

Thief 231

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Chapter 231: 2nd Heavenly Punishment! 4

Ace's heart palpitated when he saw the silver lightning bolt descend, he could sense a dreadful power of destruction and despair from it.

After his last heavenly punishment, he was now quite sensitive toward the power of despair, and he could sense it was ten times more potent and destructive than white despair thunder.

A purple round-shield with mysterious blue runes appeared in Ace's hand, this was exactly the cherished national treasure of Leap Kingdom that Ace stole a few weeks ago. Lightning Shield, a 7-star runic treasure!

Truth be told, he wasn't optimistic anymore about this shield could withstand the heavenly lightning after he sensed the power of the lightning bolt, but it was still far better than taking it head-on.

Even though Ace wasn't able to move from the earthen altar, like everyone because of supreme force but to his delight he was able to move his hands, they weren't restricted like last time anymore!

Just as he moved the Lightning Shield upward to shield himself from the lightning bolt, it didn't flash on him like he imagined, its target was none other than the orb guardian standing ten meters away from it!

'Bang...'

The silver despair thunder landed directly on the orb's guardian bald head.

'Grrrr....'

The orb guardian made anguish shrills as cracks emerged on its body while it try to use all its power to free itself from the bind, but alas, all it can do was just stand and feel the overwhelming despair.

Ace's heart sank when he saw the orb guardian at the peak of Qi river core stage being tortured by silver despair thunder, he could feel the overwhelming power of despair while standing ten meters away from the orb guardian.

To his astonishment, the orb guardian manage to survive the thunderbolt, but its aura was too fragile, and it wasn't vigorous like before, emerald fluid was coming out from its orifices.

If Ace attacked it by using his sword skill now, he could easily kill this orb guardian!

However, it seemed he won't need to do anything because anything thunderbolt descend after orb guardian survived the first one, and it was even more powerful than before!

'Boom...'

The silver thunderbolt landed on the orb guardian's charred head again, this time the guardian's head exploded the moment the thunderbolt landed on it and followed by its head, the whole body explode like watermelon!

Ace's forehead was beaded with sweat as he witnessed the orb guardian's gruesome end. He swallowed hard as he looked upward, the pitch-black vortex looked like a large eyeball.

The lighting was condensing right in the very center of it, and he knew the real heavenly punishment was going to start very soon!

But before this, many small thunderbolts flashed and fell. Their targets were naturally all the living beings or anything that can hinder Ace's punishment in a nine-mile radius!

Thousands of golems turned into pills of rocks and mud as large charred craters appeared all over the volcano. Not a single golem was spare, the entire army was obliterated!

Just a few miles away from the volcano, nine humans witness this destructive scene with ashen, dreadful faces filled with absolute despair.

Even though six of them were Qi river core cultivators, they managed to survive the one slaughter of golems these past few weeks because of their powerful means, though in front of this mysterious lightning, they felt like ants!

All of them tried their best to move by using every secret trump card in their possession but failed, that supreme pressure just won't let them budge. They could only helplessly watch the silver thunderbolt descend.

"Sigh... I don't even know how I die, how ironic, this must be legendary f[1]..." Lan mumbled as he saw silver light blind his eyes.

Afterward, a torturous force started to wreak havoc inside his body and mind, and soon enough he lost his consciousness, feeling nothing but despair and utter helplessness.

A glorious Craft Elder of Pill Flame Organization who ruled the industry of pills in middle lands for three hundred years died because of one poor judgment and greed!

No one was spared, no matter how much they struggled, cursed, and begged all of them met their ends just like Lan, even someone from a powerful family, Alvin who had a bright future ahead wasn't escaped the inevitable.

However, one person managed to remain alive despite being struck by heavenly thunder and that was none other than the crown prince, Marc!

Marc's face was exempt of all colors as a gray cracked Qi shield hover above his head. He looked at his sword maids' charred corpses with deep despair and resentment.

Those two sisters were with him since he was a five-year-old child, and they all grow up together. Those two were his childhood friends and absolute-loyal subordinates who he trusted with his life, most importantly they were also his...lovers!

But now he was forced to watch them die right in front of his eyes while being completely helpless and even his own life was in jeopardy. If not for this gray Qi which he cultivated with the help of that same treasure which was in the treasury stolen by Ace, he would be also dead right now!

With bloodshot eyes filled with deep hatred, he gazed toward the inky vortex which was like an emotionless eyeball, and roared with resentment, "We have no enmity with you, but you still wanted to kill us, and you won't even dare to show your face! I, the prince of Crimson Sword Empire and the son of Crimson Sword Emperor, Marc Crimson, challenge you to come forth and face me in an honorable duel!"

Alas, nobody replied to his challenge, in the eye of high-heaven it was just the plight of an ant who was just the slightest bigger than those ants who it just crushed a moment ago, nothing more nothing less.

Just as expected, another lighting flash and a more powerful silver thunderbolt exploded toward Marc.

"You cowardly bas...AHHHHHHH..." Before Marc could complete his curse, the thunderbolt easily penetrate the gray Qi shield this time and landed on his head.

Marc cried in pain as he felt endless torture before his mind broke and his eyes lost their luster.

One of the most talented youngsters of high-level lands who has also an enormous secret and a mysterious 'role' unbeknown to the man himself, died helplessly without knowing who killed him so effortlessly and ruthlessly.

Inside the volcano, Ace doesn't know all the big shots after him, were already dead, and just for this exact reason, he lured them here. However, he doesn't care at this moment because the vortex was fully lit with silver light as if it was fully charged.

"System arrange twenty healing pills and twenty Qi recover pills in my thief's space where I can quickly find them!" He quickly ordered as he held the Lighting Shield tightly. He knew this would not be an easy ride.

[Grade-1 Healing Pills]

[Grade-1 Heaven Qi Recovery Pills]

[The purchase has been successful!]

[Thief Point(s): 2,273,400]

[The pills have been delivered and arranged inside the thief's space.]

Ace didn't have time to check the grade-1 pills because a huge silver thunderbolt like a lance shot toward Ace, and it was a hundred meters wide and almost seemed corporeal!

He saw nothing like this before, and the feeling of danger and despair it was giving off was off the charts. He quickly poured all the Qi inside the lightning shield and even used the wristband silver shield as well.

The blue runes on the lightning shield instantly lit up like raging fire after Ace used his Qi and a blue transparent barrier covered Ace.

'Bang...Boom...'

Deafening sounds of lightning collision rang inside the volcano.

The lance made of silver thunderbolt instantly penetrated the blue barrier formed by the lightning shield, but the density of lightning lessened a bit because of it.

However, the difference was so minor it wasn't even called a change and when the thunderbolt landed directly on the second silver shield; it was also shattered and only the lightning shield remained between Ace and silver thunderbolt.

Ace felt like hit by an enormous hammer when the collision happened, and he was nearly crushed by the weight, but his body was much stronger than the others, so he managed to hold on.

This time the lightning shield manage to hold off the thunder lance, but only for mere seconds before it started to crumble because of the pressure and destructive force of heavenly thunder.

The moment the lightning shield shattered there was nothing between it and Ace anymore, and it directly penetrated Ace armed and from it, the hundred-meter-long thunder lance submerged Ace entirely, he was like a human-lightning pole.

Ace bit his teeth so hard they almost shattered, but he endured the torturous pain because the dark void started to absorb the silver despair thunder, like a bottomless abyss!

[1] fate

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Chapter 232: Gray Boulder

Ace was panting hard with a pale face and charred skin, as he threw two crystal-like pills with one ring into his mouth. One pill with crystal-golden- color with a silver ring was the Grade-1 healing pill, while the crystal-black-color one with a golden ring was the Grade-1 Qi recovery pill.

After consuming two grade-one pills, his charred skin shredded and new skin appeared, while his weak Qi also began to recover at an astonishing pace.

'Rumble...'

However, the punishment clouds don't seem quite happy about Ace surviving the first silver thunderbolt, and the whole vortex started to rumble madly as if it was enraged.

Ace looked toward the vortex which was spinning wildly while condensing the next thunderbolt, and by the looks of the dense silver shade, it was going to be a huge one.

Although he endured the first thunderbolt with his firm determination and willpower, it almost took everything he had just to stay sane.

He knew he cannot lose consciousness because of the system's warning, and the process of orb absorption was still ongoing. Furthermore, he could feel changes happening all over his body.

But he didn't have time to observe because two silver thunder-lance flashed toward him from the inky vortex.

With palpitated heart, Ace used something he save especially just for this 'special' occasion, it might not work, but he's going to try it anyway since it just going to cost him little Qi and besides it was just collecting dust and taking a huge part of his thief's space.

It was the perfect time to get rid of it, and by doing so might as well weaken the heavenly thunder. Well, probably...

The very next moment thereafter, a thirty cubic-meter metallic box appeared right between Ace and silver-thunder-lances.

Yes, it was none other than the stolen treasury of Luminous City of the low-level lands that he never got the chance to opened and Marc was here just because of this damn treasury and even die without even having time to take it back.

Marc simply thought he could capture Ace after getting the soul inheritance in one fell swoop, but died tragically because of the same person he wanted to take advantage of and capture him for his secrets, Ace.

As for why Marc was sent all the way here to retrieve this treasury by his father, the Crimson Sword Emperor, and why they left it in the low-level lands. They even made the Luminous Kingdom who once unknowingly offended the Crimson Sword Empire guard it for them without even knowledge of what was inside this treasury because they didn't know how to open it as well.

Everyone believed it was the crimson sword empire's way of punishing the Luminous Kingdom by sending one of their royal decedents in low-lands to rot there, but the actual truth was the opposite.

The Crimson Sword Emperor needed a high-level guard dog to guard his treasure with no one finding it suspicious, and the Luminous Kingdom just happened to be perfect for it.

For hundreds of years, the Luminous Kingdom guarded this treasure without even knowing what was inside, and they didn't dare to try finding it either because the Crimson Sword Emperor wasn't someone to trifle with.

But everything changed when a thief mysteriously stole the whole treasury and cause the royal family of the luminous kingdom to panic, but they were all somewhat happy about it as well. Because if there wasn't any treasury to protect, they also don't have to send their decedents to that barren place anymore, like a guard dog.

Marc also doesn't have the chance to deal with the incompetent Luminous Royal Family because his entire focus was on capturing Ace and finding out about his secret.

In Marc's eyes, he could've crushed the luminous family anytime he wanted, and he was planning to do after he dealt with Ace, but die instead with deep resentment.

Unknowingly, the Luminous Royal Family also escaped the catastrophe of extinction as well, all because of Ace.

Ace braced himself for impact, a deafening sound rumbled when the silver thunderbolts descended on the metal box protected by a formation.

However, when faced with the heavenly thunder, the formation of the treasury instantly shattered and the sturdy treasury also didn't hold for long as it also began to incinerate bit by bit.

Everything inside turned to ashes and Ace thought bitterly as he felt the mountainous pressure weighed down on him, 'Why I'm not shocked?'

The next moment, one of the thunder lances again submerge Ace completely, and the second round of far more intensive torture than before began.

Ace clenched his teeth and fist as he endured while waiting for the other thunderbolt-lance to join in the 'fun' however, to his befuddlement the second silver thunderbolt never fall on him at all.

But he didn't have time to find what happened, with thick veins popping out all over his body he kept enduring the hellish pain with bloodshot eyes while the dark void was continuously absorbing the silver despair thunder.

The torturous process goes for full two minutes before the last sliver of heavenly thunder was absorbed by the dark void. The only thing left was charred Ace, with blood trickling from cracks on his burned skin.

His bloodshot eyes were almost listless as with extreme difficulty he consumed two more, healing and Qi recovery pills. The cracks on his skin quickly started to mend, while his eyes recover some of their lusters.

'What happened to the second thunderbolt?'

Ace finally had some energy to spare as he looks for the reason why the other silver thunder-lance didn't fall on him. If it does, Ace doesn't know how long he could hold off.

Astonished, when Ace looked upward, he saw a three-meter metallic piece of the treasury bottom remain hover above without getting incinerated like the whole treasury.

With bewilderment, Ace controlled his Qi and lift down the metallic piece. His pupils contracted when he saw what was resting on that metallic piece.

It was an ordinary-looking three-meter wild Gray Boulder, if silver lighting wasn't cracking all over it which was to prove the silver despair thunder was fell on it, Ace would've thought it was just an ordinary boulder.

'What kind of boulder is it? It even endured the heavenly thunder and remained intact?' Ace's listless eyes shimmer with ecstasy.

He quickly used his Qi to probe the gray boulder but was shocked the next moment because his Heavenly Darkness Qi repelled the moment he touched the gray boulder.

Ace's eyes narrowed, he didn't know what this boulder was, but he had this feeling this was something extraordinary because anything that can endure heavenly thunder and even repelled his heavenly Qi can't be ordinary.

Three more silver thunder-lances formed and flashed toward Ace.

Ace's eyes turned sharp as he used the gray boulder as his shield, this time with deep anticipation.

'Rumble...'

The moment those three-silver thunder-lances landed on the gray boulder, Ace didn't feel any pressure like before at all, nor did any thunderbolt pass through the gray boulder!

The gray boulder quickly absorbed those three thunderbolts without any resistance at all.

Ace was gobsmacked by this and the next moment, his booming laughter rang inside the volcano, "Hahaha...you can't reach me anymore... hahaha.!"

Ace was so happy about escaping the heavenly thunder he wanted to jump in excitement, just like a drowning man will clutch at a straw, Ace was going to clutch on that mysterious gray boulder, as his life deepened on it, literally.

If Ace could've used his soul-shattering eyes on the gray boulder at his moment, he will see many runic symbols on it, but he never thought about it because of his excitement and the situation he was in.

'Cr...crr...crecccc...'

Ace's celebration was quite short-lived when he suddenly heard snapping sounds that were coming from none other than his precious, gray boulder.

"OH, FUCK NO...!" Ace cursed loudly with bloodshot eyes. He might have a stroke if the boulder didn't stop cracking at this moment.

'Sigh...!' He sighed in relief, but he knew this boulder had reached its limit, and by the looks of it, the boulder might not last long enough to let him pass the heavenly punishment.

'Rumble...'

Ace abruptly looked upward, and his ecstatic expression turned cloudy.

He saw, two fifty-meter silver sword-blades forming from silver despair-thunder which were translucent!

'Soul Heavenly Thunder!'

Ace instantly guessed what was coming next, and his heart sank to rock bottom. He was afraid of this specific heavenly punishment the most because last time it was exactly soul heavenly thunder that send him into a coma for years.

However, the last soul punishment looked like a joke in front of this one, he didn't even know if this crumbling gray boulder can even block soul thunder since it was supposed to destroy the soul.

But there was nothing he could do but to hope for the best and pray that this gray boulder would show another miracle, or he had to rely on his new defensive soul skill to block those soul-thunder sword blades!

'Boooooommm...'

Those two sword blades made of silver soul thunder shot toward Ace like an unstoppable arrow.

The moment of truth was here!

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Chapter 233: Heavenly Dark Sea Realm!

The dark void can't absorb the soul Qi or anything related to the soul, and Ace didn't put all this hope on the cracked gray boulder either.

'Soul Barrier!'

Ace quickly activate the first skill of soul guardian barrier art, the soul barrier!

A vast amount of orange soul Qi started to emit from his orange soul core and like a thin translucent film, the orange Soul Qi started to cover Ace's true soul (mind space) and completely shrouded it. This was the soul barrier in low-level mastery, but it can still protect him from Flowing Soul River cultivator soul attacks.

However, can it protect him from the Heavenly Soul Thunder? Well, he was about to find out.

The two translucent sword blades landed on the gray boulder first, since it was right above Ace.

Ace was ready for the worse while holding his breath, he was waiting for the two thunder sword blades to simply pass through the gray boulder and penetrate his head. But to his atonement, the gray boulder manage to hold and even absorbed those two-soul thunderbolts!

"Just what is this boulder made of?" it shocked Ace to the core this time because till this day he never encountered a soul treasure besides Blood Rose.

He never imagined something like this even exist that can shield both soul and martial heavenly thunders. It was too good to be true, and he only about one existence that can do the same thing if it wanted to, and that was his System!

The cloudy vortex spun madly when two of its last attacks didn't even reach Ace, and a large amount of lighting started to condense right in the center.

Ace quickly snapped out of his stupor when the punishment clouds rumbled madly. He looked toward the boulder and just as he expected it was already full of cracks, clearly reaching its limit.

'Well, I'm being too greedy here. It already helped me block two strikes, and this was probably going to be the last one.' Ace sighed with regret.

If it was on him, he wanted to mine these kinds of boulders like there was no tomorrow. But he knew it was impossible, and this was probably one of its kind.

While Ace was lamenting his bad luck, a huge silver, transparent thunder blade slowly penetrated the inky vortex and when it was finally out, it was three hundred-meter in size!

Ace's expression turned cloudy when he was the huge thunder blade ready to descend on him with all its might.

"Shi..."

He didn't even have time to curse as the huge thunder-blade shot toward the volcano's mouth, and the next moment it was already upon the gray boulder!

The gray boulder quickly started to absorb the silver soul thunder with crazy speed and when the three hundred-meter-thunderbolt was only left twenty or so meters, the gray boulder finally turned into gray dust!

Ace saw it coming from miles away, but what he never expected was something appearing from inside the gray boulder after it shattered!

It was a two-square-foot, space-black slate, but it was too thin to call it slate.

However, Ace didn't care about this, because this black slate instantly absorbed the remaining soul thunder like it was nothing.

Ace was bewildered by this while looking at that black, thin slate with shimmering eyes.

In the sky, the vortex seemed to exhaust all its power and started scattered, a clear starry sky emerged after the punishment clouds mysteriously vanished.

"Sigh...it's finally over." Ace deeply looked toward the starry sky and sighed in relief.

Truth be told, it was like a dream because he managed to survive the heavenly punishment too easily this time and all because of that gray boulder or now, thin black slate.

[Congratulation Host for successfully crossing the second form of Heavenly Punishment!]

[Martial Qi Sea creation is commencing!]

Ace didn't have the chance to examine the black slate and quickly store it inside the thief's space to check it later.

He quickly sat cross-legged on the earthen altar while closing his eyes and observing the martial space. He could feel the absorption of earth essence had become more intense after the system's announcement.

The suppressed emerald mist was finally freed after heavenly punishment was over, and emerald mist from all over the earthen mist forest started to rush toward the volcano's mouth.

Ace suddenly fell into a trance, and he didn't notice the small black vortex formed on his chest and all that emerald mist began to sink inside the small vortex before entering the dark void.

After an unknown time, the dark void began to release cloudy dark mist which covered the entire martial space.

Ace dark foundation slates, which were like nine small islands, started to combine below dark void and form one big isle which covered half and martial space.

Thereafter, a thick dark-blue chain emerged from the dark void and penetrate the newly formed isle.

Ace was startled seeing that dark-blue chain, it was his first time seeing anything else releasing from the dark void beside HD-Qi. But what happened next shocked him even more?

Scripture writing in ancient god language starts liting all-over pitch-black isle.

"Heaven Stealer Technique! But why is the last part different and why can't I read it?" Ace was flabbergasted by this sudden revelation. No one answer his plight as he silently watched what happened subsequently.

The moment heaven stealer technique scriptures appeared the isle expand until it touched the edge of martial space, but it didn't stop just there, the martial space began to expand with the isle!

One had to know one martial space never expand or shrink once it was established, but Ace's marital space was expanded until it become double from inside while the outside structure remained the same.

Even Ace was shocked when he saw the size of martial space, it was like a small continent now.

Suddenly, the chain connected with the 'continent' hummed slightly, and inky water started to appear on the barren continent while new characters of the heaven stealer technique also began to form all over the continent until they were completely covered by inky water.

Ace still didn't understand any of those new characters, though. But he knew the system won't tell him even if he asked, so he just remained silent and keep watching.

The continent finally submerged in inky water which was kept rising until half of the martial space was filled. It finally stopped right when it was about it touched the dark void which was floating right at the center of Ace's martial space.

The dark blue chain also returned and vanished inside the dark void after the task was done.

Now, if something saw Ace martial space, they would only see boundless inky water just like a sea.

Ace's body made cracking sounds the next moment, his bones, muscles, blood vassals, heart, dark meridians...began to refine again and again until they all become more powerful.

He could feel powerful like never before, while his physical senses improved tremendously.

Abruptly, Ace felt a foreign, yet familiar feeling like something was forming deep within him, and it would emerge at any moment.

The very next moment thereafter, Ace abruptly opened his eyes and a foreign dark-lightning twinkled all over his charred body.

Confused, Ace looked at his hands which were covered in dark lightning, he could feel a too familiar power from this dark lightning.

The system next notification cleared his perplexity,

[Nature's Earth Elemental Orb absorption has also been complete.]

[Congratulation Host on successfully creating the 'Dark Qi Sea']

[Host has reached Stage-1 of Heavenly Dark Sea Realm.]

[Unique Heavenly Element: Dark Despair Lightning]

[Rewards: 500,000 Thief Point]

[Thief Point(s): 2,773,400]

"Dark Despair Lightning like White and Silver Despair Thunder?" Ace mumbled when he noticed the resemblance, "Doesn't this mean my element is as strong as heavenly thunder?"

Ace looked at the dark lightning which was giving off the slightest aura of despair with elation.

However, the system wasn't done with its announcements yet.

[System detected Host martial cultivation sufficient]

[Heavenly Soul Element: 'Wind' has been unsealed]

[All the restrictions placed on the host's soul cultivation have been removed.]

[Host status has been updated.]

Ace suddenly remembered about the sealed soul element and couldn't help but grinned widely when it was finally unlocked.

"So, my soul element is Wind, huh." Ace nodded in satisfaction.

"Hey, where is my level-1 authority reward? You better not forget about it!" Ace chuckles jokingly.

"[Host is currently under a mission please complete it as soon as possible because, without it, the system cannot be upgraded and host level-1 authority reward will also be pending because of it.]"

Ace's smile immediately vanished the moment he heard system 'justification' and his face turned as dark as charcoal, literally!

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Chapter 234: Crimson Sword Emperor!

Before the Gray Boulder was destroyed.

Somewhere in high-level lands,

Inside a lavishing, bright chamber, a handsome burly middle-aged man with long black hair was sitting cross-legged with his eyes tightly shut. There was an air of sovereignty around this person.

This middle-aged was none other than Marc's father and the ruler of Crimson Sword Empire, Crimson Sword Emperor, Gordon Crimson!

Suddenly, Gordon's tightly shut eyes sprang open as a gray current flashed past them. The entire palace's temperature dropped as every living person felt icy killing intent, and everyone started to tremble because they knew the Emperor was enraged for some reason!

Everyone in the entire high-level lands knows if you offended the Crimson Sword Emperor, then you'll soon meet with a tragic end. This person was known for his vicious and scheming nature.

That's why there weren't many people who dare to offend the Crimson Sword Emperor because you won't even know how you die after you offended this person.

Now, the emperor was emitting such killing intent which he never showed even toward his most hated enemy, this could only mean someone has truly infuriated the Crimson Sword Emperor!

Gordon's handsome face was exempt of any emotions, if his eyes weren't emitting such a thick killing intent, one could even though he was deep in thoughts.

Suddenly, blood trickled from the corner of Gordon's lip.

His expression still doesn't change as he nonchalantly cleaned the blood with his thumb and coldly looked at it while mumbling in a hoarse voice, "So, he died even in that wasteland, another trash. I think too highly of that trash to even nurture him into my Ghost-Sword Incarnate."

Astonishing words came out from Crimson Sword Emperor's mouth, "Sigh...I have to start again from scratch. But first, I have to retrieve 'Ghost Sword Monolith' and find out how that thief manage to store it inside a storage treasure and even managed to cross the sky-changing border with it!"

The Ghost Sword Monolith was none other than the Gray boulder which was inside the treasury of the luminous city and guarded by the Luminous Royal Family for hundreds of years!

Gordon found that gray boulder because of an ancient map he found inside an ancient tomb in his empire. This map led him toward the low-level lands until he reached a place called wastelands!

First, he was just curious and when he reached the wastelands of low-level lands he even thought this map was a fake, but he decided to still inspect since he already was there.

But to his surprise, he managed to find the place protected by a concealing formation, and it was still intact all those years because those barbarians didn't know a thing about formations.

Delirious, Gordon unsealed the formation like it was described back of the ancient map and found the gray boulder. On the gray boulder was another formation which was a memory formation that record a peerless cultivation technique called Ghost Sword Scripture.

This technique was very peculiar because for cultivating it one needed the Ghost Sword Monolith, which was the gray boulder. Gordon doesn't know who created this technique, but after getting the memories, he was astonished by its prowess and means.

Gordon naturally wanted to take this Ghost Sword Monolith back with him, but he soon found out he wasn't able to store this gray boulder inside a storage ring, and soon after, he also discovered the sky-changing border's formation repelled the gray boulder as well.

But he soon found out that he doesn't need the boulder with him all the time because he just needed gray Qi, which was described as the Ghost Qi in Ghost Sword Technique. He can draw this Ghost Qi anywhere as long as he had the cultivation method.

That's how Gordon found the Luminous Kingdom and force them to guard the Ghost Sword Monolith. He wasn't worried about someone else finding out about the cultivation technique nor someone stealing or destroying the monolith because it was unbreakable according to the memories he got, and he even tried it himself.

He never thought someone would be able to steal it as well because it wasn't 'space ring friendly' and who would be foolish enough to carry a three-meter large boulder everywhere they go, right?

For hundreds of years, he was able to gain many things because of this mysterious technique and just one step away from completing it and that last step was creating and Ghost-Sword Incarnation!

It was a very ruthless and demanding step because the practitioner needed to nurture one own descendant with ghost Qi until it reached the completion stage of the Ghost Sword Incarnation Ritual.

The person who became a complete Ghost Sword Incarnation will become the final supplement for the person who nurtured him and die without being able to resist in any way. Because the real cultivator of Ghost Sword Scripture had a soul wisp inside the incarnation candidate's conscious!

The more genius a descended is the faster Ghost Sword Incarnation Ritual can be completed and that's where Marc came in, Gordon's most talented son!

Marc was at the middle stage of the Sword Ghost Incarnation Ritual. Although, he can use Ghost Qi because of being an incarnation, which made him quite powerful and hard to kill. He was just a supplement for his father to reach the top, in the end, nothing more, nothing less.

However, Gordon never thought someone would be able to steal the Sword Ghost Monolith and even cut off his connection with it while taking it in middle-level lands on top of it!

That's why he sent Marc in the sham of fetching his finance, Zelda, back because there were too many spies of other empires.

Furthermore, Marc was powerful enough to hold on his own there and besides, he had nightmare ghosts as his backer there, so, it wasn't a difficult task to capture that thief and bring him back, so Gordon could find out how he managed to store and move the Ghost Sword Monolith.

But alas, Gordon felt his conscious wisp destroyed just a moment ago, which implies Marc was dead.

Gordon didn't care about Marc at all because his nature was cold, to begin with, and ghost Qi made him even more inhuman. He was enraged because all the efforts he put on Marc were wasted, and he had to start again with another one of his decedents. He wasn't low on them.

But first, he had to retrieve the gray boulder because without it, he can't draw more ghost Qi, and it was impossible to complete his technique without it. This time he decided to go himself and capture that thief as well.

However, before Gordon could finalize his plan to move sneakily in middle-lands after the middle sky-changing border opened, he suddenly clutched his head as his indifferent face twisted with pain and horror.

(The gray boulder was destroyed at this moment!)

Gordon consecutive vomited blood five times as his face lost all its rosy color, he suddenly started to mutter like a madman with disbelief written all over his cloudy face,

"How is it possible...how is it possible...how is it possible...I can't be...I can't be...It must be backlash after that trash died, yes! It must be, and it had to be, yes, yes, it's like this...!"

If someone knows Gordon saw him now, they would be shocked because the indifferent Crimson Sword Emperor would never show this much emotion and act so madly, even if you kill his father right in front of him.

"I have to retrieve the monolith as soon as possible even if I had to search 'ancient passage' I can't wait for border formation... Ahhhhhh...."

Abruptly, Gordon's muttering halt, and he shrilled like a pig being slaughtered, but no one could hear his screaming because his cultivation chamber was protected by many formations and the soundproof array was also one of those formations.

Gordon keep screaming while clutching his head, his bloodshot eyes were on the verge of popping out of their sockets.

Suddenly, his eyes completely rolled upward, and only white eyeballs remain, but the next moment, they rollback, but this time, blue pupils replaced Gordon's dark brown pupils.

'Gordon' also stopped screaming and clutching his head like a madman and stand up straight. His entire demeanor changed, the Gordon with blue pupils was giving off an ancient and dignified feeling which differed completely from before.

At this moment, 'Gordon's' lip rose and form a mocking smile as he mumbled skeptically, "A mere cultivation clone could escape me, what a blunder, but you still can't escape the inevitable. But I need to check the memories thoroughly to see what variable made this Old Man lose another scared cultivation clone."

'Gordon's' eyes shimmer with profound light, he waved his hand and powerful Qi brushed past the mess 'he' made moments ago. After everything was clean, he sat cross-legged again to his former place.

'Gordon' close his eyes with a faint smile, he mumbled in a cold voice,

"Little Pup, Ace, wait for this old man. This time this wasn't just an incompetent clone. Humph!"

[Eternal Thief](#)

Chapter 235: Page 09?

Ace was still oblivious of the consequence of unknowingly destroying the gray boulder or former Ghost Sword Monolith.

He was busy fuming because the system refused to release his hard-earned reward of level-1 authority and keep telling him to complete his mission first.

In the end, Ace was helpless when the system negated the answer, and he bitterly accepted the 'verdict'.

Now that he was done with breaking through and system matter, he finally pays attention to his surroundings and was astonished because once the emerald liquid filled the bottom of the volcano was now crystal clear like ordinary water. Only the remains of the orb guardian were floating around, which also somehow turned into white stones.

He knew this was the system's doing since it has absorbed all the element essence through the earthen altar, which was now on the verge of breaking. The volcano's throat was also filled with charred cracks, and he knew it was time to leave this place.

The heavenly punishment just caused too much commotion, and he knew it won't be long before curious people come searching for answers.

But before leaving, Ace saw his condition and immediately dived in the 'water pool'. His old skin and all the impurities that came after refinement of his body come off and new pale-white skin surface.

After clearing up, Ace looked more handsome and elegant than before, with a 1.9-meter height and tone refined body filled with explosive muscles. He gave a mysterious vibe after entering Heavenly Dark Sea realm.

Ace put black tight robes which vaguely showed his carved packs and his thief trainee's hood on top of it. He put the hundred-face deception mask and changed into Ryan's face.

"Status." He wanted to check how much EXP he needed to enter the next Heavenly Sea realm because it wasn't like the Qi river realm, and it had different stages, he just doesn't know how many.

The system only says he would know once he upgrades the system.

[Status Panel]

[Host: Ace White]

[Heaven: 1st Mortal Sky Heaven]

[Soul Cultivation: Orange Wind Soul Core]

[Skills: 7]

Heartless Stealth (Art):

[Breathless Stealth: Perfection

Pulseless Stealth: NONE

Misperception Sky Steps (Art):

[Camouflage Steps: Low

Lightning Steps: Low

Misperception Steps: Low

Soul Guardian Barrier (Art):

[Soul Barrier: Low

[Cultivation Technique: 3]

[Heaven Stealer Technique: Volume 1

Dual Shadow Swords: 1st Realm (Sword as Limb)

[Thief Point(s): 2,773,400]

[Mission(s): 1]

[Opportunity Makes a Thief]

[Mission: Steal everything from Three Giants' ten main branches in Top Ten Kingdoms of Middle-Level Lands.]

[Rewards based on Host Performance]

=====

"Unknown?" Ace frowned when he saw the notice beside the EXP column, 'It seemed I needed to upgrade this black-hearted system.'

He didn't know what would happen after he upgrade the system since it was the first time hearing about the system was upgradeable, but he was looking forward to it since it was only beneficial to him.

He closed the status panel after glancing at remaining time for the mission. Likewise, he still had nine years and now that he entered an unknown territory of power, he's going to make sure he completes this mission flawlessly and quickly.

The next moment a two-square-meter thin black slate appeared in Ace's hand, this was the same black slate that appeared after the gray boulder was destroyed, and it even absorbed the remains of soul thunder without any scratch.

Before he didn't have time to examine it because he was about to breakthrough, but now he can't wait to see what this miraculous treasure was.

Ace brushed the black slate with his hand, it feels like he was touching smooth silk. He turned it over and was shocked when his eyes landed on the golden-gray wording right at the bottom-center of the slate.

It flabbergasted him because this writing was in the ancient god language of the system, which naturally came as stupefaction.

Ace carefully read what was written, it was a word and a number.

"[PAGE-09]"

"Page nine of what?" Ace read the letters again, and it was indeed 'page number nine', "So, this unbendable and indestructible material was a mere page? Then this also implies it was a seal or trap inside that boulder, but how?"

This raised many questions in Ace's heart, like which book this page belong to, and where were the rest of the writing?

Furthermore, this page was made of heaven-defying materials since it can block and absorbed the heavenly thunder. Just that boulder in which this page was sealed was almost indestructible.

Ace even guess, without heavenly thunder, it might be impossible to break that boulder, and he was right about that, though!

Ace pupils turned completely white at this moment, he was using the soul-shattering eyes, and this time he doesn't feel any pain or backlash, he was using it to its full potential now.

However, to his massive disappointment, the black page remained the same without any kind of change. He could guess, either this page was blank to being with or his eye skill was too low to probe its secret, and Ace was surer about the latter.

"Well, it will be my 'Page Shield' from now on. Since it can block heavenly thunder, it might block normal attacks as well." Ace grinned as he thought of different ways to utilize this black page.

Ace stored the black page back to his thief space, he still didn't know this page can't be stored inside a normal storage treasure though, which also indicates it was considered as a living being!

He didn't pay any attention to the black page anymore and focused on leaving the volcano.

Inside, the thief's space everything was quiet, there were pills of different treasures, and in the center of all this was a black cocoon covered in a mysterious red rune.

A black page suddenly appeared a few meters away from this cocoon. It flickered in a mysterious gray light; it took a little-eye shape for the slightest moment, before returning to its stationary state!

[Eternal Thief](#)

Chapter 236: Valiant Announcement!

On top of the once active volcano,

Ace looked around with astonishment, he saw the bottom of the volcano was filled with small charred craters and piles of rocks.

"So, the entire golem army was annihilated by heavenly punishment." Ace click his tongue in wonder as he looked toward the clear sky.

The emerald dome, as well as emerald mist, was also gone, only barren wasteland remained with no trace of life. Perhaps after many years this would be turned into a forest or those kingdoms would ingurgitate it, no one knows, but the once most dangerous place of middle lands was no more!

Ace didn't linger for long and left, he still doesn't know if his pursuers were caught in heavenly punishment or not, he didn't was to take any unnecessary risks.

Currently, many people were swarming the once barren earthen mist forest.

All because the infamous dreadful emerald mist mysteriously vanished a few hours ago, and all the strange monsters seemed to vanish with the mist as well.

This news was quickly spread because there were many people outside the forest because of the thief hunt.

Since the emerald mist and monsters vanished, many people decided to try their luck to find some nature treasures because the earthen mist forest was quite old and no one saw what was deep inside.

As for those rulers and nightmare ghosts' personals staying right outside the inner circle boundary, they naturally didn't stay put, and after making sure the mist wasn't coming back, they enter the inner region and see what cause all this.

Since the danger was also non-exist, everyone scattered to search for the thief and river core cultivators who enter inside before them. But it was all just an excuse because they all wanted to search for treasures alone.

However, there was nothing in the earthen mist forest because the emerald mist was toxin and something made by the elemental orb, so it was impossible for the orb would let anything born that could jeopardize its safety.

A person, clad in black while his face was hidden behind a black mask, was at the edge of the inner circle and about to reach the boundary between mysterious and inner circles.

"Oh, you must be from Nightmare Ghosts organization, right?"

The assassin was startled by this nonchalant voice, but before he could react, he felt a powerful strike right behind his neck and his eyes rolled upward as he loses consciousness.

Ace's hooded figure appeared and catch the falling assassin.

'Now let's see if I could probe your memories with my 1st stage heavenly sea realm cultivation despite you're a Qi flowing river cultivator.'

Ace wanted the information about nightmare ghosts' hideouts because they were the only ones hidden from public eyes and hindrance in his mission.

That's why when he felt the stealth skill this guy was using, he decided to test his prowess on him. To his astonishment, this assassin didn't even notice him, even when he was one foot away from it.

This made Ace elated and more assure that the system didn't lie to him about being ten-time powerful than a Qi river cultivator with nine slate foundations (Extraordinary Qi River). He easily subdued this flowing river assassin with six foundation slates (Medium Qi River) after startling him.

However, he still didn't know if this rule applied with his soul cultivation as well, his soul probing should only work on empty river cultivators, but now things were different though.

'Soul probing.' The moment he activated the ability, 'Oh, it's working! Hahaha, this means my soul is more powerful than a flowing river cultivator!'

Ace was thrilled as he kept receiving the assassin memories in mass.

However, his expression changed as he looked through the memories of this purple assassin.

The more he saw, the more his eyes turned cold, toward the end, Ace was emitting killing intent!

He saw how these assassins were trained. First, they were kidnapped at a very young age and forced to sign the loyalty (slave) contracts. Then they trained in the art of shadow killing. Their first kill always was a fellow member in their training camp and at the end of their training, they had to kill their friends.

But this wasn't the end of this cruel training, when they pass the training camp their first mission always be to kill their families, so they could become exempt from emotions!

'These animals!' Ace's eyes were icy cold as he saw all the history of this purple assassin. He could even feel the emotions this person had when he killed his mother and father under the forcefulness of the loyalty contract.

He suddenly had an urge to eradicate the entire Nightmare Ghosts Organization, but he knew it was a pipe dream because their roots were too deep, and he had to kill their leader in high-level lands who was a Qi soul level expert.

Ace take a deep breath to calm himself, and he took off the person's mask and said, "System scan his face."

The white memory gem emerged on Ryan's face the moment Ace gave the command,

[Face 5, has been successfully recorded in memory gem.]"

"This put you out of your misery." Ace's eyes turned cold as he looked at the unconscious assassin, "Soul bullet!"

The purple assassin's body trembled slightly before his steady breath stopped as he died!

In Ace's eyes, this person was nothing but an empty husk of a killer, and killing him was giving him the mercy he deserved long ago.

As for nightmare ghosts, he had a horrendous impression of them now.

Dark lightning flash through Ace's hand as it covered the dead assassin's entire body, and the next moment it started to incinerate under the power of dark despair lightning.

Ace didn't have the skill to control lightning, so he was using it so crudely.

"Who are you and what are you doing?" A cold yet melodious voice sounded when the corpse was completely incinerated and only a charred body impression was left on the group.

Ace coolly turned around and saw an extremely gorgeous woman in a light blue dress, even though the dress wasn't too revealing, her curvaceous figure was displayed!

Her snowy face was impassive yet perfect, and her light-blue intelligent eyes were filled with coldness as she looked at Ace's hidden face behind a long hood that looked like a dark abyss.

This woman was none other than the most beautiful woman of the entire middle-level lands, the Lavender Queen!

Ace nonchalantly looked at this cold beauty which was a piece of art, but he was unmoved and said, "Where are your manners? Shouldn't you introduce yourself before asking my name?"

Lavender Queen eyes turn murderous, no one dares to speak with her like this in entire middle-level lands, she was the Queen of the second rank kingdom, not some random woman.

Yet, this unknown deviant dare to talk with her like this, she was instantly enraged!

"You have no right to know my name!"

"Oh, I also don't want to know either, don't worry." Ace shrug his shoulder and continued, "You see I let you this close to me because you should've possessed a lot of influence with your peak stage Qi river cultivation base so made an announcement... Sky Stealer is coming for three giants' treasures if they had guts, don't hide them from their original places!"

Finished his words, Ace dissolved in the darkness of night like a phantom, leaving a dumbfounded Lavender Queen behind.

After Ace's sudden departure, the Lavender Queen quickly snapped out of her stupor and mumbled in incredulity, "H-he was that... thief!"

She used her senses but didn't find any trace of Ace like he never existed and this sent chills to her spine, "I should leave this place and alert everyone that he's still alive!"

She quickly left to find the others, especially the missing Qi river core cultivators because after encountering the thief himself she finally understood she won't be able to catch him nor did she have any confidence because she can't even sense him if he wanted to sneak attack her!

Lavender Queen was only a little bit relaxed because Ace didn't show any killing intent toward her, and he wanted her to announce his preposterous audacious claim!

'Hmph...a mere thief dared to talk so boldly in front of me. I'll remember it!' Lavender Queen thought in resentment, but there was a hint of fear in her beautiful eyes.

Ace appeared hundreds of meters away from Lavender Queen and sneered, "She might not announce it now, but she will once the mayhem will begin."

Ace knew once he raid the three giants' treasures they will suppress the news to save themselves from humiliation and this would greatly affect this thief's fame, which he won't be going to let happen.

That's why he let this newcomer so close to him and told her, his valiant claim, and he wasn't just done with only one, though!

[Eternal Thief](#)

Chapter 237: Den of Assassins 1

An entire month has passed since the earthen mist forest became only Earthen Forest!

This shocking incident astounded the entire middle-level lands. No one knows who caused it or what the reason behind it was, but a rumor surfaced just a few days ago after the emerald mist disappearance, that was this incident was related to the notorious thief, Sky Stealer.

No one knows who started this rumor, but it quickly gained huge popularity. Because every news related to Sky Stealer was always liked by those at bottom of middle-level lands' status quo.

Some commoners even worshiped the thief and someone even founded a secret Thief Organization called 'Sky Stealer Society' whose motto was 'To Steal from Sky and Give to Earth' and many people were joining the bandwagon.

This Sky Stealer Society grew to the point in ten short days that everyone with some influence got the wind about it. Those rulers and their subordinates quickly acted and try to eradicate the newly born organization like always.

However, this time they failed because no one seemed to find the information about it nor its leaders or the person who started it.

Some rulers even reached to Pill Flame and Beast Calling, but they never responded because of some internal matters, and the Damien Kingdom also seemed to be going through some internal stiffs.

The Sky Stealer Society hide too well and its members were quite loyal and well hidden. Now those with power and influence had an entire organization of thieves to worry about, even those of the organization didn't do any stealing yet.

But whoever attached themselves with Sky Stealer will be labeled as a thief without any disagreement!

It was like a huge storm was brewing in middle-level lands and all this was revolving around one person, Sky Stealer!

However, the man himself was currently traveling in a barren place somewhere in the middle of Leap Kingdom.

After leaving the earthen mist forest and after 'advertising' himself and shocking people. He traveled toward this barren place on foot because this place was very mysterious and anyone who come here will mysteriously disappear. The natives called this place the Haunted Lands.

However, Ace wasn't seemed to care about what others called it or stories related to it as he moved with lightning steps in stealth. After his breakthrough in the Heavenly Sea realm, he noticed his skills have become more powerful compared to when he was in Heavenly Foundation Building Realm.

He was now even confident in escaping and remaining undetected by the First-Iron Core Stage of Qi River Core Realm!

Qi River Core had three different stages of River Core depending on Qi River sizes as well, but in high-level lands, only two kinds of different stages of Qi river core were known.

Small Martial River (Formed with 5-Slates) wasn't able to form a River Core.

The Medium Martial River (Formed with 6-Slates) created an Iron Core in the first stage which has three levels (First, Second, Third).

In, Second Stage, Iron Core turned into Bronze Core which also has three levels.

In the last third Stage, Bronze Core turned into Silver Core with three levels as well.

As for cultivators with Large Martial River (Formed with 7-Slates) can skip the Iron Core stage and directly created Bronze Core and their second stage being the Silver Core stage.

The last and third stage for Large Martial River would be, Golden Core, and every stage had three levels.

As for the cultivators with Ordinary Martial River and Extraordinary Martial River, their information was unknown since no one ever open 8 or 9 Qi gates to reach this step.

The more river core you skip, the more powerful you were from your peers!

However, don't take these stages like a joke because crossing just a level in the Qi River Core realm was akin to crossing a bottomless chasm. Some people would be stuck in the iron core stage for the rest of their life if they manage to break through in River Core Realm first, that is.

It was very hard to form an iron core, and only one in millions managed to do it with heaven-defying luck and opportunity.

The Damien King was the prime example of such. He only breakthrough because of a huge secret hidden in Damien Kingdom's treasury!

Ace's steps suddenly came to a halt, he looked toward a large swamp that looked quite ordinary. But he knew this wasn't the real case here, and active the soul-shattering eyes.

The moment his eyes turned completely white, he saw the swamp completely vanished like an illusion and replaced it was a large concealing formation!

He also saw many traps and alarm arrays surrounding the area and if anyone stepped in the wrong place, they would be in a series of trouble.

Ace meticulously walked between the traps and arrays while stepping on their flaws. He soon reached the concealing formation. He circled the formation until he found a door-like structure which was the entrance.

Mysterious ruins appeared on Ace's two fingers as he used the treasure opening hands second form, and the locked door clicked opened!

The door also revealed itself when the lock was opened.

Ace's lips rose in a sneering smile, 'I hope those assassins accommodates a lot of treasures after killing so many people.'

He entered the stairs going underground and close the door as the formation active again and the door vanished replacing the muddy swamp again.

Ace just enter one of the main hidden hideouts of Nightmare Ghosts Organization and also the place where they contain all the payments they got in assassination deals and treasures to nurture young assassins in the Leap Kingdom!

Those assassins were completely clueless about a thief has already infiltrated their base by taking one of their purple assassin's identities. The strongest person here was another purple assassin at the flowing Qi river stage.

Ace was like a wolf in sheep's clothing here!

But he can't charge right through the base and fight hundreds of assassins and then take their treasures. It wasn't how thievery was supposed to work, and he was pretty sure if he does that system might not even consider it theft.

So, he had to theft the place unnoticed!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 238: Den of Assassins 2

At the end of dark stairways.

Ace looked at the tightly shut door protected by a formation. His eyes suddenly stopped at the impression on the sidewall.

'Heh, they making it easier for me.' Ace grinned as a black wooden token appeared in his hand, there was a vivid red skull engraved on it and the skull eyes sockets were lit in purple flame.

This was the purple ghost token he took from the assassin he killed, and it was also an identity token of every Ghost Assassin.

Ace pressed the wooden token in the impression on the sidewall and the purple flame inside the skull's sockets flashed and the next moment the large door creaked open.

Ace put the ghost token inside this thief's space and enter a large lobby lit in soft blue light.

Right in the center of this lobby, there was a huge blackboard and different posters of people were pinned on it with a number below.

'So, this is the hit board, and all those people in posters are targeted with their price tag below.' Ace's eyes turned cold as he looked toward the hit-board.

With the purple assassin memories, he knew the hits were collected in an assassin den hidden in the main cities of every kingdom, and only a chosen few know about those dens.

Most of those people knew about those dens were high in power quo, and they used the 'services' of Nightmare Ghosts to assassinate their competitors and enemies.

There were three types of kill orders the Nightmare Ghosts Organization accepts, 'Kill, Must Kill, Silent Kill.'

Kill Order category was cheapest, cost between 1 Million and 10 Million high Qi stones. Only White Assassins and Grey Assassins can accept these hits.

The guarantee of kill orders was three tries before the hit will be deemed unsatisfactory for the current category and the client had to pay more to upgrade their order or the kill order would be canceled with no refunds.

Must Kill Order, was too expensive between 10 Million and 50 Million high Qi stones, depending on target value and his strength. But the assassins who could accept these hits will be Blue Assassins and Purple Assassins.

However, the guarantee of this order was a hundred percent as long as the target didn't exceed the Qi River Cultivation.

Last but not least, the Silent Kill Order which was only available in Damien Kingdom main branch, the price was colossal, between 100 Million and 1 Billion.

The dispatch assassin will be Black Assassin and only 1 try will be given, if failed on the first try the silent kill order will be removed and no more orders for the same target will be taken anymore with no refund.

The silent kill order was too rare because it was mostly dealing with the Qi river core cultivators, which weren't much in middle-level lands and each one of them had enormous force behind it.

That's why the Ghosts only try one time and leave the person alone if failed, to give some face to the Qi river core expert and show this wasn't personal.

Old Man Black once targeted even Damien King, but Damien King managed to escape and Old Man Black revealed the person name who put the hit order on him to show his goodwill.

Damien King naturally didn't hold it against him since he knew the rules of Nightmare Ghosts and target his resentment toward the person who put this hit on him, which was his own younger brother!

As for the Royal Killer, and King Killer level assassins, their hit orders weren't available here since only one Royal Killer level Assassin was a force to reckon with!

Besides, if you managed to kill the assassin who came after you, the organization would not take revenge if only the targets kill the assassin because if anyone else dares to kill an assassin without being its target, that person will be hunted down until he's dead!

This makes the organization seem fair in the eyes of others, and that's why they're still operating without anyone pestering them.

Ace saw many black-clad and masked figures surrounding the hit bored, it was a rule to never show your face and tell your name, even to your fellow members, and always wore masks.

Only the Black Assassins had the luxury to be exempt from these rules.

Ace didn't dwell there and go toward the counter in the lobby's corner, where another masked figure was sitting.

"Token, and Target Order please." A cold voice of a girl sounded behind the mask. She was here to record the order an assassin would take or claim the rewards for completed missions.

An assassin can exchange for either Qi stones or any resources available in the organization according to their ranks. These resources contain, Pills, Skills, Techniques, Weapons....and many things that weren't available in entire middle-level lands.

"Where is Master Purple?" Ace coolly said while showing her 'his' purple assassin token.

The person Ace was posing wasn't from this branch, that's why he didn't know about the position of the treasury here. The only one who knew was the Purple Assassin in charge!

The female assassin's eyes constricted when she was the purple ghost token in Ace's hands and quickly changed her cold tone into a respectful one, "Master Purple is currently in retreat, may I know what business Lord Purple had with him, so I could inform her."

She knew anyone that can reach the rank of a purple assassin was a killer among killers, so it was better to not offend them!

"Just tell her Elder Black sent me." Ace coldly stated as he used the 'Old Man Black' title.

"E-elder Black?!" The female assassin was scared hearing the title, "Please follow me, to the guest hall, and I'll inform Master Purple immediately!"

Everyone knew there were only two Black Assassins in the entire middle-level lands and that was Elder Black, Old Man Black, and Vice Elder Black, Margaret!

That's why she become scarred when Elder Black was mentioned, the person who ruled the entire Nightmare Ghosts organization in middle-level lands!

[Eternal Thief](#)

Chapter 239: Den of Assassins 3

She became nervous when Elder Black was mentioned, the person who ruled the entire Nightmare Ghosts organization.

That's why Ace used this name to intimidate the other party, and it worked because who could be daring enough to use the Elder Black name like this?

Just as he expected, another mask-wearing assassin with an hourglass figure and the aura of flowing Qi river cultivation was striding toward Ace.

Ace felt the anxiety and nervousness of 'Master Purple' and smile faintly.

"Leave Us!" She ordered the following receptionist sternly.

It was naturally a woman with a beautiful voice, one could only imagine her face with that hourglass figure and mellow voice.

However, Ace remain indifferent and thought, 'Soul Probing!'

Transparent orange soul Qi in the shape of a needle emerged from Ace's glabella and rushed toward Master purple's forehead!

Ace closely observed the Master Purple, who was too anxious to not even notice the soul Qi needle penetrated her forehead.

Seeing his target didn't notice a thing, he became, even more, reassured about soul probing which was now at 100% power, and it really works wonders, but he still wasn't sure if he could probe complete Qi river cultivators' memories!

While Ace was getting the memories of this Master Purple, she was already sitting in front of him and quickly greeted him, "Greeting fellow Brother, I hope you didn't get any discomfort in your way here."

If this was another Purple Assassin, she would speak in a cold, indifferent tone, but a person sent by Elder Black, had to be his close aid, so, she didn't dare to be disrespectful. Furthermore, she can't sense this person's cultivation, which let her to the conclusion that he was more powerful than her.

Ace was naturally using his real cultivation because his Hundred-Face Deception Mask can only mask up to the peak of Qi Foundation building cultivation, and it was also to his advantage in this kind of situation.

"You're too polite Master Purple, but I had to say your base is truly hidden w...cough, cough...forgive me." Ace nearly choked on his words by a memory he just saw.

This was his first time probing a woman's memory and even though, he saw many things in those men's memories and even consider himself quite an expert in 'that' department even though, he never does 'it' himself.

But this was a discovery to him, he never thought this was even possible, he just saw; this Master Purple was a... woman-lover despite being a woman herself!

He saw the 'love scene' between Master Purple and that receptionist and nearly choked on his word, he quickly discarded that scene because it was too much distraction for him!

Purple master looked toward Ace weirdly but didn't probe any further. She did not know this person was watching her memories and her darkest secrets. If she knew, she would've fought Ace to death to protect 'that' secret.

Ace quite circulate his HD Qi and calm himself and quickly changed the topic, but he looked on his face was quite peculiar when he looked at Master purple now.

She truly opened his eyes this day, and he wondered if men and men...a chill run down his spine as he controlled his wildly running imagination!

"Cough... Master Purple, I was on an inspection mission given to me by Elder Black. If it wasn't a hassle for you, I want to tour your facility, what do you think?" Ace quickly changed the topic as he continued to receive memories fragments and all of them were useless and erotic.

'Damn it, just how free you were doing sex all day!' Ace cursed this lustful woman in his heart while discarding the 'hot' memories.

"Inspection?" Master Purple also become serious and replied, "But I didn't receive notice about this inspection?"

"Hahaha, it won't be an inspection if it wasn't a surprising one, right? Or you had something to hide?" Ace's voice stiffed.

"How could that be? I was just curious, forget I asked." She quickly come clean and said, "So, where do you want to go first?"

"How's the haul of Leap Kingdom's youngsters this year?"

"It's very promising, I had to say. Fifteen of them had potential to become Blue-level Assassins." Master Purple became somewhat excited as she answered with a hint of pride in her voice.

"Oh, fifteen is indeed very good, much better than Blue Kingdom's branch." Ace spout some nonsense to buy more time, while sulking inside, 'Just where is that memory of treasury!'

"Hahaha, you're too kind, how can my little branch have compared with the Blue Kingdom? It just my luck was good this year." Although she acted humbly, the delight in her tone was clear.

Behind the scenes, all these branches compete with each other for better resources, and the more assassins they trained and the more killing orders they compete, the higher the ranking they get each year.

According to this ranking, the resources were distributed and the Master of each branch get lavishing rewards of their own. That's why the competition was so fears every year.

Now, this 'inspector' has hinted about the blue kingdom's branch inferiority, how could she not become happy.

'Oh, there it is!' Ace's eyes shimmer with ecstasy when he finally got the memories of treasury and quickly cut off the connection with this lascivious woman!

"Let's go, I'll show you our training facilities." She was in a good mood after her silent 'win' over blue kingdom's branch and quickly wanted to collect some more 'good points' while showing off the geniuses.

"No, you know what? Let's do it tomorrow. It was a long journey and I might make some mistake in my inspection. I want to be in my optimal condition, so everyone would get the right 'rewards' in this year's ranking!" Ace sounded righteous.

Master Purple quickly nodded in agreement when she heard about rewards and ranking, and flatter this 'righteous inspector'.

"Fellow Brother, righteousness truly knows no bounds. Please, you can rest as long as you want and if you needed anything, don't hesitate to inform me. Everything in this branch is at your disposal!"

"You're too kind, I'm just doing my duty faithfully."

A thievish smile appeared on Ace's face because he won't be here tomorrow!

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Chapter 240: Den of Assassins, Over!

Four hours after, the mysterious 'inspector' showed up in Leap Kingdom's branch of Nightmare Ghosts Organization.

Master Purple was currently listening to something from a communication formation, in her chamber,

"What are you talking about, Leap Branch Master? Elder Black and Vice Elder Black are both on a mission for the past month, how could they send some inspector? The person wasn't sent by headquarters, please capture him and investigate what's going on!"

Master Purple eyes become icy cold hearing this replied from the Damien Kingdom's branch.

After that inspector left, she hurriedly came back to her cultivation chamber and used the thousand-miles transmission formation to contact her friend in the headquarters.

She wanted to know the reason behind this sudden inspection and desired to prepare when the 'inspector' started the tour tomorrow. She suspected nothing amiss from the inspector at all before.

Because everyone was bound by a 'loyalty contract' and they can't betray or scheme against the organization. Much less using Elder Black's name like this.

As for someone infiltrating the branch with an assassin identity? It was even more impossible because the moment someone had any intention to disclose some secret information about the organization, the contract will instantly kill them before they could open their mouths.

However, now that she received the reply from her friend, Master Purple's heart turned cold just by thinking someone has entered her branch with malicious motives.

'Is he working for another branch master and here to kill the geniuses to drop my branch ranking?'

The more she thought about it, the more she become ensure about it because those geniuses weren't abided by the organization's loyalty contract until they pass the final test.

This was done, so the instructor could easily kill those brats who doesn't listen to their instruction or followed the rules. But this was also a loophole deliberately left behind the higher-ups.

Anyone could kill them as long as they didn't kill any fellow organization members, they're not going against the organization's loyalty contract.

It was also a competition between branches, and if other branches assassinated other's geniuses, the victim branch would be kicked out of the year's ranking. But it was rarely done because everyone protected those geniuses with everything they had until the final test was complete.

So, it was very hard to assassinate them and if got caught, you'll be killed by enforcers.

However, Leap Branch's Master had no enmity with anyone besides some minor conflicts with Earth Branch's Master, and he also didn't have any Purple Assassin subordinate as well. Only those top three branches had Vise Branch Master of Purple level.

'But why did those three want to kill my branch youngsters? Just which degenerate is scheming against me!' it infuriated her just thinking about someone was targeting her branch for no reason.

The thought of someone infiltrating didn't even accrue to her at all, because in her eyes the Nightmare Ghosts Organization was invincible and not just her, everyone thought the same.

Because their bases were deeply hidden and even if someone by any chance stumbled upon one they would be instantly dealt with and by any chance in a million that person managed to escape, they won't even know what thing target them.

No one sane enough would dare to return or even if they came back with help, the branches had many methods to deal with anyone as long as they were not Silver River Core Cultivators which was also night impossible!

'I'll naturally discover after I capture that lying bastard!' The branch master sneered coldly as she took out an ebony, jade-like formation plate.

This was the main formation plate that controlled all the formations implanted in this branch. Every branch master had one.

She quickly locked the entire facility so the 'inspector' won't run away, and even his ghost token will not work now.

Branch Master active more formations inside the facility to make sure the other party won't resist, she didn't have to do anything at all, just these formations were enough to even threaten a Bronze core cultivator!

That's why no one dares to assassinate those geniuses because once caught it was impossible to escape the branch master's wrath.

With her most powerful subordinates, who seemed to be all females by their figures, she marched toward the inspector's resting chamber with clear disdain and mockery in her beautiful eyes.

They all were safe from those formations because they had the protection of the main formation plate.

"Great 'Inspector' please come out for a little chat." She calmly said, with a hint of scorn in her mellow voice.

Every woman beside her was staring coldly at the closed door. They were all fuming because someone dare to make a fool out of them and nearly succeed!

However, no one came out of the room, the door remained tightly closed.

Branch Master's eyes narrowed as she emitted killing intent and threaten sternly, "I know who you are and if you don't come out, I'll be forced to activate the formation inside your room. I just want to end this peacefully, but if you dare to resist, I'll kill you since it would be considered self-defense!"

Still, no reply came.

"Branch Master, why are you waiting? Open the door!" One of the women behind her spoke fiercely.

"Hmph!" Branch Master just wanted to know who was targeting her branch, but it seemed it wasn't possible. After all, she knew an assassin would never open their mouth this was a part of their training even it means death, 'Well, it was worth trying at least.'

She used the main formation and opened the door, however, to everyone's shock the room was empty!

"Where is he? Why didn't the formation detect him?" Branch Master mumbled with incredulity.

"M-maybe he's already done the deed and escaped?" Someone timidly spoke.

"No, all the young ones were fine, I just checked." Retort someone.

"It's impossible to move around without my knowledge and no one exit the facility, I was monitoring this person all the time!" Branch Master was also perplexed.

"Then how did he vanish like a ghost?"

Everyone was bewildered by this because they knew even the bronze river core cultivators can't leave these formations without sounding the alarm.

"I suddenly had a terrible feeling about this..." Someone spoke with a hint of nervousness in her voice.

"Scatter and check every corner, he had to be here somewhere. He just used some kind of treasure to escape the formation detection. No one leaves until we found him!" Branch Master sternly commanded with a grave tone.

Although it was possible to fool the detection formation, it was impossible to fool a bunch of formation, besides these kinds of treasures were all in the hands of Black level assassins.

Branch Master's mood was gloomy because things were getting more complicated with each second!

After sending everyone to search for the missing 'inspector' she decided to check the treasury, after all, her branch's entire resources were there and if that person wasn't here for the youngsters then he was here for treasury!

'But it's impossible to break open a seven-star runic treasury, even for silver river core cultivators!' She refused to believe that it could happen.

She stopped in front of an ordinary wall and looked around vigilantly, after confirming no one was following her, she used the same formation plate and a hidden door appeared from the plain wall.

Furthermore, she opened the door with the formation and entered a dark corridor.

'Sigh... I was too paranoid just before.' She looked at another green wall at the end of the corridor and sighed in relief, 'Well, now that I'm here I might check it entirely just make sure.'

Branch Master used the formation plate and the greenstone wall changed into a green metallic door with many mysterious runes filling its four sides.

Branch Master took a small crystal key and put it inside a keyhole right at the center of this runic door.

The door made small clicking sounds, with a final resounding click the door creak opened in slow motion.

However, the familiar sight of glittering treasures didn't greet the Branch Master as she expected. She was instantly rooted in her place like a statue with wildly opened eyes on the verge of popping out of their place.

She saw right on the very front wall of the treasury, a vivid three-meter dark mural of an imposing Owl that was speeding its sharp blade-like wings!

Branch Master's entire body trembled like a leaf in the wind when she saw the owl mural. How could she not know about the famous owl symbol of a person who was wanted by entire middle-level lands and three giants?

There was only one person who dare to use this symbol, and he was also the only one who can make it so flashy.

Even though she didn't want to believe it, the impossible had happened, and the owl mural was the tangible evidence of it.

With bloodshot eyes, Branch Master shrill roared in a hoarse voice filled with a massive grievance, fury, confusion, and helplessness, rang in the entire Nightmare Ghosts Branch of Leap Kingdom,

"YOU THIEVISH SON OF A BITCH... SKY STEALER, I'LL FUCKING KILL YOU!"

The very next moment thereafter, she spat a huge amount of blood!