

Gacha 631

Chapter 631 Sherry's Evolution

The next day, Alex woke up inside the small hut that he made out of rock yesterday. He had all the furniture inside his Inventory, so even though the hut was made of rock, the inside was fairly comfortable.

He looked at Sherry on the bed, who, for an unknown reason, turned into her original form. Alex couldn't help but smile, looking at this cute little fox.

Turning around, Alex looked at the door he sealed with a curtain. He came out and searched for Kyle and Stina, only to find them still cultivating. However, they opened their eyes as soon as Alex came as if they knew everything.

Stina greeted Alex with a bow while Kyle smiled at him. "Congratulations, Master."

They didn't specify what the congratulations were for, but Alex somehow realized it wasn't for his advancement to Martial Monarch, but more to Sherry. He thought for a moment and said, "I will be with you guys for a couple of days until Nelson informs me."

Stina smiled and added, "And spend more time with Sherry."

Kyle didn't say anything. He might have some knowledge about it, but not experience. Rather than having embarrassed himself in front of Alex and Stina, he chose to stay quiet.

"Yeah," Alex admitted it boldly. He had a principle to stay as a human and rejected all those blood that might turn him into something other than human, but he never once thought it was wrong to have another being to be his wife. Although it was unofficial as they didn't have any ceremony or whatsoever, he regarded Anna, Anya, and Sherry as his.

"Master, we have a request." Kyle suddenly broke his silence, looking at Alex with a serious face. "Stina and I wish to stay here for the time being. I know that Master will go to another place after this and might only come back after a couple of months, but I am afraid that I need to stay here and cultivate to follow Master's cultivation speed."

This was the consensus of Stina and Kyle. Having a deep slumber shortened the distance between Alex and them. Stina, who woke up earlier, only managed to reach 2-Star not long ago while Sherry and Kyle were at the peak 1-Star Martial Monarch Stage. If they spent too much time outside, they were afraid Alex would be too strong for them.

Usually, they would have a few starts gap and helped him many times. The moment they lost that advantage would be the day they were useless... or so they thought.

Alex never cared about it, but he also respected their decision. They were his contracted beasts and his partners, not his slaves. Even if they were his slave, like Letizia, he would still think the best for them. That was why when they asked this, Alex had no need to think about the answer.

"Alright. I always hope the best for you."

Kyle and Stina bowed their head in unison. "Thank you, Master."

"Yes," Kyle and Stina answered without hesitation. They had discussed this matter earlier and thought Alex might be angry and forced them to enter it with him. As he said earlier, Alex just wanted the best for them. In that case, they only had one answer.

Alex nodded. "I will move forward with every step you take."

"Anyway, you guys can have some time first. I need to check Sherry." Alex turned around and waved his hands. He walked back to the hut and sat on the bed as he looked at this adorable fox.

However, when he was about to touch her, Sherry suddenly released a pink flame. Alex pulled his hand back out of reflex, not knowing what happened. He activated his Spirit Eyes and found out that there was a blazing red flame inside her body.

"What is this?" Alex narrowed his eyes and remembered the knowledge he learned from the Golden Lightning Tribulation. 'It should have the information about Celestial Fox, right?'

He closed his eyes and roamed his memory for almost half an hour before finding the information. The knowledge inside his brain was still messed up as he had yet to sort them out.

"Let me see..." Alex read through the information and muttered to himself. "It seems Sherry is undergoing another evolution. Celestial Fox has a hard time finding its mate because they are not worthy of their power. However, if they do find a mate, there are a few possibilities that will depend on their partner.

"If their partner is weaker, a seed of Celestial Fox's Fire will go inside their partner and nurture the Fire Energy inside their body. The original Celestial Fox will be weakened in due time. Of course, this condition will only appear if they have a life and death contract because the Celestial Fox has trusted them with their lives. Even if they are weakened, their partner will surely protect them. There are some rare cases where the partners of the Celestial Fox after acquiring their talent, but it is still rare.

"If the Celestial Fox doesn't trust them with their life, the Fire Seed wouldn't appear in the partner's body. This is one and crucial future to have the Celestial Fox not wanted by those power-hungry people.

"On the other hand, if their partner is stronger, the same will happen but on the Celestial Fox's body. There is only Pure Fire that has this qualification. The Pure Fire seed inside the body will nurture the Celestial Fox's fire. It may not have the same level of Pure Fire, but it will be very close to the point the Celestial Fox wouldn't feel a single elemental suppression from a Pure Fire user. It may allow them to battle against any Pure Element without being at a disadvantage."

Alex finished recalling his memory and could say that he was satisfied with Sherry's condition. "I see. Sherry is going to have my fire... But my Pure Fire has been strengthened to the level that can make other Pure Fire ashamed?? Doesn't it mean Sherry's fire will have more improvement? In fact, she may get to Pure Fire level..."

There was only joy filling his heart when he thought about it. According to the knowledge, it would depend on their partner, which was him. The only one that qualified was Pure Fire, while he was one level higher than them. If Pure Fire could make Sherry close to it, his fire would allow Sherry to surpass that level. He didn't have concrete evidence, but the probability was high.

"I see... Sherry might become a Pure Fire user as well. No, it can be said she would be the one and only Celestial Fox that has Pure Fire." Alex closed his eyes, letting the happiness creep in his heart. Suddenly, he remembered another thing. "Pure Fire?"

Anxiety replaced all of his happiness in a split second when he remembered the Phoenix Seed. When having intercourse, Alex sealed his Pure Fire inside his Fire Phoenix Seed. He was afraid that it would affect Sherry and might even downgrade her flame. Sherry might not mind it, but Alex still wanted the best for her.

He activated his Spirit Eyes and checked his Fire Phoenix Seed inside his body, only to be shocked again by its disappearance. Out of reflex, Alex took out his fire and opened his eyes wide when he saw the fire. "This... This is my Pure Fire... Not my Phoenix Fire."

He channeled Spiritual Energy inside him to find the seed even though the answer was already apparent. Although he didn't want to admit, the seed was already inside Sherry.

Tears slowly formed on the corner of his eyes, and guilt began filling his heart as he looked at Sherry. "Sherry... I'm sorry... I'm sorry."

Alex still remembered the last time tears came out of his eyes. It was when Firia came to the Upper World and left him. And Sherry had become one of his heart's weak spots. If he somehow weakened Sherry by his own hand, the guilt will always be in his heart.

"I'm sorry, Sherry." Alex knelt on his knees in front of Sherry while slamming the bed. "I'm too careless... I should take a look at this knowledge first!"

"If I'm not... If I..." Alex clenched his hands while looking at Sherry.

Suddenly, his Spirit Eyes noticed something strange. What he saw was indeed his Phoenix Seed, but inside that seed was his Pure Fire. He didn't notice this because the Pure Fire had regenerated inside his body the moment the Phoenix Seed integrated with Sherry's body.

"This..." Alex dropped his jaw to the ground. "This... my Pure Fire is still there. Now that I think about it, the Phoenix Seed is storing Pure Fire while releasing the Phoenix Fire, right? If Sherry can melt that Phoenix Seed, will she get my Pure Fire?"

There was still hope in his eyes, and the only way to prove whether it was good news or not was to wait until Sherry woke up. This was the problem he created; he bore the responsibility to see it to a proper conclusion.

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A few days later,

Alex still sat in front of Sherry, not taking away his eyes for even a second. He had no mood to cultivate these few days since this matter was more important to him.

Unfortunately, disappointment filled his heart as the seed had no sign of fusing or melting.

At this time, Sherry's body slowly turned into her human form, revealing her naked figure, and before long, she gradually opened her eyes.

"Master?" Sherry looked at him with fuzzy eyes as she slowly rose from the bed.

"Sherry..." Alex wanted to apologize, but the words stuck on his throat. One part of him wanted to explain the problem, but another part told him to wait until she discovered it first.

"Master... Why do you have anguish in your face? I just want to tell you about good news." Sherry stretched her hands to his cheeks and smiled.

"Good news?" Alex's body shook.

"Yes." Sherry retracted her hands before raising one in front of him. Her palm was on the top as a pink fire appeared on her hand.

"This..." Alex widened his eyes. The flame looked like her usual flame, but Alex could feel it... the feeling of Pure Fire. "This Fire is at the same level as my Pure Fire... The first time before the awakening and the evolution."

"Yes. I don't know why, but Master's Fire came inside him and refined my fire into something like this." Sherry nodded before smiling uncontrollably. "I have another surprise for Master, though."

"Another surprise?"

"Yes." Sherry nodded and closed her eyes for a few seconds before the flame on her hand blazed intensely.

"This... This..." Alex dropped his jaw to the ground. How could he not? The fire turned into his Pure Fire that had evolved.

"Actually, I want to apologize to Master for stealing your Phoenix Seed. However, the seed seems to have turned into something else. This seed can produce a little amount of Master's current Pure Fire and let me use it for a period of time."

"That's it!" Alex looked at the seed once more and noticed the difference. He hugged Sherry tightly.

"Your Pure Fire has really turned into Pure Fire, and you can even use my evolved Pure Fire!"

"Yes." Sherry nodded, not knowing why Alex had such an exaggerated reaction.

"I'm glad... I'm truly glad!"

Sherry didn't know why he reacted like this, but hugged him and stroked his back when she felt his hand shaking. Although she didn't know whether she could give a Sacrificial Element to someone, she knew she would be more useful to Alex. Yet, she couldn't be fully happy because Alex had no way to prevent his Pure Fire from being found out.

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"I'm glad."

Alex finally released her after a while. "I thought my Fire Phoenix Seed might weaken you."

"What do you mean, Master?" Sherry tilted her head, confused by his words. She just got the exact opposite of that to the point she could proudly say she had become overpowered.

Alex forgot that Sherry had no knowledge about a Celestial Fox. She knew she was one of them, but that was it. He explained everything he knew to Sherry and the danger that might befall to her.

After a few minutes, Sherry only smiled. "If that is all, I don't mind. I have a dream, and that dream has been fulfilled. Even dying right now is fine-"

Alex put his hand on her mouth, looking at her with anguish. "Don't say that again!"

Sherry was startled when he stopped her from talking, but she didn't know her words actually hurt him in the process. She looked down, feeling guilty. Even her ears tilted down and her tail curled up. "I'm sorry."

"You are one of my most important people. After going through that betrayal, I have been skeptical about it. I want to be sure I don't make the wrong choice again, and once I make a decision, it will stay forever." Alex smiled sadly before retracting his hand. "So, don't say it like that."

"Yes. I won't say it again." Sherry nodded furiously.

"Alright. We shouldn't linger around this topic again." Alex raised his hand as he noticed the awkward situation. "Nelson is going to inform me tomorrow or the day after. I have told Stina and Kyle that I want to bring them there if I can use the Soul Altar with all of you. If I can't, you can stay here and cultivate. What do you think?"

"I agree with it." Sherry nodded. "I have no problem in staying since I also want to get used to my current fire... That's right. Since I have a Pure Fire, how about Master teaching me the technique to evolve my Pure Fire? In that case, I won't need to rely on the Pure Fire inside the Phoenix Seed again."

Alex thought for a moment and nodded. The Fire God didn't say he couldn't teach anyone about this. Besides, if he had a disciple that had Pure Fire as well, he might want to make the legacy exist. In that case, it would be better for Sherry to learn the technique too. However, he found one problem.

"Sherry... Although it's temporary, you can use my evolved Pure Fire right now. I think you need to learn the new technique I have got from the system first. It's a technique called Fire Authority..."

Alex began explaining about the Fire Authority, convincing Sherry to first learn this technique before evolving her fire.

"I see. Master wants me to increase my attack power first. After all, I can temporarily use that Pure Fire. After mastering the technique, I can begin my other training." Sherry thought for a moment. "I understand. I will go according to Master's plan."

"Thank you, Master." Sherry put a wide smile.

"Since you are alright, I'm going out first. Besides, you should put on clothes." Alex turned around and left.

Outside, the system suddenly informed him.

[Host, Nelson is calling you.]

"Why is the timing so perfect?"

[It's not perfect. I'm just waiting for you until you finish your business with Sherry.]

"..." Alex was speechless and asked with a weird face. "Don't tell me... He has been contacting me for a few days..."

[No. It is coming from this morning, where you are too focused on Sherry. If you are not awakened in another few hours, I will still give you the notification.]

"Oh." Alex let out a sigh of relief. "Alright. Thank you, System."

[You're welcome.]

Alex took out Nelson's card from his Inventory. "I'm here."

"Young Master, Zekhram is going to start the refining tomorrow. If you want to ask about the Soul Altar and watch him, it will be better to ask today." Since Lin Xingzhi informed him about Alex's condition before, he cut to the chase.

"Alright. I will go right now." Alex nodded.

"I have also understood the reason for your Lightning Tribulation that somehow goes berserk. You might want to ask Atlas for the details."

"Noted."

"Then, I'm waiting for you."

"Sure." Alex then tossed the card into his Inventory before going to Sherry, who was still in the hut. "Sherry. I'm going."

Sherry was putting on her clothes while humming, showing her mood right now, and Alex's sudden appearance startled her for a second. She answered out of reflex, "Ah, yes. Have a safe trip."

Alex nodded and created a teleportation array for him. It only took him a few minutes to arrive as he grabbed the hammer and went through the barrier.

Atlas opened a portal to his palace as if he had been waiting for him.

Alex went through the portal, only to find Zekhram, Atlas and Nelson gathering in this room.

Atlas rose from his seat and greeted him. "Welcome. I have heard about your wish to let the other cultivate as well. I myself have no problem with this request... However, I wish for you to listen to this first before coming into a conclusion."

Alex furrowed his eyebrows before looking at Nelson. He should have gotten the answer from Nelson if it was this easy, then the story must cause a bit of a problem on their side. "Sure."

"If I'm not wrong, you had your advancement a few days ago, correct?"

"Yes."

"Although I don't have prior knowledge about this Lightning Tribulation thing, I know that it must have a connection with the accident a few days ago." Atlas nodded.

"Ho." Alex opened his mouth in astonishment, not expecting him to say something about this.

"As you might know, the Soul Altar is hosting both soul and energy. The weapons need the soul while the energy goes to you..." Atlas paused for a moment, creating suspense. "A few days ago, the Soul Altar suddenly experienced something that no one had ever seen before. The souls were rampaging and protecting the tower while the energy within the tower was expended."

"Do you mean the tower doesn't have the energy right now?"

"No." Atlas shook his head before telling the story again. "At that time, the energy was concentrated on top of the tower before shooting it to the sky, piercing the sky as the cloud circled around the laser. It looked like a massive hole in the sky. However, this was something normal as the phenomenon would occur every time we called lightning.

"The difference was in the souls. We didn't know why the souls actually guarded the Altar, and I felt the agony within the soul at that time. It was like they were angry at Heaven and attacked it with the Soul Altar. I couldn't stop it because it was too powerful for me until one time it abruptly stopped..."

"So you were telling me that my Lightning Tribulation was actually attracting the wrath from the soul and made them shoot energy to the sky. My Lightning Tribulation got stronger because of that and almost killed me. It only stopped because I had finished my Lightning Tribulation?" Alex released his energy.

Atlas nodded as he could understand his frustration. He had heard the full story from Nelson and arrived at this conclusion. He had a mixed feeling about this. On one hand, Alex was the one that actually attracted such a thing. If he didn't undergo his Lightning Tribulation, he shouldn't have a problem like this. On the other hand, he was ashamed of his lack of knowledge. He didn't know the Soul Altar would experience something like that even though he took pride as the most knowledgeable being in this realm.

Alex also had a mixed feeling. He knew he was in the wrong, but all the frustration suddenly came into his heart when he realized the problem. He was angry at himself because he didn't know such a thing. However, Alex was very thankful for that opportunity as he only managed to advance to Absolute Blade Saint because of that incident. The life and death problem forced his potential to bloom.

"Alright... We shouldn't discuss this any further." Alex shook his head.

"Yeah." The two leaders agreed with each other and ended the conversation before a fight broke out.

"Anyway, I still haven't understood why I need to know about this problem before inviting others to-!" Alex suddenly fell into deep thought as he was enlightened. He closed his eyes and sighed. "I see."

"Yeah. The Soul Altar had depleted too much energy a few days ago." Atlas nodded.'

"If I absorb it alone, I can increase my strength greatly. Otherwise..." Alex sighed. "I understand the problem. I still choose to share it with the others."

Atlas and Zekhrum were stunned for a second. Atlas couldn't help but look at Nelson. He had told him that Alex would choose to share it no matter how small it was without hesitation. After all, it was his

nature. Still, seeing the real person said it really amazed him. He thought, 'If he is truly such a person, then it is really the right choice to put the trust on him.'

After getting his answer, Atlas continued. "According to the current energy, you can get into 3-Star Martial Monarch without a problem... or 4-Star probably. But... You have chosen to share it with the other three people. If I need to predict it, all of you can only advance a star before I need to seal the rest of the energy. I need to use it to destroy the Soul Altar itself."

"I understand." Alex had no reservation for this since he had a deal about this previously.

"One more thing." Atlas raised his index finger. "I hear you want to watch Zekhram working on your two weapons, correct?"

"Yes." Alex nodded. "I'm curious about it. Although I'm not mastering this field, I have some knowledge about this."

Atlas glanced at Zekhram, who looked down as if he pondered something. Suddenly, Zekhram looked up with a serious face as he asked. "I normally don't have someone to watch when I'm refining weapons, but I can make an exception for you. Of course, you need to understand the basic information first. Seeing you are knowledgeable about it, how about answering one question of mine?"

"Sure." Alex nodded.

"Just answer it in general. If I recast a Soul Weapon, what will the process be? For example, will I work on soul first or blood or even the metal first."

The answer came into his mind almost instantly as Alex smiled before answering. "Soul, blood, metal, then Element Gem. I'm not familiar with the Soul Altar, so I can only say up to this point."

"You are correct." Zekhram nodded. "You may watch."

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"You may watch." Having answered him correctly, Zekhram had no choice other than agreeing to his request. The Soul Altar made the process different from the normal one, but considering he had known the general process, he should know how not to bother him.

"Alright." Alex nodded. "When are we going to start?"

There is still a half-day before we can begin."

"I will invite the other first. The process should only take a few hours, and I can use it once you have finished, right?" Alex asked this question to Zekhram and Atlas.

"Yes. You won't have a problem in using the Soul Altar right after." Zekhram nodded.

"There won't be a problem. Though I hope you can stop when I ask." Atlas added.

"Don't worry. Getting another star alone is already enough for me." Alex nodded. Although it was such a shame that the energy had been depleted since he and the others might be able to advance to 3-Star if not 4-Star Martial Monarch had it not interfere with the Lightning Tribulation, Alex had no complaint even if he only got a slight improvement.

"Then, you may call your friends first."

Alex nodded. His schedule in this special realm was really packed to the brim. First, he wanted to watch this refining process before cultivating inside the Soul Altar. After that, he needed to go to Igor, learning about his secret technique. He also needed to create a Phoenix Seed again to hide his Pure Fire.

Then he needed to practice his Fire Authority before exterminating the Black Devil Sect and taking the Blood Gem with him. He would need to give the Blood Gem and solve the barrier. He might need to practice again to reach 5-Star Martial Monarch before coming to Heavenly Continent.

He sighed once before creating a magic circle with a snap of his finger. He then disappeared.

As soon as he arrived inside the barrier again, Alex walked toward Sherry.

Sherry and the others opened their eyes as if they had expected him to come. Sherry was the one to greet him. "Master. How is it? It's fine if we can't, and you should just put the message in the Inventory. You can like write it down and toss it inside."

"Haha... I have a Space Element, so I don't really need to do that. Besides, you can come with me to cultivate." Alex chuckled. He didn't say anything about the situation in the Soul Altar, especially the fact that he could enter 4-Star Martial Monarch if he cultivated there alone. It would just make Sherry and the others feel guilty.

"Really? That's great!" Sherry's thought was pure. She only wanted to get even stronger after achieving the Pure Fire level, wanting to ride this wave.

Stina and Kyle exchanged looks first to come to an agreement before eventually nodding their heads. "Thank you for the opportunity, Master."

Sherry nodded with a smile. "When are we going, Master?"

"Right now." Alex thought for a moment and said. "Sherry also wants to explore the other races, right? It's your opportunity."

Sherry was happy that Alex still thought about it. "Yes."

"Do you need time to prepare?" Alex asked as he looked at the trio.

"No. I don't have anything with me." Sherry shook her head.

"All of our staff is in the Inventory while the private staff is in Stina's Space Ring," replied Kyle while glancing at Stina.

"Yes." Stina nodded. These two had been a couple for a few months already. Stina was quite conservative about it since she wanted Kyle to grow bigger first... Maybe at the level of Sherry.

Noticing that the three of them were ready, they turned into golden light before coming inside Alex's body as usual. Alex then created a teleportation array and disappeared.

All of this only took ten minutes, and when he arrived, Nelson and the others were still there.

Sherry and the others didn't come out first before Alex's called them out. They were afraid that their appearance would be a bother, but it was a different case if Alex was the one to call them.

Zekhram and Atlas dropped their jaws when three people came out of Alex's body. They quickly noticed that these three were not human by seeing their fox ears, tail, or phoenix wing.

Alex thought for a moment and said, "As you see it right now, they are not a human like me. If you are asking whether they are acceptable in the outside world, the answer is no."

Zekhram and Atlas shook their heads. Although it was true that a flash of that thought appeared inside their mind, it was nothing but a pipe dream. Besides, their priority was to go home instead of lingering in this world that had shed so much blood of their brethren.

"There is nothing wrong with them cultivating in the Soul Altar even if they are not a human," Atlas confirmed it first before Alex asked.

Zekhram also warned him. "Though I can only allow you to watch the refining process. As much as I want it, I can't have more than one person to observe me since I might be disturbed."

"Don't worry. I know how we need to concentrate when forging a weapon." Alex nodded with a smile.

"Then, we will meet in this place tomorrow. How about asking Atlas for a place to pass the time." Zekhram pointed his finger to Atlas.

"Sure. I will lead you to your personal rooms." Atlas nodded. They teleported to another place through the runes. Sherry furrowed her eyebrows for a second, but seeing Alex come in, she followed without hesitation.

Surprisingly, Nelson only gave them two rooms as if they knew the relationship. Alex stayed with Sherry while Kyle was with Stina. Only Nelson seemed to have another job to do.

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The next day, the rune also appeared right in front of their door. No one was actually sleeping yesterday, so they noticed this blue gate that suddenly appeared in their room.

Sherry and the others waited inside the throne room together with Atlas and Nelson while Alex followed Zekhram to the Soul Altar.

This might be the first time Alex looked at the Soul Altar from up close.

After going through Atlas's rune, they arrived in front of the Soul Altar. The Altar was made of a bronze-colored stone. He checked his knowledge about this and found out that the name was Silo Stone. This stone made up a majority of this Altar. It was a rank 6 stone, and he somehow remembered that this stone would release yellow miasma when it was mined.

The mine that became the place to live for Dwarfs flashed in his mind. "Ah... So they mined this stone inside that... No wonder."

Alex entered this cone-shaped Altar and found nothing underneath this giant tower except forging tools.

"There should be some equipment inside this tower, but it has lost its purpose, so Atlas removed it not long ago since I need to use it," Zekhram explained the reason behind this emptiness.

Alex nodded his head before retreating a few meters from him and leaning on the wall. "I will be watching you from here. Is that alright with you?"

"Yes." Zekhram nodded since Alex even removed his presence.

He began focusing on the weapons as he closed his eyes and took a deep breath. He placed the Sword on a metallic table. If Nelson were here, he would surely recognize this table as he had seen it in Zekhram's workshop.

Beside his table was a podium that held a blue orb on top of it. Zekhram placed his hand on it before blue lights began enveloping the orb.

Alex observed the orb carefully and noticed a single blue line running through the podium. It reached the group and activated the runes inside it. From that one single spot, the blue lines spread like wildfire before going through the Soul Altar's wall.

"It is activating..." Alex felt it coming when the blue lines reached the wall. It caused a chain reaction as the blue lines inside the wall lit up completely.

He looked up while activating his Spirit Eyes and noticed there was a concentrated green aura on the top of the tower, specifically what he considered as a hat previously.

That spot began shining and sent a single flash of light toward the Sword. Suddenly as if it had been awakened, a white light appeared and gradually turned into a dragon.

Roar!

The dragon roared and vibrated the entire Altar. There was no change of expression on Zekhram's face and just pinned the Sword down on the metal table.

A few white balls descended from the 'hat' and flew toward the dragon's mouth. Alex furrowed his eyebrows and realized what the white balls were. 'Is that a wisp of a soul? They look like the Sword and Spear consciousness I faced back then.'

The dragon ate those white balls until it roared once again. This was the signal for Zekhram to start his refining.

A bottle of blood suddenly appeared on his hand as he splashed it on the Sword. Zekhram touched the blood and made a pattern on the Sword. Alex couldn't recognize this pattern even with his knowledge, so he stored this rose-like pattern in his memory.

At the same time, the dragon somehow felt the nourishment from the blood and let out another roar before starting to eat those souls again. It continued for a few minutes as the blood slowly got sucked into the Sword.

Only after a few minutes, the dragon finished his meal and flew back to the Sword. Alex squinted his eyes as he saw Zekhram taking a red-colored metal out of his Space Ring.

He put the metal on top of the Sword before inserting them into the furnace. The blazing red-colored flame engulfed these two as if it was alive and slowly heated it up to the melting point.

After a few minutes, Zekhram took it out and hammered them a few times to fuse them. However, he put them back inside the furnace after only ten hits.

Alex thought he could go longer, but he only had knowledge about it. The theory might not be applicable this time due to the Soul Altar. He kept waiting for three hours as Zekhram repeated the same thing over and over again.

'This is right. Forging is really repetition.' Alex sighed, recalling how his teacher, Dean Marco, taught him forging. He kept hammering the metal again and again for a few hours, making him bored a little bit. It wasn't like the pills where he didn't need to take a long time.

And only after another hour, Zekhram began the next step.

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Zekhram finished the longest step of this process. The metal he fused just now had a fire attribute that could contain the Magma Cream that he would insert later. In order to do that, he still needed one more process.

Touching the blade once again, the blood that had been absorbed earlier resurface once more. However, he had no intention of using the gentle way again. Instead, he raised his hammer and slammed it down on the blood. Each strike contained his strongest power that somehow shook the ground underneath.

Surprisingly, the energy from the blood started to fuse with the new metal. Alex watched this carefully with his Spirit Eyes and observed the fusion between yellow energy from the metal and red energy from the blood. The red energy spread around the yellow and dyed them in their color like a poison.

According to his knowledge, there would be a clash between these two energies. Yet, not even a spark of Spiritual Energy appeared in this refining process. Alex couldn't help but smirk. 'As expected from a planet that contains a unique forging technique. Even my memory doesn't record such a technique... Or is it a special technique that was created not long ago?'

The thought wouldn't go away, making him want to ask. Luckily, he could calm the excitement down as he continued to observe for another hour before the two energies finally fused into a single red color.

As he answered Zekhram previously, the next process would be fusing the Magma Crystal. There were two possibilities to fuse it, but Zekhram used the second way. Instead of creating a hole in the sword to insert the Magma Crystal and combined the energy with the sword, Zekhram raised his hammer and crushed the Magma Crystal into pieces.

He didn't stop there and hit it a few more times. It slowly turned into smaller pieces before Zekhram put it inside a huge bowl where he could grind this stone down into dust.

Zekhram poured the dust onto the sword before he burned the sword again. After it started to melt, he struck it again a few times before pouring another wave of Magma Crystal. This process was repeated a

few times, like the fusing metal part. Luckily, he only needed to do it for less than thirty minutes until the powder fused completely with the sword.

He once again fused it with the blood by hammering them a few times.

After that, he re-summoned the Dragon Soul. Red energy from the sword began to appear around the dragon as it flew toward the dragon's mouth. Another feast began, but it was to fuse the entire energy with the dragon instead of feeding it. Meanwhile, Zekhram squinted his eyes and placed his hand on the crystal behind the smithing table, even though the dragon had yet to finish devouring the energy.

The tower glowed once again as the blue light appeared on top of the tower like a few days ago. The power of that energy could be felt even at his position.

Alex thought for a moment and ended up walking outside the tower. The tower itself wasn't that big, so he could still barely see what happened inside even from outside.

The tower shone brighter as it suddenly shot out blue light to the sky. The same thing a few days ago happened once again. Dark clouds began gathering on top of the tower and circled around it, creating a hole in the sky that looked like a portal. Before long, the sound of thunderclap resounded across the region before the blue light abruptly stopped. At the same time, the runes created a portal that connected the top to the beneath the 'hat.'

"This... The lightning will strike at that spot and send the lightning inside. The lightning will strike at the sword?" Alex predicted what would happen next.

Rumble!

"It's coming!" Alex narrowed his eyes as the cloud released powerful blue lightning and struck at the top of the Altar. Yet, as he predicted, it went through the portal and made its way toward the sword.

Before he knew it, Zekhram already retreated a few meters back as if he needed to protect himself from the lightning.

He thought for a while and realized that the Dragon Soul still stood proudly outside the sword. "Won't it get pulverized by the lightning?"

At the same time, the lightning already struck the sword. Surprisingly, the lightning didn't pulverize the Dragon Soul. Instead, it pushed the Dragon Soul inside the sword as if it was a hammer that hit its head and forced it to go back.

Astonishment flashed in his eyes, and recorded everything of this process. Zekhram slowly walked toward the sword as Alex followed him.

Zekhram lifted the sword up and observed it from the handle to the blade. Normally, he would need to take the blade out of the handle first before refining it. But he noticed that the handle would be able to handle the heat, and doing this would make the handle and blade fused as one.

Alex finally arrived beside Zekhram as he looked at his current rank 8 Sword. *Gasp—!*

The blade itself was black, but the edge was red as if it would melt at any moment. Yet, Alex could somehow see the beauty behind this sword. Coupled with the gray handle, the sword looked very menacing.

Zekhram glanced at Alex and asked him. "If I may, I wish to work on the spear first before naming the weapons and any other things we need to do."

"Sure. It's your call." Alex simply nodded his head and retreated to his previous position.

Zekhram thanked him first before moving to his spear.

The spear went through the same process as the sword. However, it released a Phoenix Soul instead of a Dragon Soul. From raising the soul, casting the blood, and pumping the metal. It took another six hours. While the fusing process from blood, Magma Crystal only took less than an hour. In the end, the spear took the same amount of time as the sword, which was eight hours.

After finishing the two weapons, Zekhram presented the two weapons in front of Alex.

"Although I'm not the one who created this and only recast it, these are still the best weapons that I handle in my life. I'm truly thankful for giving me this opportunity." Zekhram slightly bowed his head. "Can I name these two weapons?"

"Go ahead." Alex stretched his hand and nodded while adding inwardly, 'My naming sense sucks anyway.'

Zekhram was smiling from ear to ear and said. "This sword's name will be Heavenly Dragon Sword. The Dragon Soul inside it has a powerful strength. It might even increase your strength while using this sword, but if I need to compare its sharpness with the spear, it completely obliterates the spear.

"On the other hand, The spear's name will be Undying Phoenix Spear. The Phoenix Soul is vigorous. Although it might not be able to be compared with the sword, it is still sharper than most rank 8 weapons. However, the main feature of this spear is elsewhere. The Phoenix Soul can create a powerful shield that can easily block a Martial Saint's attack."

"Heavenly Dragon Sword and Undying Phoenix Spear..." Alex murmured as he thought, 'If I name these two weapons, it will be like Dragon Slashing Sword and Guardian Phoenix Spear...'

He shook his head as he shuddered upon thinking that cringe name, albeit Zekhram misunderstood his action.

"Is there anything wrong with the name?" Zekhram furrowed his eyebrows, wondering if he made a mistake.

"Ah. I don't have a problem with the weapons." Alex shook his head and changed the topic. "If I am not wrong, I should drop my blood into these two weapons, right?"

"Yes. I don't know why, but the Dragon and Phoenix Souls seems to like you." Zekhram nodded. "I feel only you can possess these two weapons."

Alex cut his hand with his own nails and dripped a droplet of his blood onto these two weapons.

Roar!

Cry!

Suddenly, the two souls came out at the same time as they enveloped Alex's hands. The dragon circled on his right hand while the phoenix perched on his left hand. The two suddenly moved toward his back as if it had its target.

Alex recalled that he had two tattoos on his back, a dragon and a phoenix. These two tattoos shone brightly and absorbed the two souls.

The two weapons suddenly floated as if someone moved it and slowly flew toward Alex's hand, begging Alex to wield them. Alex gripped both weapons, and the energy from the sword began assimilating with his body.

The Magma Cream powder that had been fused with these weapons turned the Spiritual Energy into Fire Element, benefiting Alex greatly. His strength was enhanced, and the flow of energy became clearer as soon as he wielded the two weapons.

"This is the first time I use weapons like this..." Alex exclaimed in astonishment. "Heavenly Dragon Sword and Undying Phoenix Spear, huh... I'm counting on both of you from now on."

Both weapons released their energy as if it was responding to Alex's words. Seeing he had become an Absolute Blade Saint, he felt there was no need to limit himself with the weapons on the same rank. He had been doing this from the start as to prevent himself from being reliant on the weapons' strength.

He recalled that the requirement for Sword God or the last stage of his Absolute Blade Path would require him to reach God Stage first. At that time, everything would turn different from him. The Spiritual Energy would turn into Divine Energy while the Soul evolved into Divine Soul. His Twin Blade Intent... No, it should be called Absolute Blade Intent right now would turn into Divine Intent. At that time, he was required to assimilate the intent with the universe itself.

Alex couldn't understand the latter part, so he skipped that part for the time being. After all, he only needed to know the requirement to reach Absolute Blade God as the latter part would become his reward.

"Go back right now," said Alex gently.

The weapons released a weak Spiritual Energy this time as if it was sad. Nonetheless, Alex still tossed them inside his Inventory.

"Thank you very much. I really like the weapons." Alex thanked Zekhram.

"No, no. I should be the one to thank you for this opportunity. I was stuck in my level previously, but after experiencing this, I have seen the path to go forward." Zekhram smiled as he stretched his hand to Alex.

Alex nodded and shook his hand. "Since we have finished, we need to come back."

"Sure." Zekhram knew Alex was going to cultivate, so he stretched his hand, asking him to walk first.

Both of them then walked back to the castle.

Chapter 635 Cultivation

The two returned to the throne room, finding Sherry and the others a bit bored. They couldn't be blamed as Alex and Zekhram took more than half a day.

"Atlas, we are done here." Zekhram raised his hand, shouting with full vigor. He wasn't like someone who was tired even though his face already showed such symptoms.

Atlas nodded before coming closer to Alex. "Congratulations."

Alex smiled and pointed his finger to Zekhram. "Thank you. It's Elder Zekhram's efforts."

"Since you have finished creating your weapons, will you cultivate right now?" Atlas asked. He purposely didn't ask anything about the weapons as to prevent Alex from thinking he had ulterior motives.

"Yes, if possible."

"Don't worry. The Soul Altar isn't that brittle. You may bring your friends together with you." Atlas then turned to Zekhram. "What are you going to do?"

"I'm going back to my territory to speed up the process back home. We want the spaceship to be ready as soon as possible anyway. Mind take me home?" Zekhram asked.

"Sure." Atlas nodded and turned to Alex again. "That's the situation. You can use the Soul Altar first with your friends. In the meantime, I will bring Zekhram home before observing your cultivation to ensure the Altar has enough energy to self-destruct."

Alex thought for a moment and said. "We will wait for you here."

He was still in Atlas's home, so he felt it was a bit rude just to use it like that.

"I understand. It will take less than ten minutes anyway." Atlas turned to Zekhram and said, "Let's go."

Both of them went outside by using Atlas's Teleportation Rune, leaving Alex and the others in this empty throne room.

"Congratulations, Young Master." Nelson smiled. "Now, we won't be afraid of the Black Devil Sect."

"We are not afraid, but we still need to be careful." Alex corrected him. "Though I wish to learn about Igor's technique first, and I also need to condense another Phoenix Seed. At the same time, I am going to learn the Fire Authority first before attacking their base."

"It's fine. We have calculated that the Black Devil Sect won't come out within a year. On the other hand, Young Master still has more than six months before reaching that one year mark." Nelson nodded.

"Alright." Alex nodded before turning to Sherry, who still felt guilty for taking his Phoenix Fire. He simply patted her head like usual, albeit it was harder for him, considering their height didn't have too much difference now.

Not long after, Atlas had come back through the portal. "I have finished sending him home. Now, you can begin your cultivation."

Alex didn't have any objection and followed him. The rest also walked right behind him.

Alex thought for a moment and asked, "Can I use Gathering Array for this? I mean, it is an array to increase your absorption speed."

"You don't need to, I guess. There is already a rune that has a similar function, so you can be at ease. At the same time, I'm also not confident what will happen to the tower that was full of Runes got intruded by Array. I'm sorry." Atlas shook his head in disappointment.

"Sorry for the idiotic question."

"No, no." Atlas waved his hand left and right, telling it wasn't the case. Alex might know something about Rune, but it didn't mean he was a master in this area. There were many things he needed to learn about it, so it was normal if Alex didn't know something.

Awkwardness filled the atmosphere, so Atlas decided to end it by changing the topic. "Alright. Since you are here, you can go to cultivate."

As soon as he said those words, he disappeared from the Soul Altar, leaving Alex nothing to do other than cultivating. They were inside the workshop from earlier, but all the forging equipment had been taken back by Zekhram, so the room was empty. He exchanged looks with Sherry and the others and nodded before sitting down in a lotus pose.

When Alex began absorbing the energy around, the blue lines appeared again and spread from the ground to the Soul Altar's wall. The top of the tower didn't release a white wisp of soul. Instead, it released something that couldn't be seen, AKA Spiritual Energy. The density of the Spiritual Energy became a few times denser, and Alex felt the Spiritual Energy was easy to absorb.

This was the first experience for him to have absorbed the Spiritual Energy so easily, making it look like a dream.

'This must be the rune Atlas talking about.' Alex answered the doubt inwardly while picking up the speed in his cultivation. Sherry also worked on it with a pace only slightly lower than him, considering her fire had become Pure Fire. 'Should I get another set of medicinal herbs for Sherry? She should be able to cultivate Undying Fire Body now...'

[Of course. You can do it, Host. Let her know the pa- Ahem, I mean, the pain will make her stronger.]

This time the system answered him by talking directly into his mind like the usual. However, Alex shook his head helplessly, not knowing whether he should be happy for Sherry or not. The pain was truly unforgettable, and he didn't want Sherry to get traumatized by it. 'I will ask Sherry after this... After all, I feel that her body alone is equal to me since she is a beast.'

After finishing his train of thought, Alex began his cultivation and absorbed the energy like a black hole. In fact, Sherry and Alex were sucking sixty percent of the rate of Spiritual Energy production by the Soul Altar. Stina and Kyle only got forty percent. Albeit, the time Alex and Sherry spent together, they used it to cultivate. This was why Stina and Kyle could be a little bit stronger than them, so they didn't really mind about taking the less portion.

...

One week later,

The first spark of energy came from Stina as she reached 3-Star Martial Monarch. The second came from Kyle, followed by Sherry and Alex.

Even so, they didn't stop absorbing the energy since Atlas had yet to warn them. Only after another day, Atlas finally came to them and activated the blue lines on the tower. These blue lines went to the top of the tower by climbing the wall, and the production of Spiritual Energy gradually became lesser and lesser until there was nothing more.

In the meantime, Alex also tried to create another Fire Phoenix Seed but to no avail. Every single Fire Phoenix Seed was destroyed by his Pure Fire as if it was revolting. The Pure Fire told him that they didn't want to get inside that inferior seed and burned it into ashes.

Alex couldn't comprehend this. He remembered how Maxwell helped him create the seed, and there wasn't a single restriction. Yet, his Pure Fire was revolting against him right now.

There was only one possible reason he could think at the moment. Considering his Pure Fire was barely awakened in the lower world while this one had even evolved, Alex thought the Phoenix Seed also evolved with him. It was the reason why Sherry could activate the Phoenix Seed and released his Evolved Pure Fire. It even regenerated the Pure Fire.

Whatever the reason, Alex had one thing clear. He couldn't hide his Pure Fire anymore. Alex thought for a moment and resigned to his fate. The Fire God Clan already knew about his Pure Fire anyway, so he didn't mind as the information would surely spread like a fire.

The only problem was how to convince Sherry to make her not feel guilty about this. He couldn't come with a single excuse other than telling the truth, so he would just face it when the time came.

It was the time for Alex and the others to wake up. Alex immediately rose from the floor and clasped his hands respectfully. "Thank you for your help."

"Your welcome." Atlas nodded. "What are you going to do now?"

"I will be staying in Igor's place for a while before training for another few months. Then, I will leave this realm to finish our business." Alex nodded.

"Do you need some help to go to Igor's place?"

"No. I can do it with my Teleportation Array." Alex declined.

"Alright then. I will begin constructing the Rune Stones that you need." Atlas nodded. "See you later."

Atlas then disappeared while Nelson appeared right before Alex. "Young Master. Considering we have finished most of our business in this realm, I wish to ask for your permission to go to the outside world and start helping others."

"Granted. I'm leaving the outside matter to you. Don't forget that we need more information about this battle."

"Understood." Nelson nodded before turning into light.

There was no need for Alex to bring him back to the barrier since the spirits could just summon him by using this card that contained a special Space Magic.

Alex then turned around and asked. "So, what are you going to do? I'm going to train with Igor for the time being and maybe practice my Fire Art elsewhere. I am afraid the fire will burn that tree down."

The tree he was talking about was the portal tree. Although the accident would be low since the fire could be controlled, this technique came from that Fire God, Phitrus, who managed to create this evolved Pure Fire. His technique shouldn't be a pushover either; hence Alex chose to stay away.

"I and Stina will cultivate in that barrier again. I will need to use this time to overtake Master once again since I won't be much help to Master if I'm weaker." Kyle made a pure smile while Stina nodded in agreement.

"What about you?" Alex looked at Sherry.

"I will be with them. I don't know how long Master is going to learn the Sword thingy, so Master can just bring me when you have finished." Sherry smiled.

"Alright. I will do just that." Alex nodded before telling others to enter his body again. After that, he created a Teleportation Array again and dropped them off inside the barrier before going to Igor's place.

He stopped using his teleportation when he arrived in front of Atlas's Rune Stone and proceeded by using his Spatial Gate. Not long after, he opened the gate once again as he had arrived in Igor's house.

"!!!" Igor, not far from that spot, felt the change of energy and thought someone must be in his house. He called out the only person that could create something like this. "Alexander Sirius?"

"Yes. I'm here." Alex said out loud.

After confirming the person, Igor then appeared in front of Alex. *Gasp—!*

"To think you reach 2-Star Martial Monarch this fast. Do you use the Soul Altar to boost your cultivation?"

"I have finished borrowing it today. Only for one star, though."

"Only one star? You do know that the Soul Altar has too much energy, right? Although you won't be able to absorb all of them, reaching 5-Star Martial Monarch should be easy for you."

Alex then began explaining the thing that Atlas told him, and Igor could only sigh.

"Anyway... Considering you are here, you must want me to teach you..." Before he could finish his words, Igor was stunned, his jaw dropped to the ground, and his eyes widened. The feeling of sharpness combined with heat brushed his skin, making him notice that Alex already became a Sword Saint.

"Congratulations..."

"Thank you. It's hard work." Alex nodded.

"So, you want to apply this technique right now?"

"Yeah." Alex nodded. He already lost the Phoenix Seed, so he needed this to make himself look more normal as to avoid problems.

"Alright. You can follow me to the grassy plain a bit farther from this place. No one knows about that place, so we can train peacefully." Igor nodded before pointing in a certain direction. "It's this way."

Alex understood his intention and snapped his finger, creating another Teleportation Array for them.

Chapter 636 Fire Authority

The north of Igor's house was a huge grassy plain. An array appeared out of nowhere, and two people appeared from within.

Alex looked around and could see nothing other than grass. He turned to Igor and asked, "Is this it?"

"Yeah." Igor nodded. "This is the largest one. The grass is also special since it can grow without sunlight. We should be able to learn it without anyone noticing, so no need to restrict your power here."

Alex nodded, even though he was still confused about why he needed to restrict his power.

"First of all, this technique might hide your Intent, but someone with special eyes like yours will be able to see through this technique. Someone even noticed this technique with his senses alone." Igor warned him first. Noticing the hesitation that appeared on Alex's face, Igor smiled. "Don't worry. It won't happen so often. In fact, I only found four people in my entire life... five if I include you."

Alex thought for a moment and nodded. "If that is the case, then I won't need to worry."

"This technique's name is Aura Concealment. The details are as follows..." He began his lengthy explanation. Due to his nature, Igor had difficulty in explaining things with words.

Luckily, Alex's Sword Mastery and Spear Mastery helped him through this process. They somehow reconstructed the sentences into something that could be easily understood.

Alex proceeded with the training according to Igor's instruction. When he was in the right direction, Igor would give a thumb up. In contrast, Igor would be strict when he made a mistake. Alex was hit a few times by Igor, but somehow the progress went even faster and in less than two weeks...

"Can you sense it?" Alex asked as he waved his hand and moved around.

"Barely. I can sense it because I know this technique and know you are using it. If I don't, only special people can do it." Igor nodded with a smile. He was very happy in teaching Alex despite his monstrosity. In fact, it might be the thing that made him happy.

Normally, he would train some youngsters in Animal Tribes, but they made him frustrated. That was why when Alex mostly learned everything from him with a single explanation, he was very satisfied. Knowing that Alex had such a talent, he was convinced that the person in the prophecy was truly different from the others.

Sword, Spear, Array, Space, and Fire. These five were the only thing he knew about Alex, but normal people would only have two of them. They might be called a genius if they had three. As for Alex, he

could only be called a monster in human clothing. Luckily, Igor didn't know anything about Alchemy; else, he might not want to teach Alex because he would feel so inferior.

"Thank you for teaching me this technique, Igor." Alex smiled and thanked him again.

Alex nodded without hesitation. "Don't worry. No one in this world will learn this technique from me, I promise you."

"Then, it's good."

"We shall go home then."

"You can go first. I will stay here for a little longer." Igor declined his offer.

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

Alex waited for a minute before creating a Teleportation Array for himself. He nodded to Igor one last time before disappearing.

On the other hand, Igor fell to the ground while looking at the sky. There was no grass anymore that could soften the impact, but a Martial Saint wouldn't be hurt by something like this.

He looked around and saw the pitch-black charred ground, grasses that had been burned into ashes, and a huge crater. Nothing alive in a one-kilometer radius due to Alex's control. Sometimes, he failed to control his fire and burned everything, sometimes it was his Absolute Blade Intent and cut everything, or when both failed, an explosion would occur, creating something this bad.

Igor raised his hand to the sky and said, "A person like him is very rare in the world. He will create a storm that shakes the whole world since there is no genius capable of hiding their power the whole time. Still, with our fate in his hands, we can relax... We can go home soon..."

Meanwhile, Alex already arrived at the barrier and grabbed Sherry before going to another place. It was in the space between Dwarf territory and Undead territory. Nelson said this place would be safe if he wanted to train.

"We are going to train here."

Sherry looked around, only to find the place was a barren field with some giant boulders around. She could see the open field through the gap between rocks, but she could only see dirt.

"You have read the Fire Authority's manual, right?" Alex asked.

Sherry nodded. "Yes."

"In that scroll, we can activate it by using our flame in that scroll. The time limit is seven months, so we will support each other and learn from each other. If we still have time, we will try to evolve your Pure Fire." Alex took out the scroll while looking at Sherry.

"I understand. I will do my best for Master and me." Sherry nodded.

Alex sometimes furrowed his eyebrows when Sherry still called him Master, but she had gotten accustomed to this, and Alex thought it would be fine since Sherry was alright with it. He could ask his wives about this later.

"Let's go!"

Their practice finally began.

...

One month later,

"Phoenix!" Both Sherry and Alex said at the same time as two phoenixes appeared above their heads.

"Our progress is quite good, right?" Sherry asked.

"Yeah." Alex nodded. "Looking at the situation, we can somehow summon all Fire Phoenix Art with a single command. According to the explanation, we can even summon more phoenixes from our usual limit by the command. At the same time, we need to make them move by a single command while controlling each of them. We need to master these two first."

"That's right. After finishing the internal aspect, we can move to the external aspect. We can start suppressing the enemy with our element in a more efficient way. In fact, we might be able to control their fire element as well." Sherry nodded.

"Yeah. Though I'm sure, it will take a lot of energy." Alex sighed.

"I understand. If our strength difference is too high, we might have exhausted our energy before controlling it."

"Anyway, let's practice again."

"Master... Actually, I wish to ask one thing." Sherry hesitated for a second. "Why haven't you made your Fire Phoenix Seed again?"

'It comes...' Alex's heart skipped a beat, wondering how he should respond to this question. He thought for a moment and said, "I have tried it a few times but to no avail. My speculation is that my Phoenix Seed has evolved together with my Pure Fire. It can regenerate my Pure Fire as well, right?"

"Yes." Sherry nodded before opening her mouth in panic. Sweats began to appear on her forehead as she said, "Master. I-"

Alex shook his head. "Don't worry. I'm not blaming you or whatsoever. Let us think about this carefully. Fire God Clan knows that I have a Pure Fire Element. That information will slowly spread across the Heavenly Continent. At that time, no one will believe that my fire is ordinary. In that case, I'm fine with revealing this now. I am a 2-Star Martial Monarch right now, and I still have the two weapons to let me run away from Martial Saint. Besides, I still have my Space Element as our trump card and my identity as Absolute Blade Saint."

Alex pondered for a moment, but it still didn't manage to cheer her up. Alex then patted her head once more and said, "Besides, you also have a Pure Fire. I prefer to take the front, so they are going after me

instead of you. Maybe it's my pride as a man, or I simply want to protect you. So, let me be selfish, okay?"

Sherry nodded. "I understand. I will surely learn this technique and evolve my Pure Fire. That way, we can even confuse them."

Alex nodded. "Thank you. Now, let us practice again."

"Yes."

The two continued for another month. This month was quite rough because Alex needed to control the Spiritual Energy and Mental Energy simultaneously to summon multiple phoenixes at once. On the other hand, Sherry could somehow master this technique faster than Alex. Even though her Mental Energy wasn't that powerful, she was still a special beast that governed upon the fire.

Alex remembered the tale of Celestial Fox. Its sensitivity was on another level. That was the whole reason why Sherry could save him in the lower world by carrying him for a few days to reach the Acacia Kingdom. He felt a bit challenged by Sherry and practiced even harder and somehow managed to do it after a month of training.

Without resting, they proceeded to the next step, which was controlling the flames. They could summon their Flame Arts and surpass the limit by this Fire Authority. But it would be useless if they couldn't use it to attack or defense.

In this aspect, Alex and Sherry were equal. Sherry had her sensitivity, but Alex had control over the fire that he got from Alchemy. Both of them finished at the same time.

At this time, Alex and Sherry felt something weird. It might be because they had been practicing together or because their fire was at the same level. Nonetheless, they felt unity. The unity between their flames as if they were calling each other.

Alex noticed it when they were cultivating near each other. It felt like the absorption rate became slightly faster. In this end, Alex became closer and closer to Sherry when they were cultivating. According to his memory and system, the moment Alex's Fire Seed went inside her body, they were connected.

In the end, Alex proposed to cultivate together with Sherry until one time, they found a perfect position. Alex and Sherry sat in front of each other and placed their palms against each other. Alex would make his Pure Fire flow to her body and vice versa, allowing them to cultivate faster.

Although it looked slightly like dual cultivation, he needed to cultivate with a pure mind. Besides, they were already (unofficial) husband and wife, so there was nothing wrong about this.

By using this technique, they somehow reached 3-Star Martial Monarch in the fifth month, of course, with the help of Gathering Array. Alex also had finished his training with Sherry in the fifth month.

And when they finally mastered the technique, Alex took the scroll once again. They looked at the single spot where they could put their flame there. However, Sherry and Alex only stared at each other while grinning. Both had realized that this was only a gimmick.

"Master, you should be the one to open it." Sherry smiled from ear to ear.

"Alright." Alex nodded as he channeled his energy to his mouth. "Fire Command. Reveal!"

The scroll glowed as if it was responding to his command. A fire suddenly appeared on the surface of the scroll, burning every single word there.

Not long after, the paper turned blank. There was nothing except a few words that weren't burned. They were aligned vertically, making it very flashy.

Alex and Sherry realized the second word while deciphering the first word.

"Ardenti World."

Sherry looked at Alex, hoping Alex understood these two words. On the other hand, Alex closed his eyes and said, "Ardenti World. It's a world where the fire continuously burns. The temperature there is very high because it's close to the sun. Although it is not suitable for living, it's a nice place for Pure Fire to train themselves. I know the general location, but we can only go there later."

"I see. An adventure again!" Sherry grinned.

"Sure." Alex smiled as well.

"By the way, what are we going to do now, Master?"

"Let's cultivate for another month before leaving this realm."

Sherry nodded.

Chapter 637 - Returning to the Group

One month later, Alex slowly opened his eyes after closing it for a month. His arms got a little tired after cultivating with Sherry the whole time by placing their palms against each other. At the same time, Sherry also opened her eyes along with a smile. "Master." Alex nodded. "I'm sorry, Sherry. A month is not enough to evolve your Pure Fire." "Don't worry, Master. It is better to increase my strength first rather than having a half-assed effort." Sherry nodded before standing up and reaching Alex's hand, pulling him up. Alex nodded. "I'm planning to evolve your Fire after we finished exterminating the Black Devil Sect." Sherry thought for a moment and said, "I leave everything in your hands, Master. No matter how hard I think, I won't be able to come up with a plan like yours." These words slightly astonished him as Alex quickly shook his head. "No. You just need to have more knowledge and experience." Sherry talked as if she already knew she wasn't a match to Alex and this was exactly what he thought in the past. It was the start of his Inferior Complex, so Alex encouraged her to diminish that thought. "You have yet to realize all of your potentials. I believe you can see it in the future, so keep trying." "Un." Sherry nodded. "I will keep trying since I have my whole life to chase after Master." Alex smiled and patted her head for a while before saying, "Let's go then." "Yes." The teleportation appeared once again as Alex and Sherry disappeared from the spot. In front of the giant tree, Kyle and Stina gradually opened their eyes after sensing an aura coming from the front. They quickly rose from the ground and clasped their hands. "It's been a while, Master." Sherry was inside Alex's body since the barrier still blocked any beings other than humans. Alex smiled and nodded his head while checking their progress. Surprisingly, he found out that Stina and Kyle really utilized every single second in the past few months. "To think Kyle has reached 4-Star while Stina has become a 5-Star Martial Monarch," said Alex with his heart full of astonishment. "Of course. Master is going stronger by practicing Fire Authority. We can't learn that

technique as only Pure Fire users are qualified for such a technique. In that case, we can only get stronger by cultivating." Stina answered with a smile. "That's right. At the very least, our Phoenix Fire that has been strengthened by your Pure Fire is enough to balance our fast progress." Kyle added. "We are going to destroy the Black Devil Sect, right?" Stina asked. "Yes. With both of you becoming this powerful, our chance is close to one hundred percent. Anna and the others are also in 4-Star Martial Monarchs with the exceptional few being mostly at 5-Star or 6-Star, especially Leoz, who is now a 7-Star Martial Monarch. At the same time, I have almost two thousand Gacha Tickets right now, so I can raise their levels again." Alex nodded. "Then..." Stina and Kyle nodded at each other before turning into red lights and flying inside Alex's body. Alex nodded and climbed the tree to the place he was teleported for the first time coming here. He waved his hand and sent a wave of Spiritual Energy to activate the array. Unlike runes, the glow of array came in variety with this one shone in red color. A red portal leading to the Blue Layered realm gradually opened. Alex looked back for a moment and saw the Gathering Arrays that he had yet to erase. No one could come here anyway, so he thought about cleaning these arrays out after coming here again for the second time to remove the barrier. As soon as he entered the Blue Layered realm, he waved his hand again, opening the gate to the real world and closing the portal behind him at the same time. The ray of sun shone a little bit brightly on his eyes as if it was burning his eyes. The change between the dark and gloomy realm to the bright and hot world was too much for him. Luckily, he was still surrounded by forest, so the sunlight didn't come to him completely, allowing him to adjust his eyes with this sudden light. Not long after, Alex took out Anna's card and asked. "Anna, I'm here. Where are all of you?" "You can teleport toward the Northeast for a few times before you are inside a vast forest. We are inside there, so you can show us a signal, and we will be there." Anna answered. Alex nodded and rose to the sky, checking the direction before creating the teleportation array. It took him three teleportation arrays to reach the aforementioned forest. Alex shot out a single fire and made it explode after high enough. Three seconds later, Fabio appeared before him and clasped his hands respectfully. "I come to escort you, Young Master." "Aren't you too fast?" Alex twitched his eyebrows. "Or the place is here?" "No. We are scattered around this forest, and I happen to be around. With me finding you here, the others will go to our base... Not really a base, though." Fabio nodded before saying his catchphrase. "It's not like I come here because I want, alright? I just happened to be near." "Yes, yes." Alex shrugged, feeling the nostalgic effect since he hadn't met him for almost a year. "Lead the way." "Understood. This way." Fabio turned around and flew. They flew for a few minutes until they reached a quite huge plain without a single tree in the middle of a dense forest. They descended with every single spirit waiting for him. Alex descended to the ground and smiled. "It's been a while, everyone." Sherry, Kyle, and Stina appeared behind him. Anna glanced at Sherry and grinned. "Yes. We are missing you already." "I have a question. Why do you use this noticeable place as the base?" Alex noticed her expression but chose to ignore it for the time being. "It's simply because there are so many high-level monsters around in this area. In fact, this place is the most deadly place on this continent, considering there are many Martial Monarch monsters around. Not many people come here while we are in the center of the forest. We use this place after killing the forest king." Anna answered. "Oh. I see." Alex nodded. "Besides, not many influences will send their disciples in this turmoil." "Exactly. The continent slowly becomes chaotic, and I'm sure you want to know the information first before having a warm talk, right?" "Yeah. I want to finish this matter as soon as possible." Anna then glanced at Anya in which the latter stepped forward and explained. "The three influences got some clues about the agreement between Ancient Blue Family and Black Devil Sect. Of course, the information came from us, and it was really useful to sow discord on this continent. "The

three influences left the Black Devil Sect to us and the alliance between Second Rate influences while storming inside the Ancient Blue Family to squeeze their money." Anya paused for a moment.? Alex thought the report had ended, so he asked, "So, the Ancient Blue Family won't be able to disturb us at the moment?" "No. I haven't finished the report yet..." Anya let out a sigh. "It seemed the Ancient Blue Family had reported your existence to the main family. At the same time, they caught the wind of your existence from the Fire God Clan and connected the dot. They used this to pacify the three influences and made us the bad guy. "They also messaged the Fire God Clan about your existence. Although they couldn't confirm your existence here, the Fire God Clan still sent out a few people to this continent. Most of them were Martial Monarchs, while the ones leading them were two 5-Star Martial Saints." Alex narrowed his eyes. "So, we are going to fight the Fire God Clan and Blackwade Clan this time?" "You are wrong again." Anya shook her head. "Nicole somehow convinced the Blackwade Clan to break their alliance. At the very least, the Blackwade Clan would stay neutral for the moment. They told Nicole that since they couldn't check your card, they could only stay neutral for two years before choosing one side. This was reported six months ago." Alex looked down and let out a sigh. "I still have one and a half years. Although I don't like how they want me to go there, I can understand their worry. They must still think I'm a scam. One and a half years are enough for me to go there. And there is this immediate threat from the Fire God Clan..." He kept brainstorming the plan for the incoming Fire God Clan before he glanced at Anya and asked with his sharp eyes. "Anya, what is the purpose of this advance party? Aren't they too weak for us?" "We have information about it as well. It seemed they were unsure about this information and sent this weak force to test the water. Of course, having no credibility of their information, Ancient Blue Family gave permission for the Fire God Clan to mobilize their force. This way, the Ancient Blue Family could solve the problem of their family on this continent and got a favor from the Fire God Clan. After all, no one from this continent could stand against 5-Star Martial Saints." "I see. Their intention is not to make an enemy of us. Instead, they want to sacrifice us to get the favor from the Fire God Clan. This can only happen after Blackwade Clan break off the alliance." Alex thought for a moment. "And I don't like this." "Yeah. It will cost us our lives for that favor, so the Ancient Blue Family shall have some pain as well. Though I believe we shouldn't attack this Family just yet, considering it's hard for us to attack both influences at the same time. Of course, it will be different if you get Blackwade Clan and Drunken Pavilion to join the fray." Anya smirked.? "Still, I'm not sure whether I can convince both influences even with Blackwade Clan's Supreme VIP Card and my master's token." Alex was truly tempted to destroy the Fire God Clan while giving some pain to this sneaky influence. "At the same time, I need to watch my back against this Snow White Mountain where Letizia currently is while searching for Senior Sister to know if she is dead or alive. Too many things I need to do on the Heavenly Continent..."? Anya waited for a moment before raising a suggestion. "Actually, I have a plan for this. Fire God Clan has sent this weak force because they have a leeway to lose this much with unconfirmed news. If they confirm it is us, they want to see whether we have the power to kill those 5-Star Martial Saints again. If we can't kill them, they will know we are just a paper tiger with a bit of luck to kill their elders at that time. They will use their full force and come to this continent." "You are right. Their intention should be something along those lines after seeing they only have two Martial Saints with a couple of Martial Monarchs. That is already weird in any case." Alex nodded in agreement. "We will have to respond to them in a kind." Anya smirked, thinking a perfect plan for this. "I wish to use your token to kill these two 5-Star Martial Saints and reinforce their fear against us. We will get the time we need to enter the Heavenly Continent and build a relationship with Blackwade Clan and Drunken Pavilion. "I know that this comes with the risk of having more enemies since the Fire God Clan will surely search for help.

Nonetheless, we will be in the equal ground, unlike this time around." Alex thought for a moment. "I agree with you... When will they arrive?" "Two weeks from now." "We strike at Black Devil Sect right now, then prepare for the incoming people from the Fire God Clan. Anyone have an objection?" Alex declared.

Chapter 638 - Discussion

"We strike at Black Devil Sect right now, then prepare for the incoming people from the Fire God Clan. Anyone have an objection?" No one made the slightest movement, let alone opening their mouth or raising their hands. "Since no one has any objection, we are going to plan the attack on Black Devil Sect." Alex nodded. Noticing the atmosphere became too serious, even though Alex just came back, Anna decided to change the topic. "Alex, how about other topics first? Like Rose or Evelyn, we can even discuss Letizia." Alex glanced at the rest and sighed. "Sure. Tell me about Rose first." "Surely." Anna nodded. "Fire God Clan has started investigating the Northern Continent a few months ago. I have instructed her to hide inside the base until they come back to the Heavenly Continent. Our biggest concern right now is whether they are going to Willow Continent to release their anger on Heavenly Sword Sect or not." "And this is becoming another serious topic..." Alex rolled his eyes away. Anna shrugged. "I am just redirecting the topic since you might attack them as soon as we discuss the plan. On the other hand, we might lessen your desire to go there for at least a day or so." Alex rolled his eyes away. "Do you think I'm not going to recover my Spiritual Energy first?" "That's not what I mean." Anna shook her head before continuing. "Anyway, back to the topic. We can redirect their attention from Willow Continent by killing the weak party they sent to us." "I agree with that plan." Alex nodded. "Alright. We have agreed upon this earlier, so we should talk about Rose. How is her progress right now?" "She has reached 7-Star Martial King within a year since she didn't do anything other than cultivate because of the situation. At the same time, Ngina has been instructing from the shadow to make sure she is progressing in the right direction." "That's good enough for me." Alex nodded. "I should expect her to reach Martial Emperor Stage within half a year." "I will tell Ngina to give that instruction." "Sure. I should give her more pressure to make her progress faster... Though she can't be compared to other peers already..." Alex shrugged. "Indeed. I'm thinking about having her contact the Blackwade Clan, but I'm afraid there might be more conspiracy in the Blackwade Clan. On the other hand, it's not necessarily right to make her contact with the western side like that couple, Ruben and Lucia. I feel like Rose might get more trouble than she is supposed to get." "I can relate to that." Alex nodded. "Sadly, Rose doesn't have a chance to enter the Strength Plateau." Alex sighed. "You broke it back then." Anna grinned as the others chuckled. "Nonetheless, the timing was off, so you could say it was based on luck." "Yeah. Rose can only adapt and search for another inheritance. There should still be some inheritances left on that continent. Ngina can show it to her..." Alex nodded. He had known about the inheritances, but nothing actually intrigued him since they were useless. As for Rose, he thought it would still be useful whether it was for a challenge for her or some kind of reward. "I understand. Although we can spoon-feed her continuously, Rose still needs to grow up." Anna then glanced at Anya to arrange a few tests for Rose. Of course, it was all for later after the Fire God Clan left the continent. "Since Rose is fine at the moment, how about Evelyn?" "Evelyn is doing great in the Drunken Pavilion. She has broken through to 2-Star Martial Emperor since she has enough resources and a teacher to do that, creating a gap with Rose again." Alex furrowed his eyebrows. "Did Old Manness give her something? That speed was certainly not normal..." "Yes. He had given her a few things such as Fire Gem and so on. After having knowledge about sword, that old guy actually taught her

the elemental aspect. It seems her talent was far more amazing than we had expected since her fire actually gave her more boost than the normal speed, thus allowing her to reach 2-Star Martial Emperor in a short time." Anna paused for a moment. "The moment we come to the Heavenly Continent, she might have reached 6-Star Martial Emperor... Of course, this speed will slow down sooner or later." "I see. I never know Evelyn has a talent in her fire. I taught her everything about the sword, but neglected her fire ability." Alex sighed, disappointed in himself. Anna shook her head when she heard this. "That's not exactly right. First of all, you had taught her about your basic sword knowledge... And unconsciously, you taught her about everything related to Sword and Fire. After all, you are a Fire User as well. Evelyn just never practiced, thus halting her own progress. When that old guy opened her fire talent, it made a harmony with her sword that had been ingrained by you and exploded, causing her to advance by leaps and bounds." "Is that so?" Alex looked down for a moment. He thought he never taught anything about Fire Element, but everything he showed her somehow related to Sword and Fire. To think his unconscious action still brought Evelyn this much effect, he couldn't help but be happy for himself and her. "Even that guy was utterly shocked when he saw Evelyn advancing like this... and arrived at this conclusion," Anna added. "Thank you for letting me know." Alex smiled. "At the same time, he also crowned her as the current successor for Drunken Pavilion. She never thought about it and still hesitated to accept it because she wanted to repay for whatever you gave. Without you, she will still be the small princess that might die from that crown prince or be controlled by her kingdom." Alex shook his head. "I simply taught her how to fight back then... And to think she somehow became this big." "Haha... Maybe she will accept it if it means she can help you in the war against the Fire God Clan." Anna laughed. Alex actually found this not funny. He had been creating a line with Evelyn as to protect her from this kind of problem. After all, she would have trouble that he made, this was something he didn't want. "Anyway, it's good to see her fine like this. If possible, make sure she doesn't know that we have this kind of problem..." "That old man is trying to do that since he wants to have her focus on the cultivation first until the boost of two talents is used up. At the same time, Evelyn is a clever girl. She will get this information sooner or later, so it's close to impossible to hide it until we destroy the Fire God Clan." Alex sighed. "How about Letizia?" "As you have already known, Letizia is in Snow White Mountain. Her Pure Element is very suitable in that place. Her progress itself is comparable to you since she only needs to cultivate unlike you, who have so many things to process." Anna shrugged. "I see. I will have the information about the influences on Heavenly Continent right before I go there, so just tell me her general situation." Alex nodded. "If you want her general situation..." Anna hesitated, glancing left and right. "What happened?" "She is not in a good spot to be honest." Alex furrowed his eyebrows. "What do you mean?" "The elders from that place somehow learned about the full loyalty Oath. Her awakened Pure Ice Element alone had garnered her a successor candidate position. Yet, everything vanished after they knew about you. They forced her to give her Sacrificial Element to someone and planned to lock her inside the sect forever since she refused their offer." "Their offer?" "Yes. They wanted her to say your name. A name alone should be fine in the Full Loyalty Contract. Yet, she simply refused even though she was beaten and forced to give the Sacrificial Element. In fact, she had given the Sacrificial Element to them in exchange for them not to know about you." "Why... you didn't tell me about this earlier?" Alex asked. "What can you do? This happened right when we were discussing in Zekhram's house." Anna shook her head. "I..." Alex knew he couldn't do a single thing to help her. He thought about asking Old Manness's help for this, but it would just give his identity away. At the same time, if he used his Space Element here, he might not be able to react fast enough to deal with Martial Saint. He could sneak in and help her escape, but the difficulty was far too great for the current him.? "You won't

be able to use the same technique, like when rescuing Evelyn, simply because they marked her with another symbol where she would be killed by that symbol if she came out of her cell. At the same time, if you broke the symbol with your knowledge, it would alarm the entire influence..." Anna looked at him while shaking her head. Alex fell into silence, knowing how hard it was to break free after that. The uneasy feeling grew in his heart after listening to how Letizia chose over him other than anything. This was why he didn't want to have friends in this world. They will be targeted like this. "Even so, I still need to pay them back for this... Maybe also help Letizia from their hand." "I agree. Although the start of how she became a slave was awful, I never expected that she would choose this path." Anya suddenly interjected. She thought it was rare for a person like this to appear, and she could see the shadow of Zark. He was the guy who helped Lin Xingzhi with teleportation back when she grabbed Firia from this world. He had the same full loyalty Heavenly Oath when he met Alex and realized that he would be free after becoming God Stage expert since he was free from his world. Yet, he decided to swear once more in the name of the universe, completely bound him for life. Zark only said he made the right choice, and his mind couldn't be changed. Anya thought Letizia might become the second Zark, albeit she didn't know how she actually chose Alex over rather than betrayed him. However, seeing this action was enough for Alex to fight as even the Previous Life Alex always did it. Alex looked down for a moment and said, "We can wait for all the matters on Heavenly Continent until I arrive there. It will probably be a few months from now since I'm planning to train Sherry for a little bit after destroying the Black Devil Sect." "Alright. We can discuss our plan in dealing with the Black Devil Sect then." Anna nodded.

Chapter 639 - Eve of Chaos

"Well, that's the gist of my plan." Alex clapped his hands as he finished explaining. The spirits had no change of expression as if they just heard something usual. Anya thought for a moment and said, "We exterminate them in one fell swoop as usual, I guess. Since we have sliced their number into half with most Martial Emperors dying inside that barrier in Martial Pavilion, we should be able to fight them from head-on." "That's right. All of us have become Martial Monarchs anyway." Anna nodded in agreement. Alex didn't say anything for a minute before opening his spirits' status. [Anna (Dark) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 490545/540000] [Leoz (Thunder) Level: 67/80 (7-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 245656/580000] [Nelson (Dark) Level: 64/80 (4-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 412131/550000] [Fabio Fabotelli (Fire) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 225555/540000] [Greg (Earth) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 48000/540000] [Vera Fabotelli (Water) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 42678/540000] [Jeanne (Thunder) Level: 65/80 (5-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 19821/560000] [Anya (Light) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 51675/540000] [Artur (Light) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 41167/540000] [Jean (Water) Level: 63/80 (3-Star Martial Monarch Stage) Exp: 43675/540000] He had seen this once again and expected it to be this hard, but he needed to do it. Without anyone noticing, Alex asked the system in his mind. 'System. Open all of my Gacha Tickets and use every summoning coin I have.' [Processing.] [Light Spear (R) x1] [Fire Ritual (R) x1]? [Water Bottle (C) x1] [Summoning Coins (C) x1] Alex got almost two hundred Summoning Coins from his two thousand Gacha Tickets. He had such high hope for this to give him ten to twenty percent of the Summoning Coins as EXP Cards as per usual. [Processing.] [Stallion (C) x1] [Green Slime (C) x1] [EXP Card (R) x1] [Njomo (R) x1] Seeing he had gotten Njomo's card, he quickly used it to instantly raise Njomo's level by one. At the same time, he calculated how many EXP Cards that the spirits actually needed. He was planning to make everyone reach 4-Star, so Alex only calculated seven people. 'Jean and Artur need six rare EXP

Cards. Anya, Vera, and Greg need five. Fabio needs four while Anna only needs one. In total, I need thirty-two EXP Cards. I got thirty-six just now, so I can certainly raise their level at once. The problem is what I will do with the other four. I can make Nelson or Leoz level up...' Alex thought for a moment and shook his head. 'I will see whether this battle is so horrible that I need to use this EXP Card or not.'

'System, use my EXP Cards to raise everyone, except Leoz, Nelson, and Jeanna, level.' [Processing.] Not long after, Anna and the others felt a surge of strength in their body as they realized Alex had raised their level. Alex looked at them and said, "With this, everyone has become at least 4-Star Martial Monarch... except Sherry and me." Satisfied with the result, he continued, "Anyway, we have our plan ready, and we have Leoz with us. I feel the Black Devil Sect won't be that hard as long as we are careful. That's why no one should lower their guard down the moment we fight this sect.?" The spirits nodded as Anna stepped forward. "It's fine. We are doing it in the usual way. Attack them from head-on, show our difference in individual strength, manipulate their emotions, kill their leaders, and exterminate the people." Alex nodded. "Yeah. No matter how different our detailed plan can be, the templates will be like that." Alex and the others couldn't help but chuckle. They had been fighting for so many years, yet their strategy was still the same. No one actually wanted to die, especially the young aspiring disciples of the influence. Unless they were a solid family that would go through life and death together, Alex felt no influence would have this kind of bond, allowing him to take the chance.?" "Anyway, we will attack them the day after tomorrow. I was too busy this year with cultivation, so I am going to relax for a while." Alex rose from his seat and walked away. He created a small hut for himself a bit further than them.?" Anna smiled at his back but didn't chase him. Instead, she was more interested in Sherry in front of them. "Sherry, let's have a talk." "!!!" Sherry glanced left and right, wondering what she should do. Her face was slightly flushed as she had been keeping the desire this whole time. Even though Anna and Anya should have realized it, it was still a kind of cheating when she never talked about it. "Don't worry. I'm just going to congratulate you." Anna smirked. Anya suddenly appeared behind Sherry, holding both of her hands and raising her up high. "We can talk there." Anna followed both of them while humming happily. Sherry was a kind of little sister to them, while Alicia and Firia were like equal to them. They had been treated as a little sister by Lin Xingzhi this whole time, so Sherry's appearance was necessary for them and made them happy. The spirits smiled at the three girls and discussed their roles amongst themselves.?" ... The next day, Alex was surprised by the disappearance of Sherry. He knew Sherry was near and hiding from him. He didn't think much about it until the second day. They needed to go to raze the Black Devil Sect to the ground, but Sherry was still acting like this. Alex couldn't help but look at Anna and Anya. "What did you say to her?" "We-!" Anna and Anya looked at each other and made a weird smile. How could they tell him that they taught Sherry all the things Lin Xingzhi ingrained in their memory. Not only Alex would think Lin Xingzhi weird, he might punish them as well. "Never mind." Alex sighed before looking at the others, especially Sherry. "I'm going to teleport right now." They nodded and went inside either his cards or flame. Alex then created a teleportation array and disappeared from this forest. ... In a sect surrounded by dead trees and blood smell, the disciples were cultivating like none other. The sect master had made an ultimatum to every single disciple in the sect that if they didn't cultivate as quickly as possible, the sect master would turn them into blood pills. A few disciples didn't like this practice and complained to the sect elders, especially the ones that were their disciples. Unfortunately, this was the entire sect decision. Even the elders were trying to increase their strength, let alone them.?" In the middle of the dead forest, a teleportation array appeared as Alex materialized from within. According to his instruction, he should have arrived near the Black Devil Sect, but the moment he turned his head, he dropped his jaw. "I have teleported too close..." Alex muttered to

himself. A bit further to his right stood tall a few wooden walls that had been erected recently. Alex realized that they were actually unusable for a person like him, and it would seem that there wasn't a trick behind this wooden wall. Activating his Spirit Eyes, Alex saw no symbols or any other things, so he thought this wall was only to mark their territory. Of course, his eyes had been upgraded to the last level, and no concealment array could hide something from him. After checking the wall, the sky, and the underground, Alex finally confirmed nothing was wrong. He looked up high and its surroundings, not finding a single person nearby. Alex then summoned everyone and asked, "We are going to attack them from him... Nelson, I want you to lead us to the sect master place later." "Understood." Nelson nodded. "I'm going to proceed in creating the array then. With this size and my current power, I should be able to finish one in a few hours. In the meantime, the rest will have to stand by here while Nelson also follows me to kill anyone that might disturb me," commanded Alex as he stared at Sherry for a moment and called, "Sherry... Co-" He wished to say come with him to fix her flustered actions in the past two days, but he couldn't risk it. In the end, he shook his head and said, "Alright. I will go right now." Alex and Nelson then disappeared. Symbol after symbol planted on the ground outside the Black Devil Sect. A few disciples were patrolling around, but they wouldn't come back and report their findings as Nelson already killed them. Alex could make his barrier without anyone interrupting, speeding up the process. It would be too late to learn they were dead anyway since Alex should have finished his barrier. ... A few hours later, "We have an emergency." A disciple slammed the door where the sect master was. The sect master wanted to snarl at this disciple, but that thought vanished upon hearing the word 'Emergency.' He furrowed his eyebrows and asked, "What happened?" "We have fifty disciples patrolling around the sect today, but none of them come back. We have checked the situation outside, but none of them come back as well..." Sweats covered his forehead while his body was shaking. The sect master released his Spiritual Energy and rose from his seat. "Inform every elder and disciple. Also, ring the bell. They have come to this land, and we shall bury them here." "Yes." The disciple hurriedly ran away. On the other hand, the sect master suddenly felt his feet weak as he thought, "The enemy has really come?" He had put up a tough front in front of a disciple so as to not let him worry. But he knew Alex must come prepared if he decided to attack when they were holing up inside the sect for a year. At first, he thought about the possibility of him being fed up to wait for so long but quickly brushed that thought off. If Alex truly came from an influence that had been hidden for a few thousand years, it was easy to say that the most patient people on this continent were they. "Should I escape from this place?" He muttered to himself as another disciple stormed inside his room. "We have an emergency!" "What? I already know they are coming!" The sect master shouted while releasing his killing intent, hiding his weak self again. "No." The disciple shook his head with a grave expression. "Outside... A barrier has been erected outside!" "What?" The sect master instantly went past the disciple as he flew to the sky only to find a yellow translucent barrier, trapping them inside this place. He looked at the disciples that started panicking upon seeing this array. "Don't be flustered." The disciples looked up and found the man who shouted earlier turned out to be their sect master. Seeing their sect master high above, they gained a little courage. Not long after, a few elders appeared in the sky, clasping their hands respectfully. "What should we do, Sect Master?" One of the elders stepped forward and asked. However, everyone's attention was shifted the moment they felt an overbearing heat, scorching their skin. The burnt smell filled their lungs as they realized something was wrong. They quickly turned to the left, finding eight phoenixes fly in the sky before making their way toward them. *Boom Boom Boom!* The sound explosions echoed inside the barrier as it engulfed three hundred people at once. "Enemy Attack!" The sect master shouted as he released his Spiritual Energy, blowing all the smoke from the

explosions away. Everyone could fourteen figure up in the sky, looking down on them as if looking at ants. A golden-haired man stepped forward as he took off his mask, revealing his handsome face. "You have been killing many people, and now your retribution has finally come. Are you ready to meet your doom, Black Devil Sect?"

Chapter 640 - One Side Annihilation

"Are you ready to meet your doom, Black Devil Sect?" The cold voice somehow sent out a chill in this burning land. The disciples, elders, and even the sect master shuddered for a second as if this word sentenced them to death. The first one to recover were actually the elders as one of them shouted, "Don't falter. There are only fourteen of them. We need to kill them right now before we see any reinforcement." Those words shook the body of the sect master. He usually ran away from a battle that he knew he couldn't win while glorifying the battle he could win. This was the only reason why he could reach this position after doing it for almost a millennial. However, these people actually gave him the instinct he had honed in his entire life. The instinct to know whether he needed to escape or fight. His instinct told him to escape from this place, but his conscience asked him otherwise. If he ran away from this problem, the disciples and elders would die, and even he might be nothing but ashes. There was also a barrier that trapped them inside, preventing him from escaping. These two made his escape impossible. In that case, he could only gamble his life as he shouted. "We are going to fight them here. Our numbers are a few thousand times higher than them, so we shouldn't be afraid." On the opposite side, Alex didn't attack them for a while as if he wanted to let the Black Devil Sect regain their composure and attack him. "Do you think they can sense our cultivation?" Leoz asked. "No. This is the minimum distance we can have before they can realize our strength. We don't want to scare them first before killing a thousand people." Anna shook her head. "Anna, Jeanne, Fabio, Vera, and Greg will be marching to the left and make sure no one is alive. Kyle, Stina, Jean, Artur, and Nelson go to the right. Leoz, me, Sherry, and Anya will march forward. Seeing how the sect master actually makes his appearance, we don't know to search for him, so we can focus on dealing with our firepower." Alex thought for a moment. "This time, I want Leoz, Anna, and Artur to use your True Spirit Body. As for the rest... I might not use your power this time to see whether we can hold a candle against our enemies without True Spirit Body." "Understood." The spirits nodded while the trio raised their weapons. "True Spirit Body." The three of them said the same thing. A pair of horns grew on Leoz's head as his body began to be covered by lightning. To his left, a pair of beautiful dark butterfly wings appeared from her body as a hundred black butterflies appeared out of nowhere. To his right, a knight with his shining armor raised his sword as if he was the general of the army, boosting his soldiers' morale. "Thunder Berserker Form." "Dark Butterfly Form." "Heroic Spirit." None of them moved after activating their True Spirit Body according to Alex's instruction, waiting for a barrage of attacks from those people. No one would think he had Space Element, so he needed to take advantage of this weapon to the fullest. Only after a minute, they saw the disciples, elders, and even the sect master were preparing to unleash their attack at the same time. However, it turned out they were targeting the barrier instead of their group. Alex snapped his finger and appeared behind the enemies and looked at these few thousand people's attacks. "What?" "How did he appear in that position?" "Wait, don't tell me!" "Run!" "Scatter. Make sure you are far enough from each other!" The elders and sect master realized Alex's element and quickly ordered their disciples. With that power, timing, and these attacks, they could easily develop a plan that would give a heavy blow in their force. Alex didn't overthink about the disciples that started scattering around the area and simply clapped his hands. A small blue circle at the size of a normal

human appeared in front of Alex as it suddenly expanded into a huge hole toward the Blue Layered Realm. The Black Devil Sect confirmed what he wanted to do and couldn't help but smirk, knowing they had minimized the casualty by spreading their force around. Another portal appeared on the sky, raining all of their attacks as if a cloud pouring raindrops. *Boom Boom Boom!* Another series of explosions shook the Black Devil Sect. "The enemies have a Space Element Array Master. Watch your attack, and don't use it together as it will backfire to you. As long as we fight them smartly, we can win." The sect master shouted. Suddenly, a few powerful attacks came from behind as soon as Alex's Space element startled them for a second. Stina and Kyle summoned their phoenixes and blasted them toward the disciples on the right. At the same time, they released their true form and turned into a real phoenix. *Cry!* On the right side, Anya also sent her dark butterflies and controlled a hundred people simultaneously, making them commit suicide. "Dark Butterfly First Order. Marionettes." Anna smiled, succeeding in the first blow. As the idiom, 'The first impression is the most important.' Sherry closed her eyes for a second, breaking the Phoenix Seed inside her body. Alex's evolved Pure Fire that was stored inside the seed burst out and replaced her normal Pure Fire for a couple of minutes. She looked down on these people as she said with a cold tone. "Phoenixes. Go!" The first word carried a huge amount of Spiritual Energy as three phoenixes suddenly appeared from thin air. The second word made the three phoenixes flying toward these people. *Boom Boom Boom!* The explosions swallowed many disciples, and once you were swallowed, only ashes would remain from your entire body. 'To think a slight confusion cost them so much...' The sect master looked at their condition before he pulled out the sword on his waist, slashing it toward his back. "Blood Slash!" The disciples were clueless, while the elders had a slightly delayed reaction than him. It was only after the sound of three explosions they realized that Alex was still behind them. Unfortunately, when they tried to search for him, Alex already came back to his group. The sect master was the first to be astounded, never expecting to see a dual elements user. He looked around and noticed that many disciples suddenly fell on their knees while covered by sweats. "What is that flame?" The sect master muttered to himself before opening his eyes wide. "Don't tell me... Is that flame a Pure Fire? No, it's already impossible to have two elements, let alone the combination of Pure Fire and Space Element... It's so rare that everyone usually believes it's impossible..." The absurd thought crept into his mind as he dropped his jaw. "The two people could only summon one phoenix each before turning into one themselves. However, that little girl can summon three at once like him... Don't tell me... He actually has Sacrificial Fire from that little girl?" *Thud!* His heart skipped a beat, wondering what kind of influence they had provoked. Why they came at this particular time, and why only they needed to face this kind of trouble. Thinking about it would be useless since it wouldn't bring him anything other than death. Instead, he should encourage and manipulate the disciples to make an escape route even if it's only for himself. "Disciples. All of you shall proceed with my order!" On the sky around the edge of the barrier, Alex had come back while bringing good news. "We have killed almost two thousand of them. I don't know why but I feel this one is easier than fighting the Joyful Union Sect..." Anya nodded in agreement. "I think there is a kind of problem with their high command. Take a look at the expression of their sect master... I have seen his type many times. Do you want to know what kind of type he is?" Alex glanced at her for a second and nodded. "He will sacrifice everything as long as he can survive." Anya narrowed her eyes. "His type is hard to deal with if he has confidence since he will always be careful. However, breaking his confidence, you can see how brittle his heart actually is." "In other words, it's time to make our way to him while killing as many as we can." Alex nodded. "Let's go." The spirits nodded, marching together at the same time according to their roles. On the left, Anna's Dark Butterflies were rampaging, making people commit suicide one

after another. Due to the effect of Blood Pill, the time she needed to infiltrate their mind was less than a minute. It could be said that she was killing one hundred people every minute. Fabio and Vera were not pushovers. They did it with their own style, killing the enemies one by one. They might not be flashy like Anna, but their actions instilled a deep fear inside the disciples' hearts. Jeanne mostly targeted the elders that were trying to command the disciples as usual, preventing anyone from rising a surge of morale. Last but not least, Greg made sure everyone could fight to the best of their ability, not having a single stray attack coming their way. On the right, Kyle and Stina were doing the same job as Anna. Fighting in their original form allowed them to use their full strength while scaring the enemy. After all, Phoenixes only appeared in the legend as one of the mythical beings, scaring them still. Jeanne's job was entrusted to Nelson for this group. He steadily killed every single elder. Unfortunately, his strength still fell short from Jeanne, and this fight was during the day, he needed more effort to kill the elders, giving the opportunity for a few of them to control the disciples. Artur and Jean only supported them from behind, killing all the disciples that wanted to kill them or escaped their attacks alive. It was different for the middle group. Anya had been increasing everyone's power with her own power, albeit she was following them to camouflage. Leoz took the front and charged at them like no one business, penetrating deep into the enemy ranks. Alex kept telling him to regroup as soon as he went too deep. Meanwhile, Alex and Sherry kept using their Fire Authority to summon these six enhanced phoenixes to kill them, albeit most of them were shot down by the sect master. To that end, Alex told Sherry to use firebirds instead. Surprisingly, both of them could summon the number they never thought possible before. Over one thousand and five hundred firebirds appeared around them, shining so brightly as if the sun was in front of them. Controlling these many firebirds were hard for Alex and Sherry, so they simply had them charge forward. Most of these firebirds were shot down by the enemies, but every time they exploded, it wouldn't create a chain of explosions as Alex and Sherry had covered them with their power. On the other hand, they needed ten or so firebirds to kill someone, so they could somehow march forward steadily. Luckily, Leoz was mostly in the middle of enemies, so they didn't hit him since they attacked head-on. The sect master was sweating profusely, looking at the elders falling on the battle one by one. The moment Alex and the group came closer, he realized that all of them were at least 4-Star Martial Monarchs with the exception of their master and mistress, AKA Alex and Sherry. Their power was also no joke as the elders couldn't hold a candle even after activating their blood pills. It just showed how powerful Jeanne and Nelson in one on one fight. At the same time, he needed to worry about the weaker disciples. Without having any choice, he took a red pill out of his Space Ring. "If only we didn't lose one thousand Martial Emperors in the Special Realm." He stared at it for a few seconds before swallowing it.