

L Hero

Chapter 1031 Tough Path of Evolution and Appearance

Han Xiao looked at Aurora's bloated cheeks on the communicator and said with a smile, "I see, Ames has already arrived. Tell her to stay at my place for some time... Oh? You've already dealt with her? Great job, I'll give you a red flower when I'm back."

After settling Ames down, Aurora had notified Han Xiao at the first instance to explain the situation, which was mostly her blaming him. He purposely stood her teacher up and left her to deal with it. What a horrible man.

"You'd best speak with her, or Her Excellency Dragon Emperor will definitely get angrier."

"I have my plans. Settle her down properly and use your cuteness to make her less angry. I'll explain everything to her when I get back."

Han Xiao chatted for a while and ended the call. He then shook his head and smiled.

He had deliberately invited Ames to Black Star Palace to make others believe that his main body was in his base. Also, it would increase the defenses of his base while he was away, but it was mainly to protect Aurora and the others.

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After all, the Secret Studies was a path to many abilities. Many were paying attention to Hila, and there would definitely be people who had used foresight abilities on her. Someone might discover Aurora's strengthened life link with Hila. Being more cautious about others attacking his base could never be wrong.

After handling this matter, Han Xiao opened up the data that the dynasty had sent him a few days ago and continued reading.

After his Promotion, he had asked the dynasty about [God's Trait Transformation] and [The First Sanctum]. He had received some confidential information regarding that.

According to the data, after entering the peak of the Beyond Grade A realm, one had to dig deeper into the Super system and the nature of one's own genes. When one evolved to this stage, a new extra evolution path would appear, which was named [God's Trait Transformation].

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Every transformation was a special evolution that granted new powers, as if one had surpassed a certain limit of evolution and had gained new 'superpowers'. Most peak Beyond Grade As felt that this was an important factor of entering that unknown higher power. However, the God's Trait Transformation seemed to have no end. No one had ever been known for completing all of the God's Trait Transformations. It was still a mystery.

The dynasty was not surprised about Han Xiao asking about God's Trait Transformation. It was not strange for Black Star to come in touch with this territory given his current position. Plus, Han Xiao had

just hosted the Meeting of the Gods not long ago, so he had most likely heard this name from the other peak Beyond Grade As and approached them to research it.

This data cost some Faction Contribution Points, and it not only included the introduction but also the dynasty's research on it, as well as the experience and understanding of the peak Beyond Grade As of the past. Thanks to this, Han Xiao had a deeper understanding of God's Trait Transformation.

However, he did not find any other way to obtain God's Trait Transformation Points in this data. It seemed that he could only obtain them through Promotion.

Nonetheless, the data was still useful. After arranging the information, Han Xiao found a pattern—every Promotion seemed to have brought a different number of God's Trait Transformation Points. It seemed to be reliant on multiple factors.

Although the others did not have an interface and could not quantify their attributes, Han Xiao still used the data to do calculations and speculate. According to that, the following could be the factors that affected the God's Trait Transformation Points gained through every Promotion: Highest attribute $\geq 20,000$, second highest attribute $\geq 15,000$, $\geq 85,000$ Energy Rank, maximum level Knowledge, and having a soul connection with a Universal Treasure.

Once one of the above requirements was met, the God's Trait Transformation Points gained through every Promotion would increase by one. He had received two points at once because he satisfied two of these requirements.

If I want more points, I'll have to prioritize these requirements before Promotion.

He had obtained two God's Trait Transformation Points through the first Promotion, which was neither the best nor the worst, just mediocre.

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This meant that at the peak of the Beyond Grade A realm, keeping one's level low would be the mainstream play style, and going through Promotions after more requirements were met would be the most beneficial.

If I'm guessing correctly, the Promotion mission in the future might require my God's Trait Transformation to be at a certain level, Han Xiao speculated and instantly understood the difficulty of it.

If normal peak Beyond Grade As did not prioritize these requirements, they would not obtain enough God's Trait Transformation Points through Promotions and would not reach the required transformation level for the next Promotion. Their path to greater power would be completely blocked off, and they would never be able to continue evolving!

Their strength would never increase!

No wonder. This is way too difficult. No mistakes are allowed. Maybe this is one of the main reasons all the peak Beyond Grade As can't step into the higher realm.

As long as one step went wrong, they would fall into an inescapable abyss. Terrifying...

However, after he thought about it, he gave up on planning not to level up for the sake of God's Trait Transformation Points.

With the existence of Mission Completion Cards, he could ignore all kinds of difficult Promotion Requirements.

Not enough points obtained through one Promotion?

Just go through Promotions more often!

Leveling up quickly was his biggest advantage. Although God's Trait Transformation was great, it was far from being as beneficial as the increase in strength he would obtain from Promotions.

Han Xiao's thoughts were clear.

It doesn't matter whether my God's Trait Transformation levels are high or not, as long as I'm stronger than everyone!

With the God's Trait Transformation information successfully obtained, the information about The First Sanctum shocked Han Xiao.

Even the dynasty did not know what it was!

I only knew that I got the Ability Fragment of [The First Sanctum] after Promotion because of the interface, but no other peak Beyond Grade As has that, so no one has discovered it, huh?

Han Xiao was stunned. As even the three Universal Civilizations did not have any related information, this might be a major new discovery.

What does Sanctum mean? It sounds like a place... If there's a first, is there a second or a third sanctum?

If only [Bold Explorer] could be used on this. Han Xiao sighed. This ability could only be used on unknown items and locations, not on the Ability Fragments in his interface.

Han Xiao put the communicator away and looked out the porthole. It was not the dark cosmic space but a bright sea of light.

This was a certain location in the center area of the Emerald Star Cluster, which had a large mass of bright, cloud-shaped nebulas mixed with both gas and dust. The gas released light due to the radiation of the Fixed Stars, while the nebulas reflected and refracted the light from relatively close Fixed Stars. The color of this entire area had a theme of mainly green and red. It looked beautiful and dreamlike.

In the universe, most areas were pitch black, so this beautiful scenery was considered rare.

The location where the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy will appear is in this mass of nebulas. I can start preparing now.

Han Xiao found a place and hid with the stealth mode of his spaceship activated, planning to only act at the right moment.

...

As the date of its appearance closed in, more and more fleets arrived at this nebula. They were all there for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

Most of these organizations were ordinary organizations. Some planned to obtain it at all costs; some just wanted to try their luck. They guarded themselves against each other like they were deep behind enemy lines. However, when they saw the fleets of two Universal Civilizations arrive, their hearts sank.

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Ravenlaude came with the dynasty's fleet, and although Psyker had only brought his own fleet, he had the church as his backer. The organizations present believed that he had been instructed to head there by the church.

With the interference of two Universal Civilizations, the chance of obtaining the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy became negligible, but no one wanted to back away in the final moment.

After all, they had traveled so far. Even if they might not get it, they had to try at the very least.

The Modo Civilization and some fleets from advanced civilizations, however, did not give up yet. Only two Beyond Grade As seemed to have interfered. If the two of them restrained each other, they felt like they would still have a chance.

"You guys improvise on the spot when to act later."

Inside the communication channel, Roddick reminded the elite force formed by many Calamity Grades.

On the other side, in the eyes of Ravenlaude and Psyker, all the other competitors were weaklings. They only saw each other as their biggest competitors.

Inside the main ship of the dynasty's fleet, Ravenlaude looked at Psyker's fleet from afar and narrowed his eyes.

"Psyker did not bring the church's fleet along, which means he did not report this to the church and wants to take it himself. Hehe, he's braver than me."

He had thought that this would be a piece of cake, but with another Beyond Grade A interfering, it became quite a bit more difficult.

However, Ravenlaude was not really nervous. His expression was rather relaxed.

Ravenlaude was confident in dealing with this seven-eyed freak. It would not be difficult for him to deal with Psyker.

For the sake of the Universal Treasure promised by the dynasty, Ravenlaude had to get the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

According to the current situation, he felt that he already had victory in his hands.

Comparatively, Psyker, who was in the opposing fleet, felt this would be rather difficult.

"Ravenlaude is here, too..."

Psyker's expression was not looking good.

The Calamity Grade who had provided the intelligence about the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy as a sign of loyalty said, "Your Excellency Star Pupil, the situation doesn't look very good for us..."

Psyker pulled out a smile and said, "Don't worry. It doesn't matter if we can't obtain it. I will still remember your contribution in providing me with this information."

He did not care about his own strength. His race's power was more important in comparison. He had always been looking for ways to create more talents in his race. He did not come to fight for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy for himself to use but to find a suitable owner in his people and create a new strong individual for his race.

"I believe in you."

This Calamity Grade's face was filled with trust, but he was secretly plotting.

He did not really join under Psyker's command because of appreciation, nor was it because he had planned to. It was more like a coincidence.

With the information about the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy in his hands, he was not blinded by desire. He knew very well that he would never have a chance to get the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy with his own power, so he might as well use this information to find a backer and use their power to take part in this fight.

However, he did not completely give up either. If the person he joined obtained the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and the opportunity presented itself, he would steal it. If there was no chance, he would just slowly work his way up, using the contribution he obtained by providing this information as a head start. This way, he would be able to fully utilize the value of this piece of intelligence, much better than being a gambler and putting all his chips on trying to get the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

Originally, his target candidate was not Psyker, but he met him coincidentally. After thinking about it, he realized that Psyker's forces were not weak, and Psyker was a Beyond Grade A, despite not being in the top tier, which actually increased the chance of him successfully stealing it if things went well.

Therefore, he had changed his target and used Psyker as his backer.

Ravenlaude and Psyker both had their own goals, but they had yet to notice that in the remaining organizations, there was still another Beyond Grade A in a fleet without any organization symbols. It was Secret Master.

Both the dynasty and the church's people came...

Secret Master's eyes flickered.

He was stronger than both of them.

Since he was hidden, he decided to keep it that way. When the two of them had fought and wounded each other badly, he would then appear to grab the prize.

This plan is feasible, and the chances are high!

Secret Master stacked more stealth spells on himself and restrained the energy ripples around him, hiding himself to even a greater extent. He smiled coldly.

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy must be mine!

...

Ravenlaude and Psyker's fleet were opposite each other. The rest of the organizations were not chased away, so without saying anything to each other, they all started to deploy inactive space stabilizing traps.

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was a Primal Esper Ability Entity with independent thought. It had the ability to cross between secondary dimensions. The traps would prevent it from escaping once it discovered this ambush.

After this was completed, the various organizations waited in this area peacefully for the time being.

The date was near to begin with. After a few days, the day marked by the intelligence arrived.

The various organizations all focused their attention and stared at the area of the coordinates closely.

Other than a few individuals, most people there were not sure if the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy would even appear. They were waiting with anticipation and nervousness.

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Buzz!

Before all those spectators, a ball of bright red energy suddenly overflowed from the void. Its size expanded extremely quickly and formed a red, fog-shaped cloud with a unique energy wave.

Seeing this, everyone there became thrilled!

"This is the right location. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy has finally appeared!"

Chapter 1032 The Oriole

In the dreamlike nebula, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy returned from the secondary dimension and appeared in front of everyone's eyes.

This was an enormous cluster of bright red energy in the form of fog, like a boiling cloud. Gray lights flickered within like lightning. The energy at its center was the densest, and the further away from the center, the less dense the energy was. At its edge, red energy swayed and danced like silk. When looking closer, this energy seemed to be formed by countless tiny particles.

A large number of tiny red light clusters danced around the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. These were the sub-bodies the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy produced, something like its offspring or underlings. What Evans had once met was one of these.

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was a Primal Esper Ability Entity. It had its independent consciousness. Most of its consciousness and energy had been hibernating, only leaving a small portion of its instincts to maintain daily activities. It gave up thinking to let itself wander the universe randomly.

This large cluster of bright red reflected in the pupils of the crew of every organization through the porthole, lighting up the surprise and excitement in their eyes.

“It appeared! Move, quickly!”

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This time, all the organizations present activated the spacetime stabilization traps they had set earlier.

Buzz!

All the devices around were activated, as well as all kinds of magical runes and items.

The erupting spacetime energy expanded from different points like ripples, quickly flattening the ‘folds’ in this area. The spacetime became extremely stable. Be it hyperdrive or wormhole, they could no longer be used!

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The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was very sensitive to the changes of the space. It instantly sensed the drastic change in the environment around it. Its hibernating consciousness awakened with shock. The enormous energy cloud suddenly retracted. It shrank, and its density increased at an extremely high rate, attempting to turn into a black hole to break the stable spacetime of this area and tear open a crack in space.

The space in the area was like a piece of paper, and the traps were like forces that stretched outward to make the paper straight and tight. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy making itself extremely dense was an attempt to poke this piece of paper, concentrating its energy in one point to create a fold in space. These two forces were fighting each other. Under normal circumstances, this ‘piece of paper’ would have been penetrated immediately, but it would not be as easy in this highly stable space.

Seeing this, a voice appeared in the public area channel.

“Quickly contain the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. The spacetime coefficient is falling from the peak. If it keeps resisting, it will escape our trap sooner or later!”

The next moment, the closest small fleet immediately charged toward the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, which had already turned into an extremely bright cluster of light. The exterior armor of these spaceships slid open, showing a special mechanical device that released an astonishing absorption force toward the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy started to vibrate slightly. Waves of energy were pulled away from the cluster of light and sucked into the devices, like streams of light.

These organizations that had gone to fight for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy had made thorough preparations. This was a device used to contain and restrain energy life forms. Even though the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy could condense itself, its energy would still be sucked out. It would be like a tug of war.

However, this time, without any warning, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy shot out a flurry of dense light beams, which bombarded this fleet.

The next second, their shields were penetrated, and their ships exploded into fireworks immediately. This fleet was annihilated by one round of attacks!

With the explosion of its energy, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy's psychic attribute was activated. Waves of impactful Psychic Currents appeared and expanded outward. The people who surrounded the Psychic Current all felt headaches, like they were affected by infrasound, as if they were heavily drunk.

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Inside the dynasty's fleet, Ravenlaude saw this, and his lips curled up.

"Hehe, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy isn't something you can get without risks."

Primal Esper Ability Entities were extremely ancient. They were clusters of energy without owners. Therefore, they used their own methods to use their powers, such as shooting their energy out in beams continuously.

At this time, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy turned around and fled at an extremely high speed like a meteor. The fleets around immediately chased after, trying to block its path.

"Let me!"

Ravenlaude's eyes sparkled. He left his ship and chased after it with magic at high speed, simultaneously casting spells.

Runes and spells surrounded his body, shining with magical lights. Dense magic energy dragged down the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and increased its speed drastically. At the same time, arcane impact waves were sent flying into the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, turning into magical runes controlled by Ravenlaude to mix foreign energy into the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, reducing its control over its own body.

The effect was clear. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy could no longer maintain its condensed form, and the cluster of light exploded quickly, expanding back into an energy cloud cluster. Its hitbox multiplied countless times over.

Beyond Grade A Mages often travelled in secondary dimensions. Ravenlaude's experience in dealing with energy entities was way too rich, so it was no difficult task. The energy beam the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy shot out with all its might was easily blocked by him with magical shields.

As the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was gradually falling into Ravenlaude's hands, a powerful wave of psychic energy suddenly approached him from behind.

Ravenlaude narrowed his eyes, diverted his attention to use defensive spells, and blocked the psychic attack. Not far away, the silhouette quickly surpassed him and charged right toward the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. In its hands was a highly advanced enhanced version of the portable energy entity container.

"Humph, Psyker."

Without any more words, Ravenlaude launched attacks toward Psyker as well. The two of them fought while chasing after the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, dragging each other down.

The organizations around saw this and wanted to use it as an opportunity. However, any spaceship that even came close to the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was shattered by the 'fallout' of the battle between Beyond Grade As.

Ravenlaude had the upper hand and suppressed Psyker's attacks. However, despite the battle being rather intense, neither of them went all out. They did not forget about saving some energy to contain the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

With two Beyond Grade As present, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy would not be able to cause any trouble. Sealing runes were punched onto its body one after another. Its resistance grew weaker and weaker, gradually showing signs that it was about to be completely contained.

At the same time, the Modo Civilization's team was also wandering around the edge of the battlefield. The dozens of Calamity Grades in the ship stared closely at the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and softly discussed possible tactics.

"Guys, the two of them are holding each other down. Should we act now?"

"The odds of success are too low. We will only be able to guard their attacks for a very short moment even with all of us working together. There won't be enough time for us to retreat. We will certainly have to sacrifice many lives. It's not worth it, is it?"

They exchanged looks and shook their heads in their minds.

Their boss had told them to improvise, but there was no opportunity at all. Although these Calamity Grades were usually quite proud, they had absolutely no confidence in facing Beyond Grade As. Even though they were truly loyal to the Modo Civilization, no one wanted to waste their life for nothing.

Roddick stayed silent in the communication channel for a while before saying, "If there's not a chance, forget it. Don't interfere."

Hearing this, the dozens of Calamity Grade relaxed their uptight bodies with relief.

Roddick was a little bit disappointed but was not too persistent about it. His original goal by sending so many Calamity Grades was to have the absolute upper hand in terms of power if there were no Beyond Grade As.

However, with the interference of Beyond Grade As, the mission had basically failed. Since there was no chance, the best choice was to retreat. There was no need to let the Calamity Grade elites of the civilization die in vain.

"This is just a side mission, no need to force it. The upper echelons will understand in cases like this. If I sacrifice many elites because of this, the upper echelons will even blame me for it."

Having this thought, Roddick loudly said, "Guys, retreat!"

"Roger!" Everyone responded with joy.

However, the next moment, a drastic change occurred!

The Modo Civilization's fleet suddenly turned around and charged right toward the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. Not only that, they suddenly fired all their weapons at Ravenlaude and Psyker!

Everyone present was completely stunned.

Even the battle between Ravenlaude and Psyker stopped as they had to block this sudden attack. Both of them looked a little confused.

T-they dared fire at us?

Who are these brave soldiers?

Inside the command center at the base, Roddick's expression changed drastically. He yelled with rage, "What the hell are you doing? Are you out of your mind?"

"We have lost control of our spaceships!" The many Calamity Grades were stupefied.

Roddick suddenly thought of something, and his face turned pale.

This familiar feeling...

It's Virtual Intrusion?

*sshole!

With wrath and shock, Roddick was just about to yell at everyone to flee.

However, before he could, the remote communication link was cut off. The screen turned black, reflecting his furiously twisted expression.

"Black Star!"

Bang!

Roddick roared and smashed the communicator into pieces. The room was filled with his rage and helplessness.

The interference of a third party attracted enough attention. Both Ravenlaude and Psyker stopped fighting each other for a moment. Magic tides and psychic storms slammed directly into the Modo Civilization's fleet, swiftly eliminating the small fleet.

The dozens of Calamity Grades were panicking. They immediately fled their spaceships and scattered. However, Ravenlaude and Psyker did not enjoy letting people who suddenly attacked them go, so they chased after them.

The Calamity Grade elites, whom the Modo Civilization had spent tons of efforts to raise, lasted barely a moment before they fell one after another.

These people had no chance in fighting back; they could only run with their lives.

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After more than eighty percent of Calamity Grades were eliminated. Only then did Ravenlaude and Psyker stop and return to fighting each other.

This intimidated the other organizations present. They all moved further away with their fleets and did not dare fight against the two of them for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

The dynasty's fleet was not just watching. It was battling the Star Pupil Holy Race's fleet. In terms of both spaceship technology and size, the dynasty was superior. The Star Pupil Holy Race's fleet was slowly getting beaten.

"Still want to fight me?" Ravenlaude raised his brows and sent a voice message through a spell. "We can fight for days and nights, but your fleet will be wiped out. I've heard your people are very important to you. So, is the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy worth you sacrificing that many lives?"

Psyker sent out a tsunami-like wave of psychic energy to shatter the flying arcane bomb, clenched his teeth, and said, "Do you think you can make me give up with just a few words? Your dynasty's fleet will suffer quite a lot of losses too!"

"That's right, but those are the dynasty's soldiers. I don't care about their casualties," Ravenlaude said. "You won't be able to win against me, so don't make unnecessary sacrifices. As soon as I contain the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and let my people disarm the space stabilization trap, I can leave this battlefield via a teleportation gate in an instant. Will you be able to chase me as a Psychic?"

Psyker looked to be conflicted. Then, he stopped fighting and turned around to help his fleet force the dynasty's fleet away.

Seeing this, Ravenlaude knew that Psyker had given up on competing and smiled with satisfaction. Without anyone standing in the way, he focused on casting sealing spells, sending countless arcane lights into the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

Very soon, a magical shield shrouded the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and quickly shrank. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was then sealed into the crystal magic ball in Ravenlaude's hands.

"It's done!"

Ravenlaude's eyes sparkled. He could almost see the Universal Treasure that the dynasty had promised waving at him.

Before he had time to feel the joy, the moment the sealing was complete, a mind spell that had been prepared for a very long time suddenly crashed into him and slammed into his mental barrier. With his mind shaken, Ravenlaude entered the state of being stunned for a short moment.

At the same time, a figure flew out from an ordinary fleet and approached at a very high speed, casting spells on the way. Magic arrays formed around Ravenlaude one after another, but countless blue magic tentacles appeared from these arrays and tightly tied Ravenlaude's body.

This was not just simply tying him up. The official name of this spell was [Descent of Atomte—Devil's Tentacles]. It was a top tier spell that had a short silence effect on Mages, as well as the ability to restrain their soul. Once tied up, the target would enter an even longer period of immobility, unable to control their body.

"There's another Beyond Grade A?" Psyker, who was not far away, sensed the energy wave that had suddenly erupted and turned around in shock.

Ravenlaude finally regained consciousness. Absolutely shocked, he hastily tried to escape the restraints.

However, this silhouette had already come right beside him, taken away the magic ball sealing the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, and pressed his palm onto Ravenlaude's chest.

Powerful and rich magic energy gushed out and turned into a violet beam of light, immediately blowing Ravenlaude far away.

This attack did not cause much damage. Ravenlaude flew a short distance back and quickly regained his balance. He looked up with shock. Seeing this person covered in tattoos, his expression stiffened for a second.

"It's you, Secret Master!"

Given how small the Beyond Grade A circle was, famous Beyond Grade As all knew each other. Secret Master's position in the circle was a little higher than his.

Secret Master's expression was cold. He did not care about Ravenlaude, who was conflicted with rage and fear. He sized up the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy in his hands, nodded, and said with the same indifferent face, "Thanks for helping me to contain the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. I let you safekeep it for me for a few seconds. Now, it's returned to its original owner."

Ravenlaude was so furious he laughed. "I thought Black Star is the most shameless among Beyond Grade As. I didn't expect you to be not much worse. What return to its original owner? Since when were you the owner of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy?"

"I'm here, so it's mine," Secret Master said coldly.

Angered, Ravenlaude said, "Cut the cr*p. You think you can just leave?"

With the opportunity to gain a Universal Treasure right before his eyes, even if Secret Master was stronger, Ravenlaude would not give up easily.

Secret Master glanced at him and said with a poker face, "I can leave whenever I want."

The moment his sentence ended, a huge crack suddenly appeared on the space stabilization traps in the area, and some of the devices even exploded. While they were setting up the traps, Secret Master had secretly planted invisible, remote-controlled explosion runes so that he could use a teleportation spell after he succeeded.

The spacetime coefficient and the effect of the traps plummeted, no longer able to stop Beyond Grade A space magic. Ravenlaude's expression changed drastically as he immediately understood what Secret Master's plan was. He quickly started to channel spells to restrict Secret Master's teleportation.

However, Secret Master was even quicker. He had prepared the fundamentals of the teleportation gate well in advance, so it activated instantly. A blue vortex appeared right beside him.

Seeing Ravenlaude fast approaching, Secret Master was completely calm.

"Till next time, Ra... hmm?"

Suddenly, he felt his hand become heavier. The sealing container of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy in his hands disappeared, replaced by a mechanical arm that was connected to a human-shaped machine with flickering blue-gold eyes, which had appeared beside him out of nowhere.

“You...” Shock finally appeared on Secret Master’s face.

This machine tilted its head and suddenly vibrated. A strange Void Energy expanded instantly and shrouded a large area, including even Ravenlaude.

The next second, Secret Master and Ravenlaude realized that the space in this area had become thick and dense. Their movements were forcefully slowed.

Void Prison!

With a flash of insight, Ravenlaude immediately recalled the owner of this ability. “Black Star?”

Han Xiao’s Lord’s Avatar turned to look at him and smiled. “Yo, you recognized me?”

“You’ve come at the right time!” Ravenlaude was overjoyed. He thought that Han Xiao was secret backup sent by the dynasty.

Han Xiao saw through what he was thinking immediately and shook his head. “I’m not here for the dynasty.”

Ravenlaude’s smile stiffened.

He immediately understood. Unlike him, Black Star was not fighting for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy for the dynasty but had uncovered this information himself and wanted to obtain it.

This way, although Black Star was also a dynasty ally, he was his competitor in this matter.

Having realized that, Ravenlaude’s heart sank a little.

At the same time, Secret Master narrowed his eyes. Having all his effort go to waste made him embarrassed and enraged. He coldly said, “Black Star, you took my Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy?”

Han Xiao turned to look at him and smiled.

“To borrow your words... thank you for safekeeping it for me for a few seconds.”

He had been there for a long time. His Lord’s Avatar and mechanical army had hidden nearby, watching the whole thing while messing with the Modo Civilization.

Only when Secret Master broke the space stabilization trap and was about to leave did the Lord’s Avatar finally find the right opportunity to strike. It immediately used [Void Swap] to exchange itself with the sealed container holding the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. Thus, the container was in the hands of his mechanical army.

However, this way, the energy ripple would cause the mechanical army to be exposed as well. To avoid the two of them from chasing after the mechanical army, he had used his Lord’s Avatar to activate Void Prison immediately to restrain Secret Master and Ravenlaude, while the mechanical army could leave with the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

Once they returned to the safe area, it would be a complete success.

As the mantis stalked the cicada, it was unaware of the oriole behind it. Secret Master thought that he was the oriole, but he did not know that Han Xiao had hidden even deeper than him.

“The only problem is...”

Han Xiao turned to look at Psyker, who was far away. This guy was not in the range of the Void Prison, so he could chase if he wanted to.

Noticing Han Xiao’s stare, Psyker’s expression looked as if he had just fallen into a pile of feces.

This time, the voice of a Star Pupil Holy Race officer sounded in the communication network.

“Leader, we have detected a mechanical army that has suddenly appeared. It is escorting the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and fleeing at high speed. Shall we chase after it?”

“No, retreat!”

Having seen Han Xiao, Psyker backed away without hesitation.

He did not want to have a direct conflict with Black Star at this time.

Most importantly, even if Black Star’s mechanical army had no Lord’s Avatar in it, he felt that he still might not be able to win.

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Han Xiao could not help but scratch his head and laugh in his mind.

He’s this smart?

He then looked at Secret Master, who had a troubled look and was full of hostility, and stretched his neck.

“I shall take the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy with a smile. If you’re not happy about that... how about I give your bones a good stretch?”

Chapter 1033 Secret Master, I Have Never Seen Someone This Unlucky

Faced with Han Xiao’s tease, Secret Master’s face sank, and he was too lazy to respond. His eyes looked past Han Xiao at the streams of light heading away from the edge of the battlefield.

Very soon, the exposed mechanical army separated some of its units to escort the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and disappeared from sight.

His mood slipped from the top of the mountain to the bottom.

He wanted to chase after it, but Black Star’s Lord’s Avatar stood in his way and gave off a vibe that made him subconsciously uptight. He knew that as soon as he did anything, he would inevitably face a storm of attacks.

Secret Master's eyes refocused on Han Xiao, who was before him, carefully sizing him up. He then said with a somewhat interested but mostly unsatisfied tone, "Black Star, this should be the second time we've met, right?"

"Including the Meeting of the Gods, it is indeed the second time." Han Xiao nodded.

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"Humph, then we're... quite... fated!" Secret Master said word by word.

He was irritated and angry about the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy getting stolen, but everyone was there to fight for it, so it all depended on their strength. It belonged to anyone who could obtain it; he could accuse Han Xiao of nothing.

He really wanted the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. Although it had been taken away by Black Star, there was no need to make too much of a fuss. They were both famous people in the universe. If he could not get the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, so be it. If he made it a bigger deal than it was, it would not look good for anyone, nor was it necessary.

However, there was no way he would just retreat like that; he had to fight back in some way. Secret Master did not want to watch Han Xiao easily get away; it would look like he was afraid of Han Xiao. He had shame, unlike that seven eyes beside him who was already used to it.

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He secretly tried a teleportation spell and realized that it was restricted by the Void Prison.

When this area is no longer locked, there's still a chance to catch up to the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy through teleportation and snatch it back, Secret Master thought as he adjusted his mood, putting his focus on the current situation and suppressing his anger. His expression returned to being cold, and he started chatting.

"By the way, I've always been curious about you. Although we did not have much contact in the past, I've always had a strong impression of you."

"Strong in what way?" Han Xiao did not mind wasting time. It was what he wanted too.

"Your deeds are spread all across the universe. In my eyes, you're a careerist with a grand plan, as well as an opportunist. Luck is a very big reason you were able to build what you've built today. It helped you choose the right opportunities and brought you the chance to develop this quickly. You're a lucky man."

Hearing his words, Han Xiao could not help but glance at Secret Master a few more times.

This is the first time anyone has ever said I'm lucky. You've probably got the wrong person...

Nonetheless, he could understand why Secret Master had this kind of impression of him. To the outside world, his rise was extremely quick and fierce, as well as smooth. There were so many opportunities that seemed to have just fallen onto his laps, which all looked like it was because of his luck.

However, these opportunities were created by him instead of this 'luck', all because he was familiar with the direction the world would take and had information about the future that no one else had.

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But no one would ever know that.

"I guess you can say that I'm lucky," Han Xiao agreed as a joke.

"Hehe, but from today onward, your luck ends." Magic runes appeared in the depths of Secret Master's pupils. "You should've heard my nickname. I can control someone's luck."

Seeing his confidence, Han Xiao felt strange but continued to cooperate with his performance.

"Are you trying to reduce my luck permanently?"

Secret Master snorted. "You took what's mine; you'll have to pay for it."

Actually, he was not very willing to mess with Han Xiao. After all, after the Meeting of the Gods, Han Xiao's position was rather special within the Beyond Grade A circle. As a neutral Beyond Grade A, it was best not to mess with him if there was no need.

However, he could not put up with this, even just for the sake of saving his own face. Therefore, he decided to use his best trick to slightly punish Han Xiao.

So, it still came to speaking with fists... Han Xiao had expected this. He did not think that Secret Master would let this go easily.

The next moment, blinding magical blue light shone from Secret Master's body.

"They all say you're good at fighting. Let me see how strong you are personally."

The magic energy in his body gushed out like a roaring tide, erupting in an instant.

Boom!

Han Xiao's Lord's Avatar was washed away by the exploding magical energy and was pushed back some distance.

Secret Master took the opportunity to back away, trying to increase the distance between Han Xiao and himself. However, after the enhancement of God's Trait Transformation, the effect of Void Prison was stronger and slowed down the people in it even more. This ability could not differentiate friend or foe, but Han Xiao, who had Void Race talents, could move freely within.

He realized very soon that he was not able to get away from Han Xiao no matter how much he backed off, so he decided to just not move at all. He started to cast spells continuously like a spell cannon.

In order to snatch the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, the Lord's Avatar had used Void Swap to swap places with the sealing container, which led to it being isolated and only being able to fight with Secret Master alone. The mechanical army was on the way.

Bang!

Beams of blue magical energy dragged along lightning trails and rocketed toward Han Xiao continuously, shattering into sparks on the Lord's Avatar's shield.

Without the mechanical army, Han Xiao clearly had a firepower problem. Therefore, he decided to charge forward against the sea of spells and close the distance while Secret Master could not back away.

After this Promotion, his Strength and Dexterity attributes could be considered high even among Beyond Grade As. When facing a Mage with his Lord's Avatar, close-range combat instead became the better option for him.

While one side stood in place, the other approached extremely quickly. The distance between them shortened in no time.

In Han Xiao's eyes, Secret Master's huge face was getting closer.

"Eat my rocket headbutt!"

Activating critical strike abilities, Han Xiao smashed his head directly forward.

Clank!

His metal forehead landed right on Secret Master's head through his magic shield.

Secret Master felt a buzzing in his head immediately, like someone was ringing a bell in his head. He hastily regained focus. The rune enchantments on his body suddenly all lit up, and hundreds of hands appeared beside him, creating afterimages of punches everywhere.

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As a Mage, it was only logical to have some close-range combat abilities.

Having been suppressed in close-range combat, Secret Master was secretly shocked. Such powerful blows.

He had sparred with quite a number of Pugilists before, and he realized that Han Xiao's Lord's Avatar's close combat strength was even stronger than some Beyond Grade A Pugilists. The storm-like attacks were very difficult for him to hold on. He was stunned by Han Xiao's strength.

Black Star feels stronger than rumors say...

This thought only flashed for an instant before disappearing. Secret Master focused on the matter at hand and diverted his attention to do two things at once. He dealt with Han Xiao's fierce close-range attacks while controlling his magic energy to build up to his best Secret Studies spell that was aimed at one's luck.

Luck was originally formless and almost superficial, but at this moment, in Secret Master's vision, blurry fog suddenly appeared around every life form. Some fog clouds were thick, and some were thin.

This was Secret Master's unique spell. It combined the study of the soul, mind, foresight, fortune telling, and many more magic fields. He was successfully able to quantify the target's luck. The thickness of the fog represented the luck of a being.

The luckier one was, the thicker the fog would be. Those protagonist-type characters who had Luck Glows usually had the thickest fog.

“Let me see how strong your luck is!”

Secret Master had made up his mind to reduce Han Xiao’s luck.

When he looked closely, he was completely stupefied.

Usually, Beyond Grade As were very lucky people. For them to reach this territory at the top of the universe, there was at least a minimum to how unlucky they could be. Black Star’s luck should have been exceptionally strong; he should have been covered in thick fog.

However, the real situation was the complete opposite. The fog around Black Star was so thin that it was almost non-existent!

Secret Master had observed countless people before, but this was the first time he had ever seen someone this unlucky! He could hardly believe his own eyes!

It doesn’t make sense! How can a Beyond Grade A’s luck be this weak?

How can someone this unlucky become a Beyond Grade A?

Secret Master was completely stunned.

Initially, he wanted to damage Black Star’s luck, but now that he looked at it...

Can this guy’s luck even be decreased?

Secret Master’s many unique spells revolved around indirectly dealing large amounts of spiritual damage through decreasing the target’s luck, but facing Han Xiao... he realized that his trump card seemed useless.

For an instant, he lost concentration and immediately showed flaws mid-combat. Han Xiao did not care about his internal thoughts at all and seized the opportunity.

Bang bang bang!

Lightning-fast punches landed on Secret Master’s body quickly, sending in waves of impact.

Being badly beaten up, many defensive runes on Secret Master’s body shattered. Feeling the pain, Secret Master did not dare let himself get distracted again. He took a defensive stance and held on under Han Xiao’s attacks.

While the two of them fought intensely, Ravenlaude, who was also included in the range of the Void Prison, felt conflicted.

Normally, Ravenlaude would help the dynasty’s ally, but now, Black Star was also a competitor who was fighting for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

“I can only complete the mission and gain a Universal Treasure if I take the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy back from Han Xiao’s hands.”

After some thought, Ravenlaude made his decision and started to cast spells to cancel out the effects of the Void Prison.

“Hmm?” Sensing the disturbance, Han Xiao turned around and gave Ravenlaude a death stare.

“Don’t look at me. I’m just executing the dynasty’s mission.”

Ravenlaude noticed Han Xiao’s stare and nervously replied. Then, he silently tried to break away from the Void Prison together with Secret Master.

The next second, the Void Prison was broken. The space around returned to normal. While the two of them fought, Ravenlaude opened a teleportation gate immediately and disappeared, heading toward the mechanical army, which was escorting the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy away.

Seeing this, Secret Master wanted to do the same. However, the Lord’s Avatar prevented him from doing so.

The rest of Han Xiao’s machinery had now arrived. They activated space stabilizing devices and magic disruption devices that covered this area, stopping the use of teleportation spells once again, causing Secret Master to be unable to chase after the Prime Chaos Mysterious Energy.

“Sh*t!” Secret Master’s face sank even further. This situation basically meant that he was already eliminated from this competition.

Furthermore, Secret Master could see that Black Star actually had a way to stop Ravenlaude too. Only, he purposely let Ravenlaude go but kept him there.

He’s targeting me specifically?

That’s too much!

Seeing Secret Master’s expression, Han Xiao chuckled. “You noticed I’ve let Ravenlaude on purpose? I’m not targeting you but him.”

He had purposely let Ravenlaude go and given him a chance to chase after his mechanical army because he wanted to make Ravenlaude a target to showcase his fists.

Due to the unhappiness last time, Han Xiao wanted to showcase more of his strength to the dynasty, but he did not want the outside world to know he had grown once again, in case the Mechanic Emperor sought him out again. Therefore, he wanted to shift the battlefield and not have witnesses.

A dynasty ally was the best target for that.

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Compared to beating up enemies, beating up teammates seems better when creating a reputation? After all, after getting beaten up, his teammate still had to hide the information of the battle.

Although the Lord’s Avatar stayed to hold Secret Master back, all the Apostle Weapons were in the escort team.

With all that and the mechanical army, it would be strong enough even without him present.

Diverting forces and fighting in multiple battles at the same time was the Beyond Grade A Mechanic fighting method.

Chapter 1034 Duel

Psyker was scared away by Black Star, Secret Master was held back by the Lord's Avatar, and Ravenlaude teleported to chase after the mechanical army. The situation of the battle changed multiple times in a short period. The fleets of the other organizations present became mere onlookers.

At this point, these organizations knew full well that the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy would have nothing more to do with them.

They were somewhat disappointed but not surprised. A few days back, when they realized that the dynasty and church had interfered in this, they knew that their chances were negligible.

However, being able to confirm that the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy had appeared in the Emerald Star Cluster, as well as having the opportunity to watch a battle between many Beyond Grade As, most of them felt it was worth the trip.

Although the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was taken away by Black Star, they did not disperse immediately but took out their snacks to watch the wrestling between Black Star and Secret Master.

Only a few organizations who had yet to give up wanted to chase after the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, but they were stopped by the mechanical army. Looking at the dense psionic barrels, these people could only remain there with resignation.

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While the Lord's Avatar led the mechanical army to fight Secret Master, the dynasty's fleet responded as well and immediately reported Black Star's interference in this battle. This got to the man in charge of this operation, an upper echelon of the dynasty's hawk faction, Bekorodi.

"Black Star is there too? And he got it?"

Far away in the remote command center inside the dynasty's territory, Bekorodi's eyes opened so wide that they almost popped out. He was shocked and enraged.

"His Excellency Ravenlaude is already chasing after it. He will probably have a direct conflict with Black Star. What should we do?" the fleet's commander asked cautiously.

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Hearing this, Bekorodi frowned heavily. He was filled with hesitation.

He felt that this matter was very difficult to deal with. Black Star was an important ally to the dynasty. Usually, the two sides should avoid conflict as much as possible.

However, before this, the dynasty did not know that Black Star would interfere with this, which made Bekorodi rather worried.

With the dynasty's control of the Flickering World, somehow, they did not notice that Black Star had sent a team out to that place. This showed that the Black Star Army had secretly built quite a number of things in the Flickering World by making use of the dynasty's support.

Bekorodi felt that in situations like this, Black Star should be the one to take a step back first. However, Black Star clearly saw that the dynasty was involved, yet he still took part in the battle. To Bekorodi, this was Black Star not giving the dynasty's face, which made a hawk faction upper echelon like him rather unhappy.

Undoubtedly, he felt that the situation was all Black Star's fault, so he was in a dilemma.

Should he continue the operation while taking the risk of offending Black Star or back off and give up the plan?

"Sir, should we contact the Ruler?"

While pondering, his subordinate's voice pulled Bekorodi out of his train of thought. He paused then said with a deep voice, "Don't notify the Ruler yet. Contact Black Star first. I'll talk to him."

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He knew that Urranrell liked Black Star, so he did not want to notify her. He could only control the mission if he dealt with it himself.

The command center called up Black Star's number. It rang three times before it was picked up. Han Xiao's face appeared on the screen with a meaningful smile.

"Not bad, not bad, you contacted me earlier than I expected."

Bekorodi's eyes twitched. He suppressed his anger, forced out a smile, and said, "Black Star, remember me? I'm Bekorodi."

"Hello, we meet again. Have you eaten?"

"Just had dinner."

"You look quite well. Have you been sleeping well recently? You're not young anymore, so don't work so hard. Rest more."

"I'm used to working hard, just can't seem to be too free. After so many years, I've gotten used to working every day long ago, but I have indeed been getting rather good sleep recently. I..."

Halfway through speaking, Bekorodi suddenly stopped.

He only just noticed that without knowing, he had followed Han Xiao's lead and actually subconsciously started chattering, almost forgetting what he wanted to say in this call.

Plus, we're not even close! Black Star, are you trying to play for time?

Bekorodi coughed heavily, trying to cover up the awkwardness. He then quickly gained back control and questioned, "You know why I've called you, don't you? It's a surprise you've had your eyes on the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy too. This information came from EsGod's heritage. You should have notified the dynasty or at least reported your actions. If you'd done that, the accidents today would have been totally avoided. Why didn't you?"

Han Xiao's expression looked strange, as if he was saying, What kind of question is that?

“Doesn’t not notifying you guys mean that I want it for myself? Plus, I don’t seem to recall that I’m obligated to give all the intelligence I have to the dynasty or report my personal activities. We’re allies, not employer and employee.”

Bekorodi made a serious expression and said, “Anyway, there’s no need for discussion on this matter. Listen to me. The dynasty doesn’t want the outside world to see us fight with our allies. This needs a solution.”

“It’s simple then—give up. Give the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy to me, and it’s done.” Han Xiao smiled.

“Impossible,” Bekorodi said subconsciously, but he then realized that his tone was not very appropriate, so he calmed down. “The dynasty needs the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy too. We won’t let it go so easily.”

“What do you need the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy for?” Han Xiao was curious.

Bekorodi shut up immediately.

It was not like he could tell Black Star the truth and say that it was to replicate the Evolution Cube’s abilities.

They wanted the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy to make Gaud grow quicker and step into the Beyond Grade A territory sooner. The goal of that was to analyze the Evolution Cube. Gaud would only be able to analyze the Evolution Energy with his Esper Ability if he was Beyond Grade A.

After quite some time, Bekorodi finally forced the words “It’s confidential...” out of his mouth.

“Never mind then.” Han Xiao shook his head. “Anyway, I won’t just back off like this. It’s true that we’re allies, but I can’t possibly give everything to you once you just tell me to do so. Even those Ultimate Knowledges required me to make contributions to gain access to them. You can’t just ask me to give selflessly, can you?”

Bekorodi nodded. “Okay, then let’s make a deal. We’re willing to exchange for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. What do you want? Intelligence? Knowledge? Resources? A Universal Treasure? I’m guessing you want the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy probably because you want to turn it into a Universal Treasure, so you might as well exchange it with us. You can choose from the list we gave you last time. I can approve this deal personally.”

The dynasty had to give Ravenlaude a Universal Treasure to hire him to start with, so since the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was now in Black Star’s hands, Bekorodi just made the same deal with Black Star.

The deal with Ravenlaude, of course, would no longer be valid. He would at most receive some resources as compensation...

Ravenlaude, who was still chasing the mechanical army, did not yet know that his employer had already given up hope on him and that the Universal Treasure he had been thinking of was basically out of his reach.

Han Xiao raised his brows. “And what if you go back on your word?”

“If you agree, I’ll make Ravenlaude retreat first, and you can keep the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy for the time being. Then, you will make a public announcement to eliminate the rumors caused by this conflict. Following that, you can exchange it for a Universal Treasure with us. Therefore, you don’t have to worry that we won’t keep up our side of the deal.”

Bekorodi did not plan to play any tricks at all. He at least had this much pride as a superior in the dynasty.

However, Han Xiao did not plan to agree immediately...

If my teammate runs away, who do I beat up?

“We’ll talk about this next time. I have yet to decide if I want to give you guys or not. I need to think about it. Therefore, for now, let’s just compete fairly... Since you don’t want the outside world to know, we’ll fight in a place where there’s no one else.” Han Xiao’s tone was calm, and he did not completely reject the deal.

Bekorodi’s face stiffened. He was very annoyed.

He did not want to waste any more time and gave a simple “okay”. He then ended the call. He told his subordinate to notify Ravenlaude that he had to obtain the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

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In his mind, Han Xiao’s original body was still in Black Star Palace, and only a Lord’s Avatar and a group of mechanical troops were there. Secret Master was restraining the Lord’s Avatar, so Ravenlaude should still have a chance.

...

Inside the bright nebula, Ravenlaude chased after the fleeing mechanical army, getting further away from the battlefield that the Lord’s Avatar was in and out of everyone’s sight.

Without the restrictions of the space stabilization devices, Ravenlaude’s teleportation spells were quicker. No matter how fast the mechanical troops were running, he could catch up in an instant. He had only slowly followed behind all this time because he wanted to get further away from the Lord’s Avatar so that it would not be able to interfere with his battle.

After all, whether the Lord’s Avatar was present or not would make a bit of difference. He did not want to face the Lord’s Avatar’s attacks with his body like Secret Master. After all...

I’m a proper Mage! I’m like paper!

Remote artillery style is our forte. Melee combat? How can you call yourself a Mage?

That Secret Master, who drew all over his body, had quite strong melee combat power, but Ravenlaude was an old fashioned Mage who had mastered pure arcane arts. To make him fight in melee range would be the same as Mechanics rushing into Pugilists’ arms... Hmm, except for Black Star.

This is far enough.

Ravenlaude focused his mind and used another teleportation spell. He appeared right before the mechanical troops. With a wave of his hand, a top-tier magic staff appeared and hovered above his head. The gem at the top of the staff shone with a bright magical light.

The next moment, thick magical books appeared one after another around Ravenlaude, circling him slowly like a ring of stars and giving off powerful magical energy.

As the magical books opened and the pages turned extremely quickly, a thick and enormous purple magic light appeared and expanded instantly, turning into a spherical, dark-purple energy barrier that shrouded all the mechanical troops before him. The sphere was extremely large.

Looking from inside, the inside wall of this sphere was dark purple covered in circulating streams of bright blue and flaming white magical streams of light, like arcane comets. It looked like a purple curtain decorated with blue and white patterns.

“Wall of Tragal—Dark Purple Arena. This is a new forbidden spell created by my spell research team.”

After casting this spell, Ravenlaude smiled with confidence as if the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was already in his hands.

The Mechanical Force lightning on the mechanical troops suddenly became much weaker. They fired at the wall, but the psionic cannon attacks disappeared when landing on the inside of this sphere like they were absorbed. Some mechanical soldiers flew to the edges, but the moment they touched the inside wall, a bright arcane explosion repelled the mechanical soldiers away.

Ravenlaude was certain that the mechanical troops could not escape. In a situation like this, the villain soul lying deep inside his body started to boil. He started to perform the signature move of a villain—explain!

“This is a forbidden-level sealing spell. It can absorb the energy attacks inside it and transfer it to its outside. At the same time, it prevents any material from passing through its wall. Your mechanical troops won’t be able to escape. Furthermore, this spell can also reduce the efficiency of energy transmission. Haven’t you noticed? The Mechanical Force you applied on them has become weaker.”

He was having a good time talking, but the mechanical troops ignored him and continued to physically attack the inside wall, getting repelled away time after time.

Seeing this, Ravenlaude shook his head and smiled. He slowly said, “Stop wasting your time, Black Star. I know you can hear my voice. Let’s discuss this.”

After a few seconds, the mechanical troops gave up trying, turned to look at him, and opened the area communication channel. Han Xiao’s voice appeared.

“Discuss what?”

“Black Star, I respect your strength, but your Lord’s Avatar isn’t here. If you fight me, you’ll only waste these troops. So, why not just give me the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy? I’ll remember this favor I owe you and give you enough compensation. You know, we’re allies; we don’t have to solve the problem with violence.”

Ravenlaude smiled faintly and felt that he was giving Black Star a lot of face.

However, only inexperienced youngsters would give up their own profit because of a few kind words. Although Han Xiao was considered basically a baby in terms of age among the Beyond Grade As, his experience in life was far from being this immature. He was completely unaffected and immediately ordered the mechanical troops to fire.

Tu tu tu tu!

The mechanical troops surrounded Ravenlaude and fired at him immediately. However, Ravenlaude was prepared. Multiple layers of arcane shields protected him while he moved at a high speed to dodge attacks. Offensive spells were thrown out from his hands continuously, bombarding the mechanical troops.

The size of this sphere was extremely large, giving Ravenlaude enough space to kite. In addition, his mobility provided by teleportation could keep the battle at medium range, so it would be a battle of cannon fires and spells.

“The goal isn’t to destroy the mechanical army. It’s best to leave after getting the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.”

While shooting spells at the mechanical army, Ravenlaude noted the location of the mechanical soldier that was escorting the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

Suddenly, the formation of the mechanical army showed a flaw. There was a gap in the protection of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy for an instant, and he noticed it immediately.

“Chance!”

Ravenlaude cast a spell that he had already prepared long ago. An invisible shockwave shot out and divided the mechanical army. He cast another teleportation spell, which was also prepared beforehand, immediately appearing beside the mechanical soldier escorting the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. A purple hand formed of arcane energy grabbed toward the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy contained right before his eyes.

At this moment, a dark blue tint of light suddenly appeared at the edge of his sights. The sharp feeling it gave off made his hair stand on end.

In an instant, Ravenlaude hastily retracted his abdomen to dodge the light. A white spear covered in a gold pattern and surrounded by dark blue energy easily tore open all his shields, slipping right past his vital spot under his abdomen. He was suddenly covered in cold sweat.

That was close, almost lost my offspring.

Psionic Prime, who had been lying in wait among the army for a long time, twisted his spear, shooting out an energy wave and directly slapping Ravenlaude away!

The Psionic Prime Spear was his ‘Life Weapon’, which appeared when he became an Apostle Weapon. It had a silver-orange Grade, and it would become stronger together with the Apostle Weapon.

At this point, the Psionic Prime Spear had many new characteristics. When used by Psionic Prime himself, these characteristics would be enhanced. It was a terrifying close- to mid-range weapon in his

hands that could easily penetrate most shields. Ravenlaude's magic shield was like paper in front of the Psionic Prime Spear.

Psionic Prime shook his spear and chased right after Ravenlaude, not letting go of the opportunity that he had gained by suddenly attacking. As he caught up in no time, he immediately used a smooth Mechanical Pugilist combo on him, not giving Ravenlaude any time to catch his breath.

Not long after, Ravenlaude once again felt a strong sense of danger behind him. A few more hidden Apostle Weapons charged toward him at close range. They were all good at close combat, such as Mad Sky Hunter, Purple Sky Spirit, and Heaven-Suppressing Banner. They forced Ravenlaude to not have the time to use teleport to increase the distance between them.

Other than Apostle Weapons that had usual sizes such as Giant King Kong, all the other Apostle Weapons were there and had been hiding among the mechanical troops. Now, they finally all struck. Psionic Prime led some of them to fight at close range while Silver Flash led the other ones to attack from a distance. They cooperated perfectly.

With the success of the surprise attack, Ravenlaude was stuck being passive.

With Han Xiao's Mechanical Force enhancement, every single one of these Apostle Weapons had Beyond Grade A strength. Now that Han Xiao had gone through another Promotion, his machinery-related abilities were strengthened again, so the strength of his Apostle Weapons had increased as well. Even just one could fight with a normal Beyond Grade A for a long time... and it went without saying whom this referred to.

'Dueling' more than a dozen of Apostle Weapons with this kind of strength at the same time... Ravenlaude could hardly hold on.

There were no tricks to get out of this. It was a complete difference in raw strength. The situation quickly turned one sided.

I can't even beat a medium-sized mechanical army without a Lord's Avatar? Has his strength already grown to this level?

Ravenlaude clenched his teeth and endured the fierce attacks from these more than ten Apostle Weapons. The magic energy in his body flew out like a broken dam. His heart was filled with disbelief and helplessness that sank deep into his bones.

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Feeling the state he was in now, Ravenlaude could fully confirm one thing—Black Star had become stronger again!

At this time, he suddenly recalled his experience against the Mechanic Emperor many years ago...

This was how it felt!

So strong that even a Beyond Grade A like him was afraid!

Chapter 1035 Beat Up My Teammate

This was not the first time Han Xiao had fought with a Mage. Every Beyond Grade A Mage had their own style and a different way of fighting.

Ravenlaude was one of the Ancient Ones. Although, due to his limited potential, he had already reached the top of his strength and would not be able to become a peak Beyond Grade A, in his long life, he had learned countless spells. The Arcane Institute under his command was an organization used to study and invent new spells for him. In this fight, he had showcased his extremely broad knowledge in the study of magic.

As an Ancient One as well, 'Dragon King' Milizaus' style had very clear differences. Milizaus focused on the powerful dragon magic spells, fighting with raw strength in a straight forward style, while Ravenlaude had endless spells to swiftly deal with all kinds of situations.

Every Beyond Grade A had their specialty. Facing such a disadvantageous situation, although Ravenlaude was suppressed by the Apostle Weapons, he gradually used his ever-changing spell combos to give himself some breathing space, which was followed up by a combo he had prepared for a very long time.

With a flash of the gem on his staff, silk-like rings made of runes appeared around him. Purple arcane energy started spinning and quickly expanded into a tornado. The violent energy blew the nearby Apostle Weapons away, creating a short opportunity to cast more spells. Ravenlaude was in the storm eye. With the change of his hand sign, the arcane storm swiftly condensed into thousands of magic arrows hovering around him. The highly concentrated arcane energy almost looked solid as if they had turned into transparent purple crystals.

“Secret Ability—Arcane Nova Arrow Rain!”

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The purple crystal-like arrows shot out in all directions into the mechanical army, causing clusters of bright purple arcane energy explosions.

Boom boom boom boom!

Impact wave rippled and expanded, blowing away tons of mechanical soldiers. At the same time, the vibration of magic particles caused many mechanical soldiers to become immobilized. This ability had both damage and control effects in a large range.

Ravenlaude did not stop there. He waved his hand, a magic book suddenly appeared and flipped open. All of its shining pages danced and turned into a circular turning light belt, creating a white secondary dimension entrance that expanded rapidly behind him. The entrance was expanding to several thousand meters wide.

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Ohm!

An enormous quadrangle tower tip that looked like it was made of crystal extended out from the tunnel, slowly showing its full appearance. It was clearly a magnificent magic building.

High Grade Arcane Spell—Mage Pagoda Summoning!

“He’s summoning his Mage Pagoda. Stop him!” Psionic Prime’s eyes flickered. He stopped himself from being blown away and charged forward once again.

The Mage Pagoda was the core equipment of high-level Mages. A Mage with and without the Mage Pagoda would be on two completely different levels. A Mage would only reach full strength when fighting alongside the Mage Pagoda.

For example, Austin’s Palace of Hidden Spells was a gold Grade Mage Pagoda, which not only gave him extremely powerful enhancements but also exceptional mobility.

The cost of Mage Pagodas that could be stored in a secondary dimension and summoned anytime was extremely expensive. Usually, when a Mage summoned their Mage Pagoda, it meant that they had decided to stand their ground and fight on that spot. This was because most Mage Pagodas did not have as strong teleportation powers as the Palace of Hidden Spells.

A Mage Pagoda was a trump card. Since it had been summoned, it meant that Ravenlaude was no longer holding back. He was going all out.

“Black Star, you’re indeed stronger than me... but it won’t be that easy to defeat me!”

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Ravenlaude bit his lip. His pride as a Beyond Grade A was harmed, and his will to fight was flaming.

The mechanical army immediately activated the space stabilization device. However, inside the Dark Purple Arena, the thick magic energy weakened its effects. Ravenlaude was also doing all he could to keep the summoning portal stable.

The Mage Pagoda extended out bit by bit. Silver Flash and the mechanical army shifted the target of the long-range attacks to the Mage Pagoda. Large defensive runes appeared on the Mage Pagoda to protect it, like a translucent purple light energy shield. It stopped the bombardment and vibrated nonstop as explosions and sparks erupted on its surface.

Ravenlaude used his magic energy at maximum capacity. Dark purple light glowed from his body. In the process of summoning the Mage Pagoda, his mobility would be reduced tremendously. The thick layers of arcane shields protected his casting from being interrupted.

Suddenly, the space behind him rippled. Mad Sky Hunter, who had a short distance teleportation ability, teleported right inside the shields. With his sharp blades and teeth, he pounced right at Ravenlaude.

In the blink of an eye, Ravenlaude hastily turned his body, and Mad Sky Hunter slid past.

The arcane energy slapped Mad Sky Hunter away. He then looked down. His ribs and the side of his leg were slashed right open with deep wounds. He could see his flesh moving inside, trying to close the wounds.

Before he could do anything else, Psionic Prime appeared. His spear stabbed forward as fast as a meteor, leaving only afterimages behind.

The Psionic Prime Spear’s ability to penetrate shields was a major counter to him. The summoning was near its end. In order to block this attack, he had to cast spells and stop the summoning. Ravenlaude

clenched his teeth and decided to just not dodge it. He had to summon the Mage Pagoda even at the price of being injured.

Whoosh!

As usual, the shield was penetrated with ease, and the spear stabbed right into Ravenlaude's chest.

The taste of blood gushed up his throat. Ravenlaude ignored it and completed the last part of the summoning spell.

"Descend!"

Boom!

The entire Mage Pagoda was finally summoned. It released an extremely powerful magic energy impact wave that stirred up a tornado, blowing all the mechanical soldiers away onto the inside wall of the Dark Purple Arena, including the Apostle Weapons, damaging them twice.

This was a tall crystal tower. Its base was an enormous disc. Overall, it looked like an enlarged chess piece. Colorful magic streams flowed within the crystal, and countless runes and magic arrays formed a slowly spinning sphere shaped barrier that shrouded the Mage Pagoda.

Ravenlaude coughed a few times, casually created a light green healing magical sphere, and stuffed it into the penetrating wound made by Psionic Prime to stop the bleeding. Then, he flew into the Mage Pagoda, connecting his own magic energy with the energy core of the Mage Pagoda. Only then were they fully linked.

The next second, rows of black holes appeared at the bottom of the Mage Pagoda. Tons of magic puppets and colossi swarmed out. Right after, teleportation tunnels appeared all around, and countless monsters were summoned, charging toward the mechanical army.

Psionic Prime swung and spun the spear in his hands, shooting out waves of light, easily slashing the colossi and monsters in his way in half, creating empty areas in the pile of enemies.

At this time, Ravenlaude's voice sounded in the entire arena like thunder.

"Since you desire battle, enjoy it to the end. Come, Black Star!"

"A Beyond Grade A Mage at full performance... I can't disappoint the lord's trust!"

Electric sparkles flashed in Psionic Prime's eyes. Unafraid, he led the mechanical army and charged forward.

The army of two sides collided!

...

Long after the dynasty's fleet arrived at the scene, what they saw was a wreckage.

Shattered gems, flesh, and machinery floated in this area. There were also countless radiation reactions in the cosmic space created by high energy explosions. A heavily damaged Mage Pagoda floated,

covered in burnt holes and cracks. The magic light around it dimmed completely. It had clearly experienced an extremely tough battle.

The dynasty fleet did not see signs of the mechanical army, so they sent people into the Mage Pagoda and found Ravenlaude, who was leaning against the wall. His clothes were tattered, and he was in a mess. His body was covered in wounds, and there were piles of dried golden blood marks on the floor. A magic staff that was broken into two lay beside his feet; the cut was as smooth as a mirror.

“You guys... ahem... finally came.”

Ravenlaude’s voice was weak. He stood up with the help of the wall. A few dynasty soldiers quickly approached to help.

“What happened? How have you ended up like this?” Bekorodi, who was remotely commanding the troops, was shocked.

The opponent was just Black Star’s mechanical army. Even if Ravenlaude failed, as a Beyond Grade A, how did he end up this badly beaten?

Bekorodi thought of a possibility and asked, “Was Black Star’s original body here?”

Ravenlaude shook his head, gasped for air, and said, “No, he wasn’t.”

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“Oh... so you should have annihilated the mechanical army and obtained the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, right?” Bekorodi asked. No wonder there were no signs of the mechanical army. He felt that this was the most likely outcome.

Ravenlaude shook his head again with a complicated expression. “No, I was defeated.”

Bekorodi’s expression stiffened. “So, you’re saying, you, a Beyond Grade A, came personally and even used your Mage Pagoda, but you were defeated by one of Black Star’s mechanical armies that didn’t even have a Lord’s Avatar?”

Bro, what is this?

Aren’t you too weak?

Seeing Bekorodi’s expression, Ravenlaude knew full well that he despised him. He felt embarrassed and said with a deep voice, “You know nothing about Black Star’s strength!”

Then, he repeated the process of the battle in detail and made an accurate analysis on Han Xiao’s current level of strength.

“I once fought Mechanic Emperor, and the impression he gave me is still vivid. Black Star has definitely touched the level of God’s Trait Transformation, which is why his Apostle Weapons and mechanical army have the power to defeat me!”

Unknowingly, while listening to the report, Bekorodi’s expression had become extremely serious.

After a long silence, he finally slowly spoke.

“Black Star’s strength hasn’t grown for about twenty years. I used to think he needed more time to get through that barrier. I didn’t expect him to have grown again this soon.”

During the version update, Han Xiao did not level up much, so it looked like he had run into a wall, which made the outside world relieved. They thought that he had finally reached his limit for the time being.

Bekorodi had thought the same. But now, seeing how beaten Ravenlaude was, he knew that Black Star had found the path forward again. Twenty years was not a short time, but compared to the growth of Beyond Grade As, this was way too quick!

With a deep exhale, Bekorodi said in a solemn tone, “Report what happened to Her Excellency and only put this intelligence in confidential documents. Do not leak it.”

At this moment, he made the right choice. Hiding the fact that Black Star had become stronger was not because he wanted to but because he knew that the Ruler Urranrell would definitely give that order.

Although Bekorodi did not like Black Star, he knew that hiding the strength of the dynasty’s allies was beneficial for the dynasty. Even though his precious Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy had been snatched away, he still had to suck it up and clean up after Black Star.

“Retreat.” With resignation, Bekorodi ended the operation.

“Our deal...” Ravenlaude spoke and hinted at the mess with his eyes. His meaning was clear. I gave my all. At least compensate me for it.

“The dynasty will compensate you for the repair fees of your Mage Pagoda and your colossi. As for the Universal Treasure... sorry, you did not complete the mission, so I can’t give it to you. Those are the rules,” Bekorodi said with a poker face.

He did not want to speak of this matter anymore and ended the communication.

Ravenlaude clenched his teeth with anger.

Not only was his Mage Pagoda broken, but his colossuses were also all destroyed, and he was beaten up. Plus, the Universal Treasure that he had been looking forward to was gone as well. It was a complete loss!

Ravenlaude rubbed his face.

I took this heavy beating for nothing!

Black Star, you *sshole. We’re allies, but you really didn’t hold back!

Remember this, I’ll get you back for this one day!

The Tyrant was bullied by Black Star before. I’ll go find him!

He was only angry because he was beaten up by Han Xiao. As for losing the Universal Treasure, he did not blame Han Xiao for it. Without Black Star, Secret Master would most likely have gotten it. He was still sensible in this respect...

But I’m still so angry!

...

Back at the initial battlefield, the Lord's Avatar and the mechanical army were still fighting intensely with Secret Master.

At this time, the Lord's Avatar suddenly paused. The army stopped firing and backed away.

"Hmm?" Secret Master frowned. He held the magic axe in his hands and did not throw it out. "Why did you stop?"

Han Xiao waved his hand. "I've got it. There's no need to fight anymore. But if you still are not satisfied, I can continue accompanying you."

Secret Master went silent.

He had already been stalled for way too long. He had lost track of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy long ago, so there would be no way to chase after it. He initially wanted to teach Han Xiao a lesson with his secret luck spell, but this guy turned out to be the unluckiest person he had ever seen. His luck could not have been any worse. According to any fortune telling, he should have died young. Therefore, technically, he should have died long ago, but he became someone this powerful and strong.

To be honest, Secret Master actually felt a little respect for Han Xiao. To be able to come this far with such a tragic fate, he had to give him his respect.

Since anything related to luck was useless to Black Star, Secret Master could only put up with it. After all, even if he tore the Lord's Avatar apart, it would not cause too much damage to Black Star... not to mention the fact that he could not even tear it apart.

"You've won today." Secret Master gave Han Xiao a meaningful look. He then sent a voice message with mind energy to Han Xiao alone. "Since you're unlucky to a pitiful level, I'll give you a heads up. Gorutan might be plotting something against you."

Han Xiao was stunned for a moment. "You're warning me? Are you this kind-hearted?"

"Humph." Secret Master did not reply. He turned around and returned to his spaceship, departing with his fleet.

Watching Secret Master leave, Han Xiao thought those words.

Han Xiao remembered that both Secret Master and Gorutan were protectors of the Galactic Black Market, so they should be in the same faction. He had destroyed Secret Master's plan to get the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, yet he had warned him and sold Gorutan out.

"Looks like there are internal conflicts between the protectors of the Galactic Black Market too. Could it be that the fewer the protectors, the more profit each one gets?" Han Xiao pondered.

As the battle between the two of them ended, the rubbernecking organizations also scattered.

To most organizations, although they did not gain anything, they had taken part in a major event, so it was worth it. With first-hand information, they would have plenty of chances to brag about it in the future.

The Modo Civilization, however, became the biggest loser of this incident.

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They did not even touch the tip of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, and more than eighty percent of their Calamity Grade elites had died for it.

“What a tragedy...”

Han Xiao expressed his sympathy.

As the fight for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy came to an end and all the irrelevant people left, he could finally take a look at this treasure.

Chapter 1036 Buy One Get One Free?

A mechanical army had just arrived at a desolate planet outside the Star Zone through hyperdrive. A white desert with no end in sight covered the planet.

Psionic Prime led the others and slowly landed on the ground. There was a small black dot hovering one meter above ground. It was a Divine Mechanical Throne.

Han Xiao's original body sat right on it with his eyes closed, focused on controlling the Lord's Avatar and the remote troops. Blue-gold lightning sparked around his body and disappeared when more than a meter away from him, entering into the Quantum Infinite Distance Transmission Channel to enhance his troops afar.

The army stepped onto the ground, and Han Xiao opened his eyes at the same time.

“Welcome back.”

“Lord, we have not failed you.”

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Psionic Prime walked at the front. He stamped the spear onto the ground, took out the magical container that sealed the Psionic Prime Spear, and offered it up with both hands.

Han Xiao looked over. Inside the translucent crystal ball was the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy that was sealed, shrunk countless times. It was like red fog that kept changing its shape.

“Well done.”

Han Xiao grabbed the magic ball and toyed with it a bit. He then looked at the troops before him.

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This army had battled Ravenlaude and his peak strength. Their victory did not come easy. Tons of normal troops had been destroyed. Almost every mechanical soldier had wounds on their body, and the exterior armor of many of them had cracked open, showing their insides that were flickering with electric sparks.

Among the ten or so Apostle Weapons, four were paralyzed by Ravenlaude and brought before Han Xiao by the others, lying on the ground and unable to move. Han Xiao had to repair them himself for them to recover.

Apostle Weapons had the ability to repair themselves, but there was a limit. Once the damage they suffered exceeded a certain extent, or their tinker energy lowered beyond the warning line, they would enter a paralyzed or hibernation state. These four Apostle Weapons were all melee combat soldiers. Although they did not die at Ravenlaude's hands, they had taken tons of damage.

"You've done a good job." Han Xiao nodded. He raised his palm. Four silvery-white nanoparticles flew out and fused into these four Apostle Weapons. Their bodies shivered, and their exterior damage started to slowly recover.

"Leave them like this for the time being. I'll have to give them a full repair inside the secondary dimension factory for them to fully recover." Han Xiao then stared at Psionic Prime and smiled. "So, have you anything learned?"

Psionic Prime nodded. "Our neurons and memory storage collected all the combat data. The database for fighting with Beyond Grade As has new examples and is more comprehensive. The next time we fight with Ravenlaude or another Beyond Grade A Mage, we'll be able to design more targeted strategies to decrease damage incurred and increase efficiency."

Apostle Weapons were all mechanical lives with growth potential. Their learning ability was very powerful. The fighting process with all kinds of strong opponents would become part of the Apostle Weapons' combat experience that would make them stronger, or even acquire special combat techniques.

"Very good. This is the first time you guys have defeated a Beyond Grade A at his fullest without the help of a Lord's Avatar. I'm very satisfied with the results."

Han Xiao gave them a few compliments. Then, he let the machinery set up space stabilization traps and shattered the magic ball with his hand.

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Ravenlaude had only just sealed the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy when it was snatched away by Secret Master, so there was no time to set any magic arrays or whatnot. Brute force was all it took to break the container. Nonetheless, only Beyond Grade As would be able to break something like this so easily; Calamity Grades would not be able to.

Ka-cha!

The crystal magic ball exploded and turned to dust.

Boom!

The moment the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy came out from the ball, it instantly expanded and wanted to escape to the secondary dimension. However, the mechanical army had set up the trap, so it could not escape.

This time, Han Xiao raised his hand, opened his palm, and performed a pull gesture at the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

Whoosh!

A powerful absorption force erupted from his hand. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy flew to Han Xiao and entered his body. The red energy cloud was soon completely absorbed.

“Hiss!”

Han Xiao inhaled deeply, and red light shot out from his eyes.

According to the research the Universal Civilizations had on Primal Esper Ability Entities, only Espers and ordinary people could become owners. However, Han Xiao planned to test out how true this information was with his own body. After all, his first choice would, of course, be himself using it. He had to try to see if he was suitable.

He was not worried about failing. The damage caused by not being a compatible owner could kill Calamity Grades, but it would at the very most only cause a little bit of damage to Beyond Grade As. Plus, he humbly felt that his regeneration ability was not too bad, so he was not afraid at all.

Cells were the residence of Primal Esper Ability Entities. As soon as the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy entered his body, it automatically fused into each and every one of his cells. Intense agony exploded in Han Xiao’s body!

Han Xiao could clearly feel that due to the difference in Energy Attributes, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and his own energy conflicted and produced a feeling that was similar to rejection. The more Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy his cells absorbed, the more intense the pain became.

However, compared to the pain he went through during Promotions, this was child’s play. Han Xiao frowned slightly, opened the status bar in the interface, and looked at it.

Your body has been invaded by a Primal Esper Ability Entity. Due to repelling Energy Attributes, you’re receiving 30,000 – 50,000 erosive damage every second.

You have entered the [Cell Suppression (Energy Conflict Type)] state. Due to energy erosion, the cells that provide you energy are suppressed. -30% Health, energy, and stamina recovery efficiency.

You have entered the [Slightly Weakened] state. The energy erosion has made your body weak. -15% all attributes. -15% maximum health and energy.

You need to use extra energy to suppress the Primal Esper Ability Entity. Your maximum energy has been reduced by 40% temporarily.

“Huh, that’s a ton of debuffs.” Han Xiao’s mouth twitched.

His original plan was that even if he turned out to be unsuitable, he could try to forcefully endure the load brought by the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy with his regeneration ability, so he would be able

to use the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. However, when he saw all these debuffs, he knew that this would not work.

“Looks like I won’t be able to become the owner.”

Han Xiao shook his head. The energy in his body vibrated and immediately pushed out the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, which made him feel refreshed instantly. All the debuffs from earlier disappeared.

Before the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy could do anything, Han Xiao took out a containing device for energy entities that had the appearance of a seventy-centimeter-long pipe. Its middle was yellow nano glass. Without saying a word, he contained the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy once again.

Seeing the mini Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy inside bashing left and right but not able to pass through the specially-made energy restraining field, Han Xiao shook the pipe and made the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy roll over a few times. He chuckled.

“Although I can’t become the owner, with my technology, it won’t be hard to make use of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. Mages can seal it in a special colossus and turn it into a fighting puppet, so I can build a special mechanical body to become the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy’s host too. I shall artificially create a mechanical owner. However, it’ll take a lot of testing to find a way to build the host...”

Han Xiao thought about how to deal with the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

However, at that moment, a weak psychic wave escaped from within the container that was filled with a sense of resignation. A s*xless voice suddenly appeared in Han Xiao’s mind.

“Hi, Mr. Beyond Grade A, can we have a chat?”

Hmm? The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy is talking? Right, this guy is an independent life form that has a conscience.

Han Xiao raised his brows, looked at the contained in his hand with interest, released his psychic barrier, and formed a psychic communication link with the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

“You’re the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy?”

“This is just what you people call me. My real name is Mossenil Kad Piroye ‘Red Spirit’ Dito...”

After dozens of words, the name still had yet to finish. Han Xiao could not take it anymore and interrupted its self-introduction. “Stop, it’s too troublesome. I’ll just call you Ah K.”

“Ah... Ah K...”

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy’s tone was stiff. It probably had never heard such a nice nickname before.

“Don’t mind the details. What did you want to talk to me about?” Han Xiao raised his brows.

“What do you plan to do with me?”

Han Xiao thought about it and told the truth. "I plan to build a host that can contain you, to make you fight for me. If that doesn't work, maybe I'll find a new owner for you."

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"As expected." The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, however, was not angry about it. "I've seen many Beyond Grade As. When I fused with you earlier, I found that you're one of the few stronger ones even among Beyond Grade As. I'm powerless to resist, so I'll let you do whatever to my body. Be gentle, ok? I don't like it rough."

Why did the way you said that sound kind of weird?

Han Xiao coughed and said with curiosity, "You're going to become my puppet, so aren't you angry?"

"My life is longer than you can imagine. I've experienced everything there is to experience. It's not like you're the first one to want to control me. You're just another passerby in my life." The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy's tone was casual and carefree.

"... Didn't expect you to be so open minded."

Han Xiao's mouth twitched, and he did not know how to describe this.

"If you'd lived as long as I, you'd know the feeling of loneliness. It's the most horrifying feeling in the entire universe. Therefore, I hibernate most of the time. In fact, the experiences I have fighting alongside my owners are the more exciting and colorful memories."

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was very honest. As an ancient Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy that spent most of its time sleeping, he had no need to hide his real thoughts.

Han Xiao suddenly thought of what had happened to Evans not long ago and asked, "So, you actually are eager to find an owner?"

"During my hibernation, I let my sub-bodies find compatible candidates everywhere, and when the day comes that I'm interested in it, I'll find an owner to start a new adventure."

Han Xiao's cheeks twitched.

What's going on with the world? Even Esper Abilities look for spare tires?

Ptooy! Bad Esper Ability!

However, this explained what had happened to Evans—it was a story of a side chick becoming the main chick.

There are way too many things wrong with this...

"You're so cooperative now, so why did you try to escape just now?"

"I like to be on the controlling side... but I can still enjoy being on the passive side," the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy replied.

Han Xiao rolled his eyes. So, basically, it's because you have no choice but to cooperate because...

He initially thought that the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy would resist and fight to its death, but to his surprise, the truth was so refreshing and novel.

However, it made sense when he thought about it. For an energy entity that had lived this long, few things probably mattered. It definitely resisted when it was caught the first time, but once one let that bottom line be crossed, one would start to fall into an endless abyss.

Han Xiao somewhat understood why the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was like this—it was ancient indeed, but without enough strength, how ancient it was did not matter.

As someone once said, 'If you cannot fight it, enjoy it.'

As time passed on, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy slowly developed this personality of not caring about anything.

This time, the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy actively started a new conversation and asked, "It's been so long since I awakened. What's the situation in the universe now? What major events have happened in the past years? Who are you? Tell me, tell me."

"Since you're so cooperative, I'll tell you..." Han Xiao shook his head. Through the psychic link, he quickly transmitted tons of data to the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy.

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy sensed the data joyfully. "Looks like while I was asleep, quite a number of big things have happened in the universe. I recall that when I fell asleep, the Beyond Grade As were not the ones existing now, and there were not this many of them."

"So, how long did you sleep for?" Han Xiao asked.

"Hundreds of years? A thousand years? Sigh, why would I remember that? Time is meaningless to me."

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy sighed and said in a fond, reminiscent tone, "Before the birth of Beyond Grade As, us Primal Esper Ability Entities still existed. Not to toot my own horn, but think about it. In the era when individual powers had yet to reach the Beyond Grade A realm, we represented peak strength. Countless people yearned for our power... Our era only ended when Beyond Grade As appeared."

Primal Esper Ability Entities were extremely ancient. They definitely had a glorious history in the distant past. They might even have been the 'protagonists' of some era.

This seemed to be a group of people with quite a lot of stories to tell.

Han Xiao suddenly thought of something. "Then, do you know where the other Primal Esper Ability Entities are?"

"So much time has passed. I lost track of where they went long ago..." This time, Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy paused. He then suddenly changed his tone, which became motivated and energetic. "However, I might know where one guy is. If you're interested, I can help you capture him."

"... Why are you suddenly so excited?" Han Xiao responded doubtfully. Could it be that you like to beat up your teammates too?

“Truthfully, that guy is my arch enemy. I’ve never liked him. We fought every day long ago, and countless owners died. If you’re interested, I’m very willing to help,” the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy said with anticipation.

Han Xiao was a little surprised to hear this.

Not only did he capture the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, but he now got a surprise gift? Buy one get one free?

Damn, I didn’t even bring Feidin here!

Could it be that when Secret Master pitied me earlier, he secretly increased my luck?

Hmm, or maybe this is a scam.

Han Xiao caressed his chin and asked, “What’s its name?”

“Its name is Na... Oh, according to what you guys call it, it should be the Holy Light Particle.”

Holy Light Particle?

Han Xiao’s eyes sparkled.

This was a familiar name too. In his previous life, it served the same host as the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. It was Evans’ second Esper Ability.

As a crucial character in the EsGod storyline, Evans had quite a number of protagonist type opportunities. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy wanted him to help it take back the part of its body that EsGod had taken away, so it helped Evans become stronger at all costs. It probably had told him about the Holy Light Particle like it did Han Xiao.

Evans, however, had a very unique body, which shockingly happened to be compatible with the Holy Light Particle too. The two Primal Esper Ability Entities somehow achieved an agreement, let go of their past beef, and decided to share their owner. At that time, Evans was the first ever owner of multiple Primal Esper Ability Entities in the history of the universe.

Speaking of which, the man was quite talented. Even though he could no longer be an owner, recruiting him into the army would increase the army’s luck.

“No problem, no number of Primal Esper Ability Entities is too many. Where’s the Holy Light Particle?” Han Xiao was interested.

“As far as I know, it stays in a secondary dimension over very long periods of time. It’s a world made of materialized light; everything is made of colorful light. Solid light looks like bright gems, and liquid light looks like thick and dense milk...”

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy described the dimension with as much detail as possible, clearly showing his strong hostility to his arch enemy.

At the same time, a notification popped up on Han Xiao’s interface.

You have triggered the mission [The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy's Arch Enemy]!

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Mission Introduction: You have captured the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. It is a very casual guy. If you're willing to help it handle a small problem, it is willing to fight by your side.

Mission Requirements: Defeat another Primal Esper Ability Entity, Holy Light Particle.

Reward: 2.4 billion EXP, 2 Character Summon Cards, activates special Milestone Mission—[Primal Esper Ability Collector].

Chapter 1037 Gaud's Headache

"Not bad, even gave me a mission."

Han Xiao glanced at it with interest.

Primal Esper Ability Entities were strong, but they were not much to him now.

Using a certain comic that he had read in his previous life as reference, Primal Esper Ability Entities were like tailed beasts, praised by the writer as something almost unbeatable at the start, but to those characters in the later stages of the comic...

What? Can this thing even kill anyone?

Similarly, the owner was like the Jinchuriki. If the Primal Esper Ability Entity met a powerful owner, it would have strong powers.

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Looking at the mission reward, Han Xiao started planning.

In terms of this mission's difficulty, it would require many Calamity Grades to form a team, so it's considered a team mission for the later versions. Two Character Summon Cards, so probably the Character Summon Cards of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and Holy Light Particle.

To players, they basically cannot become the owners of Primal Esper Ability Entities, so Character Summon Cards are useful to them. To someone like me who can tame them, however, Character Summon Cards are just the cherry on top... But this Milestone Mission seems quite interesting...

Han Xiao had seen other special milestones in his previous life, which were usually all hidden missions. However, this was the first time he had seen this [Primal Esper Ability Collector] milestone. No one had ever triggered it in his previous life.

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"Sounds exotic, but its effects are unknown. Maybe it's more suitable for Espers."

Han Xiao caressed his chin, thought about it for just a few seconds, and then put it aside.

No matter what this milestone was about, he was going to get the Holy Light Particle one way or another. He mainly wanted another Primal Esper Ability Entity, so the mission was just the icing on the

cake. He would see about this special milestone when the time came; speculating would not lead to anything.

“I’ll agree to this then. Let’s make the Holy Light Particle come and accompany you.”

“So, when do we depart?”

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy could not wait. It looked like it wanted to take revenge on its arch enemy, but according to what had happened in Han Xiao’s previous life, Han Xiao kept feeling like it was looking forward to seeing its old friend.

Hehe, Esper Abilities.

Han Xiao thought about it, shook his head, and said, “Not now, I have something to do. When the time comes, I’ll go find it.”

He still had some things to do. His priority was to build the King and Emperor’s Cape, the two pieces of gold equipment. Also, he had to invent and build a special host for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, the artificial mechanical owner.

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This way, he would have a special mechanical guard that possessed a Super High Risk Esper Ability. Its Grade would be difficult to judge, as it would depend on the performance of the host. If he could turn it into a mechanical life, with the effect of the Esper Ability, it would have exceptional specifications.

Of course, there were precedents of this in the Mechanic class. The Beyond Grade As whom the Mechanic Emperor had captured were used as materials to make special mechanical puppets. Apostle Weapons were high-level soldiers provided by the class itself, but Mechanics could invent and create their own high-level soldiers.

On the other hand, the intelligence that Secret Master had given him made Han Xiao more certain that Hila was in a risky position. Therefore, his original body had to stay hidden in the Emerald Star Cluster and would only move when the opportunity came.

At the same time, players all over the universe were swarming toward the Flickering World. The World Server was forming very quickly. According to Han Xiao’s knowledge about the players, although he was having a great time harvesting leeks, due to how much the army players stood out, they might become the target of the players from the other factions. He had to stay there and see the direction of things. Due to the existence of the Black Star Army, the players in the Flickering World would, of course, take different actions compared to his previous life. Hence, he had to improvise and adapt.

Compared to the importance of these things, capturing the Holy Light Particle would have to be postponed. Not to mention the fact that he had to travel to a secondary dimension to carry out this mission, as well as find out which secondary dimension the Holy Light Particle was in.

“Alright, I’ll wait.”

The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy did not mind; it was not in a hurry. It understood that Black Star was its master, not an owner or tool like those before.

The only thing it was sad about was that it might be sealed in a lifeless mechanical body and not be able to communicate with anyone, which would be a lot less fun than playing with its owner.

“Sigh, I only found a perfect compatible owner not long ago. Sadly, I won’t be able to enter him.”

Han Xiao cut off the psionic link, put the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy into his pocket, and stood up. He stowed the Divine Mechanical Throne away, summoned his ride, and headed back with Psionic Prime and the others.

...

As dust settled around the ownership of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, all the participants who retreated did not keep it a secret. They quickly posted the recording of the event, which became the top news in just a few hours.

“The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy Appeared, Fell into Black Star’s Hands!”

The changes in the Flickering World affected the entire universe. The news about the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy appearing in the free competition zone and falling into Black Star’s hands quickly spread across the various Star Fields.

The galactic residents did not know much about Primal Esper Ability Entities, but the Super High Risk Esper Ability List was famous. Furthermore, the news mentioned the two popular terms ‘Flickering World’ and ‘Black Star’. There was even the recording of the battle venue. Hence, this news becoming a hot topic at countless dinner tables was not uncommon.

A few hours after this news, the production company of Wayne Cards made an announcement, expressing that they would be making the new Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy card and potentially adding it to the Black Star Army’s faction card set. Furthermore, they would be considering introducing the ‘Primal Esper Ability Entity’ set card. The way they rode the hype train was astonishing.

The players who liked to surf the internet saw this news too. While shocked, they learned the new concept of ‘Primal Esper Ability Entities’.

However, the popularity of this news mainly revolved around the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. Black Star had done way too many astonishing things. Compared to the major events in the past, this was not that big a deal. The countless galactic residents and players were used to it.

We knew how incredible Black Star is long ago. This is just a basic occurrence, so sit down.

...

At a certain military base of the dynasty, in a very crowded and noisy bar that was filled with loud laughter and cheers, the atmosphere was joyous. All the guests there were soldiers and officers wearing the dynasty’s uniform.

This military base mainly functioned as a training ground. Many dynasty soldiers accepted training there. As it was a half-closed base, it had internal entertainment venues, mainly bars. In the current era, the civilizations would not be too strict with the Super soldiers. They had quite good privileges and benefits. Even when training in an isolated base, they could still enjoy life to a certain extent.

Many Super key training camps were training there too, which consisted of those who were on the list of people the dynasty wanted to focus on training. Gaud was one of them.

A group of key training students were sitting at the bar. They were all Calamity Grades. They drank joyfully and chattered with each other.

Gaud was among them. He held his glass with a calm smile on his face, occasionally saying a few words, looking like he was quite sociable. It was a friendly atmosphere.

He got the most attention among all the training students. The Esper Ability he possessed had an extremely bright future. Hence, he had always been famous in the training camp.

Someone shook his head and said with a smile, "Among us, the one who has the highest chance of breaking through the Beyond Grade A limit is you, Gaud. It's so hard to compete. Maybe we will all become your subordinates in the future. We'll need you to take care of us then."

"By the way, if you become a Beyond Grade A, what position do you plan to take on? You probably won't make it as the Ruler's guard, and the dynasty most likely won't send you out, so you'll probably be the commander of a certain army," someone else said.

"It's whatever for me." Gaud smiled. His identity would be a direct Beyond Grade A of the dynasty, so his development direction would be different from the allies. He could be a part of the dynasty's core authority like Clotti.

Someone laughed and jokingly said, "According to past conventions, we'll likely join your team... Sigh, we might as well cheer for our future boss. You're not going anywhere today before you get drunk."

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Gaud smiled and accepted the passion of his comrades.

While the atmosphere was exciting, Gaud suddenly caught a glimpse of the news that was playing on the virtual screen on the bar's wall. His face quickly stiffened, and his smile disappeared.

His abnormal response surprised his comrades. They looked over following his sight and saw that the screen was playing the news about the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy being snatched away by Black Star.

"Yo, Black Star did something again."

"Incredible, no wonder he's the next pillar the dynasty has chosen."

"A few years ago, when I accepted the changes of the Evolution Cube, I met him up close and almost could not stop myself from wanting to ask him for an autograph."

"Luckily, he's the dynasty's ally instead of the federation or the church. It's a blessing for the dynasty."

The others could not help but start chatting about this topic. Everyone there admired the strong. Many of them were fans of the various Beyond Grade A dynasty allies, and a number of them were Black Star's fans.

At this time, Gaud put down his glass, stood up with a poker face, and coldly said, "I have something to attend to. I'm heading off."

Without waiting for the others to respond, he passed through the crowd and left the bar, leaving his many comrades confused and exchanging looks.

What's going on? What happened?

Gaud left the bar, quickly returned to his room, took out his communicator, and contacted Bekorodi.

After it rang for quite a while, the other side finally picked up. Gaud instantly questioned, "You told me to wait for the good news—is this the good news you spoke of?"

Bekorodi stayed silent for a few seconds before finally slowly replying. "Black Star's interference was unexpected. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy is indeed in his hands now."

"So, what do you plan to do?" Gaud was expressionless.

"I'll try to save this, see if we can exchange something for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy."

Gaud stayed silent and did not ask what was going to happen if that did not work.

The dynasty was willing to give the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy to him for him to make full use of his Esper Ability and help him become a Beyond Grade A sooner. Then, he would be able to analyze the principles of the Evolution Energy. Without the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, the dynasty would still wait for him to slowly grow.

However, to Gaud, this meant that he had lost a powerful source of strength. Without the various special abilities of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy, the specialized plan he had made for himself would be severely messed up, and he would not reach his strongest form.

This meant that his future maximum strength was directly reduced!

"Black Star won't be able to use the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy himself. As long as we take out enough chips, he'll be willing to exchange it. It's not impossible. I..."

Bekorodi was still analyzing the situation when Gaud spoke and interrupted him.

"Let's keep to that then. Notify me when there's any progress."

Then, Gaud hung up the call and frowned slightly.

He was in an extremely bad mood and did not bother wasting his time with Bekorodi. He knew that the chance of regaining the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was thin.

The dynasty would not overpay for a Primal Esper Ability Entity that was not completely necessary, and Black Star was a piece of sh*t who would never make a losing deal. From what he knew about these two sides, the odds of making the deal were infinitely close to zero.

Gaud shook his head and crossed out the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy in his mind.

With the power he had now, he had absolutely no way to interfere with the fight for the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. The only way was to borrow the dynasty's forces, and the dynasty had failed. Hence, he had no other options, and there was nothing he could do about it.

He had yet to fulfil his potential, while Black Star's forces became stronger and stronger. Since the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy was gone, he could only let it be. It was far from time to mess with Black Star.

"I thought that with the dynasty taking part, this would be in the bag, but you ruined it. Now, I have to adjust my growth plan... Tsk, Black Star, oh Black Star, you really give me a lot of trouble."

Gaud was in a very bad mood.

...

Outside the remote communication room of the Modo Civilization's Emerald Star Cluster stronghold, two soldiers who were stationed there were whispering.

"How long has it been since the commander and the inspector went in?"

"Probably almost an hour."

"Looks like the Three Kings have summoned them. I wonder when they will come out..."

"Hey, the gate's opening. Stand properly."

The gate of the room slid open, the two guards quickly stood straight, stopped talking, and looked straight forward, acting diligent. However, their eyes uncontrollably shifted to glance at Commander Roddick and Inspector Lagos.

Roddick's face looked like he was on the verge of exploding, while Lagos looked borderline depressed.

As the sacrifice of tens of Calamity Grade elites was completely meaningless, they had earned a thunderous scolding from the Three Kings of Modo, as well as their direct bosses. Their image among the upper echelons fell to rock-bottom.

Although he was just executing the mission given by the people above and the death of tens of Calamity Grades was not his fault, he could do nothing but take the blame. He was so furious that he had almost exploded.

Lagos had no way of comforting him. He asked hesitantly, "Our high-level combatants have suffered heavy losses. Like the Three Kings said earlier, that cannot occur. What do you plan to do?"

"It's all because of Black Star!" Roddick clenched his fists tightly and said with rage, "If we continue to be this passive, Black Star will ruthlessly bite off our forces. Without solving this problem once and for all, similar things will keep happening."

If we could stop Black Star, we would have... Lagos smiled bitterly with resignation and asked, "So, what idea do you have?"

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“If we could kill Black Star...” Roddick was murmuring. He then turned around and immediately saw Lagos’s unamused expression, so he swallowed what he was going to say next. He thought about it and said, “By ourselves, there’s no way we can fight Black Star, so we can only borrow external forces. If we cause the Black Star Army a lot of trouble and make them have no time to deal with us, maybe we can mitigate the current situation.”

“For example?”

Roddick opened his mouth and felt helpless.

If something like this was so easy to think of, how could they have ended up in this situation? If they did not make some gigantic contributions, their promotion would probably never come.

Chapter 1038 Recruitmen

In a certain area inside the Emerald Star Cluster, the exploration fleet of a small financial group was flying. Organizations like this were not strong enough to occupy resource rich planets; they could only gain profit through normal exploration or getting hired. This was very common in the current Flickering World.

This fleet mainly consisted of exploration ships and transportation ships. As a fleet used for expeditions, other than the necessary crews on every ship, there were also extra people who lived in a travel ship that was specially used to transport people. This ship mainly had life facilities inside. The number of people it could hold far exceeded functional spaceships such as exploration ships. Most staff who did not have crew duties stayed there usually.

This long-term travel ship was like a portable space station. It was bigger than even the industrial transportation ships in the team. It took care of manpower logistics, food supplies, and entertainment facilities. With how intense the competition was in the Flickering World, without daily benefits, it would be very tough to hire anyone. As a commercial financial group, their crew could not be considered truly loyal, so the treatment they got was one of the important factors that attracted more employees.

The hall of the space station was a multifunctional entertainment social venue. There were entertainment facilities and all kinds of stores, where the crew could spend money. The hall was on the bottommost floor, and above it were bridges made of transparent materials. The people in the hall could see the people above them walking by when looking up. Overall, it looked like a crowded and prosperous business square.

In one area of the hall was the staff canteen, which was boisterous and noisy. Staff from all positions could be seen there.

At the edge of the canteen, Evans sat at a table by himself, slowly eating his meal. His eyes were hardly open, staring down at the table and daydreaming.

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He was still wearing the yellow protective suit but with the helmet open now. He looked ordinary and common like every typical ground crew member. In fact, ninety-nine percent of the people who took this job were ordinary people. They were the staff at the lowest level of the financial group.

At the tables around him, other ground crew workers filled the seats, chattering while eating, sometimes bursting into laughter. Occasionally, some people's eyes darted past Evans, but they did not stop and ignored him completely.

Evans was used to this. Ground crew members were mostly normal people. Their work efficiency was not high, and many of them liked to slack off. Comparatively, he was hardworking and never lazed around, often completing his tasks beyond the minimum requirements. Therefore, he was always publicly praised by the team's manager and even received some bonuses.

Due to his attitude, some of his colleagues started to urge others to isolate him, maybe because they were jealous, or maybe because they did not like an ex-convict who had just left prison. Gradually, more and more people stopped interacting with him.

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Being boycotted, Evans did not mind it at all. He had never liked socializing with colleagues to begin with. After spending many years in prison, he had learned not to care about what others thought.

"Hmm? Evans, you're sitting alone?" A voice that he recognized appeared beside him. Evans looked up, and a familiar person stood beside him holding the meal plate. It was the manager of the ground crew team he was in.

There were many teams in the ground crew department. This team manager was just a base-level officer who did not have much power. He was Evans' direct boss who liked him.

"Since there's no one sitting beside you, do you mind if I join your table?" the team leader said with a smile.

"Not at all." Evans signed for the team manager to please sit down.

The team manager sat opposite him and chatted with Evans while eating. The ground crew members could no longer ignore Evans' table, so they turned to greet their boss.

"Manager, you don't have to help me for this," Evans softly said with resignation. "I really don't care about being disliked by others."

"That won't do. What happens if you delay your work because of a bad mood? The quota of our team might have to rely on you to be completed." The team manager shrugged.

Evans smiled bitterly. This manager was a normal person, and a kind one at that. Because of his high work efficiency, the manager took extra care of him and was very friendly.

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After gulping down the meal, Evans bade farewell to the manager, who was still eating, before standing up with the empty plate in his hands. He then went to the recycling window of the canteen and threw the plate in.

At this time, a few people in mechanical suits walked into the canteen. They were all bottom level mercenaries, and their faces did not look normal. There was a slight redness from excitement. They were walking in Evans' direction and attracted his attention.

“Supers... looks like they’ve consumed some kind of stimulation drug and are high.”

Evans gave a few more looks to these people, and as he was just about to pass them by and leave the canteen, he suddenly heard the voice of a mercenary increase amid their conversation. One of them seemed very emotional.

“You don’t believe I’ve invented a new way to use my Esper Ability? I’ll show you then!”

Right after he said that, this excited mercenary clenched his hand. The air around him gathered and formed an invisible wind sphere. It then smashed right into the ground below him. The sphere of wind exploded and turned into tiny blades of wind that scattered and spread everywhere.

The financial group had a rule that the powers of Supers were not allowed to be used in public areas. If discovered, punishments ranged from paying a fine to being fired. However, these Grade D mercenaries who had just used mind stimulation drugs were in a state of overexcitement and had completely lost their senses. They totally forgot about this rule.

The people around panicked. The floor was filled with traces of slash marks, and the staff around backed away hastily.

As the power of this sphere of wind was limited, the others were not really injured. Evans, however, was the closest to it. He was blown away by the wind pressure, and his protective suit was cut open in many places.

A tint of bright red appeared in everyone’s eyes.

“Someone’s wounded!”

Many people immediately moved to rubberneck. The staff of the ground crew squeezed in too, but when they saw that Evans was the one who was wounded, their footsteps stopped as they hesitated over whether they should help him up or not. While they were hesitating, the team manager already quickly walked up and helped Evans up before looking at his wound.

“Where are you wounded? Let me see.”

“Just a small wound, I’m okay. Tsss...”

Evans tightened his face, but the twitch at the edge of his eyes showed that the wounds were quite painful. The wind blades had slashed open more than ten wounds on his body, all of which were bleeding. Very soon, the protective suit was dyed red.

A few patrol guards heard the fuss and ran over.

“What’s going on ?”

The team manager pointed at these mercenaries with anger and said, “They violated the rules and used an Esper Ability in a public area, causing a crew to be wounded.

The guard frowned and looked at the scene, noticed that Evans was injured, and then looked at the few mercenaries. He asked with a deep voice, “Is that true?”

After this accident, these few people were more awake. The mercenary who had thrown the sphere of wind coughed and said, "I did it unintentionally. It's just an accident. I'll go to ask for the punishment later."

"Hmm, luckily, only one person was hurt. You'll be fined at most, not a big deal." The guard comforted the mercenary a bit. He then turned to Evans, glanced at the ground crew uniform on his body, and said casually, "You're Evans, right? It's just flesh wounds. Get them treated at the medical room, and you'll be fine. You won't die."

"That's it?" The team manager was unsatisfied. "Not even an apology?"

The mercenary who had caused the incident glanced at Evans and said in a very perfunctory tone filled with arrogance, "This is my fault, sorry."

No sincerity could be felt at all.

"What kind of attitude is that?" The team manager was resentful.

This time, the guard interrupted him. "That's enough. He has already apologized, and his salary will be deducted later too. Don't keep dwelling on it."

Although the guard looked like he was doing what should be done, his attitude clearly showed the different treatment he gave to the two sides. He was a Super too. Seeing that this mercenary had only accidentally wounded a normal ground worker, he did not think it was a big deal. To him, although this mercenary had made a mistake, as long as he was willing to take the punishment, it would be best to give him some comfort. This was more important than a normal person.

This mercenary looked like this was completely normal. Seeing that Evans would not die, he did not bother looking at him anymore and turned around to casually chat with his friends.

This was witnessed by the people around. Many normal people had complicated expressions on their faces.

Most Supers did not care about how affected ordinary people, and the ordinary people knew that very well. Even though the other party apologized and accepted the punishment, he still did not care at all. Seeing this, most present felt a flame burning in their chest.

Supers having privileges was a rule silently accepted in the entire universe, and there was nothing they could do about that.

This time, Evans pulled the team manager a little and stood up by pressing on his knees. Blood dripped onto the floor, splashing around everywhere. He endured the pain and said, "It's okay. It's just not my day. Bring me to the medical room."

The team manager gave the other side a glare and gave up on arguing. He then assisted Evans and walked out of the crowd.

"It's all settled. Nothing more to see here." The guard waved the crowd away.

However, at this instant, a sudden change occurred!

Bang!

The spaceship suddenly trembled as if it had stopped in an instant. Even the internal shock absorption system could not eliminate the enormous inertial force. Everyone present staggered and fell onto the ground in panic.

“What’s going on?”

“Looks like the spaceship was forced to stop!”

“Did we meet galactic pirates?”

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While everyone was getting up anxiously and was about to rush out of the canteen to take refuge, the speaker inside the spaceship suddenly sounded and echoed through the entire fleet. Everyone could hear it.

“This is the Black Star Army. Your spaceship has been forced to come to a stop by us. There’s no need to panic. Our goal is only to find one person. His name is Evans. He works in your ground crew...”

As soon as the sentence ended, all eyes focused on Evans.

Swoosh!

In an instant, the area around Evans became empty. Everyone hid with shock.

The Black Star Army is looking for this guy by name?

How did he get into trouble with the Black Star Army? And why are they putting in so much effort to find him? Does he have a secret identity?

This time, Evans’ most ordinary appearance suddenly became mysterious in the eyes of everyone around him.

“Black Star Army?” Evans was stunned too.

Isn’t that an advanced organization I’m far from being able to encounter? Why are they looking for me? They probably have the wrong guy.

He turned to look at the team manager, but the team manager had let go of his hand long ago and hid to the side with fear on his face.

Evans was just about to say something when he suddenly realized that these guards and mercenaries had walked toward him and surrounded him.

“What are you doing?”

“Preventing you from escaping. Since the Black Star Army wants to see you, you shall wait here,” a guard said coldly.

Evans clenched his teeth. He breathed rapidly a few times, and only after a while did his fists open again. He then said with resignation, “Don’t worry, I won’t run. I want to find out what this is about too.”

The people waited there for a while. Suddenly, footsteps appeared outside, and a group of people walked in. The upper echelons who were usually arrogant and mighty were now all walking beside this group of Black Star Army warriors with their heads low. The warrior leader leading the group gave off a powerful energy wave. He was a Grade B, and he was considered a very powerful person to these bottom level workers.

The scene was so silent that no one dared breath heavily.

The group of them walked to Evans. The fleet's commander pointed over and said, "He's the person you're looking for."

"Hmm." This Black Star Army's Grade B warrior sized Evans up with a poker face. "You're Evans?"

Evans took a deep breath. "That is indeed my name, but I have no past interaction with the Black Star Army. I think you might have found the wrong person."

Hearing this, this Grade B team leader took out a resume and showed it to Evans. "Is this your resume?"

Looking at it closely, Evans nodded with shock. His face was filled with doubt and confusion.

The Black Star Army really is looking for me?

The Grade B team leader nodded. "That's correct then. You're the one we're looking for. Follow me."

"Wait a moment, I would like to know, why did you guys come for me?" Evans asked.

Everyone perked up their ears to listen to the reply.

They also wanted to know the answer to this question.

The Grade B team leader suddenly smiled, reached out his hand, and said passionately, "You're a talent His Excellency Black Star asked to recruit by name. Brother, welcome to the Black Star Army."

The entire venue became silent for an instant.

Boom!

Then, like a bomb, roaring voices exploded!

"What!"

The team manager shivered with his eyes wide open. The earlier guard and the mercenary were completely frozen with shock.

Everyone present was stupefied. Some even thought that they were hearing things. Countless looks of disbelief focused on Evans.

Did we hear that right?

That famous Beyond Grade A Black Star is recruiting a normal person by name?

Could he be so talented that even a Beyond Grade A is tempted to recruit him?

He's definitely been hiding his talents, which is why we did not notice it all this time.

You really can't judge a book by its cover!

Admiration appeared in everyone's eyes.

That was especially so for the colleagues who isolated Evans. They were filled with regret and hastily looked down covered in sweat, worried about being noticed by Evans.

"Recruit... me?"

Evans was stupefied.

At this instant, he fell into a deep state of self-doubt.

What's so incredible about me that even a Beyond Grade A is interested in me?

Could it be that it's really like what I fantasized about when I was young?

That my body has sealed the power of the evil Universe Overlord, the Master of Destruction, Black Devil?

...

At the same time, inside a mysterious base in a distant Ancient Star Desert, a few silhouettes were discussing the news about the appearance of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy inside the private conference room.

"Another Primal Esper Ability Entity has appeared."

"It's the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy. We have to find a way to get it."

"It has fallen into Black Star's hands. Black Star is a Beyond Grade A who rose in the past few decades. His growth speed is astonishing. He won't be easy to deal with."

"Black Star can live for a very long time, but we don't have so much time to wait. The Primal Esper Ability Entities are the keys to open the Third Sanctum. They must be obtained... Let's make use of the products we've invented in recent years. The Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy is an important material for fusion. We must get it."

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"Sadly, EsGod's body is in the Crimson Dynasty's hands. Otherwise, his Esper Ability would be the best tool."

"Speaking of which, things on Thousand Shadows' side are almost maturing. We can expect to harvest it after some time."

"Before the promised date arrives, we have to finish preparing the awakening ceremony."

"The honor of the Primordial Ones shall never wither."

Chapter 1039 EsGod's Destined Arch Enemy!

Thousand Shadows' territory was situated in the Abyss of Stars' Shadow Realm. The black gaseous planet was still hovering beside the Shadow Realm like a black satellite, covered in thick streams of black energy that occasionally formed wave-like tides.

A spaceship stopped beside the dark satellite, and the hatch opened. Calamity Grade Shadows pushed the various prisoners they had captured from different Star Fields down with a poker face. The prisoners were mostly Calamity Grades. There were also low-grade Supers with special abilities.

These prisoners were covered in restraining devices and were extremely weak. They had no power to fight back at all. The scene looked like cooking dumplings. Every time someone fell onto the surface of this dark satellite, there would be one wave of black energy engulfing it. The next second, that person would disappear.

This was how Thousand Shadows' servants replenished shadows for him. There were close to a thousand prisoners in this batch, and they were all consumed by the planet-sized Thousand Shadows.

At this time, the space beside the spaceship suddenly rippled. A blurry silhouette suddenly appeared. It was wearing a hooded black robe and did not show its face or body. The edges of the silhouette looked like flames, as if it was emitting gas. Overall, it looked like a black cloud. This was not a remote projection of the quantum network but some kind of mind projection. Only Thousand Shadows and his Shadow Servants could see it.

The next second, the planet surface of Thousand Shadows suddenly started moving violently, forming huge black tsunamis. Very soon, a face appeared on the planet's surface, just eyes, nose, and mouth formed by energy vortexes. It was opening its mouth wide as if it was roaring.

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Two invisible psychic waves were released from both sides and formed a psychic communication link.

"How's the progress? How long is the transformation going to take?" The blurry silhouette spoke first.

"I don't know. Thousand Shadows is very persistent."

"How conscious is he?"

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"Not very. I obtained control of his body long ago and inherited all of his memories. As soon as I completely consume his last bit of conscience, it will dramatically increase the speed of the transformation."

"Make it as quick as possible. You're a core factor of our plan. We've tried many methods in these years. In the end, we discovered that, in order to open the Third Sanctum, it can only be done with Esper Abilities. Therefore, you're the foundation of our fusion ceremony, the vessel to contain the other Primal Esper Ability Entities."

"Don't worry. Back then, Thousand Shadows wanted to live for eternity and vitalized me using your technology. Humph, this greedy guy brought this upon himself. He exceeded the limits of his physical body, but he suffered damage from it. You guys have given me life and independence. When I transform into a true Primal Esper Ability Entity, I will be able to help you."

“Hmm, when the plan is complete, we promise you freedom.”

After that, the blurry silhouette disappeared without a trace.

The surface of the dark planet slowly returned to normal after the face disappeared.

...

The news about the appearance of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy only remained as the hot topic for a few days. In the current Flickering World, conflicts were abound, so the popularity of the news shifted very rapidly. Very soon, there was other news that attracted the attention of the galactic residents and the various organizations.

As the final winner of the competition, Black Star's mechanical army also received a certain amount of attention. However, it quickly disappeared without a trace, and its whereabouts were not known to the outside world.

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At this moment, Han Xiao's invisible spaceship was hidden nearby Hila's territory in the Emerald Star Cluster. He was currently calling Ames.

“... So, that's the situation. I invited you over as a guest to protect Hila, make it look like I'm in my base to make the hidden enemies let their guards down, and have you help protect the base and look after Aurora... Therefore, I really did not stand you up on purpose.” Han Xiao's tone was filled with resignation.

On the screen, Ames was playing with a small green force field sphere with her eyelids hanging low. Despite her calm tone, it gave off a strange vibe of danger.

“If you'd told me directly, I would've helped you too. Do you not trust me?”

“How could that be? Didn't you want to see Aurora after she advanced? Well, now you've seen her. Plus, when I invited you, I didn't say anything about me wanting to see you.” Han Xiao scratched his head and joked, “I didn't say it directly mainly because I wanted to be polite. I know that as long as I ask, you definitely will agree. After all, I'm already so strong now. I'm worried you might think I'm ordering you.”

“Hehe, you didn't order me sure, but I feel like you're using me. Doesn't that seem worse?” Ames narrowed her eyes. A green tint flashed across her eyes.

“Hey, that's not true at all. With the relationship we have, using the term 'use' is exaggerating it.” Han Xiao waved.

“Is that so? You've used me many times in the past.” Ames smiled every so faintly.

“That's in the past. Things are different now. Our two organizations are intertwined. We're a family. As family, well, it's normal to occasionally joke around...”

“Tsk, who's your family? Shameless.” Ames frowned slightly.

Seeing this, Han Xiao smiled and teased her. “Hehe, did you really want to see me so badly? Do you want me to go back and accompany you?”

“... Who wants to see you?”

Ames paused, deactivated the force field, and casually said, “Stay there to protect my student then. Do you need me to go over to help?”

“No need.”

“Because I’m too weak?” Ames raised her brows slightly.

“Ahem, of course not. It’s mainly because another thing needs your help. You have to stay in Black Star Palace and act as if I’m there too.”

“Since it’s for my student, I shall cooperate with your show... but don’t be in a rush to thank me. We have yet to settle the matter of you tricking me.”

“Alright, when I return, how about I accompany you on a sightseeing trip in a secondary dimension?” Han Xiao raised his brows. “Just the two of us.”

I’ll have to capture the Holy Light Particle in a secondary dimension too, killing two birds with one stone... I’m so brilliant!

“Okay, it’s decided then.” Ames had no objections.

Although she had been tricked into going all the way there, after stroking Aurora for the past few days, she was not really angry anymore.

If someone else had toyed with her and used her like this, Ames would have been furious for sure. But since it was Black Star who pranked her, she did not mind it too much—only those close to her could do something like this.

Furthermore, this reminded her of the past when Black Star kept using her despite being so weak. It made her feel nostalgic.

After chattering for a while longer, Han Xiao hung up the call and looked over at the workbench on the side.

He was currently inside the machinery workshop of the spaceship. His Mechanical Force was controlling all kinds of devices to build the King mechanical suit. To his side, there was already a pile of failed products.

He called them all failed products, but they were still all orange equipment, which could be considered rare equipment. Unfortunately, they did not reach the Universal Treasure level. Not only were their performances tremendously weaker, but they also had none of the incredible effects they were supposed to have. Plus, the cost was horrifyingly expensive. To him, these were undoubtedly failures.

After putting his communicator away, Han Xiao could finally focus on building this attempt at the King right in front of him. The [Spirit Instrument] talent on his interface constantly glowed. This talent would only be activated when building Universal Treasures.

However, when Han Xiao was more than halfway done, Phillip suddenly appeared and reported that some of the mechanical soldiers had already returned with Evans.

“Bring him over then.” Han Xiao’s eyes sparkled.

After a while, the gate of the machinery workshop opened. A few mechanical soldiers escorted a man in. It was Evans.

As soon as Evans walked in, he saw a handsome and domineering black-clothed man looking at him with a faint smile, and he immediately became nervous.

“Your Excellency, are you Black Star?”

“That’s me.”

Han Xiao smiled and nodded as he sized Evans up. His first impression of him was ordinary, way too ordinary.

Evans felt that Han Xiao’s eyes seemed to be able to look right through him, like there was nothing he could hide in front of Han Xiao. He became even more anxious.

Although he was usually calm and levelheaded, even he could no longer maintain his cool when facing someone who stood at the top of the universe like Black Star.

Evans took a deep breath, found the courage, and asked, “Your Excellency Black Star, I’m just an ordinary person without Super Powers. What part of me has caused you to be interested?”

Han Xiao smiled playfully. “Your physique is quite special, and I’m very interested in that.”

“Special physique?”

Evans was stunned. He looked down at himself and felt that he was basically the direct opposite of the word ‘special’.

“Anyway, don’t worry, as a Beyond Grade A, I won’t put in so much effort just to find trouble with an ordinary person like you. Your life is not in danger here. You just have to cooperate with my experiments at most. After that, you can take up an office job in the army, which pays way more handsomely than the financial group you worked for before. What do you think?”

“... You’ve already brought me here, can I still reject?” Evans smiled bitterly.

He had just come out of prison. He had come to the Flickering World both to gain knowledge and to make a living. He did not mind working for the Black Star Army at all. Plus, the pay would be much higher.

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Seeing he had no objections, Han Xiao picked up a syringe and walked to Evans. He told him to stand still and sucked a vial of blood out of him.

Han Xiao was not lying. He did intend to run some experiments.

Evans had been the shared host of the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy and Holy Light Particle in Han Xiao's previous life, so his physique was undoubtedly special. Han Xiao wanted to build the mechanical host for Primal Esper Ability Entities, so extracting and studying Evans' cells would help to explain the reasoning behind his exceptional compatibility with Primal Esper Abilities, which would speed up the progress of the research.

On the other hand, Han Xiao also dealt damage to Evans by punching the needle into his body, so the combat information was triggered as well.

The Great Mechanic Han's eyes sparkled as he opened the interface to see Evans' attributes.

The attribute interface of an ordinary person was very simple; only two special talents attracted Han Xiao's attention. One was [Medium Luck Glow], meaning he was a protagonist-type character, and it was only medium because while Evans obtained power, he also had a new arch enemy, EsGod.

The other special talent was called [Highest Grade Esper Ability Affinity Physique], and its effects were all related to the Esper class. It drastically increased his compatibility with Primal Esper Ability Entities. At the same time, when being attacked by Espers, it provided a certain chance to recover some of his health and energy. Plus, the difficulty of cultivating and exploring his own Esper Ability decreased drastically, while the power of his Esper Ability would be increased drastically. It even passively increased the potential of Esper Abilities by one grade.

No wonder he could possess two Primal Esper Abilities, this talent is basically the 'Perfect Mechanical Sense' of the Esper class. Its effects are way too incredible.

Han Xiao was astounded.

Usually, those with such talents should all be able to awaken as Espers, but sadly, Evans was an ordinary person. What a waste of this tal...

Wait a minute!

That's not right. If he has this talent, how can he not have Super Powers? Something must be wrong!

Han Xiao suddenly turned around with very bright eyes.

With Evans having an unwilling expression on his face, Han Xiao told him to take off all his clothes. He then obediently underwent a detailed full body check. Evans was broken in the past. Of course, he had no way to check his Super Power in some high-level facilities. Therefore, Han Xiao thought something might have been overlooked.

And with this check, he really found something!

Han Xiao looked at the report and frowned.

"W-what is it?" Evans wore his clothes back and was a little nervous.

"It's not that you don't have Super Powers. I don't know who did the check for you, but they did not check thoroughly enough."

Evans was stunned.

He had always thought that he was an ordinary person with no talent. Never did he expect to have someone tell him today that he actually had talent. Even though he had gotten used to the identity of an ordinary person, he was still full of shock.

“But don’t get excited too early.” Han Xiao waved and spoke slowly. “There’s something wrong with your Super Powers. It seems to be suppressed by some kind of drug. After so many years, your Super Powers have shrunk so much that it’s almost impossible to be detected, so the chance of your Super Powers awakening is close to zero. This was an act of man. Did you have any enemies growing up?”

Evans barely suppressed the boiling emotions in his heart and started seriously searching through his memories. He then said with uncertainty, “I accepted Super Power detection when I was ten. If someone did something like this, it must have been before I was ten. But how could I have made enemies when I was that young? Because of my family? But I only have a normal family. How could this be...”

His expression kept changing. He could live with not having any talent, but only today did he know that he initially had talent, but it was destroyed by someone when he was young!

His talent was not the only thing that was destroyed but his life in the last few decades too!

Evans had initially already accepted his fate, but now, the flames of wrath burned violently in his heart.

Clap clap.

Suddenly, Han Xiao clapped and interrupted his thoughts.

“Alright, don’t think about it if you can’t figure it out. You can research it in the future. Let’s talk about a more important matter. I might have a way to help you awaken.”

Evans’ entire body shivered. He suppressed his excitement and asked, “What do I have to give in return?”

“Simple. I initially thought you’re just an ordinary person, but if you can awaken your Esper Ability, just fight for me.” Han Xiao paused, smiled, and slowly said, “I’ve researched you. When you were an ordinary person like you have always been, to protect your friends, you found a way to kill a low-grade Super. Not every ordinary person has guts like you. You have fighting talent. You once refused to accept your fate, and the many years spent in the prison extinguished your passion, but now, you might have a chance to be reborn. I only hope you don’t waste it.”

“Okay,” Evans replied firmly. His eyes were filled with perseverance. The vibe he gave off became completely different from when he had already accepted his fate, like a sharp sword buried in dust that has been finally dug up and cleaned off the rust.

Seeing this, Han Xiao took out a bottle of life force potion made by Aurora.

Evans’ symptom was that his Super Powers had shrunk and lost all activity. As long as enough life energy was injected, they would recover. The life force potion was the perfect medicine for this.

Han Xiao injected just one tenth of the golden medicine into Evans’ body so that he would not end up having overflowing life force.

Buzz!

The next moment, Evans started glowing and releasing strong vitality energy from all over his body.

This glow lasted many minutes before dimming down. Evans closed his eyes and stood at the same place, but he felt completely different. He could not be any healthier. All the damage incurred from his many years in prison and the rest of his life had all disappeared.

“How do you feel?”

“Like I’ve been reborn.”

Evans opened his eyes. The gold light in his eyes finally dissipated. He looked at Han Xiao with appreciation in his eyes.

Han Xiao nodded with satisfaction and asked, “Have you sensed your Esper Ability?”

Evans frowned. He carefully sensed the changes that he had undergone but was a little hesitant.

“It does feel different, like I have a new sensory organ. That should be my Esper Ability, right?”

“Show it to me.” Han Xiao was curious.

Evans nodded. He then used all his strength to try to use it, but he realized that nothing happened at all, so he doubted himself. “I can’t seem to be able to control it. Did my Esper Ability really awaken?”

Anyone who had just awakened would become a Grade E Super, but despite being very weak, situations where Espers were not able to control their Esper Ability should not happen. Han Xiao frowned. He felt that this was not a simple matter, so he poked Evans another time with a needle to look at his combat information.

However, with just one glance, Han Xiao’s entire body stiffened, and he stood in place. He rubbed his eyes and almost thought he was hallucinating.

He looked at it for a total of more than ten seconds before he recovered from the shock. He looked at Evans with an extremely strange expression and murmured, “No wonder... no wonder...”

“Have you found out what my Esper Ability is?” Evans asked nervously.

Han Xiao took a deep breath, patted Evans’ shoulder with a complicated expression, pursed his lips, and said with deep meaning in his words, “You have to be a good person...”

Then, he did not care about Evans’ confused expression, turned his back to him, and roared in his heart.

You son of a bi*ch!

This kid’s ability... is also absorbing Esper Abilities!

Exactly the same as EsGod!

No wonder... now this guy’s uniqueness in my previous life all makes sense!

No wonder you’re EsGod’s arch enemy! Is this the choice of Steins;Gate?

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He had snatched the Primal Chaos Mysterious Energy that led to Evans losing the opportunity to change his fate, so Han Xiao initially felt somewhat guilty and wanted to give him some compensation.

Now...

The Primal Esper Abilities are not good enough for you!

You are the biggest profit I've made on this trip!

Chapter 1040 EsGod Raising Plan and Universal Treasure Creator

[Esper Ability—Copy]

This was EsGod's core ability, but it had appeared in Evans.

Han Xiao's first response was to suspect what relationship Evans had with EsGod, then he instantly made up a two-million-word romantic novel in his mind. However, after thinking about the storyline in his previous life, he denied this possibility.

The chance of this being a coincidence was higher. In the universe, Espers who awakened the same abilities were not uncommon. Abilities like controlling fire, water, force fields and so on were basically everywhere. Therefore, another person being able to absorb Esper Abilities was not impossible.

However, a coincidence like this still made Han Xiao feel extremely weird. EsGod had been locked in Spacetime Amber by him just not many years ago, and now, a new 'EsGod' had appeared in the outside world... Could this be reincarnation? Did there always have to be an evil lord?

What a surprise, I've met an 'EsGod' at his newbie stage.

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Han Xiao was pleasantly surprised.

Having [Esper Ability—Copy], Evans would certainly have to take the path of absorbing the Esper Abilities of others. His talents were suppressed by someone, but now he would have no choice but to take away others' talents. This was all very dramatic and ironic to Han Xiao.

Obviously, without a firm belief, the way this Esper Ability was destined to grow would very easily make its owner fall to the dark side.

Evans, however, had experienced decades as an ordinary person, tasting the bitterness of being at the lowest level of the society, so he might not be as aggressive as EsGod.. Nonetheless, he might have some deeply buried hatred that could explode after being suppressed for too long, and no one could know if that would happen.

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He's a double-edged sword, Han Xiao thought. If he can be of use to me, he'll have extraordinary potential. I have to guide him to be on my side as much as I can. He feels grateful to me, so he should be

very loyal. If he someday shows any sign of decadence, I'll have no choice but to kill him, so there won't be a second EsGod.

Though powerful, what people were afraid of was not [Esper Ability—Copy] but EsGod himself.

In the hands of EsGod, all the abilities he absorbed had Beyond Grade A strength. Without his strength as the foundation. No matter how many Esper Abilities he absorbed, it would still make no difference.

Absorbing Esper Abilities was a way to obtain more combat methods, they were considered as abilities and would not increase one's own levels and attributes. Therefore, in order for Evans to increase his Grade, there were no shortcuts. He had to slowly train just like the other Espers. Even though he was talented enough to have [Highest Grade Esper Ability Affinity Physique], he would still not be able to skip the process.

At the moment, Evans had only just awakened and was extremely weak, only around Grade E. Although the subject of comparison was that notorious EsGod, how long had EsGod lived? How much combat experience did he have? God knew how long it would take for Evans to reach the level of the Beyond Grade A.

Due to how extremely rare this Esper Ability was, Han Xiao wanted to plan his growing path for him so that it would not be wasted.

EsGod had already proved the limitations of [Esper Ability—Copy]. If he absorbed too many Esper Abilities, his genetic chain would be at risk of shattering.

This meant that the maximum number of Esper Abilities Evans could absorb would increase as his Grade increased. Once that limit was exceeded, he would die. Therefore, the situation of him having thousands of Esper Abilities when he was at a low Grade would never happen.

However, due to Evans' physique, at the same level, the maximum number of Esper Abilities he would be able to absorb should be more than EsGod.

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Also, [Esper Ability—Copy] did not guarantee a perfect success rate when absorbing Esper Abilities. EsGod had always absorbed Esper Abilities from Espers whose Grade was lower than his, so there were never any problems.

However, when absorbing the Esper Ability of someone at the same Grade or even at a higher Grade, the success rate would be extremely low.

Therefore, in order for Evans to absorb Esper Abilities from someone whose Grade was higher than his, there were extremely strict requirements. For instance, the target needed to be near death, or the target could be captured. Basically, it would only have a chance to succeed when the target could not resist.

“EsGod has been collecting Esper Abilities for so many years. He's a high-quality material. The Esper Abilities he uses to battle are all quite powerful. Sadly, Evans won't be able to do anything through the Spacetime Amber. If the seal is opened, EsGod will escape straight away. It's only been a few decades;

no way his conscience will have shattered this easily. For safety reasons, we have to keep him locked up for at least five hundred years.”

The amber blocked any and all energy. The outside world could not inspect the condition of EsGod, and he would not bear the risk of letting EsGod escape to open the seal.

Han Xiao put this thought behind and pondered about Evans’ growth path. He soon came up with some ideas.

“It’s not suitable for Evans to take EsGod’s path. He should plan what to absorb, quality over quantity, so he will benefit from it his whole life.”

EsGod was powerful indeed, but he had absorbed way too many Esper Abilities, which made his genetic chain reach the cusp of shattering. EsGod had no use for the vast majority of these abilities. Instead, they suppressed his strength.

Although the army at the super healer Aurora, Han Xiao did not want her to have too much contact with Evans. At most, he would let him use the life force potions.

One reason EsGod absorbed that many abilities was his ambition. He wanted to fuse the Super High Risk Esper Abilities to transform himself and break through the limit of peak Beyond Grade As, becoming an entirely new being.

Another reason was that part of EsGod’s ambition came from his experience. Han Xiao had read about his past before. When EsGod was weak, he had always been alone. He relied on himself for everything, and he could only trust himself. Therefore, he wanted to become almighty so that he would never need any friends.

However, Evans had no need to do that, so he had the luxury to only absorb useful and strong Esper Abilities. This might be a much more suitable path.

Seeing that Black Star faced away from him and did not speak for a while, Evans became more confused as time went on. Finally, he asked, “Your Excellency Black Star, I...”

Han Xiao regained his focus. He turned around and patted Evans’ shoulder. “Your ability can absorb the Esper Abilities of others. This is an ability with a lot of potential...”

As Han Xiao explained the ability, Evans then understood his own power but frowned. “I don’t really like this kind of Esper Ability...”

Evans looked conflicted. His talent had been suppressed for decades, so he did not like the Esper Ability that took away others’ talents.

Han Xiao uncontrollably rolled his eyes in his mind.

You think you’re buying groceries in the market? So picky.

The Great Mechanic Han then coughed and said with a friendly tone, “Don’t worry, since you’re now my man, I’ll guide your path. I won’t allow you to absorb abilities from others whenever you want, so you don’t have to be troubled. No one will force you to walk the path of a criminal.

“But, at the same time, I hope you can resist the temptation. Don’t have the thought of wanting to make someone else’s Esper Ability your own when you see how good it is. Don’t walk the wrong path because of a moment’s temptation.

“EsGod is the perfect lesson. He fell to evil, caused crimes everywhere, and created countless enemies. In the end, he was still locked up by the group of us and lost his freedom. Therefore, learn from his mistakes. Keep a low profile like me, understood?”

Hearing Black Star’s lecture, Evans nodded.

He had heard of the notorious EsGod. Despite having the same ability, he was not the same type of person. He warned himself in his heart to never forget where his heart was and never fall to the side of evil like EsGod.

Han Xiao said a few more words before telling some mechanical soldiers to lead Evans away.

He was the only one left in the room. He touched his chin and murmured, “This guy’s ability is worth raising. As long as he doesn’t take the wrong path, he’ll undoubtedly become someone strong in the future. As for how to help him obtain Esper abilities... Hmm, to me, this should be the easiest part.”

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Han Xiao chuckled.

In his previous life, EsGod had tried absorbing the players’ Esper abilities, so Han Xiao understood that...

It was possible!

Although the players could revive, their bodies were made of existing materials. Other than having strange limitations and turning into light after dying, they would still bleed and get injured from normal battles. Only, the way this was displayed to them would be all kinds of debuffs.

In Version 1.0, there were even organizations that tried to dissect the players. Although, due to their health, not long into the dissection, the players turned into light. Nonetheless, the blood samples collected were no different from normal beings.

If an Esper class player was absorbed by EsGod, he would lose his Esper Ability too, entering the state of [Ability Frozen]. All abilities related to his Esper ability would become gray and unusable. This state was fixed and permanent; no ability could get rid of it, just like how the NPCs’ Esper abilities were taken away...

However!

When this player died and respawned, his status would be refreshed, and he would regain his Esper Ability!

This was related to the mechanisms of [Esper Ability—Copy]. The process of this ability could be simply explained as: Snatch → Analyze → Genetic Chain Construction → Fixation → Storage.

After snatching an Esper Ability, [Esper Ability—Copy] would break it down and analyze it, then store this ability in the owner’s body in a genetic chain. What constructed these genetic chains was a special

matter produced by [Esper Ability—Copy], which was considered the material produced by the owner of this ability himself. Hence, it would not disappear as the players disappeared, just as EsGod would not lose his abilities when the original owner of the ability died.

Therefore, in Han Xiao's previous life, a phenomenon where the players sold their bodies to EsGod in exchange for money appeared. This was something that had never happened before, and it led to the three Universal Civilizations having no choice but to come up with a special policy stating that if Immortals actively gave their Esper abilities to EsGod, they would be seen as wanted criminals. Of course, the players had all kinds of tricks to get past this policy, so this policy rarely had any effect.

Of course, EsGod was no philanthropist. Due to the limitations of his genetic chain, he would only absorb the abilities he was interested in. Otherwise, he would not absorb the players' Esper abilities even if they came right to his doorstep to sacrifice themselves.

Also, this action of the players caused a hilarious misunderstanding. At the start, EsGod thought that this was the three Universal Civilizations' plot to purposely send people over to die to make his genetic chain shatter. After killing many players, only then did he finally notice that these people were sincerely there to commit suic... to give him Esper abilities.

At that time, even the ever so calm EsGod had been completely astonished, which led to him saying one of his signature sentences among the players. "If I'd met you people earlier, I might have been able to become a good person."

Thinking about that, Han Xiao uncontrollably grinned.

"So, I don't even have to do much to help him get Esper abilities. All I have to do is give out a mission to the Esper class players, offering a high enough reward, and people will come forward themselves..."

This way, the millions of Esper players would be the largest material inventory!

Furthermore, no one would die; it was legal!

Although he had given Evans the clear path of choosing quality over quantity, with so many materials, he could slowly gather peak the Esper Abilities that complemented each other and form all kinds of strategies, achieving the most perfect combos!

Having this thought, Han Xiao was completely thrilled. At this time, a new plan was born in his head.

"Phillip!"

"Yes, hum..."

"Sketch up a new plan, the content is to record the various Esper Abilities of all the Esper Immortals under the army's command. Then, according to the effects of these Esper Abilities, simulate all kinds of tactical combos that can be put together. Set the minimum to two Esper abilities, and set the maximum to ten Esper Abilities for the time being. Mark this plan with the highest level of confidentiality. Also, don't mention Evans' existence."

"Okay, hum... This will only occupy a little bit of my memory. What's the name of the plan?"

"Don't have to name it. Just give it a serial number."

Han Xiao really wanted to name it something like 'EsGod Raising Plan', but he thought about it and gave up that idea.

Although his database would basically never be hacked again, Han Xiao still chose to be low profile about this.

He had already made up his mind that before Evans matured, he needed to hide him as a secret weapon.

"Speaking of which, I have the Evolution Cube and the Spacetime Amber, and the army has Hila and Aurora. It's indeed a little too conspicuous. If I even tell anyone I'm planning to create a second EsGod... tsk, the enemies will probably all want to rob me."

Thinking of that, even Han Xiao shivered controllably.

He then rested for a while to digest all these emotions before getting back to the work he was doing earlier, continuing to build the King mechanical suit that was more than halfway done.

He did not know whether it was because of the incredible luck Evans had left in the room or not, but when Han Xiao completed the last process and at the instant the King mechanical suit was complete, a notification suddenly popped up on the interface.

You have built a Gold Grade equipment (Universal Treasure).

You have benefitted from [Spirit Instrument].

You have received 1 God's Trait Transformation Point. (Another cannot be obtained again through the same blueprint.)

One of your random attributes has been decreased by 200...

Randomizing, randomizing complete.

-200 LUK.

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You have received 200 Free Attribute Points.

You have received Level One Bonus from [Spirit Instrument]: +2.5% basic success rate of building gold equipment, +1.2% basic success rate of inventing gold blueprints.

You have received a new talent, [Universal Treasure Creator]!