

Super Power

Chapter 1174: Passing the Test

“How is that possible?” Dry Bone King appeared to be suffering rigor mortis. He was unable to move, frozen through sheer disbelief.

When he had struck the wooden fish the ninth time, Han Sen looked damaged and under much duress. But when he was subjected to the tenth and final, most brutal pounding of all, he looked fine. He was unbroken, as Dry Bone King had not expected him to be.

From the audience seats, Qiu Ping felt happiness in a way he hadn't for a long time. The woman, on the other hand, was at a loss for words.

Han Sen looked at Dry Bone King happily. He had managed to control the pumping of his heart, making it move in rhythm with the beat. With the power that flowed through Han Sen's body, his blood roared through his veins with the freedom and ferocity of a grand waterfall. His blood vessels had almost been unable to take it.

He came very close to failing. With Curse of Immortality reinforcing his heart and blood vessels, he was able to inch his way over the threshold for withstanding Dry Bone King's wretched musical attack.

Han Sen knew he couldn't listen to it anymore, since further duress could make his heart fail. He had to stand up and take advantage of everyone's shock to attack. He did this, though, thinking that the following strikes would continue to increase in power. He didn't know Dry Bone King had capped out on the tenth.

Han Sen redeployed his phoenix techniques and took off into the sky, speeding around Dry Bone King like a spitfire in the heat of battle.

Dry Bone King frowned. He evaded Han Sen's attack and beat the heartbone once more.

Dong!

Han Sen's heart was like a fully-inflated balloon, but much to his surprise and delight, the power released by Dry Bone King was no stronger than what he had previously endured.

Dry Bone King pounded the heartbone again. If it was any other person going up against Dry Bone King, their hearts wouldn't be able to deal with the cruel sound of the wooden fish. They'd be unable to fight, and perhaps even die on the spot with a hole where the heart used to be.

Even the elites who could endure his attacks be unable to retaliate. They would still end up losing.

But Han Sen's heartbeat was in sync with Dry Bone King's malevolent tune now, and it could not affect him. Determining who the victor in this fight was going to be seemed an impossible task.

"Weird. Why did Dry Bone King's most powerful skill not work on that guy?" Baby Ghost was speaking to himself, in intense observation of the battle.

Han Sen was not afraid of the heartbone, but his fitness was low and he did not have Phoenix Sword and Taia with him. Dry Bone King's body was sturdy, and whenever Han Sen punched the spirit's creepy skeleton, it was like throwing his fist into a pillar of steel.

Dry Bone King did not have any organs to take advantage of, either. Because of this, Yin Yang Blast was useless.

As Han Sen wondered what he might do next, he suddenly heard the drumbeat of the heartbone move to a rhythm. It was a proper melody, as if playing in tandem with a phantom song.

Han Sen's heartbeat was disturbed once more, and it made him unable to successfully dodge Dry Bone King's next attack. He suffered a blow to his arm.

As a result, he was sent flying a few hundred meters. He barrel-rolled through the air to try to reduce the impact, but it still hurt. And as this occurred, Dry Bone King returned to playing his drum-driven requiem. The melody was able to disturb Han Sen's heartbeat without trouble.

Han Sen used his phoenix techniques to fight again, wishing he had the xun Xiang Yin had given him. If he had that, he could possibly fight back.

But as Han Sen was still in thought, Dry Bone King leaped out of the arena and spoke. "Time is up; you have passed the test."

Han Sen planned to keep fighting, not expecting Dry Bone King to keep his promise. He did, after all, seem extremely intent on killing Han Sen.

The woman's face turned green as she stood up and ran off.

Qiu Ping felt great relief wash over him, like some cleansing tide. The thoughts that had gone through his mind in the past half hour were wretched, all dealing with what would occur following Han Sen's death. He was extremely glad Han Sen had actually managed to triumph and pass the test.

Entering the fifth floor meant Han Sen was a supervisor of the shelter. The woman would be unable to bully him so easily now, as he had to be treated as an equal.

Everyone who was standing outside the stadium, having been chased away by the frightening heartbone, heard the sounds come to an end. They eagerly wanted to know the result.

When they re-entered, they saw Han Sen talking with Dry Bone King. It took their breath away, acknowledging a human had been able to survive such manic brutality.

Dry Bone King brought Han Sen up to the fifth floor. He introduced him to everyone, saying, "We are one and the same now. If there is something more you would like to know, come and find me."

Dry Bone King had gone into the test expecting an easy fight. He believed Han Sen was like vermin he could chase-off or crush underfoot without hassle. But he had great respect for the human now, and he wished to be friends with Han Sen.

Han Sen took advantage of the offer immediately, and asked, "Brother Bone, do you know who signed Qiu Ping's contract?"

Dry Bone King knew it was only a matter of time before this was asked, and so he answered, "It was Qing Jun. When Mister Immortal is away, she is in charge. The super creatures only obey her. If you think of going after her now, it won't take much for her to get rid of you. Wait a bit and I will help you soon."

"Thank you, Brother Bone." Han Sen understood what he meant.

Dry Bone King had subliminally informed Han Sen that Qing Jun was an enemy of his, as well.

"Go and rest; you've earned it. Two days from now, we can receive Sky Fruit." Dry Bone King was leading Han Sen to a palace.

"Sky Fruit?" Han Sen did not understand.

Dry Bone King smiled and explained, "Our mission is to collect the nuts from the Sky Fruit. The rest of the fruit can still benefit you too, of course. Whoever gets it first is allowed to keep it. I'll explain more later, though."

Han Sen left the shelter after that, afraid staying there any longer would damage his body.

Back in the underground shelter, he returned to his normal size. He focused on absorbing and refining his Life Geno Essences, and he was delighted to find that he now made progress much faster.

Chapter 1175: Mystic Paper

"Life Geno Essence absorbed: super geno points +1."

A little while later, Han Sen was able to gain a super geno point. It made him very pleased.

"My ability to refine Life Geno Essences has greatly improved, following the unlock of the Dongxuan Sutra's sixth gene lock," Han Sen thought to himself as he continued his practice.

"Life Geno Essence absorbed: super geno points +1."

A little while later again, the familiar voice sounded.

Han Sen stayed in his room most of the day, focused on the refinement and absorption of the Life Geno Essences he had accumulated thus far. He was able to fully refine each Life Geno Essence he had collected, aside from the Invisible King Scorpion's.

After opening his sixth gene lock, his absorption powers were much stronger.

“Awesome!” he exclaimed, realizing how many Life Geno Essences he had been able to absorb.

In total, Han Sen’s super geno point tally had reached twenty-four. Now that he was able to quickly absorb the Life Geno Essences of super creatures, he could focus on hunting them down to max his stats out in the near future.

Han Sen: Super Body Super King Spirit

Level: Surpasser

Life-Span: 400

Evolution Requirement: 100 geno points

Owned Geno Points: 100 ordinary geno points, 100 primitive geno points, 100 mutant geno points, 100 sacred-blood geno points, 24 super geno points

Han Sen guessed his fitness level must have been around the twenty-five hundred mark. He wasn’t far-off possessing the strength of a super creature himself. Han Sen gobbled up some more walnuts and returned to Immortal Shelter. There, he took the time to speak with Zhang Yuchen.

After that, Han Sen returned to the fifth floor. He summoned Dragon King and asked him, “I’m on the highest floor; how are you going to find the tree for me?”

Dragon King sniffed around his new environment and said, “I don’t smell the Sky Tree. You’re going to have to take me for a walk.”

“I don’t have time for that right now. I need to go pick up Sky Fruit with Dry Bone King later.”

Han Sen then proceeded to tell Dragon King what Dry Bone King had told him.

Dragon King said, “That’s good. The tree might be dead, but at least the fruit can mature. With the competition, getting it will be difficult, though. The nuts you mill were most likely from the Sky Fruit. Only Sky King is privy to whatever the powder does, it would appear.”

Dragon King then went on to say, “Sky King is very generous, allowing you to have as much as you want, leaving him only the nuts.”

“Is there anything else I should know about the fruit?” Han Sen asked.

Han Sen had eaten many of the other walnuts, and save for the shell and nut inside, there didn’t appear to be anything special about them.

“I’m not sure, but it has to be some good stuff. Dry Bone King wouldn’t be working for Sky King, otherwise.” Dragon King then pointed at Han Sen and resumed his dialogue, “Each fruit is bound to

contain a geno treasure of sorts, an item that is super-class, for sure. Wouldn't it be great if you could procure some?"

Han Sen started to say something but frowned before he could. He noticed a note had been left on his table, one that had been written in the human language.

"If you wish to stay alive, follow Qing Jun." Han Sen read the words and continued to stare at the paper.

He was the only human capable of reaching the fifth floor. So, he wondered, how had someone left that note for him?

"Did Dry Bone King leave this for me?" Han Sen frowned. Dry Bone King was the only one he had met since arriving on the fifth floor.

But Dry Bone King wasn't a fan of Qing Jun and her wicked ways, either. Why would he tell Han Sen to follow her? Han Sen turned the paper over and was given a shock.

On the back of the paper was a symbol drawn in red. It was a large picture of the Nine-Life Cat.

"Someone from Blood Legion is on the fifth floor? That can't be right! There aren't any other humans strong enough to get here." Han Sen was truly taken aback, not having a clue how this had come about.

"Was it Dry Bone King?" Han Sen didn't think it was possible, or at the very least extremely unlikely.

Blood Legion was a human organization with a murky, sordid past. Still, it was human, through and through, and neither spirits nor super creatures would be members of it.

Dry Bone King arrived shortly after, looking for Han Sen. He was accompanied by another king spirit.

His name was Baby Ghost, and his appearance amused Han Sen. The spirit had a head that was enlarged like a baby's, but the body was skinny, frail, and extremely small.

Han Sen didn't notice a change in Dry Bone King's behavior, which suggested it was unlikely he was the one who left the note. Han Sen then wondered if it was Qing Jun herself who had left it. Perhaps it was some sort of weird trick of hers, as she wasn't exactly the most sound-minded individual.

But if that was true, how could she have known about Blood Legion and Han Sen's connection to it?

As Han Sen mulled this over, Dry Bone King led Han Sen to the plaza. When they arrived, a female king spirit was there waiting for them. She was accompanied by seven super creatures.

Qing Jun King did not even look at Han Sen, and simply approached the Sky Fruit.

The path ahead had been built by the spirits and creatures of the fourth floor, but they weren't allowed to accept the fruit. If they even so much as stumbled across one during their time of building, they'd have been outright killed.

Chapter 1176: Hard Labor

Han Sen thought super creatures and king spirits were awesome beings of an unbridled power, coupled with near-prophetic intelligence and behavior that presented them as deity-like figures. This image he had of them became extremely distorted when he witnessed them enter the Sky Fruit: their grace was discarded in favor of being simple, hard-working miners.

The Sky Fruit nuts were not too tough, but the shells around them were like spherical bulwarks. To retrieve the nuts, the shells had to be broken. But there were also barriers to break.

The barriers were a little harder than the physical shells of the nuts. He had tried to break a shell with his Phoenix Sword previously, but he had been unable to. Without such weaponry, and with the barrier being stronger, he was in for a trying time.

Han Sen accepted a shovel, given to him by Dry Bone King. Upon striking the barrier before him, he was only able to peel away a thin section. Digging through it all was sure to take a long time.

There wasn't just one barrier there, either. The entire fruit was composed of various nut rooms, with entries separated by additional barriers of their own. Han Sen's job was to break through the barriers to obtain the geno treasure that was said to reside inside. The lower tier creatures would then come and take the nuts.

Seeing them all working hard, Han Sen's mind drifted back to wonder who might have placed the slip of paper in his room. And why the note said what it did, telling him to follow Qing Jun King.

"Weird." Han Sen suddenly heard Dragon King's voice, as if he had spoken directly into his ears. Han Sen looked around, seeing if anyone else might have heard him. It didn't seem that way, so he peeked at his ring.

"Don't worry; this is a secret method of communication. They won't hear me," Dragon King said.

Han Sen wanted to talk, but he didn't know how to do so without alerting the others. He'd look like a madman, babbling to himself.

"This Sky Fruit is weird." Dragon King paused, and then went on to say, "I can't feel the presence of geno treasure."

Han Sen thought, "The tree is dead. Isn't the lack of a geno treasure normal?"

It looked as if Dragon King could read Han Sen's mind, as he then said, "I can sense the presence of geno treasures, even if they haven't been created yet. I know where they would be. Here, there is absolutely nothing."

"Forget about the treasure; just find out where the tree we're looking for might be." Han Sen used dongxuan aura to hide himself and his speech.

"I don't sense that, either," Dragon King said.

Han Sen wanted him to find out where the Sky Tree was. Now, unable to find a trace of it, Han Sen was starting to suspect Dragon King was seeking to double-cross him.

Han Sen and Dry Bone King's people continued digging for another hour, and that was when they uncovered a path that led to the nut.

"This place serves as a junction that leads to four nut rooms. We should split into four teams to cover each path. Whoever finds the geno treasure first can claim it; if you can't claim it, others can try," Qing Jun King said.

"Dry Bone, Baby Ghost, group up with Earth Beast," Qing Jun King said.

Eleven people split into four teams. Qing Jun King did not put Han Sen in a team. One other super creature was left out, too, and so she said, "You're new, so who would you like to team up with? Me or the creature?"

"I'll go with you," Han Sen said.

This choice surprised Dry Bone King and Baby Ghost King. Qing Jun King was shocked, too. Qing Jun King's face went cold again, and she walked towards the barrier. Dry Bone King wished to say something, but everyone would have heard him speak. Regretfully, he had to hold his tongue.

Han Sen saw that he wished to say something, and guessed his words would have been something like, "You're committing suicide."

But Han Sen did not choose Qing Jun King because of the paper. He wasn't afraid of her, and he could use this opportunity to find out why she so desperately wanted Qiu Ping to kill Zhang Yuchen.

She could have killed them both with the greatest of ease, so her need for drama seemed unnecessary and uncharacteristic of a king spirit.

They broke the nut and then started to work on another barrier. Han Sen was only able to dig up a thin slice each time, but Qing Jun King was able to dig up a whole lot more. It took them two hours to dig a path that was big enough. After going through, they arrived in another nut room. They had to dig a path that was big enough for the creatures to come through and carry the fruit out.

For now, though, they were alone together. Han Sen knew he had to be careful, but Qing Jun King seemed focused on the task at hand. She got to work on yet another barrier.

Han Sen followed, but kept his wits about him.

"This is strange. Real strange." Dragon King's voice started to sound in Han Sen's ear again.

Qing Jun King was standing one meter away from Han Sen, so no matter how quietly he sought to speak, she'd hear any response he made to Dragon King.

"I can feel the presence of geno treasure ahead. It is behind this wall, but it's strange," Dragon King said.

Han Sen was happy, hearing he was about to stumble across the treasure. But with Qing Jun King there, they'd probably fight over its ownership.

Dragon King said, "There is something very wrong with this geno treasure."

Han Sen wanted to ask him for more details, but couldn't on account of Qing Jun King being right next to him.

"Furthermore, I know where the Sky Tree is!" Dragon King suddenly screamed.