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As Kai remained motionless on the ground, he activated his Focus Technique and slowly began to refine the excess energies he had inadvertently absorbed. "Haha... Hahaha..."

Meanwhile, Yosef laughed at his defeated opponent while Archer let out a disappointed sigh. "Yosef had to resort to using Kusch Monastery's twelve Enlightened Ones to defeat a Martial Arts Saint. I suppose he really is something. But now that the twelve are gone, Yosef's monastery will cease to exist, and he will need to find a new place for his monastery."

Despite his defeat, Kai had earned Archer's respect as a formidable martial artist, for even a Martial Arts God like Yosef had to use Kusch Monastery's ultimate technique, the twelve Enlightened Ones, to defeat Kai, a fifth-level Martial Arts Saint.

"Archer, how are we going to survey the faith energy as instructed by Master now that he is dead?" Skyler asked. "We'll take their bodies back and let Master conduct his research," Archer replied.

"Okay!" Skyler nodded in agreement before she and Archer gracefully leaped and landed on the grounds of Kusch Monastery. "Mr. Fairchild, what should we do?" one of the followers of Stormwind Sect asked Garthor.

"We're going too, of course. We need to take that kid's body even though he's dead. There must be something about his physique that could generate such a massive amount of faith energy," replied Garthor.

With that, Garthor and his subordinates gracefully landed on the ground. Meanwhile, Yosef stood by the crater and gazed intently at Kai, who lay lifeless on the ground.

Despite Kai's passing, he still possessed many magical items that would endure beyond his death. The most precious of them all was the Dragonslayer Sword, a spiritual weapon of the highest grade. "Mr. Jenkins, is he dead?" Sherman approached Yosef and asked, his gaze fixed on Kai's body. "Of course, he's dead. No one has ever survived the attack of the twelve Enlightened Ones!" Yosef replied.

"I've only used the ultimate technique of the twelve Enlightened Ones twice in my life. Who would've thought I'd have to use it to defeat a fifth-level Martial Arts Saint? Kusch Monastery will cease to exist from this day on. I need to find a new spot to build my monastery." Yosef sighed.

“Quick, let’s move his body over here. He’s got the Divine Scroll of the Crafting Clan, as well as several other stolen magical items. Plus, he’s wearing the Storage Ring, which must contain a wealth of treasures,” Pascal urged Yosef.

Yosef was about to jump into the crater to retrieve Kai’s body when a sinister aura suddenly blocked his way. “Master Jenkins, how have you been?” Skyler and Archer landed in front of Yosef and greeted him. Yosef furrowed his brows when he saw them. “Mr. and Ms. Loulland from the Luminous Sect, what brings you to my Kusch Monastery?”

Archer pointed at Kai, who was lying in the crater. “We came to retrieve him.” Yosef immediately sensed that something was amiss. He asked warily, “Why? What does Kai have to do with Luminous Sect?”

After all, Luminous Sect was a secluded sect that possessed powers that Kusch Monastery could never compare to. Yosef couldn’t afford to offend the young pair as they were at the Martial Arts God level, while he had just recently been promoted to that level.

He couldn’t comprehend why a secluded sect like Luminous Sect would be interested in Kai. If Kai was really connected to Luminous Sect, Yosef would be in trouble.

“He has nothing to do with us. We don’t even know who he is. Our master recently discovered that he could generate a massive amount of faith energy, and he wants us to investigate. Now, we want to bring his body back for our master to study,” Archer explained.

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Upon learning that there was no history between them, Yosef secretly heaved a sigh of relief. He said courteously, “Feel free to do so, Mr. Loulland. But just so you know, he’d robbed Pascal of several magical items, so I…”

“Bah! Those are just a bunch of scraps. Go ahead and take them. The body is all I need!” Archer waved his hand leisurely at that. To Luminous Sect, no magical items in the world would be worth a straw in the presence of Kai’s corpse. “Thank you, Mr. Loulland! Thank you so much!”

Yosef kept on expressing his gratitude. Sherman, on the flip side, appeared rather upset. Those two snobs are only about my age, but they talk with their noses in the air. The nerve of them to call our magical items scraps! After all, countless families from the secret realms had turned to Crafting Clan to forge their very own magical items.

Other things aside, Sherman had his eye on Skyler. The woman was stunning and poised, not to mention exuding an enticing celestial aura. She was practically a living embodiment of an angel from heaven. Not in a million years would he pass up the chance to get chummy with a lady like her.

“Who are you people? Some gall you have to pour scorn on the magical items of Crafting Clan. That aside, Mr. Jenkins is the one who took Kai down. You’ll lay hold of his body only over my dead body. I still have yet to humiliate him enough to vent my spleen! If you insist on taking Kai’s remains, this beauty right here will have to stay and spend some time alone with me.”

Sherman leered at Skyler as he spoke, his eyes shining with sickening lasciviousness. If anything, that bold speech of his only served to astonish Yosef, who hardly set foot inside the crater.

Archer, in turn, knitted his brows as a ball of rage rose within him. Of course, Skyler, for one, was beyond disgusted when she caught a glimpse of Sherman’s mien.

“You shameless piece of sh*t!” she fumed, swinging her palm right at that filthy man all of a sudden. Immediately, an intense burst of energy zapped in his direction..

As soon as Skyler unleashed her move,. Sherman regretted his words. He was too little, too late, to learn that the woman before his eyes had a power that was even way out of Yosef’s league at such a young age.

The horrifying aura oppressed him, driving him to the verge of suffocation. Worse still, he found it impossible to move his body at will. It was as though he was about to be torn to shreds. As the pain wracked his body, he grimaced but could not even muster a cry for help.

Seeing that, Yosef quickly thrust his palm toward Sherman and channeled a force into counteracting Skyler’s aura. Only then did Sherman manage to catch his breath.

“Sherman was unforgivable for speaking so recklessly. But, Mr. and Ms. Loulland, I implore mercy on his behalf! Please, if you may, pardon him for my sake! We’ll forget any claims we may have had on the stuff in Kai’s possession. You can take them along with the body.”

Yosef wasted no time apologizing to Archer and Skyler as if his own life was on the line. At that time, Sherman was like a child who had misbehaved, hanging his head low in silence. He could not help but cringe when he thought about the near-death experience a minute ago.

“Hmph! Do you think a sorry would be enough after he walked all over Skyler? What do you take Luminous Sect for?” scoffed Archer. His voice reeked of palpable murderous intent.

Hearing that made Yosef wheel around to land a tight slap across Sherman's cheek. On the heels of that slap, he started raining down punches and kicks on the latter..

Endless wails escaped Sherman. No matter how heartbroken Pascal was at that sight, intervening in it was never his choice of action. He knew very well that Yosef was only trying to save his son's life.

What a foolish child! How could he have been so obtuse to cross them when even Yosef had to show them the utmost respect? Soon enough, Sherman was in a bruised mess from all the beating, barely hanging on to what was left in him.

"I hope you could spare his life, Mr. Loulland. I've taught him a lesson he'll never forget," pleaded Yosef. Before Archer made any judgment call, Skyler was the first to urge, "Forget it, Archer. Let's hurry and head back already. We shouldn't keep Master waiting!"

Archer bobbed his head and was all ready to jump into the crater. He had his heart set on grabbing Kai's body and hitting the road. Alas, the second he made that leap, his advance was halted by Garthor. "Garthor! What do you think you're doing?"

A wrinkle formed between Archer's brows. Then came Garthor's utterance with a faint grin. "Archer, I, too, share the same interest in bringing that carcass back to Stormwind Sect to work on something..."

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Yosef glanced at Garthor, swallowing nervously. "Well, if it isn't Mr. Fairchild from Stormwind Sect. How is your father doing?" He could not comprehend why someone from the hidden sect came all the way here just for Kai's corpse.

Among the hidden sects, Stormwind Sect stood above Luminous Sect. However, Garthor did not spare Yosef a glance. It made the latter feel incredibly awkward.

Upon witnessing this scene, Pascal stood to the side and dared not make a sound. As Crafting Clan barely interacted with the mundane world, they were not aware of the hidden sects.

However, judging from Yosef's attitude, Pascal could deduce that the person who stood before him was someone he could not afford to offend.

"Garthor, haven't you heard of first come, first served? We got here first, so we have the right to take the corpse with us!" Skyler said to Garthor.

“Hah! It’s not as if you were the ones who killed him. So, why does it matter if you arrive first? I will be the one who will walk away with his corpse! No one will stand in my way!” Garthor guffawed. He showed not the slightest intention of yielding.

Meanwhile, Kai, who lay in the crater, could hear the people aboveground squabbling over his corpse. He had mixed feelings about the whole situation, but he hoped they would continue their argument for a while longer. In fact, it would be better if a fight broke out. That way, it would buy him more time.

“Garthor, even if we weren’t the ones who killed him, neither were you. Why should you get to take away the corpse? He was killed by Master Jenkins. Thus, Master Jenkins will be the one who decides who walks away with the body!”

With that, Archer left the decision in Yosef’s hands! “All right, then.” Garthor glanced at Yosef. Yosef was utterly terrified. What do you want me to say? I can’t afford to offend either party!

“Um... I don’t have a problem with whoever takes this corpse.” Yosef waved his hands helplessly. Although he was the one who made the kill, the current situation was not one where he could make decisions. He dared not offend either party because he simply could not afford to get on their bad side. Yosef had only just managed to obtain Martial Arts God cultivation level, and he had no wish to cut his life short.

“Archer, since we both want this corpse, why don’t we settle it with a fight? Whoever loses will walk away. What do you think? Isn’t this fair?” Garthor sneered.

“Archer, don’t. You’re no match for him,” Skyler beseeched. Archer’s expression turned icy. With a prideful and arrogant personality like his, there was no way he would concede.

“What? Are you afraid? If that’s the case, just scram! It would save me the effort.” Garthor shot Archer a disdainful look, his eyes full of provocation.

“Who said that I’m afraid of you? Bring it on! I’ll leave, and the corpse is yours if I’m defeated.” Falling for Garthor’s provocation, Archer completely ignored Skyler’s pleas.

“Okay. Let’s have a competition! I’ve been feeling a bit restless because I haven’t had anyone to play with recently,” Garthor said as his body began to exude a ferocious aura.

Upon seeing this, everyone else ran away and took cover. “Skyler, stand aside,” Archer cautioned. He, too, began to manifest his aura. With the two of them at the center of the aura maelstrom, their auras crested like a wave and dispersed in all directions.

The wind howled, and rocks were sent flying. At that moment, Kusch Monastery was completely obliterated. Not even a tree branch remained. The only things that survived were the staunch twelve statues.

Although Pascal and Yosef were quite some distance away, they could still feel the terrifying pressure Archer and Garthor gave off. The bodies of the devout believers who remained kneeling on the ground exploded, not even leaving their corpses behind. They had not heeded Kai's warning to move away earlier.

Now, not even a smidge of them remained. Kai, who still remained in the crater, also felt tremendous pressure. Bolts of golden light appeared in front of his body. Without moving, Kai hurriedly seized the opportunity to absorb the faith energy.

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Archer's and Garthor's aura collided, and the sky was immediately plunged into darkness, and neither the sun nor the moon could be seen. It was as if the world had ended in that instant.

Garthor's and Archer's bodies crashed into each other violently, and sparks of lightning danced around. The two of them had begun fighting, but no one else could see their movements.

The universe trembled, and chaos emerged. Utterly shocked, Pascal's mouth fell open in surprise as he watched the scene before his eyes. "S-So this is a battle between Martial Arts Gods..."

Yosef, too, watched the two men with a stunned expression. Although he was also a Martial Arts God, there was no doubt that he would be blown into smithereens if he tried to take part in the battle.

Meanwhile, Skyler's expression was full of anxiety as she clenched her fists tightly and stared at the two combatants. She knew that Archer's strength was no match for Garthor's. The stronger they were, the more significant the disparity in their cultivation level was. It was an unbridgeable chasm.

The disparity was evident when it came to those who had achieved Martial Arts God cultivation level. Thud! A deafening noise sounded as a body was sent flying backward and collided with a boulder that was over ten meters wide. Instantly, the boulder shattered into dust. One could only imagine how powerful the force of that was.

"Archer!" Skyler shouted as she hurriedly ran over and helped him up. Archer's face was ashen. He was obviously hurt, but still, the proud look in his eyes was not diminished. Inwardly, he still refused to admit defeat.

"What's the matter? Won't you admit defeat already?" Garthor sneered. "Garthor, just wait. I will surpass you sooner or later!" Archer growled through clenched teeth.

“Bullsh*t! Why don’t you run along now? The corpse is mine!” Garthor said as he gestured at his subordinates. Two members of Stormwind Sect jumped into the crater and prepared to move Kai’s corpse.

“Archer, let’s go. We can explain the situation to Master.” Skyler tried to persuade Archer to leave. At that moment, the summit suddenly shook, and a ray of light burst forth from the crater. They could feel a terrifying aura emerging.

The two members of Stormwind Sect who had jumped into the crater were sent flying by a tremendous force. “What happened?” Garthor frowned slightly.

“Mr. Fairchild... t-the person inside isn’t dead,” said one of the members of Stormwind Sect. Upon hearing that, Archer and Skyler halted in their steps and turned toward the crater in disbelief. As the aura in the crater continued to expand, the golden light also grew brighter and brighter.

Kai’s body was encased in golden light as it slowly floated up from the crater. Solemnly, he stood there with Dragonslayer Sword in his hand, looking as if he were a golden-armored war god.

“H-How is this possible?” Yosef stared at Kai in bewilderment, and his face was full of disbelief. How could the Enlightened One’s power fail to kill a mere Fifth Level Martial Arts Saint? This is too unbelievable.

In fact, the aura Kai’s body exuded was far stronger than it had been before. “Only an Eighth Level Martial Arts Saint...” A hint of disappointment flitted across Kai’s eyes as he gauged the power his body now held.

Between the faith energy and absorbing Alef’s powers, I thought I could break through into Martial Arts God for sure! It seems that the stronger I become, the amount of resources I need to expend on cultivation also grows larger.

Kai did not doubt that the strength of an Eighth Level Martial Arts Saint was more than enough to deal with a Fifth Level Martial Arts God. This was the special feature of his Focus Technique. On the downside, the amount of resources required to raise his cultivation level was far greater than that of an ordinary person. However, when it came to people who had similar levels of cultivation, Kai was unbeatable.

Kai swept his gaze across Garthor, Archer, and the others before focusing on Yosef. Subconsciously, Yosef began to tremble when he saw Kai turn his attention toward him.

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“Old rat, you didn’t think I was alive, did you?” Kai uttered with a sneer. “Hmph! So what if you’re alive? If I can bury you once, I can bury you twice!”

With that said, the aura around Yosef exploded outward as he chanted an incantation. The prayer beads began to glow. The twelve statues, which had been still previously, began to move and come closer to Kai.

Kai only smirked as he looked at the twelve statues and slowly raised his Dragonslayer Sword, which had a golden dragon curling around it. In the next second, Kai swung his sword.

The roar of a dragon echoed in the air. Terrifying waves of sword energy spread in all directions and pierced the bodies of the statues.

Boom! The sounds of the explosions were accompanied by the pulverization of the twelve statues. There were no longer any signs of Kusch Monastery on the top of the mountain, and the twelve statues had turned to dust.

Yosef was stunned at that, and the colors were drained out of his face. After all, the twelve statues were his trump card in Kusch Monastery. He never thought Kai would be able to destroy them with just one blow. Even Archer and Garthor furrowed their brows at the sight of the scene.

It would not be challenging for them to destroy the statues, but it was surprising to see Kai, who was only a Martial Arts Saint, destroy them in one hit.

“Do you have any other skills besides these statues?” Kai asked icily. Words eluded Yosef. That was the ace up his sleeve, but Kai had gotten rid of it so easily. What other tricks could he possibly still have?

Furthermore, his believers were dead. He could not even absorb faith energy anymore. “I’m sure there’s a misunderstanding between us. The one you’re looking for is him. I have nothing to do with this.”

Yosef shoved Pascal over to Kai before continuing, “Also, I’ve already beaten Sherman within an inch of his life. You should take revenge on them instead of on me...”

“Yosef, you...” Pascal whispered, a look of disbelief on his face. “Shut up! I don’t know who you are. You should deal with your own matters yourself. Even my Kusch Monastery is gone because of you!”

When Yosef realized that he was no match for Kai, he decided to give up on Pascal. “Yosef, how can you do this? You were the one who killed and hurt others at Deragon Sect!”

Pascal cried out anxiously when he realized his senior was giving up on him. "Shut up! If it weren't for you, why would I have gone to Jadeborough to stir trouble with Deragon Sect?" Yosef hissed and shot a glare at Pascal.

Kai froze a little when he heard the two arguing. "Stop fighting. Both of you are dying today." Just as he said that, he slashed Dragonslayer Sword, bringing about a flash of light.

At that, Yosef leaped. Pascal was not as lucky, and that light sliced his body into two. Staring at Pascal's corpse, Yosef broke out in a cold sweat. Promptly, he spun around to run down the mountain, hoping to make a run for it.

Unfortunately, Kai was not going to let him escape. Almost simultaneously, Kai dashed after him. In the next second, he was standing in Yosef's way, glaring at him with a murderous look.

Yosef instantly figured out that running was no longer an option for him, so he turned around to shout, "Mr. Loulland, Mr. Fairchild! Please save me! Can someone save me? I'll do anything you say for the rest of my life!"