

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 581: Jealous Prince

After getting a detailed explanation of all the rewards and claiming them, Sam was sent off to the hall of the Palace and by the time he came all the remaining candidates also just appeared out of thin air.

Everyone has a different range of expressions. Some are ecstatic and some are just normally happy but some of them are disappointed and expectant.

The Avatar made some regular announcements of the next Palace of Inheritance for the Players and the subsequent entries that Naga Loka could have.

After that, they reappeared once again at the entrance, where the Emperor is still waiting. At this moment, the three selected candidates are all looking at the four players with some sense of hostility.

Particularly, the Prince.

Sam didn't know, who he encountered as his opponents in the test, but since none of the Naga Loka candidates didn't make it to the finals, they must have been eliminated in the early rounds and they are not willing to swallow it.

And the prince is one of the candidates who were disappointed and expectant.

The Emperor asked the three candidates some simple questions and came to the players to ask the same questions and all of them are invited to the Imperial Palace that evening for a personal dinner and discussions.

But before that, they are invited to rest.

The Emperor led them out of the sacred grounds and led them back to the Imperial capital.

Sam went to his residence along with the rest of the Players. Currently, he is staying in one of the VVIP rooms in Paradise.

This is a permanent reservation given to him by Vasu after the business transaction and it is a suite. There are three rooms for them to temporarily rest.

Noah didn't talk much and went to a room and closed the door. Sam and the rest didn't disturb her privacy.

Arman, Sam, and Arkiv all ordered a sumptuous feast, and only then did they give her some food and didn't interact anymore.

After eating to their full, Sam called for a massage and relaxed. He even took a nap. It has been a long time since he slept. But it is a good thing to sleep once in a while.

Only in the evening did he wake up and got ready to go to the Palace. It turned out that an attendant came here and gave them a time regarding their visit to the Palace while Sam is asleep.

They went to the palace and without any questions the guards let them win. After walking for a few minutes one of the attendants came running and led them towards a room within the Imperial Palace.

There, the three candidates of the Mov empire are already there. The players didn't think much, they just greeted them normally and sat down opposite to them at a long table.

It seemed to be a private dining room that can house ten people at most apart from the host.

There are five chairs on each side and the players took one side, as for the other side, there is a gap of one chair between the three people and the prince sat closer to the host's chair.

As they sat down and waited, the Imperial Prince looked at Sam and the rest of the Players and asked.

"Where are you guys from? What did you get in the Palace of Inheritance?"

He asked with his tone oozing the sense of superiority.

The whole group was silent and from Sam's glance, Arman got the message and replied.

"The place we are from is not known to you. It is useless even if we tell you. As for what we got, it is a little personal to disclose it to you." He replied with a polite tone and calm smile.

Prince didn't seem to like this answer and asked one more time and a tad bit colder.

"You will answer whatever I want. Tell me or you will face consequences."

This time all the players frowned. They didn't like the prince's tone from the start and his gaze made it sure that he doesn't like them either. But they are fine with it, but this is too bad.

If they don't know anything about the palace or the Imperial family, they might not have been disappointed at all. But since they already came into contact with the Emperor and had interacted with him and seen how humble he actually was even in his position, they had some expectations from this Prince.

But it seems like they expected too much. It is good that he is not the crown prince. Or the respect earned by the father would have gone down the sewers.

Arman was about to reply, but Sam just gestured him to stay put and all four of them stayed silent.

Seeing this further infuriated the Prince and he was about to start talking, but before he could do so, the emperor came in and the Prince took back all his hostility and just gave out a calm expression. But the emperor is no idiot, he could clearly see that there is some sort of tension in the air.

But he didn't broach the subject and soon the attendants started serving. Sam took out few wine gourds and gave them to the Emperor. They are the recent products of the Ape inside Divine dimension, made with the local delicacies.

He gave them out of gratitude. Due to the Emperor, they were at least able to get into the Palace without much trouble. If the Emperor is as cranky as the prince in front of them, they would have had some serious trouble.

The dinner went normally and there are no serious questions regarding the Palace while eating. After the meal is done, they all sat there and drank wine.

Then came the question.

"Since what you came here was is over, what do you plan to do from now on?"

The Emperor asked the four of them.

"We will be staying here for quite a while. I already have some business ventures, so I would manage them along with my friends. But they might enlist in the army if they like to." Sam answered this question calmly.

"I would like to know more about this Palace of Inheritance, can you elaborate? If it is not too private, that is."

The four players exchanged glances and nodded.

"Please do ask what you want to know, we will try to answer to the best of our abilities. If they are to be kept secret and cannot be divulged, please forgive us for the offense." Arman replied.

And the questions went on and on. But The Emperor didn't ask anything too deep.

It is just what kind of people are handling the Palace and what those old men with white hair and long beard are etc.

He didn't go deep regarding who the master of Palace is. The one question he asked was who Kartikeya was and for that, they didn't answer completely. All they told him, he is an extremely powerful person who could destroy a realm with a mere thought.

The last question was regarding their home. Seeing the expectant Emperor and his hospitality, Sam decided to say something.

"We are not from Naga Loka."

That is the only answer he gave him though. The Emperor took a deep breath and the atmosphere was quiet for a while before saying.

"I think it is already late, you can leave now. You can stay here as much as you like. If you really want to join the army, I think you wouldn't have any problem with the enlistment with Sam and Yodha here. I hope you have a good time here."

With that, The Players all came and went back to Paradise.

But the three candidates are still there and Emperor asked for their prizes to be shown. The Special squad candidate got a spear technique that has many levels. It has twelve sets of moves when combined will create a single greater move.

The Imperial guard candidate got an even better reward, a cultivation technique and it seemed to be an extremely high grade one and his other reward is a chance for him to re-cultivate using this method. He was given a

method to do so but was told that it was only good for him and no one else as everybody has a different body and a different situation.

But when the Emperor read through the Cultivation technique, he couldn't help but feel a little jealous. As for the Prince, he got some battle formation plans to lead the soldiers. Even though, the formation plans are profound his reward is the lowest of them all.

Apart from that, they also got some weapons. And even in this, the Imperial guard candidate beat them. As he got a full set of armor, gauntlets and that even included a helmet and a weapon of his choice.

But he cannot wield it because it was way out of his strength at this moment and he cannot give it away because it was a life-bound treasure. It would live with him, and die with him. He can only pass it to his descendants.

He didn't take the two soldiers' treasures away, but he didn't ask them for a copy of the techniques after confirming that there is no clause of distributing them.

As for the Prince, he stayed there and the Emperor's eyes became stern as he said to him.

"I was already disappointed with one of my children, so don't be the second one. There are many things you wouldn't understand even if I tell you unless you experience yourself. Those people are from the Naga Loka.

Since they were able to come here all by themselves, their backgrounds are not something to be trifled with. Whoever it is behind the Palace of Inheritance, he made it exclusively just to merely test them and you were all just some add-ons for their trial, but even you people got such great presents. So, it is better if you become content with what you have and don't piss them off. I don't know why you are so hostile towards them, but I wish you would

think properly with a calm mind. An unreasonable hostility will never end on a good note.

But if you still don't listen to me and still butt heads with them. I wouldn't mind. But unless it comes to your life, I wouldn't interfere in this matter."

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Chapter 582: Dimensional Drifter

After staying in the Capital for a few days, Sam went back to the Mirage city and Arkiv followed while Arman went to the Military camp.

This time, the Emperor did Sam a favor and transferred him to the Navy of the Mirage city temporarily as a trainer. So, that he can manage his business properly.

At the same time, he received a large order from the Navy and they signed a contract.

Everything is going well and after arranging everything, Sam decided to check on his new reward. But not the ones Kartikeya gave himself, rather the one Monkey King sent.

The upgrade for the Dimensional Traveler.

He was now in his own personal cottage of the beach resort and it is in the restricted area for the visitors. He already told everyone that could come for him to not to disturb him for the next few days.

He took out the black cube and activated the device and took out the new black sphere he got from the Monkey King.

He didn't even have to do anything as the Black sphere shot itself into the device and Sam was stunned by the scene.

The device is completely reconstructing itself at a visible pace. It is as if he was watching a sci-fi film.

He couldn't understand or make sense of what is happening at all. But something is telling him that the upgrade is going to be an amazing one.

For the next one hour, the cottage is full of flashes and mechanical sounds of metals cranking and clashing.

Sam just sat on the bed as he witnessed the scene and after one hour, it was finally done. There is a black cube that looked the same as before. There is not much difference at all. And the only difference is that it is shining like crazy.

Sam got a hold of the device and activated it.

When the device opened up, there are many changes from the previous one.

The place where the people stand normally has become larger and now around twenty people can stand at the same time. The platform is a large square and on one of the corners, there is small thin metallic stick upon which a crystalline black sphere is mounted.

Sam walked into the platform and touched the sphere. A light ray shot out of the sphere and two light screens that are perpendicular to each other and aligned to the two sides of the square platform appeared from the light ray.

Apart from that, there are two palm prints glowing on the crystal ball.

Sam placed both his palms on it. Something seemed to have activated as words and letters activated on both the screens.

On the left screen, there is a string of letters forming, 'World Coordinate guide.' On the right screen though, his current world coordinates appeared with a string of letter beneath it.

'Naga Loka, Fifteenth Planet' That is the only thing specifying his location. The coordinates are glowing for some reason and Sam moved his right palm on the crystal ball. The coordinates that highlighted his position within the planet

are highlighted and when Sam applied pressure on the hand, a map appeared on the screen with the coordinates and the letters moving to a corner of the screen.

The map is not detailed with all the routes and stuff, but it is a rough image of the planet and there is a blinking red dot which is specifying his location. He moved his palm once again and it zoomed in. Sam zoomed to his maximum and he could make out the shape of the Mirage city on the Map and his own position within the city.

This is good enough though.

He moved his hand once again and it went back to the string of numbers and letters. But this time, the planet image appeared in another corner. He willed to change the coordinates and he only changed the coordinates within the planet and he could see the planet image changing.

He then tried to change the planet coordinates, then a different planet image appeared.

As for changing the nodal points and the coordinates of the realm, even if they changed, the images are not that easy to differentiate as they looked like star-fields. After he turned the coordinates back to normal, he looked at the second screen.

The world coordinate guide.

When he tried to open it, a tab named Naga Loka was already opened as it was placed on top of the date that is revealed as a heading with a suffix of 'Node-1' beside it.

Beneath the title, there are a series of names with Planet-1, Planet-2, and so on until it reached Planet-18.

Among them, the Planet-15 was the one highlighted indicating his location.

When he tried to access the name, it didn't show anything else, rather a pop-up appeared asking him to change the name.

He was stunned for a second, but he didn't know the name of this planet either, so he went back and tried to access the Node-1.

Then a list of nodes appeared and there are around fifteen of them.

He once again went back and this time, he accessed the Naga Loka, the realm name. A long list of realms appeared and it seemed never-ending, but apart from Naga Loka, all the other names have a lock symbol on them. When he tried to access them, a pop-up appeared with a string of words.

"Cultivation Level is not up to the threshold."

As he browsed through the list that supposed to be having thousands of names, he was about to give up, but he grit his teeth and searched, because he has to find his home planet at this moment. And after a long search, he was able to see another name that was not locked.

It was named Desolate realm. When Sam opened it, there is only one node listed under it and within that one node, there is only one planet.

Sam accessed the planet with extreme caution and when he clicked it, the image on the screen changed and the planet appeared. When he clicked on the planet's image, the screen on the right side changed and the coordinates changed. Sam zoomed into the planet as he kept on changing the coordinates.

And after ten or so changes, he was finally relieved.

He has seen the map of the planet and remembered every unique landscape as he wanted to use them in his war with the major powers.

So, he was able to identify the location.

He altered the coordinates until they are locked on the Western continent. Anywhere in the western continent is his own territory. He can go there and come back as he wished.

He locked the coordinates and now it is time to load the spirit stones. And as soon as he locked the coordinates, an energy indicator appeared and it is showing that only twenty-five percent is full and at the same time, a small hole appeared on the control sphere.

He placed his hand on it so that the spatial ring could align with it and started dropping the spirit stones, he loaded a lot of spirit stones it and the amount almost reached a billion before the charge was done. The hole automatically closed and he once again looked at the image of the planet and took a deep breath before activating.

Sam disappeared from the spot along with the device and when he reappeared he was in the middle of the forest with the black cube in his hands.

He looked around, and he heaved a sigh of relief. At this moment, he is standing in the middle of the forest. This forest is also the one Sam is extremely familiar with actually.

This is the forest that connected two of the dukedoms of the empire and this is the route Sam used when he was at war with the Orion Empire. He used this very route to destroy the mines.

He was overjoyed and opened the device once again. The first thing he did is to look at the Energy Indicator and he was stunned to see that only one-third of it was gone.

He heaved a sigh of relief and this time, it was because of the money he could save. For every roundtrip, he has to spend a lot of money on the previous

device, but now it reduced by half. This is great news for him and he changed the coordinates and moved back to Naga Loka.

Even though the most important task has been finished off, Sam has some other matters. He has spent too much on this Naga Loka and he has to make most of it.

The next thing he has to do is, find the resources unique to this realm. He decided to find any means to get his hands on any form of resources he could get his hands on in bulk and transport it with them.

Not only would new materials enter his market, but the material researchers will also have some new branches they would research on they can create some new alloys.

Apart from that, there are beasts and plants he wants to take away, for that he would need some more time to gather the resources from all the corners of the planet.

After exploring the new device, he was extremely satisfied after checking the energy indicator and another function that could lock all the previous coordinates he has used and let him name those spots. After that, he tried to turn it off.

Before the screen could disappear, two words appeared on two screens.

'Dimensional Drifter.'

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Chapter 583: Gambling of Gods

Sam is done with checking the device. Now, he sat cross-legged and closed his eyes, and started meditating. It is not for cultivation. There is not even a single strand of energy. In fact, he sealed his own cultivation at this point and started thinking.

Now it is time for him to process all the new information he received. With the talk he had with the god and also the battle he had with the two candidates, he gained a lot of information.

For starters, he came to know about the blood arts they are using and why they are similar. He even stayed his hand to see what that technique exactly is and let them finish the technique. Since he wanted to flex his own body for a bit, then it turned out well. Otherwise, he would have already made a move and stopped them using any form of a secret art, by any cost if it was a real battle.

Apart from that, he also came to know that every other player except for him have these blood arts and are all tailor-made by the gods.

The selection of candidates has something more depth than he thought.

At first, he thought he was picked out at random and so were the rest of the candidates and it seemed to be true with the rest of the Gods except the Gambler.

Sam drew this conjecture from what Kartikeya said about the so-called disadvantages of Sam. At that moment, what he said might have been what he thought on his feet, but it really does seem true.

The Gambler must have actively sought out for him and already made all kinds of preparations including sending Yanwu, the divine dimension, the collection of the cultivation techniques, knowledge, and pill recipes.

As Kartikeya said, they already have enough pressure with competing with each other as they need to get to the Palace of Inheritance every three years. And not only do they have to compete against themselves, they would also have to transverse the dimensions and compete with the locals of their respective areas.

This is already hard enough. That is why the gods made a decision to give these special techniques and the Dimensional Crosser to these guys.

But The Gambler seemed to have risked everything related to this game. After all, if the selected party is not capable of utilizing the current situation properly and doesn't know how to take advantage of what he was given, The Gambler would have lost.

And one more thing, he got is that this thing really is a game. But instead of the game pieces, the players, are used and they will work independently not even knowing that their steps are being manipulated by the gods that sent them here.

Now after thinking about all of this, there is one question, what is the objective of the game?

What are the gods expecting from these twelve players? From the three palaces of inheritances, the first one mostly tested the overall talent in many aspects, the second one that belonged to the Monkey King tested the combat prowess and the third one tested the commanding skills and battle acumen.

And in each Palace, and every test have corresponded with the gods that are good at these things. They are giving the rewards away that are far too valuable for the world they are currently in.

Even though, Kartikeya said that this was merely entertainment, what sort of person would use those out-of-the-world arts, the resources, and the hassle of sending avatars to different dimensions all by themselves just for the sake of entertainment?

Sam had a really bad feeling about this.

He stopped his train of thoughts and opened his eyes. It is stupid to think too much about the things you cannot change.

He has to think about what to do in present.

At this moment, he has already sent orders to all the mines within the Nation and the nearby friendly nations. But it would take some time, for him to get the required materials.

Apart from that, he also has to place orders for the herbs and other crops that are special here along with a way to get the resources from the nations that are not friendly to Mov Empire.

Actually, he can use the Dimensional Drifter, but it wouldn't be economical at all. The cost is too big for just buying some metal, no matter how large the quantity is. In fact, he could get a decent load of these things with just the travel expenses if he used the Dimensional Drifter.

He wanted to ask Yodha if he can do anything about it and came out of his cottage.

Meanwhile, in the realms that are too far from any other being in the universe, there are twelve people sitting around a table as they discussed.

Indra is the first one to speak.

"Three Palaces are completed, it is about time we activate another part of the test. But we haven't even decided on what kind of test we are going to use. So, today I called all of you here to make decisions regarding this.

Currently, there are two proposals, I propose voting."

After he finished, the voting commenced and it was quite a disappointing result because the vote is equal.

And two people are neutral to any of the two proposals. They are Gambler and Kartikeya.

For some reason, Kartikeya is intently observing Gambler since the start of the meeting. After his talk with Sam, he felt like there is something wrong with the game this time.

As the decision is once again conflicted, Gambler spoke.

"I don't know why we are even fighting regarding this. I would say use both methods, one for now and the other one after the fourth palace, in fact, go on and make more proposals. We can use a different one every time.

What is all this unnecessary fuss about?"

He said so in an impatient voice. Everyone was stunned. It is not like they didn't think of it, but they are too bored to think intricately and create challenges. They don't want to that time and again and decided to keep only one format, and since the format is going to be there, they wanted it to be something they selected themselves so that they can feel better about themselves.

Who said gods are beyond regular vanity, here they are trying to fight over glory that as minute as this.

As if he could read their mind, Gambler said.

"It's not like you can only feel better with having only your format. Using different formats proposed by different people can allow you to compare and you can feel smug as much as you want if you can create a better test.

Anyway, we can add an extra gamble in this so that we can also get super goodies from each other."

Everyone rolled their eyes, this is so like The Gambler, he can include gambling in everything, but the person in question didn't even care and said.

"We will use proposal number one this time and we have to select a single candidate to be on one side and the rest of the eleven on the other side, so I think it is better to start voting regarding this."

"Let us call the single candidate the Black Horse. Now, let us started voting for Black horse candidate."

Kartikeya proposed and at this moment, almost half of them followed by Indra gave the same name.

"Sam."

"Sam."

"Sam."

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Gambler and the remaining six were dumbfounded. These are the people who supported proposal one. They didn't know why they tried so hard to push the proposal given by Indra so strongly. After all, everyone on the team knows that no one can get along with Indra. Among the gods of the same level, Indra has the least friends, but he was still able to get this much support, this really made them think.

But now they understood. This is all a petty trick to get back at Sam. After all, everyone knew what happened in the first Palace. Indra felt his fragile ego got hurt because Sam rejected his enlightenment and tried to teach him a lesson and pressured him.

Sam didn't take it lying down, after enduring the pressure, not only he didn't kneel, he took a sword and used all his strength to cut down the statue of Indra into two. From that day on, Indra was a butt of jokes in this circle.

And this guy even employed a trick of setting his thunder prison in the second-ranked treasure of the palace so that his candidate could have less competition.

But his candidate is stupid enough to realize it and Sam got a hold of it. From then on, this guy must have plotted against Sam and used something to persuade these guys. The gambler didn't care though. He looked even more excited and said.

"Okay, since you guys are making him the black horse, it is me against the remaining eleven. Come one take out what you want to bet. I am waiting for it."

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Chapter 584: Black Horse

Sam was trying his best to meet with Yodha for the past few days, but he was not able to get in touch with him. Every time, he tried, he was told that Yodha is in a special meeting with the emperor regarding a special discussion.

But he didn't want to delay this too much, even though there is not much for him to do back in his home planet, he didn't want to stay away from that. The Major powers would have already recognized that their top geniuses are all disappeared for a year.

From what Sam learned from Arkiv, they are all on the expedition in the Central Continent. That is what they gave to their respective sect elders so that they can create a perfect ruse. But that is not going to be easy.

Since it involves the prodigies of all the major powers, it would be difficult to keep the matter on the down-low and they would start searching.

If they find out Sam also disappeared with them, then they might think of ways to get back at his organization. Even though they would still worry about their

own geniuses, they would still focus on getting a piece of the fat and juicy meat which is his own organization.

Philip, Watt, and Jack will not be able to handle the situation alone. They could maintain it to some extent, but they wouldn't be able to maintain it for so long.

He should move and make an appearance in three months and also introduce his new ships and the engines to the market.

That way, he can also use that as a way to fool them to think, that he was busy with the research and that is the reason he didn't appear for this year. He can avoid any relation to the mysterious disappearance of the prodigies.

One night, Sam is practicing his mental cultivation in his cottage and all of a sudden, his divine dimension reacted a message appeared in his mind telling him to enter the dimension.

Sam looked a little surprised and looked at the crystal. He immediately entered the crystal and he didn't appear at the tower door like he does every time, rather he appeared in another floor which he never opened.

This is the fourth floor of the tower. Sam was stunned by this as he didn't expect that this would open this quickly.

The fourth floor is not as big as the first three, it is actually very small and there are only one screen and a podium inside this room.

On the screen, LingTian appeared once again.

This time, Sam is not surprised anymore. He asked even before that guy can talk.

"When am I going to meet that Gambler?"

He asked as if he was tired of seeing Ling Tian every time.

"Hello, Sam.

It is good to see you again.

Now I am here to tell you something. A new mode of the game is now introduced to test the Players. This is called Point mode.

From now on, after every Palace of Inheritance was over, this Point mode will be activated with different games between the Players.

The first game is going to be One Vs Eleven others. The game's name is the Black Horse.

In this game, one player was selected as a Black horse and he has a task to finish and the rest of the players has to use any means necessary to stop the Black horse.

Everyone will get points based on their performance and those points would be useful in the final Palace of Inheritance you will encounter.

Now, you can see the details of the Black Horse Game."

With that, Ling Tian's image disappeared and the screen showed some text regarding the task.

The game is concise and simple. There are six herbs Sam has to obtain and they all belong to Naga Loka, but they will be on different planets and what surprised him is that he is the Black horse. He has to gather these six herbs and when he looked at their names, he frowned. Because these herbs are not exactly suitable for farming them in bulk.

They can either grow them individually without any other herbs and in a single unit at that or they can only find it wild.

He has to assemble these six herbs and the remaining eleven candidates will have to find ways to stop Sam at any cost.

They can fight him, they can steal from him and they can even kill him.

The game duration is six months and everyone's performance will be evaluated individually. They will get the points.

At this moment, a small metallic disc with a crystallized surface appeared on the podium and every player has to take this.

Sam walked towards it and when he touched it, it immediately moved and seemed to have entered the palm on his hand.

It looked like it was embedded into the left palm and only the crystal surface was visible outside. Sam frowned at this. He didn't want something unknown in his body, as he thought of removing it, the crystal surface disappeared.

After that, with another thought, it reappeared again and when he thought of what its use is, it showed the number 180 on it showing the time limit of six months.

With another thought, it disappeared. He moved his hand and tried some spiritual energy circulations, there is no change, it didn't change anything at all.

After that, he once again looked at the list of the herbs on the screen and also the details regarding their location.

The game's difficulty didn't lie in finding their location, because they already gave the details about the planet in which it can grow.

Sam went down to the first floor and started searching up for the details regarding the six herbs, their living conditions, qualities of the herbs, their uses and many more.

When he looked through them, he didn't know if he should laugh or cry. The herbs here are of high-grade. They are mostly used for the Transcendent cultivators. He didn't read the exact uses, but he has to find out.

But the thing is, he has to find out a way to get them.

And there is one restriction in this game to Sam and that is he cannot leave the Naga Loka within the duration of the game or until the game is over completely.

Sam is having a headache with this. He would very much want to smack that gambler until he couldn't recognize his face from his ass. He doesn't know how he ended up as the Black Horse, but his gut feeling is telling him that this is not just a lottery.

As Sam is thinking, he came out only to meet with Arkiv.

"What do you want?"

Sam asked with a frown; he knew that the whole game this time around revolved around him and he is the target of all of them. He has to be wary. But for some weird reason, he didn't feel any hostility from this guy.

"You do know you are the target of this, right? I will be magnanimous because of the help you have done and will not mess with you for the first two months, if you were able to finish the game before that, I am fine with that.

But if you didn't, then I will definitely try my best to stop you."

"Thanks." Sam heaved a sigh of relief. Arkiv turned around and left the place.

As for Arman, Sam didn't worry too much. Even if that guy managed to find an ounce of mental strength by any chance, when met in the battle, Sam is sure that he would face the trauma, he himself inflicted on him.

There is no way he would get past that. It is like the fear of snakes inflicted in the genes of the whole human race. Even though some people have extremely less fear or none at all, most of them fear it. It was ingrained by the generations of humans being attacked by the snakes and dying in their hands.

Now, Sam's treatment made Arman develop that kind of fear.

The only immediate problem is Noah.

She didn't stay with Sam and others and left for Army after the Palace is over.

She didn't want to associate with them.

As for the remaining candidates, they can try and find him first.

Sam went to the Navy base and conducted a session of training and sent a raven to Yodha. He has to ask some questions before he could go to other planets, but before that, he also has to find the herb that is within this planet.

It is not exactly an herb. It is actually a flower.

The conditions are also severe. It is a fire-type flower called the Magma lotus.

The lotus can only be grown when some Magma streams are merging into a single magma pool. The lava shouldn't move from the pool to the outside, rather the pool should be the collection point of the lava.

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Chapter 585: Deal with the Smuggler

Sam didn't know where to start, so he looked through the files of his new students in the Naval Base. After finding some capable and well-connected people, he used the connections to get some basic information about some other nations.

He even used his military rank to get some more information. The military information is mostly related to the borders and armies, not much of the internal workings and the terrains. At least, he got one thing right though. Mov empire didn't have that much a volcanic region.

So, he definitely has to move to another planet to see.

After some futile efforts to get the required detailed terrain and contacting Yodha, Sam was stuck in the starting point.

Now, he felt like he might as well directly travel to other nations one by one. But he only had six months, he cannot come and travel through all of them.

As he was thinking, he went back to his ship-building factory. He has been encouraging the artisans there to create new ship designs with the engines as the core of the design. He even said to use multiple, engines, multiple transmission systems, anything that is necessary to create any kind of ship.

They are also trying, but few had made some significant changes regarding this. But there is still an improvement.

As he walked to the office of the factory, he saw someone and had a new idea. Someone is talking to the Orphan two, who is now in charge of Sales. They seemed to be in a heated argument.

When he entered the office, he could hear something.

"I need them earlier than that, I cannot wait that long. How about you give someone else's ship and you can delay their order if there is no urgency?" The smuggler requested. But Orphan two didn't reply as he stood up to greet Sam.

"Hello, Boss."

Sam gestured him to take a seat, but he didn't sit in the same chair, he moved to the side and sat on the assistant's chair before offering the main seat to Sam.

Sam took the seat and asked.

"What is the matter?"

"This man wants a new ship. A decently large one. And that too a custom order. It is more like a fusion of a cargo and passenger ship. But we cannot meet his timeline. So, now he is trying to get a ready-made ship. But we don't have such large ships ready-made."

Sam understood the matter and asked the Smuggler.

"What are specifications?"

The smuggler handed a scroll to him. Inside there are requirements of the ship. He frowned for a minute.

"Come with me, let us talk in private."

Sam stood up and took the man for a walk along the dock of his factory.

"I will be honest with you. That ship would take a month to manufacture with our current manpower. We completely abandon all the other orders we will take around ten days. That too because you are lucky enough that there is a pre-made engine that is suitable for this ship.

And currently, we are working on the Navy's order. So, we cannot delay that easily."

"Is there no other way?" The smuggler asked.

"Why do you need this ship so badly?"

The smuggler thought for some time and said.

"You know what my profession is. But what I exactly do is find a way of escape to the people in different places and send them to a different nation or city and such.

This time, something big is going to happen in a month in flavos empire. There would be a lot of new fugitives that want to leave the country."

"Flavos? The Empress' home country?"

"Yes. This is a special time of the year and there are so many people coming there. A treasure trove is going to be opened and people from different nations will go there for that. There will be many fights and deaths and a lot of

people will want to escape the place intact and avoid the wrath of the local factions.

That is why I need a ship. In fact, I could have gone on my old ship. But it is damaged and it would take more time to repair than your new ship.

I cannot miss this chance after all. All those rich pricks will be practically giving me the money."

"What kind of place is opening up?"

"Flavos has one of the most active volcanic regions. And the magma concentration and the fire elemental energy are so high that there are many naturally formed Golems there and it is hard to go there is any time of the year.

Even the Consummate realm cultivators cannot withstand the heat. The Lava is also not red in color. Most of it is in Golden Yellow and is hotter than any Lava you could have even seen in Mov or any other empire.

Some people also go there in normal times, to sit on the edges of the regions so that they can enhance their fire element or increase the resistance to the fire element.

At this time of the year, it would be open only for a month. And only Nascent stage cultivators and Pre-transcendent stage cultivators can go there.

Everyone who can find any sort of treasures there can keep them.

But that is only a rule with so many loopholes. Inside that region, everything is allowed, people kill, slaughter and rob as they like.

That is why this is one of the best options for me. I will get so many customers to move to various nations. This is something I cannot miss."

Sam thought for a while with a calm face. But his mind is a mess. He didn't expect there would be such a coincidence. In fact, he didn't believe in too

many coincidences. The Black horse task and the Magma Lotus being the first thing on the list that too in the planet he was present. This is too good to be a mere coincidence.

But after he thought of the gods that are playing with him and their means along with their twisted ways of testing the players, there is not much a surprise if they really made it happen like this.

He is feeling a headache. He was trying to find a suitable volcanic region from this smuggler and go there, pick the herb and come back and try to get to other planets.

That is what he thought. But now, he realized that all he had are pipe dreams. He would already have a handful with the rest of the players targeting him. Now he also has to deal with the remaining competition from all the nations.

This is too much of a hassle.

He looked at the smuggler and thought of something.

"How many nations have you traveled?"

"All of them. Small and big, there are a total of fifteen empires and thirty-seven kingdoms on the planet. Except for the places that are least developed and a deficit of resources, I have visited all of them. I might be a smuggler. But I smuggle people mostly and I sent man people to, many different places."

"Then I have a business proposal. Are you interested?"

"Tell me."

"I will give you a ship temporarily and you can keep it for six months. It is quite spacious and it can actually five times faster than a normal ship you guys use on this planet.

After six months, I will give you some ships in the form of payment. They will include two small speed boats. One small passenger ship with six cabins, a

bigger passenger ship with twelve cabins, a fishing boat with six cabins and large fish tanks that could even store sharks of this sea, a small ocean-liner that can be both cargo and passenger ship.

But for that, I need you to do something for me. If you are down for that, we can continue talking business.

The smuggler was stunned. He didn't expect that Sam would give such a large payment. Their market price goes to almost three hundred to four hundred million.

But Sam didn't think it is too much. He will need something that could be spending billions. So, he can give a commission like this and the cost price of these ships is nowhere near three hundred or four hundred million.

The profit margin is quite large actually and Sam wouldn't even feel a thing even if he gave them all for free.

This deal intrigued the smuggler, so they went into a private office and discussed everything there.

But there is one step that made it hard for the smuggler to agree. There is a pill on the table that Sam needed him to take.

He is hesitating, but after some thought, he gritted his teeth and took it.

Sam felt a sensation in his mind and smiled before he shook his hands and saying.

"It is great doing business with you. Now, our first stop will be the Flavos empire and for this first phase of the deal, I will be coming with you. I want to take a look at the volcanic region. If you can get this done, you can proceed with the next remaining deals directly."

Then Sam took him to a ship that was already on the dock. This is one of the ships that was built during the training period of the employees in the factory.

It is completely supervised by Sam and The smuggler is quite satisfied with this.

After arranging a time for their departure, the smuggler went to the resort upon Sam's invitation. As Sam was thinking of contacting Yodha again, the man himself came to Mirage city which made Sam relax a bit.

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Chapter 586: To Flavos

Sam was relieved when he saw Yodha. The deal he made with the smuggler is something that has many loose ends on. Even though he gave him the Pill of servitude, he has to make sure that there would be no possible loss of betrayal because of this.

That is why he wanted to find Yodha once again.

Since Yodha himself came now, it is much easier. And the thing is Yodha came for a ship too.

Sam couldn't help but chuckle.

"There is a small problem here. The ships for the Navy cannot be built individually. Since you gave me the chance to build this small fleet, you have to wait for it. If we build the ships individually, there is a high chance that it would go to waste." Sam said upon Yodha's request.

"Then, is there any other ship for travel?"

"Where do you want to go?"

"Flavos."

"For the Volcanic region?"

"How do you know that?" Yodha asked with a little surprise. After all, he knew that Sam only came recently and the Volcanic region is not a common news for the locality in Mov empire.

"How many people are going? I can arrange a ship if there are few people. I built a few ships already during the training period of the employees and we built one for each model. The small-sized semi-cargo is already reserved. So, you can ask for another ship and I can get you one. They are all travel ready."

Yodha looked through a booklet on the table that has the specifications and said.

"The eight cabin passenger ship will do. Are you going to visit Flavos as well?"

"I am. How can I miss such a great opportunity?"

Yodha's face became complicated and said.

"Actually, our empire decided to send a team of five Nascent stage cultivators and three Pre-transcendent stage cultivators, but I am not the leader of the team and all the places are reserved previously. And everyone is a Naga.

This was all agreed by the nobles and the emperor previously, so we cannot get you in."

"No problem. I will go on my own. I am not even traveling on the same ship as you. I have my own transportation."

"Then that is fine. But if you are not a part of the team, you have to finish a test at the entrance of this volcanic region.

Although it is the natural reduction of heat that allows the people to enter, the ancestors of the Nagas had created a special entrance. The entrance will test the candidates who want to enter and as long as they can make it through the entrance, they can enter the region.

It is better to be prepared as the test would be strong. It mostly based on the fire elemental energy and pressure." Yodha said a few more things that he had to remember and after he was done, Sam said.

"I have a business deal. You want to take it?"

"What is that?"

"A weapon deal."

"A new weapon?"

"Yes, new to you people. It is specially made for Naval soldiers. Are you interested?"

"What is the deal?"

"Before I explain, I would like to say that there is a condition that you must fulfill. And it involves an extremely huge amount of money. Of course, it is my money, but I wouldn't be there to manage it. So, I need the Navy or army anyone else that could guarantee it. I don't want my money to be lost and if something really happens. I will not only stop this weapon deal, but there will also be no further cooperation between us regarding any other weapons."

"Sure, but first tell me the condition, then we can discuss the weapon."

Sam agreed and explained what he needed. After some deep thought and a long discussion finally, Yodha agreed.

Sam then took out the breathing device and the Flat-fish puppets.

He took Yodha to the docks and dove into the water and gave him a demonstration.

Yodha liked this thing very much. He immediately agreed and asked Sam if he has any more conditions he wanted them to fulfill.

Then, they started discussing the factory and the production.

The Flat-fish puppets are not products of mass production and they are only suitable for elites. Sam's deal with them is that he would sell them the design, the production plan, machinery and even train the artisans to make them

along with training the enchanters on how to give the necessary commands to the spirit in the puppet.

But, Sam would get a royalty for every puppet that was made.

This is more to Sam's taste than a full-fledged factory because Sam wouldn't stay in this place forever.

On his home planet, he has a solid foundation and sufficient power, so that he can ensure that no one will cheat him off. Here the situation is different. The only person he can trust is Yodha and that too not unconditional.

He can only trust him because Sam has more weapons in hand and Yodha who likes making money needs a person like Sam who is good at doing that.

At least, he knew that this type of trust exists, unlike the one that is full of flowery words.

After making the deal and talking about the rest, Sam set a date that he would teach them after a month.

Meanwhile, he gave them the blueprints of the different parts of the puppet so that they could make them.

"Actually, I wanted to talk to you about something else, but since you are also going to the volcanic region, we can talk about it after this one month," Yodha said these words before he left to take a look at the ship.

Sam also went on to deal with the tasks and then went to the resort. After two days, two ships left the docks of the Mirage city Industrial zone. One of them is an eight cabin passenger Ship. Another one is a Semi-cargo ship. Which is the same size as a mini-version of the small-scale ocean liner.

There is a special crew on both ships. The passenger ship has a crew from the Navy and only two people of Sam's employees are there as for the Semi-

cargo; apart from him and the smuggler and there is a full cabin crew that is trained and are current employees of Sam's shipbuilding company.

They are responsible for testing of the ship for sails and they are hired. Even though there are not many large orders and the Navy orders which are large are still not ready at the moment, the crew is only tasked to test the fishing ships and the speed boats.

Now they are extremely excited. They can now use the semi cargo as much as they want in the ship.

From the engine crew to the navigation crew everyone is excited to see the metal beast go on a voyage. But they were disappointed to know that they have are only going to Flavos. Because it is one of the nearest places. But still, it is better than nothing.

After five days on the sea, the two ships reached Flavos side by side.

The smuggler, whose name is Buck, has a license to bring ships and enter the docks and the other ship is on official notice.

So, they have no problem docking in.

The whole docks though, are stunned and attracted by the two ships that seemed to have outclassed every other ship on the docks.

Sam and the smuggler left the docks and entered the city. The volcanic region is a bit far away and the smuggler said he is not going to use the official route to go there from the port city.

Since Sam also didn't want to associate with the rest of the group from the Mov empire, he also wanted to go with the smuggler.

This route is similar to the route the smuggler took when he smuggled Arkiv.

They first went to a small village that has an estuary and they sneaked into the forest following the water upstream.

After they arrived deep into the forest near the waterfall, where the stream originated, they went to the deeper region of the forest and traveled for three days before they arrived at another village. From that village, they took a mountain route to stop at a final village.

This is called Hot spring village and this is nearest to the Volcanic region.

There is another town on the other side from where the official people will come.

The smuggler went to a house on the outskirts of the village and entered with familiarity as he led Sam inside.

The villagers greeted him casually as they came across him.

"You seem quite familiar with this place."

"Of course, I am. I stay here quite often. After I was done with a job I will come here. I wouldn't stay for more than forty-five days on the sea continuously and if something like that happens then I would stay at other places.

After all, Flavos is a great place to live."

There are still three days till the volcanic region entrance opened and Sam is waiting in the Hot spring village.

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Chapter 587: Into the Volcanic Region

These two days, Sam spent in the house as he continuously circulated energy in his body with ripple style. The Hot spring village's specialty is that almost every house has a hot spring and it was a spring that gets the heat from the nearby volcanic region.

And due to the presence of many minerals, they are extremely helpful for relieving body fatigue.

For these two days, Sam sat in the spring and practiced the technique and the water rippled.

Sam wanted to test the control of his skill on an obvious entity that he can access easily. He tried this on the hot spring and he used it on both the pool of water and the steam that is arising from it.

The ripple style is as tough as the void style. At least, he got a detailed view of the practical application of the void style and he even saw the energy circulation in action fighting against it.

Now even though, the methods and techniques are imprinted in his mind, he was still missing something.

So, he is trying to use his control to create the ripples in the pool as he wanted.

After two days of practice, there is little progress, but he didn't give up. He moved along with Buck and both of them walked to the entrance of the Volcanic region.

Soon, they are walking on the volcanic rocks and Sam could even feel the flowing magma underneath.

He didn't know if the Magma lotus will be present in this area, but he felt like this is the only place that could make it possible for the herb to grow.

When they reached the entrance, there are already many people standing there.

They went through the crowd and looked at the entrance.

In front of them is a large steep hill and there is a cave at the bottom.

Six Nagas are sitting in six different places. All six of them are Nagas from six different empires. Recently, from the smuggler, Sam has learned a lot about

the empires of this planet. There are six major Empires that stand above the rest of the empires.

And Mov is one of them along with the Rubrum. Both of them are tied at fourth place. While the Flavos is in fifth place. There are three empires above them

This is a joint event from the six nations, even though the primary host is the Flavos empire.

At this moment, the teams of the six empires are entering the cave one by one and after a few minutes, after they left, two sentries stood at the entrance and started collecting the toll for entry. Each Nascent stage cultivator should pay two million spirit stones and each Pre-transcendent stage cultivator should pay five million.

There are around a thousand nascent stage cultivators and three to four hundred Pre-transcendent stage cultivators going. This is a massive income for even the six empires. They are going make a fortune.

Sam paid his toll and left the place. Buck is not going in, he walked away from the place after Sam entered.

Sam started walking through the tunnel and after walking a few meters, the entrance is glowing red.

The cultivators seemed to have slowed down a bit.

They are all sweating. Even the fire elemental users are having a hard time moving, but not as bad as the others though.

As Sam stood there and watched, he felt like someone is watching him and turned around. A young man walked through the entrance with a smile.

He is someone Sam recognized. He is none other than Akhil. The player from the Beast faction.

"Fancy seeing the Black horse here. Is it really okay for you to just come out and openly finish the task? Especially when eleven elites are after your tail."

"Seems like you forgot the first Palace of inheritance already."

When Sam said this, Akhil almost choked and replied with faint embarrassment.

"We are not the same. Do you think it would be as easy as that time? All we have to do is stop you from doing tasks. Even if we have to fight, I don't think you can certainly win. After all, I am improving."

"And what do you think I am doing? From the first palace of inheritance till the second one, I started a business, became a refugee, waged a war, and even butt heads with a Major power and still I kicked your ass in the second palace of inheritance when you have three people supporting you and all four of you surrounding me.

And still, you think you have a chance now?"

With that Sam left with a smile. Akhil was stunned at the spot for a second before his face turned red and became embarrassed as he yelled at Sam.]

"This time, I will definitely defeat you."

As he said he also started walking beside Sam. And both of them entered the red zone.

They could feel the extreme heat that is being created by the extreme fire elemental energy.

At the start of the walk, there is not much effect on both of them as they walked pretty simply. But after some time, the heat increased too much and Akhil started sweating. After all, he is a warrior and he is not of the fire element. He took out a pill and swallowed it and his skin started emitting icy fog.

But even then, at halfway point, he started sweating. Sam is still walking normally. All he is feeling is the pressure. Not the heat. The heat effect on him is almost negated by the Golden Crow bloodline. After all, there are few types of flames that could contend against the golden crow's flames.

As they walked, all Sam did is look at others who are falling one after another.

By the time, they reached the end, only half of the original group made it. Half of the people spent their money in vain.

As soon as they exited most people are feeling tired and took a rest.

Sam barely broke any sweat, which surprised him. From what he observed in the path, the resistance offered by the path is not for the strength of the person, rather the quality of their cultivation.

The fire element is of an extremely higher grade, but its grade is not higher than that of Golden crow that is why Sam not only felt any heat, but almost all the pressure was negated. As for the pressure he faced, it is mostly due to cultivation.

These are the main advantages of his cultivation technique. Even though he has to spend more resources than any other cultivation, it is worth it.

He looked at Akhil who is a lot better than any other person and said.

"I advise you to not mess with me in this place. But if you are still so confident in stopping me, you can come and find me."

With that, Sam lunged and rank into the black rocky terrain.

The whole expanse of land they could see is full of volcanic rocks and there is nothing else.

They could see small cracks in the rocks and a light golden glow could be seen emitting smoke.

The place might be a rocky terrain, but there are many treasures in this area. A variety of metals, herbs, beasts are all available.

The land looks like blocks of rocks are thrown over. There is not much flat land at least not within the vicinity.

He could see many people walking in different directions and soon, he reached a small patch of flat land. It is so small that it could barely be used to play badminton. But it is still a better place to rest than the thorny rocks.

There he saw Yodha and the rest of the team.

One of them is holding a scroll and it seemed to be some kind of map and discussing something.

He felt lucky to encounter them this early. He wanted to find a lava stream. No matter how small it is. This large area of volcanic region definitely had to have some streams and he came here for that. As for other treasures, he would try to take them if they are on his way, or he wouldn't care about them.

So, he wanted to ask Yodha if he can point out a direction to find a stream, but before he could take a step back, one of the team members looked at him and yelled.

"Stay there, this is Mov empire's team and currently this area is ours, get lost."

He said with some unbridled arrogance. Sam didn't show any expression though, he just looked at Yodha and called for him.

"I need to talk to you."

Yodha looked at the rest and said.

"He is a friend of mine. He didn't come for you guys." But when he was about to take a step forward, the one who is holding the map stopped Yodha and said to Sam.

"What do you need to talk to him?"

Sam frowned and said.

"Why do you need to know?"

"If you are not going to say anything, then I am not going to allow you guys to talk privately. You can talk here or you can get lost."

"And why should he do that?"

This time, it is Yodha who asked the question and his voice is a tad bit colder even in that heated environment, the leader who stopped him didn't dare to meet his cold eyes, but after a second he recovered his bearing and said.

"I heard that he is your business partner, what if you share our team's plans with him? Then wouldn't our whole trip be leaked? What if the prince or the other people get attacked?"

"You better mind your tongue. Or there is a great chance that it could be cut off. He is a war hero and you should treat him with the respect he deserves."

Yodha became enraged and the leader shuddered. Everyone knows how unreasonable Yodha could be, but for some reason, the leader who wouldn't dare to meet an eye with him is openly going against him. This is a surprise for everyone on the team.

But they still felt like it is not their leader's fault and they couldn't blame him. As for Yodha, they wouldn't dare, so they directed their ire at Sam.

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Chapter 588: Berries

Sam noticed the hostile stares from everyone else and the prince is gloating. This is the same prince that entered the Palace of Inheritance but ended up with the least valuable prize of all.

Sam didn't want to bother with them. He cannot stoop to a level where the grown men are squabbling like children.

"Yodha, where is the nearest stream?"

"Stream? Do you think this is a forest? This is the volcanic region." One of the candidates couldn't keep his mouth shut and spoke.

Sam looked at him coldly and once again looked at Yodha in askance.

"Twenty kilometers in that direction," Yodha said and pointed towards a direction. Sam thanked him and got ready to leave.

"Don't you dare associate with us, if you get into trouble? You are not a part of this team." The team leader said this once again.

Sam looked at him and didn't reply. He just stepped on the nearest rock and disappeared with a golden flash. He didn't take the harbinger at the moment, just on a whim. He enjoyed jumping from one rock to another on this terrain.

This almost felt like a pinball machine as he hit one rock after another and after some time, he finally saw traces of the stream.

There are small lava puddles in the rocks and when he moved forward, he could see the Lava stream.

He couldn't help but feel impressed at the golden liquid flowing in a stream with vapors emitting from it; now and then there would be some occasional gas bubbles spraying the Lava out.

As Sam observed, he could see small tongues of flames near the bank of the stream. But not extremely near the stream, a few feet away.

When he walked closer, he noticed that they are not flames, it is red-colored grass.

He felt weird as there shouldn't be soil in that large rocky terrain. He touched the ground and felt that even the soil is sizzling hot.

He plucked a few blades of grass and threw them in divine dimension to see if they are useful. When they appeared near the cattle farm inside the dimension, there the fire elemental cattle, that included the blazing earth bull are all excited to eat this.

Sam observed this and decided to collect more. The grass is not too tall, the largest blade of grass reached his calf at most.

He took a dagger and swung it. A blade ray cut into a distance and the grass that is present in a few meters was all uprooted. Then he started collecting them.

But when he started collecting them, he finally noticed something. The grass is growing on a small slope that tilted towards the stream.

And he took a step back and observed it from different angles and finally understood.

The grass that grew didn't grow on the bank, rather it is the bed of the stream. And why the bed of the stream is out in the open that is because the width of the stream reduced.

Sam felt like this must have been due to this special one-month period.

He followed the stream and walked as he collected the grass as he went on. He felt like a farmer cutting grass for his life-stock. But it was not a bad feeling though.

As he hummed a tune and cut the grass, he walked slowly along with the stream. If not for the fact that the stream is of golden lava and the grass is extremely hot like it was taken out of oil right after it was deep-fried, it would have been perfect.

After walking for a distance there is no more grass and Sam didn't use it anymore. He took out the harbinger and started moving faster. After a while, he spotted two people fighting. One of them is Akhil.

He didn't expect he would move that fast though. Sam hovered over and looked at the fight with interest.

There is a small shrub on the river bed and it has fruits that are the size of a quail egg.

They looked like berries.

Sam immediately understood what the fight is for. These berries must be some sort of spiritual fruit.

He zoomed past the fight and directly plucked one and ate it. Anyway, even if it is poisonous, it can do little to him. Even if it cannot be negated, he has a variant hydra bloodline. He can just make it his own.

But his thoughts are unfounded as soon as he ate the fruit. He could feel the fire elemental energy spreading to his bones and muscles, even his blood.

He could immediately guess the effects. The fire element users get better affinity and the non-fire elemental users will feel their body tempered and they can gain some resistance to the fire element. But he is not focused on it too much. He is focused on the feeling it caused when it went down.

It was marvelous. These berries are great and it seemed like they would make great wine. He looked around and noticed that although the same kind of shrubs is there, they seemed to be a bit different. He tasted one from each bush and he noticed that it might their growth level.

The plants like these also seemed to have evolution levels. Some berries didn't have any effect on him and some have too poor an effect. Only the first two bushes gave him that sensation.

As Sam is taste-testing the shrubs, the two people noticed what Sam is doing and they immediately focused on him.

When Akhil saw it was Sam, he was delighted, but before he knew it he frowned once again. He remembered their current status. Sam is the black horse.

It would be great if Sam didn't beat the crap out of him, but expecting him to help would be a bit difficult.

His opponent is a peak stage Nascent while he himself is only Level-6. He is having a hard time.

"Sam."

Akhil called for him and Sam looked at him as he ate a berry.

He smiled and said.

"This is good stuff man, I will be taking all of them. Don't worry. After we are out of here, meet me. I will give you some."

With that, he went to work on the shrubs. He started plucking the fruits without heed for the two others.

Akhil's opponent who is a Naga immediately moved towards Sam with his sword.

"How dare you steal something that is mine? I will kill you." He yelled as he ran. But Sam is on the harbinger and he didn't even bother to fight. He danced in the air as he plucked the berries faster than ever. He noticed that there are seeds in the berries, so he can try to grow them.

As he dodged and jumped, he almost finished plucking all of them. Only two main bushes are left and they are the ones that have evolved greatly.

But the opponent is standing guard there.

Akhil is not making his move as he tried to recover.

"Move aside and I will give you a couple of them, otherwise don't blame me if you regret it later." Sam said in a calm voice.

But the latter only snorted.

Sam didn't care anymore and made his move and soon in a few minutes, the Naga is lying unconscious on the ground while Sam plucked the berries happily. He then threw a few towards Akhil and said.

"That's your share. Bye."

With that, Sam resumed his journey. He thought this journey would be boring. But it seemed like it was going to be okay.

He moved along the stream on Harbinger and encountered many such sights. There are many types of herbs, grasses, and flowers growing near this place.

But he didn't stop for everything. But he did stop for the berries though. He has collected all of them and walked forward.

Soon, he noticed that the stream took a turn into a cave of a small hill. As he was deciding to check up on what is inside before going, he heard some activity and could detect some presence not too far away.

He looked around with the eye technique and found that a team of people is discussing something. They are the Flavos team and there are also some individuals who came in.

He also walked towards them to see what they are discussing and since they are not keeping anything secret. He got the gist of what is happening.

The small hill is actually a beast's habitat and he heard that they are mutated Lava Salamanders. They have thick hide and their scales and leather make great armor that has extreme fire element properties.

The fire elemental users will die for those armors. He wanted to venture in too. But before he could do so, the flavos team noticed and halted. Sam felt like his luck is shitty. Because, the Mov team and the flavos team, both of them didn't seem friendly at all.

"You cannot go in there. If you want to you can join the team and receive payment. Otherwise, you have to wait for us to complete our expedition into the cave."

Sam understood that since he learned the information from them, they would use that as a point and hinder him a lot.

"If I want to go in now?" Sam asked.

"You have to pay the toll."

"How much?"

"Twenty million."

Sam threw out a spatial ring and started walking to the cave. From what he heard there is a single pre-transcendent stage beast and around ten to twelve Nascent stage beasts. Sam doesn't have anything to worry about. It would be pretty easy.

Anyway, his main thought is just to take a look and follow the flow of the Lava stream. He didn't have much interest in the beasts. But after the raid, he would have to face these guys who might take this place as their base of operations at least that is what they told. At least, facing these beasts is better than facing these guys.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 589: Deal with the Beasts

"Bro, is it really okay to let him go like that?" One of the Flavos candidates asked the leader.

"Let him go, he can be our bait. If he is skilled enough, he might be able to run to the cave before he died and he can lure a salamander or two separately.

Even if he didn't, as long as he is a bit skilled, he would be able to hit a Salamander and cause some damage. Even though, it didn't matter much. It is still beneficial for us.

Even if he didn't do any of those. We can at least estimate the power of the Salamanders and on top of that he also paid twenty million to us."

When the leader and the others are speaking. Sam walked into the cave leisurely.

The cave entrance is large and most of it is occupied by the Lava stream.

If anyone wants to enter, they have to enter from either side of the stream, not through the middle of the entrance.

The cave is dark and nothing is visible outside, even though it is such a large cave.

Sam is feeling a little bit excited. This is only the first day. Not only did he get a new type of fruit, but he is also going to enter a Salamander's nest. Even though, he is not interested in Salamanders that much and the main focus is the stream itself since the flavos took his money.

He might as well make his money's worth in this cave. As soon as he entered, he could see the blood-thirsty presence of many creatures.

When he reached a wider area of the cave, there is a lot more space and it is as big as a football stadium.

In the middle of it is a Lava pool and around the Lava pool, there are many plants that are growing the same berries Sam picked on his way. The berries are bigger and they are definitely a better version than the ones he picked.

But he is nowhere near excited because the Lava stream is ending here. This would prove that his efforts for the day are wasted. Even though he has a month, he wanted to finish this as soon as possible and get out of this place.

ROAR

ROAR

ROAR

As he was already feeling frustrated, there are many roars echoing in the cave and he could feel the hot air blowing from the beasts.

He is surrounded by the beasts. The Salamanders are really mutated and they don't have the regular red skin scales that their race would usually have. But they have golden scales, just like the Golden lava.

He looked at them and he could even understand their roars. All the roars have only one meaning. 'KILL'.

They are eager to kill and are squabbling among themselves as they are undecided on who should kill Sam. It seems like it has been a long time since they saw someone and they are extremely eager.

When he saw the number of beasts in the area, he was surprised and shook his head.

Because the number of beasts here is far more than the group anticipated. Just the Nascent stage beasts are twenty-six and as for the Pre transcendent stage beasts, he could feel four presences.

The team outside could barely do anything to them.

As the beasts roared at each other, he smiled and said.

"You guys can squabble later. I am not here to fight, I am here to discuss something. So, it is better if someone who can make decisions come over."

As he said this all the Salamanders shut up and they roared once again, but this time, there is a roar from another cave passage that is within this cave. He is waiting for that presence to come over.

A larger Salamander came out and looked at Sam.

[How can you understand beast tongue?]

Sam merely chuckled and circulated his bloodline powers all over and released the beast aura.

"I am a partial beast myself. So, you want to talk?"

The Salamander is a Pre-transcendent stage beast and it looked at Sam curiously. It could feel the beast bloodlines and they are fairly superior to his. If not for the cultivation level, it would have been suppressed by now.

Even now, all the Nascent stage beasts are having a hard time as they took a step back and this is Sam holding back.

[What is the deal you want to talk about?]

"There is a team of humans that are waiting outside. There are so many people and even though, your strength is far greater than they could expect, you will still lose half of your populace if they really come back and after that damage, they will come back with more force and kill you guys for revenge and of course for your leather and scales.

I have a plan for you guys to suffer less."

[Why should we believe that you are not going to help them? How can we believe that this is not a setup?]

"Me and them? Do you really think that lowly of me? I didn't think my first impression is that bad? After we make a deal, I will sit right beside you. I will not even make a single move. You can even keep one of your claws on my neck, and kill me if you find something wrong."

[Why are you helping us?]

"Number one, I want to trade some of the berries for my help. And number two, I came in here following that stream and I was in a hurry, so I didn't bother talking with them and paid twenty million. It is a too large sum of a money. Even though I paid I planned on taking it back before I leave, but since I have to embark on a completely new journey.

It is better to settle this score right now."

[What is the plan?]

Sam smiled and started explaining. He then moved to various corners of the cave and started placing some formation flags and some formation discs all over the place.

He showed a demonstration and deactivated the formation.

He then nailed the formation discs into the cave walls and formation flags into the cave floor so that they could stay there permanently.

He came back to the Salamander and said.

"If you attack as I said, you can easily defeat them and remember to collect all their spatial rings from them," Sam said these words, and all of a sudden, he started screaming at the top of his lungs as he threw fireballs at the walls and floor giving various golden glows.

"Arghhhhh.."

"Arrggggggg..."

His voice is extremely painful and after putting up an act, the Salamanders are ordered to give a painful cry and some angry roars.

Meanwhile, the team outside, which slowly grew suspicious are about to investigate what happened inside the cave, but just before they did that, they

heard the painful screams of a human and a beast along with the sounds of battle.

They were extremely delighted and from this. Particularly when they heard the painful screams. They immediately wanted to take advantage of this battle to catch them off guard and even the leader felt like Sam is really strong to get such a death cry from a beast and create such chaos.

But as soon as the party entered the cave, what they experienced completely subverted their expectations.

As soon as they entered, their senses are disturbed and they could not fully observe the presence of the Salamanders, and even their vision and spiritual sense are restricted and they walked along the stream.

But only after a few minutes did they come to their senses and when they did, they are shocked. They realized that they were in an illusion because at this moment, they were already surrounded by the beasts.

When they counted the numbers, they are even more shocked.

The beasts are more than they expected. They tried to look in the surroundings to run for escape for some weird reason, they couldn't see the cave entrance they came in. All they could see is that they are in the cave.

The leader looked at the stream and cried.

"Follow the stream."

One of the candidates followed the stream. They have to go in the opposite direction of the streamflow. But when they noticed this, they felt weird because if the streamflow is correct, the person who should be nearest is the farthest to the entrance.

But they attributed it to the illusion and felt like they might have turned around when they are struck. And when the candidate moved though, they heard a plop sound and he disappeared.

"Help me. AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH....."

They could hear the screams but they don't know what happened. They are extremely afraid and they shivered in fright even in that hot weather. The Salamanders seemed to be enjoying this, but after a few minutes of panic right before the people can calm down, golden flames blasted on them accompanied by the roars of the Salamanders and the illusion finally disappeared.

They didn't move in the wrong direction actually, all they did is move diagonally a bit and when the man walked backward, he directly went into the stream.

After the Salamanders attacked, the illusion disappeared and it was all controlled by the Salamander king of this place. Even though they are not extremely intelligent, they can at least inject energy into a spot and remove it at the perfect timing. After all, they don't have to observe some great working principles.

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Chapter 590: Lake and Slime

After another hour Sam is sitting at a corner of the cave as he looked through the spatial rings of the team that came in.

The candidates who came in didn't die though. They were forced to leave the cave without their rings and armors stripped off of them.

Sam checked everything inside was delighted. He earned ten times more and he pocketed everything. As for why he didn't want them dead. He didn't have a grudge and he didn't want some extra forces coming in and bombarding

these Salamanders. They wouldn't be able to stay peaceful if the imperial family's scions.

Anyway, he sold the formation for just those berries and some beast friends here.

After dealing with the new gains and giving all kinds of herbs and fruits in the rings to the Salamanders, he was preparing to leave.

He has to find another stream and get on with it.

[Why are you looking for a stream?] The Salamander King asked Sam when he was munching the higher-grade berries.

"I came to find something in this area. I don't know if that thing is available, but I have to see. For that, I need to follow the stream and find a large lava pool."

[Large Lava pool?]

"Yes. Do you know something of that sort?"

[We Salamanders are not allowed to leave this area. It is a pact between all the creatures in this region. I don't know where the area is, but I do know that all the Lava streams only stop there.

The pool in the cave is not the end of the stream.

There is another opening under the pool that leads the stream underground and from there it flows.]

Sam had a thoughtful expression as he looked at the pool. Even he knew that something is not right with the pool, after all even though the stream of the Lava is slow, it is still moving and the pool should be full and the lava should flow out of it. But it is not happening.

But Sam didn't feel anything when he used his spiritual sense of the pool. The Lava inside the pool is extremely stagnant at least that is what it is looking like.

"Is there any stream nearby?"

[There is one a few kilometers away. You can go there in the morning. But I doubt you will be able to find the Lava pool you are looking for if you just follow the stream. The streams of Lava are not as direct as they look. Every stream will only lead you to an obstacle such as this.]

"Then what do you suggest?"

[The Lava pool is too deep into the region and hardly any of the humans and Nagas that come in would go there, as the heat increases the more you go inside because the Lava streams converge as you go inside and even some of the beasts couldn't handle it. We arranged our habitats that way.

But if you really want to go there, even though the stream is the most direct method, if you couldn't follow the stream just like now, it is better if you go in the direction the heat is high.

The hotter the area, the more dangerous it is. Very few Pre-transcendent stage cultivators go there for treasures because the more lava there is the more treasures you can gain and some special people have some special means to overcome the heat and go in and they all have different maps.

So, for a Nascent like you, it would be difficult. I would advise you to not go there. But if you really want to be careful.]

Sam went into deep thought and took the rest of the night off. The next day, he went on the harbinger to the next stream the salamander king pointed out and started following that.

Even though, the Salamander King said that he should go in a direction the heat is higher, he felt like finding it would be complicated. After all, every place is hot here and if there is Lava deposited in a place, that place would definitely be hotter.

This time, the stream is long and it didn't disappear into any cave or ground for a few days. He traveled leisurely for a week as he harvested any kinds of herbs and fruits that came in his way. Mostly there are only those berries and that grass he found on the bank of the first stream.

But as he went deeper and deeper into the region, Sam noticed that the terrain is not as rocky anymore.

And after that one week, the stream disappeared. This time, he knew that stream is going to continue because the lava flew through a cave but the other end of the cave is underground and Lava is flowing like a waterfall creating an inferno. He is not confident that he would even be able to go there with his elemental fusion.

He came out of that place and tried to find the hotter place and traveled. He has used many methods like feeling the temperature of rocks, using water elemental energy and the place that is giving him more resistance is the place of higher temperature and after continuous experimentation, his observation ability came in handy.

He can feel the density of the fire elemental energy and determine where the temperature is higher and it seemed to be working.

After another ten days of continuous journey, Sam has to use his spiritual energy to shield away from the heat continuously.

But looking at the energy consumption, he stopped that and started circulating the Golden crow bloodline. Only then didn't he feel a bit better.

At least, the Harbinger didn't have any problem at the moment, so he traveled.

On the fourteenth day of his travel, he finally saw what he wanted to see. The traces of the large pool.

But it is still far away and it would take another two days to cross the area and move there.

Two days later, he could finally see the pool. But when he saw it, he felt like calling it a pool is undermining the vastness of it.

The heat here is higher than any other place and apart from the Golden crow bloodline, the rest of the bloodlines of Sam are all suppressed. Even though he can use the elements, he would have to expend more energy than usual and as for the water element, he can just forget about it.

But what surprised Sam more is that there are other people in the vicinities. They seemed to be waiting for something to happen. And only after watching them for a while did he understand that they are waiting for someone to make a move.

Sam went near the lake to examine if he could find the lotus there. The lake is situated down a long slope. And the slope has some plants growing.

But Sam knew better than anyone that the slope is not just a normal slope. It is part of the lake and it only appeared out because of the lower level of the lake. This is the effect that would only be for a month.

The only problem is that the lake surface is not exactly visible. There is a golden glow from the Lava and the glow is a lot brighter than the Lava on the stream. It seemed like the Lava accumulation is not the only reason for it glow like that, but he doesn't know what is, as for the people that came here, they wouldn't tell him anyway.

So, he wanted to go near to see what is the deal with the lake.

For some weird reason, no one stopped when Sam is moving to the lake. He was just allowed to go and no one bothered to stop him.

But as soon as he stepped foot on the slope and walked down a bit, a large figure jumped out of the lava and launched itself towards Sam.

Sam jumped back and avoided the attack.

But a lump of slimy Lava was shot at him and hurriedly dodged as he walked back.

After taking himself to a safe distance, he finally got a chance to see what is in front of him.

It looked like a thick golden glowing hot slime was lumped in front of him. But within that slime, he could see a row of teeth. The golden glow is a lot higher than the Lava and Sam immediately understood what causing the glow over the lake.

These are Lava Slime. They are types of beasts that are similar to a normal amoeba. But they have a mouth, which the only tangible part of their body apart from their core.

Even if you sucked the whole slimy part off of the core, as long as it exists in sufficient heat, they can once again secrete their bodies.

All the information ran through Sam's mind as he looked at the Beast. The beast is only Nascent stage one and he is confident that he can do something, but the whole lake is glowing with the same glow that can blind every person that is present here. That means the full lake is infested with them.

He understood why these people didn't stop him. Because they are confident in him not going there.

He took a step back and came up from the slope and the beast finally went back into the Lake.

As he stood there and started thinking about how to proceed, he saw someone familiar coming to the area. They are none other than the Mov empire team. When Yodha saw him, he waved his hand and walked to him with obvious signs of relief on his face.