

Once Human 211

Chapter 211

The chaos has appeared so abruptly so the focused Gods couldn't stop the rampaging woman . They were focused with the furious Guardians as they paused more threat and they just couldn't even divert their attention to something else .

The most surprised person was Elo Huo, with wide open eyes and an expression of disbelief, he stared at his woman who was attacking the Water Cloud sect .

"Granny Teresa! What's the meaning of this?"

Krores was enraged as he saw the disciples of his sect being attacked in such a critical moment, but when he saw the utter sock displayed on the old woman's face, he knew that it wasn't planned and this was probably the work of an outsider . The chaos intensified when the large dog with sharp spikes growled loudly and jumped on Krores, intending to swallow him whole .

In response to the leaping dog, Krores didn't hesitate in summoning his God Spirit . A huge transparent four-legged creature that resembled a lizard . He unleashed all his Nether Energy causing rain to heavily pour out of nowhere, the God Spirit clashed with the Dog but the latter had the advantage as it bit down on the lizard, wanting to tear it apart . Fortunately, the other two Gods from the Water Cloud Sect used their God Spirits to join the battle . One was a lizard similar to Krores but with wings and the other was a sea lion that had a strange horn on its forehead .

Three God Spirits clashed with the dog yet despite the huge numerical disadvantage, the Guardian wasn't fazed as its eye lit with a red light and the spikes from its back stretched at an insane speed, sending two of the God Spirits flying far away .

On the other side, things weren't looking too good for Kai Min's camp, Arthur was like a raging bull, firing left and right without minding anyone . Obviously, the disciples were shocked at first but soon began to retaliate with Kai Min, who was the first to attack Elo Huo's woman .

As for the one-armed Elo Huo, he kept shouting at the woman, telling her to stop but it was futile, it's as if he was shouting to a deaf person . After a few tries, he stopped trying, however, he didn't go save her personally since it was too late, she already injured a lot of Kai Min's juniors and she was injured in return, she even lost a leg .

The woman was deemed as an enemy so Kai Min didn't hold back as he wielded his saber and cut her more than one time, causing endless blood to gush out of her abdomen and back .

A bit more time later, the woman's lifeless corpse fell to the ground, full of injuries and completely unrecognizable . Elo Huo had an ugly expression but he didn't dare reprimand the Water Cloud disciples as it was the woman's fault, to begin with, and if he had helped her, it would have caused more problems and the two sects would enter a war which is not a favorable thing neither is it worth it . He had feelings for the woman but apparently not enough to sacrifice himself for her, in Huo's way of thinking, a lover could be replaced, contrary to his life .

Deep underground, which his present completely concealed, Arthur stared at the Spatial Master, who was near Kai Min, still invisible . He didn't overdo things to not force this master to personally handle

that woman which is why Kai Min 'killed' the rampaging woman easily . In fact, he didn't really kill Arthur as that would cause a temporary decrease in his stats, he just pretended to have died by falling on the ground and leaving the host . As for the woman and her life? He couldn't care less, her behavior resembled his ex-wife a lot and for women like that, he never intended to show mercy .

Currently, the two Gods coming from Elo Huo's academy were fighting the fearsome humanoid Guardian, and the remaining three Gods were ganging up on the dog . It would be far-fetched to finish those Guardians in a short time, which is why the elders ordered the disciples to go inside right now since the Guardians can't stop them .

With no obstacle in their way, Cold Sword, Kai Min, and the rest headed inside the palace . Kai Min was on high alert after what just happened, he only brought ten disciples with him as all the rest were injured by the woman's flames . Elo Huo was surprisingly alone, he didn't want to bring anyone lest they do the same thing so he decided to venture alone, this decision was approved by the fighting elders .

'Arrogant yet wise, it's indeed rare . '

Arthur didn't expect Elo Huo to remain calm after having his Lantern swallowed, arm ripped off and lover killed . Although he had an unpleasant expression, he didn't start shouting or spouting nonsense, he just entered the palace silently .

Just like the rogue cultivators who managed to reach this far, Arthur possessed the body of the usual young man and joined these cultivators as they entered the main palace .

There wasn't many of them, only twenty but each of them was powerful enough and had some skills . The annoying chains were carefully hidden and their noise vanished when Arthur activated his skill .

The red-haired youth joined the fray, walking only a few meters behind Arthur . His eyes were still closed as he walked in a leisurely manner without showing any of the cautiousness the others were displaying .

One has to know that to get those desired priceless plants, one must overcome one if not countless dangerous obstacles . You would rarely find treasures laid on the ground ready for you to scavenge them all .

Once they entered the Palace, a large garden present itself in front of them, it had an artificial mountain in its center and ten doors lined up next to each other .

In total, only fifty-two people entered the main palace, most of them were rogue cultivators . Arthur patiently waited for Kai Min to pick a door, as for the red-haired youth, he chose a random door and entered . Cold Sword seemed to be waiting too, her eyes were fixated on Arthur, she saw him here when they entered the Garden and couldn't let go of what happened in the past . She saw a great opportunity now and waited for the young man to chose a door first so she could follow him .

Arthur didn't pay her any heed, even if she attacked him or butted in, his plans won't be ruined . Since he the Gods are not with Kai Min now then everything is in his grasp .

A few minutes later, there were only two figures standing in the garden, Arthur and Cold Sword, who didn't stop gazing at him which was pretty uncomfortable, especially when she isn't holding back her murderous intent .

When he was certain that enough time has passed, Arthur headed for the door Kai Min entered . This time, he planned to take thing pretty seriously, he took out Makaze from the storage and put it on his waist, sheathed . The blade vibrated in response, expressing itself and somehow communicating it with him .

It had devoured a lot of swords that Arthur got from the Kang Treasury House so its rank increased and its appearance changed a bit . It had become blacker than usual with its ornaments pulsating with a violet light and its handle taking the gray color . It has been quite some time since Arthur used it as he relied on his skills and other technique but this time, he wanted to finish things in seconds and Makaze was the best and wisest choice .

Meanwhile, Cold Sword was a distance away from Arthur, just like a lion stalking its prey, moreover, she didn't mind being discovered as she knew how strong her opponent was . Although she was not an idiot and could tell that she wasn't his match, she wasn't the type to give up easily, especially after such public humiliation .

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After the two of them walked for a couple of minutes, they arrived at a soundless and dark room . There were no signs of Kai Min or any of the other disciples . Without pausing for even half a step, Arthur marched inside the room while unleashing an absurd amount of black lightning . Being bombarded by nonstop Demonic Lightning, the usually resistant illusion shattered in an instant and showed a narrow corridor to Arthur, who proceeded toward it .

Cold Sword wasn't as lucky, the illusion that shattered have recovered instantly, trapping her inside . She didn't have special lightning like Arthur so she resorted to brute force, slashing her large sword left and right until she finds a way out . This illusion is but a small test for the incomers, it's not deadly and after some time, anyone will be able to get out of it . Basically, it's sole purpose is to waste time .

By this time, only Arthur and Kai Min and his protector were able to get out immediately and Arthur knew this which is why he didn't want to waste time .

At the end of the corridor was also a garden but this one was smaller than the previous one, there was a clean lake on the Western side of the garden, it was a beautiful sight with numerous blue butterflies fluttering their wings and flying from one flower to another . No one would believe this garden is inside a palace, much less an ancient deadly tomb .

Currently, in this room stood three figures, one was Kai Min who tightly held his saber and had a serious expression, the other was the Spatial Master who revealed himself, last but not least was the red-haired youth .

With two blood red eyes that showed indifference and no emotions, the youth revealed an evil smile as he stretched his hand and retrieved a long halberd with a thick scent of blood

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Evidently, the red-haired youth's target was going to be the Spatial Master and not the weak Kai Min, who was cowering on the side . Arthur hid his presence and didn't join the battle, his goal was to attack at the perfect chance and he doesn't want to cause a big ruckus by openly fighting the Master .

As for the red-haired youth, he had the power of a God and although he can't beat the Spatial Master, it doesn't mean he can't cause him some trouble .

Wielding the red halberd, the youth lunged himself at the Spatial Master, viciously thrusting his halberd at his opponent's throat . The robbed old man merely waved his sleeves, disturbing the space around the halberd and make it crack, easily deflecting the incoming attack . However, the youth didn't seem fazed, he let go of the halberd and continued his charge whilst another exact halberd appeared in his hands, totally unscathed .

"Hmpf! Fall down!"

The Spatial Master said those words and grabbed the empty air with his hand and pulled it as if he was pulling a tablecloth, this caused the youth's body to be flung upside down, heavily crashing on the ground .

As if nothing happened, the youth slowly got up and patted the dust off his clothes without minding the glare of the old man . A halberd materialized itself in his hand but this time, he didn't rush at his opponent, instead, he held the weapon in one hand and raised his other hand, pointing a finger at the old man .

His smooth white hand transformed into a rotten one and instantly, a black beam was shot from his finger, traveling straight at Kai Min, who was similarly shocked and wasn't able to dodge in time .

"Shameless!"

The old man hurriedly closed his hand into a fist to crack the space but that was futile as the black beam penetrated Kai Min's abdomen and nailed him on the wall several meters behind his original position . The beam's speed was too fast and the old man thought that his technique would have at least diverted the youth's attack, however, things went worse than his expectation .

Kai Min, who also had life-saving treasures didn't even have the chance to use them before he was struck by the beam, which rendered him in a soulless state as he looked dumbly at the ground while being nailed by the black beam, he didn't utter any painful cries .

This was not the end, several more black beams shot from the rotten finger, heading at the confused and shocked old man, who didn't think of holding back anylonger . The space around him turned blurry as the black beams disappeared when they were only inches away from him . These black beams were forcefully trapped in a different space, rendering them useless .

Still unwavering by this, the red-haired youth stabbed his halberd on the ground, making the small garden shake heavily and cracks appear all over the floor .

The old man's response to this is merely staying still, relying on his strong defensive technique . Very soon, a red fog started appearing and hindering the view which was followed by thick red pillars rising from the ground and adding to the intensity of the red fog .

Seeing this, Arthur unsheathed Makaze and prepared himself . The black katana vibrated intensely and black flames burned on its edges, there was even a deep cut engraved on the ground due to the intensity of the Sword Energy .

Arthur caressed the katana and forced it to calm down as this would attract the attention of the old man

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'Almost . . . '

The youth rushed at the old man again, this time with double the previous speed and more ferocity . He swept his halberd at the space around the old man, shaking the whole room and causing cracks to appear on the space protecting the Spatial Master .

Despite not succeeding in his attack, the youth didn't stop as he swung his halberd again with more force . A terrifying howl came out of the halberd as it smashed against the turbulent space, finally shattering it and sweeping at the old man, who took out a strange mirror and used it to resist the incoming attack .

When the halberd struck the mirror, the youth felt as if he hit something soft, half of the halberd disappeared into the mirror which shone with an unusual color . Not wanting to wait for it to finish its retaliation, the youth abandoned his weapon and stretched his rotten hand to meet the shining mirror .

As predicted, the mirror unleashed a bright light coupled with a crushing force that could even flatten Gods . Fortunately, the youth had stretched his hand and met this incredible force with his special hand, safely absorbing the power .

The rotten hand's ability is to absorb the attack and unleash them back but if the received attack is more powerful than the reserve the hand could store, then its ability would become useless . Luckily, the power of the attack unleashed by the mirror barely surpassed the hand's reserve, so the youth managed to absorb it despite being sent flying for twenty or so meters .

The old man saw how his opponent was still not dead which startled him but he wasn't that anxious to finish the fight, he no longer cared about Kai Min's state either since it was too late to save him . The black beams were alarming which is why he didn't dare to remove him personally .

The red-haired youth pointed at Kai Min and grabbed the air, sucking the life force from the silent Kai Min . This quickly healed the slight injuries he received from the previous attack and boosted his condition a bit more .

"Aren't you one persistent brat!"

The red-haired youth stared back at the old man with a charming smile before he closed his eyes and said

"Hahaha, I shall consider that as a compliment . Now, prepare yourself!"

The red beams coming out from the ground reached the required intensity so the youth decided to stop holding back and finally go all out .

Another halberd materialized itself in his other hand, however, this one was jet black with the ominous aura surrounding it . Two large wings stretched from his back, one red and the other black, they were both two meters each .

Since the youth stopped holding back, the old man decided to stop being defensive, two transparent chains were dragged out of nowhere, moreover, fire started burning around them and from an outsider's look, it was as if the fire was burning randomly in the air .

It didn't take long before the first clash occurred, dust waves flew and the beautiful garden was turned upside down with big boulders falling and blood splashing everywhere . This time around, the youth held a big advantage as he ferociously swept with both his halberds, pushing the old man in a corner .

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The Spatial Master tried resisting with his Spatial Shackles and the mirror but they weren't able to deflect the barrage of attack coming from the youth . With two wings increasing his speed and Death Energy on the left and violent Blood Energy on the right, the combination of these two wasn't something the old man could cope with without seriously going all out, which he finally did when a grey whirlpool which represented his God Spirit, appeared behind him .

The whirlpool rotated slowly and distorted the space around the youth, causing deep and long cuts to appear all over his speed, there were even small cracks appearing on his two halberds . This clearly showed how powerful the God Spirit is and how can a God becomes many times stronger with its presence .

Nonetheless, the youth wasn't depressed, his goal has been achieved and all that is left to do is wait for his master to act .

Speaking of Arthur, he was staring at the old man from the darkness, the chains hiding under his clothes were tightening as he activated [Griffin's Bloody Switch] .

'90% Wisdom to 50% Dexterity . 90% Intelligence to Agility . 50% Vitality to 10% Strength!'

He used this skill three times, which made him lose 150 Mental Power permanently . This, however, was totally worth it, he felt the incredible power surging in him, his physical body was several times strengthened which angered the chains as they tightened around him, almost crushing his bones . Arthur ignored the pain since he wasn't feeling it and held Makaze in his right hand, ready to attack .

With his Dexterity and Agility being increased by a lot, his current speed wasn't something any God could deal with, even a powerful entity such as this Spatial Master .

A distance away from Arthur, Cold Sword's figure appeared, her attire seemed a bit disheveled but she suffered no injuries . With murderous intent and anger, she coldly stared at Arthur but her body wasn't able to react as she felt the immense pressure coming from him .

By the next second, Arthur's body was covered by Natural Lightning from head to toe as he activated [Transcendence], further boosting his Agility . As a small precaution, Arthur used Golden Threads formed by the skill [Mother Of All] at the cost of Mental Power, to wrap them around his whole body as he was expecting some sort of backlash after having strengthened his body to this degree .

He silently spectated the fight between the two parties for a few more seconds before raised Makaze and vanished from his spot, dumbfounding Cold Sword, who saw his figure disappear into nothingness .

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Burning flames surroundings its sharp edges, Makaze cut through the back of the old man's back and accurately hit his Dantian, immediately destroying it . The Natural Lightning that was added traveled through the Meridians, severely injuring them and paralyzing the body of the Spatial Master .

To achieve this, Arthur spared no effort, from using [Transcendence] to [Griffin's Bloody Switch] . It only took one precise and fast hit, which was successful . Dark Magic was fully unleashed from the blade's edges and engulfed the Spatial Master, further limiting his movements and weakening him . The old man's figure was engulfed in black flames with a blade penetrating him from the back and a young man coldly staring at him .

Arthur didn't even wait for a reaction from the old man, he let go of Makaze and used the hidden chains to quickly wrap them around the enemy's neck then pulled him back downwards, crashing them both on the ground .

With his Dantian destroyed and Meridians injured, the old man may not be dead yet but he is pretty much crippled, nonetheless, Arthur wasn't willing to be overconfident despite all the damage he had done to his foe .

The old man, who was caught by complete surprise, had a red face, both from suffocation, extreme shame, and anger . He was immobilized before any chance of retaliation, now that he is looking at the culprit, he was shocked because it was none other than a junior that he just spared a simple glance earlier . He checked all the juniors but since most of them were weak, he wasn't wary of them .

Arthur knew that there is no way the three Gods accompanying Kai Min would not know what had happened here . Although the kid was weak, there must be something that alarmed, even if there is nothing and he is just worrying, he was still going to proceed with the plans .

"Bring that kid along . . . and don't kill him . "

Arthur ordered the youth then looked at the entrance of the room with a smile .

"As thou wish . "

The red-haired youth flashed with a red light then was enveloped by a thick a red smoke with vanished in a few seconds . What replaced the youth was a gigantic golem and a floating book next to it . The book went straight to Arthur and glued itself to his waist, as for the golem, it grabbed the nailed Kai Min and stood next to Arthur .

"Why don't you come out, it's useless to try to hide your presence from me . "

Arthur looked at the entrance whilst saying that . His map could never be wrong and he had long since sensed Cold Sword's presence lurking in the entrance . She took some time to get out of that illusion but eventually, with the help of brute force, she escaped . The reason Arthur wasn't worried about her is due to her weak strength, they were in different leagues despite her being a genius and a good sword user .

Several seconds of silence passed before a shadow appeared from the entrance, with a sword on her back and a somewhat haggard look due to the effects of illusion, Cold Sword finally showed herself without hiding her thick intent but there was some fear and surprised lingering in her eyes, it's as if she was hesitating on whether to act or not .

"Arghhh w . . . why did you attack me *cough* *cough* w-we have no g- . . *cough* grudges!"

The old man mustered his strength those words with blood gushing out of the deep wound inflicted by Makaze, which already went back to its sheath . He unceasingly coughed blood as Dark Flames never stopped burning him, its effect was not burning the target but consuming it, meaning weakening it and slowly overpowering the target's body . It matched perfectly with Arthur's racial abilities .

Currently, he can't possess the God without using forceful means, but he can kill him, and he most certainly will but not before obtaining a few things .

Before answering the old man, Arthur did several seals on the air, mimicking what Zodiak said in the notes . Ten seconds later, an ominous looking talisman was conjured out of pure Dark Mana, it was over ten centimeters and had a skull face similar to the one on Zodiak's robe .

Arthur slapped the talisman on the old man's body then looked back at Cold Sword, who came to stop only a few meters away from him . She looked cautiously at the motionless Golem, which was blocking her path to Arthur, then she glanced at the dark book on the man's waist before looking at the seemingly ordinary young man who transformed into a lightning man, she felt uncomfortable just by looking at him .

The Ethereal state can be used with Dark Power and it will certainly make it stronger but Arthur felt his control over it is not as smooth as without this state . So he canceled due to the attention it grabs and the not so advantageous effects it has over Dark Magic, which is one of his main powers .

However, Dark Magic is an ominous power, it's not only mysterious but it brings out the fear in people and always make them uncomfortable . Lucy is practically immune to it because she had a soul bind with Arthur, as for Saly, she isn't immune so Arthur lessens his use of Dark Magic when she's around .

Now that he did everything to ensure his grasp on the old man and Kai Min's lives . Arthur looked towards the entrance yet again and sarcastically said

"The cat has come out, how come the dog is still hiding?"

Moments passed yet nothing but silence was heard, Arthur remained standing there, still staring at the same location with a smile that soon faded .

"I do not have time to play with you, if you're not coming out then I'm not being polite anymore . "

He gripped the unsheathed Makaze and inclined his body a bit before he used [Golden Lone Sheath] . The dark blade shone with a dark gold luster before a soundless dark sword arc, formed from the skill, headed towards a specific direction near the entrance . As Arthur expected, the sword attack hit the wall and disappeared as if it hit a bottomless ocean, there were no explosion nor a resistance .

'Let's see how much you can absorb . '

Arthur bent his back again and held Makaze and grinned, by the next second, ten successive [Golden Lone Sheath] were launched at the same location . Since the skill had no cooldown and only a high cost, Arthur didn't hold back and used it ten times in a row, unafraid that his Mana Pool will run out .

Just like before, the attacks seemed to have sunken inside the walls, however, the last one stopped a distance away from the wall, as if it met a resistance . Arthur used the skill three more times, which finally forced whatever was hiding to surface out .

With weird plant clothes and a height of over two meters, it was a humanoid figure resembling a woman . It had some parts that were plants and others that were identical to humans, like her faces and arms .

"Don't you think it's rude to intrude my garden and attack me?"

Arthur paid her no heed, his figure disappeared as he charged at her, instantly arriving next to her thanks to his augmented Agility .

His fist shone with a small green light as it struck the side of the woman, who raised her hand to meet his . Just like with the slashes, his fist met with a watery surface when it came in contact with her hand, however, Arthur still didn't care as he viciously slashed with Makaze, activating [Heavenly Slash] one of his three strongest sword skills .

A deep cry resounded from the dark blade, which became three times longer than usual, the blade came slashing down at the woman with black flames covering the whole room . Arthur wasn't going to waste time with this woman and didn't even want to let her go out so he used his strongest skills from the get-go .

This time, the watery surface couldn't absorb the slash, which came down at the angry and terrified woman . She hurriedly took out a large sunflower and raised it towards the incoming attack .

The sunflower fluttered beautifully and a humming sound was heard as a mysterious wind seemed to have been blown from somewhere, the wind brushed away the slash, barely pushing it away from the woman, who was about to retaliate and attack Arthur but was dumbstruck to see him disappear again .

With a pose similar to a praying monk, Arthur was behind the woman, with eyes closed and natural lightning enveloping him, he stretched one palm towards the back of the woman . The stretched palm flashed with a blinding golden light that illuminated the room and resembled a sun .

When the palm tapped again the scared woman's back, a rumbling sound was heard followed by the body of the woman which was sent flying like a rocket and heavily crashed again the other direction, destroying the wall and sending her flying even further .

Arthur was sure that she was dead and although he really wanted to possess it, he wasn't going to run and search for it, however, that didn't stop him from sending a Death Knight behind her to retrieve what's left .

The Death Knight obeyed and dashed towards the hole on the wall, as for Arthur, he unsheathed his blade and deactivated [Transcendence] . It was only at this time that he paid attention to Jian Si, who was still standing there but there was no more killing intent, it was replaced with deep shock and a burning desire to fight .

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"You know, your stubbornness reminds me of someone but unlike that person, you're not cooperative . . oh and you're annoying too . "

Arthur blatantly said that as he met Jian Si's burning gaze . Lucy was stubborn too, much more than this girl but she wasn't suicidal and knew what to do, she wasn't a battle-thirsty person such as Cold Sword .

Jian Si didn't reply and held her long sword, she unwrapped the cloth around it, showing a jet black sword with a thick blood scent emanating from it .

Arthur still wasn't impressed, he raised his hand towards her and moved a few fingers randomly as he added:

"As I said before, you're not my match and I do not have the patience nor the time to play with an angry kid . "

Cold Sword's expression finally changed when she found out that her body was immobilized, she couldn't even move a finger, much less charge at him . Upon a closer, thin threads were wrapped around all her body, forcing her to remain motionless, she even activated her Sword Energy trying to cut through them but such efforts were futile . The Sword Energy were shattered by strong and violent vibrations coming from the threads .

Natural Lightning, that was flowing through the threads unnoticed, is one of Arthur's main offensive powers . The vibrations created from it are able to shatter weaker forms of Energies, destroy Meridians and burst hearts and bones, it was also hard to detect, which is another reason Arthur always includes in his attacks, even simple physical exchanges .

Arthur used the threads to lift the old man's body, who looked like a lifeless force but actually wasn't . Arthur was aware that the Spatial Master was ready for the last struggle, his Dantian was destroyed but not all the energy he held dispersed and he must have treasures that can be used without Nether Energy too .

"Now then, I have only two questions for you . If you answer them, maybe I will spare your life, or what's left of it . "

In response to Arthur, the old man merely looked at his attacker with anger, his eyes were thirsty for a bloody vengeance . His thousands of years of cultivation and training vanished in seconds which made him almost turn mad .

"Kid *cough* my disciples and sect won't let you live for long *cough* *cough* you will live the *cough* remaining of your life in fear of my revenge! *cough* . . "

Arthur listened to his words calmly, he wasn't feeling threatened at all . After the old man finished his successive oaths of revenge and so-on, Arthur simply tugged the threads leading to the old man's arm, instantly tearing it off causing even more blood to gush out and paint the nearby pond with red .

"I guess it's useless to ask you . "

It's was pretty apparent that the old man wasn't the kind to give up easily and answer his questions just to live so Arthur decided to end it .

"Hahaha*cough* it's too late for you to kill me now, kid!"

As he spurted those last words, the old man died, however, something emerged from his forehead . It was an eye as big as the old man's head, it stared at Arthur for a few seconds before it vanished . Despite being seen by whichever was that, Arthur wasn't worried as this wasn't his real body and he has thousands of bodies so his identity can never be discovered . This last struggle could be said to be futile, if it was another one who killed the old man, then he may be doomed but it's another matter for a parasite .

After things calmed down, Arthur unceremoniously took the storage ring of the old man but surprisingly wasn't able to inspect it . He knew that the Demonic Lightning may be of some help but he didn't use it right now as it may require more time than he already has .

He stored the ring and ordered the golem to block Jian Si's proceed then he swiftly possessed the old man's lifeless corpse and got out in just a second . It barely took the time for a person to blink before he gained what he needed, his vision was flooded with system notifications .

Since time was tight and there are few people who must be after him, he didn't read them and only tested his new Spatial Mastery .

His hand grabbed the air, distorting it and when he tried grabbing it and forcefully pulling it, the ground shook and the space shattered for a split second before it automatically self-repaired itself instantaneously . Before he was done with the quick tests, he tried the special skill the old man had, it was the [Space Bend] unique skill obtained from the 'Space Bender' the deceased elder had .

It allowed him to cover his presence and become undetected by all Gods unless he purposely exposed himself, it was a very useful skill for assassination and escape, this further reassured Arthur . However, it isn't uncommon for a delight to be followed by misery or despair, which is more or less what happened to Arthur .

The chains wrapping around his waist started thinning and crackling, they burned his skin and the tightness around his limbs was stronger yet this made him more comfortable .

"Demon, it looks like your arsenal is yet again bigger . How about it . . . give me that stone and I'll gladly become your God Spirit, I'm sure that even Sovereigns won't be a match for you . "

From within his consciousness, the Earth Knight couldn't remain silent and proposed the same offer for Arthur .

"Not interested . "

The Earth Spirit wanted to insist but knowing Arthur's attitude, he gave up and went back to his sleep, unaffected by what happens outside .

This wasn't the end for Arthur, when the burning effect from the chains disappeared, he felt that he could break them and finally be free of their restraint and when he was going to, he found himself standing in an endless space which belonged to the ARK .

"We meet again, Arthur . "

The lame copy of Arthur stood before him, however, this time he wasn't as cheerful as usual and he even had a serious expression .

"What do you want?"

The lame copy started walking around Arthur, inspecting the long chains then he replied

"It's not what I want but what you intend to do . "

He didn't even give Arthur enough time to talk before he resumed

"You know . . . a very long time ago, there was a person named 'Moria', this Moria was very skilled in Shadow Magic . He had an ability similar to yours and could gain the power of others through their shadows, and as you may expect, he became strong, very strong, enough to be called the Shadow King and live for countless generations without anyone matching his strength . . . but he ended up dying despite having no one who can kill him and being practically immune to aging . Now, Arthur, you're a smart person, how do you think he died?"

Arthur contemplated the matter for a few seconds before he gave his answer

"Must've been suicide? Maybe loneliness and the lack of equally strong people made him want to end his life . "

"That's the only plausible answer but it's wrong . The Shadow King didn't kill himself, neither did anyone kill him, he simply led himself straight to his death, too much power can kill someone . He consumed way too many shadows, his power was really something to look up to despite the fact that he didn't acquire it himself . It's quite unbelievable for an eternal king to die due to obtaining more power than he could control .

In such a case, you and he are more similar than you think . You might not be blinded by gaining power, but becoming stronger is necessary to protect what's dear for you and I totally get that but remember this, Arthur, there is always a limit to what a borrowed power could do . "

The copy crouched down and grabbed part of the chains, feeling it while he continued speaking:

"You do know why those chains are restraining you, right?"

"My physical body is much stronger than what my Mental capacity could handle and my Realm is too low . "

"That's only the main points . Your body's strength has exceeded the necessary boundaries, if you break the chains . . . then yes, you'll get unimaginable power, a physical body that kills Gods with a flip of a finger, and you could also travel to Earth through sheer strength, however, everything comes at a cost . I can assure you that when you break the chains yourself, you would die within twelve hours at most and nothing could save you, not even that skill of yours . "

Arthur was tempted when he heard the first part but was forced to give up when he heard that his death is imminent if he breaks those damnable chains .

"Don't think of them as a restriction, they are saving you from self-destruction . Even if it's not exactly like the death of the Shadow King, the way you would die will be a bit like his, through obtaining more

power than one could process and use . As for when the chains will break, it'll be when your Mental Capacity is high enough, but at such a pace, I don't think it'll happen anytime soon . "

"Do I need to reach a specific number of Mental Power to break them?"

With a precise number to reach, Arthur thought it'll be easier for him to determine how far he is .

"Mental Power? That's only one side of the coin, Mental Capacity isn't only numbers that are increased through cultivation, then again, if you could understand its entirety then you wouldn't be struggling in such a world . If you want a number then I would say five hundred thousand? Perhaps a million? Numbers are everything yet nothing . They are the basics, a number can't always be precise, and I think you know that well . "

Arthur remained silent for an unknown amount of time, pondering about many things . His copy only gazed at him without uttering any more words, he seemed to be content after saying that and now that he had nothing important to say, he patted Arthur's shoulders and said

"Remember well, Arthur Bilgart, a heart bleeds, a man weeps, a soul burns, thence comes the darkness to consume, yet even in the depths, the flames endures . "

The copy vanished after saying that, leaving Arthur alone in the endless pace, still deep in a daze, thinking about all the things the copy has just said .

Chapter 216

After passing some time alone, pondering over the said things, Arthur left the ARK and returned to the garden, or what's left of it .

With his goals achieved and nothing to do here, he prepared to leave the tomb as he had zero interest in getting the manual or any of the treasures here . He had countless of them in Zodiak's storage, which had all the things he amassed in his ancient adventures .

The tricky thing was that there was definitely people looking for him . His heist on the Kang Treasury was flawless in many aspects but the Kang Family wasn't a fool .

This happened in their territory and the third floor of the Treasury was robbed clean, they surely were not going to let things end like that . One way or another, they will locate him which is why he began by changing his body, he got rid of the young man's body and possessed the body of the woman, which he used just when he entered the city .

He changed into a more appropriate attire, fitting for a woman's body, he also stored Makaze away and retrieved a pair of green gauntlets which have a strong affinity to Wind attribute . The woman was a Wind Mage so such a weapon suited her quite well, moreover, he was only going to use them if he ever was forced into a fight with a monster or some meddlesome person .

With everything ready, Arthur prepared to exit the room while ignoring the flabbergasted look of Cold Sword, who no longer was struggling to get out of the immobilization of the threads . She was shocked to see a woman appear out of nowhere and the disappearance of the young man .

It didn't take a genius to piece this and that together, she quickly understood that it's the same person, he just had a powerful technique that could change his appearance . However, what surprised her is that

even the aura around the young man changed, with the Ethereal state activated, she seemed entirely different to the previous young man, who killed the old man with cold blood .

"Mayhap we meet again but I hope we don't . "

With these last words, the woman in front of Jian Si vanished along with the Golem and Kai Min, who was clearly being held captive .

With the golem following him, Arthur spared no effort in heading out of the long tunnel and heading to another door, which also led to a similar looking tunnel . His main concern wasn't the Water Cloud sect since he had confidence in getting rid of them with Kai Min as a hostage as they won't risk the chance of him dying, the death of Spatial Master will cause them more than enough troubles .

What's keeping him from directly leaving is the Kang Gods, which have full control over the opening and closure of the Gates and are most certainly paying a close attention to who is leaving . If he were to leave alone right now, there is a big chance of being discovered and surrounded, sure, he can cope with the elders which are Peak Gods but he doesn't know Amidel's real strength .

What's reassuring, however, is that can always use Rizaki in case things went south, he would suffer heavy injuries but at least that would assure his escape, more or less .

Hopefully, if he leaves at the right time and with the right people, things would proceed smoothly, or so thought Arthur .

. . . .

With a large golem backing him up, Arthur entered a significantly large room with three stones statues, each one was looking at a direction and held a unique weapon . At the center was a big closed coffin and there laid eleven spots just a few meters in front of it . These eleven spots were for the chosen people, and eight of these spots were already taken . As the room was big, it was also full of people, whether it's a group of rogue cultivators, elders that overseeing their talented geniuses or some spectators which are only here for the show .

Obviously, Emily and her brother took two of the spots, Arthur saw a Kang Elder standing behind them, protecting them from any sudden attack from the other powers . Elo Huo was also here, he took one spot and had the two Gods from earlier standing by his side . The only one missing was Kai Min, who was hidden inside the golem and could not be detected by them .

The other five spots were also taken but talented youngsters and each had at least a God with them, although not all Gods were as strong as Elo Huo's or Emily's .

Almost everybody was eyeing the three remaining spots with greed, to be able to sit there and wait for enlightenment from one of the three statues is a rare chance that may allow them to obtain either a rare treasure, a strong technique or even the physique manual itself!

The big golem grabbed some attention upon its arrival but it soon was forgotten as they returned to drooling over the spots . Many people could raise golem to protect them and most of them had average strength, it isn't that unusual to see a golem or spawned fighter of some kind . The only peculiar thing about Arthur's golem is its unusual appearance, but that wasn't enough to make others pay it more attention than needed .

Arthur wasn't planning on taking a spot since his interest wasn't laying there . He just had to patiently wait for a large group of people to leave, which will only happen after the spots are taken and the lucky juniors are finished attempting to gain an enlightenment or a treasure .

With nothing important to do right now, Arthur just sat down and began meditating, he wasn't injured in the previous fights and the effect of the [Griffin's Bloody Switch] has wared off .

This was the main place for obtaining good treasures but it isn't for anyone, it could be that one person every ten thousand or more is able to gain something out of the three statues .

As time passed, two people gave up on their spots as they were unable to sense anything, this led to a huge ruckus and a bloody fight . Soon enough, two people replaced them and took their spots, one was a rogue cultivator and the other was surprisingly Rose, the gargoyle general he possessed back then .

Arthur cast her a glance and nodded in praise, although she wasn't that cooperative when he was forcing her hand, she was indeed a good fighter and is only a bit weaker than Amidel's son, but if it were a fight for survival, she may come out victorious, however, these were merely speculations thought of by Arthur, what the results will be can only be known if the fight ever happens .

Inside of the room, where no one knows if it's night or day, an hour after another passed and places where replaced each time a person gave up . Only Elo Huo, Emily, and her brother stood there without showing any reactions .

'What a good little actor . '

Arthur saw that Emily was awake thanks to appraisal, which would show the 'Meditating' status on every person trying to find enlightenment . He immediately knew that this lass must've obtained something yet didn't want to grab any attention so she just pretended to be like the others . Nobody knew of her real talents and as the orders of her father, she maintained a low profile, moreover, her brother was much more appealing to the crowd, which focused their attention on him and Elo Huo .

The tension that has been building up the last few hours was broken at last when a sound similar to a drum was heard . One of the three statues, precisely the one at the left, which was holding a gourd, seemed to have become alive as its eyes landed on the green-armored gargoyle, Rose, who opened her eyes and stretched her hand . A pillar of white light emerged from her spot, rising all the way to the ceiling, engulfing her in this light and making her look majestic .

Even the Gods accompanying Emily and Elo Huo were equally surprised as they didn't expect a lowly Pigolo with no fame whatsoever to be able to gain enlightenment and the approval of one of the statues .

Emily opened half of her eyes to glance at Rose with curiosity, she was bored from all the waiting and grasped this chance to leave her spot . Everyone was focused on Rose and the light around her so this action of hers was only seen by the Gods protecting her and Arthur, who wasn't interested in the light at all .

Seconds after the emergence of the light, the eyes of the statues emitted two white rays which landed on Rose's stretched hand, when they landed on her hand, the two rays were no longer light but

transformed into a translucent white armor with spiky shoulder guards and a green gem embedded on its lower half .

Rose stood up whilst holding the armor then she bowed politely to the statue to express her gratitude, after doing what needs to be done, she left her spot without any regret .

"To think that a gargoyle was acknowledged by one of the statues, she must be a genius!"

"What genius! It's just a matter of luck nothing else . "

Some people admired her while other envied her, a never-ending cycle of jealousy and admiration whenever one besides themselves earned a priceless treasure .

Chapter 217

The topic of their talking soon shifted from Rose to her newly acquired armor . Many speculated that the armor was Heavenly ranked, from the appearance to the aura around it, there was no doubt that it's not any ordinary armor .

Rose didn't hesitate in wearing it, such armors automatically match the size of their host, so it only took a few seconds for it to be worn by Rose, who replaced her green armor by this new one .

With the translucent white armor and its aura, coupled with Rose beauty, which was not kingdom toppling but she couldn't be called ugly or average either, Rose became prettier and pleasant to the eyes, perhaps it was a special effect of the armor or it's just that the armor and her power complimented each other and created such atmosphere around her .

The gargoyle female didn't stay in the room anylonger, she left the room with Ehrendil protecting her back . They wanted to gain priceless treasures but this armor was enough for them and it would boost their confidence and may lead them to emerge victorious against the Pigolo .

Her spot was quickly replaced by their archenemies, the pigolo, which couldn't secure a spot until now . Even in such a place, the gargoyles were aggressive against them since the start of the war, so they couldn't send any of their juniors to a spot without fearing the craziness of their enemy .

Emily sneaked behind the Gods protecting Kithel and stood behind her . Some people noticed that her spot was now free but none was brave enough to go ahead and seize it .

As for Arthur, he was still sitting in meditation near the golem, however, for some reason, he started feeling kind of uneasy . It was a feeling similar to the one he felt after taking down 'Medusa' . It was an instinctive feeling of danger he obtained through the countless possessions he did, it wasn't always right, but when it is, then a great danger is coming either for him or the people around him .

Despite this, he calmed down with the help of the ethereal state and brushed away the distracting thoughts . He just needed to get out of the tomb, whatever happens later will be dealt at that time, he should take things step by step and worry about the present instead of the future .

A bit of time passed since the enlightenment of Rose yet nothing similar occurred which caused the hyped crowd to calm down and return to waiting for their turn or just lay down and watch who will get what .

Arthur returned to normal when the uneasy feeling was gone, he was at his peak with his Health, Mana, and Nether Energy back to full, moreover, he had his new mastery of Spatial Attribute and Space Bender title .

The silence was broken at last when a weird sound similar to a waterfall resounded in all the room, this shocked the crowd and caused a lot of surprised gasps to come out, amongst them were the old Gods, which looked at Kithel with awe .

The sound of the waterfall became much clearer after a few seconds and an illusory mountain materialized above Kithel, it was not the size of a real mountain but it looked pretty realistic with the enormous waterfall . The waterfall's length was from the peak of the mountain till its bottom, its sound could be heard and its water fell directly on Kithel .

Soon, the middle statue's eyes opened and stared at Kithel, just like Rose's case .

"It's a materialization enlightenment! indeed, a dragon father cannot have a dog son!"

The old man accompanying Elo Huo nodded as he stared at Kithel and the mountain, he wasn't jealous of the boy but envious that the Kang Family have such a genius . Compared to Kithel, Elo Huo seemed to be struggling and from the looks of it, he won't be able to gain a special enlightenment such as Amidel's son .

A large pillar of blue light covered Kithel, it rose all the way to the roof and caused all the seated youngsters to wake up from the meditation . The pillar of light thinned until only a portion of Kithel was touched by it, in response to this, the young man didn't move, with his eyes still closed and a meditating position, he waited for the statue to act .

The middle status didn't shot rays of light like earlier, instead, it took out its sword and throw it at Kithel . The sword, which was made of stone, transformed into a blue beam of light which stopped inches away from Kithel, it slowly became smaller until it becomes a 1 . 3-meter long sword with a white handle and blue snake coiling around it . The tip of the sword had droplets of water dripping from it and the coiling snake had its eyes opened, directly staring at Kithel as if testing his willpower to resist it .

With eyes full of determination, Kithel stared back at the snake whilst stretching his hand to the handle, which was unresponsive at first but after he exerted more force, it finally obeyed and let him grab it . The snake seemed to have accepted him as it closed its eyes and laid dormant until the moment Kithel uses the sword .

Kithel caressed the sword with a loving look and showed a brilliant smile, indicating his happiness . He bowed deeply to the three statues then left his spot .

When the sword showed itself, Arthur's storage started vibrating intensely to the point of almost coming out of his hand, this caused Arthur to press his index finger on it and said

'Calm down, Makaze, this is not the time . '

From the looks of it, Makaze couldn't hold back its hunger and wanted to devour that sword immediately . It's the first time Arthur has seen a strong reaction from Makaze, which is a good and a bad thing, the timing was awfully bad and he can't go out of his way to get that sword lest it causes chaos .

It was at this exact moment when everybody was drooling over the sword and admiring the talented youth, that Jian Si finally showed herself . She glanced at Arthur but didn't talk, she chose the spot Emily was previously at and sat, immediately entering meditation . She just wanted to try her luck and wasn't interested in the physique manual or whatsoever, furthermore, nobody dared to stop her or provoke her for she is known to be vengeful and hard to deal with, especially if she comes after you, it will be a never-ending chase until she ends your life .

Arthur was calmly watching like the rest when all of a sudden, the young man, Kithel, turned toward him and showed a charming smile and flashing eyes then said

"Miss, I've seen that you have been waiting for a long time, why don't you take my spot?"

Arthur was momentarily startled but he didn't show it on his face, based on what he had done, there is no way that Kithel knows his real identity, even if he had miraculous treasures, he can't know it's him, that's one thing Arthur was sure of, but if it's not that then why would he address him of all people?

Moreover, his actions caused almost all the crowd to focus on him, which is not something he wanted right now . It's too late

"I will graciously reject Young Master Kithel's offer, I did not come here for enlightenment and I'm only here to watch . "

Kithel didn't insist, he nodded his head back understandingly and added:

"If that is your case, then please suit yourself and if you feel like trying your luck, then please, take this spot . "

Kithel pointed at his spot, this infuriated the envious crowd, which were happy that both the Kangs are done so they could seize the remaining spot as the other was taken by Jian Si .

After saying that, Kithel went next to Arthur and politely asked

"Mind if I sit here?"

Arthur didn't reject so he just nodded his head and proceeded to ignore the smiling youth, whose eyes were glued on him . He, more or less, understood what the actual situation is, and it seemed a bit favorable to him; if he could play his cards right .

Never did he think that he would be liked by another man, and a kid at that, this was the only plausible explanation he could come up as there is no other reason . Moreover, it's not like the woman he was possessing had incredible beauty, she just had that nature mature charm, the ethereal state must've added to her womanly charms, nonetheless, it's not something that may cause him troubles despite the attention of the crowd which was focused on him and Kithel .

He could also feel that Emily was eyeing him curiously but unlike Kithel, her eyes contained a hint of wariness .

Chapter 218

"Who might you be?"

Emily tried to politely ask Arthur but it was apparent that she didn't have a good impression of this mysterious woman, who her brother was suddenly attracted to .

"I'm merely a cultivator like everyone else here . "

Arthur chuckled inside and answered the cautious Emily, who was overfriendly to the red-haired youth but refused to trust him, the master of that youth .

"How do you know my brother?"

"Emily, stop it . "

Kithel reprimanded his little sister, which caused her to begrudgingly nod her head and snort, unsatisfied about not getting any answer . Arthur felt someone inspecting his body, but he pretended not to feel anything since Emily won't be able to find his real Realm . To begin with, he was at the Peak of the Divine Realm after possessing the old man, and for the body he was possessing, it isn't strange for it to be at the Divine Realm since there are a few rogue cultivators who have reached the God Realm but their overall prowess is weak compared to old Gods belonging to the clans and sects .

Kithel wasn't able to take his eyes off Arthur, which was kind of uncomfortable, but was still bearable, for now, at least . It didn't seem like the young man was going to leave anytime soon as his attention was focused wholly on the woman next to him, so it could only mean that he would leave when she does, which why Arthur decided to go after a bit . He was waiting for no one and having Kithel accompany him out would ease things out between him and the Kang Elders, who will probably want an explanation .

Two hours quietly passed with Emily still giving angry glances at Arthur and Kithel maintained that mesmerized look, as if he couldn't bear to look away . Arthur started to ponder if this young man was struck by love at first sight, however, that may seem too far-fetched unless his tastes are unusually low for a genius like him .

The woman he was staring at finally moved, snapping Kithel out of his daze and alerting Emily, as for the crowd, they have long since stopped paying attention to the duo, what's more, important for them is the spots which could give them a one in a lifetime chance to obtain a good fortune .

"Miss, did you decide to try out your chance?"

Arthur shook his head and answered while maintaining a friendly smile

"No, it's time for me to leave . "

"Then please, let me accompany out of the tomb, it's a road filled with dangerous beasts . "

'Ugh I guess men here are more straightforward than I expected . '

Arthur wasn't a smooth talker and he didn't win Lucy's heart by sweet talking so he found it weird when he was the target of such things .

Arthur didn't have any reason to refuse, in fact, he was waiting for Kithel to say that . With the young man leading the way and Emily walking behind him, starring with dagger-eyes at his back, they marched out of the main palace .

It didn't take long before they got out of the large area containing the ruins . The short trip was filled by silence, an awkward silence that Kithel didn't mind, as for Emily, she started ignoring Arthur and went back to her usual curious attitude, looking around left and right .

Arthur remembered the uneasy feeling of earlier and had to make some kind of precaution, so he halted his steps, startling both his companions . Without any notice, he took out the black book out of his waist and motioned for the golem to fuse with it .

A red fog surrounded the golem and in an instant, the red-haired youth emerged, making both the brother and sister flabbergasted, especially Emily, who rubbed her eyes multiple times, unable to believe who's in front of her .

"H-How did you appear . . "

"We meet again, Miss Emily, Sir Kithel . "

The youth bowed politely to the duo then stood next to the woman, making them realize what the situation actually was .

"Swain! It's actually you!"

Delighted to see her new friend again, Emily leaped at the youth to hug him but the red-haired youth, who was named Swain by Emily, dodged her 'attack' as if he was used to it .

"Do you two know each other?"

Kithel cleverly asked Swain since his he was closer to the youth than the woman, he hoped that their relationship wasn't a romantic one but if Arthur were to hear his thoughts, he would surely burst out in laughter .

"My apologies for the late introduction, this lady here is my master . "

This made the duo startled again, especially Emily, who furrowed her brows in confusion . It isn't rare to see servants but most of them are usually weaker than their master, however, in this case, the woman was clearly weaker than Swain, who was even stronger than her, the real genius of the Kang Family .

Hearing Swain, Kithel breathed a sigh of relief and his face regained his usual charismatic smile, as for Emily, she was just like her brother and didn't think that there is anything suspicious, the only weird thing is how the woman is weaker than the servant but maybe she has a high social standing, which explains it .

"Miss, with Swain with us, I doubt we'll face any danger, why don't we continue our journey . "

Kithel didn't ask why the woman hid her identity or why didn't Swain tell them from the start, he knew that some secrets must be kept hidden and it's not the time for such questions . He planned to invite Arthur to their Kang Castle to stay for a few days, mayhap he can work things out and if his tries don't succeed then it's just not fated to happen .

The group of four rushed through the forest with a decent speed, all monsters which met them ended up dying and scavenged by Emily, who didn't leave anything as she wanted to collect all the precious materials .

After spending fifteen hours traveling at a steady pace, the group left the tomb at last when they were met with the two huge gates . Arthur prepared himself and readied his skills then left the small Realm along with Swain, Emily, and Kithel .

The first thing that met their eyes were Amidel and the Kang Elders, which were still maintaining the formations, however, these were different from the first ones Arthur saw back then .

"Welcome back, Emily, Kithel . "

Amidel floated near his two kids while inspecting them both, he nodded approvingly when he noticed the new sword sheathed on Kithel's waist . Although Emily didn't gain any treasure, he was still satisfied with the results after he saw the drastic change in her physical body, it was unnoticeable by others but his Realm was much higher than the rest and his understanding was deeper .

Emily smiled cheekily at her father, as for Kithel, he just bowed and stuck next to the woman, making Amidel frown for a second before he shifted his attention to Swain and Arthur .

To be honest, there was nothing special about Arthur's current body, except the ethereal state which changed the aura and calmed the mind, appearance-wise, it's above average, and in terms of strength, she was at the same Realm as his son but she looked older than him so she can't be considered a genius .

What's strange, however, is Swain, with a cultivation Realm that could not be seen, an ominous atmosphere around him and a peculiar look . He had red hair, blood red eyes, and clothing that slightly resembled a black tuxedo from modern Earth, such clothes are uncommon for the inhabitant of this world .

"Ah! This is my friend, Swain! And this is his master, Miss . . . eh"

Emily noticed her father's actions and proceeded to introduce her new friend but she paused when she couldn't say Arthur's name since he never introduced himself and she didn't bother asking . Even Swain didn't say his real name, she just gave him his name to not always call him 'you' .

While stroking his beard, Amidel nodded his head and didn't inquire any further .

"If that's the case, then why don't you two come to stay at our home for some time until things calm down, after all, it's rare for my daughter to introduce her friends to me . "

With a tone neither too forceful nor overfriendly, he invited Swain and Arthur as he understood the intention of his daughter and his son, who only glanced at his father once since he left, as his father, he knew what the matter actually was and didn't mind helping his son out despite feeling a bit suspicious of these two strangers .

"You just don't let me make friends!"

Emily pouted but was secretly happy that Swain was coming to her house, unfortunately, this happiness didn't last long as Arthur politely rejected the offer .

"I'm sorry, but we'll have to decline for now . We have some matters to attend to and we will certainly visit you after a few days . "

Kithel was disappointed when he heard this but he didn't insist on the offer, on the contrary, he wished Arthur safe travels and even accompanied them to the city gate along with Emily, who also couldn't bear separate from Swain this quickly .

It's rare for her to make friends and she considered Swain a close friend despite their few conversations, as a person who stayed home almost all her childhood, finally making a friend is like a blessing but if she's separated this fast from her new friend, the blessing becomes something similar to a nightmare .

Swain and Arthur bade farewell to the siblings and departed from the city, once they were a safe distance away, Arthur halted his steps and stared at the far horizon with an unusually serious look .

He left the woman's body and used his real body this time, which he didn't use for quite a while, this indicated the seriousness of the matter . The uneasy feeling didn't stop since the second he left the tomb and his instincts could never be wrong, especially when the dark talisman near his Dantian started pulsating violently .

Arthur whispered something to Swain, who earnestly nodded his head and replied

"A man obeys and shall obey thy orders for all eternity . "

Soon, Swain became a red beam of light that disappeared into the horizon, his speed was extremely fast as if to avoid the search of whoever was coming .

Holding the vibrating Makaze in his hand, which was burning with dark flames, Arthur looked up to the blue sky then closed his eyes, remembering something that Lucy once told him

"When you look up, do you see the blue sky of what might be, or the darkness of what will never be? Do you see me?"

Chapter 219

As he was lost in his thoughts, a familiar voice entered Arthur's ears .

"Kid, you should have been more prepared, I have warned you about them . "

It was none other than Zodiak's voice, which somehow was heard inside his mind, Arthur kind of expected this since the dark talisman never stopped throbbing intensely near his Dantian and the Dark Magic being something Zodiak created, it's no wonder he would show up sooner or later .

'You just warned me, you didn't specify what it was . '

A sighing could be heard from the other party, it seemed that he didn't have high hopes for Arthur to overcome whatever was coming .

"I can teleport you out of this world but this would expand my last bit of Energy, after that, you're on your own . "

In response to that, Arthur shook his head in rejection and retorted

'There is no need, I can deal with it . Furthermore, if I run from it now than I'll meet later and at that time, there will be no chance of running away, it's better to get rid of it now than wait for later . '

Arthur resolutely decided to face the danger, always being protected by Zodiak or teleporting away will lead to disasters or unfortunate separations just like what happened in the Underworld . It was due to his weakness that they ran away from the Lich King and the rest . If he was strong enough then they would have been able to lead a normal life without fearing those Gods, which is why Arthur was against the idea of running with his tail between his legs, he had confidence in his arsenal and was sure that escaping is a difficult yet doable thing .

Zodiak's voice wasn't heard again, he accepted Arthur's decision and went back to his dormant state . The next voice to enter his ears was the Earth Spirit's

"Demon, it seems that some powerful people are coming for you, why don't you give me that Dimensional stone and I can help you deal with them . "

Unfortunately for the Knight, he was met with the same answer, leaving him distressed since Arthur's death wouldn't lead to his but would still gravely weaken him, which isn't a favorable thing right now .

Only a few seconds after Swain left, four white beams of light came from the North bringing with them a suffocating pressure that even affected Arthur . In an instant, they were floating above him, all focusing their attention on him and the dark flames surrounding him .

They only needed one look to confirm that he is their target, however, one of the four, who was a woman in her thirties, looked South and said

"There's someone who escaped, should I catch him?"

An old man wearing a pure white robe and holding a scepter shook his head and calmly said

"No need, this one is our target, the rest does not matter . "

The four strangers were all wearing white robes while each was holding a weapon . There were two women, one old man and a young man who appeared to be in his teenage years . They looked cautiously at Arthur, putting more focus on the Dark Magic being unleashed from him .

"Yes, it's certain that he's the target, I have never seen such intensity of Dark Magic . "

The young man assessed Arthur with a curious look, he even got close to get a better look but stopped when he saw the cold stare from the target .

Arthur knew that there is no point talking to them, they won't answer his questions nor will they go back and pretend as if they saw nothing .

"Shall we start, then?"

Without hesitation, Arthur expanded half of his Mana and Mental Power to conjure the black cube, trapping him and the four of them inside it . He knew their Realms and apart from the old man who was at the Sovereign Realm, the rest were 9th Grade Gods . Normally, dealing with these three would be very difficult, and if you add a Sovereign at that, it would be impossible and the only way is to escape, however, such an option wasn't available for Arthur .

The reason he conjured the cube is to not let them escape, he knew for sure that they are underestimating him a lot, especially after they inspected his body and found out he was only at the

peak of the Divine Realm . The only one who didn't drop his guard was the old man, who looked at Arthur with a calm and confident look as if everything was within his grasp .

Arthur's figure leaped at the closest target, leaving a trail of black flames behind him caused by Makaze . He didn't use [Faster Than Death] to not show all his trump cards, he wanted to use in surprise so he could deal fatal damage and at least kill one of them before they know of its existence .

The closest target happened to be the haughty young man, who was unaffected by the incoming enemy, he did some hand seals along with the two woman and these seals soon transformed into thick white pillars of light, landing on Arthur and sending him crashing heavily on the ground .

Arthur found it weird that the pillars of light passed through the Dark Barrier as if it didn't exist, he got up and charged again, this time using [Golen Lone Sheath] at the three Gods simultaneously .

Three dark arcs flew at the trio, who were more than prepared and used the same kind of tactic, sending pillars of light to pulverize the dark arcs .

Arthur took this chance to appear next to the young man, who was startled for a split second yet he didn't panic . He unsheathed his blade to meet the incoming Makaze . The clash caused black flames to scatter in all direction, including the young man, who showed signs of unease when he saw that happen .

The two women didn't linger there and watched, with fast speed, they rushed at Arthur, each holding a white spear made of pure light . Each woman thrust from a direction, aiming to fill Arthur's body with bloody holes .

Although he managed to push the young man several steps thanks to Makaze, which was way stronger than the youth's saber, Arthur was forced to back off due to two women .

He sidestepped the first thrust and swept ferociously with Makaze, deflecting the remaining spear, then he leaped back to buy some distance between the trio and himself .

The three didn't have the same confident look as before, especially the young man, who couldn't believe that a mere Divine being was able to force him back a few steps with only a slash .

"I warned you several times not to underestimate Dark Magic users, you only look at the surface yet you don't know how dangerous it actually is . "

The old man talked again, waking the three from their surprise and warning them to be cautious, he had his brows furrowed as he seemed to sense something was off in the last attack but couldn't pinpoint what it was .

A Holy light surrounded each of the three, multiplying their aura and adding to their pressure . Arthur clenched Makaze with both hands and prepared himself for the next clash as from the looks of it, they were going to take this fight pretty seriously, unlike previously when they thought they were playing with a helpless chicken .

Arthur was waiting for their God Spirits to emerge but none of that happened, only their aura multiplied and the pressure they emanated felt several times heavier and it was pressing down Arthur's body, slowing his movements by a little bit .

Since they seemed wary and afraid of his Dark Magic, Arthur decided to mainly use that to gain an advantage, he activated his Dark Anguish technique to its maximum, pulling the pulsating dark talisman from his Dantian and forcing it outside .

The talisman landed on his chest, emitting strange dark light and an ominous aura, then Arthur's body transformed into a flaming figure . He was covered from head to toe with Dark flames and every fraction of his movements caused space to crack yet not completely shatter .

Makaze was similarly covered in flames, they were in harmony with Dark Magic so Arthur's didn't want to waste this opportunity to attack them .

He rushed at the three of them, who chose to stick together, with several three meter long dark spears flying at them nonstop and Makaze slashing at the young man, this gave them more trouble than expected .

Nevertheless, they too, were strengthened and much stronger than earlier, one of the two women stretched her hand and created an illuminating blob of light that acted like a shield, stopping the penetrating dark spears . By this time, Arthur had already arrived close to the young man, who was also protected by that blob of light so Arthur decided to not waste this chance to use normal attacks, he held Makaze and concentrated his Nether Energy, activating [Heavenly Slash] .

Different from the original one, [Heavenly Slash] wasn't in the form of a dark arc this time, it was actually a creepy looking skull that opened its mouth, ready to devour the three of them whole .

The skull's size was pretty big and its appearance had a bit of similarity to the one engraved on Zodiac's robe . The distance separating them when he used [Heavenly Slash] wasn't big, to begin with, and the speed of the skull was even faster than its caster so it instantly reached the trio and crashed on the blob of light, devouring it as if it was nothing then continuing its way towards its original targets .

Alerted and flabbergasted by the dark skeleton, the trio used their weapons to meet with the skeleton, each using their strongest techniques . The two spears swept forth towards the skeleton, transforming into two white snakes, one with red eyes and the other with blue eyes, as for the young man, he was panicking and lagged behind, unable to react in time to resist the skeleton . He recklessly swung his weapon to meet the terrifying skeleton but it was futile as his saber showed signs of destruction .

The two women were smart enough to back away when they saw that the snakes conjured from their spears were able to resist the skeleton for sometime before dispersing due to the overwhelming power of the skeleton . The young man, however, was in a tighter spot, he watched as the skeleton opened its mouth, ready to devour him whole and in a fit of desperation and panic, he shouted in fear and thrust his saber in an attempt to stop the death that was coming right at him .

Arthur didn't know what the youth used but a bright golden light emanated from inside the dark skull after it had devoured the target, this caused it to halt and shake violently before it exploded, causing winds to howl and dust to fly, a bloody figure was seen falling down only to be caught by the two women .

The youth was in a terrible state, he had blade wounds all over and some of his veins were dark in color, making him look unhealthy . He was urgently fed recovery pills and their effect should've been immediate, however, no change was seen . In fact, his state seemed to be worsening, blood was gushing out of an ugly wound on his abdomen, even both could be seen, and his bones were actually jet black as if infected with a deadly poison or a strange disease .

'This is not a normal Dark Magic user . '

The old man looked over to the young man, focusing on the black veins and strange bones then he switched his focus to Arthur, who was still covered in dark flames, you could only see flames, no clothes nor armors or even skin .

Although Arthur backed off, it didn't mean he was done . While the others were busy taking care of the injured young man, he used made use of the Dark Cloud, which transformed into a figure exactly similar to his current appearance then he instantly bent Space and charged at the three of them, intending to the these three God, this was his only rule, finish every enemy he meets, even if they were incapable of fighting!

For the first second, the old man didn't notice anything strange, but after he focused for a bit, his expression had a drastic change . He shouted loudly at the three Gods

"Get away, he's a Spatial Master!"

Unfortunately, it was too late as Arthur appeared from thin air, exactly behind one of the two women, Makaze was thrust at her back, with no chance to resist such a sudden attack, the woman's face turned pale and in a desperate struggle, she used her hidden Holy wings to defend against the dark blade .

The Holy Wings are a sacred thing for people serving the Holy Order and if any person loses them or they are cut, then that person is heavily punished if not imprisoned for eternity .

Arthur had already predicted that killing the woman from such an attack is rather unlikely even if it were by surprise, after all, his opponent is Peak Gods and not the usual weaklings .

At the last split second, right before Makaze touches the wings, [Faster Than Death] was used, he teleported above the injured youth, enough for the blade to stab right through his head, killing him on the spot and frightening the woman .

This time, the old man interfered and Arthur felt as if he was hit by a mountain when a large white hand struck his body and sent him flying all the way to the edges of the dark cube, he even crashed on its walls but the cube wasn't the least bit damaged .

Although it seemed like a normal attack without any terrifying might, it took more than 40m Health from Arthur, resulting in a few broken ribs and minor wounds . He coughed some blood then gulped a Health Potion and a Nether Energy Recovery Pill . To create this dark cube, he used more than half his pool of Nether Energy, which is a lot but he was confident in its defense, even a Sovereign like the old man might not be able to destroy it within a short period of time .