

C Immortality 421

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 421: Art of Bluffing (2)

Aven finally spoke with a hint of uncertainty, "Who are you?"

It was her and Frugal's first time adventuring, and they also knew the depth of their background. So, there was a chance that this person might be telling the truth. Not to mention, they refused to contact back because they wanted to prove their strength and independence to their overprotective mother.

This gave Jacob the opening to cause this opening!

However, Jacob had no idea about this as he was just playing a hazardous game because there was also a chance that those two had nothing to do with the Star Hackers and might be just using their name to draw the Dark Mistress's attention.

So, he said something that would also give the Giants a chance to play along if they really don't belong to the ATLAS.

"Hmph, let's talk inside, and then you'll tell me who your superior is!" Jacob sneered coldly as he walked. But he had to use the fluid acceleration to the maximum to do so because those two were still releasing their pressure on him.

He knew if he wanted to make them believe in his 'identity,' he had to show them that he wasn't weak at all but actually hiding his real strength.

Although it was pretty difficult, he didn't dare to show any weakness and slowly moved toward them. Their pressure was almost equivalent to the g-force he had experienced when he practiced the water meditation to succession.

That's why he could barely move with his fluid acceleration, which caused the giants to think that Jacob was hiding his true strength!

They no longer dare to underestimate him and let him walk inside and retract their pressures. Then they both looked at each with uncertainty and slight panic.

Frugal whisperingly said, "Mother does not send him?"

Aven replied with uncertainty in an equally silent tone, "I think so? Since he asked about our superior, it appeared he was not specifically here for us. I think there is a chance we could convince him not to report this, or we'll be in huge trouble!"

"What are you doing? Close the door and get your ass here!" Jacob's cold voice rang from behind as he was already sitting comfortably on a sofa.

"He's too arrogant!" Frugal complained angrily.

"Just bear with it. He's hiding his strength, and even our Fighter Eyes can't see through him. Which means he's stronger than we!" Aven gloomily replied before she closed the door and moved towards Jacob with her brother.

Jacob looked at the two cloaked giants sitting in front of him, 'Since they're behaving so submissively, it seemed by bluff has been successful!'

"So, tell me, why did you reveal your background to outsiders?" He asked.

Aven didn't reply but questioned instead, "First, tell us how you know us and prove your identity!"

They can't reveal everything to this stranger based on their doubts. If he was really a member of ATLAS, then he should have identity proof.

Jacob expected this much, and this was the most significant hurdle. If he could clear this, then those two would have to believe him whether they liked it or not.

The next moment, Vermin Transponder appeared in his hand, and he covered it with mana.

The moment those two saw it, their eyes widened, and Frugal blurted, "You have Vermin Transponder?!"

Jacob instantly stowed away the Vermin Transponder after Frugal identified it, 'So those two indeed belonged to the Star Hackers, or at least know their technology!'

"I can only show you this much, or you two should know if I revealed anything else, we all be at risk of getting caught by SAAI. Now, answer me, why in the world did you two fools use our name openly? Who is your superior?"

"Do you know if I haven't killed that woman, you two would've been executed once she met you? Do you really think we don't have a way to track our people and monitor their activities?" Jacob coldly stated.

Now, Aven and Frugal are really starting to panic since they are now 90% sure that this person is their superior, and he even killed the City Lord. They finally started to understand why Dark Mistress hadn't contacted them and why there were so many patrols.

Furthermore, they had no idea their movements could be monitored because they still weren't true members of the ATLAS but only reserves. So, they had no way of knowing if Jacob was telling the truth or lying. But they do know that the ATLAS was an unfathomable organization.

Not to mention, if he was telling the truth, they had caused a massive mess for their mother.

Aven quickly stated with a changed tone, "S-sir, please, we admit our mistakes. But it has nothing to do with our superior. We were acting independently. We are ready to bear the full responsibility for our actions!"

Frugal nodded, "Yes, we will suffer the punishment for our own actions."

They didn't want to implicate their mother since they knew she would do everything to shield them, which won't be good. Although they were rebellious, they loved their mother just as much as she loved them.

"Heh, at least you two are honest." Jacob sneered, 'This is going way more smoothly than I had anticipated. They both didn't seem experienced at all and behaved like brats who had been caught doing a crime. Could it be they are inexperienced newcomers?'

For someone like him, it wasn't difficult to gauge someone's experience by their behavior, and those two were not behaving like someone with experience at all, and by adding their previous mistakes, it was quite clear that they were new to this.

This gave Jacob even more confidence in manipulating them to his wishes.

"I'm in charge of the Vile Witch Valley, and any member of the organizing instated here must first report to me. I was wondering why two greenhorns appeared and weren't informed beforehand.

"I was keeping an eye on you two and just happened to catch you making an unforgivable mistake," Jacob stated, which made the two giants' hearts sink.

Jacob devilishly smiled suddenly and said, "But, since I could intercept and you seemed quite inexperienced and loyal, I can overlook this and even help you with the Vile Witch Layer. But I want something in return!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 422: A Strange Cohort

After hearing Jacob's ambiguous sentence, the Giants were astounded, and a flash of ecstasy passed through their eyes. They never expect this 'superior' would offer them his help while also hiding their transgression.

Furthermore, it was far better than involving an outsider. Nonetheless, they were no idiots and knew whatever he demanded would not be small, and he probably approached them with this intention from the start.

"Please tell us," Aven spoke while Frugal remained silent since he trusted his big sister's judgment.

Jacob stated without hesitation, "I want half of whatever we discover in the Vile Witch Layer."

"Half?" Frugal exclaimed, "Aren't you asking too much?"

"Heh, I think I'm asking too little. Don't forget the mistake you made; you might not even keep your lives, and your superior will definitely lose its rank." Jacob said matter-of-factly.

"Alright, we accept!" Aven nodded as she knew what Jacob was stating the fact.

"But sis..."

"Just let it go. Half of the inheritance is more than enough for us. Sir is being generous with us, so don't be ungrateful. If he wanted, he could've asked for 80% or even everything, but he didn't, and with his help, we might be able to get it for sure!" Aven sternly stated.

'She's quite sharp despite her inexperience, or she's just playing a fool...' Jacob thought with a hint of uncertainty.

But everything was going according to his plan, so he played along, "You're quite sensible. Since the deal is set, let's move to the plan. If I'm not wrong, you guys seek the Dark Mistress because you were stuck at something. So, out with it, why did you guys seek her help by going out of your way to reveal your identities!"

'He even guessed that?' Aven was startled by just how sharp this person was since he was able to see through their plight so easily. But this also boosts her confidence in him.

Aven revealed with a grave tone, "We are indeed stuck at something, so we were forced to use this option. But I can assure you that we have a countermeasure in place if something untoward would've happened. However, we were still naïve, and Sir even saved us from a grim fate.

"Actually, we found the Vile Witch Layer three months ago in the core region of Vile Witch Valley. But the entrance is blocked by a door, and that door is encrypted with some mysterious rune array.

"Even after using every means, we can't even scratch it. We also tried digging a tunnel underground and the walls, but when we reached a certain depth, a barrier with the same runes blocked our way.

"So, we reckoned that the only way inside is that door, and we need to decrypt that array. But it's simply too complex, and if we had tried to decrypt ourselves, we might've set up some safety mechanism. So, we refrain from doing it.

"In the end, we collected some information and found out about the Dark Mistress, who had some connection to a rune artificer. So, we came to this city for her. But before we could approach her, Faceless Ancient appeared.

"You should've already known that there are only three ways to pass a runic array. First is an Array Key, the second is decrypting the array, and last one is breaking it with a single powerful attack."

Jacob's heart raced as he didn't have to guess why his star ID was mentioned.

"So, you guys wanted to buy the Faceless Ancient's atomic grenade to blow that array?" He asked.

Aven nodded, "Indeed, it was far better than revealing our identities since Dark Mistress won't believe us without us telling her about our background." She suddenly gritted her teeth as she spat, "But that bastard is simply too famous, and that atomic grenade auction ended up going way out of our expectation. So, we had to use our first plan."

'What kind of situation is this?' Jacob wondered, as he never expected this sort of divulgence.

These guys were searching for him, but he ended up approaching them instead. This was quite a peculiar event. Nevertheless, he now knew why they were here and their predicament.

Furthermore, he wasn't only Rune Artificer but also Faceless Ancient. But he can't tell them that, now, can he? So, he needed another approach just in case he needed to use an atomic grenade.

As for getting rid of those two, he wasn't planning on doing it since they were quite useful.

"Well, I think we are in luck since I'm a rune artificer, and I can also get an Atomic Grenade in the next auction. Is there anything else you need?" He confidently stated.

"Wait, really?" Frugal was startled.

Even Aven was in disbelief as she never expected to find the exact sort of person they needed the most. They felt even more excited about Jacob joining them.

"Why would I lie to you?" He coolly replied.

"If that's the case, then all we need is a few people who could be our meat shields. There should be more traps. We only have a map of its entrance, not the inner area. So, we have to be quite cautious while exploring that place." Aven gravely said, "Even if there wasn't any trap, we could just get rid of all the meat shields."

'How vicious!' Jacob thought jeeringly. But he knew he was just being a hypocrite when it came to viciousness.

He nodded, "Very well, you two can take care of this by yourselves. Let me worry about an atomic grenade. But just in case, if we end up using it, how are you planning on handling the corollary? I don't need to remind you that it's not something we can get away with after using it."

Frugal confidently said at this moment, "We don't have to worry about that. First, I don't think anyone in the region is stronger than us three. Second, by the time powerful people arrive for investigation, we will be long gone with the inheritance.

"Last but not least, everyone will suspect Faceless Ancient first after that blast, and if someone discovers the secret of Vile Witch Layer, they will go after him even more decisively than before. While we can reap the benefits and no one would ever know it was us who did that. It's a perfect sabotage!"

While Frugal was ecstatically revealing his sabotage plan, and Aven fully agreed with him, they both failed to notice a terrifying gleam in Jacob's icy cold eyes!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 423: Second Star Server Auction (1)

Today was just like another day in the Epic Plain. However, unusually almost every 3rd person was staring at their star watches with great anticipation and excitement. Some people wore stern, cold expressions as they also looked at the same interface as anyone out there.

Almost every person was paying attention to a sole star sever. It was a unique event that had never happened before in the history of Epic Plains.

The Star Server in question was none other than the Ancient Artifact Industry because today marked the day of the second auction, and it was about to start in a few moments since Faceless Ancient had posted a time on the Star news this morning!

At this moment, the man in question was in Alive Alliance City No.492 in the central or core region of the Vile Witch Valley!

Jacob had arrived here three days ago with his new 'companions,' Frugal and Aven, after they were done with City No.543.

In comparison, City No.492 was a few miles larger than City No.543, and this place was filled with hidden experts at the Epic-Tier-7 Rank. Not to mention the resources here were also abundant and of higher quality.

This was one of the pros of a lesser number city, and the lower it goes, the larger the city and, similarly, richer resources.

As for how Jacob entered, he didn't need to take the risk of flying over the city again as he discovered from Frugal and Aven that there was another way to enter this city without taking high risks, as Jacob did in City No.543.

It was to find a smuggler who took ZCs to smuggle anyone inside the city without the need to go through the security check. Jacob was somewhat surprised, but not that much since these sorts of people exist everywhere.

It was just that he didn't bother to find them since he could just use his tricks to enter. Nevertheless, he still prefers not to make too much noise, so he remembered how those two found that smuggler. According to the brother and sister, as long as they look carefully, there are always smugglers around the medium size cities.

As for the Large Size City, there was no such loophole, and according to them, the security there is managed by AIs of the three hegemonies, and it was almost impossible to sneak in without getting caught first.

Jacob didn't ask any of it since he didn't need to as Frugal was a chatterbox, and after getting to know Jacob, he was very comfortable with him and told him all sorts of things or, more accurately, brag about himself.

As for Aven, she was just respectful and seldom spoke her mind, and she even stopped Frugal from revealing too much sometimes. This appeared as a hindrance for Jacob to fully acquired the knowledge of their background and ATLAS.

But he can only do with it since he can't reveal that he wasn't part of ATLAS or even give the slightest hint. Because he had a feeling that Aven was not a complete fool like Frugal, and she only showed him a map. But he had a feeling that she was hiding something.

Since he had to act like a superior and he couldn't overpower her, he had to endure. But he was very vigilance of that woman.

Thereby, he made an excuse to collect some funds to buy Atomic Grenada and left them to deal with the recruitment of those meat shields. While in truth, he found Sofie and staying in the Alchemy Guild ever since and honed his Rune Craftsmanship.

Furthermore, he had also partnered with three merchants who he carefully selected from his previous recruitment. Now his network of resources has increased quite large because those three merchants were not just anybody but top businessmen of epic plains.

To keep each other identities safe, they all had to sign Star Network Contracts with insanely vicious penalties.

In return for their full cooperation, Jacob will have to provide them with 10 Atomic Grenades within a year while they will sell Jacob anything he requires below the market price.

After dealing with this business, today came the day of another Auction, and he was looking forward to it since he would be putting another item for auction. He is no longer hesitant to sell the crude technology he made in rare plains while using that same money to make an improved version for himself.

The Epic Plains could burn for all he cared as long as he was earning ZC and using them to sponsor himself. He cared little about anything else.

As for Sofie, she was extremely respectful towards Jacob after she knew who Jacob was, and now she looked completely submissive to Jacob, which gave him a strange feeling, but he brushed it off.

Alone in Sofie's workshop, Jacob opened his Star Server. But he caught sight of a message, and the sender was someone hard to ignore.

"The Society Killer (Reply): Hey, bother Ancient, aren't you supposed to give me prior notice 12 hours ago before you put items on auction?!"

'Brother?' Jacob frowned as he replied with a sneer.

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): I think I gave you prior notice 30 days ago when I put that post. According to the deal, I will tell you when I will start the auction 12 hours before. But you were already informed 30 days ago, so I never breached any term of our contract. If I had broken it, do you think the star network would leave me alone?"

"The Society Killer (Reply): What? It works like this too? Why do I feel like I got tricked?"

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): And why do I feel like blocking you?"

"The Society Killer (Reply): Hahaha, ahem, brother Ancient, there is no need to turn serious. I like to joke with my friends, especially fellow visionaries like yourself. Joke aside, can you tell me what the new item is? For our friendship's sake?

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): You'll see in a short while. There is no need to pester me. Now if you'll excuse me, I have an auction to run!

"The Society Killer (Reply): Hah, what a killjoy. Let's see who can put competition for this killer!"

Jacob merely scoffed at this shrewd guy's façade and posted the first auction item!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 424: Second Star Server Auction (2)

"Auction Post (NO.2) by Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner)

"Auction Item Name: Atomic Grenade

"Item Type: Weapon/Explosive

"Item Rank: At least Advanced Epic Rank

"Item Properties: Subatomic (NO Magic)

"Item Quantity: 1

"Item Description: ...

"Starting (Opening) Bid Price: 10,000,000 ZC

"Reaming Time before the auction end: 00H:09M:48S

"Auction Post (NO.3) by Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner)

"Auction Item Name: Atomic Grenade

"Item Type: Weapon/Explosive

"Item Rank: At least Advanced Epic Rank

"Item Properties: Subatomic (NO Magic)

"Item Quantity: 1

"Item Description: ...

"Starting (Opening) Bid Price: 10,000,000 ZC

"Reaming Time before the auction end: 00H:19M:45S

"Auction Post (NO.4) by Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner)

"Auction Item Name: Atomic Grenade

"Item Type: Weapon/Explosive

"Item Rank: At least Advanced Epic Rank

"Item Properties: Subatomic (NO Magic)

"Item Quantity: 1

"Item Description: ...

"Starting (Opening) Bid Price: 10,000,000 ZC

"Reaming Time before the auction end: 00H:29M:40S

"Auction Post (NO.5) by Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner)

"NOTE: Post is set to publish in 31 minutes..."

Jacob posted four auction posts he had prepared beforehand, one after another, but he still restricted the last auction post and set it on a timer. It was the main item of today's auction, so he wanted it revealed after the three atomic grenades were sold.

Just as open the bidding posts, the bidding war instantly rages on all of them. This time, he deliberately set up the timers to less than half an hour with 10 minutes intervals each because he found hours for an auction item irrelevant after he watched what happened the last time.

There wasn't any need to waste other time, he had already announced this auction, so people should be ready, and he wanted to end it quickly so he could be on his merry way toward the Vile Witch Layer.

Instantly, the bids crossed over 25 million ZC on all posts and finally started to slow down.

"Current highest Bidder (Auction Post NO.2): Anonymous145839 (Star ID: New-Star-of-Dawn)

"Bid from Anonymous145839: 26,100,000 ZC

"Current highest Bidder (Auction Post NO.3): Anonymous84322 (Star ID: Great Hallberg)

"Bid from Anonymous84322: 26,050,500 ZC

"Current highest Bidder (Auction Post NO.4): Anonymou500 (Star ID: Rich Winter Lady)

"Bid from Anonymou500: 26,300,000 ZC"

These were the highest bids on his three posts within a single minute. But he knew it was far from over because the Society Killer had yet to make his move. He was probably waiting for everyone to be exhausted to the limit before swooping in just like he did the last time.

Furthermore, Jacob also noticed that Hallberg and the three hegemonies' leaders were bidding more fiercely than before, and he didn't know if it was just his imagination, but none of the three leaders were trying to bid on the same post as Hallberg.

'Did this bastard has such connections?' Jacob thought with narrowed eyes as it was quite possible because Hallberg had the Dark City behind him.

Although he hates to admit it, he knew Hallberg was no small character, and Dark City was probably the only existence Jacob didn't want to make an enemy off. But it was quite hard after what Hallberg did, and he didn't know what he would do if that cunning dwarf appeared in front of him.

As Jacob was observing the bids, 8 minutes passed, and there were less than two minutes before the time on the first post was over.

"Current highest Bidder (Auction Post NO.2): Anonymous132 (Star ID: Might-of-Destruction)

"Bid from Anonymous132: 38,400,800 ZC"

This was the current highest bid from the Chairman of the Zodiac Warrior Alliance himself, and no one seemed to be bidding anymore except for the New-Star-of-Dawn. This start ID actually belonged to one of the three merchants Jacob has formed a partnership with.

But the Atomic Grenade seemed to be again falling out of his pocket range. So, in the end, Gunner remained on top, and the last thirty seconds started, and soon only 10 seconds remained.

'What are you doing?' Jacob's eyes narrowed when the Society Killer didn't appear at all, completely opposite to his early intentions.

But he knew if that guy was planning to place a last-second bid, it won't work because if someone tries to be cunning and place a final bid at the very last second, the post-timer won't just end.

Instead, a function called the Three Bidding Announcement will initiate so the other party can have a chance to place another bid, and the three bidding announcements will reset again upon a new bid. This process will be continued until a winner passes the three bidding announcements.

That's why it was impossible to play such a trick in Star Network Auction.

When the timer was about to hit '1,' the bid finally changed!

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 40,000,000 ZC

"Post timer has been over; the 3 Bidding Announcements have been activated!

"Final Bid 40 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 40 Million ZC going twice...

"New Bid from Anonymous132 (Star ID: Might-of-Destruction): 40,150,000 ZC"

"Final Bid 40.15 Million ZC going once..."

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 50,000,000 ZC

"Final Bid 50 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 50 Million ZC going twice...

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 50,500,000 ZC

"Final Bid 50.5 Million ZC going once...

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 55,000,000 ZC

"Final Bid 55 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 55 Million ZC going twice...

"Final Bid 55 Million ZC going thrice..."

This time no new bid was entered, and the Society Killer won the atomic grenade with three bidding announcements.

"Star Server: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.2 has been concluded and won by Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer)!"

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

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

"Calculating the Grace Period ..."

Gunnar looked at the final conclusion of Auction Post NO.2 with bloodlust in his eyes and a few bulging veins twitching on his temple.

His vice was standing right behind with sealed lips while his back was filled with sweat, and his eyes shimmered with trepidation. He had never seen Gunnar so pissed in a very long time.

At this moment, Gunnar finally spoke hoarsely with naked killing intent, "I want you to find every person who had liquid assets over 1 Billion ZC. Use everything in our power and use our influence. You have my full support, and probably the other two will not reject this approach as well!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 425: Second Star Server Auction (3)

"Just who in the world is this Anonymous1?" Lucy frowned begrudgingly as she looked at the result of the first auction post today.

She had also suffered a loss from this guy's hand the last time, so it was only natural she had tried to investigate his background.

She even thought that it was Nelsen, but in the end, Nelsen and Ellie showed their Anonymous IDs to Gunner and her, and they both had to do the same so that it won't cause any misunderstanding between them.

Furthermore, to capture or eliminate the Faceless Ancient, they all had to put their differences aside and work together. This goes as far as to use another Zodiac Oath Contract, so no one dared to play any tricks.

But truth be told, Lucy still held a pretty big grudge against Nelsen and Ellie after she lost the bet, and she hated Faceless Ancient's guts for that.

Yet, for a bigger picture, she had no choice but to work together. But in the end, they had yet to find even a tiny clue about his whereabouts. That guy was simply too elusive and hiding his tracks too well.

Not to mention, he was openly seeking partnerships, yet they were helpless to stop him, and even their own men failed to draw his attention. So, this change was also ruined.

Now the only way they could think of was to track the delivery locations. But it was far easier said than done since they couldn't interfere with the Destiny Star Corporation or put tails on them since it was impossible.

But there was still a way, and they needed to get a delivery first, but this hateful Anonymous1 was a thorn in their way. He just didn't want to give them way at all and made things difficult.

Not to mention, this guy has an unusually large amount of wealth, and Lucy could only think of about three people other than her and Nelsen who could have this much wealth.

But those people were already investigated by them. They used the Zodiac Oath Contract to make sure they weren't this Anonymous1 and even forbid them ever to take part in these auctions.

Yet, this bore little fruit, and even seeking Hallberg's support didn't do anything.

"It seems like; I have to go all out this time. That old pervert probably thought the same as well since he tried to interfere before..." Lucy muttered with a sharp glint in her eyes as she looked at the second post, which was about to conclude as well.

"Reaming Time before the Auction Post (NO.3) ends: 00H:00M:09S

"Current highest Bidder (Auction Post NO.3): Anonymous84322

"Bid from Anonymous84322: 49,000,500 ZC

Nelsen expressionlessly watched as the time continued to run thin on the second post of today's action. He also knew who this anonymous was because of their deal with this guy.

'According to our deal, we have to refrain from interfering with this Dark City's representative and let him have an atomic grenade. But Anonymous1 has really proven to be a nuisance. He won the first auction post again, and I'm sure the Chairman might be fuming right now.

'Let's see if he interferes with this one as well and let the dark city duke it out with him. Since they had shown their interest in Faceless Ancient, then they would not be backing down easily.

'I had to admit; this guy has really made things quite interesting since the day he had come. It's no longer bleak and boring anymore. I guess this is what it means; to have a formidable enemy is also a blessing. It can either pressure you to grow or crush you...' Nelsen pulled a strange twisted smile.

Right at this moment, at the last moment, a bid appeared just like before.

"Tsk, here he's again!" Nelsen clicked his tongue with relish.

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

"Post timer has been over; the 3 Bidding Announcements have been activated!

"Final Bid 50 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 50 Million ZC going twice...

"New Bid from Anonymous84322: 60,000,000 ZC"

"Final Bid 60 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 60 Million ZC going twice

"New Bid from Anonymous1: 70,000,000 ZC

"Final Bid 70 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 70 Million ZC going twice...

"New Bid from Anonymous84322: 90,000,000 ZC"

Hallberg had a pale expression with fury swirling in his bloodshot eyes as he was sitting in the throne hall in the presence of the Dark Marquise with other prominent figures like himself.

A large projection was showing the live footage of the auction going on the Ancient Artifact Industry Star Server.

"Who is this Anonymous1?" A giant figure roared in fury, sitting two seats away from Hallberg.

At this moment, in counter to Hallberg's bid, another bid was placed.

"New Bid from Anonymous1: 100,000,000 ZC

"T-this?!" Hallberg almost had a seizure as he looked toward the Dark Marquise with hesitation.

"Make it 200 million." Dark Marquise's impassive voice rang as if that amount of petty change.

Hallberg gulped as he didn't dare to question and place the bid.

"You (Great Hallberg) Server Anonymous ID (Anonymous84322) has made a new bid: 200,000,000 ZC on Star Sever: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.3"

The same bid appeared on the screen, and then the announcements started as everyone looked at them with dry throats.

"Final Bid 200 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 200 Million ZC going twice...

"Anonymous1 outbid you. New Bid on Star Sever: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.3: 250,000,000 ZC"

"Absurd bastard!" The giant figure smacked the handle of his chair in a fury and blasted it apart.

Even Hallberg was having a hard time believing that a single item had reached such an absurd price. He wanted to give up, but a dismissive voice rang at this moment.

"Make it 500 Million."

Everyone looked at the Dark Marquise in unison.

"Milord, this is not worth it! There is still one more item!" A voluptuous figure sitting at the very front quickly advises.

"Do I need to repeat myself?" Dark Marquise coolly questioned.

Everyone was speechless, but they didn't say anymore since they knew the Dark Marquise wasn't something they could order around, especially once he made up his mind.

Hallberg, with a trembling hand, placed the bid he was told.

"You (Great Hallberg) Server Anonymous ID (Anonymous84322) has made a new bid: 500,000,000 ZC on Star Sever: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.3"

"Final Bid 500 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 500 Million ZC going twice...

At this point, everyone was holding their breath, not only them but everyone watching in the Epic Plains. They all wondered if Anonymous1 would strike again.

"Final Bid 500 Million ZC going thrice..."

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 426: Second Star Server Auction (4)

"Star Server: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.3 has been concluded and won by Anonymous84322 (Star ID: Great Hallberg)!"

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

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

"Calculating the Grace Period ..."

Jacob looked at the second auction post conclusion, which was quite unexpected, especially that absurd bid.

'That bidding was out of spite or out of some hidden agenda?' Jacob thought with a hint of uncertainty.

Although that amount was extremely appreciated, but the intent behind it left Jacob somewhat uneasy. But sadly, he couldn't do anything about it, and he had many precautions in place if some untoward were to happen.

Nonetheless, Hallberg winning one of his atomic grenades left a bad taste in his mouth. But it was unavoidable as he knew the Dark City behind him was not something a single person like the Society Killer could handle, especially if they were determined.

At this moment, the Star Server Inbox popped open in front of him.

"Star Server Inbox (Star Server Owner):

"Anonymous84322 (Star ID: Great Hallberg): No time no see old friend. You're quite a hard man to get into contact with. I know you have some misgivings about me, and I don't blame you either. But ignoring benefits for measly enmity is for children, not something for people like us. Nonetheless, today, I'm not messaging you as your friend but as an emissary of the Dark City. On behalf of his lordship, Dark Marquise, I invite you to join the Dark City, and you can state your terms! No one will dare to trouble you anymore if you have His Lordship's backing!

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

After reading this message, Jacob couldn't help but sneer, "Measly enmity is indeed for children, but I almost lost my life because of your façade, and that's something I can't forget or forgive. You were also the one who taught me never to believe in anyone's empathy.

"Now, this Dark Marquise is also showing empathy, so how can I take it for granted and let my guard down? But I don't mind playing with you, though, since deception is part of everyone's character here..."

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): Very well, tell His Lordship to contact me from his Star ID, and I have a very compelling deal with him. I don't like to talk with jackals. Oh, and your delivery will arrive in 37 days!"

At this moment, Jacob's reply was read by all the people sitting in the grand hall, and Hallberg was literally trembling with killing intent in his eyes.

"How presumptuous!" The giant furiously yelled.

"Heh, this fellow is indeed interesting. Not only he told Dark Earl to f-off, but he also gave his lordship face." The masked woman giggled in amusement.

A tall gentleman in a mask also followed with a playful snicker, "Furthermore, don't you guys notice that Faceless Ancient seems to have some kind of grudge against Dark Earl Hallberg? No matter how ambitiously Dark Earl tries to hide it, we can all see he's trying to pacify him. But it seemed to have backfired.

"So, I wonder if Dark Earl Hallberg didn't have a close relationship with Faceless Ancient as he claimed it be, then is there any need to give me a seat in this council?"

His sharp words caused everyone's eyes to shimmer with strange glints as they looked at Hallberg, who also seemed to have realized something and instantly looked toward the Dark Marquise.

As that gentleman stated, he only managed to enter this place so quickly because of his 'connection' with Jacob and the Dark Marquise's interest in him. But he never told them what he had done, and the Dark Marquise was quite patient and never questioned him.

But now, even a fool could tell that Jacob didn't have a good impression of him and even had a mysterious enmity with him. So, if he handled Jacob, it would do more harm than good.

Furthermore, Jacob just offered an olive branch to the Dark City, and he was willing to cooperate as long as it wasn't him. This directly cut off his lifeline, and now all those unhappy members, because of his sudden rise, were showing their fangs.

Regret wasn't even come close to describing what he was feeling right now, but he knew there wasn't any point in doing so since the Dark City was an extremely disciplined place and schemes came after the organization's benefits!

At this moment, the Dark Marquise spoke impassively, "Dark Earl Gilbert indeed has a point. But there's no need to strip Dark Earl Hallberg of his position since it would be a stain to our reputation if we kick out a Dark Council Member, for it had never happened before, and it never will.

"Nevertheless, punishment is necessary for fairness, and Dark Earl Hallberg's punishment is he will tell us everything about what happened between you and Faceless Ancient, to every simple detail, under the Zodiac Oath Contract. Or you can keep your silence, but you have to repent in Dark Prison for ten years. This is my verdict; now you may choose Dark Earl Hallberg!"

The hall was silent as no one raised any objections since they all knew the Dark Marquise was not someone they could go against, and the punishment was quite fair.

Not to mention, now that Jacob has agreed to talk with Dark Marquise, the objective of Hallberg's existence has been achieved. Albeit differently, it was done, and now Hallberg just has to choose a path.

In the end, Hallberg stood up from his position somewhat shaky, but his eyes were filled with resolve, and he kneeled in front of Dark Marquise and stated, "I will repent in Dark Prison!"

This decision came as a surprise to everyone since this was akin to torturing yourself for a decade, for the dark prison was not just a ride in the park but an extremely cruel place.

Dark Marquise's eyes shimmered with great interest while looking at Hallberg, 'What have you done that you are so afraid to reveal it? Or are you afraid that you will reveal your true self in front of everyone once you speak the truth? Heh, how intriguing. I will find out from Faceless Ancient if you're reluctant to tell me...'

He spoke dismissively, "Very well, Dark Rose, initiate the punishment for Dark Earl Hallberg and send Faceless Ancient a star friend request in my stead!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 427: Second Star Server Auction (5)

After Jacob replied to Hallberg, he didn't receive any more messages, which was nothing but good news for him, and he focused on the third auction post, which was being dominated by Lucy!

However, after three minutes, he saw an unexpected notification.

"Timeless Dark Tree has sent you a Star Friend Request

"Accept/Reject/ Ignore"

Jacob was somewhat surprised since he had never seen this star ID before, but since it could send him a Star Friend Request, then it was clearly a 2-star privilege star ID like him.

But he was about to ignore it when a message also popped up, which made his eyes dilate with shock.

"Timeless Dark Tree has sent you a Mail!"

"Read!"

"(NOTE: Timeless Dark Tree has used Star Privilege to send an unignorable Mail Request. Timeless Dark Tree Star Privilege is higher than You (Faceless Ancient), Mail can't be ignored or minimized, Star ID can't be blocked!)"

"A 3-star privilege holder!" Jacob was really surprised when he saw this unignorable mail, which he hadn't seen in years.

Even the three hegemonies' leaders didn't have 3-star privilege, yet this unknown fellow popped out of nowhere.

But now, he had no choice but to see this mail, and it wasn't like he was interested in knowing just who this person was who had a 3-star privilege and wasn't one of the three leaders of the hegemonies.

"Timeless Dark Tree (New Message): I'm the Dark Marquise; Mr. Ancient just said you have an intriguing deal for me?"

'The hell?' Jacob frowned in disbelief as this unexpected realization dawned upon him.

"Was my conversation with that jackal been monitored by this Dark Marquise?" Jacob muttered as he thought this was the only explanation for this guy's prompt response.

Furthermore, Jacob didn't even say those words sincerely at all, and he was just taunting the guy since he thought Hallberg would never let him come in contact with his superior unless he wanted to lose his reputation.

Yet, he was proven wrong by this Dark Marquise, and it appeared that the Dark City works in quite a peculiar pattern. Even someone like Hallberg, who had a pretty deep enmity with him, was behaving there, which was quite unexpected in Jacob's opinion.

Nevertheless, it didn't mean he was going to believe in Dark City's people. That mistake was only one time, and being selfish is the only way to go in this world.

Jacob replied.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): How do I know you are not just another goon like that little jackal, Hallberg?"

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): Despite Mr. Ancient's intellectual prowess, you can't even figure out that a 3-star privilege Star ID is not something that just anyone can have. Or perhaps, you weren't expecting me to make contact at all?"

Jacob squinted his eyes when he read this irrefutable reply. He has indeed thought of this and knew not just anyone can have a 3-star privilege Star ID in this place. Or at least not a mediocre person like a goon.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): So, his majesty, the Dark Marquise is really interested in a terrorist like me, huh? I must say, I'm extremely humbled by your lordship's attention."

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): You are indeed a unique one, Mr. Ancient. But we both know you are far from being a terrorist. Instead, you are a cornered fox who is trying to retaliate against other foxes who like to bully the weak ones.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): Oh, you have quite a humor.

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): It's more like insight. Anyhow, I can tell, you and Dark Earl Hallberg has enmity, which he refused to tell me. Instead, he can rather be in prison for ten years. I don't know what happened between you two, but I can assure you, Dark Earl Hallberg didn't represent the whole Dark City. So, I sincerely hope you could give us another chance with an open mind and give me a chance to show you what the Dark City is truly about and how we are different from the three hegemonies."

Jacob merely sneered at the Dark Marquise's typical recruitment speech.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): I think I'm good wherever I am right now.

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): Very well, it's your choice, but know this, Mr. Ancient, if you ever change your mind, I'll be right there for you, and the Dark City doors will always be open for you. Once you see the true Dark City, you'll come to understand that Dark Earl Hallberg is nothing. Anyhow, I respect your choice. Now I would very much like to hear about that deal of yours."

Jacob was speechless by Dark Marquise's optimistic attitude, but there wasn't any fault to pick in his words. If anything, this guy had a point about the Dark City's strength, and if he judged the entire organization on just one rotten bastard's merit, he would be a petty-minded person.

Nevertheless, trust was long past him, and the only thing left were mutual benefits. Since the Dark Marquise seemed to be in charge of the Epic Plains Dark City, then his reach was far deeper than the three leaders of hegemonies.

If he can form a mutual partnership with him, he might not even need to worry about finding resources at all.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): I'm an individual of my words, Dark Marquise. I might not join the Dark City, but I can still sell Dark City my products exclusively. In return, I want cutting-edge knowledge and resources. If you can provide me with that, the Atomic Grenade is just the start.

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): I can agree to resources, but cutting-edge knowledge is out of the question. You should understand that each organization has its own rules, and we only reward our members with knowledge. You can state some other demands, but knowledge is out of the question.

Jacob frowned as he was afraid of this exact thing. Right now, his ZC problem was solved, and even the resources weren't a top priority anymore. What he lacks now is knowledge to increase his understanding of magic!

That's why he was going to the Vile Witch Layers in the first place.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): I don't want exclusive knowledge of Dark City. I know my limit. I just want knowledge that is not related to Dark City. Furthermore, I will even take the three hegemonies' knowledge."

Jacob replied decisively and waited patiently, and the reply finally came.

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): Is that so? You are quite bold, Mr. Ancient. But this is the exact thing I like about you. But you still need to show me that the risk is worth it before we finalize our deal!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 428: The Final Item

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 50,000,000 ZC

"Post timer has been over on Post No.4: The 3 Bidding Announcements have been activated!

"Final Bid 50 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 50 Million ZC going twice...

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 51,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymou500 (Star ID: Rich Winter Lady): 55,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 60,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymou500 (Star ID: Rich Winter Lady): 70,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 71,000,000 ZC"

Jacob observed the third post's final bidding, and the S-0's involvement was a small surprise. That woman had been dormant for a while now, but she suddenly popped out of nowhere, and now she was fighting with the Society Killer and Lucy for the last Atomic Grenade.

The final bidding suddenly skyrocketed up to the 100 million ZC again, and the Society Killer was still going strong, and Lucy was following suit. But S-0 was also not backing down, and suddenly.

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 130,000,000 ZC"

Nelsen entered the chaos, and Jacob noticed Lucy didn't bid against him at all, which made his eyes gleam with a peculiar light.

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 130,500,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 150,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 151,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous1 (Star ID: The Society Killer): 155,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 155,500,000 ZC

"Final Bid 155.5 Million ZC going once..."

"Final Bid 155.5 Million ZC going twice

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 160,000,000 ZC

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 160,5...

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 161...

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 161,5...

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 162...

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 162,5..."

'Did he give up?' Jacob thought when the Society Killer didn't bid anymore, the bidding war became Nelsen and S-0's show.

Although he didn't want his atomic grenade to fall into the hands of either Nelsen or S-0, as both of them were his enemies, he knew this sort of situation couldn't be avoided.

He still wasn't clear about the Society Killer's background, but he was extremely familiar with who was backing Nelsen and S-0.

In the end, the bid between the two lasted for a few minutes, and finally...

"New Bid from Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeded Monk): 200,000,000 ZC

"Final Bid 200 Million ZC going once...

"Final Bid 200 Million ZC going twice..."

"Final Bid 200 Million ZC going thrice...

"Star Server: Ancient Artifact Industry Auction Post NO.4 has been concluded and won by Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeden Monk)!"

"Final Bid Amount: 200,000,000 ZC has been successfully transfer to your Zodiac Bank Account!"

"(NOTE: The Amount (200,000,000 ZC) will remain locked until the item is delivered to Amiable Wizeden Monk!)"

"Calculating the Grace Period ..."

"Hmph..." Jacob snorted with a hint of dissatisfaction and waited for Nelsen's recruitment message.

It didn't take long before Nelsen messaged him just as he expected, but the contents were out of his expectation.

"Star Server Inbox (Star Server Owner):"

"Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeden Monk): Haha, I enjoyed this little entertainment. I must say, you are making things very interesting, and I'm thankful."

'What's he up to?' Jacob squinted his eyes as he replied.

"Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner): I'm glad. Your item will be delivered in 19 days."

"Anonymous4 (Star ID: Amiable Wizeden Monk): I'm sure it will. But as a fellow explosive expert, I must give you a kind warning. You're playing a very dangerous game by spreading these instruments of destruction. If you think no one is capable of reverse engineering them, I want you to think again. It's nothing but a lost war for you, so turn around while there's still a way for you, or hah, you should know already!"

Jacob's eyes went deadly cold as he looked at that message which was a clear threat, and for some reason, he felt this old man wasn't joking. In the end, he didn't reply and closed the chat box.

'A lost war, huh?' A hint of nostalgia surfaced in his eyes as if he had heard those words from someone else before.

His lips suddenly rose in an exasperated smile as he mumbled, "Winning lost wars is kind of my specialty..."

After arranging his thoughts, it was time to release the final post, a new item that he had yet to use himself. But he had taken it out because only with this item could he get what he wanted.

Even though it is very dangerous, he has to use it, and only then can he obtain what he wants and also earn the Dark Marquise's partnership.

"Auction Post (NO.5) by Faceless Ancient (Star Server Owner)

"Auction Item Name: White Sun Missile (Picture Attached)

"Item Type: Weapon/Explosive

"Item Rank: 90% chances that it's Above Epic Rank

"Item Properties: Subatomic/ Quasi-Thermonuclear (NO Magic)

"Item Quantity: 1

"Item Description: Another atomic consumable explosive just like the atomic grenade. However, its area effect range is at least 1000 times more than an Atomic Grenade with even more potent radioactive aftereffects. With a size of 253 CM, it's equipped with a coordinate target compass and remote trigger, which gives it the ability to attack from the sky and launch remotely from a 20-mile radius and from

faraway places. In a more simplified term, with this missile, you blow up an entire region while you can launch it from far away while enjoying your meal, and if you are able to increase the remote-control range even further, you can launch it from 100s of miles away. This is an option left by me for my patrons! Moreover, even weak epics won't be able to handle its poisonous radiation and turn the area wherever it lands will into an absolute forbidden zone for living. Oh, and last but not least, NEVER try to reverse-engineer it, for the anti-theft component in this missile is even more cumbersome than the Atomic Grenade. So, don't complain that I never warned you!

"Item to Item Exchange Bidding Price: Magic Ability Scriptures or Universal Scriptures for Water Element

"Item to Item Exchange Bidding Rule (1): Star Server Owner has imposed Item to Item Exchange Bidding program for this post. This bidding program has no time limit.

"Item to Item Exchange Bidding Rule (2): The exchange items will be scanned through the Star Network before they can be posted in the bidding section.

"Item to Item Exchange Bidding Rule (3): The Auction Post Owner can decide to end the bidding once the (Scanned) exchange items reach the owner's satisfactory standards.

"Item to Item Exchange Bidding Rule (4):..."

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 429: The White Sun Missile

"Fudge, this madman!"

Nelsen jumped from his calm sitting posture when he saw the White Sun Missile and read its details. It was the first time after many years that he had lost his clam.

"What the hell? If he had such technology, then didn't this mean he could launch these missiles on our regions?!" Andrew exclaimed in horror.

Gunnar was almost in disbelief as his widened eyes were glued on the White Sun Missile, "I-if this weapon is really above epic grade..."

For the first time, Gunnar felt a sense of crisis, and he quickly ordered, "Get Nelsen and Lucy on call!"

Lucy's beautiful eyes were filled with inexplicable terror as she muttered, "Just what kind of shit luck he had to discover this sort of technology? This will cause absolute chaos since no one will be safe... we can't let him live!"

The throne hall was now absolutely silent as the members of the Dark Council were looking at the screen with disbelief.

The Dark Marquise, who was waiting for Jacob's response to his previous condition, was startled as his eyes shimmered with elation and greed.

'Just who in the world are you, Faceless Ancient? Do you have a backer in the Unique Plains? It seems I have to break some rules and contact the Dark Duke!'

"Hahahahaha... you exceed my expectation again!"

Wanton laughter boomed in a state-of-the-art lab filled with high-tech equipment and hundreds of glass tanks filled with test subjects. In the middle of this lab was a tiny figure in a lab coat while a protection of star watch was in front of it.

"If you were a mere thorn in their eyes, now you become an unneglectable mountain. New winds are brewing in the Epic Plains like never before...hahahaha"

Jacob was fully aware of what kind of tremor this revelation would cause in the Epic Plains. Furthermore, people would also be aware of the fact that magic was not as supreme as they thought it was.

Yet despite knowing all this, he still dared to reveal the White Sun Missile. He wanted to achieve two effects with it. The first one was the reevaluation of his status, and the second was the intent behind this technology.

If those guys thought of him as mere prey before, now they would think of him as a predator who can't be taken lightly just because he has no background. In fact, people will start to think he had a backer who was not from the Epic Plains and thought ten times before messing with him.

They will start to treat him like the three leaders of the hegemonies or even higher. Once this was achieved, most of the people would instantly back down, and the threat to him would be greatly decreased.

But once his second objective was achieved, which he knew it would, many possibilities will be open for him.

Just like now, as his inbox flooded with messages after the White Sun Missile was exposed.

But like usual, he didn't bother to reply to any except the Dark Marquise and the Society Killer since those guys were his biggest targets.

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): Consider me impress Mr. Ancient. You have my full support. May I ask how many White Sun Missiles you have?"

'How many? Heh, did he think it was a toy? I only made three just in case I encounter some monster in the Star Ocean as a last resort. But after encountering that ogre, I understand my own strength matters the most, and these weapons are only good in the hands of a power to keep each other in check.

'Furthermore, these guys might've not known right now, but there are many methods to render these bombs useless. By the time they will discover them, I will have already exploited them.

'Only this sort of weapon can make them yield and give away the hidden knowledge which will make me stronger while they will be busy creating more of them...' Jacob smiled coldly as thought with amusement.

He was taking full advantage of the Epic Plains' lack of awareness against a nuclear warhead. Furthermore, he was pretty sure that the Alchemy Guild might've been aware of their weakness but refrained from telling the public because of their monopoly on knowledge.

Now that Monopoly was biting them back, he would reap benefits from it big time. So, he replied.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): I'm glad you made your decision. But the White Sun Missile is hard to make. But if you can make an offer I can't refuse, I'll gladly work tirelessly."

Then he opened the society killer's message.

"The Society Killer (Reply): Brother Ancient, how can you hide such a precious toy from your brother? With this, we can annihilate the entire Killer Skull Society without even lifting a finger!"

"Faceless Ancient to (The Society Killer): I've told I'm not a saint. Just made an offer on the post, and we'll talk about it further. Don't waste my time!"

Jacob hadn't demanded some random magic scripture but rare ones which could grant him abilities or help him further research the magic. This was his goal, and he knew only hand full people should have this sort of scripture.

Furthermore, the Water Element wasn't that rare, so it shouldn't be that difficult either, and this would also create an illusion that he was a water element magic user.

A reply instantly came.

"Timeless Dark Tree (Reply): Is that so? I can definitely do that. So, let's discuss the White Sun Missile in the post. I have a Magic Ability Scriptures of the Water element. What do you think?"

'As expected of the Dark City Ruler.' Jacob thought, but an astute smile appeared on his face.

"Faceless Ancient to (Timeless Dark Tree): Instead of making your offering here, please place a bid on the auction post, and if I like, I'll naturally make the exchange. I'm a very fair person, so I would like to give everyone a chance to compete. As for our personal business, let's discuss it after this auction ends!"

At this moment, the second reply came.

"The Society Killer (Reply): Tsk, alright, I have a Water Magic Ability Scripture."

Jacob sneered and copy-pasted the same message he sent to the Dark Marquise and sent it to the Society Killer as well!

Chapter 430: The Final Biddings of Post 5 (1)

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 1 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Basic Epic Grade), 10 Magic Spell (Scanned: Water Type: Basic Epic Grade) (See Hidden Details)

"New Bid from Anonymous12 (Star ID: Giant Disdain): 1 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Intermediate Epic Grade) (See Hidden Details)

"New Bid from Anonymous1029732 (Star ID: PoorPot): 1 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Intermediate Epic Grade), 3 Magic Spell (Scanned: Water Type: Intermediate Epic Grade) (See Hidden Details)

...

A few minutes after the auction post, Jacob looked at bidding and couldn't help but muttered bitterly, "These guys are really hiding many good things..."

Although he was expecting a massive response, but he wasn't expecting so many people to have Magic Ability Scriptures related to water elements. Furthermore, they were all real, as he could easily see their pictures and details through hidden information.

Additionally, through the scan, the Star Network can easily appraise or predict their ranks.

'If I could get them all...' Jacob's eyes shimmered with greed before it vanished, 'I need to realist here. They are only taking out these precious scriptures because they are still unaware of the flaws of having a projectile atomic weapon. So, I need to acquire a good deal from this, and then I should sell the reaming two to Dark Marquise and the Society Killer if they were able to give me a good deal.'

At this moment, the hegemonies finally made their move.

"New Bid from Anonymous2218 (Star ID: Amiable Monk Fish): 1 Magic Evolution Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Advanced Epic Grade), 1 Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Intermediate Epic Grade)

"New Bid from Anonymous145839 (Star ID: New-Star-of-Dawn): 1 Magic Evolution Scriptures (Scanned: Water Type: Advanced Epic Grade), 1 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Intermediate Epic Grade), 10 Magic Spell (Scanned: Water Type: Advanced Epic Grade) (See Hidden Details)

"New Bid from Anonymous132 (Star ID: Might-of-Destruction): 1 Magic Evolution Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Advanced Epic Grade), 1 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Intermediate Epic Grade), 1 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Casting Type: Basic Epic Grade) (See Hidden Details)"

Gunnar's bid instantly drew Jacob's attention when he saw the second magic ability scripture (MAS). He quickly opened the hidden details of that casting type MAS.

"[Hidden Details: Magic Ability Scripture (Star Data File/NOT Physical Copy)

"Ability Name: Voiceless Casting

"Ability Ranked: Basic Epic

"Ability Type: Casting

"Ability Class: Combat/Sorcery

"Ability Description Based on Evaluation: You will be able to learn the ability to cast without voice making your spell casting ten times quicker and more difficult for your opponent to predict your spell!!]"

'Interesting, as expected of the Chairman of the strongest hegemony...' Jacob's eyes lit up as he knew the peril involved in mumbling the long spell. If someone cuts off your voice, you will be instantly vulnerable. This was the biggest flaw of voice casting, the most basic method.

That was probably the biggest reason for less magic use in the Rare Plains.

But he wasn't swayed by just as he knew people still were hiding their hands and his two 'friends' didn't even make their move yet.

However, the next bid not only outbid Gunnar's massive bid, but it almost made Jacob astonished and almost accept it in a heartbeat.

"New Bid from Anonymous19393 (Star ID: Apocalyptic-S): 1 Universal Magic Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Advanced Epic Grade) (Hidden Details)"

Jacob quickly opened the hidden details.

"[Hidden Details: Universal Magic Scripture (Star Data File/NOT Physical Copy)

"Universal Scripture Name: The Water Render

"Universal Scripture Rank: 1-Star Magic Core to 9-Star Epic Magic Core

"Universal Scripture Class: Sorcery

"Universal Scripture Element: Water

"Universal Scripture Abilities: 1. Water Rend, 2. Water Escape

"Description Based on Evaluation: A Water-type Universal Scripture etched with two must-have water-type magic abilities. The first ability will be active at Star Magic Core while the Second will be active at Star Epic Magic Core Rank!]"

'The clown society sure is hiding their depth...' Jacob's eyes shimmered, looking at the universal scripeter, but a hint of uncertainty surfaced soon after, 'Although this is a universal scripture, how do I know I can

cultivate it? My water magic core is not normal, and I don't even know if it will evolve or if my magic orbits will be able to adjust according to these two abilities directly or do I need to regress my magic core...'

It was Jacob's first time coming in contact with a universal scripture, and only now did he was able to think of these problems. He never wanted the Magic Evaluation Scripture because he knew it might not work on him at all.

The Magic Ability Scripture didn't have anything to do with the magic core itself but the Magic Orbits, so he was sure that he should be able to learn them. But the Universal Scriptures were quite unique as they followed a strict path of both magic evaluations and then granted magic abilities.

This a completely new territory for Jacob, and he has no idea how he should proceed. But it wasn't like he wasn't willing to experiment. On the contrary, if he could get a universal scripture, he could learn many things about his special core.

So even if there was a chance that scripture might not work, it was still worth researching and erasing many doubts that he had.

Furthermore, the bidding was far from over. The importance of the White Sun Missile was now even more clear in everyone's eyes. Even S-0 has taken out a precious universal scripture, so how can the three leaders of the hegemonies didn't know this?

A few moments later, a bid was made, completely outbidding S-0.

"New Bid from Anonymous132 (Star ID: Might-of-Destruction): 10 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Water Type: Advanced Epic Grade), 5 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Enhanced Type: Intermediate Epic Grade) 3 Magic Ability Scripture (Scanned: Casting Type: Basic Epic Grade) (See Hidden Details)"

Although there wasn't a universal scripture, the star network judged this astonishing bid above the Water Render Universal Scripture!

Jacob smiled like a devil, 'I should've expected it. The biggest collection of fighting-related knowledge is in the hands of the Zodiac Warrior Alliance. This prick might not even be trying right now!'