

# A Warrior undefeatable /

## A Man Like None Other [On-Going]

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Skylar, however, didn't take it to heart, his eyes glinting with sharpness.

"Can we return once we go to the celestial realm?" Jared asked.

"I'm not sure, it all depends on your capabilities. If you were to become the lord of the universe, you could traverse any cosmos at will..."

"If you ascended to the status of a true celestial realm deity, you could effortlessly journey through various realms. If you remain at your current level of strength, surviving in the celestial realm would be a struggle, let alone returning."

The words of the young man were harsh, yet they were the truth.

Jared felt a bit awkward as he looked at the young man and said, "Thanks for sticking around to guide us, sir. Does this mean you've also prepared a gift for me?"

"Cut It out. I really don't have anything. My master never gives me anything good!"

Once the young man finished speaking, vanished instantly, likely out of fear that Jared would relentlessly demand more from him.

Upon seeing the vanished young man, Jared let out a soft chuckle. Then, as he gazed at the white light guiding the path ahead, began to feel a sense of hesitation stirring within him.

He was unsure whether should ascend to the celestial realm now or continue to hone his skills for a while in the Ethereal Realm. Then would ascend the celestial realm through his own abilities.

Jared was also uncertain if could return if ascended to the celestial realm right now. He still hadn't bid farewell to many people. Moreover, hadn't reunited with Josephine, which left feeling deeply unsatisfied.

While Jared was zoning out while staring at the white light, Skylar subtly signaled Josephine with a glance.

Suddenly, Josephine swung sword at Jared.

The sword was ablaze, and this unexpected strike left Jared with no time to react at all. He never imagined that the two people had journeyed with would suddenly turn on him.

A deep gash was slashed across Jared's back, causing blood to surge out instantly. He staggered, nearly collapsing to the ground.

"Mr. Norton, what are you guys doing?!" Jared looked at Skylar, his face full of confusion as spoke.

"Jared, I won't let you ascend to the celestial realm. I'm going to kill you!" Skylar roared, his eyes filled with rage and murderous intent.

Sensing that, Jared furrowed his brows. "Are you Skylar?"

"Hahaha! That's right. It's me!" Skylar then removed his mask.

Looking at that familiar face, Jared couldn't help but smile. "Even if you hurt me, you're still no match for me..."

"Jared, I might not be able to defeat you, but Josephine can."

After Skylar finished speaking, turned to Josephine and said, "Josephine, destroy him..."

Without uttering another word, Josephine swung sword at Jared.

Jared's pupils suddenly contracted, then summoned his Dragonslayer Sword, instantly unleashing a terrifying sword intent.

Boom!

The sword intent shattered, instantly propelling Jared's figure backward.

The injured Jared, at this moment, was significantly weakened.

As Skylar witnessed this scene, a sinister grin spread across his face. He had been waiting for this day.

"You're courting death!" Jared was furious. His Golem Body slowly spread over his entire body, as terrifying waves of spiritual energy circulated within him.

Josephine lunged forward with sword once more. However, this time, Jared remained calm, silently observing attack. Following that, his Dragonslayer Sword in hand erupted in a dazzling golden light.

Accompanied by the resonating roar of a dragon, a golden dragon materialized behind Jared. It then swept forward, sword light in tow, heading straight for Josephine.

The light from Josephine's sword was instantly shattered, sending flying backward.

Jared was right. Even if was injured, they were no match for them.

The moment Josephine was flung backward, Jared leaped forward. With a swift motion, brandished his Dragonslayer Sword.

"Die!" Even though his opponent was a woman, at that moment, Jared didn't hold back in the slightest.

Just as Jared's Dragonslayer Sword was about to split Josephine in half, the mask on Josephine's face suddenly slipped off.

A face, all too familiar to Jared, appeared before his eyes. It was a face couldn't possibly know any better.

Jared was taken aback, and the Dragonslayer Sword in his hand halted in an instant.

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"Josephine?" Jared's voice trembled with disbelief as stared at her, eyes wide, flooded with confusion and shock.

Slash!

Before could process what was happening, the long sword in Josephine's hand drove cleanly through his chest.

He gasped, looking down at the blade buried in him, then back up at her.

"Josephine... Why?" whispered. "Why would you do this?"

His gaze remained fixed on with bewilderment. There was no hatred in his eyes, only the echo of trust betrayed.

Josephine met his eyes. Her brows drew together, expression tight with guilt and discomfort.

Swish!

Without a word, pulled the sword free and stepped back, distancing herself.

Jared crumpled to the ground. Blood gushed from the wound, pooling beneath him.

"Josephine..." Jared gritted his teeth, struggling to rise, but the searing pain in his abdomen felt like fire licking through his insides.

Skylar burst into laughter, the sound cruel and triumphant. "Hah! Jared, I never thought I'd see you brought this low! We're headed to the celestial realm. You? You can rot in the underworld!".

With that, began to lead Josephine toward the light.

Josephine paused, glancing back at Jared. A flicker of pain crossed face.

"Skylar... Does know me?" asked softly.

Skylar tightened his grip on hand, his tone dripping with false warmth.

"No. He's no one. Just a bad man who wanted to hurt us. You saved me, Josephine. By striking down, you avenged me.".

The lie fell easily from his lips. Together, they stepped into the glowing white light.

"Josephine!" Jared roared, his voice raw with desperation, but his body betrayed him. He could only watch, helpless, as disappeared into the light with Skylar.

Darkness consumed Jared's vision, and lost consciousness completely.

After an unknown span of time, slowly opened his eyes, only to find himself back in the Emerald Cauldron Sect.

Surrounded by familiar faces, Corrado, Fraser, Catalina, Yelena, Viola, Yuvan, Ivasha, Feenix, Catina, Aislin, Quinley, Cloud, all of them were gathered around, their expressions lighting up with joy the moment they saw stir.

"Mr. Chance, you're awake!".

"Jared, you're finally awake!".

"Master, you've finally come to!".

The room filled with elation and relief.

Jared pushed himself up, his head still spinning. "How long was I out?".

Corrado stepped forward, his eyes wide. "Mr. Chance, you've been unconscious for three months!".

"Three months?" Jared echoed, alarm flashing across his face. Without another word, bolted for the exit.

He knew the Celestial Stairway only remained for three months. If it had already disappeared, then would have no way to reach the celestial realm to find Josephine.

Josephine was still by Skylar's side, and the thought gnawed at Jared. He couldn't shake the unease.

If Skylar were to snatch from me... I don't want to live anymore!

But as burst out of the sect grounds, saw the stairway still there, standing tall. Relief poured over him, and let out a long, heavy sigh.

Just then, on the stairway itself, a young man turned to an elderly figure beside him. "Master, time's up. We should get going."

"Bullsh\*t!" the elder snapped. "Who said time's up?!".

"But it's been three months," the young man insisted. "I've been keeping track of it."

The old man struck the youth with a sharp slap. "If I say it's not time yet, then it's not! Now sit down and wait!".

The young man glared at the old man, frustrated, but said nothing. He knew exactly what his master was doing-stalling. They were waiting for Jared.

Until Jared stepped onto the stairway, no one was leaving.

Corrado appeared at Jared's side, his tone filled with confusion. "Mr. Chance... The realms of the stairway sealed off long ago, but for some reason, it hasn't disappeared. We've all been wondering why...".

"I think I finally understand why," Jared said with a faint smile.

Without a doubt, the Celestial Stairway had been waiting for him. Now that knew it wouldn't vanish without him, was no longer in a hurry.

Skylar and Josephine had already entered the celestial realm. Even if followed now, tracking them down would be near impossible in such a vast and unfamiliar place.

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Besides, still had things to take care of and people to say goodbye to, especially in the mundane world, where his loved ones were.

Jared took a deep breath and shared everything with those around him, the truth about Josephine, what had happened, and why had to go after her.

He made sure to comfort each of the women who had stood by his side. He didn't show favoritism, treating every one of them with the same care and sincerity.

Fortunately, his body was nothing short of extraordinary. Even with the demands of dual cultivation across multiple partners, Jared wasn't exhausted in the slightest.

After settling matters in the Ethereal Realm, Jared raised the Dragonslayer Sword and slashed through the void. The space before trembled, until a fracture slowly began to form. Without hesitation, Jared stepped Into the rift, and darkness swallowed his vision.

When opened his eyes again, found himself back in the mundane world.

Suspended mid-air, Jared gazed down at the familiar lands below, awe flickering in his eyes.

It truly feels like we become a deity descending into the mundane world....

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Meanwhile, at the Deragon Sect in Jadeborough, Cecilia was cultivating alongside a group of women. Each of them had shared an intimate bond with Jared, and as a result, carried traces of his bloodline within them.

Their cultivation progressed at a remarkable pace. After an intense round of training, the group finally paused to rest.

"Cecilia, has it been a year already? Can we open the passage to the Ethereal Realm and go see Jared?" Melanie said.

"I'm not sure either. Let's go ask Mr. Flaxseed," Cecilia said calmly.

Among the women, Cecilia naturally took on the role of a leader. During Jared's absence, had been the one overseeing everything within the Deragon Sect, keeping the place running smoothly. Beatrice, too, had been well cared for by these women. Over time, had grown to love these daughters-in-law.

Not far from the sect, nestled quietly to the side, was a small courtyard. It was there that Flaxseed had secluded himself for nearly a year, dedicating himself wholly to cultivation.

In that time, had remained free from worldly desires, abstaining from any indulgence in women. His focus had been unwavering, his days consumed entirely by training.

By the time Cecilia and the others arrived, Flaxseed had already opened his eyes, gazing serenely at the clear blue sky above.

At that moment, appeared completely transformed.

A quiet, profound aura surrounded him, and the sharp light in his eyes gleamed with clarity, no longer clouded by his usual lasciviousness.

"Mr. Flaxseed, a year has passed. How do we go about opening the passage between the mundane world and the Ethereal Realm to see Jared?" Cecilia asked.



Flaxseed's gaze remained fixed on the sky, a faint smile curling at the corners of his lips. "There's no need to seek out. He's already arrived..."

"He's arrived?" Cecilia and the others were momentarily stunned.

Their eyes instinctively shot up to the sky. And then, as if in answer to their silent question, a figure descended from above.

Before anyone could fully process the sight, the figure touched the ground in front of them with a soft thud.

"Jared?!" Cecilia and the others were in shock and disbelief upon seeing Jared.

A rush of excitement surged within Jared as his gaze swept over Cecilia and the others. It had been a year since had seen them, after all.

Without hesitation, they rushed towards Jared, their emotions flooding over him. In turn, Jared responded with equal fervor, the passion between them igniting like a blazing fire.

"D\*mn it, go somewhere else! Don't disturb me!" Flaxseed shouted, his voice tinged with frustration.

Jared, with a subtle wave of his hand, conjured a barrier. The moment it materialized, Flaxseed could only hear the sounds of the reunion, intense, overwhelming, but couldn't see a thing.

He could only sit cross-legged, trying to focus on his cultivation. But the sounds were enough to make break a sweat.

Time seemed to stretch on without end. After what felt like an eternity, the barrier finally disappeared.

Jared approached Flaxseed, his eyes twinkling with amusement as took in the awkward expression on the older man's face.

With a sly smile, Jared said, "Mr. Flaxseed, when did you become so ascetic? This doesn't quite seem like you!".

"Get lost! The moment you return, you start messing with my head, disrupting my focus!" Flaxseed shot a sharp glance at Jared, his tone a mix of exasperation and mock anger.

Jared scrutinized Flaxseed, his gaze narrowing in surprise.

"M-Mr. Flaxseed... Your immortal's bone..." Jared's voice trailed off in astonishment as he realized the true depth of Flaxseed's power. To his shock, Flaxseed possessed immortal's bones, and his abilities now seemed to rival Jared's.

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In the Ethereal Realm, Jared had access to countless resources, dedicating years of cultivation to reach his current strength. Yet Flaxseed had achieved something similar in just a single year within the mundane world.

Flaxseed gave a knowing smile, as if anticipating Jared's reaction. "Never thought you'd develop such a keen eye. Would you believe me if I told you I'm the reincarnation of an immortal?"

Jared's eyes widened.

"I will!" replied without hesitation.

In his time within the Ethereal Realm, Jared had experienced almost everything. Nothing seemed impossible anymore. After all, in this world, anything was possible.

Back in the mundane realm, Jared had never once considered the idea of resurrection after death. But in the Ethereal Realm, even if one were reduced to nothing but ashes, resurrection wasn't just a myth, it was reality. Even a thousand years after death, one could still return to life.

In a world like this, impossibility simply didn't exist.

"Hahaha! Looks like your time in the Ethereal Realm has opened your mind. You even believe in immortal reincarnation now. But I'm not joking. What I told you is true! If my memories hadn't suddenly awakened, I wouldn't have known myself that I'm a reincarnated immortal."

"No wonder you've changed," Jared said with a grin. "You used to stumble just catching sight of a beautiful woman."

"I still do," Flaxseed shot back without missing a beat. "If it weren't for the need to open the passage, I'd never have put myself through that kind of ascetic cultivation. Now that you've made a name for yourself up there, don't forget, find me a few gorgeous ladies from the Ethereal Realm to have some fun with!"

Jared laughed and clapped Flaxseed on the back. "That's more like it! Now that's the Mr. Flaxseed I know!"

"Jared, now that you're back, you should go see your mother," Cecilia said with a warm smile. "She hasn't stopped talking about you this entire year."

Jared nodded and followed Cecilia and the others as they returned to the Deragon Sect.

The moment Beatrice saw him, Jared rushed forward and embraced tightly, tears streaming down his face.

After a year apart, they missed each other badly.

"Jared, how have you been in the Ethereal Realm?" Beatrice asked gently.

"Mom, everything's going well. I've got the entire Ethereal Realm under my control now. I'm basically invincible!" Jared said with a proud smile.

Beatrice laughed, eyes shining. "You're not just bragging, are you?"

"No, really! I'm a big shot over there now. Everyone listens to me," Jared said sincerely.

Just then, Melanie asked, "Jared, you didn't go chasing after women up there, did you?".

"I... Uhm..." Jared froze, caught off guard, at a complete loss for words.

"Melanie," Cecilia stepped in, voice calm but teasing, "Jared's an extraordinary man. It's only natural for to have one or two women in the Ethereal Realm. We can't expect to stay completely abstinent for a whole year, now can we?".

Jared cast a grateful glance, Cecilia was, as always, the most understanding.

"Finding one or two is normal. But what if it's not just one or two?" She turned to Jared, eyes narrowing. "So tell us, how many women have you been with in the Ethereal Realm?".

This time, Cecilia didn't come to his rescue. Instead, looked at Jared with curiosity in eyes. Apparently, wanted to know the answer too.

Jared scratched his head sheepishly. "I... Uhm... I think... Around twenty?".

"Twenty?!" the women echoed in unison, their voices full of shock and disbelief.

"Well then, it looks like Jared's been thoroughly drained in the Ethereal Realm. Ladies, we can't let ourselves fall behind! Let's give a proper welcome back!" With that declaration, Cecilia led the charge, and the rest of the women followed lead.

Jared was instantly swarmed, while Beatrice chuckled, eyes full of fond amusement.

After spending several days with the women, Jared took Lizbeth to Horington to visit Walter and William. However, when William asked about Josephine, Jared could only lie and hide the truth.

Next, Jared traveled to the Chance family's village to visit his father, Gary, and Hannah, the two who had raised for over twenty years.

Before leaving, Jared handed them a few pills. As ordinary mortals unable to cultivate, they couldn't accompany to the Ethereal Realm. The pills, however, would prolong their lives and enhance their vitality, ensuring they remained healthy and strong.

Afterward, Jared visited Tommy and Phoenix. The couple had since married, and Phoenix was visibly pregnant, belly round with new life.

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With his journey through the mundane world complete, Jared tore through the void once more, this time taking his mother, Beatrice, along with Cecilia and the others, back to the Ethereal Realm.

The environment there was far more suited to their cultivation, and even Flaxseed followed them.

In the Ethereal Realm, the women finally met one another.

Jared took the time to introduce them individually, bracing himself for possible tension or conflict. To his surprise, they all got along harmoniously, their interactions warm and friendly. The unexpected peace eased Jared's worries.

Just then, Flaxseed stepped forward, grinning. "Jared, I brought you a little gift from the mundane world!".

He produced a small tower.

At a glance, Jared recognized it instantly. It was the Pentacarna Tower, the very one once used to subdue Whalreth.

"Wait... Isn't this the Pentacarna Tower? Wasn't it left with the Village of Villains?" Jared asked, surprised. "Time inside this tower flows slower than outside. That was fine in the mundane world, but here in the Ethereal Realm, wouldn't that make it counterproductive?".

Flaxseed chuckled. "That's where you're mistaken. This tower is magical. The slower time flow was only due to it being in the mundane world. Haven't you heard the saying, 'a day in heaven is a year on earth'?"

"In the Ethereal Realm, it's the opposite. Time inside the tower flows a hundred times faster than outside. That means a hundred years of cultivation inside amounts to just a single year out here!"

"Really?" Jared's eyes lit up with excitement as eagerly took hold of the Demon Tower.

"I've brought you such a valuable treasure, how do you plan to thank me?" Flaxseed asked with a sly grin.

"Mr. Flaxseed, just name it! The entire Ethereal Realm answers to me now. If it's beauties you're after, I can get you a hundred... No, two hundred, enough to leave you gasping for air!" Jared laughed.

"No rush," Flaxseed chuckled. "I can find my own fun. But if you're heading to the celestial realm, you must take me with you."

Jared paused, then glanced toward the Celestial Stairway. He gave a firm nod. "Deal!"

But Corrado stepped forward with a worried expression. "Mr. Chance, with your current strength, I fear the celestial realm may still be too dangerous. It would be wise to further enhance your abilities before making such a leap."

Jared looked once more at the towering stairway, his thoughts drifting to Josephine. Time wasn't on his side. He couldn't afford to wait. No matter the risk, had to enter the celestial realm and bring back.

"I don't have much time left. I need to reach the celestial realm as soon as possible," Jared said firmly. "The stairway won't wait forever."

He knew that if the stairway vanished, his only path forward would be to cultivate until achieving Ascendancy on his own, a feat that could take decades, even centuries.

"But you have the Pentacarna Tower, don't you?" Corrado reminded him. "Train inside it. Time flows differently there, so you won't lose much in the outside world."

Jared turned to Flaxseed. "Mr. Flaxseed, can the tower really be used for cultivation here in the Ethereal Realm?"

"Absolutely," Flaxseed replied with a nod. "It's all about the flow of time. Here, a single year in the Ethereal Realm equals roughly fifty years inside the tower."

Jared fell silent, weighing his options.

After a moment, made up his mind. He would use the tower to push his strength to the next level before ascending. With his current power, rushing into the celestial realm could prove fatal. And when the time came, not even Arthur would be able to save him.

Now that Jared had an endless supply of cultivation resources, the only thing lacked was time.

After settling a few remaining matters, made his way straight into the Pentacarna Tower to begin his cultivation.

"Kid, now that your whole family's reunited and you've become the most powerful figure in the Ethereal Realm, have you forgotten about this old man?" the Vermilion Demon Lord asked, half-teasing, half-accusing.

Jared paused, feeling a twinge of guilt.

"I... I haven't forgotten," replied awkwardly.

Truthfully, hadn't, but the task of gathering all the Vermilion Demon Lord's scattered remains was monumental. With everything else pressing on him, Jared simply hadn't found the time or energy to continue the search.

"Mr. Vermilion," Jared said, his tone sincere, "I've issued orders, but I just don't know when we'll be able to find all of your remains. For now, why not stay

here in the Ethereal Realm? Once I've completed the task and restored your body, I promise I'll help you return to the celestial realm."

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"Forget it! I'm stuck in your consciousness field for now. No one else can handle my soul remnant anyway," the Vermilion Demon Lord grumbled.

Jared let out a sigh. "So what should we do?"

"I'll go with you to the celestial realm," the Vermilion Demon Lord replied. "Just keep pushing yourself. Once you reach Level Nine, I'll be able to break free from your consciousness and rebuild my physical body."

He had no other choice. Traveling with Jared was the only path forward. But until Jared's strength reached Level Nine, the Vermilion Demon Lord would remain bound to his host. After all, the Vermilion Demon Lord was the great demon lord of level nine.

"All right," Jared said with a nod. "Please bear with me a little longer."

After reaching an agreement with the Vermilion Demon Lord, Jared threw himself into intense training.

Before lay a vast array of resources, all gathered from others.

With the Focus Technique activated, Jared began cultivating with relentless determination. As cultivated, time became irrelevant.

Days, weeks, or even months could have passed, but Jared didn't notice. Eventually, the resources that had once seemed endless were completely depleted.

And in that time, Jared reached the Immortal Realm. Although had only just reached Immortal Realm Level One, knew that navigating level one of the celestial realm would no longer pose a significant challenge.



When Jared emerged from the Pentacarna Tower, everyone was left in stunned silence.

"How long has it been?" Jared asked, unsure of how much time had passed.

"Mr. Chance, it's only been half a month!" Corrado exclaimed, his voice filled with awe.

"In just half a month, you've reached the Immortal Realm?" Flaxseed added, equally impressed. "Your progress is incredible!"

Jared felt a surge of excitement within himself. Had known how powerful this tower was, would have brought it to the Ethereal Realm from the start, rather than leaving it in the Village of Villains.

"Is the Celestial Stairway still there?" Jared asked.

"It's still there, hasn't moved a bit," Corrado replied.

A sense of relief washed over Jared. He turned to Flaxseed and said, "Mr. Flaxseed, I'll take you to ascend the stairway and see if we can enter the Celestial Realm. If they refuse us, I fear there's nothing more I can do."

"Don't worry." Flaxseed chuckled. "Once I'm there, I'll find out who put the stairway in place. It could be someone I know well."

With his memories fully restored, Flaxseed recalled everything from his time in the Celestial Realm, including the people he had met. However, there was no guarantee they would recognize now. After all, he had been reborn, and his appearance had changed drastically.

"Jared, are you really just going to leave without saying goodbye to us?" Cecilia and the others called out in unison.

As Jared gazed at the women before him, a wave of dizziness washed over him. He had never once felt overwhelmed by the number of women in his life, but seeing them all gathered together like this was undeniably intimidating.

"Master, I can't come with you to the Celestial Realm. What if you're lonely once you're there?" Feenix's eyes filled with tears as he looked at Jared, voice heavy with sorrow.

Jared gently stroked Feenix's head and reassured her, "Don't worry, I'll have Zelda with me. She'll help keep my loneliness at bay."

Catina stepped forward with a serious expression. "Jared, once you reach the Celestial Realm, you better not go chasing after women anymore. Your body can't handle it!"

Jared stared at Catina, utterly speechless. The truth was, it was rarely chasing after women, more often than not, they were the ones making the first move.

Catina was a perfect example of the situation. She had initially threatened him, desiring his bloodline, only to end up tied to him.

Jared found it difficult to resist when a woman threw herself at him like this.

At this moment, however, Jared found himself at a loss for words. All he could do was reassure the women, "Once I reach the Celestial Realm, I won't be chasing after anyone. I'll always have you all in my thoughts. But you should also focus on your training and aim to join me in the Celestial Realm as soon as possible. When I miss you, I'll come back to visit. With the Heaven and Earth Array broken, there are no more restrictions. Returning won't be a problem."

After bidding his farewells to the women, Jared, accompanied by Flaxseed, stepped onto the Celestial Stairway.

"You've finally arrived..." The old man, who had been waiting patiently, let out a sigh of relief. "I knew you'd make it."

"Sir, thank you for always waiting for me," Jared said with deep gratitude. "If the day ever comes when you need me, I will do whatever it takes to help you..."

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The old man waved dismissively. "Oh, it's nothing, really. No need to thank me. However, the Celestial Stairway is merely a passage. As for how to reach the celestial realm or where you'll end up, I'm afraid I have no control over that... At your current level, entering the celestial realm without a strong foundation would make survival quite difficult."

Indeed, it would be a challenge for a rookie who had just entered the Immortal Realm to survive in the celestial realm.

"Thank you for the warning, sir," Jared replied confidently. "But with my strength, survival in the celestial realm won't be a problem. And with Mr. Flaxseed by my side, I'll be even more prepared. I hope you'll allow to join me in ascending to the celestial realm as well."

Jared gestured toward Flaxseed, standing beside him.

The elder's gaze shifted to Flaxseed, a hint of surprise flickering across his face. "Immortal's bones? Are you a reincarnate?"

Flaxseed nodded. "Yes, I've been reincarnated five times. It's only in this life that my memories have begun to resurface."

The old man sighed, his expression filled with a mix of pity and curiosity. "Five reincarnations... What kind of grave mistake could you have made to endure such suffering?"

For immortals, even if their physical forms were destroyed, they had the ability to reshape their bodies through their divine souls. Alternatively, they could be sealed away, which would cause a significant drop in their cultivation level.

But no immortal willingly endured the torment of repeated reincarnations. To them, becoming a mortal for even a single lifetime was the greatest of agonies.

The fragility and limitations of mortal life were a trial no immortal wished to face. And yet, Flaxseed had endured the hardships of not one, but five reincarnations.

"Do you know Willow?" Flaxseed asked, his voice carrying a hint of intrigue.

"Of course, I know her," the old man replied, his tone laced with both reverence and sorrow. "Willow was the most aloof and enchanting fairy of level twelve. Many high-plane immortals descended to catch even the slightest glimpse of beauty, but rejected them all..."

"She was the goddess of many hearts, and mine as well. Sadly, a thousand years ago, someone drugged and robbed of purity. After that, it was as though became a completely different person..."

"She fell into a spiral of decadence, and now, is infamous, regarded as a notorious villainess. The jerk who dared to defile Willow's purity is beyond despicable. At the time, countless immortals and demon lords descended to hunt down, though many were secretly envious of him. After all, had won the heart of the goddess who once captivated the world..."

The elder's gaze grew distant, a cloud of nostalgia and regret enveloping as reminisced about the tragic past.

As Jared listened to the elder's tale, instinctively turned to glance at Flaxseed.

A sinking feeling told the "culprit" was none other than the man standing beside him.

The elder suddenly stopped, his expression shifting. He narrowed his eyes at Flaxseed and asked suspiciously, "Could it be... You're that man?"

Flaxseed let out a soft chuckle and nodded. "Indeed, it was me... But the rumors got it all wrong. Willow willingly chose to cultivate with me. Back then, I was charming, dashing, just a bit too flirtatious..."

"Unfortunately, later caught wind of my Involvement with another fairy. She couldn't handle the betrayal, and in pain, twisted the story. The rumor spread like wildfire, and soon everyone was after my head. In the end, I was cast into the cycle of reincarnation by an angry mob, and thus began my punishment, five lifetimes of starting over."

"That's impossible!" the elder exclaimed, disbelief etched into every word. "Willow would never do such a thing. She was the epitome of purity and grace! She's the goddess in the hearts of all who saw her!".

"What do you know?" Flaxseed retorted with a smirk. "Sometimes, the goddess in one man's eyes is just another woman in someone else's story!".

"Take my buddy Jared here. He's been tangled with more so-called 'goddesses' than I can count. To the world, they're untouchable beauties; to him, well... They were just fleeting chapters.".

As spoke, Flaxseed clapped Jared on the shoulder.

Reflecting on Flaxseed's words, Jared realized was right after all.

The elder's face darkened with a mix of disbelief and frustration. With a wave of his hand, snapped irritably, "Go on, leave. Once you're gone, I'll be out of here too!".

He simply couldn't accept that the goddess had idolized would willingly engage in dual cultivation with a man.

Without further delay, Jared and Flaxseed stepped into the white light.

In the blink of an eye, the elder vanished, along with the Celestial Stairway. It would never descend upon the Ethereal Realm again.

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As Jared and Flaxseed were engulfed by the radiant light, they were instantly overwhelmed by a powerful, irresistible force. It seized them both and dragged them deeper without pause.

Jared felt his limbs stiffen, his body rendered immobile under the crushing pressure. The force devoured everything, his strength, his consciousness, his sense of direction. His instincts screamed to resist. But it was futile.

He had imagined the journey to the celestial realm would be divine, perhaps even serene. Never had expected it to be so agonizing, like his very soul was being torn apart and reformed.

As Jared felt a vortex stir deep within him, the world around seemed to vanish. Light and sound alike were stripped away; everything dissolved into nothingness. It was as if were suspended in a vast, empty void. No warmth, no motion, no life.

The silence was absolute. Flaxseed's presence had vanished entirely.

Jared couldn't see a thing. His spiritual sense detected nothing. Even his Nethersky Eye was useless in this strange space.

He closed his eyes slightly, trying to steady himself. It felt like floating in a void without direction or anchor-adrift in a place beyond time and space.

He had no idea how long remained like that. Then suddenly, something shifted.

A pressure began to press in from every direction. His body seemed to slide into another current, like slipping through an invisible passageway.

Faint streaks of light appeared, breaking the darkness at last.

Boom!

Then, following an earsplitting noise, a tremendous force struck like a tidal wave. Jared's vision blurred. His insides churned violently, as though all his organs were being crushed together.

Jared wanted to resist, to push back against the crushing force, but couldn't summon even a flicker of strength.

It was a torment unlike anything he'd ever experienced. His mind was alert, but it was trapped within a body that refused to obey.

Only when a piercing flash of white light flooded his vision did Jared finally manage to open his eyes.

As his vision gradually cleared, a surge of excitement welled up within him. He was eager to see what the celestial realm, the land countless cultivators dreamed of, looked like.

But the thrill in his heart quickly turned to shock. As his eyes fully adjusted, Jared realized he was confined within an enormous cage. Thick black chains coiled tightly around its bars.

"What the h\*ll? Where is this? Mr. Flaxseed?" Jared's voice echoed off the cold, unfamiliar walls.

He was bewildered.

I thought we were going to the celestial realm?

Why am I in a cage? Where am I?

He reached out with his spiritual sense, hoping to understand his surroundings, but it was no use. His spiritual energy had been completely suppressed.

"Mr. Flaxseed?!" called again, louder this time, but there was still no sign of Flaxseed.

An uneasy knot tightened in his chest. He could feel the panic rising.

"Is anyone there? Where am I?".

But no voice answered, no footsteps echoed back. Only the suffocating stillness remained.

"Mr. Vermilion, do you know where we are? Could this be the celestial realm?" Jared had no choice but to seek help from the Vermilion Demon Lord.

The Vermilion Demon Lord shook his head. "I'm not sure... This place feels like a prison..."

"Of course I know it's a prison, but why am I here? I thought I was heading to the celestial realm! How did I end up locked up?" Jared was anxious. He hadn't even arrived in the celestial realm yet and was already imprisoned.

He activated his Nethersky Eye, piercing through the layers of black mist that shrouded the cage, trying to get a glimpse of the outside.

What saw left even more unsettled. He was surrounded by cages just like his own, all suspended in space, each bound by thick chains. The contents of the other cages were obscured.

Jared attempted to draw in the aura around him, but found no trace of celestial or spiritual energy. There was only the faintest hint of demonic aura within the darkness. He was completely at a loss.

After steadying his emotions, Jared drew the Dragonslayer Sword and swung it at the prison bars with all his strength. He was determined to break free and escape this place.

I won't be trapped here forever!

Clang!

The blade struck the cage with a sharp clang.

Sparks flew, but the bars remained completely unscathed. Instead, a jarring shock traveled up Jared's arms, leaving his hands numb.

## A Man Like None Other [On

4 min read

"D\*mn it..." muttered, annoyed.

Gritting his teeth, Jared summoned every ounce of power had and struck again.



Clang!

Another deafening impact rang out, but this time, the force rebounded so violently that was thrown backward.

Pain surged through his body as if his internal organs had been shaken loose. He had never imagined that a cage so unremarkable in appearance could trap so thoroughly.

At that moment, Jared recalled the old man's words and couldn't help but admit they made a lot of sense. With his current strength, danger lurked around every corner in the celestial realm.

Now, truly believed it. If this cage was part of the celestial realm, there was no way could break free.

"Save your strength, kid. No one who's ended up here has ever gotten out, unless they've served their sentence." A man's voice suddenly echoed nearby.

Startled, Jared quickly called out, "Sir, who are you? Where are you?".

"I'm right next door, In the neighboring cell," the man replied, surprised. "I never thought someone fresh to the Immortal Realm would have the guts to charge into the celestial realm...".

"Sir, is this really the celestial realm? Why are we looked up? I haven't done anything wrong. What sentence are we even serving?" Jared looked completely baffled, unable to make sense of what was happening.

I've always followed the rules. I've never committed a crime. So, why the hell am I in a prison cell, waiting for some sentence to be served?

"You hadn't reached Ascendance, yet you used external means to enter the celestial realm. That alone violates the natural laws," the man explained calmly. "So, It's only natural you were imprisoned.".

"I was guided here; no one stopped me! Why am I the one getting punished? Shouldn't they go after whoever led me here?" Jared was utterly speechless.

As far as was concerned, he'd entered the celestial realm through proper channels.

"It's useless. Up here, it's all about rules, not reason. Try arguing logic and people will just laugh in your face. Where are you from? What's your name?"

"Judging by your aura, you just stepped into Immortal Realm Level One... And yet you're already here. Someone definitely pulled strings for you. You've got some serious backing," The man said. He could tell at a glance.

"My name is Jared, from the Ethereal Realm. It's true, the Celestial Stairway did grant me some leeway," Jared admitted with a nod.

Then, curious, asked, "But, sir, how is it that you can see me, yet I can't see you? Where are you from? And may I know your name?"

After all, this man was the first person Jared had encountered since arriving. He felt it was important to get some answers. There was still so much he didn't understand.

"Dispel the black mist in your cage, and you'll be able to see me," the man replied with a weary sigh. "My name is Reidan, a cultivator from the Worstrual Realm. Like many others, I climbed the stairway hoping to reach the celestial realm. But once I arrived, I was thrown in here. I've been trapped for over five hundred years."

Jared turned his gaze toward the swirling black mist in his cage.

With a sharp sweep of his hand, a gust of wind burst forth, scattering the fog instantly.

As the mist cleared, Jared saw another cage a short distance away.

Inside was a man with a gaunt face and rough stubble. Despite his worn appearance, Reidan still looked surprisingly healthy. However, his robes were tattered and faded, clearly unchanged for centuries.

"Sir, do you know why we were guided here, only to end up trapped in cages?" Jared asked.

The thought sent a wave of panic through him. If that were the case, then Skylar and Josephine might have been caught too.

"I'm not sure," Reidan replied, shaking his head. "But it seems these cages only imprison human cultivators. Other races don't appear to be affected."

"What the h\*ll? They're targeting human cultivators? I'd really like to find out who's behind this!" Jared's anger flared.

This isn't fair!

Then, Jared asked, "Mr. Vermilion, if I let you take control of my body, can you break through this cage?".

## A Man Like None Other [On-Going]

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With his condition now fully restored, Jared was capable of allowing the Vermilion Demon Lord to exert his full strength.

"I'm not exaggerating. This is child's play," the Vermilion Demon Lord said with confidence.

"Great, I'll leave it to you," Jared replied, letting the Vermilion Demon Lord take over his body. The last thing wanted was to be locked up forever.

In the next instant, golden light erupted from Jared's body, radiant and blinding.

As the Vermilion Demon Lord took control, the overwhelming surge of power left Reidan completely stunned.

“W-What? Can an Immortal Realm Level One cultivator really possess such strength?” Reidan stared in disbelief.

“Break!” Jared roared, hurling a punch straight at the cage. The sheer force behind the blow exploded outward like a tempest.

The cage holding Jared shuddered violently, and in the next instant, the black chains coiled around it snapped apart with a sharp crack. The entire structure crumbled into fragments before vanishing without a trace.

Jared found himself floating in the void, surrounded by a vast expanse of cages suspended in midair.

“Incredible! Can you help me break out too?” Reidan asked, his eyes wide with disbelief.

After being imprisoned for over five centuries, Reidan was desperate for freedom. If someone could truly shatter his cage, was ready to pledge his unwavering loyalty. Endless years of solitude, with no resources for cultivation and no one to speak to, had driven nearly mad with boredom.

“No problem,” Jared replied with a confident nod. It was a piece of cake.

Boom!

Jared launched a powerful punch at the cage confining Reidan. The instant his fist collided with it, the entire structure crumbled into dust.

With the cage gone, Reidan’s body dropped abruptly through the air. After so many years of confinement, it seemed he had forgotten what it felt like to fly.

Jared reached out in time, catching Reidan mid-fall.

Channeling a surge of spiritual energy into him, helped stabilize Reidan’s body. Gradually, a hint of color returned to Reidan’s pale face.

Clutching Jared’s hand tightly, Reidan’s expression overflowed with excitement and gratitude.

After five hundred long years, was finally free. And it was all thanks to Jared. Without him, Reidan might have remained trapped for eternity, with no hope of escape.

"Mr. Chance, I truly can't thank you enough!" Reldan's eyes welled with tears, and began to cry.

"It's nothing," Jared replied with a relaxed smile.

Just then, Reldan's face flushed with embarrassment. He quickly apologized, saying, "I'm so sorry. I really underestimated you earlier. I never imagined that someone at Immortal Realm Level One could possess power beyond mine, a Top Level Immortal Realm cultivator!"

Jared simply offered a faint smile, choosing not to reveal that It had been the Vermilion Demon Lord controlling his body.

"You've already reached the peak of the Immortal Realm. With just one opportunity or moment of enlightenment, you could've ascended on your own. Why rely on the celestial stairway?" Jared asked, genuinely curious. He couldn't quite understand what Reidan had been thinking.

Reidan sighed deeply. "I've been stuck at the Top Level for centuries, unable to break through to Ascendance. Eventually, I had no choice but to take the Celestial Stairway. But who would've thought the climb would be so perilous? The moment I opened my eyes, I was trapped in a cage. If I had known it would end up like this, I never would've bothered with the stairway at all!"

A soft sigh escaped his lips, and regret clouded his expression.

We wasted hundreds of years in that cage...

"Have you seen the person who came here with me?" Jared asked, his voice tinged with concern. He was searching for Flaxseed.

Reidan shook his head. "No, I think you came alone. I didn't notice anyone with you. Is your companion also a human cultivator? If they're from a different race, they might not have ended up in these cages?"

Jared nodded, his expression darkening. "He is."

Despite having immortal bones, Flaxseed was still a human cultivator.

Reldan's face tightened with frustration, shaking his head. "That's a tough situation. There are thousands of cages here, and I have no way of knowing which one your friend might be in. Only the owner of the cage could tell you."