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Kai continued walking into the depths of the mountain. It did not take long for Kai to notice a majestic altar that glowed faintly, The zombie Kai was looking for was guarding right below the altar. To Kai's horror, there were agonizing screams coming from under the altar.

"Why are you here? Go back and guard the entrance, ordered the zombie upon noticing Kai. The zombie was still under the impression that he had control over Kai.

"Screw you!" All of a sudden, a rush of anger coursed through Kai's veins. He pulled out Dragonslayer Sword, which glowed with a golden brilliance, and swung it at the opponent.

The zombie was taken aback. It did not expect Kai to be not under his control. Seeing Kai approaching with the sword, the zombie raised its arm to block the attack. As a result, one of its arms got cut off and fell to the ground.

Regardless, there was no change in the zombie's expression. It was as if the arm that got cut off was not its own. That stunned Kai, for he did not expect to cut off the arm so easily.

It seemed that the zombie was not that powerful, after all. While Kai was amazed by the outcome, a new arm grew out of the zombie where the old one fell. With a flick of its palm, waves of lethal intent condensed into shiny arrows that had runes marked all over them.

As countless arrows flew toward Kai, their lethal intent created a shrill sound that resonated in the air. Witnessing that scene, Kai swung Dragonslayer Sword with all his might, shooting forward a crescent-shaped sword energy.

Swoosh! Swoosh! The energy spun incessantly, reducing all the arrows into dust. The fact that Kai was unharmed did not bother the zombie. In fact, the latter's eyes glinted, and a ray of golden light entered Kai's mind.

It turned out that the arrows were just a distraction for they had no notable power. Rather, it was the golden light that was powerful. As soon as it entered Kai's mind, it began. seizing his spiritual sense.

Right at that moment, the Wordless Tome in Kai's mind emitted another sacred white light, bathing Kai in it. "Ah!" the zombie screamed and crashed to

the ground, writhing in pain. Kai knew his chance had come, so he swung his weapon, which was infused with the sacred white light..

Whoosh! The attack cut the zombie in half. In the next second, it stopped moving and gradually decayed until it disappeared without a trace. "That's too easy."

Kai could not believe what had just happened. It did not make sense just how easy. it was to kill the zombie. Right then, Kai felt the grey, misty aura in his body change. Immersing itself in his spiritual sense, he realized the aura had transformed into a bright mark.

"Could this be the mark?" he muttered to himself in confusion. The moment he touched the mark, a massive wave of energy poured out of it.

The incident surprised Kai. Hadad did not lie to him. The mark's energy, also known as Ultimate Force, was indeed powerful. Kai now possessed another form of energy apart from the spiritual energy and the Power of Dragons.

He planned to use it sparingly as a trump card. The outcome would be incredible if he suddenly used Ultimate Force at a crucial time when his spiritual energy and the Power of Dragons were depleted.

Kai let himself feel gleeful for a moment until he realized Hadad's shadow clone did not appear. That's weird. I killed the zombie already. Why isn't Hadad showing himself?

"Hurry up and save me. All that thing does well is attack a person's mental energy. There's nothing else it can do. It only serves him right for encountering you. See? He can't even control you when he has incredible mental energy. That's why I need you to help me."

At last, Hadad's shadow clone showed up.

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"What should I do? I've already killed the zombie. Shouldn't you be free now?" asked Kai. "Place my skull on the altar. That way, the altar would be destroyed and my spirit will be free," explained Hadad.

Kai gave a nod of acknowledgment before leaping into the air and landing firmly on the altar. Sitting in the center of the altar was a crystal clear skeleton that lacked the skull.

Realizing what he had to do, he took out the skull from his Storage Ring and slowly placed it on the altar. The second he put the skull down, the entire altar emitted a dazzling light, and the skeleton vanished in it. In the meantime, Hadad's shadow clone began. to materialize. Although it was still a spirit, it looked just like a real person.

"Hahaha! I'm finally free! I'm free! When I find out those who killed and restrained my fellow demon spirits, I'm going to send them to hell and make them stay there forever."

Hadad burst into hysterical laughter while Kai stared at the former in wonder. Before the latter could ask Hadad about his history or if Hadad knew his father, the altar he was standing on trembled. It was going to collapse any second.

"The altar's going to collapse. You need to bring your friends out of here. The phantoms under this altar are escaping. I'm going to Ethereal Realm to recreate my body. Hopefully, we'll meet again there."

With that, Hadad grabbed the void with both hands, and a space-time rift came into view. Just like that, Hadad vanished into the rift.

Kai could not help but curse. "D*mn it. Are you leaving just like that? Right after I freed you? Do I not even get a thank you?" Immediately after that, the altar collapsed.

Agonizing screams resonated from under the structure, and the voices were getting closer. Without wasting any more time, Kai leaped off the altar and fled to the mountain's entrance.

By the time he arrived at the entrance, Matthew and the others had already regained consciousness. They were in a state of panic because Kai was nowhere to be found.

When they saw Kai running out from the depths of the mountain, Matthew approached hastily, "Mr. Chance, are you all right? What happened just now?"

"I don't have time to explain. We need to leave this place right now. Hurry up!" urged Kai anxiously. Just then, a gust of wind swept over the area and eerie howls rang from the mountains, giving Matthew and the rest a fright...

Kai immediately raced toward the entrance, with Matthew and the rest following closely behind him. What followed after them were countless phantoms.

Those phantoms came in all kinds of shapes and sizes. On top of that, their strengths varied. Nonetheless, all of them were running in the same direction-toward Kai and his companions. In the meantime, Wrey and his men were still guarding the abyss.

"Wrey, it's been so long and there hasn't been any movement detected in the abyss. I think Kai and the others didn't go in. Besides, I've looked into it. The lethal intent there is too strong. Even we will be affected by it if we spend too much time there, let alone Kai and his men. Perhaps we should stop wasting our time here and search someplace else," Hugh suggested.

The suggestion elicited a nod from Wrey. He, too, had a feeling that there was no one in the abyss. After all, entering the place was. equivalent to entering hell.

"All right. Let's not wait anymore. Get ready to leave," said Wrey, getting ready to leave. Right at that moment, the sound of the wind howling came from the abyss, and in the next second, the lethal intent that only existed there started spilling out.

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"What's going on?" Hugh was stupefied by what he saw. Even Wrey was at a loss. At the same time, the others quickly gathered around to watch..

"Look. There are shadows in the abyss," yelled someone. As the crowd kept on watching, the shadows grew closer and emerged from the depths of the mountain. The sight of the group left Wrey utterly confounded.

"Kai, you guys actually went in?" Wrey could not bring himself to believe what he was seeing. Just exactly how did Kai and the others stay in there for so long?

Kai, Matthew, and the others were equally shocked to see Wrey. They had not been expecting Wrey and his men to be waiting there. The two parties exchanged glances briefly before a murderous intent exuded from each. one of them.

"D*mn it. I told you I didn't kill your son. You just won't give up, will you? I can't believe you. actually waited here," Kai scolded Wrey, annoyed by the latter's relentless pursuits.

"Everything you say is useless now, Kai. You need to die," hissed Wrey. With an icy expression, Wrey shifted his gaze to Great Diviner. "You traitor. How dare you betray us? Do you plan to die along with Kai?"

"I won't be dying, Wrey. It's you guys who'll be dying today. Keep in mind what I do best. I've already foreseen your end," uttered Great Diviner with a snort.

"Hah! You really think highly of yourself, eh? If you were truly a half-immortal, you wouldn't have to wait at the hidden realm." Wrey spat on the ground before announcing loudly, "Don't spare a single one of them. We must get rid of them once and for all. In the future, all of the resources here will be ours."

Everyone in the hidden realm pulled out their weapons, including Kai, Matthew, and the others. Gradually, the tension in the air thickened. In terms of capabilities, Kai's team was way too weak. His team was at a disadvantage be it in terms of number or capabilities..

"Mr. Campbell, Master Diviner, once the fight starts, you'll need to run. I'm the one Wrey wants, anyway. You guys don't have to die with me," said Kai softly..

I'm not running, Mr. Chance. We'll die together if that's our end," replied Matthew in a firm tone. "Mr. Chance, you're the chosen one, and that means you won't die so easily. I believe in my divination skills."

Great Diviner knew Kai was no ordinary man. There was no way the latter could die so easily. "Attack!" Wrey waved his hand with force, and the people of the hidden realm charged forward.

It was at that moment when the frightening howls sounded from the abyss, followed by a shocking gust of wind. Immediately, a massive group of phantoms spilled from the abyss.

Wrey and the others were dumbfounded. None of the people from the hidden realm dared to fight that insane number of phantoms. "Run!" Kai bellowed, leading Matthew and the others away from the scene. Before Wrey and the others could react, they were surrounded by the phantoms, unable to pursue Kai and the rest.

In the blink of an eye, loud noises resounded in the area as Wrey and his men fought against the phantoms. Meanwhile, some of the phantoms had caught up with Kai and his companions, leaving the latter party no choice but to run and fight at the same time. Fortunately, the phantoms could be killed when they left the abyss.

While Kai killed the phantoms, he would get a mark for every successful attempt. Thanks to the group's persistence, they managed to get away from the phantoms and Wrey's group.

Thus, they looked for a safe place to get some rest. Wrey's group, on the other hand, finally got rid of the phantoms, despite looking in bad shape.

"D*mn it. Why did those things suddenly appear? Kai has escaped under our eyes," Wrey fumed.

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"All right. Our immediate concern is to truly rid ourselves of these phantoms. I have no idea. where these creatures are coming from, but they have been able to track us relentlessly," said Hugh.

As they were speaking, a burst of shouting erupted, followed by another chaotic battle. Some of the phantoms had caught up to them, and Wrey and the others had no choice but to flee once again.

Meanwhile, Kai and the rest were taking a rest on a hill. The consecutive battles had left everyone feeling exhausted. Since entering the abyss, they hadn't had at proper rest, let alone the time to replenish their energy.

Now, everyone's energy was nearly depleted. Although this place had abundant resources, they didn't have the luxury of time to rest. Moreover, those phantoms seemed to stick to them like glue, swiftly catching up to Kai and the others.

Kai saw how weary the group was, so he casually set up an arcane array, enclosing the area within a radius of a hundred meters. "Master Diviner, Mr. Campbell, rest and replenish your energy here for now. I will deal with those phantoms. Otherwise, they'll keep sticking to us," Kai said, "Mr. Chance, those phantoms are quite formidable. It would be dangerous for you to face them alone," Great Diviner warned.

"Yes, especially those in battle armor. They're simply abnormal. It took a lot of effort for me to kill just one. Mr. Chance, you should rest with us. We can set out together once we've regained our strength," Matthew added, hoping that Kai wouldn't go alone.

"It's all right. Even if I encounter danger, I will be able to escape," Kai replied calmly. In truth, Kai had his own plan. He had discovered that with each phantom he killed, Ultimate Force within his body grew stronger. If he were to slay even more phantoms, the force would increase even more rapidly.

Through the recent constant battles, Ultimate Force within Kai had increased significantly. It was possible that by killing one or two more phantoms, he would be able to reach two marks of Ultimate Force.

"Mr. Chance, why don't you take Archer and Skyler with you? If there's a real danger, they can hold off for a while," Matthew suggested.

Kai knew Matthew had only made the suggestion because the latter worried about him. Hence, it didn't sit right with Kai to turn the idea down. He nodded and said, "All right. I'll bring some herbs back to cultivate some pills. That way, you guys will be able to recover faster."

Matthew nodded in agreement. Then, he turned to Archer and Skyler and said, "You two should stick close to Mr. Chance and ensure his safety. When necessary, you know what to do, right?"

Both of them nodded. "Don't worry, Master. We won't let Mr. Chance get harmed. When necessary, we will self-destruct to buy time for Mr. Chance."

"Rest assured, there won't be any danger," Kai said confidently. He then left with Archer and Skyler. Meanwhile, Matthew and Great Diviner remained within the arcane array, quickly cultivating and restoring their energy.

"Mr. Chance, since those phantoms don't have inner cores or any valuable items, killing them would be useless. Why do you insist on seeking them out and slaying them?" Skyler asked. Kai, perplexed.

Kai smiled. "Those phantoms are of no use to you, but for me, they're immensely valuable. Each phantom I slay enhances my cultivation by a small fraction."

Archer and Skyler were visibly surprised upon hearing Kai. This was the first time they heard that slaying phantoms could enhance cultivation. However, since Kai said so, it must be true. There was no reason Kai would lie to them, after all.