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However, the moment Lynette entered it, she realized that they had vanished without a trace. Unbeknownst to her, they had exited the Teleportation Array at one point.

As it turned out, they had not actually entered the Teleportation Array, they had merely deceived Lynette into believing so.

The Teleportation Array Kai had sketched out could not actually transport such a large group at the same time. Furthermore, it was an unstable array.

Right as Lynette entered the Teleportation Array, Kai threw out several runes. When they lit up, Lynette grimaced.

She tried to struggle to escape, only to find out that her body seemed to be out of her control. In fact, her body was slowly becoming transparent.

“Did you think that this Teleportation Array was our escape plan? It’s actually meant for you! We’re going to teleport you far away. Although the Teleportation Array won’t harm you, you won’t be catching up to me anytime soon,” Kai said smugly.

Lynette let out a scream in anger. The space around her quaked, and her body gradually became a blur. The power of space gripped Lynette firmly, denying her any chance of escape. Lynette was infuriated. She never thought she would fall for Kai’s trap.

She was a Ninth Level Body Fusion Realm cultivator, and yet, she had been tricked by a mere Third Level Body Fusion Realm cultivator like Kai. If news of this got out, she would become the laughingstock of the year.

However, regardless of her growing anger, she was powerless to halt the activation of the Teleportation Array. Soon, her figure slowly disappeared. It was only when Lynette’s aura was gone did everyone let out a sigh of relief.

Kai even sat on the ground and started panting. Drawing the Teleportation Array and initiating the teleportation had drained a significant portion of Kai’s energy.

“That was so close! If the activation of this Teleportation Array had failed, we would have all died here,” Cloud said, wiping the cold sweat from his forehead.

“Let’s just get out of here. She’s not the only Demonic Cultivator in the vicinity. If we come across someone else as formidable as her, we’ll be in serious trouble,” Kai warned after taking a few deep breaths.

Sunny and the others knew that Kai was speaking the truth. They were nothing but sitting ducks if they came across another powerful Demonic Cultivator like Lynette.

“I was lucky to have completed the drawing of the Teleportation Array and activated it this time, but I doubt we’ll be as lucky next time. I lack the energy to draw another Teleportation Array, and I’m uncertain how far this one will transport her. It’s better if we leave as soon as possible,” Kai said.

They had taken a bet and come out on top; they had not truly gotten rid of Lynette with their strength.

“I agree. Let’s get out of here,” Sunny chimed in. Soon, they picked up speed and traveled in the opposite direction from where they started.

That way, they could avoid the Demonic Cultivators, for the Demonic Cultivators would never expect them to head back the same way.

Not long after they fled, the two guardians Lynette had brought along bumped into each other. “Ms. Baptiste’s aura’s gone. What happened?”

Barken asked somberly. They had detected the abrupt loss of Lynette’s aura, and the last known location of her presence was where they were standing now.

“There are signs of a fight here. Did something bad happen to Ms. Baptiste?” another guardian wondered.

“No way. Ms. Baptiste is a Ninth Level Body Fusion Realm cultivator. She’s more powerful than both you and me combined. How could something bad happen to her?”

Barken didn’t believe it at all. “Then why would Ms. Baptiste’s aura disappear so suddenly? This doesn’t make sense.”

The other guardian could not wrap his head around the abrupt disappearance of Lynette's aura.

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"I don't know either, but the people we're after surely know where Ms. Baptiste has gone."

With that, Barken instantly set off to catch up with Kai and the others. They were making a hasty escape, moving as fast as their legs could carry them, but the two guardians appeared to be closing in rapidly.

"F*ck! These Demonic Cultivators are so persistent. Why won't they just let us go?" Kai cursed. Feeling the relentless pursuit of the two Demonic Cultivators behind them, Sunny and the others furrowed their brows.

They were injured and had expended much strength, so they could only go so fast. At this rate, the two Demonic Cultivators would catch up with them in no time.

"We can't run anymore. We have to prepare for battle. They'll catch up with us eventually. If we don't stop, we won't even have the energy to confront them."

Kai stopped, knowing that running was an unwise strategy, as their adversaries had already located them through their auras.

Even if they had endless stamina, they would not be able to outrun their pursuers.

"You're right. We can't keep running. They'll eventually catch up with us. We might as well take a break and regain our strength," Cloud agreed.

Sunny, Konce, and Lofton stopped running as well, knowing that Kai was right.

"Go on, Kai. What do we do now? We'll listen to you," Sunny said.

Kai activated his spiritual sense to track down the location of the two Demonic Cultivators before surveying his surroundings. Then, he summoned Cloud over and said, "Cloud, I need you to pretend to be grievously injured and to look exhausted. I need you to fool those two Demonic Cultivators."

“How so?” Cloud asked. Kai whispered something into Cloud’s ears before saying, “This is a little dangerous, so do you dare to do this?”

“Of course. What’s there to be scared of?” Kai spread his palm and allowed a flame to flicker on it. Then, he wrapped this flame with spiritual energy and turned it into an orb.

He gave the orb to Cloud. After saving a few words of advice, he left with Sunny and the rest. Once they were out of sight, Cloud made himself look disheveled before lying on the ground.

He also made sure to make his aura seem weak. When the two Demonic Cultivators caught up, they quickly discovered Cloud, who was lying on the ground.

After checking Cloud out with their spiritual sense, they realized that Cloud’s aura was weak. Cloud was also a weak cultivator, so they let their guard down.

“This guy’s still breathing. I’ll interrogate him to uncover their true identities and find out if they have any information about Ms. Baptiste’s whereabouts.”

Thinking that Cloud had collapsed from his injuries and could not flee anymore, he took his time ambling to him. “Be careful, Barken. It could be a trap,” the other guardian cautioned.

“Don’t worry.” Right as Barken said that, a giant. axe appeared in his hand, and in the next second, he appeared before Cloud.

After taking a glance at Cloud, Barken swung his axe down at him. Right as the axe was about to land on Cloud, he suddenly jumped to his feet, his eyes bright.

“Go to hell!” Cloud yelled, tossing the fire orb at Barken.

Boom! The orb exploded, forming a sea of fire that devoured Barken. Feeling the heatwave attacking him, Barken quickly retreated.

“Demonic fire? And it’s remarkably pure. Just who are you people?” Barken asked as he retreated. “I’m your master!” Cloud insulted before swiftly turning to flee.

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“D*mn it. Stop right there!” Barken and the other guardian unleashed their flames to consume the demonic fire that Cloud had thrown out. Kai had provided Cloud with only a single strand of demonic fire, so it wasn’t much use in front of these two.

Truth be told, Kai was well aware that the demonic fire would merely incite their wrath. Their opportunity would only arise once the adversaries were consumed by anger.

Seeing how effortlessly they dispelled Kai’s demonic fire, Cloud promptly made his escape in fear. He knew that his fate would be sealed if they managed to catch up with him. He desperately ran for his life as they were hot on his heels.

Just as their attention remained fixed on Cloud, the ground quaked, and torrents of spiritual energy erupted into the sky, ensnaring both of them.

“D*mn it! We’ve walked right into their trap!” Barken cried out as he urgently struggled to break free from the spiritual energy chains. Right then, four figures had appeared, launching several attacks in their direction.

Faced with this unexpected turn of events, Barken and the other guardian had no alternative but to retreat. They were uncertain about the number and capabilities of their adversaries, and caution was their best course of action.

They had been so focused on Cloud that they didn’t use their spiritual sense to check their surroundings, allowing their enemies to take the opportunity to attack them. Barken and the other guardian quickly retreated. They had been the pursuers but now they were being pursued instead.

The tables had turned. As Barken and the other guardian made their swift escape, they noticed that the four figures who had appeared didn’t pursue them. They had launched two attacks and swiftly retreated in the opposite direction. When Barken and his companion realized what was going on, Kai and the others were long gone.

“F*ck it! They tricked us again,” Barken. exclaimed, gritting his teeth in anger. Being deceived repeatedly was taking a toll on Barken’s patience and composure.

His excessive caution earlier had prevented Barken from discerning that Kai and his group had merely feigned aggression without any genuine intent to attack. Regrettably, he had only come to this realization when it was too late.

As Kai made his escape, he informed the others, “The two Demonic Cultivators we encountered are less formidable than the woman we saw earlier. One is at the beginner phase of Ninth Level Body Fusion Realm, and the other is at the peak of Eighth Level Body Fusion Realm. If it weren’t for the fact that we are exhausted and injured, we wouldn’t need to fear them at all.”

In truth, Kai and his group possessed a similar level of strength as compared to Barken and his companion. However, they had to make their escape due to their weakened condition and the injuries they had sustained.

They were also worried that the Demonic Cultivators might have reinforcements. If two more Demonic Cultivators of equivalent strength to Barken and his comrade were to join the fray, escape would become an even more daunting challenge.

When Kai and the others were escaping, the void surrounding them trembled as though space was collapsing.

A magical item, resembling a towering structure, went after them at breakneck speed. Shortly after, it zoomed past them and crashed onto the ground just ahead.

On top of the tower stood Barken and his companion. “How dare you fools deceive us again and again? Do you have a death wish?”

Kai and the others had no choice but to halt in their tracks in the face of the magical item.

“Enough of this nonsense! Can’t you grasp that we have the numerical advantage here? Both of you are only at Eighth and Ninth Level Body Fusion Realm. The young lady at the peak of Ninth Level Body Fusion Realm met her end at our hands earlier. If you cherish your lives, it’s high time you beat a hasty retreat!” Kai warned.

Since they couldn’t escape, he knew they shouldn’t act afraid.

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Barken and his companion were initially surprised, but Barken swiftly regained his composure and burst into hearty laughter. "Young man, don't attempt to deceive us. Ms. Baptiste isn't so feeble as to be killed by the likes of you. She can kill you easily."

"It's up to you to trust me or not. Since you think she's still alive, can you sense her aura?" Kai asked with a smirk. "We have three cultivators at Eighth Level Body Fusion Realm, and one at Seventh Level. Do you think you both are our match?"

Kai deliberately concealed his true strength, hoping to trick the Demonic Cultivators into underestimating him.

He knew that when they ceased regarding him as a threat, he would become the most dangerous adversary among them all.

"I'm aware of your injuries, and even without them, you're still no match for us," Barken said dismissively. "Enough of this idle chatter, and let's fight."

He raised his palm and elevated the tower, which emitted a faint glow. A muffled thud echoed in all directions. Knowing that Barker's tower wasn't to be taken. lightly, Kai frowned.

"By the power of the tower, I suppress all before me!" Barken shouted, then tossed the tower into the air.

Infused with spiritual energy, the tower expanded in size, transforming into a colossal structure hurtling directly toward Kai and his companions.

Everyone was shocked at the sight, and they quickly retreated.

Kai was racing away at maximum speed, but the resonating sounds like a bell from within the tower possessed an uncanny ability to disrupt his spiritual sense.

He suddenly stopped moving as if he had been momentarily entranced. Soon, he was trapped beneath the tower. The tower plummeted to the ground with at deafening crash, forming an enormous crater.

An eruption of ice and snow soared into the sky, shrouding the surroundings and obscuring everyone's view. "Mr. Chance!"

“Kai!”

Cloud, Sunny, and the rest were astounded to see Kai being trapped by the tower. Kai’s cultivation level might seem to be the lowest among them, but they had to rely on him in a fight.

He knew how to use arcane arrays and was in possession of Demon Flogger. Seeing Kai getting trapped beneath the tower, they felt their hearts sink.

“Ha! You’re merely at Third Level Body Fusion Realm. How dare you act arrogant in front of.. me? How ignorant of you!” Barken scoffed, then. turned to Cloud. “Young man, given your possession of the demonic fire, it would be wise to surrender now. Otherwise, you’ll die a horrible death!”

“Nonsense! Even if I die, I will never surrender! You Demonic Cultivators are being hunted by everyone. How dare you act all arrogant?” Cloud retorted.

Barken furrowed his brows, his face cold. In a flash, he appeared before Cloud, who retaliated with a palm strike. Simultaneously, Sunny and the other two made their moves.

They had to work together or risk getting killed by the Demonic Cultivators.

“How dare you?”

The other guardian leaped up, and two flames surged into the air.

“Blazing Palm!”

A barrage of palm strikes engulfed in searing. flames bore down on them. In response, they swiftly summoned protective shields to shield themselves from the fiery onslaught.

Already weakened and depleted of energy from their previous ordeal, they found themselves with no alternative but to retreat in the face of Blazing Palm’s relentless assault.

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Barken's palm landed on Cloud's chest, causing the latter to fly backward for a considerable distance. He wasn't Barken's match to begin with, and his energy was depleted. Nevertheless, Cloud wasn't in danger.

Barken was well aware of Cloud's ability to wield the demonic fire, and he had no intention of killing him. He aimed to capture Cloud and deliver him to Inferno Devil so that they could unravel the mystery of how a human cultivator could possess the demonic fire.

However, Barken remained oblivious to the fact that the demonic fire in Cloud's possession wasn't originally his but a mere wisp given to him by Kai.

"I gave you the chance to surrender, but you've chosen to resist. You will soon learn the consequences of your defiance." Barken cast a condescending glance upon the human cultivators.

At that moment, a melodious bell chime resonated, seemingly emanating from the very heart of the tower. Barken knitted his brows. "Is that young man still alive?"

A cultivator at Third Level Body Fusion Realm stood no chance against the tower's might.

"No way. The tower has the power to slay a cultivator at Seventh Level Body Fusion Realm. He's only at Third Level. He can't be alive," the other guardian responded, baffled by the situation.

Just as confusion clouded their minds, the colossal tower began to shift. It appeared as though an unseen force was gradually lifting it off the ground, causing it to hover in the air. However, Kai wasn't seen within the tower.

"Hey, where is that brat? Why did the tower rise by itself?" Barken could barely hide his astonishment as he had no idea what had happened.

Soon, Kai rose up from the crater, floating beneath the tower as he glared at Barken. "I can't believe you tried to use a useless magical item to trap me."

"You're still alive?" Barken was dumbfounded. Everyone could barely hide their shock at the realization that Kai was still alive as they could sense the horrifying aura within the tower. Never in their wildest dreams did they expect to see Kai lifting the tower.

“How dare you say my magical item is useless? I’ll give you a taste of it today!” Barken shouted. “Crush him!”

Barken continued to release spiritual energy into the tower, attempting to control it and suppress Kai. However, despite his best efforts, the tower remained steadfast and unmoving.

“W-What’s going on?” Barken was utterly confused. He tried releasing spiritual energy into the tower again, but nothing happened.

“Barken, let me help you.”

The other guardian approached him and released spiritual energy into the tower, attempting to join forces to take Kai down.

Kai remained composed beneath the tower. Strangely, as if it were filled with apprehension, the tower trembled violently instead of attempting to suppress him. Both Demonic Cultivators were completely baffled.

“What is going on?” Barken was at a loss.

“I told you that this magical item is a piece of junk, but you chose not to heed my words.

Since you don’t believe me, allow me to demonstrate the capabilities of a genuine magical item,” Kai said calmly, then snapped his fingers.

The tower shook and expanded in size, its walls developing noticeable cracks.

The tremors intensified, causing more fractures to spread across the tower’s structure. Eventually, the tower fragmented into countless pieces, with debris scattering in all directions.

Amid the wreckage, a bell was seen hovering in mid-air. Kai waved his hand, and the Dragon Bell shrunk in size, landing gently on his palm.

“This is the real magical item. Yours was utterly useless,” Kai said with a disdainful smile.

When he saw that his magical item had been destroyed and that he had been humiliated, Barken flew into a fit of rage and coughed up a mouthful of blood.

He demanded incredulously, “What the heck is that?”

