

Super Power

Chapter 1201:

Destruction

Countless shura ships were exploding like northern lights. The blooms of destruction spread like wildfire as star-class ship after star-class ship exploded.

The weaker ships, such as the planet-class and satellite-class ships, were immediately disintegrated into nothing more than an eye-searing haze. The entire armada was crippled and destroyed, blown up like a glittery fireworks display.

Like a supernova, the brightness saturated the sight of everything outside the windows. If the glass hadn't been designed to filter ultra-bright lights, they'd have all been blinded for sure.

And while the glass might have filtered the light, it could not filter the shockwaves that soon followed. They rattled the ship, rocking it backwards and forwards, terrifying them all.

Fortunately, they were at a distance where the shockwaves did not deal any lasting damage.

One person fell over and hurt himself, but that was the extent of it. When the rocking had calmed down, and they all looked back outside, the armada was gone. Only wreckage and a vast amount of space debris were left behind. It was a graveyard now, and nothing more.

"What happened?" The captain's head was bleeding as he struggled to stand up, looking out the window.

No answer came, as everyone was too fixated on the sight of that destruction. Their minds had been numbed.

"Are we saved? Did the Alliance send in the cavalry?" a woman asked.

"We are safe now, yes. But there is no cavalry," Old Xu said.

Their radar had been broken, and they couldn't see any other ships, so they wondered what had occurred. All they could see out the window was a distant planet.

If it was the Alliance that had destroyed the ships, there should have been a large-scale fight.

"Oh my days! What happened?!"

"God himself gave us a hand, didn't he!"

“God punished his red-headed stepchildren, mwahaha! That’ll teach them to misbehave and threaten us, the favored creation.”

The passengers were overjoyed. They might not have understood what had happened, but the mere fact they were safe again, gave them much relief and happiness.

Even the captain couldn’t stop smiling. Still, his eyes couldn’t keep away from the window, as if they were searching for something.

Sadly, though, all he could see was trash.

Turning around to get the ship back in order and command the people on board, he then saw Han Sen standing in the corner with the box.

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Han Sen, box in hand, went to the command deck. All the soldiers saluted him. Han Sen did the same in return. He wasn’t a soldier anymore, so it was a sign of massive respect for them to salute him in unison.

Inside the command deck, the captain and Old Xu approached Han Sen. The rest of the personnel stood up in respect, too.

The captain gave Han Sen a salute, prompting the rest to do so, as well.

Even the young couple looked serious. Han Sen did not say a word. He merely returned the salute again.

“You saved us all,” the captain excitedly said.

“I was just saving myself,” Han Sen replied.

“Let us discuss this further in my office.” The captain brought Han Sen to his office, while Old Xu followed from behind.

“Did you destroy the shura fleet?” The captain didn’t want to beat around the bush, and he asked Han Sen directly.

He could not see another reason why all the shura ships were destroyed, so the logical conclusion was for it to have been Han Sen’s doing.

Of course, Han Sen was one person and he was alone. Even if he was to believe it was his doing, it’d be a mighty struggle. But with no other alternative explanations, who else’s doing could it have been?

Han Sen answered, “You think too highly of me. Even if I was a demi-god, I could not destroy a whole shura fleet by myself.”

The captain thought he was right. Han Sen was just a human surpasser, after all. But still, it was too strange of an occurrence for him to write it off completely.

Han Sen was annoyed, though. He drove the black beetle to the enemy and spent five purple crystals in nuking the fleet. The power was enough to wipe the entire army out of existence, and then some.

Although Han Sen had many purple crystals, he couldn't get more whenever he wished. He had to be careful in their use.

"Brother Han, can you give that back to me?" Old Xu asked as he pointed at the box.

Han Sen placed the alloy box down on the table, but he wasn't giving it back. He said, "You can have it back, but I almost died to save it. If you tell me what's inside, I'll give it back to you."

The captain said, "Old Xu, maybe it would be best if you told him."

Old Xu said, "Okay, since you saved my life."

Old Xu accepted the alloy box and opened it. He then examined the bottle of some tincture. Han Sen only wanted to know what it might have been. He didn't actually want or need it.

Old Xu said, "Have you heard of Angel Gene fluid? I am in charge of it. And my team and I created it... Well... Not quite. I suppose it is more accurate to say I copied it."

Chapter 1202: Unlucky Shura King

When Han Sen heard what Old Xu said, he was shocked.

The Angel Gene fluid the Zhao family had created was not their original creation, after all. It had been based on that vial of liquid.

Angel Gene could never find out what the exact components of the solution were, so it was a bit of an enigma. Roughly, Angel Gene only understood ten percent of the fluid in its entirety.

Humans could not use the liquid itself. That much was certain. Consumption of the liquid would result in the consumer exploding, even if they were a strong surpasser.

When Han Sen asked where the liquid came from, Old Xu told him it came from the grave of a shura king.

"Shura kings can never catch a break from graverobbers, it seems. First, it was the Falsified-Sky Sutra, and now this," Han Sen mused over the elucidations he was receiving.

Han Sen was happy he never used the liquid. Had he done so, he would have most assuredly died.

"There is no way Zero used it. She would have died if she had, wouldn't she? Then again, she seems able to switch between human and shura. And this has been a trait of hers for a long time now," Han Sen thought.

Shortly after the shura had been destroyed, others ships of the Alliance were sent out for relief efforts and investigation. When they reached the Universe, they saw it sitting beside a vast debris field.

After boarding, they were more than surprised to see the countless shura bodies cluttering the hallways of the ship. Furthermore, the personnel and passengers of the Universe were only mildly injured. The death toll was firmly situated on the count of zero.

Han Sen was brought in for questions, and he admitted the hand he had in slaying the leader and all the soldiers. But he feigned cluelessness as to why the entire armada had been destroyed.

When the officers and soldiers heard the description of the events that transpired, though, their admiration for Han Sen was just like old times.

The higher-tier officers looked at Han Sen like he was some kind of monster, but it was a fear driven by respect, and they knew he had done something magnificent.

If it wasn't for Han Sen, everyone on the ship would have assuredly been killed or worse.

To prevent from panicking the populace with the shura threat, everyone on the Universe had to be sworn to secrecy over the events that had transpired. They were even forced to sign an NDA.

Four days later, Han Sen resumed his journey to Lie Men Planet via a different ship. The Alliance provided Han Sen with a Medal of Honor, whereas Angel Gene gifted him a lot of money.

The rumors that Han Sen had been healed also spread. Stories were whispered amongst the populace, telling how he might have single-handedly wiped out a shura general and the army it commanded.

"How? Didn't Luo Haitang say he could not be healed?" Zhao Seven, leader of Angel Gene, heard the news firsthand, due to him having a direct connection to the events that unfolded.

"I knew his story wasn't over! Men like him go out with a bang, not a bed-ridden whimper." Tang Zhenliu leaped for joy when he heard the news.

People had many different reactions upon hearing the story. If Han Sen was able to kill a third-rank shura general with ease, the recent quietness of the Alliance and the lack of wild tales from the Third God's Sanctuary would be over. He was back in business.

Various officials of the Alliance spent time investigating why the fleet of shura ships had been wiped out. Their suspicions of Han Sen's involvement did not linger, as it seemed incredibly unlikely one human was capable of doing all that.

Han Sen received countless messages but only replied to those from the people he knew. He did this while continuing his journey to Lie Men Planet.

Ji Ruozhen already knew Han Sen had been healed, but it never really concerned him much, as Han Sen wasn't one to involve himself in politics or dealings of the army.

When Luo Haitang heard Han Sen had been healed, it didn't prompt too much concern and it didn't change anything, either. After all, he had now already selected Han Yan.

A few days later, Han Sen arrived at Lie Men Planet. Professor Long had already started his lectures, so Han Sen found himself joining in two days late.

Han Sen already had a basic knowledge regarding the time and space elements, so it wasn't a struggle for him to catch up with what he had missed. And if there was something he didn't understand, he just asked the others for a recap.

After Professor Long finished his lectures for the day, he gave Han Sen a personal call.

"You are quite something, do you know that? Bai Yishan and Li Xinghua, those two weekend-rivals, often talk to me about you. They just told me to give you a proper recap of what you missed, as a matter of fact. If you're interested in learning even more, perhaps you can come visit my lab, too. You may go there whenever you please," Professor Long said.

Han Sen felt touched. He didn't expect Bai Yishan nor Li Xinghua to have known about his hold-up and to also ask Professor Long to help him with what he had missed. It was incredibly kind of them.

After this, Han Sen spent his days in the lectures and his evenings in the lab.

Professor Long was not a fighter. He was a genuine scientist; one well-versed in the workings of the universe, space, and time. His research was very different from Bai Yishan's and Li Xinghua's, and it was quite refreshing. Han Sen ended up learning a lot from him.

Han Sen was not a researcher, so he couldn't help as much as he wanted to in the lab, but he still showed interest and tried to do what he could. Everything there was new for Han Sen, and he pictured himself as some sort of sponge, absorbing knowledge.

Chapter 1203: Double Talent

Two months passed, and all the while, Han Sen spent his days learning about time and space in the creation of a new hyper geno art. Han Sen was able to simulate Moment Queen's energy flow, but so far, he could only speed up time and not slow it.

Han Sen only had one hundred time king spirit geno points, unlike Moment Queen, who was born with a direct attunement to the element.

Han Sen could only simulate a bit of Sky King's space energy flow, but it was enough to allow Han Sen to condense space without his opponent realizing what he was doing. It was not too dissimilar to the method used to travel across hyperspace; punching a hole through the fabric of the dimension and creating a shortcut.

Of course, these two abilities only applied to Han Sen. They had no effect on others when used.

Han Sen wanted a high-damage hyper geno art, and he still would once this creation process was over. This was because his current creation did not inflict damage on an opponent.

Han Sen kept on practicing these two abilities, trying to find a way in which he might be able to combine them.

Speeding up time allowed Han Sen to move faster. Condensing the space in his proximity also made him quicker, in a certain sense. In the eyes of others, he'd be moving at a blistering speed that no one else could properly register. Han Sen was able to use these techniques to speed up and reduce the range he had to traverse to attack.

Han Sen dwelled on the final results this hyper geno art would yield, and how the finished product might look and feel like. The concept was promising, at the very least.

After a day of work, the researchers all left. Han Sen remained, though, making use of the zero-g room to practice various time and space techniques.

The more he practiced, the better he would get. That was true for everyone with everything. It was simple, but infinitely effective. Practicing was the only way to get a true grasp and understanding of something, and that was a universal truth.

Han Sen practiced hard, working up a sweat. He didn't notice that Professor Long was outside the room, watching him.

Professor Long was supposed to have already left for the day, but he had forgotten something in the lab. He saw some light in the zero-g chamber, so he thought to check it out.

Professor Long nodded when he saw Han Sen. Professor Long had learned quite a bit about Han Sen, but he didn't understand why Bai Yishan and Li Xinghua liked him so much, up until now.

It was because through Han Sen, they could see themselves when they were much younger. He was quiet, but he worked hard. He didn't get distracted easily, and he was all-around very different than most young people.

If Han Sen focused on research, there was no doubt he'd become an acclaimed researcher and garner great fame. He'd accomplish much, Professor Long believed.

Professor Long was similar to Han Sen, so he admired him a lot, too. When Han Sen first arrived late, he saw how diligent he was in trying to catch up on what he had missed. For that reason, Professor Long was happy to extend an invitation for him to visit the lab and help.

He was very satisfied with Han Sen's performance, and although Han Sen had a long while to go and much, much more to learn, Professor Long could see that a bright future awaited him. He'd walk away from the lab with much knowledge.

Professor Long was going to leave Han Sen alone, but when he saw the way Han Sen moved, he was fascinated. As a professor who researched space and time, he noticed Han Sen was practicing space.

Han Sen seemed able to take one step and travel one hundred meters. It was like Han Sen had a warp drive installed in his body.

“He has talent with the element of space?” Professor Long was surprised.

Space talent was rare. Professor Long had two researchers with the space talent, but they were awful and ridiculously expensive to hire. To Professor Long, Han Sen’s importance had greatly increased.

Humans were not machines. Machines could use energy to travel and crack space. But this was a human, and Han Sen had just demonstrated the ability to travel in the manner of hyperspace. It was an action he performed with no technological aid. It was practically unheard of.

Professor Long thought he was very good with the element of space. But that was a topic that Professor Long wasn’t as well-versed on, due to his inability to practice it.

“I cannot believe Han Sen has this much talent.” Professor Long looked at Han Sen and licked his lips, as if he was a treasure he could never risk losing.

Han Sen had no idea Professor Long was checking him out in such a manner. He wasn’t in the sanctuary right now, so he did not have to pay attention to his immediate surroundings at all times like he normally would. He could relax and be a little more carefree when he was in the Alliance.

Over the course of those two months, Han Sen continued practicing his teleportation and time-adjustment techniques vigorously. Unfortunately, they remained separate, and he was unable to figure out a way to combine them.

But on this evening, when he was done practicing with the space element, he turned his focus to time.

When Professor Long saw this, his jaw dropped. His mind raced as he yelled to himself, “He has talent with both time and space?!”

Professor Long felt as if he had just won the lottery. He smiled madly as he stared at Han Sen.

“This is most wonderful.” Professor Long watched Han Sen as if he were watching a naked woman.

As Han Sen continued to practice, a sudden shiver ran down his spine.

“Why am I covered in goosebumps? Did the temperature drop?” Han Sen then checked the thermostat, wanting to raise the temperature.

Professor Long had never before seen a human with proficiency in both talents. And now, his mind was racing with all sorts of ideas of what he could do with Han Sen. He was very excited.

Chapter 1204: Same People

Professor Long was very excited, but he made sure not to alert Han Sen. He remained there watching, and only left when he saw the sweat-drenched Han Sen finish practicing.

The next day, after Han Sen entered the lab, Professor Long called for him to come to his office.

“Han Sen, my boy! Research this for me, would you please? And then, hand me your reports when done,” Professor Long said, handing Han Sen a task.

“No problem. Is there anything else?” Han Sen asked.

“No, but these are unfinished projects. Don’t allow anyone else to see them. Go to room 507 to do the work, too.” Professor Long then handed Han Sen a key card, before saying, “There you go.”

Seeing Han Sen walk away, Professor Long smiled. He knew people like Han Sen would be very attracted by such information and would invest time in learning it.

But the classes were soon to come to an end, which worried Professor Long. There was only about a month left, so for now, he provided Han Sen the most important parts to see.

“A month is not enough time. If he can give me ten years... fifty years...” Professor Long said to himself, losing himself in deep thought.

Han Sen went to room 507 as instructed. A lot of text and video had been included in the information he had been provided. Although Han Sen did not know too much about it, he still tried his best to understand. For a full grasp, he knew it’d take a long time, too.

Han Sen had never learned something like this before, so he had to start slowly. He liked it, though. And despite the struggle, he never once felt bored or tired with the task.

Han Sen was still being annoyed by his predicament with the hyper geno art creation, as he still couldn’t find a way to combine time and space. After reading this, though, he was very inspired.

Han Sen thought Professor Long was something of a genius, in fact. He was a very creative man.

Professor Long was focusing much of his thoughts on Han Sen now, and he greatly admired him. After he read the first round of notes he was given, Professor Long told Han Sen to skip the lessons so he could focus on the research instead.

The lessons during the daytime dealt with time and space, and how it was associated with humans, so there was no real need for Han Sen to sit there and listen, anyway.

Han Sen was delighted, and with the information he was provided, he knew there was a lot more to learn and a lot farther to go. He knew he was still dealing with the research on a very basic level, but it was a start. And that aside, it was much better than what he was doing before.

After Han Sen’s brain mutation, his memory and abilities of comprehension had become far better. But even so, there was still too much for even him to wrap his head around in such a short timeframe. When the classes were all finished, Han Sen had only managed to go through twenty percent of the stuff.

“Take it home and spend more time with it,” Professor Long said when Han Sen came to return what he had done so far.

“Can I, really?” Han Sen was like a happy child, hearing this.

A lot of information and research breakthroughs were contained within, but many of them had been withheld from the public.

“It’s my private research. You can take it home, just keep a lid on it. Don’t allow any leaks,” Professor Long explained.

This information was very important, but it was all hogwash to those who did not have a grasp on the elements of space and time. Han Sen never did research for money and fame, he just wanted results. He wanted an advancement of his self, not what surrounded him.

After that, Han Sen accepted the information and returned home. He continued having trouble and restlessness over combining space and time into one hyper geno art, but now the predicament had shifted a little. Before it was all about how he could combine them, now it was about which way he could combine them.

Han Sen decided to read through everything he had been given first. After that, then he would decide how to combine the space and time properties.

Due to there being no super creatures in the immediate vicinity, Han Sen didn’t spend much time hunting. Instead, he took his time reading the information and learning.

Before he finished, Moment Queen had at last managed to find Holy-Sword Shelter.

Bringing the humans to Holy-Sword Shelter, Han Sen wondered what they’d all think, once they saw Xie Qing King.

Xie Qing King had not changed in Han Sen’s absence, and he was still soaking in an unhealthy vat of human culture. He wore flip-flops, boxers, and a loose t-shirt. To go along with his aviator sunglasses, Xie Qing King now had a straw hat. He was having another cookout it seemed, and as he charcoaled once-fine slabs of meat, he wiggled his body, holding a beer in one hand.

If Xie Qing King did not have a good body shape, Han Sen would have believed him to be a psychotic butcherer.

Strangely, Han Sen did not see any comics around him. So, he thought to himself, “Has he grown tired of comics and now just indulges himself in the art of barbecuing?”

“Han Sen, ‘sup! You’re back!” Xie Qing King saw Han Sen and placed his arm around Han Sen’s neck and shoulders. Swaying from side to side, he brought him over to sit. He then said, “Let me tell you something, you ain’t going to believe fo’ sho’. I’m a freestyling mofo, in the way I made my own style! Can you believe it, bruv?”

“This is a new style?” Han Sen thought he might have created a new skill or something, something tangible and beneficial.

“Come take a look! This is my new product, so whatchu’ fink?” Xie Qing King presented Han Sen with a book.

“A book? A comic book? Did you draw this?” Han Sen’s eyes were wide-open in a mixture of confusion and about ten other emotions.

“I’m telling you, son. This gon’ light the streets on fire. It’s gonna’ sell like hotcakes!” Xie Qing King said, with much excitement.

Han Sen was in a bit of a daze, and when he looked at the comic’s name, it was called, “Overbearing President Love Luv Looove!”

Chapter 1205: Disappearing Super Creatures

Han Sen looked at Xie Qing King as if he was looking at some hideous monster. No wild super creature had ever rattled him as much as the spirit before him was now doing.

He partially believed himself to be dreaming, thinking it to be utterly ridiculous for a king spirit to take up the hobby of drawing crude comics.

Han Sen opened the comic, dubiously titled “Overbearing President Love Luv Looove,” and began reading it. The art, to Xie Qing King’s credit, was wonderful.

The protagonist of the comic was actually a fellow named Xie Qing King, perhaps unsurprisingly. The spirit had obviously gone to great lengths in this self-admiring portrayal of himself. He was dressed up in similar attire to what he was now wearing, and wholeheartedly believed to be cool, and the opening panels had him surrounded by a number of voluptuously shaped women.

Strangely, these women did not look human, though.

“Are these lady spirits?” Han Sen asked, while pointing at them.

“They sure be king spirits, yo,” Xie Qing King said.

Han Sen was actually rather surprised. He hadn’t suspected a king spirit could look upon other king spirits in a horny way.

“My dope is targeted at the younger generation. But tell me, bruh, could ya’ help out a crib spirit of yours and help me release it on that thing you call Skynet?” Xie Qing King said.

Han Sen helped him with the release, but did not want to associate himself with the comic. So, he made an account on Xie Qing King’s behalf. He was worried at what others might think of him if folks genuinely believed Han Sen was the one who drew it all.

After that, Han Sen took Bao'er back to Ghost Mountain. He believed remaining with Xie Qing King any longer would drive him insane. Silver fox had been gone ever since he received the fox Life Geno Essence, so Han Sen also fancied trying to find him on Ghost Mountain.

In the meantime, Han Sen let all the other humans out at Holy-Sword Shelter, except for Queen. There were too many people crowding the underground shelter, and Han Sen wanted a bit more space.

To scale Ghost Mountain, Han Sen rode atop Golden Growler and took Bao'er with him. Strangely, the super creatures on Ghost Mountain were nowhere to be found. It seemed as if they had all disappeared.

Han Sen traveled across the entirety of Ghost Mountain and confirmed this. Even the ones he had previously met were no longer around.

"What happened?" Han Sen wondered.

If there had been a great battle, surely there would have been signs. But it was as if they had all been abducted, vanished into thin air without leaving a trace behind.

The blood-wing beasts were still there, but their king was gone.

"What happened?" Han Sen had no idea what had taken place.

Even if the king spirit shelter on the mountain had tried to expand to conquer and rule over its surrounding landscapes, there should have been signs of such a thing happening. But there were no clues to what had actually occurred. The landscape seemed to be the same as it was the first time Han Sen had been there.

Han Sen continued traversing the slopes of the mountain, and just when he started to worry over the wellbeing of the silver fox, he saw a purple light illuminate the night sky.

Han Sen tried to look over to where it originated, but it was too far for him to scan. So, he summoned his wings and decided to fly there.

The purple light was a good distance away, and he had to leave the borders of Ghost Mountain completely to get to it. It was a purple mountain, and when he got to take a closer look, Han Sen was more than just shocked.

Han Sen thought the mountain had simply gotten bigger due to his proximity to it. But when he stopped for a moment, and noticed that it continued to grow, he realized it was doing just that: the mountain was growing bigger.

Han Sen never thought a mountain had the possibility of growing.

It would have made sense if there was an earthquake currently raging, but there was no such thing. The lands all around were quiet, and it was just that one purple mountain rising out of the ground, becoming bigger and bigger.

Han Sen didn't go any closer to it, as he figured himself to be too old to attempt something reckless. He was hovering above a field, so he could see everything well enough and did not have to go any closer to watch what was happening.

Han Sen saw many small creatures emerge, all heading for the purple mountain. Then, he saw bigger creatures going that way. They were headed there with visible excitement.

Han Sen tried to grab a snake he saw, but the snake dodged his grasp and looked angry. That was okay, though. The snake seemed fairly normal and of its own mind. It hadn't been possessed or tainted by some other phantom force or anything.

"If they're not under a spell, perhaps some treasure is enticing them there. Did Little Silver and the other super creatures of Ghost Mountain go that way, too?" Han Sen mulled over the questions while staring at the purple mountain.

Not thinking there to be any immediate danger, Han Sen flew closer. If there was treasure, he wanted it. At the very least, he could lend a hand to the silver fox if he needed it.

With Han Sen's power having reached its current heights, he figured he could deal with any threat that presented itself to him. He had the ability to take on emperor spirits, after all, so he reckoned he'd be fine.

And as long as Han Sen did nothing to provoke the creatures, they'd probably be too focused on what they had come for to pay him any heed. They appeared to be very single-minded in their near-rabid approach to the purple mountain.

Han Sen saw wolves, ants, and birds heading for the area.

Chapter 1207: White Ball

It was not a rock that had tumbled down from out of the mist, it was a white ball. It looked like lobster meat. It did not look fleshy and scrumptious, though; it looked quite dry.

But as random as its sudden appearance had been, Han Sen did not sense any danger stemming from it. And as he studied it, he re-evaluated his perception and thought it looked more like a circular chunk of mushroom. The whitish color was a little jaded, too.

It was as round as a yoga ball, and when it came tumbling down, it bounced from rock to rock.

Han Sen thought it changed color as it descended, too. But that was incorrect, as he later noticed it was just coated in splotches of blood. Quite disturbing.

When the ball stopped moving, Han Sen fancied approaching it for a closer examination. He particularly wanted to see where the blood had come from. Before Han Sen could touch the blood, though, the ball moved away by its own volition.

Han Sen was shocked by the sudden movement. He looked at the ball which had leaped away from him, but he could not notice anything special about it that might have prompted the sudden jump.

The white ball was like any old, unremarkable object. It didn't appear to be something living, and after it moved away from Han Sen, it returned to a motionless state.

Han Sen walked forward, and when he was at a distance where he was close enough to touch it, the ball rolled away again. Han Sen could not sense a lifeforce stemming from the white ball, but it certainly behaved as if it was a living creature.

The ball did not roll quickly, so Han Sen picked up the pace for his next attempt at touching it. But when Han Sen's speed increased, so too did the speed of the ball's attempt to escape.

Bao'er thought the ball was quite interesting, too. So, she leaped towards it with a crazy speed. When she almost touched the ball, the object was able to match her speed in an evasion.

Bao'er landed on the ground in a bad way, as her hat and sunglasses were dashed across some rocks. The ball then began to jump around Bao'er. It didn't make any noise, but it behaved as if it was mocking her.

Han Sen did not know why he felt that was what the ball was doing.

But Bao'er also seemed to believe that was what it was doing, and she became incredibly angry in response. She was furious.

She jumped up and ran towards it like a pouncing tiger. Her speed was almost teleportation-like, and a match for Han Sen's super king spirit mode.

But strangely, Bao'er was still unable to catch the ball. It effortlessly matched her speed again and dodged her raging grab. The ball was quicker than the casting of a shadow.

Missing this attempt did not hamper her desire to grab the ball, though. She quickly spun around and tried to get ahold of it once more. She jumped from rock to rock in an attempt to touch the ball, very much like an angered tiger that possessed wings.

Han Sen was taken aback by what he was witnessing; Bao'er was using his phoenix techniques. Han Sen had performed it in front of her many times, but he had never seen her train with it. For her to now just do it all of a sudden, it surprised him.

Han Sen watched their play continue for a while. Many times over, Han Sen was able to confirm that Bao'er was indeed using his phoenix techniques and original self-made modifications.

Yet despite all her attempts, the ball was able to dodge her every single time. It was remarkably nimble, that was for certain.

“What is this thing?” Han Sen wondered to himself. With a speed like that, it would have to be a super creature of sorts, assuming it was a creature. But despite repeated attempts at scanning the ball, he was still unable to pick up the trace of a life force.

It had no eyes, nose, or orifices of any kind. Without a mouth, it couldn't have been a super creature.

Bao'er was getting frustrated with her inability to catch the playful ball, so she pulled out her mini gourd and pointed it at the ball. Then, she slapped the gourd.

A scary power of suction swirled out towards the ball.

At first, it helplessly succumbed to the suction and began to roll towards the gourd. But eventually, it seemed to find its grip and begin to effectively resist Bao'er's terribly powerful gourd.

The gourd was a most mighty weapon, and it had never failed before. Its suction conjured a vortex similar to a wheel, endlessly spinning.

The ball, with its grip, was digging into the ground in a bid to resist. Deep skid marks were being left in its wake.

Needless to say, Han Sen was flabbergasted. This was the first time Han Sen had ever witnessed the gourd struggle to nab a target.

The gourd was unable to draw in the ball, but neither could the ball wholly escape. It was like a wheel fighting to get out of the mud or snow.

Han Sen was met with an uneasy feeling in his stomach. If something was so powerful it could resist the gourd, he knew he'd have to be more wary and not behave so playfully with it. So he drew his Phoenix Sword and activated his nine gene locks. The sword was dyed red, and then Han Sen swung it at the ball.

The ball couldn't afford to loosen its grip and avoid the strike, so the sword found its target.

But when the sword met the ball, Han Sen felt something wasn't quite right.

Chapter 1208: Violent Father and Daughter

Han Sen felt as if the Phoenix Sword had come down on rubber. It was a deep strike, but the sword eventually gave in to the cushion and bounced backwards. And with the force Han Sen had put into that strike, it made him fall back more than a few steps.

Han Sen pulled out Taia this time and tried to deliver a number of smaller strikes instead. He unleashed a flurry of manic hits, not willing to give the ball a single moment of reprieve.

When the ball first rolled down the hill, it had done so soaked in blood. Now, the blood was all gone. Han Sen noticed the ball had absorbed the blood.

With Double Fly, Han Sen laid into the ball. He didn't want to invoke its ire and then let it go free, so he had to put his back into it and do his best to end the ball's life now.

But despite exhausting all his strength, Han Sen was unable to damage the white ball. His swords and strikes continued to bounce back, having left no damage on the ball's rubber-like skin.

With his nine gene locks open, Phoenix Sword and Taia akimbo, Han Sen did all he could. Under the force of such power, most super creatures would have been laid to waste already. Han Sen couldn't fathom what sort of creature he was now faced with. Its skin made for the best defense possible.

Han Sen decided to put his swords away and watch while the ball tried to scramble away from Bao'er's Dyson-gourd.

When he looked at Bao'er, she actually appeared to be sweating. It seemed as if using the gourd cost her energy, and using it for a long time was taxing. But Bao'er did not want to let the ball go free. She insisted on capturing it, and she seemed determined not to let it get away.

Since there was no one else around, Han Sen summoned a coin and let the numbers on it tick upwards.

"Let's see how well you resist such lavish expenditure," Han Sen mocked. Bao'er's hands were trembling by this point, and when the coin count reached nine, Han Sen released the power and fired the coin at the white ball.

A Saving Money coin, with the power of nine, hit the white ball with the weight of mountains. It seemed to be quite effective, too, because it flattened the white ball like a deflating balloon.

Bao'er pulled the gourd away and immediately went to sit down, gasping.

The ball had been crushed in place. It could not move, it had been crippled, but it had been able to resist the weight and not get blown up. After a short while, though, it returned to normal.

Han Sen was shocked, to say the least. The coin had reached nine, and he was certain it'd be enough to do something more than temporarily restrain the spherical fiend.

But with the coin still firmly in place on the ball's surface, it remained unharmed.

The ball did roll much slower now, though, so there was that. If it was once a cruising supercar, it was now grandad's rusty lawnmower.

Han Sen felt relieved that the coin was able to do something, at least. It didn't kill or grievously damage the ball, but it was enough to practically cripple it.

"Saving Money still has its uses, I suppose." Han Sen snapped his fingers and summoned a coinfall on top of the ball, then.

A short while later, the entire ball had been given a new coat. It was like a golden orb now, without an inch of its body free from the oppressive weight of a coin.

Bao'er saw the ball in place, stuck. Then, she ran up to it and kicked it.

The ball was completely unable to move now. It was still as tough as ever, though, and there was no sign it was going to buckle under the weight and allow itself to be crushed.

The nature of the ball still perplexed Han Sen. If it was a super creature, and it had just endured so much painful treatment, it should have at least tried to fight back. Strangely, the ball was as docile as ever, but Han Sen wasn't quite willing to believe it was just an object, either.

Han Sen approached the ball and examined it with greater curiosity. It was an enigma he really wanted to figure out.

Bao'er leaped onto the white ball and continued to kick it for the runaround she had endured earlier. But eventually, the ball became bouncy again.

Bao'er summoned the mini gourd once more and attempted to absorb it. But right after she took aim, and before she could fire, the ball seemed to quiver and shake as if it was afraid.

Han Sen still had no clue what the thing was, and if there was a chance it could turn sour and attack, he had no qualms with letting Bao'er suck it into her gourd.

Suddenly, though, before more could be revealed, the sound of a katcha was heard. It was the ball, and it was starting to crack.

Han Sen knew it wasn't because of the coins, though. The "crack" was a straight line through the middle, all around it.

The crack also originated from the bottom, and Han Sen couldn't quite see what was emerging just yet. But regardless of what it was, he at least now understood that the ball was hollow.

Something was inside it and looking to get out. The once tormenting, violent father and daughter had become as scared as kitty cats. Bao'er leaped into Han Sen's arms, wondering what would happen next with an equal mix of fear and curiosity.

Han Sen was alert. If this had been a super creature egg this entire time, something most fearsome must reside within. Both of them stared at the crack, and soon after, something emerged.

When that thing came out, their eyes grew wider.

When it wholly emerged, it looked at Han Sen and Bao'er and roared at them fiercely.

Roar!

Chapter 1209: Trapped

What emerged from the white ball was a creature, one that was as small as a snowball. It was a furry little thing, and it wasn't too different from a Pomeranian puppy, in terms of its appearance.

The plush snowball looked at Han Sen and barked with a rage. Woof! Woof! Woof!

Han Sen and Bao'er looked at each other, and then looked back at the creature. With a sudden awkward smile, they ran towards it to feign friendliness.

It seemed as if the white ball was indeed an egg, and it had given birth to the creature. And if that was the case, the creature wouldn't be too strong to resist a quick kill.

Han Sen leaped forward to grab it with all his strength.

The snowball did not attempt to move at first, though. It did not seem afraid of Han Sen and Bao'er's sudden approach. But seeing the looming hands jerk forward to try to grab it, the creature howled and made its coat of fur shine with a bright white light that flashbanged the two.

Then, it felt as if they both walked into something plush. It was directly in front of them, and Han Sen could not push it away.

And when he fell backwards in response, he felt something else barring his passage. All of a sudden, he started to spin and whirl as if he had been thrown into an active washing machine.

"Holy smokes!" Han Sen understood what had happened. He and Bao'er had switched place with the fluffy fiend, and it was them who were now stuck inside a white ball.

Of course, Han Sen was much taller, and the white ball was much larger to accommodate his size.

Pang! Pang! Pang!

Han Sen struck the plush flesh of its composure with Taia, but he could not break through. His hits were met with the same reactions as before, and he'd bounce away each time.

"Stop! Stop! Stop!" Han Sen held Bao'er and told her to stop moving and jumping about, as he was starting to feel dizzy.

"So, this is the white ball? And it can trap others inside, can it?" Han Sen pondered his predicament and tried to think of a way in which he might escape the trap.

Han Sen heard barking outside, and then, the ball started to roll. It was a movement influenced by an exterior force. The snowball was kicking the white ball.

Pang!

Eventually, they rolled into something hard. But they quickly resumed rolling again. They went all about the place as if they were inside a pinball machine, and Han Sen got so dizzy and off-balance, he wanted to throw up.

"You think this is a ball for your own enjoyment?!" Han Sen shouted. Then he summoned a heap of coins, which filled up half the ball.

When the snowball tried to kick the ball again, it didn't work.

Han Sen and his stomach felt much relief. His fitness aided his fortitude and balance, and his ability to withstand dizziness was supremely high. And yet, even so, that was a rollercoaster for his organs. It was an insufferable torment.

Bao'er waved her fists next, trying to punch the ball. But her delicate hands were thrown back each time, due to the sturdy-but-plush material that composed the shell.

"Fortunately, being inside the white ball isn't helping us deal damage to it. At least, I am not physically hurt." Han Sen took solace in that one fact.

Suddenly, the ball began to spin again. Han Sen tried to use the tumbler theory to help stabilize the ball's motion, but it seemed the snowball was aware of what Han Sen was trying to do. The blighter kept on pushing the ball.

And in response, the ball rolled as it had earlier. Nothing Han Sen could do seemed to stop it, and so he had to think of a way in which he might get out. A difficult task, given the mind-rattling circumstances.

A coin with the number nine could not break the ball, and neither could any move he tried to perform with his Phoenix Sword.

Regardless of past failures, Han Sen thought it best to try Saving Money again, but with even more power. He wondered if, from the inside, he could shoot and break it.

So, Han Sen performed it. The number on the summoned coin began to rise without issue.

"I just need more numbers to break it, surely," Han Sen thought to himself.

Bao'er was in support of Han Sen's decision, so she took a step back and waited for Han Sen to perform the move. She was eager to be released and free, so she could beat up the troublesome snowball.

The snowball then started pushing the ball again, pushing up towards the purple light. The creature didn't physically shove the ball, though. It was as if the ball had a mind of its own, one that made sure to walk forward and follow the snowball.

A little while later, snowball brought it over to a cliffside. It was going to drop the ball and watch it fall.

At the bottom of the cliff was a pool, and a fierce creature lurked in its depths.

The fall would be a long one, as the height they were at was not trivial. If you were to stand there and look down, you wouldn't even be able to tell what the creature in the pool looked like. All you'd see was a dark shadow beneath the water.

The snowball approached the cliff and then looked down with much excitement.

It kicked a couple of rocks down to amp up the anticipation. When the rocks hit the water, bubbles and steam arose as the stones were melted. The snowball fell back a bit, allowing the ball to roll forward and tumble off the cliff. It then began its descent down towards the pool.

The snowball wagged its tail and paws, as if it was saying farewell to the ball's occupants.

Inside the ball, Han Sen's coin had reached the brightness of a star. The number read sixteen, and Han Sen's entire body gleamed with a red power. Even Han Sen had trouble containing all that power. It may have all resided in the coin, but it was the body that was spent.

If the coin's power was too much, Han Sen's body would feel a strain and pressure to maintain the figure of power.

"Sixteen? That should do it!" Han Sen gave the coin one last glance before firing it. Then, he let it loose.

There were already a lot of coins on the bottom of the ball, so by firing this, Han Sen thought he could break the ball.

Chapter 1210: Big Snake

Snowball stood atop the cliff, watching the white ball tumble off. It smiled, thinking of the gruesome demise that would await those inside it once they reached the bottom. But just as the ball started to drop, something from the inside began to stretch it. The force inside the ball was warping its shape and composure.

The white ball was not broken, but the power was enough for the entire thing to defy gravity and shoot back up into the skies with the speed of a freshly-launched cannonball. It soared upwards, far above where it had been previously.

The snowball watched the ball rocket up, and as it looked, its eyes sank and became sullen. Its face turned morbid.

They had been on a cliff that skirted a long drop at the center of the mountain. There was a canopy above it, with a hole inside. What was above couldn't be seen.

Snowball leaped onto the skyward ball and jumped on it, hoping to change its trajectory and make it fall again. But the power of the coin was too much to defy, and the ball was still heading upwards towards the hole.

When the snowball saw it becoming alarmingly close to the black hole, it looked shocked. And then, before the creature knew it, the ball was plugged inside the black hole.

Han Sen was shocked, as well. The power of the sixteen-numbered coin had stretched and deformed the ball, but it had not been able to break it.

After a while, Han Sen felt the ball hit something. And then, the ball began to spin.

Han Sen held Bao'er to keep her steady.

The ball was like a bouncy ball, and after a while, it stopped. Then, they both heard a noise.

A strange noise sounded, as if something had stepped across the ball. Unfortunately, Han Sen had been stripped of his ability to use the Dongxuan Aura for now, so he could not tell what it was.

Outside the ball was a cave. There were many cream-colored eggs inside it.

When the ball entered, it had crushed countless numbers of them. The juicy innards of the eggs had been spilled everywhere.

The cave was messed up, and snowball stood near the ball. It was frozen.

The snowball looked at the ball and the smashed eggs, then simply decided to run. But just as it reached the exit, it was stopped once more. A big, lumbering shadow drowned it in darkness. A giant black snake had appeared.

The snake was not an ordinary one. To go along with its black scales, it possessed a black horn and black wings.

It did not have any claws or talons despite looking like a dragon, but it did have massive, poisonous teeth. They were curved, and the look of them alone was enough to skewer a person to death with fright.

The snake watched the snowball shiver and shake.

As it trembled in fear, the snowball pointed towards the white ball and barked. It wanted to protest its innocence and indicate that it had nothing to do with the destroyed eggs.

The big snake was cruel and unforgiving, and all parties involved were responsible. It lunged forward and tried to snap the snowball with its wretched maw.

The snowball was shocked. It emitted a flash and trapped itself inside a white ball.

The snake bit into the white ball that had suddenly surrounded the intruder, and tried to break it with its fierce teeth. The teeth dug their way into the plush skin of the white ball fairly deeply, but they were unable to pierce through.

But with this bite, the teeth expelled a corrosive substance. It was its lethal venom, and it dyed most of the white ball black.

Pang!

Where the ball had been dyed black, it shriveled and melted away.

The snowball fell out of the broken ball like a marble, and it unwittingly rolled into a few more of the eggs and broke them. The little blighter looked even paler when it noticed that it was drenched in egg yolk. It tried to force a smile as the snake bore down on it.

There was only one thing left for it to do. It turned heel and fled, with the snake behind it in hot pursuit.

The snowball's speed was incredible, but the snake was even faster. Whenever the snowball looked likely to meet the snake's teeth, it would wrap itself up in another white ball. But each time this occurred, the snake bit into it and broke the ball with its venom.

The snake's poison was the snowball's most feared substance. The balls it conjured could not be broken through pure strength, but only with poison.

The snowball kept on running, smashing straight through the eggs without a care if it meant it'd have an easier time escaping the snake. The snowball relied on the ball to stay alive, but its performance eventually became sluggish. It moved slower each time a ball was summoned and subsequently broken.

The snowball kept on running, and when it saw the ball that had trapped Han Sen and Bao'er, it ran towards them. When the snowball was just one meter away from the ball, its body flashed. A bright white flashbang was emitted, and it caused the white ball to crack.

Han Sen and Bao'er had heard a lot of movement taking place outside. They had heard a lot of things breaking, and what stood out to them most was a fear-stricken bark produced by the snowball itself.

An explosion then sounded, like the popping of a balloon but much, much louder.

"Is this ball breaking? Is it going to open?" Han Sen guessed.

If a creature was breaking the ball, Han Sen wondered what incredible strength the creature must possess. And while Han Sen was lost in thought, he heard a katcha sound. Swiftly following this, the white ball of his imprisonment opened like the unfolding of a lotus flower.

Chapter 1211: Killing Big Snake

Han Sen and Bao'er saw the snowball approach them, but before they could react, the snake was right there along with it.

It had a giant mouth with wretched fangs. Its mere breath was pungent enough to slay unsuspecting victims, Han Sen reckoned. And as it loomed over them, it looked ready to swallow them all in one mouthful.

Han Sen's reactions were quick, though. So, grabbing Bao'er, he jumped away with a mighty spring from his muscular legs.

Katcha!

Han Sen and Bao'er's jump landed them in a patch of eggs. Needless to say, many more of them were crushed.

It didn't seem as if the snake could get any angrier, but it did. As the snake wildly thrashed and lunged, Han Sen used his phoenix techniques to dodge. And whenever the opportunity arose, he threw a slash or two back at it with his Phoenix Sword.

Its scales were hardy, though, and each of Han Sen's strikes was no greater than a scrape that produced a number of sparks.

Fortunately, it wasn't as tough as the white ball Han Sen had just been trapped inside, and the sword left behind visible scratches. The attacks made the snake rage even more, though. Now, it was unleashing a strange beam of light.

Han Sen did not know what the beam of light was, but he wasn't keen on finding out. Instead of attempting a block, he avoided it. Then, he sped up time.

Han Sen still hadn't been able to formulate a way in which he could combine space and time, but he could make use of them individually. Given the circumstances, speeding up time was the best choice for the situation.

Han Sen dodged the light successfully, but the weirdest thing happened. The light itself looked alive, and it followed Han Sen in his evasion.

And as it came for him, the snake slithered up behind Han Sen to attack his back. As Han Sen peered into that light, he thought he could see something inside it. There was a figure, but it was carried and cloaked by a black smoke that swirled as the light moved.

As the snake came for Han Sen, the snowball ran to the cave's exit and laughed at the two it had left to a grizzly fate. But when the snowball turned around to leave, the snake's tail whipped it back inside the cave.

The snowball's body was not half as strong as the ball. After it was whacked into a wall, its mouth spilled blood.

Han Sen knew the snake would kill them all in that cave if things didn't get any better. And a strange thought nagged at the back of his mind. If the eggs all belonged to the snake, why would it attack in the first place?

They had destroyed a lot of the eggs, but as the snake madly thrashed and struck at them, it was definitely destroying many more. Even if it was cruel enough to attack its babies, Han Sen had crushed a lot of them and not received any announcements.

Han Sen thought there was more to the situation, and the eggs, than met the eye.

The snake continued to go after him, but the light had changed target and gone towards the snowball. The snowball turned into a white ball to protect itself again. Inside the white ball, the snowball's speed was much faster, in addition to the grand amount of protection it was granted.

The snake knew it was hiding, though. So, it left Han Sen for a moment so it could bite the ball. The poison broke it, resulting in the snowball limply falling out again.

Han Sen was shocked, seeing this. His sixteen coin power was not as strong as the snake's bite, it seemed. But when he looked closer, Han Sen acknowledged it was not the sharpness of the teeth and power of the bite that ruined the white ball, but the venom.

After the snowball's white ball was bitten and the furry fiend rolled out, it was then hit by the light that was still chasing after it. It approached slow and eerily, but the attack it actually delivered was like a missile.

Something inside the black smoke hit the snowball, and when the black smoke dissipated for a moment, he saw that the smoke had hidden a transparent orb. It was roughly the size of a fist, and transparent like the most perfect of untarnished crystals.

It was difficult to imagine such a dirty mouth could produce something so clean. The crystal looked pure, but when it hit the snowball, it was like the creature's fur was instantly melted.

The snowball formed another white ball in a bid to block the freakish orb, but it didn't help. The orb struck the white ball and produced a hole inside it.

"The crystal orb can't be the snake's weapon, can it? Is that its gear? Is that the treasure?" Han Sen gasped in shock.

The snake clearly did not want him to watch this, so when the snake's beady eyes met with Han Sen's greedy gaze, it lashed its tail towards him.

Han Sen knew the power of the snake was something supreme, so he dodged the tail and summoned Disloyal Knight and his Little Angel. And then, Han Sen summoned a bunch of coins to suppress the snake. It was covered in them, resulting in it having to move at a much slower pace.

The venom was very bad for the white, ball-creating cretin, but it wasn't as much as a threat for Han Sen. The snake was just another, run-of-the-mill super creature to Han Sen.

The Disloyal Knight used its halo to reduce the snake's speed even more. The Little Angel flapped her wings after this and delivered a grand slash across the snake's head as she flew past it. The reptile gushed blood in response.

Han Sen then used his Phoenix Sword to add more damage to the wound the Little Angel had created.

Roar! The snake started to thrash and rage all around, with violent shakes that sent Han Sen flying away. The Phoenix Sword was pulled out, resulting in an even greater cascade of blood.

The snake lost its composure and bashed the cavern wall, shaking the entire mountain.

Chapter 1212: Ghost-Toxic Chi Egg

"Super Creature Ghost-Toxic Chi killed. No beast soul gained. The flesh of this creature is inedible, but you may harvest its Life Geno Essence. Consume its Life Geno Essence to gain zero to ten super geno points randomly."

When the Little Angel delivered one last strike to the snake's head, the announcement rang inside Han Sen's head. The snake's body decomposed, leaving a black Life Geno Essence behind. Han Sen took it and placed it in his pocket. Then he walked forward.

The crystal ball had incinerated all the hair across the snowball's body, but it stopped torturing the creature when Little Angel finished off the snake. If it hadn't, the snowball would have surely have been killed.

Seeing Han Sen approach victorious, the snowball summoned another white ball for protection and tried to leg it out of there.

The ball moved slowly, though, and Han Sen was quick to step on it.

Han Sen slashed the ball, but it did not break. It looked like the ball was just as strong, despite the fact that the creature that summoned it had been hurt. But given the reduced movement speed, at least that was dependent on the host.

Han Sen picked up the crystal ball that now lay on the ground, motionless. It must have been the treasure Ghost-Toxic Chi had created.

It looked like a fine, pure crystal, but it continued to produce a black smoke. Han Sen put his energy into the orb, and when he did, a strange connection was established. He was now able to control it.

Han Sen commanded it to move over to the white ball. It did, and when it landed on top of the white ball, it produced a neat puncture.

The snowball tried to flee again, but Bao'er stopped it this time.

Han Sen picked up a number of dry branches that were scattered about the cave, put them together and started a fire. Then, he boiled a pot of hot water. The snowball was tied up next to it. Han Sen was going to wash it and then spitroast it later.

Bao'er watched the snowball as Han Sen took the time to investigate the curious snake eggs.

There were so many eggs there, and there was no doubt in Han Sen's mind that Ghost-Toxic Chi would have been the undisputed king of the Third God's Sanctuary if even half of those eggs could have resulted in the birth of a super creature. But those eggs, no matter how many were destroyed, did not provide Han Sen an announcement.

Han Sen picked up another one and crushed it, to a dismal silence. He did, however, detect a weak lifeforce within. Han Sen had no clues what they were, so he summoned Dragon King and asked him. Perhaps he could elucidate a few things.

It had been a while since Han Sen consulted him, so the first thing Dragon King said was, "It was a mistake! I will never be so presumptuous ever again."

“Look at this. What is it?” Han Sen did not care too much for what he had just been told.

Dragon King examined the eggs that were all around. He moved up to them and examined them closely. He looked happy, and he said, “These are super creature eggs!”

“Super creature eggs? But killing them provided me with no announcement,” Han Sen said.

Dragon King explained, “Well, most of them are just dummy eggs.”

“What is a dummy egg?” Han Sen asked.

“Super creatures don’t just spit out babies all in the same way. Many creatures birth them in different ways, and their nesting protocols and habits differ, too. Super creatures can produce a lot of eggs, but not all of them bear life. Usually, just one egg can absorb an essence and become a proper super creature. The rest of the produced eggs are pretty much just food, all for the super creature when it is born. In their abundance, they can also hide the proper super creature egg before it is born. Hence, the term ‘dummy.’” Dragon King paused for a moment, and then went on to say, “One, somewhere in here, is a super creature egg. I can’t believe you have gone to such great lengths, all for little old me. What is this creature, may I ask?”

Han Sen did not respond to that, but he asked, “How do I tell which is the proper super creature egg?”

“Well, that can be difficult. It can look exactly the same as the dummy eggs, but super creatures who don’t appreciate the concept of hiding in plain sight tend to keep them in a special place.” Dragon King then started to fly around in search of it.

But Dragon King, after a lengthy search, was unable to find it. The cave was a mess.

“Did the proper egg find itself scrambled in the midst of the fight earlier?” Dragon King asked.

“If it was, it shouldn’t be difficult to find.” Han Sen smiled.

“How?” Dragon King asked.

Han Sen raised a coin and broke one egg, saying, “We’ll find out when I get the announcement.”

Han Sen then raised his hand, ready to produce more coins and destroy more eggs.

Dragon King started flying around trying to cover the eggs like a concerned mother, pleading, “No! No! No! I’ll find a way. Such needless destruction is so... needless!”

Woof! Woof! Woof! The fluffy snowball started to bark.

Han Sen looked at it, and it seemed as if the creature had something to add to their discussion. Bao’er had a whip, and she lashed it. But the furry pleader still requested Han Sen’s attention and woofed again.

Han Sen used his dongxuan aura to read the creature’s mind and heard, “I know where the Ghost-Toxic Chi’s egg is!”

Han Sen frowned. That creature was most certainly something special, and if it wasn't for the poisonous property the snake possessed, he doubted a berserk super creature would have the strength to penetrate the white balls it produced on a whim.

If he killed it for the beast soul, Han Sen couldn't be certain he'd receive what he wanted. If he added the creature to his roster of pets, though, it could be useful.

However, it had proven itself to be evil. Han Sen couldn't be so quick to trust it.

Chapter 1213: Blood Contract

"Dragon King, are there any better ways to control a super creature?" Han Sen asked.

Dragon King was quick to misinterpret his words and he said, "Don't worry; when you get me a new body, I would never betray you. A sordid deed such as that would not even flicker in the depths of my most wretched nightmares. And you, sir, are an inspiration. You are as mighty as a giant! You are a role model to me, of sorts."

Han Sen pointed at the furry critter.

Dragon King, now understanding his true request, then said, "Yes, but it requires their approval. You can't commandeer their respect to control them."

Han Sen knew there had to be another method, one that was a little more wicked. But Dragon King was most likely afraid to tell him.

"Spit it out, then." Han Sen didn't force Dragon King to tell him the nasty method, as he wasn't in the business of being unnecessarily cruel to creatures or animals.

Dragon King answered, "It's a simple affair, but it requires their blood."

"Just tell me," Han Sen said.

Dragon King explained to Han Sen what he had to do.

This method required a willing participant. And after Han Sen tried it out, it worked just as he was told it would. Perhaps it was because of his attunement with the Blood-Pulse Sutra, but he was able to do it successfully.

Han Sen felt relieved, learning he could use it. If he hadn't been able to control the snowball, he would have had to just kill it. He needed to know he could control the snowball and its powers properly. Otherwise, it could be a threat to him and others.

Han Sen then let Dragon King continue his search for the egg. In the meantime, Han Sen went to speak with the snowball. He first asked it, "Do you understand the words that are coming out of my mouth?"

The snowball's face squinted, indicating that for better or for worse, it understood Han Sen. The snowball slowly nodded. This creature was unique, and it was rather intelligent in comparison to its peers.

"Good. Now, do you want to be spit-roasted? Or perhaps made into a lovely stew? I mean, it's either that, or you submit and adhere to my commands, under the oath of a contract. The choice is yours." Han Sen spoke these words with a surprisingly menacing tone of voice.

The snowball looked at the boiling pot of water and the fire below it, and then turned back to face Han Sen. It nodded, opting for door number three.

Han Sen pulled out his Phoenix Sword and cut its body a little. The snowball whined and cried as this happened.

Then, Han Sen summoned its blood towards him. He laughed and mocked, "You are such a wimp! You're the first super creature I've ever seen to cry like a baby."

The blood landed in a vortex, swirling above his hand. Then, it was absorbed with no mess. In that spot on his hand now rested an image of the snowball he had taken under contract.

"Come on!" Han Sen reached out his hand.

The snowball then spat out a white light which mixed with the fresh symbol on Han Sen's hand. The symbol began to shiver and shake, and eventually, it faded from his skin.

The snowball then collapsed on the floor as if it had just been abused.

When Han Sen put the snowball back in his mind, the symbol reappeared on his hand. When this occurred, the snowball started to squeal. When Han Sen shelved his nasty thought, the symbol disappeared again. And after this, the snowball stopped its squealing, too.

Han Sen quite liked this method of gaining proper control and ownership of a creature, but he figured it wouldn't be something he could do very often. Most super creatures would probably opt for the stew, as they weren't afraid of death.

Han Sen then pointed at Dragon King, and he said to the snowball, "Take me to it. You know what I'm talking about."

The snowball stood up and walked towards the exit of the cave.

"You're leaving already? You didn't even look yet!" Dragon King called out.

"We're only having a look outside. You remain here." Han Sen then followed the snowball out of the cave.

Dragon King had almost gotten Han Sen killed before, and with the egg most likely providing him with a few super geno points, it was the price the spirit had to pay. If Han Sen could work a blood contract on Dragon King, he'd probably give him the egg. But the terms of their relationship were still shaky at best.

"Okay!" Dragon King answered, then returned his focus to the search of that egg.

Han Sen didn't hate Dragon King. He knew he wasn't as graceful and intelligent as his name suggested, but he did have a lot of knowledge. His past blunders didn't wholly negate his worth to Han Sen. And now, with Dragon King wholeheartedly believing the egg to reside inside the cave, it could have been another mistake, as the snowball seemed to believe it was outside the cave.

And with the snowball's life in his hands, he thought it'd be fine. He didn't think he'd be deliberately led astray.

On the outside, Han Sen was led to another cave and another set of winding tunnels. When they reached the entrance to a particularly cavernous chamber, the snowball pointed inside.

Han Sen did indeed find an egg there, but it looked like any ordinary one.

The egg was inside a pool of water, which waved and splashed.

"Hey snowball, your name is Snowball. Snowball, is there something wrong with the water?" Han Sen asked.

Snowball nodded and then shook his head. He barked and walked near it.

Because Snowball's thoughts were weak, Han Sen could not see what exactly what he was thinking, but it looked as if he was going to grab the egg on his behalf.

When Snowball went near the water, something came out of the pool.

Han Sen was shocked. A red rose suddenly splashed out of the water.

Chapter 1214: Thorn is Born

A red rose burst forth and stood erect in the pool. Its lifeforce was strange, wavering queerly between powerful and weak.

Snowball approached the pool, but he was clearly afraid of this enigmatic flower. As Han Sen observed the rose, he felt a rumble come from his Sea of Soul.

Thorn Baron, who had eaten the Flying Mushroom and gone into a slumber, was beginning to shine with a powerful light. From her figure, thorny vines began to form.

"Is Thorn Baron evolving? Has she become a king spirit?" Han Sen looked on the light in wonder.

The Flying Mushroom provided a chance for spirits to evolve and become king spirits. It was a supremely rare herb, and the percentage chance of success was low. Thorn Baron had king spirit geno points already, though, so her chance of success was slightly increased.

Pang!

The light that veiled her shattered, and then the vines began to wreathe amongst themselves to create a sphere. Within that wicker-like orb, you could see the figure of a person inside.

The vines then started to fall with the delicate grace of petals. Thorn Baron's body was revealed, bit by bit. When Han Sen's eyes were able to rest upon the bosom that graced Thorn Baron's pale and voluptuously curvy body, his heart began to race.

Thorn Baron's eyes were different from those naturally possessed by humans, as her pupils were shaped like flowers. As beautiful as they were, they hinted at a streak of danger and gravitas.

Thorn Baron arose from her bed of vines with a body that stole the eyes and did not allow them to be turned away. When she stepped forward, the vines and thorns dressed her body and covered up her lady parts.

Her long legs, s*xy arms, and slim waist were still plain to see, though, and Han Sen made sure to soak his eyes in the vat of beauty that was her appearance. She was like a botanical bikini model.

Han Sen summoned her and told her, "Thorn Baron, no... Thorn Queen. Congratulations are in order!"

Thorn Queen bowed and said, "I have to thank you for providing me with the Flying Mushroom. It is a gift and blessing I will never forget."

Han Sen wanted to reply, but before he could, Thorn Queen spoke again in surprise. She said, "Master, why is there an Equinox Flower here?"

"You recognize this flower? Magnificent timing, then." Han Sen was delightfully surprised.

"Emperors exist amongst the ranks of king spirits; there is a similar hierarchy to be found in the realm of plantlife. Few spirits can be born an emperor, but many plants can. The Equinox Flower is a famous emperor-class plant. It has birthed right here before you, and it is already an emperor."

Thorn Queen paused for a moment, but then went on to say, "Even if a king spirit approached it, their power could be drawn and fed upon by the flower. It is dangerous."

"What does the equinox refer to?" Han Sen asked.

"No one knows. But not even an emperor would dare approach it. It may be a space geno plant, and the equinox refers to a place it has created," Thorn Queen said.

Thorn Queen then noticed the presence of the egg and Snowball. She said, "Has that egg been growing in the pool belonging to an Equinox Flower? That is most strange. How is such a thing possible? It must be a mutation of some kind."

"The egg belonged to a creature called Ghost-Toxic Chi," Han Sen told her.

Thorn Queen responded with an admittance. "I don't know what that is, I am afraid. But it must have been a berserk super creature; an evolution stemming from some mutation, of sorts."

Thorn Queen looked at Snowball, who was currently swimming towards the egg, and she said, "That's strange. I am surprised to see it hasn't gotten lost, swimming so near that flower."

"If I take the egg, will the creature that hatches be a berserk super creature?" Han Sen asked.

Thorn Queen said, "It is still growing. If you remove it now, I don't think so."

"Snowball! Get back here, you mutt." Han Sen preferred to wait until it was a berserk super creature before taking it.

But it seemed as if Snowball couldn't hear Han Sen, and so he kept on swimming.

Han Sen was angered by this disobedience, but before he could use his blood contract to hurt him, Thorn Queen said, "He is in the Hellpool. Believe it or not, he treads the waters of another dimension. He cannot hear you."

Han Sen was surprised hearing this, to say the least.

Thorn Queen gave Han Sen a warm smile, and then she comforted him, saying, "But do not worry. Perhaps I can be of service here."

Thorn Queen reached out her hand and took aim at Snowball. A lengthy vine extended from it, which wriggled through the sky until it reached Snowball. Then, it grabbed the creature and lifted it out.

Snowball was dropped on the ground in front of Han Sen in confusion. Not everything was able to tread the Hellpool to collect something, and Snowball genuinely wanted to please Han Sen.

For him to be picked up by a sudden vine, he initially thought it was the Equinox Flower looking to make a meal out of him. But it was Han Sen's spirit that had done so, and what surprised Snowball the most was the fact that another spirit was able to traverse the Hellpool.

"Thorn, how long will it take for the egg to hatch?" Han Sen asked. His primary purpose for even coming to this place was to find Little Silver.

"At least a hundred years." Thorn Queen answered.

"A hundred years? That long?!" Han Sen frowned.

Thorn Queen bowed and said, "I have a request. I hope you can approve it."

"What is it?" Han Sen was happy to oblige because he liked her a lot, especially when compared to the scheming and conniving Moment Queen.

"I am hoping you will allow me to take that Equinox Flower," Thorn Queen said.

Chapter 1215: Equinox Hellpool

“You can take it?” Han Sen asked.

“Even though it is associated with the element of space, its existence was wrought with thorn genes. I am associated with the element of thorns, and I am a king spirit. While it is still young, I can take it.” Thorn Queen paused for a moment, before going on to say, “With this flower, I might even become an emperor. Although the chance of that occurring is low, it is better than leaving it here for naught.”

“If you can take it, then by all means do,” Han Sen politely told her. If she could really become an emperor, it was a win-win for them both.

“Thank you.” Thorn Queen looked incredibly happy, and she jovially pranced over towards the hellpool.

Han Sen watched as her legs began to grow vines. They stroked the water, allowing her to glide across to where the flower was. The pool was only ten meters wide, and the flower was at its center. But strangely, she had to walk over ten thousand steps in her voyage towards it.

“Weird,” Han Sen thought to himself.

Bao'er sat on Han Sen's shoulder. She looked at Thorn Queen and the flower, but she did not seem at all interested in it.

Snowball watched Thorn Queen, too, but his attitude was different. He knew about this place, and the mysteries it held, so he was more than surprised to see that Thorn Queen had the ability to cross the hellpool. He had never seen another being able to do such a thing before.

As for the egg, it had not rolled itself there, so something must have had a hand in its placement.

Perhaps the mother Ghost-Toxic Chi had some association with the pool, but without appropriate cause or reason, it seemed unlikely that a mother would place her egg here, of all places.

Snowball could go there because he was special, and he didn't think there was any danger for him, as long as he did not venture too close to the flower.

Amidst Snowball's surprise, Thorn Queen had managed to reach the flower and pick it up. The flower had no roots, and it was very much like a cut rose one could purchase. It looked like a simple act to the eyes of most, but it was something that shocked Snowball.

Snowball had seen many other super creatures attempt to grab the flower, but they had disappeared into the nether. And now, it had effortlessly been picked up by someone he had never seen before.

Han Sen was disappointed, though. She made the flower sound so mysterious, but there was no spectacle when she retrieved it. But directly after the flower was collected, a snake-like creature appeared. It swam towards the flower that had been collected with great haste.

The waters swirled to form a wave that splashed towards the flower. But when the waters surrounded it, they formed together to create a single waterdrop. Then, it gracefully fell inside.

“Master! I will keep the egg in the hellwater. You may take it whenever you decide,” Thorn Queen said as she took the flower.

“Okay. Understood.” Han Sen then returned Thorn Queen to the Sea of Soul and took Bao’er with him as he exited the cave.

Dragon King, as all this had been occurring, was still looking for the egg by himself. Han Sen went to sit someplace where he wouldn’t be bothered and started to absorb the Ghost-Toxic Chi’s Life Geno Essence.

“Life Geno Essence Absorbed; Super Geno Point +1.”

The Life Geno Essence provided Han Sen five super geno points, in total. This brought his total tally up to the number of thirty-three.

The results of this venture had satisfied Han Sen a lot. He had obtained toxic gear and five super geno points, and he had managed to obtain a new pet in the form of Snowball.

The Equinox Flower and the possibilities it held were just the icing on the cake. If it hadn’t been for the flower, he wagered Thorn Queen would not have finished her evolution yet.

“Where is it? Where is it? Did you find it?” Dragon King said.

He had looked into every nook and cranny but been unsuccessful in his search for the super creature egg.

Han Sen knew this, and he told him, “Nope. I’m starting to think we’ll never find it, either. If you tell me the whole story, concerning Asura and Ancient Devil, I might be more inclined to continue the search and feel compelled to help you out.”

Dragon King said to Han Sen, “Isn’t that convenient. I bet you already have it, don’t you?”

Han Sen responded by saying, “Before I let you out, I didn’t even know what a dummy egg was. How would I know which is the correct egg, even if I did come across it?”

Dragon King didn’t believe Han Sen, though. If he hadn’t found the egg, he wouldn’t have offered such a bargain. But Han Sen didn’t care too much about what he thought.

“Tell me the story and I’ll help. That’s the bottom line here,” Han Sen said.

Han Sen thought he’d be willing to do anything for a new body, but Dragon King simply gritted his teeth and returned to the ring of his own volition.

“What happened, I wonder? Why is he not willing to say a word about this matter?” Han Sen thought to himself.

Han Sen only wanted to find out the relationship between the shura and Asura.

If he could figure out the connection there, it’d help elucidate many other pressing questions and mysteries he had.

But with Dragon King still firm in keeping his mouth shut, there was nothing Han Sen could do right now. So, Han Sen turned his attention back to Snowball and said to him, “Take me to the peak.”

Snowball looked scared, and he shook his little head.

Han Sen knew this creature was something of a wimp, so he ended up having to use the contract to force Snowball to lead him up. Snowball no longer had a choice regarding anything anymore.

Chapter 1216: Ancient Tower

Snowball left the cave alongside Han Sen, being forced to guide him up the mountain. To reach the peak of the mountain, they would have to tread a steep and precarious path.

The path was only one foot wide, and on either side of that treacherous track was nothing but the expanse of mist no eyes could peer through. Even Snowball took his steps carefully.

Han Sen knew Snowball had the ability to fly, but he seemed to favor walking. Han Sen didn’t question him too much, and just opted to walk along with him. But Han Sen thought there had to be a better way up than this, and so he wondered why Snowball was so resolute in his determination to take this particular trail.

Han Sen thought the furry thing was trying to stall and waste time by taking that slow, plodding, and oh-so reckless route, but after a while, he noticed the absence of creature noises. It was very quiet on that path.

“This guy is a coward. He’d rather risk breaking his neck in a fall than take a route that might lead us through trails inhabited by monsters.” Despite this thought, Han Sen was starting to grow fond of the little guy.

The purple mist grew thicker the further they went, until it was almost as thick as a mucus that clogged their vision. It eventually got so bad that Han Sen could not even see his fingers in front of his face. At this point, Han Sen had to abandon his sight and rely on his ears. He followed the sounds of Snowball’s little footsteps the rest of the way.

And of course, for extra security, lest he make a fatal slip, he hugged every single wall he could.

After a while of this, Han Sen’s eyes eventually caught sight of something very bright piercing through the mist. It was so bright, he initially had to raise his hand as a shield.

A little further along, they left the mist. That was when they saw the giant black peak of the mountain, pointing heavenward like a craggy fist to the skies.

“This mountain is massive. What in the sanctuaries is this mysterious place, I wonder?” Han Sen gazed up, and at this point, he realized he was treading what might best be described as the mere foothills of the mountain.

They walked and walked through the day and into the bosom of night. After dark, they reached the peak.

They hadn’t seen a single creature on their way. Whether there truly was an absence of creatures, or Snowball had just opted for a route that avoided them, Han Sen could not tell.

But as he poked around on the peak for a bit, it wasn’t too long before surprise struck once more.

There was a tower protruding from the craggy ground. What’s more, it looked to have been the product of human handiwork. It was only two meters tall, but there was a tiny door.

The blue bricks the tower had been constructed of were caked with what seemed like rust. Whatever this tower was, it was old. Snowball approached the tower and began to kowtow before the door, as if it was earnestly begging for forgiveness.

Han Sen knew to be wary of whatever might reside in that tower, so he didn’t stand too close. He was here for the silver fox, and he wasn’t going to take any chances. He ensured there was nothing too odd hiding in the immediate vicinity, and checked the slopes of the mountain for a sign of his missing companion.

As he eyed the slopes, though, Han Sen caught sight of two shadows.

They were two super creatures Han Sen had never seen before. They were both massive in size, and they fought together like crazy. As they battled, the mist around them swirled like a vortex.

Strangely, the combat was silenced as all sound had been before. It was as if nothing was going on.

Han Sen did not think the creatures would finish their fight anytime soon, so he continued his search. He wanted to find Little Silver and the missing inhabitants of Ghost Mountain.

But aside from those two creatures, which were occupied enough with themselves, there did not seem to be anything else alive there.

“Are they stuck in the mist, maybe?” Han Sen wondered.

Because he was unable to find anyone, Han Sen decided to turn back and go for those two fighting monsters. He fancied slipping in and taking advantage of their situation to kill them both and reap any spoils he could.

They both looked very strong. One was covered in black scales and possessed deer antlers on its head. It looked like a water-based kirin.

The other was purple, and it crackled with lightning. Its appearance was slightly more amusing, as it looked almost like an electrified squirrel.

The water and lightning clashed together but did not explode or cause a reaction. Instead, the two powers ended up distorting the very aspects of the dimension the two fighters operated in.

Han Sen had seen creatures with these elements before, but he had never seen them fight against each other.

As Han Sen watched the two, he felt something pull his hair. In response, he immediately said, "Stop it, Bao'er."

But a few moments later, it happened once again. And when he turned to look at Bao'er, he noticed her hands caressing his chest. It couldn't have been her fiddling with his hair.

Han Sen had a shiver run down his spine. He had no idea what might have been behind him, grabbing his hair. Han Sen turned to his side to look at Snowball, who was on the ground, quivering in fear with a look of shock at something else that was behind Han Sen.

"What is behind me?" Han Sen opened his nine gene locks and threw a punch backwards

. **Chapter 1217: Bone Scroll**

Han Sen first thought it was Bao'er that had been tugging his hair, but he was holding her against his chest. Realizing this, he knew it couldn't have been her.

When he saw Snowball's frightened face, he knew something was wrong. It was at this moment instinct kicked in, and he threw a punch backwards to see what may have lurked behind him.

But when he lashed out, nothing met with his fist. And when he looked at what might have been behind him, there was nothing.

Han Sen lifted Bao'er up and said, "Bao'er is there anything behind me?"

Han Sen thought that whatever was behind him might have clung to his back and turned around with him.

Bao'er climbed around to inspect his back and simply said, "Nope."

"No?" Han Sen went over and kicked Snowball. Then, he boorishly asked him, "Did you see something?"

Snowball was still shivering in fear. The furry cretin pointed at the ancient tower and then suddenly leaped upon Han Sen's shoulder to hide. Han Sen looked over to that mysterious building, but he couldn't spot anything amiss with it.

That being said, he could only see one side of the tower from where he was standing. So, he decided to walk around it. Han Sen was only half way in his walk towards the tower when the small rotten door suddenly flung itself open.

Inside, a human skeleton was sitting on a decrepit chair. Han Sen now thought the small size of the door made sense. It seemed perfectly sized for the skeleton inside. The height was snug enough for the skeleton to sit down just beyond the door frame.

“I doubt it was this bonehead being playful, pulling my hair.” Han Sen’s skin still flared with goosebumps at the spooky sight.

Han Sen wasn’t afraid of the possibility of a ghost, but what was really starting to unnerve him was the fact he hadn’t noticed or sensed anything approach him.

But suddenly, the skeleton began to move. At this point, Snowball tucked itself behind Bao’er in absolute fear.

A few loose rags were all that clothed the skeleton, and even those shreds were ripped further when the skeleton began to move. The skeleton stood up and walked outside the tower, as its sockets flickering with a light before burning hot with a green flame.

Han Sen was not afraid of the skeleton. In fact, he looked forward to its coming, as it held something in its hands.

It was a scroll. Han Sen could not tell what it was exactly, but it was most certainly a scroll of sorts. The cloth had yellowed over the passage of time. The skeleton walked outside, lifted its hands, and opened the scroll.

Han Sen could only see the back of it, and while it looked very old, it did look to be in remarkable condition. Han Sen could not see what was written on the front just yet, but he could hear the skeleton speak. Strangely, its mumbling was not silenced, like everything else had been.

Ka-Ka-Ka!

After perking his ears to discern some words, Han Sen realized he had been mistaken. The skeleton wasn’t speaking, its jaw just had a loose hinge that was rattling in the mountain breeze.

But even that didn’t seem right. Immediately after that noise was made, the scroll began to shine with a purple color. Han Sen felt a horrible power flow from the scroll, so he didn’t fancy hanging around any longer than he had to. He decided to flee the area.

If it was a berserk super creature, things would go awry for sure.

There were a lot of creatures at the bottom of the mountain, and if Han Sen battled the skeleton and won, it might allay the fears of the other creatures. He’d be doing them a favor.

Of course, Han Sen wouldn't stand for that. So he decided to run towards the two creatures that were still battling each other and flee that way. Perhaps they could slow the skeleton down if it continued coming for him.

Pang!

Han Sen was ready to jump off the peak and descend, but he had run directly into an invisible wall. He was going as fast as he could and whacked against it solidly, which caused his flattened nose to start bleeding.

Han Sen then noticed a purple line had been drawn on the ground. It was almost like a crack in the earth, and it was starting to emit a purple mist. Slowly, the plumes of this phantom mist began to envelop the entire peak.

Han Sen looked back towards the tower and saw that the skeleton had not moved much, and it was still reading the scroll which had become even brighter by this point.

Ready for a fight, Han Sen summoned Little Angel and Disloyal Knight. Then, he drew his Phoenix Sword and Taia to slash the invisible wall and see if he could break it.

He struck the purple wall many times with his swords, and he seemed to make some progress. But just when Han Sen thought he could escape, the wall recovered its strength and rebuilt, trapping the Phoenix Sword inside.

Fortunately, the Phoenix Sword was very sharp, and Han Sen was able to wiggle and cut its way free and retrieve it.

Han Sen wasn't going to be reckless and risk getting himself stuck in the wall, though, so he shelved the idea of hacking through it for now.

If he couldn't get out of the established barrier, he'd have Little Angel deal with the skeleton. As he thought about the different ways he could deal with the predicament at hand, a purple light appeared beneath his foot.

Then, a purple light began to beam across the entire peak, transforming the entire area into what looked like a purple crystal. The only thing that had not been bathed in a purple light was the creepy tower.

Chapter 1218: The Mountain Changes

Hen Sen watched the purple ground glow and stand still as something moved below the earth.

Inside the rock of the mountain, he could discern a shadow. What it was, he could not yet tell. It was human in shape, hovering horizontally as if it were lying down. It was a Lynchian sight; one that unnerved him.

As he stared down at the crystallized ground, he heard a katcha sound. Then, the crystal underfoot began to web with cracks. The cracks spread across the peak as if they were netting it, like the keen silkworms of a spider. Eventually, it all shattered and left a deep hole in the ground.

Only the tower remained firm and standing. Everywhere else was suddenly tossed into ruin and dusty chaos.

Han Sen and Little Angel had taken flight and watched the scene unfold from the sky.

The hole seemed bottomless, and what might have resided way down in the pitch black depths of that place, Han Sen could not tell. There was only one place they could see that was unaffected.

There was a floating purple platform perched above the black abyss that had just formed. Atop it stood a handsome man clad in purple armor. His eyelashes were very long, and he was a drop-dead gorgeous man to look upon.

Han Sen had seen many handsome shura and spirits in his time, but they all paled in comparison to this person. The strangest thing was the fact that Han Sen was detecting a human energy radiating from him.

“Is he human?” Han Sen asked himself, as he looked at him.

“Was he trapped here by the skeleton?” Han Sen continued to wonder.

The human opened his eyes to reveal black pits, painting him as an even more mystic and enticing person. The skeleton had stopped reading the scroll at this point. He put it away before walking forward to approach the man on the platform.

When the skeleton had nearly reached the platform, the man still hadn't moved. He still looked a little unconscious, lying down as if in peaceful slumber.

“He must have been trapped by the skeleton; he had to have been!” Han Sen unsheathed his swords and rushed forward to attack the skeleton. He didn't want the man to get hurt.

Little Angel and Disloyal Knight accompanied Han Sen in the assault. But when the skeleton saw them coming, it quickly re-opened the scroll and prohibited their advance.

Han Sen finally saw the scroll and what it contained when the skeleton used it again. The words upon the scroll were gold, and it was written in an ancient language of the Alliance.

He could recognize this due to his study of languages in his time away from the sanctuaries.

Dong!

The Phoenix Sword and Taia, the Angel Sword, and Disloyal Knight's fist were thrown forward to break the scroll, but none were effective. Following this, a fight erupted, and not even the combined might of the three had what it took to tackle the skeleton.

Han Sen was shocked, seeing how the scroll could block them all. Little Angel had ten gene locks open, which made her the strongest of the three. So, it was frightening to think what power the skeleton might have truly possessed if it was able to repel and subdue the trio.

The green flames that surged inside the skeleton's sockets raged, and they flared as if the skeleton was angry about their disturbance. It started to enshroud itself in a black smoke of sorts, and it didn't take long for the smoke to cover its entire body.

The smoke eventually took the form of armor, which suited up the skeleton. With the fire that followed it, the skeleton looked like the reaper geared up for war. The skeleton, in its dark armor, gave off a terrible, frightening aura. Sensing the power its scrawny body actually wielded, Han Sen's face turned grim.

Snowball was hidden in Bao'er's chest as this happened. Bao'er had already brought out the gourd, but for some reason, she did not yet use it.

Han Sen rarely encountered foes that filled him with such a sense of dread or that exuded such power. Such enemies were few and far in-between, but without a shadow of a doubt, the skeleton was one of that prestigious few. It was up there with the likes of Big Mara in the Ancient Devil Shelter, Xiang Yin who went to the Fourth God's Sanctuary, and Sky King of the Sky Tree.

They were beings that had opened ten gene locks, and this skeleton's energy was just like them. It was just as powerful.

Han Sen would have liked to run, but the area he was in had been cordoned off with the transparent, purple walls.

Seeing the skeleton now approach him, Han Sen planned to use his super king spirit mode to attempt an escape alongside Little Angel. But then, curiously, the skeleton stopped in its tracks.

The skeleton turned its attention back to the platform, as the person in slumber woke up.

The man yawned, as if he really had been roused from a long, deep sleep. After he stretched, he looked at Han Sen with much surprise.

Boom!

The black-armored skeleton ran to the purple platform. With its speed, it really must have been an emperor.

Han Sen shouted to the man, saying, "Watch out!"

What transpired in the next second, though, shook Han Sen to his very core. It left him speechless and motionless. He stared at the man on the platform in disbelief. He thought he must have been dreaming, to witness something such like that happen.

The skeleton in black armor did not try to attack the man, it just knelt before him like a knight in a king's service.

"Is he really a human?" Han Sen looked at the platform in deep contemplation.

Chapter 1219: Xuan Men's Successor

As Han Sen wondered whether or not he should escape, the man spoke with eyes fixed on him in observation. "I cannot believe Xuan Men still exists."

The repeated shocks of this entire scenario had rattled Han Sen's nerves, but he responded to the man and asked, "You are of Xuan Men?"

Han Sen only knew one other person of Xuan Men, and that was Dongxuan Zi. It surprised Han Sen to hear the man suggest he was of Xuan Men.

"Is this someone else who managed to break through the vacuum?" Han Sen wondered to himself, thinking the situation to be almost unreal.

If breaking through the vacuum was easy to do, there'd be far more people like Dongxuan Zi. This man looked incredibly powerful, though, especially with the black skeleton by his side.

The man smiled and said, "You know a technique belonging to Xuan Men, don't you? There is only one Xuan Men."

Han Sen bowed respectfully and said, "I am Han Sen. I am very grateful and fortunate to have learned a skill that belonged to Xuan Men. May I ask what your name is?"

The man sighed and did not answer. Instead, he said, "People of Xuan Men studied hard, but ever since the Dongxuan Master, all anyone ever did was seek to break through the vacuum. The integrity and philosophy of the group did not matter to anyone much, after that. And with everyone else failing to break through the vacuum, I had thought only I remained."

"Did you? Did you break through the vacuum?" Han Sen asked.

"If I did, I'd be in heaven," the man said.

Han Sen guessed that the man was someone from the Alliance, and a true heir of Xuan Men.

People from Xuan Men thought Dongxuan Zi went to heaven, but they had no idea the place he had broken into was actually the sanctuary. There, in the first sanctuary, he died.

Dongxuan Zi had practiced hard his entire life and was a figure of great admiration, but compared to the average power of people in this day and age, he could be regarded as little more than a common weakling. It was no trouble for anyone to survive the First God's Sanctuary, anymore.

Han Sen thought the technological advancements of humanity had yielded great results, but he never thought it would have been so difficult for them to break through the vacuum.

The man then asked, "Han Sen, right? Where did you learn Xuan Men?"

"I was fortunate enough to stumble across an ancient scroll in an antique shop. There was no name on it, so I had no idea who wrote it," Han Sen provided his curated answer.

If Han Sen told him he had received it from Dongxuan Zi, heaven knew what the man might do.

Han Sen didn't know if the teachings he had been given were illicit or forbidden, so he wasn't going to be honest.

The man nodded and just said, "It must be very difficult for you, to make progress without the guiding hand of a teacher."

The man walked towards the tower, looking at the sky. There, he said, "Perhaps I spent more time with Xuan Men than was good for me. Feelings and emotions are almost a foreign concept, now. I am... numb. Dulled like an old blade. I am afraid Xuan Men is in its twilight years, and no true successor will trumpet its name and carry its torch onwards."

The man went on to say, "Perhaps it was fate for you and I to meet here on this mountaintop."

The man then pulled out an item and threw it to Han Sen.

Han Sen caught the item and noticed it was a memory card.

The man said, "Consider that a compendium of my knowledge regarding all things about Xuan Men, skills included."

Han Sen was delighted to receive this, so he wholeheartedly thanked him. "Thank you so very much. I am honored to receive this. Would it be boorish of me to request to become a student of yours?"

Han Sen had studied many ancient languages, but the Dongxuan Sutra was still too difficult, even for him.

Now that he had met a member of Xuan Men, he figured he could ask him for elucidations.

The man replied, saying, "I must decline. I don't want to teach, and time is preciously short."

The man continued staring into the sky and said, "I might not have the talent my master had, but I practiced for two hundred years. I can break the door."

Han Sen was shocked, hearing this, and he said, "Are you talking about the door? The door which will allow you to become a demi-god?"

The man smiled and said, "You know about the doors, do you? Men can become demi-gods through the Evolution Pool, but through the practices of Xuan Men, we can use the doors."

The man then told Han Sen, "I cannot be certain if we will meet again. But if you have a question you wish to ask me, ask me now."

Han Sen asked the man about every word he did not know, and he received an answer for each.

Now, Han Sen understood everything in the Dongxuan Sutra he had not known before. His mind envisioned a dam blocking a river, and his new learnings had blown it up, releasing the flow of knowledge.

When Han Sen asked his first questions, though, the man frowned. He said, "Your Xuan Men is different than the one I have. It almost seems as if your Xuan Men does not come from a true member. The card I gave you possesses the real stuff."

Han Sen only nodded. Dongxuan Zi had created the Dongxuan Sutra himself before he died. It was only natural for it to be somewhat different. Han Sen took advantage of this encounter to ask more about the nature of the Dongxuan Sutra, too.

The sun rose before long, though, and it prompted the man to hurry things along, saying, "You can ask me one more question."

Han Sen devised his final question and asked, "Back in the day, aside from Xuan Men, were there any other large factions?"

The man did not expect Han Sen to ask this, so he said, "Back then, there weren't any sanctuaries. Even if there had been, new stuff to learn included, the practices of their ways and methods would be difficult. Aside from us, there is only one more I can think of."

"Which one would that be?" Han Sen asked.

"Blood Legion. If you meet any of its successors, watch yourself! Their skills can be passed on to others completely, so they must be very powerful," the man said.

Chapter 1220: A Place Where Spirits Grow

Han Sen still had a trove of questions he wished to ask, but the man had started to shine with a purple light. An ancient stone door appeared in the early morning sky, and after it did, the man approached it without hesitation.

"What is your name?" Han Sen repeated his first question.

The man had been kind enough to answer all his questions so far, and he had even been kind enough to give him the memory card on Xuan Men. Yet strangely, he hadn't mentioned his name.

"It does not matter," the man said without looking back. He continued onwards toward the door.

Han Sen felt that it was all quite peculiar. The man had given Han Sen so much, except the simplest of ordinary niceties: a name.

The skeleton followed the man to the door. This was a surprise, and it made Han Sen think, "How can the skeleton follow behind him? Can other creatures traverse the same door? Is that skeleton even strong enough to withstand the fires of those steps?"

As Han Sen pondered this, the man pushed the doors open. The typhoon-like gusts of wind began to blow through the opening and expand, blowing the man's hair.

The man pushed it open effortlessly, and then he ascended the steps with the skeleton in tow. Perhaps because there were two beings passing through the door, but the fires seemed stronger and more ferocious than the ones Han Sen had seen before.

The man continued to shine and glitter like amethyst, and a purple mist warped around them like a shield against the scorching whips that lashed out. The man and the skeleton walked the ten steps without trouble, and then the door shut behind them.

Han Sen was shocked. It was very different than what had occurred with Xiang Yin, Yaksha's intrusion aside. That man walked as if he was going shopping, and the fires were nothing but bothersome pedestrians.

"Awesome!" Han Sen believed if that man could do it, he could do it, too.

Of course, he still had a while to go before he could attempt the feat. He still needed a fair amount of additional strength, and the timeframe for when he achieved the necessary amount of power to traverse the steps was still up for debate.

The Dongxuan Sutra seemed different from Xuantian, and Han Sen did not know if their levels were the same.

Regardless, he was eager to find out more about this new Xuantian he had just learned about. He had the memory card, but that could not be used in the sanctuary.

Boom! Boom!

Amidst Han Sen's excitement, the sound of thunder rolled. The snaps of what seemed like lightning pummeled the mountainside, vibrating the entire landmass.

"What was that?" Han Sen looked down at the chasm that had recently formed on the peak.

"A man like that wouldn't just go for a nap, here of all places, for no reason. There must be something around here worth investigating. I might find a souvenir, and it might be something that helped him. If it

helped that fellow, it can surely help me.” Han Sen’s mind scrambled to keep itself composed, thinking of the treasure that might lurk in the darkness.

Boom!

An energy pulsed out of the hole, blowing Han Sen away a few hundred meters.

Han Sen kept his body straight as he flew backward, watching a purple light stem from deep inside the chasm. It was like an eerie, purple volcano that was seeking to erupt.

Han Sen was shocked, to say the least. He flew around the area, but he noticed many creatures had started to ascend the mountain. When the purple light began to beam up and up into the sky, it exploded in a dizzying array of fireworks. The purple light was soon like rain, cascading over the mountain.

All the creatures on the mountain were washed with that purple rain, Han Sen included. The purple rain landed on Han Sen and moisturized his skin. The substance was warm and soothing to the touch.

He used his Dongxuan Aura to absorb the warmth, and almost immediately, he felt as if his seventh gene lock was going to burst right open.

Under the purple rain, a lot of plants came out of the soil, making the mountain bloom with lush plant life and an unrivaled vibrancy. The creatures that touched the rain were all shining now, as well. They too were opening gene locks.

Katcha!

Han Sen felt like a restrictive chain had been severed inside his body. It delighted Han Sen to confirm that he had indeed opened his seventh gene lock with the Dongxuan Sutra.

As Han Sen sought to absorb more of that rain, though, the rain came to a stop.

The tower below became purple as a holy presence and aura started to form around it. The tower started to grow, becoming much larger. Suddenly, the tower overtook the entire mountain, becoming one incomprehensibly large spire.

Han Sen looked around and stared into the crowds of creatures that had come together, but he could not find the silver fox.

“Strange. Did none of the Ghost Buddies actually come here, then?” Han Sen frowned.

But then, Han Sen watched the creatures resume their ascent and hurry towards the tower. Not wanting to leave with his curiosity unsatiated, Han Sen followed them.

After he entered the tower, though, Han Sen was shocked. The minuscule tower had transformed into a shelter, and a king-class one at that. Han Sen followed the creatures and reached the top. There was a spirit statue there, with a spirit stone lodged in its forehead.

Han Sen realized that man had overtaken the location where a spirit could be born. The man had absorbed its energy, and when he left through the door, the spirit was free to continue its growth.

“I wonder what the spirit’s level is. If it was worthy for that man to take its power, it must be a strong one.” Han Sen’s face started to turn grim as he felt the power of that stone become tangible.

The lifeforce was much stronger than he expected it to be.

“It cannot be an emperor with ten of its gene locks opened, can it?” Han Sen stared at the purple spirit stone in awe.