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Chapter 2951

After staring at the ceiling for a long time, Jackie took a deep breath and said, "What happened thirty thousand years ago? Have you ever heard about the Divine Void World?"

"The Divine Void World?" spoke Aaron and Rudy simultaneously.

It was obvious that both of them had never heard that name before.

Aaron shook his head. "I've never heard about it... Where is that place?"

Jackie frowned, falling silent for a moment. Even though Aaron had never heard of it, it did not mean that what happened 30,000 years ago had nothing to do with the Divine Void World. Jackie even started to think that the Whirling World was closely related to the Divine Void World.

There were far too many secrets in the Hestia Continent, and those secrets usually involved the Divine Void World. For instance, what he experienced in West Cercie State was closely related to the Divine Void World.

He remembered those questions he had that had been impossible to answer. He was finally slowly getting some clues.

If the Hestia Continent had nothing to do with the Divine Void World, he would probably not have arrived at the Hestia Continent back then. After all, Mustard Seed had been on autopilot back then. He had chosen a third- grade world but never specified which one. In other words, Mustard Seed had chosen Hestia for Jackie.

After Jackie thought about it for a moment, he turned to look at Aaron. "Continue... What happened back then? Why did you suddenly stop?"

Aaron let out a cough before saying awkwardly, "I just say that you were deep in thought, and I was worried that I'd interrupt you..."

Rudy was very curious as well. He might be from Middle Province, but he rarely looked at ancient books. He did not even know some of the clans that were in Middle Province. Back then, he had always been in his own little circle, so he excitedly asked, "Hurry up and tell us! I want to hear it."

Aaron nodded and continued.

30,000 years ago, a powerful sound echoed in the skies of the Hestia Continent as though proud, valiant warriors were battling in the heavens. The skies rumbled with thunder, and the whole continent was submerged in the pressure that those supreme beings exuded.

At that moment, every warrior was stricken with fear. No one knew what happened, and no one knew what could happen next. It seemed like the end of the world as thunder and lightning reigned supreme. Numerous areas were rendered to ashes in the aftermath.

It continued for a whole three days when all of a sudden, the lightning stopped on the fourth day. Some of the stronger warriors flew into the skies at that moment, wanting to see what happened, but they suddenly found themselves unable to fly any higher. They were shocked to find that the entire Hestia seemed to have been surrounded by a massive barrier. Even the strongest warriors of the continent were stopped by an invisible barrier after flying to a certain height, unable to continue flying.

All of the warriors were shocked as they hurriedly contacted other worlds. They wanted to invite the best of other worlds to see what happened.

They were plunged into hopelessness when they realized that even the transfer arrays were useless. They would be stopped by an invisible force midway, unable to continue their journey. Even using high-level sound arrays, they could not transfer any information.

Aaron helplessly explained, "The warriors back then, be it the strong or the weak, were mystified, not knowing what had taken place. The only thing they were sure about was the fact that contact with the outside world had been cut off by a barrier they couldn't see. No one could get out..."

After hearing that, Jackie and Rudy were dazed. They felt like what happened back then was really strange.

Jackie frowned and said, "Didn't you say we could still transfer information?"

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Aaron nodded. "We're already able to transmit information now, but it was impossible back then. Back then, all communication with the outside world was cut off. The fact that we can even transmit a little bit of information now is due to thirty thousand years of constant hard work, allowing some array masters to communicate with the outside world through some special sound arrays. Only then did we find out that White Marsh Continent and Chaos Continent, who were at the bottom like us back then, are already completely different..."

Aaron's expression turned sullen at this. He felt like the Hestia Continent would probably be different if not for that special barrier cutting off the outside world.

After all, it was not just communication that happened with the outside world back then; people could move around and resources could be traded. They could even get things from other worlds. However, Hestia became an isolated place after all forms of communication were cut off. The people knew nothing of the outside world and were forced to remain behind closed doors."

Rudy raised an eyebrow and said, "I want to know what happened back then. Who could be so powerful as to seal the whole Hestia Continent? Why did they erect that barrier? There's the Whirling World as well. Hestia is supposed to be sealed in, so why are we able to communicate with the other worlds after coming here? Also... Why were those two other worlds able to improve so much in thirty thousand years? What happened to them? What happened to the other worlds?"

Rudy felt like he had a lot of questions at that moment. After knowing what happened back then, he started to lose a bit of his calm. He felt like there were definitely a lot of secrets hidden behind everything.

Those secrets might even involve some things that were taking place at this moment. He could not help but suspect that the Unbreaking Pavilion and Phoenix Valley might know the truth behind everything. They had probably arranged this trip into the Whirling World because of what they knew.

Something was off about the Whirling World. With all those questions on his mind, Rudy voiced his thoughts.

Jackie turned to look at Rudy and said, amused, "Are you trying to look for answers from the two of us? Do you think we'd be able to answer them?"

Rudy's lips twitched, laughing it off after realizing that he had been foolish for asking in the first place. After all, none among them would have been able to answer his questions.

Jackie sighed as he looked at Rudeus again. He already understood what he could, and he could not possibly answer the questions he had that could not be answered.

With that, Jackie stood up and walked forward, baffling Rudy and Aaron as they looked at him with widened eyes.

Jackie turned around and nodded at Rudy.

"Don't you want to think it over first?" fretted Rudy.

Jackie, however, merely smiled and shook his head. After that, he turned and walked to the center of the Heaven Array again. He was firm in his footsteps as he ignored the looks sent his way.

Jackie blocked out his surroundings as he looked at the Heaven Array. Whatever was said from the people around him or the looks they gave him could not get to him whatsoever.

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Jackie had carefully thought things through before he stood up.

Everyone else doubtfully watched as he stood in front of the Heaven Array. He reached out to grab one of the small arrays in front of him. After grabbing that plate, he wasted no time putting it into his storage space before he turned and started to walk back. The way he behaved and walked was so languid that everyone was baffled.

Just as Jackie made his third step, Rudeus said, "Stop right there! Who are you? You're trying to just walk away after taking an array?"

Jackie raised an eyebrow, turning around after he stopped.

He calmly looked at Rudeus. He already expected that Rudeus would react like that before he came, and he already knew what he wanted to say.

Jackie raised an eyebrow before he calmly replied, "Why can't I go? Are these arrays yours? Everyone here is qualified to take part in the competition. As long as there are arrays and spots left, any alchemist here has the right to take part. It's unreasonable for you to be the one to decide if someone can take part or not."

Despite how his words actually held reason, everyone was stunned to hear Jackie uttering them. No one expected that someone with the badge of a sixth-grade alchemist would talk back to Rudeus like that in front of everyone.

Rudeus narrowed his eyes, suddenly laughing. Only, his laugh did not reach his eyes, and there was a sharpness to his laugh.

"There really is a first time for everything. I've seen a lot of stupid things, you know. Who do you think you are to question me?! Yes, I am going to judge if you're worthy or not just by myself! If I say you're not qualified, then you're not. If I want you to put down the array, you'd do well to listen!"

At that moment, every alchemist looked at Jackie. Expressions on their faces varied as they started to talk.

"Is this kid crazy? He's talking to Rudeus so bluntly!"

"Does he not know who Rudeus is? Insulting Rudeus is equal to insulting the Scarlet Pavilion. Does he not know that the Scarlet Pavilion is a ninth-grade clan, the strongest force in Hestia?!"

"He can't possibly not know. Anyone with half a brain knows that Scarlet Pavilion shouldn't be offended. Rudeus will definitely remember this guy for speaking without reserve toward him. I think this guy must be crazy!"

"I think so, too. Just listen to what he said earlier! Even if it sounded reasonable, it just sounds like him being petulant, if you think about it. He's just a sixth-grade alchemist, so what gives him the right to say all of that just because he wants to compete?"

Many questions began to surface, and everyone felt like Jackie had crossed the line with his behavior and words.

Jackie merely snorted at these remarks, however, as he was unfazed. It was a waste of his time to argue with those people, so he decided to ignore them.

At that moment, Rudeus walked toward Jackie, narrowing his eyes as he looked at Jackie coldly.

"Didn't you hear what I said earlier? I told you to put down your array. You have no right to represent Hestia in competing against the alchemists from other worlds!"

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Jackie watched as Rudeus walked toward him with a passive expression.

He looked up slightly as he spoke as though proud and faultless, "You don't have the right to determine who takes part in the competition. Don't think that you can do whatever you please just because you're from a ninth-grade clan!"

At this point, Jackie's behavior enraged Rudeus to the point of no recourse, feeling like everything Jackie said was unbearable. He even felt like stabbing Jackie with a thousand blades.

Mark was sitting in the fourth row, watching as everything happened with a stunned expression. As an alchemist from the Unbreaking Pavilion, he needed to sit there. Moreover, he represented Hestia as well. He had been part of the third group, which meant that he represented Hestia in the tournament. His results had been one of the worst, being completely trounced by alchemists from the other two continents.

Regardless, he could not leave immediately. After all, the competition included the whole continent, and he had to stay for the entire time. At that moment, he did not just represent alchemists but even the Unbreaking Pavilion behind him. He had to stay, he was the leader of the Unbreaking Pavilion's alchemists and represented his clan.

When he saw Jackie, he was completely stunned.

Jackie had floored him before this. Everyone else did not know of Jackie's abilities, but Mark knew them all too well.

Jackie was more than qualified to take part in the competition, and his results would not be bad. They would be better than Mark's, at least. As for whether Jackie could get a treasure, that much was uncertain.

Mark stared at Jackie, gaping the whole time. He gulped as he looked at his fellow students around him, noticing that they were gaping at him too as various feelings flashed in their eyes.

Those who knew Jackie knew how strong he was. It was the right decision to let him take part. After all, he had gotten a golden token. The only thing they did not know was how Jackie compared to Rudeus and Mitchell. However, there was one thing that they were certain of. Jackie taking part in the competition would not shame Hestia whatsoever. Instead, it would bring honor to the continent.

On the other hand, Rudeus' behavior was wrong in their eyes. However, even if they knew the truth, they would not help Jackie say anything. After all, they were enemies. It would be best for them if Jackie's journey was made difficult.

At that moment, whether it was Mark's or even Samuel's group, all of them remained completely silent, not saying a thing.

Rudeus and Jackie were both at a standstill. Rudeus did not want Jackie to join the competition, already thinking that Jackie was incapable of anything. He believed that Jackie would only humiliate Hestia if Jackie joined. Alchemists from other continents would belittle Hestia if Jackie joined, and he would drag everyone else down with him!

That was why Rudeus was adamant against allowing Jackie to participate.

To Jackie, however, Rudeus was just making a fool out of himself. He had no reason nor the right to reject any alchemist. Rudeus might have gotten impressive results and a bronze treasure, but did it matter any more than that?

Even though he obtained a bronze treasure, it did not mean he was the leader of all of the alchemists in Hestia. Upon noticing that Jackie was firm in his actions, Rudeus felt his anger spilling from his chest.

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Rudeus squinted angrily at Jackie and cleared his throat, sneering, "If you insist on being stubborn, don't think that I can't do anything to you just because you refuse to give up, you brat. I decide if you get to participate!"

Jackie smirked upon hearing this, sneering to himself at how stodgy Rudeus was. Just because Rudeus had gotten a bronze treasure and was from a ninth-grade clan, he felt entitled enough to think that everyone had to obey whatever he said.

Anyone who went against Rudeus' word was basically slapping him on the face, and Rudeus would use other means to handle them. Jackie, however, was not someone who would bend to another person's will.

Jackie let out a laugh as he raised his voice and retorted, "Please stop thinking that you get to boss around everyone just because you're a little skilled. I said that I'd take part in this competition, so I will. You have no right to determine who can participate or who can't. Stop trying to act like your threats will affect me. If you have the skills, go ahead and come at me!"

Even if Rudeus attacked, Jackie would barely blink.

Jackie might be an alchemist, but he was far from a traditional one, his skills were far stronger than anyone present. Even warriors from a ninth-grade clan barely amounted to Jackie, let alone an alchemist.

Rudeus' face reddened in anger as his eyes reddened. He never expected that an alchemist he had never seen before would boldly challenge him. Jackie did not seem willing to budge at all. Even with his status on full display, he refused to cooperate!

The atmosphere became even tenser at this point, and the discussions around them grew louder.

"This guy is insane! Is he not afraid that Rudeus will come for him someday? Even if Prosper City has laws in place that stops Rudeus from attacking him, nothing good will be waiting for this guy once he steps out of Prosper City."

"Doesn't he know what a ninth-grade clan represents? Rudeus has a good standing in Scarlet Pavilion as well, and quite a few of their chosen disciples are close to Rudeus."

"Those people will come for anyone who offends Rudeus if they find out that someone had crossed him!"

"Something's wrong with this boy's head. It's like he's so sure he'll be safe and that no one will get back at him. If he leaves Prosper City, he'll suffer greatly!"

Some of the people shouted at Jackie.

“Just put it down if he wants you to. Do you know what you’ re doing? Even if we can’t fight inside the city, the laws don’t exist outside of Prosper City. Are you that sure you’ll be safe afterward? Aren’t you afraid that they’ll seek revenge?”

Jackie merely raised an eyebrow at those words, not bothering with them at all. Even if they want to take revenge on him, they would have to look at themselves in the mirror and deliberate their choices. Ever since Jackie entered the Whirling World, he lost track of how many people he had offended there. He knew that there would be those looking for revenge, but he could not care less.

His principle had always been to never harm those who never harmed him, while those who hurt him will receive damage tenfold. As long as anyone dared to cause him trouble, he would get even.