

## Creator 1631

### Chapter 1631 Puppets

Sam, his friends, and the teammates all gathered back at the meeting spot.

"Do you need us to do anything else, Sam? I think it is better for us to stay here. The other party has way too many people and their strengths are not less. They are way too many and way too strong for you to handle them."

"No need for now. If I have another hiccup I will come and get you guys, but for now, it is better for you to leave. I am pretty sure your students might be waiting for you there. I hope you like your new jobs."

"Of course, I have some really interesting brats coming to me for saber techniques. I can now understand why you constantly go back to your academies and you are so crazy about opening schools left and right.

Teaching those brats and watching them grow is such a satisfying feeling."

Sam just shook his head and sent them off.

While Sam was gone, these people started teaching students while helping Arkiv out. They liked the educational style of the Dusk organization and they are thinking of opening up elite schools that focus on just one particular skill.

Night Ghost wants to open an academy solely focused on using dark elemental energy with soul necromancy and ghost cultivation.

Sabre Monarch wants to open an academy that solely focuses on saber techniques.

It would be the cream of the crop that gets into it.

Sam is not against it and since they are having a lot of free time after Arkiv sent them back recently, they are doing it out of their own will. It will all benefit the Dusk at the end of the day.

Anyway, that's a matter of another time.

Back to the plan.

After sending them away, Sam and his friends waited for a while. Sam already let small insect puppets, shadow mice, and the ghosts in the Mountain range at least have some surveillance.

Of course, he didn't leave too many because there is a great chance that the Mountain Master might be able to find them out with all the formations that are present there.

But still, it will be very difficult if he didn't have any information from the Mountain range.

So, he waited for a few hours and got some info.

And one of them is that Brother Black, one of the three disciples is making rounds around the Mountain as he visited various node points.

He has checked them carefully.

When Sam learned of this, he was not really surprised or anxious, rather he was very amused and intrigued. He is waiting for what they are going to do.

Sam is not stupid. He knew that he is dealing with a bunch of people who are as smart as him in terms of technical knowledge behind formations and spiritual energy, if not smarter.

There is a great chance that all of the things they set up might be found out, but he is prepared for that outcome too.

He is now only waiting for what the other party would do.

But to his disappointment, the other party was very lax about this search. It seems like Brother Black is in a hurry which made them to use a very crude method that is way too easy for Sam's setup to avoid.

It is a technique that uses the formation's energy circulation to scan the surroundings and within the formation.

Brother Black who has access to most of the formations in the Mountain range used this method to scan the surroundings of the nodes.

If Sam had known that this guy would be choosing this kind of method, he would have had a much more relaxing time when setting up traps. He is even slightly disappointed that none of his traps were found at all.

"This might go a lot more boring than I initially thought. This asshole didn't even spare some time to do this. Does he really think I wouldn't come this early? Or is he in such a rush that he could let some potential threats that I left behind are not worth his time and effort at the moment?"

Sam muttered to himself as he stood up and walked around for a while. This is so disappointing to the point that it is almost unbelievable. He even felt like this lax behavior might even be a trap to lure him in.

But after some thought, he shook his head off these thoughts and waited. The next step of the plan would be done the next day and only if by then the other party didn't discover these things, then he can be sure that they are not going to discover them at all and he can confidently proceed forward.

He waited for the night along with his friends.

But the next morning the news that came out of the Mountain range surprised Sam a bit.

It is about how the progress on healing Sivan has been tremendous and they succeeded in piecing his soul together. All they have to do now is to wait for the Sivan to wake up.

When Sam heard this, he knew for sure that this is announced just to lure him. But he also knew that he cannot ignore it.

The very reason, he rushed and hurried so much is because he is afraid that people from the Divine Formation Mountain will use his skills and knowledge to bring forth destruction that shouldn't even exist.

This is not something he can let happen.

The consequences of that would be dire. Just by scratching the surface of his ideas, Sivan almost managed to destroy the Gaja clan. Who knows what these crazy psychos would do? Particularly, after listening to the stories about the Mountain Master, Sam is very sure that he shouldn't let this happen no matter what.

So, he checked the traps once again and after making sure that there is no chance whatsoever, he decided to make a move.

He moved the camp near to the mountain range and set up the crystal table in a hidden cave.

"Alright, let the fun begin. All three of you better be ready. This is going to be the toughest and most exciting battle you have ever had."

As Sam spoke, he extended his hand to the side and dozens of puppets flew out of his divine dimension to the exit of the cave before they flew towards the Mountain range.

It didn't take long for people to take notice of the puppets as many of them are of bird type and they are all moving without using any stealth techniques. They went straight towards the mountains and particularly the main mountain area where the Divine formation mountain resided.

As if they are trying to just barge through the formations around.

The news quickly traveled to the Mountain master and the disciples.

"What the fuck? This bastard finally showed up? I am almost thinking that he might have given up after learning that our master is getting involved."

Brother Black said with a grin.

"Of course, didn't you learn anything about him from all the information that we gathered? There is no way a person like that is going to stay put without doing anything.

All his life he has been punching way out of his league. He is so confident and cocky because of it. Rightfully so, but he is not going to stop and think that he won't be able to do it this time around."

"So, let's see what he has up his sleeve. There is no use if his aim is to stop us from getting information from Sivan's soul. It is just a matter of a couple of hours before we could do that and I am sure he won't be able to reach us in that time."

As the three disciples were discussing what would Sam do, the puppets charged at the formations and started shooting energy beams everywhere.

The barriers were activated and the people inside the formation were pretty scared. They didn't know what is happening, but they knew it was nothing good.

The Night members also got pretty nervous as they saw the energy fluctuations that are spreading all over the formations.

But when they noticed that even the continuous beams are not doing anything to them, they felt a bit relieved.

Only to realize a few moments later that the relief is just fleeting. Sam used the crystal table as he witnessed everything before touching some spots. The spots that are precisely near the nodes of the formations.

In just a few seconds, the energy fluctuations of the formations became chaotic and a lapse in the barrier appeared. That momentary lapse let all of the puppets inside and the energy beams that were being shot made contact with the people on the ground.

The Night members were targeted and one after another they started falling.

The puppets started a rampage within the barrier and it is mostly focused on three particular spots within the range.

### **Chapter 1632 Luring the Young Masters**

There are three spots that Sam is targeting at the moment and all three of them have some critical nodes for many formations of the Divine Formation Mountain.

And all three of these spots are way too far away from one another. So, if something really bad happens to them all at the same time, there is not enough manpower with enough knowledge to deal with it.

So, the young masters who are in the main mansion trying to witness all of the chaos Sam is about to bring will have to make a move whether they want to or not.

He will force them to come and deal with the situation.

As if on cue, as soon as he thought to this point the puppets started attacking the nodes. Along with that, the special traps Sam set up were completely activated.

The trap he set up is actually very small but it worked really well. He used the energy pellets and compressed them into a very small space. Now with just a single tap on the crystal table. They unlocked themselves and spread into the surroundings.

The surrounding area which is acting as a node was affected by this. The energy of the pellets spread rapidly and since the nodes themselves are conducting a lot of energy at a very rapid but fluid pace, so the spread of the energy was quicker and swifter.

The formation started fluctuating once again. But this time the fluctuations are the way too severe. Within no time large energy lines of various elements started spreading on different corners of the formations.

The Night members who were already dealing with the puppets barely noticed this and sent the news to the main mansion.

When the three disciples heard of this, they couldn't help but feel dumbfounded. The energy pellets, made a cracker with them and helped Sivan launch an attack at the Gaja clan.

Now, the first thing that Sam did when he started attacking them is to use the same pellets they used in the cracker.

The only problem is that the formations are not exactly vital for the Gaja clan. Even though they reduced a lot of casualties and efforts, the Gaja clan's main force is still its powerhouse. On the other hand, for the Divine Formation Mountain, the main force is the formations.

They don't have loyal manpower, they don't have hundreds of foot soldiers, and all they have are the formations that do the jobs that men should have normally done in a clan or an organization.

They are responsible for security, scouting, patrolling, healing, guarding, and even making sure that there is no major imbalance in the ecosystem within the mountain range.

If the formations are gone, Divine Formation Mountain will lose a lot of resources that were spent on them as well as a lot more to rebuild them. Who knows what they might lose while trying to rebuild them?

They quickly came to a decision even before their master ordered them.

"We need to get out there and fix the nodes."

"And this is definitely a fucking trap."

"Of course, it is. Do you think we are the only ones who can lure him here with the traps? He can lure us out as well. You have been underestimating him too much for your own good.

But even if it is a trap, we have to go. We need to stabilize the formations as soon as possible. We need to make this as clean as we can.

Because of the attacks of Sam on our main subordinates, the rivals that are still coveting master's reputation will definitely not let this chance go."

With that, all three of them moved from the main mansion and spread to the three different directions.

Meanwhile, the Mountain Master is spectating all of this from his room. He looked at his three disciples moving out and the puppets attacking different places and even on top of that, the energy lines that appeared on the formations through the pellets.

He is watching all of this in a special formation on his table like he is watching a movie.

He is very relaxed despite the fact that his home is being attacked. It is almost like he didn't believe that anything serious would happen to him.

Sam also just looked at what is happening and when he saw the three young masters finally make a move, he started controlling the puppets.

The puppets that targeted the Night members alone are now targeting the young masters, but they didn't swarm them. Only a few puppets too the ones that are being passed by the young masters when they are moving are the only ones attacking them.

But that doesn't mean, the young masters are fine. They have to fight these puppets off to make sure that they are not accidentally getting hurt by those energy beams. They will be a nuisance when they try to repair the formation nodes, so it is necessary to clear them as fast as they can.

They didn't waste too much of their energy. They have a great number of trinkets in their hands and they seemed like they are breezing past the puppets without any effort.

Sam didn't care though. He watched as the puppets fell off after being hit with various attacks. The Night members are also slowly getting used to it. All he did was just extend his hand once again and release even more puppets.

Dozens of puppets once again flew out and entered the battlefield.

After twenty minutes, the young masters almost simultaneously arrived at their destination.

Sam once again started controlling the puppets.

All the surrounding puppets moved and gathered above the young master as they created a large formation.

The elemental energies riled up in the sky and now the puppets did combination attacks on the young masters as they tried to identify the problem with the nodes.

They are not exactly proficient with removing the effects of the energy pellets. They might have made them before, but they never bothered to figure out a way to neutralize them. The only thing that made them feel confident in their impeccable energy control.

The Night members assisted the young masters in the battle as they tried to take on the puppets in formations while the young masters focused on the nodes.

All three places are appeared to be the same. Everything is going well as planned.

The young masters examined the nodes in the next fifteen minutes and figured out what the problem is, but they are not sure how long it will take for them to solve it.

They didn't know if the Night members will be able to hold back.

"Call your backup members. It will take some time. Don't conserve your manpower. Outnumber them and overpower them."

Brother Silver ordered immediately and passed the order to the other areas too.

"You bloody coward. I want to see what you will do after we dealt with your puppets and your stupid trap."

He muttered to himself as he started working on the node.

"They seemed to have identified the nodes already. The repair might not take long. Do you think we need to start now?"

"No hurries. Let them do the work. If they don't even finish the repair as fast as I assumed they would do, I might have to change our plans. Even if they do it on time, I am pretty sure you guys can move fast enough to reach them."

The trio just shrugged and stayed there. They are very eager to test out their new prowess of course, but there is no way they could just dive in without Sam's permission. They could only wait and see.

Sam just kept on sending his puppets meanwhile to make sure the young masters are annoyed enough.

Soon all of the Night members arrived and they are defending the puppets making it easier for the young masters.

The young masters finally got to focus on the repair completely and when they did, they felt a sudden energy wave coming in from the surrounding area.

They noticed that the energy lines that are spreading across the formation are about to decompress and explode.

"Fucking hell. We need to work faster. Anybody got any ideas?"

Brother Black yelled into the communication token connected with his brothers.

"I have one, try using the master's signature technique."

"That? Are you sure that is going to work? It might work in a normal case, even if the energy lines appeared on a metal or even a person, but now, the energy in the nodes is too conductive and there is no natural resistance that could aid us.

We will be having a lot of trouble if we make the energy in nodes chaotic. Things would go sideways easily."

"Don't worry about it. You just need to combine it with the extreme manipulation."

Brother Silver pitched in all of a sudden.

"Then we will be fucking exhausted."

### **Chapter 1633 Invisible hits**

"Brother Black. Unless you have a better plan. Don't you fucking speak again.

Your criticism might have been encouraged when we are working, but not there. I will fucking kill you if you shut down an idea if you have no better plan."

"So, you want me to shut the fuck up and follow whatever you say?"

"Yes, that is exactly what I am saying. We are proceeding with the plan. Even if we exhaust ourselves, this is the best we can do right now.

We can use the special transfer tokens if things go down south.

But that would be the worst-case scenario. So, don't worry about the energy conservation and go ahead."

All three of them couldn't do anything else anyway, so they placed their hands on the nodes and started using their abilities.

First, they focused all of their energy and spiritual sense on the node. They used an ability very close to the observation ability Sam has and then used another ability that is similar to the manipulation ability.

Of course, the manipulation ability is not exactly the same and it is not as precise as Sam's. They are now trying to suck the foreign energy that came because of the pellets and collect in a small chamber that is made out of their own pure spiritual energy.

As they are doing it Sam watched it in amusement.

"See, now we know they are worth your time. Get ready to move. I will also make my move." Sam said as he placed the crystal table away and took off on his hoverboard. The trio also took off on their hoverboards.

But they didn't go in the same direction as Sam.

Sam went higher and higher in the mountain range and only stopped at the peak of a mountain that is very close to the mountain where the main mansion of the Divine Formation Mountain was placed.

He looked at the Main mansion with a telescope and took a deep breath before he went into his divine dimension.

Inside within the vast grounds of the dimension, one of the carriers was placed. And it is covered with various formations.

There are at least ten different types of domes that are surrounding it. Sam didn't focus on any of them though.

Instead, he placed his palm on the ground under the carrier and closed his eyes.

After using the observation ability and spreading it as deep as he can, he opened his eyes and a sigh of relief escaped his mouth.

"This should be enough."

He muttered to himself as he deactivated the formations around the carrier.

The carrier is one of his main weapons in the battle and for that to work properly, he obviously had to prepare well.

So, he created a special area within the divine dimension. He filled the ground with excessive light elemental energy along with the blood that was filled with high vitality. Along with that, he even went as far as to plant thousands of highly vital herbs that are growing in the divine dimension in that area.



They were ready to harvest when he planted them, but now there is not a single sign of those herbs. They are just mixed along with the dead grass and he can't even differentiate which is which.

Everything went well with the preparations and now Sam has to make sure they don't go to waste. He came out of the dimension and stood on the peak as he examined the surroundings.

While he is doing that.

The trio leisurely went to their three spots where their opponents are waiting. By the time they reached their respective areas, all three of them connected through a communication channel.

"What's the loser going to do?" Philip asked as he looked at the young master who is a bit far away.

"A decade of train duty. No complains, no changes." Watt said firmly.

"It seems like you like the train duty so much." Jack replied and all three of them chuckled.

"Let's go guys. Let's not waste any time."

With that, all three of them reached their top speeds on their hoverboards and reached the spots where young masters are currently working at.

"Hello, Black-haired brainiac. Nice to meet you once again."

Philip greeted his opponent very nicely with a bit warm smile on his face. Of course, Brother Black doesn't have all of that. He didn't expect Philip's arrival.

He can understand why his brothers wanted to go with the current plan. Because they are sure that Sam wouldn't make a move directly.

That is not his style. He will scout, and create as many problems as he can before finally showing his face. But all of a sudden, all three of his friends arrived right when they are in the middle of dealing with this formation.

They are fucking exhausted. There is no way, they could take advantage of their superior cultivation at this point.

"Night members..."

Brother Black was about to call the Night members, but at this moment, all the puppets that are attacking from high up moved. They all moved downwards as they zoomed past everything and targeted the night members.

The puppets started exploding one by one as they came close to the Night members.

The young master was stunned. He was trying to concentrate on the node even with all of this chaos, but with the explosions happening right next to him, he couldn't hold it anymore.

The energy that he was sucking, went back into the node and bombarded.

This caused the node to become unstable which in turn made the whole formation disappear from that side.

Not just that, even the other two nodes were also completely destroyed. They are not working at all. All the effort they put in, the exhaustion they accumulated. All of it was gone in an instant.

They didn't expect this.

As if on cue, as soon as the formation disappeared, the trio made their move. They moved on their hoverboards and landed right next to these young masters and initiated the battles.

Philip jumped onto the ground like a cannonball with his body completely covered in metal while flames enveloped him.

**\*BOOM\***

The explosion blew the young master a bit and he fell to the side. Philip took this to his advantage and didn't even hesitate to close the distance despite their difference in cultivation levels. In fact, he desired close combat.

But right when he was about to take a mount position on the young master. Philip felt like he was stuck in a stream of a dense liquid.

The resistance for him to move forward increased hundreds of times and even with all the strength behind the movement, he is barely walking.

He tried to take a step back and think of another way, but even that movement was resisted.

He looked at Brother Black, who is panting and heaving with an extended hand.

Philip extended his hand forward and activated fire elemental fusion as he started spewing red hot flames.

The resistance that hindered Philip also started hindering the flames, but for some reason, it is loosening up bit by bit.

The only problem is that the young master is taking in potions like he is drinking water to increase his strength.

But Philip was not in a hurry, he just blasted the flames with higher density every second that making him look like a furnace with all the flames being resisted in that small space.

The young master who is resisting the flames with his spiritual energy could feel the intensity of it. The spiritual energy he is controlling is becoming a bit unstable because of all the heat and fire and soon he realized, he cannot keep it up for long.

Since he also recovered a bit of his energy, he confidently let it go.

The flames were suddenly released and they were shot directly at Brother Black.

Brother Black blocked the attack and moved a bit backward before he made his move again.

But this time, Philip didn't feel any resistance to moving forward, rather he felt like a massive cannonball hit him in the gut.

The worst part is he didn't even fly away, instead he felt the same impact on his back and he levitated for a good five seconds as both forces held him up before falling to his knees.

The young master slowly stepped forward as Philip stood up and punched in the air.

Philip once again felt an invisible force coming at him, but he couldn't exactly feel the exact position. So, slammed his feet to the ground and surrounded himself with metal walls.

**\*BANG\***

A protrusion appeared on the wall that was right in front of him.

He heaved a sigh of relief, but before it was done another protrusion came from the back, another from the right, from the left, and before he knew it, the walls are being smashed from all sides.

### **Chapter 1634 Void**

Philip jumped out of the metal walls before he was crushed.

But when he was in the air, he was hit with that invisible energy once again. He spat out some blood before he crashed to the ground.

Brother Black walked to Philip casually and said.

"I thought you were something since you are so close Sam, but it seems like you are just so-so. Where did you get the confidence that you can take me on? Even in my exhausted state, you are no match for me.

Do you really think that the differences in the cultivation levels are just for show?"

Philip didn't reply and slowly stood up. Brother Black extended his hand and tried to crush him to the ground, but as if he had expected this already, Philip moved to the side.

**\*BAM\***

The hit landed squarely on the ground, leaving a perfect circular impression on the soil.

Philip closed his eyes and took deep breaths.

Brother Black frowned and looked at him. He was confused as to how Philip dodged it.

He made a move once again, but Philip was not hit. He dodged this attack and even shot a fireball at him.

"It can't be. How is that even possible for a person with lower cultivation?"

He muttered to himself in disbelief.

Brother Black is very confident about his own abilities because unless someone is of a higher level than his own in terms of cultivation, it's not possible for them to 'see' his attacks. Even the spiritual senses are useless in a situation like this.

They cannot catch the energy coming from him with their senses.

Even for people who are at the same cultivation level as him, it is a big problem. But for Philip who has a lower level of cultivation than him to do this, he was shocked, to say the least, and even the word shocked is an understatement.

As he was lost in the daze for a moment, Philip lunged forward with flames shooting all around his body as he closed the gap between them.

The metal fist covered in flames landed right on the chin of the young master.

Brother Black came back to his senses with the hit, but before he could fight back, Philip caught his hand and started landing hits on the ribs from the side.

The sharp metal protrusions and spikes that came from his fist. They landed straight on the ribs and liver as Philip constantly punched him. His hits are rapid. He hit him until even his own hand started hurting at the shoulder because of the constant movement.

All of this happened in an instant.

Brother Black pulled himself together and pushed Philip away. But that exact moment, Philip grabbed a hold of his hand, and the gloves he was wearing started glowing.

Brother Black felt a large suction force around him and in an instant, both of them disappeared.

Meanwhile.

On Watt's side.

He is fighting against Brother Silver.

By the time Philip already disappeared with the young master, Watt is still on his hoverboard as he threw over a hundred cards and all of them are being manipulated by the wind.

Brother Silver is trying his best to defend them.

The individual attacks of the card are not really that powerful for him, but every card that Watt released at the moment is a trap card and they can be activated any time Watt desired.

And as soon as Watt managed to land one hit, it is leading to a chain reaction as one card after another followed.

The young master wasn't able to block the attacks until a good amount of them landed on him. Even if the damage is minute, it is accumulating very well.

Brother Silver looked at Watt and said.

"You bastards really are persistent and annoying. I didn't want to use this since I am low on energy, but you asked for it."

All of sudden, spiritual energy gathered under his feet as he jumped into the air like he was shot from a rocket.

He whistled through the wind and reached Watt in an instant, catching him a bit off guard.

But even if Watt wasn't ready, his hoverboard was. The hoverboard moved on its own and dodged the young master's attack.

Watt heaved a sigh of relief, but that only lasted for a moment. The young master didn't land on the ground after the jump.

Instead, he kicked the air and with a large explosive sound, he changed his direction towards Watt.

This time Watt prepared himself and cards flew out towards the young master.

The young master punched forward creating a wave of energy that blocked the cards in their tracks. The impact didn't stop there and reached Watt. This time even the board wasn't quick enough.

Watt took the impact straight to his body but used the hoverboard to reduce the impact as he moved along with it.

But that was not enough, the young master constantly kicked the air as he moved around punching Watt from different sides.

After he noticed that the Silver wind is keeping Watt stable no matter how much he tried, he attacked the board directly while feigning an attack on Watt.

Watt finally fell off the board. Silver wind zoomed through the wind as it tried to catch Watt, but the young master was faster than him.

He held Watt by the throat as he increased his speed to crash to the ground.

But right when they were about to crash, both of them disappeared from the spot.

At the same time on Jack's end.

Jack is standing there while tightly holding his sword.

He is injured all over. Brother Gold ran straight towards him. A layer of energy was consolidated around him as he hit Jack directly.

Jack wanted to defend himself with his sword, but the sword slipped as soon as it met the energy layer.

He gritted his teeth and tried to calm down as much as he can.

"I must say, you are really skilled. But you are just way too weaker than me. I really wish we could have fought on equal terms in a proper fight."

Jack just stood there adamantly as he calmed himself down. His breathing slowly relaxed and his aura started changing. Slowly the spiritual energy around him turned sharper and even his breath sounded like the keening of the sword.

"Is it a new trick?"

Brother Gold said under his breath. He frowned and contemplated. Because even his energy is on the low side. He can't play around much longer. The only reason he played around until now is to see if Sam will come out if he tortured his friend.

But it doesn't seem like it's gonna happen any time soon.

So, he decided to finish it off and return to the main mansion to recover.

He once again dashed towards Jack and he didn't even bother to be wary of the sword strike. Jack still had his eyes closed as he swung his sword at the young master.

He swung it early and didn't bother to make physical contact.

The sword ray was shot out and it smoothly went through the young master as well. This shocked him. He didn't expect the sword ray to go past the barrier, to begin with, but for it to go past him as well, was shocking.

The even more shocking thing is that he couldn't feel any physical injury. Nothing on him was cut.

That feeling only lasted for a couple of minutes though, because he felt like something was cut, but not physically, rather in his soul.

"AARRGHHH...."

He groaned in pain as he stopped in his tracks. He could feel the sharp pain in his soul and in his mind as if some of his nerves are being forcefully torn apart.

Jack opened his eyes and took advantage of this situation by swinging the sword at the young master's throat.

The sword obviously didn't meet the throat, the young master forced himself to stand up and block the sword attack.

He couldn't get back to his sense completely and was unable to defend himself. The slash landed squarely on the chest.

The young master felt humiliated. A person who is weaker than him by so much was able to leave such a slash on his body. He never felt more humiliated than this and he is sure for some reason that it won't get any worse than this.

He lunged forward all of a sudden, completely ignoring Jack's sword which lodged itself slightly into his flesh.

He held Jack by his throat and looked at him coldly.

As if he is expecting this, Jack just smirked before both of them disappeared.

Jack and the young master appeared in a dark space. Brother gold looked into the infinite void around them and felt extremely tense.

"Where the fuck am I? How am I here?"

He yelled out loud just to attract everyone that might be nearby.

### **Chapter 1635 Disciples died**

Brother Gold looked around in the void.

No matter how much he racked his brain, there is no way, he could figure out where they are.

Only when he looked under his feet he managed to spot something.

It seemed like they are floating in the air at a certain height above from what looked like an area of land that is also floating in the void. And that area of the land looked like a large chessboard.

"Where the fuck are we?"

He muttered as he looked at Jack.

"A special place that was modified just for your visit."

Jack replied calmly.

Brother Gold was pissed by the unclear answer and he got ready to attack again. Jack didn't care though. He just stood there with his sword.

Brother Gold rushed at him with that weird spiritual energy barrier again and Jack swung his sword, the sword ray went past the barrier and cut the young master in the chest.

"ARGHH.."

Brother Gold groaned in pain as he stopped in his tracks. He was dumbstruck. He couldn't think straight anymore. He cannot wrap his head around the fact that he was really hit by Jack who a few moments ago, was on verge of losing.

As he was thinking, then only he realized that something is off with his body. He checked himself again realized that there are some invisible shackles placed on his cultivation level. At this moment, he is on the same level as Jack.

The realized made his face turn pale.

"How did you do this? What kind of trick are you playing, you sick bastards?"

He yelled at Jack and made his move once again. Jack swung his sword and blocked every one of his moves and even managed to land some severe slashes as a counter attack.

Before he knew it, Brother Gold is standing while panting as his right hand is pressing on his left shoulder to stop the bleeding. His whole body is filled with cuts. He is bleeding from at least twenty-five wounds.

But those wounds are not really hurting that much compared to two other things.

One of them is his pride. For him to be brought to this situation by a man who is at least a couple of decades younger than him, who barely entered the grey circle and worst of all a person with much lower cultivation level.

The second one is his soul.

He can feel the cuts in his soul. Every single cut he has on his body, he could feel that on his soul as well. He doesn't know how that was possible. He cannot think of another person that can do that within the whole grey circle.

"How is this even possible?"

"You being stuck here? You being defeated? What possibility are you talking about?"

"The soul. How can you attack my soul with a sword slash?"

"Because I am a good student?" Jack answered with a smile and slashed his sword once again. This time, he cut off an arm and a leg of brother gold and then held him by his throat.

Both of them disappeared once again and they reappeared at the node where they were initially fighting in the first place.

Brother gold got his cultivation back, but his arm and leg are still nowhere to be seen.

Jack nodded as if he is confirming something and placed his sword on the neck Brother Gold.

"Leave me. Leave me alone. You will regret it if you kill me.

Do you really think you can just cut my neck and leave this place alive? My master is on this mountain. He will fucking kill you."

Brother Gold threatened, Jack stayed silent. Taking this as Jack being afraid, the young master continued spitting out threats. But they stopped when Jack opened his mouth.

"Where is he?"

Jack asked calmly.

"What?"

"Where is your master?"

Brother Gold didn't know what to say.

"I have been holding my sword on your neck for five minutes now. Your master that's staying on this mountain, is very powerful. I am pretty sure he can make it in five minutes to this place and with his strength he can pinch me to death like I am an ant.

So, where is he now? Why is he not here?"

Brother Gold became silent. He wanted to say something, but he couldn't bring out any words. He also started asking the questions. Where is his master?

"As for your question. Do I dare cut your throat and leave this place?"

Damn right I will. I don't give a fuck who your backer is, who you are born to and who taught you. You might be the reincarnation of a god for all I care.

As long as you are in our way, in my friend's way, there is no one and nothing in this world that I don't dare cut."

Those are the last words brother gold heard before his head fell off of his neck.



By now the formation was gone and Jack took a transference token to leave the place after collecting the dead body of Brother Gold.

Meanwhile on the other two sides, the situations are similar.

Watt and Brother Silver reappeared on the spot. Watt is standing there with a bunch of injuries. His lower lip was crushed a bit and half of his face was swollen. He is bleeding from his ear.

He is pretty battered, but the person opposite to him, Brother Silver. He looked like he was mauled by a bear.

His whole body is filled with cuts and tears. He is bleeding all over and when he landed, he couldn't even find strength to stand up. He couldn't even lift his arms. His tendons were cut. He also seemed like he lost his mind.

Watt threw four more cards and all four of them flew with wind blades as they cut the neck continuously. Before long, the head fell off on the ground.

Watt collected the body and used the transference token to leave.

At Philip's place. When both of them reappeared, Philip's hand is already inside Brother Black's heart.

He removed it and took the body before he left.

The three young masters that were known to be the most troublesome bunch in the grey circle. Who roamed around the grey circle while offending people left and right without a single care for consequences were dead just like that.

And they died in the hands of someone that barely entered the grey circle.

This is going to be a great gossip material for the rest of the world.

As for what their master is doing at this moment.

No one can even imagine it.

He is just sitting there leisurely in his room while still looking at what's happening through that formation.

He saw all three of disciples dying with his own eyes.

"That's a really interesting toy. Where did the three of them disappear to? Did they try to even the battlefield?"

He muttered to himself as he looked at the formation curiously. There is not a single trace of sadness or anger displayed on his face.

"Is it the glove that made this happen? That's a really clever move. But where are they transporting them to? I really want to see that.

Why don't you come out and shed some light on this young man? I would like to know more about this trick of yours."

He spoke the later sentences out loud. Sam into the room through the front door.

"Sam, is it? It has been a while since I saw someone that smart. You are really good. Why don't you become my disciple? I heard you have multiple elemental energies. It would be great if you can utilize them to maximum potential."

"I am the reason that three of your disciples that you groomed for decades died just like that. You are asking me to become your disciple. I would have understood if you wanted to kill me. But this..."

"They are weak. With all the grooming they got from the best resources, best authority, the favors, the backing, all of them could only get them this far. They couldn't even utilize what I taught them to a full extent.

It is a disgrace for me and it is good that they are dead. In fact, I might even have to thank you. That is why I am offering you this option.

I will even take in your three other friends if you want me to. I don't have a problem with that. They might not be official disciples, but being under the wing of Divine Formation Mountain, is great a thing for their growth."

"The answer is no. Don't waste too much of your time dwelling on that."

"Then there is only one other option. To kill you right now."

"That is actually the better option of the both from the start. But the problem is, you won't be able to do that no matter how much you want to."

"Really? Why? Because, what you sent here is a projection?"

"Yes, that's one of the reasons, but there is another one as well. If you want to know about that, you can take the token inside this device."

### **Chapter 1636 To the Chessboard**

'Sam' disappeared from the spot.

And a metal bug that's the size of a fist was flying there. Mountain Master waved his hand and the spiritual energy in the whole acted up. The bug that was far away was dragged towards him.

There is no invisible force that did it, just the spiritual energy present in the atmosphere made it happen. After catching hold of the bug, he crushed it slightly.

In the middle of the bug's body, there is a token with some special inscriptions. He took a look at the token his eyes glowed a little.

"Interesting inscription technique. The level of sophistication is really hard to attain. Indeed, he is much better than the three that just died.

Too bad he doesn't recognize the value of my offer and is still adamant on making me an enemy. He would have had a great life ahead."

With that, he injected his energy into the token and disappeared from the spot.

When he reappeared, he looked around and saw that he is standing inside a dark void. But unlike his disciples, he is not floating on top of some space.

He is actually standing on the chessboard.

"Where am I?"

"Is this the place that you brought those three morons before they died?"

He asked out loud, even though he cannot see Sam.

Soon Sam appeared on the opposite side of the board and replied.

"Yes, but not exactly to the same spot as you. They received some special treatment."

"Wonder what that is?"

Sam stayed silent without saying anything. The special treatment he was talking about is the three young masters floating in the air while fighting the trio. Sam knew that leveling up the playing field with the young masters is going to be an ardent task.

That's why he tried his best to create the gloves that he gave the trio and he even dared to tinker with the chess board that was given to him by Karthikeya.

He wanted to leverage the advantage of the chessboard which is to level the playing field to the cultivation level of the weaker person of the two. But the problem with the chessboard, is the physical damage that they take in here on the board wouldn't be reflected on their original self.

So, if Sam had directly sent the people the trio must have had to play chess with them over a few dozen times before their mental strength is worn off and then bring them out while they are still in shock and finish them off.

This is of course not a feasible plan in his opinion as it wastes too much of his time.

So, he created an instant solution for this. He tinkered with the chessboard to create a semi-independent space within the space of the board. When they used the gloves, they are brought into those spaces.

He leveraged the feature of leveling the playing field but restricted the chess game and the absence of physical damage.

Even though killing them wouldn't be possible as from based on his experiments, trying to really kill them is bringing the people back to life.

He doesn't know how that mechanism is working as he cannot dismantle and scrutinize everything in the chessboard, so he made it so that they can defeat them here and bring them back before killing them.

In this way, they don't have to waste their time trying to deal with them. They can just kill people as they liked.

As for why Sam didn't use the same technique, it's because it won't work when the level difference is way too much.

One of the key requirements that should be met is that the gloves are activated at the same moment and both parties should be in physical contact.

There is no way in hell that Sam would be able to pull that off.

So, he decided to just bring him here.

"What are we doing here?"

Mountain Master looked around the chessboard curiously as he asked.

"We are going to fight of course."

"That's why my cultivation is not on its original level. Was it restricted to make this fight a fair one?"

"Yes."

"This is a really convenient device. But something tells me that's not all there is to it. A chessboard of this size, I wonder what the pieces will look like."

Sam just waved his hand and the pieces came onto the board.

"Want to start this off?"

"Why not?"

Mountain master moved his pawn and Sam did the same, Mountain master got to kill Sam's pawn, but he felt the weird suction force that dragged him away from the spot.

He saw himself in the void on a large piece of land that was floating in that void.

He couldn't understand what happened, but he could feel that his cultivation is even lower than what it initially was and before he knew it, he felt a sense of danger from behind. He made his move and wanted to defend himself.

But before he could do that, a blood-red sword blade sliced through his neck and the last thing he saw is his headless body as his head fell off it.

Mountain master felt the darkness envelop him before he reappeared at the main chess board.

\*PANT\*

\*PANT\*

He panted heavily as he looked around. He is soaked in sweat. He didn't have a single shred of that grace and sense of superiority that he had a few moments ago.

"Don't tell you are done already."

Sam asked from the other side.

"What the fuck happened? What did you do to me? That dream, no felt way too real to be considered a dream. What is this place?"

This time his voice is shaking a little bit. He is definitely not as nonchalant as before.

Sam smiled as he thought of something.

The main reason that Sam planned this chessboard even if he knew that killing the Mountain Master is impossible here, is because of the advice given to him by the Demon-Soul swordsman. Apart from explaining the character of this person, he also got a shit load of characteristics that he could exploit.

And this is one of his attempts to do so.

Sam wants to take advantage of some of the bad traits that this guy has and it turns out that excessive pride is not the only bad trait he has.

Sam didn't give him the time to process all of this, he made his move with the pawn and asked the mountain master to make his own move.

"I am not doing that until you tell me what the fuck is happening here."

"Make your damn move, you slimy rodent."

Sam muttered slightly and all of a sudden, the Mountain master took a deep breath. He had bloodshot eyes and he gritted his teeth with such vigor that even Sam felt some pain just from looking at it from afar.

"What the fuck is wrong with you? Make your move."

"I will make my move. Don't you worry? I will make my move."

He did make his move and soon, their pawns met each other once again.

As soon as they did that, they reappeared in the empty space once again. This time the mountain master is a bit vigilant and looked around just to make sure that he wouldn't die like before.

He prepared a barrier around him to meet any surprise attacks.

At this moment, Sam who appeared on the other side ran towards him and leaped into the air while driving down with an ax kick.

The Mountain master got ready to make his own move as he was sure that the barrier will hold Sam a bit.

But to his surprise, the kick came with such a force that the barrier shattered with mere contact, and the kick proceeded to land on his head.

Mountain Master barely blocked the kick with his hands, but the void style kicked in at the contact, making his arms break and bleed.

Sam landed before swiftly making his move. He swept the mountain master's feet a kick and landed a kick on the chest after he fell down.

Mountain Master was stunned. He never thought he would have trouble with keeping up with someone in a battle. Particularly when they are fighting on equal terms.

It has been a long time since he was in a battle and it almost seemed like a new thing to him for a second.

He doesn't know how Sam managed to be this fast. But he knew for sure that he going to suffer if he doesn't figure out a way to defeat Sam.

The only problem is that most of the Mountain Master's expertise lies in the battles where he could use his tricks, which is not exactly possible here because of Sam's attacks. Everything is way too straightforward here.

As he was thinking, Sam's kick landed on his head exploding it.

### **Chapter 1637 Dragged Battle**

Mountain Master came back to his senses on the chessboard.

He once again started panting. He looked at Sam who is standing on the opposite side with pure horror. He couldn't wrap his head around this feeling. No matter how he thought about it, he is definitely dying, but he is coming back to life again.

"What the fuck is this, you bastard?" He couldn't help but curse out loud at Sam.

The initial grace he had when he offered Sam to be his disciple. The pride that he had when he boasted about his authority and abilities. The aloof disregard that he had when he watched his disappointing disciple died.

None of them are present.

Sam looked at his expression and couldn't feel more familiar. He has seen that expression way too often. In his previous life, this life, he has seen it in so many people.

It is the expression given by the people that value their life way too much. The expression that is given by the selfish, greedy, and self-absorbed individuals that use and manipulate others for their own gain, when faced with a certain horror of the consequences of their actions.

The most disgusting kind of people. Of course, in a way Sam is very similar to these types of people. He basks in his authority and ability. He takes advantage of people and manipulates them for his own gain.

He makes them into idiots, disdains them, and disregards their lives like it was nothing more than a waste of existence. But there is one primary difference between him and people like the Mountain Master.

He always expects the consequences and he is able to accept them as they were. But guys like the Mountain Master, are way too afraid and cowardly to do that.

Even though Mountain Master is afraid, he still found the courage to talk to Sam.

"I need to get out of here. You better let me out now, or you will regret it."

"Beat me in this match and you will be able to get out of here."

"I am not going to play around with you, you bastard. I told you to let me go now."

"This is the only way for you to go out. Beat me and you are free."

"You..." Mountain master gritted his teeth and extended his hand. He wanted to attack Sam, but to his surprise, he wasn't able to attack him.

"What the fuck is happening?"

"I already told you. The only way out is to beat me, or you might as well just whine and moan like you are doing right now. You filthy rodent."

His words irked the Mountain Master and he steeled his heart for a moment before moving his other pawn.

His anger shadowed his pain and horror for a moment and he decided to play further.

But that only lasted for a few moments, he was enveloped with fear when Sam came on to him like a wild beast when they fought again.

This time, Sam didn't hold back. He knew that as time passes and the more times the Mountain master dies and comes back, the more he will get used to it.

Even if he is not used to the constant dying part of it, he will definitely get used to preparing himself and bracing for impact as soon as they entered the combat space.

So, Sam is also increasing his aggressiveness as well as his fighting style with every battle just to make sure that he wouldn't lose the advantage of the surprise factor.

He also switched up to different weapons while dealing with the Mountain master.

Sam advanced as he dealt with four pawns by barely moving two pawns. One of his pawns reached the bishop.

For the first time, the Mountain master felt he had some power left. Because in the process, Sam's pawn moved forward and fought some battles. The battles might be one-sided, but he also expended a lot of his own energy to deal with the defense of the Mountain master.

Just because he managed to break them with one or two attacks, doesn't mean, he managed to do it easily. He had to spend a lot of his energy on precise and powerful attacks to achieve that.

So, since his body has limited energy left, at least for that one particular pawn and the Mountain master finally got more power on his hand, he managed to use his abilities.

He extended his arm toward Sam and pulled towards him. The invisible spiritual energy enveloped Sam and tried to drag him. But Sam discharged some of his own energy into the surroundings and used void style.

A small series of tiny explosions loosened the grip of spiritual energy.

But the Mountain master kept on doing the same thing again and again.

Finally, by the time Sam closed in the distance without falling under the control of the mountain master, he sensed something weird around him.

Before he knew it, he is trapped inside a formation. An energy barrier surrounded him. He wanted to break out of it, but in just a moment, he felt the energy surrounding him turning chaotic and...

\*BOOM\*

The energy exploded and the whole explosion was controlled and contained within that barrier maximizing the damage to Sam.

When the Mountain master released the barrier, Sam's body was mutilated and there is barely any life left in him.

Mountain master looked at him coldly and decided to torture him.

"How dare you bastard, try to play these tricks on me?"

What did you call me before? Rodent? Call me that again. I dare you."

He tried to maximize Sam's pain, but he was shocked when Sam suddenly lunged forward with all he got and landed a single hit on the Mountain Master, before fainting and dying.

They were sent back to the chessboard.

Sam started taking deep breaths as he tried to calm down a bit.

His reaction is obviously not as bad as the Mountain Master. He had played this game way too many times for him to react like that. But of course, he is a bit rattled. There is no overcoming it.

Mountain Master noticed this. He was so consumed by the feeling of death that he panted like crazy. His heart raced to its limit while his mind was completely clouded. But all Sam needed was a couple of deep breaths and he is perfectly fine.

This made him feel even more irritated.

He made his move and the bishop that just finished one of Sam's pawns moved to take out another. Once again, Sam wasn't able to deal with him, but he still landed a couple of critical hits on the Mountain master and he could feel the health draining.

Mountain Master finally felt a bit confident though, he felt that at the same level, he is no match for Sam with his aggressive nature and his unpredictable style, but if he is a tad bit stronger than Sam in terms of cultivation, then he has an upper hand.

It is because of his unique constitution or something else, but that's how things are going on.

He figured that he should use his big pieces mostly while using the pawns to drain Sam out as much as he can.

Finally, he had something that resembles a plan.

But what he almost forgot is that Sam also has the bigger pieces and they are completely intact.



And for the first time, Sam moved his Knight to attack the bishop.

To give the Mountain Master a wake-up call and bring him back to reality.

The power has evened out and Sam even has an upper hand because he has a beast that is accompanying him. He chose Raiju for this one and both he and the wolf started picking Mountain Master apart.

They used lightning elemental fusion as they attacked the opponent from different sides. All Mountain Master could see were the streaks of lightning attacking him from all sides and he barely even managed to land any hit on the duo.

By the time, he landed a single clean hit on Sam and tried to get a hold of him, the beast came from behind and tore his arm apart.

It was torn right at the shoulder even so far as removing the flesh until it reached the shoulder blade.

"ARRGGHHHH..."

He cried his heart out in pain. Sam wanted to use this chance to deal with him and finish him off, but Mountain Master suddenly looked cruelly at Sam before he gritted his teeth and held on to Sam by his clothes.

The energy in the surroundings riled up. Sam became vigilant and his first instinct is to kick Raiju out of the way.

The wolf was out of the range when... \*BOOM\* The mountain master exploded.

Sam also died along with the explosion.

He looked at Mountain Master intently as soon as they arrived back on the board.

### **Chapter 1638 Multiple personalities**

Sam looked at the Mountain Master carefully.

He felt like something is wrong with him. His behavior in the battle right now is completely abnormal. After the first death, the mountain master acted like something serious had happened. He showed the classic signs of a self-absorbed individual who values his life way too much.

But there is this anger that he has whenever he was called a rodent. He is almost as angry as Sam when he was called a bastard.

He disregarded the consequence of the torturous feeling he gets when he dies.

Sam can even understand that. In fact, the usage of the term rodent is because Demon Soul swordsman told Sam that the Mountain Master will be pissed off because of this.

It is because in the past, the Mountain Master used to dig around the ground to set up traps to capture and kill his enemies. Just like how a rodent, particularly a rat or a bandicoot digs around in the ground and rocks.

That is part of his dirty laundry.

Sam's thought was to rile him up so that he can take advantage of him.

This is expected.

But when he thought about the crazy suicidal move that was made by this guy in the last battle, he felt that something is weird.

The look, the actions, and the whole demeanor seemed to be of a person that is definitely not the Mountain Master. He remembered the Demon Soul swordsman's description of the Mountain Master. It says that he is not really a normal guy and acts very extreme when he is cornered.

But this is way more than just acting extreme. That suicidal move is not just coming from being pushed to the corner. After all, he definitely knew that he is not going to really die in that battle, he will just experience the feeling of death and come back to the board.

Sam's thoughts ran wild. He has a few theories that are popping in his head, but he has to verify them bit by bit in the next upcoming battles.

For the next few moves, both of them avoided going to combat. Sam observed Mountain Master's behavior in this time frame.

It gradually changed. From being in the panicked stage at the start as an after-effect of experiencing the feeling of death, it slowly changed to a slightly calm person.

These few moves led up to a large setup of possible chain reactions and Sam suddenly decided to take it to combat.

Now, no matter who wins or loses, the next few moves can all lead up to constant battles.

Sam decided to analyze how he will react in these next few battles.

In the first battle, once again, Sam won easily as pawns. It is almost like with that limited cultivation, the Mountain master is unable to do much at all. His energy attacks are not enough to deal with Sam.

He just panicked and became angry when Sam called him rodent. But in the next battle in which Sam went against a bishop with his pawn, his demeanor changed once again.

The Mountain Master picked on Sam bit by bit. He started making Sam suffer through different kinds of pain as he torturously made him endure different attacks that are focused on particular parts of his body.

This is also a bit expected, except the transition is a bit too fast. There is no gradual change in his behavior. It is a bit too sudden. After that battle was over, it is once again battle as equals with Sam's bishop against Mountain Master's bishop.

Unlike how they were completely outmatched when both of them were pawns, the Mountain Master presented a bit of competition when both of them are bishops.

Sam understood one thing from this.

Most of the moves and attacks from the Mountain Master are dependent on his cultivation level. He cannot perform most of his techniques that are effective in this level of battle unless he has a certain level of energy that is directly related to the cultivation.

As for the change of character, Sam also noticed that only when Sam toyed with the Mountain Master using his superior skill and technique did that weird suicidal and maniacal side is popping up.

He wanted to test the hypothesis even more, and that only reinforced his belief.

"This asshole has multiple personalities."

Sam muttered to himself as he just finished another combat.

That is the conclusion he came to. Mountain Master has multiple personalities. One of them is weak and cowardly, one is tricky and cunning, one is sadistic with a massive superiority complex, one is rageful and insecure about his tricky and cunning personality, and finally, the overly prideful and angry suicidal personality.

Of course, the basic personality of the Mountain Master that is known to the whole world, the mysterious intellectual personality that hides all of this other shit is also there.

One can have all these emotions and it is even possible for someone to feel all of them one by one with changing situations, but the change to be as radical as this guy. Most of these changes are based on the level of strength that this guy has in various situations and this might be the first time that he has gone up and down in power like now.

Of course, there is also a relative factor of his power when compared to Sam in various types of combats.

As a pawn, he is weak and helpless, but as a bishop, rook, or knight, he is powerful compared to Sam's pawn and a decent equal compared to Sam's bishop, rook, and knight.

They didn't go to the queen and king part yet, so Sam wouldn't know how he would react, but he can estimate that it could be similar to the one that he had when they are battling as bishop, rook, and knight.

When he jumped on to the next combat he didn't fight. Instead, he just stood there and looked at the Mountain Master calmly.

When Mountain Master tried to attack him, Sam focused on proper defense without speaking or doing anything.

Mountain Master didn't manage to do much. Sam's defense is impeccable. It is like a game of skeet shooting. He is hitting every target that is flying toward him.

And as time passed on, Sam slowly observed the shift of personalities in just one combat.

When Sam was passive at the start, the Mountain Master enjoyed himself as he tried to push him around. Later when he realized that he couldn't do much and Sam provoked him with the word rodent here and then, he became rageful.

After that, Sam became a bit more active as he crushed the attacks that came at him, instead of just defending them casually. This made him a bit maniacal as he tried to perform some suicidal attacks.

At that moment, Sam used extreme attacks and started dominating him. The personality immediately shifted to a personality that is cowardly and weak.

Sam finished the battle off and went back to the board.

He looked at the Mountain Master with intrigue. This is the first time he came across someone like this. He has met some people with multiple personalities in his previous life. But here in this world, it is even rarer.

Because the souls are strengthened with their cultivation, he has barely seen any people with unique mental states.

For someone this unique to exist, Sam couldn't help but feel interested. It is almost like he found a really good test subject.

His researcher mindset is kicking in.

But he shook those thoughts off of his head instantly. He knew that he cannot keep the Mountain Master alive.

Even if he is idiotic enough to enter the chess board directly without caring much as he was so full of himself, Sam has no thoughts of keeping him here. A man of this capacity and this level of intellectual capacity is an enemy Sam cannot have.

And with this personality situation, Sam highly doubts if he could even suppress all of these personalities and make him submissive.

On top of that, there is another warning from the Demon Soul Swordsman to not ever trust the Mountain Master even with a soul contract.

The rumor is that this guy can even find a way to break the soul contract with his tricks. Sam doesn't know how, but Demon Soul Swordsman believes in it, so Sam just eliminated the thoughts of research and then focused on dealing with this guy.

In the next combat.

His demeanor changed. Killing intent surged out of his body as he took out the Shadow sword while both shadow and space elements are flowing throughout his body. He disappeared from the spot and reappeared right behind the Mountain Master.

Mountain Master got ready with a decent barrier. The slash was deflected a bit, but the spatial and shadow energy managed to leave a slight nick on his back with the energy corrupting the wound a bit.

### **Chapter 1639: Final Battle**

Mountain Master felt extreme pain that he never felt before.

It is like each cell of the flesh at that one particular point is trying to separate from the rest. He couldn't think of a better way to describe it. And in this process, Sam managed to land another slash and disappeared from that spot.

He reappeared in the front and stabbed forward into the gut.

Spiritual energy became dense and caught hold of the blade. Sam gritted his teeth and pushed forward as if he is just cutting through some hard substance.

The spiritual energy almost became visible and it was torn apart before the sword stabbed the Mountain Master in the gut.

Sam slashed it to the side and let the shadow and spatial energies rampage. He didn't care about the expense of energy and he didn't care much about defending himself. His attacks are of full power and strength that is just focused on killing the opponent faster.

Sam disappeared and reappeared on the left side. When a much more condensed barrier appeared on that side, he slashed with ripple style and void style combined. The barrier collapsed quickly and the Mountain master had to take on the residual attacks.

He took a few steps back only to get stabbed from the back in his chest and with a mere thought, Sam destroyed his heart with the rampaging energy.

The combat is over and they returned to the main board.

Sam didn't even let the information process as he took his chance and made a move on the board.

He didn't care if the other party is ready or not. Obviously, since they are literally enemies.

The battle went on like the previous one mostly. The Mountain Master died within a few minutes as Sam used the space and shadow energy once again.

He decided that he will just use the same style until the Mountain Master will at least show some kind of hint that he could counter this form.

But it didn't happen as he went through a few more combats.

Sam realized that as long as he doesn't succumb to the prepared traps of the Mountain Master and didn't give him enough time to prepare in the midst of combat, it is really not that difficult to deal with him on the same level.

And the fact that he causes use different elements and also the void style, ripple style, and repel style to counter any of the tricks that could have stumped any other person, is an added bonus.

The battles went on and on and before the Mountain Master knew it, he is down to a severely damaged Queen that could only last against a pawn at this point and the king.

Sam also lost a lot of his own pieces. Even though he won so many combats, whenever a piece is weakened to the extreme, the mountain master's suicidal character is acting up and he is taking both of them down in a way.

But Sam didn't really mind much as he really is looking forward to the King Vs King fight.

So, he recklessly attacked and now he is also down to a pawn a half-beaten Queen, and the King.

The Pawn attacked the Queen. The Queen barely won with a little shred of health left.

Sam then used his own Queen against the Queen of the Mountain Master.

The battle didn't last long, because as soon as Sam neared the guy, he directly made his energy go volatile and self-destructed, killing himself and Sam barely alive.

Sam didn't care. His queen now only has very little health which means the King Vs King fight is inevitable as long as he got rid of it.

So, he attacked the King with his Queen.

He didn't even bother to put up much of a fight.

As usual, the Mountain Master used the weird technique to drag Sam towards him. Sam didn't resist this time and let it be. The Mountain master's sadistic personality acted up as if he wanted to torture Sam. With just a few waves of his hand, Sam felt like he is stuck in a large box.

Soon, he felt like the walls of the box are closing in on him. The walls are invisible normally, but not with his energy vision. He can see the walls that are coming into crushing him.

The load on his body gradually increased. But Sam just gritted his teeth and looked at the Mountain Master dead in the eye. He spread all of his spiritual energy into the box and used his manipulation ability.

When the Mountain Master felt the spiritual energy that invaded him, he was shocked. He started defending against it, instead of trying to crush Sam.

Sam who is inside the box, felt slightly relieved as the load reduced and started releasing all of his energy as he used the manipulation ability to destabilize the energy in the walls.

The Mountain Master had a bad feeling and wanted to escape, but Sam decided to self-destruct making it impossible for him to leave.

And this self-destruction is different. Instead of letting the spiritual energy stay inside his body while he did that, he completely spread it out. He forcefully squeezed out every last hint of spiritual energy and which almost made him die on the spot before exploding it that guy's face.

Mountain Master took the full brunt of the explosion. The explosion of the spiritual energy left behind by Sam along with the explosions of his own energy box that he created.

He did take a lot of measures that he could take in that short amount of time to defend himself.

But he still took some serious damage.

Both of them came back to the board.

Now all that is left are the king and the king.

Of course, the Mountain Master's king is damaged while Sam's king is completely intact. The battle will be the final one and Sam is sure that he will definitely win.

The only problem is that he doesn't know how long it will take. The Mountain Master is definitely not soft and he could see with the current cultivation level that is allowed which is the Initial stage of Consummate level, his fighting style also changed a bit.

The King's battle began as his mind was filled with different thoughts.

They were both pulled into the combat zone and Sam got ready with the dual elemental fusion and the shadow sword.

But right before he could make a move, he already felt a slight sense of threat from around him. He activated energy vision and barely dodged an attack.

It is an invisible energy blade and it brushed past his cheek. But what surprised him even more is that he could feel that his original flesh has been cut even though he is in a fusion state.

Normally when someone is in a full fusion state, their body acts just like that element and even though the original body gets tired along with it, the injuries won't exactly land on the body until the fusion is gone.

But Sam feels that his original body is being cut and his energy is also drained a lot.

He looked at the Mountain Master in surprise.

"You pesky bastard. I should have killed you a lot sooner. I should have killed you and your friends by involving myself in this way before my disciples did.

You arrogant shithead. How dare you make me go through this hell? You have seen way too many of my secrets. There is no way I am going to let you live after this is over."

"Secrets?"

Sam could guess what they are. The Mountain Master's cultivation technique. Otherwise, there is no way Sam could explain the weird progression in his battle prowess.

As pawns, both of them are limited to the middle stage of Astral Plane Transcendence and in that stage, Mountain master is pathetically weak. In the Late and Peak stages of Astral Plane transcendence, he is a bit stronger.

He is able to hold his own against Sam a bit.

But in the current stage, the Astral Plane Consummate stage, he is really strong. An attack that Sam couldn't even fathom. If not for the Mountain master's sadistic tendencies, he could have killed the Queen piece of Sam instantly.

"My weakness, my inability to fight properly, my techniques that are restrained and way too dependant on my cultivation level. Do you even know the things I have done to hide these from the world?

I killed entire clans, to keep the word from coming out. I made races go extinct just to make sure that there is no word about it.

I have destroyed countless lives to erase my dirty past of mine just to be the perfect being I am known to be.

And you, a noname bastard came to steal all of this away from me. I will not let you go. I will torture you for years before slowly taking your life away."

### **Chapter 1640: Boring Battle**

Sam felt like a million daggers are pointed at him.

He looked around with his energy vision and his feeling couldn't be more right. The spiritual energy that is still invisible is condensed into hundreds of blades that are all zooming towards Sam.

He disappeared from the spot and reappeared mid-air as he tried to close the distance, but he was suddenly blocked by an energy wall and the energy blades that were aimed at his previous position changed directions before they came at him once again.

Sam swung his sword with condensed spatial energy that created small rift mid-air and it was assisted with the ripple style.

The spatial energy rippled through the air and created a temporary curtain that blocked the energy blades.

But while the back was guarded, the Mountain Master attacked from the front, or more precisely from the bottom.

Through Sam's energy vision a large circle started glowing under his feet and the two ends of the circle rose up like the mouth of a beast with teeth protruding from either side.

If the mouth is closed, the lower half of his body will be gone.

Sam kicked on the ground and disappeared from the spot, the mouth was dispersed with the ripples that came from his movement.

But this time Sam didn't transfer himself to a different spot. Instead, he just dashed through the space using his elemental energies. This left a trail of spatial and shadow energy rippling in the surroundings.

This made the Mountain Master unable to use his energy manipulation as he liked. The energy blades he was about to conjure to deal with Sam weren't formed.

They all dispersed before the process is complete and the Mountain master also received a sword slash aimed at his face. The sword is blocked by an invisible energy. Sam wanted to push through it, but the energy enveloped in such a way that it acted like a snake and crawled across to blade towards Sam's hands.

Sam used void style as he released some energy through his sword.

The Mountain master leaped back to avoid it, while Sam disappeared right before the energy explosion.

Sam reappeared at a spot, only for his foot to be stuck by something. It is also like a snake coiling around his leg and trying to make him fall down. He kicked the leg forcefully on the ground to get rid of the restraints and moved to the side.

A surge of energy blades met him which he intercepted with his sword.



Slowly, Sam was pushed to the defensive. The usage of Shadow and Space elements together in a perfect fusion is something that he uses when speed is his priority. It is hard for most people to be his opponents when he is like that.

This is the first time he found that even in this form he could be pushed back this much.

Mountain Master is getting used to the timing and controlling this fusion form.

After five more minutes, Sam who just dodged around a dozen blades suddenly felt something brushing past his back and leaned forward only to be caught by something like a net.

The energy condensed into a net held him and a large mesh formed around him bit by bit as each layer kept on adding on to the original net. And when Sam is trying to disappear from the spot, the spatial and shadow energy is being targeted with the energy strands as they exploded and made it impossible for him to move away.

Sam was impressed. He felt restrained and frustrated for a bit, but he is definitely impressed. It is definitely the most mixed feeling he ever felt.

As he was thinking of a way to get out of the situation, he noticed something else.

The energy in the surroundings is not just condensing into the strands, it is also condensing into something else. Of course, it all happening in an invisible state and the only way for him to see it is through his energy vision.

He watched as energy condensed into orbs of different sizes and are staying still at different positions within the whole combat zone.

He could easily guess what the other party is planning to do. He is trying to create a formation that could kill Sam.

"I am caught in your restraints, but you still can't kill me. I resort to tricks too, but for a person who is on the same level as I am? I don't bother with them that much."

He muttered to himself lightly. The Mountain Master is too busy weaving the formation.

Sam gritted his teeth and deactivated the fusion. His body which was dark and gloomy until then, turned back to normal.

He started condensing energy around him to get rid of the restraints, but it seems like the Mountain master is already prepared. Small strands of energy are exploding slowly making it impossible for Sam's energy to condense.

Sam even tried to get rid of the restraints with the energy manipulation, but even that didn't happen. The control of the Mountain Master over the energy is so impeccable that as soon as Sam's energy interfered in it, the restraint structure is changing into something completely different.

Just as strong, but definitely different.

"I didn't want to use these things, but I guess there is no point in holding back now."

He muttered to himself once again and made a move. His whole body started glowing with a golden light.

The glow didn't stop there. It expanded more and more. And from the golden body, light beams were shot in different directions. The mesh and the net didn't manage to stop them as the light beams were shot from within the gaps and every one of them targeted the orbs around Sam.

The formation that was just about to start went off and the Mountain Master was shocked by the sudden change. He wanted to restrain Sam's energy, but before he could do that, he had to start dodging the attacks that are coming at him.

Sam's body slowly started changing color as soon as the mesh was removed from him. The mesh went away and he started attacking the Mountain Master with light beams. He didn't even move from the spot.

The Mountain Master started blocking the light beams with the energy blades. But his speed is not enough. The dynamic of the battle is changing way too quickly. A few minutes ago, Sam was on the defensive now it changed completely.

Sam couldn't help but think that this might be the most boring and bland battle he had in a long time.

The other party has a very unique skillset and even more unique mindset, but he is not really an opponent that Sam is enjoying battling. It felt like a massive waste of time.

He doesn't want to continue this anymore. He just wants to finish this up and go away. He wants a break from this stupid shit.

As he thought to that point. He suddenly stopped in his track and made a different move. His fusion changed slightly as along with the golden light, his body is covered with golden flames as well.

He started breathing deeply as he filled his lungs with the golden flames.

As if this is the chance that he had been waiting for, the Mountain Master made his move. He once again restrained Sam. But this time, instead of a mesh or a net, he created an energy prison out of thin air that didn't even give him any space to move his arms even in the slightest.

It is almost like he is fit into a coffin that is two sizes smaller than him and he was dragged near so that the Mountain master could have better control over the situation.

But Sam didn't care at all. He just stood there in that energy coffin as he started taking in a lot of air. His lungs expanded to no limit and before the Mountain Master could even figure out what was happening, Sam used the Golden Sun crow's bloodline technique.

**\*BOOM\***

The explosive golden flames blasted at the Mountain Master. He was stunned by the sudden attack. He was thinking that he would be able to deal with Sam if he just restrained him. He had the info that Sam could use various elements, but since he didn't use many of them until now, he almost forgot about it.

He tried to defend against the flames at the last second. But there is little he could do with it.

The energy coffin around Sam was released. He deactivated the fusion and started spatial elemental fusion again. He disappeared from the spot and reappeared right in the middle of the flames.

He caught hold of the Mountain Master and stabbed him in the chest.

"I don't know where you got all of this reputation from. I guess if you are not given any time to prepare you are pretty easy to deal with. I feel like I wasted too much time planning to deal with you.

Anyway, this is the end for now."

Sam finished him off on the spot and slapped a token on his forehead before he disappeared from the spot.

The chess match was over which also brought one of the most useless battles Sam had to an end at the same time.