchase the treasure map," Crixus replied after stepping forward.

"Here for a map, huh?" The guard scrutinized Kai and his companions, then stated, "Entrance fee for the map is ten million spirit coins. Familiar with the rules?"

"Yes, yes." Crixus nodded repeatedly and then turned to Kai. Kai had no spirit coins on him, so he looked at Viola. All the spirit coins he won in the arena had been given to Vasily.

Viola handed over the required ten million spirit coins to the guard, who then waved them through, saying, "You can go in."

As such, Kai and the others stepped forward and entered the courtyard. After walking a few steps, they soon arrived in the living hall. As they entered, they found that there were already people present.

Two men and a woman were strolling about the room, seemingly unfamiliar with each other. When they noticed Kai's party, the three of them gave them a once-over.

Since Kai and his group had relatively low cultivation levels, they were quickly dismissed as unimportant after being appraised.

Likewise, Kai looked at the three individuals, all of whom were Fifth Level Body Fusion Realm cultivators. That was a level that would be significantly valued in an ordinary sect.

Not sensing any aura related to Archaic Body Cultivation from these three, Kai surmised they weren't Vasker; they must have come to purchase the treasure map as well. Kai's group found a spot and patiently waited for Vasker's arrival.

After a short while, two people entered. Both were self-assured, armed with large blades, and wearing identical attire. These two seemed to be fellow disciples.

They were both at the Sixth Level Body Fusion Realm, making them the individuals with the highest cultivation level in the room. Upon the duo's entrance, the two men and one woman sitting in the living hall grew tense.

As all were here to buy the treasure map, conflicts were likely to arise once the treasure was found. In such a situation, those with higher cultivation levels would undoubtedly have the upper hand. The two newcomers found seats after briefly surveying the room.

Several more minutes passed, but Vasker had yet to show up. However, three more individuals entered the room.

This time, it was also two men and a woman, but when they entered, Kai was momentarily stunned. Among them were two people Kai recognized-Tyrone and the old woman from Stellaris Sect!

Additionally, there was a young man in white attire whose status and position seemed to surpass even that of Tyrone, for Tyrone and the old woman followed behind him, appearing almost like his attendants.

The young man was Cloud Seizon, the scion of Stellaris Sect and also a prodigy. Kai took a look at Cloud and was surprised. Despite the latter's young age, he had reached the Seventh Level Body Fusion Realm. Achieving such a level at this age was truly remarkable.

"Kai, you're here too?"

Tyrone's brow furrowed when he saw Kai and his party.

"Mr. Stone, do you know this person?" Cloud asked Tyrone. "Mr. Seizon, this guy was the one who secretly released our three wyverns. Besides that, he..."

Tyrone whispered a few words into Cloud's ear. Kai could easily guess the topic of their conversation. "Oh, he's a mere Second Level Body Fusion Realm cultivator, and yet he's capable of that?"

Cloud skeptically scrutinized Kai. He found it hard to believe that someone at the Second Level Body Fusion Realm could acquire the heavenly thunder fruits.

"Mr. Seizon, this punk can fight beyond his level. Don't underestimate him," Tyrone advised.