

Chapter 2441

The Screen Is Gone

Wan'er struck too fast for Han Sen to dodge. His fast reflexes moved his head far enough back that she didn't strike him directly, but her fingertips still tore into his face.

Three deep gashes were torn into Han Sen's face. The clefts were so deep that his skull became visible through them.

Han Sen was shocked. He was still in his super god spirit body mode, but Wan'er's fingers had damaged him anyway. This was the first time something of the sort had ever happened.

Luckily, he managed to dodge most of her attack. Otherwise, his entire head would have split open like a cut watermelon.

Han Sen instinctually started to return to the sanctuaries. His super god spirit body couldn't block Wan'er's power if she chose to attack him again, so he couldn't escape by traditional means if she wanted to fight him.

But Wan'er didn't attack him again. She stood where she was, unmoving. She looked at the blood on her fingers, which was Han Sen's blood.

A little life came back to her eyes, and her golden power began to fade.

"Do we affect each other?" Han Sen thought happily. He gritted his teeth and grabbed Wan'er's arm. He examined her.

As Wan'er's body came closer to Han Sen, her gold color faded much faster.

When he saw that Wan'er wasn't resisting, Han Sen pulled her into his arms. When their bodies were in physical contact, Wan'er's golden power vanished completely. Her eyes looked fully cognizant for the first time.

"Good brother, it's so nice to have you here," Wan'er mumbled against Han Sen's chest. She was lying forward against him, and she slowly closed her eyes.

After she spoke, Wan'er's body went soft. Her consciousness drifted away as it had before.

Han Sen frowned and looked at the girl in his arms. Her lifeforce was weaker than it had been the previous time, when she was in a coma. Now, her lifeforce was like that of a dying old woman. She no longer had the vitality of a teenage lady.

"Does this mean that using the golden power costs her the strength of her lifeforce?" Han Sen looked at the lady thoughtfully as a variety of emotions shifted across her expression.

This girl was the only person Han Sen had ever encountered who could threaten him in his super god spirit body mode. It might have been a good idea to get rid of her, but there were so many unknowns about the girl. A lot of questions had been raised by her existence, and she did seem to harbor some sort of connection to Han Sen. He really, really needed to figure out what was going on here.

“As long as she is next to me, she can’t make use of that scary power. So, I suppose I don’t have to be too afraid. I need to figure out what she is before I do anything drastic.” Han Sen sighed, set the girl down, and then looked across the hall.

The hall had only been home to the statue, and Han Sen looked around for a while, but he didn’t find anything useful there. And the materials that composed the hall were too tough to be broken through, so Han Sen couldn’t search any further.

Han Sen did find a piece of red crystal that was around the size of his hand, though. It was inside the remains of the red eyeball. He put it in his pocket, then went back the way he had come.

“Now that the statue has been destroyed, I wonder if the red-eye condition is still in effect.” Han Sen went back the way he had come to take a look.

But when he reached the place that he had left Miss Mirror, he didn’t see her there.

“Did she go back to camp? That really isn’t her style.” Han Sen frowned, then began walking a little faster.

Even if the red-eye power infecting Miss Mirror had vanished, she wouldn’t simply go home. She would have stayed where she was and waited for Han Sen to return so she could grill him thoroughly over what had happened.

Plus, the pieces of the shattered tree egg were still lying around. If Miss Mirror had decided to leave, she would have at least taken the pieces of the tree egg with her. They were a valuable treasure.

“It’s good that she is gone, then. That means all of these tree egg shards are mine.” Han Sen picked up a piece and started to put it away. As he did, he noticed how nice the chunk of egg smelled. But there didn’t seem to be any lifeforce within the pieces of egg. And furthermore, there was no semblance of power. This definitely wasn’t what Han Sen had expected.

“No wonder Miss Mirror left these behind. They’re already useless. Did Wan’er absorb the powers of the tree egg while she was inside it?” Han Sen guessed. He couldn’t think of any other explanations.

Han Sen kept walking back the way he had come. He didn’t encounter any more trouble. Wan’er was still in her coma, and her body was so weak that it looked like the final tether of her life would break at any second.

Han Sen didn’t know why the girl had been reduced to such a condition. If this continued, she wouldn’t last long.

Strangely, though, Han Sen found no evidence of the wall of pictures on his return trip. The wall seemed to have just vanished into thin air, without a trace.

Han Sen continued walking back toward camp, and when the first statue came into view, he froze. Miss Mirror was lying in front of the statue, and a woman was kneeling beside her. The woman was praying to the statue of a thousand hands and a thousand eyes. It was one of the four Kings. It was Red Cloud.

The scene before him was the same as the sixth picture depicted on the screen's mural. It gave Han Sen a chill.

"What is going on?" Han Sen was confused. He looked at Red Cloud and Miss Mirror, unsure what was happening.

Miss Mirror's presence was still there. She wasn't dead, but she seemed to be badly wounded as she lay on the ground. She obviously wasn't doing well.

Red Cloud knelt before the statue like a sincere believer. Her eyes were closed and her hands were folded as she prayed.

"No way! Red Cloud never saw the statue. And didn't Miss Mirror tell her to watch over the base? Why is she here? Did the red-eye power become contagious? That means Bao'er and Ning Yue are in danger." Anxiety grew in the pit of Han Sen's stomach, and he started jogging forward.

Before Han Sen reached the statue, Red Cloud opened her eyes. Her eyes were the color of blood, and they contained two pupils each. That was the look people had when they were stricken with the power of the Blood Eye Evil God.

Upon seeing Han Sen, Red Cloud looked murderous. She picked up the broken sword, but instead of striking Han Sen, she turned and thrust the broken blade into Miss Mirror's chest.

Han Sen's heart jumped, and he used his Jadeskin Area to freeze Red Cloud.

Red Cloud was only King class, so she was unable to defeat Han Sen. The red-eye powers were running through her too strongly for her to know what she was doing. She couldn't block Han Sen's power, and so she ended up frozen.

Han Sen walked up to Miss Mirror. He crouched, looked at her, and smiled.

"Miss Mirror, why are you lying around at a time like this?"

"Use your sword to break the statue," Miss Mirror said quietly through gritted teeth. Her eyes were still a deep red.

Han Sen could feel that the statue still had that red-eye power, but it wasn't as strong as the statue Wan'er had destroyed earlier. It didn't make him want to run deep into the city. It just wanted him to go to the statue itself.

Clearly, although the Blood Eye Evil God had been killed, this statue still had some of that Blood Eye Evil God power.

Han Sen pulled the broken sword out of Red Cloud's hand and swung it across the face of the statue. A deep furrow was gouged into the statue's face, and blood started to leak from it. The statue didn't move, however. The statue wasn't as hard as Han Sen had expected, though. After a few more of those strikes, the stone statue's head fell off.

The severed neck of the statue gushed blood, but it was just a statue. Where the blood came from, Han Sen had no idea.

Strangely, once Han Sen cut off the head of the statue, it didn't behave like the Blood Eye Evil God had upon being decapitated. Instead of getting stronger or fighting back, it simply died.

Han Sen examined the statue again to confirm what he thought he saw. The statue was dying. It dried up like a withered plant. It looked somewhat like a bergamot flower. The stalk and its flowers were dark red. The stone head that had been lopped off was the plant's largest blossom.

"It is a plant!" Han Sen remarked in surprise. He didn't hear any killing announcement, which made him doubt that the plant was actually a creature.

After the flower died, Miss Mirror's red eyes started to fade. It looked like the red-eye powers were finally gone.

Miss Mirror, however, was too injured to rejoice. She remained on the ground, unable to rise. Han Sen put an arm around her back and helped her sit up. "What happened? Why is Red Cloud here? Why are you hurt?"

Miss Mirror opened her mouth but struggled to speak. "Something happened back at base camp. We need to go back now."

When Han Sen heard that, his face turned grey. Without asking any further questions, he simply picked up Miss Mirror. With her in one arm and Lady Wan'er in the other, he sprinted back to the stone fields.

When they reached what was left of the base, their hearts sank. What Han Sen saw sickened him. The base had become a ruin and been painted red with the blood and gore of its inhabitants. No one was left alive.

Miss Mirror looked terrible. A third of Spring Rain's members had been brought there, and now they were all gone. Furthermore, one of the four Kings was dead, and Red Cloud had been reduced to a King class soldier. Miss Mirror had lost so much.

Han Sen's face looked awfully glum, too. He feared Ning Yue and Bao'er might have been killed in the carnage.

“Dad?” Han Sen turned to begin searching through the rubble of the ruin, but all of a sudden. Bao’er emerged over the top of one heap. It was like a mountaintop. She jumped onto Han Sen’s chest and wrapped her small arms tightly around his neck.

“Bao’er!” Bao’er was okay, and as she clung to his neck, Ning Yue and Falling Leaf came over the rubble, too. Han Sen was so overjoyed that he dropped Miss Mirror to wrap his arms around Bao’er.

“Argh!” Miss Mirror was too injured to catch herself, and she hit the ground hard. She coughed up some blood and looked rather angered at being suddenly dropped.

“Miss Mirror!” Falling Leaf ran over to pick Miss Mirror up. She imbued her superior with some of her healing powers.

“Don’t bother, I am too injured for that. I won’t heal quickly regardless, so just tell me what happened,” Miss Mirror said abruptly, wiping some of the blood from her mouth.

Falling Leaf told her everything that had transpired, but for some reason, she left out the part with the white-haired man and the conversation he had shared with Bao’er. She also left out the bit regarding the little bird becoming a fiery phoenix. She only said that, after the white-haired man appeared, the people of the base went crazy. They all started killing each other until none of them remained.

But for some reason, a few of them had been unaffected. They were able to escape amidst the chaos.

“That white-haired man, where did he come from?” Miss Mirror asked with a frown.

“I don’t know. When we first saw him, he was already walking around the base and everyone was going insane,” Falling Leaf said with a shake of her head.

Miss Mirror suddenly had a thought, and she turned her gaze back to Falling Leaf. “That stone. Go and see if the stone is still there.”

“We’ve already looked,” Falling Leaf answered. “The stone is gone.”

Miss Mirror sighed and said, “Go find Red Cloud and bring her back here. We will have to wait for reinforcements to arrive.

Han Sen handed the broken sword to Falling Leaf. She went to the stone fields and brought the frozen Red Cloud back. Although the red-eye power had vanished from the rest of them, Red Cloud was still crazed, and her eyes were still clouded with that shade of red. After she was released, she again tried to attack everyone around.

Han Sen had to freeze her once more. When the reinforcements came, he was going to let them deal with it.

As for Miss Mirror, Han Sen knew why she had been injured so badly. Han Sen had taken too long, and Miss Mirror had been reaching the limits of her ability to withstand the red-eye power. Then the feelings of addiction had suddenly vanished.

Miss Mirror thought Han Sen had sorted out the red-eye problem, and so she felt relieved.

But just as she was starting to relax, that addicted feeling washed over her again, and this time it was a few hundred times stronger. The attraction drew Miss Mirror back toward the original statue, and Miss Mirror could no longer resist it.

Miss Mirror's mind was still quite clear, but her will was no longer strong enough to control the urge. When she approached the statue, she noticed that Red Cloud had come there, too.

Miss Mirror was thrilled for a moment, as she thought Red Cloud might be able to use the broken sword to break the statue. But Red Cloud was crazy, and she attacked Miss Mirror as soon as she saw her.

Miss Mirror couldn't control her own body well enough to fight Red Cloud, and so Red Cloud beat her to the brink of death. Miss Mirror had been left lying on the ground, struggling to remain conscious.

What happened next chilled Miss Mirror's blood, though. Red Cloud bowed before the statue and began praying. From what Miss Mirror could understand, Red Cloud wanted to use her as some sort of offering. Han Sen had come in time, thank God. If he hadn't, Miss Mirror would have been killed.

Han Sen thought this was very suspicious, too. He didn't fully understand what was going on.

Han Sen kept Wan'er close. If she was any distance at all from Han Sen, her eyes and hair would start to turn gold. The further away from him she was, the faster she would turn.

Han Sen experimented with it a little. Wan'er couldn't be ten meters away from him. Otherwise, even in her coma-like state, her hair would turn gold.

And when Wan'er was within ten meters of Han Sen, his ability to use his super god spirit power was greatly diminished. The power would begin to fade as soon as he summoned it. The closer to Wan'er he was, the faster it faded.

Clearly, the two of them had a dramatic effect on each other. Luckily, though, the effect only limited Han Sen's super god spirit body; his other powers remained intact.

Han Sen asked Miss Mirror not to say anything about Wan'er. Han Sen didn't think Miss Mirror would agree to his request, so it was a surprise for him when she actually assented. She did, however, have a condition of her own regarding the secret.

"What? You want me to be an offering?" Han Sen looked at Miss Mirror with wide eyes.

2443 Choices

"As far as the Extreme King are concerned, I brought you here to dig up the ruin of a god's battleground. By doing so, I wanted you to fade from the vision of the royal children," Miss Mirror said calmly. She was reclining on the bed where they had placed her. "This is the only reason your pretense of being Prince Sixteen has lasted this long. But now, this catastrophe with the statues has killed all my people and left you alive. I don't think I will be able to buy you a lot of time. My brother will throw all his resources into investigating you, and you have nowhere to turn. The only thing we can do to keep you alive is to

perform a sacrifice. Enter the holy temple to become a devotee. Once you gain the blessing of the Extreme King, your survival will be ensured.”

“I’m going to the holy temple? What does that mean, exactly?” Han Sen frowned.

“The holy temple is where the Extreme King make sacrifices to their god. Every generation must have a sacrificed King. They offer themselves to the god and become a devotee. They serve the god inside the holy temple forever.”

After pausing, Miss Mirror said, “Only someone with the blood of the Extreme King can earn the blessing of the god. Therefore, a crystallizer shouldn’t be capable of becoming a devotee. If you can, though, that will prove you really are Prince Sixteen. At that point, no one will be able to dispel your lie. Even if someone was suspicious, not even King Bai could randomly waltz in and do whatever he pleased. No one would be able to investigate you.”

“So I’d be practically sentenced to life in jail?” Han Sen frowned.

“Which would you prefer: incarceration or death? Even if you left now, where would you go? Do you really think Yisha or Kong Fei can protect you? Let me tell you this now. This universe is big, but if it is confirmed that you killed Prince Sixteen, there is nowhere you can go to escape the wrath that will be set upon you. In order to survive, you would have to be stronger than the leagues of deifieds that belong to the Extreme King. And I will be one of them,” Miss Mirror said emotionlessly.

“Even if I want to go to the Extreme King’s holy temple, I don’t have the blood of the Extreme King. How would I even gain the approval of this god?” Han Sen said.

“It should be possible with the help of my Mirror Spirit Eye Ring. Plus, you do have the Original Water King Body that you got from Bai Yi. Getting the god’s approval shouldn’t be too difficult.” Miss Mirror paused and said, “Furthermore, going to the holy temple isn’t entirely like being sent to jail. While you may not be able to exit the temple, you can still visit the core area. With the resources you earn in the core area, you can definitely become half-deified.”

Miss Mirror then hesitated. After a while, she went on to say, “Also, there are benefits to becoming a devotee. Although you can never leave the holy temple, you will have the opportunity to bathe in the temple’s god light. Your genes will be strengthened, and you will have an easier time becoming deified.”

“Is this my only chance of surviving?” Han Sen asked quietly.

“Unless you want a universe-wide APB issued by the Extreme King, yes. This is pretty much the only option. Once you become a devotee, the other royal children won’t be hostile to you. And so, you’ll have less trouble,” Miss Mirror said.

“Even if I wanted to try entering the temple, what are they going to do?” Han Sen pointed at Bao’er and the unconscious Wan’er, who were a little further away.

“The holy temple isn’t a place just anyone can go. Even the royal children must meet certain qualifications before they can become devotees. I can help you get qualified, but in regards to them, they will have to stay on Planet Water Zone.” After pausing, Miss Mirror said, “The best thing for them is to disappear. Otherwise, they may face scrutiny and fall under investigation themselves. Through them, things could unravel. Of course, if you insist on them staying, I can think of a way or two to help them.”

When Han Sen heard this, he frowned. Bao’er and Ning Yue could go back to Planet Eclipse. They had the little red bird to protect them, after all. But there was no way that Wan’er could leave Han Sen. If she woke up, she’d become a blonde timebomb.

Wan’er’s lifeforce was super weak right now. If she went on a rampage again, she would die. Han Sen wanted to ask her many things, so he needed her alive until he could talk to her.

“Let me think about it.” Han Sen knew Miss Mirror would continue trying to convince him, so he continued on to say, “Do you think the statue of a thousand hands and a thousand eyes in Du God City and that prophetic screen are connected to the missing rock we first dug up?”

Han Sen had already gotten the full-scoop on the white-haired man from Bao’er and Ning Yue. But Bao’er claimed she didn’t know who he was.

“I don’t know. Everything in Du God City is a mystery, and everything we find seems to tie back to yet another myth. My brother will probably send someone else here to continue excavation efforts. I believe answers will one day come,” Miss Mirror said.

Han Sen went silent. As a King, he was simply too weak. If he became deified, then he’d be qualified to fully explore Du God City. It was a very scary place, and he was just too weak to be there in his current state.

“Make a decision soon. You are running out of time,” Miss Mirror said. Then, she stopped talking.

She was trying to convince Han Sen—not because Han Sen had the Mirror Spirit Ring—but because he had selected to let her live after their fight in the cave. He had the chance to kill her, but he showed her mercy. And on top of that, he saved her from Red Cloud. Otherwise, she never would have done all this for Han Sen.

Helping Han Sen enter the holy temple as a devotee would break basically every law that her people had. Plus, she was the investigator King Bai had specifically chosen to examine Han Sen.

“Thanks.” Han Sen walked over to Wan’er. He looked down at the girl, wondering what he should do with her.

Going to the holy temple was clearly the safest choice, but that meant he would be giving up on the girl’s secrets. Maybe Wan’er would wake up before backup arrived?

Wan’er seemed too weak for that, though. Han Sen tried many different tricks and powers to reinforce her lifeforce, or to get her to wake up, but nothing seemed to work.

Han Sen didn't dare use more than a trickle of his power. He didn't want to accidentally kill Wan'er. Her body was too weak, so using any significant force on her could be deadly.

"Ugh, this is giving me a headache. If I don't enter the holy temple, I'll have to go on the run. Then, it won't just be the Extreme King after me. Any race related to the Extreme King or seeking their favor will be hunting me. Escaping on my own will be way too hard," Han Sen thought with a frown.

If Han Sen escaped, he wouldn't just be affecting himself. It would affect the lives of his friends on Planet Eclipse, and it might even blowback on Yisha.

"If I was to leave, would you help me?" Han Sen looked at Miss Mirror.

"I am an Extreme King," Miss Mirror said icily.

Han Sen laughed and asked, "If I left now, would it affect Yisha?"

"That is a question you should ask Yisha. It would be her decision." Miss Mirror's eyes flicked down. She seemed to know Han Sen's true decision.

2444 Universal APB

Han Sen asked Miss Mirror to contact Yisha. He wouldn't use his own phone because, if he decided to run, all of his conversations after this day would be thoroughly examined.

Han Sen explained his situation to Yisha completely, and Yisha listened intently. She didn't say a word until Han Sen finished telling her the entire story. When Yisha spoke, all she said were four words. "Go to Sky Palace."

Yisha then immediately hung up.

With that, Han Sen was able to make up his mind. He handed the phone back to Miss Mirror, smiled, and said, "Thank you for taking care of me all this time, my Lady. I hope we can meet again someday."

"I'm afraid that won't be possible, but if you die, I will light a candle in your honor," Miss Mirror said emotionlessly.

"If my death earns a lit candle from you, I will consider myself eternally blessed," Han Sen said. He looked at Miss Mirror and said, "I actually still have one more request to make. I was hoping that my Lady would take care of my blood kirin. If you are willing to, you can use it for yourself. I will remember the kindness you have done me."

"That blood kirin is quite an angry beast. I don't think it will follow the commands if another," Miss Mirror said.

“Controlling it isn’t difficult. You just need to use this item to find him, and then he will listen to you.” Han Sen brought something out for Miss Mirror.

“I guess I won’t refuse the service of a half-deified.” Miss Mirror accepted the item, looked at Han Sen, and asked, “You really have made the decision to flee? You need to think about this carefully. Even if Sky Palace was willing to defy the Extreme King and take you in, your journey there would be a hellish one. You might not even get there alive.”

“This is my life. I could go to the holy temple and survive, but I would spend my life in a prison. For someone like me, that existence would be worse than death. I would rather take a gamble that still leaves me a small chance of freedom,” Han Sen said.

Although his words weren’t entirely honest, Han Sen was explaining one of his primary reasons for refusing to go to the holy temple.

“Then you should go. I hope you survive a few more days. If my guess is correct, reinforcements will arrive here in forty hours. And I will have to report your situation to my supervisor.” Miss Mirror didn’t pretend that she would support Han Sen more than she really would just because she was weaker than him now. That just wasn’t her personality.

“Goodbye, my Lady. Please report that I’m going to Sky Palace.” Han Sen bowed. He picked up the unconscious Wan’er and took Bao’er with him as he departed.

Seeing Han Sen flee the xenogeneic space with Bao’er, a strange expression crossed Falling Leaf’s face. “Miss Mirror, has he really chosen to depart the Extreme King?”

“It is very surprising, but it doesn’t surprise me that a brave man like him has made such a choice.” Despite Miss Mirror’s words, her face looked conflicted.

Falling Leaf hesitated for a moment, but ultimately asked, “Can he escape this?”

“No, he cannot,” Miss Mirror answered with certainty, for that was what she believed.

Han Sen was smart, but no matter how smart he was, he was just a first-tier King. Even if he was deified, the furious hordes of Extreme King would still bring him down. It was only a matter of time.

Yisha wanted Han Sen to go to Sky Palace because the Sky had the backing of the Very High. If they were willing to protect Han Sen, then the Extreme King wouldn’t simply be able to enter Sky Palace and kill whomever they pleased.

But Sky Palace might not protect Han Sen. And even if they agreed to take him in, the trip to get to Sky Palace would be very dangerous for him.

After an hour, Miss Mirror called King Bai’s phone. “Brother, I have confirmed that he is indeed Han Sen. He has fled the xenogeneic space, and he is headed for Sky Palace.”

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After he left the xenogeneic space, Han Sen waved his hand and sent a white crystal flying out in front of him. It expanded until it became a giant white whale.

It was a technological marvel of the ancient crystallizers. It was as powerful as a deified treasure, and it was Han Sen's primary hope of escaping his predicament. With the white whale, he would be able to travel through space for a long time without needing to stop on any other planets along the way.

"Han Sen, are we really going to escape? We should go and reason with them. Perhaps they will forgive us." Ning Yue was going to cry.

"A man never looks back." Han Sen drove the white whale forward. He looked excited and wholly unafraid.

"A man never looks back," Bao'er repeated in excitement, pumping her fists.

"I'm not a big man; I'm a small woman! Let me out... I will beg them for their forgiveness! They will forgive me—they will forgive me because I am a pitiful woman!" Ning Yue sobbed as she banged on the hatch. Then, she sat with her back to the door. She started to cry hopelessly. Her little green sword remained silently at her waist.

Han Sen and Bao'er ignored him. Ning Yue had been affected by that little green sword way too much. He had become a woman with remarkably fragile emotions.

Han Sen didn't dare to get too close to Ning Yue or his little green sword. Han Sen was afraid of being affected by the little green sword and turning into what Ning Yue had become. He would rather die before that happened.

"Bao'er, my first officer, you take over the wheel." Han Sen stood up and allowed Bao'er to take the command chair

"Yes, Daddy Captain." Bao'er gladly sat down and accepted control of the white whale.

Once he didn't have to pilot the whale, Han Sen turned his attention to a map of the galaxy. Going to Sky Palace would be very difficult. If they took the normal route to Sky Palace, their chances of arriving safely were practically zero.

"It looks like the Tianxia System is the only way we can go. If we do that, we can then head through the systems of chaos to get to Sky Palace," Han Sen muttered to himself as he stared intently at the galactic map. The route he proposed was the most dangerous path they could take, which also made it the safest, as far as the threat of the Extreme King was concerned.

That was the only route the Extreme King didn't have total control over, but the systems of chaos were even dangerous for deified elites.

When Han Sen first followed the Ice Blue Knights through the systems of chaos, he was a first-hand witness to how frighteningly scary that place could be.

The Tianxia System was a very dangerous system, as well. It was a giant xenogeneic space, but it was different from ordinary xenogeneic spaces. There were no stars, no seas, and no land. It was just an

endless, foggy space that was choked by clouds. All sorts of tools were rendered useless there due to the magnetic storms that existed within the vapor. Ordinary ships were unable to travel through the Tianxia System.

Plus, that endless space of clouds was known to host many terrifying xenogeneics. Many deified creatures lived all throughout Tianxia System. For an ordinary deified, making the trip would be very difficult.

But this was the reason Han Sen had chosen to journey through the Tianxia System. The Extreme King wouldn't expect him to go that way.

Overnight, Han Sen's name spread across the entire geno universe.

Before that day, not many creatures of the universe knew who Han Sen was. But when the Extreme King put out a universal APB for Han Sen, races all across the universe learned or remembered his name.

Of course, what they remembered more than anything was the very high bounty on him. The reward being offered for Han Sen was enough to tempt any deified.

2445 Tianxia System

"Mister Quin, why are we not going to the White River System? We seem to be headed for Tianxia System instead." An Extreme King knight looked Bao Quin with confusion.

"The White River System is currently in turmoil. Interstellar pirates are everywhere there. It might seem easy for Han Sen to slip through the chaos, but it is a very populated place. Han Sen has a bold personality, so it most likely compelled him to go to the Tianxia System," Bao Quin deduced tonelessly.

"But he is just a King. Tianxia System isn't a feasible route for someone of his level," the knight said after a moment of thought.

"Before he was exposed, no one would have believed he had the gall to disguise himself as a prince of the Extreme King," Bao Quin responded, his eyes hard.

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"Slow down!" Bao'er was pushing the white whale through the clouds at an insane speed. Although their transport could move very quickly, it was supposed to be a whale, not a fighter jet. Ning Yue was lying on the floor, clutching a chair while bawling her eyes out. Her face was covered in tears and snot.

Han Sen peered out at the endless clouds, and he couldn't help but frown.

Although he already knew that the Tianxia System was dangerous, seeing the system with his own eyes had still taken him aback.

Tianxia System's clouds extended in all directions like an ocean, making it hard for Han Sen to keep his sense of direction. The endless clouds were colorful, as if the white whale was surrounded by countless fluffy rainbows. The clouds were opaque enough that it was difficult to see beyond the closest layer.

Now, Han Sen and his companions were traveling through blue clouds. They were endless, and they were scarier than the depths of the sea. In between the moving clouds, Han Sen could occasionally see cloud beasts dancing.

Those crane-like cloud beasts were in flocks of several thousand. They flew together like a cloud of their own, all moving quickly in tandem.

Inside the blue clouds, they would sometimes see the flash of magnetic storms. Typically, tools and gadgets were rendered useless by such storms. But fortunately, the big white whale of the crystallizers wasn't affected by powerful magnetic interference. The turbulence of the storm's had no effect on the white whale, which was why Han Sen wasn't afraid to go through the Tianxia System.

The white whale was like a deified creature, but it had no lifeforce. Because of that, it didn't send out a lifeforce for others to sniff out. Ordinary xenogeneics wouldn't attack it, and Han Sen had indeed seen many xenogeneics along the way. But most of them completely ignored the white whale. Some of the meaner ones tried to attack the white whale, but they couldn't really damage the hull of the ship.

Aside from the cloud beasts, they rarely saw other elites in the system. Even those of the higher races rarely came to hunt here. It was way too dangerous, and it was almost never worth the risk.

Pang!

As the white whale blazed along, an explosion sounded off to the side. The clouds rumbled and rolled, sort of like a tsunami. It felt as if some terrifying creatures were in the middle of a war somewhere in the fog.

Han Sen told Bao'er to go past whatever it was. After all, they were running for their lives, not going on a safari. It was best not to attract the attention of anything, and so they should focus on getting through the fog as fast as possible.

But before Bao'er turned the white whale, a few people flew out of the big clouds. Terror was written across their faces, and they appeared to be running for their lives.

Their worries meant nothing to Han Sen. He didn't have time to worry about people who were running for their lives. But when he got close enough to see their faces, Han Sen jerked back in surprise.

Amidst the shadows, there were two pretty women that looked like twins. One was Gu Qingcheng, and the other was Elysian Moon.

Han Sen couldn't just ignore them. He had Bao'er drive the white whale over to Gu Qingcheng.

When the people saw the white whale heading toward them, they turned in another direction, trying desperately to get away from this new threat as well. But soon after, they saw the mouth of the white whale open. Someone emerged through the gap.

“Qingcheng, why are you here?” Han Sen asked, looking at Gu Qingcheng and Elysian Moon.

Gu Qingcheng saw Han Sen, and so she flew towards him with Elysian Moon. When the others saw that Gu Qingcheng and Han Sen seemed to know each other, they looked relieved. They flew over to the white whale, as well.

“There are deified creatures ahead. We should leave this place,” Gu Qingcheng said to Han Sen after flying over there.

“Follow me.” Han Sen led the way. He invited Gu Qingcheng and Elysian Moon into the white whale. The other people followed Gu Qingcheng, entering the white whale as well.

Seeing that Gu Qingcheng knew them, Han Sen made no effort to stop their entry.

“This is a battleship? And it can sail through the Tianxia System? This is so weird,” said a twenty-year-old man. He was one of the Demon, and he had deep purple horns. He looked around the big white whale with great curiosity.

Han Sen told Bao'er to drive the white whale away from the deified creatures. Then he looked at the people who had followed Gu Qingcheng aboard and asked, “Who are they?”

There were a dozen of them, and they were all from different races. They were mostly Dukes and Kings. Gu Qingcheng pointed at one of the young Feather men.

“He hired Elysian Moon and me to protect him inside Tianxia System.”

Han Sen looked at the Feather man. The man seemed very young, and his life force wasn't that strong. He was a Marquise or Duke, at best.

“My name is Qing Yu. Thank you for saving me. What is your name?” the Feather man asked politely.

“Han Sen.” Han Sen had no plans of hiding his identity.

“You are the student of the newly deified Knife Queen? I have heard your name before,” Fang Qing Yu said, glancing curiously over Han Sen.

Surprisingly, Fang Qing Yu wasn't like the other Feathers. All of the rest of the Feathers hated Han Sen.

When Han Sen saw that they had no reaction to his name, he figured that they hadn't heard that he was wanted by the Extreme King.

It made sense. Equipment didn't work inside the Tianxia System, so contacting the outside world would have been impossible. They didn't know what had happened out there.

Han Sen looked outside and noticed there were no more crazy clouds. They must be far away from the deified xenogeneic now.

“This place should be safe. You can leave,” Han Sen said, turning to Fang Qing Yu.

Fang Qing Yu quietly responded, "Brother Han, I would like you to take me all the way through the Tianxia System. What would require in trade for such a request?"

"Sorry, I'm not here to play games, and I'm not interested in a business deal. Please get off my ship," Han Sen said firmly.

He was on the lam. He wasn't interested in spending any more time with these people. He had only saved them because Gu Qingcheng was there.

"Brother Han, please consider it. Tell me how much you want, and I will gladly play you," Fang Qing Yu said.

"Sorry, I am a little busy. I cannot take you guys," Han Sen said.

"Listen, buddy! You're going to end up embarrassing yourself." One of the Destroyed stepped forward from behind Fang Qing Yu. He glared at Han Sen as he spoke.

Other Dukes and Kings slowly surrounded them, too.

Chapter 2446 Don't Move

"What are you doing? Step back! Don't be rude to Brother Han," Fang Qing Yu shouted, his face contorted in displeasure.

But the other men didn't seem willing to stop. The Destroyed leader laughed and said, "Mister Fang, we are doing this for your own good. Our ride, Wind Cloud Bird, was consumed by that deified xenogeneic. Without a ship, we cannot travel through the Tianxia System. And now that there is a ship right here, we cannot deny that this is obviously the help of God."

"If you guys try this, then you are no better than pirates," Fang Qing Yu said, not sounding happy at all.

"Haha! Mr. Fang, you are right. We are pirates. Who else do you think would dare to escort you through a zone like the Tianxia System?" The people swapped glances with each other and laughed.

Once they were in the Tianxia System, they had been planning to rob Fang Qing Yu and kidnap Gu Qincheng and Elysian Moon.

They didn't have much luck, though. They entered the Tianxia System, and mere minutes before they planned to execute their sordid little scheme, they encountered a deified xenogeneic.

"You guys..." Fang Qing Yu's face changed. He was too furious to say anything.

With that revelation, the situation made a little more sense to Han Sen. It would have been unusual for normal mercenaries to agree to escort Fang Qing Yu into such a dangerous place. Entering the Tianxia

System was way too risky. If someone was willing to go there, they were most likely interstellar pirates, or they were on the lam like Han Sen.

“You’re referring to us as ‘you guys’? Haven’t you heard of the Pirate? We are true Pirates, so if you know who I am, then show some respect. I only want money. If I don’t get it...” The Destroyed King laughed threateningly as his sentence trailed off.

Hearing the man’s claim, Han Sen didn’t know what to say. The guy was bluffing. The Pirates were a powerful faction, and there were many of them.

They robbed the amazingly rich and powerful, often entering high-race xenogeneic spaces to attack their prey. They wouldn’t behave like these guys, stealing from the weak in such a sneaky way.

Many of the pirates started to approach Han Sen. Gu Qingcheng frowned and started to draw her sword, but Han Sen stopped her.

Han Sen looked at the pirates and smiled. “It is good that you aren’t leaving. We need people here. We need men that are willing to tidy, clean, and make food. If you want to stay here, you may remain to do such things.”

When the pirates heard that, they laughed until their eyes watered. The Demon man looked extra cocky, and he said, “The Rebate and Knife Queen might be famous, but we don’t care. Plus, you are only Knife Queen’s student. How dare you propose that we become your deckhands!”

“Stop talking to him! As it is his wish, we’ll flip the offer around and make him the one who does the washing, cleaning, and cooking for us!” one of the pirates said.

They were fearless. They had seen the battleship from one end to the other. The ship was host to Han Sen, a little girl, and a very frightened woman.

Aside from them, there was only a little red bird.

“Let me do it,” the Demon man said with a smile. He unleashed his area. He went over to Han Sen while saying, “Do you want to get out, or do you want me to help you? If you want me to help, you will...”

Before he could finish, Han Sen punched the man in the face.

“D*mn you!” The Demon man suddenly looked terrifying. He lifted his fist and threw a punch at Han Sen that was imbued with Sky Demon powers. Very few Demons could make use of those powers, and the few that could were mostly of a pure Demon blood lineage.

The fact that the Demon could make use of Sky Demon powers surprised Han Sen.

But the Sky Demon powers, even at full charge, was useless against Han Sen.

That Demon man was stunned when Han Sen's fist collided with his own. He had put all of his power into that strike, and Han Sen had blocked it.

The Demon man had shock written all over his face. His entire body stopped moving, and then a block of ice encased him.

The other pirates were shocked, too. The Demon man wasn't a top King, but his Sky Demon power was nothing to trifle with. Han Sen had blocked that Sky Demon power and froze him in a single punch. That surprised them all.

Many of the pirates pulled out their knives. Han Sen's hands closed into fists, and then he rushed into them. He threw punches that wrecked each of their King areas and their powers. He froze the pirates one by one, leaving them standing on the deck, motionless and confused.

The pirates were dumbfounded. They were just a group of outlaws who weren't really connected to the Pirate. And they had never witnessed a King with such impressive strength.

"Don't! Stay back! If you come any closer, I'll kill her." The Destroyed King had the quickest reaction. Upon seeing all his men frozen, he stumbled back toward Bao'er and put a knife to her neck.

Han Sen had already frozen all the other pirates. When he turned to see the frightened Destroyed King holding a knife to Bao'er's throat, he laughed and didn't approach.

The Destroyed King looked at his men in disbelief. The Demon and two others had been Kings, but Han Sen had dealt with them as easily as he had the Dukes. They had all been frozen by Han Sen's punches. The entire group only lasted a few seconds.

Han Sen grinned at the Destroyed King. He didn't come any closer.

"Don't take another step. If you do, what happens then is on you." The Destroyed King's heart began to pound as Han Sen gazed at him. The Destroyed pulled Bao'er closer to himself, wanting to retreat with her as a hostage. For now, all he wanted was to leave. The further away he could get, the better.

"Uncle," said a very young voice from the Destroyed King's arms. When he lowered his head, he found that it was the little girl he was using as a hostage.

The little girl had a knife to her neck, but she didn't look scared like most little girls would, however. She smiled at him, looking so happy. She even started to laugh.

"Stop laughing!" the Destroyed King shouted angrily at the little girl, feeling insulted.

Before he could come up with another threat, though, the Destroyed King's eyes widened in surprise and terror.

The little red bird upon the girl's shoulder jumped into the air, and red flames began to spread from its flapping wings. It was like a volcano erupting. Under the incredible heat, the Destroyed's King class knife suddenly melted into molten juice. But the fire in the bird's eyes didn't lessen; in fact, the bird seemed to grow even more enraged.

2447 Fang Qing Yu

The pirates all stood in a line, still chilled and shivering. They stood meekly before Bao'er, listening attentively as she scolded them.

"From now on, you guys are the deckhands of the white whale. You'll be a cleaner... And you, a servant..." Bao'er gave them jobs, and the pirates all nodded as they were given assignments. They had been tamed, and none of them dared to refuse to do as they were told.

Their eyes sometimes wandered to the little red bird sitting atop Bao'er's shoulder, and the sight of it would send another involuntary shiver through them.

Ten minutes before, the little bird had burned a sixth-tier Destroyed King to nothing more than charcoal. There was too little of him left to even be considered cooked meat.

"Brother Fang, you should really leave now. Following me will only put you in more danger," Han Sen said to Fang Qing Yu.

Fang Qing Yu shook his head. "Brother Han, the Tianxia System isn't a place a Marquise can make a living. How long do you think I could survive out there?"

After that, Fang Qing Yu pulled something out of his pocket. He set it down in front of Han Sen. With a slight smile, he said, "Brother Han, do you remember this?"

After Han Sen got a good look at what Fang Qing Yu was holding, he was confused. He didn't recognize the item.

The item looked like a common, three-by-three, six-sided Rubix cube. Nine squares occupied each face.

But unlike a normal Rubix cube, each square on this cube contained a strange image. Each image was like a small painting of a place that Han Sen had never been before. Some of them showed starscapes, whereas others showed mountains and rivers. Others simply showed off rooms or palatial halls.

When Fang Qing Yu looked at Han Sen's face, he realized that Han Sen didn't recognize it. He smiled and said, "This is the Wanjie Rubix Cube; it is a xenogeneic treasure from the Thousand Treasures. Everyone who has a Wanjie Rubix Cube can contact others with a Wanjie Rubix Cube. You can even use video. To simplify this for you, the Wanjie Rubix Cube is like a phone. But it is a xenogeneic treasure, so you don't need a signal. You can communicate through space without being affected by magnetic storms."

"This is a powerful tool. If you have a treasure like this, you can ask your family or friends to come pick you up, right?" Han Sen said.

Fang Qing Yu smiled wryly. “Brother Han, I’m not showing this to you so that I can leave. I am a member of the Thousand Treasures Alliance. Although the Alliance isn’t considered a part of the Thousand Treasures race, we have the same level of authority as the Thousand Treasures. My Wanjie Rubix Cube can connect to other members of the Thousand Treasures. They can see everything I see.”

“What does that mean?” Han Sen frowned.

Fang Qing Yu quickly waved his hand and said, “Don’t misunderstand me, Brother Han. The Wanjie Rubix Cubes need to be activated for others to see my image. Right now, it is not open and so no one will know anything about what is going on here.”

After pausing, Fang Qing Yu went on to say, “Your battleship is incredible—it can even travel through the Tianxia System unimpeded. The Thousand Treasures want every treasure, including rare items in dangerous places like the Tianxia System. There are so many items in this system that most people couldn’t tell what is valuable and what isn’t, but with the Wanjie Rubix Cube, we could send images back to the Thousand Treasures. They could identify what is worth taking and what isn’t. If they see something that they want, they will pay a high price for the items you bring back to them.”

Han Sen smiled and said, “Brother Fang, I’m afraid you don’t know my situation.”

“I know you are Knife Queen’s student.” Fang Qing Yu looked at Han Sen with a modicum of confusion.

Han Sen waved his hand to interrupt him. He smiled and said, “You can use your Wanjie Rubix Cube to contact your Thousand Treasures friends, and perhaps, they might let you know a thing or two about me, as well.”

Fang Qing Yu looked confused, and so he turned on his Wanjie Rubix Cube. In one of the squares, another member of the Thousand Treasures appeared. Fang Qing Yu spoke to him, and his expression became increasingly apprehensive as the conversation went on.

When the conversation was over, Fang Qing Yue turned and stared toward Han Sen for a long moment. A while later, he muttered, “Brother Han, are you not afraid that I will expose your location?”

“What is there to be afraid of? The Extreme King must already be in the Tianxia System by now, so it doesn’t really matter,” Han Sen said with a shrug. “Now you should understand why I don’t want to bring you along. I cannot do the things you want me to, like stopping and collecting treasures along the way.”

Fang Qing Yu’s eyes brightened as he looked at Han Sen. “If that is true, you should definitely take me with you.”

“Why?” Han Sen asked in surprise.

“Brother Han, I know you only want me off the ship so I don’t get pulled into this, which was a kind thought. Also, I’m carrying a Wanjie Rubix Cube. You probably think that if I go with you, I might expose your location, and the Extreme King might have an easier time following you,” Fang Qing Yu said.

“I’m glad that you understand,” Han Sen said.

Fang Qing Yu shook his head. "But I also think you are wrong."

"How so?" Han Sen looked at Fang Qing Yu with interest.

"My presence might expose information about your escape, but that sort of exposure isn't necessarily a bad thing," Fang Qing Yu said seriously. There was no humor in his expression.

"What does that mean? I really don't understand," Han Sen replied.

Fang Qing Yu set the Wanjie Rubix Cube in front of Han Sen. "You can take the Wanjie Rubix Cube, and you can decide whether you want to turn it on or off. Or you could just throw me off the ship. But I must tell you that if you allow me to stay, I will expose your location with the Wanjie Rubix Cube. And I will take loads of photos."

"Fang Qing Yu, are you tired of living? Others might be afraid of the Thousand Treasures, but do you think a guy who disguised himself as a prince of the Extreme King would care about the life of some snot-nosed Thousand Treasures member?" Elysian Moon snorted in derision.

"Keep talking," Han Sen remained focused on Fang Qing Yu, and he didn't seem upset.

"Calm down, Elysian Moon. What I have said makes sense. I'm not selling Brother Han out." Fang Qing Yu paused. He looked at Han Sen and said, "Brother Han, you are escaping to Sky Palace, yes?"

"Yes," Han Sen answered immediately. He had never planned to hide the fact that Sky Palace was his destination. Otherwise, he wouldn't have let Miss Mirror know where he was going.

In fact, he wanted everyone to know he was going to Sky Palace.

"If I'm understanding the situation correctly, Brother Han, you are going through the Tianxia System to reach the systems of chaos in order to get to Sky Palace?" Fang Qing Yu asked.

"That is correct." Han Sen nodded.

"In that case, you should let me film this. And do it in HD quality." Fang Qing Yu sounded really excited.

Chapter 2448 Location Confirmed

"Talk me through your idea," Han Sen said to Fang Qing Yu. He was beginning to think that this young man was a very interesting person.

"The path you have selected isn't bad. You have taken a road that the Extreme King have no control over. Plus, you have a pretty amazing ship in the shape of a big whale. It is a fair assessment that the Extreme King won't catch up to you very quickly. But the road you have selected is also very dangerous. Even if the Extreme King don't catch you, your path is full of risks. Both the Tianxia System and the systems of chaos have innumerable dangers, many of which are impossible to predict or anticipate. And the Extreme King have three teams of knights in the systems of chaos. They will probably be your

greatest opposition. But, if I send them a video of you at the proper time, we might actually be able to put them to use.” Fang Qing Yu’s excitement took on a mischievous edge.

...

A giant black beetle soared through the clouds, and upon the back of the black beetle rested a stone castle. Many Extreme King were moving about the castle as they fulfilled their various duties.

“Mr. Bao Qin! Mr. Bao Qin!” An old member of the Extreme King raced over to the floating garden, where Bao Qin was drinking tea.

“Old Butler, what’s the rush?” Bao Qin asked the butler, taking a sip of tea and putting down the cup.

The old butler looked very excited. He stepped over to Bao Qing’s chair and said, “We found him! We have found where Han Sen is!”

“Oh, where is he?” Bao Qin jerked his head up in surprise. The investigators themselves hadn’t brought him this news, so he wasn’t sure how the butler had received word.

“Here...” The old butler brought out a Wanjie Rubix Cube. He set it in front of Bao Qin and pressed one of the squares to show the video.

A boat appeared, traveling through a sea of blue clouds. A man sat on the small boat, appearing relaxed and comfortable as he paged through a book. At the front of the boat, a line of creatures were using their power to pull the ship forward.

The creatures were from a dozen different races, and there was even a Demon amongst them.

They were like huskies pulling a sleigh as they struggled to drag the boat forward. If they slowed down for a second, the man atop the boat would wave his hand and whip the creatures. The blows broke their armor and flesh, and they screamed with every strike. The man, meanwhile, never even looked up from his book.

One of the creatures pulling the boat, a Feather man, was covered in wounds. It looked as if he had received numerous beatings. His head was lowered, but he had secretly activated the Rubix cube. He looked very angry.

“Save me! If anyone can get me out of here, I will give them all the treasure I have in the Thousand Treasures Alliance. No, I will give seventy percent...” said the man’s voice. Bao Qin stared at the Rubix cube on the table in front of him.

“What is going on?” Bao Qin looked at the man on the boat, and then realized it was Han Sen, the very man they were after.

The old butler was almost vibrating with excitement. “The Feather man pulling the boat is Fang Qing Yu. He is a member of the Thousand Treasures Alliance. He hired a group to help him explore the Tianxia

System. While there, his group encountered Han Sen. Han Sen captured them and set them all to pulling his boat; he appears to be trying to escape the Tianxia System. Fang Qing Yu is a Feather, but Han Sen doesn't know he is a member of the Thousand Treasures Alliance. Fang Qing Yu has a Wanjie Rubix Cube that he's using to send out a call for help, hoping that someone will rescue him." The old butler sounded so excited. "Now that Fang Qing Yu is sending messages through the Wanjie Rubix Cube, we know where Han Sen is. All we must do is give chase!"

"Who is this Fang Qing Yu?" Bao Qin asked the old butler. Rather than seeming happy, his face had turned down into a frown.

The old butler quickly said, "I have checked. Fang Qing Yu is a Feather, but he is an orphan. He was taken in by an elder of the Thousand Treasures Alliance. He has nothing to do with the Feathers, and he has nothing to do with Han Sen. That elder from the Thousand Treasures Alliance has already sent people to the Tianxia System in order to save him."

"Good." Bao Qin nodded. He looked at the video on the Wanjie Rubix Cube. "Can you tell where he is within the Tianxia System?"

The old butler laughed. "The blue sea clouds. There are hundreds of them across the Tianxia System, but the clouds in different areas all have unique identifying aspects. Judging from the information we've gleaned from the video and the direction the boat appears to be proceeding, we have deduced they are located in Sea Cloud Number 75. We're in purple Sea Cloud Number 86, which isn't too far from Han Sen's position."

"Keep an eye on them, and turn us to an intercept course," Bao Qin said.

"Yes! Han Sen can't outrun us this time, no matter what," the old butler said, then he sent the order to turn the giant black beetle toward Han Sen.

As they began traveling through clouds that Han Sen had already passed through, the old butler frowned. "Weird. When they went through here, they must have left some trace of their passage, even if it was only a single hair. Why can I not sense anything? Did we go the wrong way?"

Bao Qin smiled and said, "If we found obvious evidence of their passage, then we'd know that we weren't on Han Sen's trail. He's too good to leave behind obvious signs of his presence. Go faster. We must be going the right way!"

"Yes," the old butler answered, and the black beetle accelerated.

They didn't discover any signs of Han Sen's presence, but based on the video of Fang Qing Yu's Wanjie Rubix Cube, they knew they were headed in the right direction.

Han Sen's little boat wasn't moving nearly as fast as the black beetle. By the old butler's estimation, they would catch up to Han Sen in another eighteen hours.

At that moment, they glanced at the video on the Wanjie Rubix Cube and saw that Han Sen's boat was coming to a stop. A group of cloud beasts appeared in front of the boat, then turned aggressively and

attacked. Chaos ensued. Fang Qing Yu was trying to fight off the xenogeneics. He couldn't use the Wanjie Rubix Cube at the same time, so the video was switched off.

"Oh no! It is a bunch of high-level cloud beasts. A few of them are King class cloud apes. If Fang Qing Yu is killed, we'll lose track of Han Sen," the old butler said, looking glum.

"Go full speed! Find them before they finish fighting the cloud beasts," Bao Qin commanded, his face grim.

Chapter 2449 Demon Spiri

The giant black beetle flew at high speed toward the last location shown in the video. When they arrived, they found many cloud beasts in the midst of battle. But because they were surrounded by so many clouds, they could only catch occasional glimpses of the battleground.

Bao Qin ordered the black beetle to be brought to a stop, then turned back to the old butler. "Let's not get too close to the battleground. Before we enter, we should send someone in to scout."

Before the old butler could agree, a huge white whale appeared out of the clouds and headed straight toward them.

Following the white whale was a group of cloud beasts. They seemed very angry.

"Ready yourselves to fight!" Bao Qin shouted, frowning as the white whale approached.

The black beetle's Extreme King knights quickly assembled into battle formations. The big white whale approached at high speed, but instead of ramming the black beetle as they expected, the whale dove and went right under their ship.

Bao Qin and the Extreme King knights wondered why the white whale had decided to simply pass them by, but they didn't have much time to think about it. The cloud beasts that had been chasing the whale surged over them in a wave.

A King class group of giant cloud dragons were flying behind the cloud beasts, but even they seemed weak and unthreatening compared to what followed.

The giant cloud dragons were hitched to a rainbow-colored carriage made of cloud stone. Despite their incredible power and ferocity, the cloud dragons were being used as mere beasts of burden.

"D*mn it! It's the sea demon's carriage! We have to get out of here!" Bao Qin's face paled slightly, and his words were rushed.

But it was already too late. The sea beasts were upon them, and the giant cloud dragons dragging the stone carriage arrived before the black beetle.

The white whale had vanished at some point, and the giant black beetle was now surrounded by monsters of the clouds. The Extreme King knights engaged the cloud beasts in combat.

...

“Good job, everyone!” Han Sen said to Fang Qing Yu and the others as he admired the Extreme King, who were now fighting the cloud beasts.

“It is our honor to work for the captain and the little captain,” one of the pirates said, bowing deeply. An ingratiating smile covered his face.

“The captain and the little captain are the smartest people in the whole universe. Those Extreme King aren’t even fit to lick your boots.”

“The captain is so handsome. The little captain is so beautiful. You both hold the universe in your hands, and every decision you make is a turning point in history.”

“Long live the big captain and small captain! Long live the big captain and small captain!”

Han Sen looked at all the pirates who were gushing praises for him and Bao’er, and he couldn’t help but admit that it felt pretty good. Bao’er was loving it.

“No wonder everyone wants to become a tyrant with an evil right-hand man. This is great,” Han Sen thought happily.

Luckily, Han Sen hadn’t deluded himself into thinking that this was actually his idea. Fang Qing Yu had come up with the plan, and Han Sen was only reaping the advantages of its employment.

It was just as Fang Qing Yu had said. The Tianxia System was way too dangerous, and getting through it safely might have been little more than wishful thinking. They hadn’t been planning to encounter the scary cloud dragons, after all.

Han Sen didn’t dare to fight the cloud dragons. He piloted the white whale away from them as he tried to escape. Then, he allowed Fang Qing Yu to create a scenario that would draw in the Extreme King search party. Once the Extreme King arrived, they had earned the ire of the monsters within minutes.

The cloud dragons weren’t happy to have intruders in their territory.

Han Sen didn’t know what the stone carriage behind the cloud dragons was, but after Fang Qing Yu used the Wanjie Rubix Cube to contact his Thousand Treasures step-father, they learned that it was the legendary Sea Demon Carriage. If not for the Thousand Treasures, Han Sen might not have fled from the carriage in time. It would have certainly been a nasty fight.

That Thousand Treasures elder used the Rubix cube to tell Han Sen that the Sea Demon Carriage was the most mysterious and scary xenogeneics in the Tianxia System. The legends said that the giant cloud dragons pulled the Tianxia System’s leader in that carriage.

Not many people had ever glimpsed what was inside that carriage, though. When the Sea Demon Carriage opened, anyone who saw it usually died shortly thereafter.

The white whale hovered some distance from the battlefield. They hid amidst the clouds, and Fang Qing Yu looked very excited. He filmed the fight between the Extreme King and the cloud beasts intently, streaming the video to his Thousand Treasures step-father.

Fang Qing Yu took special care to capture the Sea Demon Carriage on video. He would never miss an opportunity to film that.

He wanted the chance to film the being inside the Sea Demon Car. He wanted a first-hand account of this fight. That information might be the most valuable thing he had ever possessed.

Of course, it wasn't just the information that would fetch a high price. The video itself would be worth a lot. Fang Qing Yu's step-father had already started working on it. The Thousand Treasures was the best organization in the universe when it came to making money, and a video like that would be a money-making machine.

The video would require some editing before it was released, though.

Han Sen really admired the business acumen of the Thousand Treasures. Plus, with Fang Qing Yu remaining in constant contact with his step-father, the Thousand Treasures could give them information about any creatures they encountered in the Tianxia System. Han Sen could avoid many potential dangers and pitfalls, and they wouldn't have to go up against a creature that might be too much for them. They could even detour around areas with a particularly high death toll.

"It's out!" Fang Qing Yu shouted very excitedly.

Han Sen looked back to the battleground. The cloud dragons were cringing away from the open door of the carriage, and after a few long seconds, something stepped through the open door.

All eyes were drawn to the newly-emerged monster. Han Sen had never seen a living creature like it before. Its body was like a black cloud, with a black demonic form standing somewhere in the middle. It was impossible to see exactly what the creature looked like, but it possessed a dark humanoid shape.

But the being seemed to have a shadowy tail, and its hair was like fire. A pair of eyes could be seen through the dark cloud, burning with a red and purple flame. Only its disturbing eyes could be seen clearly, as everything else about its form was murky and indistinct.

Bao Qin stood atop the castle, watching the scary creature emerge from the stone carriage.

"Demon Spirit, we of the Extreme King have never offended you. We were pursuing someone else along this path..."

But that scary creature didn't answer. Its eyes glowed evilly, and it threw a punch toward Bao Qin.

Boom!

Han Sen and the others didn't see the punch land, but they could see the enormous black beetle explode under the force of the shockwave. Blood rained everywhere, dyeing the blue clouds scarlet around it.

Some Extreme King knights hadn't been able to get clear of the black beetle, and so the hit destroyed their King knight bodies. They disintegrated, becoming a part of that red mist.

Bao Qin hung in the air, and the ghostly Demon Spirit teleported directly in front of him.

"It has started." Han Sen's eyes brightened with anticipation. There was going to be a deified fight. If the two fighters ended up badly injured, he could take advantage of the situation and claim them both.

2450 Blood Eye Evil God Beast Soul

Han Sen watched the battle in the hopes of finding an opportunity to score some easy kills, but something soon happened that made him rethink his plans.

Music wafted into Han Sen's ears. Upon hearing the first note, Han Sen's mind seemed to buzz, like the vibration that would be left behind if someone struck him on the head with a hammer.

Han Sen only found the sensation to be slightly uncomfortable, but the Duke class pirates began to fall over, coughing up blood as they curled into fetal position. They clawed at their ears, screaming in agony. They were bleeding from all seven of their holes.

"Oh, no! A deified Extreme King has used a sonic attack. The white whale is tough, but it is weak against sonic attacks. We have to go!" Han Sen turned the white whale and piloted it far away.

The white whale was just a piece of technology, so it couldn't adapt to everything that was thrown at it.

Fang Qing Yu was the weakest person on board, and so he was doing far worse than all the others. Luckily, Han Sen released a King area that subdued most of the acoustic effect. If he hadn't done that, the sonic powers would have liquified Fang Qing Yu's brain.

The white whale traveled through the clouds at full speed. After tens of thousands of miles, the effectiveness of the sonic powers started to subside. But Han Sen's crew still suffered from the scary shockwaves of the battle.

After what had just happened, Han Sen was no longer interested in trying to kill the fighters once they were injured. He just wanted to leave the area, and that was that.

"Don't go! If you leave now, we won't film the fight. And if we don't film the fight, everything we've invested will be wasted. I have to go back and keep filming!" Fang Qing Yu shouted at Han Sen, as soon as he was feeling better.

"You're crazier than I am. You're willing to die for money?" Han Sen looked at Fang Qing Yu with utter shock. This man really did care about money above all else.

“The Thousand Treasures Alliance cannot invest in a venture that loses money. I have to go back,” Fang Qing Yu said with obvious difficulty.

Seeing that Fang Qing Yu wasn't kidding, Gu Qingcheng said, “It won't matter how much money you make if you're dead, will it?”

Fang Qing Yu shook his head with a wry smile. “You guys don't understand. This isn't only about me. My team invested a lot into this. If you don't follow the plan we made, I won't be the only one getting screwed—my whole team will be! They invested all their money into this. That means they will all go bankrupt, and that might result in them all committing suicide.”

“Give me your Wanjie Rubix Code, and I will film it for you,” Han Sen said after a moment.

Han Sen hadn't wanted to leave so abruptly, either, but Bao'er, Ning Yue, and Gu Qingcheng were all on board the ship. He didn't want to put their lives at risk.

If he went back there alone, there wouldn't be as much to worry about.

“I don't know if—” Fang Qing Yu was shocked.

“It'll be fine.” Han Sen took the Wanjie Rubix Cube out of Fang Qing Yu's hands. Then, he spoke to Bao'er. “Bao'er, take them farther away. I will catch up.”

After that, he took the Wanjie Rubix Cube and exited the white whale. He headed straight back for the battlefield.

With Bao'er guiding them away and the little red bird protecting them, they should be able to survive an encounter with even a deified xenogeneic. Han Sen wasn't too worried about their safety.

And in regards to Han Sen himself, he knew he would be able to survive. Otherwise, he wouldn't have gone back alone.

The clouds were rumbling. The music sounded eerie and demonic. Under the force of the sonic power, a big blue cloud was roiling and rolling away like an ocean wave. Many xenogeneics and cloud beasts, which commonly lived inside such clouds, were all scrambling away as they fled desperately for their lives.

But some of the smaller cloud beasts and xenogeneics didn't have enough time to escape. They were killed by the sonic sounds. They died before they could leave the clouds, and their corpses were tossed along with the rolling clouds like flotsam caught by the tide.

Han Sen used his Dongxuan Area and Jadeskin. He summoned all of his strength to fight back that sonic power. But even still, he could barely withstand it as he drew near to the battlefield. He felt like his head was going to get ripped open by that sole piano note.

Han Sen's heart leaped in his chest, and he summoned a beast soul. It was an eyeball-shaped beast soul with a red pupil. It was the deified-class Blood Eye Evil God beast soul Han Sen had managed to retrieve from Du God City.

The Blood Eye Evil God's body was the eyeball Han Sen had managed to kill as it tried to escape. The statue of a thousand hands and a thousand eyes had merely some sort of host or shell that the creature inhabited.

Mutant Deified Class Beast Soul Blood Eye Evil God: Eye-type

The beast soul flew into Han Sen's left eye. It grew incredibly thin and formed itself into a half-sphere, then it fitted itself onto Han Sen's left eyeball like a contact lens.

Han Sen's left eye was veiled in red. His entire eyeball gleamed crimson, and a bloody light seemed to swirl within the orb.

The Purple-Eye Butterfly's power lay in its ability to analyze and rewind the history of an object. The power of the Blood Eye Evil God beast soul was different.

As the bloody color deepened within Han Sen's left eye, the red light of his pupil seemed to swirl restlessly. Suddenly, the red light poured out of Han Sen's eye.

The blood light wrapped around Han Sen's entire body, turning him into a bloody shadow. His face was no longer visible, and he seemed more like an unsettling absence than anything tangible. But his entire body, or what could be seen of it, was blood red.

When Han Sen became this blood shadow, everything in his vision changed.

Han Sen saw a giant cloud dragon flying far away. He could see the creature's eyes, and he saw himself reflected in those eyes. The next second, Han Sen's heart jumped. He leaped into those eyes.

Han Sen found himself hiding somewhere within the creature's vision, as if he had slipped behind the reflective surface of the cloud dragon's eyes.

Han Sen would be safe and invisible inside that space unless the eye's reflective surface was broken. That was the only way someone could hurt him now.

Han Sen hid within the giant cloud dragon's eye, and he turned, realizing that he could see what the dragon saw, as well.

When this giant cloud dragon's eyes met those of another dragon, Han Sen moved. He traveled into the eyes of the second dragon.

This movement was similar to jumping from mirror to mirror. He didn't have teleportation abilities, but he couldn't be attacked. And furthermore, no one could see his body.

It was like Han Sen could look into a mirror, then trade places with his own reflection.

Han Sen's entire body could teleport into the eyes of whoever he saw; rather than just assuming their vision, he was actually physically transporting himself.

But when Han Sen moved into the eyes of another being, the creature's pupils would turn blood red. It was an obvious indicator of his presence, and it would be easy for others to spot where he was.

After doing a few more jumps, a giant cloud dragon's eyes turned to meet Bao Qin's eyes. Han Sen immediately teleported into the deified Extreme King's eyes.

Han Sen's vision became Bao Qin's vision. Being in the man's eyes allowed Han Sen to see what he saw.

"I jumped straight into a deified elite's eyes?" Han Sen was ecstatic. Not even a deified elite could stop the powers of the Blood Eye Evil God beast soul. This surprised him quite a bit.