

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 1271: Golden Silk Moth

The Elders attacked Sam from all sides. But most of them are coming from their left side. With his right leg being a peg leg and the left hand not even present, it is indeed a very good spot for them to attack him from.

While the elders from this side are focusing on him, the rest of the elders are focusing on taking his staff down. They wholeheartedly believed that his bizarre attacks are coming from the staff itself.

But most of Sam's focus is on the long-ranged attacks.

He dodged a dagger strike from the left barely and waved his staff a bit. An inclined energy barrier appeared in front of him and a large fireball coming from an elder far away hit the barrier and moved upwards as if it is a ramp.

While the fireball went away, Sam blocked a sword strike from the right and tripped the swordsman with a small energy wave aimed at his legs. The sword moved sideways and went at the attacker coming at Sam from behind who was forced to abandon attacking Sam and had to block it.

Sam tapped the staff and a large horizontal rectangular barrier appeared in front of him and with another tap, right at the moment a large lightning snake hit the barrier, the barrier repelled the snake completely which attacked a spear user coming from the left.

While it is happening, Sam ducked and used the staff's tail end to poke at the foot of a nearby attacker with a small ball of energy gathered at the tip of that tail end.

boom A small explosion happened, but not only did the foot completely explode, there happened to be a secondary explosion because of the usage of the void style on something so close to an energy bullet which made the

guy who fell after the foot was exploded to lose a large chunk of flesh and bones in the torso as well, immediately killing him.

As Sam focused on this, a large earth golem came at him from the top and he failed to use the barrier at the right time. The golem didn't even bother to attack Sam and just went after the staff.

Sam used his left leg which is still intact to kick upwards on the large body of the golem.

BOoM

The kick landed squarely and the energy explosion was shot from the rear end of the golem to the front end making the golem collapse into a pile of rubble.

Sam didn't wait long and kicked his leg on the ground using repel style to slide over and dodge three spears that landed in the place he was in.

He stood up hurriedly and spun his staff before swinging it to the rear.

The energy condensed into a large snake and went after the attackers coming from that direction while Sam moved away to dodge another fireball.

The snake didn't last long. It started exploding at different sections and some of the attackers were severely injured and blown away with some of them being dead.

He suddenly turned to the side and the energy gathered in the staff as he used it to swing towards his rear. A large ice lance that crept upon him through the ground, was hit squarely and half of the lance flew away hitting another fireball coming at him.

He tapped the staff on the ground creating a small ripple of energy once again and all of a sudden, some vines creeping up on him through the ground froze on the spot and they exploded.

The whole fight came to a stalemate for a second as nobody wanted to go headfirst at him.

In this short span of a minute, a lot of things happened and all the elders started panting.

Sam couldn't help but grin under his mask. These elders really did have great battle experience and they are using it to the fullest. He now figured that when he is looking for opponents in the future, he should be looking for multiple opponents to fight, not some famed single opponent no matter how good it is.

He felt like his multiple elements will come in handy with a fight like this. Otherwise, he just needs to stick to two to three elements and even then it wouldn't last long.

But now, even with those elements, he is having fun. All he needs to do is, pick some decently capable opponents and fight them all together.

While Sam is thinking of these absurd things in the middle of the battle, the opponents are scared out of their wits.

They didn't expect Sam would be too good even in the close quarters. None of their attacks landed. It is as if he had eyes all over his body and could see every attack coming at him from all sides and all angles.

They knew they, had to give it their all to even have a chance to defeat him. The two Middle-Stage Transcendent leaders also decided to stop holding back. They decided to use their full strength or what is left off of the full strength to deal with Sam.

But Sam didn't care, he was looking forward to it.

He held the staff and swung it like a club all of a sudden and a large fireball that came at him was hit by it.

The fireball didn't vanish or disperse, instead, like a ball, it was shot at another opponent who was caught off guard.

Sam smiled and moved to the side while swinging his staff sideways, the energy condensed into a large horizontal board on which the ice lances and spears coming from a side got stuck. He kept on modifying the board so that not a single ranged attack with attack him while dodging the attacks from the rear.

When there are more than fifteen spears and lances on the board, he tapped it with his staff and all of them were shot at the opponents.

The people that threw the spears didn't expect this from Sam.

They even had a thought that Sam might be having some hard time with so many attacks from one spot, but it turned out that he is just trying to counter it.

He didn't even have time to look at what those lances and spears did, before moving to the side and sweeping the staff on the floor in a large arc.

The energy condensed into that large arc and expanded as it moved away like a blade. It swept through everything in its path while destroying the ground, causing tremors.

Three cultivators who couldn't dodge in time, lost their legs and two who were already on the ground were cut in half.

"Playtime is over, guys. Time to get serious."

Sam said and a large ball of energy was condensed on top of the staff while a barrier appeared around him.

The energy started glowing brightly like a star blinding the opponents' eyes as it grew bigger and bigger.

The opponents knew that some bad is about to happen just from the size of it and they immediately threw all their attacks on Sam.

But they were unable to destroy the barrier no matter what they did and Sam tapped the tail end of the staff on the ground.

The energy that was gathered on top of the staff is in size of a large Hot air balloon, and it was compressed into the size of a marble in an instant before it went through the staff and hit the ground through the tail end.

Large energy waves rippled from that tip of the staff as they moved away bit by bit and whenever a ripple neared an opponent it started exploding bit by bit with the void styles.

Some opponents wanted to dodge it, but the ripples are not stopping.

They are coming one after another and this went on until all the opponents are either dead or severely injured to the point they cannot fight again and then these ripples went on to destroy the surroundings and half of the main building in the estate before they finally dispersed.

All the grass and plants within this range were completely uprooted and with a gentle breeze, they flew away.

Sam walked through these flying blades of grass as he reached deeper into the estate.

He is feeling a large amount of energy gathered in the middle with a sense of threat cautioning him to be careful which intrigued him a lot.

He slowly made his way towards the center and what was presented in front of him blew his mind away.

A large Golden Silk Moth is in the middle of all the cultivators as the golden silk condensed into armors around their body as well as weapons in their hands. This included the Leader of the Sect who is also the last remaining Middle-Stage Transcendent cultivator.

Sam could guess what is happening. This is the bloodline art of this Silk Moth, but it takes a lot of energy. The energy that the Silk Moth cannot contain and needs external assistance.

It seems like the Golden Silk Sect managed to keep their place by using this.

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Chapter 1272: Warriors

The Golden Silk Moth is actually not some kind of high-level beast. It is not even on the same level as Golden Ape.

It is mediocre in terms of bloodline at best. The only reason it even became mediocre is because of its bloodline art. When they are in a group or even when they are with some friendly creatures in their wild, they can activate this art with external assistance.

It is very rare for them to do it. But once it does, the results are actually pretty good.

Currently, in front of Sam, there are around a dozen warriors standing with fully body armors made of this woven golden silk, and even their weapons are enhanced with this silk.

Their auras are fierce and raging at the same time refined. This is the effect of the Golden Silk Moth. After the bloodline art was used, the allies of the golden moth would be assisted by it in the best way possible.

In this case, these warriors' powers would be enhanced by these golden armors and weapons created by its silk.

The golden silk moth works best when the allies are of neutral energy. Sometimes, it tends to conflict with the elemental energies which will later bring more harm than good for the allies if used like these armors.

So, they would be provided with some other assistance like, creating distractions to the opponents or using the golden silk to create shields to block the attacks of the opponent.

Sam really felt excited about this battle. He even made the first move.

He shot multiple energy bullets at a rapid pace.

The moth spat out a large amount of silk which was instantly woven into a large blanket which took the hit of all the energy bullets.

BOOM* *BOOM* *BOOM* *BOOM

The series of explosions tore the blanket into multiple pieces with a lot of holes, but the blanket is being quickly woven again and within a few seconds, it turned as good as new.

Sam raised an eyebrow as he looked at the large silk moth in ridicule. He kept on shooting the energy bullets at the blanket, since all the attackers are warriors trying to close the distance, he let them do it while he focused on that large blanket.

He made it riddled with holes and the moth is trying to recover the blanket with its best effort at an equally rapid pace.

Meanwhile, the Warriors closed the distance until Sam is in their attacking range. They surrounded him completely and got ready to attack.

Sam waited for them to make a move as the silk moth seemed to have realized this and started converting the blanket into smaller blankets that could help them in defense.

A swordsman made the first move at Sam, which he blocked directly with the staff and gave him a head butt, when another attacker was about to make a move from the rear, he tapped staff on the ground letting an energy wave sweep him away while Sam ducked from a saber strike from the left.

He swept the staff horizontally on the ground to make the saber user lose balance when he did, he gathered the energy at the top of the staff and hit the guy in the face as he fell down.

The small silk blanket came in between as the staff and the warrior's face were about to meet.

BOOM

An explosion occurred at the point of contact, but most of it was negated by the blanket which turned into a bunch of rags that fell everywhere around. But the guy was not unscathed.

The explosion was strong enough to make his face disfigured as well as to throw him away.

Sam smiled as he aimed the staff at the same guy once again and shot an energy bullet.

The blanket didn't make it time and

BOOM

The explosion destroyed the armor of the target and made him crash into the ground.

Meanwhile, Sam took a staff hit from some other guy and almost got stabbed by a sword which he barely managed to block in it.

He jumped upwards and shot eight energy bullets at eight different people which were blocked by the silk blankets in process of which the eight people were unable to attack Sam for that brief moment.

Sam took this chance and attacked the one nearest to him.

He used the void style with an energy bullet, the silk blanket exploded by the first one and the second explosion made the target lose a chunk of flesh on

the chest along with the silk armor, Sam took this chance and lunged forward with landing one final blow, killing him.

As soon as he was done with that, Sam hurriedly used the energy barrier to block the attacks coming from the rear.

But he was a tad bit late and he felt a slash on his back. His black cloak was cut and he was scraped lightly.

Sam took in a cold breath and looked at the attacker. It is actually the only Middle Stage transcendent cultivator left in the sect. The sect leader.

Sam looked at him coldly and lunged forward as he repeatedly tapped the staff on the ground in the process.

Energy rippled as large craters were formed while blowing everyone in the surroundings of.

Sam skid on his peg leg as he dodged the sword strike and the blockage of the silk blanket as he swung his staff sideways aimed at the legs of the sect leader.

The armor plate made of the golden silk suddenly materialized outwards and blocked the staff strike, Sam just smiled and the first rectangular section of the staff opened up.

BOOM

The energy beam was launched and Sam used the recoil to roll away.

A bunch of silk blankets that were helping the other attackers moved rapidly, but they were unable to reach the spot in time, and even the ones that reached didn't manage to block the attack fully. The sect leader lost a leg in the process.

Sam stood up quickly and swung the staff at the head of the sect leader who fell forward from the rear.

The blankets that were coming to block the leg changed their direction to block the blow and two blankets coiled around the staff's rectangular section as they forcefully tried to dissipate the energy gathered around it.

Sam channeled that gathered energy to the tip as he used void style to land the blunt blow on that guy's head which was blocked by the silk sheets.

But the staff went through the blankets, even though most of the attack was dissipated...

BOOM

There is a small explosion at the rear of the head.

The skull was cracked open with blood and brain matter gushing out.

The leader was dead.

SCREEECH

Sam looked at the Golden Silk Moth that is doing the screeching sound. It seems like it was genuinely hurt by the death of the sect leader.

Instantly all the silk that was spread around became active, even the warriors who were covered in the full body armor suddenly lost control of their bodies.

The silk moth is not controlling their body directly, rather it is moving the silk armor in such a way that the body would move according to its will. No matter how much the warriors tried, they couldn't make a move at all.

Sam tapped the staff and a barrier appeared around him as the silk tried to drill through it from different directions.

He used the energy bullets which went past the barrier to shoot down the weapons and attacks that were coming at him.

Sam finally started feeling the pinch as he felt a bit exhausted.

He is expending too much energy. The energy levels of this body are certainly not as good as his original one.

Sam could only sigh and made his best move.

He stabbed the tail end of the staff into the ground and energy gathered into it as each and every lock of the staff opened.

With a lot of clicking sounds, a bunch of protrusions appeared all over the surface of the staff. The three energy bullet shooters at the handle, the first section which opened up, before, also had another protrusion on the opposite surface.

The tail end opened up like a flower.

The third second with a bunch of small needle-like protrusions in all four faces while the second section of the staff opened up to reveal something similar to that of an oscillating piston.

Energy gathered as the piston moved rapidly creating ripples in the surroundings. But the ripples are not chaotic or extremely powerful, they gentle and they are only creating more ripples. The energy gathered at the protrusions and in a count of three, all the bullets and beams were launched along with the void style at the oscillation of the piston.

BOOM* *BOOM* *BOOM* *BOOM**BOOM* *BOOM**BOOM

The rapid explosions covered the whole area with bright energy lights while Sam just stood there, along with the normal explosions, that came from the energy bullets and the energy beams, the real damage done by the piston in the second section which seemed to be the least harmful of them all.

The energy ripples that were rapidly but gently propagated by this and the trigger of the void style created a bunch of small but rapid explosions that made destroyed everything in the path.

When the dust settled not a single dead body was intact and there is not a single golden thread visible.

Even the golden Silk moth far away was covered in blood and it is no longer floating in the air.

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Chapter 1273: New limbs

Sam went to the body of the silk moth to take a clear look. It is barely alive, but I cannot move. Its wings are destroyed and there are multiple holes all over its body.

It is struggling to stay alive.

Sam hit it with the staff one last time to put it out of its misery. After he was done there, he didn't even bother to clean up. He took all the spatial rings and went into the core areas of the sect to check for any resources that he could get and exited the sect.

That day many people from within the city came to check the Golden Silk Sect. After all, for the past few days, the sect was extremely active as if they were preparing for war. Some of the rival organizations were even panicking as they thought they might be the target of the war.

But instead of attacking the Sect went on to strengthen their defenses. This piqued their curiosity so they sent a bunch of their people to the city to keep an eye.

They could hear the commotion Sam has caused in the sect and by the time Sam left and they reached the sect, all they could see some disciples who were too weak for Sam to even consider killing them were running around the sect and started taking whatever it was useful for them so that they could run away.

Particularly, the library is so active that it looked like it was being pillaged by a group of bandits.

But they didn't care about that. All they had was ecstasy that the Golden Silk Sect was destroyed.

Word traveled fast and the agents left behind immediately ran back to the organizations and they started going to the external businesses of the Golden Silk Sect without any reservations. It became a free for all buffet and everyone is trying to grab as much as they can.

Sam went back to Gravin's estate after this and met with him.

"So, how is the project?"

"My part is done, all you need to do is add the inscriptions and we can add it."

Sam nodded and said.

"Then, let me start. I will finish it as fast as I can."

With that, Sam just sat in the workshop for three days straight to finish the inscriptions on the parts of the two products.

After he was done, Gravin and him started assembling the project bit by bit. Only the assembling took a day of work and when it was finally done, both Gravin and Sam were extremely satisfied and happy.

Sam looked at the two products with a smile.

One of them is a mechanical arm and the other one is a mechanical leg.

The two limbs which he didn't have were now made. Even though, he didn't see much resistance and difficulty in the current situation he was in and everyone was easy to deal with, he knew for sure that the more he climbed, the more troublesome it would be for him.

The limping and the lack of an arm is going to be a hindrance in the future battles, he cannot simply offset all the disadvantages with the staff. It might make things easy for a bit, but it is definitely not a good long term solution.

But now, he doesn't have to.

The long term solution is right in front of him.

"Can I get a cleaner room with some privacy? I would like to attach them as soon as possible."

"Can I See?"

"Of course."

Gravin nodded and led him to a private room. It is serene and calm. The sound of the blasting furnace and the constant hitting of metal with a hammer couldn't be heard and it is extremely clean.

Sam sat in the middle of the room and started gathering energy at the palm of his only usable hand. He used the palm to cut off the stump of the maimed hand and then took out some recovery drugs to heal it.

But this time, he didn't let it heal unevenly like before. He adjusted the shape by repeatedly cutting off the excess part.

And when it is in his desired size and shape, Sam took out the mechanical arm. He injected his energy into it and a clicking sound could be heard as the top most part of the arm opened up like a flower.

He placed it on the stump and once again injected the energy, the flower closed over the stump and tightened around it.

Small thin needles. So, thin that Sam almost couldn't feel a thing on his arm were slowly penetrated into the flesh of the stump as they were connected to the meridian network.

Sam didn't design this thing with the purpose of connecting it to the neural network. Rather this design is inclined towards controlling the arm with the energy itself.

Even the opening up and closing on the top of the arm is part of the energy controlling network.

Sam realized that since this body is capable of exhibiting such an energy control to the extreme precision, he might as well use this to his advantage.

He created a similar network of veins, and meridians in the mechanical arm, but all of them are mostly done by metals with almost similar flexibility.

When Sam injects his energy into this network and condenses it, the mechanical arm acts as a perfect mold for that condensation and the inscriptions help him preserve the condensed arm without any destabilization. He can just move the arm around like it was part of his body with just a thought.

But in reality, he is moving the energy condensed inside the arm and the arm is moving along with it.

Apart from that, he also added many features to it which would make things easier for him in the battle.

Sam then proceeded to do the same with the leg and attached it to his body.

After he was done, he took a deep breath and hopped onto his one normal leg and placed the mechanical leg gently as he took a few steps forward.

For the first ten steps, he felt a little uncomfortable, but soon, he became used to it. Except for the lack of sensation that there is a leg and arm, he can walk pretty well.

He started testing his arm too. Moving it around as much as he could. He went as far as using some battle techniques.

After he was completely fine with the limbs, he got rid of the peg leg and felt relieved. He got dressed again.

"I cannot guess your expression with the mask, but I assume you are happy."

Gravin said from the side.

"Relieved mostly."

"So, want to have a drink? I have a special bottle of wine that I wanted to open for a special occasion like this."

"Sure, I think I could use some."

Sam said and both of them sat down while they started drinking. They chatted away as they covered many topics. From the basics of Artisanry, to the weapons Gravin forged, his days as students and many more.

"This is the most satisfying day of my life. I wouldn't even complain if I had to die tomorrow."

Gravin said with a smile.

"Why? You have a long life ahead."

"What is the point of living in this dirty world? Making weapons is all I am good at and it gave me some status and power. I really like making them too.

But I slowly lost the feeling of satisfaction I get from every weapon I make. And when I lost it completely, I didn't see any point of living. I wanted to find love for a bit, but that didn't work out. Then out of spite, I announced this challenge as a distraction. Everyday, I used to spend my time verbally destroying every guy that came across that gate with a design saying that it would be the best thing I ever made.

Even though I know it is impossible for someone to present their most incredible design for an outsider like me to make it, I just wanted to have some hope and you brought that.

I highly doubt that I would get anything like that again."

Sam didn't even know what to say. It seems like this world is not just about killing and surviving. He never expected someone like Gravin who had such a great skill at his hand to feel this empty.

Maybe sometimes, being too good at something is also a sin.

From what Sam could see, Gravin could forge anything he wished. He doesn't need a bunch of machines to help him in the process, he could forge it as long as the metal softens for his flames and he can change it into any shape he wants.

Sam looked at him and said.

"Maybe you will find it or maybe you don't. But holding on to the hope that you might find something like that is not a bad thing. After all, you knew that something like that wouldn't come, but here I am. I brought it myself didn't I? Maybe, there would be someone else on their way."

"Cheers for that."

They clinked their glasses and chugged the wine.

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Chapter 1274: Dark Range

Sam left Gravin's realm and made his way to another realm. Now, he doesn't need to carry the staff in his hands and he also made some modifications to his metal mask.

Instead of covering the face as a whole, it is mostly covering the upper half of the face. With his mouth and chin visible outside.

It gave out a less eerie feeling to the others. He also changed his hairstyle. He cut it short, just the way he used to have it in his real body.

Now, he felt more comfortable with this body than before. He doesn't have to limp, he has two hands to use and he can run and hop at an extremely high speed that is suitable for his cultivation level.

He is currently going to a nearby planet in the same realm. It has a special location called the Dark Range.

It is a mountain range with a lot of dark elemental energy and even many variations of dark elemental energy. He heard of the location from Gravin and he was amused by the story behind it.

It all started many centuries ago with some dark elemental beasts called the Twilight Elephants. These elephants have one of the most basic behaviors of a normal elephant. They move to an elephant graveyard when they are on the verge of death.

They used this Dark Range as that spot. This place used to have nothing. It was just a large lump of stone with mediocre spiritual energy. Even the earth elemental beasts nearby wouldn't go there for the mediocre herbs and resources available in that place. There is no food chain whatsoever in there.

But as the elephants died and their blood and flesh seeped into this area over the years, the terrain changed.

Dark elemental energy and death energy along with the natural cursed energy prevailed and soon the whole range changed.

The mountain range that used to be desolate and useless has changed into something else.

Now, the mountain range houses hundreds of ghosts of the Twilight elephants along with the undead and ghosts of both elephants and other creatures that came in the hopes of feasting on an almost dead elephant.

When the creatures finally started noticing that a large elephant is going to die here and a fresh corpse could be found without any struggle and they could feast on it, it was already late.

The range already started showing some changes. At first, some of the creatures managed to eat the flesh and got away with it, but as the time passed, the range became dangerous and the beasts that went to feast on the corpses of the elephants never came back.

The cultivators took notice of this area and they also went in for the skeletons and tusks of the elephants along with the other beasts.

After all, the bones of many beasts are used in making weapons, defensive artifacts and such. So, many people believed this to be a treasure trove and gradually it became a no man's land to one of the most visited places of the planet.

As for why Sam is going there, it is to get an assistant. After he came back from destroying the Golden Silk Sect and wearing these new limbs, Sam got some new ideas on how to proceed further with the plan.

Sivan's clan is a powerful organization. No matter how disturbed it was with the politics and how despised Sivan is to the youngsters, there is no way they would let someone like Sam deal with him and the rest of their organization.

So, he needs a proper plan and he is sure that his regular plans wouldn't work. Dayus must have already explained everything related to his plan to this guy which is the reason they managed to come to the Desert city and lay down a perfect ambush.

This time, Sam needs to be a lot more cunning but should appear direct at the same time.

For this reason, he thought of a plan and for that he needs a dark elemental user and if that is not possible, he needs a specter that is powerful enough.

Both of them are not easy to obtain, but he has no choice but to try.

He reached the Dark range in a day.

There is a town that was established not too far from that place. The organization nearby managed to coin the land fast enough and established this town after they understood the importance of the range.

Sam went there to gather the information. He went to the restaurant to have a meal and got some information from the conversations of the other patrons and also the waiters.

He got some information regarding the top dogs of the Dark range. People come here in hopes of finding some treasure. They might obtain some special fruits that grow in this place, they might catch a special beast that has mutated or some people even come here looking for some special undead creatures, especially necromancers.

Some curse users come here to get some material that could be used as a good curse carrier.

There are three expedition teams that run the show in this dark range. One of them is the team directly under the control of the organization that established the town.

The town government is not exactly solid, they are just there to take care of the administrative work and provide a moderately safe place for the merchants. The only proper rule in the town is that fights are not allowed.

Everyone would follow these rules, including the three top dog expedition teams, but if the fight ever broke out and the members of these government expedition team were involved, they would always be supported within the town as long as the dispute is not too obvious and that expedition team has the vast network of spies within the town which helps them get some extra information.

The second expedition group belongs to the rival organization that barely missed the opportunity to establish the town.

They are second in everything to the point that they are called the Second team in the town which they absolutely hate.

The Third team is created by a group of friends that don't belong to any organization. Only three people of the group are fixed. They are called the Three ghosts in the town. They go on expeditions by themselves and they do the scouting of the mountain range.

In fact, they are the only ones daring enough to stay in the mountain range overnight.

The rest of the expedition teams barely do that. Sam got as much information from the three groups as possible.

Most of the members are dark elemental users. At least the important members that have authority to call some shots.

The three people in the Three ghosts are also dark elemental members. Sam is sure that he wouldn't be able to poach a guy from the main members of the Government group and the Second group, his best choice is to find some secondary members who joined these two groups directly without any links to the organization.

Or he has to convince one of the three ghosts to come with him.

If he couldn't do any of this, he has to find the best specter in the mountain range and employ one of these groups to help him capture it.

No matter what decision it is, he decided to join the expeditions of the three groups and look at their performance first hand before proceeding with his further plans.

So, he waited for the expedition groups to announce their next expeditions.

Luckily, he didn't have to wait for long. The very next day, the second group announced their expedition.

The second group has two teams. One is the scouting team led by a necromancer and the second one is the main fighting team.

The scouting is obviously smaller, but its members are also fixed. They are all the members of their organization and they have complete loyalty to the group.

While the recruited external members will be added to the main fighting group.

Sam read the expedition details posted on a notice board in the bar.

They are looking for ten members and it would be better if they are warriors who are good in close-range combat.

They are going into a valley within the mountain range and they are looking for a special specter. Anything that was found individually apart from the specter, could be kept by the person and if something was found by the group, then they will sell it and the profits will be shared. Apart from that, there is no payment for the people who join the group.

Sam was amused by this. The expedition groups clearly knew that everyone that came here would be dying to get into the top three groups and they wouldn't need any payment. After all, with the top three groups, people can go deeper and have a higher chance of finding something valuable.

In every expedition even though the group had only one goal in mind, they would always find some extra valuable items which would then be sold and the profits are divided.

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Chapter 1275: Expedition Teams

Sam entered the selection process of the Second group. It is a simple tournament between the applicants. Needless to say, it was easy for Sam. After all, the strongest person in the second group is only at the Peak of the Pre-transcendent stage.

Saying Sam had an unfair advantage is an understatement.

Sam ended every fight faster and he made sure that his original cultivation is not shown.

The second group selected him.

"The expedition is tomorrow. Everyone should gather at the mount of the southern cliff, we will be climbing from there. The rest of the details would be explained then."

The next day, Sam went to the cliff and the group is waiting. Team 2 which is the main attack force fully consists of warriors and there is only one mage.

"We are going through the Death Eating Spider Valley. We would be going through a lot of narrow areas, that is why we specifically asked for the warriors.

For any of you who didn't know about the Death Eating spiders, they are very peculiar creatures. They move towards everything that has vitality. First, they would shoot their webs that would suck your vitality slowly. The longer you stay in contact with the web, the harder it would be for you to get out.

The vitality will be sucked out faster and faster as time goes by.

Once you are completely devoid of vitality, they would make you into a small cocoon and slowly eat savor you.

So, be careful with them. I have vitality beads and every one of you would get one. If you are cornered, throw them high inside the valley towards a wall. Make sure that there is none there. The spiders will be attracted to them because of the burst of energy. Be careful with that.

Next, we would be going past the piranha lake. We discovered a small underground cave that was dug by the Stone Mole and our scouts discovered something valuable there. So, our target is what is inside.

As for what exactly it is, you will know it when we get there."

Everybody nodded at the briefing and they were distributed with the vitality beads. This is just a gimmick used by cultivators to travel freely inside the areas with undead creatures.

These things really do work on the Death Eating Spiders.

The group proceeded forward, but first, the Scout team climbed up the cliff and checked the surroundings, they gave the signal that everything is clear and the attacking team climbed over the cliff.

Then they proceeded forward as they walked for an hour carefully under the lead of the scout team before they reached the Death Eating Spider Valley.

Here, they didn't bother with the scout team and the main team difference. Because they know exactly what is going to happen and what they are going to face. There is no need for a scouting team to go and confirm that.

They slowly walked into the valley. Sam could already feel the gazes of the spiders. They are looking at them carefully as they waited for them to enter deep into the valley.

When they are in the middle of it, the spiders suddenly dig out of the walls and the ground. They came out of the cliff wall cracks. It would be more accurate to say that they were squeezed out of the cracks.

"Defend yourself. Don't let the webs touch you."

The spiders shot the webs and Sam just used his energy shield to barricade himself from the webs as he proceeded forward. He only attacked at the spiders when they are near him and they were dealt with a single blow.

Meanwhile, he is also focusing on the original members of the second group. The leader of the group is solely focused on guiding the rest of the team.

He is shouting out orders and he is frankly good at that. When the spiders managed to get near him, he was actually being helped by the rest of the group members.

In contrast, the scout team's leader, the necromancer has a better battle sense.

Sam collected a few carcasses of the Death Eating Spiders so that he wouldn't stick out and cause suspicions and walked forward with the rest of the group.

For some reason, the spiders are not coming out of the valley. They are confined to it and they are not willing to get out of that space. It is an advantageous situation for them, so they didn't care much.

They arrived in a forest and there are some undead skeletons that came at the group now and then which were quickly destroyed.

In the process, they came across three undead creatures that were the undead made of the three Dark Mountain Lion corpses. This small group attracted the group's attention as the skeletons of the Dark Mountain Lions are great materials for being curse carriers.

Particularly, the earth elemental curse.

This is the best time for the leader of the group to act, but even now, he couldn't manage to perform that well.

As the journey proceeded further, he finally understood that the second group's leaders are not as good as he needed them to be, they are definitely not a great material for making a deal.

They finished the rest of the expedition and when they reached their destination, he finally realized another thing. Half of the warriors that are recruited as the temporary aid for the main attack group are not exactly outsiders, from his observations they are definitely working with the Second group from the start.

The second group seemed to have cut a different deal with them so that they would support them, group when the time for the division of the profits came.

The impression of this group further dropped.

Sam went back to the town with the group, the division of profits was done, and he took that measly change, and went back to the inn he was residing in.

He waited for the next notice and the first group posted the expedition notice. He went for the selection, got selected, and moved.

The main members of the group are indeed good, but they are not what Sam is looking for. These guys are even playing dirty. The rest of the group members might not have noticed this, but Sam clearly did.

These guys have deliberately directed the extra member to certain places so that they would die there and they don't have to give them a share.

The rest of the group is not noticing the problem as they are too afraid to even think. Sam heard the rumor that the first group goes on the most dangerous expeditions of all, now Sam understood why the rumor came to be.

The main members of the group are also entering these special places and they are giving a great performance of them 'barely' escaping the clutches of death, but the temporary people are just not able to cut it.

He really wanted to quit this crap in the middle and turn back, but he just endured it to see if he can find anyone remotely interesting. But there is no luck.

He came back and waited for the Three Ghosts to post the notice. But for a week there is no action from them. Meanwhile, the first two groups went on to do another expedition.

Sam has half a mind to give up on people and just go with finding a specter. He even wanted to task the second group for that, but then the three ghosts posted the notice.

The three people only want another extra person for their next expedition. But the requirements are a bit strict. They need someone with the cultivation of Peak stage Pre-transcendence and they also need someone who is capable of both long-range and short-range attacks.

It is indeed a strict requirement considering that the leaders of the expedition groups are all Peak stage Pre-transcendent cultivators.

The selection venue is actually inside the Dark Range. A small patch of the forest invested with the undead trees.

Sam was really intrigued by this.

He went into the forest for the selection the next day.

He was the last person to go there. As soon as he entered, one of the three ghosts spoke out.

"The selection process will now begin. So, get ready."

He directly announced. Sam looked around and there are only around six participants. One of the reasons is that the selected venue is in the dark range.

No one wants to get into the Dark Range by themselves, even the leaders of the expedition groups wouldn't take the risk. There are just too many dangers, but the three ghosts deliberately did this.

This is a direct elimination of the unworthy candidates. Easy and precise.

Sam really started liking these guys. At least these guys are better than those cunning assholes who are killing the teammates and the other group that is putting out some false fronts.

And the next test only increased Sam's interest in them more.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 1276: Three Ghosts

"The test is simple. On the other side of this Undead forest, two of us will be waiting. The third one, that is me will be racing with you guys to that point. If anybody manages to beat me, they will be the candidate.

If no one beats me, then the person that came right after me will be the candidate.

If multiple people beat me, then a battle would decide who stays and who leaves.

And, a fair warning. The Undead forest is full of dangers, everything in that forest tries to kill you guys. The trees, the insects, the beasts, all of them are the creatures that are either undead or they feed on the death energy inside.

Even the plan growing under a tree might kill you, so be careful and we wouldn't be responsible for any of the deaths or dangers you might encounter. So, join in at your own risk."

With that, two of the three ghosts made their move, two minutes in and they can already faintly hear the sound of the battle.

After ten minutes, the third ghost spoke up.

"They must have reached there by now. Remember, this is the last chance you are going to get to leave this place. Once you are in there, I cannot guarantee anyone's life and I will not come and save you if you are in grave danger. You better think before you enter."

He looked at everyone to see if anybody backs down.

"Good."

With that, he turned around and started running into the forest. The rest of the candidates did the same.

Sam held his staff while running. The branches of the undead trees are already making their way towards the candidates as they moved.

Sam used his staff and some energy to smash any branch that neared him and this made it quite easy for him to defend. The rest of the candidates are also not doing that bad.

Sam focused on the third ghost the most.

He is using two daggers and most of the time, he is dodging the branches. Only when it is absolutely necessary did he start using the daggers and Sam was really impressed by his footwork and the dagger usage.

He didn't make any large flashy and unwanted movements. He is precise with his strikes and he is using cursed energy at the blades.

This is not a new thing, but many few people will use this. For this, a person has to keep the curse going on at the edge of the blades and it takes a lot of concentration. Even the regular curse users wouldn't opt for something like this.

But this guy is really using it perfectly and he seemed to have used the curse of corrosion which really did a good effect in the battle.

The more slashes the opponent takes the easier it would be for him to win.

Soon, the dangers started increasing. The branches are being aided by the vines and then came the undead creatures, specters, ghosts, some rodents that like the death energy, all kinds of things are coming at them, and one candidate after another started giving up.

After fifteen minutes, only Sam and another guy were left in the race along with the third ghost.

The third ghost is clearly holding back. From his actions, he is extremely familiar with the terrain and he is also familiar with the dangers presented in every area, he is also relaxed with his actions.

He is trying to give the candidates an advantage.

Sam didn't run past him though. He just ran at being the close second.

They soon reached their destination and Sam finished as the second. The three ghosts looked at him and the other candidate. One of them went to the other guy and said.

"I am sorry. But you lost. Recover a bit and we will escort you out of the mountain range."

The other guy didn't seem to be too upset, he just nodded and went to the side, then three of them walked to Sam and started sizing him up.

"Your battling is weird, but you are good. You don't seem to be tired."

"I am not."

"That is good. Let us meet in the same spot as today. We will proceed with the expedition. I will brief you on the details then, but this is the most dangerous expedition in the Dark Range to ever happen. So, be prepared."

The first ghost, who seemed to be the leader of the gang said to Sam.

"I thought the Government group does the most dangerous expeditions in the dark range," Sam said with a smile to see their reaction.

"Yeah, the most dangerous for the temporary members." The second ghost who stayed silent all this while spoke up.

They shook their hands and left. They didn't even discuss the price for this. They just agreed on equal share with whatever they are going to obtain at the end of the expedition.

The next day, Sam went there at the agreed time.

"Within the dark range, there is one central mountain which is full of dangers. It is the most dangerous place, but it also has the most valuable resources.

There is an Undying Wyvern's nest in that place. Do you know about it?"

The first ghost asked as soon as he arrived.

Sam was surprised and shook his head. Undying Wyvern is a rare beast. Even though it is not as good as dragons, it is as rare as them.

The Undying Wyvern has one very peculiar ability. It only eats undead creatures. Whether they are normal undead, ghosts, specters, wights, ghouls, or vampires. It eats all of them, except for the shadow undead.

But they have another quality and that is after they die, they turn into undead. Not just their bodies, their souls will also turn into ghosts and attack everyone that enters their premises. He didn't expect such a creature to be here.

"The Undying Wyvern is a peculiar beast..." The First ghost was about to explain, but Sam interrupted him.

"I know about the Wyvern, I just didn't know that there is one here."

"That is great. And there is not just one, there used to be a small family of Wyverns there. But recently they are all dead and every one of them turned into undead. And on top of that, there is an egg inside their cave. An egg of Undying Wyvern.

Our target is that egg.

If we manage to get the carcasses, whoever takes it down with the final blow can keep it. We will check the grade of the egg and see if the bloodline is pure enough, we would like to keep it, we will give your fair share of the price and if it is not, we will auction it at the town and we will equally share whatever we get.

Do you have any problem with that arrangement?"

Sam shook his head and then his hand, sealing the deal.

"Don't you want some soul contract or something?" Sam asked.

"No need, we are three and you are one. If anyone needs a contract, that should be you."

"Well, I don't need one in particular."

"Then we are all good."

With that, they started moving. Sam kept up with their pace and never once revealed his cultivation. With all the dangers they encountered on their way, they got quite a haul. It is better than any expedition the other group could do.

They traveled for a day and reached the foot of the Central Mountain by night.

"We will stay here. We are not moving at night. It is too dangerous."

The first ghost said and they camped there for the night.

Sam could feel the death and dark elemental energy everywhere in the surroundings.

If one is exhausted or injured in this place, they would definitely die with the death energy corrosion and all the other creatures that are within this area.

The next morning, the four of them moved by dawn.

They started facing the beasts that are coming at them. Most of the Central Mountain is filled with beasts and ghosts. There is barely any undead and even the trees present are not exactly undead trees. There are only a few of them in this large patch.

Sam didn't exhibit any of his true strength. He just kept up with them and only acted as an equal. He didn't overwhelm anything.

They traveled on the mountain for the whole day and once again camped at the night.

The next day, they once again moved and this time, they reached the Wyvern cave by afternoon.

As soon as they entered the cave, they came across the undead wyverns that are staying at the mouth of the cave.

There is no sneaking in. It is a straightforward situation. They just have to fight if they want to get to the egg.

Even now, Sam was only acting as support just like the three of them wanted him to be. Sam used the mild energy bullets that would barely injure the wyverns while the three ghosts fought with these creatures.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 1277: Offer

The battle soon ended.

All this while, Sam only acted as support, but he is also the one without a scratch. The three ghosts were also without much damage, because of Sam's excellent control, but they are a bit exhausted.

At least, they got the egg. The first ghost went to check the egg and after confirming the bloodline purity by the patterns on the egg, he shook his head.

"Not that high. We can auction it off in the town."

The other two ghosts looked at Sam in askance.

"I don't have any problem if you don't have any."

"Okay, then. Let's go back."

With that, the four of them went back to the town after another two days of the journey. As soon as they arrived at the town, the first ghost said.

"There is an inn called the Ghost Shack. We will meet you there in the afternoon. We will arrange for the auction house. We will just finish this off today as soon as possible."

"No problem."

Sam left the trio and went back to the inn he was staying in. After he left, the three ghosts started walking towards the Ghost Shack.

"First Brother, don't you think this guy is too weird? I can't put my finger on it, but he is giving me chills for some reason."

Second Ghost asked the First Ghost.

"Of course, he is weird. He kept up with our pace throughout the whole journey, he didn't once flinch or falter for many dangers we have encountered. He even came out of the wyvern cave without a scratch. If he is normal, I wouldn't know what weird is."

"Do you think, he is stronger than us?"

"I think he is. We should be careful when dealing with this guy. Why would someone hide their true strength to come to this god-forsaken place and do these missions? I heard he even participated in the expeditions of the Government group and the Second Group."

The third Ghost spoke all of a sudden.

"We will know what his goal is tomorrow. If he just takes his share and leaves, we wouldn't have any problem with him. So, we don't have to worry too much. Just be careful around him and make sure to avoid all the friction and conflict if anything happens."

They agreed on that and went to rest in the Ghost Shack. After an hour or so, the two of them went to the biggest auction house in town with the egg.

Even though there is barely a few hours before noon, the news of the Undying Wyvern Egg has spread like a wildfire.

There are many people gathered at the auction house within an hour.

Sam arrived at the ghost shack by noon. Third Ghost is there waiting for him.

"The other two are at the auction house. Let's go."

He led Sam to the auction house and they went to a special booth reserved for the Three Ghosts.

The auction started soon and the egg went for an extremely high bid. They took the money and went to a restaurant with a private chamber to distribute the share.

The three ghosts are feeling a bit relieved. For some reason, they felt Sam is eyeing them like some prey. They felt a bit naked and defenseless in front of his gaze.

And that only intensified when Sam refused his share.

"What is the meaning of this? Are you doing us some service?" The First Ghost asked with a frown. Generally, a bigger share for them is a good thing, but they don't get why Sam is refusing to take his. If this is not weird, then nothing in the world is.

"Don't worry, it is definitely not a service. It was more of a test."

"Test? What are you testing us for?"

"Talent, Potential and Skillset. I want to see if any of the three will meet the criteria, but surprisingly all three of you are qualified."

"Criteria for what?"

"To be my assistant." The room went silent for a bit. The Three ghosts were dumbfounded.

"Are you out of your mind? Are you retarded or something?"

The third Ghost asked as he looked at Sam weirdly.

"Not really," Sam revealed his cultivation and the three ghosts were surprised. They knew that Sam was stronger, but they felt he was just stronger than them in the same cultivation level, it is not like they didn't see such kind of people. They have seen them quite often.

But it turned out that Sam's cultivation is way ahead of theirs.

"What the hell are you doing in a place like this?"

First Ghost finally became serious. All this while, even though he felt Sam is stronger than them, since he assumed is of same cultivation level, he knew they still had a chance if push comes to shove.

But now that he saw the difference, there is no way he could still hold those thoughts, he needs to make sure that they are safe.

"Don't worry. You can't escape if I really want to take you guys down and you should know better than to look for escape routes that openly.

Anyway, I have a deal and it should be completely consensual, there is no pressure whatsoever.

I am here at the Dark range in search of an assistant. For the next few months, if not years, I am about to go on some tough endeavors. I would be clashing with some extremely powerful people and organizations and there would be a lot of killing done.

But in my opinion, all of these people are going to die in vain if their corpses are left just like that. I need a talented necromancer, who has a high enough affinity with dark elemental energy to learn curses.

That was my goal when I came here.

But when I saw you guys, I am really tempted. If possible, I need all three of you guys to come with me. You have basics nailed in the curse category, you can all do basic curses without the hand signs and seals, which is a great thing.

Your necromancy could use a bit of help, but not by much. Your soul skills are spot-on which is also one of the things I am looking for.

Anyone of you will suffice to be my assistant, I would take all three of you if you guys agree.

Think it through and make a decision. But before that, you should also know what I am about to offer.

Sam took out a booklet he prepared and gave it to them.

"I am sorry, there is only one, you should make do with it."

The first ghost went through the booklet and was stunned. He passed it to the second and third while he stared at Sam.

"This is the first chapter of a curse guide. There is no exaggeration if I say that it is the best curse guide in the whole universe. It is created by someone whose power is something you cannot even fathom.

So, make sure you think properly before you decide on this. If you come with me, I will give the rest of the guide and personally teach you all about the curses there is to know.

In exchange, you will be working for me as I asked. I will leave you guys to it.

Let us meet here in the same place at the same time."

With that Sam left. The trio was stumped, they didn't even know that they would ever be in such a situation.

They were independent all their lives and they were supposed to stay that way in their estimations for a long time. But now they got the offer to learn something great, but in exchange, it would compromise their freedom a lot.

They went back to their residence to discuss and think about this.

The next day, Sam arrived early and waited for the trio. After an hour, they came and sat down.

"You guys are late."

"Sorry, we lost track of time while arguing." Third Ghost said with a huff.

First Ghost took a deep breath and said.

"We considered your offer a lot and in fact, it is way too tempting for us to give it up. The curse guide's first chapter in itself has a lot to offer for us and we are really keen on learning the rest of it. But it would be a bit difficult for us to come with you.

We have certain targets to fulfill here."

Sam just waited in silence for them to continue.

"There is a sentient Undead creature in the valley behind the central mountain. The most dangerous place in the whole Dark Range, we want to capture it. We were working on this for a long time. We were just middle stage Pre-transcendent cultivators when we came here and we started expediting ourselves since then.

We just put in too much effort to come out of it now."

"Unless?" Sam asked with a smile. He knew how these conversations go. All this build-up is just a way of the other party asking for something in return.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 1278: Sentient Undead

The First ghost felt a bit awkward. Even though Sam's face is not fully revealed, he could see just from his eyes, that Sam has understood what he is hinting at.

Being exposed this bluntly made him a bit embarrassed, but he took a deep breath and spoke.

"Unless, we finish the task right now. We made a pact that we would catch that Sentient undead ourselves, but the external factors around the forest are making it a bit difficult. The undead creatures in the surroundings are extremely defensive when it comes to this one's defense.

From what we could guess, this sentient undead is actually planning on gathering a large enough undead army so that it can invade on this town.

It has already gained enough power to create undead from corpses. It is only short of an artificial core formation for it to become a complete undead creature and the starting stage of it would be Initial Stage Transcendent stage of Astral Plane.

Which means..?

"I know what it means." Sam replied as he went into deep thought. He didn't expect to come across a sentient undead creature in a place like this.

The sentient undead creature they are talking about is completely different from the undead creatures like the vampire and ghouls who have sentience to do their own things, rather this sentient undead is a completely normal undead that became sentient because of the natural causes.

It might be because of the long time it spent in the death energy to gain a spirit by itself, or a ghost or a specter that was forcefully attached to its body and slowly it strengthened enough to form its own consciousness. But either way, it is not exactly a good thing.

This thing is actually an abomination even vampires and ghouls wouldn't let spawn. It is possible to artificially create this, but no one wants to do it, because anyone who did it in the history became a prey for this undead creature and turned into its food.

This undead creature is like any other undead creature, it has no pain, fear or other emotions, but it has extreme hunger and has intellect on top of all of that which makes it dangerous than any other undead.

Once an undead manages to grow an artificial core, things would be even more problematic. It would be nothing short of a cultivator and growing its strength is extremely easy. It just has to feast on the vitality of living beings and soon it can help other undead creatures go sentient as well.

Sam could imagine the nightmare the people of this realm will need to go through if that thing comes out with its army.

Not many people would be able to deal with these things.

Undead are actually terrifying creatures, the only thing they lack is a proper person who can use them wisely. Now that there is such a creature in the dark range there are not many good days left for the people in the town.

"So, you want me to help capture this creature?"

"In a way, yes. But we don't need you to attack it directly. We need you to help us stop the legion of undead it has in the valley and in the surrounding mountains.

From the past year, we have been doing expeditions solely related to this mission. We were trying to eliminate its greatest allies as well as to see the status of its enemies. Undying Wyvern family is one of the enemies and it is actually quite deterrent force against the Sentient Undead.

But now they were gone. It seems like the sentient undead didn't know the special ability of the wyvern, so after they died, they became berserk in protecting their egg. Since the attackers that came at them must have already been injured, they must have left."

Sam nodded in understanding.

"So, what would you guys have done, if I am not here? If they went as far as destroying one of the deterrent forces, they must have had a lot of progress don't you think?"

"Yes, we had a different plan. We would have checked three more locations and based on the information we got, we would arrange a large expedition and show them a glimpse of what we know and what these undead creatures are capable of, then the other expeditions groups will be forced to work and then we would swoop in and capture this creature."

"Do you really think that the other expeditions groups don't know about this?"

"They do know. But they don't know the threat it pose to the town and the planet. They just view it as a source.

A source for a constant stream of undead creatures. After all, most of the corpses that we get from the dark range are from the creatures we wouldn't

normally be able to hunt. The beasts come here based on their instincts for the resources, but they die in here and the expedition teams take their carcasses for the resources they provide.

But what they don't know is, that only one out of ten such creatures escapes the hands of this Sentient Undead."

"You guys are really smart. You planned this out well didn't you? But there is one thing I don't understand yet?"

"What is it?"

"Why are you constantly saying, that you want to capture this thing? You are not saying destroy or kill, you are asking to capture this thing, why?"

The first ghost hesitated a bit before saying.

"The Sentient undead is actually formed because of a ghost chimera. It is just too valuable of a source to pass on."

"A ghost chimera. This is an awfully weird coincidence isn't it?" Sam muttered slightly to himself.

"What?"

"Nothing. A ghost chimera, is not something that easily created, who did this?"

"We don't know, there is some sort of weirdo who wanted to create the chimera with the ghosts in the valley and wanted to devour it. But instead, the chimera devoured his soul. But he is strong enough to struggle and his sentience is being merged with all the negative emotions of the other souls in the chimera and they all took over his body."

"So, a humanoid sentient undead and the basis of its sentience is the set of negative emotions of the Ghost Chimera? Is that what you are saying?"

"Yes."

"It is very close to manifesting an artificial core and that too at the same power level as an Astral Plane transcendent stage?"

"Yes."

"You guys are in a tougher spot than you think. It is not easy to counter the ghost chimera."

"We know, we prepared something for that."

The three of them, then took out three formation flags with various inscriptions on them. Sam took a look at them and within two minutes, he understood what they are.

"Soul Purgatory formation. Where did you get this curse?"

"We found these on the spatial ring of the guy who created this chimera. When he was on the verge of collapse, he recorded the video of himself explaining the situation and sent it out with the help of an undead creature of his, which we captured."

Sam sighed. He didn't expect he has to go through this much just to get some assistants for himself. This is completely uncalled for.

He looked at the formation flags and said.

"This formation is incomplete and second rate. A chimera of that level will easily breakthrough from that."

"You know curse formations? But you are not a dark element user."

"Of course, I know. It is a long story, so I don't want to go there. But I know curses better than you do."

You guys need to modify this purgatory curse. The main element of this curse is not to capture the soul, rather to corner the soul.

This formation would make the soul go through an invisible passageway through which it feels the burning sensation. You need the wisps and consciousness of many tormented souls just like a chimera and integrate them.

They would divert all their emotions towards the soul that was trapped inside.

Their emotions would clash with the already existing emotions within the trapped soul and will make it go through the pain.

This is complicated guys. This would be such a drag."

"So, you agree to help us?"

"What choice do I have? I really need an assistant. That way, things would be lot easier. Anyway, go get ready for a few long days, you guys are going to be exhausted. We need to make some modifications on these formations."

"Why cant you do it?"

"Didn't you already say it before? I am not a dark element user." Sam gave him a side eyed glance and walked out.

"Come and meet me at my inn with the tools and those formation flags. Don't come empty handed though. Bring some captured specters and ghosts from the dark range.

Quality doesn't matter. Quantity is the key here. The more the better."

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 1279: Valley

The next day, the three ghosts arrived at Sam's room at the inn.

As Sam asked, they captured a lot of ghosts and specters in the Dark range Overnight. They have a lot of them. They felt that they would be enough.

But as soon as Sam welcomed them in and asked them to show the ghosts, he only had one thing to say.

"They are not enough."

He really believed that they are not enough. The soul purgatory curse is not for the body, it is for the soul. The only advantage they have against the Chimera is that they know that it is a Chimera.

No matter how much a single consciousness overpowers the rest of the consciences in the Chimera, it is impossible to eliminate the parts of those souls. It would take a long time for all of these souls to strictly merge into one.

Until then, all the conflicting negative elements would still be present, even after the other party manifests the artificial core. That is also one of the reasons these things are dangerous when they just get the cores. They would have power, and the ability to stabilize it and contain it and finally they would have this sentience that would be constantly affected by these conflicting negative emotions.

There is nothing good that would come out of it.

And soul purgatory is actually a similar curse, but the negative emotions are used as fuel to create something that is equivalent to what fire is to a normal body. This soul flame of sorts along with the formation will make the soul trapped inside burn based on the negative emotions of the other party.

Sam explained it all to the three ghosts and pointed out why the specters and ghosts are not enough. Because the chimera is too powerful. If they couldn't inflict a pain proportionate to its power, then they might as well not attempt it.

"We will make do for now. You can go get some late."

Sam said and started teaching the purgatory curse formation to them. He made them merge one ghost after another and one specter after another into

the formation and also made them understand what kind of ghosts go first, and how consistent they should be to have the proper formation.

After all the ghosts and specters were used up. Sam kicked them out and made them go back to the dark range to collect more.

They came back the next day.

This routine went on for a few days and finally, the formation was complete.

After that, they didn't waste any time and made their way to the Valley. Sam really didn't want to waste his time, doing nothing. He has all the time in his world but at the same time very limited time.

He is afraid that the chimera he left behind for Sivan might not be of help for a long time. If that really happens, things wouldn't go well for him in the future.

If possible, he wants to go there and force the exchange immediately. But he is also waiting to reap some benefits from that body. He wants Sivan to increase the cultivation of the body so that he could just enjoy the benefits without wasting any of his own resources.

Sam is thinking while they went to the valley. But what even he doesn't notice is that some people are following them. It is hard for the three ghosts to stay in the town for so long and not get unnoticed.

They are somewhat of celebrities here. So, it is inevitable some people recognize them immediately. Particularly, people like the spies of the Government that always wants to steal information from other teams.

They reported everything related to Sam and the three ghosts from the past few days. Of course, they don't know what they are doing inside the room. But they are sure that it is somewhat important based on the behavior of the three ghosts.

Their frequent trips to the Dark Range are only making the rest of them suspicious.

The Government Expedition group decided to spy on their plans and follow them.

The three ghosts and Sam didn't notice this, as they are following them from afar and they are making sure that their presence goes unnoticed. They are not engaging in any battles and try their best to not provoke any creature that they came across.

After one and a half-day, the three ghosts and Sam are at the mouth of the valley.

A large amount of death and dark elemental energy is oozing out of the mouth of the valley. If any person sees this for the first time, they wouldn't be able to help themselves and would have gone in immediately.

This is way too enticing. In general, the resources emitting this much energy would even be enticing for someone of Sam's level.

But everyone in the dark range knows that anything inside the mouth of the valley is a death zone.

Sam took the lead from there with the three ghosts slowly following beside him.

He used his walking staff as he moved forward and soon the sounds of explosions came out of the valley.

The undead didn't wait too long, as soon as the group reached the middle of the valley, the undead already surrounded them completely and are going at them crazily.

Sam was surprised by what he saw. The undead is well organized. More organized than he thought. They sneaking up, making formations, supporting each other. This is just like a bunch of normal soldiers attacking them.

The Sentient undead seemed to be a lot smarter than what the ghosts let on.

Along with the undead creatures, there are a bunch of ghosts and specters and even some small chimeras that are formed with the mergers of very few ghosts.

"You guys did well by coming now. Otherwise, you would have been toast no matter how many people you have."

He couldn't help but say that out loud to the three ghosts.

Currently, the three ghosts are inside his energy barrier along with him, while he attacked the undead with the energy bullets.

The sheer number of them even made Sam shocked and the quality of each undead is impeccable. Every single of these creatures was only killed by one attack when they are alive and most of their bodies are still intact.

Their skeletons are still perfectly good and this sentient undead is still controlling them perfectly.

Soon, their target revealed itself and Sam destroyed enough of the troops. It stood on a tall rock in the middle.

The Sentient undead is holding a staff to support itself, because of the difference in the lengths of the legs.

The second leg's foot was chopped off and it is making do with the staff and it still couldn't speak.

But it is screaming and yelling, showing its emotions which are the main indication of its sentience.

Its focus is on Sam as it commanded its troops.

"Okay boys, you are up."

With that, he moved forward along with the three ghosts as the energy barrier continued to protect them. But he used the energy beam from the second section of the staff as he destroyed everything in the path.

He left the undead to attack him from the rear and the sides while he cleared the path from the front.

As they are closing in on to the Sentient undead, the undead creatures in their way suddenly move to the side, letting a path open directly.

Sam was surprised and stopped in his tracks as he used the energy vision. Even though he is currently cannot use its full capability because of the change of the body and due to the eyes that were not refined enough by the energy usage, he could still get a good enough glimpse for now.

And he was shocked by what he saw.

The energy is being gathered inside the Sentient Undead. It is being channeled. He really didn't want to believe, it but from the looks of it he had to.

Taking his shock to its advantage, the Sentient undead used its one foot to leap towards them in one swift motion.

The staff was smashed on top of the energy barrier and smashed it through.

Sam had to block the attack with his own staff as he closely took a look at the undead being.

This is an unexpected surprise.

Even the three ghosts are all shocked. They knew what this meant. The undead creature in front of them, the sentient undead has formed its core and it is actually as powerful as Sam.

It didn't just form the core, but it has even increased its strength with that's core and this is extremely bad news for the three ghosts, the dark range, and the town.

If Sam hadn't arrived today along with the rest of the ghosts, the whole town and then the planet would have been completely turned into one big dark range.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 1280: Tricked and Trapped

Sam pushed the staff upwards and the Sentient Undead stepped back. It kept on hopping on its spot on its one foot as it looked at Sam menacingly. It completely ignored the three ghosts.

Sam tapped the staff on the ground creating an energy wave that made the undead creatures coming at the three ghosts to be thrown away to the sides.

He looked at the three ghosts and said.

"Things are going to get tricky. I doubt it would be possible for you to capture it."

They didn't even know what to say to that. When the undead creature destroyed the energy barrier, they felt closest to the death they have ever been. They couldn't even take the aura of the Sentient Undead.

They are still in shock and only with Sam's attack did they come back to themselves.

"I have no time to babysit. You might want to use some of your moves here."

Sam said and suddenly swung his staff in the air. It hit the staff of the Sentient undead that was not even there the second before. The opponent is fast and precise in its movements. If not for Sam's senses, his head would have been

blowing up with that attack. Even if he survived that, he would have been dead by the next two following attacks.

The opponent is dancing with Sam as it used the staff skillfully. It seems like one of the souls in the chimera is actually a staff user.

Sam focused more on blocking and diverting the attacks as he led the fight far away from the three ghosts.

One stray attack from the opponent and they would be dead as a rock.

The three ghosts also came to themselves and unleashed their own undead creatures. All three of them are necromancers, even though that is not their main attacking force, it is still something that is something they are capable of.

The undead creatures they have accumulated and nurtured over the years came out all of a sudden and created a barricade around them, making the enemy undead creatures stop coming at them.

The three of them stood with their backs against each other and their undead started letting one enemy after another slip by.

They knew that it is impossible to hold the undead creatures like that, it would be a lot easier to let them have one passageway on which they would focus and limit their advance so that they could deal with the one-on-one.

The three of them are finishing the opponents quickly.

Sam who took the fight far away looked at this and sighed.

He then turned to the sentient undead that is looking at him hatefully and smiled.

"Now, let's get serious, shall we? Let us see what you got."

With that, Sam made the first move. He dashed forward as he spun his staff and swung it to the side of the opponent, it was blocked by the energy staff,

but Sam used the repel style which made the opponent fly away a bit and the opponent used the staff to stab into the ground to control itself, but at this moment, an energy bullet was shot at its face, which it had to dodge hurriedly to the side, tripping on its maimed leg and falling to the side.

Sam is already there with energy gathered at the tip of the staff as he slammed it on its head.

At the last moment, the undead creature used its hands to block the attack. The void-style explosion blew only one of the arms to Sam's surprise.

What was even more surprising is that after the creature rolled to the side and stood up, the arm that was blown to bits and with an exposed bone, started healing itself.

He widened his eyes in disbelief. He didn't expect that such an advanced undead would be here. Generally, not all undead creatures can heal themselves. They need to have a lot of grasp over the death energy which is not easily manipulated by the lower level undead. But this one seems to have decent skill in this.

From this Sam also understood one more thing, unless, he destroyed every bit of it and that means destroying the base skeleton as well, there is a possibility that this thing would come back into existence.

He really didn't expect that he would come across something this powerful and interesting in a place like this.

He took a look at the three ghosts and noticed that they are not doing that bad.

The enemy undead creatures seemed to be following their instincts by themselves. The sentient undead only gave an order to attack them, it is no longer directing them.

This is a good thing for now.

But all of a sudden, at this moment, Sam sensed another commotion as he fought with the enemy.

At the mouth of the valley, some undead creatures are stampeding inside. But that is not all. The Government Expedition group, that was in the hiding was forced to come out because of the stampede.

Sam was surprised by his lack of senses. An enemy tailed him this long and he didn't even notice it. It really is a bit problematic as he didn't have the previous spiritual sense.

Since his mental energy has been split into two when creating the duplicate soul, he lost the mental and spiritual range he used to have. This really upset him and it clearly showed in the fight.

He moved forward as he constantly slammed the staff on the opponent's staff.

He didn't use any technique whatsoever. He just gathered the energy as he used the repel style and slammed it from upwards.

Even though the energy should have been repelled, the direction the repulsion force is pushing is downwards into the ground, like a hammer hitting the nail.

The Sentient Undead felt the full brunt of the attacks as it was brought to its knees. It looked at the coming staff that was rapidly nailing down and risked it. It swung its staff and intercepted it. The repulsion force made the undead roll backward with a few bones cracking.

But it didn't take long for the creature to heal and while it went through the whole process, the sentient undead called for its underlings to block Sam for a while.

Sam started using the energy bullets again as he made his way forward. The undead creatures are not exactly a threat, but they are just too many and they are too annoying.

He used the second section in frustration as he moved forward and occasionally used the third section to make the undead creatures blow away in his way.

He didn't expect that this many underlings could get into this small gap in this small timeframe.

Meanwhile, the three ghosts suddenly became a bit free.

Because of the appearance of the Government expedition team that are more in number, the undead creatures have split and now that the Sentient undead called for some of its underlings to defend its own ass, they are a bit free.

They made their own undead creatures go offensive and they moved towards Sam and the Sentient Undead.

Sam cleared the way rapidly as he made his way towards the Sentient Undead while the three ghosts took out the purgatory formation flags. Sam looked at them, but he didn't react, if his attack lands properly, they would be able to place the formation flags properly and the undead would be trapped.

He looked at the momentum and realized that it is plausible.

Sam leaped into the air as he spun his staff and gathered his energy evenly over it. He channeled void style as he swung the staff over his head towards the head of the sentient undead.

Right before the attack was about to land, Sam suddenly saw a change in expression in the face of the Sentient Undead.

He had a very bad feeling about this. He landed and on his feet and the attack continued, but all of a sudden the energy in the attack dissipated completely into thin air and he Sam felt a soul-searing pain.

But he didn't scream. He gritted his teeth and looked around in surprise. The three ghosts are looking at him with a cold smile as they controlled the purgatory formation.

The formation that was supposed to be focused on the Sentient undead is actually focused on him. He is feeling suffocated and his soul is undergoing a lot of stress as it faced the full burn of the purgatory he himself created.

The first ghost looked at him and said.

"I must say, that you are the toughest prey we had to hunt. But it seems like you are way too naïve for your strength. You are really careless with us. If you hadn't shown that first chapter of the curse guide, we wouldn't have planned to do this. Rather, we would have let you go, after all, you are way too powerful for us to risk it, but that curse guide is so enticing and you even let us make the weapon to go against you, it is way too tempting to let this go. Thank you so much for this. We will definitely remember you for the rest of our lives."