

Chapter 2411:

Invincible Defense

People like Han Sen, who could survive a conflict with a deified xenogeneic, were really helpful when it came to taking down deified xenogeneics. Dia Robber and Dragon One both knew the value of recruiting Dollar to their respective causes.

Even a party of Extreme King would be willing to hire Han Sen to fight for them.

Kings wanted to hunt down deified creatures, and the Extreme King could sometimes do that, but only if they found a weak deified. The stronger deified beings were too powerful for even the Extreme King to handle.

Dia Robber and Dragon One exchanged a glance, then flew towards the fire area at almost the same time.

“This looks very bad! The core furnace just triggered its third fire area. The Swords from the Furnace are strong enough to kill a half-deified elite now.” When Dia Robber got a better view of the battlefield, he couldn’t help but frown.

The core furnace had remained alive while deified xenogeneics were killed around it because its power and fire area were too scary.

It wasn’t like no one had tried to take it down before. A group of half-deifieds had worked together to attack the creature before, but their attempt failed beneath that sword rain. A few of the half-deified elites were even killed before they could escape.

The large sword rain and the stacking fire area was a nightmare for the Kings that challenged this beast. It wasn’t something that could be overcome simply by assembling more people to go up against it.

Dragon One nodded. “The fire area has stacked three times. Not even our last generation Dragon Thirteen, who has the strongest defense, would have been able to block this. And he was half-deified.”

As they talked, they carefully kept themselves well outside of the fire area. They didn’t dare enter. There were three fire area buffs and rivers of swords in front of them. If they went inside, they wouldn’t be coming out alive. Plus, that core furnace was brewing its fourth fire area.

But when they peered down through the haze of swords, their faces changed.

Han Sen was wrapped in a blue glow, and rivers of swords were washing over his body from every angle. It was so scary that the two half-deifieds felt a little numb at the sight.

Those scary sword streams slammed into Han Sen's body, but they couldn't break through the defense of his armor. Han Sen hung in the air as countless green crystal Swords from the Furnace came soaring down to strike him, then bounced off like they were made of cheap wood.

Against Han Sen's armor, those scary swords that could kill half-deified beings were nothing more than raindrops.

Boom!

As they watched, the core furnace's cogwheels and chains moved, opening the furnace so it could absorb universal energies. Then the entrance port of the furnace spat out a volcano of green fire. The new fire area spread, then settled over the Swords from the Furnace.

The Swords from the Furnace absorbed the fire area and crystallized further. Many of the swords now looked like green jewelry. They were glowing with light and fire, and each one of them looked like some mythic weapon of legend.

"The fourth fire area!" Dia Robber's lips pressed into a thin line.

Dragon One looked glum. Four fire areas were now buffing the Swords from the Furnace. Each sword now wielded the power of a top half-deified being. Every one of them was equal to Dragon One's power.

There were many swords, and they swirled through space like some angry, crystalline hurricane.

If that core furnace could go out into the geno universe, it could wipe out many of the higher races. Its storm of swords was like an army of half-deified xenogeneics.

Of course, the core furnace had its downsides, as well. Every time it absorbed power from the universe, it shouldered the burden of casting another fire area. Each fire area it cast was a strain on its strength, so it couldn't continue stacking its area power forever.

Four fire area buffs were almost all the core furnace could endure. If the fire area continued to stack, the furnace itself might buckle and melt under the strain.

If the furnace was unlucky enough to encounter a powerful deified xenogeneic, the deified wouldn't let the fire area stack up that many times. The deified would just smash through the storm of swords and break the furnace in one hit.

But right now, the furnace had managed to build up four layers of the fire area. The power it now wielded was truly frightening. It wasn't something a normal deified xenogeneic could deal with.

A flash flood of swords approached Han Sen, blanketing the space around him. Dragon One and Dia Robber's eyebrows rose. The pressure of the situation was getting to them, and they clenched their fists.

"Can Dollar survive this?" Dragon One and Dia Robber stared at Han Sen, hovering alone in his blue area.

Boom!

The waterfall of swords came crashing down on Han Sen. They buried Han Sen under a seething mountain of green jade. The raging stream of swords kept coming down, and it felt like so much mass was converging that a black hole was about to form, right there in space.

Sweat tricked down the foreheads of Dragon One and Dia Robber. If this kind of attack came at one of them, their bodies would be torn to shreds.

It wasn't a matter of enduring it through force of will. It was an incredible power that had been designed for the sole purpose of killing enemies. It was impossible to endure unless the defender had more raw power than the attack. No amount of reinforcements or additional troops could overcome something like this.

Water was very weak in small quantities, but when enough water gathered in one place, it could become a tsunami. Even tall buildings could be toppled by such forces of nature.

The swords of the core furnace held that same awe-inspiring power.

The impacts of the sword stream were so loud that Dragon One and Dia Robber could barely hear each other. Their eyes stared at the blue light in the middle of the sword stream.

The blue light area had yet to be swallowed, and that meant Dollar was not yet dead.

Surviving under such circumstances was nothing short of a miracle.

Boom!

The falling sword stream began to slow down, and Dragon One and Dia Robber could finally see Han Sen through the small gaps between the swords. Han Sen stood calmly in place. He was fearless, like some sort of god. He let those Swords from the Furnace collide with his armor, and he made no effort to block them. None of the swords could break through his defenses.

Dragon One and Dia Robber were both shocked and happy. "What kind of area and armor power does Dollar have? He remained uninjured beneath the weight of those attacks."

They could barely believe the strength of Han Sen's defenses, but it gave them hope. With such a powerful defense, stalling a deified xenogeneic might be possible.

Chapter 2412: Fighting Face to Face

Move Mountain Area was practically invincible, but Han Sen felt as if he was going to reach the end of his tether soon.

There was no problem with the way Move Mountain Area functioned, but there was a limit to the amount of power that the Donxguan Armor could support. So much power was being funneled into the armor that it was starting to produce cracking sounds, like breaking glass.

The Dongxuan Armor was only on its first tier. Although it was the best when compared to others of the same level, that level was simply too low for this situation. The fact that it had endured this long was amazing.

“If Dongxuan Armor can level up to its ninth tier and be reset, then the combination of Move Mountain Area and the Dongxuan Area will make fighting a deified xenogeneic face-to-face quite feasible,” Han Sen thought to himself.

Boom!

As Han Sen was thinking, the core furnace was opening to absorb as much universal energy as it could. The furnace’s fire flared up brightly.

The furnace itself seemed to be changing under the heat. The copper had become semi-transparent, and it glowed with the wavering light of its flames. It looked both very weird and very beautiful.

Fire spewed out of it as the fifth fire area poured forth. The greenish fireball became solid like water as it wrapped over the Swords from the Furnace.

Many swords absorbed that fifth fire area power. The swords looked like perfect glass now. They moved like they had been possessed by sword spirits, and dangerous shadows traveled behind them.

“Five fire areas? This is very nearly a substance chain power... The core furnace is cheating...” Dragon One and Dia Robber were both in shock. Their bodies were trembling with intimidation from the sight of all those swords.

They weren’t scared for their own lives, of course, but the sight of all that power caused a gut reaction that neither of them had expected. Even from this distance, they could feel the dangerous heat of the coming attack.

Luckily, Dragon One and Dia Robber were top Kings. These wisps of sword air would have already forced ordinary Kings down onto their knees.

“Maybe after this fight, that core furnace will become deified,” Dragon One murmured, his eyes locked on the furnace.

“Can Dollar withstand it?” Dia Robber looked into space. The stream of swords was pointing at Han Sen. The cold sweat running off of the Destroyed had soaked his clothing.

Han Sen could see that the Swords from the Furnace were all aiming at him, but he wasn’t afraid. He complimented them quietly, saying, “Such a powerful xenogeneic... What a shame.”

As he spoke to himself, Han Sen stretched out a hand. His thumb and middle-finger came together, and a coin appeared between them.

Han Sen couldn't move. Move Mountain Area's buffing had made the Dongxuan Armor too heavy. In addition, the Dongxuan Armor had reached max capacity. If it absorbed any more power, it was sure to blow up.

So, now, Han Sen had to fight face to face. He had no choice.

"He has to fight?" Upon seeing Han Sen's plan, Dragon One and Dia Robber looked unsettled.

A first-tier King was going to fight the almost-deified furnace. The likelihood of death was very high.

They could see Han Sen's situation and hear his armor creaking. There were some small marks starting to appear across it. Clearly, it couldn't endure the suppression of that scary power for much longer. They thought Han Sen was fighting now because he had no other choice.

A first-tier King should have had no chance at all against that enormous storm of swords.

Han Sen didn't agree, though. The Swords from the Furnace were scary. Even Move Mountain Area and his Dongxuan Armor couldn't bear them. But the incredible power that had built up within his armor was something that Han Sen could now use.

"Come on! Let the world know the power of Collecting Taxes!" Han Sen growled under his breath. He held the coin tightly between his fingers.

1Buzz!

The coin moaned, and the numbers upon its surface jumped up quickly.

One... two... ten... fifty...

The numbers upon the coin blurred as they raced upward. The wave of swords gathered, preparing to head for Han Sen and his coin.

Han Sen's coin had two skills: Saving Money and Collecting Taxes. Saving Money could stack up his own power to attack. Collecting Taxes came from Han Sen's Coin geno core. Rather than using Han Sen's own power, that skill depended on external powers.

Within a certain radius, all creatures with power would sacrifice their own energy to fuel the skill. The stronger the creatures were, the more taxes were collected.

Each and every Sword from the Furnace was wretchedly strong. They were half-deified, almost fully deified. There were many of them, too.

Every sword surrendered a small amount of power, and Han Sen collected their taxes. An unnerving amount of power gathered on Han Sen's single coin. That coin's power increased to such a level that Han Sen almost couldn't control it.

When the furnace groaned, countless swords received their fire buff. That put them on the move. The stream of swords looked like a tsunami descending on Han Sen. Their power blanketed everything as if they were about to rip space itself apart.

Dragon One and Dia Robber started to fall back. The stream of swords was too frightening. After that hit, the furnace was sure to become deified. Once that happened, they would have no hope of escaping.

Ding!

Han Sen finally fired his coin at the smithy furnace. It flew toward the furnace in a streak of gold light.

That coin's power was beyond Han Sen's control, and he had no choice but to fire it. If he hadn't, it would have exploded and taken him with it. As the coin flew, the numbers continued to increase, gathering power from the area all around it.

The coin's light, compared to the numerous sword lights, was tiny. Its tiny gleam was nothing outstanding.

But when the Swords from the Furnace came into contact with the coin, they broke. They were as weak as soap bubbles, and the gold light continued toward the copper furnace.

Dragon One and Dia Robber were falling back. They saw Han Sen fire his coin, but due to the heavy sword stream, they couldn't keep track of the small gold light.

The scary stream of swords approached Han Sen's body, and the coin came into contact with the copper furnace. Then, it produced a crunchy metal noise.

It wasn't loud, but it was oddly clear amidst the thunderous noise of the raucous swords. Dragon One and Dia Robber turned back to look, their eyes finding the giant furnace.

They saw the coin planted on the furnace. Then, in the next second, the coin was actually inside the furnace. And then the construct was shrinking.

Chapter 2413: Exploding Furnace

The furnace had become semi-transparent under the heat of its own flames. The coin hit the side of the furnace with so much force that it started to cave in on itself. A small hole formed in the surface, and the coin disappeared into that hole.

It felt like time was standing still. Dragon One and Dia Robber didn't see the coin come out on the other side, so they assumed that the coin was still stuck to the furnace where it had originally landed. They doubted the coin would have enough power to penetrate the furnace.

But then they froze in disbelief. The whole furnace was imploding. As if a black hole had formed at the center of the furnace, the whole thing collapsed in on itself. The huge furnace twisted into a small chunk of metal.

And this minimizing process continued without stopping. It was like a soda can being crushed under someone's foot. The power inside the furnace continued to collapse its structure.

The giant furnace grew smaller, and smaller, and smaller.

Eventually, the furnace was no more than a point of light. Then it detonated like a supernova.

The shockwave of the explosion rocked that section of space. Debris and destruction spread everywhere, far beyond what the eye could see. Dragon One and Dia Robber were sent flying away by that scary power.

When Dragon One and Dia Robber gathered themselves enough to look around, they saw that the giant copper furnace had been reduced to nothing but cosmic dust. All of the Swords from the Furnace had cracked because their hosting entity had been annihilated. They created a chain of explosions, one after another. It was like watching a giant universe firework event.

Han Sen still stood there unaffected.

Dragon One and Dia Robber looked at each other. This hadn't just been a display of high defense. Dollar had completely annihilated a creature that was almost deified. That was a very powerful attack, to say the least.

Even a top-class half-deified couldn't endure the stream of swords like he had just done.

"Scary!" Dragon One and Dia Robber thought of the same thing at the same time.

"Mutant Xenogeneic King hunted: Core Smithy Furnace. Beast soul gained."

Han Sen was shocked. There had been no announcement of a xenogeneic gene being found. Now Han Sen understood the scariest part of the coin's power; it had even destroyed the xenogeneic gene inside the creature.

That attack was the furnace's own power turned against it. The Swords from the Furnace were too powerful for it to withstand. Every power from the individual swords had been gathered together. Each one had probably reached deified level, and that was how Han Sen was able to defeat the furnace.

Just as Han Sen was about to take a look at the beast soul the furnace had given him, he noticed something flashing far away. He looked closer, and he saw the small copper furnace running away.

Han Sen stopped using his Move Mountain Area and flew after it.

The furnace wasn't a fast creature. It didn't fly quickly, and so Han Sen was able to catch up to it in no time. He pulled out his Core Demon Bug Gun to kill it.

The small furnace stopped in its tracks, puffing its chimney to make the fire spin, spew, and spread. It gave off a string of crying noises.

Han Sen thought it was prepping itself to fight. He held the Core Demon Bug Gun with a fixed aim, but he soon noticed the furnace wasn't unleashing its green fire at Han Sen. Instead, the fire twisted in the air to form a few words.

"My... king... spare... me..." Han Sen was shocked. He lowered the gun, taking his finger off the trigger.

The small furnace, noticing that Han Sen hadn't attacked, spit out a few more green flames. It formed the shape of more words. "I am willing to become your slave."

"Holy sh*t! This guy is very smart," Han Sen thought in shock. The xenogeneics he had seen so far in the core area weren't intelligent. Even the deified insect wasn't smart like an ordinary high-level creature.

But the small furnace's intelligence was the same as a high-level creature's.

"What can you do for me?" Han Sen asked, looking at the furnace.

Han Sen didn't think he could take a core xenogeneic into the geno universe. Even if he accepted its services, it would have to remain in the core area.

The furnace understood Han Sen, so it spat out more green fire to shape words. "I can give directions to my king, for I am familiar with this place."

"Pah!" Han Sen laughed. He thought the small furnace was very talented.

"Wouldn't you hate me for killing your brethren?" Han Sen asked, raising an eyebrow at the small furnace. That big furnace looked like some sort of parental figure to the small furnace. It would be risky to have a servant who hated him.

The small furnace spat out more fire and said, "We are of the same kind, but there is no connecting bloodline."

"If that is the case, then I will permit you to live. Go ahead and lead the way, then. If you try anything funny, I'll kill you." Han Sen thought the small furnace was funny. He kind of liked the thing, so he couldn't bring himself to kill it. He would keep it around for now, and see whether or not it really wanted to give him good directions.

If it really did want to serve him, then having a companion that knew about the core would be useful. In the future, he could avoid accidentally stepping into the territory of strong xenogeneics. Having another mishap would be bad.

"Do not worry, my king. I will lead the way. I will live for the king, and I will die for the king. I will spend my life in the service of the king." The small furnace spelled out.

"Now I know you're full of sh*t! Lead me to where I can find xenogeneics. Something I can kill that isn't so dangerous," Han Sen instructed firmly.

"This way, my king." The small furnace led the way out into space.

After the two disappeared, Dia Robber and Dragon One revealed themselves. They hadn't come out and greeted Han Sen before because he had been too scary. They had to think of a way they could motivate Han Sen to cooperate with them.

He was so powerful. Unless they provided a lot of incentive, Dollar wouldn't care for their offers. And the two of them were fighting each other, anyway.

Before they could offer him a larger portion of the reward, though, they would have to consult with their own people.

“Brother Dragon One, I have a suggestion. I am wondering if you are interested in hearing it.” Dia Robber looked at Dragon One.

“Cooperation?” Dragon One asked, looking at Dia Robber.

“You had the same thought, brother?” Dia Robber was surprised.

Dragon One smiled. “It looks like we are a match for each other. We should go somewhere nice and discuss the details.”

“My thoughts exactly! After you, good sir.” Dia Robber smiled.

The furnace guided Han Sen forward. He was still suspicious about its help, but the small furnace didn’t play any tricks. They went to a place with a small number of King xenogeneics. They were creatures that Han Sen could kill easily. He managed to earn twenty xenogeneic core genes in just a few days. He grew confident that he would find more xenogeneics with the furnace than if he was to remain solo.

Chapter 2414: God Battle Ruin

Miss Mirror sat in front of her computer. She looked at the information on the screen, locked in deep thought.

All the documents pertained to Han Sen. It was everything that had been recorded of him since the fight when Kong Fei had snuffed out and relit a lantern. It informed her of everything he did, all the way up until he disguised himself as Bai Yi. The records of it were all there.

“Such a scary guy. These records make his life look like he’s playing with cheat codes. He has done way too many unbelievable things. It is difficult to imagine that a leftover crystallizer, starting from scratch, achieved all that he has today.” The investigation was very thorough. Miss Mirror had to admit that if she had been in the same situation as Han Sen, she wouldn’t have been able to achieve half of what Han Sen had managed to.

“It is a shame that he isn’t really Bai Yi. Otherwise, with his performance amongst the Extreme King, he might have become a legendary figure for us.” Miss Mirror sighed. She turned off the computer and rubbed her temples.

She had been tired for a while. The person who had her Mirror Spirit Eye Ring was disguising himself as a prince. It made things rather difficult for her. She couldn’t tell King Bai about it, but neither could she lie to him. And King Bai wasn’t an easy man to fool. Lying to him might lead her down a path she could never return from.

“Radiowave should be investigating Han Sen. If they start uncovering his secrets too quickly, things might go badly for me. And if I had Han Sen over, I’m afraid the Mirror Spirit Eye won’t be able to withstand the same dosage of damage again.” Miss Mirror was beginning to develop a headache.

Miss Mirror closed her eyes to think, but she couldn't figure out a solution that was perfect for her.

A subordinate knocked at her door. "Miss Mirror, the location of the seven-five-six-eight God Battle Ruin has been confirmed."

"Give me the information." Miss Mirror sat up straight, looking like a lady again.

The subordinate pushed open the door and set the documents down in front of her. Miss Mirror examined them for a while and frowned. She said, "Another race has been found? At Ruin 7568?"

"Yes, my lady. Our people found a big excavation site, and some construction zones started up not too long ago," the subordinate explained.

"Okay, that's all for now." Miss Mirror set the documents back down on the table. She closed her eyes and thought.

A while later, she opened her eyes. She glanced over the pages again, then finally smiled. She said out loud, "Ruin 7568... If that is the one, perhaps I can convince my brother. I can take Han Sen there. This is an opportunity."

For the first time in a while, things were going smoothly. Han Sen had the small furnace to show him the way, and he had collected many core xenogeneic genes. Now, he was holding four. He ate two and tossed the others to the furnace.

It wasn't because Han Sen was a waster. It was just because he couldn't digest them. Even with Consume's help, he could only eat two a day. If he wanted to gain one hundred King class genes, it would take more than a month.

Because the small furnace behaved well, Han Sen gave it a few core xenogeneic genes whenever he could. The small furnace was always delighted to receive them.

Swords from the Furnace required core xenogeneic genes for production. But core genes from different xenogenics could create different swords inside the furnace.

"No wonder that big furnace was so strong. All the swords it produced came from King xenogeneic genes. I can't even guess how many King class core xenogenics it managed to kill in its time. Too bad the xenogeneic genes are melted down inside the furnace. If a furnace is destroyed, the swords are also destroyed. Otherwise, I'd have received enough xenogeneic genes to last me many lives over," Han Sen thought with regret.

The small furnace followed Han Sen and collected a few treats on the way. When Han Sen left the core area, it didn't run off. It waited for Han Sen to come back.

A few days later, the small furnace was forging a few sword blanks.

Han Sen thought this relaxed schedule would last for some time, but when Miss Mirror showed up, she destroyed his delusions of just enjoying life for a while.

“Pack your stuff, you have a mission to go on,” Miss Mirror said before taking a sip of tea.

“What mission?” Han Sen asked with trepidation. Miss Mirror had asked him to pack, so that meant he was leaving King’s Kingdom.

“This is your father’s handwriting. Is there a problem?” Miss Mirror asked, setting a note down on the table as she spoke.

“Yes. Can I bring my subordinates with me?” Han Sen asked.

“I suppose you can, but are you sure about taking them someplace dangerous?” Miss Mirror looked like she was smiling, but she wasn’t.

Han Sen knew Miss Mirror was referring to Bao’er. She was warning Han Sen not to attempt an escape. He wouldn’t have a chance to.

“If I can, I would like to bring Bao’er,” Han Sen said, pretending not to know what she meant.

“Sure, but I have already told you; this place is dangerous. If something happens, don’t blame your auntie for not warning you,” Miss Mirror said.

“I will be responsible for this decision,” Han Sen said tonelessly.

“Good. Go and prepare. We will be leaving tonight.” With that, Miss Mirror turned and promptly left Underwater Town.

Han Sen called for Bao’er. He left the Blood Kirin behind in Underwater Town to look after Lan Haixin, just in case she decided to stir up trouble.

Han Sen wasn’t planning an escape. The Extreme King were too powerful. Unless he had a reliable backup plan, he wouldn’t flee. He couldn’t go back to Planet Eclipse, either. He didn’t want to drag Yisha into his problematic affairs.

Han Sen wanted to bring Bao’er because he didn’t feel safe leaving her alone. Plus, he was used to having Bao’er around. Whenever he was alone, it always felt like he was missing something.

He asked the Blood Kirin to watch Lan Haixin. Lilly begged Han Sen to take her with him, but he refused.

Miss Mirror had said that the place was dangerous, and Han Sen didn’t think she told him that just to scare him. He was bringing Bao’er along because she could protect herself. Lilly was just a Duke. She would be unable to protect herself, and bringing her would be like handing her a death sentence.

He brought Bao’er to the rally point, knowing that they wouldn’t be going alone. Many members of Spring Rain had already gathered. There were many Kings and half-deifieds, and Han Sen even saw two fully deified warriors amongst them.

“What are they doing here?” Han Sen wondered. This was enough combat power to annihilate a higher race.

When the ship started to move, Miss Mirror didn't come looking for him. Han Sen had free time, so he practiced and consumed King class genes.

Han Sen started trying to push Jadeskin's self-universe cogwheel. He wanted to get Jadeskin up to King class. That progress would be much easier than leveling up the Dongxuan Sutra. It would only be a matter of time.

The ship flew through many space teleportation points. When the ship arrived at their ultimate destination, Han Sen was shocked. He knew the place.

"Isn't this the xenogeneic space that Ning Yue mentioned?" Han Sen wondered.

Chapter 2415: Stone Field

The xenogeneic space was a very rocky landscape. The ships landed amidst an enormous field of stones, and the passengers of the ships made camp nearby.

On Miss Mirror's orders, the Spring Rain members began digging into the stone field, unearthing even more rocks.

Miss Mirror didn't instruct Han Sen to do anything, other than telling him to stay in camp. While he didn't have to do any digging, his ability to wander around as he wished was limited.

Han Sen asked Miss Mirror what sort of place they had come to and what their mission was there, but she didn't answer him. She just told him that he would be safe as long as he stayed close, and he would be called for when the time came for him to work.

"This is the xenogeneic space Ning Yue described. Ning Yue's little green sword came from one of the rocks that was found here. It looks like Miss Mirror's task here is the same as it was for the Hell. They want to excavate something out of all this stone," Han Sen thought to himself. He really wanted to join the others in the stone field, so he could examine the rocks.

But Miss Mirror was very firm that he shouldn't leave camp, so joining the others was out of the question.

Instead, Han Sen spent his time studying his geno arts and absorbing King class xenogeneic genes.

On their second day in the xenogeneic space, something occurred in the stone fields. A few Spring Rain members had to be carried back to camp. When Han Sen heard the commotion and came over to see, he found that the unfortunate individuals were turning into stone. Not long after, their entire bodies were fully petrified. They were just a bunch of statues.

Miss Mirror and the two deified elites tried to stop the petrification process, but they could do nothing. None of their attempts even seemed to slow the transformation.

After this, the work in the stone fields was brought to a halt. Although they were no longer digging, Miss Mirror showed no sign of wanting to leave.

More ships arrived a few days later, bringing many different creatures to the camp. They were from a variety of different races, and all of them were Marquises or Dukes. They must have been brought there to become workers in the stone field.

“Ning Yue.” As Han Sen watched the workers line up to register, he saw a pretty woman with pink armor. He recognized her as Ning Yue, and he felt his eyes widen.

Han Sen was shocked. Not because Ning Yue was now a woman; Han Sen knew that little factoid already.

It wasn't strange that Ning Yue was actually there, either. Ning Yue would have been looking for a chance to come back, so he could find out what happened to his body. The Extreme King had recruited workers, so it was reasonable that Ning Yue had joined their ranks.

Han Sen was simply surprised by what he wore. He had a little pink dress on, and he also had some pink earrings, rings, necklaces, and red flowers in his hair. He was like a pink lady, and he was genuinely pretty. If Han Sen hadn't seen Ning Yue before, he definitely wouldn't have been able to recognize him.

“Oh no! What is wrong with Ning Yue? Even if his body turned into the body of a woman, it doesn't mean he has to dress up as one,” Han Sen thought to himself. The longer he watched Ning Yue, the more convinced he became that something was deeply wrong.

“How to talk to Ning Yue alone?” Han Sen wanted to ask him what had happened, but he wasn't permitted to talk to the workers. Even if he could, everyone would be watching. There was nowhere they could discuss matters privately.

Han Sen thought about it overnight. And the next day, he barged into Miss Mirror's office.

“Miss Mirror! Miss Mirror! You brought me here, and yet you aren't letting me do anything. You won't let me out, and you won't even let me go on the internet. What is this?” Han Sen demanded.

“My Lady, we couldn't stop the prince! He just barged in,” the guards said tensely, trying to explain his sudden intrusion.

“You guys can leave,” Miss Mirror said in a cool voice. Her pretty eyes didn't even glance their way. Instead, she kept her focus fixed on the documents she was reading.

After the guards closed the door, Han Sen said, “Even if you don't want to let me out, at least allow me to do something. If I'm stuck at home all day again, I am going to go crazy. And Bao'er is just a kid. She can't remain cooped up all day, either.”

“You are the one who asked to bring her here. She is entirely your responsibility.” Miss Mirror closed the file and looked at Han Sen. “You will be given your task when the time comes. But for now, your job is just to wait patiently in camp.”

“Fine. I can do that, but can you at least make nicer food? Plus, I want Bao’er to have a maid to look after her. That isn’t too much to ask, is it?” Han Sen said.

“We are here to work. We aren’t here on vacation.” After a brief pause, Miss Mirror said, “I will find you a maid. Now go home.”

“That’s better. Find a pretty one, though. It annoys me if the maid is ugly,” Han Sen said.

“Are you looking for a maid, or are you looking for a woman?” Miss Mirror asked sternly.

“I am Prince Sixteen. Is there something wrong with having a woman to please me?” Han Sen smiled.

“Prince Sixteen?” Miss Mirror shot Han Sen a flat look.

Han Sen coughed. “I wasn’t going to do anything. I just want someone to look after my kid. But you won’t let me go out, and I must make myself look like more of a prince.”

“Any other concerns you would like to share?” Miss Mirror asked, fixing Han Sen with another unnerving stare.

“No,” Han Sen answered.

“If there is nothing more you require, then go home. I have work to attend to,” Miss Mirror said in clear dismissal.

“Then I’ll go now. Please be considerate when picking a maid for me,” Han Sen said. Miss Mirror stared at him until he left the office.

“I wonder if Miss Mirror will just pick a worker? If she picks a worker, I think Ning Yue will have a high chance of being selected,” Han Sen thought as he walked. It was all he could do, after all.

If Miss Mirror didn’t pick a worker, then Han Sen would have to find another way to get some alone time with his target.

The next day, after Han Sen opened the door to take Bao’er to the canteen to eat, he saw a pretty Extreme King woman standing directly before him.

“My Prince, Miss Mirror asked me to serve you.” The woman bowed to Han Sen, but her face was expressionless.

“Not bad! What’s your name?” Han Sen smiled at the woman.

He had been prepared for this possibility, so he wasn’t disappointed. If Miss Mirror had picked any random person, Han Sen would have grown suspicious.

“Falling Leaf,” the woman answered.

“Falling Leaf, huh? Not bad. Not bad. Miss Mirror didn’t disappoint me. Come. Let’s go find something to eat.” Han Sen squinted slightly, lifting a smiling Bao’er up to sit on his shoulder. Then the trio made their way to the canteen.

While they ate, Han Sen turned to Bao’er’s new maid. “Falling Leaf, your mission is to take care of Bao’er. Satisfy all her desires. You cannot make her cry. Do you understand?”

“Sure,” Falling Leaf answered, her voice smooth and emotionless.

Chapter 2416: Jadeskin Levels Up to King Class

Han Sen had realized almost instantly that Falling Leaf wasn’t an ordinary woman. She was very good at hiding her energy so that the average person would be unable to discern her level, but Han Sen had his Dongxuan Area. There was no way that Falling Leaf could hide her King class power from him.

Although Han Sen couldn’t tell how many tiers she had unlocked, she had definitely surpassed the first couple of tiers.

“Miss Mirror is very generous. Falling Leaf must be a ranking member in Spring Rain,” Han Sen thought, as he tried to come up with a way to make her leave.

If Han Sen made her leave himself, that would draw unwanted attention. It would also give Miss Mirror a clue to figuring out what he really wanted. So, Han Sen couldn’t take action himself. Instead of making her stay with them uncomfortable, and he would need to treat her nicely. Bao’er, however...

“When it comes to making people miserable, Bao’er is a true artist,” Han Sen thought, looking at his smiling daughter.

2“Sister Falling Leaf, can you play a game with me?” Bao’er was holding a doll in front of Falling Leaf. Her big eyes made it look as if she was desperately begging.

“Of course I can,” Falling Leaf replied, a smile softening her cold face.

Falling Leaf was quite famous in Spring Rain. She was known as “The Icy Femme Fatale.” Her calm, calculating mind made her an amazing assassin. When she worked, nothing could shake her up or throw her off her game.

Her greatest fight took place on a deified-owned planet. She killed a half-deified elite, the son of a deified being, and they all backed off her.

But facing a sweet little girl, even Falling Leaf’s mood seemed a bit lighter.

She seemed happier than when she faced Han Sen, at least.

Falling Leaf didn't know Han Sen was a fake prince, but even believing that Han Sen was a real royal, she wasn't interested in him. She would hate the thought of dating a prince.

If not for Miss Mirror's order, she wouldn't have accepted the mission that brought her here. She most certainly wouldn't have agreed to serve Han Sen.

Han Sen watched Bao'er play with Falling Leaf and felt some relief. He returned to his room to continue practicing,

After many attempts to turn Jadeskin's self-universe cogwheel, he was finally beginning to understand how it worked. He only needed to hit a breaking point for it to reach King class.

Jadeskin was different from the Dongxuan Sutra. Han Sen could actually see the Dongxuan Sutra's self-cogwheel and all the other universal cogwheels around it.

But when he used Jadeskin, the universal cogwheels all appeared blurry. They weren't as clear as they were with the Dongxuan Sutra.

So, Han Sen tried many different methods in the hope of turning the self-universe cogwheel. He had long since lost track of how many attempts he had made. The self-cogwheel refused to budge, however.

He only needed enough power to connect with the self-cogwheel. Anyone could push universal cogwheels, and the number of cogwheels they could push all boiled down to how much strength they had.

But ordinary Kings couldn't actually see the universal cogwheels like Han Sen could. They could get a vague sense of what they needed to do, but they couldn't tell it was actually a cogwheel they were pushing.

And although Han Sen had initially thought that the number of cogwheels someone had to push was directly related to their strength, that wasn't exactly true. There were some people who didn't push many universal cogwheels, but even so, they became very powerful. Many such people existed.

The difficulty of reaching King class depended on the strength of the initial cogwheel. If the self-cogwheel was strong enough and you cast sufficient power, you could spin your self-cogwheel very quickly. In so doing, you could equal the power of people who spun many cogwheels just by spinning your single cogwheel at high velocity.

Many Kings with one area power could unleash more power than Kings with many area powers. That was the theory.

Jadeskin was a geno art that was very simple in the way its power was used. The self-cogwheel didn't have to push many neighboring universal cogwheels, but that didn't mean the self-cogwheel was weak in itself.

When Han Sen was ready to become King class, he started off with Dongxuan Area. With Dongxuan Area's help, pushing other self-cogwheels was easier. The ability allowed Han Sen to see the Jadeskin cogwheel.

Jadeskin's self-cogwheel wasn't much smaller than the Dongxuan Sutra's self-cogwheel. After all, they were the self-cogwheels that were based on Han Sen's body, so there wouldn't be many differences between them.

But the two cogwheels did look rather different. The Dongxuan Sutra's cogwheel was black, while Jadeskin's was some sort of translucent jade. It connected to seven universal cogwheels. That number was fairly ordinary for an average King. Compared to the Dongxuan Sutra, that was a tiny number of connected cogs.

But having a small number of connected cogs didn't mean that Jadeskin's power couldn't spread. The self-cogwheel would still spin very quickly.

Under the Dongxuan Area, Han Sen slowly cast his Jadeskin, then began shoving against his self-cogwheel to spin it. The progress was now much easier than it had been when he was pushing the Dongxuan Sutra's self-cogwheel.

After all, Han Sen was King class now, so he had much more power that he could throw behind his efforts.

Katcha! Katcha!

The translucent jade cogwheel slowly started to shift. As the self-cogwheel spun, a weird flower symbol appeared on its surface.

The flower symbol spread like a growing crystal, slowly sliding over the self-cogwheel. As the cogwheel spun, the symbol swelled more and more. A short time later, it had completely covered the cogwheel. Jadeskin's self-cogwheel became an ice moon.

Jadeskin's self-cogwheel pushed the other seven universal cogwheels that connected to it. As it did, the symbol glided over those universal cogwheels too. Then it spread further.

The icy, jade-looking area power spread through Han Sen, becoming a strange sealing area. But after spreading for a while, the power returned, heading back for Han Sen. His body absorbed all of the power.

When the ice moon-like cogwheel spun, Han Sen's entire body crystallized, and he glowed like a crystal. He was like a god wrapped up in holy light.

Boom!

The cogwheel continued to spin as the universal core hall door opened. Han Sen's body was sucked into it. He entered the universal core hall.

Han Sen didn't hesitate. He landed atop the cogwheels of the hall, and when the cogwheels moved, the hall's door opened. Han Sen exited the hall, finding himself in a new place inside the core area. This wasn't where he had been previously.

Ordinarily, leaving the core area would set a spawn point for his return. He would be able to come back to the exact place he had previously left.

But now that Han Sen was entering with his Jadeskin cogwheel, it had taken him to a different location than where he would spawn with his Dongxuan Sutra cogwheel.

“Does that mean I can go to different core areas with each skill? I just need to change the self-cogwheel to determine which place I access?” Han Sen realized joyfully.

Chapter 2417: The Advantages of Gene Transference

Han Sen took a moment to look around, trying to place where he was within the core area. He wasn't in the mood to hunt core xenogeneics at the moment. After he had confirmed his location, he just returned to camp.

Han Sen walked out of his private room, then suddenly jerked to a stop. Falling Leaf and Bao'er were staring each other down. Falling Leaf's face, meanwhile, was covered in paper.* She was holding two cards, and she looked very serious.

Bao'er, on the other hand, was holding one card. She looked gravely at Falling Leaf's two cards.

“Which one should I choose?” Bao'er wondered, carefully considering the decision. She pointed her finger, wavering between the two cards in the other woman's hand. It looked as if she had to pick one out of the two.

When Han Sen saw them, he knew Bao'er and Falling Leaf were playing Old Man.

Old Man was very simple to play. One of the Jokers was removed from a normal deck of playing cards, and then the deck was dealt to the players.

Each player then removed all the pairs they could from their hand. Once their hands only contained the cards that couldn't be paired, they took turns choosing cards from one another's hands. If a player chose a card that they could pair with one of their own cards, the player could discard the pair. The winner was whoever got rid of the Joker, which could not be paired, and discarded all of their cards.

This was a game that Han Sen had played a lot with Bao'er in the past. Because Han Sen was very good at this sort of prediction game, Bao'er initially never won. But after they played for a while, he stopped winning so often. Before long, Han Sen felt as if he would never win another game. It took a lot of focus for him to play with Bao'er, especially when he was doing his best to avoid losing.

Eventually, he just stopped playing with Bao'er entirely, which meant Bao'er could never exact revenge on Han Sen for all the times he had beaten her. Bao'er had been angry about that for quite some time.

But Han Sen was very adamant about not playing with her. He never gave her the chance to exact revenge on him.

It was a game that was highly based on luck, judgment, observation, and mind tricks. The Han family prided themselves on their skill with the game, but Han Sen was no longer sure if he had what it took to beat Bao'er these days.

Seeing Falling Leaf with a face full of paper, he could tell she had lost badly. Bao'er's face was very clean, and there was not a single piece of paper on her.

As Bao'er's hand moved slowly back and forth between the two cards, Falling Leaf's face displayed no emotion. But her heart leaped in her chest with every movement of Bao'er's hand.

She really did feel awful. In the beginning, she had only agreed to play the game with Bao'er to make the child happy. A game like this was too easy for a killer like her. She was excellent at reading people, and her prediction abilities were phenomenal, of course.

But in all the time since they had begun playing, she hadn't won once. Falling Leaf was rapidly growing rather desperate, and she would have done anything to win at least once.

Falling Leaf's eyes stared at the two cards in her hands. Whenever Bao'er touched the Joker card, she felt good. When she pointed at the seven of hearts, she felt very worried.

"Maybe I'll pick this one?" Bao'er said. Her little hand reached for the Joker card. Falling Leaf's pulse quickened as Bao'er's fingers brushed the Joker card...

"Take it! Take it!" Falling Leaf was shouting madly in her heart, but she didn't allow her emotions to show on her face.

Suddenly, Bao'er stopped. She turned and grabbed the seven of hearts, and she smiled. "I think I am going to take this one."

A muscle in Falling Leaf's cheek twitched. Her fingers tightened on the two cards as Bao'er tried to pull the seven of hearts loose. Falling Leaf wouldn't let it go.

Seeing that the woman was refusing to let the card go, Bao'er didn't know what to do. She let go of the seven of hearts and picked the Joker card. "In that case, I will take this one."

Falling Leaf was thrilled, and she released her clawlike grip on the cards. Bao'er grabbed the Joker card and quickly said, "It is my turn."

Bao'er placed two cards in the deck and then brought out two cards of her own. Facing Falling Leaf, she said, "Okay, it is your turn to pick."

Falling Leaf gritted her teeth and stared at the two cards. She focused intently, as if she could read something from the back of the cards.

As the top killer in Spring Rain, Falling Leaf's powers of observation and judgment were the best. She could easily pick up on even the smallest difference.

She had just taken the Joker card, so it was possible that some instinct deep within her would guide her to victory.

But God only knew what material was used to create those cards. They were thin as paper, but she couldn't sense any trace that might identify the cards. She couldn't tell what was on the cards.

Falling Leaf's eyes looked ready to pop out of her skull. She couldn't tell which one was the Joker card.

"Are you going to pick one or not?" Bao'er said with a yawn.

"What's the rush?" Falling Leaf reached out her hand to pick the card that was on the left. She looked at Bao'er, hoping to see some sort of clue in her eyes.

"If that's the one you want, then just take it," Bao'er said, her face bored.

Falling Leaf, hearing Bao'er say this, decided not to pick it. They had only been together for two hours, but in Falling Leaf's eyes, Bao'er was no longer a small child.

"Trying to fool me, huh? It's not that easy." Falling Leaf raised her hand to take the card on the right.

When she turned it around, though, she looked like she had been struck by lightning. It was a Joker card.

COMMENT

"Why do you not just believe people? You adults are all so complicated. I don't understand you." Bao'er looked sorrowful as she shook her head.

Falling Leaf's face twitched. She gnashed her teeth and said nothing. She placed the card down behind her and drew two more cards. She put them in front of Bao'er and coldly said, "Your turn."

"I pick this one." Bao'er reached out her hand and picked up the seven of hearts from Falling Leaf's hands.

"Haha, I win again." Bao'er threw down her pair of sevens. She grabbed a piece of paper and stuck it on Falling Leaf's face.

"We're playing again!" Falling Leaf started to shuffle the deck.

"I'm not playing. You are too weak for me." Bao'er looked very bored.

"Just one last time," Falling Leaf said slowly, enunciating the words. Her eyes looked ready to burst into flames.

Han Sen almost laughed. Playing that game with Bao'er was like a death wish.

Bao'er rolled her eyes, looking like she really had no interest in playing. She said, "We can play, but sticking paper on each other's faces is boring. Let us raise the stakes."

"Sure. What would you like to bet?" Falling Leaf really wanted to win. She was Spring Rain's top killer. She couldn't allow herself to lose to a kid. She had to win.

"The loser has to go to the door and shout 'I am stupid,'" Bao'er said after a moment of thought.

“That...” Falling Leaf hesitated. She wasn’t entirely sure she could defeat Bao’er, and many Spring Rain elites were nearby. It would be embarrassing if she was heard.

“Never mind, then. This is lame, anyway.” Bao’er stood up and got ready to go.

“Fine! We will do as you say!” Falling Leaf almost shouted as she touched Bao’er’s arm. She was desperate to defeat her.

Han Sen couldn’t watch. The game had ended before it even began. Not even a deified being could beat Bao’er at this game. This was what the Han Sen family was best at.

*Endnote: When a person loses a round, they place a sticker on their face. This makes it obvious at a glance who is winning and who is losing.

2418 Swapping Minds

While Miss Mirror was speaking with two of the four Spring Rain Kings, whose names were Red Cloud and Night Wind, a sound erupted from Han Sen’s place, interrupting their discussion.

“I am stupid!” someone screamed.

The three of them swapped strange glances. The voice undeniably belonged to Falling Leaf, but they couldn’t believe Falling Leaf would ever yell those words.

Aside from Miss Mirror and the four Kings of Spring Rain, Falling Leaf was known as one of Spring Rain’s best. She was a very cruel woman, but she worked hard. She was proud, violent, and always ready for a fight. How could those words pass through the mouth of someone like that?

“Was that who it sounded like?” Night Wind turned to Red Cloud and Miss Mirror with a confused expression.

“We’ll end things here for now. You two can go home.” Miss Mirror frowned. She stood up and went to Han Sen’s place. She wanted to see what Han Sen was up to.

A woman like Falling Leaf wasn’t someone who could be forced to say anything of the sort. She would rather die than make that sort of admission.

If Han Sen had used some trick to fool Falling Leaf, Miss Mirror wouldn’t ignore such a transgression. She had sent Falling Leaf to look after Han Sen, but she wouldn’t stand for the woman being bullied.

“Why are you here?” Han Sen asked with a pleasant smile when he answered the door and saw Miss Mirror.

“What did you do to Falling Leaf?” Miss Mirror frowned.

“What did I do to her? I haven’t spoken much with her. She’s been playing with Bao’er all this time. Go and take a look, if you want to.” Han Sen moved aside and gestured for her to enter.

Miss Mirror didn’t believe Han Sen. She walked through the entry and went into the living room. There she found Falling Leaf playing card games with Bao’er.

“Miss Mirror!” Falling Leaf shot to her feet and bowed.

“Are you okay?” Falling Leaf’s forbidding face was covered in little stickers. The sight almost made Miss Mirror want to crack up in laughter.

“I’m okay.” Falling Leaf’s face blushed deeply, but she didn’t remove the pieces of paper stuck to her face. She was a killer, and killers always kept their word. She might have lost the game, but she wasn’t going to disgrace the rules.

“I’m glad to see you are okay.” Miss Mirror looked at Han Sen and said in a hard voice, “Follow me.”

Han Sen shrugged and followed Miss Mirror into the garden.

“You know Falling Leaf is one of my people. You should be careful how you choose to treat her.” Miss Mirror settled herself into one of the garden chairs and looked at Han Sen as she spoke.

Han Sen laughed. “I haven’t done a single thing to her, and I wouldn’t want to do anything to offend her, either. She is merely playing with Bao’er. You can ask her if you don’t believe me.”

“It is good that you haven’t mistreated her. I’m just warning you, though. Don’t do anything that will make her or me unhappy,” Miss Mirror said in a firm voice.

“Understood.” Han Sen shrugged again.

“Give me your hand.” Miss Mirror was looking at the ring Han Sen wore, and her request came with the glimmer of hesitation.

Although Han Sen wasn’t a bad fighter, he was too low level. Miss Mirror didn’t think Han Sen, with his current power, could be of much assistance to her. But since she was there, she knew it would be a good idea to get to know him a little better.

The mind and the heart were inseparably linked, so the best way to learn someone’s personality was through their mind. It was a very accurate way of reading people.

“What are you doing?” Han Sen asked as he extended his right hand in front of Miss Mirror.

“Are you playing dumb?” Miss Mirror stared at Han Sen.

“Of course not. You should have just told me more clearly.” Han Sen laughed and pulled back his right hand. He extended his left hand instead, the Mirror Spirit Eye Ring glinting on one of his fingers.

Miss Mirror observed the Mirror Spirit Eye Ring, and a lump rose in her throat. Seeing the ring made her mind harken back to the man who had once worn it. That man had been smart and gentle.

Even now, thinking of that man made her heart leap.

Miss Mirror never regretted marrying that man. Choosing him had been the most precious experience in her entire life, but God hadn't allowed her to be by his side forever.

Thinking of that man would have made any woman's heart jump, and then seeing the current master of the ring, Miss Mirror could only sigh.

Although Han Sen was good, compared to that man, she thought he couldn't begin to compare.

Miss Mirror reached out her hand and put her Mirror Spirit Eye Ring next to Han Sen's ring.

Miss Mirror's face didn't possess supermodel-like beauty. She wasn't as hot as someone like Gu Qingcheng, certainly. She was more like a well-dressed and mature lady.

But Miss Mirror's hands were too pretty to criticize. Every finger was long and slender. Her skin was white like jade, and her nails glittered like crystals.

Her hands were lovely and elegant. Han Sen had seen many pretty women in his time, but this was the first time he had ever seen such beautiful hands.

Miss Mirror's hand came closer to Han Sen, and the Mirror Spirit Eye Ring reacted. The emerald ring began to glow.

When those two eye-like gems touched each other, Han Sen and Miss Mirror both shivered. They felt a strange power generate in the Mirror Spirit Eye Rings, and then the power went into both of their bodies. The energy traveled up their arms and straight into their brains.

Han Sen's body vibrated. He looked around, finding himself in a place where it was raining. The springtime rain was falling as if God himself was crying.

But when those tears fell, they watered everything around him. The trees, the flowers, the grass, the chestnuts. The rain soaked into all of them, and the sadness held within the rain provided a source of infinite lifeforce and hope.

Han Sen had studied the forty-eight water minds of Destiny's Tower, and the spring rain mind was one of them. Miss Mirror's mind was spring rain, but it wasn't focused on the rain itself.

Han Sen felt the way her emotions shifted and swayed within her mind. Suddenly, he really admired this woman. This mind was professional and enduring. It was like the strongest a deified being could achieve.

"No wonder her organization is called Spring Rain. This mind can only be felt. It isn't something that could be explained. Achieving this sort of mind is very difficult. Miss Mirror is a very complicated and even contradictory woman. I cannot judge her as I normally would another." As Han Sen observed and sensed the spring rain mind, he learned much from it.

Miss Mirror's body shivered, too. She felt a mind inside her consciousness.

But that mind wasn't too strong or surprising. It didn't impress her much.

Miss Mirror didn't take Han Sen's mind seriously, as she had only touched their rings together so she could learn more about him. But when the presence of his mind began to expand, Miss Mirror was stunned.

What Miss Mirror saw, in terms of Han Sen's mind, was something akin to a flower ready to open. The mere bud might not have been very impressive, but as she tried to understand, she peeled away the petals. But try as she might, she couldn't peel them all away. She couldn't get to the center of the flower, and that disturbed her.

2419 Flowers Know the Sea

Miss Mirror hadn't thought Han Sen's mind was strong, and the unexpected depth of his consciousness struck her with confusion.

It was as if she had received a mystery gift, and she had no idea who had delivered it or what it contained. After opening that special parcel, she only found another mystery box inside. She opened it, layer by layer, but there never seemed to be an end.

It didn't matter if the gift deep inside the layers of the package was good or bad; opening a gift like this would make people angry.

Luckily, Miss Mirror was a very patient person, so she didn't look annoyed. She peeled open Han Sen's mind, layer by layer. But after doing this for a while, she still hadn't found what lay at its center.

Not even God had enough patience to keep searching endlessly like that. After Miss Mirror peeled away all those layers, her inability to find the center was too much. She didn't like feeling this way.

"I want to see what resides in your mind," Miss Mirror thought in determination. Gathering herself, she leaned the full weight of her deified mind atop Han Sen's mind to try to crack it open.

Spring Rain destroyed flowers. Han Sen's will was like the center of a flower that was being forced open. One by one, the petals fell. But when the place covered by the petals was finally revealed, she found that it was empty.

"It's only a shell, with nothing on the inside." Miss Mirror felt rather disappointed.

Minds represented someone's personality and the way they felt things. Han Sen's mind was very strong on the outside, but its interior was hollow. Therefore, he couldn't be considered someone strong.

Miss Mirror wanted to pull her mind back since she was done investigating, but suddenly, she couldn't.

She had opened Han Sen's mind using brute force. A normal mind would have been shattered by such an act. There shouldn't have been left a trace of that mind left.

But Miss Mirror could still detect Han Sen's mind with her own will. That was unexpected.

The mind moved. Miss Mirror's eyes lowered, and she looked at all of the petals across the floor. Every petal was like a crystal. They were scattered across the floor, but they weren't damaged.

The will that Miss Mirror had detected invaded one of the petals, and as it did, Miss Mirror's eyes widened. She had only wanted to peel away the petals to see what was on the inside. She hadn't bothered to look at the petals themselves.

The mind entered the petal, and suddenly, that consciousness was like a rolling, storm-shaken sea. It was as wide as a sky and as deep as an ocean. The mind was so rich that Miss Mirror staggered under the detailed sensation of it.

Miss Mirror bent and picked up another petal. The will was like a mountain crashing down. It was like a pillar that held up the sky, never moving.

If she was a novel, this man would be a grand saga.

A man could define himself as a broken, sick, elderly man on his deathbed, or as the warrior who threw himself into the thick of battle when he was young.

People only focused on results. Wins and losses determined all, and rarely did people pay attention to what led up to those places. People often failed to see the desperation and difficult times men have to face frequently. Endurance and bravery abound in the hearts of men.

Everyone fails sometimes, but real men get up and keep going despite their losses. No matter what environment they are in or what happens to their bodies, the only thing that can't be changed is the wants and desires of their hearts. They want victory, with the determination to win is greater than anything.

Han Sen's will didn't have a core because real men have no end. Ambitions grew continually, stretching out beyond the reaches of space and time. Forward. Forward. And forward again until their time of death.

Han Sen wasn't looking to climb the highest mountains. He wanted to go further and higher. His ambitions had no end. Infinity went on forevermore.

Miss Mirror didn't see the core of Han Sen's mind, but every petal was what Han Sen had experienced. There was anger, happiness, sadness, endurance, sensations of sea, and sky, and earth.

Perhaps one single mind didn't make Han Sen better than Miss Mirror, but by observing all of those petals and understanding them, Miss Mirror couldn't help but feel awed.

Suddenly, Miss Mirror raised her head. She realized she was trapped inside Han Sen's mind. His emotions were affecting her mood.

"I cannot stay in a place that bothers my heart," Miss Mirror said with an implacable face. She summoned her Spring Rain mind, wanting to destroy the mirror where Han Sen had sent his will. She didn't want her own will to be affected.

Ten thousand petals were destroyed by her mind, but Miss Mirror soon found out that when the petals were destroyed, they fell to the ground like seeds. New flowers then opened.

No matter how Miss Mirror's mind raged or how she tried to destroy Han Sen's will, the flowers grew. She couldn't destroy them, only spread them further.

"Why is this happening?" Miss Mirror wondered, stupefied. She couldn't remain calm. She couldn't completely destroy Han Sen's mind. It was an impossible task.

She was a deified elite. Her mind was one of the strongest in the whole of the Extreme King, and yet she couldn't deal with Han Sen, who just a meager King. She couldn't believe what was happening.

"Is his will really this strong?" Miss Mirror examined at her will, where flowers were half-opened. She looked at them strangely.

Ding!

Miss Mirror took a step back. She separated the two Mirror Spirit Eye Rings and looked right at Han Sen.

Miss Mirror discovered that her mind was melting quickly into Han Sen's body. Seconds later, it was all gone. Even Miss Mirror could no longer feel it. The Mirror Spirit Eye's mind that had been sent to Han Sen had been extinguished by him.

"Thank you, My Lady." Han Sen opened his eyes and bowed before Miss Mirror.

Miss Mirror's Spring Rain mind had allowed Han Sen to learn a lot, and he was very thankful for the opportunity.

When Miss Mirror looked at Han Sen, her expression was inscrutable. She didn't say anything, and she merely departed.

When she returned to her room, Miss Mirror used many methods to try to erase Han Sen's influence, but try as she might, she couldn't. It greatly annoyed Miss Mirror.

"Am I not as good as a mere King?" Miss Mirror chewed her lip and tried to use her mind to erase the flowers that stood for Han Sen's mind. Her efforts were futile. Those mind flowers had taken a firm root inside her mind. No matter how she tried to destroy them, the roots remained. They could keep growing again and again.

Flowers know the sea. Half-open and half-hidden. Wildflowers kept burning. The wind blew, and the process started again.

Miss Mirror's crew had been working in the stone fields for five days, and after that time passed, something weird happened. A worker dug up a rock that was the size of a mortar and pestle. A few words were engraved on the side of the rock.

The two Marquises that dug up the rock read the text, and all of a sudden, they became Dukes.

Miss Mirror went out to the stone field with Red Cloud and brought the rock back to camp. After their second day examining the rock, the deified Red Cloud was reduced to King class overnight.

2420 Stone Man

When Han Sen reached the control room, Miss Mirror, Red Cloud, and Night Wind were there staring at the rock through a monitor.

The stone had been locked inside a warehouse. No one was allowed to physically approach the warehouse, though. Whenever any creature approached the stone, something strange would happen.

A deified elite had suddenly been reduced to a King. That was something that had never happened before.

Even Red Cloud didn't know what had happened to her. She hadn't been injured, and she hadn't felt anything invade her body. It was as if she had fallen asleep and gone back in time to a point before she had become deified.

Although she still had a deified mind and senses, her physical power and prowess had dropped to King class. It was a very unusual phenomenon.

Han Sen heard what had happened, and when he looked at Red Cloud, he examined her carefully. He could see that Red Cloud's lifeforce had significantly lowered. When he had looked at her previously, the cloudy appearance that had shrouded her power was now gone. He could see her lifeforce clearly now. She was only a King, and she was weaker than Falling Leaf.

"What do you think?" Miss Mirror asked Han Sen, indicating the stone.

Han Sen looked at the stone displayed on the monitor, and he noticed that it looked like any ordinary block of stone. It was black, and it was roughly the size and shape of a man standing on his feet.

It was only a rough shape, though. There was no discernible face. The rough outline of limbs were connected to the body, so the stone was a single lump. It looked like something that might have been crudely hewn from a greater rock by primitive individuals with their primal tools.

Han Sen knew it couldn't have been constructed, though. There was no evidence that it had been created by sentient beings.

Even the symbols upon the stone man appeared to be naturally generated. They didn't look like carvings, at all.

Han Sen observed it for a while, and he couldn't find anything unusual about it. He didn't know what any of the symbols upon it meant, either. He had never seen them before, and they weren't like the Kingese, which he could understand by instinct.

"I cannot tell you anything just by looking at the video," Han Sen answered.

"Do you want to go to the warehouse to take a look?" Miss Mirror asked, glancing at Han Sen.

"If you guys can't determine anything about this stone, then I definitely won't be able to," Han Sen said quickly. He wasn't really interested in taking an unnecessary risk.

Even a deified had been reduced to King class overnight. Han Sen didn't want to have his level lowered, especially since he had only just become King.

Han Sen's answer surprised Miss Mirror. She was silent for a moment, then said, "This news has spread all across King's Kingdom. My brother told me to keep it here and figure out what it is exactly."

That didn't surprise Han Sen. If they sent it back to the Extreme King without figuring out what it was or how to control it, the stone could end up draining the power of all the deified Extreme King. Han Sen found the thought to be rather funny.

Night Wind said, "We don't know how effective this item is. We will have to use another creature to figure out the nature and effective radius of its ability."

"Sixteen, didn't you want to work? I will let you handle this," Miss Mirror said.

"Me?" Han Sen was shocked. This was too dangerous of an endeavor, so he had no intention of trying it out himself. He would just pick some workers to go for him.

It was surprising that Miss Mirror was actually letting Han Sen handle this, though.

"You have a problem with that?" Miss Mirror inquired.

"Nope. What people should I use, though?" Han Sen asked.

"Choose some workers to go. There are many of them, but you can only select a maximum of ten Dukes. You can have ten Marquises, too," Miss Mirror said.

"Sure," Han Sen agreed.

"Then it is settled. Get to work, and I will await your good news." Miss Mirror smiled.

"Don't worry, my Lady. I will not disappoint you," Han Sen answered.

When Han Sen left, Night Wind said, "My Lady, is it suitable for Prince Sixteen to be the one to handle this? If something happens to him, what will we say to the King?"

"I can handle that. Now, Red Cloud has lost most of her power. You will have to be in charge of the stone field. Be careful," Miss Mirror said.

Han Sen went to the stone field and selected a few people, including Ning Yue. Although it was only a test, who knew how dangerous it could turn out to be.

Because Han Sen needed to confirm how effective the stone was, he would have to send people close to the stone. The closer someone was, the more danger they would be in. Han Sen planned to keep Ning Yue as far away from the stone as possible. Hopefully, he wouldn't be affected by the stone.

If the furthest person was affected, then everyone in the base was already in range of the stone. In that case, it wouldn't matter who was or wasn't participating in the tests.

Han Sen put together his operation swiftly. He split his twenty nobles into ten pairs, one Marquise and one Duke per team. He instructed each team to stand at a different distance from the stone. The closest team to the stone was inside the warehouse. The other teams were outside the warehouse. He spaced the teams out at regular intervals, positioning Ning Yue far in the back.

Then, all Han Sen needed to do was watch the changes unfold within the ten teams. High-level members of Spring Rain observed the proceedings, making careful records of everything that happened.

After a single night, something occurred to the team that was nearest the stone, but it was different from what had happened with Red Cloud. They didn't drop a level. Instead, they leveled up.

The Marquise became a Duke, and the Duke became a King.

It wasn't as much of a surprise as when Red Cloud was reduced to King class, but it was still shocking, all the same. Now everyone was curious if the stone could be used to level up beyond King. If they could use the stone to turn a King into a deified, that would be pretty wicked.

Even if the stone couldn't level people up that far, bringing Dukes up to King class was exceptional. If he could use those powers safely, and there were no adverse side effects, Han Sen thought he could raise a King class army. That would be a force to be reckoned with.

Han Sen didn't allow the two leveled up people to leave their position. They remained inside the warehouse, waiting for more changes to occur.

By the third day, no further changes were observed in the two people in the warehouse. The second team outside had been affected, though. Just like those of the first team, they had leveled up.

Ever since that rock had been found, all the creatures that touched it leveled up once. Only Red Cloud had been knocked down a peg.

Han Sen went to check out the ten teams each and every day. He also had a chance to speak with Ning Yue. Han Sen found the experience to be chilling, though. Ning Yue was really girly. It wasn't just his body anymore; his personality had changed, too.

Han Sen could scarcely believe that this was the Ning Yue he used to know. Ning Yue never used to be afraid of anything, but now he really was sensitive like a girl.

"I was affected by that sword." Han Sen would never forget Ning Yue's face when he said that. It was like a woman that had just been married, but her husband was killed immediately after. He looked so desperate and helpless; he was pitiful.

