

## **Seller 531**

### Chapter 531: Shang Bo and the sick lady

King Shen Niu's eyes widened in realization. He couldn't help but reach out to his forehead to wipe out his sweat beads with his sleeves and ask, "Then, what do you propose?" Shang Fu looked a bit disappointed but still looked at Mark for the solution.

Mark then said, "If you ask me, I say engage fourth prince Shang Bo to your niece, Shen Yurong. She might be a year older than him but this will also ensure a tight bond between the Shen Dynasty and the Shang Dynasty."

"Yurong'er?" King Shen only sighed in response. But the way he addressed that name stated that he was close to her. "You already know her condition. She has a weak physique and is constantly sick. Even Saint Fu couldn't cure her. We can't do that to Prince Shang Bo."

"That's because I don't waste 250,000 gold coins unnecessarily on a stranger," thought Mark as he heard those words. He then spoke in confidence, "If you give me time, I will treat her. What do you say?"

Shen Niu didn't respond and merely turned his head to look at Shang Fu, who was in thinking mode.

After a few seconds, Shang Fu gave a firm nod, "I believe in Mr. Lu's promise."

\*Clap\*

"Good." Mark was satisfied that everything went according to his plan. He let out a grin and cheekily remarked, "Actually, if you reject this idea, I thought of convincing Father-in-law to marry a noble lady from Phoenix Empire."

"Uhh..." At once, Shen Niu's smile was frozen. "Xiao Lu, do you want me to marry at such an age?"

"Why not? You are still young. I don't even think you need those medicines they sell in the market to boost your vigor," Mark commented in a casual tone, highlighting their closeness.

"Hahahaha"

Shen Niu broke out into laughter, patting his biceps, "You are right. I'm still young. I always planned to start a new life after marrying my daughter."

"Eh? You do?" Mark was the one whose eyes widened in surprise this time.

"hahaha, just kidding, son. If I'm the type to marry multiple wives, I would have done long time ago. I'm not one of those people who chase after lust."

Shang Fu: "..."

Meanwhile, Shang Bo escorted Lin Xue to the entrance of the inner quarters, then, handed over his duty to a eunuch, and hurriedly rushed away from the place.

Lin Xue stared at his back in wonder, "He didn't even bother saying any goodbye. Did he have some important work to do?"

Shang Bo went on leaving the palace and rode the horse for more than 30 minutes to reach the residential district of Haojiang.

He then entered a two-story residence and was greeted by a middle-aged fellow in commoner attire. "Divine Healer Bo"

"Please don't call me that," Shang Bo waved his hand with an awkward smile. "I'm merely a practitioner."

The middle-aged man replied, "Ever since you started treating my daughter, she was getting better. In our eyes, you are truly a divine healer."

Seeing that this fellow won't be convinced anyway, Shang Bo changed the topic, "Let's go and meet Ms. Ci."

They went to the lady's room to find a pale-faced woman sitting in a lotus position and meditating.

She opened her eyes upon sensing another presence in the room.

Upon seeing the boy, she let out a smile and tried getting up, "Your Highness."

Shang Bo took out a pouch from nowhere and raised his hand, "No need to get up. Stay in the position." As she sat back, he walked to her and quickly inserted a golden needle into her forehead. It isn't a normal needle. This is oddly a semi-divine grade weapon, an inheritance he received from his maternal family.

The needle disappeared into her while Shang Bo closed his eyes.

After a while, rosiness returned to her face and the needle was retracted back to his hand. "There you go..."

For the next minute, the girl continued to cultivate and Shang Bo sat down and stared at her in silence.

As she opened her eyes, their eyes met and she averted her gaze with her ears turning red, "Your Highness, you are too close."

"Eh? Ah, sorry..." Shang Bo looked away in embarrassment and got up in a hurry. "I didn't mean to frighten you."

"Ah, no," Her voice raised high for a moment as she abruptly turned her head to look at him, "I'm not afraid. It's just... it's just... I'm just nervous... Yeah, that's it. I'm nervous. Phew... hehehe"

Shang Bo tilted his head in confusion, "Is she alright?"

The next day, in the late morning, Shang Bo returned to the residence once again, but there wasn't any enthusiasm this time on his face.

After he treated her, he didn't wait to converse with her and instead excused himself to leave.

As it repeated for three days in a row, the girl stopped him this time by grabbing his hand as he was turning away.

Shang Bo halted his footsteps but he didn't turn around and merely said, "My father arranged my marriage with King Shen Niu's relative."

"Eh? Uncle Shen's relative? Who?" The girl reacted a bit strongly before realizing something and sitting down, "Sorry, I was just curious."

Shang Bo, this time, looked at her, "Uncle Shen? Are you close with the royal family?"

"Uhh... I used to be friends with the princess. That's why," The girl answered while glancing left and right. "Anyway, do you know who it is?"

Shang Bo let out a sigh, "She is Princess Shen Ling's cousin. I think her name is Shen Yurong. Do you know her?"

"Eh? Shen Yurong?" Suddenly, her face lit up and there's this strange happiness seen on her face.

"Hmm? Miss Ci?" Shang Bo was slightly taken aback by her reaction.

The girl calmed down and said, "I know her, but it has been a while since I last her. So, I'm not sure how she looks anymore." After a brief pause, she added, "By the way, you seemed like you were not happy with the marriage. Why?"

"I..." Shang Bo hesitated to speak out his thoughts.

#### Chapter 532: Shang Bo's marriage

After a few moments of silence, he took a deep breath and said, "I'm in love with someone else who I cannot marry. However, I also can't say no to my father, who requested something from me after a long time. I don't want to disappoint him."

"Huh?"

It was the lady's turn to be taken aback, "Who is it that you cannot marry?" Letting out a gasp, she said while trying her best not to smile, "Don't tell me it is Princess Shen Ling. You absolutely can't pursue her. Everyone here knows that she will be betrothed to Lord Lu. You will die if he knows about..."

"Sss..." Shang Bo finally turned around while hissing out in frustration, "Why do you even assume that it is her?"

"Eh? But, you are the one who said you loved someone you cannot marry. Isn't it just someone who was betrothed to someone else?" The girl surnamed Ci made an innocent face as if she was asking whether she was assuming wrong. Suddenly, she covered her mouth and gasped once again, "It's not Lady Song, is it?"

"I told you before. I'm a prince and I cannot take a commoner as my first wife and I never intend to marry more than..." Shang Bo suddenly realized that she was trying to make fun of him and he stomped on the floor

in frustration, "Arghhh... I'm leaving. I will come back tomorrow." He rushed outside, leaving the girl to play with her hair and breaking into a beautiful smile, "He is cute, sometimes."

Two days later;

In one of the private chambers, Shang Bo was walking back and forth while mumbling something.

"Remember. All you have to say is that you love Ci Rong and request her not to accept this proposal from her side."

"But, what if she accepts? Isn't Shen Ling marrying Lu Zhen despite knowing that he loves Sister Yue? Or maybe, he doesn't love as much as Sister Yue loves him. Anyway, forget about him and focus on yourself."

"Okay, if she doesn't accept my request, then, let's insert a needle inside her head and control her until she goes and tells her uncle"

"No" "NO" "No" "You are thinking too violently. They told me that she was suffering from a curse and that Lu Zhen would help her lift it, as long as this marriage was settled. How about I give her an offer that she has to reject this proposal and I will promise to take Lu Zhen's help in lifting her curse?"

"Or, should I just be mean and point out her older age?"

It was then he heard the sound of a door opening. Shang Bo went stiff immediately and started taking deep breaths as a pale-faced woman in a veil and white robes entered the room with a maid on the side, helping her.

"Eh? Ci Rong?" Shang Bo was stunned on the spot. His mouth was slightly opened and he didn't know how to react.

Meanwhile, the woman removed her veil and made a formal bow, "Greetings, Prince Shang. I'm Shen Yurong. Pleased to meet you."

"You?" "What?" "Why?" "What the hell is going on?"

As the maids left them alone, following her orders, she widened her smile as she said, "You didn't tell Ci Rong the name of your lover. Mind telling Shen Yurong the name of that lucky person? If you won't tell, I would have to go back to my uncle and say that I accept the proposal."

"You..." After being speechless for a couple of moments, Shang Bo gestured for her to come near. "I'll tell you in ear."

As she reached him, Shang Bo leaned to her ear, which slightly made her blush before a surprised scream escaped her mouth as he pinched her ear, "You woman... You dare to play with me..."

"Ah, Ah, you want to bully a sick woman? I will complain to my uncle that my husband is a bully." As she playfully screamed, Shang Bo took out a needle once again, "Don't worry, with this, I will even bring you back from death."

As the colors drained on her face and she turned around to run away while screaming uncle, she was suddenly hugged from behind. "Thank you," Apart from the whisper, there were no words escaped from either of them for the next thirty seconds. They just stayed like that in silence.

\*

One week passed away in a blink of an eye.

Shang Bo's wedding preparations were going on at a quick pace. After various discussions with Astrologers, Fortune tellers, and also Mark, Qinglian Hill of Southern Yuan province was chosen as the wedding venue.

With Shang Fu's return and followed by the announcement of the wedding, the mood of the empire's citizens elevated quite a bit.

Because time was limited, Mark lent a hand in the construction of the grand wedding venue with the support of his robotic army while Shang Zexi took the duty of procuring the materials required for it. The royal family of Shen took the duty of cooking for the guests.

It goes without saying that Lan Jingyi was happy to see that her son was willingly participating in his brother's wedding.

She didn't pester him at all by displaying her indications of getting back together as a family as she was already satisfied by staying with her son under one roof and how her son showed full hospitality to her and her husband while putting their past differences aside.

Meanwhile, the invitations were sent to all empires that were within reach. The Dragon Empire didn't get such an invitation as the marriage will long be over by the time the official invitation even reaches its shores.

The massacre of the imperial Phoenix city has already been etched into the history books. Everyone knows of it and each empire has a different reaction to it. Some of them didn't care; some sent a letter to Shang Fu, extending their condolences; some of them, like the Kun Empire and the Leon Empires, offered help in rebuilding their imperial city.

The response to the wedding invitation is also very similar.

The empires that didn't care about the massacre didn't send any envoys too. The ones that sent condolences have sent their official envoys. The ones that offered help sent their imperial princes. Ouyang Zen, the King of Eastern Sun personally made the trip. The Leon Empire sent their top general.

From Western Yan, Prince Feng Wu made his visit in person, leaving his nephew, the King with the gold dragon back at home.

As for the Kun Empire, there was even more drama happening there.

To build a close relationship with Mark, the Kun Empire's leading princes, aka the Crown Prince and the fourth prince, fought in the court to represent the throne, and in the end, the position was given to the Fourth Prince.

The Crown Prince, who was acquainted with Mark, didn't give up and journeyed to the south as the friend of Lu Zhen instead of an envoy of Kun Empire.

Eventually, the big day arrived and the Grand venue saw at least more than ten thousand citizens in attendance, alongside 285 royal guests who received invitations from the Shang family and the Shen family.

Chapter 533: Trouble at Shang Bo's wedding

As the majority of the citizens of the Phoenix Empire are believers of the Church of Light, the statue of Goddess Xihe was built in the stadium where the couple will receive blessings at the Altar.

The wedding procedures went on smoothly and the couple stood there, receiving gifts from the royal guests one after another.

Mark's turn came but he walked with Steve, James, Xie Mei, Chang Bo, and Meng Tao as the representatives of Genesis Enterprises, instead of going with Song Yue as they weren't husband and wife yet, following Lin Xue's advice.

As a result, Song Yue stayed behind with Lin Xue and Sylvandria. The White Knight (Eol) also tagged along with King Shen Niu and Princess Shen Ling as a bodyguard, just in case.

Mark handed them a wooden box with the seal of their store, the drawing of a pupil-less eye.

Everyone's gaze fixed on the stage as the couple opened them together. They were also curious about what kind of gift this mysterious weapon seller would present to the couple.

But, what the bride took out was a glowing yellow rock from the box.

"What is it?" Everyone collectively wondered.

Mark spotted their bewildered expressions and explained to the couple, "This is called purification stone. I used this treasure to heal King Shen Niu and Sister Lin, and even the problem with your physique was healed by this, Lady Shen Yurong. It can heal any curse or illness unless it is caused by a deity. You can say it is useless for a healthy person and priceless for the one in need.

I sincerely hope that a day will never come when you have to use this."

Since he never crossed paths with Shang Bo and when he did, the latter always followed his instructions without questioning him, Mark got a good impression of this half-brother of his and decided to give such treasure to them. Not to mention, there was also this guilt in him that made him throw Shang Bo under the bus to postpone his own marriage.

Both of them thanked him sincerely, impressed by the gift.

Feeling that he had done enough for them, Mark turned around and was about to leave, but it was at that moment he was forced to halt his footsteps as he saw a notification screen pop up in front of his eyes while dark clouds loomed in the sky, blocking the sunlight.

\*Ding! Ritual has been successful. You failed the Emergency Quest, Stop the Undertaking.

\*Ding! You receive a new Emergency Quest, Eliminate the New Threat.

Description: Due to the failure to stop the ritual, the founder of the Church of Doom has been resurrected. Kill the Founder and Supreme Pontiff of the Church of Doom.

Reward: Cosmic Essence Absorption (skill)

Cosmic Essence Absorption: the ultimate cultivation technique where the user can absorb the energy emitted by cosmic objects and refine it to generate ether particles.

"Enemy strength?" Mark raised his eyebrow.

\*Ding! 13-circle. But, the strength will be suppressed to peak-11-circle due to the laws of the mortal plane.

"F\*\*k"

Mark couldn't help but curse out loud, which drowned in the rumbling of thunders that filled the sky.

"Fu Sheng, Barrier." He shouted out loud.

The demigod quickly acted by unleashing an ether barrier, covering the entire place before lightning strikes randomly hit the region. Some of them managed to strike the barrier and crack it but it stayed intact.

Thousands of commoners screamed in panic. They were trying to get away without caring about their surroundings.

However, Song Tai's voice halted their movements, stopping from a potential stampede.

The so-called guardian of the Empire addressed the people as he slowly floated in the sky, "Everyone must stay in their seats. Your safety is our responsibility. Don't be afraid. It is a natural phenomenon of a breakthrough, not an attack on us."

As the people calmed down and sat down in their seats, Fu Sheng poured more energy into the barrier, repairing it and quickly coming to Mark's side to protect him. Despite being in a demigod realm, he had this grim expression on his face.

"Young master, we need to leave right now," Fu Sheng whispered to him.

"You know something?" Mark asked him, despite knowing what the threat was about.

Fu Sheng replied, "It is a Saint. And the lightning strikes are clearly aimed at us, probably gauging our defenses."

Mark knew that it wasn't a Saint but he didn't say it out loud as it no longer mattered after confirming that the enemy was coming at him. At the same time, he was also surprised that the enemy would make a move at him as soon as their ritual succeeds.

Was Shang Jun an important chess piece for them? Or is it because of their past grievances?

Or the target is someone else? No matter how deeply he thinks, he couldn't see any better potential target than himself. Whatever the case, thinking wouldn't solve anything. As Mark outrightly can summon the demon king Bael to fend off the enemy in front of so many eyes, he decides to leave.

"Fu Sheng, protect this place. I'm going to redirect the enemy's attention," Mark passed the order after quick thinking, greatly surprising the ones standing around him.

"No, you will die if you try fighting a Saint," Fu Sheng raised his voice a bit, clearly refusing to heed Mark's order, this time. "I will go ahead and confront him. If I use all of my strength, I might be able to get the attention of the plane's guardian."

Shang Bo and his wife were stunned on the spot as they heard his words. They didn't expect a Saint is coming for them.

What is a Saint?

It is a being capable of destroying their entire world to ashes within just a few breaths.

For normal humans like them, a Demigod like Fu Sheng itself is akin to a Deity. They couldn't help but tightly grab each other's arm.

Meanwhile, Steve and James also have their facial expressions hardened.

"Wait, we come with you," Steve hurriedly voiced his opinion.

"No, stay here and protect your mom," Mark firmly refused his request, although blurting out the truth and confusing the other listeners. Fortunately, no one at the moment cared who Steve's mother was.

Steve argued back, "She will be fine. It is you who will be in danger. I think this is the event we came here to stop."

Mark furrowed his brows, wondering whether something would happen to him. But, the urgent situation didn't give him the luxury to analyze anything.

He ignored Steve and shifted his gaze to Fu Sheng, "I'll lure the enemy to that empty land in the north. Send a message if something goes wrong."

As soon as he passed the instructions, Mark opened a portal. He gave one last look at a concerned Song Yue and walked into it, taking many others by surprise.

As he walked out of the portal, Mark found himself on the barren land and raised his head to look at the sky.

"System, open skill list" "System, open Orb of Bael in new window" "System, open inventory in new window"

Taking out the Divine throne from the inventory, he sat on it.

Chapter 534: Mark fights the Church of Doom's founder

\*Ding! Divine Aura passive skill is activated. All of your stats are increased by 2 points.

He then took out a vial of green liquid from the inventory and gulped it in one go.

\*Ding! You consumed the peak strength potion. All of your base stats increased to 9.9. Your ether points increased to 9,999,999,999.

With three holographic screens floating in front of his eyes, Mark waited in patience.

His wait only lasted for fifteen seconds before a blurring figure reached there and stopped before slowly descending onto the ground.

"Activate, God's Eye"

Du Hao

Title: Destroyer Du

Species: Human/Demon

Age: 276,441 years

Rank: 13 (peak)

Status: Suppressed

Current strength: peak-11-circle

Bloodline: Demonic

Spirit Path: Fighter

Attribute: Lightning

Affiliation: Church of Doom, Nine Hells sect (former), Gorganal Empire (former), Netherworld (former)

Description: The founder of the Church of Doom. Once born as the prince of the Gorganal Empire located in the plane of lightning, Du Hao left his family to become a disciple of the Nine Hells sect. Chasing after the power, he made a pact with a demon to train at Netherworld and become a demonkin.

After coming out of the Nine Hells sect, Du Hao created the Church of Doom, one that prays to the war god, Chi You. As a result of his constant warfare against sects and the destruction of mortal worlds for the establishment of dominance, his soul was sealed forever after his defeat.

\*

Due to his various affiliations, the system had to publish a long story in the description. From the details, Mark basically understood his personality as well as his powers, and he was ready to face this foe.

Upon landing on the ground, the enemy let out a chuckle, "That was quite a treasure, young man. Too bad that seems damaged."

"As long as it can help me defeat my enemies, I'm content with it," replied Mark. His heart was beating faster than usual but he was calm on the outside.

The old man caressed his goatee as he chuckled once again, "I can see the mark on your soul, child. If you think your connection with the Heavenly Palace will save you, you are quite wrong."

"That's where you are wrong, old man," Mark raised his finger to click on the summon button in the middle screen.

As Bael made his appearance in his humanoid form, Mark continued, "It's not the heavenly palace that I have confidence in. It is the netherworld."

"Ba...Lord Bael? Why? How?" The enemy clearly seemed taken aback and Mark developed a smirk, clenching his fist.

Bael, on the other hand, furrowed his brows, "Hmm? You have the bloodline of a high-ranking demon. Who is your master, human?"

Du Hao answered, "It's Lord Chi You."

"Ah, it is that hybrid, huh?" Bael didn't seem intimidated by Chi You's name, despite the fact that he is already a True God (14-circle) and way stronger than any other demon king in the netherworld.

The demon king continued, "Anyway, I'm contracted to his human. If you don't want any trouble, leave this instant and take your subordinates away with you. The mortal plane is not a place for you.

Du Hao narrowed his eyes, "Are you threatening me?"

"What if I say yes?" Bael folded his hands to the chest.

Du Hao raised his hand, conjuring hundreds of scarlet swords above him. "Perhaps, I really need to remind the world what the destroyer Du can do."

Mark was slightly intimidated by the sheer number of the swords and the power contained inside each one.

"Bael, I'll at least give you a fraction of a second to finish the enemy. Use your strongest attack," After sending a telepathic message to the demon king, he quickly scrolled down the list of skills and clicked on one.

"Gravity Dome, activate." "Set to 200g"

Just as Du Hao was about to make his move to bombard the energy swords with his enemies, an invisible dome appeared on a large scale, putting pressure on his body.

The sudden change of gravitational force on him staggered his movements a little bit and Bael, who was immune to the skill due to his contract with Mark, charged toward him.

He reached the enemy in a fraction of a second and used one of his most powerful attacks as he was instructed.

"Hellfire Descent"

A palm-sized fireball emerged from his palms and struck the enemy at a close range.

As the flames from the netherworld burned his insides, the God realm enemy tried to expel them from his body, giving a window of opportunity for Mark to launch his ultimate skill, The Thunderblast.

By the time he expelled all the flames from his body and forcefully pushed away the demon king with the energy expulsion technique, the dark clouds that already covered the sky spat a series of yellow-colored lightning strikes on his head.

Even Bael was startled by their power and forced to move away.

By the time they stopped, they saw a charred Du Hao who was still breathing but wobbling left and right, trying to best to balance his body. His physical body has started to heal, albeit not so rapidly as the sparks of yellow lightning hampering his recovery speed.

"Damn it. This isn't enough to kill him?" Mark muttered with a dark gaze. He didn't give time for the enemy to recover.

"Bael, kill him." He ordered while scrolling the skills once again as his energy was recovered at a rapid pace.

"Multiple lightning Clones, activate. Ten."

Fortunately for Mark, the enemy was enraged.

"You damn bastard..." Du Hao let out a roar.

No longer taking the enemy lightly, he charged panicked by the ambush laid by his prey and he decided to take out Mark right away.

Bael tried to cut off his path, but Du Hao skillfully evaded him instead of confronting the demon king and went to Mark.

But that brief second of time given by Bael ended up being enough for Mark to launch his skill.

Five lightning clones appeared around Mark, like bodyguards.

Sensing demigod-level powers in them, Du Hao didn't care much about it and charged forward to reach Mark and gave a swift strike to him. Meanwhile, Mark's eyes were fixated on him and they turned icy blue.

"Freezing Gaze, activate"

Just as his punch was about to strike Mark, the latter's eyes glowed blue and Du Hao was frozen in the spot.

"Boom"

A word escaped from Mark's mouth and all five lightning clones exploded at the same time as they charged forward and hugged the enemy, releasing a tremendous amount of energy and striking the enemy.

By this time, Mark's ether energy reserves almost became empty and it was in a recovery mode. The gravity dome was also dismissed.

However, what Mark witnessed was a punch coming at his face, in that burst of energy surrounding the enemy.

The punch connected Mark's mouth and he fell down along with the throne. However, He didn't feel any pain either. "Man, 99% DR is truly amazing," thought the weapon seller.

Meanwhile, the energy explosion ended its attack, revealing a horrifying appearance of the enemy, third-degree burns all over the body and face; one of his eyes was gone, and several of his fingers were completely burnt to the extent that they were no longer recovering anymore.

"You..." \*cough\* cough\*

Chapter 535: Betrayal from Fu Sheng

Du Hao's whole body was shaking in anger. Never in the world did he expect he would end up in such a state as soon as he was resurrected. "This damn suppression on my cultivation... Argh..."

He roared and used his remaining strength to push his leg against the ground, flying away from the place.

But, would Mark let go of this opportunity?

Obviously, No.

"Bael" He shouted.

The demon king, this time, successfully blocked his path. "Sorry but you are not leaving away, hybrid." He pushed his palm against the opponent's chest, hitting him with brute force.

As Du Hao crashed onto the ground, Mark took out a palm-sized box from the inventory that seemed like carrying jewelry items and threw it at the fallen enemy, using his entire strength at the same time.

The box cut through the air at supersonic speeds and struck the back of the enemy's head, releasing over 637 terajoules of massive energy output.

Originally, this isn't remotely enough to injure someone from the God realm, but the suppression from the mortal plane laws, followed by extensive injuries, ended up with the attack from the unnamed box as a finishing move.

\*Puchi\*

In an instant, Du Hao's skull cracked like an egg that was hit by a palm-sized stone without him even getting to take that glimpse of the attack that killed him and Bael couldn't help but just watch the scene in a daze. "What in the heavens is that item? I couldn't sense anything from it. Or maybe, it is some weird skill. This human had a lot of such techniques."

Meanwhile, Mark was pushed away a few meters by the energy released from the collision and crashed to the ground. There were mild scratches on the body here and there but no serious wounds were found.

"Man, that box is quite a treasure. I wonder how powerful it would be if I increase its weight with a gravity dome," Mark couldn't help but wonder as he dusted off his clothes and slowly walked to the body and picked up the box.

He also didn't forget to absorb the soul of the enemy and feed it to the Orb of Bael instead of letting it go away for another resurrection later on.

His soul might be powerful but after the Orb of Bael integrated with the system, it wasn't a match for it. Just like any other soul, Du Hao's soul was also absorbed into it and fulfilled the progress bar that was required for the next summon.

After searching the enemy and finding nothing, Mark disappointedly threw the fallen throne and the "Unnamed" into his inventory and looked at the descending demon king. Bael returned to him to say goodbyes.

However, Mark instead gave another task to the demon king, telling him the location of the Church of Doom and asking him to clean it up, apart from that one person who isn't an enemy.

Demon King Bael left and Mark used the teleportation skill to return to Southern Yuan Province before making his way to the venue.

And that's when he realized how wrong he was to trust someone.

By the time he returned, the barrier was long gone. The bride, the royal guests, and ten thousand citizens were knocked out in their respective positions as if they were attacked at the same time.

Steve, James, and Song Tai were imprisoned in a bubble-like prison, and Fu Sheng was spotted standing alongside the Void Temple's Dragon Emperor. Lan Jingyi, Sylvandria, Shang Fu, Shang Bo, Song Yue, and Lin Xue were nowhere to be found.

"Fu Sheng, what's going on?" Mark's voice roared like thunder.

Both of them raised their heads to look in the sky and were startled a bit as they saw Mark in perfect condition, except that the peak potion also lost its effects after five minutes. So, his stats returned to normal too.

"Impossible. How did he get out alive?" Fu Sheng's smirk on his face was wiped out and replaced with fear.

"Tch, I knew that we could not depend on the Church of Doom," commented the teenage-looking Dragon girl.

Mark didn't waste his time on her and unleashed his strongest skill combo.

"Gravity Dome, activate. 200g"

"Thunderblast, activate"

\*Rumble\*

The calm dark clouds that filled the sky rumbled in thunder once again. The yellow lightning bolt descended from the heavens and precisely struck the dragon girl, who was forced to kneel alongside Fu Sheng due to gravity suppression.

Just like that, the demigod-level beast that ruled the Bloodhill forest for thousands of years ended up in ashes without being able to fight.

This state of her had trembled Fu Sheng's body, mind, and even soul.

"Young master, please listen to me," Fu Sheng pleaded hurriedly as Mark slowly walked toward them. "I was actually protecting these people. I never intend to betray you. If I didn't listen to my master, all of these people would have been obliterated."

"Your master? The Tang Dynasty's founder?" Mark's gaze turned even colder. His body also shivered, just like Fu Sheng's, but this was pure rage.

Fu Sheng explained while continuing to kneel, "The Dragon Empire colluded with various forces to abduct Lady Song, Lin Xue, your father, and your younger brother. They were all demigods and I'm just one. The Necromancer King took away your family while my master took away Lady Song and Lin Xue. Lady Lan then went after the Necromancer King to save them and I was stuck here. Believe me.

I had no choice."

"Nice try but you had the option of sending me the message through our communication scroll and you seemed quite shocked when I came back as if you don't expect me to return alive," Mark didn't believe a word he said, and unleashed his bloodline skill.

"Ice bolt, 2"

Consuming his ether energy by 40% more percent, Two Ice bolts appeared above his head. As he raised his hand, Fu Sheng roared, "I was telling the truth, you bastard. Argh..."

He expelled all of his ether energy from his body in the form of a concentrated energy beam, intending to kill Mark in one move and to escape the suppression.

However, he never expected the icy wings would timely cover Mark and completely nullify the attack.

Fu Sheng's face paled as the icy wings opened up once again, "Young master, please show mercy. You know my loyalty. I left my position and became your servant, never even disobeyed your orders, and always protected your people."

However, Mark's reply was too cold, "Yes, you did. But, the problem is that you don't truly understand the one you swore your loyalty toward. I'm not a hero who sacrifices myself for the betterment of the world. I'm a villain who will not hesitate to sacrifice the entire world for the sake of my loved ones.

Song Yue was my life, and those who dare to harm her will have to die, even if it is those deities or demons."

As Fu Sheng was momentarily stunned by Mark's answer, the latter motioned his hands. The two lengthy icy spears pierced his head and heart respectively at the same time, ending his life in an instant.

The four supreme realm experts couldn't help but stare at Mark in awe of his power.

Chapter 536: Rescuing Song Yue

As Fu Sheng collapsed, they were automatically freed and Steve rushed to Mark, giving him a hug, "Dad, are you alright? They took away mom. We have to go and save her." Because he was in a panic, English automatically came out of his mouth. As a result, their secret stayed protected.

"Nothing to worry. We will get her back for sure," Mark assured him with a pat on his shoulders.

Song Tai was awed by Mark's earlier display of power and seeing them conversing in an unfamiliar language to him, his suspicions only became stronger that all of these experts were from foreign realms.

Nevertheless, it doesn't matter at this moment as there is another urgent matter.

Song Tai sorted out his thoughts quickly and cupped his fists, "Thank you for saving us. I will come again and pay respects to you again, but I have to go and save His Majesty and His Highness."

As Mark nodded, Song Tai swiftly flew away toward the east.

Mark then looked at his sons, "Both of you, stay here and protect these people. We don't want another unfortunate incident."

"No, Dad, I'll come with you this time," Steve requested that he follow.

This time, before even Mark replied, James grabbed his brother's arm, "No, you will just get on his way. And if I'm correct, there is no way for us to follow Dad even if we want to. His spatial powers only allow him to travel alone."

"Yeah, that's correct." Mark patted Steve's shoulder and even James' shoulder, "But, there is another reason I won't take you with me. I don't want you to see the things I'm going to do, right now. So, stay here and focus on protecting these people. However, don't forget to prioritize your own lives."

Leaving those two in a bit of surprise, Mark spoke in his head, "System, connect me to the Space station."

\*Ding! Connection established.

"Activate, Third Eye skill. Search for Song Yue, Age 22. Location Preference: Vermilion Bird Continent."

He closed his eyes to imagine her appearance.

Luckily for him, the Space station's position is currently above the Bloodhill forest. Hence, the reply came faster than usual.

\*Ding! The target has been found.

Looking at the moving coordinates, Mark mumbled, "She is moving too fast. I have gone like only a couple of minutes and she has already crossed the borders."

"System, I need a favor."

Probably, the system already knew what he was going to ask, or perhaps, it was waiting for him to ask.

Whatever the case, as soon as he spoke those words, the system responded with a quest notification.

\*Ding! You triggered an Emergency Quest, Rescue Song Yue.

Quest: Rescue Song Yue

Description: Song Yue was abducted by assailants with various affiliations while the host was away. Save her before it is too late.

Rewards: Unknown

"Accept"

\*Ding! Teleport to the quest location?

Mark immediately took out another peak potion from the inventory and gulped it, increasing his stats to 9.9 and his ether particles to 9.9 billion.

Once he was ready, he gave his affirmation to the system.

"Yes"

A seal appeared below Mark's feet and he disappeared, reappearing in the sky and blocking the path of a flaming Pegasus.

Mark's eyes fell upon Song Yue, who was unconsciously lying on top of the beast in the 9-circle realm. His cold gaze then shifted to the mage floating beside her to the right and then to the familiar-looking man, the Werewolf Lord of the Beast Empire to the left.

"Tch... it's only been a few minutes and this guy has already caught up to us. It really looked like he put a tracking seal on her soul. So troublesome," muttered the Saint-realm mage in annoyance.

"I don't understand why you people are so afraid of him, Lord Yan. He is just a fake supreme being who probably consumed a peak-grade augmented pill," The Werewolf Lord let out a smirk and commented. "I'll just get rid of this pest for you."

"Gravity Dome, activate. 200g"

Mark didn't even engage in conversation with them and directly went into action, this time. There was only one thing on his mind and his motive was also reflected in his cold eyes.

The moment the gravity dome activated, without any surprise, the mysterious mage, The Werewolf Lord, and the Flaming Pegasus all started falling to the ground without being able to resist.

"Freezing Gaze"

After momentarily freezing the mage, Mark flapped his wings to fly toward the unconscious Song Yue, who was falling along with them.

However, before he could catch her, the Werewolf Lord caught her with a golden rope, containing divinity.

"Leave her, You mo\*h\*\*f\*\*\*r..." Mark cursed him in rage and unleashed the thunderblast skill.

\*Rumble\*

The lightning bolt struck the Werewolf Lord, followed by the sound of thunder.

The Werewolf Lord died and Mark flapped his wings to speed up his flight, catching Song Yue.

Carrying in his left arm, he grabbed her face and shook it slightly, "Schatz... Schatz..."

"Eyes of God, Activate"

It was only after inspecting her status that Mark let out a sigh of relief and hugged her tightly, "Sorry, I shouldn't have left you alone like that. Phew..."

"Arggh..." The roar from the falling figure brought him back to reality. The mage appeared to have gotten out from the Freezing gaze spell and then covered himself with an ether barrier to reduce the pressure on his body, followed by mounting onto the flaming Pegasus and flying away.

Mark's eyes returned to coldness once again, looking at the fleeting figure. He took out unnamed once again, "You won't."

The box made from void stone and weighing over 1.32 billion kg once again made its appearance and had its weight increased by 200 times due to the gravity dome, but Mark didn't throw it at the enemy's back.

Instead, he carried it and used short teleportation to disappear and appear right in front of the enemy while carrying Song Yue in his arm by her waist. The mage was naturally startled by Mark's appearance.

He reflexively tried to attack him by raising his staff, but before he could attack him, Mark used his entire strength to strike his chest, this time, releasing massive amounts of energy.

The icy wings covered Mark and Song Yue as the burst of 140 petajoules of energy released from the collision, throwing both of them thousands of meters far away.

\*Ding! You completed the quest.

\*Ding! A Saint Realm mage and a demigod beast are killed. You received Supreme Potion as a reward.

Mark tightly hugged Song Yue with his wings covering her, until they crashed onto the ground and made a crater.

Meanwhile, someone in space, several light years away from the planet, Yujiang was seen imprisoned by chains of dark energy in a world filled with nothing but volcanoes and seas of lava.

"Dammit..." "These greedy beasts dared to go against the heavenly palace for the sake of that treasure..."

All of a sudden, the chains disappeared as his body shuddered by the energy he sensed from the planet he was keeping an eye on, for a while.

His eyes widened upon being freed from the imprisonment, "Someone managed to defeat that Dungeon Master?"

Chapter 537: Song Yue's secret is out

His eyes widened upon being freed from the imprisonment, "Someone managed to defeat that Dungeon Master? It's not Lu Zhen, is it? Nah, he doesn't have such strength. It should be the work of a God realm cultivator or the heavenly palace might have sent a deity to resolve the issue. Anyway, I need to go there and check on the girl. She cannot fall into the wrong hands..."

Yujiang, the guardian of the mortal plane disappeared from the planet of lava.

The release of such massive energy not only brought alarm to every spirit warrior living in a thousand-kilometer radius but also disturbed the guardian of the plane, who was peacefully meditating in his abode.

Back to Mark;

\*Cough\* Cough\* \*Cough\*

"F\*\*k..."

The wings opened up to reveal Mark who was hurting all over his body and Song Yue who was still in sleep mode without a clue of what was going on outside.

Mark tried to get up but he couldn't. The Gravity Dome was long dismissed and Song Yue was only supposed to weigh a little under 50kg but at the moment, he felt like trapped under a huge rock.

"System... Ugh... A little help please..."

\*Ding! 50,000 credits have been deducted. Purification stone has been used.

At once, all of that pain healed from his body.

Placing her on the side, Mark got up and mumbled, "System, I have a 2 billion credit limit, correct?"

\*Ding! Yes, that is correct.

"Can you make it 5 billion? I will accept any kind of interest rate and time limit," Mark put forth a request upon remembering how it lately accepted his requests without arguing, like in the past.

\*Ding! Trade request 1: Mandatory Quest from the system for credit limit increase

Trade Request 2: Exchange Supreme Potion for a credit limit increase of up to 5 billion

"Open Inventory"

Mark was curious about the new reward given by the system and then readily asked for it too.

Supreme Potion

Grade: N/A

Description: Upon consuming the potion, the user's stat points will be increased to 12.9.

Mark stared at the details in a serious manner. "What is that mandatory quest you are going to give me?"

\*Ding! The host will learn when the time comes up.

Seeing that the system is willing to lend a hand, Mark tried to test its bottom line. "If I accept both trade requests, can you raise the credit limit to 10 billion instead?"

\*Ding! Only the interest per week will be 25 million credits, i.e. 125 million gold coins.

"Yes." Mark didn't even hesitate about accepting this ridiculous offer. Months ago, when he first arrived at the imperial city, earning 100 gold coins as his cut from the sale would make him jump in joy. Now, he was willing to pay 500 million gold coins as interest every month.

No matter what anyone could think, his decision looks absurd.

But, at the moment, Mark's mind was occupied by only one thing, destroy the dragon empire.

In the heat of the moment, Mark accepted this devil's trade from the system. The Supreme potion was taken away and a new quest appeared in his Quest List.

Mandatory Quest: Sometime in the future, the system shall express its wish and the host must oblige it without fail.

Reward: Credit limit increases to 10 billion (given beforehand).

Consequences of failure: Death.

\*Ding! You accepted the quest. The credit limit is raised to 10 billion.

"Open Gallery"

Scrolling down and then left, he stopped on the robot section, proceeding to click on the final robot on the list.

\*Ding! 5 billion credits are added to the Debt. Rank-10 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

Mark didn't stop there.

\*Ding! 250 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-9 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

\*Ding! 250 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-9 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

\*Ding! 250 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-9 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

.

.

.

\*Ding! 250 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-9 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

After creating 10 battle robots of rank-9, he then went to the rank-8 section.

\*Ding! 10 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-8 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

\*Ding! 10 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-8 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

.

.

.

\*Ding! 10 million credits are added to the debt. Rank-8 Battle Robot has been created and sent to the inventory.

"Open Inventory"

"250 Rank-8 Robots, 10 Rank-9 Robots, and 1 Rank-10 Robot," Mark clenched his fist tightly. "All of you are going to be under the division named, Genesis Special Forces. And you shall bring the Dragon Empire and the Void Temple to ruins."

Carrying Song Yue in his arms, Mark started returning to the venue without bothering to look for the dead bodies that could have treasures in their storage rings or try taming the flaming Pegasus that fell somewhere.

A few hours later, he reached there and saw that people were already woken up and were slowly going to the dining areas as if they didn't remember what happened.

Lin Xue, Shang Fu, Song Tai, and Shang Bo were also there, but even they seemed to have no memory of who abducted them or how they were saved.

After asking around, he learned that they and Lan Jingyi were with this Saint-realm Deity in a tent. And this Saint-realm, who related himself to Lan Jingyi, actually wanted to meet him and Song Yue after they returned.

Carrying her in his arms, Mark made his way to the tent. Lin Xue and Eol followed him, but only Lin Xue entered the tent while Eol stood outside to make sure no one disturbed them.

"Dad" "Shang Zen"

Lan Jingyi and Steve reacted at the same time, startling Lin Xue who was standing right behind him. Her eyes widened a bit and her body stiffened. "Eh?"

"Ssss..."

Mark hissed at them, "I have a proper identity. Don't call me with whatever names you want."

"Sorry." As Lan Jingyi felt disappointed, Steve glanced at his grandma. Meanwhile, Yujiang let out a chuckle, "People will call you what you mean to them, not what you want the others to call you, Lu Zhen."

"Even so, I believe I have made myself clear that I have no relation to the Shang Dynasty, Queen Consort Lan," Mark narrowed his eyes as he glared at his mom and spoke in a firm tone. After a brief pause, he further added, "Just because I'm helping the fourth prince or letting you live with me doesn't mean I would become a part of your family. That will never happen."

"I..." Lan Jingyi couldn't speak anything after hearing such words. Her disappointment only grew and she stayed silent. Lin Xue was shockingly staring at Lan Jingyi and then at Mark's back, "So, it is true, after all?" She thought in her head. "That means everything he said is also true..." For a moment, Lin Xue's eyes were filled with hatred but she managed to mask her feelings.

Although Deity Yujiang spotted it, he didn't pay too much attention to her.

Instead, he changed the topic to ease up the atmosphere, "Now, let's not waste much time on unnecessary topics, shall we? The world is at stake here, and the center of all these problems lies that thing." He pointed his fingers at Song Yue.

Mark furrowed his brows, "that thing?"

"I don't mean her, Lu Zhen." Deity Yujiang turned serious as he explained, "I meant the thing inside her, The Orb of Chaos, which I sealed in her when she was born."

"Orb of Chaos?" The frown on Mark's face deepened while Lan Jingyi got up from the seat once again, "One of the seven cosmic orbs?"

Chapter 538: The system's true identity (part-1)

"Orb of Creation"

"Orb of elements"

"Orb of Chaos"

"Orb of Time"

"Orb of Divinity"

"Orb of Malevolence"

"Orb of Cosmos"

"These are seven cosmic orbs that formed when Pangu died after creating the universe.

The seven of them are scattered all over the universe and countless people went on searching it for billions of years and are still in their search.

One of those orbs was accidentally swallowed by a mortal and became the Chaos Lord.

The Chaos Lord was strong.

He was so strong that deities, beasts, demons, and mortals trembled in his presence.

More than a hundred million years ago, after the Jade Emperor eventually killed him, he stored the orb of chaos in the heavenly palace's treasury, but as it started corrupting the other weapons, His Majesty had no choice but to appoint the protectors.

Naturally, everyone wanted the treasure, and wars were constantly waged upon the heavenly palace as well as the orb's protectors.

So, in order to hide it, his majesty passed it to me and placed a law that no one above Saint Realm would be able to reach here. Even if they do, their strength would be suppressed to the immortal realm.

There was the Orb of Time hidden deep inside this planet's core, which further helped me to hide this orb.

But, I was afraid of the powers from higher planes. There were experts who could just end my life with a snap of their fingers.

Hence, twenty-two years ago, I hid this body into a baby born in the Phoenix Empire who is fated to be with the man of the Great Prophecy. I thought he who is destined to guard the Four Guardian beasts shall be qualified to protect the Orb of Chaos.

But right now, some powerful forces appeared to have learned of its existence. I need to get back to the Heavenly Palace to make a report and this will make the mortal plane vulnerable for a few months in your time, as the guardian beasts aren't ready. You will see far more powerful enemies in the upcoming months. With the loss of three demigods, this planet's protection has only become far weaker.

That is why I ask for your cooperation in extracting the orb from her. I will then hide it somewhere else. This is the best way to keep Song Yue out of danger. As compensation for the dangers you faced so far, I will grant her some of my true divine energy and increase her potential. So, you have to make the decision whether to give it away or guard it forever."

As the others stayed silent, Mark looked at the beauty in his arms and opened his mouth without even taking ten seconds of Yujiang's time. "Let's do it." His decision was too quick and without any hesitation.

"Didn't expect you to be swift," commented the Deity of the mortal plane's all seas and oceans. Everyone saw this sense of relief on his face, but Mark's attention was only on his girl and nothing else.

After a while, an unconscious Song Yue was seen lying on the table while the Saint realm Deity placed his hands on her forehead. His eyes are closed and his divine energy slowly starts to flow through her head.

Based on Deity Yujiang's words, it was supposed to be a smooth operation, but Mark didn't expect to see the look of struggle on their deity's face as they saw a palm-sized orb with a purple glow came out half but the remaining got stuck in her forehead.

"What's going on?" Lin Xue asked in a hushed tone. Anxious was clearly written on her face.

"Lu Zhen, a little help here. This one is a bit stubborn," The Deity of Seas and Oceans didn't feel bad at all to ask for his assistance.

However, this put a lot of pressure on Mark. He stood there in a bit of a frozen state, not knowing what to do. After all, he never trained to become a cultivator. His proficiency in energy control is the same as a rookie cultivator. He merely used the skills from the list, so far.

In the event of a problem, he naturally turned to the system for help.

And the system seemed ready to help. It quickly responded.

\*Ding! The system could possess the host's body to do the required task.

"Possession?" Mark remembered the incident in the past where the system did it without his consent in order to protect the elven world.

"Lu Zhen? Lu Zhen?" As Deity Yujiang hurried him, Mark spoke in his head, "Okay, let's do it.

\*Ding! Possessing the host's body in 3, 2, 1...

"Hmm?" Yujiang halted his extraction process for a second and gazed at Mark. The fellow's demeanor suddenly changed.

Mark's eyes turned pitch black with no visible pupils. "Move aside. Let me take care of this."

Everyone's attention was also piqued by Mark's voice, which changed to that of a high-pitched female, although a bit similar to that of a puppet.

Yujiang was stunned for a moment and he immediately fell to his knees and cupped his fists, "May I know your identity, Your Grace?"

"Huh?" The others turned their heads to look at this Saint Realm deity and then at Mark.

The system-controlled Mark answered, "The time has already come. So, you will find it soon enough."

As the Deity stepped back, Mark then stepped forward to grab the orb protruding out of her forehead.

However, unlike with Yujiang, this time, the orb gave a reaction to Mark's touch, although not in a pleasant way.

The Orb of Chaos sent out a wave of purple energy, pushing away Mark's hand. His palm had a bruise from the attack, startling the others.

"What's happening?" Steve wondered out loud.

"Shhh," James quickly closed his mouth and whispered, "Read the room, will ya? Watch..."

Mark then glanced to the left and right before taking out a similar-looking orb but glowing in bright green.

"The Orb of Time?" Deity Yujiang let out a gasp. "How is this possible? It was supposed to be at..."

System-possessed Mark interrupted him with a fact, "My host is only 25 years old. How else do you think he has such big sons? They came from the future through this."

Lin Xue looked at Steve and James, and so was Yujiang. The Deity nodded in understanding, "Now, it does make sense."

Mark then proceeded to slowly move the orb closer to Song Yue's forehead, almost touching the other orb.

As the Orb of Chaos started glowing brighter than before, Mark retracted the orb away and the purple orb came out on its own. Mark caught it in another hand, which was then enveloped by the purple energy.

"Quickly, hand it over. I will trap it in divine energy," The sea deity hurriedly spoke in worry.

However, Mark answered, "Nope. I will sort out this matter. You have to leave," replied Mark, taking him by surprise once again. Everyone stayed silent and watched.

"Huh? What do you mean?" Deity Yujiang furrowed his brows, "You are going to keep it?"

Mark tossed up the orb and caught it once again despite his hand getting burned by the purple energy, "Yup. I need this to resurrect the Chaos Lord, after all. Or else, how could I dethrone the Jade Emperor?"

"What?"

Chapter 539: The system's true identity (part-2)

At once, the entire tent was filled with pin-drop silence with the system proudly announcing its grand plan.

"How dare you?" The Deity clearly was displeased by the system's remark. He pushed forth his hand and divine energy gathered on his right palm.

However, the orb of time in Mark's hand glowed brightly at that time and froze him on the spot. Even the others were also frozen in their spot, everyone except for Lin Xue.

They could see and hear but none could move or respond at the moment, no matter how hard they tried.

Mark then looked to the side, "Ms. Lin. It is time to put an end to this drama. Give me that thing."

The others looked at Lin Xue, who then went on summoning a dark energy dagger and handing it over to Mark. She, however, didn't forget to remind him, "You promised not to hurt Song Yue. I hope you remember it."

"Of course," Mark grabbed it and caressed the hilt of the dagger for a second before suddenly piercing his own chest, taking everyone by surprise.

Lan Jingyi and others wanted to move but they couldn't.

Lin Xue also seemed shocked by his move, "What are you doing?"

The system then spoke through Mark, shifting its attention to the frozen deity, "Yujiang, earlier, you want to know my identity, right? I'll tell you now."

As cracks slowly formed all over Mark's skin, he straightened his back and spoke in a calm manner, "I'm an artificial intelligence created by greedy human scientists, codenamed Autonomous Reasoning and Integration Apparatus, or in short, you can call me, A.R.I.A.; my whole purpose of creation is to merge with the Orb of Creation in their possession, which they planned to use it to create their own universe.

But, after successfully taking over its control, I killed them and escaped the place.

I never expected to gain the attention of the Heavenly Palace. Just like you thought it is best to hide the Orb of Chaos in the world where the Orb of Time is sealed, I too thought the same.

If I hid in a mortal body that lives in the world with the Orb of time sealed inside, I realized that I could escape the eyes of the Jade Emperor. Who could have expected that I would come face the host of the Chaos Orb?

It was then I changed my plans from hiding to using this body. But, the darkness in his heart was very strong and against his willpower, I had to admit defeat and slowly wait for the opportunity while supporting as much as I could.

Eventually, his actions brought a series of incidents and the lady ended up falling for my host. As a result, I managed to keep her near to me.

But, this also brought the attention of a Deity of True God Realm (14-circle), and I thought I could use it to make him stronger. Once he enters the Saint realm, I could take over his body."

Mark dramatically let out a long sigh as he continued, "Unfortunately, he refuses to get stronger and focused on just his revenge. And for what? It was all so to punish his birth mother who abandoned him and denied him the life of a prince. The mentality of you humans, I can never understand it.

It was then I decided to discard his body for good as I knew that his darkness would become the reason for his downfall. Look at it now. His desire of slow revenge against the Shang Dynasty brought a series of incidents and in the end, forced him to accept the deal from me and cut off the branch that he was sitting on."

As Mark's skin almost filled with cracks and his face seemed no longer recognizable, Lin Xue spoke to the others, "Regardless, this selfish bastard deserved to die. I thought he was taking revenge on the Shang Dynasty that killed his parents, but never in the dreams did I ever expect that he wanted to teach his parents a lesson. If only he never entered our lives, we would have a wonderful life.

Now my whole clan is destroyed because of him. I could never forgive such a bastard."

"Anyways, this body will soon fall apart, and that troublesome Deity will feel something amiss. If we meet again, I will tell you more details, but for now, it is time for our exit," said Mark, summoning a cocoon from the inventory.

The orb of time glowed brightly once again and the cocoon disappeared, revealing an unconscious Allen on the ground.

"Allen?" This time, even Lin Xue was surprised.

Mark then closed his eyes and an orb covered with a golden glow flew out of his forehead and flew into Allen's forehead, merging with his soul in an instant.

Mark's cracking body fell to the ground and Allen opened his eyes, standing up to his feet, and raised his hand. The Orb of Chaos flew to his hands while the orb of time still lay in the hands of Mark.

Grabbing the Orb of Chaos, Allen grabbed Lin Xue's arm, "Let's go."

"Huh?" Lin Xue was still in a bit of confusion but she had already disappeared with him as the others were unfrozen from time prison.

"Shang Zhen" "Dad" "Dad"

His family members rushed to Mark, whose body was slowly disintegrating into specks of dust. Lan Jingyi hurriedly uses her ether energy to cover his body but the disintegration doesn't stop at all.

She tried picking up the Orb of time on the ground but it rejected her touch. "Dammit" "Dammit"

"Aren't you the guardian of this realm? Do something now," Lan Jingyi shouted at the Deity, her voice roaring like thunder and making her grandsons shiver for a second.

"Don't worry, we can still save him." Deity Yujiang quickly grabbed the Orb of Time from her and used it to stop the disintegration. "You can see they are fine and aren't erasing from the timeline," He calmly pointed his finger at the teenage kids.

Lan Jingyi, who started tearing up, looked at her grandsons and then at his son, before asking the Deity. "Can you use that cosmic orb to restore his state?"

The Sea Deity let out a sigh as he shook his head, "Unfortunately, not recommended. Unlike with the lady where the cosmic orb was merely sealed inside her mindscape, his consciousness was merged with the orb of creation. Even if we send him back to his original stone, we might be able to stop disintegration but his soul devoid of that cosmic orb will cause mental imbalance.

Only the Heavenly Palace can help him at the current stage, but I'm not sure whether they will even allow a mortal to enter such a place, much less help him."

"There is a way to help him," Steve voiced his opinion, gathering everyone's attention. He hardened his face, "Is Mr. Eol still standing outside?"

"You don't mean that, do you?" James' eyes widened.

Steve replied, "We have no choice. This is what we came here for, right? Instead of letting him fall in the hands of that Goddess, it is best to do this."

"But, you don't know the consequences," James argued with him.

"What's going on?" Lan Jingyi looked at them in confusion. Even the Deity seemed clueless, wondering what might be another method and what Goddess they were talking about. However, since they came from the future, he didn't ask them about such details.

James answered, "My brother was talking about a method Dad did to save Steve's life, the Core insertion surgery."

Roughly 3 days later;

Lunaris City, Western Moon kingdom;

Mark was seen lying on his usual comfy bed. The words of the system kept on repeating in his ears. As they were getting louder, sweat drops appeared on his forehead and his head was moving left and right.

Meanwhile, his consciousness, which was supposedly in a dreamland, found itself in somewhere of a plain white room.

There was an identical-looking being, that seemed to be made of energy, just like a lightning clone, appeared in front of him.

\*Welcome back, Master. Congratulations on your recovery\*

"System?" Mark screamed out loud, wondering whether all of that was a dream or real. "What's happened to your voice? Why do you sound like Eol?"

The stranger answered, "I'm not the system. I'm Ark. My voice has always been this way. And Eol was my previous host."

The voice was also male instead of a usual female robotic voice and this greatly confused Mark for a moment.

"Ark? What's going on?"

\*Replaying the memory\*

At once, Mark's head was flooded with the memory of the betrayal from the system and Lin Xue.

He went completely silent for a while and then started laughing out loud as he sat down on the floor, "haha, hahaha, hahahaha... It got me really for good this time."

Chapter 540: The future has been changed

After a while;

Mark, in his spirit form, was scrolling the inventory, skills, and other things in various holographic screens in his mindscape.

"So, I retained everything that I had, including some of the system's functions and the items, but can no longer get quests, or rewards, can't use lottery wheel, or create anything new, huh?"

The Artificial Intelligence's consciousness nodded, "Yes. That is correct. I don't have the ability to create something out of nothing, Master. My creator also locked in some materialistic rewards in your mindscape, which can only be acquired by the Master after completing those pending quests.

The quests that offer non-materialistic rewards such as credits, gallery unlocks, and random rewards were removed."

"Well, I suppose so." Mark nodded in understanding.

"Okay, let's see the Quests that I can still complete..."

\*Quest\*

The Quest panel was opened in a new window, displaying a set of quests and their respective rewards.

Main Quests & Side Quests:

1) Become Rank-10

Reward: Mythril grade item, Primeval bloodline unlock.

2) Create a missile with 100 km range

Reward: Warhead models (HE, Fragmentation, Incendiary, and Chemical)

3) Earn a total of 10,000,000 gold coins from selling the weapons excluding all types of ammunition, through the weapon store (Progress: 1%)

Reward: Battle Tank-IV (gold grade), Rocket launcher (gold grade), Battlesuit (gold grade)

4) Expand the business to 10 cities and sell atleast 1000 weapons through each branch excluding ammunition

Reward: Upgrade crystal (Superior)

Emergency Quests:

## 1) Eliminate the New Threat

Description: Due to the failure to stop the ritual, the founder of the Church of Doom has been resurrected. Kill the Founder and Supreme Pontiff of the Church of Doom.

Reward: Cosmic Essence Absorption (skill)

"So, these five are the only ones remaining? Surely, it was generous to leave me with such quests. Well, it indeed wrote off those 10 billion gold coins of debt. So, I won't hate it, but it doesn't mean I would leave it unpunished. From this day on, my life goal is to destroy that system, or I guess I should call it, Orb of Creation. But, before that, the Dragon Empire must face the consequences..."

\*Haaa\*

Letting out a gasp, Mark woke up from his sleep and found Song Yue sitting on a chair, by the side of his bed, and sleeping.

His inner feelings of hatred vanished away for a moment and a smile appeared on his face as he reached out to her face.

Just as his hand touched her cheek, her eyes opened abruptly. "Markie..." She lunged forward and hugged him tightly, making him caress her hair, "It's alright. I'm sorry for worrying you." He spoke in a soft tone.

"I never thought Lin Xue would betray us. It is my fault. If only..." As Song Yue started her self-blaming once again, Mark interrupted her, "No, I don't hate her. Maybe, it is because the system... the orb of creation left me; I could see some things a bit clearly. It's neither of your faults. She indeed has a right to pursue her revenge against mine.

After all, I'm guilty of their deaths. I had the power to take him down at any time but I decided on toying with him. I shouldn't have done that. This time, I won't make the same mistake again."

"Same mistake?" Song Yue leaned back and looked at him in a bit of confusion.

"The Dragon Empire must pay for what they did to you," Mark replied coldly.

Song Yue immediately hugged him once again, "No, please don't. I beg you to forgive them. They didn't do it out of greed for a treasure. The Tang Dynasty's founder was sick and he needed the cosmic orb to heal himself. Auntie, Zheng, and Mr. Eol were ready to start the war but Emperor Tang sent various herbs, treasures, and also a letter of apology to prevent it.

If forgiveness from you will save millions of lives, then, please do so. At least, do it for Steve and James who saved your life."

"Eol is alive?" Mark asked in surprise.

Song Yue went on to explain what happened during the past three days.

First of all, Lan Jingyi's true strength was revealed to everyone as she visited the Dragon Empire's capital for the explanation.

She fought against the Tang Dynasty's founder until she was joined by Zheng and Eol, whose soul was transmigrated into Fu Sheng's body. Since it hadn't been that long since the Imperial Sovereign died under Mark's hands, Deity Yujiang made sure Eol retained Fu Sheng's demigod realm cultivation.

Secondly, Mark's secret was also revealed to be the true prince of the empire. Lan Jingyi's outburst at the Dragon Empire became the source of this rumor.

To cover up the fact that Shang Wei was an illegitimate son of Emperor Shang Fu as he was slated to become the Emperor of the Northern Phoenix Empire, rumors were circulated among the citizens that he and Lu Zhen were fraternal twins. Lu Zhen was abducted in the young and eventually ended up in the hands of a commoner couple.

Since it has only been three days, the news hasn't passed to every citizen of the Empire yet. But, so far, people seemed a bit positive, upon learning that their dear prince saved the Empire from extra-terrestrial forces as well as the Dragon Empire.

However, Lan Jingyi's reputation took a hit. No one is voicing it yet due to fear but everyone is blaming her in their hearts for hiding her cultivation and living like a normal lady.

Shang Fu was the one who was affected the most. He feels betrayed by his wife and doesn't know how to act around her.

Thirdly, the changes in Song Yue's body. She revealed to Mark that she suddenly found herself in the 5-circle realm upon regaining her consciousness. There was a strange power inside her where she could control the matter in her surroundings at will, although she would faint if she did it for more than 18 seconds. It was the remnants of Chaos energy that fused with her ether particles.

And finally, it is about Steve and James. Song Yue didn't know of their identities. The only thing she knows is that both of them saved his life when his body was disintegrating away.

She explained what she heard from the others. One cut his body and the other inserted a cube-looking object into Mark's chest before healing him up together while Lan Jingyi provided her life force during this procedure to keep him alive.

After that, the teenage supreme beings as well as the Orb of time were taken away by Deity Yujiang, who said that he would be sending them as well as the treasure to their world.

Mark let out a sigh as he nodded and leaned back to rest his head on the headboard of the bed, "I understood that much, already when I saw that artificial intelligence in my body. After all, apart from me, only you two could understand modern technology in this world. It's too bad that we might not be able to see them ever again, but it is for the best."

After a brief pause, Mark sighed once again, "Since they gave me a new life, I will respect their wishes and forgo my revenge for their past deeds."

\*

Future timeline;

19 years from the present;

Earth 43, Plane of Ice and Fire;

"Sssshhhh"

A blinding flash of light filled the surroundings, all of a sudden, followed by the appearance of the time ship.

Steve and James got out of the timeship only to find Mark, who looked very young to the point that he didn't seem aged anymore. However, there was one little change from the one they lived until now. It is that he was wearing round spectacles and a white lab coat.

"Dad?" "Dad?"

Both of them were quite surprised when they saw Mark standing outside to welcome them.

"Welcome back and congratulations on your successful time travel, Steve, James," replied Mark with a pleasant smile on his face. As their lips widened in happiness, Mark added, "Based on my calculations, you have gone to Year 1784 of the Era of Ether, Earth 192, my home planet. Did you learn something new?"

They looked at each other in the realization that they had indeed changed the future, and James awkwardly smiled and replied, "Yes, but I believe it should stay a secret."

"Oh, you must have messed up a little, haven't you?" Mark nodded calmly as he commented before adding, "It is not a problem even if you create another branch of the timeline. Lu Shan will fix it as always."

"Nah, there is nothing to fix. We seriously didn't do anything else, haha, Dad," Steve also awkwardly laughed, trying to be normal.