

## **Seller 461**

### Chapter 461 Secrets and Speculations

After a while;

"So, it's settled then. Tomorrow in the morning, you shall accompany me to meet the High Priestess and get your rightful reward," said the fallen princess of the Elven Empire, in her Elvish language, as she was leaving the tree house. Her gaze was on Mark and she was beaming with a smile, indicating her emotion of happiness.

Zan Rong translated it from word to word in English as Mark couldn't understand the native language of Orlon for some reason.

However, Mark was still under the belief that he was given a drug now that it was admitted by James and Steve. As a result, he didn't believe her even a little bit and only went with the flow, trying to be expected in the eyes of others.

He agreed to the arrangement and sent her off with a wide smile. Once the beauty disappeared from his view, Mark's smile was wiped off his face and he became all too serious as he returned to his room using an excuse of a headache.

Sitting at the edge of the cot, he rested his elbows on his knees and went into deep thinking, "This stupid play is getting out of line. Elves, seriously? Who do they think they want to fool around with? Is it possible that my whole senses were messed up or were they cosplaying? But, more than that, I need to figure out why they keep role-playing this idea of a fantasy world. That kid said that I need to repair their spaceship and I will be

freed in return. How in the hell did he even think that I can do that? I'm a fucking weapons designer and my specialty lies in research, development, testing, and overseeing the production of firearms and missiles, not repairing aircraft.

I think they must be after my knowledge of anti-matter technology. After all, I'm the only one still alive from my team if what Richards said is true, before he shot the entire magazine in my chest.

Perhaps, what he was saying earlier was true? Nah, there's no such thing as a soul or reincarnation. Hmm, other than injecting some unknown drug, the only possible explanation is that they used some technology to transfer my memories into a new body as I could be considered an asset for any country. Yeah, that can be possible, considering the fact that killing me would waste opportunities too.

But then, what about the elves? How could it be explained? If not cosplaying to fool me, then, were they also humans like me whose memories were planted into biologically engineered bodies in a lab? Hmm... Wait a second... isn't this kinda similar to that movie franchise Avatar? Well, other than this, I can't think of any other possibilities.

As for them saying the truth, it is pure bullshit. Let's assume that everything that kid James said was true at first.

I'm reincarnated into some Chinese-style world in some medieval period where people have superpowers and there are also monsters and dragons. Now, I traveled to the elf world to save them? I'm a hero who sacrificed myself to save the princess? Ugh... I want to puke at that story...

Then, these two are my kids from the future. They came in the time machine I designed. This sounds quite exciting but how could time travel be possible? For starters, you need to find a wormhole, which is still a theoretical concept. Even if they exist, you need to manipulate them while making sure to stabilize them so that they won't collapse. For that, you would need exotic matter with negative energy density so that it could counterattack the gravitational forces that would naturally suppress a wormhole. Even then, there is an energy requirement. It will be astronomical. Who knows, someone could crack this in a thousand years, but in the 21st century, I don't think it can be possible. Not even for me. Not to mention, in what world kids are allowed to time travel? They aren't even allowed on a space rocket to the moon. And why would I even give them such a dangerous machine to create more paradoxes?

They should have created a better storyline to fool me. Forget it. Let's just go along with them and formulate a plan to escape from this place. Resisting will only make me end up under house arrest. Man, can't believe I will end up in another prison as soon as I got out."

Letting out a deep sigh, Mark then slapped his cheeks at the same time, becoming serious as he mumbled, "Okay. Let's do this."

Mark then closed his eyes, pretending to sleep.

About an hour later, he returned to the living room and saw James helping out Zan Rong in the kitchen as she was cooking lunch. Meanwhile, Steve was busy drawing something in a large drawing book.

At first, Mark thought that he was drawing some pictures but as he went closer, his eyes captured the design of a missile; more precisely, it was various parts of a missile drawn separately along with the description of materials' composition and various calculations, etc...

"Hmm?" Mark's curiosity piqued a little bit and he walked toward him.

Steve sensed his presence but he continued to act like he doesn't care, following his brother's instructions. However, deeply inside, he grew more nervous about how Mark will react to his drawings.

And surprisingly for him, Mark calmly stood behind and continued to observe for a few seconds before he spoke, "Steve, it doesn't work unless you would need a larger engine.

"Larger?" Steve turned his head and raised it to look at Mark. The latter pointed his finger at specific calculations written on the paper, "TWR (Thrust-to-weight ratio) is too low. I believe the specific impulse value will be around 216 seconds. Clearly, not enough."

"Hmm..." Steve looked back at the calculations on the paper and his face paled immediately upon realization, "You are right, dad. I almost messed it up. Uncle Allen will chew me up if I would have submitted this. Phew..."

"Uncle Allen?" Mark stared at Steve for a couple of seconds in irritation. Seeing that the latter continues to roleplay as his son from the future, Mark suddenly thought of something and tried to trick the teenager by suddenly striking conversation about personal things, "Say, Steve. In the future timeline you are from, is my grandpa, I mean your great-grandpa still alive? When I was abducted, he was still healthy even at 71 years old. I promised to live together with him once my brother graduates college and moves out." Steve was taken aback as he abruptly turned his head, "Eh? Your grandfather is alive? I thought your grandfather died in 1994 while working as a spy for the Serb's rebel forces during the Croatian War of Independence. Did he fake his death?"

"How..."

This time, it was Mark's turn to get shocked. In fact, he appeared to be shocked so much that he lost control for a moment and grabbed the collar of Steve and roared, "How in the hell did you know that, brat? Not even my own brother was aware of it."

"Dad?" As Steve was shocked by Mark's sudden burst of anger, Zan Rong and James also left the kitchen in a hurry.

Chapter 462 Enter Neo, the super A.I.

The secret of Mark's grandfather is only known to him and him alone. Neither his brother nor his superiors were aware of it. To the public knowledge, he died during the Central European floods. Even Mark would only learn of the truth before his parents left him and his brother before joining the war in central Africa.

The fact that this teenager who was claiming to be his son is speaking of that matter only aggravated his mood further. Either the well-kept secret was also got out somehow or everything he believed until now was a lie.

On the other hand, Steve was a Supreme Being and a normal human like Mark (at the moment) catching his neck doesn't hurt him a bit. However, the emotional bond he had made it harder for him to get free by force and let Mark's hand tighten over his neck. At the same time, he was mentally hurt and frustrated, not knowing how to convince his dad.

As he answered that Mark himself told him the secret, the latter was in strong belief. He would rather believe that they probably found his secrets through his own mouth when they drugged him than the fact that he is in a fantasy world and the teenagers were time travelers.

Had he been a normal person, he would probably believe it. But, he was a weapons designer, a scientist who doesn't believe in things like god or reincarnation or in general, supernatural things. The fact that he doesn't have any memory as Lu Zhen only boosted his belief even more.

Mark swiftly released his grip over Steve's neck as he saw tears welling up in the latter's eyes. He returned to his room and shut the door before sitting on the bed. "Argh... this is so frustrating. Why don't they just fucking stop it? Fuu... Mark... take a deep breath and calm down. You need some solid proof that they were lying. How? How? Howwww? Hmm... wait a second." Something suddenly clicked in his head.

Mark quickly rushed out of the room while Steve was approached by James. Zan Rong was still in the kitchen, although her attention was on her nephews.

James was seen patting Steve's shoulders and saying, "You know Dad's personality. Once he is fixed on something, no matter what we say, he doesn't believe it and just keeps drawing conspiracy theories. The only way we can make him trust us is to help him retrieve his lost memories." Steve, who was sitting on the floor, raised his head to look at his brother and asked, "What about the sui..."

"Exactly,"

A voice responded while Steve was asking something in response to James' consolation.

As they turned their heads to look at Mark, the latter then spoke, "If everything you claim is right, then, first, you should have powers just like the rest of you and so am I. Next, I should have the memories of this body. And two, find my brother. Bring him to me. Both of you work on those things. Meanwhile, I will take a look at your time ship. Let's go."

"Eh? Right now?" James was stunned for a second. Mark nodded, "Yes. Since I'm your father, then, both of you will listen to me. Understood?"

Steve and James nodded like chicks. Leaving behind Zan Rong at the house, Mark left with the teenagers without having lunch.

Mark was grabbed by James from behind and had his arms locked before both of them slowly rose in the air.

Mark should have yelped in surprise, but for some reason, he didn't feel much different compared to when he was on the ground. There was this no sense of excitement one would have as they flew for the first time and neither there was a fear due to the speed faster than the speed of sound. He was completely calm as if this is natural for him.

This could explain it as his body remembers that feeling of flight. But, Mark only concluded this as an illusion. Adding on top of that, he was quite uncomfortable in this position. However, he silently cooperated until they exited the forest after an hour of flying and reach a rocky region with an ample amount of space.

They landed on the ground and Steve's ring on his index finger glowed before a giant spaceship looking like a terrifying black spider made its appearance. Even its dozen long-length spikes were seen moving like a living thing.

"Hmm?" Mark automatically started marching on his own toward the ship without fear, "I feel like I have seen this before."

James quietly followed him from behind.

Mark reached the spaceship. The door opened on its own. Mark climbed the steps and got inside. The other two also followed suit.

The inside was simple. Apart from a large 9-seater sofa in the back, two seats before the control system, everything is empty. Anyone who sees this would say that the space is not being used properly.

Mark then walked to the control system that was visibly damaged with traces of burn seen in several places.

"Sigh... what I should do with this..." Mark put his hands on his waist with the look of resignation as he could feel like it is too complex already by a first glance. At that moment, he forgot about the illusion and everything else.

It was then a hand was felt on his shoulder, followed by the voice, "Here, this is the instruction manual I was given."

Mark was handed a notebook instead of some printed manual. As he opened, his eyes fell on strange writings written by a pen. However, there was a look of confusion on his face, "This is my writing and even the coding system belongs to me. Just how far these guys found out about me... Or maybe..."

Unknown to him, Mark's feeling of being wrong about everything was already started slowly weaning away.

He couldn't help but sit down and started reading. For the next 15 minutes, he kept on yelping in surprise every minute or two. Steve and James, meanwhile, stood on the side in patience.

After another 20 minutes, he finally closed the book with a satisfactory smile on his face, only to see that the teenagers were staring at him with smiles on their faces too.

His smile was gone in an instant, "What are you looking at?"

"Nothing." "Nothing"

They shook their heads in unison.

Mark then said, "Now, I'm going to live here until I repair this. This sofa will be more comfortable than that wooden cot anyways. Arrange my lunch and dinner. You can make it to that house and bring it here. If you can, set up a portable bathroom for my shower somewhere nearby. It shouldn't be a difficult task for you two, right?"

"No, it isn't, but," Steve opinioned that it is dangerous in this place, to which, Mark replied that they can guard him if they want. "Now, hurry up and go."

James volunteered to return to the tree house and bring the lunch while leaving behind Steve.

Once Mark got rid of James, he then asked Steve to stand outside as he will start observing the control system, and to do that, his concentration needed to be at its peak.

Steve obediently stepped outside of the spaceship, like a good son, taking it as a lesson to increase his temperament rather than thinking that his dad is very annoying.

Mark pressed the switch at the door and closed it as soon as he found himself alone.

Flexing his fingers, he mumbled as he took out the notebook, flipping the pages for a while and stopping at a certain page.

"I don't know if this is a prank or an illusion. Or everything is just going inside my head. Whatever the case, it doesn't hurt trying."

Mark went to the control system once again and bent down at the right corner. He caressed it here and there for a while before stopping and letting out a smile, "Here it is, the fail-safe switch. Let's see if this works out or whether I will become a fool."

Mark pressed his palm against it. Like a button was pressed, it went down, and immediately, something miracle occurred.

lights Novel Strange specks of golden light erupted from the central part of the control system, scaring the hell out of Mark.

As he yelp out a cry of surprise, Steve hurriedly entered the ship using his master access and saw the entire control system covered by golden light.

Mark was on the floor in awe, watching the control system becoming as good as new as if some magic has been cast.

After the magic, slowly, the specks of golden light gathered at a single point, taking the form of a little girl. She looked at Mark and spoke in a robotic voice, "Welcome, Master. Neo is waiting for your orders."

"What... the... fuck..." Steve opened his mouth widely in shock.

Chapter 463 Mark falls unconscious

After a while;

"So, you are saying that you are an advanced artificial intelligence created by me and was planted in some divine throne and then had you transform to this spaceship?" Mark now completely felt like he lost his senses this time. He put forth the same conditions as a test, trying to prove he hasn't gone insane.

However, he didn't know that Neo has a surprise for him.

The moment he asked whether she can prove that none of this is an illusion, Neo firmly nodded as she replied, "Certainly, Master."

\*Snap\*

With a snap of her finger, Mark and Steve found themselves standing outside on the barren land. The teenager had a look of a daze as he was staring at the spaceship in disbelief. He didn't expect such a scene.

Meanwhile, the entire spaceship was enveloped by the same golden light before it disappeared, leaving behind an exquisite-looking throne and a floating golden spirit.

Neo pointed the seat of the throne with her hand, "Master, please take the seat."

Mark couldn't help but walk toward the throne and sat on it, listening to her words.

The moment he sat on it, Neo disappeared into the throne and the entire thing turned into the form of powerful golden energy before disappearing altogether into his forehead.

Mark, at once, flew into the air and crashed onto the ground. This strange scene brought Steve back to his senses and he quickly rushed to his father, "Dad..." He placed his hand on Mark's body and mumbled, "Aria, inspect the status of the target."

\*Ding!

The sound of a bell was heard in his head and a visible holographic screen appeared before his eyes. Mark's data appeared. However, it was slightly different from how Mark's system used to display him.

Lu Zhen

Biological age: 25

Status: Unknown

Cultivation realm: N/A

Number of Attributes: >1

Dominant attribute: unknown

Attribute with the highest mastery: Ice

Bloodline: unknown

Overall review: Aria cannot analyze the target properly due to abnormally high values of stats.

"Dammit." Steve gritted his teeth in frustration and anger, realizing that he was too slow to act despite his great cultivation level. "I should have made my move when something that isn't in my control was going on. I came here to save him, not mess up things even more. Now, even my time ship is gone. How will I return? What should I do?"

As he was panicking over the situation, a figure came to his head. "James..."

Steve immediately picked up Mark's unconscious body and flew back to the tree house in the forest.

There, in the house, Zan Rong was still busy cooking while James was talking with her.

Sensing Steve's presence alongside his dad's, James stopped conversing and swiftly came to the living room before asking about the situation.

Upon listening to everything, James told Steve to place Mark on the floor and then placed his palm on Mark's chest, sending a speck of his energy into the latter's body.

However, it disappeared right away and a frown appeared on James.

"What happened?" asked Zan Rong.

James looked at Steve and said, "I sense a battle with two powerful energies. Neither of them belonged to Dad though. I think this one belonged to the time ship. We can only wait for now."

"Never expected Mark would create something like this," Zan Rong couldn't help but comment.

Steve, meanwhile, apologized to his brother. James patted his shoulder with a smile, "Nothing to worry, Bro. Don't worry. If something would happen to him, we would have already disappeared by now. The fact that we are still alive means he is still alright and our future hasn't changed."

"But, the time ship is gone and you two are stuck here," commented Zan Rong in response. "What happens then?"

As Steve's face paled in fright, James calmly spoke, "Don't assume the worst when nothing that's concerning even happened. You should wait." After a brief pause, he added, "If it comes to that, we will have to make a breakthrough at all costs and then extract the orb of chaos from your mom before they do, and rewrite the reality."

"Orb of chaos? What is that?" Zan Rong asked her nephews. However, her question was only met with silence. She understood that they have their own secrets and didn't try to press them anymore. She casually changed the topic to how she forgot about the boiling sweet corn soup and rushed back into the kitchen.

lightsNovel Steve and James then sat down beside an unconscious Mark and patiently observed his condition. From time to time, James would insert specks of his ether energy to understand the state of the battle between two divine energies.

And so, two weeks passed away in a blink of an eye;

Lunaris City, Western Moon kingdom;

In the royal palace of the kingdom, Song Yue was seen sitting at the window of her room and staring outside. She looked quite pale as if she became sick.

\*knock\* knock\* knock\*

The sounds of the knocking interrupted her thoughts. She turned her head to see Princess Shen Ling.

Giving her a glance, she turned her attention back to the world outside the window, "I'm not in a mood to eat. You can continue, Sister Shen."

The princess replied, "You are barely eating lately. Look at yourself. At this rate, you will fall sick. Won't Lu Zhen be sad when he returns?"

"We have gone through this already, Sister Shen. Please leave me alone," said Song Yue in a weak tone.

Shen Ling let out a deep sigh and turned around to leave the room. Her eyes fell on the black-armored man who was sitting against the wall in sadness.

The princess looked at him and shook her head, "Why don't you go and convince her by yourself, Mr. Black Knight? Perhaps, your support is what she needed the most, right now."

Black Knight wrote the words in the air controlling his ether energy, "I cannot. You know why."

"I know," nodded the princess and then said, "That is why I have sent my people to bring Ms. Cheng."

Black Knight looked at her in surprise, "my wife?"

The princess nodded with a smile.

Chapter 464 Who am I? Mark or Lu Zhen?

Meanwhile, at the borders of Western Yan, the gold dragon was seen burning down soldiers, turning them into ashes. The remaining ones that were running away, however, were spared.

Jinlong transformed into his humanoid figure and let out a sigh as he stared at the fleeing humans, "Never expected I would be spending my life killing humans over and over, for the sake of upholding my promise. The situation on the border worsened ever since that man ascended to the throne of the Phoenix Empire. I wonder when Lu Zhen would return."

A week ago, the previous Emperor's nephew, Shang Jun won against the crown prince during the final stage of the trial of the throne and became the successor.

But, once he became the Emperor, all sorts of problems arose. Right on the first day, a special investigative team was formed, filled with strangers. Within three days, these people managed to arrest several nobles and a couple of former ministers, and even high-rank soldiers. He cracked down on corruption.

Secondly, due to the same reason, an arrest was issued on the crown prince, but he evaded it with the help of some of his loyal subordinates. He went into hiding.

The third prince, however, enjoyed the position of the new Prime minister. The old one was removed and given retirement, citing old age.

Thirdly, citing low funds in the treasury as the reason, the new emperor ordered wealthy individuals to pay more taxes, and that too, without giving them any time. Those who resisted were thrown into prisons. The money collected during the past week was used in creating a well-organized orphanage.

And then, he took everyone by surprise with a new order. He rejected the independence of Western Yan and announced a volunteer army to take back their land. This army isn't made of trained soldiers.

Instead, civilians were being recruited for hefty amounts of money. They were then sent to the border to fight for their homeland.

So far, more than a thousand deaths occurred, but Shang Jun has no intention of stopping. For the sake of feeding their families, men from poor families still lined up for joining this army. As for the rebellion elements, for some reason, they weren't born yet, although there is a rumor that those who want to incite rebellion went mysteriously missing.

These actions of Shang Jun only brought Western Yan and Western Moon kingdoms closer. Despite that, Shang Jun didn't show aggression toward its neighboring kingdom. Instead, he attempted to improve their trade relations.

Surprisingly, he didn't try to find his missing father. The latter was still imprisoned at Fujian Island, spending his time watching the little princess train every day with the ancient grade beasts.

She successfully broke the wall and entered the Exalt realm but continued to train with them as her desire to get stronger grew further. It's because of this fact that Lan Jingyi didn't meet her even after finding her location. She continued to watch over her daughter from far away.

Back at Lunaris City, due to the lack of weapon supply, Meng Tao and Chang Bo continued with their multi-store business and stopped selling all kinds of ammunition and firearms. Xie Mei joined them as a staff member while training under Meng Tao in the gunfight.

As a result, the store's reputation got a hit among the masses in the Western Moon kingdom. If not for the fact that the gold dragon was guarding the borders, even Feng Wu would have also become more stressed.

The small merchants also lost a bit of faith in Genesis Store due to its frequent closures while having a monopoly in the market. They felt like they cannot put their livelihood in the firearms business.

The dwarves took this situation as an advantage, releasing the massive stock of low-quality 9mm ammunition at a price of 3 silver and 50 copper. The public didn't get a chance to buy them yet as Shang Jun hoarded most of the stock for his volunteer army and patrolling guards.

Imperial Palace, Phoenix Empire;

Court proceedings were going as usual with the new Emperor, new ministers, and new higher court officials. Everyone is relatively young here, below the age of 40. Under their bold Emperor, everyone also tried to be bold and risk takers.

The new head of the Ministry of Rites, which oversees rituals, ceremonies, and diplomatic protocol, stood up and handed a scroll to the third prince.

As the new prime minister was reading the letter with not so pleasant expression, Shang Jun grew curious.

He asked, "What is it, Prime Minister Wei?"

Shang Wei then looked toward him and replied, "Your Majesty, it's a piece of bad news. The Dragon Empire is demanding compensation for the loss of its Royal ancestor in the battle of fire seed. Their investigations have determined that it is likely the work of Lu Zhen. We want an unconditional apology from the Emperor at our imperial court or 100 million gold coins. If neither of our conditions are met, it will be considered an act of war."

"Bullshit. How were we responsible for that?" Shang Jun grew angry.

The third prince replied in a calm manner, "Your Majesty, The Imperial Palace has employed Lu Zhen for the fire seed. Hence, his actions during that event are on our heads."

Shang Jun clenched his fists and forcefully calmed himself down. After taking his seat, he asked, "So, what do you think of it?"

Shang Wei answered, "I believe they were trying to test His Majesty. Rightfully, their so-called royal ancestor came here without taking our permission. His entry is illegal and by right, we can give him any sentence based on our laws. Hence, he should be prepared for the consequences too. They already lost the right to

demand anything. However, they can take revenge on a personal basis. In that case, they would go directly to Western Moon and demand them to hand him over. They knew that too. It only makes sense if they want to see whether His Majesty is a docile cat or an aggressive tiger or a cunning wolf."

"Hmm..." Shang Jun rested his elbow on his knees and placed his fist below his chin, thinking about what his cousin said. He was aware that war is not an option. Fighting with Dragon Empire would only bring destruction as they command an army stronger than any other Empire. Only Leon Empire can give a tough fight.

Adding on top of that, they were also the wealthiest empire and can fund it for years without any problems.

So, what options are left? Apology? That's not even an option. And sticking for Lu Zhen who left their empire is considered foolishness in Shang Jun's view.

What about assassinating Lu Zhen and handing his head over to the Dragon Empire? Shang Jun would rather go to war against the Dragon Empire than offend the resentful fellow. He was smart enough to know that.

As he was thinking of the matter, something suddenly clicked in his mind and a creepy smile appeared on his face, taking the third prince by surprise.

He said, "The court session is adjourned for the day. Zhang Kang, Sui Weisheng; I need both of you to meet me at the throne room (an official private meeting room)."

"Eh?" Shang Wei was taken aback, not getting such an invitation when he was supposed to be Emperor's most trusted official.

After a while;

Zhang Kang, the heir of Zhang Clan, rose to his feet in shock, "Are you serious? Your Majesty, I hope you are thinking about this thoroughly. The consequences will be unimaginable if you wake up the sleeping lion."

As the minister of War was silently pondering on the matter, Shang Ju shook his head with a smile, "Don't worry. This will not trace back to us even if it fails. And we won't keep her as the prisoner. Song Yue will be handed to the Dragon Empire as a gift from an anonymous person, who was worried about the war. That's all. Make sure to leak the entire contents of the letter to the public. Maybe, we can even generate a bit of hatred toward Lu Zhen in the process."

Sui Weisheng who finished thinking asked, "Do you have any personal enmity with Lu Zhen, Your Majesty?"

Shang Ju shook his head, "Nope. I haven't even met him once. But then again, he isn't a friend either. I'm not obliged to think about his well-being. However, unlike me, both of you had enmity with him. Zhang Kang, you had your fiancé stolen away by him. And Sui Weisheng, I don't think I should remind you how he humiliated your Clan. If Lu Zhen dies, the Dragon Empire will be satisfied. And if the Dragon Empire ends up being troubled, then, their arrogance will be defeated. No matter the outcome, we will win."

"But, what about Shang Wei?" asked Sui Weisheng.

Shang Ju shrugged his shoulders in response, "He should be kept in the dark."

"Alright, I understand" "As you wish, Your Majesty"

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Sylvandrial Dominion, Earth-486;

In the tree house, Mark who went into a deep sleep state started shivering uncontrollably. As a result, first the bed, then, the floor, and eventually, the whole house started shaking as if an earthquake was occurring.

Steve and James were sitting in the living room, doing their own things. The former is busy drawing the parts of an aircraft while the latter is writing a short story. Zan Rong is currently outside somewhere.

All of a sudden, they felt the vibration beneath them.

"Steve," cried out James, wondering whether it is an attack. "Hurry up and prote..."

Before his words finished, the entire house collapsed, surprising the roaming elves nearby.

As both of them pushed out the rubble fallen upon them, both of them raised their heads to see a floating figure in the sky.

"What is this power? Shouldn't I be a mortal? How did I become a Spirit Warrior? And what is this other set of memories? Am I Lu Zhen? Or am I Mark? Or am I someone else?"

Chapter 465 The hero from the Prophecy

As Mark was confusingly looking around and himself, wondering where he was, what was he doing here, what happened to him, and what were those new sets of memories, questioning his own identity, a figure shrouded in a golden aura appeared not so far away from him.

Equipping herself with an exquisite-looking staff adorned with jewels, the woman opened her mouth, "Let me ask something before we talk. Do you know who you are?"

Mark stared at her with his eyes widened, "An Elf? Wow, never thought you people were real. Judging by your appearance and the fact that I'm flying on my own, I guess either I'm Lu Zhen or someone else that I have no knowledge of."

Mark's reaction slightly caused a bit of surprise in the High Priestess but she kept her coolness and said, "Your questions can be answered by your companions over there, but before that, let me confirm something."

"What is..." Mark didn't even get the time to respond before the High Priestess raised her staff and unleashed a spell, or in other words, a skill attack.

Mark's thoughts became blank as a whiskered golden snake formed by energy made its way toward him.

"Dad..."

Steve quickly rose to his feet and was about to fly but was stopped by James before he did so.

"James..." As Steve snapped at him for stopping him, the latter spoke, "You can already sense Dad's cultivation has returned. This sort of attack will not injure him. Just watch."

Meanwhile, Mark was frozen in fear. He didn't know what to do. He could tremendous amount of power within him but he didn't know how to use it. The fact that Mark mostly used the system's help in the past also made his body not have any muscle memory.

But, all is not gone.

As the energy attack almost reached him and opened its mouth to swallow him whole, icy wings erupted from his back and covered him up.

The attack couldn't penetrate the defense and disappeared with the collision. The wings opened up again, revealing Mark with a surprised look on his face.

Soon, his surprise turned into excitement, and a burst of laughter escaped from his mouth, "Haha, an ice element, and that too, wings? So schway. I thought I was floating because of the wind attribute. Wait a second. If I'm not a wind attribute, how am I flying earlier without wings? Am I..."

A crazy thought appeared in his head but he couldn't think further as the High Priestess wasn't done with whatever she planned to do.

Soon, a large sphere of energy made its way toward Mark.

This time, Mark acted in reflex by flapping his wings without even knowing how they work. It just happened to him as natural as breathing.

As the energy sphere missed its attack and went away, the High Priestess calmly raised her staff once again.

And Mark felt angry when he saw that. He didn't understand why that woman kept on attacking him. Was he in the wrong? Or was she in the wrong? Or were they enemies?

He didn't know but for the moment, he had only one thought. Kill her. If he cannot, then, escape.

And that resolve brought specks of golden light out of Mark's body before transforming into a rocket launcher with a loaded warhead on the front, although in gold color.

Mark grabbed it instinctively and put it on his shoulder. He proceeded to press the trigger with his index figure before thinking too much because of fear of death and anger toward the assailant.

The warhead that was shot off the launcher then changed into a ball of golden divine energy as it flew toward the target.

The High Priestess, who was in the middle of invoking a spell, withdrew it in a hurry and proceeded with releasing the ether energy from her body to create a barrier around her.

The ball of golden energy collided with the barrier and not only it destroyed it with brute force, but even the person hiding behind it was also blasted away atleast for a couple of hundred meters, crashing through several trees on the way.

At once, the elves living in the surroundings gathered in one place. Some have a look of fear in their eyes while some develop hatred and raised the weapons. A couple of elves rushed toward the High Priestess to help her.

They didn't know the full story and hence, they looked at a human such as Mark as an enemy.

The High Priestess coughed out a mouthful of blood as she rose to her feet while her whole body started shivering.

Meanwhile, Mark observed the weapon in his hand in surprise. Another warhead already was loaded automatically. "This isn't ammunition, but a weapon of ether energy? But, I didn't have any memory of weapons like these." He grew more confused for a second.

However, it didn't last for a while as his eyes fell on the enemy who got up on her feet and started walking toward him instead of flying.

Mark threw away his thoughts at the back of his mind and flapped his wings. Meanwhile, the elves started moving away as far as possible, fearing that there is going to be an intense battle and they were going to be caught in it if they don't leave. Some followed her though as if they wanted to assist her. Nevertheless, there was no reaction from the High Priestess. She just continued to walk toward him.

Soon, both of them reached a close distance and Mark had his finger on the trigger, just in case she tries to attack him out of nowhere.

But, to his surprise, the High Priestess freed the staff.

\*Thud\*

The staff fell onto the ground, followed by the High Priestess falling onto her knees and bowing to him, surprising everyone around with her words echoing all over the place, "High Priestess Aeliana greets the savior. You were the one we have been waiting for all this while."

The moment those words escaped her mouth, all the elves that are around dropped down their weapons and whatever negative thoughts they have in their mind and fell to their knees in respect. Only the two teenagers were seen standing on the ground with surprised looks.

Meanwhile, Mark had another jolt of shock at the reaction of the elves. "Weren't they enemies?" He wondered.

Until now, he thought there was some kind of enmity between them. Or else, why would she suddenly attack him, not once but twice?

After hearing her now, he realized that she was testing him to prove something. He wanted to know what she confirmed.

Flapping his wings, Mark landed on the ground, nearby the kneeling High Priestess. He asked, "What is this about, miss?"

The High Priestess raised her head to look at him and answered, "Your grace, there was a prophecy that's been passed down to me from my predecessor.

In the age of shadows and echoes, a prophecy unfolds, a hero from forgotten realms, his destiny foretold. From the annals of the past, a shield once held so strong, shall slip from grasp and brings a curse, the world's peace goes wrong.

Unleashed from shackles deep within, demons surge and swarm, great evil from banished dimension, a world to deform. Chaos reigns, darkness ascends, despair's grip takes hold, yet from the ashes of despair, a story shall be told.

Amidst the turmoil, a mortal walks, to elven realms unknown, with heart enshrouded in shadow and power yet to be shown. He bears the burden of both worlds, a balance to maintain, Harnessing both darkness and light, his destiny to attain.

Through trials and tribulations, he'll rise above the fray, mastering his inner battles, guiding night into day. The demons quake and tremble, before his newfound might, He'll conquer the banished evil, setting the world aright.

A princess fair, with grace untamed, his partner she shall be, together they'll face the tempest, setting all captives free. With unity as their beacon, they'll mend what once was torn, two souls entwined in purpose, a destiny reborn.

He'll weave a tapestry of peace, between elves and humankind, Bringing harmony and kinship, a bridge of ties that bind. The hero's legacy shall echo, through ages yet to come, a tale of darkness turned to light, of battles fought and won.

So heed this prophecy's words, a story to unfold, of a hero from the past, with the courage to be bold. Through trials, darkness, and battles, his spirit shall ascend, uniting worlds and hearts, his saga without end."

After reciting the prophecy, she then said, "We have been summoning mortals from thousands of worlds for the past century to bring the hero to our realm and train him so that he saves our world when the time comes, just like how Sir Adrian saved our world long ago by sacrificing his life and imprisoning the demons.

Ever since I heard you almost sacrificed your life to protect the princess, I was hoping for you to be the hero. However, you were in a deep state of sleep. You woke up one day only to go back into the same state for the next two weeks.

After watching you wake up once again while regaining your powers, I couldn't wait and just went ahead with my test. I apologize for my actions."

She bowed once again and continued, "However, now I have realized that you are the mortal from the prophecy. You are the one who leads us to the utopia."

Mark stood there in a daze, digesting the information and understanding what was going on. His brain automatically decoded the entire prophecy on its own, possibly due to high intelligence stat.

The High priestess patiently waited in her kneeling position until Mark gave an unexpected reaction to one specific statement of all the things, "Did you just imply that I marry the princess?"

Chapter 466 The High Priestess' request

The prophecy of the elves basically states that a summoned hero will save the world from the demons.

He will sacrifice himself to seal them up, but they will eventually escape as time passes.

A great evil from the banished dimension of the Void realm will be returned, spreading chaos all over the world.

In times of turmoil, another mortal visit the world and free them from slavery.

He holds the darkness in his heart but also controls divinity at the same time.

He vanquishes the demons and becomes a hero.

He takes the princess as his bride and protects the world as his own.

Finally, he brings the humans with him and establishes the harmony between the elves and the humans.

Upon witnessing the powerful divine energy blast from Mark, the High Priestess became confident that this second human from the prophecy was none other than Mark himself.

She, who bows to no one but her God, kneeled before Mark in order to showcase her sincerity to the savior so that her race may live.

When Mark asked whether they were offering the princess as his bride in response to her greetings, she nodded while thinking that it would go more smoothly than she expected. Summoned Heroes are often lustful humans.

Many of them in history took the elves as their brides. The last hero of the Ixitus Empire even married as many as 16 elves, of which there was even a widow queen and the Queen's younger sister.

While it is not uncommon to see summoned heroes getting married to the elves and making Ixitus Empire their homes as returning was impossible, there is a heavy drawback. It is that a mortal of any other race and an elf cannot have children. No one knows why. The people can only conclude it is an incompatibility between two species.

So, in theory, the existing line of the royal family might just cut off with the princess if she marries Mark as she was the last remaining member of existing royalty.

The High priestess was confident that even the princess would have mentally prepared herself to serve the Hero with all her heart and body.

Hence, she kept her cool when replying to Mark's question with a nod, "Yes. Her Highness will be your bride, and together, you shall rebuild this world. For saving the princess and for your future battle against the demons, we have been guarding the treasure for a long time. Please follow me to the Altar and receive the weapon that's been waiting for you."

As Mark let out a smile and gestured for everyone to get up, the High Priestess thought that she managed to convince him.

Little did she expect that the savior she was looking up for help turned out to be a greedy fellow.

As soon as she rose to her feet, Mark opened his mouth, "Sorry but marrying the princess isn't a reward but a burden I have to carry for the rest of my life. Your offer doesn't match the sincerity in your words, Miss."

"Eh?" The High Priestess couldn't help but look at him in surprise. The other elves around who heard it also appeared to be taken aback by his words.

Even if he is powerful enough to hurt the High priestess, he is still crossing the line by comparing the princess to a piece of baggage. This was what more than half of the elves thought. In an instant, Mark became a disliked figure among the masses for insulting the princess.

Fortunately, the High Priestess didn't take it as offense and continued with the conversation, "Mr. Lu, the weapon we intend to present you is of divine grade, once held by Isolde herself, our ancestor who ascended to the god realm."

"Divine grade? God realm?" Mark didn't understand those words for the moment, resulting in a counteroffer after a bit of thinking, "I don't know about that, Miss. In my view, a loveless marriage is akin to business. And while during business, one should tally what two parties are giving. I, on my side, will be risking my life to save you people.

Then, my marriage to your princess will tie me to your world for the rest of my life. Once I marry her, I will be obliged to protect her people from any harm in the future too. And in return, all I get is one weapon.

No matter how excellent this weapon is, it is not like a sentient robot. I meant, a living being. I will have to be the one to control it. And in times of peace, such weapons will not have much use.

That is why your proposal isn't fair to me. However, if you want me to do your bidding, then, here's my demand. Apart from the weapon you speak of, I need full access to dig up rare materials found in your territory. Deal?"

After witnessing how he could overpower the enemy, Mark was no longer afraid of expressing his demand, despite not understanding the severity of the situation.

No matter the difficulty, as long as he has enough manpower, rare materials, and time, he can solve any situation. In the worst-case scenario, he will escape from these people and hide in the mountains until things calm down. Or so, he believed.

It is why he boldly stated his demands without any fear while hoping for things to go his way.

Surprisingly for him, the High priestess agreed to his demand in just three seconds, followed by shocking everyone by announcing the marriage date.

Even Mark and his two sons were taken aback by the announcement.

Mark quickly objected to it, "Wait a second. You were only under the assumption that I was your hero. There's no solid proof for it. How about we do it once I exterminate the demons and reestablish your rule?"

"I apologize, savior, but we are running out of time," The High Priestess gave a 90-degree bow and then explained, "You might need the help of our divine treasure to defeat our greatest adversary. And the divine treasure will only acknowledge you as its wielder after you marry the heiress of the royal family and consummate your marriage. And if this auspicious date is gone, then, we might have to wait for another seven months. Please do consider it and accept our audacious request."

After making her request, he slightly raised her head to take a look at Mark in order to see his reaction. Seeing him in a bit of a daze, the High Priestess further nailed the coffin by further stating, "Her Highness is the sole heir to the throne. Once we get back to our land, as her husband, everything is going to be yours. Gold, treasures, rare materials, and people. Whatever you asked, it will be yours to take."

Meanwhile, the surrounding elves felt more and more pathetic. It was already miserable for them to hear that their princess had to marry an arrogant human for the sake of their lives and now, they had to see their revered High Priestess begging the human to accept her request.

What if this human rejects it once again? How shameful it is going to be, especially for a supreme being like the High Priestess?

Many of them couldn't help but shut their eyes, not being able to watch such a scene.

After a few seconds of silence, Mark replied, "I will think about it and give you the answer tomorrow morning."

Seeing that her proposal wasn't rejected right away, she let out a smile and bowed once again, "Thank you, savior."

With the destruction of the tree house, Mark and his companions were allotted another one. Or more like an elven family left their house in secret and the High Priestess gave it to Mark.

While Zan Rong told him everything she knew about him as well as the world they were currently in, his sons from the future, on the other hand, hid their real identities and just introduced themselves as Zan Rong's acquaintances as they wouldn't be seen as distrustful fellows in their father's eyes, this time.

Surprisingly, Mark believed their words instead of doubting them. As a result, the four of them have a happy dinner together.

Meanwhile, somewhere else in the forest, the High Priestess was confronted by the princess for fixing her marriage without her consent.

They had a lengthy discussion before the princess was convinced of it but demanded that she should have a talk with Mark, first.

Early in the morning, the princess left her house and went to the place where Mark and his companions moved to.

\*knock\* \*knock\* knock\*

She knocked on the door thrice and waited. Soon, Zan Rong was seen opening the door, causing a little bit of displeasure in the princess.

It was fine if two friends shared the same roof, but since Mark is going to be her husband, the princess finds it a bit unpleasant to see her in the same house. She was not some ordinary princess. She is an elf of the royal bloodline and won't allow her husband to have more wives or any lovers for that matter.

Never in the world did she imagine that as soon as she was about to step inside the house, she would hear a shocking matter.

Before she even asked whether Mark was up or not, Zan Rong spoke with a look of disappointment, "Your Highness, Lu Zhen was gone."

"Gone? What do you mean he was gone?" The princess furrowed her brows.

Zan Rong replied, "Lu Zhen left at midnight without saying anything to us. Steve and James went in search of him."

"Huh?"

## Chapter 467 Singularity

Three days later, somewhere in the mountains of Vitra;

Nearby the shores of a stream, Mark was seen roasting up a fish tied to a stick. Steve and James were sitting not far away and eating roasted fish as they were having a chat.

To not repeat the same mistake as in the past, a day earlier, they hid their truth and simply told him that they were travelers searching for their missing father. Meanwhile, Zan Rong didn't tell him about her relationship with Allen. She merely told him who he was and how they ended up in the Elven world.

As a result, this new Mark somehow trusted them more than he did before. It is also why didn't run away after they caught up with him in the mountain. And his current goal is to get back to his world and reunite with his so-called fiancée.

However, the issue is that he doesn't know where those teleportation formations are. Through the teenage brothers, Mark learned that he has space attribute and can teleport to any location. As long as he masters his powers, they can return even without any external help.

Mark, who was a complete beginner in fighting (in his view, threw away his ego and asked them to train him.

Steve and James readily agreed to the job.

On day 1, he learned everything about the basics of the cultivation world that he didn't know from Lu Zhen's memories before the merger happened.

On day 2, he learned about his own potential. Through their guidance, he found what attributes and bloodline he had. By the end of day 2, Mark even managed to bring out his four bloodline abilities. While he cannot control the output of his skills, at the very least, Mark is happy that he has skills that he can depend upon.

On day 3, they didn't continue with helping him master his bloodline skills but guided him in order to bring out his attribute skills. Or more specifically, the attribute of Space was explored during the training.

Except for the long teleportation skill, as Mark didn't even have any muscle memory of using the space attribute skills, it became tougher for him to learn the basic short teleportation technique, which lets him teleport anywhere from 5 meters to 50 meters. The best thing about this technique is its 10 seconds of cooldown.

The brother might have the information on his skills list, but neither of them has a space attribute. Hence, they don't know how to train him either. Both of them could only guide him in a manner they were trained to master their attribute skills.

But, the reality is often disappointing. Mark couldn't learn one skill properly. The teenagers realized that it was due to his weak control over the ether energy.

The teenagers planned for day 4 to be spent on ether energy training, stating that Mark should take it slow. However, they underestimated Mark's desperation.

As they soundly slept around the bonfire, Mark continued to train the short teleportation technique.

His ether energy kept on consuming in heavy amounts but refilled quite quickly due to his passive skill. This led Mark to use it more recklessly when he was alone.

He disappeared like a flash and crashed onto a rock located ten meters away. The rock got pulverized into pieces and Mark gritted his teeth in frustration. "Not enough."

After waiting ten more seconds to reset the cooldown timer, he closed his eyes and tried to use short teleportation again. This time, he crashed into a tree 12 meters further away.

The sounds perked up the ears of the teenagers but they chose to ignore it as it became common for them to hear the sounds of destruction until midnight during the past couple of days.

With every failure, Mark grew more and more impatient. His extremely fast ether recovery rate only made it worse as he wouldn't rest.

Eventually, the dawn arrived.

His physical stamina might be high enough to go for days but mentally, he was being drained, and eventually, it reached a point where he felt like he could no longer continue his training and thought of sleeping.

However, Mark was under the impression that it was this limit that was probably stopping him from going further. He decided to go past his limits.

Taking a deep breath, Mark closed his eyes and concentrated on the raging ether energy inside him that was responding to his feelings. "Let's forget about control for once and use all the ether energy for once. We'll see what happens next."

All the ether energy present in his body was pushed away from his body, forming a layer of black energy around his body and shrouding him in darkness.

"Haaa..." He let out a shout and concentrated on a spot nearby.

He disappeared from there but again crashed into a tree a few meters away from the aimed spot. However, that wasn't all. Mark saw the layer of energy was still in the same place as he was earlier as if it came to a standstill.

"Hmm?" Mark looked at it, wondering what was going on. He could feel his ether energy was still in that mass of energy or whatever it was.

It was at that moment, the dark energy was shot toward the sky. "What the..." He raised his head only to witness the formation of singularity.

Powerful gravitational force emitted from the singularity, sucking everything in two hundred meters range except for Mark. As more and more things were being sucked, its range was also slightly getting bigger too.

"Did I just create a fuc\*ing black hole?" Mark was stunned for a moment before he started panicking as trees and rocks were getting detached from the planet flying toward the sky and disappearing into what appeared to be like a black hole, but slightly different from the natural black holes seen in the universe.

As supreme beings, Steve and James immediately sensed the presence of the black hole. They woke up from their sleep and flew to the location where Mark was staring at the sky in a daze.

"What happened?" Steve asked Mark. The latter pointed to the black hole, "I didn't expect to create such a thing. We are going to die." He was clearly panic-stricken. Mark experienced death before and he doesn't want to die again.

"It's only at the level of a 6-circle. Nothing to worry about, Mr. Lu," James assured Mark that it was not a great concern.

He glanced at Steve, who then nodded and flew toward the sky. The gravitation force from the black hole was also affecting him but his high cultivation made it easier for him to resist it completely.

Steve raised his arms and stretched them widely, closing his eyes.

A giant humanoid, made of some kind of unknown energy appeared behind the black hole. As Steve moved his arms closer, the humanoid creature also moved its arms, trying to crush the black hole in its palms.

The suction was stopped as the black hole enclosed its palms.

Steve looked down and put a thumbs-up with a smile. Mark sighed in relief and James nodded.

However, that peace didn't last long as Steve suddenly sensed something wrong. His attention was shifted to the humanoid creature. Its arms were slowly decaying, or more like being absorbed by the black hole.

Within seconds, the entire humanoid creature was sucked by the black hole, increasing its range by several kilometers at once.

"Ahh..." Steve screamed at once as he was also about to suck into the black hole.

"No, Steve..."

Chapter 468 The Black Hole's Threat

Leaving Mark's side, James flew toward his brother with his entire strength and caught him before escaping the suction force just in time.

Despite the fact that all of it happened in just a fraction of the time, Mark was able to witness it in slow motion, and he never felt more relieved.

If something would have happened with the teenagers, Mark would have blamed himself for their deaths. There might be less than five people in this elven world that could be stronger than them but still, their young age is something Mark found hard to ignore.

As the two brothers from the future landed elsewhere, the raging black hole started swallowing everything.

Seeing the gravity of the situation, Mark made his decision. His icy wings erupted from his back and he started flying away at inhuman speeds to get outside of its radius.

"Da... Mr. Lu... wait..." Steve and James followed him from behind. They eventually caught up to him after a few minutes, roughly more than two hundred kilometers away from the incident. They found him walking back and forth in tension while glancing toward the northwest every once in a while.

As they landed before him, Mark looked at both of them and let out a sigh of relief, "Thank goodness you followed me. I think the situation is out of hand. We should look for the teleportation formations and escape this world."

"Eh?" The teenagers were equally taken aback by his words.

"But, what about the inhabitants of this world?" Steve asked. James added, "Since we made the mess, we should do something about it."

Mark, at once, became frustrated by their naïve thinking. He raised his voice, "Look, I just don't know how to undo the singularity and it's not the time to worry about morals. Survival is a priority. Let those natives think of a solution on their own and pray that they will survive. Come on, let's go."

Both of them were shocked by his explanation, not expecting their dad to be narcissistic. A bit of selfishness is okay, but this... Neither of them was okay with it. While Steve became hesitant to follow Mark's orders, James outrightly voiced his opinion in a firm tone, "Sorry but no. Mr. Lu, I and my brother will not stop you from escaping by yourself but we will not aid you in committing a grave sin and get away with it."

Steve looked down in disappointment, not intending to refute his brother's statement.

Mark was angered by his reply but then upon realizing that they weren't obliged to help him, he roared at them, "Fine. I don't need your help. Both of you can stay here and die. I will get help from those elves, even if I have to agree to the marriage."

Mark sprouted his icy wings once again and started flying toward the south, disappearing from their sight within no time.

James let out a deep sigh and stared in the direction of the black hole. Steve couldn't help but ask, "Are we really abandoning Dad's side?"

James replied, "He made his choice, Steve. Remember Dad's last words before he left us? We can be a disappointment to our teachers, friends, or even parents, but never fall from our own sight."

"I understand that but..." Steve couldn't help but look in the direction where Mark flew away.

James didn't need to hear everything to understand what his brother wanted to say. He knew that his brother didn't want to leave their dad's side. Not to mention, there's also Steve's own mission to accomplish, and abandoning Mark might threaten it. There's also a concern, like what if Mark found a teleportation formation with the help of elves but ended up in a completely different world? What if they refuse to help him because of his earlier act of escaping from the forest? What if the demons find out that he is the culprit behind the black hole? The mage behind the demon emperor is a demigod and he would have his ways to find the truth.

So many thoughts were going through Steve's mind and James became aware of it with a simple look at his brother.

In the end, he sighed inwardly and told his brother to follow Mark but not engage him. In the event of the worst case where the world is doomed and cannot be saved, Steve was asked to escape through the teleportation formation near Osyhlona city with Mark.

For some reason, Steve didn't worry about James' own survival in the worst-case scenario and just flew away as soon as he got a nod. Whether he chose to ignore it or didn't come to his mind or if there's a mysterious secret to this, it is something that can only be answered by Steve, but only when someone asks him.

Meanwhile, the Elven High Priestess Sylvandria and the other supreme beings on the planet also sensed the threat from the black hole.

In just half an hour, the High Priestess reached the location and found a green-skinned short fellow with long pointy ears and reddish-pink eyes floating in the sky.

Amidst the floating rocks and trees, the demigod mage was seen staring at the black hole with curiosity filling his eyes. With the appearance of Sylvandria, his attention was briefly drawn to her and he let out a smile while turning back toward the black hole with an asterisk disk around it due to the foreign energy, "It's beautiful, isn't it?"

"You are sick," The High Priestess looked at him in disgust before proceeding to unleash a spell.

The dwarfish creature giggled in response, "I wouldn't do that if I were you."

The High Priestess turned a deaf ear to his words and continued with her 10-second-long incantation.

Once it was finished, she motioned her staff in a spiral shape, conjuring up an energy creature looking like a snake with two horns.

"Go..." As she pushed her staff forward, the serpent was shot toward the black hole. It made it to its target within no time and entered it willingly.

The idea was to destroy the black hole by destroying it from inside by swallowing up its core. Little did the High Priestess expect to lose her connection with the divine serpent.

"What!" A look of confusion appeared on Sylvandria before it changed to that of panic as the suction force of the black force increased even more.

The mage smirked while staring at her bewildered expression. "You should have listened to me earlier. That wasn't a space-type black hole, but a gravity-type black hole. The gravity-type black holes absorb even the

energy. How did a supreme being like you miss such an obvious thing? But then again, this had dragged you out of your domain. I'm very much satisfied."

"You..." The High Priestess became angry at him, "Shut up and stop this madness. You were already ruling the world, right? Just let us live in peace..."

The mage was slightly taken aback but as he glanced at the black hole once again, he thought of a quick plan and let out a grin, "Alright. You surrender and become His Majesty's bride. I will let your people live. What do you say?"

"Are you crazy?" The High Priestess shouted as an initial response but she became calm quickly. She already lost her will to go against the demons when her ray of hope (Mark) escaped from the forest. Hence, she was forced to consider this proposal, "How do I know you will keep your word?"

Chapter 469 System's intervention

The mage's smile widened upon realizing that the woman was actually willing to sacrifice her life. He didn't waste any time in striking the deal, "I'm willing to go through the Blood oath to the elemental spirits."

"Not a Blood oath, but do a soul oath, Vexiron," replied the Elven High Priestess, not intending to trust him.

There are three types of oaths one can do to the heavens.

One is the oath of cultivation with the heavens as the witness. Breaking such an oath will incur a lightning strike from the heavens, but it can be avoided when one enters the demigod realm.

Second is the oath of blood to the elemental spirits. Breaking this oath will incur the wrath from the elements of nature such as fire, water, lightning, earth, and wind. The forces of nature keep on trying to kill the oath breaker, but in this process, it can destroy the world too.

The last is the oath of the soul to the heavens. Breaking it will result in the extinguishment of the soul after the death.

It means there won't be any reincarnation and unless one is in God's realm or has a heaven-defying existence like the system, they would have to keep living in fear of death. Not even divine-grade weapons can break those chains on the soul.

Sylvandria can only put her trust in such an oath, making the demigod hesitant a little bit. He was wondering whether he should go with her proposal or just capture her by himself.

But, thinking about his goal, he gritted his teeth and gave a nod as he already knew the extent of her powers, "Alright, I will perform the soul oath but you must do the same."

In the next instant, his words echoed throughout the region, "I, Vexiron of the Void Realm, with heavens as the witness, and my soul as the leverage, as long as you abandon your faith to your gods, become the bride of Eol, the Great, and give birth to a heir, I will free the surviving elves."

Following his words, a seal is shot in the air by his staff before it goes back into him, transforming into a chain over his soul.

After the process was completed, the mage raised his staff once again, "Now, I shall remove the threat as a way to show my sincerity, but I warn you. If you go back on your word, I will not hesitate to conjure up another black hole, which is far more powerful than this one."

The High Priestess nodded with a serious expression, "I keep my word."

The mage let out a smile and looked at the raging black hole that was covering over 10 kilometers in radius. Using all of his ether energy, he shot out a mass of black energy into the sky.

Far above the black hole, another singularity was formed with a mass supposedly far higher than the one Mark accidentally created. Or at least that was how it appeared at first glance as it affected the range of more than 100 kilometers around it.

"What are you doing?" Sylvandria frowned at him. Shouldn't he take it back? Why was he making it worse?

Vexiron answered, "The earlier one also absorbed your divine energy, High Priestess Sylvandria. I can't dismiss it using traditional means. The bigger one will suck the smaller one before I set it into an explosion."

"Okay." The High Priestess nodded in understanding and raised her head to look at the scene.

However, the reality was completely different from what they thought.

Not even Vexiron expected his black hole was move toward Mark's black hole instead of the other way around.

In a normal scenario, they should pull each other with their gravitational force and orbit around each other before the smaller one gets swallowed by the bigger one eventually.

However, the black hole created by Vexiron just zoomed into Mark's creation without showcasing any resistance or so whatever, shocking both of them.

"How is this possible?" Vexiron just stared at the formation of a massive black hole, which now started to pull everything within a 500-kilometer range.

Along with the mountains and everything, Sylvandria started to get pulled toward the black hole. "You monster... I curse you..." She roared in anger as she was trying her best to resist the gravitational pull but it became too strong for her. Even Vexiron himself is barely resisting it with an energy barrier over himself.

Meanwhile, somewhere above the forest, Mark was seen flying at blazing speeds. Upon seeing everything go dark all of a sudden when the sunrise just happened, he stopped flying and turned around. In the sky, a majestic black hole, spanning tens of kilometers, was absorbing everything in its range.

Upon seeing how close its effective radius got to him, Mark's face became paler. "How did this get so big? I need to hurry up."

He turned around once again and started flying toward his destination.

Back to Vexiron and Sylvandria, the former no longer looked in great condition while the latter was struggling to escape the gravitation pull. She was moving at a pace of ten meters for every second, giving her a maximum of 20 minutes of survival.

Because of the swirling violent winds and huge rocks and trees as objects, her voice wasn't even reaching the mage, who still looked in a daze and panic.

"What to do? What to do... At this rate, everything is going to fall apart. I need to do something..." Vexiron gritted his teeth while taking out some sort of scroll from his storage ring, "I guess I was left with no other choice. Lord Xalazar is my only hope."

He was about to pour his ether energy into the scroll to activate it, but before he did that, a familiar voice was heard in the surroundings. "Don't bother, Vexiron of the Void. I'm already here."

"Eh?" The mage looked around before sensing a strong presence quite near the black hole but wasn't affected by its gravitational pull.

At one glance, he looked like a human, except for two horns on his head. The stranger raised his hand, releasing pure demonic energy from his palms.

Sensing the power that far exceeded his, Vexiron became elated in an instant, "The power of an immortal. Now, the problem will be solved for good."

However, his happiness was short-lived as the beam of demonic energy sent into the black hole only increased its power by ten times instead of destroying it.

"Kyaaa..." The High Priestess couldn't help but scream as she started flying toward the black hole at an increased pace. Even the mage was no longer able to protect himself anymore.

Fortunately, he was someone who had a gravity attribute and also a demigod to add. He was able to escape the influence of gravitational pull and made his escape while cursing the idiot who made it worse.

In the vicinity of the black hole, the stranger, who appeared to be unaffected by it, let out a deep sigh, "No one under the Saint realm can diminish it. This world is doomed for good. I guess I have to look for another world." He disappeared from the spot, and went to god knows where.

Meanwhile, the entire forest and the elves inside it started to fly in the sky. Due to the sudden increase of the range, several trees and rocks came at him at once.

But, just as he was about to be struck by them, everything came to a standstill. The black hole, the flying trees, rocks, huge volumes of water, elves, demons, Sylvandria, Steve, James, and even Vexiron were frozen in their spots.

The only person that was unaffected on the planet was Mark. However, even he wasn't himself at the moment.

His eyes turned pitch-black and there was a mystical orb in his hand. He lets out a deep sigh as he mumbles in a robotic high-pitched voice like a female A.I., "What a troublesome host that I got. Because of this fool, I exposed myself to those gods and I even have to use the object from the future as a tool to protect the present. If only he had chosen the time attribute like I suggested instead of going with anti-matter, this would have been a piece of cake. Let's hope this incident will serve as a catalyst."

The orb then glowed in bright green, instantly returning everything to back it was, before the emergence of the first black hole.

The time continued to move on while Mark lost consciousness and started falling from the sky.

Chapter 470 Special type Android, the face from the past

"Ugh..." Mark woke up from his sleep; this time, he was alone in the middle of a forest with no one around.

There are also other changes, compared to the last couple of times.

This new Mark remembered every bit of memory he had before he came to this new world. He also remembered everything afterward, until the point of creating an accidental singularity.

Upon remembering the identities of those time travelers and how he acted with them so far, Mark slapped his forehead and cursed himself, "Idiot, they have traveled all the way to the past to meet you and they even tried helping you with mastering the space attribute but you just acted too condescending. But then again, the lack of a specific set of memories created that situation. Anyways, now that everything has become normal, let's go and meet them and act as if I don't remember causing a mess with the black hole."

\*Ding! Everything didn't become normal, host. It became worse.

The notification from the system made him remember the series of notifications he briefly heard of the sounds before losing consciousness when he fought with the demonic elf at Osyhlona city.

"Oh, yeah, that's right. System, what happened back then? And what do you mean by it became worse?"

\*Ding! The host was infected by a divine power belonging to a true god. It's likely that System is the target.

\*Ding! The host's earlier actions forced me to come out of my protective barrier and save you. The host is lucky to get into contact with the item from the future, containing powerful divine energy that managed to eradicate the infected divine power.

\*Ding! However, due to a fragment of the true god's divine energy that has already been assimilated with the host's ether particles, the host's movements can be tracked by the true god. The system guesses that the host will be facing powerful enemies from here on.

"Powerful enemies? As in..." Mark became serious upon listening to the explanation.

\*Ding! The weakest could be 9-circle and the strongest could be 12-circle. 13-circle if the host's luck runs out.

At once, Mark's face became pale for he knew he wasn't a match for them. "Can't we remove this somehow? You must have some treasure to do that. How much it costs?"

\*Ding! Sorry, but the system currently isn't powerful enough to deal with the divine energy of a true god. There are however two ways for the host to save himself.

\*Ding! First, the host could remove the ether particles and become a mortal. Second, the host must enter the Saint realm (12-circle) and the system will help in removing the residual foreign energy.

\*Ding! The system recommends the second method. The host must also be reminded that due to the assimilation of divine energy, the host could use attacks containing divine energy, although no additional skills will be provided by the system.

"Okay, that's a bit of positive news." Mark found something good in the trouble. So, he was at least satisfied a little bit. He then asked, "So, is there something else I should know?"

\*Ding! The reward for the emergency quest hasn't been opened yet. The Lottery System has been reset. The orb of Bael has been filled and the demon is ready to be summoned. Worship of Velkazar's Statue has been reset.

"Open inventory." Mark didn't waste any time to unlock his reward. When he first acquired an Android, it was a handsome hunk. The second one was a busty beauty. Now, who is it going to be? What kind of Android he is going to receive?

Hoping for a beast type like Alina's current form, Mark went on clicking on the metallic box image with a question mark on it.

The box disappeared and an android was summoned before him, truly shocking him. For a moment, Mark felt like he was seeing an illusion and rubbed his eyes and then pinched his arm to confirm the reality.

The Android was a male, an okay-looks if one might add, but the face was something very familiar. It used to be the face he once kept seeing in the mirror.

That's right. It looks exactly like Mark Spencer, from his previous life.

\*Ding! Congratulations, you received a special category Android assistant.

\*Ding! A reminder: Special category androids are already named and cannot be changed.

Ark

Current Status: Normal mode

Spirit path: N/A

Rank: 7 (all stats = 7.8)

SKILLS:

## 1) Normal Mode (Weapons Research Specialist):

Active: None

Passive:

Weapon Design: In this mode, the android excels in designing and developing advanced weaponry.

Materials Analysis: It possesses an in-depth knowledge of materials science to select and create materials suitable for weapon construction.

## 2) Battle Mode (Combat Specialist):

Active:

Suicide (one-time use): The android self-destructs its core, releasing energy equivalent to 10 megaton TNT.  
Blast Range: 6 km. Effective radius: depends on several factors.

Passive:

**Combat Tactics:** The android becomes a tactical genius, capable of analyzing battlefield situations and devising effective strategies.

**Weapons Proficiency:** In this mode, it can use a wide range of weapons effectively, from firearms to melee weapons.

**Adaptive skill Acquisition:** The Android possesses the ability to instantly learn and master any technique that it witnesses regardless of spirit path. However, the skills cannot be learned if they require attributes outside of the basic elements (Fire, Water, Wind, Lightning, Earth, Dark, and Light)

**All attributes:** The Android can use all the basic attributes.

3) Craze Mode (Uncontrolled Weaponry):

Active:

Indiscriminate Firing: The android unleashes a barrage of energy attacks in all directions for 60 seconds, causing chaos on the battlefield. CD: 15 minutes.

Emergency Shutdown: To prevent catastrophic consequences, the host can forcibly shut down the Android when it is in Craze Mode. CD: 60 seconds.

Passive:

Berserk: In the craze mode, the Android goes berserk with its stats by 1. In this state, it cannot distinguish an ally from a foe. Only the host is exempted.

All attributes: The Android can use all the basic attributes

Unpredictable fighting style: The Android's moves will be completely random, whether it is the usage of an attribute, weapon, skill, or technique.

\*\*\*

"Hmm... I guess I understand why it is called a Special type Android. But, its face just makes me quite uncomfortable. System, can you change its appearance?" Mark felt like he was reminded that he wasn't Mark anymore as he saw the Android.

\*Ding! The request was denied. The Special type Androids cannot be modified in any way, except for upgrading their stats and adding new skills.

"Fine..." Mark groaned in a bit of annoyance. As something clicked in his mind, he asked, "How about hiding its face with a helmet? I can give it an armor set, right? It is considered giving a weapon."

After a brief pause, the system gave the reply.

\*Ding! It is possible.

\*Clap\*

"Good then. By painting armor with white paint, he is going to be the White Knight." Mark thought of finding white-colored equipment just like Song Yun found for himself, but as he didn't have a memory of the existence of such equipment, he decided to resort to a waterproof color.

"Okay, what's next? The Lottery? But, my luck points aren't full... Hmm..."

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Meanwhile, far away from the forest, Steve and James were searching for their dad while discussing the crisis that was averted somehow. Since they don't know how it happened, they can only judge it as some powerful force intervened and saved the world.

Despite that, neither of them hated their dad. They might have their differences but still, he is their dad. As Steve lost track of Mark ever since that final black hole suddenly affected almost half of the world, both of them couldn't help but worry about not being able to sense him anymore.

Not knowing where to start looking for him, both of them decided to go to the elven hideout to check whether he visited the High Priestess or not.

Since it can only be accessed by walking through the forest instead of flying over it, they went on foot to reach the place.

As soon as they entered the place, they saw the outskirts of the village was empty with no one patrolling around. The tree houses built there were empty.

Feeling something suspicious, James scanned his surroundings and instantly found hundreds of presences together in the place of what appeared to be the Altar. The presence of a supreme being (High Priestess) is also at the same location.

They thought that the High Priestess probably summoned them. They made their way to the Altar, which is located in the center of the village.

Little did they expect to see a mass army of robots taking the entire village hostage with their dad seen carrying the High Priestess over his shoulder as he was floating above the altar with a cold gaze in his eyes.

Both of them looked at each other in surprise.

"What... the... hell..."