

## C Immortality 401

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 401: First Auction Post (3)

"Anonymous1 outbid you. New Bid on Star Sever: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.1: 50,000,000 ZC"

Lucy's expression contorted with darkness as she spat with killing intent when she saw her bid overwritten by this Anonymous1.

"This hateful fellow! Just how is it? The old pervert? That muscle brain didn't have so much capital to spare on a single explosive nor the brains to analyze it. But the old pervert might already have this weapon and spending 50 million on it just for the slight chance of not letting others have the same knowledge as him.

"No, I can't miss this chance. I need to find that damnable fellow before anyone else does!" Her eyes almost spitfire in anger as she placed a new bid.

She had been searching for Jacob from the day she had lost that bet and hated him to the core because of this exact reason. Furthermore, Jacob completely turned the entire situation against them by creating this star server.

Now he had reappeared as the biggest threat to their absolute power, and they all could easily see by just how many people had joined his server in just a few days after it was created.

Furthermore, just one of Jacob's weapons has reached 50 million ZC, and it made Lucy even more uneasy. Because if that Atomic Grenade fell into the hands of her enemy and they detonated it right outside her headquarters, it would be a disaster.

Not just her but other leaders also had the same thought, but this price had already entered the realm of absurdity, and only Lucy could cope with it now.

"You (Rich Winter Lady) Server Anonymous ID (Anonymou500) has made a new bid: 50,000,001 ZC on Star Sever: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.1"

Nelsen was looking at the auction post with scrutiny and clearly wasn't interested in making another bid since it wasn't worth it in his view.

On another projection display, Ellie could be seen with fury and murder in her eyes as she spat, "Are we really giving up?"

Nelsen ruefully spoke, "It's simply not worth it anymore. From this picture, I can tell this grenade is made with crude technology, and from that green and silvered glow, it should be made with radioactive minerals, but it is not the same one in my possession.

"But I can't spend 50 million to buy it. Those guys could have it since they will be the same as me and won't be able to find the right mineral to replicate it. If anything, I have to hand it to Faceless Ancient to discover such minerals in the rare plains and turn them into such a small weapon.

"Even I can't able to concentrate my mineral into a grenade. It should be because the properties of rare plain minerals are not potent as the one I have or some other reason. It is worth analyzing, but that price is too high.

"Nevertheless, we can't deny just how much of a threat this guy is, and we need to contain him and then find his secrets. If I'm not wrong, our friend Lucy is one of these bidders. Let's see how it will end.

"There are only a few people who can analyze this sort of technology, and fortunately, I know them all, and I don't think this grenade would be the first weapon put on the auction!" Nelsen's smile was extremely shrewd as he looked at new bids.

"Remaining Time before the auction end: 00H:00M:19S

"New Bid from Anonymous500: 50,000,001 ZC"

"New Bid from Anonymous1: 50,500,000 ZC"

"New Bid from Anonymous500: 50,500,001 ZC"

"New Bid from Anonymous1: 55,000,000 ZC"

"Remaining Time before the auction end: 00H:00M:00S"

"Current highest Bidder: Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer)"

"Bid from Anonymous1: 55,500,000 ZC"

'This guy...' Jacob's eyes shimmered with a peculiar glint when he saw the Society Killer perform far above his expectation and win the final bidding war with Lucy.

The next moment, a few notifications popped up.

"Star Server: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.1 has been concluded and won by Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer)!"

"Final Bid Amount: 55,500,000 ZC has been successfully transfer to your Zodiac Bank Account!"

"(NOTE: The Amount (55,500,000 ZC) will remain locked until the item is delivered to The Society Killer!)"

"Calculating the Grace Period ..."

Jacob looked at his balance credited with the 55.5 million ZC, and he knew it was now his turn to deliver the item.

At this moment, while the grace period was being calculated, another interface opened in his star server.

"Star Server Inbox (Star Server Owner):

"Rule (1): Only an auction winner of 'your' auction post can use this Inbox until the Grace Period is ended.

"Rule (2): You are obliged to reply to inquiry messages within 12 hours, or you will be inflicted by a 10,000 ZC penalty every 1 minute after the 12th hour!

"Rule (3): If you are not able to pay the penalty, the Star Network will consider it a breach in the bidding agreement, and further penalties will be inflicted!

"Rule (4): Star Network will monitor this inbox to make a fair judgment and provide advocacy in case the Sender is deliberately spamming or trying to use some loophole to wrong the message receiver.

"Rule (5): In case Rule (4) is breached, the sender will be inflicted with severe penalties!

"Rule (6): ...

...

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): It's nice to meet you, Mr. Faceless Ancient, finally!

"[Star Network Advocacy: You are not obliged to reply to this message!]"

Jacob was quite content with all those rules in place and the Star Network monitoring these chats for fairness, or he didn't want to keep staring at this Star Watch all day just to make sure some bastard won't try to screw him.

Jacob didn't reply since he was still waiting for the grace period to be calculated despite his interest in the Society Killer.

He knew the grace period would be given in accordance with their distance, and the time should be more than enough for him to deliver the item.

A minute later, the grace period was finally calculated.

"Grace Period has been calculated!

"Grace Period: 31 Days

"Delivery Position (Selected by the Buyer): Location Coordinates (...)

"Please Select a Delivery Method:

"1. Star Network Delivery Service

"2. Self-Delivery

"3. Delegate Delivery

"4. Drop and Pick Delivery

"[Please Note that Star Network any delivery method chosen has certain conditions attached which are to be strictly followed and Star Network will monitor the item until it is successfully delivered!]"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 402: The Society Killer (1)

Jacob had already done his research on these four delivery methods, and he had already selected a method long ago before he posted that auction post.

The moment he selected that method, the interface changed.

"You have selected 'Star Network Delivery Service!

"Star Network Delivery Service: Please deliver the Scanned Auction Item (Atomic Grenade: Unique Item Signature NO...) to the closet Destiny Star Corporation Branch within 31 days!

"NOTE: Your amount will be released once you deliver the Scanned Auction Item!"

Jacob looked at the simple instruction, and this is exactly why he chose this method. Because this method was the most direct and simplest of the four, and all he needed to do was hand over the atomic grenade to the Destiny Star Corporation Branch, it would be akin to handing over the item directly to the buyer.

Because once the item enters the Destiny Star Corporation, it will become their responsibility to deliver it, and if anything happens between the delivery, they will be the ones responsible and have to compensate the buyer.

Although this option would reveal his general location if someone had a way to track back the delivery location, he was willing to take that risk after knowing the Star Network was not as biased as it appeared.

On the contrary, it was his own misgivings that put him in dangerous and unfavorable situations with the three hegemonies.

If anything, this was Jacob's test to measure just how much impenetrable or neutral the Destiny Star Corporation was because he had yet to hear anyone from this side being involved in public matters.

If the three hegemonies controlled wealth, strength, and knowledge, then the Destiny Star Corporation was the platform that made it all possible, and they are, without any doubt, far, far more unfathomable than the three hegemonies.

Jacob even suspected that the Destiny Star Corporation was related to the fabled Zodiac Will, but he couldn't be sure or assume anything just because he thought that way.

After Jacob was done choosing the method of delivery, it was time to have a chat with the person who had made him 55.5 million ZC profit!

"Star Server Inbox (Star Server Owner):

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): It's nice to meet you, Mr. Faceless Ancient, finally!

"[Star Network Advocacy: You are not obliged to reply to this message!]

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): My pleasure as well. Your item will be delivered in due time.

The moment Jacob replied almost instantly, another message popped up.

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): I'm not worried about the item. I haven't spent so much just on the item but also on having a chat with the man behind the curtains!

"[Star Network Advocacy: ...]

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): Is that so?

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): Indeed! What Mr. Ancient is doing is something that has never been done before. At least no one had the means or guts to stand up against the three tyrants! They don't even care about the scum society running amok and killing innocents in masses just because they felt it wasn't worth their time. Yet, the moment you showed your fangs, those three tyrants finally felt threatened. I'm your biggest fan Mr. Ancient!

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): Why are you so sure I'm not working with the society as well? Since what I'm doing is nothing less than what they do. In fact, I'm doing far worse than handing over these weapons of mass destruction to anyone who paid me the most.

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): You do have a point, but I know for a fact that you are in cohort with the scum society because the moment you try to reveal their secrets, your death is imminent. Yet here you are selling these terrifying weapons, and if I'm not wrong, the scum society is after you as well because of the mutual reason the three tyrants are. As for those weapons, I won't let them fall in the hands of the ignorant."

Jacob narrowed his eyes at this guy's words and felt disgusted by those righteous words because he had yet to see someone who didn't do anything for their own benefit and sneered darkly.

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): Heh, what are you, a hero of justice?"

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): No, I'm a villain who wants to eradicate all injustice by any means necessary, and with your help, I think I finally have hope to achieve just that!

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): So, you're recruiting me? Do you think I have the same beliefs as you? Naïve!"

Jacob had urged to close the chat after seeing that message, but he endured since he wanted to seek this guy's help about the nine closed rings of A-0.

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): Naïve I am, but I'm still a visionary, and I'm someone who believes in my cause and will stoop to any level to make it a reality. Even if you do not believe in my beliefs, as long as you can sell your weapons to me, I can make do with that. I will offer any price possible, and trust me. I'm going to use them against the scum society! I can even make Zodiac Oath Contract with you!"

Jacob was startled by the last words, 'Zodiac Oath Contract? What's that?'

It was times like this when Jacob really felt depressed because of his lack of information. Still, he won't want to miss the chance to ask what this Zodiac Oath Contract was.

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): What is Zodiac Oath Contract?"

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): Ho? It seemed you are not one of the top figures of the Epic Plains. Still, I'm glad you asked since it means you at least found me worthy of your inquiry. A Zodiac Oath Contract, as the name suggests, is a contract to make a semantics oath which the SAAI will bare witness to or, if you could believe, bared witness by the Zodiac Plains itself, and breaking it means certain death!"

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Chapter 403: The Society Killer (2)

Jacob was astounded when he read the details about the Zodiac Oath Contract.

'An oath contract that the Zodiac Plains will bear witness? Does this mean the Zodiac Will?' Jacob's mind raced as he reached his conclusion, and then a strange possibility rose in his heart, 'If this contract really has this effect, then didn't it mean it should be quite precious? This also means this guy is far more resourceful than I had anticipated, and he's some kind of hidden tycoon of the Epic Plains.

'However, he seemed to hate the Killer Skull Society to the core... maybe I should just let him cause trouble for the clown society, and this way, that woman would not have enough time to search for me. One less bitch to care about....'

Jacob thought, but he wasn't going to form this Zodiac Oath Contract because if this contract was really something that the Zodiac Will could monitor, then this meant he wouldn't be able to break it, and this was something he didn't want.

Nevertheless, this didn't mean he wasn't interested in the Society Killer's hate against the Killer Skull Society, and he could use it to his own advantage without even lifting a finger.

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): It seems you are really sincere with your offer. But I will pass on signing this contract since I'm not someone who likes to be bound by rules. However, I think we can find some common ground if you really want to annihilate the Killer Skull Society.

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): See? You also hate the scum society just like I do. Very well, forget about the contract and tell me your conditions. As long as they are not excessive, I'll accept them.

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): I want some information about them, and in return, I'll sell you ten more Atomic Grenada at 50 million ZC for each and send them with the first one you just purchased. If you can accept this agreement, let's sign the Star Network Contract."

The Star Network Contract was like an E-Contract (Electronic Contract) unique to 2-Star Privilege Holders like Jacob, and they can use it to sign deals through the Star Network.

This may not be as powerful and foolproof as the Zodiac Oath Contract, but it was enough to do the job, and these contracts would be voided once the conditions were fulfilled.

The Star Watches of the Epic Rank were powerful enough to scan any treasure, and then the Star Network will record those items in its database and then give them a unique identification number.

Jacob's Atomic Grenade that he put up for the auction was first scanned, and only he was able to put it up, and now he has to send that 'scanned' grenade, or he will be in a world of trouble.

The Star Network Contract will work exactly like this if some item were involved, and that is what makes it trusted by many people, and if someone dares to cheat, they will be getting a 2-Star Criminal status!

Because SAAI personally monitored those contracts. That AI could monitor an entire plain, and that's why business done with these contracts never failed!

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): Alright, I'll accept. But you will have to add me as a friend, and before you put any item on auction, you have to give me advance notice at least 12 hours before. Lastly, I want to be the first one you seek for such deals if you ever decide to make one."

Jacob narrowed his eyes, 'He's not a simpleton as he's showing. He even knows about the Star Network Contract. Well, his conditions won't get in my way at all. He might be even more useful since he had so much ZC at his disposal....'

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): If that's the case, then I accept your conditions as well.

"Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): Let's seal the deal then!"

Jacob didn't wait and then purchased a Star Network Contract from Star Network for 100,000 ZC and then started to write the conditions, and then he shared it with the Society Killer after accepting his friend request.

After both parties made sure that nothing was wrong, they both just signed it with their Star IDs, and after showing items and money, the contract was in full effect.

Now all Jacob needed was to send the scanned Atomic Grenades, and after the Society Killer received the ten grenades with the first one he won from the auction, he had to pay 500 million ZC within an hour to Jacob.

This was the gist of their Star Network Contract. As for information the Society Killer promised, Jacob had no way of knowing if it would be true or false since this contract wasn't supernatural like the Zodiac Oath Contract but made for safe trading through the Star Network for the privileged users.

Nevertheless, after signing a 500 million ZC deal, Jacob could live with false information, but he didn't think that guy would do it because there was a chance Jacob would find out about this, and then his deal with Jacob would be over for good!

Since they were now Star network friends, they didn't need the Star sever inbox to chat.

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): Now that this deal is done, I will ask my question.

"The Society Killer (Reply): Sure thing. If it is under my knowledge, I'll answer them honestly except for my information, just like I can't ask about your information.

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): I'm not interested in your info. What I want to know is, have you ever heard about the Cannibal Plan?

"The Society Killer (Reply): Wait! How do you know about this top-secret information about the scum society? Unless... hahahaaha! Can we speak on voice call? This is way too longer for me to explain, and I think I have a long chat ahead of us!"

Jacob narrowed his eyes in scrutiny when he saw that ecstatic message. He only mentioned the cannibal plan to see how deep this guy had information on the Killer Skull Society, but now it seemed he had stirred him instead!

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): Alright!"

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Chapter 404: The Society Killer (3)

"Sir Ancient, I can't thank you enough for your help." A male voice filled with ecstasy sounded at this moment.

Jacob didn't react much after hearing The Society Killer's words right after he called him. He replied statically, "Business is business, Mr. Killer. There is no need to thank me for something like this. Now, what do you want to explain about the Cannibal Plan."

"No, no, you have no idea what kind of good deed you have done." The Society Killer insisted, "But you don't strike me as a type who would seek praise for the good he's doing, and that's why I respect you, Sir Ancient. You even know about the top-secret project like the Cannibal Plan, which clearly means you also seek destruction and stop those evildoers like me. That's why I will tell you about the information about the Killer Skull Society so you and I can thoroughly annihilate them before it is too late."

Jacob was speechless after he heard those words and couldn't help but wonder if his guy was not right in the head.

But without giving him a chance to speak, The Society Killer continued on.

"The Cannibal Plan is a top-secret project of the scum society since, forever. As you might've already known that there are experimenting on living beings so they can create 'Cannibals' who can devour almost anything and then evolve into terrifying puppet soldiers who know no pain or fear and follow every command unconditionally.

"However, it is far easier said than achieved because they are trying to go against the very nature itself and keep failing miserably without any results whatsoever. But they seemed to be obsessed with it no

matter the failure or time. It's almost like they knew it was possible and won't stop at anything unless they achieved it."

'And I think they had achieved it...' Jacob couldn't help but think about those terrifying mutant assassins in the rare plains.

However, The Society Killer's next words made Jacob astounded.

"When I dug deeper into this matter, I found something extremely baffling. I discovered the reason why they were so obsessed with those cannibals and believed that it was possible to create such a monstrosity.

"It's because someone else or, more accurately, another organization had already achieved this who knows when, and the scum society wants to create knockoffs!"

Now, Jacob finally couldn't stay silent because this revelation will be changed everything if it was true. Because if the Killer Skull Society is really trying to copy someone else, then this means the one behind those assassination attempts was most likely this organization.

But then it will raise another question, why were they coming after him, and how did he offend them?

"Is this true? Which organization is this?" Jacob questioned in a gloomy tone as he was now feeling even more apprehensive since he suddenly discovered that there was an unknown enemy lurking in the dark, and he didn't even know about it.

Furthermore, for all he knew, The Society Killer could be wrong, and his information was hoaxed, but now that he thinks about it more carefully, he might be correct.

Because the assassination attempts on him was done in a certain pattern and with how much the Killer Skull Society hates him and still wanted that data back, this could only mean they were most likely not behind it at all!

He always wondered why those guys wanted that data back despite already achieving their objective, and even after analyzing it himself, he found nothing extraordinary about it except the entire process of how they could use humans to turn into mutants.

If anything, Jacob wanted to continue those experiments after coming to the epic plains, but nothing had gone as he planned.

Still, this new information was quite startling, and now he was in the dark about this new variable!

The Society Killer had no idea about Jacob's agitation, and he replied confidently, "Of course it's true. When it comes to the scum society, I know far more than their own single-digit skulls. And as far as that organization goes, I'm afraid I have to disappoint you, Sir Ancient.

"Because truth be told, the scum society didn't even know themselves. They just happened to get this information from an unknown source, probably their backers in the higher plains.

"That information is only accessible to the overseer of this plain, a Zero skull, Skull No. S-0. I've been trying to track it down, but that guy is simply too careful and hid its trace too well. But I won't stop until I find it!

"Anyway, we were still discussing the cannibal plan. Except for this mysterious organization's involvement, over 50 years in the past, the scum society seemed to have moved their entire operation somewhere else after I nearly exposed them.

"I never heard about it after then and thought they had finally given up until a few years back, the talks about the cannibal plans starting to emerge again, and they seemed to be on edge ever since.

"After pulling some strings, I'd discovered an interesting secret. Someone had seemed to steal a very important component of the cannibal plan, and they are still trying to retrieve it."

The Society Killer's voice suddenly turned amusing, "Be honest with me, Sir Ancient, are you that person who had through a wrench in those scums' plan?"

Jacob thought for a moment before replying to this question, 'This guy is extremely knowledgeable about the Killer Skull Society, almost as if he's a part of it and has a very high standing, no less. The information he provides has given me insight into this unknown enemy before it was too late. I still need to figure out how to open those rings, and he will discover anyway that his conjecture is accurate....'

Jacob replied with a stoic face, "I'm indeed the person who has foiled their plans and the reason why they are after me."

The Society Killer burst into wanton laughter the very next moment, "Hahahaha... indeed, I was right about you, Sir Ancient!"

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Chapter 405: The Society Killer (4)

Jacob didn't react much to The Society Killer's wanton laughter, filled with a deep hatred for the Killer Skull Society. He wanted to ask why he had such a grudge against them but knew better than to pry into his matters, or this would give The Society Killer the reason to pry into his matters as well.

He stoically said, "Now, the last matter, in my last confrontation with the Killer Skull Society, I stumbled upon a unique space ring that is somehow locked. Do you have a way to open it?"

This was Jacob's true purpose all along to accept The Society Killer's call, but he got an unexpected gain.

"A locked space ring from a skull?" The Society Killer sounded surprised, "It appeared you had encountered an extremely high-ranking skull who had awakened its Mystic Signature!"

Jacob's eyes narrowed at this moment upon hearing 'mystic signature' because this wasn't the first time he heard this term, but Immortika had mentioned it once when it was explaining about Autarch.

But like always, it had left the explanation for Jacob to figure out, and now that The Society Killer had mentioned it again, he knew this mystic signature was a pretty big deal.

"Can you explain what this Mystic Signature is?" He asked shamelessly without having any qualms about his ignorance anymore.

But The Society Killer didn't answer this time right away; instead, he chuckled meaningfully and said, "Sir Ancient, the information about Mystic Signature is top class, and only a handful of people know about it. This information wasn't included in our contract, and I don't want to misguide you. So, you have to give me something of equal value."

'This sly hypocrite!' Jacob scoffed in his heart as he already knew this guy wasn't as generous as he appeared to be. Nonetheless, he wanted this information since it would be helpful in the long term, and even if The Society Killer was exploiting him, he didn't have another source to pry out such a piece of information.

If this information was really top-class, then this was his best chance of getting it.

Jacob then thought for a moment before his eyes brightened with a dark glint as he replied, "Fair enough; how about if I give you the Star ID of the Epic Plains' Killer Skull Society overseer? Will this be sufficient to exchange for Mystic Signature information?"

The moment Jacob said those words, The Society Killer reacted strongly, "Wait! Do you really have that bastard's ID?!"

Jacob's lips curled up as from his words. He had already guessed that this guy didn't know about Apocalyptic-S at all. He didn't even know her gender. But Jacob decided to keep his mouth shut since this information was nothing he would give just because The Society Killer was being nice and all despite his enmity with the Killer Skull Society.

Jacob was saving it for exactly this sort of situation, and he never thought he would be using it so quickly.

Nevertheless, since this guy seemed extremely interested, agitate even, he knew just how much this information was worth for him, and he didn't mind sending this psychopath in that arrogant bitch's way.

"Of course, why do I lie to you about something like this? That person even tried to recruit me like the three leaders, and I'm pretty sure it was that leader of skulls since you could guess that my Star ID is not easy to reach by just anyone." Jacob confidently stated.

The Society Killer fell into silence for some time, and Jacob didn't rush him.

Then he finally spoke, "Hahaha, I had to admit you are indeed a deep person Sir Ancient. You have no idea how long I've been searching for that bastard S-0. Alright, you have convinced me, and this partnership is much more beneficial than I expected.

"To show my absolute sincerity and how appreciative I am, I'm sending you a file about Mystic Signature, which contains its introduction, formation, uses, and even a way to destroy it. In return, you will tell me that Star ID of that skull bastard, and you will have two more atomic grenades for free with the 11 others!"

Before Jacob could reply, he suddenly received a notification about The Society Killer sending him a file and was astonished by this guy's decisiveness.

'He didn't even wait for me to agree and sent this file? Is he that confident that I won't just block him afterward or go back on words, even giving him two extra atomic grenades?' Jacob felt ridiculous by this guy's gal, yet he knew he had no choice but to agree, and The Society Killer knows about it too well.

Because Jacob's current situation was like an open book for everyone to see, and his ignorance about this hidden information also proved that he wasn't that familiar with the epic plains.

Furthermore, who would in their right mind offend their biggest buyer as well as someone who seemed to know top-secret information?

All in all, The Society Killer knew Jacob would agree to his demand unless he didn't want this kind of information or his help with the killer skull society.

As the saying goes, in a world of wolves, a lone sheep was a meal. That's what Jacob was right now, and The Society Killer knew too well about it.

Jacob's killing intent rose as he remained silent for a moment before it vanished, and a cruel smile appeared on his face, "It's a deal, Mr. Killer. The Star ID of the skull leader is Apocalyptic-S, and it's a woman. She has a 2-Star privilege ID. As for your 13 atomic grenades, they'll be delivered in due time.

"Now, if you excuse me, I need to study this mystic signature. We'll talk some other time."

Jacob didn't wait for The Society Killer's reply and cut the call, but the next moment he received a message from him, 'Good luck!' and this made him chuckle in ridicule.

'Naïve...' Jacob thought before he opened the file of Mystic Signature!

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Chapter 406: Mystic Signature

A Mystic Signature was a unique signature that every being with magic abilities could form and manifest. Like the Life Signature, the Mystic Signature was unique per person or even more profound and can't be duplicated.

However, forming a Mystic Signature and then manifesting it were two different things. Because despite everyone having the Mystic Signature, it exists in a disarrayed state just like magic orbits, and only appears once something forms a magic core. Simply put, the Mystic Signature was birthed by the Magic Core!

But it wasn't the only way to awaken a Mystic Signature. There was another and more difficult way that was to open the Solar Plexus!

This was a hundred times harder than forming a magic core, and that's why no one paid attention to this method. However, if someone could awake their Mystic Signature by opening the Solar Plexus before forming a magic core, then they don't have to go through the process of Mystic Signature Formation and can skip this stage, unlike the disarrayed Mystic Signatures awakened by the magic cores!

Furthermore, Mystic Signatures awakened by a Solar Plexus opening seemed to be more properties and were somehow superior to the Mystic Signatures awakened by the magic cores.

But the method of opening the Solar Plexus has been long-lost and considered legendary, so there was no more information about it.

As for why Mystic Signatures had such discrimination, it was because of the manifestation stage and its uses.

Because to manifest a Mystic Signature, one needed first to etch it into their magic core, and to do that, one needs insane control over their mana as well as the will to bear the terrifying pain of carving their own magic core.

Not to mention if they messed up just a little, they could directly destroy their own magic core!

As for how someone can carve their own magic core without ripping it apart from their body first, they required a special scripture for that as well.

But once this deadly process was done and the Mystic Signature was etched onto a magic core, the manifestation process will be completed!

Thereby, the magic core with a successfully etched Mystic Signature will release mana that contains the Mystic Signature!

As for its benefit, the first was treasures that could only be used by Mystic Signature, and without removing the previous owner's Mystic Signature, it was impossible to use. These treasures included Space Rings, Magic Weapons, Runic Weapons, and such.

The second was as long as a Mystic Signature owner was alive and someone stole something which contained that person's Mystic Signature, and the thief had no idea how to contain such an item. Then the owner of that Mystic Signature can easily track them down as long as they know how to sense their Mystic Signature's direction, no matter the distance.

The third was probably the biggest boon of having a Mystic Signature. At a certain level, a Mystic Signature can be placed on almost anything, living or dead. It doesn't matter, just like a tracking marker!

This simply means if the person who placed the Mystic Signature has a terrifying prowess, it is impossible to hide from them.

Because just like the magic core, the Mystic Signature will also become powerful with each rank increased, and the owner of Mystic Signature will become more and more familiar with their Mystic Signature!

Last but not least, if the owner of the Mystic Signature dies, the Mystic Signature will not have vanished unless the owner removes it out of its free will.

As for how to get rid of or destroy the Mystic Signature, there were two simple methods—first, having a far more powerful Mystic Signature than the target's Mystic Signature. Second, seek help from someone who meets the second condition!

Jacob wore a contemplated yet gloomy expression as he absorbed all this new and fascinating information about this Mystic Signature he received from The Society Killer. He never thought it would be so complex and terrifying at the same time.

However, this didn't mean he was going to believe everything he saw, especially when he got this information from an unknown source and might be tampered with.

Because there were quite uncertainties that Jacob didn't understand, the first was about the second method to form a Mystic Signature, the solar plexus opening.

The reason being he had already opened the solar plexus when he used the ritual array to enslave Autarch first, and Immortika also hinted at that point. But he had no idea what his Mystic Signature looked like, so he could carve it on his magic core.

So, this could only mean to 'see' the Mystic Signature; he needed something.

The second reason was the absurd carving part because if it was true, then A-0 had already carved his Mystic Signature onto his magic core since he was able to use it on his space rings to lock them. This also means those space rings were treasures compatible with Mystic Signatures.

But the point was, Jacob had seen A-0's magic core, and he found nothing carved on his magic core. It could also be that once someone died, their Mystic Signature would vanish from their magic core, so that he might be wrong in this part. Neither he discovered anything in this opened space ring.

However, Jacob believed that there was more to it than meets the eye, and he knew just who to ask. But it depends on the other party's mood as well.

Nevertheless, it was worth trying since this Mystic Signature seemed quite a massive advantage to have. If the key to opening those rings was having a stronger Mystic Signature than A-0, then Jacob was confident. As long as he can create his own, that guy's Mystic Signature won't stand a chance against his.

"Cursed Immortality!"

Upon Jacob summoning, the eccentric book appeared with its usual wanton, sarcastic laughter filling the page.

He was so used to this that he didn't even react and coolly questioned, "You should've guessed my reason for summoning you. So, if you can answer, I'll really appreciate it.

"But if you are not feeling like it, just tell me if the information in this file is true or false. Give me a percentage of how much is true and how much is false. But if you cannot, then we are done for today!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 407: Where's the Fun...

"Hehe... you seem unusually optimistic today." Immortika wrote instead of answering what Jacob asked it.

Jacob frowned, "Do I sound optimistic to you? I'm not in the mood to play your riddle games."

"Come on~ if you act like this, where is the fun in that? You only have one life, and being so cold all the time is greatly harmful to your mental health. I like it when you're going all psychopath, letting your true nature out...hahahaha!"

Jacob didn't find this funny and stiffly replied, "It appeared I've summoned you nothing."

"Heh, alright you, heartless man, I'll bow to your wishes this time since I can. The Mystic Signature information you acquired from your new friend is accurate but limited.

"First, if you want to etch the Mystic Signature onto a magic core, you need to discover the Mystic Signature from within. Now, this is the trickiest part; to find a Mystic Signature, you need to have an innate ability called Inner Espy, or you need to find a magic scripture to learn the limited version of it or something that works like it.

"Only then will you be able to see your magic orbits, magic core, or anything supernatural that can't be seen with the naked eye, and then you can discover the Mystic Signature. But only if it is fully formed, not if it's in a disarray state.

"However, the next step, etching, it can be done in a curd way, like carving your magic core with the help of another extremely rare innate sorcery ability, Matter Manipulation. Anything besides it, even its imitation, won't work, and you will be dead before you know it.

"Then there is a gentler and safer method, and you won't even need to do anything that is directly achieved the Unique Magic Core Rank, and as long as your Mystic Signature is not in disarrayed state, it will innately be etched onto your magic core and manifest!

"The last thing you are confused about is why that Demi High Orc had a Mystic Signature despite being only an extraordinary rank. It's even more simple, you see, a descendant of a legendary rank had a massive advantage over those who have no destiny with such a being.

"That is, as long as they can form their Mystic Signature, it will automatically be etched onto their magic core without them needing to do anything at all!

"Is this infuriating? Hahahaaha... the commoners have to work their ass=off, and even then, they will not escape their miserable fates, while nobles will just have to eat and grow, and they will get everything!

"The same rules apply here, Legends will remain, but those who made them Legends will forever be forgotten... hahahahahah...

"Oh, your theory about the etched Mystic Signature vanishing from the magic core once the bearing died is absolutely accurate. Well done, I guess...hehehehe..."

Jacob wore an astonished expression at this moment because, just as Immortika stated, this was indeed infuriating. Although his doubts were cleared, he learned even more mysterious things about those strange innate abilities and how the magic scriptures seemed to be a copy of them.

Jacob knew he should dread the day when he met with such an existence, or he might already have in the face of Captain Free Sword and his crew. The Unique Rank was called unique for a reason, and now that he had learned the truth about the Mystic Signature, he felt even more dreaded by the unknown Legendary Rank.

Nevertheless, he knew there was no point in thinking about something which was simply too far away from him.

"Then what about me? Since I've already opened by solar plexus, and you once said Autarch had my mystic mark, can it be considered that I've already formed and etched this mystic mark? But it shouldn't be possible since I clearly don't have any magic core at that time." Jacob questioned sternly.

"Tsk, ts, always asking logical questions without missing even the slightest gap, making my life difficult but interesting. Hah, in your case, when you opened the solar plexus, you have indeed formed your mystic signature.

"But do you know why solar plexus is connected with mystic signature, to begin with, and why this method is considered legendary? The mystery lies with the solar plexus, and why it can contain lifeform within, and trust me, this entire topic is way out of your league and from what I can disclose right now with all the information you've acquired.

"All I can comment on this is the solar plexus is where you will find your unique mystic signature, so anything that goes there will naturally contain your mystic signature. But you are far, far away from controlling your solar plexus and discovering its wonders. The Brain Hunter is a special case, and you know exactly why.

"But you have taken a huge step forward after opening your solar plexus and how to walk forward. It's up to you to discover just like you always have. If you need my guidance, then you know how to seek it, hehehehe..."

A contemplating look appeared in Jacob's eyes as well as a helpless light gleaming into his eyes, and he sighed ruefully, "If you could just properly reveal everything, then I don't think there is anything in the world that can be our match. But you insist on putting on all these restrictions. I'm starting to understand why your inheritors always ended up dead and you in some ditch afterward."

"Hahahaahha... that kind of hurts, you know. But trust me, these restrictions are real, or where's the fun in revealing everything and making things easier and walking on a flowery path?

"Are you sure you want immortality, not some cabbage that you can buy with money? Besides, going through all these hardships will make you someone worthy of immortality and cherish it.

"If you don't have the will to suffer hardships and overcome them, then you better just give up now and enjoy the remaining lifespan you have earned..."

Jacob, for the first time, felt Immortika was serious, but he couldn't tell just by writing. Nevertheless, those words were enough for him to understand that there was no point in pursuing this stubborn yet eccentric book.

In the end, he sneered, "I'll have all the time to enjoy once I become immortal!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 408: The Next Important Task

The news about the first auction of the Ancient Artifact Industry Star Server instantly became the hot topic of the entire Epic Plains.

There were three types of people who had joined Jacob's star server. The first one was those who were after Jacob's weaponry. The second type were those who were after Jacob himself, and the last type were the spectators, and these people were the highest in numbers!

Right now, Faceless Ancient is the most infamous personality in the Epic Plains because of his blunt provocation to the three hegemonies as well as the terrifying technology he controlled.

People tend to watch this sort of drama, especially when the most prominent figures are involved in them. So, Jacob's star server became a kind of entertainment for the common public and a battlefield among the prominent nobles.

The news about the Atomic Grenade selling for a whopping 55.5 million ZC sends tremors in many hearts as they could only imagine just how massive potential the Ancient Artifact Industry had, and if they could partner up with it, they would be rolling in riches.

But the thing was, Jacob was simply impossible to reach because of his privileged Star ID despite everyone knowing his Star ID now. Furthermore, those who have thought of partnering up with Jacob didn't have the guts to announce it publicly.

However, just three days after the first auction, the Ancient Artifact Industry posted another post, but this time it wasn't an item auction post. Instead, it was a simple post that literally shook up everyone again.

"[Star Server: Ancient Artifact Industry]

"Restricted Post by Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): I'm looking for merchants to buy materials. Any merchant with 1-Star or 2-Star Privilege IDs can leave their resume in this Restricted Post, which only I can read the comments of no one else! I would prefer it if you guys won't try to waste my time by putting wrong information, or I'll kick such a person out. Another announcement for everyone, three atomic grenades with an addition of a new atomic item will be up for auction in 30 days. Look forward to it!"

This single post stirred an ever larger storm than the first post and even more people started to join the star server while those hidden forces began to move.

This time, the biggest movement was made by the rich merchants who wanted to get their hands on Jacob's weaponry so they could also gain profit, and the only way to get them without going through the fierce competition was to form a good relationship with him first.

As for the bigwigs, they instantly started to collect funds for this up auction!

But the person who stirred this storm was caved up in the alchemy guild of Alive Alliance City No. 543 and drawing something on a gray sheet with a golden brush, shimmering in a blueish hue.

Jacob's entire focus was on drawing this Advance Common Rank Talisman, which was an entry-level rune talisman described in the manual so the beginner could practice the rune inscribing.

In just four days, Jacob had already made the Basic and Intermediate Common Rank entry-level talismans, and this was the last one. Once he succeeds, he will be a full fledge Advanced Rune Artificer.

Then he can move on to entry-level array design for Master to Grandmaster Rank and then finally the entry-level formation blueprint for Senior Grandmaster to Basic Elder Grandmaster Rank.

Soon, Jacob made his final brush stroke, and the next moment, the gray paper suddenly glowed in blueish light as the blue rune symbols on it starting to merge and turning darker and bold.

A few moments later, the gray paper turned blue with a single rune on it, and his lips curled up, "A success!" He muttered, looking at the smooth talisman he had created.

Then he looked at all the ashes lying on the side of his workspace and sighed, "Just practicing the common talismans has cost me around one million ZC in pure materials. The arrays will be even more expensive—no wonder this profession is known for its money-burning capacity.

"Anyhow, I've earned quite a lot ZC, and soon I'll find sources to acquire even more materials which are difficult to find and can earn even more. The business is finally taking shape far more swiftly than I'd anticipated..."

Jacob was quite satisfied with his new booming business, but he was taking small steps to turn it into his empire just like he once did. But it was far easier said than done because of his enemies, and one wrong move, and he'll be as good as a goner.

Nevertheless, he longed to come to terms with the danger involved in his way, and all he could do was to be as careful as he could get because he needed to earn ZC and then use those ZC to expand his arsenal for the upcoming trials since he had to leave no matter what once it started.

That's why he was willing to take some risks now since those risks were nothing in front of the upcoming trial.

"Now that my money problem has been solved and I have a temporary base of operation. The only thing left is to collect food..." Jacob's eyes shimmered with murderous light as he looked at the massive glass window and the brightly lit city outside.

"But I can't just kill wantonly, or it would create too much commotion. But I can't be moderate with it either. I need the strength of a Tier-9 Epic or at least to protect myself from one and escape. So, I probably need to turn by blood at least 70% before the trial starts.

"Sigh... this is such a hassle and all because of those damn pirates..." He gritted his teeth before calming down and stood up from his seat, and started walking towards the exit as he thought, 'I might as well deliver the merch while I'm at it!'

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 409: Hunting the Epics (1)

In the medium size city like No.543, there was no place for the weak or common public because almost all the medium size cities were located in dangerous areas like the Vile Witch Valley.

The denizens of medium size were 70% epic rank. They were mostly adventurers and part of one of the three hegemonies. While 30% were extraordinary rank beings, who were mostly of the working class in the city.

Furthermore, the members of the Alliance and Mercenary Agency did not live far from danger like the alchemists. They form their own teams or parties and then hunt around the Vile Witch Valley to earn money and then spend that money to access training facilities provided by the two hegemonies to grow even stronger.

Thereby, these teams then rent residential areas of a medium size city as their base of operation. Furthermore, these teams also recruit or hire privately, basically, those who were either independent experts from three hegemonies and didn't want to join their ranks or those who didn't have the qualification to join their ranks.

These independent individuals were almost large in number for many reasons, and anyone could hire their services as long as they agreed and the price offered was enticing enough.

The three hegemonies won't interfere with these businesses as long as it won't touch their bottom line and independent individuals roamed around the epic plains for fortuitous opportunities.

But such people weren't allowed in large size cities, and only the member of the three hegemonies could gain access to those large cities. That's why at some point, these stubborn, independent individuals joined a hegemony when they met with a barrier that could no longer be overcome by going solo.

City No.543 also had many such bases that recruited this sort of people on a daily basis and then used them to clear their own mission they had taken from their organization.

At nighttime, Jacob at this moment walking in this brightly lit street where these bases were located a barbarian. There were name boards, as well as recruitment conditions, placed outside these residents, and many people were looking at those boards with scrutiny.

He first goes to the Destiny Star Corporation Branch to hand over the atomic grenades for delivery. He was astounded to find that there wasn't any worker in that place at all.

An AI handled it, and after it scanned his star watch and the merchandise, all he had to do was to pay a delivery fee of 1000 ZC per item, and he was done!

Now the delivery responsibility was on them, and he could use his 55.5 million ZC as he wished. He was even more relieved now, and if his position were discovered despite all this, then the DSC was also not reliable.

Anyhow, he will see very soon about that, but right now, he is more interested in those people standing in this district.

'According to Sofie, almost everyone here is either an expert or a reject. So, if they disappeared, no one would raise any flags...' Jacob thought as he summoned Immortika.

"Tell me which among these people I should target." He questioned. He didn't want to pick them up randomly as it would take too much time, and it wasn't guaranteed that they would be legendary descendants.

That's when this sadist book comes into play!

"Hehehe, finally, some action! Alright, tell me do you want high-level targets or low-level ones? The high-level will give you more percentage than the low-level ones, and you only need to consume one heart each from that species. In comparison, you will need to consume three hearts from low-level species to gain the same result."

Jacob thought for a moment before he said, "Are there any high-level targets outside those residents?"

"Nope. Many of them are complete trash, and only eight of them meet the requirements. Even if you target those in the residents, there should be around 45 that clear the low-level requirement, and if you include the eight outside, then you should gain a maximum of 1~2% in cursed blood condensing."

Jacob frowned, "Killing 49 people all at once? Even if they do not belong to any organization, it will raise flags. Even if I want to, I need to use too much hex mana, and it is simply not worth expanding all those dark beings' magic cores. Unless I had no other choice. Tell me about these high-level targets?"

"Hehehe, how thoughtful. Very well, there are only four high-level targets in this place at the same level as the quasi-high orc you've killed, and if you can get your hands on their hearts, you should be able to get 2~3%. Two of them, in particular, have quite a high density of legendary bloodline, and they are together no less."

Jacob wasn't surprised about finding more beings like A-0 since this was a medium size city of epic plains. Furthermore, it was a less risky approach than killing 49 people altogether.

Since killing the three hegemonies members couldn't be avoided, then he had to choose a high-level target. It was less time-consuming and doable.

"How strong are the two you mentioned?" Jacob inquired.

"Hehe, that's the thing, they are both 8th Tier Epic! While the other two are 6th tier, respectively."

Jacob's expression clouded, "8th Tier? They don't seem to be from this city since this power rank should only appear in the upper echelon of large cities. If they are together, I can only hex one of them, and the other will not sit still and do nothing. Forget about them for now. Tell me about the other two first."

"Hahahaha...and here I thought you start courting death nowadays. But it seems you haven't changed at all. The first one is inside the resident 300 step on the right from you, while the other was on another street in the southwest direction, around a mile away from here. One's a Black Tiger Orc, and the other is a Bronze Barbarian.

"Oh, and they are completely isolated and surrounded by many people. How are you going to isolate them to hex them? Hehehe..."

Jacob didn't answer but walked in the direction with a grim yet confident expression. He already had a plan ready for this!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 410: Hunting the Epics (2)

Jacob stood outside a small villa with around twenty people already there, and they were all looking at the signboard outside.

"The Black Fang Mercenary Team Headquarters!

"Team Leader: Black Tiger Fang (B Class Epic Universal Mercenary)

"Recruitment Requirements: We are hiring anyone with a minimum Tier-3 Epic Combatant Straight or Tier-2 Epic Sorcerer Prowess. If you meet the aforementioned conditions and are interested, please contact the Team Manager.

"Warning: Troublemakers or Fakes will be dealt with harsh punishment and then handed over to the City Enforcer Department!"

After reading the information, Jacob mused, 'This team should be at the peak of this city's power cap. No wonder so many people seem interested. This team leader should be my target since only he can be in the core of this place within a heavily guarded area.

'Now, what was left is made him come out from his turtle shell and then grab him. The most difficult part is to separate him from his team members. The city enforcer department won't pay much attention in this district of the city because no one dares to mess with these teams here. They are quite capable of handling troublemakers. But what if they can't see the troublemaker?'

Jacob's lips curled up as he left the crowded area and headed to a dark corner of the villa, and then a tight dark body outfit appeared on his body and a mask. Thereafter, the gray disk appeared under his feet, and then he turned invisible.

He was hoping that this small team won't be bothered putting an anti-surveillance system at the same level as the city in their temporary headquarters. They might have some on those walls, but having against flying objects, they were not guarded against since, in their eyes, a stealth treasure that could help them fly didn't even exist.

Furthermore, with Jacob's advanced equipment and grass fit in his mask eye sockets, Jacob easily snuck into the villa after avoiding the suspicious wall and some point in the ground, which were emitting peculiar radio waves.

Because it was nighttime, the atmosphere was completely silent, and the only sounds were coming from the entrance, which was closed off, and two burly, fiercely looking, black tiger face orcs with white tiger strips were guarding the gate and staring at the people outside with fierce, cold glare. No one dares to make any trouble!

The villa was fifty meters back from the gate and surrounded by a beautiful garden. However, Jacob's plan wasn't to enter the villa, which was literally glowing with all sorts of radio waves.

Jacob then looked at the hovering book, which was filled with sadists laughing. He was keeping it around to identify the target. He said, "What if a prestigious mercenary team headquarters were attacked in the middle of the night? Will a power B-class epic mercenary sit still? What do you think?

"How about we make a bet? I bet he will come out to make a public scene to show off his dominance. So, no one mess with him, and this will draw even more people toward his team. While you will be bet on, the opposite."

"Hehehehe, what kind of bet is this? How about you choose the latter option? Then I might think about it." Immortika wrote.

"What? Too afraid to lose? If I win, I only want information on how to control my solar plexus. But if I lose, I'll do one thing for your blasted entertainment. You can even choose for yourself." Jacob suggested without being dejected.

However, the thing in front of them was not something he could trick with this sort of thing. So, Immortika wrote without being provoked. "Hehehehe, this is indeed enticing, and I'm very glad you thought about your backer for once. But don't worry; I can't see you taking such a risk for me. Besides, I'm pretty entertained already, so that you can be worry-free. I'll let you know when I need more. Hahahaha..."

Jacob pursed his lips when Immortika just refused to have him his for once, "Tsk, wily bugger."

No longer caring about the wily book, he took out the blue advance talisman he had made today. He wasn't going to use his mech weaponry since there was a chance someone might connect him to it.

Since he was now proficient in magic, he was naturally going to use it, and he also wanted to see what sort of destruction this advanced common rank talisman could cause despite having some idea.

To use a talisman, one needs to pour some mana directly into the rune on it, and the moment Jacob did it, the talisman suddenly shimmered and turned into a rock-hard form from its soft paper form.

Without hesitation, Jacob aimed the large gate and instantly threw it like a knife, but he was careful enough to avoid those two guards' eyes.

The moment that talisman broke from the mana that activated it, it could no longer be stopped, and within a single second, the talisman converted into a tidal wave!

A tidal wave around five meters in size appeared out of nowhere, completely catching the two guards off guard and directly swallowing them!

"Boom..."

Huge water splashing sound occurred, shaking the walls a little, and all sorts of alarms were acting around the villa. However, that common rank advanced talisman wasn't enough to breach the gate. But it was enough to alarm everyone in the villa and those onlookers on the street.

Furthermore, the fact about talismans was although they looked like a spell and they could even be compared with a magic scroll which can also store powerful magic spells. But they were both diffract things because a talisman was made with magic materials while a magic scroll could only contain or store a magic spell of a spell caster. That's why it is called Spell Crafting,

That's why the runic talismans fall in the category of Rune Inscribing, not Spell Crafting, which was solely built upon the craft of Magic Sealing!