

Chapter 2361

Little Red Bird Shows Off

The faces of Han Sen and the blood kirin were squashed together. Han Sen hesitated, trying to decide if he should take the blood kirin with him to the sanctuaries. Even if the powers of the sanctuary harmed the creature, it was better than being squeezed into a sausage then and there.

The rainbow sea conch didn't move. It kept pushing the glass down on Han Sen and the blood kirin in a cruel bid to crush them. The black sea conch was standing just outside the glass, and it seemed darkly amused. It moved around a little, and small black things emerged from its shell. They were the black sea conches.

Those small sea conches surrounded the glass like a tide of water. There was a countless number of them, and they looked like a cloud of ink.

Han Sen felt a chill as he looked at them. If the glass squashed him to a pulp, he wouldn't feel safe dying. His dead body would be devoured by the hungry sea conches.

As Han Sen gritted his teeth and prepared to use his Blood-Pulse Sutra to return to the sanctuaries, a beautiful red light appeared above him, shining down into the depths of the sea.

After that, Han Sen saw a burning flame swoop across the sea. It was like a fiery phoenix coming down from the heavens. The strange-looking red light was its flames.

The black sea conch and the rainbow crystal sea conch noticed the phoenix. The black sea conch was frightening, and it immediately retreated back into its shell. Its blue light appeared a moment later.

The rainbow sea conch gathered its rainbow-colored substance chains into powerful waves of rainbow glass that went right for the phoenix.

Pang!

The glass covered the phoenix.

The black sea conch poked its head out when it saw the fire phoenix get trapped. It was so happy that it jumped a little.

Pang!

The next second, the phoenix shrieked, and the red flames of its body rose. The incredibly hard glass turned to lava beneath the strength of the bird's flames. The melted glass began to run like candle wax.

The phoenix flapped its wings, and the glass shattered completely. Even the shards soon melted into a red liquid.

The underwater landscape was smoldering, and the light danced strangely over the seafloor. It was shockingly pretty.

The rainbow sea conch saw all this, and even more rainbow substance chains lashed out crazily. They became another weird shape of glass that headed for the phoenix.

The phoenix flapped its wings and spat out some gold fire. The fire pierced through the rainbow sea conch's glass and kept on going towards the beast.

The rainbow sea conch's eyes opened wide. It gathered up power upon its shell, and then its body retreated inside.

The gold fire splashed atop the crystal conch shell. Instead of breaking the shell, though, the fire burned around the shell and made it shine like a rainbow.

The phoenix looked at Han Sen and the blood kirin. It spat a fireball toward them and melted the glass that had trapped them.

"Little red bird!" Han Sen and the blood kirin escaped. Han Sen, upon seeing the red phoenix, was ridiculously happy. He exclaimed, "The Sun Raven's body and the bird's nest weren't wasted. The little red bird is good!"

The little red bird flapped its wings and sent even more fire toward the rainbow sea conch. The scary gold fire wrapped around the sea conch like an embrace of flames.

When the fire rose, the rainbow shell became a golden color. The shine dimmed.

Han Sen glanced over and saw the black sea conch trying to escape. So, Han Sen summoned Spell as a sniper rifle and fired a bullet at the conch's shell.

The black sea conch hadn't wanted to draw the phoenix's attention, so it hadn't made use of its King area. It was slow, and Spell's bullet hit the shell and broke it. The beast started to bleed.

The black sea conch squealed. Its situation had become even more desperate, so it unleashed its blue light and began moving away as quickly as it could.

"You want to run away?" Han Sen pursued the creature, continuing to shoot at it.

The next bullet went through the blue light area and struck the black sea conch. It flew through the hole made by the previous bullet, and this time, blood flowed out like a spring.

The black sea conch's recovery powers were strong, but that bullet hole wasn't recovering in the least. The bullet hole existed on the beast as if it was a separate entity. It wasn't healing.

That was the work of Spell's Eternity skill. It made a solid wound that was impossible to heal again. That skill was more than a match for the black sea conch, too. Even a deified creature might not be able to break the power of that Eternity skill.

Han Sen got closer to the black sea conch, and he turned Spell into dual pistols. He fired them repeatedly, and every bullet struck that same bullet hole. Ever-increasing amounts of blood poured from the black sea conch.

The blue light area combined with the sea conch's shell and created an excellent defense system, but the flesh of the sea conch didn't have a high level of defense. Plus, it wasn't nearly fast enough to evade the bullets. Before long, it had been shot many times in that same spot.

The black sea conch's body began to tremble. Its flesh shook, and black clouds poured out of its flesh. The black clouds were swarms of little black sea conches.

Han Sen's body shone with Kingese. The little sea conches tried to drill into Han Sen's pores, but they all broke against the Kingese.

The black stone sea conch couldn't run, and the little sea conches were unable to do anything to Han Sen. The big beast had been shot, and it was rapidly losing blood. The Purple Teeth power kept spreading into it as well, making the wound even worse.

The black sea conch's climbing ability slowed. The blue light had weakened. When the blue light was fully extinguished, Han Sen fired his pistols to completely shatter the creature's shell.

Without the protection of the blue light, the conch's shell crumbled under the onslaught.

"Xenogeneic King hunted: Move Mountain Sea Conch. Xenogeneic gene found. Obtained beast soul."

Han Sen happily went to check out what type of beast soul he had received.

King class xenogeneic beast soul Move Mountain Sea Conch: Area type.

Han Sen was shocked. He hadn't expected to receive another powerful area type beast soul. He didn't know if King class area beast souls were extremely common or if he was simply lucky.

Han Sen summoned his new beast soul to find out what it was like.

Han Sen's body shimmered with blue light, the same light that he had just seen the Move Mountain Sea Conch use. This delighted Han Sen.

He wanted to investigate the blue light further, but the rainbow sea conch was starting to emit some strange wheezing noises. Han Sen looked over and saw the rainbow sea conch still being slowly cooked by the little red bird. The creature appeared to be in a frenzy as it tried to run away.

2362 Getting a Beast Soul Again Super Gene

The rainbow sea conch kept running, but the fire across its shell couldn't be extinguished. It was like a flaming wheel blazing a trail through the water and across the sand. The fire refused to go out.

“The little red bird, the harbinger of death!” Han Sen was grinning like an idiot. Although he knew the little red bird had become a deified elite, being able to damage another deified elite like that was remarkably impressive.

Plus, the little red bird had only recently become deified, so it could probably improve even more in the future. In time, it might grow up to become something like the Ancient Water God.

The little red bird cawed in pride. It flew to the rainbow sea conch, and Han Sen followed it while shouting, “Save his last breath for me. I want to take the last hit!”

Han Sen chased after it, and the rainbow sea conch eventually found itself unable to move any farther. The meat inside its shell was boiling. The shell had turned translucent white, and it looked as if the creature was being barbecued.

“Is it still breathing?” Han Sen drew his Thunder God Spike and ran at the fiend. It was a deified xenogeneic, and although Han Sen’s chances of getting a beast soul out of it were low, he still wanted to try.

The fire around the little red bird’s body vanished, and it floated down to land on Han Sen. It opened its mouth toward the rainbow sea conch and inhaled. The gold fire was pulled back into its belly.

Han Sen’s Thunder God Spike slammed into the cooked conch meat, but it was like a blade hitting rubber. The spike would not go in.

Han Sen gathered up all the power he could, but no matter how hard he tried, he couldn’t penetrate the flesh.

As the rainbow sea conch’s life faded, its body crystallized. It became more and more resistant to Han Sen’s strikes.

Han Sen felt depressed. The prize was right there in front of him, but he couldn’t take it.

Not long after, the rainbow sea conch was completely crystallized. Every inch of its body was a xenogeneic gene. It was like a piece of art made from rainbow crystal.

“What a shame.” The rainbow sea conch was very dead. Han Sen was unable to break its flesh, even though he used his Thunder God Spike to strike it.

“Electrocution is a type of damage, right? Will the final hit count as mine?” Han Sen felt very nervous. The prospect of earning a deified beast soul was very enticing.

“Xenogeneic deified hunted: Crystal God Conch. Xenogeneic gene found.”

Han Sen felt as if he had been dropped off at the pearly gates at heaven, only to fall way down into the fiery pits of hell. He had managed to get the kill, but he didn’t get a deified beast soul.

“Anyway, at least I got the deified gene. That is the biggest reward,” Han Sen mumbled to himself, but he still felt crestfallen.

Han Sen sent the Crystal God Conch’s body back to the sanctuaries. Lifeless items weren’t destroyed in the sanctuaries, just like the baby Sun Raven’s body.

The small black sea conches invading the blood kirin were gone. It was wounded, but it wasn’t in any danger of death. With its lifeforce and recovery speed, it wouldn’t take long for the blood kirin to be back in action.

The blood kirin began to feast on the flesh of the Move Mountain Sea Conch and what remained of the Electric Dragon. With gritted teeth, Han Sen gave the Move Mountain Sea Conch’s xenogeneic gene to the blood kirin, as well. He wanted it to recover the power it had lost.

It was two days before he made it back to Underwater Town. By then, the wounds on the blood kirin were no longer visible, but it had yet to fully heal.

The blood kirin had been badly hurt by the Crystal God Conch, and the little sea conches had ravaged its organs. It had been really damaged. If it hadn’t been given plenty of resources to heal, it would have taken a very long time for it to get better.

Han Sen kept on exploring the underwater realms, but he was never able to find another King class xenogeneic. He didn’t know why they had found two Kings and a deified in that one region.

Han Sen wanted to go back to that cave and take a look, but he wasn’t good at shrinking his body. That cave grew smaller the deeper it went. It eventually reached the width of a needle. Han Sen spent some time digging his way through but found nothing. He decided to give up after a while.

“I should take the blood kirin to King’s Garden to heal,” Han Sen decided.

Of course, Han Sen had no intention of provoking the king tree again. He wanted to find a root king dragon there so he and the blood kirin could absorb some king air. If the blood kirin could absorb some of that king air, the healing process could be hastened.

Even though Han Sen tried to keep a low profile, entering King’s Garden still drew a lot of attention.

It was very hard to find a primary root king dragon that was unoccupied.

Han Sen found one, and after looking closer, he smiled. He lifted his lips and said, “What a shame! It is Prince Swordstar.”

Han Sen flew over to Prince Swordstar without hesitation.

Prince Swordstar was sitting atop a primary root king dragon with a few of his guards. When he saw Han Sen coming toward him, his face changed.

“My good little brother, haven’t you heard that you should respect your elders? I am taking this primary root king dragon. Get lost,” Han Sen said as he approached.

Prince Swordstar was very annoyed that Han Sen had been released from prison by Miss Mirror. Now, hearing Han Sen say this, he was so angry that he shouted, "I should respect our elders, but even if we give it to you, I doubt you'd be capable of defending it! So, what is the point of you having it?"

Other princes and princesses knew that Prince Swordstar had brought Han Sen to the Sentencing Court. With Bai Yi's spiteful personality, everyone knew that he wasn't going to let go of the affront lightly. They turned excited eyes toward the brewing confrontation.

"It looks like this big brother should teach you a lesson," Han Sen laughed coldly. His fist gathered up power, and he used the Extreme King's Shocking Sky Punch. He threw his fist toward Prince Swordstar, who was sitting on the dragon's head.

"Get them!" Prince Swordstar barked, looking at the blood kirin in fear. He didn't dare fight.

Four guards suddenly emerged from behind the dragon. Two of them were half-deified.

Ordinarily, Han Sen would allow the blood kirin to fight. But the blood kirin was still injured, so he couldn't let him go forward.

Han Sen laughed and said, "Let this big brother teach you the invincible ways of a real Extreme King!"

After that, he sent an Extreme King Shocking Sky Punch toward all four guards.

"Is Bai Yi crazy?" All the princes and princesses were shocked. They knew who Bai Yi really was.

Although he had managed to claim the alpha statue and earn the protection of the Kingese, he still wasn't very high level. He was a first-tier King. With his power and Original Water King Body, he could fight a single half-deified, but it was simply arrogant to think he could take on four at once.

2363 Punching Four Guards Super Gene

"He's asking to be humiliated. Take him down," Prince Swordstar growled.

"Bai Yi is getting crazier and crazier. He was lucky to get the alpha statue and earn the protection of the Kingese, but it's gone to his head. He's become arrogant and blind to who he really is," Prince Nineteen said coldly.

Bai Ling Shuang was near. She frowned, thinking that Bai Yi's behavior was far too reckless.

When Han Sen earned the protection of the Kingese, Bai Ling Shuang wondered if she should stay close to him, or perhaps even ally with him. But now that Bai Yi had just become a tiny bit successful, his arrogance had become overwhelming. The thought of joining up with him was severely reduced now.

She wasn't afraid of god-like enemies, but she was afraid of teaming up with someone who was gluttonous and uncontrollable. Bai Yi's anger and recklessness would most likely cause her a lot of trouble. Bai Ling Shuang had her doubts about him before, but now he was confirming her suspicions.

Han Sen wasn't concerned about what anyone thought of him, though. He was copying Bai Yi's personality and trying to act as the bitter prince would have.

Plus, he didn't like Prince Swordstar. This was the perfect excuse for him to teach the brat a lesson.

When Han Sen prepared his Extreme King Shocking Sky Punch, the four guards gathered to defend Prince Swordstar. The four powerful enemies had to give up on the idea of attacking the blood kirin to deal with Han Sen's punch, first and foremost.

But they didn't dare to actually kill Han Sen. They just wanted to put him in his place.

Killing was a crime in King's Garden, but if they killed the blood kirin, they'd be locked up but not sentenced to death. Prince Swordstar's uncle was the captain of the Sentencing Court, after all.

The consequences of killing Bai Yi, on the other hand, would be quite lethal.

Han Sen didn't seem concerned about the situation. He used his Shocking Sky Punch at max power, and his punch combined with the water skills he had learned from watching Ancient Water God. He modified the Shocking Sky Punch to accommodate the new ability.

When he cast it, the punch was like a Shocking Sky Big Wave. A wave was unleashed, and then another wave. The waves continued to roll out, growing in power as they came. He could fight four people with this, and the four guards were suddenly at a large disadvantage.

The two half-deified guards didn't dare to fight. They were afraid of killing Prince Sixteen, but a few punches later, their eyes widened.

The four guards weren't the only ones who were shocked. Prince Swordstar, Bai Ling Shuang, Prince Nineteen, and other royal children stood and watched with mouths agape.

Han Sen stood like a king that ruled the entire universe. His punches were heavier than the sea, and they crushed the stars. The four guards fell backward with screams that rocked the skies. Their knives, swords, spears, and punching lights were exploding. But even so, they could not break down Han Sen's punches.

Under those punches that were like a dragon from the sea, even half-deified guards were unable to keep their heads above water. They were like boats navigating a sea of treacherous waves. It was incomparable to the sky and ground powers that they knew.

"Old Sixteen has practiced Shocking Sky Punch to this degree?" Prince Nineteen couldn't believe his eyes.

Bai Ling Shuang was shocked, too. Other members of the Extreme King could use a stronger version of Shocking Sky Punch, but they had developed the ability to the eighth or nine-tier. The fact that Han Sen

could use such a strong Shocking Sky Punch at the first-tier was mind-blowing. Not even a half-deified royal child could do what he was doing.

Han Sen practiced the most basic Shocking Sky Punch, and other royal children had practiced the more advanced versions. Bai Wei had practiced the Extreme King Final Punch. Its power should have been much greater than the basic version of the skill.

Han Sen was using the Shocking Sky Punch, but it had been fused with Water Will. It was an upgraded version of the skill, a modification that Han Sen had engineered himself. That was why Bai Ling Shuang was so shocked.

Tailoring the Shocking Sky Punch into the exact skill he needed wasn't a feat that a simple-minded person could perform.

Bai Ling Shuang looked at Han Sen, who was suppressing four guards like they were dogs, and felt a flurry of mixed emotions.

Prince Swordstar gritted his teeth. He was young, so he had relied on his mother's power. He was fairly well-known amongst the royal children, and having a prince like Bai Yi suppress all four of his guards was unacceptable.

It would have been okay if Han Sen was half-deified and the guards were from a smaller race, but that was not the case. Prince Swordstar's guards hailed from big factions of the Extreme King. The two half-deified guards were of mixed heritage, but they had Extreme King blood in their veins. They still possessed the power of a half-deified Extreme King. They shouldn't lose against Prince Sixteen.

But now, the two half-deified guards and the two ninth-tier Kings were fighting Han Sen. And they were suppressed and unable to push him back. Prince Swordstar knew he wouldn't be able to do anything, either. It made him feel as if a snake had sunk its fangs into his heart. His face darkened, twisting with hate.

"I didn't know Brother Sixteen possessed such a power. How surprising," said a man sitting on a king dragon's head. He was clad in a gold robe, and his voice was hard.

There was a green-armored man sitting next to the gold-robed man. He said, "I cannot even tell if he truly is Old Sixteen. Why are you referring to him as if he is important, crown prince?"

"Brother Four, you are wrong. If Father accepts him, then that means he is Brother Sixteen," the crown prince said.

Prince Four chuckled. "I don't think so. We both know what Old Sixteen was like. Since when has he been this smart? He's fighting four people at once with a punching skill, and he's playing them like a fiddle. That isn't something Old Sixteen could do. He was stupid."

The crown prince squinted as he looked at Han Sen. "Who knows? We cannot tell. Perhaps we have underestimated him."

Prince Four didn't reply. He grunted and stared at Han Sen, who shone with the glory of both a god and a demon.

Pang!

Han Sen punched and struck a half-deified guard. The Shocking Sky Punch had been cast many times, and its power had grown by many multiples. Even a half-deified elite couldn't withstand those blows. Han Sen punched an enemy's chestplate and caved it in. Blood sprayed from the half-deified guard's lips.

No hesitation. The next second, Han Sen's fist was coming down toward the guard's head like a falling star. The scary power was like a river descending from the sky.

"Bai Yi! You killed my guard! I will kill you!" Prince Swordstar screamed, his eyes turning red.

"I didn't dare," Han Sen said simply. The scary Shocking Sky Punch landed on the half-deified guard.

2364 King Air Gene

"Bai Yi..." Prince Swordstar shouted. He sounded as if he was about to eat someone.

Katcha!

Han Sen unleashed his Shocking Sky Punch, and the half-deified guard's bones were pulverized. There wasn't a single inch of bone that remained intact. His body slumped to the ground like a sack of mud.

Han Sen grabbed the half-deified guard and lifted him back up. The man's body was trashed, but he wasn't dead. Han Sen threw him at Prince Swordstar.

"As per your request, he is alive," Han Sen said flatly.

"Bai Yi, I will kill you." Prince Swordstar caught the guard, whose entire body had been devastated. Han Sen had even shattered the guard's xenogenic gene. Prince Swordstar was furious.

"I have gone to so much trouble to be nice to you. You asked me to keep him alive. I refrained from killing him, and you still aren't happy. It's hard work being a big brother." Han Sen said, then he jumped.

The other three guards were overwhelmed with a mixture of anger and fear. They wanted to run away, but the Shocking Sky Punch was already coming down on them like the angry waves of a turbulent sea.

They couldn't escape that wrath, but if they tried to repel it, that raging power would still crush their bodies. The punching powers came for each of them in turn. The two ninth-tier Kings went down first, then the last half-deified guard fell as well. Han Sen trashed their bodies in a few quick punches, then tossed their crippled bodies back toward Prince Swordstar.

The nearby royal children were shocked. Han Sen's cruel and overbearing skills made them think twice about how they might treat him in the future.

Prince Swordstar gritted his teeth until his jaws ached, and he had to resist the urge to attack Han Sen himself. He glared at Han Sen, then carried the four disabled guards away.

“Come on! That Prince Swordstar is such a wimp. He’s just accepting that loss?” Prince Nineteen lifted his lips in a sneer.

“That is why he is scary. That Prince Swordstar isn’t one to be ruled by simple emotions.” Bai Canglang approached. He sighed and said, “Our generation of the Extreme King is both the most promising and the most hopeless generation there has ever been. There are too many wonderful royal children, and now there are people like Sixteen, Seventeen, and even Swordstar. When the time comes for someone to claim leadership, it won’t happen peacefully.”

“Chaos is fun. Otherwise, life is like a pool of stagnant water. That is boring,” Prince Nineteen said.

Everyone watched as Han Sen climbed onto the primary root king dragon. No one dared to provoke him; he had just suppressed half-deified guards, after all. The royal children knew they couldn’t compete against Han Sen. Even the ones that could fight him knew that they didn’t want to do so in King’s Garden.

Han Sen took the blood kirin up to sit atop the king dragon’s head with him. The other royal children drifted away.

After a few hours of daylight, the yellow leaves began to glow. The primary root king dragon roared and dropped underground.

Unlike the small king dragon Han Sen had used before, this primary root king dragon was big, and it went far underground. It went so close to that golden spot.

When Han Sen had trained with Bai Wei, the source of power had looked like a distant golden sun. Now, because he was so much closer, it was too big to describe.

Waves of gold king air began to emerge and flow over Han Sen and the blood kirin. Any king air he absorbed would help Han Sen refine the powers in his body.

The blood kirin was sucking in the king air greedily, and he looked healthier with every breath.

After Han Sen absorbed thirty waves of king air, he heard an announcement play in his head.

Duke Gene +1.

Han Sen was shocked, but he was also very happy. He said, “Are these waves of king air actually xenogeneic genes?”

When he came last time, he had been very far from the tree. The king air he absorbed had been too weak to generate a Duke gene. Now he had a lot of king air, so he could exploit its full strength.

Han Sen hadn't been terribly interested in the king air before, but now he was motivated. He absorbed the king air as fast as he could. He absorbed fifty waves of king air and heard the Duke gene notification once more.

"If this is the case, I don't need to find any more xenogeneics. Simply absorbing this king air will give me enough Duke genes!" Han Sen thought happily. He had claimed this primary root king dragon, and so he was going to absorb the king air like mad.

While the primary root king dragon was still underground, Han Sen's Duke gene tally reached the prestigious one hundred. He absorbed many waves of king air, but his Duke genes didn't increase beyond that.

Han Sen used the hundred Duke genes to open the first gene lock of The Story of Genes.

It was a smooth process that went exactly as it had for Jadeskin. After The Story of Genes had its first gene lock open, he obtained an astral body in the geno universe.

One hundred Duke genes were gone from his total, and so Han Sen stayed put to collect more of that king air. His Duke gene tally started to rack up again.

"This is some good stuff." Han Sen grinned. He had claimed this primary root king dragon, so he wasn't going to go anywhere. He planned to use the king air to unlock the gene locks of a few different geno arts.

Somewhere far away in King's Kingdom, there was a mountain that hung in the darkness. The mountain looked gigantic, but no matter how long you spent flying toward its peak, you could never reach the mountain.

It was known as Extreme Mountain, one of the three famous mountains of King's Kingdom. Countless terrifying legends swirled around its existence, and many elites had been killed while exploring its reaches. Many half-deified and deified elites were said to roam there.

The secrets of Extreme Mountain had yet to be discovered, as there were many places on the mountain's slopes that not even King Bai himself would dare explore.

On the left side of Extreme Mountain, a ghost-like man walked along a path.

Every step he took was like some invincible power was coming down on him, making his body look lighter. By the time he was halfway up the slope, his body appeared half-transparent. He looked as if he was going to fade away at any second.

But that man still stared up at the peak of Extreme Mountain, and he kept walking forward in a bid to reach it.

"Half mountain, half sky, half extreme. One step, one life, one world." When he was halfway up the mountain, he saw that sentence scrawled into a cliff face. It was written in blood.

The man saw it, but he kept on going up the mountain. He didn't pay any further attention to the writing.

The legends state that those words were left behind by the Extreme King's seventh king. The seventh king went there as a half-deified, and he stopped there to write that down before leaving.

After that, all the heirs of the Extreme King that ventured to the Extreme Mountain and went past those words were known to have died. There had only been one exception to that rule.

The exception was the previous ruler of the Extreme King, King Bao. King Bao went past the writing, but he didn't die. And he never talked about his experiences on Extreme Mountain. All he said was that if there was any person fortunate enough to reach the top of Extreme Mountain, they would become the best of their generation and achieve an invincible body.

2365 The Woman in the Stone

Far away, across the galaxy, in a xenogeneic space that resembled purgatory, there were many creatures from all sorts of different races. They were getting lashed by whips. A hellfire raged everywhere, and they were using shovels, pickaxes, hammers, and other tools to dig into the rock.

The stones were dark like ink, but they were also dull. The stones absorbed any light that shone against them, giving nothing back.

The Duke class elites were wearily lifting their shovels to strike the stone. Sparks flew with each hit, and bits of the stone crumbled away and split.

The Dukes and Marquises were like slaves, while the Barons and Viscounts were relegated to transportation duties.

The stones they collected were sent to a stone factory, where all sorts of stone weaponry were forged.

A man stood over them, his expression hard. He used a pen to draw carefully across the stone, marking dimensions as if he was planning how the rock should be carved into.

The noble workers that were in charge of carving and grinding looked at the man with great envy.

The nobles were like hell's guard dogs. The Hell race ruled, and all other races existed as thralls. Even the Kings of other races were treated as mere slaves.

There was a crystallizer man who was a Marquise, and he looked very weak. Over the past few months, he had been used by the Hell. He was skilled enough that he didn't have to perform the menial tasks of labor. He was able to enjoy many resources, as he was a person that the Hell looked at very differently.

"Ning Yue, you have done well. What should we do next to increase efficiency?" Hell King squinted his eyes, looking at the young man approaching the palace.

The crystallizer had captured his curiosity. The man was an outsider Marquise, but many Hell nobles had praised him over the past few months. That was a big deal. Not even Kings received that treatment.

Hell King planned to ask the man's advice to humor his own curiosity, then toss the man back in with the slaves. After all, everyone knew that only the Hell were important. Other races were designed to be slaves and nothing more.

As time went by, Ning Yue gave suggestions to the king every once in a while, and all of his suggestions had increased the efficiency of their work. It saved the Hell King a lot of time and trouble.

Every time Hell King wished to send Ning Yue back to the other slaves, Ning Yue would come up with an even better plan. When Hell King heard his designs, he would allow Ning Yue to stay even longer and put those new designs into action.

After a while, Hell King wasn't the only one who had grown used to the presence of Ning Yue. The whole Hell society had become accustomed to him.

"Blood! Blood! There is blood!" Screaming sounds howled out of the stone factory.

Ning Yue frowned and looked in their direction. A big rock had been cracked open, and a red liquid was oozing out of the gap. It smelled like blood.

The slaves were running for their lives, and Ning Yue stared at the big black rock.

This wasn't the first time this had happened. In Ning Yue's first few months there, this had taken place three times.

The first time they found a black rock that bled, there was a red bug inside it. The monster had ended up killing a few thousand slaves and guards. In the end, Hell King himself had to show up and kill it. It was the only way to get rid of the bug.

The second time this occurred—when a black rock started to bleed—the slaves of that area became infected with some sort of toxin. They endured it for ten days before their bodies dissolved into liquid. At least ten thousand died in that incident.

The third time they discovered a bleeding black rock, a little green sword came out. It pierced through the head of the Duke who had been inspecting the stone. Then it flew into the sky and disappeared.

This was now the fourth incident that Ning Yue had seen. Red liquid welled in the cracks, and it was like blood tears were rolling out, one-by-one.

Suddenly, Ning Yue saw a finger appear through the gap. The finger glistened like jade. It was beautiful, but the fingernail shone a disturbing shade of red. Even looking at the unsettling sight would leave someone shivering.

One finger... two fingers... three fingers... More and more fingers appeared through the crack. When all ten fingers appeared, there was a loud cracking noise. The fingers tore the rock in half.

A woman wearing creepy red armor emerged. Her red eyes gleamed, staring down at the creatures that were all running away in fear.

Suddenly, the woman moved. She was like a demon, straight from hell. She turned into a bloody shadow, and wherever her blood-red fingers went, creatures screamed. Blood fountained from their bodies, and in no time at all, many creatures had been reduced to shreds.

The terrifying woman showed no sign of backing down. Hell King and the other Kings of their race went to meet that wicked force, and the entire land turned into a bloody battlefield. The hell-looking xenogeneic space was thrown into turmoil.

Blood... blood everywhere...

There was the blood of slaves. The blood of the Hell. Broken bodies littered the ground, and almost no one was left alive in that xenogeneic space.

Two of them were still standing, though, their lifeforces flickering in the hellscape.

One of them was the weird woman in her red armor. The other was Hell King.

The strange woman didn't look to be in good condition. Her red eyes shone with a scary light. Her red armor was covered in cracks and punctures, and a piece of a sword blade was still embedded in it. There was a big bloody hole in her chest. It was impossible to guess which weapon had dealt that blow to her. She was bleeding, and she could barely stand.

Hell King wasn't in great shape, either. One of his horns had been broken, and one of his legs was gone. His belly had been cut open, and his guts and intestines were starting to spill out.

Hell King's face looked enraged; all the inhabitants of that xenogeneic space had been murdered by the strange woman. Aside from him, no one else had been left alive.

"I will make you die." Hell King opened his mouth and spat out a mass of blood. The blood drained away across the ground, revealing a small green sword.

If Ning Yue had seen it, he would have recognized it. It was the sword that had flown away when they opened that third black rock.

The woman saw the green sword, and her eyes lost their anger. She looked scared.

Hell King roared. He picked up the green sword and ran at the weird woman. The green sword was aimed at her head.

The woman blocked the little green sword with one hand and shoved her other hand into Hell King's chest to grab his heart. The green sword broke under the force of her grip, and her fist tightened around Hell King's heart.

Dong!

The little green sword fell to the ground, and the light in Hell King's eyes started to fade. Just as the fire of his life was about to be extinguished, Hell King roused himself. He would rather burn out the last of his strength than slowly wither away. He quickly grabbed the weird woman's neck.

2366 Back to Night Charm

Katcha!

The green light flashed. Hell King's head was cut off.

The strange woman was stunned. She stared at the man who looked so skinny, clutching that green sword. All the other creatures around them were dead.

The woman squinted, trying to remember exactly what had happened when she came out of the black stone. She remembered that the skinny man had been in the stone factory when she emerged. He would have been the one she killed first.

But now that she thought about it, she didn't remember actually killing him; he had been too ordinary to keep her attention. She just tossed some red light his way and ignored him.

"He isn't dead?" The strange woman looked at the man, who was smiling as he held the green sword. For some reason, when she saw his smile, the woman wanted to smile with him. It was like his smile was contagious.

The woman looked at Ning Yue and said, "You are not bad. If you ally with me, you can use my deified powers. Then, you can become defied as well. Unstoppable. You will become the greatest in the universe."

Ning Yue smiled and didn't answer. He walked slowly toward the woman.

"You don't believe me?" The woman looked intently at Ning Yue's face. She knew she should be wary, but she couldn't resist that infectious smile. She found herself treating him as a friend rather than a foe.

"I believe you," Ning Yue said seriously.

The woman looked relieved. Somehow, what Ning Yue said felt incredibly trustworthy. His words seemed rock-steady, as if whatever he said had to be a universal truth.

The woman sighed, and just as she was about to respond, Ning Yue used the little green sword to lop her head off.

The woman's head rolled across the ground, with her red eyes still staring at Ning Yue as if she couldn't believe what he had just done.

Ning Yue sighed and said, "I believe you can give me power, but I cannot beat the one I wish to with power alone. I need to take this step by step, my way, before I can stand before him."

Ning Yue wiped his little green sword. In his mind, he was still standing in that man's shadow. Determination flashed through Ning Yue's eyes. Then they became calm again. He walked up to the bodies of the strange woman and Hell King.

...

Han Sen maintained his claim on the primary root king dragon to absorb the king air. He stayed there for a whole month.

The blood kirin also absorbed a lot of king air, and over the month of training, he healed fully. Over the same period of time, Han Sen managed to get five hundred Duke genes.

But The Story of Genes could only open three gene locks before it stopped. As for the rest of the Duke genes Han Sen collected, he used them to open the gene locks of Jadeskin and the Blood-Pulse Sutra.

Jadeskin seemed to have the same limit of three gene locks.

"Opening the first gene lock grants an astral body. Opening the second gene lock provides a celestial body. Opening the third gene lock provides something above a celestial body. The third body feels different from a celestial body, but I can't pinpoint exactly what that difference is." Han Sen was amazed by the results of opening the third gene lock, even if he didn't fully understand what had happened.

As he trained, he also earned another reward. He managed to bring his Dongxuan Sutra up to the level of Duke. It had an element, but because he didn't have any more Duke genes, he couldn't open up any more gene locks.

After The Story of Genes opened its third gene lock, it became difficult to absorb the power of the Kingese in his body. It was like the Kingese had fully merged with Han Sen's cells, and they could no longer be separated.

Han Sen still wished to stay in King's Garden to absorb more king air, though. He wanted to open three gene locks for the Blood-Pulse Sutra and the Dongxuan Sutra. His hopes were soon dashed, however, because Bai Ling Shuang eventually showed up.

"Brother Sixteen, I'm headed back to Night Charm Town," Bai Ling Shuang said in a friendly tone.

"I'd like to go there myself, but I haven't gotten an invitation." Han Sen then thought to himself, "There's no way that she's randomly being nice. What does she want this time?"

"I'll have Cher and the drinks ready. I will be the host tonight." Bai Ling Shuang gave him a lazy smile.

"In that case... I'll be there." Han Sen's eyes were full of greed.

Han Sen didn't actually want to go, of course. But since Bai Ling Shuang had extended such an explicit invitation, he didn't think he could turn her down. He would have to go eventually, so agreeing immediately would cast fewer doubts on his identity.

Bai Yi's ardent desire for Cher was well-known. If he didn't accept the invitation, that would be very strange.

In the most luxurious suite in Night Charm Town, Han Sen had draped himself over a sofa. He held Cher casually under one arm, and he swirled a glass of wine with his other hand. He looked at Bai Ling Shuang and said, "Sister Ten, tell me what it is you really want. You have been very generous with me this evening. Surely this isn't simply an opportunity for us to hang out."

"The exams for the royal children are coming up soon. What are you planning to do about them, Brother Sixteen?" Bai Ling Shuang asked with a smile.

Han Sen had a sip of wine and squeezed Cher's butt with a smile. "What can I do? I'm just a first-tier King, and half-deified royal children will be competing. Even some deifieds will participate. What chance do I stand?"

Bai Ling Shuang looked like she wanted to roll her eyes, but she still smiled and said, "Maybe not. The exams are something Father has established so that our progress can be reviewed. We don't need to be number one. We just need to perform well to impress Father. If we do that, we can be rewarded."

After pausing, Bai Ling Shuang said, "I have witnessed your recent progress with my own eyes, Brother Sixteen. If you perform just as well in the exam, Father will notice. You will be heavily rewarded."

"I don't think so," Han Sen said with an uncomfortable feeling.

Bai Ling Shuang looked at Han Sen for a while and said, "If you really don't want to get first place in the exams, I have a way in which we can make money. Are you interested in hearing more?"

"I lack pretty much everything. I have a distinct lack of money, too. Please tell me, Sister Ten." Han Sen suddenly looked much more alert, and he considered Bai Ling Shuang with interest.

She smiled and said, "You know that in the exam, there is a task that sends you to Bone Mountain? Bone Mountain is obscenely dangerous for ordinary royal children. Aside from Brother Four and Sister Three, who are deified, any other royal child that goes there might fail. Even the crown prince. But Brother Sixteen, you are different. You have the Kingese protection. You can surely reach the peak of Bone Mountain."

"Why don't you just tell me what you're after?" Han Sen frowned.

"You help me to get to the peak of Bone Mountain, and I will give you whatever you want." Bai Ling Shuang's smile had vanished, and she looked dead serious.

2367 Strange Numbers

As he left Night Charm Town, Han Sen got to thinking about the exam.

The exam gauged the power of the royal children. Some of the tests would judge the royal children's leadership potential and their collective power when placed in groups. Their guards were allowed to join them.

But other tests focused on the individual power of the royal children. Only the royal children could participate in those.

One of the activities, for example, involved hiking up Bone Mountain and reaching its peak.

Bone Mountain was one of the three famous mountains in King's Kingdom. It wasn't as dangerous as Extreme Mountain, but that didn't mean reaching its peak would be easy. Its slopes were quite treacherous.

Hiking up Bone Mountain was a trial that showcased power, courage, and endurance.

The mountain was commonly called Rot Bone Mountain. The environment was highly toxic, and when people were too stubborn to abandon their attempts to climb the mountain, the toxicity would corrode them until their bodies were gone. Only their proud skulls were left behind.

Han Sen hadn't been to Rot Bone Mountain before, so he wasn't sure what sort of power he would have to contend with. He knew that it could destroy courage and endurance, and make proud creatures lower their heads.

But Bai Ling Shuang mentioned that if royal children possessed the Kingese Ao or Ju, they were sure to have a higher chance of reaching the peak.

Han Sen had received loads of Kingese protection, including Ao and Ju. The chance of him reaching the top of Rot Bone Mountain was high, so Bai Ling Shuang was willing to pay a high price for his help.

Bai Ling Shuang wanted to go to Rot Bone Mountain's peak, not for King Bai's compliments, but for the benefits Rot Bone Mountain could provide. Those rewards could only be claimed by reaching the summit of that place.

In regards to the exact nature of what she hoped to gain, Bai Ling Shuang didn't elaborate, and Han Sen didn't ask.

"What is atop Rot Bone Mountain's peak?" As Han Sen wondered about this, his phone started to ring.

He looked at the number calling him and noticed that it was listed as "unknown." He had disguised himself as Bai Yi, but he had kept his old phone number. He had been careful not to contact anyone on Planet Eclipse, though, in case the Extreme King screened the calls and picked up on something.

Now, suddenly, a strange number was calling him, which was confusing. He hesitated, but he still answered the call. He was curious.

A beautiful woman with long, black hair appeared on his screen. Her face looked divine, and her emerald eyes were captivating. Her boobs were small, but everything else was great.

Han Sen looked at the woman in the video. She wasn't the most beautiful woman he'd seen, but he would rate her at a fine nine-out-of-ten. Still, he didn't remember ever seeing her before.

“You are?” Han Sen looked at the woman, and he noticed her reserved expression. The longer he looked at her, the more familiar she seemed. He just couldn’t remember where they might have met.

“I am Ning Yue. Can you talk?” The woman’s voice was very clear, but her words shocked Han Sen. His eyes opened wide, and his mouth gaped.

Han Sen hadn’t been able to place his sense of familiarity with the woman. Hearing the name Ning Yue, however, made him feel like he’d been tased. Now he knew where that familiar feeling came from.

Aside from having a female body, the woman appeared and behaved just like Ning Yue. If not for the emerald eyes that had captured his gaze, Han Sen probably would have guessed who it was eventually.

Even so, Han Sen was still left speechless.

“Hang on, I’ll call you back.” Han Sen ended the call and went to his computer. He logged in and called the number back.

The call rang through, and the image of that beautiful woman appeared on Han Sen’s computer.

“What is it?” Han Sen held his laughter at bay. He didn’t think anyone could disguise themselves as Ning Yue.

Ning Yue was a very special person, so masquerading as him would be difficult. But even if someone went to the trouble to steal another person’s identity, why would they choose Ning Yue? He wasn’t famous or important in the geno universe, so what was the point?

Not to mention that, even if there was something benefit to be gained, no one could make a woman disguise themselves as Ning Yue. This was too much.

Seeing Han Sen attempting to hold back his laughter, Ning Yue’s eyes twitched. In an emotionless tone, he began to explain what had happened.

Ning Yue had been captured by the Hell, and he was forced into slavery in a secret Hell xenogenic space. During his incarceration, a strange woman appeared out of a black rock. She killed all of the Hell and the slaves without discrimination.

Ning Yue had gotten his hands on a little green sword during the chaos, and he used it to kill Hell King and the woman from the rock. After killing them, Ning Yue discovered that Hell King and the woman were both deified elites, not half-deified as he had assumed. This shocked Ning Yue. He didn’t understand how the little green sword had wielded so much power.

Ning Yue only had the power of a Marquise. Even if he held a deified weapon, he shouldn’t have been able to kill a deified xenogenic. But the little green sword had decapitated two deified xenogenics with ease.

They had been injured, of course, so that was worth considering. But the little green sword’s power was still mind-boggling.

“You say you used the green sword to kill two deified xenogeneics?” Han Sen stared at Ning Yue, unable to believe his ears.

Even if Han Sen used the Thunder God Spike, he couldn’t damage deified xenogeneics. Ning Yue was just a Marquise. The feat he had achieved with the little green sword was a bit unbelievable.

“Yes. And I received a deified beast soul,” Ning Yue pulled the little green sword out.

“That’s a deified beast soul? You won big!” After Han Sen’s shock subsided, he examined Ning Yue’s little sword. The blade was two fingers wide. It was an intriguing shade of dark green, but other than the color, nothing about the sword seemed very special. There were no engravings on the blade, and it didn’t even have a scabbard to go with it.

“I would rather not have earned it,” Ning Yue said grimly. He flipped the green sword over to reveal its other side to Han Sen. There was a green mark on it, as if some liquid had stained its surface.

“What is that?” Han Sen asked.

“I don’t know. It won’t go away.” Ning Yue paused and then went on to say, “After I killed the two deifieds, their bodies became liquid, then disappeared. Nothing remained. Not even a xenogeneic gene.”

When Han Sen heard this, he furrowed his brows, and his expression turned suddenly serious.

With deified xenogeneics, their entire bodies were their xenogeneic genes. Melting one shouldn’t have been possible. It had to be related to the green sword.

“I left the xenogeneic space. The first time I went to sleep, I woke up looking like this.” Ning Yue sighed.

“You, uh... Did you lose...” Han Sen didn’t know what to do.

“No, my manhood is still here. But some parts of me look woman-like.” A muscle in Ning Yue’s cheek spasmed.

2368 Evil Sword

Han Sen coughed awkwardly to fill the silence.

“Have you tried using your little sword to fix the situation?” Han Sen suddenly realized he was talking about Ning Yue’s “little sword,” and he quickly shook his head to get rid of the thought.

Ning Yue looked at him strangely and said, “I have tried everything! I’ve tried destroying it and throwing it away. I’ve even tried selling it. No matter what I do, my body remains like this. And whenever I go to sleep, the thing is lying on my chest when I wake up.”

“It looks like this is an evil sword... What are you going to do?” Han Sen knew Ning Yue was a very decisive guy. He wouldn’t have contacted Han Sen just to share some idle gossip.

“The little green sword came from a mine in a xenogeneic space. So, I went back there and searched Hell King’s place. I didn’t find much. While the mine was mostly a dead end, I did discover something interesting. The Hell were under the control of another race, and this master race had given them the job of running the mining operations. Building palaces and statues was just a cover-up; their real purpose was getting to what was under the mines.”

After pausing, Ning Yue went on to say, “In order to figure out this green sword, we have to start with the mine.”

“It will be best if you leave the xenogeneic space for now,” Han Sen said.

“I’m on a planet belonging to the Thousand Treasures. Before I left, I erased all traces of my presence there,” Ning Yue said.

“Do you know who was behind all this?” Han Sen asked.

“I don’t know. I only discovered that a master race was controlling the Hell by piecing together all the information I could find. There is no evidence to back this up.” Ning Yue shook his head.

Han Sen was silent for a moment. “Give me some time. I’m currently having some trouble of my own, and I cannot leave the Extreme King just yet. If you wait for me, I will find a way to contact you once I get out of here.”

“Okay.” Ning Yue didn’t say much after that. They arranged a few more details and then hung up.

Han Sen’s face was twitching. He wanted to laugh, but he couldn’t.

Luckily, Ning Yue was a calm man who took misfortunes in stride. If the same thing had happened to Han Sen, it would have driven him crazy.

Han Sen brought out a galaxy map belonging to the Extreme King and looked up the xenogeneic space Ning Yue had mentioned. It wasn’t listed. He also searched for the system that xenogeneic space supposedly resided in. The system belonged to a small race under the authority of Sky Palace. The race was so small that they were virtually unknown.

“It looks like it doesn’t have anything to do with this small race. Not many people know about that xenogeneic space, clearly.” Han Sen then thought to himself, “The Hell and the faction behind this are very secretive. This cannot be their territory. Perhaps they aren’t allied with Sky Palace, and that is why they operated this mine in secret. If they are hesitant to re-enter that xenogeneic space, Ning Yue and I might have a chance.”

As he considered his options, Han Sen started to develop a headache. The biggest problem right now was his inability to leave the Extreme King. Miss Mirror wouldn’t let him go free.

Han Sen's limited power was a problem. Deified xenogeneics could be dug up from the ground in that place, and he didn't have enough power to deal with one if they discovered it. If he wanted to go there, he would have to take the little red bird. Otherwise, things could go horribly wrong if they stumbled across another elite.

If he ended up attracting something awful like Ning Yue had, Han Sen wondered what might happen. The mere thoughts he conjured were enough to give him the chills. His skull felt downright numb.

"Still, Ning Yue isn't the sort of person to rush into something. He'll be fine waiting. I should really just focus on my current situation before doing anything more." Han Sen frowned as he thought of this.

He and Lan Haixin sorted out a time to meet. He wanted to see this relic she spoke of. If he was able to claim it, it might provide a grand boost for his power.

Even if Lan Haixin nabbed it, she was Bai Yi's wife. Han Sen would be the one to help her with the relic, so surely he would get something out of the deal.

Han Sen decided that going with Lan Haixin and the others wouldn't be a bad idea, so he wasn't to upset about being dragged along. In fact, he found himself rather curious.

He had little time before they went to see the relic. Instead of going to King's Garden on that day, he studied the secrets of the Dongxuan Sutra at home. The Dongxuan Sutra was different from other genarts. Even if he leveled up, he still had to understand how to use his developing powers. They weren't skills he could just use right away.

Han Sen knew basically nothing about the elemental body of the Dongxuan Sutra. It was similar to the Dongxuan Aura, but he could tell that there were some important differences. Han Sen now had to figure out what it was exactly.

He also spent some time studying the Move Mountain Sea Conch beast soul, which he found quite interesting. The blue light it cast was amazing, but when it was cast upon creatures, it didn't have a direct effect. After a few days of investigating, Han Sen discovered something. He understood the true way to make use of the Move Mountain king area.

Outside Underwater Town's palace, the Siren nobles gathered together. There was a surprising number of them, probably two hundred in all. There were five King class Sirens and one that was half-deified.

Lan Haixin was King class. The remnants of the Siren race weren't too shabby, but they wouldn't work for Han Sen. They only followed the commands of Lan Haixin.

Bai Yi was the last generation of the virgin's blood, and he was Lan Haixin's husband. But as far as those Sirens were concerned, he was nothing.

If Han Sen hadn't made an impressive amount of progress in recent times, they would still be looking at him with disdain.

Lan Haixin brought Bao'er to the front of the line. Seeing Han Sen and the blood kirin approach, Bao'er looked terrified. She hid behind Lan Haixin and tugged at her clothes.

"Don't be afraid. Big Sister is here. I wouldn't let anyone hurt you," Lan Haixin said soothingly, lowering herself to hug Bao'er.

“Such a talented actress... It really is a waste that she hasn’t taken up a career in acting.” Han Sen wanted to cry at the sight. Bao’er was way too good. If he didn’t know the real Bao’er, he would have been completely fooled.

Han Sen chuckled coldly and looked at Bao’er. “Don’t forget that she is my daughter. I am warning you. Do not touch Bao’er. You won’t be able to withstand the consequences of my anger.”

Seeing that Bao’er was still pretending to be scared and hiding behind her, Lan Haixin stared at Han Sen and said, “Okay. But you aren’t taking her with you. She isn’t one of the Siren.”

Han Sen looked at Bao’er and licked his lips.

“We are going. We cannot leave her here. Don’t worry, she won’t affect us.” Lan Haixin pulled Bao’er forward and ignored Han Sen.

Han Sen shrugged and rode after her on the blood kirin.

The Siren were queuing in the rear, all of them looking quite excited. They were looking forward to what came next.

“Prince, can I stay behind?” Lilly stood behind Han Sen and quietly asked for permission.

“You don’t want to go?” Han Sen looked at Lilly strangely.

Lilly started to answer, but suddenly, an old female Siren next to Lan Haixin hissed, “This is a big day for the Siren, and all of us need to go. Unless you’re not one of us?”

Lilly was shocked, and she wrapped her arms defensively around her own body. She lowered her head and didn’t say anything.

2369 Where the Relic Lies

Han Sen frowned, and Lilly looked upset. Then he realized something.

Han Sen was riding atop the blood kirin, following slowly behind Lan Haixin. He behaved as if he didn’t care, but the truth was, he didn’t know where the relic was. He stayed carefully behind Lan Haixin where he wouldn’t have to lead the party.

What confused Han Sen was that the old female Siren in front wasn’t guiding them away from Planet Water Zone. They were actually headed for the deeper recesses of the sea.

“Does the Siren treasure reside here on the planet? If the treasure is here, why haven’t they just gone and taken it already?” Han Sen thought for a minute and suddenly realized, “Maybe Lan Haixin and the others don’t have possession of the relic? Maybe they didn’t bring it with them; the relic might have already been on Planet Water Zone when they came here.”

Han Sen thought some more, and he considered many details. He thought to himself, “If that is what is happening, then Bai Yi’s mother should have kept the relic. In that case, why didn’t Bai Yi’s mother give

the relic to her son? Based on the angry journal entries on Bai Yi's computer, he had no idea where the relic was. But Lan Haixin did. This whole scenario makes no sense."

Han Sen thought some more, but he couldn't find a reasonable explanation for this. He eventually grew tired of the fruitless line of thought, so he decided to roll with things and see where his luck might take him. He would love to take the relic for himself, but it would be fine if he couldn't. It wasn't his, after all.

Following the guidance of that old Siren woman, Han Sen and the others stopped near a mountain deep beneath the sea.

Han Sen frowned and looked around.

He was very familiar with this underwater mountain. The last time he was here, he had been chasing the Move Mountain Sea Conch. In fact, this was where he killed both the Move Mountain Sea Conch and the Crystal God Conch.

But Han Sen had been on the left side of the mountain back then. Now, he was on the right side of the mountain.

"The Crystal God Conch cannot be related to this relic, surely," Han Sen thought. He felt something very strange occurring.

Bai Yi had killed all of Planet Water Zone's high-class xenogeneics. This underwater mountain had two Kings and one deified. That was definitely strange.

"My lady, it is okay." The old Siren woman walked before a cliff face and bowed to Lan Haixin.

Lan Haixin nodded and gave Bao'er to the female Siren guard. Then she walked in front of the mountain and took the necklace off her neck.

The necklace was simple: a red chain adorned with a blue stone pendant. It wasn't shiny like a gem, so it didn't appear to be anything too special.

If Lan Haixin hadn't brought it out now, Han Sen would never have known that it was important. He would have walked right past it if it was lying on the side of the road. It was too ordinary-looking to even draw the eye.

There was a small triangular hole in the mountainside, and Lan Haixin slid the blue stone into it. The stone fit the small hole perfectly. Then, a booming noise came from within the mountain.

The whole underwater mountain moved, revealing a dark path beneath. Stairs led downwards, but when Han Sen tried to look down them, he could only see blackness.

The seawater had been separated by some hidden force, too. The path was dry.

The old Siren woman slowly headed down the stairwell, and Lan Haixin brought Bao'er and the other Siren in with her.

Han Sen frowned and followed after Lan Haixin. He looked around dubiously, feeling nervous about something unseen. He couldn't quite tell what was making him unsettled, though.

But Han Sen's instincts were reliable. Aside from his guesses about whether or not he would receive a beast soul, his other feelings were fairly accurate.

If Han Sen was feeling this unsettled, there had to be some danger lurking in that place.

But he couldn't yet detect any presences that shouldn't have been there. The stairs led down and down, as if they would never end. The people shone like holy lights in the dark, but their lights only lit up a small portion of the area around them. And their lights didn't penetrate far below.

Han Sen looked down the dark stairs, and he felt as if he was walking into the hellish maw of some terrible beast.

Lilly was scared, and she stood as close as she could to the blood kirin. She almost found herself hugging Han Sen's legs. She was usually scared of the blood kirin and stayed as far away from him as she could. Clearly, the darkness scared her far more. Her decision to stay that close to Han Sen and the blood kirin revealed how frightened she really was.

In other circumstances, Han Sen already would have comforted her. But he was disguised as Bai Yi. Bai Yi wasn't a man who showed compassion and concern for others, so he pretended as if there was nothing to see.

The group moved silently. Han Sen wasn't certain how long they'd been traveling, but he figured it was at least eight hours before they saw a light up ahead in the darkness.

"We're almost there." The old Siren woman looked happy, and she moved a little faster.

The light grew brighter. After walking for another half hour, Han Sen saw what was basking in the light. And what he saw shocked him.

It was a crystal palace that looked like it had come straight out of a legend. The whole palace was bathed in holy light and mysterious clouds. It looked like something out of a dream.

When Han Sen and the others drew closer, they saw that the crystal palace's gate had a sign above it. It really did say Crystal Palace.

Looking at the Crystal Palace, Han Sen felt rather nervous. His heart jumped.

The Crystal Palace was entirely transparent, as if it had been crafted from flawless crystals. He should have been able to see straight through it, but clouds and strange sparkles of rainbow light hung within the Crystal Palace. It was impossible to see what lay within the palace.

The rainbow light caught Han Sen off guard. It looked like the Crystal God Conch's rainbow.

The crystal of the Crystal Palace looked like the material that composed the Crystal God Conch's shell.

"Is that just a coincidence?" Han Sen wondered, but he doubted that.

Now Han Sen hesitated to continue forward. If the Crystal God Conch was a xenogeneic from Crystal Palace, it was possible that another deified xenogeneic might be inside, as well.

Han Sen glanced over at Bao'er and the little red bird atop Bao'er's shoulder. They didn't seem concerned about the place, so that put him at ease a little.

As Han Sen was thinking, the team came before the gate of the Crystal Palace. And there, Lan Haixin looked at Han Sen. "Your turn."

Han Sen was startled. He didn't know what Lan Haixin meant, but he couldn't reveal his confusion.

So, Han Sen kept looking at the gate of the Crystal Palace, pretending to be lost in thought.

"You're already here. What are you waiting for? Do you not trust your mother? If she hadn't set the Crystal Palace gate to only open to your blood, I wouldn't have accepted her request." Lan Haixin looked at Han Sen coldly. "Now that you know where the Crystal Palace lies, are you really going to try to back out of our deal?"

2370 Siren Bottle

"The relic was left behind by Bai Yi's mother. Why didn't she just give it to Bai Yi? She didn't even tell Bai Yi about its location, but she gave it to an outsider like Lan Haixin. Was Bai Yi's mother some patriot who valued the good of the Siren above all?" Han Sen thought something was wrong about this situation.

The old Siren woman looked at Han Sen, who had frozen on the spot. Ignoring what Lan Haixin had said, she barked in a rougher tone, "My Prince, neither your blood nor the holy virgin's blood is pure. Even if you knew where the relic was, without the holy virgin's blood, you wouldn't be able to activate the relic. The last holy virgin kept the relic from you because of your stubbornness. She was worried you'd hurt yourself with it."

Han Sen coldly grunted and said, "How was I supposed to know, if she didn't want to give me the relic, anyway?"

Lan Haixin was annoyed. "You harbor suspicions about your own mother? It would be shameful to have you as a son. I feel so sorry for her, putting all that effort into raising you."

The old Siren woman said, "My Prince, you worry too much. If the last holy virgin didn't want you to have the relic, why did she program the Crystal Palace to require your blood to open? She was worried that you would rush to claim the relic, come here alone, and get hurt by it. Now, you can claim the relic with the holy virgin Lan. By combining both of your blood together, you should be able to activate the relic. There will be no risk that way. This is what the last holy virgin wanted."

"Using blood again? I'm not really Bai Yi. Can my blood open the Crystal Palace?" Han Sen felt depressed, and then he thought to himself, "Maybe the programming of the Crystal Palace focuses on the Original Water King Body. I will have to give it a try, at least. If that doesn't work, then I can tell them

that I haven't fully overtaken Han Sen's body, and that I still have some genes to bring into submission. I can tell them I will come back another time to try. I need to stall this for as long as possible."

Once Han Sen had thought of a plan, he walked up to the Crystal Palace's door. His right eye's Purple-Eye Butterfly was spinning fast as he examined the crystal door ahead of him.

The crystal door was ten meters tall, and it looked very powerful. There was a blurry halo around it, and it was filled with the colors of the rainbow. It looked rather magical.

It was a double door, and each side held the depiction of a female Siren. This palace had obviously been left behind by the Siren, as the stylings were very distinctive.

Han Sen knew that he couldn't just drop some blood on the door and expect it to open. There must have been some sort of system involved, and that was what Han Sen was looking for.

With the aid of his Purple-Eye Butterfly, Han Sen found a special place upon the door.

Both sides of the door featured the engraving of a Siren woman, and the two women's arms were folded into each other. All four hands came together to clutch a crystal bottle. The crystal bottle was at the center of the door.

The style of the crystal bottle made Han Sen frown, because it reminded him of the Crystal God Conch's sheets of glass.

The crystal bottle was like a carving. At the center of the bottle was a small hole. If he wasn't paying close attention, he wouldn't have noticed it.

But with his Purple-Eye Butterfly, Han Sen could see how the bottle had been made.

Han Sen walked right before the door. He raised his hand to the carving of the crystal bottle, and as he drew closer, he used the Original Water King Body to transform his hand into water.

His fingers brushed the hole, and some water separated from his fingers to drip into it. Then Han Sen pulled his hand back and took a step in retreat. He watched the Crystal Palace's door.

From the reaction given by Lan Haixin and the others, Han Sen knew he had done it correctly. But he was still being careful. He considered what he might say if he was unable to open the Crystal Palace's door.

Katcha-cha!

As Han Sen was rapidly preparing an explanation, the Crystal Palace's door produced a sharp noise. It split in two and opened inwards.

Lan Haixin and the other Sirens grinned widely, ecstatic. Han Sen was secretly surprised. "I was able to open it?"

Han Sen had actually been hoping that his attempt to open it would fail. Success meant that his unsettled feelings were still going to hang around. The closer he was to the Crystal Palace, the more disturbed he felt.

The door opened, revealing everything inside the Crystal Palace. Beyond the big door was a golden hall that had also been made of crystal. At the end of the hall was an altar. A small crystal bottle stood on the altar's platform. Something that looked like a rainbow swirled blurrily inside it. The sight was quite mysterious.

Lan Haixin and the others were dying to get into the hall.

Han Sen hesitated for a moment, but he ultimately decided to walk inside with them. With the little red bird there, he and Bao'er should be safe.

Lilly was scared, and she stayed by Han Sen's side. Han Sen walked slowly, and he kept observing Lan Haixin and the others. They hadn't encountered any danger yet.

The entire hall was very peaceful. Lan Haixin and the others stood in front of the altar. The old Siren woman stared at the little bottle on its platform when she suddenly said, "Yes, yes! This is our relic, the Siren Bottle... Our race can rise from the ashes once more!"

After that, her excitement broke into crying. Full of tears, she repeatedly bowed before the bottle.

All of the Siren started to bow, copying the old Siren woman. Even Lan Haixin lowered herself before the Siren Bottle.

Han Sen wasn't in the mood to participate. He just sat atop the blood kirin and stared at the bottle.

The bottle was around the size of a man's hand. The bottle was very tall, and two wings of glass flared out from its sides. The two wings of the bottle featured the faces of Siren women. The bottle was small, but the work was very delicate. The two Siren women looked almost alive, as if real people were smiling on it.

The bottle was lovely, with a halo around it and a rainbow glowing from inside. It looked holy, almost sacred. However, whenever Han Sen looked at the bottle, it felt sinister to him.

"Bai Yi, you and I can claim the holy bottle now," Lan Haixin said to Han Sen, but she remained standing in front of the platform.

Han Sen frowned. The Siren bottle was good stuff, clearly. His Purple-Eye Butterfly could tell him that much. The Purple-Eye Butterfly couldn't analyze the bottle, so it had to be some sort of deified treasure.

But the evil presence of the Siren Bottle made Han Sen feel afraid. He didn't want to take the risk of claiming it.

Seeing that Han Sen was still standing back, Lan Haixin frowned and said, "Haven't you always wanted this relic? Why are you backing out now?"

Han Sen smiled and said, "Of course I want this relic, but I've never seen it before. Are you sure this is the right one?"

