## The Crafts 209

## Chapter 209: The Mysterious World

In a dark space devoid of life, where time seemed to not exist nor the reality, Lucas felt himself floating within this universe, like a plank in the middle of the ocean. A strange sensation swept across him as Lucas felt he existed yet didn't. He had no limbs nor body to call his own. He couldn't feel [1], neither could he smell, hear or speak, much less taste. It was debatable whether Lucas could see as all within his reach was an empty void of darkness.

In this state, Lucas felt as if he had wandered for years and years without end, but at the same time, it was as if only a second had passed, and then another, and another, just as how time flowed in reality.

Although he was unable to sense his physical form, Lucas' consciousness was 'alive' in this strange dimension, but it was blank like a piece of paper. Its thoughts were jumbled and over-flooded, but at the same time, empty. This led to a situation where the consciousness was stuck between oversaturation and emptiness; a state where differing contrasts existed at the same time which caused his consciousness to be frozen. It was unreal and couldn't be explained by words or science, but Lucas was existing in such a realm.

His subconsciousness, albeit frozen due to its unique state, was somewhat able to perceive its environment, but at the same time, couldn't. This was because of the unique state of his consciousness, which prevented Lucas from being able to understand the situation.

To describe this in an analogy, it was like having one's sensory nerves shut down and then accidentally touching a hot object. The body would experience the pain and the side effects of coming into contact with high heat, which was being burned. However, due to the lack of a pathway for this sensation to flow to the brain, the individual would be unable to notice anything strange unless they glanced at their hand. In fact, without the pathway, which is the sensory nerves, the individual wouldn't even realise that their hand is in contact with an object.

This was exactly Lucas' current situation. His subconscious could perceive the environment, yet he could not comprehend it nor did he realise that he was in such an environment. All he could 'see' was darkness, yet his subconscious grabbed onto something.

Just when it seemed like he would be forever stuck in here, a miracle occurred. A voice sounded in this deep dark space, breaking the balance of the environment while mysteriously reaching out to Lucas, despite his lack of senses [2].

"Wake up, Lucas. Wake up."

Lucas heard a voice sound so close to his 'ears'. It was a feminine voice that felt familiar, yet not. As the voice constantly called out to him, Lucas felt himself dragged out of that world into yet another dark space. However, compared to the former, this space felt different. Here, he could feel his body, his limbs, and his five physical senses.

Struggling a bit, Lucas managed to open his eyes and realised that he was in a strange space.

"Ugh, where am I?" Lucas groaned as he took a look around.

He appeared to be on a bed in a room with some simple furniture. There was a desk by the side of the bed, and in front was a sofa and an arm chair, both facing a display screen.

Lucas frowned a bit as he tried to recall how he got here. He also checked his communicator to find out the date. It was then Lucas remembered the events which took place two days ago.

Under the invitation of the head of the Mertens family, Russell Mertens, Lucas had made his way with Melissa to the Central Prefecture district for a meeting. After the discussion between the two, Lucas left with Melissa. However, they were interrupted within the estate by a convoy of hover cars that arrived from the Baylands City Patrol Corps' Central Prefecture district branch. After a short battle, Lucas was then knocked out and taken away.

Lucas surmised that he had been isolated and kept in some secretive location. As for why? He didn't have an answer. The only thing on Lucas' mind at the moment was Melissa. Lucas was worried about her, but with no one coming in to ask about the situation, it was difficult to find out her current status.

'I need to recover first and try to fish out more information, somehow.' Lucas balled his fist.

It seemed like the battle two days ago had taken a toll on him, which was understandable after all, he was only a peak Body Strengthening stage practitioner utilising powers far above his level.

After a bit of meditation to get himself back to stability, Lucas tried connecting to the KSSI. Interestingly, it actually worked out. It seemed like whoever locked Lucas away had no intention of preventing him from going online.

Lucas began to search for related news about his arrest but found nothing online. It was clear that the operation was a hidden one and there was no intention to make news about it.

So far, while the terrorist clips had been broadcast through social media and even the traditional media, the official security agencies had refrained from making a comment. To the outside world, it would seem as if they were investigating the matter. However, Lucas had initially guessed that they didn't plan on doing so since it was bogus. Anyone with some level of meticulousness and detective work could figure that part out.

However, with his arrest, Lucas was unsure of the police's stance. One thing he knew however, was that they didn't want the news to go online.

Just as Lucas was thinking this, a wall in the room broke off to form a door and a figure walked in.

Lucas found the newcomer to be familiar especially since he was one of the more recognisable figures present that night. It was the captain who came from the BCPC's Central Prefecture district and the famed genius of the BCPC, Jonathan Oakval.

"Let's talk."