

Mystical 1211

Chapter 1211: Group Battle 1

“Alright, I have two more minutes. If you have anything else to discuss, please do it as soon as possible for I need to chair the intercontinental forum meeting soon,” said No. 1 quietly.

“There’s an issue regarding the mining rights of the Red Nation who are engaging in oil-drilling activities at sea. We’ve basically reached a universal agreement but we need to take an action and warn the surrounding pirates to put them in order,” said No. 5 immediately.

“Garen, I’ll leave this matter to you, alright?” No. 1 looked at Garen.

“No problem.” Naturally, Garen did not simply waste his few hundred years of living, he had a solid grasp on various rights and influences. Although he was not as influential as the others in terms of his large-scale forces, his rate of expansion was still abnormally shocking.

“Aside from that, I have a minor request,” Garen resumed speaking.

“Speak.” No. 1 nodded.

“I was recently hoping to purchase a batch of specialized metal nets, perhaps a quantity of more or less twelve tonnes. I don’t have any qualms with the price,” resumed Garen. These were his preparations to finish a product for a quest that was given to him during a forum with Lighthouse. The other side had mentioned that they wanted twelve tonnes of this specialized net. In most of the other worlds, this specialized net was a precious and rare metal. Fortunately, there was no shortage of it in this world. The only downside was that it was monopolized by the military and only the government had the right to use it, while other private forces were not allowed to possess it.

“Why are you going to use it for?” The old woman called No. 2 asked while furrowing her eyebrows.

“I have my reasons, of course.” Garen did not explain further.

Both of them stopped speaking after that. After coming into contact with them for more than a year, despite being a purely individual armed force when he joined Vulture initially, Garen later developed a powerful influence and grasped a certain sharpness. This was particularly apparent after the battle with the Slayer, where he escaped unscathed and was instantly highly praised as the strongest individual who existed in Slann. He was also depicted as the banner of Vulture's military force which they held up high.

His speaking power had also increased significantly.

"That's fine." After considering for some time, No. 1 agreed swiftly while standing up. "Alright, today's matters will end here. That woman must be grasped within our palms. Assemble the troops and capture her immediately. We can compensate Nine-tailed Fox to a certain degree."

"Understood." The others got up gradually and looked on while No. 1 left.

The old woman called No. 2 only left the room slowly after that.

Both of them came from powerful backgrounds and received the backing of numerous forces and high-ranking officials. They were actually the powerful foundations that were truly supporting the existence of Vulture.

Meanwhile, Garen was the people's international banner of assurance and the foundation of their military strength as well.

"I'll be taking my leave first, then." Garen smiled and became the third person to walk out of the room. His secretary Double-tailed Scorpion and two other bodyguards followed him closely as he walked across the corridor which was covered in white carpet and exited the room.

After leaving the meeting building, Garen walked straight toward a luxurious black limousine while Double-tailed Scorpion walked up toward him and whispered next to his ear at the same time.

"The plane has been arranged properly already and can take off at any time."

Garen nodded and turned back to glance at the lofty building. No. 4 and No. 5 had currently pulled open the curtains of the meeting room and were looking at him.

No. 4 and No. 5's authorities had been significantly reduced ever since he joined the meeting between the five people. Hence, the newly-appointed No. 5 did not have a favorable impression of Garen either.

"Is there a conclusion of the investigation of the skeleton of the White Crab Army's robot that was sent to Lawrence University?" he asked casually.

"There's one report already. They can improve the energy consumption issues that occurred when we modified our robots. The investigation report also showed that they could save us from another two years worth of scientific research and progress," Double-tailed Scorpion replied quickly, "I also think that the No. 1 Chief had considered this aspect before he agreed to your request so quickly."

"That's good." Garen took a long stride before entering the limousine. The front and back of this vehicle were flanked by convoys that were guarding it while the secretary Double-tailed Scorpion sat in the front row next to the driver.

"The exact whereabouts of Mind Reader has been determined at the Ocean Capital. We've already established good relations with Chief Executive Bob Crest there beforehand," continued Double-tailed Scorpion.

"If I'm not mistaken, that girl in the white dress probably possesses the strength of the Illusionist. Therefore, it's better to achieve the goals one at a time. We'll discuss this again after we've seized Mind Reader," Garen replied indifferently.

He did not want to waste any more time in this world. Since he had taken sufficient rest, it was probably time for him to keep moving forward now.

He had used the influence that he had acquired to complete a significant amount of quests during this past year. Thus, he had accumulated a good amount of Contribution Points. Once he entered Lighthouse, he could simply be compared to a veteran Transmigrator who had accumulated many years of experience.

After the brief meeting, Garen spent the following week making preparations to capture Mind Reader.

There were other people from Vulture who were paying close attention to Yuria over there. Meanwhile, Garen focused on hunting Mind Reader down. The best time to surround and seize Mind Reader would be the moment when he met Yuria.

Garen was not concerned about the strength of the Sacred Sigil. In fact, he did not care about any Forged Sacred Sigils either because he was only concerned about whether he could absorb its Soul Energy and obtain it.

Within the span of a week, Yuria had rushed to the Ocean Capital. Meanwhile, Nine-tailed Fox and the others saved that mysterious girl but were later encircled by Vulture which took the girl away to be examined. Nine-tailed Fox and the rest were unimaginably furious because of that.

Garen made a phone call to explain that he was powerless, for this was what the No. 1 Chief meant earlier.

However, Nine-tailed Fox, Li Hua, and the others had somewhat rejected Garen as an outsider after this recent incident. They did not regard him as a companion anymore.

Garen was not the slightest bit concerned. He secretly ordered several people to disguise themselves as members of the White Crab Army to ambush Mind Reader. However, his continuous efforts to dispatch numerous powerhouses was of no help. Although Mind Reader did not have the protection of a designated armed force, he could conceal himself within the vast sea of people in the Ocean Capital fully without being captured at all.

Transmigrators were indeed the best candidates to hunt Mind Reader down since Transmigrators were not affected by Mind Reader's abilities that could capture their surface memories. Therefore, they would not accidentally reveal their own intentions to seize them. Unfortunately, Garen had completely fallen out with Nine-tailed Fox and the others.

After a period of consideration, he decided to enter the field personally.

The Soul Energy's nourishment allowed Garen's qualities to nearly reach an average of eight points quickly to achieve a minor stage where his limit was increased. His current physical form did not seem to resemble that of a human anymore. As there were no unnatural powers in the laws of both this universe and world, the definitions of the basic rules here were very strict. According to the innate laws of things, since Garen had the strength and vitality to dodge bullets, he would naturally possess a larger mass to accommodate such powerful strength and vitality.

Within less than two short years, he was now over two meters tall and weighed more than one hundred and eighty kilograms. He had basically turned into an abnormally exaggerated giant.

His saber that was initially fine and slender had been smithed again into a longer and wider blade. It was over three meters long and as wide as a palm, making it look sharper and fiercer.

No one else could fully comprehend powers of this grade except Garen himself who currently could not seem to find an opponent in this world. A possible threat toward himself could only be produced if the Slayer used his trump card. Otherwise, he did not have to take anything else into account.

After making arrangements for a special plane, Garen flew straight to the Ocean Capital. He dismissed all of his other subordinates simultaneously and proceeded to look for Mind Reader on his own.

Meanwhile, the military exercises at sea between the Alliance of the Three Nations had started at the same time. They were military exercises on the surface. However, they were actually movements to counter the White Crab Army's terrorist acts in reality.

Ocean Capital

The sky was an azure colored sea that enhanced the beauty of the sky-blue ocean.

Gigantic buildings that resembled minarets stood beside the sea. They were connected to each other and were all completely white. They formed a continuous stretch of buildings that spanned more than ten kilometers.

A colossal stone pillar that resembled a flat tray stood upright near the ocean in the very center of the area. Rows of white castles with blue army flags that fluttered in the sky were built on top of the tray. Most of these castles were shaped like three-pronged forks, while a few of them were detached units. Their doorways were all accessed from the bottom and were extended to the sea by a long suspended bridge.

The sunlight accompanied the whistling sea breeze. It would instantly feel very hot if the breeze was not blowing. White seabirds flew about in the sky, forming a flock. They were occasionally scattered everywhere when they were shaken by planes that flew past them.

Garen got down from the boat. The scenery of the distant sea from the port looked like a painting.

He inhaled a deep breath of fresh air.

"It's truly a great place."

"Of course. The Ocean Capital is the most popular scenic vacation destination among the Four Great Capitals. It attracts more tourists from more than thirty different countries every year," a man with a white beard behind him said while smiling.

"Just like me," said Garen happily.

"Yes, just like you." The bearded man laughed. "We have the thing that you desire here, as long as you have enough of 'this'." He reached his hand out and made a pinching motion to hint that Garen was rich.

"I'm just a tourist who merely came here to go sightseeing. Uncle, please don't lead me astray," Garen laughed quietly.

"Although you're a tourist, you're a man first and foremost, and only a tourist after that." The bearded man laughed nonchalantly.

A few other male tourists beside him laughed as well. Even though Garen was not interested, they gathered around him quickly to chat with the bearded man and ask him about the more private fun sites around here.

Garen stood on the deck of the boat and gazed at the Ocean Capital from afar. He did not bring his saber along this time. In fact, he did not bring anything aside from the essentials such as his identification card and bank card. He disguised himself as a normal vacationing tourist to avoid spooking Mind Reader and being discovered by him.

Garen did not know Mind Reader's exact identity as he could even be a Transmigrator or someone else. Nonetheless, Garen had basically determined Mind Reader's intentions. As long as he still wanted to meet Yuria, he would definitely not leave the Ocean Capital. He could surely grasp his aims as long as he seized this opportunity.

His next task was to determine whether Mind Reader was still in this city.

Perhaps this would be a great difficulty for other people. However, for Garen who had obtained the Soul Ring, detecting the forces of his Soul Energy was enough to determine whether Mind Reader was here or not.

He was looking far into the distance clearly now. He could see two intense shrouds of Soul Energy forces that were faintly dispersing from the inside of the Ocean Capital now. One of them was permeating slowly and gently. They were the Soul Energy forces of Yuria the Savior.

Meanwhile, the other one was icy cold and tinged with fear. It was obvious that this belonged to Mind Reader who was feeling afraid after being surrounded and attacked.

"The range of the Soul Energy forces is a bit too wide, so it's slightly difficult to determine the location of a single person." Garen stroked his chin and thought of the countermeasures.

"Mind Reader's abilities are really troublesome. It's best that I avoid scaring anyone and hunt him down alone. I've already memorized his outer appearance, height, and other characteristics. But, I'm just worried that he uses certain means to use makeup or change his looks. The current Plot has become chaotic as well. This is really difficult to handle."

The information regarding Mind Reader swirled in Garen's mind slowly.

As the boat moved closer towards the Ocean Capital, his mind tentatively decided on a feasible plan.

Hum...

The boat made a loud blowing noise and approached the shore slowly before starting to put the disembarkation plank down.

The tourists got down from the boat using the railing-lined disembarkation plank before walking on the pure white, squeaky clean pier.

Garen held onto the railing while walking down. He allowed a pretty golden-haired, blue-eyed little girl to go down before him while her mother smiled at Garen in a friendly manner to express her gratitude. Only then did he tread on the disembarkation plank slowly before walking towards the pier.

He took his cell phone out and made a reservation to stay in a hotel quickly. Next, he began to look for shop fronts that looked like they served delicious food in preparation to settle his dinner plans.

The time was 1600 hours now. It would be time for him to eat dinner soon.

Chapter 1212: Group Battle 2

After he disembarked, he wandered around the harbor for half a day. Garen couldn't find a stall that sold food. Under such circumstances, he could only head deeper in and take a turn to the streets leading into the city.

There were food bars all around the street. The crowd that was coming and going was beyond massive. Couples were holding hands while many young children were held by their family members walking in and out.

Garen picked one of them and headed in. He found a place to sit and ordered a few dishes. He waited for the dishes to be served.

The person in charge of greeting the customers in the shop was a seventeen to eighteen years old young girl. She was wearing a pair of pale blue skin-tight jeans, revealing her figure in all the right places. The little white bunnies under her yellow T-shirt that were doing the hoppity hop, in addition to her pretty face, attracted quite a fair amount of male customers into the shop.

Ring ring.

Garen's mobile phone rang. He took it out to have a look. It was a message from Double-tailed Scorpion. The position of Mind Reader had most probably been determined, and the regional location could be narrowed down to the range of neighborhood. Any more accurate than that couldn't be achieved.

"The neighborhood range is good enough," Garen was quite satisfied as he deleted the message.

Just as he sat down, a few young girls dressed as university students entered the shop. One of the girls was puzzled as she swept a glance at Garen.

"What's wrong, Cammy?" Another girl patted her shoulder.

"Nothing, I think I saw someone I know." The girl, Cammy shook her head and smiled.

The three young girls sat at the table not far from Garen and ordered a few dishes.

Cammy turned her head and seemed to recall something. She turned her head to look at Garen once again.

"Kong Xiaofei?" She called in a soft voice.

"Mm?" Garen was momentarily stunned. He didn't think there was anyone here who would recognize him.

He followed the voice and looked over. He instantly recognized the girl.

"Cammy Ning?"

It was his classmate back in high school at Lily of the Valley. Who would have thought they would meet at such a place.

When he left the school, he announced that he was recommended another location for university and ended communication with the classmates at high school. He was, after all, not the real Kong Xiaofei.

"Why are you here?" Cammy Ning was overjoyed. She did not expect to meet an old acquaintance here.

"What about you, how did you end up here?" Garen politely exchanged the topic.

"I go to the university here. Where else, if not here?" Cammy Ning replied with a smile.

Her two besties immediately giggled as they moved closer.

"Who is he? Your old boyfriend?"

"No way! Do you think of anything else other than that kinda stuff?" Cammy Ning rebutted with a laugh.

"Then he must be your current boyfriend, haha. It's no wonder you're giving the cold shoulder to the Filt brothers. It's because your man is here!" Another bestie chuckled.

"Nonsense. We're just normal classmates." Cammy Ning had a good impression of Garen. He was an honest lean boy, but now he had grown tough in such a short time.

The two tables were naturally combined together.

Garen sat by the three girls.

“What are you doing here? Holiday?”

“Yes, I heard that Ocean Capital is a world-renowned tourist spot, so came to check it out,” Garen smiled as he responded. “You’re attending Ocean University of Lance Royal Family, right?”

“How do you know?” Cammy Ning was baffled.

“Isn’t she wearing the school emblem?” Garen pointed at one of the girl’s chest. There was a delicately-made, silvery white mermaid emblem pinned there.

“What about you? Where are you studying?”

“I’m no longer attending,” Garen casually replied.

“Not attending?” Cammy Ning was stupefied. It should be true, as it wasn’t a semester break yet Kong Xiaofei had the time to travel. There must have been some issue.

Hearing these words, the other two girls were struck. Although they did not immediately put on the display, their faces became slightly dull.

Initially, when they heard that Garen was here to travel for leisure, he must be well off to be able to travel alone with ease. However, now that he was a dropout, their enthusiasm had dampened.

“Did you drop out?” One of them asked in a low voice.

Garen nodded. How could an old fart that lived a few hundred years not see the change in the attitude of the two girls? He wasn't the least bit bothered. He was way past the stage of flaunting.

The dishes that they ordered were quickly served. They ate together. Garen kept his head down as he swiftly pigged out, clearing the dishes in a few gulps. The dishes' load was quite small, so he swept them clean without leaving any scrap.

This made the two girls look down on him even more.

Cammy Ning was speechless. However, judging by Garen's large build, she could understand his huge appetite.

"I have a bad feeling," In a coffee shop not far away, a man dressed in a black windbreaker whispered to a lady beside him.

The woman was also dressed in the same black windbreaker. Wearing windbreakers on a hot day was definitely something eye-catching. The woman had purple hair while her purple iris and pale white skin set her apart from the crowd.

"Your ability of premonition can't be wrong. I suspect we are being watched," The woman calmly mentioned, "it could be those dregs from Vulture. They didn't dare go after Slayer, yet they came to play the bully and look for us instead." She gave a scornful look.

"No... This time, the feeling is stronger than previous times," Mind Reader spoke in a low voice. "I suspect it may be someone more troublesome on the go."

"It could be from Lighthouse. Only they can avoid your mind reading to get close to us!" The woman knew of Lighthouse and told Minder Reader frankly.

"Why would Lighthouse seek me out! Why won't you tell me in full?" Mind Reader frowned.

“You only need to know that there’s a really really bad organization and they’re after your Sacred Sigil,”
The woman took a sip of coffee.

“Then what do you say we do?” Mind Reader asked in a low voice.

“Now, there are the three forces, Black Federation, Vulture and White Crab, which are after us. We will remain here for a few weeks to lure these three forces over. Now, as long as we play our cards right...”

“I know what you mean.” Mind Reader nodded.

“Don’t worry, everything will be alright. You can take your son to a place where nobody knows who you are and live. Relax.” The woman patted Mind Reader on the shoulder.

“I hope so...” Mind Reader forced himself to nod. He was about to take a sip off the coffee in his hands before his face stiffened, “They’re here!”

Pretending to act normal, he stood up and walked toward the washroom.

The woman took out her mobile phone to have a look. It was getting late. She placed some money on the table to settle the payment and got up to walk out with her handbag.

The two cooperated tacitly without attracting any attention and left through two exits respectively.

Those at the coffee shop did not find them out of the norm.

Not even a minute after they had departed, the door was swung open. A group of men and women wearing white hats walked in. Their sharp gaze swept around the scene. After an exchange of whispers, they found they were not around. The group scanned and checked from table to table.

Outside the streets by a lamp post, the two gathered and looked at the coffee shop from afar.

"It's White Crab," the woman whispered. She took out a lighter to light herself a cigarette.

"Can you sense their thoughts?"

"They're here to capture me just as before. This time, they're doing a blanket search. I wouldn't know more details than that. They're preventing their minds from being read by me." The man was in a dilemma.

"Do you still have any premonition after avoiding them?" The woman casually asked.

"It's stronger now!"

"Direction."

"Behind us."

The woman turned back and looked but did not find anything. She only saw crowds going and coming on the streets.

"Let's go," She led him to walk at the side, onward to a little alley.

The two halted once they entered the alley.

"Have you forgotten our dreams?" A young man stood in the alley with his back facing them.
"Seasnake?"

The man shifted his head back; his dark brown eyes struck a dead stare at the woman.

A sharp white card appeared between his fingers.

“King of Hearts!” The woman’s body tensed up.

Mind Reader could see the man’s other distinct features.

“Black Federation...” His pupils shrunk and his body sunk backward. He couldn’t detect the person’s thoughts before. He was from the Lighthouse!

“Come with me, Seasnake and Mind Reader. Big brother has awaited you for a long time now,” King of Hearts smiled.

“If they were to follow, you then wouldn’t that make us come for nothing?” A cold voice was heard coming from behind Mind Reader and Seasnake.

“Soul Energy Force?” Garen was having his after-meal tea when he suddenly felt a tremble. He sensed that there was a slight chaotic Soul Energy Force oscillating over not far away.

Cammy Ning and her friends were whispering about the interesting news here when they saw him on his mobile phone.

“What’s wrong? Got something you need to do? Go take care of it if you do,” It was rare for Cammy Ning to bump into her classmate, so she was in quite a mood and opened up more.

“Just a small matter,” Garen smiled. “I have to go now. Continue with your meal,” He got up as he spoke and came to face a person standing by the shop’s entrance.

That person was two meters tall and was wearing a white western suit. He was wearing a pair of sophisticated, golden metal spectacles. His blond hair reflected a soft bright glow under the sunlight. He was standing by the shop’s entrance and smiled as he gazed at Garen.

“Sword Master Garen?” The man was brazen and calmly revealed Garen’s identity.

Garen's smile slowly wiped off. he threw a glance at Cammy Ning and her friends behind him.

"You plan to make a move here?"

"I have long wanted to meet the number one Kendo genius of Slann, named the strongest saber art in three thousand years. Now that I've encountered you by chance, wouldn't I be wasting off my good luck if I don't seek your advice?" The smile of the man's face deepened.

"They, are acting, right? Exchanging lines?" Someone couldn't help but laugh out loud, "What a show."

Cammy Ning and her two friends turned to look at the duo, feeling rather strange

Wham!

A troop of soldier in black military wear kicked open the entrance of the shop. Over ten armed soldiers charged in, encircling Garen.

They unlocked the guns' safety with a click. All firearms were aimed at Garen.

"It's a show, right? There's no need to be... Bang," One of the customer was about to open his mouth when a shot was fired on his chest. Blood drenched his back as he collapsed to the ground.

All customers in the shop fell silent.

The serving waitress dropped and broke a plate. Someone was covering their mouth tightly.

Ah!

A woman screamed out of fear and wanted to make a dash out.

Boom.

Another shot was fired.

She immediately crashed onto the ground next to Garen. Blood from her back oozed out. Her body slowly collided on the ground, trembling it a bit. She rumbled over and settled over Garen's foot.

Clang!

Garen's palms clapped and made an ear-piercing thunderous sound. He lurched forward with his bent lower body and his palms arching straight ahead.

Chapter 1213

Wham!!

The blond man crossed his arms over his chest to defend but Garen was just too fast. Before he could react or even bulge his muscles, Garen was already in front of him striking him with his palms.

"This speed!!?" His pupils shrunk. Bam bam bam bam!!!

The surrounding soldiers opened fire but hit a blank. Bullets shot at where Garen originally stood, but it all hit a blank spot and fell on to the ground. Some of them ricocheted, hitting the soldiers, clanging as it echoed metal sounds. It was obvious that the soldiers were wearing bulletproof armors made from steel, metal plates.

The shop was in total chaos with bullets ricocheting everywhere. People were screaming as they crouched down with their heads in their hands, some cried out loud from fear.

Garen and the blond man exchanged blows at close combat. Like a phantom apparition, their four arms rammed against each other as they fought, giving out loud, crashing sounds.

The ramming sounds were like dull thunders, detonating at every strike. Each time their arms interlocked, the blond man's face would pale a shade further and sounds of bones fracturing could be heard faintly from his arms.

He retreated in succession out of the shop.

Kaboom!

With a loud crash, the blond man was blown up into mid-air, smashing into a bronze statue in the town square and causing the scatter of white debris as he fell to the ground.

"It's been a while since I met an expert who can face me off." Garen relaxed his arm and walked out of the shop, watching the blond man struggling to get up. His current physical fitness was more than a monster. It was hard to imagine that there would be someone who could hold up a fight with him without collapsing in an instance.

"You!..." The blond man's face was full of disbelief. He tried to get up using his arms as support, but they were badly contorted to the point of not being able to support his body.

Seeing the soldiers crumbling down in the shop in a blink of an eye, the man felt chills. He could not believe that this current state was real.

As Military Flag, he was the second strongest in the Black Federation yet he could not survive for more than half a minute with this man. It was only over ten moves when those specially enhanced, high-intensity arms fractured his bones.

If one were to tell him a day before that someone in this world would be able to face him off and defeat him in half a minute with brute body techniques, he would have thought that the person was joking.

And now, he had to believe it as the truth was laid before his eyes.

"Everyone... underestimated you..." Military Flag spurted blood. His skeletal bones seemed to have fallen apart as he could not even get up.

Garen strolled out of the shop, leaving behind him a sea of corpses with their blood flowing like a river.

Miraculously, only a few customers in the shop suffered paper-cut wounds from the stray bullets while the rest were unharmed.

Seeing Military Flag, the blond man lying on the ground, and the soldiers in their outfits, he could guess who this party was. Vulture's intelligence has detailed records on the Black Federation.

He walked towards Military Flag.

Bam!!

Suddenly, a bullet fired at his foot. It was half a meter distance of the step he was going to take but for some reason, Garen shortened the length of this particular step by three quarters, as though he coordinated with the sniper which evidently enabled him to avoid being shot.

White smoke and debris emitted from the pit on the ground struck by the bullet.

Garen's placed his right foot gently on the ground. The tip of his foot flipped up and a stone took flight, gliding into the air before him.

He flicked his right index finger.

Swoosh!

The stone shot through the sky, making a screeching, sharp howl.

A faint sound of a stone hitting on metal and a person shouting in pain came from afar.

Military Flag stared at Garen as though he had seen a ghost. This was way beyond any human limit. Just a stone to take care of a sniper hidden far away with such accuracy and strength was too skillful beyond the boundary.

Even Slayer couldn't do so!

The crowd on the streets now realized that what happened in the shop was not a film shooting but it was a real deal. Screams were everywhere as people ran for their lives, hiding in places which they thought would be safe though most were escaping as far as they could.

There were a few who were bold beyond death, hiding and recording the scene with their mobiles phones.

In mere minutes, the densely packed streets were emptied. Passing vehicles sped off for their lives and cars from afar detoured away.

The area where Garen and Military Flag occupied was now deserted. The surroundings were empty without a single person in sight.

Majority of the people in the shop took the opportunity to escape. At first, there was one who took flight courageously, and when the remaining people saw him leaving unscathed, they followed suit and rushed out of the shop. Cammy Ning and her two best friends were amongst the crowd and were being tugged and pulled by the escaping, scattered crowd.

While running for their lives, they turned back to look at the direction of Garen and Military Flag.

Cammy Ning and her friends felt their brains were still in a mush. They had yet to gather what was going on. How did a high school classmate become a killer and terrorist in a blink of an eye?

Recalling the fallen armed soldiers, Cammy Ning could not help but shiver.

“Just how many people did the Black Federation send?” Garen and Military Flag were just a meter apart when he questioned. Garen had jarred his opponent’s bones out of its place to the point that he would not be able to move, thus he was not worried of any sudden counter-attacks.

“You can join our Black Federation. We have the best technology to help you enhance your body. We have the best in service, finances, authority, beautiful ladies, whatever you want we have it! As long as you join us, coupled with the support from me and Battle Flag, you will definitely be the strongest Sword Master in history!!” Military Flag tried to convince Garen in turn.

His eyes flickered with a bright glow.

“What can you obtain from Slann? Even if you’re number three at Vulture’s, you wouldn’t hold much authority in quota, right? But it’s different in our Black Federation. You can have your private troops, private island, under the law of Slann, it is forbidden to traffic human but our Black Federation’s unspoken rules, you can have up to four slaves of your own!”

Military Flag tempted.

“Think about it. We are the unrestrained, social world where the strongest survive!! You are best suited in Black Federation! Join us and you will get all that you imagined!”

He was soliciting Garen!

Garen smiled as he looked at him.

“Everything? If I want the Sacred Sigil, will you give it to me?”

“Sacred Sigil?” Military Flag was stunned. “As long as you want it, we will do our best for you! As long as you join us, your power will grow stronger and even if you’re not up to it, we will not take away the resources for your power gaining! Just say the word and you will be the Black Federation’s number three and not just a measly number three in Vulture organization! Think about it, riches, power, beautiful women, as long as you want it, anything is possible!!”

Garen must admit, that Military Flag's offer and bargain was extremely tempting and he himself was starting to be moved by it.

Compared to Slann, Black Federation was all about the strength. The environment of survival of the fittest suited him. If it weren't because he has decided to leave this world to head to Lighthouse, he might even agree to it.

But it was a shame that...

"Unfortunately," Garen shook his head, "although it's very tempting, I... have no interest."

He lurched forward and stomped onto Military Flag's forehead. Boom.

Red blood seeped through Military Flag's forehead, spewing out red and white liquid that looked like oil.

Without turning back, Garen strode to the direction of the Soul Energy Force. It was obvious that Black Federation was trying to delay time by sending a general like Military Flag. His last speech was probably a tactic in an attempt to save his life and delay time too.

These major characters have plenty up their sleeves with various trump cards emerging one after another. If not because Garen was prepared to leave this world, he may be convinced by Military Flag to rebel.

Glancing at the surrounding empty streets, Garen went forward in the direction of the Soul Energy Force.

As he made his way, sounds of windows closing came from both sides of the street. As Garen speed up passing several streets, crowds gradually emerged. Many did not know who he was. Some were discussing with passersby about the noise heard earlier while others were describing the happenings vividly.

Garen blended into the crowd and walked swiftly towards an alley by the street.

The moment he stepped in, sounds of swooshing laser beams could be heard.

Looking disheveled, Mind Reader was being chased by a man holding a laser welding machine. He skimmed out the exit opposite the alley.

Without wasting another second, Garen dashed out of the alley into another narrow lane. He saw that Mind Reader and his pursuer were reaching the end of the lane and about to make a turn.

Garen was about to chase after them when suddenly heavy footsteps came from behind him. A team of armed personnel caught up to him from the back alley.

Seeing Garen standing there, the men in black aimed their guns on him

“Don’t move!!”

The words had not barely complete when Garen stomped his right foot on the ground.

Kaboom!!!

With a loud crash, the surface of the small lane turned and crumbled. A ripple of quake with Garen’s right foot in the center had overturned front and back.

The soldiers shook from side to side in the continuous loud rumbles. The tremendous quake swept them off their feet and collided with one another. Majority of the soldiers with weaker vitality lost consciousness in a blink of an eye while a stronger minority held on from fainting.

Garen couldn’t be bothered with these people and continued his chase.

“It’s Sword Master Garen! Surround him!!”

A voice shouted from the side.

Swoosh swoosh swoosh!!

Muffled gun shots fired at Garen's side. Some of the bullets hit the wall beside him, leaving hole marks. Some hit him but were blocked effectively by his tough muscles.

Garen snorted coldly. He was not in his best mood given that he was ambushed the moment he charged out of the lane. He waved his arm on the wall and gripped ahold a large block of cement from it, before flinging it onto the soldiers who were lunging to him from the right side of the crossway.

The cement block flew at a high velocity, swooshing through countless people and hitting on the last wall surface. Instantaneously, more than ten people in the small alley lane were penetrated at the chest, no one life was spared.

The lane had fresh blood splattered all over, and smelled sweet and pungent as blood flow like a river from the bodies.

Garen did not bother to stay back and look and headed straight for Mind Reader.

More and more people were getting in his way. In the beginning, it was the men in black from Black Federation, thereafter were some local police and law enforcers. The police were quickly replaced by armed police and finally, soldiers in white appeared. Many of the soldiers had a pattern of a white crab imprinted on their chest.

Chapter 1214

No one was able to stop Garen from going forth.

As they were in a city, high explosive bombs could not be used while small explosives were no better than snipers against Garen.

Charging ahead, Mind Reader who was in front finally stopped at a field in a small area.

Garen caught up with the man holding the laser welding machine from behind. He stared at Garen with caution.

“Don’t come over!” The man holding the laser welding machine was dressed in a formal suit. Sweating profusely, he was holding Mind Reader as hostage and looking at Garen in panic.

“Come any closer and I’ll kill him!” He tried to mean business and dangled the laser welding machine at Mind Reader’s neck, scaring the latter to paleness.

Garen left behind bloody footprints. It was unknown how many he killed on the way. He killed anyone on sight and anyone who blocked his path, no matter young, old, male or female, was taken care of.

No matter the forces behind, nobody was spared.

Immediately, an army of white soldiers came crashing onto the field through another entrance with their weapons all aimed at Garen. Their leader wore a silver, metal helmet. Gender unknown, this person had long, silver hair and was gazing intensely at Garen.

“Military Flag of the Black Federation was killed by him!” The long, silver hair person said in a dreaded voice.

Two persons walked out from the alleyway behind Garen. They stared at Garen, and shared the same, dreaded fear in their eyes.

“Where’s the woman? Mr. Garen, we have no intention to be enemies. Our aim is that woman!” The two were from a different organization unlike Black Federation nor White Crab, nor any other countries’ forces for that matter. They were the transmigrators’ forces, an organization with the woman who protected Mind Reader as well as the snipers. The plan was that whoever protected Mind Reader would gain the most benefit. With Garen stepping into the picture, they got Military Flag to restrain and delay Garen but nobody expected that Military Flag and his soldiers were taken down in less than ten minutes.

Military Flag and Garen should be experts at the same level. They were elite fighters that once challenged Slayer yet it hasn’t been ten minutes that the defeat was imminent. It was like a dream.

Garen’s combat power severely caused the imbalance between forces.

Hence the remaining parties started discussions to get rid of Garen, the variable element that was a threat to all.

But unfortunately, efforts to encircle and annihilate Garen on the way ended up with the slaughtering of over a hundred elites. There weren't any more subordinates who were willing to try as it will be suicide.

Under such circumstance, the two could only come out to talk to Garen in the hope he would give up the fight for Mind Reader.

"I don't really care about your matters," Garen couldn't be bothered with these people. "I only want Mind Reader. The rest is up to you."

He killed everybody who was in his path, regardless if they were from White Crab, Black Federation or even this secret organization. Mind Reader was a key element for him to absorb the Soul Seed Soul Power. Even if Vulture number one was to arrive, it would not pose any difference. No one could stop him from getting Mind Reader.

But now Mind Reader was being held hostage. If he was killed, then all his efforts would be in vain. He would have to head to another venue to seek the reborn Mind Reader. It would be a massive pain in the ass.

"That's easy, hehe." The man holding Mind Reader hostage smirked. "Honorable Sword Master, as long as you vanquish these people from White Crab and the two over there, I will release Mind Reader to you. I promise you!!"

The silver-haired person from White Crab was shaken. The person holding Mind Reader was from Black Federation. His fear was realized.

The Sword Master in this city was undefeatable unless he could get Lord Slayer over for help or else no one would be able to stop Garen.

Nobody knew where the two mysterious forces were from, but they were definitely understaffed. Now that they were being threatened, their faces changed, looking nervous.

“Kill two parties of different forces, do you think I’m stupid?” Garen smirked.

“Too bad then. If you don’t follow suit, I will kill Mind Reader,” the man smiled coldly.

“How dare you threaten me?” Garen’s last ‘me’ word dropped sharply.

With a boom, a short sound wave sent a quake. The man holding Mind Reader was hit. The massive sound wave in the shape of a stick struck his head. He instantly saw stars and became sluggish.

In that split second that the man was distracted, Garen stomped his foot, exploding a pit in the cement surface. The counter force saw Garen being pushed to an extreme speed.

Bam!

Garen swept past the hostage-holder and stopped short behind Mind Reader.

Rip!!...

The hostage-holder’s body was torn apart. A large amount of blood flowed endless, dying his clothes red.

“You...!” The hostage-holder did not manage to finish his sentence as he collapsed on his back slowly.

Garen extended his arm and dabbed gently on Minder Reader who was trying to escape.

Mind Reader lost energy in his whole body, Garen carried and tucked him under his armpit and walked out.

Garen chose to leave through the same lane which he came from.

The two persons from unknown forces could only watch Garen leave with eyes wide open. They dared not make any sudden movements.

“Let’s go!” One shouted at the other. The two consciously made way for Garen to walk through before retreating swiftly.

White Crab tactfully chose to retreat at the very beginning. They were different from the rest. White Crab shared a conflict with Garen. If it was not for Garen focusing on capturing Mind Reader, they may not see the light of day again.

Garen’s combat power was far from what they had predicted, beyond anyone’s imagination.

“Lord Slayer will remember your grace,” the silver-haired person from White Crab marked his words before leaving.

“If he is displeased, he can look for me anytime.” Garen did not bother to turn back. He headed straight to where he came from. He needed to depart from here as soon as possible. He has caused quite a negative impact from his killing spree in the city, those from Vulture were already rushing over to receive him.

There was even a high official of the enemy in the local Ocean Capital that could instruct the armed police to stop him. This was Slann, not any other place and the Vulture’s influence should be the largest and strongest here.

Carrying Mind Reader, Garen took large strides leaving the field.

He was quickly met with the incoming troops of special-uniformed army. A team of ten or more people charged over and encircled Garen.

Two mechanized vicious figure dashed over. Their faces changed at the first sight of Garen.

“Sir Sword Master! Please forgive us for coming late to support!!” The two got down on one knee. Both of them started knocking their heads on the ground, causing a string of banging noises and making people jump with it.

The encircling army that wanted to lock and load had now realized that the person before them was the country’s symbol of highest force, Sword Master!

They all took down their weapons.

“Late support?” Garen smiled, “No, it hasn’t been ten minutes from when it happened until now. For you to have such speed and assembly is very good. I am satisfied.”

It was true, he was telling the truth. He did not inform anyone of his trip to Ocean Capital. He quietly joined in the fight and for the local forces in Ocean Capital to react quickly under such circumstance was quite impressive.

“Thank you, sir!” Both of them gut-wrenchingly got up. The Sword Master’s reputation was quite positive among the public but quite the opposite amongst the internal personnel. Those who knew the inside story would know of Garen’s cruelty. In a short time frame of a year, Garen and his subordinates had slaughtered people by the hundreds to strengthen his position and name. Anyone who dared go against him would be wiped off by him, including the local nobles who grew to ranks in a hundred years but destroyed by Garen in three days.

“From now on, all the armed forces of the city are under my instruction.” Garen gently knocked Mind Reader out cold as he said calmly to the duo on their knees.

“Yes!”

The duo answered together.

Garen nodded in satisfaction.

“Ocean Capital is still Vulture’s territory. You can’t just come and go as you please. Don’t you think you should leave something behind?”

He turned to look behind him.

“All troops to take down all soldiers hired by White Crab. Take heed of my instructions! Seal every entrance and exit of the sea and inform the navy to look out and halt any suspicious looking vessel!”

“Yes!!” The two generals responded loudly. They swiftly mobilized to another direction, taking out their mobile phones to communicate the order.

Garen took out his mobile phone to dial Double-Tailed Scorpion’s number.

“It’s time for action.”

He only said one sentence.

“Understood,” Double-Tailed Scorpion had already arranged everything.

Far away, a few black vessels were floating on the ocean surface. The fish-shaped black vessels had a white symbol on them. It was a savage-looking white skeleton.

Slann’s strongest fleet — Skeleton Sea.

Six Skeleton Sea submarines emerged. Their tops broke open and pilotless fighter jets over ten meters long each were lifted up one by one.

Titter titter! Swoosh swoosh swoosh!!

With sounds of taking off, the pilotless fighter jets took flight towards the direction of Ocean Capital. White shuttle-shaped missiles hung below the jets.

In a hidden shipyard somewhere in Ocean Capital, a ship disguised as a merchant ship slowly navigated out of the harbor, blowing its horn loudly.

White Crab's people were disguised as regular tourists, staring at Ocean Capital from afar. They suffered a major loss this time but Lord Slayer would definitely avenge them!

But this was unrelated to Garen now. Carrying Mind reader, he got in a car prepared earlier to head to Vulture's branch. Mind Reader was emitting an aura of massive Soul Power. This had Garen finally understanding the core attribute of the Four Great Cornerstones.

It was a Soul Ring that was the same as his!!

Chapter 1215: Soul Ring 1

Not bothered with the continuing slaughter, the fighting submarine battleships took off. These were now unrelated to Garen. What he needed to do now was to bring Mind Reader to a safe place for use.

"..." Garen felt this statement was weird but it didn't matter. His goal was achieved.

The car he was in drove towards Ocean Capital's airport.

Looking outside the car window, he could see crowds of people gathering to see what the fuss was all about. The people seemed to be oblivious of the danger, thinking that it was far and not exercising any awareness of it. They gathered around to have fun, and it was so packed that there was no end to it. His ears were filled with noises of discussion.

"How unafraid of death," Garen sighed.

“The people of Ocean Capital have lived in peace for too long plus being one of the vital cities of Slann, they wouldn’t think they will meet with any danger,” the driver smiled as he commented. “Who would have thought that there’d be a killing spree less than a thousand meters away?”

While the driver was talking, he looked through the rear mirror at Garen with respect. Thanks to Garen, Slann’s reputation has grown internationally in recent years.

Slann’s national policy was focused on defense. They would not respond when provoked by other countries but with the birth of a Sword Master, with a support on combat power on the right matters, Vulture could be more forceful.

Almost any event involving the Sword Master would have the enemy at a major loss. The completion of tasks was more than eighty percent. His vicious name was spread far and wide merely in a year.

Garen shook his head and said no more. Beside him lay the unconscious Mind Reader.

He shifted his head to look out the window. The car was moving through the streets at a steady speed. Although crowds were densely packed on both sides of the street, no one was actually pushed out onto the roads as everybody displayed good citizen virtue.

As the car moved forth and was about to leave the jam-packed path, Garen saw the shop which he was having a meal earlier. At the shop’s entrance, a group of youngsters was being questioned by over ten police officers and amongst them were Cammy Ning and her two friends.

Still in a state of shock and with emotions still running high, the trio was describing to the police officers of what happened.

The driver noticed Garen’s line of gaze and followed through.

“Sir, is there a need for an arrangement?”

Garen did not say a word.

"I really do not know anything!" Cammy Ning argued. "Please, let us go. We need to go to class. We are students of Ocean University!" She tried to convince the police officer to let them off in advance.

Nobody would want to be dragged into a troublesome matter like this. This sort of event usually meant trouble for there would be endless questioning, harassment from the media and continuous requests for media interviews. Their studies were held up, her personal plans were held up, she had not even recovered from the pant-wetting emotions when she was stressed beyond exhaustion by the judgmental interrogations.

Cammy Ning really wanted to return and rest. It was not only her. Her three best friends were equally exhausted and in fear of the police officers' constant interrogation. They were unable to leave this place until they were cleared of being suspects of soliciting conspiracy.

"... Alright, inform your family and friends to come over. There are a few items to verify."

In the midst of full on interrogation, Cammy Ning only seemed to register this last sentence.

Inform family and friends!!??

Hearing this, Cammy Ning and her friends froze.

Once matters reached this level, what difference did it make with those who broke the law and were told to inform their family members to bail them out?

If this were to spread to school, even if they were victims, gossip was a fearful thing. In the course of gossip spreading, they may as well end up as suspects and there may be a record on her file.

"Couldn't you bend the rules?" Feeling fragile, Cammy Ning hadn't finished her request when the police officer cut her off.

"I'm sorry, as your involvement concerned national security so you cannot leave police surveillance before you are cleared of any suspicions." The police officer was apologetic. "But don't worry, once we confirm that you have no involvement, we will then..."

Cammy Ning and her friends couldn't bring themselves to listen to what he had to say. They felt their ears buzzing a blur and felt only chill in their hearts.

The only thing that came to mind: They were doomed.

It was then a police supervisor in black walked over. Sizing up the three ladies from top to bottom, he frowned slightly and spoke reluctantly.

"Alright, let them go."

The police officer was stunned while the three girls thought they heard wrong. They stared at the police supervisor in surprise.

"I do not wish to repeat myself," the police supervisor blurted coldly with a straight face. He sized the three girls from top to bottom again before striding away with his hands crossed behind his back.

The investigating police officer was dumbfounded but obeyed the instruction and started to process the release procedure.

Cammy Ning was stumped by the sudden change of events.

"Quick, look over there!" Her female companion's sudden shriek had her returned to senses. She looked towards her bestie's direction of gaze and saw a black, fancy sedan slowly driving away.

The window was half opened and in it sat a man. He was smiling at her direction, bidding a farewell gesture to her.

"It's Kong Xiaofei!?" Cammy Ning stared blankly at the man inside the car, feeling the drama of life. At first, she thought that he was a young jobless vagrant and now he was an important person, a personnel of high ranking.

The three girls stopped talking. For a moment, she felt down in the dumps but the other two became ecstatic.

"See that? That Kong Xiaofei is a hidden big shot!"

"We initially thought that he was... These big shots like to act weak? Must they give others a scare?"

"I think he probably is into Cammy, they are high school classmates after all, maybe..."

Her two besties started to discuss enthusiastically. They tossed aside their earlier decadent and worry and started to guess Garen's identity and background.

The sedan was quick to drive out of sight. Cammy Ning slowly watched the car leave without saying a word. She felt an indescribable odd feeling as if life was a dream, a peculiar yet absurd dream.

"Ai ya!" One of her besties suddenly exclaimed.

"What's wrong?"

"We forgot to ask Kong Xiaofei for his contact number!"

Cammy Ning suddenly felt that her two best friends were of poor taste yet she could not help feeling a tinge of regret.

She stared at the exaggerated car plate number at the rear of the sedan from afar.

"Perhaps we will never see each other again." She suddenly had this feeling.

Vulture Headquarters.

In a specially sealed secret room.

Throwing Mind Reader into the secret room, Garen entered the room himself and started to undress.

“What is this odd feeling?” He felt chills on his back.

He turned his head and saw his secretary, Double-Tailed Scorpion, staring at him with an odd expression.

“I... I did not see anything!” Double-Tailed Scorpion quickly turned his head and muttered under his breath.

“...” Garen’s face grew black.

He thought about it.

“Bring the low-temperature cooler box over.”

“Understood,” Double-Tailed Scorpion immediately left and ordered his subordinates.

The low-temperature cooler box was moved in and connected to power supply. He dismantled the surveillance camera in the secret room at the same time.

The heavy metal door to the secret room was shut. Garen threw his top away and looked at Mind Reader who was unconscious on the ground.

“Soul Ring...” Soul Power poured into his eyes and he could clearly see the revolving structure of Soul Ring on Mind Reader.

It was a complete Soul Ring structure of five Soul Seeds! Much stronger than his current Soul Ring by a large margin.

“Such an envious sight. I struggled so long to only obtain four Soul Seeds and here the Four Great Cornerstones naturally has a Soul Ring of five Soul Seeds!” Garen shook his head.

Through thorough observation, he realized that Mind Reader’s Soul Ring was not his to control. The Soul Power that emitted was scarce. Mind Reader’s Soul Ring of five Soul Seeds on many levels was structured naturally. The nature of the Soul Power did not share one bit of Mind Reader’s soul characteristics.

“In other words, the supposed Four Great Cornerstones was the house of the Soul Ring. They are like a vessel that housed a terrifying Soul Power that could impact an entire planet. Just by the little Soul Power emitted naturally by the Soul Ring, produced many extraordinary phenomena. From that, one could see how horrifyingly scary this sort of natural Soul Ring could be.”

Garen came to a conclusion.

The Soul Ring of the Four Great Cornerstones could not be controlled as liberally as his but it was far more powerful and terrifying than his Soul Ring. Just the reserves of the Soul Power were five times his Soul Ring. It really was a huge monster!

“No wonder the Four Great Cornerstones is the core of this world. They bear the weight of four different origins of this world,” Garen quickly established the most likely model mechanism of the Four Great Cornerstones.

“Then how could the Soul Power be absorbed?” Obtaining an outline of the situation, Garen started to venture into ways to absorb the Soul Ring within Mind Reader.

"If it's just slowly absorbing the wandering Soul Power, then over a hundred years wouldn't be enough to finish it up," Garen struggled to analyze. "There are a few ways. One is to stimulate the Soul Ring so that a large amount of Soul Power would be released for me to absorb. This way has its certain risk. If the degree of strength is not pre-determined and its force was overstimulated, then it may possibly cause Minder Reader to die and reborn elsewhere, losing the chance to absorb."

Garen was quick to deny this method.

"Then the second type, pollute," he walked one round around Mind Reader. "My Soul Power is mixed with traits of the Hellfrost Peacock Mother and could pollute the Cold Chaos. Moreover, the Hellfrost Peacock Mother and Nine-Headed Dragon shared an engulfing characteristic. It could, at a certain level, pollute the other Soul Power to one with a characteristic closer to its own and at the same time, lessen the digestive burden of engulfing and absorbing. This may take around half a year."

Chapter 1216: Soul Ring 2

This fella was a ticking time bomb. If the Soul Ring exploded by any chance, not only would he end up with nothing, his own Soul Ring may be damaged too.

So Garen knew that he must play it cautious.

"There is another way, that is to engulf between the Soul Rings as a whole. This would be the fastest but also most dangerous method. The natural Soul Ring has no awareness control but my Soul Ring has awareness and could execute engulfment. It's just like two troops of armies, one is a wandering ten thousand men without a leader while the other has only two thousand men but a strong leader. With the right strategy, it should be possible to engulf. There must not be any disruption in between otherwise the two Soul Rings will erupt together. My generations of effort would come to waste."

Garen used the Energy Machine Imprint to roughly estimate the time needed. It would be around forty-five days.

"So to say, this is the risk that I have to take..."

Looking at Mind Reader before him, Garen's eyes were decisive.

"If that's the case, then I should nip all trouble in the bud and absorb the Soul Ring."

The only thing that could threaten him in this world would be Slayer. As he wasn't going to absorb the Soul Ring right away, Garen sat beside Mind Reader with his legs crossed, absorbing part of the Soul Power spread by him.

Even with such minimal absorption, Garen could sense his body strengthening obviously.

Boundless energy was surging and tiding in his body. Garen slowly closed his eyes to feel the comfortable sensation from the Soul Power surging into his body.

Even in an unconscious state, Mind Reader's face became pale.

"Negotiate with Garen now and have him release Mind Reader. The Four Great Cornerstones are not for a country or a party to monopolize. He simply can't! Nobody can!!"

Black Federation's highest administrative office — Rock Colossus Building.

In the top levels of the black building sculptured as a giant, a few speakers were in a heated debate.

"Lord Military Flag is murdered and now we're left with Battle Flag as our strongest. The Black Federation has lost a world-class general and cannot sustain a bigger loss! Otherwise, our national security will face a threat," one of the speakers representing the north region solemnly spoke.

"But if we don't avenge this, it's a national humiliation!" Another coldly blurted.

“Out of all people, we would very much want Sword Master Garen to give him up but what do we have to pressure him to do so? This is the key.” Black Federation’s highest leader was a black man with tanned skin. He had his hands crossed behind his back and had shoulder-length black hair. His strong body physique gave a sense of tough and no-nonsense feeling.

“We can use the import policy to restrict Slann’s export, aiming their commerce.”

“We can deploy security forces in the region and establish a base to enforce military clamp down.”

“What do you think, Battle Flag?” The highest leader looked at Battle Flag who remained silent.

Battle Flag pondered for a while to tidy his train of thoughts before opening up.

“Slann isn’t monolithic. Capturing Mind Reader doesn’t bring them any actual benefits. I think issuing threats should be enough to force Garen to give him up.”

“Indeed. Vulture is only a subsidiary organization of Slann’s national security department. Compared to our special operations team, they don’t hold much say. This is possible to realize,” the highest leader nodded.

“Then who will be putting this plan into effect?”

“I will,” Battle Flag said with a low voice. “This matter began with our special operations team and should end with us.”

“Has the new Military Flag been elected?”

“Mm, King Thunderclap is in charge of Military Flag’s position,” Battle Flag answered.

“King Thunderclap...? Alright,” the highest leader and the other speakers fell silent at the mention of this name.

“What! Mind Reader’s been captured!? And it’s the doing of Minister Garen?!!” Yuria burst out.

Looking at the mysterious woman in front of him, he encountered her a few times so he knew that she has been on the move with Mind Reader but he didn’t think that this encounter meant major news.

He had met with Mind Reader earlier during the day and was now hearing this nightmare in the evening.

He traveled miles to Ocean Capital because he could not trace the whereabouts of his sister and mother and wanted to borrow Mind Reader’s abilities to seek them. Mind Reader agreed readily and though both parties were not in touch for long, he could feel his sincerity.

He could sense that brother Mind Reader was not a bad person. He was just an ordinary person whose fate disrupted his life.

“I’m here in hope that you could contact Sword Master. What is his aim? You were once his disciple and should be familiar with his character,” the woman solemnly responded.

“Minister...” Yuria couldn’t put his finger on Garen’s personality. Now that he remembered, he felt that he was always buried behind layers and layers of fog that could not be interpreted.

The first genius for over three thousand years? The strongest existence in sword mastery and martial arts? The first expert of Slann?

Names after names were coined on him and taking apart these appealing names and glorified battle achievements, he suddenly realized that he actually never knew who Garen was.

“He... is always calm as though nothing could bother him. There’s always a certainty to him when executing matters and would not resort to meaningless issues,” Yuria sensed the situation was getting out of hand. “Minister must have his reason for capturing Mind Reader. No one could ever change or stop whatever he’s doing.”

“Any chance on finding out Sword Master’s goal?” The woman was worried.

Yuria had come in contact with Mind Reader a few times and felt that he was a pitiful man tied down by fate. Both of them could be considered friends and now his friend was captured by his teacher. His emotion was running heavy.

“I’ll try but I can’t promise anything,” he thought about it before agreeing.

“Lord Slayer! Only you can settle this matter.”

In a submarine in the deep ocean.

A blurry portrait with sounds was reflected on a transparent glass screen.

There was only one person in the submarine. Slayer was sitting alone in front of the screen, holding a long black sickle. This was the latest weapon technology that he had gotten ahold of. It could wield his ability by eighty percent.

“The Sword Master is strong,” Slayer was unmoved. “The remuneration you’re offering is not enough.”

“I know it’s not enough,” the person on the screen replied in a soft voice. “But this is an order from Qin.”

“Qin?” Slayer’s face changed. His originally listless stature was replaced with erecting his body straight, “are you sure?”

“The written confirmation will soon reach you. Latest by tonight,” The portrait answered.

“When do I depart?” Slayer was clear-cut.

“One week later, Wednesday noon. You’ll need to disguise yourself to get close to Sword Master. Be careful, he’s always on high alert.”

“I know,” Slayer nodded.

“Compared to a year ago, Sword Master is stronger!”

Slayer was silent. His eyes were shut as he started to rest.

Five days later...

“What brings you back to see me?” Garen looked at Yuria gently, who was in front of him. “Any news on Xiaojie and Light Path yet?”

Both of them were sitting in a room by a coffee table. Someone served them tea.

Yuria had an awkward look on his face.

“No, not yet.

“I heard that you have captured Mind Reader, so I was...”

“Mind Reader is well,” Garen smiled. “He has good food and good drinks. Apart from going out, he has access to the whole base and everything provided to him. Why? You wish to borrow Mind Reader’s ability?”

Yuria couldn't bring himself to say it out loud. He lowered his head and pretended to take a sip of tea. The borrow was an excuse. The real motive was to see if Mind Reader was okay. They were friends, after all.

"I suppose you could," Garen did not reject. Now that Mind Reader was under house arrest, he himself was under a lot of pressure. At least he knew now why other countries, organizations, and forces would rather monitor than arrest.

"Mind Reader seemed to know a lot of inside stories. A lot of valuable information could be obtained from him. It's just that..."

"Just that what?"

"It's just that, your matter could be a little complicated," Garen said, weighing his words slowly.

"Complicated?" Yuria became slightly emotional. He knew that Garen must have found some new leads which led him to say as such.

Garen indeed knew some new information, some intel which had him shocked as well. He looked at Yuria before him. He did not know where to begin.

"This information was what I obtained from Mind Reader. I didn't think the truth would turn out so I hadn't told you..."

"Lord, Nine-Tailed Fox and the rest have arrived," Double-Tailed Scorpion's voice was heard from Garen's hidden earpiece.

Garen paused what he was about to say to Yuria, "hang on, your teacher Nine-Tailed has arrived."

Yuria calmed himself down and nodded in comprehension. His Adam's apple wavered as he suppressed his emotions and stood up.

“I’ll excuse myself.”

“Mm.”

Garen nodded.

He knew why Nine-Tailed Fox was visiting him.

Mind Reader possessed the original Four Great Cornerstones’ Sacred Sigil and at the same time, it was one that was most wanted by many transmigrators, the ability to read minds. This included Kong Xinxue. So their purpose here must be to replicate Mind Reader’s Sacred Sigil.

“The replication of the Sacred Sigil should be a Sacred Sigil stripping technique. If I could master it, perhaps I could separate the natural Soul Ring and achieve complete absorption,” Garen guessed.

Recalling the few Soul Crystals he absorbed earlier, he indistinctly felt this guesswork may be correct.

Shortly, the waiter took away the tea and served coffee.

Nine-Tailed Fox, Kong Xinxue, Li Hua and another two transmigrators strode into the room. Each of them gave a complicated look at Garen.

“Welcome.”

Garen smiled as he got up.

Chapter 1217: Absorb 1

“What are you planning?” Nine-Tailed Fox asked softly the moment she sat down after entering the room.

“What are you talking about?” Garen acted dumb.

“Stop playing dumb. We all know the Mind Reader is in your hand.” The red-haired lady Yuan Xing was obviously impatient as she did not beat around the bush. “Why don’t you open a price? What do you want in exchange for us to duplicate him?”

Yuan Xing was a boring uncle in her last life and she was used to speaking without beating around the bushes. Her greatest feature in this life was having a good-natured appearance but her personality was out of the bag the moment she opened her mouth. The Qi Household owned an extremely huge organization across the Red Nation and Slann and they had an incredibly huge amount of wealth.

“Tell us. How much do you need in exchange for us to duplicate the Mind Reader’s Sacred Sigil.” She, again, did not beat around the bush and went straight into the main topic.

“What is your offer?” Garen questioned back. While he did not mind letting these people duplicate the Sacred Sigil, it was not to be done without any incurring cost. They had to pay a price for it.

“Money is not something you lack with your current social standing and we pale in comparison against you in terms of authority and power. However, there is one thing that you’ll definitely want.” Yuan Xing, who was from a business household knew how to capture her opponent’s desire.

“What item?” It was Garen’s first time dealing with Yuan Xing. He had only been interacting with Kong Xinxue and Nine-Tailed Fox all these while. He stared curiously at this red-haired girl in a black goth-themed tunic dress. What else could be effective against him who had already achieved so much? Furthermore, it sounded very important from her tone too.

“Contribution Points.” Yuan Xing stated the obvious.

“Unfortunately, I’ve already accumulated one year worth of Contribution Points with my current position. Are you sure you have enough Contribution Points to buy the Sacred Sigil?” Garen smiled.

"This thing is extremely useful and you'll never think that you have too many of them. Furthermore, the Lighthouse has information related to the Origin of the Mother Stream and you can only view them if you have enough Contribution Points. The Mother Stream, which is one of the Thirteen Ultimate Origins, is one of the largest strongest existence in this limitless universe. Lighthouse is very fortunate that it had one senior recording down the related information. If you truly wish to reach the True Soul Level or beyond it, then it is a must-read." Yuan Xing was confident.

"One of the Thirteen Ultimate Origin?" It was the first time Garen had heard of such a theory. "Are you saying that excluding the Mother Stream, there are still thirteen existences that are just as strong?!"

"It's what we have observed thus far. These thirteen existences are categorized in a level where its true strength could not be measured and nobody knows how many of them with similar caliber are out there," Yuan Xing explained.

"Yuan Xing is one of the hobbyists who often visit the Lighthouse's information vault so there is no need to doubt the accuracy of her intel. You can always confirm the legitimacy of the Intel anytime." Nine-Tailed Fox vouched for her calmly on the side.

"How many points do I need to read the record?" Garen's interest swelled up.

"One million points."

Garen's heart skipped a beat.

"From the very beginning until now, you have accumulated some ten thousands Contribution Points at best. Having a glimpse of such a record would cost you a million points!"

"We are willing to pay you a hundred thousand to duplicate the Sacred Sigil once." Yuan Xing said confidently. "This amount is more than enough to hire a powerhouse to snatch the person away from you. However, we will give you an opportunity since we are on good terms and get along rather well. We are willing to pay you to duplicate the Sacred Sigil."

"How many of you want to duplicate it?" Garen did not mind her slightly arrogant tone and started asking the number of people wanting to duplicate it.

“Two.” Yuan Xing sat up straight as she gave a sneaky nailed-it expression towards Nine-Tailed Fox and Kong Xinxue. “Ah Xue and I.”

“I will only charge Ah Xue’s duplication for fifty thousand points, but I want your Sacred Sigil’s duplication method.” Garen started bargaining.

“Deal.” Kong Xinxue nodded in conclusion. Since she was the main person who decided the overall situation, she would naturally have the authority to decide for the team.

“Do you want to duplicate it now or?” Garen stood up vigorously and effectively.

“It would be best if we can to avoid any unforeseen circumstances.” Yuan Xing smiled.

“Follow me then.” Garen, too, wanted to obtain the method as soon as he could to duplicate the Sacred Sigil. As he brought them out of the guest room, he whispered to one of the soldiers to inform Yuria to return home and come back some other time in the future.

The lot then walked through a white corridor before reaching an open-air corridor, walking deeper near the edge of the small garden.

They soon reached a spacious indoor movie theatre and saw Mind Reader watching a movie alone.

The large movie theatre which could fit up to hundreds of people only had Mind Reader in it and the rest of the seats were vacant.

The light from the movie shone on Mind Reader’s face as he was seated down with a bag of popcorn in his hand. Despite staring at the screen quietly, one could see his mind was drifted elsewhere from his gaze. At that moment, this middle-aged man gave off a lifeless vibe.

“Still worried about your son?” Garen walked in as he spoke loudly. “Don’t worry about it. I have already found some hints that would lead me to him.”

The Mind Reader looked at Garen from afar.

“Why have you come again?”

“To help you,” Garen responded with a smile on his face.

“Help me?”

“Of course. These people are here to help you,” Garen explained.

“Are they here to have an orgy with me?” Mind Reader mocked as he curled his lips.

“Go to hell!” “Filth!”

Yuan Xing, Nine-Tailed Fox, and the rests put up an atrocious expression on their face.

Perhaps it was coincidental as all of them were truly female. Nine-Tailed Fox, Kong Xinxue, Yuan Xing, Li Hua and finally Xi Yuan. They were not just any women, they were all above average as each of them had their own qualities in which those fake women whose beauty were created via makeup could hope to compare.

Garen was not affected by Mind Reader as he had already gotten used to Mind Reader’s rejection.

“They can help you to weaken and rid the Sacred Sigil out of your body.”

Skepticism could be seen in Mind Reader’s gaze after hearing those words.

“I understand that you don’t believe me at all but it will be proven to you.”

Garen leaped at least ten meters to the front and appeared beside Mind Reader before he finished speaking. He then gently tapped his head with his palm.

The latter then rolled his eyes and passed out.

“What should we do next?”

Garen looked at Nine-Tailed Fox and the rest to realize that each of them had white, long, thin needles in their hands.

“We need a quiet room.” Nine-Tailed Fox said solemnly.

Inside the secret chamber.

Garen stood at one corner as he looked at these ladies undressing Mind Reader, leaving nothing behind except for a short underwear.

Then, the five ladies changed into an extremely thin, black, full body dress without wearing anything inside. These five ladies were surprisingly calm as if everything was in the norm despite Garen observing them.

However, upon closer observation, Nine-Tailed Fox was the only one among them that was not embarrassed. The remaining four were having goosebumps everywhere.

“I’ll only demonstrate it twice. It’s your problem whether you understood it or not.” Nine-Tailed Fox told Garen calmly.

“Fine.” Garen nodded as he activated the recording ability via his Energy Machine Imprint to the maximum. The Energy Machine Imprint was kept close most of the time to conserve his Soul Energy as

the energy source of this item is the Soul Energy. However, it could record down Nine-Tailed Fox's every single movement, including the change in Soul Energy's frequency and amplitude once it was activated.

Without further ado, Nine-Tailed Fox bent over and gently aimed at Mind Reader's forehead with the near a half a meter long white, thin needle. Then, she stabbed him without any mercy.

Pew.

A soft noise rang as Yuan Xing and Xi Yuan could not help but look away as they did not wish to witness the scene.

The thin needle instantly pierced through Mind Reader's brain from the forehead and out from the back of his head before making another soft noise as it hit the ground.

Without any change in expression, Nine-Tailed Fox then took out another white thin needle as she calmly aimed at one of the Mind Reader's eyes. She then pressed it down with her palm after the precise aim.

The thin needle pierced his eyeball and came out from the back of his head once more. This sent the chill down the spines for the four of them.

Xi Yuan who did not have any experience in killing could not help but to give off a cold yelp.

"The third one." Nine-Tailed Fox took out another thin needle and aimed at the other eye.

It pierced through the other eye in a similar fashion.

A thin stream of white red blood started oozing out from the edge of the needles.

Then, Nine-Tailed Fox took out a brush and a small bottle of blood color liquid. She then opened the bottle, revealing a faint smell of plasma.

“This is a special blood plasma made from a hundred and seventy-two types of blood and you can only buy it from the Lighthouse Trades. If you wish to duplicate the Sacred Sigil as well, you’ll have to buy it yourself. I estimate that I will have a lot of leftovers, probably about five to six bottles with me after I’m done. You would exhaust one bottle with every use and you’ll probably fail at least ten times before succeeding once. Hence, despite the fact that one bottle of blood can be used a lot of times, one can typically only achieve success once per bottle. It’s very common to fail as well if luck is not on your side.”

She then took the brush and dyed it with blood as she started to draw an image on the Mind Reader’s chest.

In no time, a realistic lotus was drawn on the Mind Reader’s chest.

“I’ll start now.” Nine-Tailed Fox signaled Yuan Xing, and Xi Yuan stepped forward and step on one of Mind Reader’s hand.

Yuan Xing then stepped on the other hand while Nine-Tailed Fox and Li Hua both stepped on Mind Reader’s legs.

“Let’s start.” the five women started exchanging glances among each other.

At the same time, Nine-Tailed Fox shouted a one-word syllable.

” Li 1 (Strength)!”

Buzz!!

In an instant, the Blood Sigil on Mind Reader’s chest started evaporating into a blood mist between Kong Xinxue’s legs.

As Mind Reader’s skin returned to its original skin tone, the black striation appeared once more in the form of a sun.

The black sun striation then popped out from the skin and glowed as it plunged into the blood mist, merging together into one.

Buzz!!

Another sun shaped striation jumped out from the Sacred Sigil and flew into the blood mist.

What followed along was the third sun, the fourth, the fifth!!

A series of striations kept entering the blood mist, which started to twist about. It then started to form into the sun-shaped striation similar to the Sacred Sigil as it levitated in the middle of the air.

Kong Xinxue then turned her back towards Garen as she pulled the zip down on her shirt, revealing her skin which was covered by a thin layer of black silk-like tight shirt.

Pew!!

The Sun-like striation which was formed from the blood mist flew into her chest and intensively imprinted on her body.

Ah!!!

Kong Xinxue screamed. She raised her head as she tried to resist the intense agony.

“Ah Xue!! Hold it together!” Nine-Tailed Fox screamed with a stern look on her face.

Chapter 1218: Absorb 2

Mind Reader who was lying on the ground started twitching and jerking greatly at the same time.

The four women seemed to have a hard time trying to restrain Mind Reader's struggle.

On the other hand, it was a completely different experience for Garen standing by the side.

A huge amount of Mind Reader's Soul Energy gushed into Kong Xinxue's body like a flash flood. Even Garen would be slightly frightened by the impact of such a huge amount of Soul Energy as it had almost reached the limit of how much pain he could endure. This might even cause him to be unable to digest them properly and it would be worse for Kong Xinxue who was just a commoner.

"It's obvious that the cause of the extreme pain is not from the physical body but the direct alteration towards the soul when new energy is added in." Garen understood fully well how intense the pain was as he had experienced it before in the past. If one were to say the pain from a physical body had an upper limit, then the pain cast upon the soul will never have an upper limit.

Time passed by as the five girls were in the situation for more than ten minutes before things gradually calmed down.

The blood mist had fully entered Kong Xinxue's body.

Thud.

Kong Xinxue fell to the ground as her knees gave in whereas the other four were drenched in sweat as if their physical strength had been robbed away from their bodies.

"A portion of the stress cast upon Kong Xinxue from the Soul Energy has been given towards the rest of them during the extraction process." Garen could see everything clearly. Garen, unlike the rest who could not see what actually transpired during the process, had his eyes nourished by the Soul Energy. In addition to him achieving the realm of Soul Rings, he could clearly see the changes in the Soul Energy.

The whole ritual ended swiftly.

Nine-Tailed Fox and the rest held Kong Xinxue up. She was fully drenched in sweat from head to toe. Her body's contour was vaguely shown through her drenched shirt.

"This is your reward." Nine-Tailed Fox took out her communication device.

Garen, too, took out his communication device. Both of them then connected their devices together, validated their passwords and Soul's Core. Nine-Tailed Fox then transferred a hundred thousand contribution points over upon validation.

"This is the ink I have brought along. I still have two bottles left. The original plan was to duplicate two Sacred Sigil at one go but I didn't expect the duplication process to be so exhausting." Nine-Tailed Fox said tiredly. She then took out another two bottles of blood red ink and passed it to Garen.

"Is Ah Xue going to be fine?" Garen was worried. Despite the fact that they had distanced themselves lately, they were still siblings in this world.

"She's fine. Don't worry about it. Everything went along smoothly as planned." Nine-Tailed Fox smiled. "Alright. We have to go now. I'll come back and duplicate the Sacred Sigil another time."

"Anytime." Garen smiled as he looked at the five of them being led out by Double-Tailed Scorpion to change their clothes.

He then walked towards Mind Reader as he stared quietly at the Sacred Sigil on his chest.

The original Sacred Sigil was a black sun.

"The process may be complicated towards a commoner but it's child's play for me." Garen grabbed hold of Mind Reader's neck with just one hand. His hand was big enough to grab hold of Mind Reader's neck as he held it up in mid-air without any effort.

Upon closer inspection towards the Sacred Sigil, Garen realized that this item seemed to be rooted into his skin as there were many weird black lines which spanned towards his shoulders around the black circle.

He reached out his hand to touch it and found out that there was no protrusion at all. It was not something that had grown out of his skin but something which had fused itself with his body instead.

Nine-Tailed Fox's every action had been recorded down by the Energy Machine Imprint and Garen was able to fully replicate each and every step. However, what he wanted was not purely duplication but the theory and analysis behind it.

Garen stood there for a full thirty minutes, holding up Mind Reader by his neck. He came to his senses after Nine-Tailed Fox and the rest left.

"I've understood the basic theory behind it. It's impossible to achieve it without this blood ink. Truly amazing!" Garen could not help but to praise the powerhouse who thought of this solution.

Lighthouse did have many hidden talents.

The structure of Soul Ring was similar to that of a tall building. It was similar to having an additional floor when a Soul Seed was added. The building would be more stable and massive if it had more levels.

However, the key towards the Sacred Sigil's duplication was to make use of the blood ink's quality as an incredibly sharp giant sword to cut off the building's highest level while causing minimal injury towards the Sacred Sigil.

The original Sacred Sigils which the Four Great Cornerstones possessed naturally had their Soul Ring supplied endlessly by the universe. The external source would immediately heal the damage done towards it and they were basically no threat towards any injury.

They would revert back to normal by just reincarnating once if they were fully destroyed.

As he pondered, Garen was very tempted. If he were to be able to safely absorb the Soul Energy from the Soul Ring, it would be the best plan for him to obtain a huge amount of Soul Energy within a short amount of time.

He decided to act immediately.

He single-handedly opened up a bottle of blood ink and pressed it on Mind Reader's chest as he started moving it along the black sun's striation. His precision far surpassed that of Nine-Tailed Fox's. Similar to the most precise computer, there was not a single error and even the thickness was completely identical.

The blood ink striation was finished in seconds.

Garen recalled Nine-Tailed Fox shouting to shake the Soul Energy. He did not do so as he was able to control the Soul Energy as well. He used his Energy Machine Imprint to mimic the pulsation of the Soul Energy as he started to shake Mind Reader's natural Soul Ring.

Boom!

In that instant, the blood mist flowed out of the Mind Reader's chest and stopped between Garen and the former's chest.

Kaboom!! Garen was the only one able to hear the Soul Energy flowing out tremendously within the intense trembling as it hit against his chest.

The blood mist kept changing its form, a series of Sun-like Sacred Sigil kept flying out, entering the blood mist. The one at the back kept pushing forward even the sun at the front had yet to disappear into the blood mist.

Hundreds of sun-like striations stacked together in a line, connecting the blood mist and Mind Reader together.

"Lin!" A superimposed and muddy voice rang inside the secret chamber. The voice consisted of countless of people stacking together. The voices of the young, old, male and female gave off the same note.

However, Garen did not open his mouth at all. In fact, he did not even make any noise. It was from the intense fluctuations from the air caused by the overwhelmingly powerful Soul Energy.

Pew!!

In a blink of an eye, the blood mist entered Garen's chest.

Whoosh!! A strong air current spread about everywhere with Garen as the epicenter. The air current kept moving about within the secret chamber, blowing Garen's hair messily.

His face was expressionless as he tried to feel the large amount of Soul Energy entering his body like a flash flood.

There was not a single trace of Mind Reader's Soul Ring being extracted at all. This made Garen even more impressed with the transmigrator who invented this technique. One would not be able to perform such a precise surgery-like procedure without having a deep understanding and confidence towards the Soul.

Strength... An endless amount of strength...

Garen could not help but raise his head as he felt the fifth Soul Seed forming inside his Soul Ring so quickly that he could see it with his naked eyes. Although it was the weakest transparent Soul Seed, this embryonic Soul Seed was absorbing all of the Soul Energy pouring into his body. It then grew from the size of a yellow pea into the size of an egg as it solidified quickly.

He closed his eyes, ignoring the time as he appreciated the huge amount of Soul Energy entering his body which would become the fifth Soul Seed.

The fifth Soul Seed was quickly filled up to the point where it could not absorb any additional Soul Energy as it turned into a spherically transparent crystal. The additional Soul Energy then started to pour into the other Soul Seeds that had yet to be filled up.

The first Soul Seed – Northern Trident Frost-Fire True Water Evil Technique (Blue). The Soul Seed was spinning as it gave off a faint blue glow. After absorbing a huge amount of Soul Energy, the blue glow started fading away as it turned into a transparent crystal.

The second Soul Seed – Holy Phoenix Demonic Book (Black Gold). Soul Seed with black gold color was one of the weakest Soul Seed. After absorbing a huge amount of Soul Energy, its volume increased as it became transparent.

The Third Soul Seed – Hellfrost Peacock Soul Seed (White). This was Garen's strongest Soul Seed as it contained the inspiration and knowledge to threaten the entire planet. If a commoner were able to get his hands on this Soul Seed and entirely erased Garen's imprint, he would instantly become a Planet Level powerhouse equivalent to the King of Crystal! He would become one of the strongest powerhouses in many other worlds even if he were not in the Mech World! He would be able to reach the allowable limits of the universe.

This Soul Seed was not absorbing the Soul Energy at all. In fact, it kept releasing a huge amount of white Soul Energy as it tried to corrupt the original Sacred Sigil's Soul Energy.

Chirp!!

The sharp chirp of the Peacock could be heard all of the sudden in Garen's conscience.

The white peacock queen came out from the Soul Seed as it bit onto the colorless Soul Energy. The white chill behind it then started to form into layers of wings made from ice crystals.

"Stop." Garen manually controlled the peacock. In a sense, the peacock represented himself as its nature was to absorb all external energy coming into the body. Naturally, it would be possible to directly control such ability as well.

Hiss... the Peacock was dispersed forcibly as it turned into white gas and diluted by the colorless Soul Energy that kept pouring in.

Garen stared at the whole event indifferently.

The Soul Ring was filled up and the Soul Energy flowing out from the Soul Ring started to become more and more powerful.

His body started to obtain a huge amount of nutrient. His body which was originally lacking in Soul Energy started to obtain so much that a new Soul Seed started to form as it attempted to form a second Soul Ring!

Slap.

Suddenly, Garen forcefully cut off the Soul Energy's channel.

He looked at the Mind Reader in his hand tiredly. He could not simply absorb everything since Nine-Tailed Fox and the others would still come and duplicate the Sacred Sigil Once more. He thought that it would be best for him to not let the others know that he had the natural ability to absorb the Sacred Sigil before he obtained all the loot in one fell swoop.

He looked at the Sacred Sigil on the Mind Reader's chest and he could see that it had been slightly faded.

Garen could not stop himself from smiling as he looked at his own Attribute Pane.

"It's so much better to rob the wealth from others than rightfully collecting the inspiration on my own..."
He lamented from his heart.

Chapter 1219

A few days had passed since.

Nine-Tailed Fox and the others had come to the base for the second time. They had brought along a girl who Garen was familiar with as well – Night Water.

It was the girl he had caught sneaking around his back looking for Soul Crystals.

Night Water's jaw dropped the moment she saw Garen. The Soul Energy released from Garen's body was similar to the chill released when an extremely cool refrigerator was opened as it kept flowing freely from both sides.

"You... You monster!? In such a short amount of time..." Garen gave her a warning gaze before she finished speaking. It was the kind of sly smile that one would make before killing someone else.

Night Water shut her mouth the moment she realized it.

Despite being an expert in the Mother Stream System, she was technically only a Guardian Level. These five classes, the Guard, Division, General Army, and Demon Lord was the Ancient Endor's general categorization towards the Void Creature.

Each Level would require a tremendous amount of time to train and master to achieve. If Garen did not have the Natural Attribute Ability and were to train in the traditional way, he would require at least thousands of years to train before achieving such a level.

"What's wrong?" Nine-Tailed Fox and the others asked while they were preparing the duplication procedure.

"Nothing..." Night Water barely put on a smile. "I was just thinking how much Garen had changed. Hahaha!!" She started laughing stupidly as she found an excuse that was barely believable.

"Alright, follow me, everyone." Garen continued giving Night Water the hypocritical smile as he brought them to the secret chamber where Mind Read was kept in.

It was the same procedure as before. However, the duplication was for Nine-Tailed Fox instead.

One could say that she had given up on the Slayer's Sacred Sigil as the probability of obtaining it was very low. Furthermore, Mind Reader was literally in front of her and was very well within reach. There was no need to risk her life to obtain Slayer's Sacred Sigil.

The procedure was very successful as it went much smoother than last time.

Similar to Kong Xinxue, Nine-Tailed Fox was very weak after the procedure was completed. However, she was better than Kong Xinxue as she did not faint. It seemed that she had a much stronger soul than her. Li Hua picked her up and sent her home.

The ordeal ended and the deal between Garen and Nine-Tailed Fox was considered complete. Everyone went on their way, leaving Night Water alone.

“Do you still need anything?” Garen sat down as he drank the coffee that was sent to him earlier.

Night Water gritted her teeth. “How much are you willing to pay for me to study the Mind Reader’s Sacred Sigil? You know what I’m talking about. The Soul Energy releasing naturally from the Mind Reader possesses a very powerful enhancement towards us Soul Energy Practitioners.”

“The price?” Garen had already guessed that she would come for this. “Unfortunately, I need to keep Mind Reader up as a supply so I won’t be sharing his Soul Energy with you.”

“Fifty thousand Contribution Points!” Night Water gritted her teeth.

Garen shook his head. “It’s not about the Contribution Point.”

“A hundred thousand!” Night Water gritted her teeth even more.

“It’s really not about the Contribution Point.”

“Two hundred thousand points!” She was literally speaking through her teeth.

“No!” Garen cut her off. “I told you it’s not about the Contribution Points.” He had decided to completely swallow up Mind Reader so that there would be no problems surfacing in the future. He had already absorbed a sixth of Mind Reader’s natural Soul Ring earlier. If he were able to absorb everything, his Soul Ring Power would achieve a whole new level.

“Two hundred and fifty thousand points!! This is all that I have accumulated! Don’t be too greedy!” Night Water had had enough.

“...” Garen frowned as he stared at her quietly.

“You... What are you staring at!?” Night Water had goosebumps as she was being stared at. “Are you being tempted? Tell me if you are!”

“I’m thinking if I should rob you! What a rich girl,” Garen joked as he stood up. “Alright. It’s late and you should leave.”

“It’s two hundred and fifty thousand points!! Are you not tempted at all?!” Night Water stood up and shouted in disbelief.

“You won’t be leaving if you don’t leave now.” Garen snapped his fingers and Double-Tailed Scorpion entered the room to send the guest off.

“This way.” Double-Tailed Scorpion smiled as he sent the guest away.

Night Water was then sent away in dissatisfaction.

Garen stood alone for a while before ordering his underlings to lock down the entrance so that no one could simply enter or leave the area. Then he turned around and walked into the secret chamber.

It was not that he was not tempted by the Contribution Points. It was because the longer Night Water stayed by Mind Reader’s side, it would be easier for her to realize Mind Reader’s irregularity. Furthermore, he could not wait any longer as it would only be considered safe after he had achieved his plan.

Mind Reader was still unconscious inside the secret chamber and the black sun striation on his chest had yet to completely vanish.

Garen pulled him up single-handedly.

Then, a slam could be heard.

The secret chamber's door was automatically shut off.

The Soul Energy was startled as the air current started to flow about wildly, recirculating inside the secret chamber.

A mysterious faint, white light started glowing around both Mind Reader and Garen from head to toe, gradually plating them into white color.

The air inside started to tremble, giving off a noise similar to as if there were countless of people meditating. Garen stared at the Sacred Sigil on Mind Reader's chest while he used one of his hands to take out the blood ink and repeated the procedure.

Pew!

The black mist was formed and turned into a Blood Ball levitating in Garen's palm.

"Lin!" As the faint noise reverberated in the background, Garen gently pressed the Blood Ball on his own chest. The Blood Ball gave off a sizzling sound before it entered into his body.

This was the first ball.

He repeated the same action once more. Unlike Nine-Tailed Fox, whose actions possessed the probability of failure, Garen did not waste a single drop of blood ink as he drew the Sacred Sigil. Two bottles of blood ink were more than enough for him to completely absorb the power of the Sacred Sigil!

The second blood ball was quickly extracted and the black sun on the Mind Reader's chest became much more diluted than before.

He woke up, groaning as if his body was being torn apart.

"You..." Mind Reader looked at Garen with a muddy gaze as he felt the sensation of something constantly leaving his body. He did not know why but he felt rather depressed.

"Do you want... this power of mine?" Mind Reader gave a wry smile. "Take it... Take everything. This is a tragic and disgusting ability!"

Without any change in his expression, Garen started to extract the third Blood Ball. His actions were getting much more efficient over time as he aimed at Mind Reader's chest with one hand and stabbed into it.

Thud.

The blood mist gathering by his palm turned into a Blood Ball. It looked like Garen had taken out a bloody heart out from Mind Reader's chest from afar.

"This is the source of all nightmares...!" Mind Reader smiled. "Am I going to... die?"

"No," Garen responded calmly. "Your Soul Ring will be extracted by me but you won't die. I'll leave enough soul for you to function as a normal person. It's more than enough for you to live."

"Is that so?" Mind Reader, who was slightly anxious was instantly relieved. "In other words, my ability will be robbed away from me, right?"

"You can see it that way."

Garen extracted the fourth Blood Ball as he gently pressed it into his chest.

A huge amount of Soul Energy gushed into his body.

His first Soul Ring could no longer absorb any of it as the second Soul Ring started to form. Furthermore, the third Soul Seed was already forming inside the second Soul Ring. As he was extracting Mind Reader's Soul Ring, he was also under the process of absorbing the Natural Soul Energy's huge amount of outflow. This outflow of Soul Energy was not something a commoner could absorb as the process was incredibly fast, resulting in a ridiculously powerful impact. However, Garen was different. Technically, he was already considered a Demon Lord Level powerhouse in the Mother Stream System. Hence his soul was a few hundred times stronger than of the commoners.

Despite Nine-Tailed Fox was also a transmigrator who had transmigrated to multiple worlds, her soul was still not superior compared to his. It would still be considered modest for him to say that his soul was hundred times stronger than hers.

Garen looked at the dark space inside his soul.

Inside the pitch black space, there was a second halo on top of the first Soul Ring. The halo seemed to be made of a white gold material as it had empty slots for the Soul Seed, which seemed to be a projection from the first Soul Ring below.

The first three slots already had colorless Soul Seeds in it. Furthermore, it had already been fully filled up. The enormous amount of Soul Energy was filling up the fourth empty slot, which was like an endless abyss as it kept absorbing it.

The endless amount of Soul Energy was surging inside Garen's body as it nourished both his soul and body. Regardless of how restrictive this universe was, he was like an unstoppable force that could not be contained as he kept pushing towards the upper limits.

Garen then looked at his status and there was a huge development.

'Kong Xiaofei – Strength 11, Agility 12, Vitality 14, Intelligence 11. Potential 0%, Soul Limit 80'

His limit had already reached eighty points while the rest of his physical attributes had skyrocketed to an unrealistic level within a short amount of time. Physical attributes in the tens might not be something impressive in the other world. However, it had already reached the level that would flabbergast anyone in this very restrictive world.

This status was borderline cheating as Garen would not be required to exhaust a huge amount of Soul Energy every second or else he would not be able to sustain such a powerful structure. Analogically, the number of nutrients and water between a giant tree and a little sapling were drastically different. A tree that reached the clouds could only do so due to the huge amount of nutrients provided from the ground. Hence, the tree would wilt if there was not enough supply of nutrients.

A pool would not be able to sustain a sea serpent and only the sea could house an endless amount of gigantic creature. It was a universal law that was applied to every world.

The fifth ball!

Garen gently retracted his hand away from Mind Reader's chest. A huge sun striation started to appear on his chest. The black sun striation seemed to have formed onto his body naturally. Its tone was much different than of Mind Reader's as it was much blacker. Furthermore, it had much more surface area as it not only covered Garen's chest, it had also covered his back as well.

"Isn't it a little bit discourteous for Lord Third to let us wait here?" There were a few black cars stopping in front of Garen's base. An upright silver triangle emblem could be seen in front of the cars which represented the identity of the highest ranking members in Vulture.

"I'm very sorry. The minister has ordered that no one is allowed to enter this base without his permission. Please be patient." Double-Tailed Scorpion blocked the fleet of cars with a calm expression.

Vulture No. 4 frowned as he smoked his cigarette. He was standing at the very front as he led his group. Behind him were a few mercenaries in weird looking attires consisting of males and females.

Among the crowds of men and women, a young man in a white windbreaker crossed his arms as he stared into the tall building in front of him before looking at Number Four talking towards the guard at the entrance of the building.

"I sense the Soul Energy is fluctuating." He whispered to Number Four from behind. "We have to be quick. I'm afraid that Garen is doing something with the Mind Reader."

“Are you confident? The Sword Master is known as the strongest martial artist in the entire history!” Number Four talked to the man behind him, while at the same time was also talking to Double-Tailed Scorpion who was standing at the entrance of the building.

“Don’t worry about it. We are professionals.” The man in white windbreaker smiled.

“I hope so. Don’t blame me if I abandon you guys if anything goes sour.” Number Four said bluntly. “After all, we are only cooperating together.”

“As you wish.” The man in the windbreaker was not surprised at all.

“Please step aside or else we will have to be rough towards you.” He took a step forward and threatened Double-Tailed Scorpion loudly.

“I want to see how rough you guys can be.” A man in a white coat appeared behind Double-Tailed Scorpion. It was the Root Doctor, Jiatai.

He had just returned from an outstation mission. He was catching up on his sleep as he was woken up by the rackets outside. Then, he heard such a rage-inducing word the moment he stepped out. This building was the Unrestricted Department’s territory, its headquarters, and a portion of Vulture’s headquarters resided here as well. How dare someone threatened to break into this place?

This was similar to someone banging your doors furiously, threatening for you to open it or else they would kill you! Anyone would have been angry after hearing such words.

Chapter 1220: Lurk 2

“Jiatai the Root Doctor,” The man in the white windbreaker glanced at Jiatai, immediately acknowledging his name. “People might be afraid of your Thousand Magnetic Needles, but it’s useless against me,” he snorted.

Suddenly, a fuzzy Soul Energy Force started escaping from the base, forming a translucent ring of ripples that started spreading.

“He really is absorbing Soul Energy!” A lady behind the white shirt man snorted. “Even a powerhouse of the Mother Stream System couldn’t resist the temptation of a natural Soul Ring. A more troublesome powerhouse wouldn’t be able to resist it either.”

“Something’s not right, this Soul Energy Force seems to be a little too big...” The man in white shirt frowned slightly. “Absorbing and releasing Soul Energy shouldn’t cause such a big movement, should it?”

“But it’s fine.” The lady smiled as she pulled out something that seemed to be a small humanoid toy. “No matter how mysterious Soul Energy is, it is still a form of energy. There are plenty of ways to trigger it.”

She tugged on the white doll’s head lightly.

Crack.

A light surge of Soul Energy rushed out, entering the Soul Energy ripples in the air. In an instant, all the Soul Energy that was contaminated by this surge of energy started to boil and became distorted.

Just like ice-cold water that suddenly became boiling hot water! Countless Soul Energy stirred up and rushed into the core of the ripples.

“This!?” With one hand, Garen grabbed the sixth Blood Ball. He could feel that something was off as if some special force was transmitting into him. His own Soul Energy was still alright, but the massive Soul Energy escaping Mind Reader was like an aphrodisiac potion and it started to distort badly.

At this moment, his Soul Energy was still linked to the Mind Reader's natural Soul Ring. The force instantly transmitted into his inner Soul Ring, a trace of evil tyrannical will slowly sink into his Soul Ring.

Roar!

It was a dog-like black creature with no eyes, just a white mouth with serrated edged teeth split open on the left side of its body. All of a sudden, it darted right into Garen's inner soul ring and started howling.

"This is Sin's Authority!!" Garen had never seen such a creature before in his life. However, not only did he heard Black Claw of Sethe brought it up more than once that this was no other than the real natural enemy of a Soul Energy creature, the strongest monster that was developed by the Void Creatures in the Mother Stream System contrary to the Ancient Endor's Soul Ring — Sin's Authority!

All forms of attack that consisted of Soul Energy were nutrients to it that enabled it to grow rapidly.

"Damn it!" Garen had no idea at all how he was going to deal with this Sin's Authority that came out of nowhere.

In addition of being Soul Energy's nemesis, it was practically vulnerable against all physical attacks. But he could not leave right now while the linking ceremony between Soul Rings was still happening. If he was to leave suddenly, he would most likely trigger a major disturbance in the natural Soul Ring, even his newly formed Soul Ring would crumble and explode as well. By then, not only would he suffer from heavy injuries, he would even lose his life!! Moreover, Soul Rings and Soul Seeds accumulated from a couple of worlds would straight away fall apart and explode along too.

Even if someone was to touch him from the outside, it could even cause the entire situation to lose control.

Sin's Authority, the black dog, was in the black space. It simply pounced on the two massive Soul Rings that were constantly turning, biting onto Garen's Soul Ring.

“I said it already, all of you can’t enter.” Jiatai glared at the people crowded by the door.

“As Vulture No.4, I have the rights to enter any area in the headquarters, including here!” Vulture No.4 snorted loudly, “If you really want to stop me, then don’t blame me for executing my high law enforcement power!”

The so-called high law enforcement power was just that high-ranked Vultures had the powers to carry out law enforcement punishments against other high-ranked Vultures without the verification of No.1 Vulture. This power was only possessed by the Vultures ranked top five.

“High law enforcement power?” A Steel Needle suddenly appeared in Jiatai’s hands. Instead of getting mad, he smiled. “Well then, let’s see whether you’re the stronger one. I’ve never liked you and No.5. Today shall be the perfect day for this Lord over here to show you how to conduct oneself.”

“Such big, shameless words!”

No.4 was slightly agitated too, a silver-white short dagger appearing in his hands. His eyes started glowing in a bright red shade and the electronic chip that was planted into his eyeballs started working.

Soon enough, the atmosphere between both people started to become tense. Groups of people began swarming out of the Unrestricted Department, encircling No.4 and the others. A few snipers had their aims directed at No.4 and the others, the red spots directly falling on them.

In Vulture, every high-ranked person had their own designated forces, and these forces would only listen to the commands of their Direct Supervisors. Even if they were to aim their guns at a leader of another force, there would be zero hesitation.

“Are all of you rebelling?!” No.4’s face fell as he shrieked.

“Just forcing our way!” The white shirt man smiled. Speaking softly behind No.4, he could feel that something had gone wrong inside.

A black gleam flashed beneath his eyes. It did not seem humane.

“We’ll hold responsibility, don’t worry about it.” He straight away put No.4’s mind at rest.

No.4 instantly calmed down and swept his gaze around the large group of soldiers around him. There were nearly hundreds of them.

“Who dares to stand in my way! Let’s move! Enter!!!” He roared as he made his way toward the entrance. Little did he believed that Jiatai would actually dare to kill him.

“Block him!” Double-Tailed Scorpion yelled.

These people were obviously here to mess around, and if Garen was still not out by this moment, something must have definitely gone wrong inside, there was no way they could allow their minister to be disturbed!

Crack!

The Hellfrost Peacock’s Soul Seed was bitten by Sin’s Authority. After the black dog swallowed a mouthful, it went forward and bit on the other few Soul Seeds.

As the cracking continued sounded, the originally Soul Seed that was extremely strong and powerful was easily bitten into bits and pieces, nearly falling apart.

Somewhere deep inside Garen’s soul was aching, but that ache was nothing at this moment. Staring at his own Soul Seed being destroyed, he panicked. These were the Soul Seeds and Inspiration he had spent so much effort and hard work accumulating. A bite as such was not just only a loss of Soul Energy, but more of his own inspiration of different rules and his own understandings of the universe!

The black dog simply biting him here and there was killing him!

“Die!!” He thundered as he triggered his Nine-Headed Dragon Will.

Just when the golden Nine-Headed Dragon popped its head out, the black dog immediately pounced forward and bit its neck. The black dog then swallowed the nine heads and in less than a few seconds, the golden Nine-Headed Dragon Will was completely swallowed up.

Garen did not expect this kind of change would happen so suddenly. He watched it destroy the Nine-Headed Dragon Will as he felt a painful tear in the depths of his soul.

“Ha ha ha!! Void Hunter! Aren’t you struggling? Resist it! It’s useless!” A rumble of laughter sounded from the black dog’s body. “It’s been a long time since I’ve been lurking around you from the last world, and finally, I’ve waited for this opportunity!”

Garen’s heart sank and suddenly understood who his opponent was. The foundation of the Soul Seed was still there and his memory still existed. As long as he had the sufficient Soul Energy and as long as he was not completely swallowed, the damage to the Soul Ring would not be too bad. Now that he understood clearly who his opponent was, he was really panicking.

“Nine-Headed Dragon Queen Nadia?”

“Nadia?” The black dog blanked out for a second before laughing again, “This idiot, and they actually let you continue to transmigrate and develop and did not personally come to kill you. A huge threat you are! I’ve been given such a gift. Come to think of it, I still have to thank her... But rest assured, after eating you, I’ll go back and kill her! I won’t let you be alone.”

It sprang forward and took a bite of a Soul Seed among the first Soul Ring, intending to destroy all the completed Soul Seeds, then wait for the Soul Energy to simmer off and devour once his powers have reduced.

Crack!

Just happened that it bit on the Holy Phoenix Demon Book’s Soul Seed.

Gold!

Infinite gold gleams broke out suddenly. Perhaps it was not pure gold, but definitely something that was like black flames wrapped in gold.

Boom!

A giant, golden phoenix rushed out from the Soul Seed and surrounded the Soul Seed. With a sinister arrogance, it rushed toward the black dog.

“Holy Phoenix! Holy Phoenix!!” Voices of countless people began to sing. Numerous gold scriptures flew out of the phoenix’s body and formed chains that seized the black dog.

“What is this!?” The black dog was horrified and tried to flee, but it was useless.

Bang!

Wrapped in the countless golden light, black flames were spreading all over the chains, lighting the black dog on fire.

“No!!!” The black dog mourned with pain. “This... This is domineering!!! How is this possible!!? How can such a thing like this be allowed to exist!!”

“No!!! No!!!” Screaming, the black dog swiftly burned into ashes.

The golden phoenix’s eyes were a sleek darkness as if there were numerous black flames burning within. It stared quietly as the black dog burned completely, then it opened its wings.

The black dog turned into an overflowing black gas that rolled around. These countless gases were like nutrients, absorbed by its golden wings as if the countless black rays were trickling into its wings.

A blurry three-headed six-limbed phantom appeared beside the golden phoenix. It was the once fallen Buddha Mother.

The six different limbs were holding on to different weapons each while Buddha Mother looked down upon the golden phoenix.

At that moment, scriptures and symbols turned into a mass of golden light jades that started to circulate in the air.

Garen could feel the pain in his soul started to fade and gradually recovered. The golden phoenix danced around the Soul Seed and eventually entered the Soul Seed once again, disappearing into thin air.

In the gap where Garen's soul was ripped out, a surge of golden Soul Energy rushed inward. The mysterious energy was gold on the outside, but black within.

But in his consciousness, this energy seemed to still be dissipating quickly. While it was restoring its own injuries, the Holy Phoenix Demon Book's Soul Energy still seemed to be dissipating rapidly as well.

"There is no room for the existence of the universe..." Garen finally understood. The Holy Phoenix Demon Book was too extreme, it paid attention to both heaven and earth, but it was self-conceited, so even if it was considered a type of Soul Energy, it was beyond what Sin's Authority could ever withstand. However, Sin's Authority's nature energy was also extreme, so both sides could finally cancel off each other. Just that the Holy Phoenix Demon Book had a higher amount of Soul Energy, it was able to sustain until this moment.