

## Chapter 2323

Samson stood behind Jack and mumbled, "This is so strange. Before, we'd find a fiend every one to three kilometers, and we'd even encounter two or three of them. Yet, ever since that withered tree, we haven't met a single fiend... All we saw were remnants of that battle."

Jack stood up and looked around him. Just from the traces of that battle, he was unable to determine if the ones who fought were disciples from their side or those from the south.

With that in mind, he could not resist unleashing his senses, expanding it to 300 meters. At that moment, he felt a familiar feeling coming from a withered tree root about 250 meters away.

His breaths grew short in anxiousness. "It's the electric mark from Evil Blood Thunder again!"

The moment he said that, the other 24 participants paused and gazed at Jack expectantly. Jack did not bother waiting for them to say anything, however, and started to rush toward where he sensed the mark.

The other participants followed closely behind Jack. In that blood-red world, other than the most common hills and slopes, all they saw were various withered trees.

Those fragile-looking withered trees had already been dead for an unknown number of years. They stood there as if they would fall at any moment, and yet also looked like they would stand there, unchanging for eternity. Every few minutes, they would see two or three of those withered trees.

Jack arrived next to the withered tree and knelt, expanding his senses again. At that moment, he felt the senses of the others unleashed as well. 25 senses conversed in the same area as they investigated the foot of the tree.

"It really is there!" blurted Graham somewhat emotionally.

The others started to discuss among themselves, "Why did the Corpse Pavilion disciple leave behind these marks? This is no doubt the electric remnant of the Evil Blood Thunder. It means that he came here personally."

“Who knows what he’s trying to do? It’s nothing good, that’s for sure. He might’ve left behind these things to deal with us, to kill us all!”

“I feel so suffocated. If those people weren’t so petty and shameless, we wouldn’t be left with just only twenty-five of us. Once we get out of here, I’ll report this for sure. I’ll have the clan take revenge for our fallen brothers!”

From the initial questions to the later indignation, everyone grew more and more emotional, and Jack looked behind helplessly.

Even though those people were among the top talent -wise and skill-wise within their own clans, their brains did not seem to work very well. They spoke without regard for anything.

They did not think deeply at all.

Even putting aside whether they would be able to escape safely, the higher-ups would only suppress their reports if they were to get out.

After all, the target was a fourth-grade clan as well. However, he had to push down those words at that moment.

Graham earnestly looked at Jack. “Jack, why do you think they left these marks? I did a little calculation, and the two marks are fifteen kilometers apart. Might we find another one another fifteen kilometers deeper?”

Jack did not even need to think before nodding.” Absolutely. I’ve already more or less guessed the use of these marks. I have to say, there’s nothing that guy won’t do. In order to pass, he’s used everything h e can.”

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Graham and the others were puzzled, and some of the more curious folk could not hold back from asking immediately, “What did you guess?”

“That’s right! What does that guy want?”

Jack let out a deep sigh as he looked at the direction behind the tree. Netherworld Mountain was still shrouded in red, incredibly far away. It looked like it would never be touched.

His pupils moved slightly as he somberly spoke, "His biggest goal at the moment is to pass as fast as possible, and his second goal is to not let the two of us pass. He's not someone who doesn't know where he stands; he knows which of those he can't do.

"This is why he's using another way to constantly delay us. He wants us to not be able to make it in time to pass at all! He's already arranged things long ago: he'd clear all the obstacles here, and then leave behind marks so he can advance, unhindered."

Everyone else was confused to have heard Jack's explanation, but Graham understood.

His expression changed, his teeth gritting harshly as he growled, "That dog of a man has gone too far. There's really nothing he won't do!"

The masked man brought all his fellow disciples around, slaughtering all the northern clan disciples and not forgetting to kill off the fiends they saw. They cleared a path of obstacles and left behind marks, all to save time.

It was so he could arrive at Netherworld Mountain in the stipulated time!

Graham became even more furious as he thought about it. He wanted nothing more than to rush right at the masked man and challenge him to a duel. If he defeated the masked man, even ripping the man apart would not alleviate his anger.

"That despicable, shameless man! He's quite smart!"

Jack raised a brow. That was something he was hypothesizing. If they switched positions, he would have felt that the plan was quite solid, if not extremely cruel. However, to the masked man, that was not cruel at all.

After all, the ones to die were not his fellow disciples. Killing off the northern disciples had been one of his goals, anyway.

Graham anxiously paced around on the spot. "What should we do? We can't just leave things as they are! We can't just hand the pass to him, either-we have to make him pay!"

Jack did not say anything as he gazed into the distance. No matter what Graham said at that moment, it would not affect Jack's mood nor would it affect his decision.

In truth, Jack could feel that what Graham cared the most was whether or not he could pass. However, the masked man had succeeded a step before him.

Noticing Jack's silence, Graham said anxiously, "We have to figure out a way. Why don't we do what they did? Let's track them down and exact what they've done!"

"I refuse to believe that the masked man will constantly be with the other disciples. Even though there are only twenty-five of us left, we have you and my skills.

"With the two of us at the helm, we don't need to care about their numbers at all! We'd still be able to kill them all!"

Graham's last words were uttered through clenched teeth, his eyes filled with palpable murderous intent. He could have made the resolve to kill every single one of the disciples from Corpse Pavilion, too.

Jack, however, shook his head. He could not afford to let his thoughts get as muddled as Graham at that moment.

"I'll say the same thing as I've said before: don't rush into things. The two of us should focus on passing right now. Revenge can wait for the moment.

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"Since we already know why he's left the Evil Blood Thunder marks to ensure that he passes, why don't we use it for ourselves?"

Graham paused, his eyes suddenly widening as he gleefully exclaimed, "You're right! Since he's cleared the fiends along this path, we might as well follow the way! We can think about the rest after we pass!"

After making his decision, Graham did not waste any more time. He turned around and started to loudly order everyone behind him.

"This is the special mark that the masked man from the Corpse Pavilion left behind. Now, we have to follow these marks as we advance to make sure it's safe. I know all of you entered the blood world in hopes of killing fiends and obtaining treasures, but this is a special circumstance.

"If we don't move together, you might very well end up being killed by the Corpse Pavilion.

“I won’t force all of you to follow us forward. If you’re not willing and would rather hunt fiends and obtain treasures, I won’t stop you.”

After he finished those words, the other remaining disciples all voiced their loyalty.

“We’re going to keep following Graham. We wouldn’t dare go out alone. Treasures are nice, but our lives are more important!”

“He’s right. Don’t worry; we’re all already mentally prepared, and we’ll follow all of you. As for those treasures, we’ve given up on them!”

Receiving everyone’s pledge, Graham’s expression cleared up a little. “Alright, then we won’t waste any more time. Let’s hurry up and advance. We’ll take turns sending out our senses like last time and look for the remnants that the masked man left behind.”

Jack looked at Graham meaningfully. That guy did not mention the truth at all; he had hidden the most important part. Nonetheless, Jack could not rock the boat at this moment, so he merely went along with Graham.

The group started to advance, following the marks the masked man left behind, advancing toward Netherworld Mountain.

Even from a distance, Netherworld Mountain looked impressively massive. Even with over 150 kilometers between them, they could still see its full glory. The closer they got, the more they could feel how impressive it was.

Anyone standing beneath the mountain would seem unbelievably miniscule. It would make one feel as small as a newborn ant.

The masked man clenched his chest, and blood oozed from the corner of his mouth.

He was in no way as strong as he was before and, instead, even felt a bit weak. Standing next to him, Zamian helped the masked man with a concerned look

“Are you alright?!”

The masked man raised his hand shakingly, using all his might to shake his head. At that moment, even his voice was unsteady as he responded, “I’m fine! Help me sit down, I need to meditate!”

Zamian hurriedly helped the masked man. He placed a blanket underneath the masked man's buttocks and took out expensive medicinal pills for the masked man.

At that moment, not only did the masked man look like he was in a bad state, but he seemed very aggrieved by pain as well. Just moving a little would aggravate the injuries on his whole body. The bonepiercing pain he felt was not something an ordinary person would be able to stand.

He lost count of how many bones were broken on his body. Just his ribcage alone, there were four, and that was even the result of him doing his best to defend his chest. If he had not protected the most important part at the last moment, he would probably not even have been able to stand up.

"Why is that eight-tailed snake so strong?!" blurted Zamian concernedly. "It actually did this to you..."

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Zamian trailed off in his sentence, not daring to continue. After all, the masked man never had the best of tempers. If he had finished his words, he might be seen as questioning the masked man's skills.

The masked man coldly smiled, looking up at where the eight-tailed snake had fallen, his hands trembling slightly. "This is the last fiend and the last test for me before I pass. It'd be weirder if the fiend was not this strong."

The masked man gulped as he remembered the bitter battle he had just gone through. If it were not for the fact that he was much stronger than the average person and had reached the spring solidifying realm before, he might not have been able to kill that eight-tailed snake.

Zamian frowned, snorting lightly before saying, "The structure of this blood-colored world is so strange. They allowed us all to enter, but at the final battle, they erected a barrier, not allowing us in to help you at all."

The masked man coldly smiled, glancing at Zamian disdainfully before saying, "Do you think that the old man who designed this stage has your brain? If he let everyone in, how could he not have thought of this?"

“The eight-tailed snake wouldn’t have amounted to much if we attacked it in a group, then the last test would hold no meaning to it. The whole reason the eight-tailed snake existed was to see if I have the qualifications to pass.”

After saying that, the masked man squinted as he added, his words carrying the sliver of ridicule he had, “Even if those guys risked their lives on the line and arrived here, they wouldn’t be able to pass anyway!”

Zamian hurriedly nodded. “Even you’ve been injured to this degree, so how could the other two have any hope? They were never at your level, and if you hadn’t suppressed your powers, the two of them wouldn’t even be able to face you together.”

The masked man smiled at this; Zamian’s flattery was quite decent

Reveling in Zamian’s praise, he nodded. “I’m definitely at a disadvantage here. If it was outside, even if the two of them challenged me at the same time, I’d make them regret living in this world!”

After finishing those words, his breathing turned erratic. He felt waves after waves of pain as he started to tremble. He hurriedly formed some seals with his hands, trying to stabilize his injuries.

The Corpse Pavilion’s chosen disciple, Rufus, eyed the two other eight-tailed snakes. When they all arrived at the foot of the mountain, they noticed three eight-tailed snakes.

The three snakes did not attack on their own, and they were all sealed within their own barriers. When the masked man got closer, a wave of energy enveloped him, sending him to one of the eighttailed snakes.

The battle started immediately. The eight-tailed snake was like an angered beast and fervently started to attack!

All of the disciples there had witnessed that incredibly dangerous battle.

Rufus let out a small sigh, his tone carrying a sliver of doubt as he spoke, “Even with a barrier between us, I could still feel a very dense demonic energy coming from the snake. We can’t just call it a common eighttailed snake-it’s probably an eight-tailed demonic snake.”

The others nodded after hearing those words, thinking Rufus could be right. The eight-tailed demonic snake's demonic energy could not be suppressed, so much so that even with the barrier in the way, they could still clearly feel it.

The demonic snake was not like the fiends they had encountered before. Even though the fiends had power coming out of their bodies as well, none of them had such dense demonic energies.

Yet, that eight-tailed snake felt like it had been soaked in demonic energy: raw and unbridled energy.

The masked man said as he recuperated, "It truly is a demonic snake. To be precise, this monster is probably incredibly close to the spring solidifying realm. It only needs just the slightest push to level up. With that level of strength, even I can't defeat it easily, let alone the other two."

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Rufus nodded.

Lennon, meanwhile, stood by the side and spoke, albeit rather anxiously, "They won't reach this place. You've made such good arrangements, and they've definitely fallen for your schemes."

The masked man nodded, thinking that Jack and Graham would not be able to reach where they were at, too. He had planned the scheme himself; there was no way they would not fall for it.

Plus, he had planned to kill two birds with one stone. He would both kill off those people and carve a clear path forward for himself, devoid of obstacles.

When it was about time, he brought the disciples who subjected themselves unto him and walked along the path free from obstacles, arriving at the foot of Netherworld Mountain. Just thinking about it made him feel incredibly pleased with himself.

Zamian smiled. "They can't possibly be able to figure out that you did not plan on killing Jack and Graham at all! Killing so many troublesome people was just to attract their attention."



“It was to delay them! Once enough time is delayed, they won’t have the focus to kill fiends and advance. The time limit is only two days, and if they don’t find this place by then, you’ll be the only one who passes.

The masked man nodded, slowly opening his eyes, incredibly pleased with himself as evident with his expression. His strategy was flawless...and those disciples from the northern clans were all too hung up with their honor and virtue.

They were different from evil practitioners. Looking at their fellow disciples being killed like that, they would definitely try to fight back. They would gather all the other remaining disciples and attempt to battle.

However, what they did not know was that the masked man would have already brought his own disciples to the foot of Netherworld Mountain. All he did was just to pass, and there would naturally not be any disruptions.

Just thinking about this amused the masked man greatly. He could not stop himself from smiling, and everyone around him was heaping praises on him.

“You are talented beyond belief. Those guys definitely won’t guess your true plan!”

“That’s right! Even though Jack and Graham don’t amount to much, they still have some skill. If we really plan on killing them, it might end up delaying ourselves, and we’d have suffered great losses if they ended up escaping!”

“Right now, they’re probably only a hundred kilometers in, while our great senior has already passed!”

The masked man wanted so badly to see their expressions after the task ended and they all returned to the Divine Void Slope. At that moment, he would reveal all his plans.

He wanted nothing more than to see for himself Jack and Graham’s remorseful expressions. He wanted to return all the humiliation he had suffered dealt by Jack, right back at him. That was not all, though.

He would have Jack pay the price and have Jack wish he was dead!

The masked man could barely contain himself just thinking of all this.

All of a sudden, at that moment, a familiar voice was heard in the distance, "You really are here. You're quite fast."

That voice...

That voice was all too familiar to the masked man.

It was so familiar that the voice was practically engraved into the masked man's bones. It was not just him, too. There was not a single one of the other disciples from the Corpse Pavilion that was not familiar with it.

They widened their eyes in shock, looking toward the source of the voice. Around 200 meters away...stood 20 twenty disciples.

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The masked man and his lackeys were all incredibly familiar with the ones at the helm.

There they were: Jack, Graham and Benjamin, all standing upright in front of them.

Jack seemed rather laid-back as he gazed at them nonchalantly, unperturbed.

On the other hand, Graham and Benjamin's eyes were filled with rage, and the scene stunned the masked man. It was not just him, though-the others were all stunned as well.

They were just on a ridicule-train, bashing on these men, so sure that they would still be in the outer areas. All that, and they suddenly popped right into the scene!

Zamian's lips froze as he exclaimed, his voice trembling, "How is that possible? How could they be here?! Shouldn't they be at the outskirts?"

They must have known that many people have perished, and they should have wasted a very long time gathering everyone up. Furthermore, the large number of fiends they would have had to exterminate would have delayed them by a great deal.

Alarmingly, they still made it!

They had arrived no more later than themselves. The masked man had just defeated the eight-tailed snake and did not even have the chance to rest before Jack and the others arrived!

Jack chuckled coldly, ignoring the conflict felt by the masked men and his lackeys. He merely turned his head and set his gaze on the eight-tailed snake.

Jack recognized the eight-tailed snake from the past memories.

The eight-tailed demonic snake had never appeared on the Hestia Continent before; it existed in a second -ranked world. A mature eight-tailed demonic state could reach up to the spring solidifying realm in power. Those they were looking at were not truly in the spring solidifying realm yet, but they were close.

Thinking of this, Jack frowned, his expression a little dark. Just as he was thinking of how he would deal with the eight-tailed demonic snake...

Graham shouted loudly, "Don't think those little tricks of yours are enough to help you pass. I didn't fall for them!"

Jack could not resist looking at Graham when he heard that. Feeling Jack's gaze, Graham's face stiffened as he added, "Jack noticed the marks you've left a long time ago, and he didn't even take too long to understand what you were doing! Who do you think you're fooling with that flimsy trick of yours?!"

Graham even went to the extent of enhancing his voice with his true energy, not wanting the opposing group to not hear him.

The masked man became visibly livid; he had never felt so pathetic in his life. There he was, pleased with himself just moments ago, yet his pride had been shattered so quickly.

The plan he had felt was perfect had been decoded with ease!

At that moment, the masked man felt nothing but rage whirling in his mind, so much so that he even forgot the wounds that tormented him. He wanted nothing more than to rip Jack apart. It was Jack yet again-it was always him! Jack was the sole cause of every moment of humiliation he had gone through!

The masked man became so enraged as thoughts consumed him, and he even spat a mouthful of blood.

Zamian hurriedly knelt and helped the masked man up. "Don't get angry! Who cares about these commoners? They can't possibly pass; they don't have the skill to!"

The masked man flung away Zamian's hand, still livid, sending Zamian to the ground. At that moment, the masked man could no longer maintain his composure.

He pointed at Jack with his trembling hand. "Just you wait! I won't let you off, I promise you that. I'll have you begging for death, and I will send you to hell!"

Despite the masked man's hate-filled declaration, Jack was still...undisturbed. He was already used to words like that and was already practically immune to them. Even though it was the masked man saying such words, Jack did not care at all.

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Graham snorted. "You killed so many of our fellow disciples, so we won't let you off either! Even if we can't kill you right now, we'll make you pay in the future!"

Jack did not care much about the masked man's curses, but Graham's words had caused him to raise his eyebrow.

Graham was rather interesting. This man had basically tied himself to Jack in that one sentence, as if the two of them were tied together by the same clan.

Jack did not think that Graham really meant it. He understood very well that the two of them were only standing on the same side purely because they were temporarily in a mutually beneficial relationship.

Since they were both from northern clans, they had to work together against the Corpse Pavilion. However, the moment they left the Divine Void Slope, Graham would not show any mercy whatsoever.

Jack was not even willing to guarantee that Graham would not work with the masked man against him.

The masked man cackled at Graham's words. However, he was heavily injured, and on top of that, his heart was steaming with anger. His body's condition was getting worse, and he could no longer even sit properly.

The disciples that were near to him immediately reached out to help the masked man. Graham seemed to only just notice that the masked man was heavily injured to the degree that he could not even sit properly.

He immediately turned around in shock. "What's wrong with him? Why is he so heavily injured? Did something happen to him?"

Jack frowned as he looked at Graham exasperatedly. Jack could not believe that Graham only just noticed the eight-tailed demonic snake that was hundreds of meters tall.

With such a large snake right there, he was still asking Jack why the masked man was so badly injured?

Was that guy mentally deficient?

Jack smiled lightly and said with a slightly cold tone, "Do you not see that eight-tailed demonic snake?"

Graham furrowed his eyebrows. "Eight-tailed demonic snake? That's called an eight-tailed demonic snake? You're incredibly knowledgeable, Jack, and you know everything! Compared to you, I feel like I'm lacking."

Jack completely ignored those false words of flattery. He was too lazy to dwell on these things with Graham.

"The two of us will be facing an eight-tailed demonic snake each as well. Looking at how injured the masked man is, he probably didn't get to receive help. Passing will depend on our own individual skills."

Graham hurriedly nodded. "Be wary, Jack. Looking at how injured the guy is, the eight-tailed demonic snake is definitely not easy to handle."

Jack pursed his lips and looked at Graham.

Benjamin then advised Graham nervously, "Graham, you have to act according to your strength... You shouldn't allow yourself to suffer any incurable injuries just to pass; that would be pointless. After all, there will still be another battle waiting for you after you pass."

Graham let out a sigh. He knew that Benjamin never thought that he could defeat the masked man. Those words were basically telling him that even the masked man had suffered such heavy injuries to win. If he could not win, he should try and retreat.

It would possibly allow him to preserve his life.

Jack glanced at Graham. Even though Graham was composing himself, Jack could still see a sliver of rage in Graham's eyes. Graham believed he had been underestimated.

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Graham snorted at the thought.

Meanwhile, a familiar voice was suddenly heard.

"Jack, please don't overdo it. After all, as long as you're still alive, there's nothing you can't do. Don't put yourself in danger just for the sake of victory," appealed Nelson with a sincere look on his face.

Nelson had yet to recover from his injuries at that moment. Jack nodded, knowing that Nelson meant what he said. From the Dual Sovereign Pavilion, other than the traitor, Griffin, only the three of them were left.

Isaiah hurriedly added, "Nelson is right. The eighttailed demonic snake is not easy to defeat, so if you have to fight it, please do so with a plan!"

Jack reached out and placed his hand on Nelson's shoulder. "Don't worry. The three of us are the only ones left from the Dual Sovereign Pavilion. No matter what, I'll make sure I send the two of you back safely."

Even though he did not harbor that much positive intention for the Dual Sovereign Pavilion, he had to admit that the clan had spent time and effort in training him. To repay that debt of gratitude, he would take care of them.

Nelson and Isaiah nodded, visibly moved by Jack's words. They had been full of fear for the future due to the Dual Sovereign Pavilion's massive losses and had been very depressed. Hearing Jack's words managed to lift their spirits at that moment, albeit only slightly. It had imbued them with the will to survive once more.

Samson looked at the eight-tailed demonic snake curiously. The snake was a few hundred meters tall, and its name suited its looks perfectly.

From the waist downward, its abdomen was split into eight tails. Its whole body was covered by scales, and it had a massive tongue. Its red eyes looked threatening and could send chills into anyone's heart.

It would occasionally stick its tongue out but seemed to completely ignore the people in front of it. It was as if it did not see anyone. The eight-tailed snake did not attack, which sparked the curiosity of Jack and the others.

Samson could not help but say, "What's wrong with this eight-tailed snake? Is something wrong with its eyes? Why isn't it attacking us?!"

Jack looked at Samson. "It's because we are not within their area of attack."

Samson was confused and asked, "Area of attack?"

Jack was in no mood to entertain Samson as he looked over at Graham. "Are you ready? If you're ready, then let's not waste time."

Graham had a sunken expression on his face. He glanced over at Jack and noticed that Jack did not seem pressured at all. It was as if Jack did not care about the battle that would soon follow.

He himself was forced to wonder if he could defeat the eight-tailed demonic snake, or if he would be heavily injured just like the masked man was.

Graham was speechless, even thinking that Jack was just pretending to be calm. After all, the eight-tailed demonic snake's skills were no ordinary matter, and it was already incredibly close to the spring solidifying realm.

Even the masked man could not gain an advantage against it. No matter how strong Jack was, there was no way Jack could break past the restrictions of his level!

Since that was the case, Jack's calmness had to be a façade.

Graham's lips twitched. "I'm ready, but you seem to be in a much better mood than me, Jack. Facing such a strong eight-tailed snake, your expression hasn't changed at all."

The words sounded like a question, but they had a strange tone to them. Jack smiled lightly, and it was obvious what that man was thinking in his mind.

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Jack raised his brow slightly as he said, "Even though the eight-tailed snake is incredibly strong, it's not like it can't be beaten. Since you're ready, let's go."

Hearing Jack's words, Graham had a sour look on his face. He felt like Jack was too pretentious and that Jack's words were too monotonous. It was as if Jack implied he was a powerful individual. Graham's face darkened a bit, and he wanted nothing more than to say some foul words to incite Jack.

He wanted Jack to stop showing off like he was the best of the best. However, he knew as well that Jack would not just take it lying down, and he might end up retaliating

If that awkward situation happened, they could just forget about working together. With that, Graham held back his exasperation as he walked toward the eight-tailed demonic snake with Jack.

The masked man and the others saw that Jack had made his move and could only look on with widened eyes. The masked man's anger started to boil over.

Moments ago, he had felt incredibly uncomfortable being laughed at by Jack and the others, and he wanted nothing more than to find somewhere to hide.

Zamian, on the other hand, knew what was making the masked man uncomfortable and hurriedly started with his flattery.

"Don't worry! With their skills, they won't be able to stand against the eight-tailed demonic snake. The beast will bulldoze them completely, and the two of them won't ever be able to pass. Only you will be able to climb the Divine Void Slope!"

His words sounded incredibly certain, as if he wanted nothing more than to shout it out to the world. The masked man's expression mellowed out, and his mood slowly improved, too.

The earlier awkwardness had sent his anger to its limits, and he felt like a few vicious slaps had been delivered to his face.

The masked man smiled coldly as he said loudly, "You two should know your place. It'd be disastrous if you're just swallowed up by the snake!"



The words were full of mockery, meant specifically for Jack and Graham. The northern clans' disciples reddened in anger the moment they heard those words.

If it had been before, they might have kept quiet due to who the masked man was, but the masked man's earlier actions had been too evil.

If Jack had not come out, the masked man might have slaughtered the rest of them. They were still filled with frustration and anger, and they could no longer hold it back after the masked man's words.

Benjamin stepped forward. "Hey, disciple of the Corpse Pavilion, even though I still don't know your name, you've left a deep impression onto us.

"Why does it seem like all you know is mockery? Have you forgotten that your words were always met with a slap in the face every time?"

"When you saw us, you had such a shocked look on your face. Is it because you thought we'd never guess your plan?! It looks like you've really overestimated yourself!"

"Who wouldn't be able to see through that little trick of yours? Honestly, we have to thank you for our easy trip here!"

To this, the other disciples of the Thousand Leaves Pavilion joined in, jeering.

"That's right! Of course we have to thank that disciple with the mask on. If he hadn't cleared so many obstacles for us, we'd never have arrived here so easily. We didn't encounter any dangers on the way here at all!"

They chimed in one after another and all those words were like stabs after stabs onto the masked man's heart. His anger that had just been suppressed boiled up again and exploded.

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The masked man was so enraged that he scrambled to stand up, albeit struggling when he did, wanting to fight with the northern disciples, even daring to bet his life on the line.

Alas, he had yet to recover from his injuries and could not even stand up.

The disciples next to him hurriedly helped the masked man up, and Zamian even tried to console him, saying, "Don't get angry; these are just petty remarks made by insignificant people. If you weren't injured, they wouldn't have even dared to say all that. You'll surely recover eventually, and you can show them who's boss after that!"

The masked man was so angry his entire body was trembling. His anger boiled within his heart, and he spat out another mouthful of blood.

Jack's lips twitched at the sight.

Even though the masked man was incredibly strong and talented, he was rather frail in his mentality. Just a few words were enough to have him spitting out blood in anger. He was far too weak on that front.

Just as Jack's thoughts wandered, a sticky energy suddenly enveloped his body. He immediately turned his head to look at Graham next to him, and Graham's expression changed as well.

Before they could even figure what was happening, their vision blurred as they were suddenly pulled into an isolated space.

When their surroundings cleared up, Jack was shocked to notice that he was only less than a hundred meters away from the eight-tailed snake that was in the middle.

When he stepped inside the barrier, the snake seemed to have come alive, and its beady red eyes stared right at Jack.

Its breath reeked of blood, and the whole place stank of the same ominous stench of blood, too.

Jack let out a sigh, not able to entirely suppress the surprise he felt. After all, he never expected that he would suddenly be teleported.

He was not the only one caught unaware, as Graham seemed visibly shocked, too. The masked man had naturally not been kind enough to tell them that they would be teleported inside.

Furthermore, the two eight-tailed snakes they were facing launched their attacks before the two of them could even recover from their surprise.

The eight-tailed snake adopted an attacking stance, and Jack's eyes stared right into the snake's red eyes.

Before Jack made a move, the eight-tailed snake bared its fangs and rushed right at Jack.

In his shock, he immediately twisted space, suddenly teleporting 30 meters away and heard a crash.

The eight-tailed snake's head viciously crashed into where Jack was earlier.

Looking at the massive crater on the ground, Jack started to have a nervous look on his face. The eight-tailed snake's attack had been far too quick. No wonder it raised its head earlier—it was charging up!

If not for Jack mastering the laws of space, he might not have been able to avoid that speed. Jack was even more shocked that such a large crater had formed just from the demonic snake's head!

The snake, on the other hand, was not injured whatsoever. Its scales seemed to be the strongest scales in the world. It did not seem like any amount of force would be able to break through!

Looking at that scene, Jack helplessly thought that if he did not know the eight-tailed demonic snake's weakness, he would never be able to break through those scales on the snake's body no matter how he attacked.

When the outsiders saw that scene, they widened their eyes. Samson lost his voice slightly when he exclaimed, "That's way too fast; it only took a blink of an eye! If I was there, I would've died from that blow!"

His words were not exaggerated at all. If Samson had faced the eight-tailed demonic snake, he would not have been able to avoid it!

### Chapter 2333

Jack successfully avoided the eight-tailed demon snake's attack and seemed to trigger the eight-tailed snake's competitive spirit. The snake got faster and faster, and anger glossed over its eyes.

It was the first time Jack had seen anger in the eyes of a beast. At the same time, he had no idea why the snake would be so... infuriated.

Of course, the eight-tailed snake could not give Jack an answer. A piercing sound met his ears as the eight-tailed demonic snake raised its tail and attacked Jack with a speed that could not be seen by some of the people.

Those constant, unending attacks gave Jack a huge headache. It was at that moment did he realize why the masked man was so badly wounded.

The eight-tailed snake's tail attacks were not something a normal person could withstand. Furthermore, the eight-tailed snake seemed incredibly versed in combat; each attack was aiming at a fatal blow.

Not even a god could withstand the constant attacks!

Jack took a deep breath as he mentally lamented. If he did not have the memories left behind for him, he might not have been able to pass this stage.

After all, the eight-tailed demonic snake was far too strong. It did not have any martial skills or special abilities, and it relied on pure physical strength!

Its whole body was covered with a layer of scales, and slaying it would be an incredibly difficult feat, especially if one knew not its weakness and if an individual had not the strength greater than the eight-tailed snake!

Thinking about that, Jack could not help but mumble to himself, "I can't delay it anymore! If I keep delaying, my true energy will be exhausted!"

Thinking about that, he once again used the laws of space. This time, he did not avoid the attack by heading outward and instead teleported straight to the snake's back.

He floated behind the snake and clearly felt that aura that could not be ignored coming from the eight-tailed demonic snake. A dense layer of demonic energy surrounded its body.

The scales on its back were as hard as steel, so much so that even steel might not be able to compare. The black scales looked incredibly strong under the blood-colored glow of the moon.

The masked man could not help but laugh coldly at the scene.

“What is Jack trying to do? Is he planning on attacking the snake’s back? Is something wrong with his brain? Doesn’t he know that fiends usually had the hardest defense around their backs?!”

“Even I wouldn’t dare to attack its back; that’d just be a waste of time. It seems like this brat lacks experience in battle after all!”

The moment he said that, Griffin, who had just been quietly standing in the corner, finally found a chance to speak up. Griffin hurriedly said, “You’re right! This guy has no battle experience. Based on what I know, he had only fought within the clan a few times. Even though he won every battle, it’s still a very small number of battles!

“Someone like him can’t possibly have the most basic of knowledge!”

Griffin’s words made the masked man incredibly happy. He nodded at Griffin, feeling like not killing the brat, Jack, at the start had been a brilliant decision. At the very least, it made him feel a little better.

Chapter 2334

“I knew there was something wrong with Jack’s brain!”

At that moment, Jack raised the black sword and unleashed an attack toward the back of the eighttailed demonic snake, and everyone else watched on, their expressions changing as they spectated with a complicated expression.

A few of them felt like Jack was lacking in knowledge. Did he not know that beasts like the eight -tailed demonic snake, who were strong defensively and physically reliant, had their strongest defenses at their backs?

Did he think that his attack had already exceeded the restrictions of his level and would be able to pierce through the eight-tailed demonic snake’s defenses?

This time, even those from the northern clans who had faith in Jack did not know what to say.

“What’s Jack doing? Why is he risking his life on the line to attack the eight-tailed snake’s back?! Is he trying to waste his true energy?”

Their confusion was evident in their questions.

Jack's actions were no doubt difficult to understand.

Isaiah clutched Nelson's hand incredibly tightly. He then spoke to Nelson, his voice lowered, "What do you think Jack is doing? I know he's always had his own opinion of things, and I feel like he's not someone who would do things frivolously..."

In truth, Isaiah did not know any better way to describe it. Nelson knew what Isaiah wanted to say; Jack was not an idiot. However, everything Jack was doing seemed to be proving that Jack lacked some brain cells!

The masked man started to laugh out loud. "I can't believe he's genuinely attacking the hardest part. Graham would indefinitely not do something like that.

"Everyone knows that no matter what manner of fiend they are, their stomachs are the softest section of their body. The stomachs are always the best place to attack! Yet, this guy seemed to not understand anything. I want to laugh just looking at him putting his life on the line like that!"

Griffin stood behind the masked man with an elated look on his face. Just like the masked man, he would be over the moon as long as something unfortunate happened to Jack.

Jack looked like a fool, doing something that completely lacked common sense. Griffin was so happy that his mouth was about to fall off from smiling!

He had never cared if he would be punished when he returned to the clan or not. After all, he had already been certain of the fact that Jack would not leave this place alive. Isaiah and Nelson would absolutely not make it back, either!

The Dual Sovereign Pavilion had sent 20 of them here. Other than him, no one would be allowed to go back!

Howard had already died in the hands of the masked man. Even though that stained Griffin's impression of the masked man, he still suppressed all his hatred for the sake of survival.

He ignored everything else that happened.

Who cared about what those people outside were talking about? Whatever they were talking about, Jack did not care at all. His mind was purely on the eight-tailed demonic snake at that moment.

The eight-tailed demonic snake was intelligent, no doubt, different from any regular beasts. At that moment, it should have already noticed something wrong with that brat it could not handle.

The brat insisted on tickling the beast's body. It definitely felt like something was wrong with Jack's mind, attacking the scales that could definitely not be pierced through. The eight-tailed snake had actually started to relax against Jack.

It was like a mouse being toyed by a cat after being caught. It happily wanted to torture Jack.

With a clap, Jack once again avoided the eight-tailed demonic snake's attack. He had already used up quite a lot of true energy.

After all, bending the laws of space required a lot of true energy.

Instead, Jack did not seem to be too focused on attacking the eight-tailed snake's back and seemed to be sending in a few symbolic attacks.

#### Chapter 2335

Just as everyone genuinely thought Jack was a brainless individual, Jack took another deep breath as he formed a few seals on his hand. He activated the laws of space again, using it to its limits.

He went from floating around the eight-tailed snake's back to suddenly appearing in front of it, catching the eight-tailed demonic snake by complete surprise.

The eight-tailed demonic snake took its time attacking Jack all this while, thinking Jack was dull-witted. It definitely did not expect that Jack would suddenly appear in front of it.

Jack narrowed his eyes, his mind quickly churning as his eyes settled on the area beneath the snake's forehead.

Jack shouted out in a low voice, "Two meters below the snake's head! The scale should be there!"

The moment he said that, he launched forward like a bullet and headed to the position he determined. At that moment, he had nothing else in his mind, not even wondering if the eight-tailed demonic snake had noticed his plans.

His hands constantly formed some seals as a grayish-black light glowed from his fingers. After that, he quickly formed 35 Soul Swords on the black blade!

“Destroying the Void!” exclaimed Jack. “Die!”

The moment he said that, the black blade surged forward, piercing into the snake.

Everything had happened far too quickly. The eighttailed demonic snake never thought for a second that Jack was, all this while, a wolf in sheep’s clothing. Attacking the scales on its back were merely to attract its attention.

In truth, he had long known the eight-tailed demonic snake’s weakness. Its body was fully covered in scales, and the only weak point was two meters below its forehead where a gray scale was positioned.

That gray scale was where it absorbed true energy, and it was the weakest point on its body!

Everyone heard a crack at the scale shattered. The black blade pierced right into the eight-tailed demonic snake’s body, and a gray energy surged out of the blade in Jack’s hand.

It was a massive Soul Sword formed by 35 Soul Swords merging together. It was the strongest attack Jack could use.

The massive Soul Sword pierced its body. In a flash, I t penetrated the snake’s body and killed its soul!

The fiend’s soul was never that strong in the first place. Being attacked by Destroying the Void caused immense pain on its soul, sending the snake into a ballistic frenzy.

It opened its mouth and let out a roar as its whole body started to twist and turn.

Jack was already completely depleted of energy at that moment. The snake’s wild thrashing had caused its eight tails to constantly assault its surroundings!



Alas, Jack was hit with one of the beast's tails with a n audible thud. Jack felt like his internal organs had been shattered as he flew across the air.

Thankfully, the snake's soul had already been attacked. All of its actions were merely a reaction to pain and not targeted attacks in any direction.

Despite being sent zipping across the air, Jack was miraculously safe, not suffering any serious injuries.

With a bang, Jack fell to the ground. He coughed intensely as he grabbed one of his arms, sitting up from the ground

His hands trembled slightly, and the black blade had already flown out of his hand from the earlier attack.

#### Chapter 2336

He could still hear the eight-tailed snake's painful roars in his ear. Jack's hands were trembling, momentarily forgetting the pain inflicted by his injuries from the tail strike. Instead, he looked up at the eight-tailed demonic snake that was struggling.

At that moment, Destroying the Void had destroyed most of the eight-tailed demonic snake's soul. It could no longer think and could only struggle with its instincts.

Struggling against its own life slipping away, its roars shook Jack's ears. However, Jack did not cover his ears and merely stared with widened eyes at the eight-tailed demonic snake.

After struggling for a while, the eight-tailed demonic snake's soul was finally completely extinguished. Its roars stopped abruptly as the spectators looked on, stunned.

Under everyone's gazes, the gigantic eight-tailed demonic snake collapsed on the ground.

With a loud bang, the massive body caused the ground to shake. Dust blew as it temporarily obscured everyone's vision. At that moment, everyone's mouths were slightly wide open, not knowing what to say.

In truth, that battle had not lasted that long. The spectators had yet to understand what was happening even though Jack's last attack at the eight-tailed demonic snake was not obvious but it was deadly!

"It died just like that?" Samson's lips trembled slightly, his eyes widened so much that they threatened to jump out of their sockets.

The others were incredibly anxious. "It should be dead! However, can anyone tell me how it died?"

"It looked like Jack merely shifted his attacking point, and that eight-tailed snake's impenetrable defense suddenly crumbled like paper. Jack defeated it in one blow! After that, the snake struggled and roared for a few seconds before it died!"

That person's words left the others and himself in disbelief. The others looked up at the eight-tailed demonic snake's corpse, slightly stunned.

Isaiah looked over at Nelson and said, "How did Jack do that? How did the eight-tailed demonic snake's defense crumble so quickly..."

Nelson was a chosen disciple who was close to the top of the rankings. Even though he was from a third-grade clan, he was still quite experienced.

He took a deep breath and said in a serious tone, "Just now when Jack attacked its back, it is not due to any miscalculations on his part. He attacked it knowing that it was the most defended part.

"He did so to attract the snake's attention. He wanted the snake to think that Jack was doing so out of stupidity, just like everyone else did! That Jack lacked experience!"

After listening to Nelson's explanation, Isaiah finally understood. He turned around and clutched Nelson's arm anxiously.

"You mean that Jack knew where the eight-tailed snake's weakness was from the start! The eight-tailed demonic snake's defense did not suddenly crumble. It was just that Jack attacked directly at the eight-tailed demonic snake's weak point?"

Nelson nodded. He had faith in his eyes. He could see that Jack attacked at a very special spot earlier. The scale that Jack attacked had been slightly different in color from the other scales. If he did not look at it in detail, he would not have noticed!

Benjamin's hands trembled slightly. Since Nelson had noticed, he would have as well. He could not help but shake his head.

"Sure enough, we can't underestimate geniuses like this. Even though geniuses are sometimes hard to understand, it's just because we don't understand them, and not because they're dumb!"

Chapter 2337

After finishing his words, he shook his head, sighing. He felt the gap between him and Jack growing wider and wider. At the start, Benjamin had thought that Jack's actions were amusing and that he was inexperienced

No matter how strong he was, he might still have moments of failure. Instead, it seemed like what he thought was Jack's inexperience was actually just him not knowing Jack well enough.

The northern clan disciples were all full of deep admiration for Jack despite their surprise. They were still composed, after all, they were in the same camp as Jack. However, the Corpse Pavilion was different.

The Corpse Pavilion's disciples had a depressed look on their faces. The masked man's hands were clenched tightly. Due to how much force he was using, his muscles were bulging tightly as well. At that moment, he had been dealt a huge blow.

Even Nelson had seen through what had happened, let alone the masked man. The masked man had naturally managed to see through that Jack's actions were merely to trick the eight-tailed demonic snake, concealing his final attack.

If that meant Jack lacked experience, then the rest of them amounted to nothing!

Jack had attacked in an incredibly unique way! If the masked man was not Jack's enemy, the masked man would probably have praised him!

"That brat! I definitely can't allow him to live. He can't be allowed to leave this place alive!" The masked man's raspy voice was incredibly resolved.

At that moment, he completely understood what he had to do. If he let Jack leave the Hidden Place for Resources, he would be facing an incredibly large threat in the future.

Jack's relationship with him was already bad to begin with, and he had killed so many of Jack's fellow disciples. Jack would definitely be a threat to the Corpse Pavilion when he grows stronger. The first person Jack would look to kill would be him!

He could absolutely not let something like that happen. Before, the masked man merely hated Jack but did not feel as threatened as he did at that moment. However, after witnessing this scene, he felt like Jack was a ticking time bomb!

When Lennon heard the masked man's words, he had a moment of realization. He had been like the others, stuck in their surprise. After all, he had witnessed the masked man's fight against the eighttailed demonic snake for himself.

The masked man had used everything he had, and still ended up heavily injured when he dealt with the eight-tailed demonic snake. Furthermore, he had taken much longer than Jack to defeat the snake!

Compared to the masked man's battle, Jack seemed to have ended it faster and easier. That was even despite the fact that Jack had been incredibly unlucky to get hit by the eight-tailed demonic snake at the last moment.

However, compared to the heavily injured masked man, Jack's plan seemed perfect. The gap between the two of them had been displayed for everyone to see right there!

To the masked man, Jack was already a gigantic threat that could not be ignored. He could understand the masked man's worry and fear!

He could not help but frown, he had to say what he was afraid of saying before, "You have to quickly recover. When you get back to the Divine Void Slope, you have to do everything you can't. We can't let him leave the top.

"It's not just because he can obtain those treasures. If he grows stronger, he'll definitely be a huge threat to the Corpse Pavilion, he might even be able to unite the West Cercie State!"

#### Chapter 2338

Lennon's last words were like a massive stone being thrown into calm waters. Everyone was stunned when they heard those words and had a look on their faces that looked like they wanted to die.

Zamian's face was pale, and veins even appeared on his eyes, "Lennon... Aren't you exaggerating things a little? This guy can unite West Cercie State?"

"Is he really capable of doing that? It's been so many years, and the northern clans have definitely had their geniuses. However, none of the geniuses have ever been so powerful! Something no one has been able to do for so many years, are you sure this guy can?"

Lennon glanced at Zamian. Normally, he would not have bothered to explain something like this to Zamian. However, it was a special time, and if he did not make things clear, those people would not understand the severity of the situation.

Lennon's voice was very deep, as if he was announcing something incredibly painful, "Use your brains a little, please just think about it. Even though the northern clans have had their geniuses all these years. In so many years, not a single one of them had really been able to threaten the Corpse Pavilion.

"Think about it, can those so-called geniuses compare to Jack? Don't forget, Jack is currently only at the intermediate stage of the innate level.

"I paid special attention to Jack before this, and I've asked Griffin about Jack as well. That guy had only been at the initial stage of the innate level and it didn't take him long to reach the intermediate stage!

"Which genius can defeat another genius at the late stage of the innate level when they're only in the intermediate stage? The gap between one genius and another is usually not that much different.

"However, this guy can battle across stages! He's even so much stronger than those of us who thought we were geniuses."

At that moment, Lennon's tone was a little depressed. The others fell silent after hearing that. Lennon was right. There were differences between geniuses, but it was rarely so large of a gap.

Fighting across stages was something that would not happen between absolute geniuses, but Jack had managed to do it. Jack had done something no one had been able to do so in many years.

Then when he grows stronger, he would naturally threaten the Corpse Pavilion. Not even the masked man could retort at that moment, because the masked man knew that Lennon was right!

The masked man took a deep breath, and after shutting his eyes momentarily, he said in a somber tone, "Everyone shut up! You're not allowed to praise others to diminish yourself!"

"He's definitely a genius, but geniuses who have yet to mature can only live by the mercy of others. He's not a threat yet!"

After that, the Corpse Pavilion was once again in a strange silence. They were no idiots. They naturally knew what the masked man meant, and that he would kill Jack at all costs!

After another boom, the eight-tailed demonic snake's corpse suddenly glowed in colorful light. Under Jack's surprised look, the colorful lights slowly disappeared, and the eight-tailed snake's corpse disappeared in the light.

In the end, the light all gathered into a pill the size of a grape! When the pill appeared, the smell of blood around him had suddenly disappeared, and the deep smell of medicine assaulted his nose.

Jack widened his eyes abruptly, unable to stop himself from saying, "Ninth-grade soul refining pill!"

## Chapter 2339

It was the first time Jack had seen a pill that was of such a high grade. If he took it back to the clan in exchange for points, he would absolutely be able to get over ten thousand points.

After all, refining a pill like that would not only need ninth-grade spirited grass and other valuable natural treasures, it would also need an incredibly high-ranked alchemist. The alchemist would have to refine it for several days, that was how valuable it was!

Jack's excited eyes started to glow. He withstood the pain in his bones as he stumbled to stand up. He hobbled over to the pill that was floating in the air.

The pill was more valuable to Jack than anyone else. A spirit refining pill meant that it could help train his soul. It would enhance the level and quality of his soul, and increase the control a person had over souls!

Thinking about that, Jack's hands started to shake. He took a deep breath as he forced himself to calm down. He retrieved a jade box from Mustard Seed and placed the pill gently inside, making sure not to harm the pill's effects.

In front of everyone, he placed the soul refining pill into his storage space. When Benjamin and the others witnessed the scene, their eyes watered, and could not help but say in exasperation, "It's a ninth grade pill! A ninth-grade pill is even more valuable than an Earth Ranked martial skill. Ninth-grade pills have been known to double a person's potential! It's a pity, but I've only seen such a thing, and have never obtained one!"

After listening to that, the others added, "No wonder geniuses improve exponentially. We'll never be able to stand up against these geniuses.

"Failing against them only means they'll continue soaring up, while we continue to be stuck in one place! Only geniuses can gain even more resources for themselves... We can't compete at all!"

Those words were exactly what everyone else had been thinking. They could not help but nod in agreement, and everyone shot looks of envy at Jack. Jack did not hear those words at all.

At that moment, he was already planning how he would deal with the masked man when he goes back to the Divine Void Slope. Thinking about the masked man's cold and arrogant face, Jack's anger could not help but surge.

Even though he always had a calm and uncaring expression when he dealt with the masked man, Jack definitely wanted the masked man to die!

Thinking about Riv's cold face, as well as the other disciples that died in the hands of the masked man, he wanted to skin that man alive. Jack knew very well that the masked man probably thought the same about him as well.

Both sides definitely wanted the other side to die. At that moment, a wail of agony was heard.

Jack looked over and could see a completely bloodied figure soar across the air. The figure landed heavily on the ground not far from Jack with a boom!

That person's clothes were stained with blood, if not for the fact that his chest was still moving, Jack would have thought that the person was dead!

Jack frowned slightly as he shouted, "Graham, you should admit defeat, or you'll die."

Those words sounded cold, but it was out of sincere concern. When Graham heard Jack's words, he coughed viciously, spitting out a mouthful of blood.

#### Chapter 2340

At that moment, he was more injured than the masked man was. He tried using his arm to force his body to sit up, but after trying a few times, he fell back on the floor with a thud.

He could hear the roar of the snake on the other side. He knew that the eight-tailed demonic snake was about to attack him again!

He was seriously injured, but his mind was incredibly clear. Even though Jack had finished speaking, Jack's words kept on repeating over and over in his head.

Just as the eight-tailed snake was about to use another tail to strike, Graham used the last of his strength to shout, "I surrender!"

In truth, he did not know if the eight-tailed demonic snake would stop its attack after he surrendered. After all, that old voice said that death existed in the blood world.

However, he still had to gamble no matter what! At that moment, the hearts of all the northern clan disciples stopped, about to jump out of their throats. They did not want to see Graham's bloodied form.

After all, if Graham died, it would leave only Jack behind. They were not willing to gamble on Jack being able to carry them through.

Some of them loudly shouted, "What do we do? Should we rush inside to save Graham?! We can't let that snake continue attacking, or Graham will definitely die!"



“Didn’t we tell Graham not to force things earlier?! If he had just stopped when he felt like he could no longer take it, he would at least have been able to save himself, but now...”

However, those words were merely helpless ramblings. Jack furrowed his eyebrows. Even though he was not that fond of Graham, they were still in the same camp at that moment.

If Graham really died, he would have to withstand the pressure from the Corpse Pavilion himself. Just as he tightened his fists and planned on trying to break through the barrier to save Graham, the snake’s tail suddenly stopped.

It was as if a button had been pushed, and it stopped two meters in front of Graham. At that moment, Graham had already broken out in cold sweat, the salty sweat reminding him that he had almost died!

Under everyone’s bated breaths, the eight-tailed demonic snake slowly retracted its tail, reverting back into its arrogant state, ignoring all. It had stopped attacking Graham.

Graham felt his body get lighter, and familiar energy once again stuck to his body. His vision blurred, and when he opened his eyes again, he was already outside the barrier.

Standing next to him was Jack. Jack frowned, leaning down to help Graham up, helping him adopt a sitting posture.

He then turned around to look at Benjamin and the others, “Why aren’t you coming over?!”

When Benjamin and the others heard that, they hurriedly ran over. The other twenty-odd people had very serious looks on their faces. Benjamin took out a pill from his storage ring and fed it to Graham.

Graham forced himself to swallow it, and the warmth of the medicine slowly entered his body. It went through his broken veins, and slowly repaired his internal injuries.

However, Graham’s injuries had been far too severe. Even though his condition was stabilized for the moment, he still needed more time to recover.

Graham seemed to be in an incredibly bad state like he would run out of breath at any moment. Benjamin pursed his lips helplessly. Even though he knew he should not utter those words, he could not hold back.

Chapter 2341

“Graham, are you crazy? You clearly know you weren’t a match for it, so why did you continue fighting? You ended up being so heavily injured, it’ll definitely affect your future...”

“Don’t forget, we’re not within the clan at the moment. We still don’t know how much danger we’ll face in this place. For you to get yourself so heavily injured is incredibly irresponsible!”

As he said that, Benjamin’s lips were trembling slightly. He had clearly told Graham earlier to not push himself if he could not win. Surrendering would have been the way to go.

However, Graham seemed to have completely forgotten that promise. When Graham fought against the eight-tailed demonic snake, he seemed to drop everything else, seemingly wanting to battle the snake to death!

Graham took a deep breath, not saying anything. He knew that Benjamin’s words were reasonable, and that he had lost his composure.

At that moment, Jack said in a low voice, “You’re the chosen disciple from the fourth-grade clan, you’ll be bearing a lot of responsibilities in the future. For you to put your life on the line for this trivial thing isn’t worth it at all.”

When everyone heard Jack’s words, they had confused looks in their eyes. They obviously did not understand what Jack had meant. No one else understood, but Graham definitely did.

Graham felt like his sore point had been pressed, and his face turned from pale to red.

He opened his eyes to look at Jack, but Jack still had that nonchalant expression on. Jack was looking at Graham with a very plain expression. After letting out a long sigh, Jack looked away.

Graham really did not want to admit defeat. Even though he had been focused on his own battle, he still saw Jack’s victory over the eight-tailed demonic snake.

He never expected that Jack would win, and Jack looked like he was not even injured.

His skills were clearly not on the level of the eighttailed demonic snake. It was impossible for him to beat the snake. There was actually such a huge gap in skills between Jack and him, how could he just swallow that.

Why was there such a big gap between the two of them when they were both geniuses!

He clearly remembered that Jack was merely at the intermediate stage of the innate level as well. He admitted that he was no match for the masked man, but he felt like the gap between the masked man and him was not that large. It did not make Graham feel that bad.

Instead, he noticed that there was such a huge gap between Jack and him. There was no way for Graham to calmly accept that, and the thought filled his mind at that moment.

He wanted to do everything he could to prove that the gap between Jack and him was not that big. He could defeat the eight-tailed demonic snake as well. He could also stand at the peak of the Divine Void Slope, looking down on everyone!

Benjamin's eyes lit up, looking at Jack before looking at Graham, seemingly understanding Jack's words. He reached out and lightly patted Graham, not continuing the scold the man. Instead, knelt down and took out a few more pills for Graham.

At that moment, the sound of a clock could be heard in their ears. The sound seemed very close to them as if it came from within Netherworld Mountain.

Everyone widened their eyes. In their state of confusion, all of them started to be enveloped in familiar energy. When they started to react, they had already left the blood-colored world, and was back on the Divine Void Slope!

## Chapter 2342

However, this time, there were only less than a hundred disciples left from the initial hundred and eighty! Most of those who died were from the northern clans!

When they were transferred back to their original position, Jack turned to look. There was suddenly a lot of space within the densely packed crowd.

The northern clan disciples were no longer as confident within their own backyard as they were before. They were anxious, and looked at the disciples from the other clans with hatred!

If they did not know of the difference in numbers, the two sides would have started to fight! Jack let out a long sigh and looked over at Graham next to him.

Graham was not in a good state and seemed to want to avoid everything by shutting his eyes. Graham sat down cross-legged as he started to tend to his own wounds.

The masked man was not in a much better state. The masked man's injuries were only slightly better than Graham's. Jack was actually injured as well, but compared to the two of them, his injuries were nothing.

He had also taken a recovery pill before that, so Jack already felt much better! The masked man's cold gaze fell on Jack. The masked man did nothing to hide his killing intent as if he wanted to skin Jack alive.

Jack let out a cold smile and stared right back.

The masked man snorted, "Prick! Don't be so pleased with yourself. There's still plenty of time, we'll see what happens later!"

Jack raised his eyebrow slightly as he said, "You're right, there's still plenty of time..."

The moment he said that the old voice was heard once again, "Three days! You have three days to recover from your injuries! After three days, the peak of the Divine Void Slope will witness your battle!"

After that, the old voice was no longer heard, and the crowd started to talk amongst themselves.

All the battles and risks they took before was for this very moment. From the moment when everyone entered with confidence to them all losing their confidence when faced with difficulty of each challenge. At that moment, everyone had thought that no one would be able to pass.

Defeating the ninth Divine warrior seemed like something impossible. Yet, someone had done it. It was not just one person, but two!

They had to admit that the old man's arrangements were quite humane. After all, Jack and the masked man had suffered varying degrees of injuries. If they had fought right away, it would be unfair to the masked man.

After all, the last battle would be the final battle between Jack and the masked man! When the masked man heard those words, he took a deep breath.

He suddenly looked up at Jack, "Excellent! Three days is enough for me to recover. Then, I'll have you know that luck will not always be on your side!"

"The others can't see, but I clearly did.

"You killed that eight-tailed snake so easily, not because you were strong enough to easily pierce through its defenses. It was just because you knew its weakness!"

Jack smiled, not denying it. He did not really care what the masked man thought about him. Even if the masked man insulted him, Jack was not bothered to retort. After all, strength had never been determined with words.

#### Chapter 2343

The masked man loudly declared, "Don't even think that I'll lose to you just because your results were better! Let me tell you... If I'm at my peak, or if I really decide to put my life on the line, you'll never defeat me!"

The others might not know what the masked man's hidden message was, but Jack got the message loud and clear. After all, he had seen the masked man's true power before.

As someone who had already entered the spring solidifying realm, the masked man had definitely taken pills to suppress his power to enter this place! The masked man was right, if his powers were not suppressed, Jack would stand no chance.

However, Jack was merely at the intermediate stage of the innate level. If Jack managed to break through and reach the spring solidifying realm, he would not be bothered with the masked man then!

Jack took a deep breath, his eyes glinting as he went deep in thought. He suddenly had a worry in his heart. If the guy was forced to the level where he did not care about anything else and reverted to the spring solidifying realm, Jack might really die!

Thinking about that, Jack frowned. He suddenly made a vow in his heart that he would not let that happen. Even if it did happen, he would make sure he had a way to protect himself.

After making that point clear, he did not even look at the masked man and sat down immediately. He had no time to waste.

The others did not react to what Jack was doing. Jack suddenly took out that jade box and retrieved the spirit refining pill. He stuffed the pill into his mouth right in front of everyone.

That scene caused everyone to be stunned, Jack had swallowed the spirit refining pill! Even though they've never had such a pill before, everyone had heard of its power and effectiveness.

The key lies in the word 'refining'. Refining one's soul was not something to be played around with. Before swallowing the pill, most people would have various preparations. It was so that they would be able to stave off the effects if they could not hold on!

Otherwise, they would damage their souls, and turn into a madman. However, Jack ignored all of that and swallowed the pill directly!

Isaiah said nervously, "What do we do? Has Jack gone crazy?! Does he not know how intense the spirit refining pill is? It doesn't just level up the soul.

"It can damage his soul if he's not careful! Damaging his soul at a time like this will affect the results of the battle!"

Nelson had a worrisome look on as well. However, it was already too late to worry, because they had not even had the chance to stop Jack before he swallowed the pill.

Nelson shook his head slightly, saying helplessly, "It's already too late to say anything. All we can do is pray that he'll be fine.

"Otherwise, the two of us will be in danger. If anything happens to Jack, the masked man won't let the two of us from the Dual Sovereign Pavilion off!"

Isaiah cursed in his heart as if he had taken some poison. His eyes were full of despair. Nelson was right, if anything happened to Jack, the two of them would suffer.

There were only the three of them left from the clan. Jack was their pillar of support. If that pillar fell, the two of them would be eaten alive.

Graham looked over at Jack in shock, "He's really gone crazy..."

Graham spat out those words in exasperation. As a chosen disciple at the peak of a fourth-grade clan, he naturally had a lot more knowledge than the rest.

#### Chapter 2344

It would be incredibly difficult for anyone to swallow the spirit refining pill before making preparations beforehand, that was what everyone else knew. However, they did not know that the soul refining pill's medicinal effects were incredibly dominating.

It refines the soul by using the dominating medicinal effects to break down the soul and reassemble it again, training the soul!

Each time a soul was broken down and reassembled, it would be even more refined, losing unneeded filth! It would slowly be molded into a sharp blade!

The pain when souls were ripped apart was not something a regular person could withstand. Some would even go mad from being tortured like that. It needed a very strong soul as well as will to be able to hold on!

The masked man laughed lightly, mocking, "Brat! It looks like the both of us won't even need to fight, you'll be the death of yourself!"

Jack was unable to respond to the masked man at that moment. Even if he could, Jack would not have replied anyway. At that moment, Jack's full focus was within his own body.

Ever since the spirit refining pill entered his body, Jack felt like his entire body was being engulfed by a strange energy. His soul was screaming out in pain.

Jack had read in an old book that the body's pain would never reach the limits because the bodies had their limits. Once the pain reaches a certain level, the pain would go numb.

However, pain in the soul was different. There was no limit to the pain he could suffer. It was able to torture a person to death. The pain in the soul was far worse than any physical pain.

Someone had said before that no matter how firm one's resolve was, the limitless torture that could be inflicted on the soul would still be able to subdue them.

At that moment, Jack's face was still the picture of calm, but he was already in so much pain that he could not even utter a single word. The spirit refining pill was extremely imperious, and it had completely penetrated Jack's soul after being absorbed.

The power was like a chisel that never stopped hitting Jack's soul. Jack's soul was like a wooden block that had been shattered by the chisel. After a while, Jack's whole body was twitching, and cold sweat started to form on his forehead.

Without any context, one would think that he had just been pulled out of water. His skin looked like a prawn that had been cooked. It was incredibly red. Those further away were unable to see anything, but the two next to him could clearly see what was happening to him.

Graham did not even have the mood to continue recovering. He raised his eyebrow as he sighed helplessly. Even though he had never had a spirit refining pill before, he had heard from others how much torture the pill inflicted.

Having one's soul being shattered before being reassembled! All that increases the strength and quality of the soul.

Just thinking about it had Graham's head go numb. He could only helplessly look at Jack, who was experiencing all of that. "Even after taking so much pain, he isn't crying out at all. He's a real man."

It was high praise from Graham. There were not even three people who he thought were real men, so it was obvious how high Jack's tolerance was. Even the masked man next to Jack did not have words to rebuke it.

However, he was still unwilling to admit anything, and said plainly, "So what if his tolerance is high? The spirit refining pill isn't something to be played around with. Swallowing it without any preparation, even if he can withstand the pain, his soul won't be able to recover from the damage.



“It might even destroy him mentally. The spirit refining pill might be a ninth-grade pill, no one dares to easily consume it. The medicinal properties are far too strong, and Jack’s just at the intermediate level of the innate stage.