

BloodLine 481

Chapter 481 Defeating Tyler Lane

Special Faction Room,

"The Stadium is fully packed right now," Laverne Morrow said with a smile.

Beside her, Michael and Ernest are sitting down on the sofa.

Three of them looking at the digital screen. Where the live streaming of the event is going on.

"I don't know how far he has improved over these days," Michael said in a calm tone.

Ernest kept quiet but his eyes never left the digital screen.

After their last monster zone trip together, Zack has been acting alone all this time.

They knew Zack had been going to the monster zones from time to time. Since it's relatively safer monster zones, they didn't interfere in Zack's affairs.

On top of it, the Head of the Special Element Faction is in retreat. Which gives Zack a free schedule to act alone without having to ask for permission.

Dean Office,

Similarly,

Dean Rebecca also took some time off from her schedule to watch Zack's duel. She has been keeping tabs on Zack's activities. She knows his frequent visit to the monster zones.

But one thing she is not clear about is Zack's visit to the small ruins where the land was filled with a malicious aura. Later she found nothing wrong with Zack. So she didn't stop him from going there.

To be honest, she wants Zack's participation in the annual meeting. But unfortunately, Zack's safety will be compromised once he leaves the academy.

She doesn't want anything bad to happen to him. So she is hoping that other warriors would step up for the annual meet. The news regarding the annual meeting was tightly wrapped.

Only the respective head of each faction and elders knows about the annual meeting.

Duel Stadium,

This time Vice-dean Franklin didn't come. Right now the stadiums were filled with warriors from each faction. As usual most of the seats were occupied by the Flame Faction members.

Some of them are ardent supporters of Tyler Lane. Every flame faction member wants Tyler Lane to win. Last time, the limelight was taken by Zack.

So this time the flame faction members want to see some turnaround.

At this time, Tyler Lane entered the arena. Upon seeing him, the flame faction members erupted in cheer.

Looking at the sea of the crowd, a sense of satisfaction appeared on his face. "Wonderful crowd," He said to himself.

Then in front of everyone's eyes. He stepped up and walked inside the platform. "Where is he right now?" Tyler frowned.

Finally, he remembers the opponent Zack Lockwood. But still, there was no sign of him. From the beginning, he didn't think much about the challenge.

After posing the challenge to Zack Lockwood. He completely forgot about it. In the meantime, he spent his days quite leisurely. Just a day before he was reminded of this duel.

He feels fortunate that other top warriors didn't end their retreat. Now he has an opportunity to shine. Then looking down at the entrance he continues to wait for Zack.

...

From MC's perspective:

Duel Stadium,

After having breakfast, I left the dining hall and reached the duel stadium. This time I'm familiar with the route. I quickly walked inside the admin room where I came across the staff.

One of them briefed me about the situation. After knowing that Tyler Lane is waiting for me. I nodded at the person before going to the dueling platform.

When I entered the arena, I saw that arena was filled with crowds. A hint of surprise flashes in my eyes. The crowd appears to be not less than that of my precious duel.

Then I pushed down these thoughts and walked up to the platform where a person was waiting for me.

Walking up to the stage, I stood opposite Tyler Lane. The crowd continues to make loud noises in excitement. They can't wait for the duel to start.

"You are late," Tyler Lane said in a cold tone.

I shook my head in response and waited for the bell to ring.

Tyler Lane's face turned ugly after getting no response. He never thought this person to be so arrogant. His heart boils in anger.

The bell rang all of a sudden. Indicating that duel starts!

Tyler Lane made the first move. He raised his fist and charged toward the opponent.

The crowd erupts in cheer.

The Flame Faction members kept their eyes on Tyler. They want to see how many moves he is going to make to end the duel.

Clearly in everyone's mind. Tyler Lane is stronger than the Giant Tower Members.

Meanwhile, seeing him coming at me. My eyes flickered with a slight glint. He is not dumb as I had expected. He wants to test me before making the final move.

When he got closer to me. He punched me. His fists released burning flames. Suddenly the temperature around me rose greatly. I feel a small threat from the punch attack.

This guy didn't even suppress his realm. His flame punch contains the power of the peak elite. When the power got closer to me. I used the lightning phantom technique to evade.

Swish!

I disappeared from the spot and evaded the flame punch in time.

Bang!

The attack lands a hit at the empty platform. A terrible sound resonated throughout the area. Right after the flame burst into several small flames.

The heat immediately swept around the platform.

Gasp!

The crowd let out a huge gasp in surprise. Everyone saw Zack evading the attack at the last moment.

Tyler Lane was surprised as well. Because he didn't suppress his realm at all. He used peak speed to charge at the opponent.

Now, Zack's lightning movement technique caught him by surprise.

Swish!

Both of them returned to their previous position and stood opposite each other.

Tyler Lane frowned. He had underestimated the opponent's lightning power. Now he feels a little bit tricky to handle it.

Meanwhile, I took a few glances at the platform before turning toward him. The platform was roasted by the red flames.

My face turned dignified. The flame does not look simple. It's just an ordinary attack from the opponent but it can cause severe damage. A hint of surprise flashes in my eyes.

Swish!

This time I took the lead and rushed toward him. I used the phantom technique to reduce the distance by half.

This all happened in a blink of an eye,

Tyler Lane became alerted quickly. He shot fireballs at the opponent.

The flame ball brushed past me and landed a hit at the empty spot.

Bang!

A terrible sound resonates in the area. Ignoring the sound, I reached him in an instant.

"Lightning Wheel," I said.

A purple color wheel appears around me. The wheel is beaming with lightning power.

But the next moment, the lightning wheel comes in contact with Tyler Lane's body.

Bang!

Right after, the lightning wheel blows up. A terrible sound resonates in the area. Tyler Lane was thrown off stage from the impact force.

For a moment, the dueling platform is covered in smoke. No one can see Zack. But Tyler Lane crashed on the ground.

His abdomen has suffered a severe injury. Seeing that the whole crowd became silent all of a sudden.

No one had expected to witness such a result.

Tyler Lane was wipig in pain. Everyone can see that he needs urgent medical attention.

The smoke was cleared on the platform.

Gasp!

The crowd gasped again in shock. What happened? They witnessed a purple color wheel appear for a moment. Then all of a sudden Tyler Lane was swept away from the impact.

Meanwhile, my eyes flickered with a surprising glint. My assumption was right. His body was not that much stronger compared to the Giant Tower Warrior.

My single lightning-wheel attack was enough to cause severe damage. Now he won't be able to get up from the ground.

After seeing my unscathed body the crowd erupted in a loud cheer. Everyone must be surprised by the lightning wheel. But they don't know that I have exhausted the whole purple essence in my dantian.

Now there is little lightning essence left in my dantian.

The next moment, the announcement came. The staff declared me a winner.

Right after, I stepped down and walked toward the exit amid the loud cheer.

Then Tyler was taken by the staff for treatment.

Special Faction Room,

Michael's pupil becomes dignified. "Have you seen this attack before?" He asked.

They know about Zack's lightning moves. But this time three times I saw something different.

"Looks like it's Zack's new move," Laverne uttered in surprise. She was shocked by this new lightning attack's power.

Ernest said, "It appears we had underestimated Zack's strength. He still has some cards in his sleeves."

Michael nodded his head and said, "Yeah, he is hiding his strength. But it would be useless against Super Elite Warrior."

Ernest and Laverne looked at each other. They heard a change in Michael's tone. Both turned toward Michael for some answers.

Michael felt the gazes on him. So he quickly collected his thoughts and answered, "I don't know what he is thinking?"

"But you guys know that our Head likes to be low-key. He won't appreciate Zack's action," He added further.

Ernest and Laverne smiled helplessly in response.

Chapter 482 Meeting With Dean

From MC's perspective:

The following day,

After waking up from sleep. I did the morning routine as usual. I know yesterday's duel might have created a bigger impact. Because Tyler Lane was one of the top warriors from the flame faction.

If my assumption was correct, then many more warriors will come. I should be ready to face them at any time.

Fortunately, many of the warriors are in retreat. Which gives me time for further improvement. It is just the lightning cultivation that is dragging me behind.

I did not feel this clueless before when it comes to lightning cultivation. Even back home, I had come across an opportunity in one way or another.

For example, the mountain Liz. I practiced in the mountain liz from time to time. Though the world energy around here is abundant compared to lower tier cities.

But it's a pity it was not useful to me. I don't know why I have this vague feeling that the dean might know some answers.

If there is a good place then I should visit it. As this thought rose in my heart. I made up my mind to visit her later.

Morning 9 A.M,

The dining hall is filled with more people than usual at this time. At first, I didn't understand. But when I reached the counter, I felt a lot of gazes on me.

"Sure they came to see me," I mumbled under my breath. Usually, I come pretty late to this place. Now it's hard to see empty seats around here.

Then ignoring their gazes, I received the food plate and walked to the empty seat to sit down.

"Hmm," I found something strange. Usually, there is female staff working behind the counter. What happened to her today? Is she absent?

Then shaking my head, I pushed down these thoughts and began to eat. The meat contains pure energy. It tastes delicious as well.

Back home, I didn't have the luxury to eat this kind of food. But now I'm enjoying it every day.

After a few minutes, I walked out of the dining hall. Surprisingly, none of the flame faction members came to disturb me this time.

My mouth curves into a beautiful arc. These guys were perhaps hit by Tyler's defeat. Until the next warrior ends his/her retreat. They probably won't come to pester me.

While feeling good, I head toward the dean's office. The dean's office is located inside the 1st place. I already got permission through a text message. I just hope she gives me a good solution.

When I walked inside the 1st building. I bumped into my classmates who were walking downstairs.

"Michael," "Laverne," and "Ernest," I said to myself.

Looks like there three were heading to the monster zone again. Then shaking my head, I just turned. But before I could walk away.

"Zack?"

I heard my name. Turning around, I see three of them walking up to me.

"Your duel was great yesterday," Laverne said with a smile.

To that, I responded with a small smile on my face.

Right now there are not many walking down the corridor. So four of us got some privacy.

Michael said, "I'm surprised by your improvement these days. It won't be long before you step into the Super Elite category."

Hearing genuine words from someone powerful in my faction. I couldn't help but appreciate him.

But his next words poured cold water on me.

"Next time don't agree to duel challenges that easily," Michael added further.

Hearing that my eyes flickered with a slight glint. What happened to his attitude? He looked dissatisfied with the decision.

Ernest, who was standing quietly, caught the facial reaction of Zack. He commented, "Zack, our faction head was in retreat. Usually, the duel challenges won't take place without the knowledge of the faction head."

"And our faction head doesn't like to stand out too much. Your action would piss him off if he gets to know about it," Ernest added.

The next moment, a look of understanding dawned upon me.

No wonder, Michael seems to be displeased. Then I replied, "Don't worry, I had a good talk with the dean before the duel. It is just a friendly spar. If I don't do it then they will continue to pester me for sure."

Laverne and Ernest looked into each other. Michael's eyes flash with a slight glint. Three of them didn't know about the dean's involvement.

They thought Zack was acting on his own. Now that the misunderstanding was clear. Michael eases down his eyebrows.

"Alright, we are going to the monster zone. Do you want to come?" Michael asked.

Laverne added with a chuckle, "Your strength is catching up with us slowly. It won't be a problem for you to take down Class-5 Monster."

Hearing that, I fell into contemplation. To be honest, I want to fight alone to hone my skills. Some things can't be shown in front of their eyes.

"Maybe next time guys. Right now, I have some other work to do," I said.

Michele smiled and said, "Okay Zack, you can take your time. But we are getting late right now."

After saying that three of them bid goodbye before walking out.

Meanwhile, I head to the dean's cabin.

Outside,

"Michael, what happened?"

"Are you dissatisfied by his answer?" Laverne asked with concern.

The trio is walking in the direction of the teleportation tower.

Michale glanced around the surroundings before saying, "No, I just hope for him to become Super Elite Warrior a little quicker."

The answer stunned Laverne and Ernest.

Michael stopped walking and turned around to see their surprised expression.

Michael reveals an amusing simple before saying, "Looks like your family didn't tell you about the annual summit."

"Annual summit?" Ernest blurted out in surprise.

"That event happens every year. What's so good about this?" Earnest added.

Michael shook his head and replied, ' I don't know what's exactly going on behind the scenes. But my family didn't want me to participate in this year's annual summit."

Gasp!

Laverne gasped in surprise. She asked, "What is going on? And what does it have to do with Zack?"

Ernest realized something quickly. But he waited for Michale to answer.

Michael turned around and resumed walking. Seeing that two of them followed as well.

"You guys know that the Academy will send top warriors to the competition. So far Zack has been invisible in the Elite Level Category. I guess the academy might allow Zack to participate this time," Michael said.

Ernest sucked a cold breath of air. Now he realized the seriousness of the matter. So Zack standing out makes things worse than good.

Laverne said with a sigh, "Hope our head ends his retreat soon."

Meanwhile,

I reached the office and quickly walked toward the dean's cabin.

Creak

The door opened automatically. Seeing that I slowly walked inside.

Dean Rebecca with her glasses asked me to take a seat.

"Zack, what happened?"

"Is there any problem?" Dean Rebecca asked with a concerned filled tone.

She was surprised by Zack's request this morning. She expected him to take some rest after yesterday's duel. But seeing Zack right now, she feels something going on.

"Sigh"

I let out a small sigh before starting to explain my worries.

A few minutes later,

The atmosphere quieted down all of a sudden. I told her about my cultivation problems. Let's see whether she has any solution or not.

Dean Rebecca furrowed her eyebrows. She wasn't surprised by Zack's worries. When Zack joined the academy. She thought about the same problem as well.

Unfortunately, the Academy doesn't have a blessed place related to a lightning element. But they have one wind-element blessed place where sometimes the weather changes. Resulting in heavy thunder and lightning.

She thought about sending Zack to that place a few months later. But right now that place is not suitable for lightning cultivation.

Seeing Zack's face, she fell into deep contemplation. Their academy doesn't have a blessed place.

But what about other academies? As per her current knowledge, she didn't know whether other academics have a lightning-related place or not.

After a few minutes, she looked toward Zack and answered, "You know about our academy's situation. We don't have a lightning-blessed place. But I will look into other academies' secret places."

When she said those words. A hint of relief flashes in my eyes. At least she took initiative to look into other academies.

Then I thanked her before trying to get up from the seat.

"Zack, wait for a second. I need to tell you something," Dean Rebecca said.

I raised my eyebrows in surprise before sitting down.

Dean Rebecca made up her mind to talk about the annual meeting. Zack will play an important role in the annual meet competition. She feels it's the right time to let him know about the competition.

Then she slowly begins to explain.

20 minutes later,

"So, what do you think? Are you going to participate or not?" Dean Rebecca asked.

My mouth twitched. Competition again? I thought after Crimson Hall's competition. There would be a period of some rest. But the annual meeting would be more difficult.

Chapter 483 Practising For Hours

From MC's perspective:

Dean's office,

I fell into deep contemplation. She is asking about my interest. But I know that the annual meeting is not going to be simple. Already people are after my life. And my direct participation would expose me completely.

Then after some seconds, a quick gleam flashes in my eyes. What am I afraid of? I'm not like others. I'm someone who is going to enter the Inner Post in the future.

I also got the backing of my teacher and Jonathan. Then a sudden realization struck my mind. Don't tell me she is betting on my connection. What clever women!

But again why me? I looked into her eyes and asked, "Dean, could you clarify for me further? The matter appears to be not so simple."

Rebecca was dumbfounded. She was hoping to get a nod from Zack. , But instead, he wants to learn more about the competition.

When she thought about Zack's background. She decided not to hide crucial information. Then she began to speak about more confidential information.

20 minutes later,

My expression couldn't help but worsen after listening to her explanation. As I had thought there is another conspiracy.

If we fail to achieve our goal in the annual meeting, then there is a possibility of future conflict. The delicate balance between the 6 academies would break in the future.

Thinking about future turmoil, I furrowed my eyebrows further. No wonder she was concerned about the academy.

If things go wrong, it would not only affect other academies but as well as ours.

"Sigh," I let out a deep sigh.

Rebecca asked, "Now you know everything. What's your answer?"

Hearing that I smiled in response. Though my participation would expose me. But it will also allow me to fight the best among other academies.

Maria Frazier, Ella Downs, and Sallie Mills. I don't know what is going on with them. But I might get to see them at the annual meeting.

Then a sudden thought comes to mind. What about the prize?

"Dean, I'm ready to participate in the competition. But what about the prize?" I said to her,

A hint of relief flashes in Rebecca's eyes. Finally, she manages to convince Zack. When it comes to the final prize it is too early to say anything about it.

"There will be rounds of meetings before the annual meeting. The prize would be decided then," She replied.

Then we talked about a few more things before I left the room.

Instead of going back to the dorm. I decided to hit the training room. After seeing Michael and others, I wanted to go to the monster zone.

They are Super Elite Warriors but still, they are going to dangerous monster zones from time to time.

A few minutes later,

I came to the training floor. Where multiple training rooms can be seen. It is similar to the gravity rooms. The walls were highly reinforced. It can withstand the attack from SS Elite Warrior.

So no matter what? The destructive power of the lightning can be contained in this room. Right now warriors are coming and going from this place.

My appearance didn't attract that much attention. Using this opportunity, I entered the nearby training room.

Creak

The door behind me closed automatically.

The next moment, the wide spacious training room came into my view. As I thought earlier, the walls are made up of similar materials.

Which was used in gravity rooms. When I looked around. I spotted some weapons placed in racks.

After taking a glance at them, I recalled my techniques.

1. Sword Divide: Big wheel (Beginner)
2. Lightning Wheel: Big wheel (Beginner)
3. Lightning Phantom: Big wheel (Beginner)
4. Blood Field Technique: Small wheel (Intermediate)

5. Soul Tower Method: Small wheel (Beginner)

6. Soul Needle Art: Small wheel (Beginner)

7. Lightning finger technique: (Beginner)

After recalling the techniques in my mind. I felt there was still a long way to go before mastering the techniques. All of my techniques were at the beginner level right now.

The next moment, I brought the black sword from my storage ring and decided to execute a few lightning moves.

"Sword Divide," I said.

I charged the black sword with lightning power and released it the next moment.

The next moment, a beam of power was released from my sword and shot at the metallic wall opposite me.

Bang!

The attack exploded right after coming into contact with the wall. The trick lies in charging time. I have to reduce the charging time to release the attack more effectively.

Then I continue to repeat the attack.

Time passed in a blink of an eye,

After one hour, I stopped executing the first move and started practicing the lightning wheel technique.

A few hours later,

I walked out of the training room. After practicing for some hours, I feel good now.

Then I head straight towards my dorm.

Meanwhile,

The Metallic Faction was in an uproar. One of their top warriors returns from his retreat. So many metallic faction warriors are gathered to greet him.

One of the main reasons people want to meet him is because of Zack. Already Tyler Lane from the Flame Faction lost miserably to Zack Lockwood.

Which in turn rocketed the prestige of the Special Faction. Now the warriors of the metallic faction hope to see the rise of their faction.

Which can be done by defeating Zack Lockwood. The news about the top warrior's return was kept tightly. Only the head of the metallic faction can further instructions.

On one hand, things were going smoothly for the metallic faction. On the other hand, Dean Rebecca was aware of the news.

In her office, she is looking at the information on metallic faction warriors. "He is now Peak Elite Warrior," She said to herself. Her eyes gleamed with a twinkle.

She knows Zack can defeat Peak Elite Warrior. She is quite curious about what this metallic faction warrior would do.

Like others, she is also looking forward to the metallic faction's next move.

She thinks these duels will be helpful for Zack.

Chapter 484 Brandon Hurst (The Metal Faction)

Metal Element Faction,

A warrior with white long hair is listening to the recent events from the mouth of his subordinates.

"What?"

"Someone new joined the special element faction when I was in retreat," he muttered to himself.

His subordinates in front of him nodded their heads.

The warrior with white long hair is none other than the top warrior of the metallic faction. Unlike Tyler Lane who was ranked 5th in his faction.

His standing is way better. He is ranked 3rd in the metallic faction in Elite Level Section. His name is Brandon Hurst.

He stands 6ft tall in height. Apart from distinct white long hair. He has a well-built body. A faint silver texture can be seen over his fair skin. It is the result of his body cultivation technique.

His subordinates didn't stop but continued to share the news. When Brandon heard about Tyler Lane's defeat.

"Ha...Ha...Ha...", He burst into joyful laughter.

"To think that moron was defeated."

"The face of flame faction must have been burnt," He said with a wide grin on his face.

The attitude and behavior of Flame faction members were well-known throughout the academy.

Brandon felt he had missed the great opportunity to witness their embarrassment.

"So now what are they up to?" He asked his subordinates. The Flame faction has many warriors. They don't usually take the defeat lightly.

"Boss, right now top warriors are in retreat except you and Tyler. So now everyone is waiting for them to end their retreat," One of his subordinates said.

Hearing that, Brandon held up his chin in contemplation. Unlike Tyler, he is not a blockhead.

"So it's true that the person named Zack Lockwood is only an Initial Stage Elite Warrior."

"Not a mid-level elite?" He asked back.

His subordinate nodded his head and affirmed by saying, "Boss, the information was confirmed by all factions. Even Vice-dean himself said Zack was "Initial Stage Elite Warrior."

A quick gleam flashes in Bradon's eyes. "Fighting across two small realms is not an easy task," He muttered to himself.

He is already aware of the mood of the people around him. They want him to defeat the warrior named Zack and raise the fame of the metallic faction.

But if he does that there is a slight possibility for top warriors to challenge him in the future. So he is quite cautious in issuing the challenge.

After talking with his subordinates he sends them back.

Beep!

Shortly after, his watch lit up with a notification. Seeing the contact name. His expression changes for a moment. He opened the message to read it.

Right after he raised his eyebrows in confusion. "Faction Head wants to meet me," He mumbled under his breath.

The faction head won't call him unless it's necessary. He suspects it has the least to do with his return. Then pushing down these thoughts, he got up from the seat.

He decided to meet the faction head right away.

A few minutes later,

The Metallic Faction Office,

A person wearing a metal mask is working behind the desk. He is the head of the faction. His name is Marcus Lin. He was dressed in a plain white shirt and black pants.

He has black hair and eyes. But no emotions can be seen from those eyes.

Suddenly his gaze shifted to the monitor screen. Where he saw Brandon coming to his room.

Creak!

Shortly after, the person entered. Brandon nervously stood in front of him. Seeing that Marcus Lin collected his thoughts.

"Brandon, take your seat," Marcus said in a calm tone.

But it rang like thunder in Brandon's ears. A cold sweat appears on his forehead. The next moment, he took the seat and waited for the head to speak.

Marcus Lin nodded his head and said, "You must be wondering why I called you here?"

Before Brandon could reply.

Marcus added further, "I want you to fight against Zack Lockwood."

Brandon was confused for a moment. At first, he thought he had heard it wrong. But in a few seconds, he realized it was true.

The faction head is asking him to fight the same person. For a second he felt unreal.

"Faction Head?" Brandon showed hesitation.

Marcus Lin quickly caught the expression. He asked, "What's wrong?"

"Do you have any problem fighting against him?"

Brandon replied, "I just want to wait for a few more days before making a decision."

"Ha...Ha...Ha...and why is that?" Marcus felt amused by Brandon's words. Certainly, something had happened after his retreat.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have shown hesitation. Anyways, the instruction came from the dean. Even he can't refute it.

So looking into Brandon's eyes. Marcus said, "I don't know what you will do. But I want to see your fight against Zack Lockwood within three days."

"You can go now?" He added.

Brandon cursed in his heart. Since it's an order he can't deny it. Helplessly, he got up from his seat and walked out of the room.

Walking out, Brandon couldn't help but feel irritated. Before coming here he had made up his mind not to antagonize other top warriors.

Now the situation has become something different. Either Zack will win or he will become his stepping stone.

"Faction Head gave me three days. What to do with three days?" He muttered to himself.

His appearance immediately attracted attention. Ignoring everyone, he returned to his faction area.

...

(From MC's Perspective)

The following day,

I got up as usual and started to do my morning routine.

Several minutes later,

I entered the training room for cultivation. I sat cross-legged and started practicing the lightning cultivation techniques.

When I ran the cultivation technique. I didn't feel the presence of lightning energy from the surroundings. It would take some time to absorb the energy.

After a few minutes, I absorbed the trickle of energy and started to guide the energy according to the cultivation method.

After circulation, the energy stored inside my dantian.

Seeing that I continued to repeat the process.

Time passed in a blink of an eye,

Two hours later, I opened my eyes. But my lightning essence was only half filled. It was not because of today's cultivation. But for the past few days, I have been saving the lightning essence.

The half reserve was the result of that saving.

Chapter 485 Class- 4 Dark Brown Falcon

From MC's perspective:

After completing the lightning cultivation. I got up and walked out of the training room.

Currently, I lack a monster core. If I want to cultivate body strength then I must consume the energy from the monster core.

On top of it, cultivating healing energy would take time. After pushing down these thoughts, I made up my mind to hunt monsters.

After gaining some clarity, I begin to get ready.

Several minutes later,

I walked out of the dorm building and walk toward the dining hall. On the way, I thought about the academy. Rumors are spreading about the metallic faction's big move.

I already know that one of the big warriors of the metallic faction has returned. And I saw some of his images circulating on online posts.

I'm pretty much sure that everyone wants to see the duel between us. With a smile on my face, I entered the dining hall.

No matter who it is? As long as the warrior is under the super elite warrior. I can defeat him with ease.

As usual, my appearance attracted a lot of attention. And people immediately started gossiping. This almost become a daily scenario to watch.

Ignoring the gazes, I received the food plate from the counter and found a quiet spot to sit down.

While eating the mana-filled vegetables. I'm also keeping an eye on the surrounding. Don't know why? I feel something is going to happen today.

Then shaking my head, I neglected the unnecessary thoughts and continued to eat.

A few minutes later,

I left the dining hall and headed toward the teleportation tower. At this time no one except me is heading to that place.

Usually, warriors would form a team to enter the monster zones. But I on the other hand prefer soloing.

After reaching the teleportation point, I selected the server. The next moment, blue lights lit up all over the platform.

Swish!

I disappeared from the spot and appeared inside the monster zone.

Feeling the solid ground under the feet. I carefully looked around. This time I have selected a slightly difficult monster zone.

This place is the nest of many bird-type monsters. Only super elite warriors and above usually come here to hunt. Because they got flight ability.

Which gave them the capability to fight against bird monsters. So rarely anyone would come here under super-elite level.

The main reason I have selected this place is. It's to test my attack techniques. The lightning sword and finger techniques will be difficult to execute here.

Screech~

Suddenly I heard a loud bird cry.

The next moment, I saw a big shadow appear above me.

A huge bird monster came into view. Seeing its huge mandible and crown. I quickly recognized the monster.

[Class 4 Monster - Dark Brown Falcon]

I have seen its description in the books before. But the next moment, I felt a deep gaze on me. No doubt the bird monster has found me.

Screech~

The falcon monster let out another cry before flapping its huge wings.

The massive wings send out a huge wind attack. It's directed toward me. From the sound alone I can feel the destructive nature of the wind attack.

Swish~

I quickly used the lightning phantom technique to move away from the spot. The next moment, bolts of purple lightning appear in my leg.

Within a few seconds, I moved to the opposite side.

The wind attacks and lands a hit on the empty ground.

Boom~

Right after, I heard two massive sounds behind me. I quickly activated my perceptual ability.

Then I spotted two massive cracks in the ground. It was formed by a powerful wind attack.

The falcon monster is not within my range. Otherwise, I could have accurately seen its movements.

Above, the falcon monster is circling in the air. It noticed that the wind attack has failed. By using its powerful eyes, it quickly spotted the prey near the tree.

Screech~

The Falcon monster releases a few more wind attacks in the same direction by using its massive wings.

Hearing another scream, I realized the monster is ready for another wind attack. I brought the black sword from the storage ring and held it in my hand.

In this situation, only the sword divide can help me greatly.

Swish~

By using the lightning phantom technique, I moved away from the spot. And at the same time, I try to charge the black sword by using the lightning essence. Executing two things at the same time is challenging. But the bird monster won't let me off easily if I stay in one spot.

Boom~

The wind attacks immediately swept away the surroundings. Almost removing the nearby green grounds.

But unfortunately, none of the attacks can get me. When the black sword was charged completely. Then I looked for the appropriate opportunity to release the attack.

When I looked above, I saw the falcon monster circling in the mid-air. But one good thing though due to its massive size. I can easily target the monster.

The black blade is fully covered with purple arcs. Then suddenly, I saw an opening. The monster seems confused as I'm moving in a zig-zag manner.

A quick gleam flashes in my eyes. I raised my sword and released the charged lightning attack.

"Sword Divide," I said.

A powerful purple lightning beam released from the sword and shot at the flying monster.

If one looks at it from distance one can see a purple straight line. The lightning beam reaches the target in a blink of an eye and pieces through the monster's wings.

Screech~

The falcon monster lets out another bird cry. But this time it's due to the injury. The powerful lightning beam manages to damage one of its wings.

Which causes the bird monster to spiral down at great speed.

Seeing the perfect attack, a hint of relief flashes in my eyes. But the next scene brought me a huge shock.

The monster is falling at great speed. I bet this would cause greater injury than my attack.

Tud~

The bird monster crashes onto the ground. I never thought one attack would cause the downfall of the monster.

The impact immediately swept away the surroundings.

Chapter 486 Class-5 Deadly Vulture Monster

From MC's Perspective:

The dark brown falcon was injured gravely beyond my belief. But the savage aura released from the monster's body is not reduced a bit.

Seeing that the bird monster is not getting up. I charged the black sword with lightning power again.

"Sword Divide," Right after, I released the fully charged lightning beam.

The powerful attack reaches the fallen monster in a blink of an eye.

Boom~

A terrible sound reverberated throughout the area as the attack came into contact with the monster.

The attack pierces through the bird's crown resulting in sudden death. The killing was neat in the end.

After confirming the monster's loss of life, I walked up to the monster. And I began to search for the monster core.

Though the fight ended within minutes. But it created a lot of noise. It would be a matter of minutes before the place was swarmed by the deadly vultures. Which is another worst-class bird-type monster.

Screech~

When I was slicing the monster's body to retrieve the core. A loud bird cry reached my ears. Which has sent chills down my spine. The bird's cry might sound the same.

But I know that probably those deadly vultures already found this place.

Then I hurriedly searched for the monster core. I felt it in the next second. After collecting the core, I got up to leave.

But the next moment, my eyes flickered with a cold glint. I see a huge shadow on the ground just like before.

This time the shadow cast on the ground is different in size. The Deadly Vultures' bald head and hooked claw can be clearly distinguished.

I hope it's not an advanced-class monster.

"Lightning phantom technique," I uttered.

A purple arc covers both my legs in an instant.

Swish~

Right after, I disappeared from the spot and moved to the area with densely packed trees.

A few seconds later,

I'm able to see the bird monster as it descends on the ground.

[Class-5 Deadly Vulture Monster.]

I'm now able to confirm the identity of the monster. Especially the savage aura leaking out. It's a Class-5 Monster.

A trace of hesitation appears in my eyes.

Should I fight back or head to the nearest teleportation point?

But this is a good opportunity to fight against the Class-5 Monster. While I'm hesitating, the bald vulture already starts to bite down its food.

I let out a long sigh before making the final decision. I gripped the black sword tightly. And at the same time, I noticed my essence reserve.

The lightning essence is not enough to support a prolonged fight. Especially when it comes to fighting against higher-class monsters.

So I have to end it quickly before the fight attracts its companion.

The deadly vulture is within my perception range. Strangely, it hasn't noticed my presence yet. The next moment, the vulture suddenly turned toward me.

Which immediately sent goosebumps all over my body.

," I cursed out loud before using the lightning phantom technique.

Swish~

I rushed towards the nearest teleportation point. It must be somewhere near here. I had underestimated the sensitivity of Class-5 Monster.

Screech~

A loud bird cry resonated in the area.

Hearing that I spread the perception around me. I don't think the deadly vulture is considering me a threat.

But the next second, I found I was wrong. The damn Vulture is chasing me from behind.

At the rate of my current essence reserve, I don't plan on confronting the monster head-on. I must find the teleportation first.

Before entering the monster zone, I took notice of a few teleportation points which are located on the outskirts.

But here with these densely packed trees hindering the way. It is becoming quite difficult to look for it.

Unlike the falcon, the deadly vulture is not taking initiative to attack. Is it looking down on me? But the next second, I shook my head in denial.

The deadly Vultures loved to use their clawed toes on their prey. If it was an open field, I would have got attacked right now.

After having this sudden realization, I broke out in a cold sweat. Fortunately, I didn't let down my guard.

Meanwhile, the deadly vulture is patiently flying above its prey. But the towering trees make it harder for it to dive down.

....

The Metal Faction,

Brandon Hurst didn't wait for three days to end. He already made up his mind to release the news right now.

He understands one thing for sure. Their head Marcus Lin wants a fight between him and Zack Lockwood to happen.

It doesn't matter how many days it would take.

After making the decision, he sends a message to their Head before releasing the challenge post.

A few minutes later,

[The metallic faction- Brandon Hurst issues an official duel challenge to the Special Faction's Zack Lockwood.]

A duel post under Brandon Hurst's name began to circulate online. Shortly after the news spread like a wildfire.

But no one was surprised by the news. As everyone had expected to hear this news before. Now that the official duel post was issued.

Everyone wants to see the reaction from Zack Lockwood. Except for the dean, Rebecca nobody was aware that Zack is training inside the monster zone.

Meanwhile, the powerful trio from the Special Faction came to know about the news.

"The duel post"

"Again?"

"What those faction guys are thinking?" Laverne Morrow said with anger. So much that ice-cold energy is leaking out from her body.

"Calm down"

"Laverne"

Ernest said to her. Besides, Michael is looking at the official post. He was surprised by the Metal Faction's sudden move.

It may look like all other factions are picking on their Special Element Faction. But he knows everyone wants to see Zack Lockwood's bottom line precisely.

Since he had shown that he can defeat Peak Elite Warrior despite being in Elite Initial Stage himself.

Now all other factions would send out their top warriors one by one until Zack tasted his first defeat. Thinking about Zack's situation, Michael furrowed his eyebrows.

Chapter 487 Leaving The Monster Zone

From MC's perspective:

"Lightning finger technique," I muttered. A purple beam released from the finger and shot at the monster's wings at breakneck speed.

If anyone looks from outside, they can witness a straight purple line.

The lightning beam pierces through the monster's wing.

Screech~

The deadly vulture let out a scream in pain. But its momentum did not slow down. It reached the prey and launched heavy attacks using its claw.

Meanwhile, my senses alarmed me of a great danger. I instinctively used the lightning phantom technique to move away from the spot.

Boom~

Monstrous claw landed on the ground just before I moved from the spot. But the collision force swept me away.

The power from the class-5 monster can be clearly seen from this attack. The nearby trees were completely uprooted. Several deep cracks were formed on the ground.

Meanwhile, I found the monster through my perception. It's using its eyes to search for me.

Cough!

I coughed up some blood. Seeing the trace of blood in my palm. A hint of surprise flashes in my eyes. As I had guessed before, the monster is absolutely the peak one.

Such brute force can injure me. My expression becomes dignified. My essence power is not enough.

At this rate, I can only release a few lightning techniques. My mind races up fast. I decided to find the nearest teleportation point before I ran out of the reserve.

Behind me the deadly vulture acted up again. Realizing that I used the lightning phantom technique.

Screech!

The deadly vulture spotted the purple arcs. It flapped its giant wings to fly.

The chase continued for a few minutes before I spotted the teleportation point. After entering inside the teleportation point. I wasted no time in activating the server.

Swish!

I disappeared from the spot. The deadly vulture collided with a barrier right after that.

When I appeared back inside the teleportation tower. I was completely worn out. Hardly any lightning essence left in my body.

Phew!

I took a deep breath before I walked out from the tower. While heading towards my room. I still can't get out of the picture of a deadly vulture from my head.

That monster was tenacious even after getting hit from the lightning attacks. It was completely different from the Falcon monster.

A 10 minutes later,

Before I realized, I had already arrived in front of my room. After waking into the room, I lie down in my bed. I'm not in any condition to move around.

Though I didn't get attacked directly from the monster. But continuous movements had taken a toll on my body.

Meanwhile, the academy was discussing Brandon Hurst. Everyone was looking forward to the next duel.

After the flame faction's failure, nobody was sure about the metal faction.

Time went by,

I woke up after a few hours. My mind is a lot clearer now. I got up from the bed and headed towards the shower.

I almost forgot about sweating. After a few minutes, I walked out of the bath. The cold shower made me even more refreshed.

Then after changing into casual clothes. I sat down comfortably. When I looked inside. I found my dantian completely dry without purple essence.

I wrinkled my eyebrows in displeasure. It took me a great deal of effort to cultivate the lightning essence but it was all gone after a few lightning attacks.

After pushing down these thoughts. I shifted my attention toward body cultivation. Fortunately, I was able to slay the falcon monster.

The Class-4 monster core will help me further to raise my level. Due to the availability of monster cores, I can reach the peak elite in body strength sooner than expected.

After gaining some clarity, I decided not to slow down the body cultivation just because I was one step slower in essence cultivation.

Fighting against the deadly vulture, I have realized one thing. If I were to have peak elite level body strength, then I had the good chance of killing the deadly vulture.

But I was desperately setting my mind on the lightning cultivation. Since the dean has promised me to find a suitable lightning cultivation spot.

I should wait for her words before unnecessarily worrying about the lack of lightning cultivation environment.

Beep~

When I was lost in thoughts. I received a call from the dean, Rebecca. My eyes lit up with surprise. I just thought about her. But she contacted me right away.

Is it a coincidence or what? I feel she is keeping an eye on me. My mouth curves into arc after realizing this.

Then I recovered my expression back to normal before attending the call.

Dean Rebecca: Zack, are you back?

Hearing the voice, I'm certain that she is keeping an eye on me. After the surprise, I replied, "Yeah, dean. I came back a few hours ago."

After that there was some silence. I felt something in my heart. She won't call me for nothing.

Dean Rebecca: Did you hear the news?

Then I heard her voice after a few seconds.

I asked, "What news?"

Dean Rebecca: Someone from the metal faction has issued a challenge against you. The warrior is similar to Tyler Lane. But his fighting experience is far more than Tyler Lane.

My eyes gleamed with twinkle. Again? I had expected this to happen. But the challenge came sooner than I had expected.

It was obvious that warriors from other factions also wanted to fight me. But I'm glad no super elite warrior challenged me.

Dean Rebecca: Zack? Are you there?

I replied, "Ahem, dean. I'm severely lacking in lightning cultivation. These constant duels only hinder my cultivation time."

I'm not exaggerating the situation. But this is the fact. Without the purple essence, I can't fight against the monster.

And these people only know I'm an essence cultivator not a body cultivator.

Dean Rebecca asked, "How bad is your situation?"

"Don't worry about the cultivation. I already found a few places. Which could help you," She added further.

A quick glint flashes in his eyes. After a long time, I heard some positive news from her. I was worried earlier.

But the Tier-6 region was not as bad as I had thought. Then I spoke to her about my situation and my fight against the Class-4 & Class-5 Monsters.

Dean Rebecca said, "So you are not in any condition to duel against the warrior. Alright, then I'll give you the coordinates of a few places where you can find a lightning environment."

"You can accept the duel after cultivating your lightning essence."

After saying that she ended the call.

"Finally, I can cultivate the lightning power," I mumbled under my breath. Then my attention shifted back to the challenge post.

I should check out the social media site. I bet these people have already started to trend about the challenge duel.

When I opened the site, The first thing that caught my attention was the person's image. "Brandon Hurst," I read the name under the post.

So this guy is the warrior from the metal faction. He looks similar to Tyler Lane. After memorizing the image, I began to read the detailed post.

The challenge post was direct. But he didn't mention any time and place. So they are expecting my reply. They want me to fix the time and place for the duel.

Shaking my head, I pushed down these thoughts. Like the dean said, I should get ready to visit the place. As long as I stay in the academy, these people would pester me regarding the duel post.

After gaining some clarity, I decided to cultivate. I entered the isolated training room and sat cross-legged on the ground.

Then I took the Class-4 Monster core of the falcon and held it in my palm. Slowly, I began to recite the blood element method in my mind.

Right after the bloody rune in my consciousness started to flicker. I slowly began to absorb the energy from the monster core.

When the energy entered my body. I waited for the blood light to appear. After a few seconds, the red blood light appears above the blood to absorb the energy.

The red blood light began to convert absorbed energies into white energies. These white energies then slowly began to drill into my bones.

The next moment, I felt heart wrenching pain. But my senses become numb all of a sudden. Because, at this point of time. I almost got used to this pain.

The red part of my bones began to expand further. After a few minutes, the red color stopped expanding.

My bones become a lot more strengthened. Feeling the rise in strength, my eyes gleamed with twinkle.

Then I continue to repeat the process. The Class-4 Monster Core still has remaining energy. It would take some time to completely absorb everything.

Time went by,

After a few hours, I opened my eyes. The monster core crumbles into pieces. My body strength has risen one step further.

Then I got up from the ground and walked out of the training room. Looking at the sweat all over my skin, I decided to take a bath again.

Chapter 488 Selecting The Place To Cultivate

From MC's perspective:

The following day,

After having breakfast, I head to the main building to meet the dean.

A few minutes later,

I walked into her cabin and sat directly opposite her. She seems to be working on something. Instead of disturbing her, I waited patiently to finish her work.

Dean Rebecca noticed Zack's presence. She is currently looking at the places where lightning is found.

On the screen images of two places can be seen. A long canyon with dark clouds in the sky. And the second place seems to be the peak of the mountain. Here in this picture as well the dark clouds can be seen in the sky.

The two places appear to have rainstorms all day long. Thunder and lightning were frequent events occurring there. After reading the further details. Dean Rebecca confirmed the sources.

Though these two places are not blessed land, they can assist Zack in his lightning cultivation.

"Zack, I found these two places for you." Dean Rebecca said, as she turned the screen slightly so that Zack could see.

My eyes immediately fell on two images on the screen. One of the images is of a deep canyon. This is the first time for me to see places like this. And another is a mountain peak similar to mountain liz.

"What do you think of this place?" Dean Rebecca asked. She thinks Zack will choose a deep canyon. But Zack's words surprised her greatly.

"I decided to go to the mountain," I responded with a smile looking at the image. I feel I have great affinity with mountains.

Mountain Liz used to be my favorite spot. I hope this place will be as usual as well.

"Are you sure? The deep canyon is closest to the academy. But that mountain is in the territory of the Red Moon Tower," She added further.

"Red Moon Tower!"

My eyes flickered with a slight glint. I don't know what Sallie and Ella are doing there?

Dean Rebecca saw through Zack's thoughts.

She said, "I heard your friends joined the Red Moon Tower."

"We don't have enmity with Red Moon Tower. But at the same time we are not friends either. Besides, the mountain area is less trespassed by people. So you can avoid lot of eyed before getting there."

She shared some useful information.

In response I nodded my head. But the problem is how to get there. I can't go there with the academy identity. It would expose me directly. Then something happens that I can't think of.

"Dean, how to get there?"

"Should I use direct transport," I asked.

Dean Rebecca let out a small chuckle all of a sudden. She felt amused by Zack's words.

She replied, "Don't you know? Great number of people are after your life."

"I'm not even sure of the Red Moon Tower. I won't be surprised if they join forces with others to eliminate you."

Her words send a cold chill along my spine. I suddenly remembered the face of the rude woman. She was the one who selected those two girls at that time.

Seeing Zack's mood went down. .

Dean Rebecca said, "About transportation. There is one solution available."

When she said those words. I raised my head to look into her eyes. What solution is she going to talk about?

"Like the teleportation tower. We do have similar teleportation points connecting to the nearest places of other academies."

"The teleportation point was a secret known to few people of our academy. Unless, it's important no one is allowed to use the teleportation point."

When she dropped such a huge secret. My heart set off storms. Don't tell me they all are strategic teleportation points. Unless the academy faces a huge threat. They won't be using it.

But I was surprised by her actions. Why did she reveal such a secret to me? There was no need for that. Traveling there is a bit of hassle. But it's not impossible.

Dean Rebecca again saw through Zack's thoughts.

"From your flustered face. I can see you were surprised. But we are not the only ones who have secret teleportation points. I bet other academies do as well," She said.

Again, I felt slightly dizzy from such a revelation.

"Dean, you don't have to tell me the confidential information," I said with a small cough.

"Alright, here are coordinates for the teleportation point. I will send you access later. You can use the teleportation point after going out of the academy," After saying that she sent two coordinates to Zack's watch.

Beep!

I received the messages the next second. Then after thanking her. I walked out of the room.

Phew!

Finally, I got a chance to go outside. Now that I got the permission. I have to make steady preparation before venturing outside. Starting from buying emergency items.

The treasure pavilion has many items. Ranging from weapons to healing herbs.

After gaining some clarity, I decided to look into the treasure pavilion items.

Beep!

Before I could move. I received another message from someone.

"Who is it this time?" I muttered, as I began to read the message.

A hint of surprise flashes in my eyes. The Special Faction members want to see me. It has been some time since I talked with them.

Sigh!

It can't be helped. They all are Super Elite Warriors. I can't join their mission. But it would be stupid to ignore their request. They also know more about the faction head.

I have yet to meet that person. After gaining some clarity in thoughts, I changed my direction and walked toward the Special Faction Area.

A few minutes later,

I reached the lobby. The warriors who were passing by already noticed my presence.

Gasp!

The commotion broke out all of a sudden.

"Hey, why is he here?"

"Is he going to the Special Faction Room?"

"What about the challenge post?"

"No metal faction members are here."

The flame faction members immediately recognised Zack's face and they started to call out. But unfortunately there are no warriors from the metal faction found in the lobby.

There are people from other factions as well. But they are small in numbers.

My mouth twitched, hearing the commotion from these people. Ignoring everyone, I walked upstairs. I'm sure in a few minutes, warriors from the metal faction would arrive here.

I quickly reached the Special Faction Common Room. After entering the access code, I walked into the hall. Then I entered the living section. Where I met them last time.

"Zack, you are here?" Ice queen, Laverne Morrow greeted me with an icy cold voice.

"Senior," I responded with a slight nod.

I see Michael Blevins and Ernest Kirk on the sofa.

"Zack, take your seat," Michael said.

Hearing that I sat down in a nearby chair and looked toward them. I don't know their purpose for calling me.

"Zack, do you know Brandon Hurst?" Ernest asked.

I sighed inwardly. So that was all about. I realized something. Michael already advised me about this. The Special Faction Head doesn't like his students to stand out too much.

This challenge duel will once garner attention from people. Not only from our academy but other academies as well. What to do?

I'm not afraid of offending the faction head. Because the dean was on my side. If my assumption was correct, she was behind the duel arrangement. Nothing can happen without her permission.

I answered, "I'm going to accept the challenge. And the dean had already given me permission."

"Dean?"

Michael raises his eyebrows in surprise. If the dean is behind all of these then nothing can be done.

Ernest was surprised as well. Three of them were finally able to realize that these duels were not simple. It's not happening due to rivalry. But the higher ups wanted it to happen.

Michael let out a deep sigh. He said, "Since the duel is going to happen. Make sure you win it."

"If you need help, you can ask us," Laverne said with a smile.

Hearing that an idea comes to mind. I do need help. But not for the duel but for my trip to the mountain.

"I need some pills," I said.

My words surprised three of them.

"Ha..Ha...Ha.."

"I thought you were going to ask for treasures or some weapons. But you need pills. Which is fine with me," Ernest said with some laughter.

"What kind of pill do you want?" Michael asked.

"Just healing pills were fine," I replied. Right now, I need healing pills for my trip more than anything. Who knows if I got attacked it would come handy.

Since my essence was dried out. I can only use my body strength. So the healing pills are going to be much more useful.

"Are you preparing for the aftermath of the duel? You remain unscathed after fighting against Tyler Lane. So why do you need the healing pills?" Laverne asked out of curiosity.

She spotted it. A quick gleam flashes in my eyes. Before I could respond. Michael answered, "Okay, we will give you healing pills before the duel."

Chapter 489 High Peak Mountain

From MC's Perspective:

After two days, I got ready to leave the academy. For the past two days, I have been preparing for this trip. I bought some healing pills from the Treasure Pavilion.

There are a lot more items that I could buy. But due to lack of money. I bought only the necessary items.

Then I walked out of their dorm building. While heading toward the teleportation tower. I texted the dean about my leaving. I believe she might be able to control chaos after my departure.

The metal faction members are getting impatient. They wanted an immediate reply from me. But I simply disregarded and ignored the official duel post.

Some of them are purposely staying outside the special faction common room. But it's a pity they won't get to see me for some time.

I reached the teleportation tower. Already some warriors spotted me on the way. But they don't hinder me.

They must be thinking I'm going to the monster zone for training.

After entering the building, I walked up to the center. Then I selected the private coordinates point to teleport.

Swish!

Shortly after, the blue lights lit up. The next moment, I disappeared from the spot.

Red Moon Tower: Forest Area,

When I opened my eyes. I found myself in the middle of a green vegetation.

"This," I muttered. Looking at the surroundings. My eyes flickered with surprise. When she told me, I thought it was a suburb.

But looking at this place. I feel I got closer to the destination. I opened my sci-fi to see whether the network is active.

Seeing the active signal. A hint of relief flashes in my eyes. At least I can navigate easily. Then I opened the map to see my current location.

A holographic image appeared above the watch. And I spotted the red dot on the blue color map. Then I searched for the destination.

The high peak mountain is closer than I had expected before. Which is good news to me. My current location is far away from the core area of the Red Moon Tower.

Hardly, anyone comes to this forest area. I don't want to face anyone during the cultivation. Especially the elder who was hostile to me during the crimson hall competition.

I don't want to come across her. She had openly stated she won't be friendly when we meet next time.

After pushing down these thoughts, I started to walk. The sky was covered with rainy clouds. At any moment, I can hear thunder and lightning.

But it was good for me. Only with lightning and thunder, I can gather more lightning energy from the surroundings.

While walking, I'm clearing the overgrown bushes as well. I don't know whether this forest has any Class Monsters. But I'm sure like Liz Mountain, this place has some pseudo-monsters as well.

One hour later,

The sky was covered with dark clouds. Heavy rain starts to pour down my face.

Accompany by thunder and the environment.

This environment gives me the perfect condition to cultivate. Unfortunately, I can't find any solid open spots to sit down and cultivate.

But I have yet to reach my goal. Because the high peak mountain is half a mile away from here. It would take some time to reach the foot of the mountain.

Without minding the pouring heavy rain. I continued to walk on the path. A few hours later, I reached the foot of the mountain.

This time I found a few bedrock at the foot of the mountain. This is a blessing in disguise. I drank some water before walking up to the place.

I sat cross-legged on the solid rock. Before I started cultivating, I activated the perceptual ability. Though I haven't seen any pseudo-monsters. I'm sure there are some around the vicinity.

I closed my eyes and started to run the celestial scripture. Right after, a star lightning rune in my consciousness started to flicker. Right after, I felt a sense of ease and closeness to the surroundings.

I can confirm that the surrounding environment has lightning energy. Then I started to attract the energy faster from the surroundings. It was even twice as fast compared to the academy environment.

And when it is compared to the mountain Liz. It's many more times. Because this high-peak mountain area is located inside the Tier-6 region.

Normally world energy is abundantly present here. Now that I have a chance to cultivate in the lightning environment. I can feel a huge difference now.

When the energy entered my body. I guided the energy through veins according to the method. After circulation, the refined essence settles down inside the dantian.

The purple essence slowly starts to fill the empty dantian. But the majestic totem didn't move at all.

Seeing that I continued to repeat the process. When a certain refined essence filled in. The totem will make a move.

After a few hours, I see the vibration of the totem. When the purple essence covered half of the dantian. The totem starts to make the purple essence more pure and powerful.

Seeing that I continued the process. When the dantian is fully covered. I can go back to the academy.

Time passed,

I opened my eyes two hours later. A bright smile can be seen on my face. Because the environment here is more effective than I had thought.

It took me a few hours to fill the dantian with lightning essence. It saved me a lot of time. When I'm thinking about cultivation.

Suddenly, I felt some movements ahead through perception. I got up from the solid rock and carefully looked outside.

I spotted a few red dots coming in my direction. A hint of doubt flashes in my eyes. Is this monster or a warrior?

I decided to hide and watch over them.

"Lightning Phantom Technique," I said.

The next moment, the purple arcs covered my legs. I disappeared from the spot and moved towards a gigantic mountain rock to hide behind it.

Shortly after, I see the identities of the red dots.

"Red Moon Tower Warriors," I said in my heart. Seeing the number of people. My eyes flickered with a slight glint.

What are they doing here? A trace of doubt appeared in my heart. But I decided to wait and see.

"Hey, look here."

"See, I told you someone came before us."

"The traces are clear."

The four male warriors started to talk among themselves. They all are Elite Warriors from the Red Moon Tower.

Like any other academy, the red moon tower also sends its warriors to do some missions. Especially when it comes to collecting specific herbs. Warriors come to high-peak mountains to collect herbs.

But at this moment, four of them were perplexed. They don't see anyone leaving the academy before them.

"It must be our academy student," One of the warriors commented.

Four of them didn't suspect the person might be an outsider. The high peak mountain is their territory. Who dares to come here other than them?

Suddenly, one of the warriors frowned.

"Do you guys feel something weird here?" He asked.

"What?" The 2nd warrior asked back.

Hearing that the warrior shook his head.

"It's nothing."

"Let's go. We have to find other herbs as well," the warrior said.

Right after, four of them went to the other side of the mountain.

After some time, I appeared back at the solid rock.

"Herbs," I muttered while massaging the temple. I almost forgot about this. The mountain is an ideal place for energy-rich herbs to grow.

Suddenly, a good idea struck my mind. I have completed my lightning training. So what about the healing scripture? This is a good place to gather healing energy as well.

But the problem is those people. If they come back during cultivation, it would be troublesome. What to do? A trace of apprehension appeared in my eyes.

Then I decided to take the chance. If they appear, I can always detect them using my perception ability.

After deciding, I sat cross-legged on the ground and started to cultivate the wooden scripture. Right after, I felt the presence of green energy from the surroundings.

I cracked up a wide grin. Having the healing energy before a duel is a good thing for me. It saves me from using the healing pill.

Slowly, I circulated the absorbed green energy through my body. After the circulation, the refined energy settles down inside the dantian.

A small amount of green essence can be seen in the purple sea. Seeing that, I continued to repeat the process.

Meanwhile, the red moon tower team is busy looking for the herbs.

After one hour, I looked inside the dantian. The amount of green essence has increased compared to last time. Fortunately, the purple lightning essence and green healing essence didn't mix.

After retracting my thoughts, I looked outside. The thundering rainstorms didn't stop at all. Looking at the time, I realized it was evening. I can go back later.

So I have decided to cultivate a few more hours before leaving this place.

Chapter 490 Accepting The 2nd Duel Post

From MC's Perspective:

High Mountain Peak,

After a few hours, I stopped cultivating the wood scripture. It'd almost dawn. And the rain continues to pour down. So I decided to leave.

Before getting up, I looked inside my dantian. The green essence was increased by a considerable amount. So I can leave the place with ease.

Rumble~

When I got up I heard some rumbling sound. But nothing was found in my perception. Feeling uneasy slightly in my heart. I started to move toward the teleportation point.

This time I don't want him to use the lightning movement technique. It's a waste to use the lightning phantom technique after spending long hours storing purple essence in my dantian.

Meanwhile, the red moon tower warriors appeared back at the same place after some time.

They are going back after completing their mission. But as they walked past the solid bedrock, one of the warriors noticed something.

He spotted footprints on the ground. Which shows someone just walking by this place.

"Looks like that one from the academy is going back before us," The 2nd warrior commented.

At this time the rest of them also noticed the footprints. All are convinced that the person is their academy student.

After taking a glance at the footprints, they continued their journey.

Time went by,

After some hours, I used the same teleportation point to come back to the academy.

But the time went beyond 9 P.M. And I haven't had a nice meal yet. If it was wild, I could cook monster meat for dinner.

Sigh~

After letting out a small sigh, I walk back to the dorm room. I quickly walked to take a hot bath. The rainy atmosphere is something. It made me take a hot shower.

Several minutes later,

I changed into comfortable clothes and laid down comfortably on my bed. The trip to the high mountain peak turned out to be fruitful. Thanks to the dean, she had found a gem of a place.

Hereafter, I can use it as a secret base. I'm feeling relaxed right now. The issue about the lack of a lightning cultivation environment was weighing down in my mind earlier.

Now it has gone completely. I don't have to worry about balancing both lightning and body technique.

I cracked up a small smile unknowingly.

"Oh, yes. What have these metal faction warriors done today?" I mumbled under my breath.

I guess, probably they might have searched the entire academy to find me. Though they are annoying with their stalking. But they do bring some entertainment from time to time.

Suddenly, the image of Uncle James and Granny Park comes to mind. My mood instantly goes down.

Though tier-6 region is a blessed land for warriors. But for people coming from lower-tier cities. It is nothing but the experience of walking on the edge of the knife.

I'm yet to feel comfortable here. When it comes to the Red City and my home in White Snow City. I had always felt somewhat confident.

But here the environment is completely different. I know who is targeting me. People are openly doing it. The Giant Tower Faction even made it clear.

Even the dean didn't hide secrets from me. She even told me about the year-end conference. The conflicts between the various academies are a reality.

I can only raise my strength and develop steadily before going to the inner post. I don't know what's like inside the Inner Post regions.

A look of longing appeared in my eyes. Then pushing down these thoughts, I access my communication watch to look for the post online.

When the page appears. I see a lot of headlines. But the next moment, my heart turned cold.

[Cowardly cat Zack Lockwood's disappearance.]

"Who made this post?" I said to myself.

Then I began to scroll down the page. I see several mean posts about me. These people labeled me as a coward running away from the challenge.

I don't know whether to laugh or cry. Everyone saw how I took care of Tyler Lane. The guy was Peak Elite Warrior. And I don't think there is a massive gap between him and Brandon Hurst.

My mouth curves into arcs. These guys are using academy students' opinions to raise the image of their faction.

What a trick! I sneered inside.

The dean gave me some time before the duel. Since I have recovered the purple essence. I don't want to waste time.

I made up my mind to accept the duel post. And as for the date? I cracked up with a cold smile on my face.

After closing down the site, I accessed my student account. To accept the challenge, I have to properly respond through the official channel.

Then I set the duel for the next afternoon.

After completing the procedure, I fell asleep comfortably.

Meanwhile, the official duel post's scheduled date appears on everyone's timeline. Shortly after, the academy's social media site was taken by storm.

Today all day long the Academy social media site was bombarded with mean posts and rude comments about Zack Lockwood.

But no one would have expected to see the official duel schedule at this time.

The dean, Rebecca, was sleeping in her bedroom. When the notification came she immediately woke up. As a dean, she can't miss a single notification.

But when she saw the message, She let out hysterical laughter, "Ha...Ha...Ha...."

"So he came back successfully from the high peak mountain," She said to herself.

The news came as a surprise. More than the duel, she is glad that Zack's trouble was solved.

Now he can go to the high peak mountain to cultivate lightning essence. Not only Zack, as a dean she was also worried about that problem.

Because Zack's presence is important during the year-end conference. If he can raise his level, then it would be good news for the academy as well.

Then she went back to sleep.

Hurst Family,

Brandon Hurst was sleeping as well. But this news has completely taken away his sleep.

Instead of getting angrier. He is smiling cruelly.

"Good" "Good"

"I thought he didn't want to face me," Brandon said to himself.

"Ha...Ha...Ha..."

"Tomorrow, I will defeat Zack in front of the Flame faction members. Then the prestige of the metal faction would rise by many folds," Brandon muttered.

Then he got up from the bed to train.

The following day,

The whole academy is aware of last night's post. Even the Flame faction members were surprised.

Inside the flame faction common hall,

Tyler Lane knitted his eyebrows. He knows about Zack's strength. But at the same time, he didn't underestimate Brandon either.

Brandon got sophisticated metal techniques. It won't be easy for Zack to win either.

"So the duel will be worthwhile to watch," He said to himself.

Similarly,

Other faction members are looking forward to the duel.

9 A.M

I walked out of the dorm building and headed to the dining hall. On the way, I spotted many students' eyes filled with surprise.

I guess last night's news must have shocked them. After entering the dining hall, I saw that the seats were half filled.

Even the half-filled seats were unusual at this time. Then a sudden realization struck my mind. These guys are here for me.

If people want to see me, they can only find me here. Then ignoring their gazes, I walked up to the food counter.

The familiar staff behind the counter greeted me with a smile.

"Are you ready for the duel?"

When I received the food plate. Her voice reached my ears. My eyes lit up with surprise. This is the 2nd time she took the initiative to talk to me.

Last time she had warned me about the Flame faction warriors.

"Yeah, I'm 100% ready," I answered with a smile.

Then I sat in a corner to eat the food. While eating the food, I perked up my ears to listen to people's conversations.

"I heard Brandon has been training in deadly techniques."

"Hey, if it's true then, do you think Zack can survive?"

"It's not easy to win against Brandon."

"Last time Zack defeated Tyler Lane effortlessly."

"Harumph. It's a lie."

"I think Tyler was careless."

When I heard all types of conversations. I almost choked up. These people are underestimating me. I think it's better to make an example out of Brandon.

After that, no elite warrior would dare to challenge me. But the problem is Brandon is not even a top warrior. There are many others in retreat.

Then I continued to eat food.

Several minutes later,

I head towards the central arena or duel stage. Last time, I came at the last minute. So I didn't have time to appreciate the massive arena.

"Hmmm," I raised my eyebrows. I found some people following me from behind. Shaking my head, I walk slowly toward the central arena.

Beep!

Suddenly, I received a call from the dean. Seeing that I stopped my movements. Why is she calling me? Maybe she wants to know about high mountain peaks.

Then I attended the call. The dean wants to meet me before the duel.