

C Immortality 351

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 351: Deceiving the Deceiver!

Jacob was sitting inside his ship while a 2 feet red crab was sitting on the other seat, and he was reading something on his Star Watch in a comfortable position.

Surprisingly the red crab also had a star watch interface in front of it, and it was surfing the Star Net, which was quite a strange scene.

"Rumble..."

Jacob looked up at the transparent shade and saw the inky sky and rain pouring down. He muttered, "It's been raining like this for four straight days."

Then he gazed at the stealth triangle's control interface, and after confirming that they were still on the route and weren't effective by the storm at all so, he went back to his reading.

Half an hour later, Jacob suddenly received a call from someone named 'Barbarian King32452.'

Right now, only someone with either 2-Star Privilege or someone in his friend list can send him a call, and this Barbarian King32452 was the latter. The crab on the other seat also looked toward Jacob.

Jacob grunted when his reading on the spell structures was disrupted, but he still accepted the call, and an extremely urgent voice rang, "My Lord, I-I'm trapped!"

Jacob's eyes narrowed ever so slightly as he asked, "What do you mean you're trapped? Did you not follow the map I've given you?"

"I did! I can swear upon the Barbarian God's honor and name that I strictly followed my Lord's instruction to the very last detail, but somehow, I suddenly entered a hazy zone. I thought it was still part of the map, so I didn't think much of it and let the ship goes in the same direction.

"However, it was nine months ago, and I still haven't escaped this mist, and there is no concept of day or night in here. That's why I dare to disturb my Lord. Please shed some light on this!"

Jacob's lips suddenly curved up in a very cold smile, "Are you sure you installed that map in that ship 'I left' for you in that bunker and didn't change the route?"

Barbarian King32452 replied horridly, "Yes, yes, I do as my Lord commands me to and only stop to restock some food when necessary. But now I ran out of food and water. The ring you left is also empty. Please help this servant out." He was pleading like crazy.

"I'll contact you in a moment." Jacob uttered, and without waiting for a reply, he cut the call and then opened the interface with Barbarian King32452's ID and tapped on 'Block.'

Now that guy won't be able to contact him ever!

Jacob then looked at the crab, which was Autarch still going on with its absorption of magic cores, which was going to be complete after this crab, and his final requirement will also be revealed.

"As I suspected, that ship was a trap, and it was the right thing not to take it despite the initial surprise when that Yahoo found the ship in that bunker and didn't manage to blow himself up." Jacob coldly snickered.

When he was leaving the Rare Plains, Jacob decided not to take the ship arranged by Hallberg after the strangeness surrounding it.

But it didn't mean he wasn't curious about if that was really a trap or just his paranoia. There was only one way to confirm it that was for someone else to go to that place and check it out.

So, Jacob first found a wild barbarian tribe living in the wilderness above the waterfall while he was actually searching for an intelligent magic beast or some orc tribe.

But the Barbarian Tribe was also fine, and then he subdued their chief, who was a middle-aged Barbarian and very ambitious. When Jacob offered him a way out of the Rare Plains, he instantly accepted it.

Jacob then gave him a Star Watch, a Common Rank Space Ring, even making him dress like himself and instructing him to follow his commands very carefully, and that barbarian quickly learned.

Then he just sent him the same map and codes that Hallberg sent him about the bunker, and Jacob himself left the Rare Plains while instructing the Barbarian to report him the moment he got the ship, and only then will he give him the map toward the epic plains.

First, Jacob thought that the bunker was some sort of death trap and that the Barbarian who had unknowingly taken Jacob's place would be most likely dead.

But to his surprise, that guy really found a ship there, and it was a Basic Epic Treasure Ship as well!

However, Jacob was still not convinced and thought it was some sort of trap, which was not related to the rare plains but the Star Ocean instead.

When he thought about it more, Jacob was even more sure that it would make perfect sense that Hallberg won't risk attacking him after knowing his prowess, so the easiest way was to drag him into the Star Ocean and then act.

So, he thought that the ship was bugged and trackable, but he didn't tell the Barbarian and even give me the same map that Ellie had given him and have him report to him if any trouble came his way.

Now, after three years and eight months, something finally happened, and Jacob's conjecture turned out to be spot on. There was something wrong with that ship, and it had to be something to do with this strange area the Barbarian had entered.

Furthermore, now he was sure that that ship was findable, and whoever was keeping an eye on it will be now under the impression that Jacob was a goner. This will deceive the deceiver!

"If I ever saw that dwarf again, he'll be your meal. I'm pretty sure he has some very healthy memories for you!" Jacob declared with killing intent in his eyes and then returned to his study.

However, three hours later, Jacob and Autarch suddenly jolted in their positions, and the next thing they knew, the Stealth Triangle suddenly tore apart, and they both fell on a rock-hard surface.

This happened so fast that even someone with Epic Rank relaxed wasn't able to react at all, and when he did react, he found himself in front of an emerald skin giant with a long black spike over his forehead sitting on his massive throne as he had a hideous smile over his giant face.

The Giant spoke at this moment, "Welcome, fellow Wanderer, to my beloved ship. I'm the Captain of this ship. You may call me Captain Free Sword!"

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Chapter 352: The Horned Ogre

Jacob was in complete bafflement about all this. Everything happened so fast and abruptly that before he knew something was even happening, he was looking at Captain Free Sword's malicious smiling face while the stealth triangle was lying there in two pieces.

Jacob's first reaction was naturally to retaliate in full force, but the moment this thought came into his mind, and he tried to move his body, he left with nothing but horror because his entire body went stiff as a ghastly pressure suddenly descended on him.

The pressure was heavy, Jacob felt a mountain crushed down on him, and he tried to use his fluid acceleration to escape from it. Still, the gap in power was simply too much, and he was only able to resist for another moment before he fell over to his knees.

Now, Jacob was finally spooked as he panted heavily under that pressure, and the first thing that came to his mind was to run away in any way possible, but he couldn't even breathe properly, much less move at full speed.

"Hoho, he was able to last 1 second under Captain's pressure despite being only an Epic. What a powerful ant!" A sneering yet heavy voice chuckled in derision.

Only now, Jacob got to know that there was more than just one person present around, and he didn't even notice them until he spoke!

"Now, now, Harold, this is not how we speak with guests." Captain Free Sword smilingly chided the other giant standing a few meters away from kneeling Jacob's side.

Right at this moment, the pressure on Jacob suddenly vanished, and he could finally breathe properly, but his entire body was filled with cold sweat. He was now feeling true fear which he hadn't felt since the time he was reincarnated into Decker's lab.

The most flabbergasting thing was Jacob didn't even know who in the world he appeared here, and his stealth triangle's radar system didn't pick anything at all.

Then this could only mean these people were terrifying, and the technology they had was far superior to anything he had ever seen.

"I hope now you will understand that any and all of your efforts will be meaningless, and they will only make your life far harder. Right now, you are my esteemed guest, and you really want to keep it that way because if you become my prisoner, I can assure you I have no pity for my prisoners like I respect my guests!" Captain Free Sword coolly spoke, "So here is what we are going to do. I'll give you respect, and you will show me equal courtesy as your host. If you understand, then tell start by revealing your face and introducing yourself."

"Cursed Immortality!" Jacob instantly summoned Cursed Immortally while closely listening to Captain Free Sword. He knew he was in very big trouble right now, and he needed to know just who he was dealing with before he could react appropriately.

Furthermore, he finally thought about Autarch and instantly summoned him back, and no one seemed to notice or care about the crab lying there, so his retrieval went quite well.

The moment cursed immortality appeared, without even Jacob asking, it wrote without any of its usual jokes.

"It seemed all that luck of yours finally ran out. The huge log in front of you is a Unique-Tier-8 Combatant, Horned Ogre, and he is a direct descendant of a Legendary Rank, Demonic Ogre!

"There are 24 more Horned Ogre present in this place, and all of them are Unique Rank Combatants. Then there are also nine more Unique Rank Sorcerers. All in all, you are in a huge mess, so you better think twice before you open your mouth, or else it's been nice knowing you...Hehehe..."

Jacob's heart sank to rock bottom because he was really in huge trouble right now, and he didn't even know how in the world he encountered so many Unique Rank Experts while being so close to the Epic Plains.

Now, he finally understood why he and his stealth triangle ended up in this state because he simply didn't stand a chance against someone of Unique Rank with Unique Technology under their command.

As for why Immortika was calling them Combatants or Sorcerers, it was related to a species evolution that they took after they entered the Epic Rank.

The Species who were good in close-quarters combats and powerful physiques embarked on the path of a Combatant and had a very high affinity with Combat Magic, which required mostly weapons and close-quarters battles.

While the Wiser Species would walk the path of Sorcerers, which is the path of pure magic, with powerful long rang spells, more mana, high-level comprehension abilities, and special innate ability.

However, Unique Species were even more terrifying because their magic cores were no longer called the Star or Epic Star Magic Cores but either Combatant Unique Magic Cores or Sorcerer Unique Magic Cores.

There was a reason for this which was a Unique Magic Core holder could etch one corresponding rank Magic Spell on their magic core with each successful new tier. Which then allows them to use those magic spells with a simple thought.

It was the same ability as someone with innate magic spells like Jacob or Autarch, and that's why Unique Rank Beings were so terrifying, not to mention their superior physical traits. Even an Epic Tier-9 Being can't last much longer against a newly advanced Unique-Tier-1 Being.

Furthermore, if it was a Combatant species, then you are dead because their bodies can match Unique Rank Treasures!

Right now, Jacob's physical power is equivalent to an Epic-Tier-2, and with his fluid acceleration, he can match those with an Epic-Tier-5 Combatant or maybe Tier-6 if he gives it his all and the other party doesn't have to practice a Scripture. At the same time, his biggest advantage was his unrestrained Hex Magic on the Epic Ranks.

However, when it came to a Unique Rank, he was as helpless as an ant!

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Chapter 353: Slave Rune

After understanding the grave situation, he was in, Jacob decided not to try anything that he would regret. Preserving his life was more important than anything else right now.

Thereby, he took off his mask while his long silver hair wasn't hidden because he wasn't wearing his windbreaker while sitting on the ship. The mask was on his face so he could see any incoming danger, yet it seemed to be not worked out in front of Unique Rank at all.

However, when Jacob's mask was removed, he noticed something instantly. Captain Free Sword's eyes went wide in astonishment while Harold, the right-hand man of Captain Free Sword, blurted in bewilderment.

"Faery Human?!"

Now it was Jacob's turn to be shocked because it was the second time he had heard this name, and someone even recognized him, and it was a Unique expert on top of that who recognized him instantly.

'Could it be this body really belonged to the Unique Plains? Then how did it end up all the way in the Common Plains?' Jacob thought, but he had better control over his emotions, and he knew this might be a chance but also a disaster.

Thereby, he calmed his nerve and greeted Captain Free Sword, "I am Jacob Steve. It's nice to meet you, Captain Free Sword!"

Captain Free Sword looked surprised at this moment while Harold pulled a strange expression.

"He can't be one of those conceited bastards who took pride in their name, and he's too weak to be called a Faery Human. But we can't be too sure, now, can't we?" Captain Free Sword stated before he turned his focus on Jacob again as he smiled, which now contained deviant intent.

Then something magical happened; Captain Free Sword's wrist suddenly shimmered in crimson light, and under Jacob's astonished eyes, a 2-meter white virtual cube suddenly formed around him, which seemed completely harmless.

At this moment, Jacob felt his Star Watch suddenly heat up, and when he glanced at it, he was shocked because it became active on its own.

Thereby, a familiar voice rang from the virtual cube, which made Jacob's blood run cold,

"Star ID: Faceless Ancient

"Star Privilege: 2 Star

"Warning; Faceless Ancient is an Honorary Member of Life Faction. This scan cannot be continued!"

It was SAAI's voice!

The next moment, the virtual cube instantly shattered in front of Captain Free Sword's shining eyes as if he had found a treasure.

On the other hand, Jacob had nothing but a bad feeling about it.

"Go, and call Masha. We might need her." Captain Free Sword ordered, and Harold quickly vanished to fetch this Masha.

Then Captain Free Sword's focus appeared on Jacob's cold face, and he pulled a big nasty smile, "Mr. Steve, you see, I like honesty, and something tells me you are not being honest here at all. Then I'll ask one more time, what is your name, and what are you doing in this place? Now your answer will decide how I'll treat you further, so please, for both of our sake, reply with honesty."

"Hahahaha... trouble is coming, this is so much more entertaining than I thought..." Immortika wrote in mirth, which only made Jacob rageful, yet there was nothing he could do.

"I told you my true name, I don't know why you do not believe it, but it is the truth," Jacob uttered with as much sincerity as he could muster.

It has been a very long time since he wanted to sound so convincing to someone.

However, Captain Free Sword merely chuckled in disdain and said, "It seemed you don't like my sincerity at all."

Just as his voice trailed off, Harold reappeared in the hall again, and this time, there was a 3.2-meter-tall woman in a black dress that was quite revealing.

She has pale gray skin, small ears, and strange rune symbols carved over his forehead and jawline, while her blue eyes were glowing in gentle blue light. She was ridiculously beautiful and had a unique charm that could charm almost anyone.

"Oh, an Unique-Tier-4 Sorceress from Charm Siren Race who is proficient in Charm Magic and has a terrifying talent for Magic Runes. Another race with second generation legendary bloodline of Siren Race."

Jacob didn't find it helpful. Instead, it only made him more apprehensive, while the Cursed Book seemed to enjoy the show thoroughly.

Furthermore, that woman was simply too beautiful, and even he felt a strange desire arousing within him.

"It's a Faery Human?" Masha's charming blue eyes twinkled when she saw Jacob as if she had just found a rare testament which gave Jacob chills to his spine, and keeping his calm was getting harder.

Captain Free Sword coldly smiled as he said, "Dear Masha, would you be so kind as to engrave him with a Slave Rune?"

Masha's eyes shimmered with ecstasy as she looked at Captain Free Sword, "Can I really?"

"When do I ever lie to you?" Captain Free Sword chuckled.

Jacob's expression was now as dark as inky clouds, and he knew things were going south now and that Slave Rune was something he wanted to avoid at all costs.

He was pretty sure that Slave Rune wouldn't be as simple as those Parasite Gems, and he had too many secrets to protect, while the biggest secret being the Cursed Immortality.

If these guys even get wind of the Godly Scripture in his possession, he can forget about living.

Just when he was about to use every means necessary to stop this, Immortika wrote something.

"Just let them have their fun. Nothing in your possession is strong enough to escape from them, so you will only be making things worse for yourself. On the other hand, if you use your acting skill, you will be able to escape one day.

"The Slave Rune they are talking about is a very powerful Magic Rune only a Rune Artificer at a certain level can learn and then etched on a living being with a tier weaker rank than itself.

"Which then allowed the Rune Artificer to take full control over the victim's mind and body and follow its every command without any restrain.

"However, in your situation, they can only control your physique for the time being, but not your mind or magic or free will because of your Hex Magic Core. This means if your acting skills are good... hahahaha this game will be quite fun to watch. I can't wait!"

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Chapter 354: Enslaved Again (1)

Jacob stared at Immortika's suggestion, and he had no choice but to stop his action.

Over two years ago, when Immortika's so call slumbering period was finished, Jacob summoned it and questioned it about what happened that day when he acquired the Cursed Path Glory Gem.

However, Immortika brushed everything off by simply telling him its signature line, 'What are you talking about?' and then started laughing wantonly.

Exasperated yet helpless, Jacob had no choice but to drop the topic. Immortika did make something clear, though.

The Infinity Pendant was indeed incomplete and still missing another component, and Jacob might need to find its whereabouts in the future.

That was how Jacob's inquiry came to an end, and after that day, he summoned Immortika today because it was the first time in his entire voyage that he fell into trouble.

Furthermore, this trouble was something he couldn't even hope to overcome with brute strength. He could easily tell that Captain Free Sword's change in behavior was because of his racial identity, and he probably wanted to confirm or want something from him.

But becoming a slave was something he never wanted to experience again ever. Yet just as Immortika stated, he really can't overpower so many Unique Rank Experts who could easily kill him in a blink of an eye. Not to mention Captain Free Sword was someone close to the peak of Unique Rank, so panicking won't do him any good.

Now that Immortika assured him only his physique would be enslaved and his mind would remain the same, this was his only chance of getting out of this alive.

So, what if he becomes someone's slave again? As long as he has a way to overcome this situation, he'll be free one day. Besides, it wasn't like he hadn't done something like this before.

At this moment, Masha, after receiving Captain Free Sword's confirmation, finally turned toward Jacob and smiled evilly, showing her sharp teeth.

"I never thought I would get a chance to work on a Faery Human in my life. Just your perfect face made me want to mess it up more and more. I guess we both are lucky. Don't worry, I'll be very gentle, but only if you want it to be gentle!" She maliciously stated while flaunting her deep cleavage.

"I'm not what you're thinking me to be, and I don't want to die either. That's why as long as you guys won't kill me, I'll be your slave or dog, whatever you want me to be." Jacob submissively stated.

"Are you sure he's one of those self-centered Faeries?" Masha strangely asked Captain Free Sword, just like Harold does.

Captain Free Sword merely chuckled, "Won't we find out after you work your magic?" Although he said that, a hint of uncertainty was present in Captain Free Sword's voice.

"I guess you are right." Masha quickly agreed with Captain Free Sword and then turned to Jacob, who was now standing there without moving, and evilly said, "What a pity, I personally prefer to be rough. Heh, I guess gentle it is, then. Expose your torso, and turn around."

Jacob took a deep breath and removed his shirt, exposing his sharply ripped, masculine pale white torso, which made Masha lick her pale gray lips. Ignoring her reaction, he turned around and exposed his demon face back.

"I hope you're right about this!" Jacob coldly transmitted his voice to Immortika.

"Hahahaha... when have I ever lied to you? Look on the bright side; you're going to be enslaved by a charming woman this time, not an ugly goblin. Enjoy yourself while you can...hahahahaha!"

Jacob rolled his eyes and remained still as he no longer spoke with the eccentric book, which would only make him pop some nerve if he continued to talk.

Masha didn't delay either as an exquisite silver brush suddenly appeared in her hand with a black head. The next moment, six materials suddenly appeared, levitating in front of her under a blue sheen.

One was a three-centimeter Ladybug like creature which had a black shell with crimson runes, while instead of a head, it had a sharp black claw. Out of the remaining materials, three appeared to be herbs with ugly appearances, while the last two were marbles that glowed in an emerald hue. They were actually magic cores.

However, these magic cores were vastly different from the Star Magic Cores because a Star Magic Core only had a crystal-like appearance with white glowing dots in it. Yet these two magic cores were perfectly shaped marbles, and if one looked closely, there seemed to be unlimited stars in these small marbles, like the starry sky.

They were actually Unique Rank Magic Cores of a Sorcerer!

The brush in Masha's hand lit up in blue light as golden runes started to surface on the brush. Almost instantly, she started to mutter gibberish as she stroked the brush with a strange move between the materials, and magically they started to melt in the air under Masha's graceful brush movement.

"Ah, it's always a feast for the eyes whenever I look at a Rune Artificer's techniques. Truly fascinating..." Captain Free Sword praised, and Harold nodded in agreement.

On the other hand, Jacob, who was feeling nothing but chills behind his back, had no idea what was going on since he was told to look on the other side.

But from Captain Free Sword's words, he could guess Masha was preparing to carve that Salve Rune, and she seemed to be quite proficient in Rune Artificer Techniques, which he also had learned but never practiced.

Within a minute, all those materials vanished without a trace, and what was left in their place was a small glob of crimson liquid in the air, and Masha dipped the brush head in that liquid glob at this moment.

Like a sponge, the brush started to suck that liquid, and its silver surface also started to turn into the same color as the crimson liquid until it was shining in crimson color, and the liquid was finally gone.

Masha smiled impishly while holding the fully crimson brush as she looked at Jacob's wide back like she was looking at a canvas.

"Alright, this going to sting a little..."

Masha gently warned before she moved her hand and stroked strongly on Jacob's back, leaving a crimson brush stroke.

However, the moment that brush touched Jacob's back, he felt like a burning blade, and the worse part came after the brush stroke was fully manifested. It was like someone had poured molten lava right above that same wound made by that burning blade!

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Chapter 355: Enslaved Again (2)

Jacob, despite experiencing the excruciating pain from the Cursed Immortality, this pain was still not something that he could take with a grain of salt.

Furthermore, Masha wasn't just done after making only one stroke, but she was just getting started, and she even had this crazy sadistic look in her eyes as she stroked Jacob's back, and watching him tremble and groan in pain gave her pleasure. She was not different from an Evil Witch at this moment.

However, as painful as it was, Jacob endured with everything he had and focused all those pain on his hatred for being so powerless despite everything he had done to reach to this point.

Despite enduring so much pain and being so much meticulous, he still ended up captured by a bunch of outlaws, and now to survive, he needed to be a slave. He never wanted to experience this sort of feeling after Decker's lab, but here he was, forced to walk on the same road again. He wasn't angry at anyone but himself for still being so powerless.

Yet, at the same time, Jacob learned a valuable lesson. In this place, emotions or feelings were nothing but a hindrance. If you are powerful but have remorse and feelings, you will only end up dead, while the person who was ruthless to others and himself will survive in any scenario.

In this place, if you are not flexible, then you are dead!

That pain and suffering was something that Jacob would never forget, and this will always remind him what will happen to those who can't fight back, and this was the fate of the weak.

Maybe there were some good people, but Jacob has yet to encounter one. Even if he did encounter them, he would never be the same after what he's been through or what he'll go through in the future.

After a total of 48 strokes, Masha finally stopped as she looked at the crimson diagram filled with rune symbols on Jacob's back which now was totally red. At an unknown moment, if he hadn't been held by the blue mana around his shoulder, he would've been kneeling since all that pain was too much for him to stand still.

Masha nodded in satisfaction as she admired her work, while Captain Free Sword and Harold had cold smiles on their faces without any hint of pity in their eyes.

"Do you want to do the honor, Captain?" Masha spoke while she looked at Captain Free Sword smilingly as she was indicting toward the final step of this Salve Rune competition.

Captain Free Sword shook his head and replied, "I'm not into pretty boys. You can keep him. Besides, if he turns out to be a Faery, he will be very precious, and you are the best person to keep an eye on him. Albeit, I'm pretty sure you want to have some fun with a Faery, so you can keep him and fulfill your desire until we find our way back home."

"Thank you, Captain, you are so good to me!" Masha, like a little girl, ecstatically exclaimed, completely different from her sadistic self.

She didn't waste more time, afraid Captain Free Sword might change his mind, and quickly cut open her finger, and purple blood gushed out. Without hesitation, she splashed the blood over Jacob's back on the crimson diagram.

The moment that blood fell over the diagram, a strange reaction happened. The crimson diagram suddenly started to emit smoke and started twisting on Jacob's back which sent another volley of even more intense pain.

The purple blood was fully absorbed by the crimson diagram, and it completely changed its shape. What was left of that diagram were dark runes shaped like chains.

Magically those chains suddenly started immersing into Jacob's skin before fully vanishing, leaving nothing but Jacob's red back.

Jacob, at this movement, suddenly feels all those feelings getting distant as he slowly loses the feeling from his limbs, and this phenomenon spared all the way up to his neck before stopping.

Except for his face, he couldn't feel any of his body, yet it was still there, but he couldn't control it anymore, as if he needed some sort of power to control his own limbs. It was a very strange feeling.

He might be only feeling this way because he was now far stronger than when he was under Decker's enslavement.

However, this time, his face was completely under his control, and his cursed heart was also the same, not to mention he could easily circulate his mana as usual.

It was just as Immortika said; only his body was enslaved, not his mind and free will, and his magic were also not restricted nor his ability.

"Now it's game whether you can hold off your blinking or not because the moment you blink or even twitch a muscle without her command, hehehehehe..." Immortika wrote impishly at this moment.

Jacob knew it had really come to his acting skill and how masterfully he could control his facial expression now.

"Turn around, my little slave," Masha commanded at this moment with a voice full of ecstasy.

The moment Jacob heard Masha's voice, he suddenly felt he got all the control over his body back, but to his astonishment, he could only move back, not anywhere else.

Still, he pulled an emotionless face and turned around as Masha had already retracted her magic power, which was holding Jacob up. Hence, his movement was still clumsy because of that lingering, hellish sensation on his back.

Now, he faced the three giant figures without any emotions on his face.

"Now, you have to answer Captain Free Sword's question with nothing but the truth!" Masha commanded coolly before she turned toward Captain Free Sword and said, "He's all yours."

Captain Free Sword was very satisfied with Masha's performance and asked Jacob, without beating around the bush, "Now tell me your name?"

Jacob knew if he wanted to trick them, he needed to speak some truth first, so he replied emotionlessly and finally revealed his full name after a very, very long time because he abhorred the last name of his father and always used his middle name as a surname.

"Jacob S. King!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 356: A Misunderstanding?

What was the truth?

This was a question which has a simple answer, but at the same time, it was as complex as a paradox.

The truth should be when someone believes something to be the truth. However, they could also be wrong at the same time because what they believed was the truth could be false as well, and they were believing a lie their whole life.

When someone corrects that believable truth with solid evidence, that truth will turn into a lie in the same person's mind who believed it to be the truth the very instant it was corrected.

Then even if that person doesn't admit it despite knowing that it was a lie all along, which he believed to be truth, it won't change the fact that the person now knows in his mind that it was a lie.

Yet at the same time, both persons might not know the truth at all, and everything was false, yet they believed it to be truth. So, would this false still be the truth as long as someone wholeheartedly believed it's the truth?

This was the Paradox of Truth and False!

The human body was something that could react differently in different situations despite the fact that the consciousness didn't want it to be, especially when a human was lying or telling the truth.

Even a master of lies can't control his body to such an extent that whatever lies he spat would turn out to be the truth. It was impossible to make a lie into truth as long as humans could have control over every cell in their bodies.

Jacob right now has lost all control of his body, and only his brain and heart are under his control, and he had no idea if Masha would be able to tell if he was telling the truth or lying by how his body reacts to it.

That's why he wanted to tell the whole truth first to make sure that if Masha could sense his body's reaction to such a degree. Because if she does, then the moment he spoke a lie, his cover would be blown, and that would spell death for him.

So, keeping this in mind, he had no choice but to reveal his full name, which was not something he was proud of or liked, and that name was buried with his mother when she died in that gang fight.

However, the name was something that was the hardest to lie about because it represents someone's entire existence and makes them unique.

The surname King was the only proof he had of his father, the man he never knew all his life, nor did he care to search for him even after he came into power. He buried it in the depth of his mind.

Because he abhorred it and never spoke about it to anyone, but as long as he can't fully forget about it, the fact won't change that this was also a part of his identity.

Now that it was questioned of his survival, he let go of his past stubbornness and finally spoke his full name. He knew in front of survival and living forever, this last name was something meager to reveal.

But when Captain Free Sword heard the name, he frowned because he clearly wasn't expecting it, and he looked at Masha with scrutiny.

Masha nodded with also somewhat pale expression, and she looked at Jacob and coldly uttered, "Tell him your true and full name!"

Jacob uttered again emotionlessly, "Jacob Steve King!"

"He's not telling any lies, Captain. His body didn't react at all." Masha told Captain Free Sword with a solemn expression.

Captain Free Sword frowned deepen, "What is your race?"

"Human." Jacob again replied without even blinking.

Jacob was blurting whatever came in first in his mind because only truth would come into his mind first, the truth he believed.

Being a Faery Human didn't change the fact that he was a Human first and never considered himself part of this race or even from this world, to begin with.

Jacob always believed that he was still Jacob Steve, who died of old age and then reincarnated in this ghastly place. He was alone and had no family or any ties with anything here. That is what he always believed.

Captain Free Sword narrowed his eyes, "Humans or Faery Human?"

"Human."

Masha spoke at this moment with a hint of uncertainty, "Could it be he's a mixed blood, a Hybrid? This could also explain his spineless behavior, unlike the true Faery Humans."

Captain Free Sword also thought like this now, "Do you know any Faery Human? Who is your father and mother, and what is your background?"

"I don't know my father and only know his last name. My mother was a human, and she died when I was still young. My background was very humble, and I have no idea what or who Faery Humans are." Jacob emotionlessly uttered.

Now he was telling the truth but not in detail which made the others think that he was talking about the Zodiac Plains.

"Where you hailed from?" Captain Free Sword frowningly asked as he was looking quite dissatisfied.

"Earth."

"Slap..."

A powerful slap landed on Jacob's face, which came from Masha, who had this ugly expression on her face, and a dark red palm imprint appeared on Jacob's face. But his expression didn't change at all.

"He means which plain, you fool!" Masha maliciously uttered.

"Hahahahah... what fools, he was waiting for you to say that! You should've said, 'Which world' hahahah..." Immortika wrote in relish.

Jacob replied, "Common Plains!"

"Is that slave rune even working?" Harold couldn't help but ask with uncertainty.

"It's working! Why don't you try to make an Advance Unique Slave Rune if you have doubt about my capability!" Masha coldly retorted, and she looked at Captain Free Sword and seriously said with a hint of panic, "Caption, there is nothing wrong with the Salve Rune. If you don't believe me, I can draw another one, and this time, you can imprint him with your blood."

Captain Free Sword glanced at Jacob's emotionless face, which now had a deep palm imprint, and then looked at Masha, who seemed to be quite afraid that Captain Free Sword would not believe her.

He then smiled, "I believe you, Masha. I don't think you are like Veilly. It seemed we have a huge misunderstanding regarding Mr. King here!"

"Hahahah... this misunderstanding is going to cost them dearly!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 357: Price for Freedom (1)

Jacob, after hearing Captain Free Sword's words, knew he was out of the wood about his true background. However, this didn't mean the water was under the bridge, not by a long shot.

Now that it was quite clear that he was not a Faery Human, which aroused Captain Free Sword's interest in the first place. This again brings them back to the fact why Captain Free Sword captured Jacob and what he wanted from him.

Captain Free Sword then asked another question, "How do you acquire your Honorary Badge then?"

"I had killed the Ruler of Dark Beings in the Rare Plains and stopped their invasion," Jacob stated the ambiguous truth again.

Another reason for Captain Free Sword's interest in him was his Honorary status as well, and by his reaction, Jacob could guess that this status was quite a big deal among the living beings.

"How noble of you. It seemed I owe you an apology for taking you for something else entirely despite your honesty. You see, I've been having some trust issues with people recently." Captain Free Sword sighed ruefully, "Anyway, that Slave Rune was quite expensive, and even your life isn't enough to repay for that, so I won't be taking it back. But I'll give you a chance to buy your freedom."

Then he looked at Masha and commanded, "Give him full control."

Masha also appeared quite dissatisfied since she was so motivated because she thought Jacob was a Faery Human, but he turned out to be just an ant of Common Plains who got lucky.

Still, she does as she was told, "You can move and speak freely now."

Jacob was finally able to feel his body and looked at Captain Free Sword and lowered his head while saying respectfully, "Thank you."

Captain Free Sword chuckled, "As I said, I'm not an unreasonable person, and since it was my fault this time, I'll give you a full shot at buying back your freedom."

"I'll do anything." Jacob nodded.

"Very good. I don't know how someone from the Common Plains can achieve power like yours. But I'm pretty sure it might have something to do with the way you look and your connection to a terrifying race.

"But since you're not one of them, I'm not interested in it in the least bit. So, this brings us to the reason why I even bother to use a teleportation beam to take your puny ship to this place.

"I'll be straightforward with you, we are from the Unique Plains and want to return. However, unlike the ocean routes between Common, Rare, and Epic Plains, the ocean routes leading toward the Unique Plains are very special.

"All you need to know right now is we can't travel to the Unique Plains as you can do with the three plains with some marked maps. We need something called a Unique Star Ocean Medallion, and only then can we set sails toward the Unique Plains, or we won't even know how we all die.

"That's why you are here, Mr. King. All I wanted was for you to be our spokesperson in the Epic Plains in exchange for very lucrative rewards for you and whoever helps us in the Epic Plains.

"We can't contact or even enter the Plain Boundary, nor can we connect with the Epic Rank Star Network here because we are not supposed to be here, so that's why we needed a spokesperson.

"But as you know, we met with some misunderstanding, and now all I can offer you is freedom as long as you help us in this venture. Now that you know the situation, what do you think?"

Captain Free Sword calmly asked despite knowing what Jacob's response should be. He had already noticed that Jacob didn't want to die, so this made him a perfect puppet to control as long as he held Jacob's lifeline in his hand.

Even if they haven't had that misunderstanding, Captain Free Sword won't be just sending Jacob away without any assurance like the Slave Rune. However, it won't be that excessive, at least.

Because they had many other ways to control an epic and were less expensive, the Slave Rune was something made for a Unique, and its materials were really not cheap as all of them were Unique Grade.

Despite Captain Free Sword's massive wealth, which he had plundered all his life as a Star Pirate, he was a very stingy and ruthless person and did not suffer losses so easily.

On the other hand, Jacob was astonished when he heard that unexpected information and realization dawn upon him. He finally understood how and why these Uniques were wandering so close to the Epic Plains.

Encountering Jacob was nothing but a terrible coincidence, and they seemed to have no other choice but to grab someone from the epic plains and make them do their bidding, and Jacob was the one who drew the short straw.

Nevertheless, this was Jacob's chance to get away from them and then figure out how to get rid of that Slave Rune. It might be impossible for others, but for him, it was just a matter of time and resources.

He wasn't fully under Slave Rune's control, to begin with, and also knew how to make it go away. But Captain Free Sword didn't know that, or he won't be taking this all so lightly.

Jacob pretended to be surprised before he asked, "As I mentioned before, I don't want to die, and I don't blame anyone for what happened. I'm willing to do this for my freedom. Where can I find this Unique Star Ocean Medallion?"

Captain Free Sword grinned maliciously as he said, "I'm afraid you alone won't be enough because the Unique Star Ocean Medallion can only be acquired from one place in the entire Epic Plains, and that is the Epic Champion Ship!"

Jacob's eyes widened slightly as he wasn't expected this at all, but Captain Free Sword clearly wasn't pulling his leg because he didn't need to lie to an ant-like him!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 358: Price for Freedom (2)

Jacob pondered grimly, as this revelation was also very important to him as well.

'If this is true, then didn't this mean if someone wanted to go into the Unique Plains, they also needed this Medallion at all cost? Even these Uniques didn't dare to venture toward the Unique Plains without it!'

Nevertheless, right now, all that matters is escaping this terrifying group and then finding a way to break free from their clutches, and then he can be relieved and think about anything else.

Jacob asked with scrutiny, "Then Captain want me to seek help from the three hegemonies?"

He knew only those three powers who ruled the entire Alive Plains of the Life Faction could pull this off, if not a single individual. But this was also a good thing for him since Captain Free Sword didn't ask if he was capable of such feat.

Captain Free Sword would never have thought that the person in front of him was a sole champion of a Plain Trial because it was already miracle enough for someone from the Rare Plains to have an Honorary Badge.

The moment Captain Free Sword confirmed Jacob wasn't the person he was thinking him to be, all that interest vanished and was replaced with his own motives.

Captain Free Sword nodded with a cunning smile in response, "Of course, only those guys can stand a chance in Epic Plains Trial. In the norm, it should've been a problem, and you had to do some more groundwork.

"However, you had an Honorary Badge of the Life Faction, which made you a sort of celebrity among the three hegemonies of the Epic Plains. I can bet there aren't even ten persons who might have Honorary Badges in the entire Epic Plains.

"Because every plain generates only 1 Honorary Badge after each reset, and almost every prominent individual will do anything to acquire it. But it's far easier said than done. That's why you are extremely lucky to have acquired that badge in the Rare Plains.

"Or I should say we also got lucky to find the only person who had acquired an Honorary Badge in the Rare Plains and even managed to travel all the way to the epic plains. You might have some well-wishers

in the Epic Plains already, which made you even more perfect for infiltrating their ranks on our behalf before stabbing them in the back!"

Captain Free Sword burst into delightful yet evil laughter while both Harold and Masha snickered with malicious looks on their faces.

However, Jacob also wanted to laugh at them in disdain because, contrary to having well-wishers, he had enemies instead. After what happened with Hallberg, he might not trust even his own kin anymore.

In a sense, Jacob was like these pirates who could betray anyone when it came to wealth or their own benefits, and the only difference between them was his goal was not wealth but immortality, which also made him even deadlier than them.

"I understand. I'll follow your orders and do as you tell me to." Jacob agreed with a reluctant look on his face as if he was unwilling to take that risk, yet he had no choice.

This only made Captain Free Sword even more assured that sending Jacob on this mission was the right choice. Because only those people who cherish their lives are most motivated when their lives are on the line. Captain Free Sword was such a person himself.

Now that Jacob's freedom was in his hand, he didn't doubt for a second that Jacob would even think of doing anything which jeopardized it.

"Very good, Mr. King, you're indeed a very admirable person, and if you perform well, you'll not only get your freedom, I might even take you with us to the Unique Plains to broaden your horizon!" Captain Free Sword promised.

Jacob pretended to be elated and quickly thanked Captain Free Sword, "I won't disappoint you, Captain Free Sword!"

"Masha, I'll be handing over Mr. King to you so you can implement certain conditions on him. I shouldn't need to tell you the specifics, right? Just the usual stuff." Captain Free Sword coolly asked Masha.

Masha nodded in understanding, "I know what I need to do, don't worry. I know what you want, Captain."

Nodding in satisfaction, Captain Free Sword then looked at Harold, "Prepared for Mr. King's departure tomorrow according to the Retaliation Plan-3, just degrade it to the Epic Plains. Oh, and prepared an Advance Epic Rank full body Combatant Set for Mr. King. This will assure his survival in the Epic Plains even further and keep our confidant safe."

Then he turned toward Jacob again and said, "See? I'm going to prepare everything for you, Mr. King. You just need to follow my plan, and you'll be free in no time. Now, you can enjoy your stay with Masha. Try to charm her, if I might suggest, she's a very lovely girl, and you might earn your freedom much sooner."

"Ahh, Captain, can't you do the same yourself?" Masha didn't mind Captain Free Sword's joke and played along coquettishly.

"Dear Masha, you are a lovely woman, but the fact remained the same, I'm not a masochist." Captain Free Sword candidly chuckled.

"Tsk, ts, no fun for me, I guess." Masha clicked her tongue, pretending to be heartbroken.

"Alright, follow me." Masha then didn't waste any more time and commanded Jacob.

Jacob, who wasn't taking that conversation as a joke, felt his body starting to move its own the moment Masha's words fell into his ears, and he started to walk behind her.

Then Jacob suddenly thought of something, "Tell me, Immortika, if I can't hear her voice. Will my body be free?"

Jacob knew how those parasite gems worked. The parasite gem had two components to make it work, the Parasite Gem, which was like a responder that responds to anything that will be commanded through its receiver. It was another gem normally embedded in jewelry.

But to give the receiver the command, two things were essential, the life signal and the voice of the life signal owner. If any of these two things were missing, the parasite gem wouldn't react.

So, if the same rules apply to these Slave Runes, then if he could stop his hearing sense, then any command Masha would give would be nullified!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 359: A Chance!

Although Jacob's logic was reasonable, it should've worked with the Parasite Gem.

"Do you really believe this method would have such a flaw? Hehehe... so what if you can't hear her words? As long as she has intent, the Slave Rune will fully comprehend it and directly implicate it on you. So, it didn't matter if you were blind, deaf, or mentally disabled; puppets don't need these things in the first place!" Immortika pours cold water on Jacob's hope.

"Can you be at least a little helpful!" Jacob fought his strong urge to unsummoned the Cursed Book in his spleen.

Nevertheless, if not for Immortika's assurance, he knew he might've suffered even more, and in times of crisis, the eccentric book always helped him despite its nasty attitude. So keeping it around was still better than nothing.

Jacob finally noticed where he was when he exited the hall and appeared in a hallway with many rooms, which Masha was leading the way without any intention of speaking.

Masha led him to the fifth room in the hall, and when he entered it, his heart sank because it was a lab with all sort of equipment and glass cells filled with strange creatures.

Of those creatures, some of them were missing their limbs and attached with completely different ones, while some of them were missing their eyes, half of their faces, skins, and such. It was the sight of a horrible nightmare.

Furthermore, there was a large shelf with collections of body parts in glass jars filled with the same transparent liquid.

But what truly made Jacob feel chills was a man crucified on a large stone table, and his entire torso was opened like a book, while his face was handsome, but his eyelids were completely cut off, showcasing his entire bloodshot eyeball with purple irises.

Suddenly, those eyeballs moved in Jacob's direction, 'He's alive?!' Jacob felt a chill run down his spine as he looked at Masha with even more apprehension.

He suddenly felt glad that Captain Free Sword needed him and didn't just hand him over to this sadistic witch. But he also felt a sense of urgency to get away from these monsters as soon as he could.

Masha suddenly turned around toward Jacob with a sadistic smile on her alluring face, "This is my home, and if you don't behave, you'll be permanently got to stay here with me just like little Veilly over there! He dared to betray the Captain, so Captain gave him to me so I could make him regret ever being born in this world, which is my specialty, actually.

"It's a pity you're not a Faery Human, or you and I have a very good time and will be good friends. Ah, whatever, you are still someone related to them which makes you a rare specimen nonetheless.

"Once you are done with your mission, you and I will have a very good time, and only then will I grant you your freedom. Tell me, do you agree to spend one year with me before you'll get your freedom? If not, then I'll have to do many things just in one day's time and trust me, Captain won't mind either.

"However, in doing so, you'll lose a limb or two, and even your mind won't function properly if I'm in a rush. So, tell me, do you like it now and be all rough with me or play it safe?"

'This sadistic bitch!' Jacob never felt so disgusted and afraid of a woman in his life, but now Masha was top of that list.

"I'll gladly dance with Mistress once I'm done with Captain's task. But I need my mind attached if I want to complete this mission, so this has to wait." Jacob emotionlessly replied.

"Tsk, tsk, no one likes it rouge nowadays. I guess little Veilly has to do then." Masha clicked her tongue in annoyance, "Alright, you can stay at the corner beside Veilly while I'll draw a list which you have to follow if you don't want to be next to Veilly." Masha dismissively ordered before she headed toward her workbench, which was filled with all sorts of notebooks and devices.

Jacob did as he was told and stood beside the corner of Veilly's table since he had no choice in this matter and had to endure that potent stench in this place. Masha picked up a paper and started to jolt down who know what.

Jacob was quite curious about the identity of this pitiful guy, so he asked Immortika.

"That's a Unique Dark Elf of Tier-7 Rank, and he's completely immobilized. What a fate, I must say. If you could just take his heart, you'll probably enter 12% from 5.2%... what a pity indeed. Hehehe!" Immortika teasingly wrote.

Jacob also felt it was a pity because this boost would be massive to his strength, but the problem was that the witch would not sit still if he tried anything funny, much less killing her plaything and eating his heart.

As long as he didn't want to be that Dark Elf, he didn't dare to mess around with that woman.

Then he suddenly thought of something as he looked at Masha completely guard-less, and his eyes started to shimmer darkly as his eyes were locked on her ears.

"Immortika, can she fight against Autarch if he directly infiltrates into her brain? Can she counter it?" Jacob quickly asked as he knew this was the only chance he would get to use Brian Hunter on Masha while they were alone and she wasn't paying attention to him.

Furthermore, if he could subdue this witch, then he could easily get rid of that slave rune because she controlled it, not to mention all her knowledge would be Autarch's and then his!

"Hahahahaha... who knows? I'm not your personal advisor, and I can't speak out of my boundaries!" Immortika subtly stated before it started to laugh maniacally.

Jacob's heart race at this moment because Immortika doesn't directly reject him as it does before. But it was very risky, and if his gamble didn't pay off, he would lose both Autarch and his life!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 360: Taking Risk!

The more Jacob looked at carefree Masha, the more that urge to release Autarch right into her ear grew.

But when he thought about the power gap between their levels, he hesitated and fell into a dilemma, and he knew this was the only chance he had!

"Autarch, as long as he infiltrates a Unique Rank brain, will you be able to control it?" He then transmitted his voice to ask Autarch's opinion since Immortika wasn't helping, but that was the exact reason he wanted to try it.

Whenever Immortika refused its help, it was always when the situations were something he could handle on his own, so that's why he thought that this situation was also one of those.

Autarch replied emotionlessly, "I also have a pressing matter related to this exact matter, Sir. I had just unlocked the special prerequisite that I needed to enter the Extraordinary Rank, and it just happened to be 'to devour a Unique Being!'"

Jacob's eyes dilated in surprise, "I thought that process was disrupted when I unsummoned you back there?"

"It was already been completed for a few moments, and Sir was busy reading, so I don't want to disturb you. But then everything happened, and this matter was put on hold." Autarch emotionlessly explained.

"You're too polite, Autarch. You should've told me about this important matter. Nevertheless, it seems we both are in luck then. I'm staring at a Unique Rank right in front of me, and she's completely off guard.

"But the thing is, if she noticed you, we were both going to die. But if you pull this off, then there will be countless opportunities for both of us. So, I want you to tell me what your instincts told you. If you have even a sliver of doubt, I want you to tell me right now!" Jacob solemnly transmitted as he noticed Masha was already starting to write on a new paper.

"I can do it. But the process will be very slow as I have to slowly corrode her senses before I start to devour her brain, and once I've started, there will be no stopping me, and once she realizes what happened, it will be too late." Autarch replied.

Jacob knew Autarch didn't know how to joke or lie to him, and after reaming with him for over three years, he knew how terrifying Autarch was once he entered someone's brain.

Besides, that special prerequisite was something he could only overcome by either completing it or by many titan tears.

If it were any other time, he would've naturally gone with the latter option, but now, this opportunity was something that was connected with his own freedom. Despite having a way to overcome his status already, having a backup wasn't a bad thing.

"How long will it take?" Jacob asked coldly.

"Around 5 to 10 years. But I won't be able to any of help to Sir in these years!" Autarch stated.

Jacob's expression remained the same, but inwardly he was extremely content.

"Alright, I'll send you right into her ear in three seconds!" Jacob made up his mind as his eyes fully locked on Masha's exposed ear hole.

The three seconds passed in a flash, and Jacob's eye spasmed slightly, and the next moment, a tiny Autarch appeared right into Masha's ear hole, and light a flash of lightning jolted inside!

"Hmm?" Masha almost noticed instantly and darted her head behind and looked for Jacob, but when she saw he was just standing there like a puppet, she frowned.

Thereafter, a blue hue suddenly enveloped her body as she closed her eyes, and Jacob's heart was almost in his mouth despite his every effort to keep it under control. It was simply too nerve-racking, and he almost summoned Autarch back while he still had the chance.

However, that light on Masha faintly lost its luster before vanishing completely, but a faint frown still remained on her face.

"What did you do?" Masha asked with scrutiny and killing intent.

"I'm just standing here as Mistress ordered me to," Jacob replied expressionlessly.

"Did he do anything?"

"I didn't see anything."

Masha's frown deepened when she thought that Jacob didn't have the power or means to resist her at all, so he was the last person in this room who she would suspect.

However, for some strange reason, she was now feeling extremely uneasy and couldn't put her finger on it why.

Then suddenly thought of something and glanced at Jacob, "Give me your storage ring and any other treasure you have on you."

After knowing Jacob was from the rare plains, no one was interested in anything on him, so they overlooked the storage ring he was wearing.

But now Masha knew she felt something, and that strange feeling was also a sign that she didn't want to ignore, so she had to be completely sure now.

Jacob's hands move on their own and start to take off everything he is wearing because he is clad in treasures for obvious reasons.

When Jacob's hand started to move toward his neck, his heart sank because he was going to grab the infinity pendant, which despite his naked self, goes completely unnoticed by everyone.

The reason for it was very simple after he collected the Cursed Path Glory Gem and mended it into the Infinity Pendant, it became like Cursed Immortality. Now it was only visible to Jacob, who was the inheritor of the Cursed Immortality.

Even he found out about this new trait of the pendant after Immortika revealed it to him, and it was nothing but good. However, now his hand was moving toward his seemingly empty neck to take off the Infinity Pendant because it was a treasure, and he couldn't stop it.

Masha also noticed Jacob's strange movement around his empty neck, as if he had taken off something, but she clearly couldn't see anything. At the same time, Jacob has already put the infinity pendant on the top of his clothes and presented them to Masha.

"These are everything." Jacob tried to be as ambiguous as possible, as things were not looking good.

"What did you take off at the end?" Masha questioned with squinted eyes.

Jacob replied impassively, "It was an invisible pendant which I always believed to be there like a lucky charm, and it is the most important treasure I have!"