

One Piece 811

Chapter 811: Volume 4 – Chapter 330: Don't Come Over Here!

“Otherwise, when I get angry, you’re going to suffer!”

The fat on Queen’s face trembled as cold sweat poured down his forehead. He shouted with false bravado, his voice fierce in tone but weak in spirit.

Several pirate subordinates: “...”

Daren: “...”

Seriously, how do you say something so bold in such a pathetic voice?

“Kaidou’s not in a rush. I’ll head over later.”

Daren took a step forward, strolling toward Queen with a gentle, friendly smile on his face.

“It’s just... I haven’t been to Wano in a while, so I thought I’d drop in and check on you first.”

Queen’s heart skipped a beat.

“No, don’t come any closer!”

His voice was trembling now.

The bastard in front of him wasn’t the little Marine he once locked up in an underground cell, the one he could toy with at will.

Standing before him now was one of the most dangerous criminals in the world—

A man who dared to wage war on the World Government, whose bounty had even surpassed that of Kaidou-sama himself!

If it had been anyone else—even a Marine Admiral—Queen wouldn’t have flinched. He would’ve taken the opportunity to test out his newest weapons.

But this was the lunatic who used the Ice Oni Virus as mouthwash.

Queen didn’t think the fat on his body would be enough to last even one solid beating.

Panic-stricken, he staggered backward.

Then suddenly, the black-haired youth vanished before his eyes.

Queen felt pressure around his neck.

An arm had hooked around him, pulling his shoulders back.

That single arm carried a force so immense that even Queen, a user of an Ancient Zoan, couldn't break free.

"Don't be so tense. I just came to catch up a bit."

The madman's cheerful voice whispered right beside his ear.

It's over. He's gotten even stronger!

Queen's muscles tensed like stone, his entire body going cold as the overwhelming strength gripped him.

His expression twisted through several emotions—

One second...

Two seconds...

Three seconds...

Suddenly, Queen forced a grin.

“Come on, take a seat! Tea?”

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The nearby pirates collapsed backward to the ground.

Daren beamed in satisfaction.

...

One minute later.

Several pirate subordinates returned from the lab's storage room, their faces pale with fear as they carried out boxes of sealed virus samples.

They trembled as they placed them on the lab bench.

Then, before their stunned eyes, Daren opened bottle after bottle—ignoring labels or ingredients—and drank them down in one gulp.

One bottle, two bottles...

In no time, the contents of several entire boxes were gone.

Daren belched, then turned to the dazed pirates and smiled apologetically.

“Ah, sorry, sorry. Got a little carried away. You guys want some?”

The pirates all shuddered and shook their heads like crazy.

“No, no thanks!”

“Much appreciated!”

“Take your time!”

“...”

“Well...”

Daren sighed in disappointment, then turned toward the fat man in suspenders busy with lab equipment.

“So, how is it?”

At the moment, Daren’s body was connected by all sorts of tubes to a life-monitoring device. The readings had already exceeded the machine’s limit, with colorful warning lights flashing nonstop.

“This is insane! Completely unbelievable!”

Queen, wearing protective goggles, stared at the data in shock, his face flushed red with excitement.

"Your immune system is over twenty times stronger than that of a normal human. The exact value can't even be measured—it breaks the scale!"

"Your skin and muscle hardness... In a relaxed state, it's already 1.5 times harder than diamond. When tensed, it's nearly double that!"

"Judging by your blood circulation and pulse... your heart is stronger than that of a giant dinosaur!"

"No wonder even my latest enhanced Ice Oni Virus didn't affect you. It's unreal!"

Queen's eyes bulged as he rapidly adjusted the settings, his big butt jiggling with every excited twitch.

Daren gave the fat man a swift kick and said irritably,

"I'm not here for a damn physical."

Queen shrank his neck, scratched his head awkwardly, and chuckled,

"Sorry, sorry, I got a little too excited. I mean, research subjects like you are practically unheard of."

Daren lit a cigar, squinting as he spoke,

"I'm not the only one who's trained his body into an Indestructible Body."

Queen's mouth twitched, and he started to mumble.

Sure, Kaidou-sama also had an Indestructible Body—but like hell he'd ever let Queen run any experiments on him!

Just thinking of that kanabō wrapped in purple lightning made Queen break out in cold sweat. His legs were already starting to give.

"So... talk."

Daren glanced at the data wildly jumping across the instruments.

Queen pulled a bitter face and shook his head.

"The enhanced Ice Oni Virus did make it into your nervous and immune systems, but it was purged almost immediately by your body's defenses. Aside from a rise in body temperature and mild dehydration—both caused by your immune system kicking into overdrive—there were no noticeable symptoms."

He glanced over at the empty boxes of standard virus samples, and his eyelids twitched slightly.

"...That's also why you're so thirsty."

"That's it?"

Daren frowned, clearly unimpressed.

Queen's face turned bright red, and he looked like he was grinding his back teeth to dust.

What do you mean, "That's it"!?

You think everyone can just guzzle down virus samples like you, you freak!?

Suddenly, Queen slammed his palm down on the lab table, spreading cracks through the surface.

"You're looking down on me!"

He roared in frustration.

"This is an enhanced virus I painstakingly developed! Without the antidote, even massive dinosaurs or giants wouldn't last half a minute!"

Daren sighed, looking exasperated.

"But I didn't feel a thing... I actually had high hopes at first."

Queen's expression froze.

"You've gone too far!!"

He shouted through gritted teeth,

"Fine! I'll show you just how powerful the Ice Oni Virus is!"

He grabbed a blue test tube and raised it to his mouth.

"No! Queen-sama, please calm down!"

"You're the All-Star of the Beasts Pirates!"

"You can't die here!"

"..."

Several of his subordinates panicked, rushing over to grab his hand. Their faces flushed red from sheer anxiety.

"Hmm... when you put it that way, fair enough..."

Queen blinked, then nodded in agreement.

"In that case—why don't you guys drink it instead?"

Swish!

The subordinates immediately backed far, far away.

Daren shook his head, removed the tubes connected to his body, and muttered,

"So... science really is a dead end, huh..."

"The Plague" Queen was one of the most brilliant scientists in the sea. In the fields of bioweapons and human modification, he'd even surpassed Vinsmoke Judge—second only to Vegapunk, the man said to be five hundred years ahead of the world.

So if even this suspender-wearing fat man's most potent virus couldn't do anything...

Then the whole 'get stronger by taking drugs' path was probably a dead end.

Chapter 812: Volume 4 – Chapter 331: What to Do!

In a world built on the "idealistic" systems of Devil Fruits and Haki, there is a clear ceiling to the power of science and technology.

At least, that's what Daren had come to understand.

Even the most powerful laser cannons were essentially a byproduct of Devil Fruit research—specifically modeled after Borsalino's Pika Pika no Mi.

That was the extent of physical weaponry.

On the biological side, the pirate world focused more on lineage factor research, gene replication, and synthetic viruses.

Queen might look like a bumbling fat man, but in truth, he was one of the top weapon scientists in the world.

“If all else fails... I might have to go find Vegapunk.”

The thought flashed through Daren’s mind.

But meeting Vegapunk wasn’t exactly a casual affair.

For one, the World Government had him under tight control, almost certainly surrounded by elite defenses.

On top of that, Stussy had repeatedly warned him to tread carefully when asking about Vegapunk—which only confirmed how dangerous the situation around the scientist still was.

“You’re trying to get stronger through tech?”

Queen had overheard Daren’s muttering and looked genuinely surprised.

Daren pinched the bridge of his nose.

“I’m not interested in external tech like weapons. I just want to use science to push the limits of my body.”

“—And your method is... injecting viruses into yourself?”

Queen’s eyes bulged. He looked at Daren like he’d just witnessed a ghost.

What the hell was this lunatic even thinking?

“Past experience proves it works, doesn’t it?”

Daren spoke flatly.

Queen: “...”

He really wanted to scream that it didn't work at all.

He'd done the experiments himself—

Over a thousand human test subjects, virus concentrations from low to high—

And not a single one had survived the effects of the Ice Oni Virus.

The damage it inflicted on the immune system was far beyond what any human body could handle.

Combine that with its terrifying replication speed, and it could reach lethal concentration in no time.

But then again... looking at the man in front of him, who had guzzled down boxes of the stuff without so much as a twitch—

Queen opened his mouth but couldn't form a single word in response.

"I said, aren't you leaving yet?"

The suspenders-clad fat man suddenly let out a sigh, pulled out a cigar from his pocket, lit it, and spoke with a deflated tone.

As one of the Beasts Pirates' top officers, an All-Star known as "The Plague," Queen's infamy shook the seas.

Even against a Marine Admiral or a major New World pirate, Queen had never felt fear.

With his Ancient Zoan Brachiosaurus form, his strength and recovery were top-notch. Even if he was outmatched, he could still put up a decent fight.

And if push came to shove, he had biotech weapons and bizarre viruses as trump cards—always enough to claw back some advantage.

But against Daren?

He had nothing.

Physique? Ancient Zoans meant nothing compared to the "Indestructible Body."

Strength? Daren could tear dinosaurs in half and flatten giants.

Laser weapons? He had a whole North Blue fleet full of them.

And as for viruses...

Queen sulked, his round face full of defeat.

"It's time to go."

Daren smiled, pulled a business card from his pocket, and placed it on the lab table.

"This is my personal Den Den Mushi number. If you make any breakthroughs in biotech, give me a call anytime."

...Contact information?

Queen was speechless.

What was this guy thinking...?

He's actually keeping tabs on me!?

"Enough!"

The fat man in suspenders suddenly slammed the lab table in a fit of rage. His face flushed red, teeth clenched.

"If you want to kill me, just do it already! There's no need to humiliate me like this!"

Before the words even finished leaving his mouth, his body swelled rapidly, growing into a massive Brachiosaurus in the blink of an eye, towering like a small mountain.

"I still have my dignity!"

"Brachio Bomber!"

The Brachiosaurus reared its head back—then, with an explosive burst from its thick neck, the entire head, wreathed in Armament Haki, came crashing down like a mountain!

"You're pretty fired up. Alright, let's warm up a little."

Daren grinned, and in that instant, his eyes locked in, and he charged forward without the slightest hesitation!

BOOM!!

It was like two meteors colliding.

A monstrous shockwave erupted outward, ripping through the air and flattening everything in its path.

Dozens of pirates who couldn't escape in time were blown away like rag dolls. The lab—spanning over two thousand square meters—collapsed in an instant!

Clouds of dust surged into the sky.

Walls crumbled into rubble, and shattered debris whirled violently within the storm.

“Ahh—owww!”

The Brachiosaurus shrieked in pain, stumbling backward, its huge limbs thudding against the floor. A massive, steaming lump had already formed on its forehead.

“I don’t believe this!”

Queen’s eyes were bloodshot with fury.

He stared at the black-haired figure, still standing there as calm as a rock, pulling out a cigar like nothing had happened.

“Die!!”

The Brachiosaurus suddenly flung open its jaws.

At the same time, its thick tail extended and unfolded into a mechanical cannon.

Orange-red light gathered wildly in both its mouth and tail, and in just a single breath, it fired toward Daren!

“Black Coffee Beam!”

A scorching laser cannon pierced into the ground, engulfing Daren in an instant.

For one moment—

The world held its breath.

And then—

BOOM!!

A monstrous explosion lit up the sky. A massive pillar of fire roared into the heavens.

Blazing flames devoured everything in a hundred-meter radius.

Orange-red bursts of energy rippled outward, black smoke billowing in thick waves.

“D-Did we get him?”

“Queen went all out!”

“That was terrifying...”

“Even with an Indestructible Body, there’s no way he could take something like that head-on, right?”

The pirates, blown far away by the blast, lay sprawled on the ground, hearts pounding, eyes wide in awe and fear.

But then—

They witnessed something that would forever be burned into their memories.

At the very heart of the explosion, right where the fire had been the fiercest—

The flames... snuffed out.

Through the warping black smoke, a towering figure began to emerge.

A pair of gleaming, black military boots stepped out from the haze. The surrounding flames retreated as if parting for him.

The arrogant black-haired youth was cloaked in deep-black Haki, his entire body radiating a crushing, oppressive force—

Like a wrathful god descending upon the earth.

The cigarette in his mouth?

Ignited by the explosion itself.

“Huff...”

He slowly exhaled a long stream of smoke like a dragon’s breath.

Then his gaze fell on the fat man in suspenders, now deathly pale.

He grinned.

“So... are you ready?”

BOOM!!

A horrifying aura exploded from his body, blanketing the area like a tidal wave.

Countless streaks of black and red lightning crackled in the air, distorting space itself, blinding everyone's vision.

Queen's breath hitched in his throat.

Under the crushing weight of that man's Haki, he felt a suffocating pressure slam into his chest—like death itself was reaching for him.

It's over...

This guy...

He's really going to kill me.

I have to do something!

Anything!!

Queen gritted his teeth, his eyes flashing with desperate resolve. His fists clenched tight.

And then—

Under the stunned gazes of his near-unconscious subordinates—

His voice suddenly rose into a shrill, ear-splitting scream that echoed through the heavens:

“Kaidou-sama! Save me!!”

Chapter 813: Volume 4 – Chapter 332: Then Come and Stop Me!

“Kaidou-sama, help me!”

The shrill, gut-wrenching scream rang out like a pig being slaughtered, mixed with the deep, resonant roar of the Ancient Zoan Brachiosaurus. It echoed across all of Onigashima.

Queen didn’t know why he screamed so shamefully—but he knew that if he didn’t, he probably wouldn’t get another chance.

All the fat on his body probably wasn’t even enough to last through one proper beating from the monster in front of him!

“ ... ”

Hearing Queen’s roar, the pirates in the distance were dumbfounded, jaws dropping to the ground.

Even Daren himself paused slightly, his gaze turning odd.

From the North Blue to Paradise, from Paradise to the New World...

Over the years, he had faced countless opponents—powerful, insane, bloodthirsty, cruel, bizarre. But this was the first time he’d encountered someone quite so... “honest” as this fat man in suspenders.

“Very good.”

A bold, unrestrained smile tugged at the corners of Daren’s lips.

As his body lowered slightly, his legs stomped the earth like a Tyrannosaurus.

BOOM!

The ground within ten meters instantly collapsed.

Using that overwhelming recoil, the black-haired youth turned into a vicious, sharp shadow and shot forward like a launched shell.

Explosions of white sonic booms rippled in his wake—his speed broke the sound barrier in an instant. The compressed air pressure even carved a long, deep groove into the ground beneath him.

“So fast!”

Queen’s pupils contracted.

The speed Daren just showed was frighteningly close to Kaidou-sama’s Raimei Hakke!

While cursing Kaidou’s unreliability in his heart, Queen quickly shifted into his human-beast form.

His mechanical arms ignited with orange flame as he threw out a full-powered punch!

“Bridal Grapper!”

BOOM!

A huge and a smaller fist collided midair, detonating a massive shockwave like a comet slamming into the earth.

A tidal wave of dust rose from the ground, but Queen's bloodshot eyes were filled with hope.

"I blocked it!"

His eyes lit up, and he couldn't help but grin smugly.

If it weren't for all those beatings he'd taken from Kaidou-sama, he'd never have been able to keep up with this kind of explosive speed.

No way his Observation Haki alone could've handled it!

"Is that so?"

A low chuckle came from directly ahead.

Queen froze.

And then, sensing something, his expression suddenly changed.

“Your Haki?!”

Zzzzz—

Black and red Haki suddenly surged from Daren’s fist.

Before Queen’s bulging eyes, he watched in horror as long, fine cracks spread across his mechanical arm—despite it being reinforced with high-tech materials and Armament Haki.

The wind tossed Daren’s black hair wildly.

From just a step away, Daren grinned menacingly at Queen and said,

“Try not to scream too loud.”

“Huh?”

Queen blinked.

Before he could react, Daren's eyes sharpened.

The muscles in his arm suddenly bulged—thick cords of muscle writhing like giant serpents beneath his skin.

His entire right arm swelled several times its normal size.

He threw a devastating punch.

"Giant's Body..."

CRACK!

Queen's high-tech mechanical arm shattered completely—blasting into fragments across the air.

In that frozen instant, Queen's tightly contracted pupils reflected the image of a massive, dark fist rapidly expanding toward his face.

BANG!

The blow hit like a sledgehammer—

Two teeth shattered on impact. His whole face distorted like ripples in a pond.

And then—

All that force was suddenly redirected down, driven like thunder straight into the earth.

“Blue Hole!”

BOOM!!

Queen’s skull slammed into the solid ground in brutal fashion.

The overwhelming impact left his pupils glazed and unfocused.

At the center where Daren's fist landed, the ground within a one-kilometer radius cracked and collapsed—sending up an avalanche of debris.

Dust and rubble surged skyward like a tidal wave.

“Hiss!!”

The pirates blasted away by the shockwave clutched their heads, eyes fixed on the terrifying scene, collectively sucking in a sharp breath.

With an attack that brutal, there's no way Queen survived that!

The fierce wind blew the smoke and dust aside.

What they saw was Queen, back in his human form, lying in the rubble, face covered in blood and gasping heavily for air.

With a loud thud, a heavy military boot suddenly stomped down on his soft belly, sending ripples through the flesh with a squelching duang.

Queen gasped, then broke into a violent coughing fit, blood trickling from his nose and mouth.

“You rejected my offer. Should I just kill you now?”

Daren looked down at Queen from above, smiling pleasantly.

Queen gritted his teeth.

“You call yourself a Marine using brute force like this!?”

“Sorry—I’m a criminal now.”

Daren took a slow drag of his cigar and shrugged.

“And criminals don’t follow the rules.”

Queen’s eyes widened.

He had always known this guy’s personality and style were a poor fit for the Marines, but now that he had truly fallen into the path of a criminal, the sheer sense of menace he exuded was overwhelming!

This lawless life of crime... suited this lunatic all too well!

“—Let him go!”

A deep, chilling voice suddenly rang out from the sky.

The gloomy clouds above began to glow with a reddish hue, then blazed brighter and brighter, lighting up the entire sky.

A black Pteranodon streaked through the heavens. As its sharp head reared back, it unleashed a blazing orange-red laser beam!

“Tempuraudon!”

“...Took you long enough.”

Daren looked up, raising an eyebrow.

With a flick of his fingers, a shard of metal shot away, and in that instant, arcs of blue electricity surged through the surrounding void.

“Super Railgun!”

In the next moment—

A burst of blue energy exploded out, colliding midair with the red laser!

BOOM!

The explosion tore through the sky, smoke and shockwaves billowing outward.

“You’ve gone too far, Daren!”

A cold voice pierced the smoke. King, now in human form, shot down from the sky, his longsword engulfed in flames as he brought it crashing down!

Clang!!

The burning blade was caught mid-swing by a pitch-black dragon claw, sparks flying everywhere on impact.

“This is Onigashima—the headquarters of the Beasts Pirates!”

Covered head to toe in black, King locked eyes with Daren and growled,

“This isn’t a place where you can do as you please!”

“Oh?”

Daren grinned.

Taking a deep breath, he stepped back slightly. One hand held King’s sword in place, while the other drew back, gathering power.

“Then stop me if you can!”

His eyes burned with madness.

With a roar, he drove his fist straight into King’s flaming blade!

Clang!

BOOM!

An overwhelming force and surging Haki erupted from the blade, slamming into King like a thunderclap. His grip shattered, blood bursting from his palm!

It was as if he'd been hit broadside by a speeding warship—his body hurled sideways through the air.

Chapter 814: Volume 4 – Chapter 333: The Battle of the Strongest Creatures on Land, Sea, and Air!

Boom!

Daren's punch tore through the atmosphere, unleashing a powerful shockwave.

King's body shot backward like a cannonball, his pupils twitching as they shrank in fear.

Crack, crack...

His mask began to splinter, then shattered completely, revealing an astonishingly handsome face.

Tufts of ash-gray hair scattered midair, dancing wildly in the wind, only adding to King's fierce and untamed aura.

The black wings on his back, blazing with crimson flames, flapped rapidly, forcefully halting his flight.

His feet hit the ground, skidding for dozens of meters before he slammed his long sword into the ground, barely managing to stabilize himself as he gasped for breath.

“You're way too late, you sadistic bastard!”

Queen struggled to crawl up from the ground, glaring at King through gritted teeth.

“Shut it, you dead weight!”

King snapped, gripping his sword tightly, still panting, his expression tense like he was facing a deadly threat. His eyes never left the black-haired youth.

“This lunatic...”

Shock slowly filled King's gaze. His hands on the hilt trembled ever so slightly.

He's toying with me!

Otherwise, that punch wouldn't have targeted my sword!

Yet even though it only struck his blade, that blow had felt like a mountain collapsing upon him.

It was the same overwhelming pressure as facing Kaidou-san going all out.

That kind of destructive power... just the thought of fighting back made one's heart sink.

Could this guy have already reached a level of strength equal to Kaidou-san...?

But...

King suddenly gritted his teeth, his eyes flashing coldly.

He aimed for my sword...

At the same time, a surge of uncontrollable fury erupted from his gut and slammed into his chest.

This bastard dared to mock me!

Fwoosh!

Crimson flames burst up along his black wings. King slowly lifted off with the rhythmic beat of his wings, the fire on his body growing fiercer and hotter.

“I’ll admit it—you’ve surpassed me in raw strength.”

“But no matter what, I won’t let you wreak havoc in the Beasts Pirates’ headquarters!”

“I’ll show you a power that surpasses humans on a biological level—the ultimate might of my kind!”

As his words fell, waves of massive flames erupted around him, forming rings of fire that spiraled around his body like the face of a giant clock, glowing brightly in the pitch-black sky.

“Whoa, whoa, way too flashy.”

Daren bit down on his cigar and raised a hand to shield his eyes from the blinding flames, speaking with mild exasperation.

“The Lunarians's racial gifts... physical endurance, regeneration, even their control over these unique flames. It's true, humans can't match that.”

“But...”

He suddenly turned his head, eyes narrowing in amusement as he glanced at Queen trying to sneak away nearby.

“Fat boy in suspenders, do I still look like a regular human to you?”

As Daren's eyes swept over him, Queen shuddered, the trauma from that devastating punch still lingering.

“N-No. Not at all...”

He swallowed nervously.

Then, a thunderous roar echoed from above.

“Die!”

King raised his long sword high and swung it down toward Daren from a distance!

Fwoosh!

The flames blanketing the sky erupted even more violently, swirling and twisting together until they formed a massive, soaring red fire dragon that bellowed as it charged toward Daren!

“Omori Karyudon!”

Blazing jets of magma-like fire burst outward from the dragon, exploding across the landscape like fireworks. Everything in its path—buildings, stone peaks, obstacles—was melted down and destroyed.

The fire dragon howled furiously, unstoppable!

A wave of scorching fire surged forward, swallowing everything within a kilometer radius.

Queen’s face twisted in panic.

“You bastard! Are you trying to kill me too!?”

Before he could make a run for it, a figure calmly stepped forward.

And stood in the path of the roaring dragon.

The blazing light grew stronger, almost blinding, swallowing everything in sight...

“Fire Dragon?”

Daren's mouth curled into a reckless grin, his right hand already forming the shape of a three-finger claw.

Ryusoken.

Passed down from Dragon himself—a devastating claw technique made to shatter tyrants.

“You’re insane! That’s his strongest attack!”

Seeing Daren preparing to take the hit head-on, Queen sucked in a sharp breath, shouting in alarm.

“It’s because it’s his strongest move...”

Daren murmured with a smile, suddenly turning his head.

“...that I can’t afford to miss it!”

In the next moment, under Queen’s stunned and horrified gaze, the black-haired youth let out a wild laugh and stepped forward.

A claw strike ripped through the air.

A black claw wrapped in black and crimson lightning lunged forward—

—grabbing the roaring fire dragon’s head directly!

ROAR!!

Under the immense impact, Daren was pushed back dozens of meters, the force splitting apart the ground around him in an instant. The scorched land cracked and dried beneath the pressure.

“Not bad at all!”

Daren licked his parched lips. Smoke rose from his body as he bathed in the searing flames, looking like a demon god descending into the world.

Pressing down on the fire dragon with one hand, he grinned viciously and unleashed his full power.

“Dragon’s Breath!”

ROAR!!

A roar erupted—many times more powerful than before.

A violent shockwave burst forth from Daren’s palm, like the breath of an invisible dragon.

The massive fire dragon let out a pained wail, its flames dimming by more than half in an instant.

Then...

The black-haired youth launched his charge!

BOOM!!

He crushed the fire dragon's skull with a single claw.

Braving the blazing inferno erupting across the sky, he kept striking the dragon's body, tearing it apart piece by piece.

From afar,

it looked like a black beam of light ripping through the fire dragon with overwhelming might—shooting straight toward King in the sky at blinding speed!

King's face turned to horror, his mind freezing for a moment in stunned disbelief.

He had expected Daren to grow stronger since their last encounter.

But not like this.

He had imagined Daren might endure his most powerful move.

But not by overwhelming it with brute force.

No swordsmanship, no techniques, no strategy, no bloodline...

In the face of this man's sheer physical dominance, all of that crumbled like paper.

'This guy... he might really... surpass Kaidou-san...'

King stared in a daze at the oncoming black, ferocious dragon claw as the thought crossed his mind.

ZZZZZZ!!

Suddenly, streaks of purple lightning ripped through the sky.

"Daren, you little brat! You've got a death wish!"

A thunderous roar erupted like a rumble of distant storms.

The next instant, a fearsome figure burst down through the cloud sea, cloaked in crackling violet lightning—plummeting from the heavens!

In his hand, a black kanabō crackled with black and red lightning, roaring with violent energy.

“Kosanze Ragnaraku!!”

Here he comes—

The strongest creature across land, sea, and air... Kaidou of the Beasts!

Chapter 815: Volume 4 – Chapter 334: What do you think, Kaidou-sensei?

Kosanze Ragnaraku!

One of Kaidou’s strongest techniques, named after the Four Wisdom Kings—like the wrathful strike of a thunder god, powerful enough to pulverize any foe.

In that instant, a surge of danger erupted in Daren’s heart. Every muscle in his body tensed at once.

And yet, his eyes gleamed with unmatched clarity, sparkling with mad excitement.

This was it!

Not even Queen the Plague and King the Conflagration, attacking together, could give him this kind of pressure!

“What do you think this place is?!”

Kaidou’s bloodshot eyes blazed with fury as his kanabō, wrapped in crackling black and red lightning, crashed down like a thunderclap.

Caught off guard, Daren had no time to counter. All he could do was raise his arm in a desperate block.

Boom!

A shockwave exploded high above, lightning flashing and intertwining through the air.

King staggered back from the force, eyes wide with alarm.

In the very next breath, Kaidou’s club smashed the black-haired youth into the ground, carving out a crater over a hundred meters wide.

Boom!

The earth surged like a raging sea, as if several colossal dragons were churning beneath it.

Moments later, Kaidou landed like a cannonball, the impact shaking the earth as he let out a heavy breath.

He had already shifted into his hybrid form—his body sheathed in dark azure dragon scales, a muscular dragon tail swaying in midair, and a pair of fierce orange-red vertical pupils locked on Daren’s crater.

“Ahhhhhhh! Kaidou-sama, you're finally here!”

The fat man in suspenders howled in despair.

“That bastard Daren was shouting about killing you and stealing your title of ‘strongest creature’!”

“As a Beasts Pirates officer, do you think I’d just let that happen?”

“Of course not!”

“So I fought back with everything I had, bravely holding him off for over ten minutes... But in the end, I couldn’t stop him. He destroyed the entire lab on Onigashima.”

Queen roared in outrage, his face twisted in righteous indignation.

“Is that so? Funny... When I arrived, all I saw was some deadweight getting stomped into the ground like a slaughtered pig.”

King’s figure slowly descended behind Kaidou, sneering as he spoke.

He had finally shaken off the lingering dread from earlier. Cold sweat still beaded on his back.

“You—!”

Queen’s face flushed bright red. He clenched his teeth, then smirked.

“Still better than someone who couldn’t even last ten seconds.”

“—Enough! Shut your damn mouths!”

Kaidou suddenly barked in fury, face twisted with rage as he cut off their bickering.

King bowed his head in respect and stepped back half a pace.

Queen clicked his tongue and muttered under his breath, but didn't say more.

Because they both noticed the look on Kaidou's face.

That expression—tense, cautious, like he was facing a genuine threat.

The kind of look Kaidou only showed when going up against an equal.

He ignored them, his brow unconsciously furrowing deeper.

Truth was, he'd sensed it the moment their weapons clashed.

The feedback from Hassaikai—his kanabō—felt off.

Way off.

That brat... No, that damn brat from the Marines had gotten stronger.

Stronger than he was back at Philseque Island. Stronger than when he clashed with the Five Elders.

What the hell was going on?!

Rogers Daren...

What in the world is that body made of?!

How the hell is he growing this fast?!

If he hadn't witnessed it himself, Kaidou wouldn't have believed it.

As his expression darkened with uncertainty, a mocking voice echoed out from the dust-filled crater.

"Haven't eaten yet, Kaidou-sensei?"

Through the swirling smoke, Daren staggered out from the cracked earth.

He spat a mouthful of blood—along with a broken tooth—onto the ground.

Wiping the blood from his mouth, he raised his eyes to the creature before him—

The so-called strongest creature alive—

And grinned.

Blood-stained teeth flashing as he smiled.

“That blow didn’t hurt at all...”

Kaidou’s pupils narrowed slightly.

He wasn’t shocked that Daren had taken damage—but that the damage was so minimal!

“I really didn’t expect this...”

Daren laughed wildly, both hands trembling with uncontrollable excitement.

A surge of satisfaction flooded his whole body—nothing beat the thrill of turning the tables. It made him want to howl at the sky.

“Remember? The first time I came to Onigashima, you almost killed me with one swing.”

At those words, Kaidou couldn’t hold back any longer. Roaring, he charged from his spot.

“You’re asking for death!”

Dragging his kanabō with one hand, purple-black lightning exploded around him as he vanished across the ground like a flash of teleporting fury.

It was as if he was wielding Hassaikai, or Hassaikai was the one dragging him—blazing toward Daren like a bolt of divine judgment.

“Raimei Hakke!”

BOOM!

Like a meteor crashing into the earth, the sky itself seemed torn open.

A hurricane of destruction exploded outward from the clash, sweeping across Onigashima and shaking the entire island as if it might collapse at any moment.

The ground split apart in violent rumbles, spewing earth and debris into the air.

But the moment the scene became clear...

King's expression twisted in shock.

Queen's eyes bulged, jaw practically hitting the floor.

"What!?"

A single combat boot.

A military boot wrapped in black and crimson Haki had stopped Kaidou's kanabō cold.

Lightning sparked from the clash, erupting into the sky as a thunderous burst shattered the clouds above, revealing a massive rift in the heavens.

Kaidou's pupils shrank to pinpricks.

It was really... blocked!

Raimei Hakke—his fastest, most explosive strike—was actually stopped by that brat Daren!

"Don't look so surprised. You've hit me with that move... what, thirty, maybe fifty times by now?"

Daren stood with one foot planted firmly on Kaidou's kanabō, flashing a bold grin.

"If I still couldn't block it, I might as well give up on fighting the World Government. Just surrender and die on the spot."

Kaidou's eyes narrowed.

"Daren, you brat... What are you really doing here on Onigashima?"

He ground the words out through clenched teeth, his voice cold as death.

If looks could kill, Daren would have been torn limb from limb already.

“Your real problem right now is the government, not me.”

“You came alone into my territory, and it’s gained you nothing but a waste of strength!”

“No, no, no...”

Daren shook his head.

“You’ve got it all wrong. I didn’t come to Wano to waste my strength... I came to grow it.”

He winked at Kaidou.

“What do you think, Kaidou-sensei?”

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Seeing Daren's mischievous grin and teasing gestures, Kaidou felt like his chest was about to explode. His eyes instantly flooded with countless fierce bloodshot veins.

This damn brat... actually treated him like a sharpening stone for training!

“Damn it!!”

Kaido roared in fury, lightning crackling around his body again as he swung his massive kanabō furiously at Daren.

The shadow of the weapon fell like a waterfall, streaks of black and red thunder shooting into the sky, tearing open the earth.

The club’s pressure shot out like a solid wave, obliterating everything in its path.

Daren responded with a twisted grin, instantly entering his devil form and unleashing his full power to meet Kaidou head-on.

“Don’t hold back now, Kaidou-sensei.”

Under the frozen, shocked gazes of Queen, King, and the Beasts Pirates rushing from afar,

Kaido and Daren clashed like two savage beasts straight out of hell—

their collisions violent and explosive, moving with terrifying speed and force.

Every time they collided, a purgatory-like shockwave burst out into the air, lightning crackling and twisting around them, shaking the very ground.

Everything within several kilometers was consumed by wild storms and thunder, turning the battlefield into a death zone no one could enter.

They were like bloodthirsty monsters, throwing defense aside completely.

As time passed, blood flew through the air.

“So terrifying!”

“This... this is what it looks like when the 'strongest creatures in the world' go to war?”

“That guy... he’s actually trading blows with Captain Kaidou!”

“He’s a monster! There’s no way we could step into that fight...”

“If this keeps up, they’ll split Onigashima in half...”

“...”

The Beasts Pirates stared wide-eyed at the battlefield cloaked in violent storms—a hellish sight that sent chills down every spine.

To them, Kaidou was the definition of “invincible.”

Sure, that “Marine brat” had come to Wano before, but every time, he left battered and barely alive, fleeing in panic after being thrashed by the “invincible” Captain Kaidou.

But how long had it even been since then?

Now, that same guy was fighting their captain—one of the world’s strongest pirates, “Beast” Kaidou—as an equal?!

“I’ve got a really bad feeling about this...”

Queen quietly walked up beside King and whispered.

“It’s starting to feel like even Kaidou-sama can’t take him down... What if that Daren guy starts dropping by Wano whenever he feels like it?”

King’s heart sank at the words, his expression turning grim.

Rogers Daren had invaded Wano multiple times.

Each time, he fought Kaidou-san head-on—then pulled out right when his injuries reached the limit.

Add in what he just said earlier...

It was obvious.

Rogers Daren wasn’t here to destroy the Beasts Pirates’ facilities or forces.

He was using them to sharpen himself.

And the scariest part was—he was succeeding.

Every time he came to Wano, he came back stronger.

King stayed silent for a while.

Then, under the expectant gazes of the others, he said coldly,

“Trust in Kaidou-san.”

But even as he spoke those words, a flicker of doubt flashed deep in his eyes as he stared at the brutal, unrelenting battle before him.

...

Clang!

Boom!

Lightning raged as storms surged outward, sweeping in all directions.

“Something’s wrong!”

“This can’t be!!”

Seeing his kanabō once again stomped underfoot by that damned brat, Kaidou froze for a split second—then roared, eyes bloodshot with fury.

He looked utterly stunned, not even caring about the blood trickling from the corner of his mouth.

When Daren had first blocked his Raimei Hakke, his movements had still been clumsy and stiff.

But now—his form was smooth, natural, seamless!

That level of adaptability... it was even more outrageous than Kaidou’s own youth.

“Thanks to your guidance, Kaidou-sensei.”

Daren’s face was just as bloodied, yet the smile that bloomed across it was dazzling.

“To be honest, if it weren’t for your teaching, I never would’ve grown this fast.”

“You little bastard!”

Kaido’s eyes nearly burst from their sockets as he once again swung his kanabō with all his might.

Daren let out a savage grin and threw a punch.

Boom!

Boom!

Both strikes—each brimming with monstrous force—landed squarely on the other’s head.

Blood exploded in all directions like a rainstorm.

The sheer eruption of Haki sent them flying backward like cannonballs.

But the very next moment...

They both took a simultaneous step back, slamming their feet into the ground to stabilize their stances—

—and then roared again.

“Die!”

Their crimson eyes, brimming with bloodlust and unyielding will, locked onto each other as sparks danced through the air between them.

In a flash of lightning,

Kaidou's body surged forward at thunderous speed, turning into a blur of flashing light!

“Horai Hakke!”

But just then—

“Impossible!!”

King's pupils suddenly contracted, his expression filled with disbelief.

Through his enhanced vision in pteranodon form,

He saw Daren grin—and in that moment, his body moved in perfect sync with Kaidou's. A mirrored shadow.

Even lightning surged across Daren's skin—but unlike Kaidou's violet bolts, Daren's body pulsed with vibrant blue lightning!

No way...

A terrifying realization surged through King's mind, sending a chill straight down his spine.

It was bone-chilling.

And then—

Within his tightly contracted pupils, the two figures—electric phantoms wrapped in streaks of black and red lightning—flashed past each other in a single instant.

They came to a stop at the same time.

Back-to-back. Motionless.

Smoke and dust floated in the air.

Even the raging winds seemed to halt in that frozen second.

Time across the entire world felt as if it had come to a standstill.

“You... learned it?”

Kaidou asked suddenly, his voice raspy.

He stood there, head lowered, staring blankly at the kanabō in his hands.

His blood-red vertical pupils seemed dazed.

“I guess so. I didn’t realize... the essence of your technique was never just brute force and speed. I misunderstood it all along.”

Daren's arms hung limp at his sides.

A faint curve rose at the edge of his blood-smeared lips.

"I thought that purple lightning was Haki... but it's not. It's the Azure Dragon's innate gift—the power to control lightning."

"By using electricity to stimulate the body's muscles and cells, you activate the flesh... to reach speeds bordering on teleportation."

He smiled in deep satisfaction.

"That's the true secret of Raimei Hakke."

As those words left his mouth—

Sssh!

Sssh!

Geysers of blood burst violently from both Daren and Kaidou's chests.