

The Mans Decree Chapter 2876 -

Chapter 2876 The Authenticity Of The Map

Meanwhile, Kai and the others had taken three whole days to reach the Archaic Body cultivators' settlement. It was located in the coldest and poorest part of the far north. That was the reason why the Tall family tolerated the Archaic Body cultivators' existence instead of annihilating them.

Inside a tent made of bear skin, Kai met the leader of the Archaic Body cultivators, Roman Ryder. Roman had a dark complexion and appeared thin and sickly.

Nonetheless, from the aura he exuded, one could tell that Roman was extremely powerful, the opposite of how he looked. "Mr. Ryder, I have brought my criminal brother back. Please punish him accordingly."

Vasily tied Vasker up before kneeling down in front of Roman. Unexpectedly, Roman broke into a faint smile and came forward to undo the ropes on Vasker. The sight stunned Vasily. Kai, too, was equally confused.

Vasker had stolen the treasure map and sold it everywhere, spreading news of the Archaic Body cultivators' treasure. He deserved to be severely punished even if he wasn't sentenced to death. Yet Roman had actually let him go.

"Mr. Ryder, Vasker has stolen the treasure map and brazenly sold it. Based on the rules, he should be punished. Even though he is my brother, I won't let my personal feelings get in the way," Vasily said to Roman with a serious expression.

"Get back on your feet. Vasker sold the map under my instruction," Roman said with a smile.

The revelation blew Vasily's mind. He couldn't understand why Roman had ordered him to capture Vasker when it was Roman himself who wanted the map sold. Kai, on the other hand, was struck by an epiphany after giving Roman a look.

"Vasily, Mr. Ryder ordered me to do it. Otherwise, there's no way I could have stolen the map. Now, its sale has brought swarms of men to the far north, and we have made a fortune at the same time!" Vasker smiled at Vasily.

“Mr. Ryder, what in the world is going on?” Vasily asked quizzically.

“Vasily, I’m sure you’re aware that the resources of our people are decreasing by the day and our strength is stagnant. At the rate this is going, we will be wiped out and incapable of protecting the treasure. The only way we can continue to survive is to disrupt the balance of power in the far north and draw out the powers that are residing in the shadows.

That way, we can seize upon the chaos to survive. To trigger that chaos, we have to put out something valuable as bait. Otherwise, no one in their right mind would come to a freezing and desolate place like this! This so-called bait is the treasure that belongs to the Archaic Body cultivators. That’s the reason I ordered Vasker to sell the tattered treasure map in Jipsdale. By doing so, many would come to the far north in search of it, and conflict would naturally ensue. When that happens, the Archaic Body cultivators would be given an opportunity...” Roman explained.

“Since this was your intention, Mr. Ryder, why did you get me to capture my brother?” Vasily asked.

“When everyone sees you capturing your own brother, they will believe in the authenticity of the map. The reason I hid the truth from you is so that you can play your role convincingly and avoid them casting suspicion on the plan,” Roman elaborated with a smile.

Right then, Vasily finally understood Roman’s intention. The unexpected shrewdness displayed by Roman sent a chill even down Kai’s spine, for he had also fallen for it. Not only did he spend a lot of money buying the treasure map, but he also helped Vasily capture Vasker.

“Mr. Ryder, with so many people looking for the treasure, what will we do if they really get their hands on it?” Vasily asked.

“Compared to the treasure, I’m more concerned about the future of our people. The treasure is buried underground. Even if no one manages to dig it up, we don’t have the capability to do the same. Instead, by letting someone more capable retrieve it, it would help spread the techniques of Archaic Body Cultivation,” Roman said.

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Chapter 2877 Real And Fake

“Mr. Ryder, what about the treasure key? Every other person now has an emerald badge that’s exactly the same as mine. Are everyone else’s keys fake?” Kai asked cluelessly. If the treasure maps were sold on purpose, what about the keys? Are all of them fake?

“What appears to be real might be fake and vice versa. Our people have plenty of treasures scattered throughout the far north. Every single one of them requires a key. That said, some of the treasures contain nothing, while others are traps. In fact, some even contain worthless items. As for the real treasure, there’s only one of it, and it’s hidden among the other treasures. Therefore, all the keys out there are not fake at all. It’s just that even I have no idea where the location of the real treasure is,” Roman clarified.

The revelation astonished Kai even further. I can’t believe there’s more than one treasure. With so many out there, how are we going to tell which is genuine and which isn’t?

“Mr. Ryder, I heard Vasily mention that your ancestors used Demonic Cultivators to excavate the treasure. At the end of it, all of them were killed. I would like to know why they were willing to submit to your people.”

Kai had long been curious about the topic. The Archaic Body cultivators weren’t particularly strong, as they were limited by their technique’s slow cultivation method.

The Demonic Cultivators were in no way weaker than the Archaic Body cultivators. Kai couldn’t figure out why the Demonic Cultivators didn’t resist at all. The question elicited a smile from Roman, who then looked at Vasily and everyone else. “Leave us...”

Vasily nodded before leaving with the others. When Kai and Roman were the only ones left in the tent, the latter brought out a box from which he retrieved a whip.

The whip was golden in color with faint runes flowing on top of it. One could feel a harmonious energy being emitted from it continuously.

At first glance, Kai could tell that the whip had been enhanced with an arcane array. The power it exuded was beyond that of ordinary weapons.

“This is Demon Flogger. When the whip strikes a demon, it will not only inflict pain upon them but also injure their divine souls. The harmonious energy it

emits is capable of suppressing the demon's aura. All this while, my people have relied on Demon Flogger to force the demons into submission. It was a weapon that we came across by chance. Rumor has it that it fell from the celestial realm together with the ice soul, but no one has been able to validate how true it is."

While listening to Roman recount the history of the whip, Kai stared at it with a sparkle in his eyes. The ability to suppress demons makes this weapon a priceless treasure!

"Mr. Ryder, could you let me take a closer look at Demon Flogger?" Kai asked gingerly. Demon Flogger was a valuable weapon. It wouldn't be surprising if Roman refused.

"Be my guest." Roman handed Demon Flogger over readily. Upon taking it in his hand, Kai unleashed his spiritual sense toward it. Soon, he realized that the arcane array on Demon Flogger was extremely mysterious and was something he had never seen before.

Just as he wanted to examine it further, Faiyar let out an excruciating scream in Kai's mind. Mr. Chance, stop. The aura from the object is overwhelming me. My divine soul is about to vanish!

Only then was Kai reminded about Faiyar. That guy Flogger's aura. is a demon who fears Demon Kai retracted his spiritual sense and returned Demon Flogger to Roman.

"Mr. Ryder, with Demon Flogger, you'll be able to get what you want when you encounter demons," Kai said in admiration.

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Chapter 2878 The True Enemies

Roman smiled. "It's not as easy as you make it out to be. Even though Demon Flogger fell from the celestial realm, it is still no more than a weapon whose power is determined by that of its wielder. If one's cultivation level is similar to that of one's enemy, one can use it to easily overwhelm a Demonic Cultivator. However, if the gap in strength is too huge, one will still be defeated."

Kai thought that Roman had a point. Regardless of how powerful a weapon was, a lot depended on its wielder still. If a Manifestor intended to use Demon

Flogger against a Body Fusion Realm Demonic Cultivator, his efforts would be nothing but futile.

“Mr. Ryder, there’s something I still don’t understand. I wonder if you can shed some light on it?” Kai asked.

“Go ahead.” Roman nodded. Kai took out his emerald badge and said, “This emerald badge is broken. Half of it was given to me by Vasily, while the other half was given to me by the count of Jipsdale. I want to know why the count has the other half of the emerald badge. Who is he?”

Roman fell silent. A long while passed before he said, “If you have the opportunity one day, you should ask the count yourself. It’s not something I can tell you. Anyway, you must be exhausted from the long journey. You should get some rest. Tomorrow, I’ll have Vasily accompany you on your search for the treasure since he is familiar with the land.”

The moment he finished, Roman got up and prepared to leave. Kai could tell that Roman knew the true identity of the count of Jipsdale but was unwilling to reveal it. He decided not to push the topic.

“Mr. Ryder, I heard Vasily mention that the Tall family is looking to destroy your people. If I am so lucky as to find the treasure, I’ll figure out a way to eradicate them for you.”

Since the Archaic Body cultivators had done him a good turn, Kai felt compelled to return the favor. After all, he couldn’t bring himself to leave with their treasure without doing anything for them.

Roman turned around with a helpless look on his face. “Unfortunately, the Tall family aren’t the terrifying ones in the far north. It’s the Demonic Cultivators.”

“Demonic Cultivators?” Kai was stunned. “Do Demonic Cultivators still exist in the far north?” “Isn’t the far north the best place for them to exist?” Roman threw the question back at Kai, causing him to fall silent.

The far north was sparsely populated and had miserable living conditions, perfect for those who were being hunted, such as Demonic Cultivators.

At the very least, they could live there in peace, away from the threats to their lives. Watching as Roman left, Kai realized that the Ethereal Realm was a lot more complicated than he had imagined.

Even the far north was not as peaceful as it appeared to him. Upon walking out of the tent, Kai saw Viola and the others waiting outside.

“Kai, Mr. Ryder has arranged accommodation for us. Let’s get some rest,” Viola suggested. Nodding in agreement, Kai followed Viola into one tent while the Three Bandits settled into another one.

In the middle of the night, blistering flashes of light appeared hundreds of miles away from the Archaic Body cultivator settlement. The rumble that ensued was so loud that even those from afar could hear it.

Lying in his tent, Kai knew that those were the signs of an ongoing battle. Given the massive influx of men to the far north in search of the treasure and the rumors of the ice soul fragment spreading far and wide, countless cultivators had gathered in the far north.

As chaos descended upon the far north, the Demonic Cultivators would hide at the sight of the arriving swarms of cultivators.

It now became evident to Kai that Roman’s real target wasn’t the Tall family. Instead, the true enemies were the terrifying Demonic Cultivators.

After all, the ancestors of Archaic Body cultivators had massacred many of them in the past. It was enough reason for them to seek revenge.

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Chapter 2879 Fatal Canyon

The next morning, Kai and the others had Vasily accompany them as they embarked on their journey in search of treasure. For reasons unknown, Roman did not send them off this time.

After leaving the Archaic Body cultivators’ settlement, Vasily retrieved Demon Flogger from his bag and said, “Here you go, Mr. Chance. Mr. Ryder knows that we will likely run into lots of Demonic Cultivators on this journey, so he told me to give you this.”

Kai froze when he received Demon Flogger from Vasily. Given its value, it would not be an overstatement to call Demon Flogger a priceless treasure, and yet Roman had given it to Kai.

Kai couldn't help but feel touched by the amount of trust Roman placed in him. I'm even more confident that we'll be able to find the treasure now that I have Demon Flogger with me! Once I find the treasure, the Archaic Body cultivators will surely prosper!

Since the treasure belonged to the Archaic Body cultivators, Kai wasn't planning on keeping any of the techniques and magical items that the treasure contained. With the exception of Ice Soul Pill, he would hand everything else over to them.

"What is this, Kai?" Viola asked curiously when she saw Demon Flogger. "This is the bane of Demonic Cultivators. We won't have to fear them now that we have this with us!" Kai replied with a faint smile as he shoved Demon Flogger into his pocket.

The group then traversed huge snowy plains with tall, icy mountains and deep, icy canyons around them. It was a very nasty terrain to go through.

A single misstep could cause one to fall thousands of meters into the icy canyons below. Even Body Fusion Realm cultivators would not be able to survive a fall like that.

Kai and the others had no choice but to check out the locations marked on the treasure map even if those locations had most likely been visited by countless other people. Since no one knew the exact location of the treasure, they could only try their luck and hope for the best.

After spending the entire morning walking around, Vasily looked straight ahead and said, "It looks like we'll have to go around, Mr. Chance. Fatal Canyon is just up ahead, and there are countless ferocious beasts in there. There's no way we'd be able to go through it."

"Fatal Canyon?" Kai frowned as he gave it some thought. Why would a place with such a harsh environment have countless ferocious beasts?

Just like any other living creature, they need food and resources for growth too! If there really are that many ferocious beasts in this canyon, then it must contain the food and resources they require! I don't know what those resources are, though....

Kai asked, "Is there some kind of magical item in Fatal Canyon?" After all, magical items were often guarded by ferocious beasts.

Of course, the ferocious beasts did not originally intend to guard the magical items. They just needed to absorb the aura from the magical items to survive and eventually became the magical items' guardians.

"I'm not sure about that. According to previous records, there were not so many ferocious beasts living in this canyon before. It seems that the ferocious beasts have recently popped up here all of a sudden. Some people tried exploring the canyon, but none of them returned. That's why we call it 'Fatal Canyon.'" Usually, we try to avoid going through it."

Vasily explained. "I have a feeling that we'll find some great stuff in this canyon. Come on, let's check it out!" Kai said and started making his way into the canyon.

The others exchanged glances and followed closely behind. They soon arrived at the canyon and saw that the walls on both sides were incredibly high and completely covered in ice, making them smooth and slippery.

The canyon was just a little over a hundred feet in width, and they could sense the aura coming from the ferocious beasts even from the entrance of the canyon.

"You guys stay here. I'll go scout it out," Kai said as he concealed his aura, jumped into the air, and silently flew over the canyon.

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Chapter 2880 Give It A Shot

Kai could see that the canyon was filled with lots of demon beasts, each of them possessing white fur that made them hard to spot as they lay in the snow.

The demon beasts had yet to notice Kai, so they were all just lying around lazily. As Kai got deeper into the canyon, a skull-sized stone in the middle caught his attention.

The stone was surrounded by fog, and several demon beasts could be seen licking at it. A golden light came out of Kai's eyes as he lowered himself a little to get a closer look.

Wait a minute... That's not a rock! It's an ice soul fragment! Judging by how big it is, one can only imagine the amount of power it contains!

Kai's breathing started to get heavy. He felt tempted to just charge in there, snatch the ice soul fragment, and fly away. That presence of the ice soul fragment would explain why there were so many demon beasts in the canyon. They were all feeding off the energy it exuded.

After taking a moment to observe the situation, Kai fought off the temptation and slowly backed away. Although he had been very careful with his approach and concealed his aura, an ice bear, that was about fifty meters tall, still noticed him.

The ice bear appeared to be the leader of the demon beasts in the area. It was as powerful as a Top Level Body Fusion Realm cultivator. It kept staring in the direction Kai had disappeared in.

Although the ice bear had the body of a demon beast and did not possess a human form, the look in its eyes was filled with knowledge and wisdom.

Kai didn't dare scout out the area with his spiritual sense, so he had no idea that Top Level Body Fusion Realm demon beasts were present in this canyon.

"What did you find, Mr. Chance?" Vasily asked anxiously when he saw Kai return. "There is a huge ice soul fragment deep within this canyon. That explains why the demon beasts are all gathered here!" Kai replied excitedly.

"Even if there is an ice soul fragment in this canyon, we can't possibly get it with all those demon beasts guarding it! Besides, it's possible that there are even more powerful demon beasts in there! I think we should go around instead!" Vasily suggested. However, Kai was so tempted by the ice soul fragment that he refused to leave without giving it a shot.

"I'll probably regret it if I just walk away like this," Kai said calmly. Noticing that Kai wanted to give it a shot, Vasily reminded him, "Don't do anything rash, Mr. Chance! I know you're very powerful, but there are thousands of demon beasts in there! We don't even know if there are any above Body Fusion Realm! None of us will be able to make it out alive if we anger them!"

This isn't a game! We could easily end up dead if we just go barging in like this!

“Don’t worry! I’ll make sure to take all necessary precautions so that we won’t be in any danger even if we fail to retrieve the ice soul fragment!” Kai reassured him with a smile. Realizing how determined Kai was, Vasily decided not to say anything further.

After giving it some thought, Kai unleashed his spiritual sense and enveloped the canyon with it. He knew that it was impossible to steal the ice soul fragment without being spotted, so he wasn’t afraid of disturbing the demon beasts with his spiritual sense.

The demon beasts grew agitated and started roaring when they picked up Kai’s spiritual sense.

Kai felt his heart sink when he discovered the Top Level Body Fusion Realm ice bear with his spiritual sense. Looks like there really are powerful demon beasts in the mix, but I’m not about to back down! I’ve come too far to give up now!

Kai continued to expand the range of his spiritual sense until he could get a clearer view of the entire canyon.