

C Immortality 321

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 321: The Terrifying Fantastic Insect (1)

In the evening, at the exit of the Dark City, Jacob walked out of the Dark City exit, but this time, he wasn't alone as seven capped figures of different sizes followed him.

Three of them were naturally the selected Grandmaster Alchemists by Clayton and Audrey to follow Jacob on his demand. At the same time, the other four were Alchemy Grandmasters from the Alchemy Guild within the Common Circle of the Dark City.

These seven were both excited and apprehensive when they found that the infamous Alchemy Guild Leader was looking for Alchemy Assistants. The three from the Inner Circle branch didn't dare to reject when they found they were selected by 'Jacob' specifically for their 'skills.'

These three were first shocked and then felt something was not right as their performance was below average during Jacob's exam, so why was he looking for them?

However, Clayton or Audrey didn't give them too many details and only told them they had to go if they didn't want to enter the Guild Leader's bad side, and it was not like they would not gain anything from following Jacob.

Right now, Jacob was like a high noon sun in the Dark City, and there was probably no influential figure left who hadn't heard about his deeds.

So, despite their reluctance, they had to agree, so they quickly handed some matters to their men and left with Jacob, and they thought they would return soon after this journey.

As for the Senior Grandmaster from the common circle branch, they were even quicker to agree than the inner circle as they had all experienced the true terror of Jacob first handed.

Not to mention, Braylon was literally trembling when he heard Jacob had come back, and he was even gladder that Jacob didn't select him to follow him. As a matter of fact, Jacob won't touch him at all since he is an official member, even if he wants to take him.

So, he was content with some old senior grandmasters.

As for the main purpose of selecting alchemists like Grandmaster and Senior Grandmasters to follow him and take them out of the Dark City, it was extremely obvious... an Alchemist has probably the most practical and talented brain!

"You all can swim, right?" Jacob asked the seven alchemists behind him.

"Yes, Guild Leader!" They all answered in unison.

"I'm not Guild Leader anymore. Let's go." Jacob coolly stated before he jumped down the canyon's river stream, and those seven followed suits.

After they reached the land again, Jacob instructed, "Alright, set up close to the river bank. We'll leave tomorrow. Tonight, I'll check your aptitude and even increase it so you lot can be more useful to me. Is that clear?"

The seven were shocked, and they quickly agreed, with their heart beating in disbelief and ecstasy as they didn't suspect anything.

Under Jacob's newly created mask, his lips curled up in a cold smile seeing those guys enthusiastically setting up camps without even daring to question or doubt his words, like mindless idiots.

These guys all had one thing in common, Greed, especially the three from the inner circle, and they will do anything for money or opportunities with no questions asked. Jacob was akin to a golden goose in their eyes.

While the Senior Grandmasters were already too old, so they would also do anything to improve if the chance was given, and Jacob was that chance.

After the camps were set, Jacob summoned the Gnome Grandmaster from the inner circle branch first while letting the other six wait.

"Thank you for selecting me, My Lord!" The Gnome had this fawning smile on his brown face as he sat in front of Jacob.

"It's only natural for me to do it since you're following me by leaving the Dark City's protection." Jacob impassively said before he commanded, "Now close your eyes, and I'll cast a spell to see your aptitude. This might hurt a little, but you need to endure for your own sake."

The Gnome was shocked as he asked with uncertainty, "There is such a spell?"

He was an 8-Star magic expert himself, so it was only natural he hadn't heard about this type of spell.

"Are you doubting my capability? Or are you comparing your knowledge with mine?" Jacob coolly questioned instead of answering it.

The Gnome's heart palpitated, and he didn't dare to ask any more questions since he couldn't forget who he was talking to, so he quickly did as he was told.

"I'll be troubling My Lord then!" He said with a determined look.

Jacob saw the Gnome had closed his eyes and wasn't peaking, and his eyes suddenly shimmered while he focused on the Gnome's pointy ear.

The very next moment, Brain Hunter appeared right at the ear hole, and like a lightning bolt, it bolted into the Gnome's ear within a single second.

"Ah..." The Gnome suddenly shrilled softly as he felt a very faint pinch like an ant had bitten his ear, but then he returned to normal as he thought it was just Jacob casting his spell.

Jacob, on the other hand, was thinking with a sharp look in his eyes, 'I can summon the Brain Hunter directly on the position where my eye can see. Furthermore, this idiot didn't even notice that the brain hunter might've already been on its way toward its brain, or it might be one of its abilities not to get noticed by anyone until it's too late, or the puppet poison could also into play here. If it's true, then it's pretty scary...'

However, he was in for another shock as, within five seconds, the Gnome opened its eyes, but they were deadpan.

It opened its mouth before broken words sounded, "I...a-am... g- Gnome...n-no... I am... alc-alchemis...t..."

It was like the goblin had lost its ability to speak and now trying to learn it again.

Jacob felt his scalp tingle because he knew the Gnome was as good as gone, and Brain Hunter had replaced him, and it did it within less than ten seconds, and now it was even capable of speaking, which the old Pig Head wasn't!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 322: The Terrifying Fantastic Insect (2)

Jacob patiently observed the Brain Hunter's actions.

For three or five minutes, the Gnome was blabbering incomprehensible words and broken speech. However, after five minutes, its speech started to become more comprehensible, and after only fifteen minutes, it was peaking like a native speaker.

Jacob was really shocked at its ability to comprehend the speech, and when the Gnome suddenly stopped blabbering and stared dead at his face, Jacob's eyes narrowed.

The Gnome, or more precisely the Brain Hunter, uttered emotionlessly, "Brain analyzation has been complete. I have all the life memories of this goblin name, Fredial.

"According to this memory set, the feeling I have toward you is known as loyalty and undying trust. Yet my memory set told me I should not have such feelings for anyone except the Demiurge.

"Can you please clear this conflicted feeling of mine? Again, I feel like I should ask you and follow your instructions."

Jacob's eyes widened behind his mask in trepidation and astonishment when he heard all that robot-like talking from the Brain Hunter. He almost reversed himself when he heard about part of this Demiurge.

"So, you can annex all the life memories of someone? How does that work?" Jacob was more concerned about this peculiar revelation than answering the last question, as this ability was simply too terrifying to be true.

"I can feel I can trust you with this secret information in my memory personal set. Affirmative! I have an ability called Brain Analysis which can help me gain all the life memories of anyone's brain.

"Then this ability is branched into two more effects, Memory Bank, which allows me to stow infinite numbers of Memory Sets.

"And Memory Mimic, which allows me to mimic the memory set according to how the original owner should be to the very perfection in anybody I control. Including its profession, abilities in case my controlled body is capable of performing those abilities as well, fighting experience, and such.

"The only drawback is the Brain Analysis will directly kill the host once it was used, and second, the brain has to be a living brain if the body's owner died even a second ago. This ability is useless." Brain Hunter explained stoically.

Jacob was now feeling really glad he didn't nurture this monster into Rare Rank, or he might not even know how he died once this guy got his hand on some extremely powerful body and its memories.

Just this Brain Analysis ability is enough to make Brain Hunter absolutely horrified as it could gain access to any secret and infiltrate anywhere with this ability alone despite its drawback.

Even Jacob might take any risk to have this type of ability.

Still, although Jacob couldn't have such an ability, the owner of this unique ability was his enteral slave, so it was akin to having this ability himself. Just a thought about what he could do with it made his blood boil, and he felt it was worth every risk he took to make brain hunter fully submit to him.

Hiding his ecstasy, he nodded and questioned again, "What other memories do you have?"

"I have memories from the point when I was awake in your hand a few hours ago and our small interaction." Brian Hunter replied.

'So, he didn't remember anything before he turned into my Eternal Salve, and he also didn't seem to know his true connection with me?' Jacob's eyes shimmered in understanding, and this development was in his favor.

So, he quickly asked something else, "So, what other abilities do you have?"

Brain Hunter again replied like an answering machine, "Including Brain Analysis, I have Puppet Possession Ability which can help me control bodies to perfection as long as they are killed through my Brain Analysis.

"My third bloodline ability is called Brain Devourer, which is a pensive ability I cannot stop or have any control over because Brain Devourer is directly connected with my growth and evolution path. This ability will automatically become active once I use the Brain Analysis and Puppet Possession.

"Once the Brain Devourer is active, it will channel all the magic force, life force, and biological essence present in my possessed Puppet into my body, which will increase my own power and help me grow further.

"However, as a side effect, that body would start to rot like a corpse from the inside out. The more powerful the body I control, the longer time my Brain Devourer would take to digest it fully.

"Except for these three bloodline abilities, I have my Puppet Poison Magic which can not only help me in multiple ways while I infiltrate someone's body. But it can also turn anyone below Epic Rank into my puppets which I can remotely control within my five-hundred-meter range.

"But to activate the Puppet Poison Magic, the puppet needed to be directly bitten by me, and I have to inject poison in them the same way. I can't do it remotely, nor my Puppet Poison can be harvested, or it would instantly lose effect within one second.

"The successfully created Magic Puppet can't leave 500 meters radius perimeter, or it will become free from my puppet poison magic in sixty minutes or once it becomes a full rank more powerful than me. Lastly, in Star Rank, I can only have 3 Magic Puppets of Star Rank.

"This is all the abilities I currently have." Brain Hunter statically said with a deadpan expression.

Jacob was deep in thought at this moment with clear astonishment in his eyes, 'All the Brain Hunter's bloodline abilities are interlinked with Brain Analysis, and they all had strange limitations despite their ridiculous effects. The same goes for its Puppet Poison Magic. It's as powerful and dangerous as it is easy to break free from. Is this the reason why a Fantastic Insect had never been able to reach the Legendary Rank?'

Although there were limitations which he was expecting anyway after Immortika told him about the Universal Limitations of the Fantastic Insects.

But even with these limitations, it was still too dangerous!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 323: Autarch (1)

Jacob looked at the stoic Gnome, looking at him with deadpan eyes without blinking, which was creepy. But he wasn't bothered by it all.

He said, "I like your honesty with me, and I hope you will be this honest with me in the future as well. I will always reward your loyalty and never treat you badly.

"All your abilities are pretty much useless if you hunt alone, especially while dealing with powerful beings. So, you need someone strong to help you with those problems.

"So, I will clarify your doubts as you requested as a reward for your honesty and clarify our relationship while we are at it.

"The answer to your question is actually quite simple. You said your memories tell you differently, but your feelings tell you the exact opposite.

"All you have to do is follow your instincts, which came from your feelings, not memories, and only instincts can keep us alive.

"Furthermore, if you thought it more carefully and followed your memories which told you that you can only have such feelings for Demiurge, then can't I be the Demiurge since I give you the same feelings?" Jacob impassively stated.

Although he had no idea if something like Demiurge even existed since it was just a fabled concept, nor did he care if it exists or not.

But Jacob cared about only one thing; he wasn't going to let someone else hold the same position as his in his pet's mind. So, he'll just become the same thing in Brain Hunter's mind to save himself future trouble.

Even if such a being really exists, since the possibility was there, he was pretty sure he won't care about an ant-like Brain Hunter or him. They weren't even a speck of dust in such a being's eyes.

Hearing Jacob's ambiguous yet revolting words, the Brain Hunter remained silent for a while, and Jacob didn't say anything as he knew the Brain Hunter was thinking it through. Jacob's biggest advantage was the Brain Hunter had no memory of what happened before it became Jacob's slave for eternity.

So, in the end, the Brain Hunter nodded, "You are right, no one had ever seen the Demiurge, and since I have such feelings toward you, it means you are the Demiurge for me. So, I have another small request for Demiurge. Do I have your permission to state it?"

Jacob was quite pleased that it turned out so well and nodded, "Call me Sir from now on, not Demiurge. As for your request, speak freely."

"Understood. In this Gnome's memory set, I learned the concept of name, which gives everyone their unique identity and meaning, like this Gnome name was Fredial. So, I want to give myself a name that represents my unique identity, not the name that represents my species as a whole. But only if it's okay with you, Sir. I can't seem to take this action without your permission."

Jacob cocked an eyebrow, 'This is a strange turn of events. Well, it's just a name, and I also can't keep calling it Brain Hunter.'

He then nodded, "Go ahead. You can choose any name you want. I won't have any problem with that. You should indeed have a name which would belong to you."

"Thank you, Sir. The name I chose for myself is Autarch! Which means a ruler who has absolute power, and this is the only name that suits me."

"Autarch?" Jacob looked at the deadpan gnome with astonishment, as this name was really quite oppressive. Still, he nodded in the end, as it mattered little to him, "Alright, you will be Autarch from now on."

"Autarch will forever be loyal to you, Sir!" Brain Hunter or Autarch bowed its head.

"There is no need to do that around me. I have also prepared six more brains for you. Just how many do you need before you can increase your tier further, especially if you want to enter the Extraordinary Rank?" Jacob asked as he hoped to get the answer to this question since Immortika didn't tell him.

Furthermore, Autarch said that the Brain Devourer is the only way for it to evolve further, so Jacob would naturally go with it.

Autarch replied, "Thank you, Sir. Once I devour Fredial, I'll enter a new host, and with my current rank, it would take me about one day to fully digest a Tier-5 Extraordinary being. Then I shall move on to a new target."

"As to increasing my tier, I can only focus on increasing one tier at a time. Meaning I can't raise both physical and magic tiers at the same time as the other begins.

"I can only focus on one at a time. Like if I want to increase my physique tier, then I can't increase my Magic Core Star Tier unless I finish my physique first, and the same goes for the magic core.

"Simply put, if Extraordinary Rank has six tiers, they will convert into 12 tiers for me because I can't evolve both the physical tier and magic core tier at the same time.

"As for entering another higher rank, I need to be at the peak of both physique and magic tiers of that rank like anyone else, as well as I need to complete a special prerequisite which will be revealed once I reach the peak of a rank.

"Right, now, I'm at Rare Tier-6 and have 1-Star Magic Core. The limit of the Rare Rank is nine tiers, and the magic core could grow into 3-Stars. So, I need to cross six more tiers to enter the extraordinary rank, but only after I clear a requirement that I would get to the peak of the rare rank.

"As to evolve up to each tier of the rare rank, physically, I need to devour ten beings of at least one full rank higher than mine, and the count will increase by 10 with each higher tier.

"To evolve my magic core tier, I need to devour 100 beings with the same magic core rank as mine or higher, and the count will be increased by 100 as well with a higher tier.

"The limit of 10 or 100 and their increase will not change even if I devour three or ten ranks higher beings from my current rank, and so was the case for the final requirement, which has to clear before I can enter a new rank!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 324: Autarch (2)

Jacob looked at Autarch as if he was looking at a bottomless pit. Truth be told, he was expecting there to be limitations and absurd demands to nurture it, but he was never expecting those demands to be this absurd.

It was literally like having to cultivate two Cursed Immortality at the same time, and all that joy of acquiring a Fantastic Insect turned into smoke.

'If what it said is true, then when it reached the epic rank, it needed to consume the unique rank beings to increase its physical rank while at the unique rank...'

At this point, Jacob's mind went numb just thinking about the terrifying condition to let it evolve into the Legendary Rank. It finally occurred to him why there was never a legendary rank fantastic insect ever seen.

In comparison, he was more at ease in the magic core conditions. But he was still quite bitter about those conditions remaining unchanged even if Autarch ended up devouring a higher level being than it needed.

'Then why can titan tears able to bypass these absurd limitations? What is their background?' Jacob thought as the fog ahead was only becoming thicker.

Nevertheless, he knew he was not at that point where he should even think about unrevealing these mysteries, and he should focus on the present.

'I'll stick with the titan tears as long as I can while in the meanwhile, it shouldn't be a problem to let Autarch reach the peak of the rare rank...'

With such thought in mind, he said, "Very well, then I'll leave those six to you. But don't let them find out about what you are. Just destroy the body when you don't need it before moving on to the next target.

"In the future, we will have more ground rules when we go to the higher plains. With all the knowledge you have, I don't need to teach you just how dangerous this place is, and for survival's sake, we can't let our guard down even for a second.

"I won't interfere with your free actions as long as they won't bring trouble to both of us. All I want in return is for you to be extremely careful and master your abilities to perfection. I will be relying on your abilities to carve the path toward our bright future.

"Right now, your only task is to learn as much as you can, and if you discover something unusual, report it to me like if some memory related to Epic Rank.

"Oh, one more thing, can you use this guy's Star Watch and magic abilities despite devouring them at the same time?"

Autarch answered, "I will keep your instructions in mind. I should be able to use the Star Watch as long as the brain is active because, according to my memory, the life signal originated from the brain as well.

"As for using magic, I won't be a problem as long as I won't fully consume his magic core. It will work like the original owner. Although I can start or stop the brain devourer ability, I can make it slow a bit."

Jacob was quite astonished when he heard about the life signal's true secret, and he suddenly had another question, "Are Life Force and Life Signal not the same?"

"I don't know. I did not have any recollection of memory about the Life Force and only know about the Life Signal, which the Brain Emits when it is connected with the flesh body.

"It only stopped when the brain started to decompose, and I can easily stop it from happening with healing or rejuvenation potions or herbs. This is how I should be able to perverse the body from decomposing as well."

Jacob suddenly remembered how Pig Head's body only started to decompose after he stopped giving it the healing potions.

"It seemed you have already thought it through about how you will proceed with your future endeavors." Jacob praised.

"This is all thanks to Sir for giving this alchemist brain to me. With his rich memories and experiences, it was a piece of cake to prepare countermeasures for such weakness." Autarch emotionlessly stated.

Jacob didn't find this explanation wrong, as he also chose those alchemists for their powerful brains, but the result ended up far more than he could ever ask for.

"Alright, since you can control their star watches, remember my bank account number. From now on, you will transfer your target money into my account before you dispose of your target with a Star Watch.

"Moreover, if they have a space ring, then stash it away after taking anything important we can use for ourselves. Afterward, we can look for them later." Jacob shamelessly instructed.

He didn't care about what Autarch would think since this guy was a bottomless pit, and he needed as much money as he could get to nurture Autarch, so it should help as well.

Not to mention his plan for all those accumulated space rings in his pendant was also Autarch itself!

"I will follow your instructions." Autarch agreed without hesitation.

Pleased, Jacob then told Autarch his bank account number, which Autarch remembered instantly, and then with a thought, a small pile of space rings appeared between them.

"Take these space rings, and I want you to sort out materials in them within separate rings, like knowledge-related books in a separate ring, herbs in another, and finished products like potions, pills, and weapons, in different rings and don't use another ring unless the first one is full. This is your task which you have till the morning to finish before you hand them over to me.

"Another task for you to is the six outside. I'll let you deal with them as a test to see how much you can handle being someone else and deceiving them. Now you are dismissed if you don't have anything else you are curious about." Jacob stated coldly.

He had learned what he needed to know about the Brain Hunter and also achieved his goal now. He wanted to move on to his other important task.

Autarch collected all those space rings into the space ring Fredial was already wearing and stood up, "I'm not for the moment, and I will not disappoint you, Sir!"

Autarch then left the tent without saying an extra word.

Jacob's lips curled up, seeing Autarch leaving the tent, forming an icy smile, 'You won't, I know because I didn't go through all those troubles and took a huge risk just to suffer disappointment!'

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 325: Starting the Practice

After sending Autarch away, Jacob kept observing with his hearing, and he was quite astonished when he saw Autarch appear the same as the dead Fredial.

The way he walks, talks, and even his breathing pattern seemed to be the same. No one would doubt for a moment that it was the Brain Hunter controlling Fredial's body, even his own mother.

Furthermore, Jacob also noticed that his connection with Autarch was still strong despite Autarch moving a few meters away. He can still send him commands through his thoughts or even hold a conversation, and lastly, he can summon Autarch back into his solar plexus directly from Fredial brain.

Now all was left was to know the exact range in which he could perform all these things, as he was pretty sure there was some limit to these abilities.

Nevertheless, Jacob was content with Autarch and all the things that came with it.

After dealing with the Brain Hunter matter and concluding his small experiment, which went extremely well, Jacob was at ease, and now he knew he could move on to the next important matter, the Water Meditation!

Although he was planning on putting it on hold until he was also done with the search for the Plutonium, then he changed his mind and put the Water Meditation at first.

The biggest reason was after hearing about Autarch's abilities. He felt a strange urgency to become more powerful, as his current power was not enough in front of unknown threats like Autarch.

Jacob was 99% sure that if another Brain Hunter like Autarch selected him as its target, he wouldn't even see it coming unless he was in his 20X acceleration, and this was a Rare Rank insect we were talking about. At the same time, he was now considered an Epic Rank.

The illusion of invincibility in the Rare Plains seemed like nothing but a sham put on his mind by none other than himself, and external objects like Plutonium was useless unless he had the ability to use them because death won't wait for him to draw his trump card!

Jacob then snuck out of his tent silently as no one noticed him since those alchemists were busy asking Autarch about how Jacob 'increased' his potential and what could they should expect.

Only Autarch would be able to tell since it could sense Jacob's direction just as Jacob could, but it won't say anything since Jacob had already sent an advance notice about what he was going to do.

Jacob appeared a few hundred meters away from the canyon, in front of the incoming river stream from the same canyon. The reason for Jacob selecting this place so close to the canyon was exactly this river stream.

Jacob clearly remembered just how much water he needed to perform Water Meditation up to just two hours mark and how many preparations he had to do so that he couldn't end up drowning.

At that time, he had no idea why all that oxygen was being sucked dry from the water, and he experienced that strange feeling in his body, but now he does.

The only problem was, even with his current physique, he might not be able to hold under 720-G force for much, and this wasn't the only problem, as he had to do it while holding his breath underwater for 72 hours straight.

Nevertheless, Jacob was going to try first and see how well it went while performing Water Mediation in this River Stream for a few hours, and only then could he decide how to proceed further.

The river stream was 17 meters wide while the water current was around 11 to 12 knots and 8-meter-deep, which was something Jacob could handle.

'I have to do it sooner or later in this kind of environment since I can't perform Water Mediation in a small pool or lake anymore, especially if I want to complete the three days and nights cycle.

'I'll perform Water Mediation for 4 hours and then check the water affinity. If it really increases, I'll continue without holding back. I hope it will work, and I will be able to awake Water type magic and even explore the other four exercises.

'The Art of Nature clearly has no limit emplaced. There were just certain thresholds that needed to be done before one could move toward the second exercise. It might be a rare magic scripture for all I know, but the question still remains, how in the world it ended up in my old world? Is the Zodiac Plains connected with that world in some way...'

Jacob wondered, but then he stopped caring as it would only waste his time to mull over this entire thing as it was simply out of the realm of his thinking capability. He might be able to solve these mysteries once he becomes more powerful.

Jacob then started to take deep breaths and then exhale deeply. He was going to go for four hours straight the moment he jumped into the river stream even higher if he felt like it.

Right now, he should be capable of holding his breath underwater for 10 to 12 hours straight, but matched with continuously increasing G-force, this limit could greatly plummet.

Jacob didn't know just what kind of G-force his current body could handle and if he could last for 72 hours. But he was determined to find out.

After following the same breathing patterns for five minutes, Jacob took a final deep breath before he jumped into the river stream without hesitation. But he kept wearing his clothes as he was afraid of an attack by some water magic beast in that river. This was the core area of the Magic Beast Forest, after all.

With his powerful body, Jacob easily reached the river bed. Then he sat in the lotus position and instantly started to perform the Water Mediation as his breathing started to turn rhythmic.

The hour passed like a breeze, and Jacob was already in 10-G force, which was nothing, and his position became firm.

However, Jacob had no idea just over fifty meters above his head. A figure stood on top of a floating disc while a white projection light was in front of it, and on that projection, ten red dots were moving toward a black dot with terrifying speed!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 326: Starting the Attack

At nighttime, Jacob had been at Water Mediation for three hours, and he was quickly approaching the fourth hour.

Not only was he completely fine under 30-G force he wasn't feeling any urge to breathe. On the contrary, when the oxygen starts to enter his body and pours on its own like it usually does, the suffocation of holding his breath no longer irritates him.

Especially when the third hour started, the oxygen's absorption was getting stronger. With his Epic body, Jacob could feel it as clear as day that something was stirring inside him as he performed the Water Mediation.

Furthermore, the water stream no longer even budged him as he was completely attached to the river bed now.

Just like that, 4th-hour passed, and then the 5th, and finally it was the 6th hour, and now Jacob was under 60-G force, and the water was now started to swirl around him as the oxygen absorption was now as clear as day, and even faint cold steam was starting to rise from the river stream.

Now Jacob was finally starting to feel a bit under pressure, but it wasn't at that point where he felt like crushing. As for breathing, while the oxygen absorption increased, he felt like he didn't need to breathe at all, and it was a strange yet wonderful feeling.

At some point, Jacob even forgot about where he was sitting as he got completely engrossed in the Water Meditation like a Monk.

However, in the sky where he was sitting, ten figures were standing over discs, and all of them wore white robes with black hourglass symbols on their chests while their bodies were wrapped in black gauze. They were naturally the 10 Iron Puppet Assassins!

Right at this moment, the ten Iron Puppet Assassins turned their head in the same direction, and the very next moment thereafter, another disc rider stopped a meter away from them.

It wore bronze color robes with the same black hourglass symbol on its chest while its body was also wrapped in black gauze. It was the Bronze Puppet Assassin!

They all seemed to be waiting upon it.

Then a strange scene occurred. The ten Iron Puppet Assassins keep staring at the Bronze Puppet Assassin while the latter is the same. This strange staring contest lasted for about three minutes before they looked down in unison.

Right now, in the middle of the river stream was revolving a small swirl while cold steam was rising from the moving river surface.

The Bronze Puppet Assassin then moved its head and looked at certain Iron Puppet Assassins. That Iron Puppet Assassin then suddenly moved his hand, and suddenly he tore off a small fabric of his sleeve. It was extremely tiny, almost none noticeable.

But the moment that small piece of fabric got torn off by its sleeve, it suddenly trembled before its size and shape started to contort, and the next moment, instead of a tiny piece of fabric, it was holding a dark blue scroll.

Without hesitation, it instantly opened the dark blue scroll, and it started shimmering in dark light before all of a sudden turning into ashes. Thereby, a dark blue streak suddenly emerged right where the scroll had been incinerated, and it directly headed toward the swirl down like a lightning bolt.

All the Puppet Assassins looked down, following the streak direction.

However, something strange happened the very moment that streak came in touch with the water swirl. It turned into dark blue particles and then vanished without a trace while the swirl remained the same.

The Bronze Puppet Assassin's head remained in the same position for a while before it looked up and focused on another Iron Puppet Assassin.

The Iron Puppet Assassin, like the last one, moved, and he also tore off a small fabric from its sleeve, and it turned into a scroll, but this time its color was gray, and it looked worn off a bit.

It opened the gray scroll, and the next moment, the scroll turned into fine gray ashes before a glowing object surfaced in its place.

It was a glowing gray sniper rifle that was three meters in size, and it looked like it was made with lines of gray neon light.

Without wasting a second, the Iron Puppet Assassin moved to grab the light sniper rifle and instantly pointed it in the swirl direction and pressed the light trigger. It happened in one second.

The next moment, a gray light released from the light muzzle and headed toward the swirl. But no sound was generated, and the light sniper started to vanish from the Iron Puppet Assassin's hands.

But no one was paying attention to it as they all looked in the swirl direction where the bullet was heading.

However, like the previous dark blue streak, the moment that gray light bullet touched the swirl, it also turned into light particles and vanished!

Not one knows what kind of reactions those eleven Puppet Assassins were having right now, but they all kept their head in the swirl direction for a long while, and that swirl suddenly became more vigorous.

The Bronze Puppet Assassin then looked up again, and this time, he glanced at three Iron Puppet Assassins.

Those three didn't delay as they tore off two fabrics from their sleeves, and they all turned into a scroll and a weapon.

The next moment, the gray discs under their feet shimmered in ghastly gray light as they all dived toward the swirl while they activated their magic scrolls, and a thick barrier formed around them while they also achieved the stealth function of their discs.

While one of the standing Iron Puppet Assassins also took out another magic scroll, but this was filled with magic runes.

The moment the scroll was opened, it instantly headed into the sky, and an invisible doom-like barrier started to fall off in a hundred-meter radius like an invisible curtain. While they all quickly took out their weapons and more scrolls.

However, the Bronze Puppet Assassin remained the same from start to finish, and now that the attack had finally begun, the bronze color disc under his feet shimmered in black color before the Assassin vanished without a trace!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 327: The Bronze Puppet Assassin

It was Jacob's 7th hour since he had started the Water Meditation, and he got completely immersed in it like he was drunk.

However, at some point, Jacob felt a strange disturbance around, but it was so vague Jacob didn't break from that state.

But right at this moment, the entire water swirling around him trembled, and he abruptly opened his eyes in befuddlement before clearly returning to what he saw made his heart sink.

The water around him now continued faint color was red. He then saw a mutilated hand holding a sword smacked on the river bed when it entered the 70-G gravity around him, and it was just the tip of the iceberg as more flesh pieces started to sink.

When Jacob's eyes landed on the torn white robes worn by the mutilated body's owner, and a gray disc entered his vision, Jacob's blood ran cold as he instantly knew he was under attack!

Jacob didn't even have the time to think about when the attack started or how those guys reached their current state. Without hesitation, Jacob's heart rate climbed, and the next moment, he directly entered the 20X acceleration state as he was afraid that it might be already too late to run.

The 70-G gravity instantly became non-exist when he entered 20X acceleration and directly jumped out of the water like an arrow cutting through the water.

The moment he left the water, the water meditation broke and the gravity on him as well, and so did the water swirl as the river quickly regained its normal state, but for some reason, it wasn't flowing anymore.

However, Jacob didn't have time to pay attention since all his focus was on the three incoming blades from the front, and this time he could clearly see those guys as the eye sockets of his mask were now made with Electromagnetic Spectrum Glass.

This electromagnetic spectrum glass can help him see high and low electromagnetic waves or light, and this glass could not be created without plutonium.

In his 20X acceleration state, Jacob could only see some electromagnetic waves, mostly high, but with this glass, he could see almost invisible waves except for the gamma rays.

Simply put, now those guys, despite their stealth and all the magic skills, were as good as naked in front of Jacob. Unless they exist in some other dimension, they can't hide.

Furthermore, Jacob noticed that their attack formation seemed disrupted, and this gave him a chance to use the weapon he had drawn while the time he had jumped out of the water.

They were blade handguns with long muzzles, and they were filled with magic patterns.

'I never thought you guys would find me so soon and even dare to sneak up on me... but I come prepared this time.' Jacob's eyes were deadly cold as well as fury shone in them as he almost got assassinated again despite his countermeasure against these guys.

It hadn't even been a day, and he was already under siege, which was completely unexpected as well as frustrating since he was extremely careful this time, but he still missed these guys' tails.

Nevertheless, Jacob was ready for them, and he started to pull the trigger as those guys were only a meter away from him.

The three guys in front were encased in blue barriers, but the moment black bullets from Jacob's gun hit those barriers, they blasted apart, and the follow-up bullets directly landed on their shoulders and the next one on their heads.

In 20X acceleration, Jacob was too fast, and for some strange reason, Jacob felt he had even more control over his senses.

However, the danger was far from being over, as he clearly sensed four more people entering his God's zone. The guns in his hand twisted at an impossible angle before Jacob pulled the triggers in successions.

When the second passed,

'Boom (X42)'

Forty-two consecutive sonic booms rang in the vicinity while the bullet shells were falling into the river, and with those shells, lump bodies of those seven Iron Puppet Assassins with bullet holes in their heads and the discs.

Jacob was still continuing to rise because of his previous jump, but the fight was already over.

However, when Jacob thought exactly that, his heart palpitated as, without hesitation, he raised both guns in his head overhead like shields.

The very next instant, a lighting-fast black streak appeared out of nowhere and landed over his right gun muzzle.

The sheer impact of that black streak was so high, not to mention sharp that the Advance type-1 Titian handgun blasted into pieces, and Jacob was sent flying like a broken kite.

Furthermore, his mask also suffered a crack on its forehead. If he hadn't had those two things between his face, it would've been his skull that was either blasted apart or cracked; in both cases, he would've been dead.

Still, it didn't mean he was out of danger as his eyes quickly started to scan the vicinity where the black streak originated from while he tried to maneuver his body. He wasn't too injured since he didn't suffer direct damage. Only his hand was numb, and his wrist nearly got snapped.

But he knew finding the attacker was more important, and this guy was not like those seven who attacked him from close range. It was a long-range attacker.

However, Jacob was in for another shock when his body was directly smacked into some invisible barrier. He knew these guys had again put up some magic barrier to keep him away from running. This also explained that part of the river was static, not flowing as it should be.

Jacob finally noticed a lighting-like infrared streak, and he knew he had found the attack, but he was too fast and kept moving like a fly.

But it didn't mean he was going to let it have its way. Jacob quickly stabilized his falling body. The reaming gun in hand vanished, and as well he let go of the broken grip of the destroyed handgun.

Another black gun appeared. It was a black shotgun, and holding it in between his hand, Jacob instantly emptied it on the moving, lighting-fast Bronze Puppet Assassin.

Jacob had no intention to hit or kill it, as a matter of fact. Instead, he wanted just to slow it down because the moment he fired shots from the shotgun, it had already vanished the moment the bullets were fired, and the Titan Sniper had already replaced it!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 328: The Streak Breaker

While falling, Jacob holding the Iron Titan Sniper Rifle, looked at the Bronze Puppet Assassin, who was agilely moving, leaving behind a red infrared streak.

The shotgun round was filled with hundreds of tiny pins made with an intermediate type-1 mineral called black razor rock, and not only that, but they were coated with Jacob's explosive cocktail, which made them blow like tiny bombs the moment they came in contact with any hard surface.

These rounds were invented by Jacob specifically for the agile enemies who were too hard to snipe, but he never released them to the public since it would draw too much unwanted attention to him.

Now, however, these things were his biggest trump cards. They were also what he needed to buy only a fraction, and it will be over because of his sharpened reflexes and the rifle's insane speed. It was a combination of sorts.

Jacob also knew this guy seemed to be a long-range attacker who needed to be stopped if he wanted to mount another attack, but he wanted to make him pause at his behest.

Besides, the moment he reaches the ground, he will fall between trees, so he will again become a target of another attack, and that's what the Bronze Puppet Assassin seemed to want as well. So, Jacob only had this three or four-second window to end it!

The Bronze Puppet Assassin also never expected a lightning fast response from Jacob as it clearly felt the incoming tiny pins that were fired exactly in the trajectory where he was about to fly into.

Furthermore, those pins were giving it the feeling of strange danger as if it was hit by it would not be pretty.

So, the glowing black disc under his feet finally stopped for a fraction as it wanted to change its trajectory.

But that fraction was all it took when the moment the disc was about to fly right, the Bronze Puppet Assassin's head only moved in that position for a moment and was about to leave that position when it felt something sharp and hard touch its bronze hood...

That was the last thing it could even think of because the next moment, its head blew like a water balloon...

"Boooooommm!"

The sonic boom, which sounded like the gong of victory, came right after!

"Iron Puppet Assassins and Bronze Puppet Assassin have been killed by the target!

"Iron Class Kill Order has been terminated!

"347 Years Iron Kill Streak has also been ended!

"Streak Breaker: Faceless Ancient has been marked and will be granted 20 Years Iron Immunity Period from all class kill orders!

"The Streak has been broken from the Iron Class Kill Order put up by the Iron Constant-978,359 has to pay 100 times the initial Iron Kill Order price before he can put a new kill order again!

"Bronze Class Streak Breaker Bounty will start on the Faceless Ancient after the Immunity Period end!"

The electric voice buzzed in the entire secret library when Jacob killed the Bronze Puppet Assassin.

However, the secret library was right now completely empty as there were no traces of the Goblette or any bookshelves, as a matter of fact.

Only the reverse hourglass was there, but for some reason, the continuous sand was now slowly filling the upper section of the hourglass, and it was only a hair away from filling the entire section.

But the moment that announcement was made, that tiny section was instantly filled before the hourglass suddenly started to contort, and the next moment, it was wrapped in space and vanished!

No trace of the secret library or the hourglass was left, only an empty space...

Ten minutes later, the restricted barrier around the river finally lifted, and the river started to flow again as if nothing changed.

However, on the river bank, Jacob was looking at the eight headless bodies while a few mutilated body parts were lying beside them. There were also weapons and eight discs on the side.

These were all the things he had scooped out of the river while the barrier was still intact.

After killing the Bronze Puppet Assassin, Jacob made sure that no more assassins were hiding, and only then did he stop using his fluid acceleration and stow away his weapon, and start to collect the loot.

Although he was perplexed about this massive assassin operation, this didn't mean he would let those precious meat and discs left so they could flow away. He needed to replenish his energy, after all.

Besides, as annoying and dangerous as these guys are, they were proven to be rather nutritious for his current needs.

Especially the Bronze Puppet Assassin, who drew Jacob's attention in all this as not only was he dressed differently, but he was also on a different color disc which was clearly superior to the gray discs. He also found a two-meter purple sniper rifle which was actually not a mech rifle like his but a magic rifle!

'But what are these mutilated body parts? How did they reach their current state?' Jacob was most confused about those mutilated body parts.

He could at least tell they belonged to these mutants and were part of their group, but someone they ended up in such a state mysteriously.

So, he had two kinds of theories about those body parts. The first one was quite far-fetched in which someone helped him, while in the second, they fought among themselves, which is an even more far-fetched situation since these guys didn't seem to have a mind of their own.

Jacob has another notion that it might have something to do with the Water Mediation, but it is so absurd that he doesn't want to believe it, but still, he won't ignore it.

Because if it was true, then the Art of Nature might even be far more powerful than he could even imagine.

The moment the barrier was lifted, footsteps rang in the middle of the night as they approached Jacob.

Jacob didn't even react as he knew who it belonged to. It was the gnome who was naturally Autarch who Jacob had summoned here.

Jacob coldly spoke at this moment, "Finish off the remaining alchemists by absorbing their memories and take the strongest one of them as a host.

"I was hoping to give you some time to adjust, but it seems we can't wait any longer and has to leave. After you're done, I want you to look into ten storage rings..."

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 329: Skull NO. A-0 Space Rings

Somewhere in the inner region of the Magic Beast Forest, a bone fire lit a spacious cave.

Jacob sat in front of the bonfire and chewed on a roasted leg while a small pile of clean bones was sitting beside him.

Sitting on the opposite side of the bonfire was an 8'1-foot-tall purple scale kobold wearing black armor, but his eyes were deadpan as he stared straight at Jacob without blinking.

It was naturally Autarch who had changed its body from a gnome to a kobold who was the strongest in the alchemist group bought out by Jacob despite being a Grandmaster Rank Potion Alchemist.

"It's rude to stare at someone while they are eating." Jacob impassively said at this moment as he finished off the meal which was quite fulfilling as he was feeling quite powerful, especially after eating that Bronze Puppet Assassin.

Jacob had a feeling that his heart was more powerful than those Iron Puppet Assassins, and he probably gained far more with its heart than he did with all seven of them combined.

Still, it didn't mean he was happy about it. On the contrary, he was feeling quite apprehensive because if more than ten of those bronze robe guys came after him, he might not escape without paying a steep price.

He never thought the Killer Skull Society was hiding such a terrifying trump card under their sleeve. But he was also confused about why they were sending them in small groups, not all of them together, since it would be easier to kill him.

This was the only thing he couldn't comprehend.

"I'm not staring, I'm just observing how Sir could eat so much since it's impossible according to my memories, and only a giant can eat this much, but Sir is clearly not giant." Autarch emotionlessly stated.

Although he can act like a normal being but in front of Jacob, he seems to prefer talking with his true self, which seems to have no emotion, and Jacob also prefers the real Autarch.

"Like you, I also have special abilities which I can't tell you for your own good." Jacob coldly stated.

Despite knowing Autarch can't betray him, he still chooses to keep his abilities to himself since no one has seen the future.

"Understood." Autarch nodded expressionlessly before he asked something again, "Can I know why you were attacked and by whom or were you hunting?"

Jacob scoffed, "I was attacked by an organization called the Killer Skull Society, and it might not be their last attempt."

Autarch nodded, "I indeed have a set of memories about the notorious Killer Skull Society."

"Then I don't need to explain it any further. All you need to know is they are my enemies and now yours as well. If in the future, if you find any news related to them, report it to me." Jacob ordered.

"Understood."

"Now, I need you to look into these space rings for me and tell me what is inside them. They are related to the Killer Skull Society as well." Jacob then flipped his hand ten space rings appeared.

Those space rings belonged to none other than Skull No. A-0, who died by Jacob's hand, and in his mind, the Killer Skull Society was sending those mutants after him because of these space rings.

Before, he didn't have any means to open them, nor did he trust anyone enough to ask them to open these rings for him.

He could've even made someone open them and then kill them, but he decided to wait until he subdued Brain Hunter or awakened magic power of his own.

"What about the space rings you gave me to sort out before?" Autarch expressionlessly questioned.

Jacob questioned in return, "Are you done with them?"

Autarch nodded, "Yes. I was done in an hour. Do you want them right now?"

Jacob nodded without hesitation, "Yes. If you don't need anything, I will be keeping them on me since you will be changing your body often and might even need to abandon it if this kind of attack happens again.

"So, these items will be safe with me. I want you to make an inventory list on the Star Watch about the items in those rings and then send them to me. But you may keep one Advance Type-1 Space Ring and anything useful to you for your personal use."

"Thank you, Sir. But there is nothing useful in those rings for me. I'll keep a ring for convenience." Autarch stated before he took off the ring from his ring finger before he, took out another ring from it, and handed it to Jacob.

Jacob accepted it without hesitation and stowed it away in his pendant as he knew now he didn't need to worry about running out of space as he could let Autarch store anything in those rings.

Then he handed Autarch those rings he discovered on A-0.

Autarch didn't waste any time and wore one of the ten rings and tried to open it. The ring shimmered azure light before it returned to normal.

Autarch then looked at Jacob with a deadpan expression while Jacob was looking at him with anticipation since he wanted to know what was inside those rings, which made the Killer Skull Society so hyperactive.

Autarch impassively said, "I cannot open it. It is inaccessible. I'm sorry." From start to finish, his expression didn't change.

Jacob was startled, and then he frowned as he knew Autarch wasn't lying. He didn't have the ability to lie to him, but this revelation was still hard to swallow, "Why?"

"My magic power was blocked by some barrier that is stopping me from probing into the independent space of this space ring. It's like some encryption has been placed on it." Autarch replied.

"Try others," Jacob said with a clouded expression as he was feeling indignation and perplexed to the extreme.

Autarch, oblivious to Jacob's inner turmoil, did as he was told and started to wear those remaining nine rings one after another, and each time like a robot, it would say 'Inaccessible' and move on to the other.

Jacob's fury was at the boiling point until Autarch's words were finally changed on its eighth try, "This one is accessible!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 330: The Sense of Crisis

"This one is accessible!"

Those emotionless words of Autarch's were music to Jacob's ears as he was really starting to feel like vomiting when he thought about his close shaves with death and all for what, for a bunch of locked rings, which he didn't even know were locked a few moments ago.

"What is inside?" Hiding his elation, Jacob asked calmly.

"First, this space ring's inner space is 100 Cubic Meters, not like the Advance Type-1 Rings, which only had ten cubic meters of space, which clearly made it a space ring above the type-1 rank.

"As for the items inside, there are 82 magic scrolls, three spears, four magic guns, a ship, many different potions, and pills, and all of them are advance-type-1, and some of them are even I don't recognize.

"There are also 19 books, a strange black cube, 23 more space rings, and lastly, there is a hexagram-shaped crimson token engraved with an unknown language which I didn't have any memory of. Most of the space of this ring is occupied by the 53-meter large blue ship, and only 14 cubic meters of free space remained." Autarch revealed.

Jacob's eyes shimmered with surprise when he heard just this ring alone was most likely to be a type-2 space ring, and all those materials inside made him even more ecstatic.

Because Autarch's memories could rival a Senior Grandmaster, and even he seemed not to recognize some of those potions and pills, which could only mean two things, they were either extremely rare or above type-1 rank as well.

As for those magic scrolls, Jacob had seen A-0 using some of them during his escape, and he knew the remaining ones would not be any less precious, and those extra 23 rings will be most likely hold even more wealth that A-0 couldn't store in this one ring alone!

Just that ship alone was worth Jacob's absolute attention, and it would not be some cheap ship either, considering A-0's status!

All in all, Jacob was content with just this ring's treasures, and when he thought about those other locked rings, his heart raced slightly as he didn't dare to imagine what could those closed rings hold in comparison to this open one.

'The Society is most likely after those locked rings as well, and that open ring should be that guy I killed. This made those locked rings even more precious than this one.' Jacob thought with scrutiny.

"Can you open the remaining two rings?" Jacob asked as he didn't tell Autarch to take out anything from that space ring yet, and instead, he wanted to confirm if the remaining two rings were open or also locked.

Autarch tried on Jacob's behest, but in the end, he shook his head, "They are also locked like the remaining seven. Only this one is open. Do you want me to look into the other 23 space rings in this one as well?"

"Give me the lock rings. We'll find a way to unlock them eventually and go ahead with the remaining 23 space rings." Jacob nodded without hesitation.

He stowed away the nine locked space rings in his pendant again as he had no intention of giving them away and seeking reconciliation with the Society. Because Jacob knew he was past the point of seeking forgiveness from them, and even if he returned all that he took, they would not be going to let him off.

At least he won't after suffering so much loss.

After ten minutes, Autarch was finally done with the 23rd space ring, as Jacob didn't disturb him in the entire process and silently waited.

Autarch finally spoke, "All of these space rings have 100 cubic meters of space. Nineteen of them are entirely filled with raw materials, and all of them are advance-type-1 rank. Most of them are extremely rare, and some of them even I don't recognize.

"One of the remaining four is filled with all types of nine-star magic cores, the second one is filled with weapons, and all of them seemed to be advance-type-1. The third space ring is filled with all sorts of potions and pills. While the last one is 10% filled with magic scrolls, and the rest is empty."

'So much? Just how rich is the Society, and did I really unknowingly cut off the snake's head? That person was that Important Grace after all, and that's why the one contacting me was not him but that woman because he was dead!'

Jacob was astonished as now it was almost confirmed that the person dying by his hands was really Important, Grace.

Furthermore, he could imagine just what it means to have an entire filled space of 100 cubic meters with just raw materials, and there are 19 of them, and only someone with top-level authority could hold this much wealth in an organization!

If Jacob was correct, then this entire wealth was akin to the entire treasury of the Society in the Rare Plains, and it ended up in his hand.

Then there were still those nine locked rings. Jacob now started to get why the Apocalyptic-S would make the mistake of contacting him, even going as far as to threaten him outright instead of taking silent actions.

There was something in those locked rings which was important enough to make her panicked, not the things in A-O's ring. The more Jacob thought in this direction, the more he felt he was almost close to the truth.

"It seemed this entire thing was far more dangerous than I had expected it to be. I have another task for you..." Jacob looked at Autarch and solemnly started to give me different instructions.

With a sense of crisis, Jacob meticulously made more adjustments to his plan of leaving the Rare Plains and was now even considering rejecting Hallberg since things were too dangerous for him alone. He can't babysit someone else.

However, this was still only a mere thought as it wasn't an option yet. There was still time to make the final decision.

"I'll follow your will." Autarch nodded in agreement after he heard Jacob's instructions.

Jacob coldly said as he stood up, "Good, then let's waste no time. We need to find a bigger place to sort out everything in one night. We'll leave for the Wild Nation after you're done mastering this item. Furthermore, we can't move on the ground anymore or travel slowly!"