

## The Mans Decree Chapter 2451 -

### Chapter 2451 Most Terrifying

Upon witnessing that, Kai couldn't stand by and watch any longer. He ignored Hammerhead's warning and shot a golden light toward the demon beast with a flick of his right finger.

The demon beast roared after getting hit by the golden light and collapsed to the ground, dead.

With his current power, Kai was strong enough to kill that level of demon beast with just a wave of his hand.

Seeing that the beast was dead, the young woman crawled to her feet with a baffled and frightened look.

Moments later, she timidly faced Kai. "T-Thank you."

Suddenly, everyone heard furious roars coming from the distance while the ground shook.

"This is bad!" Hammerhead knitted his eyebrows. "A large group of demon beasts is heading toward us. We must leave post-haste!"

"You should escape quickly, miss. Many demon beasts are charging here," reminded Kai as he prepared to depart with Hammerhead.

However, the young woman snapped her sight toward the dead demon beast before lifting it onto her back.

Gritting her teeth, she trudged forward one step at a time, that feat visibly straining her.

Kai was perplexed to see that. Why is she carrying the demon beast's corpse instead of escaping?

"You should ditch the body and flee, miss! Otherwise, the incoming demon beasts will catch up to you!" he shouted.

That didn't dissuade her from continuing her efforts as sweat and blood drenched her body.

Seeing that the horde of demon beasts was about to arrive, Kai couldn't bear to watch the young woman be eaten alive. Hence, he grabbed her and leaped hundreds of meters away in an instant.

After they were beyond ten kilometers away from the horde, Kai ceased his movements. Meanwhile, Hammerhead peered at Kai with disapproval.

Flaxseed approached the young woman and reprimanded, "Why did you risk your life for this demon beast corpse, young lady?"

As she stared at his scowl, she bit her lip. An aggrieved look swirled in her eyes before she abruptly burst into tears.

Flaxseed was startled and was at a loss for what to do.

"I wanted this demon beast corpse because I could exchange it for spirit coins and treat my grandma. My grandmother's sick. Otherwise, I wouldn't have tried to hunt a demon beast alone," the young woman uttered through her sobs.

"Stop crying, miss. We'll send you back home. Where is it located?" Kai offered. He couldn't help it after he heard her sob story.

"My home is in Rock Village, which isn't too far from here!" The young woman pointed to the west.

"All right, we'll escort you there right away," said Kai before glancing at Flaxseed. "You carry the demon beast's corpse."

"Why me?" Flaxseed was taken aback.

"You made her cry, so you have to carry it for her." Kai grinned.

Rolling his eyes, Flaxseed lifted the demon beast corpse effortlessly.

Kai turned to Hammerhead. "Let's send this young lady home first, Master Hammerhead. Then, we'll head to Greenoxen Peak."

In response, Hammerhead sighed. "I'm not stopping you because I'm a heartless man. The reason is that you know too little of the affairs in the Ethereal Realm. Do you know what the most terrifying thing is in the Ethereal Realm? It's neither the demons nor the monsters. What's most fearsome is the human heart. Most humans aren't killed by demons or monsters. Instead,

they often meet their end at the hands of the people closest to them. Know that there's nothing people here won't betray for the sake of absolute benefit. Humans here are far, far scarier than demons or monsters."

"You're exaggerating, Master Hammerhead. Some people may be evil, but I still believe the good ones are the majority. We'll send this young lady back home first." Kai then asked the young woman to lead them to Rock Village.

## The Mans Decree Chapter 2452 -

### Chapter 2452 Still Need To Go

After journeying for a while, the young woman pointed at a spot not too distant from them. "Rock Village is up ahead. Thank you for saving me. I can return by myself."

As she spoke, she grabbed the demon beast from Flaxseed and strolled toward her home.

Stunned, Flaxseed peered at the young woman with confusion. "What an impolite girl. We rescued and escorted her home, yet she didn't even invite us to her home for a drink?"

Kai was somewhat baffled, too. She doesn't look ill-mannered, so why didn't she propose we visit her village?

Hammerhead noticed the duo's confusion and clarified, "The humans in the Ethereal Realm are very wary of each other. A small village like hers probably doesn't allow any strangers to enter."

In response, Kai was astounded. Why are people in the Ethereal Realm so cautious of each other? Still, since the young lady didn't invite us in, it'd be rude for us to follow her home by force and cause unnecessary misunderstandings. Now that she's back home safely, it's time for us to set out for Greenoxen Peak—

Just as the trio was about to leave, they were surrounded by burly men in pelt clothing and weapons.

When Kai swept his gaze past those people, he realized none of them were strong. In fact, they were only about as powerful as the young woman.

The hostility in their eyes confounded him because he was certain he hadn't antagonized anyone in the Ethereal Realm. Why are they treating us as though we're enemies?

"Who are you people? Why did you come to Rock Village?" a young man with a giant sword interrogated sternly.

"We were only escorting a young lady back to her home. She's a resident of Rock Village, which is why we're here," explained Kai.

"You brought someone from Rock Village back home?" The young man frowned.

"Don't listen to his nonsense, Ali! I bet they're spies from Cyan Village here to investigate Rock Village's situation! Let's capture them first," a beefy man suggested with a glower.

The young man studied the trio and waved his hand. "Round them up first."

Just as around eight brawny men approached the trio, Flaxseed flexed his fingers, ready to attack.

He could eradicate them all with ease before they could even touch him.

At that moment, the young woman who left not too long ago suddenly returned and shouted, "Don't hurt them, Ali! They protected me and sent me back home."

She stood in front of Kai's group protectively, preventing the muscular men from getting close.

"What's going on, Emily?" asked Ali.

Emily swiftly recounted her meeting with the trio and showed Ali and the others the demon beast's corpse.

It wasn't until they saw the body that they believed her words.

Still, that wasn't enough to erase Ali's hostility and suspicion toward Kai's group.

"Since you lot rescued Emily, please come to Rock Village. We'll show you hospitality and requite you three," said Ali.

“No need. We still have other matters to attend to, so we won’t be disturbing you.” After that incident, Kai didn’t want to waste time at Rock Village anymore. Besides, it’s obvious they still treat us as enemies.

“You saved someone from our village, so we should show you our gratitude. It’s our settlement’s rule. Please, follow me,” insisted Ali, leaving no room for negotiation.

Just as he ended his sentence, the other burly men blocked Kai’s group’s path.

It would seem Kai’s group had to follow the men, whether they wanted to or not.

## The Mans Decree Chapter 2453 -

### Chapter 2453 Mistrust

Upon seeing that, Flaxseed was enraged. Even though we’re in the Ethereal Realm, these people are super weak! I can kill them all with a wave of my hand. Why should I listen to their threats?

Just as Flaxseed was about to launch an attack, Kai stopped him. The latter didn’t want the former to injure the inhabitants in the Ethereal Realm willy-nilly.

Meanwhile, Hammerhead smiled wordlessly. It would appear he was deliberately letting Kai experience the animosity between the humans in the Ethereal Realm.

“All right, we’ll go with you.” Kai nodded at Ali.

Moments later, everyone marched toward Rock Village. It was a moderately-sized settlement with around a hundred and ten families. Arcane arrays were installed around the borders, likely to ward off demon beasts.

There were two towers to the west of the village. Both were only over a dozen meters tall. Guards with weapons were stationed inside the towers and at the gate.

As Kai gazed at the small settlement, he wondered, Why is the defense of this place so tight?

When Ali brought Kai's group through the gate, many people greeted the man.

The villagers studied the strangers with curiosity. A few children even followed behind Kai's group, scrutinizing them.

The settlers' odd reactions piqued Kai's interest in Rock Village. How many villages like this exist in the Ethereal Realm? Initially, I thought everyone in the Ethereal Realm was an expert and that I would see Manifestors everywhere I went here. However, Rock Village is the complete opposite of how I imagined the Ethereal Realm to be.

"Let Clovis handle the demon beast's corpse, Emily. Tomorrow, I'll help you sell its pelt and beast core in the city. Then, I'll use the money to help you buy some medicine for your grandmother. Remember, don't sneak out of the village to hunt for a demon beast alone again. It's too dangerous. Even if you don't get eaten by a demon beast, you may still be in danger if you bump into people from other villages," admonished Ali after they all entered Rock Village.

"I know..." Emily lowered her head aggrievedly.

Upon seeing that, Ali patted her head and asked someone to carry the demon beast's corpse away.

After that, he invited Kai's group to a stone house. Before Kai stepped into the building, he noticed it was surrounded by arcane arrays. However, instead of pointing that out, he ambled inside.

His silence was for no other reason than that those arcane arrays were child's play for him to break.

Once inside the rock house, Ali turned to Kai. "Rest here. I'll send people to deliver you all some food."

Then, he left.

The moment he stepped outside, a brilliant white light flashed. Glowing pillars instantly surrounded the building, trapping Kai's group inside.

When Flaxseed saw the cage of light, he was stunned before cursing at Ali loudly, "You backstabbing motherf\*cker! How dare you confine us here!"

In response, Ali glared at Flaxseed coldly and departed wordlessly.

“Godd\*mmmit. What’s with the humans in the Ethereal Realm? I feel like they all have a loose screw in their heads,” grumbled Flaxseed.

“I told you two, didn’t I? The most terrifying thing in the Ethereal Realm is the human heart. Here, humans will always be suspicious of others,” Hammerhead stated with a faint smile.

With a sigh, Kai lamented, “It seems the humans in the Ethereal Realm are experiencing a serious case of mistrust. Even though the people of the mundane world believe the Ethereal Realm is heaven, it is anything but.”

## The Mans Decree Chapter 2454 -

### Chapter 2454 Treacherous

“The cultivators of the mundane world see the Ethereal Realm as heaven. However, if you ask the humans in the Ethereal Realm what they think of the place, they’ll say it’s hell. It’s because the humans here crave power even more. Everyone here’s doing their best to become immortal, so in their eyes, friends and families aren’t as important. Some of them are willing to do anything to increase their cultivation level. That is why the most fearsome thing in the Ethereal Realm is the human heart. All humans here are blinded by their lust for power. If not for the restriction of the laws of nature, the mundane world is actually the ideal place for humans to live in.” Hammerhead sighed, too.

Kai had nothing to say in response to that. I suppose people will always think the grass is greener on the other side.

Meanwhile, inside a short building within Rock Village, Emily handed the demon beast’s corpse to Clovis to be processed. Then, she wiped the hands of an old woman lying on the bed. The latter’s eyes were covered by a piece of white cloth.

“I hunted a big demon beast today, Grandma. Ali said he’d sell the beast core and pelt at the city tomorrow to buy medicine for you. Your eyes will be fine,” informed Emily.

“Why did you go hunting on your own? You’re not powerful enough. If anything happens to you, how will I face your deceased parents?” Ira, the old woman, reprimanded. Her heart wrenched at the thought of how much danger Emily had been in.

“Don’t worry, Grandma. I won’t die that easily. Today, a good samaritan saved me and killed the demon beast for me. He was so awesome. With just a flick of his finger, he executed the demon beast in one hit! Those people seem quite powerful!”

Upon hearing that, Ira knitted her eyebrows slightly. “Where do they come from, Emily? Where are they now?”

“I don’t know where they’re from, Grandma, but they were brought into the village by Ali.”

“Oh no!” Ira promptly sat up, startling Emily. “Bring me to them immediately, Emily. How can Ali be so reckless and allow them to enter our settlement?”

Emily was confounded by her grandmother’s reaction. “There’s no need to worry, Grandma. I don’t think they look like bad people. They even escorted me home.”

“Silly girl. You don’t understand how treacherous humans are! Bring me there at once!” urged Ira.

With no other choice, Emily helped her grandmother out of the building.

Just as they arrived at the door, they met Ali.

“Where did you bring my saviors to, Ali?” inquired Emily.

“How can you be so careless, Ali? Why did you bring outsiders into the village? What are you doing as the village chief?” Ira scolded with great dissatisfaction.

“I trapped the three of them in the stone house with the arcane arrays. They can’t escape the building,” assured Ali.

Upon hearing that, Emily pouted, upset. “They rescued me, Ali! How could you imprison them?”

“Emily, these people—”

“Stop talking and bring me to them!” Ira interrupted and urged Ali to bring her to the stone building.

When she arrived, she didn’t head inside. Instead, she stood outside of the building and silently sent a thread of aura into the structure.

## The Mans Decree Chapter 2455 -

### Chapter 2455 Not Human

The thread of aura was different from the spiritual energy other cultivators exuded. It was more akin to Kai's Ultimate Force.

Kai was lounging on the floor inside the stone building. When he detected the thread of aura, he hastily sprang to his feet.

Concurrently, Flaxseed and Hammerhead had also sensed the aura coming from outside.

"To think there's an expert in this small mountain village..." said Flaxseed.

Shocked, Kai bolted out of the stone house. It was as though the arcane arrays outside the building weren't there at all because he passed through them effortlessly.

Ali and Emily were flabbergasted to see Kai sauntering out of the stone structure as though the arcane arrays didn't hinder him whatsoever.

Flaxseed and Hammerhead also strode out of the building. At that moment, Ali was rooted to the spot, feeling awkward and unsure of what to say.

He had thought the arcane arrays around the stone house were capable of confining Kai's group. To his surprise, those arcane arrays weren't effective against the trio at all.

Despite a lack of eyesight, even Ira could tell Kai and the other two had successfully left the stone building. Her eyebrows furrowed tightly as a grimace settled on her countenance.

After sending the thread of aura into the house, she realized how much stronger the three men before her were than she had imagined.

Reflexively, Ira protected Emily behind her and questioned, "The three of you are already half-immortal. Why are you interested in this small village?"

Instead of saying anything, Kai released his aura, which instantly enveloped the old woman. Then, he sent his spiritual sense through Ira's body and into her mind.

Ira resisted his attack desperately, but it was no use.

A moment later, Kai retracted his aura and spiritual sense. Then, he wordlessly peered at the blind woman before him. I'm now certain that this old woman is a Demonic Cultivator. She's a demon, not a human! What I don't understand is why she's living in this small mountain village with other humans. Hmm, it would seem this old woman is very protective of the young lady we saved, Emily. I saw her reflexively shield the young woman behind her. I don't think it's an act.

"We merely accidentally came across Ms. Emily in the woods while traveling. When we saw she was being hunted by a demon beast, we saved her and escorted her back home. We aren't interested in this village. If you don't welcome us, we can leave right away. I hope you don't misunderstand anything." Kai refrained from exposing Ira's true identity.

Without hesitation, Ira requested, "In that case, please leave right away. We're a poor community, and we have nothing you'd want."

Kai didn't predict the old woman would be so direct. He was slightly taken aback before turning toward the exit of Rock Village. Since she doesn't welcome us here, there's no need for us to stick around. Besides, it's not like we want anything from Rock Village. We were brought here involuntarily.

Flaxseed and Hammerhead promptly followed Kai out of Rock Village. It wasn't until the trio left Ira's line of sight that she sighed in relief.

Meanwhile, Emily sneaked away when her grandmother wasn't paying attention and chased after Kai's group.

"Wait!" exclaimed Emily as she pursued them.

Kai turned his head around and stared at her reddened countenance. As she panted, he asked, "What's the matter, Ms. Emily? Is there something else you need?"

Somewhat embarrassed, Emily remarked, "My grandmother dislikes strangers, so please don't mind her words. You saved me, but I still don't know what your name is."

"I'm Kai Chance." Kai grinned.

## The Mans Decree Chapter 2456 -

### Chapter 2456 Grateful

“Kai Chance?” mumbled Emily before asking, “Where are you from, Kai? You’re so skilled.”

“I—” Kai opened his mouth. However, for a moment, he didn’t know how he should answer the question. It’s not like I can tell her I’m from the mundane world. After all, she might not even know where or what the mundane world is.

“I’m someone from Greenoxen Peak,” he answered upon recalling the location of Divine Smithing Sect.

“Greenoxen Peak?” Emily’s eyes widened in shock. “That place is so far away, though. I didn’t expect you all to originate there. It’ll be a long journey before your group will arrive at your destination. I have some beast meat with me. Take it. You can use it to replenish your energy during your trip. “

As she spoke, she handed them a bag full of sliced beast meat.

The meat was actually pretty useless to Kai and the others. However, it was extremely valuable to Emily because she could sell those for money.

Considering that she was willing to offer such a precious item to Kai, it was obvious she was an appreciative woman and not a greedy person.

In that case, it could be said that not all humans in the Ethereal Realm were selfish.

Kai accepted the bag of meat and casually kept it in his Storage Ring. Then, he withdrew a jade pendant and injected a little Power of the Dragons and Phoenixes into the accessory.

After that, he handed the jade pendant to Emily. “I’ll gift you this jade pendant, Ms. Emily. If you wear this, you’ll find it easier to hunt demon beasts in the future.”

The Power of Dragons and Phoenixes he injected into the pendant earlier possessed the strength and aura of divine beasts. Therefore, if the demon beasts she faced in the future weren’t too high level, they wouldn’t dare approach her when she had the pendant on her.

While she tried to refuse the present, she still accepted it in the end. After bidding goodbye to Emily, Kai and the other two resumed their journey to the sword-cleansing lake. As for Rock Village, Kai didn't mind it too much and treated it as an insignificant encounter. Unbeknownst to him, in the not-so-distant future, that small mountain village would save his life.

After days of trekking, Kai and his group finally arrived at the foot of Greenoxen Peak.

Hammerhead teared up as he gazed at his home. It's been over a decade since I laid my eyes on this familiar place.

"I wonder if Divine Smithing Sect still exists after so many years." Sighing, he trudged up the mountain.

Kai and Flaxseed followed closely behind because they were afraid of being separated from Hammerhead. They weren't familiar with the Ethereal Realm, after all. If they got lost, they might be reduced to mere beggars.

Not long after, the trio arrived at a towering stone door. Its surrounding was brimming with various weeds and enough trees to make a forest. However, the stone structure was still standing.

The words "Divine Smithing Sect" were engraved on the door. Even though the carving appeared aged, those three words could still be clearly seen.

After the trio stepped past the stone door, they saw rubble everywhere on the ground. The place had clearly been abandoned for a lengthy period and no longer resembled its original appearance. However, based on what could be observed from the rubble, Kai imagined the home of Divine Smithing Sect must've once been a glorious sight to behold.

As Hammerhead stared at the scene before him, he dropped to his knees and began sobbing.

Kai and Flaxseed remained silent while watching Hammerhead cry.

After all, who could suppress their sorrow when they saw their sect in utter ruin?

Hammerhead wept for a long while before wiping his tears away and bringing the other two inside.

Soon, they arrived at a bone-chillingly cold and deep lake.

Even though the place hadn't been tended to for years, the water remained crystal clear without any impurities.