

Mystical 991

Chapter 991: Second Phase of the Test 1

“This kid!! It’s him!”

Behind March, Yiling’s eyes were out on stalks and she looked in disbelief.

The same was true of Joey. No one would have thought that it would be Garen, who was still persevering.

Nora’s face was solemn as he stared at Garen, who was in the beam. No one knew what was going through his mind. Several people behind him were also whispering amongst one another and two of them seemed to recognize Garen’s face.

“It’s that man! He’s from Scarlet Snow Sect!” A disciple stepped forward and whispered to Nora.

“Scarlet Snow Sect?” Nora narrowed his eyes and glanced at March. Sure enough, a faint smile appeared on March’s face. “He’s just slightly better in regenerative power! Is it worth it to be this happy?”

When it came upon him that Scarlet Snow Sect would definitely win the cumulative score, he was in a bad mood.

“Yeah, he’s only ‘slightly’ better. There’s really nothing worth to be this happy. It’s just that I feel like curling my lips. Do you have any opinion about that?” March replied with a chuckle.

After the previous surprise, the group of people quickly managed their emotions. After all, they were Energy Machinists who had seen much of the world and so, their ability to control themselves was very good.

The only exception was Wade, who still looked indifferent. He was still not moved by Garen's persistence. It was only that his expression just now hardened for an instant but had quickly returned to normal at this moment.

Time ticked past in seconds and minutes. Garen sat in the beam of light with his eyes closed and was totally oblivious with what was happening outside.

He only focused on observing the corrosive radiation effects on the surface of the body. Persevering until now, winning the first place was affirmative. But this referred to regenerative power and he could not be sure about the other items.

Therefore, he must pull away his distance from other people on this item.

The constitution of Hellfrost Peacock Technique was very powerful, especially in terms of regenerative power, which was even terrific. He could faintly absorb a small part of this external corrosive radiation and transformed it into his own energy with the devouring ability of the Hellfrost Peacock Technique.

Seconds and minutes ticked away again. Soon, more than ten minutes went by again.

The group of people stared at Garen and finally saw some faint signs of him unable to persevere any more. The surface of his skin was a faint reddish color and his forehead was slightly sweaty.

March stared at Garen while listening to the disciples at the back briefing him on Garen.

"This man is called Garen. He came in with Joey and Yiling's team. His natural talent was quite good and he was also a talent who was bought in from the Central Main City. Back then, even the elder's Three Hearted Disciple personally went to welcome him. But due to the speed of his breakthrough was somewhat slow recently, he was temporarily ignored. We did not expect him to suddenly emerge again."

"Garen?" March nodded. "This time it was his one-person effort that redeemed the losing battle. After this had ended, go and ask him to come over and join us." He did not care how Yiling and the others and Garen separated, but at least Garen now brought glory to everyone and also stabilized the position of the team in the first place. Hence, it was necessary to directly draw him to their side.

“Understood.” The disciple nodded.

Boom!!

At this moment, Garen finally could not hold out. He was shot out of the red light and staggered on the ground. After retreating for more than a dozen steps to buffer the huge force, only then did he stabilize his body. His face was flushed red and he opened his eyes.

“The first round of testing is over.”

The invigilator got up and spoke in a low voice this time.

“Now, it’s time to start give out the rewards.” He waved one hand and out of it suddenly shot a black ball. The ball was divided into three parts in mid-air, and then the three parts were split into hundreds more, darting toward the hands of the Energy Machinists below respectively.

Hiss, hiss, hiss...

Beams of black light dragged out a black track of line and fell into the hands of each Energy Machinists.

Almost at the same time, everyone got their own prize.

March, Wade and Nora, all three obtained a perfect version of gene modification fluid without knowing what attribute it would alter. The three faces were of different expressions.

But at this time, they were not paying attention to the modification fluid in their hands. Although this thing was precious, it was not like they did not have it. They were currently more concerned with the first prize, the modification essence.

“Sure enough...that guy got it.” Nora huffed coldly. From the disciple’s remarks just now, he also knew that Garen was probably one of the murderers who had earlier killed two of the talented disciples from their sect. At this moment, seeing the enemy winning made his mood worse.

Yiling and Joey stared at the test tube of light pink liquid in Garen’s hand. Both of them showed a trace of irrepressible desire.

“Brother March!” Yiling stepped forward and whispered to March from behind, “The gene modification essence could not be absorbed immediately. It will take at least half a month to be slowly diluted and absorbed. And if the general constitution has not reached a certain level, there is no way to absorb it. And so, the effect on Garen is much lesser than that on senior brother. It is better that we buy it from him. With enough money, he can buy the right gene fluid. Senior brother can also get the appropriate modification essence.”

“This... doesn’t seem proper.” March obviously wanted it. His face showed that he was moved but he pretended that it was difficult to do such a thing.

“It’s okay as long as we don’t treat Garen shabbily on the price.” Yiling smiled. “It is also considered as a matter of taking what one needs, which is good for both parties. If it is inconvenient for senior brother to cut the deal, we can help you do it.”

March was silent. He looked at Garen, who was observing the test tube in his hand, and did not say anything. After a while, he let out a long sigh.

“Go ahead, and remember, don’t undercut junior brother Garen.”

“I understand.” There was a smile on Yiling’s face.

March, this scum appeared to agree, but in fact, he could not offer a definite price. Obviously he wanted Yiling to spend her own money first. On the surface, he said not to undercut Garen, but as a matter of fact, this scum was extremely stingy. If the price was enormous, this guy would never fork out any money.

Although Yiling was scolding him on the inside, but in order to please March to help her in the crucial point of the test, she could only put up with it.

She covertly signalled Joey with her eyes and the two walked directly from the side toward Garen.

At this time, Garen had left the crowd alone and went to the edge of an obelisk. He was sitting there, waiting for the second phase of the test. Seeing the two coming, a flash of coldness flashed in his eyes.

Especially at Joey, who had actually snatched his loot before. Who knew what he was coming over to do?

“What business do the two of you have?” He spoke up without waiting for the two to come to a halt. “If there’s nothing, you can leave. I still need to rest here for the next test.”

“Don’t say like that.” Joey grinned. “We are a group of companions. That sounds like an outsider. Team leader Yiling is here to do you a big favor.”

“A big favor?” Garen smiled and said noncommittally, “Just say what you have to say. Don’t waste time.”

“We’ll go straight to the point. Brother March wants to buy the gene modification essence. Just mention a price.” Yiling ran out of patience and directly said. There were also some disciples of the likes of Garen in the sect. They might be viewed as elite by the average disciple, but these old disciples had seen many of such disciples. Every year, there were at least a dozen talents send over from the City of Nagadako. However, hardly any of them would really make it. Not to mention that she herself was originally one of the talents recruited from the City of Nagadoka, but up to this point, she was still stuck at Level Five without any progress.

It was increasingly difficult for Energy Machinists to advance as they progress further, especially after Level Five. The resources needed to be consumed each step was simply an astronomical figure. Moreover, the resources consumed could not guarantee a break through. The demand for computing power was far too high. To achieve Three Hearted was simply a huge threshold of qualitative change. If one was careless, being stuck for a hundred years was also normal.

Even if it was smooth, one could not even break through quickly without a few decades. Even though Garen had talent, with everything going smoothly, it would also take at least ten years or more to break through to Level Five, not to mention there were also a difference within Level Five itself.

When Garen advanced up to that point, she would have already entered the resonance level.

Generally, for Level Fives who wanted to reach the resonance stage, if there was not more than one hundred years, they better forget about it.

Hence, she was not afraid to offend Garen at all. Level Five Energy Machinists were not the same as Level Five pilots. When Energy Machinists reached Level Five, they were equivalent to at least two Level Five pilots. The combat power of the experimental body would also bring with it a Level Five energy field and could even reach the combat power of resonance level. That was not something the pilot could fight against.

“The modification fluid essence?” Garen raised his eyebrows slightly. “I’m sorry. I don’t intend to sell it.”

He did not always feel good about this two persons. Although it was the two who brought him out of the sect, but he was entrapped by them halfway. There was not the slightest mutual affection and there was still some resentment left in him with nowhere to vent.

This time, they even wanted to come and buy the essence in his hand?

“You can’t absorb this thing anyway. The concentration is too high. It will be better to choose a lower level gene fluid that will help you more. How about this? I’ll offer two million crystal stones.” Yiling frowned and said.

“Two million?” Garen laughed. The price of the essence was previously marked at tens of millions. This woman wanted to buy the essence for two million? She really expected him to be a pushover.

“How? Too little?” Yiling’s intention was indeed to push down the price. With the price pushed down, she could benefit from the price difference. “Two million is already quite good. Once you walk out of here with this thing, do you think you can safely bring it back to base without our protection? There are so many people who are now aiming at this thing in your hand.” She smirked.

“Yeah. You have to understand that without our protection, you are now an easy target for people.”
Joey also laughed by the side.

“You two can leave now. Not selling.” Garen shook his head. What a joke. If he were to sell it at such a price, he would definitely be silly. Not to mention, he could actually use this thing.

His initial choice was the speed modification fluid. As an Energy Machinist, protecting one’s own life was of utter importance. The speed modification liquid essence could raise two standard units at a time. This was simply a terrific plus point. Compared with potential points, he could totally use this type of way to improve his physical fitness.

Unfortunately, it could only be used once in each level.

“Brother Garen, this is brother March’s intention.” Yiling’s face was beginning to look unsightly. It was not the first time she had done such a thing. Most of the time, she succeeded. For those times she had failed, it was generally due to the other party’s background. However, this guy, Garen, a newbie who had just entered the sect for a few years and did not have any strong background, actually dared to resist up front and talked back to them.

“If you help senior brother this time, presumably brother March will also remember this favor of yours. We will also remember your act of kindness this time.”

Chapter 992: Second Phase of the Test 2

“You want to buy more than ten millions’ worth of gene essence with two million? A favor sure costs a lot with you...” Garen just decided to say it out loudly, raising his voice.

His voice spread, and instantly more or less everyone present heard it loud and clear.

“Trying to buy more than ten million with just two million? Nice try, haha!”

“That’s exactly what the Scarlet Snow Sect is like, they bully the weak. If they get the good stuff but don’t have the power to keep hold of it, they’ll be liberated of it sooner or later.”

“It’s an old trick of the Scarlet Snow Sect, they oppress the newbies. I’ve seen it happen once before, but I didn’t think they would try it again this time. Looks like you gotta be careful if you join the Scarlet Snow Sect, there’s no point in joining a sect like this that bullies the weak without a shred of compassion.”

The Energy Machinists start to say sarcastically, without bothering to lower their voices. It was just a few words, and usually they did not dare say anything when the Big Three Sects oppressed them, so naturally they wanted to make full use of this opportunity to get back at them.

“Now, we at the Nine Owl Sect are different, our disciples are the most united, unlike the Energy Machinists at Scarlet Snow who don’t have any sense of belonging to the same sect at all. If anything drastic happens, I bet they would all scatter to the winds as soon as they can,” said a female Energy Machinist from Nine Owl loudly.

Wade had no intention of stopping her.

Standing in the line of disciples, March did not look pleased at all.

“Those two idiots!” He began to bear a grudge towards Yiling and Joey, and Garen was pulled into his vengeful sights as well.

The other disciples were also barely suppressing their anger. Thanks to Garen’s announcement, their Senior Brother March’s reputation would surely be dragged through the mud.

“You can’t even do something this simple!” March’s gaze turned cold.

“How dare you!” Yiling and Joey were also standing stone-faced in front of Garen, it had not occurred to them either that Garen would so unafraid of offending them, to the point that he would just announce it loudly like that.

Most Energy Machinists lived for a long time, after they reached Level Four, it was very common for them to live up to several centuries. By offending a powerhouse like March over something so trivial, Garen was practically committing suicide, as though he had a death wish.

“Don’t think I can’t hurt you just because we’re from the same sect! If Senior Brother March wants to kill you, he has at least a thousand ways to do it!” Yiling decided to just threaten him.

“Then let him try.” Garen splayed open his hands. “Don’t be shy, come at me, try to kill me however you like.” His expression looked completely unconcerned.

“You!” Yiling’s face turned from stony to red.

“I don’t know where your confidence is coming from, so much that you aren’t afraid of offending Senior Brother March, and offending the rest of us as well,” said Joey coldly beside them.

“I have no such confidence. Senior Brother March is so powerful, I would never dare offend him. Actually, if it was anyone else asking, I might have sold it a long time ago, but since it’s the two of you—Heh.” Garen’s smile was cold.

“You better make sure I don’t meet you outside!” Yiling’s chest was rising and falling hard.

“Would you dare kill me if we meet outside? Haven’t you forgotten the rule that we can’t kill or maim members of the same sect?” said Garen contemptuously.

Yiling did not even look at him, turning around and leaving.

But Joey looked at Garen as though he was looking at a fool.

“Idiot!”

He turned around and followed Yiling back into the team.

Garen watched the two of them leave, the cold smile on his face slowly fading back to normal.

“It’s a matter of time before I offend the two of them, looks like I better find an escape route soon, otherwise it really would be troublesome if they caught me.”

It was true, there was a rule that said no killing or maiming was allowed within the same sect, but injuries from sparring were totally fine. They could very well injure him first, and then toss him to the opposing Dragon Eye Sect, that was the easiest way to go about it.

Garen knew extremely well that, as he was right now, he might not even be able to beat Joey, much less Yiling. These Level Five Energy Machinists were all at least Resonance-level fighters, their Experimental Energy Machinery were all usually one level higher than his. They were equivalent to a Resonance Level pilot, and add that to their own existing power, it meant that in an actual fight, they were even stronger than Resonance Level pilots even though they were only Level Five.

And individual Energy Machinists would never have just one Experimental Body, they might have two, even three, resulting in battle power that far surpassed regular Resonance pilots.

In comparison, those Resonance pilots in Blackboard were far inferior to the Energy Machinists here.

Garen was never afraid of offending people, but he would not be so uncooperative without reason. The main problem was that, to him, this essence was too valuable.

One vial of liquid essence should be enough to raise two of his standard units, or four points of his Agility attribute, in other words. Such an increase was downright terrifying, four points of Agility was equal to consuming sixty potential points. To him right now, that was an astronomical sum.

He picked up the test tube lightly, twisted the metal cap off, touched some of the liquid essence with his fingertip, and licked it.

Immediately, there was an extremely spicy sensation gushing down his throat, making his whole mouth burn. The sensation was almost unbearable.

In an instant, Garen felt as though his body had somehow grown lighter.

“Just as I thought, it’s effective. I just tasted a tiny bit, and the effect is already so obvious!” Garen was absolutely sure now. “It’s too bad that even if my Vitality is much stronger than regular Energy Machinists, I will still need at least a week to fully absorb this. If I drank it all at once, I might even burn a hole through my stomach lining.”

He stoppered the vial regretfully, and kept it away.

The incident where Garen was nearly coerced into a deal was just a small side-event.

The invigilator waited for a while. More than an hour later, when everyone was fully recovered, he began the second phase of the test.

Only thirty people or so had passed the first phase, and these were mostly the elites from the large sects. There were only two independents, indicating a huge imbalance.

“The second phase of the test, Premonition.”

The invigilator waved his hand, and the remaining people all automatically vanished from underneath the silver sphere, as though they had been teleported out. The beams of red light vanished completely, and most of the people disappeared as well.

The flat area underneath the silver sphere instantly became a lot emptier.

“In this second phase of the test, you can obtain some resources and items from inside, and I will determine the proportion to be deducted from these resources based on your test results. The deducted resources will not enter my own pockets, but will instead be used to run the Spirit Mothership’s daily operations. You can be rest assured,” said the invigilator evenly, while he turned to look at Nora, March, and Wade.

“You three, your results last time were decent, so your proportion of deduction will be reduced to 40%.”

The three of them nodded slightly to indicate that they understood.

March glanced at Garen, who was nearby, his expression unchanging as he telegraphed a message from his lips to the people beside him.

“Watch that guy Garen, and take away his essence as soon as he leaves the Mothership, don’t let the people from Dragon Eye get a chance.”

“Yes, Senior Brother.” Beside him, Yiling and the rest nodded solemnly.

That was a sum worth more than ten million, after all!

Even to them, that sum was astronomical. Their daily expenses only amounted to several hundreds of thousands, perhaps a million, over a year, and here was something that could give them ten million in one go. If it was not for the fact that March had called dibs on it, they themselves would have been raring to go.

Out of everyone from Scarlet Snow, only one person frowned slightly, and wanted to stay out of it. This person was slightly dark, as though they had used something to disguise themselves, even their hair and eyebrows were all pitch black. Their body was tightly wrapped, to the point that even their gender was indiscernible. They stood inconspicuously in the line, and no one talked to them of their accord, as though that person was constantly forgotten.

After arranging the matters that rose as a result of that little conflict, March calmed down, his gaze moving to Wade and Nora.

This second test was the true test in actual battle, and it was the key to increasing the distance between them. The reward last time was the gene essence, and that did tempt him, but the reward this time was completely different.

“According to the results, the second test will allow you to choose your corresponding mutated beast gene transfer surgery!” The invigilator’s voice was calm. “Each person will have their own individual space, the longer you last in there, the better the things you can obtain. Judge your own limits well, because if you’re not careful at this stage, you could die.”

“We could die!”

Garen’s heart gave a jolt, and he turned his gaze to look at the others.

The remaining Energy Machinists were all mentally prepared, and they were not surprised to hear that at all, or if they were surprised, maybe they would not show it on their faces.

Only a few of them had their pupils dilate slightly, as though this was their first time here.

“Alright, the second test, starts now!”

As soon as the invigilator said that, a limitless darkness descended upon them all from above.

Garen just felt his vision go black, and he could not see anything.

It was as though he had lost his sense of sight in an instant, he could not even see the outlines of any light around him. There was nothing but darkness.

“This is the second test?”

Garen also felt the sounds he could hear vanishing quickly into the distance. Since he could not see anything, all he had left to rely on was his sense of hearing.

He had undergone this kind of training back in the Secret Technique World as well, many secret techniques had training regimes like this.

He tried to use the equipment and lighting tools he had brought with him, but it was useless. Nothing worked, as though no light could exist in this space.

“How mysterious...”

Garen sighed in admiration. Even the darkest place should have the faintest trace of light by which he could discern silhouettes, and lighting tools would work there too.

Hah!

Suddenly, a sharp object pierced towards him, coming directly in front of him.

There was no whoosh of a breeze, nor the sound of it cutting through the wind. In fact, there was only one-thousandth of a second between its appearance and its reaching the surface of Garen’s skin.

But as though he had predicted it in advance, Garen tumbled and turned away at the last moment. As his clothes fluttered, he dodged this pierce by the thinnest of hairs.

The piercing object appeared abruptly, and disappeared just as abruptly.

Garen fell to the ground with a thud. Since he had used too much power in order to dodge at the quickest possible speed, he had not been able to control his strength properly. In fact, in that second just now, his muscles and tendons had even taken some minor damage.

“What was that just now? A test?” Confusion flashed past Garen’s heart.

Psst-psst!!

There was another attack.

This time it was not one, but two.

Garen could clearly feel two sharp objects pierce straight for his chest, coming directly for him where he lay on the ground.

He rolled away from that place, and heard two clear clangs. Two things had crashed onto the floor where Garen had been.

“There’s no sound of the wind, no light, and we can’t use our equipment. Is this a test of our sensitivity towards the changes in the air?” Garen got up quickly, and the hairs on his back rose suddenly. Three piercing thorns came at him in a triangular formation at a high speed, soundlessly.

And this time they were much better hidden than before.

If it was any other Energy Machinist here, unless they were a combat powerhouse that had undergone this kind of special training, there was no way they would be able to remain unharmed under these circumstances.

Without all their Energy Machinery, facilities and equipment, this test forced an Energy Machinist to avoid the danger with their own power alone, and truly tested one’s talent.

This time, even Garen was completely tense, doing all he could to keep himself in his optimum condition, before he abruptly dove towards the right and then forward.

Psst!

There was the sound of intense friction beneath his feet, a faint smell of something burning between the soles of his shoes and the ground.

Garen could only sense the three sharp currents flash past his left forearm, but as soon as the currents touched his arm, he felt an intense, burning pain.

Chapter 993: Battle in the Dark 1

“From the first one in the beginning, and then two later, and then three... It should increase gradually.” The thought flashed past Garen’s mind.

If he kept dodging like this, he would end up backed into a corner eventually, so he had to come up with a way to figure out this type of attack.

Garen somersaulted forward, and four sharp currents of air brushed past his head, a few severed hairs falling slowly.

Five!

He counted them silently, and Garen carefully sensed the directions the five currents were coming from. Concentrating hard and holding his breath, he finally demonstrated just how powerful his level of martial arts understanding could be.

His five senses reflected any movements from the outside world into his heart like a clear mirror, flawlessly.

In an instant, five sharp currents appeared out of nowhere. They came at a high speed from behind Garen, leaving long trails of air currents behind them in the darkness.

“Now!”

Garen’s eyes focused, and his body tilted abruptly, his right hand chopping down hard.

Chak!

The sharp air current missed, but just as it brushed past Garen’s side, it was instantly hit hard by Garen’s hand chop.

With a screech, that sharp air current actually screamed out like a living thing.

"It's alive?" Garen was slightly shocked, but he did not have time to think. It was as though he had poked the hornet's nest, an instant later, more than ten sharp currents attacked him simultaneously from both the front and back. It was somehow one level faster than before.

"Hmph!"

Garen harrumphed coldly, and then his body began to spin like a top, deftly avoiding the dozen or so air currents coming from the front and back.

But almost immediately, another dozen or so currents joined the fray, adding up to almost thirty currents altogether.

They split into four groups, and actually began to attack Garen from four directions.

This time, even Garen was finding it hard to cope.

The time passed by, second by second, and Garen avoided the attacks of the four groups of air currents again and again. These currents were shockingly fast, and you got hurt from just a touch, that was how sharp they were.

There were more than thirty currents, and even Garen could not avoid them with just his body alone.

"Cold Radiation! On!"

In that instant, with Garen in the center, a cold blue mist spread along a twenty-meter diameter.

That was the cold air of the Hellfrost Peacock Technique, other than influencing all living creatures and slowing down their metabolism, it also could confuse them and mess with their minds.

As expected, as soon as the cold air spread, the air currents naturally slowed down a notch, and he could vaguely see their movement trails slightly better.

Garen observed them carefully and finally realized that these air currents were actually some black mudskipper-like creatures, their heads were extremely sharp, and their bodies could twist at will. When they moved, they used their potential energy to jump, as though pressing down on a spring. They would instantly shoot themselves out, using their heads as spear tips, piercing through everything before them.

Thanks to the speed reduction effect of the cold air, he could also begin to handle the mudskippers' attacks with relative ease.

Whoosh!

A black mudskipper brushed past Garen's ear, and just then, one of Garen's hands struck out like lightning.

"Ten Thousand True Destruction!"

Instantaneously, his explosive power increased by half, and Garen's sharp fingernail pierced into the middle of the mudskipper's body.

Bam!

The mudskipper's body fell apart and scattered, and it actually turned into wisps of black air that quickly spread apart and began to twine onto the remaining mudskippers.

After a moment, the other mudskippers actually began to move even faster.

Garen's heart gave a jolt, but his movements did not slow down at all.

He kept using the Ten Thousand True Technique's only move, Destruction, and kept killing these black mudskippers with high precision.

Bang bang bang bang!!

The sound of mudskippers being blown apart kept ringing, but with every such explosion, the remaining black mudskippers grew faster and faster, their movements becoming even stranger.

They no longer wove around in straight lines, but instead began to move in strange curves.

As a result, even Garen began to struggle with avoiding them.

“Destruction!”

Suddenly, Garen’s finger jab missed, causing him to pause slightly. He saw the mudskipper in front of him turn, and actually shoot towards his right eye.

“Destruction!”

The terrifying effect of the Ten Thousand True Technique finally manifested itself.

In that instant, after he had used too much power in his haste, Garen could actually still change the direction of his attack, his second Destruction attack catching up to the black mudskipper again.

But to his surprise, the black mudskipper tossed its tail and actually created a faint ripple, its speed increasing with another whoosh. It avoided Garen’s finger, and went straight for his right eye.

“Impressive!” Garen was slightly shocked. “Well, I don’t believe it! It’s just a black mudskipper!”

He changed his move the third time, using the Ten Thousand True Destruction again, his finger almost touching the tail of this black mudskipper.

But suddenly, the mudskipper tossed its tail and sped up abruptly, leaving the fingertip in the dust. It had practically become a shadow of a black image, its speed rising dramatically to three times the original speed of the black mudskipper.

“It can still change attacks and speed up!?”

Garen could not react in time, and all he could see was the black mudskipper breaking past the cold blue mist, aiming straight for his right eye. In that one-thousandth of a second, he began to use the Cold Scarlet Snow Technique throughout his body.

The Eighth Grade of the technique instantly melded with the Cold Radiation.

A circle of pale blue ripples began to spread with Garen in the center. The ripples swept past the black mudskipper’s entire body, reducing its speed considerably.

But Garen still could not kill it.

In such a short period of time, he had changed his pure Ten Thousand True Technique killing move three times, but the black mudskipper managed to throw him off each time. If he were just a normal Energy Machinist, he would have fallen apart and gotten hit a long time ago. Even a Level Five Energy Machinist would only be able to fight it head-on with their force fields, instead of using a test of techniques like this.

In his haste, Garen could not dodge in time, so all he could do was turn his head hard.

Hah!

The black mudskipper brushed past the side of his face, drawing a tiny bit of blood. Thanks to the speed reduction of the two types of cold energy, Garen managed to get some time to recover, and the black mudskipper only managed to cut a line through his skin.

“There’s something weird about this black mudskipper!” Garen nearly got hit, so he started to observe the other black mudskippers, and he noticed that they were nowhere near as strong as that one. Clearly, that one was most likely the leader of these black mudskippers.

“If I can finish off that one, I might be able to pass this round.” Garen’s thoughts turned quickly. In his current state and physical fitness, he was perfectly capable of using the Ten Thousand True Destruction continuously without having to worry about side effects.

It was just that the Ten Thousand True Technique’s true strength was not in its killing power or destructive power, but rather in its usability. It was not the strongest combat skill, but it was the conglomeration of many of Garen’s most basic and universal moves. According to his conjectures, unless he was in a completely different universe with wildly different rules and laws, this Ten Thousand True Technique should be able to hold together in most similar universes, and it would be fully applicable in all those different worlds.

As a killing move, however, it was slightly too weak.

Inside the dark space, Garen’s body turned and turned rapidly, more than ten black mudskippers cutting and slicing quickly through the vast blue mists around him like a dozen or so black threads.

These mudskippers seemed to create faint ripples with their tails, those ripples seemed to be made out of air, but at the same time, they also seemed to be threading through the water.

“This is a way of exerting power...” Garen’s senses were very sharp, so as he looked for an opportunity, he also noticed that the way these black mudskippers exerted power was slightly strange.

“Interesting!”

For now, he could still withstand the attacks from these black mudskippers, so Garen decided to just observe how these black mudskippers could use such terrifying power.

These many ripples began to slow down in his eyes. His immense memory and powerful IQ allowed Garen’s Energy Machine Imprint to spin at high speeds, as it began to analyze the rhythms of these black mudskippers’ movements.

Soon enough, a bunch of statistics flashed past Garen’s mind like lightning, these statistics may not carry much meaning for regular Energy Machinists, but to a martial arts master like Garen, the statistics and numbers here could already be turned into a practical way to exert force.

“These ripples...” Garen slowly began to understand.

Outside the black space, the invigilator rubbed the bristles on his chin as he watched the huge spherical screen in front of him.

There were many images there showing the situations of the participants and Energy Machinists inside the dark space.

His gaze had always been trained on the three captains from the Big Three Sects.

March was currently standing quietly in his space, a pale blue membrane rising around his body. More than thirty black mudskippers kept crashing into the blue membrane from all directions, and would occasionally burst into bits of blue light, looking exceptionally beautiful.

March’s expression was natural and relaxed, as though he felt no pressure at all.

In Wade’s dark space, he just happened to be waving his hand like a fan, and with a crash, he shot out a large amount of yellow lightning. There was a high-pitched bird-like cry, and then the last few black mudskippers were instantly vanquished.

A black figure walked out of the shadows slowly, and stood in front of him.

“It’s the second stage now? This one’s not bad.” The invigilator nodded slightly.

“To think that someone could enter the second stage so quickly in a small place like this. I would not be surprised if it was the Central Sects, but this is pretty decent for the Northern Yu Province,” said another male voice slowly, from beside the invigilator.

“Exactly.” The invigilator nodded. “To be able to defeat the Black Thread Bugs and enter the second phase means that he would be equal to a middle-grade disciple even in a Central Sect like Star Cloud. This Wade is rather talented.”

“He is the top-level disciple of a third-level sect after all, such a result is not too out of the ordinary,” the voice said again. “But the second phase is the end of it. No one can pass the second test in a small area like this. It’s not bad for them to get the Black Thread Bug Smoke, that’s a good item for increasing their calculation speed, and it works well for stabilizing the mindspace as well. For the Energy Machinists here, that’s a priceless treasure, a resource you could not buy with money.”

The invigilator nodded in agreement, moving his gaze away. He saw that some of the dark spaces were already empty, the Energy Machinists participating in there having been completely defeated and shot out of the Spirit Mothership directly. The ones who remained on the large screen were just a dozen or so, the few who were still active.

Of these, there were six from the Nine Owl Sect, three from the Dragon Eye Sect, and five from the Scarlet Snow Sect.

One of the spaces caught the invigilator’s eye for a bit.

“This Energy Machinist...” His gaze fell on the space where Garen was, and he frowned slightly.

“That’s a pretty high level of martial arts... He’s already at the Water Mirror stage, and it seems that he got there without any pointers from others. He has potential,” said that voice again.

“What’s that? What are you thinking?” The invigilator’s lips curved into a smile.

“What am I thinking? If he can get past the second phase, maybe I can consider giving him a few tips, but it’s still too early to say,” said the voice calmly. “After all, we Energy Machinists have our roots in the Energy Machine Imprints, Willpower is the foundation to our strength, and battle skills were just invented so that we could properly use all the power we had.”

"The Water Mirror level is already nearing the peak of everything that normal people can reach, and that's still not enough?" retorted the invigilator.

"It depends on his talent. The Inherited Level is a major obstacle, if he can't cross it, then everything will be for naught."

"That's true, too." The invigilator nodded in agreement. "But it's rare to see a young kid with such a high level of battle skills, especially in a place like this. Even I haven't reached the battle realm he's at, if this kid is lucky enough to pass the second stage, I guess I'll give him a little bonus."

"That's up to you. But I'm guessing he can't pass, based on his current abilities," replied that voice calmly.

"Well, I think there's a possibility." The invigilator smiled.

"It's impossible, he definitely can't pass. You would need to be at least a Level Five Energy Machinist to just barely pass, your judgment is wrong."

The fact that his judgment was rejected just like that made the invigilator feel as though he was losing face.

"I really hate that decisive tone of yours! Anything could happen out in the world, how are you so sure that your judgment won't be wrong?" he said angrily.

"I might be wrong, but the chances of that are a hundred thousand to one. And when it comes to martial arts realms, it's ten million to one."

"If you're wrong, then you have to call me 'Grandpa' for a day, and if I'm wrong, I'll call you 'Grandpa' for a day. Do you dare take the bet!?" said the invigilator loudly, pointing to the sky.

“...Could you be more childish?”

“I’m asking you, do you dare to bet on it or not!?” The invigilator was known for being shameless, just a look at his mischievous smile would tell anyone that he was on to something.

“I won’t play your games. If I lose, I can consider giving this kid some access to the special privileges section of the resource vault,” that voice said calmly.

“Coward!” The invigilator chuckled.

“My grandson is as old as you, if I lose and have to call you ‘Grandpa’, I’ll really have lost face!” said that voice, exasperatedly. “On the other hand, based on age alone, you should call me Grandpa.”

“You’re just five hundred years older than me, so what?” said the invigilator contemptuously.

“Just five hundred years, you say? A lot of the lower-level Energy Machinists can only live for five hundred years, that tone of yours...”

“These trails...”

Garen stared at the faint ripples left behind by the Black Mudskipper King’s constantly wagging tail, concentrating with all his might.

The statistics from the Energy Machine Imprint’s large-scale calculations quickly recreated the many details of the force exertion technique in his mind.

He had once reached the realm past that of the King of the Century back in the Totem World, and now he was finally utilizing that power again after having it lay dormant for so long. To normal Energy Machinists, these force exertion techniques were something they could only dream about, and there were many principles they just would not be able to wrap their heads around, since this technique

manipulated blood qi to an astounding degree. But to a grandmaster of blood qi usage like Garen, each of these obstacles could be quickly overcome, and solutions found.

The rhythmic whirlpools formed by those many ripples were recreated in Garen's mind, separated all the way down to the tiniest detail, before they were reconstructed again and again, in order to try out new combinations.

Hah!

A scratch appeared on Garen's shoulder, and by then he had already destroyed all the black mudskippers, with only the Black Mudskipper King left. But by then, the Black Mudskipper King's speed had also reached a ridiculous extent, such that even Garen could barely see its shadow.

He could just only see the many explosive ripples it left in its wake.

And at the same time, Garen slowly attempted to adjust the vibrations in all of his muscles and internal tissues that were used to exert force, such his bones, ligaments, and tendons.

This was a show of absolute control over his own body, the depth and level of this control showing the true essence of his martial arts realm.

The biggest difference between a person and a martial arts grandmaster was the extent to which they could control themselves.

Even if a normal person had the same body, they could only control their limbs and their mind. A powerful grandmaster was different, they could even surpass the external form and control their internal organs, and the even stronger ones could even control their endocrine secretions, the speed of their blood flow, their heart rate, turning their circulations on and off at will, et cetera. These tiny micro-controls allowed a martial arts master to create an unbelievable effect using the same resources.

And Garen was one such master.

Now that he was in this pinch, if he could not find the way to overcome the Black Mudskipper King, he might not be able to get off with just injuries.

The high-speed battle between him and the Black Mudskipper King took up a lot of Garen's stamina with every passing second, his chest breathing in large amounts of oxygen as though it was a set of bellows, the sound clearly audible in the dark space.

Garen had already calculated it carefully, he would be able to last ten minutes more at the most. If the time passed and he still could not figure out a way, then he would have no choice but to be eliminated.

The resources on the Spirit Mothership were all peak-level resources that even the sects could not get, Garen would not be able to accept being eliminated just like that.

He was aware of his own condition, with the physical state of this body, it would take him at least ten years or more to get to Level Five. If he could not find a good way to increase his potential, the prodigies at the same level would leave him so far behind in the dust. As for the test in the City of Nagadako, the talent he showed was that of a twenty-year-old becoming a Level Three Energy Machinist. Others thought that he relied on his talent to get there, but he himself knew very well that he had used his Intelligence points, and even then, he could only be called a prodigy in the early stages. Towards the end, the growth in his Intelligence would never be able to keep up with the real peak-level talents. After all, he had forcibly raised his Intelligence using those potential points.

And this Spirit Mothership would be a very good opportunity for him.

As his mind kept turning, all of Garen's muscles also began to tremor and shake uncontrollably.

Bam!

The Black Mudskipper King waved its tail, and created another explosion in mid-air, its speed increasing explosively as it shot straight for Garen's head.

Just then, in that instant, Garen's eyes caught a glimpse of the ripples from the waving of the Black Mudskipper King's tail. The muscles in his right hand distorted and shook into a strange state.

“Found it!!”

Abruptly, Garen’s right hand quickly darted up, like a poisonous snake shooting out of the grass. It instantly jabbed towards the Black Mudskipper King that was shooting towards him.

But the speed of his right hand was evidently much slower than the Black Mudskipper King.

“Burst!!!” Just then, Garen abruptly roared out.

The muscles in his right forearm twisted all of a sudden, like a spring that had coiled up to its extremes, and then it was released abruptly.

With a dull bam, the back of Garen’s forearm also created a circle of faint transparent ripples. The speed of his entire right arm instantly rose by three times!!!

His right hand clenched into a fist and chased after the side of the Black Mudskipper King, the two of them clashing in an instant.

Screee!!

There was a piercing screech.

Boom!!

The fist and the Black Mudskipper King crashed into each other, and he turned the creature into a mist of blood that scattered into the dark space.

“I got it...” Garen’s heart was violently relieved. “I finally got hold of this explosive technique. I can raise my speed by three times in an instant, and the impact is beyond compare.”

However, he felt the surface of his fist begin to hurt somewhat. He could probably only use this move once over a period of time for now, and could not use it consecutively.

“Since I learned this move from these black mudskippers, and the effect is to explosively increase my speed for a short while, I might as well call it the Multiple Speed Fist for now.”

Garen named the move directly.

He had learned the move from the movements and explosive power of the Black Mudskipper King, it could move a large amount of force precisely, gathering it up, and then releasing it in an explosive instant, creating an intense and powerful speeding-up effect.

Of course, it had to go with a powerful defense body type. If the fist is not strong enough, even if the speed increases, there would still be no telling who gets hurt first when your fist clashes with something else.

Garen’s Vitality was approaching five points, it was way beyond the normal standard. According to his own calculations, this would be considered normal even among Level Five Energy Machinists. As long as he did not overdo it, it should be okay for him to use the Multiple Speed Fist at this level. Plus his regeneration power was extremely formidable, so it did not matter even if he did get slightly injured.

Psst...

Suddenly, a soft sound came slowly from the darkness directly ahead of him.

Garen quickly looked towards it, and vaguely saw a black figure appear there rapidly, standing straight as an arrow in front of him. It was a whole two meters tall.

The figure was like a human wrapped up in black cloth, and he could vaguely see the outline of facial features hidden behind the black cloth.

He opened his hands wide, and opened his mouth, but there were no teeth in there, only an endless darkness. And then an ear-piercing noise began to emerge.

“Yaaaa—!!!”

The sharp soundwaves came straight for Garen, from softer to louder, from weaker to stronger.

Boom!!

All of a sudden, the black person sprayed out a distorted ball of soundwaves from its mouth, and it crashed into Garen’s body directly, like lightning.

The transparent ball of sound distorted the air and the light, and he could barely see it for an instant before it landed smack in the middle of Garen’s chest.

Bam!!

He was sent flying backward, and he vomited a mouthful of blood while he was still in mid-air. When he landed, he took a few steps back to brace himself, and nearly fell to the ground.

“It’s another way of using a killing move?!!” Rather than being shocked, Garen was pleasantly surprised. He could clearly feel that the black person opposite him was using a powerful soundwave attack based on the explosive power of its Vitality.

Other people might just sigh in distant admiration, but he was different, he had a powerful Vitality, and at the same time he had terrifying regenerative powers. Add that to his peak-level martial arts realm, and he was perfectly capable of finding out the secrets behind this technique quickly. He might even be able to use it for himself.

In this dark and sealed-off space, the long-term one-on-one battles had completely given him an environment where he could deepen his understanding without distractions.

His heart moved slightly. After Garen had been attacked by the first wave, when he saw the black person open its mouth the second time, he carefully changed his position, trying to avoid the soundwave attack.

Boom!!

Another Distorted Soundwave Ball shot past, the Soundwave Ball was too terrifyingly fast, and it was extremely well-hidden as well, such that Garen simply could not react in time, and was hit face-on.

But he was prepared the second time, tensing up his muscles so that the damage he took was greatly reduced.

After being hit twice in a row, Garen was even more careful now. He began to circle around the black person, moving slowly.

Boom!!

That was another Soundwave Ball coming at him.

The third time, Garen managed to avoid half of it, but he just had to take the other half with his body.

There was a bam, and he felt as though his forehead had been hit hard with a metal hammer. His head was all dizzy, and even a bit heavy.

“Impressive! This isn’t just the destructive power of the impact, there also seems to be some strange transmission of the vibrations. But it’s mostly still because it’s too fast, and the power is too concentrated, so I can’t avoid it, and I just have to take it head-on.”

His powerful Vitality was showing its usefulness again, his injuries recovered quickly. He added on some potential points, and Garen was instantly back at his peak form, as he continued to walk around the black person.

Garen observed this special Soundwave Technique carefully. As with the previous Multiple Speed Fist, this technique also seemed to require mobilizing all of his blood qi, and then releasing it in an explosive instant through his throat to create a terrifying impact of sound.

After he walked a few circles around the black person, Garen slowly began to understand the rhythm and range of the Soundwave Technique.

Bam!

He barely just avoided a Soundwave Ball in advance, and then it disappeared into the darkness behind him without a trace.

Garen panted heavily, his face slightly pale. The Soundwave Ball was way too fast, he could only dodge it half of the time, and could not increase his success rate beyond that.

“This technique seems to be an upgraded version of the Multiple Speed Fist just now, it looks like these two types are creatures come from the same roots.

An idea occurred to Garen, and he started to use Multiple Speed Fist from earlier, the blood qi in his body turning slowly, beginning to flow and gather inside his body like countless streams. They all moved to his throat, gathering and condensing slowly.

Garen held his breath, his face turning slightly red. The blood vessels and veins in his face also began to pop, one after the other.

Just then, the black person turned towards him, opening its mouth and gathering power as it prepared to unleash a new attack of its Soundwave Technique.

In that instant, Garen opened his mouth abruptly and released a violent wave of air and sound.

Roar!!!

A transparent current of air that looked like a sharp arrow shot straight for the black person together with the tremendous soundwave.

Hah!!

Before the black person could react, this arrow hit it straight in the head. With a bang, it shattered into countless black shards, and fell apart completely.

Garen stopped, panting, and feeling as though he was slightly weak all over. Inside his body, however, that crazy regenerative power was also starting to kick in quickly.

“That’s another decent killing move, the Soundwave Technique. I’m earning quite a lot from this excursion.” Garen breathed in and out slowly, gradually healing his slightly damaged lungs.

It was not as though he could not create a similar technique, but he had always been fixed on training his Willpower, so he had never even considered this angle. Besides, it was no easy feat to create such a complicated set of blood qi pathway. When he was in the Secret Technique World, all the techniques of this sort could only result in a power that was one-tenth that of these killing moves. Most of them only used soundwaves to shock and shake the enemy, while they attacked the enemy at the same time. They could not use the after-shocks to directly kill off the enemy.

There was a huge difference between the two.

Thankfully, however, all martial arts belonged to the same roots. Garen’s martial arts had reached an extremely high realm, so it was not too unexpected for him to be able to quickly understand and mimic a relatively simple killing move like this one. But if it was an extremely high-level and complicated technique, that would be a different story altogether. His body in this world was completely unlike those before, he could still mimic and recreate some simple blood qi pathways, but high-level ones were a no-go. Garen was completely unfamiliar with the blood qi rhythms of the body in this world, and his only choice was to slowly explore them to create a new system. He had no idea what changes might occur at each stage.

So low-level techniques were still fine, but when it came to high-level techniques, he had to start collecting the relevant experience from scratch.

'You have won the second stage, so you can obtain the corresponding reward.'

The invigilator's voice echoed through the space.

The darkness around him instantly retreated like a tide, and the light entered Garen's eyes. He instantly realized that he was standing on the same silver ball plaza as before.

The invigilator looked at him with a smile, his attitude much better than before.

Garen nodded at him politely as a show of respect, and then he looked around him, noticing that some people had already come out of the dark space. March and Nora were both there, as was Wade, who was leaning on a sharp stone plaque by himself, resting with his eyes closed.

Out of these people, Nora seemed to be slightly injured. This revelation caused Garen's pupils to dilate slightly.

"That black person's destructive power isn't all that impressive, so how—?" His heart gave a jolt.

"Boy, if you had not destroyed that black person with a similar technique in one shot, I bet you would still be in there, being surrounded, hehe." The invigilator seemed to have noticed his confusion, and explained quietly with a laugh via voice transmission.

"What do you mean by that, sir?" asked Garen directly through voice transmission, looking at the invigilator perplexedly.

"Those Dark Creatures cannot be destroyed by normal attacks, so attacking it with other methods won't kill it. Instead, it will absorb the power of your attacks, and then split up into more new bodies. They increase as the fight goes on, but you had killed the mother body using the same technique and at the same frequency of the shockwaves. If you had used other methods to kill it once, the second time you would face two such entities. The third time you would face four, and then eight, sixteen, all the way up to a hundred. For each one, the power of their soundwaves can stack up. Hehe, you can imagine how that might end up."

The invigilator explained teasingly.

“But you killed the main body, and got a good resource in return, you can check your body to see it.”

Garen was slightly stunned, but then he immediately checked his entire body.

Instantly, he noticed that the surface of his body was covered with a layer of faint black mist. He had no idea what this mist was, it stayed there and did not scatter, covering his skin all over his body.

He did not have time to think too much about it, though, as of those people who were recuperating nearby, March seemed to sense something, opening his eyes.

“Hm?” He stared at Garen in the distance, surprised. “That kid got out!?”

Garen’s direct refusal to sell to him before this had already sowed seeds of discontent in him, and now this kid, who was not even thirty, could actually get past the second stage?

After all, those who did not pass were tossed straight out of the Mothership, and were not allowed to stay inside. That was why there were only so few of them left here.

He had just barely managed to stay in there until he was surrounded by thirty-two clones, this was already much better than the sixteen last time. The rule just said that you had to hold your ground for three seconds when facing sixteen or more, so he should have passed it this time.

“Maybe he’s just lucky that he can avoid well enough to beat the clock.” March was not particularly bothered, as long as you did not attack and kept dodging, you would be able to drag it on for quite some time too. That way, you would be able to pass by the skin of your teeth, but you would not get any reward. He thought that Garen had probably kept hiding in there, and that was how he managed to just barely pass by dragging the time on.

Thinking back to how strong the kid’s regenerative power was, he thought it more and more likely.

"Hmph, he was lucky." March moved his gaze away. He had already ordered Yiling and the others to wait outside for when Garen was tossed it, they lay in wait of their prey. He managed to stay in here for now, which meant he had dodged a bullet there.

But Garen was only a small matter to him, even more than ten billions' worth of essence was only a minor temptation to him. The most important thing was the results of this second stage.

March's gaze moved to his other two old rivals.

Wade's face was pale. Evidently, he had also attacked the black people constantly, just like March, and ended up with too many split bodies than he could handle before he was kicked out. March did not know how many he had withstood, though.

Nora's power was one notch lower than him, so her result would not have been any better.

March analyzed it inwardly, his gaze moving slowly across the two of them.

The results of the second stage directly influenced the gene transplant, the peak-level blood vessel modification surgery, after all!

If he could get first place, he would be able to choose a suitable gene from the Gene Vault and have it transplanted into himself. The Gene Vault on the Mothership would at least be much better than those in the Northern Yu Province, and the price of the transplant surgery plus the value of the gene itself would be calculated by hundreds of millions at the very least. Even the lowest ones required a billion!

A billion crystals, what an astronomical number!

That was why, historically, the only one who could get such a modification had always been the single strongest disciple at the heart of the sect. If the others wanted a transplant, their only hope was to go through the Spirit Mothership. Most minor sects could not afford that even if they poured all their finances into it, and it was not just the cost, there were other necessary skills as well.

“The test is over.”

The time was seemingly up, and the invigilator spoke slowly.

“The four of you have passed. I will give each of you a reward according to your placing. Of course, firstly it depends on what you yourselves have chosen.”

He waved his hand, and their placings appeared on the silver sphere slowly.

As expected, March was first, followed by Wade in second, Nora third, and finally Garen.

The four of them lined up from top to bottom.

“Ten of the rewards will be distributed to you by random, and you will be allowed to choose. After choosing, you will be teleported directly out of the Mothership. That is the end of this test,” said the invigilator calmly, touching his beard.

That was the end?

Dissatisfaction flashed through March’s eyes, and he stood up to face the invigilator.

“Sir Invigilator? Even with my results, I can’t pass the second stage to reach the third?”

“You are still miles away.” The invigilator looked at him calmly. He had gone through many provinces, large and small, and seen almost a thousand peak-level prodigies. He did not even bother with March’s question, and just replied flippantly.

“Then may I ask, Sir Invigilator, what standards would I need to meet to reach the third stage of the test!?” he asked loudly, taking one step forward and refusing to give up.

“Choose.” The invigilator could not be bothered with him. With a wave of his hand, a large wheel appeared in front of each of the four of them, with ten different items listed there.

“Sir Invigilator!” March refused to give up, raising his voice and stepping forward again, he could not accept it! This was his last chance to join the Spirit Mothership, once he passed the age limit, he would never have a chance to enter here again. If he still could not earn the right to enter the third stage now, then he was basically set that way for life! He could not stand that, he was a prodigy who was destined to break past the Two Hearted limit, and reach the Three Hearted Resonance stage! He was not going to stop at the basic grade of the Inherited Level!

But the invigilator did not even give him another look, moving his gaze away and looking at Garen on the other side instead.

Crack...

March gripped his fist tightly, making some dissatisfied cracks. His muscle and bones pressed and rubbed against each other, and his expression was extremely ugly as well. He had obtained the second stage reward several times, and although it was precious, it was still nothing compared to the third stage. The types of genes available for transplant were all under Inherited Level, and only the third stage had mutated genes above Inherited Level.

“March, just admit it. Our Northern Yu Province won’t have a genius that can reach the third stage at this age, hehe, such a talent would have entered a large sect in the Central Metropolis by now, why would they stay in a tiny place like ours? You were dreaming,” said Nora sarcastically beside him.

“Shut up!”

March stared at Nora, his gaze icy cold.

Nora’s expression stiffened and changed. “Who do you think you are? Telling me to shut up? You’d better call your master, the Giant Region General, for that!”

Other peak-level Two Hearted Disciples like them among the Big Three Sects had already started to find themselves teachers in advance. They were already booked as disciples for some of the Inherited Level Three Hearted teachers in the inner circle.

There were constant conflicts within the sect, and for a peak-level elite disciple like March who was sure to reach the Three Hearted level, he would naturally already have decided who he wanted as his teacher. And that teacher was a powerful Energy Machinist in the Scarlet Snow Sect, who was known as the Giant Region General.

These millennia-old monsters from the past generation were all extremely powerful and secretive, and that naturally included the three Great Elders. The Three Great Elders were all at the Non-falling Level on the surface, but naturally, a true sect would not show off exactly how deep their powers ran. So for old Energy Machinists like the Giant Region General, nobody knew exactly how strong they were. One thing was for sure, they were definitely at the Inherited Level or higher.

"I have finished choosing." By then, Wade had completed his choice, and his body instantly changed into a flash of light that shot into the sky, as he vanished from the spot.

Only then did March and Nora back down from their conflict, and turn back to their selection wheels.

Just then, Garen was looking at the wheel before him unblinkingly. The moment he saw the wheel, a voice appeared in his heart, telling him that his results were the worst, so he could only choose from a variety of the lowest-grade gene transplants and other items.

He was fully aware that he had used trickery to win, the right way was probably to beat the black people constantly. The longer he lasted, and the more black people appeared, the higher his score would be. Instead, he had defeated the black person with a trick from the very start.

After he saw the scoring rubric, he knew that he would not have many choices.

He looked at the wheel in front of him.

The large jade-white wheel was almost as tall as he was, and it was divided evenly into ten portions. There was a different symbol carved into each one.

Out of the ten, only the one at the very top had a gene transplant.

‘Red Eagle Gene: it can reach a maximum of five levels, a low-grade gene, the maximum boost would be to increase one’s speed by two levels. Stackable with secret method techniques.’

Garen was not very tempted by this gene transplant, he knew this thing was something you could only have transplanted once in a lifetime, so it must not be taken lightly. Although most average-income Energy Machinist could not afford the transplant, those who could afford it were certainly all prodigies and rich heirs. If he ever entered those circles later, he would be at a severe disadvantage with such a low-grade gene. Not only would he not be as strong as others, this boosting effect would even be instinctually suppressed should he ever encounter a higher-level eagle-type gene.

That was why he did not make that choice even though he knew that gene transplants were extremely rare.

He moved his gaze away and looked at the other items. The others were all some powerful single-use items, or information about rare techniques, there was even the production method of a powerful Energy Machine Imprint. Of course, techniques were just that, they were useless without the materials, and it went without saying that these were ridiculously difficult.

“Kid, you better think it through.” Suddenly there was a voice by Garen’s ear, it was the invigilator.

Garen looked at the invigilator, and saw that he was indeed looking this way, his gaze friendly.

The voice continued to speak by his ear.

“Even if the gene transplant is the lowest-grade one, it would still have an enormous effect on your body, by giving your body a one-time overall increase. Putting aside the high-grade ones, even if the low-grade ones mean that one day you might encounter a better one that would suppress you, you have to consider, what kind of people would be able to get gene transplants? You have to know, even for

March and the others, their choices are not all that different from yours. They all got the lowest-grade genes.”

“They got the lowest grade?” Garen was slightly moved, he thought the others would get much better ones, but to think they all got the same lowest-grade gene transplants.

“The gene transplant is a strengthening transplant without any side-effects, it can instantaneously increase the qualities of an Energy Machinist’s body, and at the same time, it can give the Energy Machinist a decent natural ability. You would have a huge advantage over Energy Machinists who had never had a gene transplant. At first, you shouldn’t have had this opportunity, this is a special reward to you for being able to defy expectations and pass the second stage at this age. Don’t miss it,” the invigilator continued to explain to Garen.

Garen looked at the other items and objects carefully, these included a very tempting mega-combination of gene modification liquids, some precious information regarding a low-level secret method, the production process for a high-level Energy Machine Imprint, as well as some rare materials that could modify and upgrade the biochemical pool and the experimental platform. These were all rare items that he could not even hope for, but he believed that the invigilator would not harm him without any valid reason, since they did not have any sort of conflict of interest.

“I choose...” He reached out his hand, and still pointed at the Red Eagle Gene at the very top in the end.

The instant his finger touched it, Garen’s vision blurred, and he suddenly felt weak, as though a large electric current was flowing into his body through his fingers. The current was not strong, but it brought an incomparable sense of numbness and dizziness.

His consciousness sank suddenly, and he instantly fainted.

Whoosh!

Outside the Spirit Mothership, March, Nora, and Wade had split into three groups, and were floating in the air on their flying platforms, facing off against each other.

“You win this round, but next time, hmph!” Nora hmphed coldly, and led the remaining few people away. Of the people he had brought, there were only a few left, so he would surely be punished when he went back, and he hated March for that. They were well and truly enemies now.

Wade had always remained impassive, and no one knew what he had chosen. Seeing as Nora had left, he also nodded at March politely, and led his complete team from the Nine Owl Sect away as well.

Now, only Wade and the rest were left waiting beside the Mothership.

“Where’s that kid’s gene liquid?” March was seriously annoyed, he was extremely mad that he still could not grasp that last chance he had. Thinking back about Garen, that kid who showed him no face, he asked them now.

Yiling shook her head.

“He still hasn’t come out.”

“Not yet? Looks like he’s chosen the gene modification, that idiot, even we only got the lowest-grade modification, he’s in last place, what kind of gene could he have to choose?” March let out a breath contemptuously. “Too bad he didn’t choose anything else... Forget it, Yiling, you stay back with a few others, and sell the things afterward. We’ll take half of the profits. Everyone else, let’s go.”

He turned around and flew away.

The only ones who stayed back were Yiling, Joey, and two other Energy Machinists, waiting for Garen to come out. Garen had made March lose face, so no matter what, they owed him a beating to get their reputation back.

Besides, he had that gene modification liquid worth ten million there.

Watching as March and the others disappeared into the horizon, Yiling looked at Joey, slightly wary of the other two who had stayed back. The other two paired up, standing away from them.

“Are you sure that Garen is just a rookie? How did he pass the second test?” She was slightly spooked.

“There must be some reason behind this mistake. Hehe, shall we do it the regular way?” Joey chuckled dastardly, lowering his voice.

“It’s been a long time, have you tested it?” Yiling asked in a small voice, glancing at the two Energy Machinists in the distance warily.

“No problem, I even recorded some info from Nora a few days ago, since he never activated his energy field. How else do you think Senior Brother March managed to ambush Nora’s group? If I hadn’t secretly sold that info to March, the winner would still be up in the air,” said Joey with a chuckle.

“You have to be extra, extra careful, we’re relying on this to make it big, nothing must go wrong with it!” Yiling was rather dissatisfied with the way Joey was using it flagrantly.

“Got it, got it, relax, nothing will go wrong.”

Joey took out a small item that looked like a black button. Silver light flashed past its surface, but it was extremely inconspicuous. If you did not look carefully, you would not notice a thing.

This was a miraculous thing he and Yiling had found in some ruins once, and they had risked their lives to obtain it — the Memory Recording Device.

It could record the memories of any living creature unprotected by a force field extremely inconspicuously, and even Nora, at the peak of Level Five, fell for this trick, earning Joey a decent sum. The two of them had just been regular Energy Machinists, but they relied on this to amass a large amount of resources, constantly upgrading themselves until they reached their current level.

“When that kid comes out, shine this on him for a try. Any strange Energy Machinists who defy expectations would always have their secrets, and yet don’t have the power to protect their secrets, are the easiest resources to farm.” Joey was clearly an old hand at this.

“You be careful, just make sure those two don’t notice.” Yiling nodded lightly.

“Relax, we won’t get discovered,” said Joey with a low laugh.

Opening his eyes slowly, Garen felt as though he had been run over by a giant truck. Every inch of his body hurt, and he felt completely weak. He could not even move if he wanted to.

He looked up at the sky, this was still the same silver ball plaza as before, but instead of standing, he was now lying down.

“The transplant was successful, come again next time. I won’t deduct anything from you,” the invigilator’s voice said by his ear. The old man’s face appeared in the corner of Garen’s vision, and he was looking down at Garen, as though observing something.

“Not bad, not bad, the modification was very successful. Although your body has been modified by all sorts of radiation, the two types do not interfere with each other, so don’t worry, it won’t affect your original plan. But those modifications of yours are way too low-level, other than increasing your regenerative powers, they’re completely useless,” said the invigilator contemptuously.

Garen’s heart settled, and he knew that the invigilator had not seen through how powerful his Living Secret Technique was, assuming it was just a radiation modification. Thank goodness for that.

He opened his mouth and tried to speak, but he did not even have the strength for that.

“Now you have the Red Eagle modification, don’t underestimate it just because it’s low-grade, it’s one of the most useful ones among the economical genes on the Mothership. If March, Nora or Wade had this option, they would have eventually chosen this for sure. Although the Red Eagle is a low-grade gene with the upper limit being five levels, it increases the best stat, speed, and by two levels too. Of course, you can’t get the two-level boost from the very start, you will still need to perfect and grow with it, and you’ll reach two levels within a hundred years or so. This boost is about the same as a middle-level gene, but a middle-level gene needs two or three hundred years before you can even think of reaching the peak. Compared to many middle-level genes, the Red Eagle is just slightly weaker in increasing your

average stats, but the boost is about the same, at about one or two levels. And a middle-level gene costs at least a billion crystals, kid, you struck gold!”

The invigilator chortled.

It was just one or two levels, after all that, of course Garen knew that this thing was the very lowest grade, but it was still better than nothing.

Garen could only blink in thanks, by now he naturally knew that this old man had helped him somehow. Although he did not know why the invigilator would help him, it was clear that he had no ill intentions.

Chapter 997: Duel 1

“Your computing power was definitely self-acquired, your quality is also average. Originally, it would already be considered a miracle if you manage to enter Inherited Level within this lifetime, but now, with this gene transplant, everything will change. This gene transplant is considered uncommon even amongst those with Inherited Levels. This is because the optimal transplant period is very limited and the resources needed for it are also extremely rare. Even if an average energy machinist manages to get his hands on the resources needed, they would still lack the skill for a perfect transplant. Thus, if this transplant succeeds, it is almost certain that you’ll be able to attain Inherited Level within the next two centuries.”

The invigilator said.

“Rest well. In about fifteen more minutes, your body will naturally regain its strength back to its normal status. We will automatically let you out when that time comes.”

He turned around and left. However, after taking a few steps, he turned around once more.

“The gene we used on you was originally something this old man took back by force, with your results, you would’ve never been allowed to undergo this gene transplant. If it weren’t for me...”

This old man started mumbling non-stop, repeatedly stating that this gene transplant wouldn't have taken place without him.

Other than continuously thanking him, Garen had no other choice but to patiently await his body's full recovery. He was also carefully monitoring his body's current status.

The Red Eagle seemed to have only minor effects on his body. Garen could feel that his body was slightly stronger but other than that there did not seem to be any other changes.

However, as his gaze shifted to his attribute pane, a sudden sense of amusement caused a small tremble throughout his body.

At the upper rear corner of the attribute pane, there was now a new option that he could allocate points to.

To Garen, his attribute skill pane was something that he knew like the back of his hand. He now had thirty remaining potential points, other than to heal his body, he could find no other use for them.

The growth of an Energy Machinist's Willpower could not be affected through the use of potential points, as if they were of two completely different types. On the other hand, the potential points needed to increase attribute points were too high, thirty points would not even make a slight difference if used this way. With that, it would be much wiser to use these points to heal his body.

As for his skills, with Garen's current intelligence and computing power, the amount of potential points required to level up is too high as his level was originally too high to begin with. Moreover, he could just learn a lot of the skills himself with minimal effort, it was completely different from the situation he was in when he first entered the Secret Technique World.

As a Level Four Energy Machinist now, his computing power and learning abilities are extremely strong. For him to learn an average skill would be as easy as lifting a finger. He could even memorize things with just a glance. His brain has been developed to a level that cannot even be imagined by a normal human, especially since even an entry-level energy machinist skill and knowledge is already too much for the layman to handle.

However, Garen now noticed that his attribute plane now has a new option that can be leveled up.

‘Red Eagle Gene – Low-Level Gene, current speed increment: 0. Maximum Level is two levels of increment in movement speed. Genetic Link completion level high, can be leveled up.’

If it was only just the fact that it could be leveled up, Garen would pay no mind to it. However, there was a weird sense of familiarity pent up in his chest.

This familiarity resembles the first time he was leveling up his secret techniques back in the Secret Techniques World exactly.

After mumbling for a few more moments, the invigilator finally left. Garen finally had the opportunity to start testing whether his instincts were true.

He swiftly focussed his gaze on the Red Eagle Gene option.

Shhh!

The option suddenly started to blur. Depleting one potential point, the blurred out option transformed.

‘Red Eagle Gene +1 – Low-Level Gene, current speed increment: Level 1. Maximum Level is two levels of increment in movement speed. Genetic Link completion level high, can be leveled up.’

Garen suddenly felt his body becoming lighter and lighter as if he could shoot up into to the sky with just a flick of his arm.

“It only used one point?” Garen looked at his potential points, there were still twenty-nine points remaining. He was overjoyed, “ Again!”

Focusing his gaze, the option started to blur again after three seconds.

As the option slowly cleared up once more, the results did not disappoint Garen. It had gained another level.

'Red Eagle Gene +2 – Low-Level Gene, current speed increment: Level 2, achieved Maximum Level. Genetic Link completion level high, if continued to be strengthened, it will automatically select a stronger Gene Fragment, with a possibility of a stronger reversion into Blood Eagle.'

"Reversion into Blood Eagle?!" Garen finally knew where his sense of familiarity came from. This was exactly the same process as leveling up his minion totem creatures with potential points back in the Totem World!!

Potential points were most optimally used on these types of creatures and since Garen had undergone this gene transplant surgery, he was excited at the prospect of raising its levels.

"It reached the Maximum Level only after two potential points. The Red Eagle Gene was truly one of the lowest level gene modifications. However, what about the Blood Eagle?"

Garen got even more excited as his gaze once again fell upon the Red Eagle icon.

He had read up on the Blood Eagle before, it was a strong ancient creature with a beak similar to a syringe. They feast on the blood of other creatures for nourishment, hence the name Blood Eagle.

This type of creature was considered a fierce beast even back in ancient eras. Although its combat power was never specified, it is undoubtedly much stronger than the lowest level Red Eagle.

Looking at his remaining potential points, after using two, he had twenty-eight points left.

"Inside this Spirit Mothership, if any abnormalities are detected, it would lead to a troublesome situation. It might be better to test it out on my own once I leave this place," Garen contained his urge to experiment with his newfound skills and silently awaited his body to recover.

His body recovered from the numbness at a fast rate, within 10 minutes, he had already been able to stand up and support his own weight.

He felt that his entire body was flowing with a hint of power, the surface of his skin seemingly becoming tougher. However, nothing new was displayed on the Attribute Pane.

“Time’s up. Alright, little fellow, we’ll meet again if fate allows it,” the invigilator’s voice sounded from a distance away.

Garen respectfully walked towards the voice and lowered his head in gratitude.

Swoosh!

The scenery surrounding him changed in an instant, he suddenly found himself in the air next to the Spirit Mothership. He felt as if he was embraced by a shapeless power, allowing him to slowly drift to the ground.

Below him was a lush green pine forest, the sun’s rays from the west were shining brightly on his body, dyeing half his body in golden red and engulfing his entire body with a gentle warmth.

Looking above his head, the Spirit Mothership seemed to vibrate slightly before silently and slowly accelerating, moving towards the transparent and shapeless entrance floating in the distance. Within a few seconds, the entire ship had disappeared without a trace.

“How many years will it be until its next appearance?” Garen exclaimed. What was the intention of these people in the Spirit Mothership, going all around displaying their generosity.

Suddenly, his soul seed in his brain shook violently, emitting a pale ring of light, completely covering his brain. From the outside of his brain, it felt like there was a thorn like object attempting to forcefully penetrate his mind.

“Who’s there!”

Garen, in a frenzy, shifted his attention towards the direction his soul seed's judgment was pointing him to.

Even before he finished his sentence, he swiftly whipped his body around, dodging away from his original position.

In the exact moment he dodged away, a shapeless thorn violently pierced through the air beside him, disappearing into thin air. It was barely even visible for an instant.

As the thorn pierced through the air, it left behind a mist of frosty cold air, causing even Garen's body to become slightly numb from the cold.

"Heh, you're not half bad!" Joey's voice sounded from afar. The hovering silhouettes of him and Yiling on their flying platforms appeared.

Garen had finally landed on the ground of the pine forest. He was looking up at the two hovering in the sky.

"It's you guys?"

"Hand us the goods, the gene modification liquid essence," Joey arrogantly said whilst looking down on Garen.

"Do you think that's even possible?" Garen laughed coldly.

"You can try not handing it to us," Joey also started laughing coldly. "This world is based on the survival of the fittest, since you now gained an asset that you cannot protect, how dare you even have the thought of keeping it to yourself? I don't know if your brain is not working today or if you were just born a moron."

"Alright, stop this useless nonsense, hand us the goods and we'll spare your life," Yiling frowned as she muttered.

Garen frowned, he felt that something was off.

He started to go on full alert, preparing to defend in all directions. His surroundings seemed to give him an uncomfortable feeling.

“Since you didn’t heed our warning, I’ll take it as you have a death wish,” Joey spat into the air. The two slowly descended from the sky on their flying platform.

Crack...

He cracked the joints in his knuckles, causing a crisp sound. He stretched his neck briefly and with that short action, his entire body seemed to have expanded.

On his side, Yiling lightly slapped Joey’s back with her palm, seemingly extracting a long and thin needle-like object from his back.

“One minute.”

Joey slyly smiled as he raised one finger.

Boom!

With a thunder-like roar, a white cloud exploded at Joey’s original position. It was due to his extreme speeds, causing a small sonic boom in the air.

Garen’s pupils rapidly contracted, he raised both his arms to his chest, crossed. At the same time, he moved his body to his right, using the Eighth-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique on his entire body, causing a mist of cold air mixed with cold radiation to spread around him in a twenty meter radius.

However, he was too late because in that instant, a huge crashing force hit his crossed arms.

Bang!!!

One punch!

Joey appeared right before Garen, maintaining his pose as his fist was reached out.

Garen was flung back by this powerful punch, the muscles and bones of his arms showing a clear and visible punch dent.

With a loud crash, Garen's back landed on top of a huge pine tree. On impact, huge pieces of tree bark were ripped apart, flying all over the place, revealing the whitish inner bark of the stem.

"Once more!"

Joey laughed wickedly, once again disappearing from his location.

Bam bam bam bam!!!

What seemed to be an endless flurry of formless punches continuously struck at Garen from different directions. The punches connecting with Garen's arms which he put up as a guard one after the other.

The enormous strength was also accompanied with a fearsome cold air that was left after each punch. Even with Garen's strong vitality, his recovery speed could not keep up with the attacks.

At the next instant, Joey suddenly reappeared right behind of Garen, his entire back arched up with his palms together in front of his body. A shapeless energy field started to accumulate in front of him, exceeding level four within an instant, reaching the maximum point of level five, almost reaching the resonance stage.

"Absorption Dragon!"

His eyes suddenly flashed green. Roaring softly like an actual dragon, his palms pierced towards Garen's back.

The huge twisted energy field followed Joey as he lunged forwards, becoming more and more concentrated, affecting everything in the surrounding areas.

Grass shreds, dirt, fallen tree bark, and even shreds of Yiling's clothes from a distance away started being blown about in the air.

"It's the end," Yiling shook her head. Once Joey uses this move, it would almost guarantee him the victory. She was originally worried that this fellow would have some ace up his sleeves, but who would've thought that he would not even have been able to put up a fight.

Chapter 998:

Joey's combat power was actually at the peak of Level Five, even an average Level Five would stand no chance against him. This was because Joey had kept a lot of other backup tricks up his sleeve.

Absorption Dragon was one of them. This move required the user to continuously accumulate force, then finally bursting in the end, causing speed and power to be twice the original level. Twice the strength of a level five would have reached the resonance stage. If it was used against her, she would barely be able to survive, much less a random level four energy machinist.

Not even bothering to look at the gory scene that was about to ensue, she turned around, bent down and picked up the two flying platforms on the ground.

Bam!!!

A loud sound could be heard behind her.

Yiling was in shock.

“This sound... Something’s wrong...”

She rapidly turned around.

In the distance, Joey stood there with his eyes wide open, his palms had been knocked to the side by Garen’s fist. The two were standing face-to-face and he could clearly see the cold emotionless expression on Garen’s face.

“Interesting!?” The energy fields from Joey’s Absorption Dragon whirled past Garen into an empty space, breaking through a few giant pine trees behind him, piercing through the air.

His face revealed an amused smile as he licked his lips.

“Seems like the recording device didn’t record your full capabilities. To think my Absorption Dragon would fail to annihilate you and to be able to even knock it off course. Garen, you sure are full of surprises...”

“You aren’t Level Four...” Garen uttered softly.

“Of course... I’m the same as Yiling, a Level Five,” before he even finished the sentence, he pulled apart his palms, slashing towards Garen’s head like two blades. A few small sonic booms could be heard in the air, but the palm blade was nowhere to be seen. Seems like it had reached the maximum speed.

At the same time, Joey’s Tenth-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique whirled up a ferocious gust of cold air, completely covering his palm blade.

“Die!!”

“Multiple Speed Fist!!!” Garen roared in his heart. Although he was activating the full power of his Eighth-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique, he was still being pressured by his opponent’s cold air.

He relied on his Multiple Speed Fist to knock away the Absorption Dragon in an instant earlier, but now the Tenth-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique could seep in with Joey's every move and attack. There was no way he could completely counter it with only the Multiple Speed Fist.

Using his fists and elbows to block the bursting air pressure behind him, Garen faced his opponent's palm blades. His eyes suddenly flashed.

Clank!!!

The two collided head-to-head, with fresh blood splattering all over the place.

Garen's two fists revealed two deep cuts, blood dripping down his arms. However, Garen did not seem to care much and he started to take a deep breath, almost as if a whale inhaling air.

"Again!!"

He roared in a low voice, lunging towards Joey who just managed to regain his balance.

Multiple Speed Fist suddenly burst, charging towards the target along with the strong cold air. Garen's right fist was almost as if a sharp drill, fiercely moving towards Joey's neck.

"Hmph!!"

Joey coldly spat, his eyes revealing a similar killing intent. Utilizing his Tenth-Grade Scarlet Snow, he concentrated it on his hands as he lunged towards Garen as well.

Bang!!

The white mist cold air was followed by blood splattering in the air.

The two had collided with each other, arms interlocked. Garen's bones in his arm started cracking, but he completely ignored it. He knew that if he did not force Joey to retreat, he would have no chance of leaving this place alive today.

The energy machinists of Planet Nagadako was different from other places. Their strengths lie in the Energy Machinists themselves. Yiling and Joey's relationship seemed to not be as simple as they made it look. They seemed to be a lot more intimate.

Originally, Garen was only suspicious of the two, but now, he was almost fifty percent certain.

Joey was almost definitely Yiling's younger brother. Although their facial characteristics had no doubt undergone some form of concealment, after the activities with them these few days, he got a closer look at the two of them. The two definitely have very similar facial characteristics.

"Multiple Speed Fist!!!"

Garen used his third Multiple Speed Fist. He started to feel the pain from his muscles starting to tear. He knew that the excessive usage of Multiple Speed Fist within such a short time had started to affect his body.

This move was quite amazing because it allowed the user to increase his speed by three times in a short burst, allowing him to keep up with Joey's Level Five potential. However, the burden it puts on the user's body is too harsh.

"Let's see how you block this!!" Joey blocked Garen's Multiple Speed Fist, seeming as if he had seen through Garen's concerns. He revealed a sly smile, leaping backward, his palms together once more.

"Absorption Dragon!!"

With a roar, the formless twisted energy field charged straight towards a groggy Garen.

"This is the time!!"

Garen's eyes suddenly flashed, he now had something in his hands, throwing it at the Absorption Dragon.

"That's!!!" The originally calm Yiling suddenly burst out, "Dodge it Joey!!"

However, it was too late.

Joey only felt that his Absorption Dragon seemingly collided with something. In the next instant, with a huge roar, a fearsome and unimaginably powerful concussion storm whirled at his direction.

As if getting hit by a ten thousand tonne ship, Joey's body was flung back like a cannonball as he got struck by this silent energy field explosion. His body breaking through countless pine trees without losing any speed, his body disappeared into the pine woods. He was completely knocked out, his blood and shredded clothes leaving a trail through his crashing trajectory.

With Garen as the center, the surrounding area more than ten meters in radius looked as if it was struck by a freak windstorm, leaving nothing behind.

"Joey!!" Yiling's face started to lose color. She clenched his fists, staring daggers at Garen, yet she was more concerned about the wellbeing of her brother.

She stomped her feet and raised her hand to release a gray shadow.

"Kill him!" After leaving that sentence behind, she turned around and rushed towards her brother's location.

Without even looking at the paper box that had burst to shreds, Garen leaped back rapidly. With a few backflips in the air, he dived into a nearby river.

With a splash, his open wounds started to freeze shut, stopping the blood. He continued to swim down the river, almost looking like a fish.

He once stayed under the sea for a few decades back in the Totem World. Naturally, he would have high affinity with water.

Looking back, he saw the gray shadow that was still closely pursuing him. Garen just let out a sigh and ignored it.

In his earlier confrontation with March, he already had an escape plan arranged. His duel with Joey was only to test out what level his actual combat potential could reach. The results of a test gave him an estimation, without that Instantaneous Paper Box, he might have actually lost to Joey. The killing power of a Level Five Machinist was quite fearsome. Especially for someone like Joey with so much hidden potential. The outcome this time exceeded his expectations, but next time, it would not be so easy.

After swimming for a distance, a Giant Blue Wolf appeared in the water ahead of him.

Without hesitation, Garen swam directly towards the wolf.

As Garen approached it, the giant wolf started to reveal his obedience towards Garen, voluntarily moving under Garen to carry him. Then, with a shake of his fur, the Giant Blue Wolf shot through the water like a swordfish, leaving the gray shadow in the dust.

“Grr!!” The gray shadow growled in dissatisfaction, appearing to continue its pursuit. However, within half a minute, it had completely disappeared from sight.

This was one of Garen’s arranged escape plans.

This Giant Blue Wolf was one of his Big Wild Wolf’s Experimental Body. After exhausting a lot of his resources and skills over the years, it had finally taken form. This time around, although he did not keep it with him as a bodyguard, he had it follow him all the way to the pine forest and had it remain hidden.

The Giant Blue Wolf’s speed was extremely fast, it was 1.6 times the maximum speed of a flying platform in its normal state. If it used its maximum speed burst, it would be at least three times the speed of a flying platform.

However, this amazing speed came at the cost of other sacrifices in the form of the reduction of strength, recovery ability and lifespan.

This type of Giant Blue Wolf's strength was only half of that of the Big Wild Wolf's strength, it also has a limited lifespan of fifty years. For an experimental body that accompanies the Energy Machinist, that was far too short.

If the other Energy Machinist found out about this, to exhaust so many resources just for this measly increase in speed, they would no doubt call him crazy.

However, to sacrifice other attributes for speed was Garen's goal all along. As long as one had enough speed, one would be able to escape from any sort of predicament, which was his ultimate goal. Purely with this, a lot of Energy Machinist would still be able to catch up. After all, energy machinists like March had a lot of savings and intrinsic foundations. However, this all changes if he added something else to the equation.

With the addition of the Distorted Seed, the Giant Blue Wolf's speed would skyrocket. As per Garen's estimation, it would be impossible even for an Inherited Level Energy Machinists to reach these speeds. This speed had exceeded Inherited Level limits.

This was the key reason why he dared to confront March. With this as a backup, he could retreat as he pleases, so he would not have to worry about being surrounded by March's men.

He originally planned to retreat on his Giant Blue Wolf as soon as he left the mothership, but since he met Joey and Yiling, he thought he might as well do a test to find out the baseline of his potential.

At the end, it was not far from his expectations.

With Multiple Speed Fist, his combat power effectively increased by a level. This allowed him to have a temporary explosive potential, reaching approximately the peak of level five. He was able to defend against level five attacks, being a little stronger than before, but not too strong. After all, Multiple Speed Fist is a skill of a low-level mutated organism.

Furthermore, Joey was a level five and had multiple tricks up his sleeve. Garen would lose his advantage in long battles if he could not defeat his opponent with his explosive power at the start of the bout he would have no choice but to retreat. This was the ultimate concern of such extreme battle tactics.

He had no chance of defeating Joey in a fair fight. In addition to that, facing an old-school level five like Yiling, if the two combined their powers, besides fleeing he had no other possible option.

Luckily the energy machinists in Planet Nagadako focuses more on their physical selves, their Energy Machines were not strong as they were mainly used as supports. Otherwise, the gray shadow pursuing him back there might have been able to catch up to him easily.

“I still can’t guarantee my win with these extreme measures. Furthermore, if it was an Energy Machinist from another place, I would expect them to send their Energy Machines to battle and not to personally take part in the combat. Seems like there’s still a lot of risks in my gameplan...” Garen lied on top of the Giant Blue Wolf, lightly breathing and allowing his vitality to naturally heal his body back to its original status. He swallowed a piece of high energy content nutrition jerky he had prepared earlier in order to speed up his healing process.

“I wonder how that fellow Joey is doing? Heh, after getting a direct hit from the Instantaneous Paper Box I kept for so long, even if he survives he would at least need to shed off his skin,” Garen quickly swallowed the remaining jerky in his hands and slowed down his breathing. He felt his body had almost completely recovered within such a short time.

Looking at the bones in his arms, the broken bones from earlier had already been fully healed, with only a couple of external wounds on his body that has not fully been healed. There were still two long red lines left on both his wrists.

This was the fearsome power of the Hellfrost Peacock Technique along with a strong vitality level. For most wounds and injuries, as long as they were not near-fatal, they would heal almost as easy as drinking a sip of water, it gave a terrifying recovery speed.

“Too bad I didn’t manage to test out the effects of activating the Red Eagle State,” Garen seemed regretful that he did not manage to test out the Red Eagle State in the end.

“With this incident, Joey and Yiling would basically hold a grudge on me. I better do my best in training when I get back. As long as I remain in the Sect Headquarters, they wouldn’t dare to take action,” after planning everything in his head, Garen patted the Giant Blue Wolf as it increased another level in speed.

Splash!

One person and a wolf shot out of the water, headed straight into the sea of trees. It looked almost like a trail of blue smoke that disappeared instantly.

With the genetic modification of essence and the Red Eagle Gene Transplant, although he did not get enough points this time, what he gained had already far exceeded his expectations.

He had to rush back quickly, in case he got stopped by March or his men.

Chapter 999: Reappearance 1

The materials used in his first Instantaneous Paper Box had been ripped to shreds the moment it was used. However, Garen created a similar sealing mechanism by recreating the structure of the materials in the sect, naming his creation the Instantaneous Paper Box.

This type of thing could be continuously reproduced but the production cost for it was excessively high so he could not afford to waste it. After so many years, he had only accumulated two boxes and he did not have enough materials for more because of the extremely high production costs. Hence, he had to put the project aside.

Moreover, it was different from the original Instantaneous Paper Box, this version of the paper box had a much lower endurance level. It only managed to critically damage a level five Energy Machinist. If it were the original version, it could have easily annihilated a peak level five Energy Machinist, even being able to critically damage someone in the resonance state and defend against inherited levels.

“How unfortunate...”

Lying on the back of the speeding Giant Blue Wolf, Garen lightly sighed.

As the two sped towards the Scarlet Snow Sect base, in the eyes of other mutated organisms, all they could see was a blue trail flashing in front of their eyes for a brief instant, none of them were alerted by their movements.

On his way back, Garen passed by a group of Scarlet Snow disciples who were headed out to do some groceries. These people were all praising the feats of March and his men who they just saw earlier.

“Senior Brother March is amazing, his thousand meter voice transmission has already far exceeded the capabilities of Great Senior Brother’s hundred meter vision. Looks like as soon as Great Senior Brother reaches Three-Hearts, Senior Brother March will most likely take the first position.”

“However, amongst the Two-Hearted Peak Masters, Great Senior Brother’s foundation is still the best. No matter who challenges him, he would always come out with at most some minor injuries, unlike the others who always manage to get themselves heavily injured.”

“If only one day we could have our glory days like them,” the group of young low-level energy machinists continued their discussion, displaying a face of admiration.

They were all local talent who just got selected into the sect.

After repeated selections and countless tests, they finally managed to gain entrance into the Scarlet Snow Sect, one of the Big Three Sects in this continent. They must have had a sense of pride and accomplishment in their hearts. They were all only twelve or thirteen years old.

“Within the top ten ranked Peaked Masters, I heard that there were three of them who were not raised locally. One of them was Peak Master Angeal Tenor of the Chemical Snow Peak, the other is Peak Master Garen of the Black Wolf Peak, and lastly, Peak Master Yiling. I wonder how these two would compare against Great Senior Brother?”

“I have no idea about that situation, but I heard from one of the senior sisters that the Chemical Snow Peak Master is now ranked second. He has terrifying potential and has been in the sect for more than sixty years. He should’ve reached the first position ages ago, but due to some unknown reason none of the elders wanted to accept him.”

“Other than them, all the remaining were talent taken in from central and they were at the very least at the level of Two-Hearted Disciples and many of them were even at Three-Hearts. They united together to form an organization called Star Plate, a direct opposition to our local organization Moonshine. As for Peak Master Garen, he was originally viewed as a genius with decent skill when he first got accepted. However, he took an unexpectedly long amount of time to reach level four. Although when compared to the average Two-Heart Disciple, he was still relatively faster, it was abnormal for a talented genius like him. Hence, he is ranked at the lower end of the top ten. I heard that the sect’s opinions on him are very mixed as well. As for Peak Master Yiling’s situation, it was very mysterious and there isn’t much public information on her available out there.”

One of the more well-informed young ladies spoke out in a feminine voice.

Whoosh!

In an instant, a blue trail flashed before their eyes and disappeared, leaving behind a trail of cold air.

“What was that?”

“Was there a breeze? How cold!”

The group of disciples seemed to not have noticed a thing, only the young lady felt that something had happened but she didn’t dare to ascertain her guess.

Garen had started eavesdropping on their conversation from a long distance away. It was his first time hearing this sort of discussion. In the past, he never knew what his image was like in the eyes of the lower leveled members.

When he first entered the sect, they always had a serious view on things, after so many years, it seemed like nothing much had changed.

He himself was not clear what the speed of a top-level genius was like, but he felt that he would not be that much worse off. To be able to progress from level three to level four just within five years, it probably would not disappoint the expectations of most of the people in the sect.

“Now is not the time to be thinking about all of this, March is right ahead of us. Time to accelerate even more!”

Stilling his mind once more, Garen patted the Giant Blue Wolf. Immediately, the wolf’s speed increased, going up by a large amount.

The base could vaguely be seen just a distance ahead.

March and his row of men were swiftly flying in the sky. On their respective flying platforms, they moved at a moderate speed.

“Senior Brother March, out of the thousands of Outer-Hearted disciples, soon you’ll finally be officially in the first position. I should wish you an early congratulations.”

Next to March stood a burly bald man who was also on a flying platform. He was continuously complimenting March without a shred of concealment.

“Seeing that Junior Brother had come over to meet me, I guess my application to Moonshine has been passed?” March remained calm, but he could not stop himself from revealing a small smile.

“That’s only natural. Senior Brother is currently ranked third, out of the thousands of outer-hearted disciples you are still one of the strongest and entering Moonshine would not be any problem. Although I heard that out of the new members who just got accepted, some of them are quite strong.”

The burly man said, "Star Plates strength is already strong enough. If it wasn't for the conflict with the people from Dragon Eye a few years ago that caused them to incur huge damages, we wouldn't even stand a chance today."

"What are the higher-up's opinion on this?" March had his mouth shut, directly asking him using voice transmission. He vaguely had an idea of what the higher-ups of Moonshine wanted to do.

The burly man glanced over at the people surrounding them, the group started to seal off their hearing with their Willpower and spread out away from their current location.

Once everyone else had left, he finally started to speak.

"After all, Star Plate is an organization made up of non-local Energy Machinists in the Northern Yu Province. They all have the desire to retake the failed Central Metropolis. The second elder is currently the leader, causing the Great Elder and the Third Elder to be dissatisfied. What we need to do is simple, we just need to remove all traces of the non-local disciples below."

"Hmm... Would doing this be a little too overboard?" March had a lot of guts but this idea still gave him a huge shock. This was a scheme of Inherited levels and if he was not cautious enough, it would no doubt cost him his life. If he participates in this plan and the sect found out about this, he would not be getting off easy with something as simple as being expelled from the sect.

"Don't worry, the people of Star Plate are all arrogant and prideful, they would look at our actions as a training for the lower-leveled disciples," the burly man laughed coldly. "They will not care about this, as long as it's within the rules. Even if we kill a few of them they would just see it as their disciples being too weak. If they can't even survive under the rules of survival of the strongest within the sect, they would no doubt be useless pieces of trash when they leave this place. They are too arrogant!"

It was blatantly obvious that the burly man had an extreme disliking of the people from Star Plate.

"They are arrogant!" March also couldn't hold back his anger. After he had reached this level, no one would ever say that he wasn't good enough.

In his current state, his future is limitless, he also had an extremely high position, leaving the lower levels. In his current ambitious state of mind, hearing that someone sees him as nothing but a training tool, anyone would be pissed if they were put in that position.

Not thinking that he is worse off than others, even if tests show that he had a limit, so what? Limits were meant to be broken, even if a lot of people had died in their attempts.

“Since you put it that way, I will accept this mission,” March muttered softly while nodding his head.

“Currently there are only three non-local Peak Masters in the sect. Yiling, Angeal Tenor, and Garen who entered the sect a few years ago. You just focus on those three,” the burly man explained.

“I have already taken note of Yiling and Joey early on. The two seemed to be hiding something. To be able to survive my numerous attacks, they must be hiding some sort of secret,” March said gloomily.

“I’ll let you settle the concrete details on how to settle this, I’m only the messenger. If this escalates too much, Moonshine will take responsibility for it. You don’t have to worry about it,” the burly man reassured him.

“Mmm, I understand,” March’s face reverted to his usual calm expression.

As the two of them were speaking via voice transmission in the sky, a blue flash zoomed through the mountain pass below, heading directly towards the base’s main gates. Its speed was extremely fast, multiple times faster than the people moving about on their flying platforms above.

The people above had focussed their attention on the conversation between March and the burly man, so much so that the blue flash had gone by unnoticed.

At the main gates of the base on top of the mountains.

The white main gate of the base was crackling with a strong electric current. The blue electric current forming an electric gate that looked like a water screen, blocking off the entrance of all energy machinists who attempted to enter.

A group of newly accepted newbies headed towards the main gate, led by a group leader. The group leader held out a white name tag in his hands, projecting a white light onto the main gates.

“What you guys are looking at right now is the main gate for the Logistic Branch Base. This gate was created by using a million volts of high-voltage electric current. After expert tweaking, if any Energy Machinist who does not have our sect’s crystal imprint approaches it, it will automatically attack the person. This is the high-security system that our sect uses.”

The group leader was a gentle and polite man, he was wearing a white shirt, cheerfully introducing the place to the newbies.

He had the Two-Hearted Disciple symbol on his shoulder and in this base, there were numerous other Two-Hearted Disciples like him doing odd jobs all over the place to earn some resources. A lot of them accepted the various quests from the sect to earn more points to trade for more resources.

There were not a lot of Two-Hearted Disciples, but the number was not small either. They would be ranked automatically according to their level. Those who are above level four would automatically be ranked in the top thirty, while the remaining were all below level four. These level three Two-Hearted Disciples often had very slow growth rates, often requiring a few decades just to reach level four. However, they were the backbone of the Scarlet Snow Sect’s strength. They were the true representation of the actual disciple situation in the Northern Yu Province. When compared to the geniuses who could level up within ten years, they certainly seem to be overshadowed, but it was solely their huge numbers that support the lower levels of the Scarlet Snow Sect.

Amongst those who were leading the newbies, holding the selection tests and joining the two major organizations Moonshine and Star Plate, a lot of them were just dispersed Energy Machinists. This group had the largest numbers, they would gather at the quests counter every day, taking up quests and racking up points. Once they had enough points, they would go back and start their training, rinse and repeat. This was the main lifestyle of the average energy machinist.

Whoosh!

A blue flash zoomed over, landing right in front of the electric gates, forming a blue silhouette. It was in the shape of a man riding on top of a huge blue wolf.

The giant wolf's fur was straight like quills, looking extremely sharp. Just looking at the appearance they knew that this was no ordinary character.

A man and a wolf appeared before the gate, attracting the attention of the group of newbies.

The group leader looked over at Garen and his pupils immediately contracted.

“If it isn't Peak Master Garen, Senior Brother Garen must've just returned from participating in the mothership's tests. You guys quiet down, don't bother him! This guy is one of the most talked about inherited level geniuses in the past few years. He is ranked in the top twenty amongst the Two-Hearted Peak Masters.”

“Ranked top twenty?” A young and naive girl said arrogantly, “Why does that even matter? I will be able to reach that in no time!”

“Stop your nonsense!” The group leader glared at her. “Being ranked in the top twenty symbolizes that they are geniuses who have the potential to reach Inherited Level. They were elites who the Three-Hearted Elders personally came to greet when they first entered. They aren't people who you One-Hearted brats can be compared to! They are the cores that are being raised by the sect!”

Just as he finished, Garen leaped off his wolf and walked through the electric gates.

Chapter 1000: Reappearance 2

Garen glanced over at the group of people. Looking at the number of people, if he let them enter first, the people behind him would surely catch up to him. Due to how the electric gate works, people can only go in one-by-one. There were a total of four electric gates, he specifically chose one that usually had fewer people, but he never expected to bump into a group of newbies.

“Move over!” He coldly shouted as he waved his hand. Suddenly, a strong gust of cold air knocked the group off balance, causing them to fall to the ground.

He was running out of time so he could not bother over something as trivial as this.

Arrogantly knocking away people who stood in his way, Garen, accompanied by his Giant Blue Wolf charged towards the electric gate. With a flash of white light, they finally passed through the electric scan.

The row of people were then knocked to the ground by Garen’s rushed movements. Some had their luggage knocked open, their belongings scattered on the floor, whilst those with weak vitality started shivering in the cold.

“Senior Brother Garen, don’t you think you’re being too unreasonable?” The young group leader could not help but to stand up against Garen, blocking his path.

“Scram!” Garen could already sense that March and his men’s strong energy field aura rapidly approaching the area.

With a wave of his hand, he raised the cold air from the Scarlet Snow Technique to the fifth-grade, aiming it directly at the young man. He still held back a little, if he actually used his explosive power, he would have easily taken the kid’s life.

The white cold air concentrated into a cold mist gas body, fiercely flying towards the young man in all directions, completely engulfing him within the mist. The excess chills also knocked away most of the low-leveled energy machinist around the area.

The young man used the full power of the sixth-grade Scarlet Snow Technique. Fiercely stomping on the ground, the rocks below broke into pieces, his body suddenly got covered with a layer of cold mist, taking Garen’s cold air head on.

Whooo...

The two colliding gas bodies dispersed each other.

The young man's face turned pale, he was barely able to withstand the incoming cold air. He was forced to take a few steps back after the attack, opening up the path ahead for Garen.

Garen and his wolf charged through the electric gate. If he got caught up by March and his men it would cause a lot of trouble. March's potential was at the epitome of the Two-Hearted Disciples, not even Joey and Yiling could defeat him. Naturally, Garen was, of course, no match for him. Only after entering the sect could he be less wary of March's attacks.

"Do you think you can leave without giving us an explanation?!" Unexpectedly, the young man suddenly attacked Garen, using his full power to strike Garen on his back with his palm.

This guy was hiding his potential all along, his actual grade was a Seventh-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique, within his cold air there was a strange rotting scent, seemingly containing some form of poison.

"I said scram!" With a backhand, Garen raised his strength to a Seventh-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique, fiercely striking his pal towards the young man.

Bam!

The two's palms collided with each other. Garen immediately charged towards the electric gate. However, the young man refused to give up, rapidly chasing after him, holding out his name tag that emitted a ray of light, hitting the electric gate.

'Entry authorization temporarily closed, please restart the system...' An electric voice rang in the air.

After closing the gates entry authorization, even if Garen wanted to enter, it would take two more seconds for him to use his imprint on his body to restart the system.

“Senior Brother Garen, for injuring a Junior Brother for no reason, if you don’t give a proper explanation, don’t hope of leaving this place so easily!” The young man shouted out loud, seemingly still a distance away.

“Are you looking to die!!”

In a fit of anger, Garen activated his Eighth-Grade Scarlet Snow Technique and struck his palm towards the young man. The area surrounding his palm was suddenly filled with cold air, deposing the water vapor in the air to form snow.

This time, despite the young man using the full power of his Scarlet Snow Technique, he was still hit directly by the huge amount of cold air surrounding him, leading to his defeat.

Bang!

With a loud sound, the young man got flung into the air, fresh red blood dripping out from his mouth. His body was shot down the mountain, flying into the mangrove woods below.

“For injuring my men from the Moonshine organization, don’t think you can leave this place easily!?” At this moment, a white light shot down from the skies, landing on the ground, revealing a muscular middle-aged burly man.

After saying that line, the man’s body seemed to boil up with white gas. In an instant he landed on the ground, a strong white cold mist shot towards Garen. As the cold mist breezed by the grass, the green grass immediately wilted with a layer of white precipitate left on the surface, the dirt turned black, leaving behind traces of a bad stench.

Garen coldly spat, as he brought his Giant Blue Wolf and headed straight to the electrical gate. Just as he passed through the gate, the stench-filled cold air was immediately blocked by the electric gate.

Poof!

Coming in contact with the electric current, the stench-filled cold air immediately dispersed.

Garen turned back to look at the burly man standing outside the gate.

“Who the hell are you? For someone to still be a Two-Heart at your age, did you think you were counting your age in dog years?”

“Seems like we have a trash-talker over here. If you have the guts to come out and face Werder in a head-on battle, we’ll no longer pursue this matter.”

March and his men followed closely behind the burly man.

March was coldly glaring at Garen through the electric gates, he had ordered Yiling and Joey to stop this person. Who would’ve thought he managed to escape them and return here.

“Why should I bother fighting him? On what grounds do I have to listen to your orders?” Garen chuckled.

“If you still wish to leave this base in the future, you better listen to what I say,” March smiled cruelly. He knew of a lot of the blind spots in the area.

“Are you threatening me?”

Garen let out a smile.

To him, March was nothing more than a boulder blocking his way, it was only a matter of time until he had to get rid of him.

“So how about it? Do you dare accept?” March raised his head and laughed.

“In one more month, let’s meet at the Decisive Battle Platform,” Garen grinned, walking away after throwing down the proposition. For some unknown reason, he started to feel an unknown aura building up around him, almost as if it was the reactionary feeling from the mix of fate and karma.

“One month?” The burly man licked his lips, “There’s no more holding back when it comes to the Decisive Battle Platform. You’ve just sealed your death!”

March and his men walked through the electric gate.

As for the injured young man, only the newbie team he was leading were left caring for him, going up to him and carrying him up slowly.

Amongst the onlookers, a white-haired young boy calmly took in what had happened before his eyes.

“So this is Planet Nagadako? The world of survival of the fittest! It’s a completely different world from that of the Four Ring Star Alliance... Cruel... Arrogant! How am I supposed to continue living in this type of world?”

He silently clenched his fist. Thinking of his cursed brother, his half-crippled sister and his entire family who were deep in hell.

“I will definitely change my destiny!” His eyes suddenly lighted up. “The Gideon Family will not fall in my hands!”

Ignoring the group leader who was injured, he walked towards the electric gate. After having his identity scanned by the electric gate that was temporarily opened, he directly walked through the gate.

At the edge of the Starry Sky afar.

A gigantic white old man was floating silently in space.

Surrounding him were five huge black holes simultaneously whirling. Their strong gravitational forces were sucking up all the light rays in the area, there was no equipment that was able to be used to observe this scenery surrounding the black holes.

The old man, with both of his eyes closed, reached out his right hand, lightly tapping the void in front of him.

“The Child of Destiny has made his move... Red King... Everything falls on your arrangement from last time...” The old man slowly opened his eyes, his pupils shining with iridescent colors of the rainbow, almost as if a kaleidoscope sparkling like the stars in the sky.

With a whoosh, three screens appeared in front of the old man.

On the left screen, it displayed a white-haired youth on a certain planet who was biting his lips. His skin was pale, his body was completely submerged in an amber sticky substance as if he was in pain and under a lot of pressure.

“Is the second one the second son of the Gideon household from the Four Ring Star Alliance?” The old man shifted his gaze towards the second screen.

It was just a black screen.

“I guess it’s time for my successor...” The old man reached out and tapped the screen. It immediately lit up.

The scene of countless mountains, rivers and meadows flashed before his eyes. Within a few seconds, the display stopped on a small farming village.

A girl who was silently reading a book under the sun appeared at the center of the screen.

Pak.

The girl closed the book in her hands and stood up, her pure white blouse being blown up slightly in the light breeze.

At the same time, at the Mother Planet radiation belt, the Seventh Ruins that had been sealed up for countless years finally had some signs of movement.

Slight ripples suddenly started to emit from the originally dark gray tattered ruins center.

In an instant, at the center of the ripples, a pale white light flashed dimly.

As the white light became brighter and brighter, it also became more and more glaring.

Boom!!

White a loud ring, the white light shot into the sky, piercing through the heavens.

The frightening light beam was straight and thin, piercing through the clouds and the atmosphere, directly shining through the Mother Planet, shining into the depths of the universe.

The speed of the light beam was terrifying and within a few moments, it had already moved through tens of thousands of lightyears in distance, far exceeding the speed of light, hitting the surface of a blue planet from another star system far away.

The light beam pierced through the atmosphere and hit the ground at frightening speeds.

Boom!!!

The white light landed directly in an old ruin in between two yellow mountains. Without a sound, the light slowly started to disperse. After a brief moment, a crimson red meteor shot down from the sky.

With a loud buzz, a formless concussion wave blasted toward the gigantic ruins and formed a huge crater. In the middle of the crater, a dark red humanoid mech was half squatting on the ground, surrounded by large amounts of red hot molten lava and black smoke.

The humanoid red mech was dozens of meters tall, dragging a long and sharp tail behind him and looking very abnormal.

Click...

The mech slowly stood up. His face slowly opening, revealing mech pilot sitting inside of it. Surprisingly, it was two youths who had not even hit their twenties.

“Where is... this place?” Clint opened his eyes, groggily looking at the scenery outside of the mech.

‘Welcome... to the Four Ring Star Alliance,’ a stuttering electronic voice sounded from the ground.

“Four Ring Star Alliance?” Baylon opened his eyes as he stood up from behind Clint. “Are we no longer on Mother Planet? Master Red Moon?”

“This is the starting point of everything, and also a place that you all must experience,” Red Moon’s voice had a hint of gloominess.

“The starting point of everything?” Clint took a deep breath.