

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2276

After stepping on several mounds of bones, Gerald soon arrived at the innermost part of the cave.

Walking out the stone chamber, the old man momentarily looked at the drenched boy before shaking his head as he said, “A rare heavy rain...”

“Indeed... Regardless, I’m here because-”

“Stop. Come over here and warm up first. I’ll go get some dry clothes for you,” interrupted the man as he placed a finger over his lips before heading further down the stone chamber.

While Gerald honestly wasn’t even bothered about his current condition, since the old man insisted, he simply shook his head before following him. As he walked down the chamber, he couldn’t help but note that the chamber had barely changed from the last time he was here.

Regardless, he soon saw the old man rummaging through a stone cabinet. Poking his head out, the old man then tossed a bag at Gerald while saying, “Try these on.”

By the time Gerald caught the bag, the old man was already tossing some firewood into a basin next to his bed. With just a snap of his finger, flames flared out the dry wood, instantaneously warming the entire stone chamber.

Naturally, this surprised Gerald, and he was momentarily speechless. While he remembered Jobson performing something similar back at the Yamashita manor, it was clear as day that this old man was even more powerful than Jobson.

Noticing how stunned Gerald was, the old man couldn't help but laugh before saying, "Summoning a flame like that is nothing!"

"The fact that you can say that means I have a long way to go..." replied Gerald with a sigh. After all, if an old man tasked with guarding some ruins was already this strong, then Gerald's current cultivation was just the tip of the iceberg.

"So what if I'm strong? There's no place for me to use my powers! Though I guess being able to summon fire whenever I want is convenient... Either way, enough talk, go change already before you fall sick," said the old man as he sat cross legged by the fire while extending his palms out.

"But... this..." muttered Gerald in a slightly embarrassed tone as he looked at the bag the old man had thrown at him. Gerald figured that all the old man's clothes were hemp robes since he had only ever seen the old man wearing them, and while it definitely suited Gerald's temperament as a cultivator, they were now in the secular world! If he wore this out, then he would surely draw unnecessary attention, thus inconveniencing him to do things.

“What? You don’t like my clothes?” asked the old man as he glared at the boy.

“Of course, not...” muttered the flustered Gerald as he unwillingly undressed before opening the bag only to find himself surprised since it contained a set of rather modern and casual clothes! In fact, there was even modern underwear and socks! Gerald, for one, wasn’t going to complain, and he quickly got himself changed.

Upon hearing the buckling of a belt, the old man was prompted to ask, “Well? Does it fit?”

“It fits perfectly, honestly. Still, to think that you’d foresee my drenched arrival and even get me this fitting outfit...” muttered Gerald, feeling slightly touched.

“Oh please, I didn’t get them for you. I simply bought them to look at whenever I felt bored! As for the perfect fit, I guess you just happen to share the same measurements as my son!” replied the old man with a cackle. ‘

“H-huh?” said Gerald as he awkwardly took a sniff at his clothes.

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2277

“Don’t worry, they haven’t been worn before,” replied the old man in an indifferent tone.

Sheepishly nodding in response, Gerald then hung his clothes by the fire before sitting in front of the old man as he asked, "So... Do you know why I'm here, senior?"

"Do you think I know divination techniques or something?" replied the old man as he rolled his eyes.

"Well... I'm here to uncover the secrets of Yearning Island. From what the descendants of the Seadom tribe told me, all the important records of their tribe were kept here..." muttered Gerald with a sigh.

"Yearning Island? Seadom tribe?" replied the old man, looking slightly confused.

Seeing that, Gerald was prompted to ask, "Perhaps... I could look around myself...?"

"By all means. As I've said, everything in here is yours since you have the Herculean Primordial Spirit within you. I'm just here to guard your belongings," replied the old man as he continued warming himself by the fire.

Nodding with a sigh, Gerald then got to his feet before walking toward the bookshelves in the stone chamber while saying, "For context, my parents and sister have been imprisoned on that island. With the help of the sea map that I previously obtained here, we managed to find the descendants of the Seadom tribe who then told us that the secrets to getting to Yearning Island were within these ancient ruins..."

“Then go ahead and start searching,” replied the old man without even lifting his head.

Hearing that, Gerald then nodded before starting to browse through the many books there.

Shortly after, the old man yawned before waving his hand slightly prompting the fire to move a bit closer to Gerald’s wet clothes and saying, “While I may be prying, with your power, you should’ve easily been able to protect your family. Unless, of course, you’ve offended some powerful people in the cultivation realm.”

“In a way. My grandfather’s the culprit,” replied Gerald as he momentarily stopped flipping through a book.

“Oh? How interesting... Are you telling me that your family fell out with your grandfather, resulting in him kidnapping them? If that’s the case, why didn’t he kidnap you as well?” asked the old man with a slightly raised brow.

“Beats me,” replied Gerald as he shook his head.

Waving his hand fan for a while, the old man then laid on his bed before saying, “What a queer turn of events... Regardless, I hope you’re aware that you’ve just learned the basics of the Herculean Primordial Spirit. With that said, if your grandfather is really strong, you may not be his opponent.”

“Even so, I still have to try,” replied Gerald as he gritted his teeth, knowing how true the old man’s words were.

“Good luck finding information on whatever that island’s name is then,” said the old man as he closed his eyes.

“Yearning Island,” replied Gerald in a calm tone.

Upon hearing snoring, Gerald couldn’t help but turn around with a slightly raised brow. Realizing that the man had fallen asleep, Gerald went silent, not wanting to accidentally wake him up.

Following that, aside from the occasional sound of Gerald’s footsteps, pages flipping, and the crackling of burning wood, all else was silent. Even the old man stopped snoring after a while. Regardless, throughout that period, Gerald made sure to carefully read through every page he came across, fearing that the record on Yearning Island would end up being just a simple and easily miss-able footnote.

Unfortunately for him, there were bookshelves against all four of the walls. From what he could tell, there were at least a hundred books on each bookshelf, and it was honestly way more than Gerald had anticipated.

Truth be told, he had expected the old man to just get him the book that he needed the second he mentioned Yearning Island. Sadly, that simply wasn’t the case, and he was pretty much forced to slowly flip through all the books there. While it was certainly annoying, this was the only way to get the information he needed.

After quite some time, Gerald found his eyesight getting blurrier and blurrier. However, he didn't dare stop since he had barely even finished reading a fifth of the books there. How frustrating.

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2278

Just as he was starting to smoke and rest his eyes for a bit, Gerald heard the old man say, "Found what you were looking for?"

"Not yet," replied Gerald with a sigh.

"I see. You should know that there are at least a thousand books in here, with most of them about cultivation skills and the others being historical records. With that said, if you really want information on that island, I'm afraid you'll need a minimum of half a month," said the old man while rolling off his bed.

"Is there no better way to do this...?" muttered Gerald as he watched the old man walk toward him.

"Of course, not! Though the ancient ruins have existed for over a thousand years, I've only been here for the past sixty of them. Even then, I've yet to touch a single book in here!" replied the old man as he sat beside Gerald before looking up.

Stubbing his cigarette out, Gerald then got to his feet before reaching for a book as he said, "How troublesome..."

Despite how time consuming all this was, Gerald knew better than to give up. After all, this was his best shot of learning the secrets of Yearning Island.

Regardless, seeing that Gerald had resumed reading, the old man went silent before eventually deciding to head back to bed to take another nap.

Waking up again sometime later, he stared at Gerald for a while before leaving the cave, his hands against his back. Around half an hour later, the old man returned with a few bags.

Moving a stone table up to Gerald's back, the old man then placed the bags on it before saying, "Alright, time to eat. You'll need the energy if you want to keep searching."

Realizing that the senior had brought food back, Gerald then straightened his stiff neck before replying, "I appreciate it, Senior."

Watching as Gerald loosened his muscles, the old man then sat before tearing off a chicken drumstick and asking, "So, do you only plan on leaving after you've found the information you need?"

"Most probably," replied Gerald in a casual tone.

“Then be prepared to sleep outside. There’s only one bed here,” said the old man as he pointed at his stone bed.

“You’re being a bit too much, don’t you think...?” muttered Gerald, feeling slightly speechless.

“Were you thinking of sleeping on my bed then?” replied the old man as he raised a slight brow.

“...No, of course not...” said Gerald with a sigh. Truth be told, he didn’t mind sleeping on the floor, but at the very least, he wanted to sleep someplace away from the wind and rain.

“Speaking of which, where’s the general area of that island?” asked the old man who had nearly finished eating the entire chicken on his own.

“Northbay,” replied Gerald.

“Finally, a familiar name. If I’m not mistaken, there’s an ancient book about the islands in Northbay on that bookshelf, though I’m not sure which book it is,” said the old man as he licked his fingers clean before pointing at one of the shelves.

“Oh?” replied Gerald, his eyes momentarily glinting with excitement.

“Relax, kid, get some rest after eating. You can continue once you wake up. From what I can tell, the rain should last for at least three more days, so it’s not like you can leave anytime soon,” said the old man as he took another roasted chicken out of another bag.

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2279

Watching as the old man then pushed the chicken toward him with a grin, Gerald simply nodded before saying, “I appreciate it, senior.”

Biting into a drumstick, Gerald couldn’t help but feel that it was a special treat to be able to enjoy a piece of hot and crispy fried chicken in such cold weather. Regardless, once he had his fill, Gerald sat by the fire to rest. Seeing that, the old man then got up to start looking for the book that contained information about the Northbay Sea.

After a while, Gerald couldn’t help but feel bored. Staring at the fire before him, he was suddenly reminded of the old man’s ability to conjure fire out of thin air. Since Jobson could do the same, Gerald was prompted to ask, “Say, senior? Do you know anything about ninjas?”

“No idea what they are,” replied the old man as he picked another dusty book up before starting to flip through it.

“I see... Well, back when I was in Japan, I met an elder who was capable of summoning fire out of thin air, just like you,” said Gerald.

Pausing for a moment, the old man then replied, "He's pretty strong, then."

"Indeed... I wonder when I'll get to that level," said Gerald as he looked at his palm, trying to figure out how it was done. After all, creating fire out of thin air was almost magical in nature.

"You'll find out once you better understand the Herculean Primordial Spirit or Devotion Mirror," replied the old man as he pointed at Gerald's chest.

Looking at where the old man was pointing at, Gerald realized that he was pointing directly at his supposedly well hidden mirror! From the moment he had left the Grubb manor, Gerald had kept the mirror close to him at all times, fearing that he might accidentally lose it.

However, though he hadn't mentioned it from the moment he entered the cave, the old man had apparently known about it from the very start! Fully aware that he had also been particularly careful to conceal it while changing earlier, the surprised Gerald couldn't help but mutter, "Senior, you..."

"You're wondering why I know you have the mirror, correct?" replied the old man with a smirk as he casually tossed the book in his hand to the top of the shelf.

Watching as Gerald nodded in response, the old man then added in a rather disdainful tone, "If I was able to detect your Herculean Primordial Spirit, what makes you think that you can hide the Devotion Mirror from me? It's nothing special!"

The way he said it made it sound like the Grubb family's ancestral treasure was nothing more than a common cabbage.

After pondering for a moment, Gerald then asked, "Then... Do you and the old senior I mentioned possess powers stronger than the Herculean Primordial Spirit?"

"Negative. In case you haven't noticed, the Herculean Primordial Spirit is something all cultivators yearn for. If I had it, I'd certainly not remain stagnant at my current cultivating level. In fact, I'd probably have advanced to another legendary realm! Regardless, there's no point talking about all this to a newbie like you," replied the old man with a frown, making it evident that he believed that Gerald wouldn't understand him even if he tried to explain things.

"Then... Why do I have to fully understand the power of the Herculean Primordial Spirit before I can attain a cultivation level like yours...?" asked Gerald who had constantly been fumbling throughout his path of becoming a better cultivator. With that said, since it wasn't easy to come across someone who knew their stuff in terms of cultivation, there was no way he was going to miss this chance to learn from the old man.

Upon hearing that, the old man tossed his book away before sitting before Gerald and saying, "Alright, listen up."

The Invisible Rich Man – Chapter 2280

"To create fire out of thin air, you first need to create a resonance between your own power and the power of heaven and earth. With that said, you can use your essential qi

to mobilize the natural elements. Know, however, that creating fire is one of the simplest things. From what I've heard, the great masters in ancient times were capable of overturning mountains and even making the sun and moon vanish with a simple gesture!" explained the old man with a longing gaze, knowing that that was the true limit of cultivation.

Unfortunately, a cultivator capable of that hadn't appeared in over a thousand years. After all, not only did one need to be extremely talented, but they also needed to have great skill and luck before they could even remotely succeed in achieving such greatness.

Up on hearing that, Gerald couldn't help but mutter, "But... isn't making the sun and moon vanish impossible...?"

Gerald, for one, had received enough education to know that it was literally impossible to control the sun or moon. Such an action simply violated the most basic of natural laws!

Hitting Gerald on the head with a karate chop, the old man simply snapped, "Did you seriously just take me as a fool? Haven't you heard of figurative language before?!"

Watching as Gerald who was now holding onto the bump on his head groaned in pain, the old man then added, "Regardless, once you reach a certain level of cultivation, you'll be able to form a connection with the surrounding natural energy. It's been raining cats and dogs for a few days now, right?"

“Indeed...” muttered Gerald as he checked on his clothes that were now fully dried.

“Look at my palm,” replied the old man as he extended his dry hand, prompting Gerald to keep a close eye on it. Watching as the old man frowned before moving his palm slightly, Gerald was soon able to feel moisture around him. As he stared on, Gerald was surprised to see more and more water droplets forming on the old man’s palm. Soon enough, there was enough to form a small puddle.

As water began dripping from the old man’s hand and onto the concrete floor, the stunned Gerald who hadn’t witnessed such a technique before couldn’t help but ask, “Is... this natural energy as well...?”

“But of course! This is merely an example of how my cultivation resonates with the surrounding natural energy. With how heavily it’s been raining these past few days, I could flood this cave in a matter of seconds if I wanted! Would you like to see that?” asked the old man with a grin as he clapped his hands together.

“Please don’t!” yelled Gerald, knowing that this cave was filled with his possessions. If the old man really decided to flood this place, then forget the treasures stored in here, he’d probably lose his once chance of locating Yearning Island!

“Heh. Either way, since you have the Herculean Primordial Spirit in your body, once your cultivation gets to my level, you’ll be way stronger than me. Since I can mobilize the natural energy within ten kilometers at my level, you’d probably be able to mobilize at least a hundred kilometers by then,” replied the old man as he outstretched his hand toward the bookshelf and a split second later, a single book was launched from the shelf toward him!

