

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 841: Surprise attack

Forty days later.

Sam and Arkiv are currently standing on the tree as they looked at the city in front of them.

Yesterday night they reached the surrounding forests after a long journey.

The journey was just as annoying as the last one. The most annoying part is them knowing why this journey is so long.

It was all just for Nike to satisfy her ego. She created these routes and the forests and placed all the beasts there just for the sake of increasing their journey's difficulty. It is like a perilous pilgrimage.

Even though they were being forced to do this, she still feels great about it.

One could imagine how twisted her mind is and how vain her thinking is.

When they reached this city, they are finally relieved.

But they didn't directly enter it or just show themselves.

They cannot go to the front entrance directly. If they want to go there instantly, they have to go through the city, but they have to take a detour which would take around half a day now and there is a great chance that they would be spotted by feathered.

They have to get as many details on what exactly is happening in the city from here.

They started observing them yesterday because of that reason and from the looks of it, there is indeed severe unrest going on.

The feathered are moving in the forest like crazy and they seemed to be searching for someone and the temple is damaged severely in several places.

The people definitely escaped from this place.

There is no doubt about it. But Sam wants to find out who are the players that are situated here. If it is someone else, he has to find a way to deal with them and get the weapon fragment directly from the temple.

They have one advantage over the rest. After Silva was treated and came to consciousness, he gave Sam some important information and the first one is that all temple layouts are the same in the six cities as they are designed by someone Nike herself appointed.

This is not common knowledge and only the six city heads or kings would know about it.

So, if he wants to find the weapon fragment in any other city, he just has to find a way to enter the main hall of the temple and turn the statue a bit and the secret door will be opened.

As for infiltrating the temple, which turned out to be a difficult task as even the shadows and the silver pigeons were unable to do so, is actually not too risky. The main thing that is needed to enter the temple directly without receiving any damage is the presence of active Feathered blood.

They can directly take a human, creature, or anything else inside directly if they want to and if Sam couldn't do that, all he has to do is draw some fresh blood from the feathered and hold it in a vial and as long as the vitality and the nature of blood didn't change, he could enter the temple.

Sam really felt like he received his worth after treating them. This information is enough for Sam to get his hands on the weapon fragment.

The only drawback is that the blood has to be carried by a living creature. The shadows and undead are not suitable. Otherwise, Sam would have sent his shadow soldiers to finish the task off.

They observed for the whole day and after getting an estimation on the scale of the activity the feathered are causing, the situation doesn't seem too serious and the players seemed to have escaped recently.

They decided to take a detour now and first find out who the players at this spot.

But this time, they didn't take the hovercar or go on the beasts, they just used the forest as a cover and go slowly.

After an hour or so after the journey, Sam and Arkiv are currently having a meal. This is one of the perks of the journey. Even though it is annoying, they got to sample a lot of beasts and Sam even collected a couple of them to rear in the divine dimension.

As they are making the small talk, all of a sudden they detected some other presence nearby and got ready to fight.

At this moment, Arkiv who is looking in the sky felt a cold feeling behind his back and jumped forward.

A dagger just slashed the air in his spot and missed him with hair's breadth. At this exact moment, Sam also rolled to the side, and earth elemental energy channeled into his legs and then onto the ground as a sharp earthen spike raised behind his heel and blocked another dagger.

He slid to the side and looked at the seared meat which is crusted with various herbs that fell on the ground.

"I don't like wasting my food you know. It is not polite either."

Arkiv looked at a feathered standing there coldly as he took out his body and his aura raged.

Two feathered are standing there with smoky black wings.

One look and anyone could guess they are dark element users and specialized in shadow element.

"A flying shadow. Not a good combination if you ask me." Sam said once again as they didn't speak.

"Who are you? You are not the two humans that escaped. Where did you come from?"

"Well, technically we are also humans who escaped the temple, but not this one," Arkiv replied as he took out the arrow as got ready to shoot.

"Which city are you from? Which King is so incompetent to let you get away like this?"

"Silva city."

Sam said as he eyed the two feathered closely. Both of them are twins.

They both have dark elemental energy running around them and the wings are still in shadow form. It is partial elemental fusion.

"Grace is really slipping down. She couldn't even keep you guys there and you even managed to escape from the city. Silva city seems to be on a decline on all fronts."

Arkiv chuckled at it and said.

"You are the one to speak, I am pretty sure those two fuckers whoever they are already giving you a hard enough time. Are you sure you want to mess with us?"

"Hard time? All they could do is run away." The one who is eyeing Sam spoke in disdain and made a move.

He disappeared into becoming a shadow and tried to stab him in the neck, Sam took out a dagger of his own and blocked the attack, but right before both daggers clashed the feathered moved to the side and tried to stab Sam in the back.

When he thought that the attack landed, he suddenly felt a huge impact on his chest and lost his senses for a while.

Before he knew it, he felt another impact as he hit a tree nearby and fell down. He looked at Sam in surprise.

This is the first time his trick has failed when he fought against a peer.

"Your movements are fine and gliding with the wings is good as it caused almost no sound, but you not exactly stealthy with your moves, your energy is all over the place. What a pity for someone to be gifted and not knowing how to use it." Sam looked at him and shook his head as if he is really disappointed and felt pity for that ability.

"All you got is one lucky shot. Don't think that you are all that just because of that."

The feathered spoke and made a move, the remaining feathered also didn't wait any longer and made his move on Arkiv.

Arkiv kicked the ground and jumped onto a tree and kept on hopping as he planned to create enough distance between them.

But the shadow is moving too fast. Arkiv started shooting arrows one by one and managed to keep him at bay so that he can move freely.

Meanwhile, Sam started glowing in black as dark elemental energy surrounded him. He held the dagger and said.

"Let us see who can be the better shadow for now."

With that the battle became intense.

The feathered shadows have a bit of an edge as they used their wings mostly for gliding while being in the shadow form.

Arkiv is having a bit hard time coping with that, but Sam is matching him with that same speed.

He is not even attacking at all and even the elemental fusion is not hundred percent. It is around fifty to sixty percent and mostly focused on defending.

He moved like a slippery eel as he blocked the movements and made him uncomfortable.

As for why he is doing this instead of finishing off the fight, he just wants to have some fun and see what he has got.

The last few months have been a bit of a frustrating task after all.

Meanwhile, Arkiv changed his game and is making moves that are not his usual style. He started shooting multiple arrows in different directions and he is using a different arrow style. This seemed to be one of his special techniques and this caused that shadow feathered to back down instantly.

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Chapter 842: Meeting Arman

The battle continued, soon Sam got bored of this.

These shadow guys are good, but they are too reliant on their shadow abilities and didn't focus on anything else. Their dagger skills are mediocre at best, their awareness is nowhere near elite. If not for the ambush, Arkiv could have already maintained distance.

He is not particularly good at close combat but he is still gaining upper hand as time passed and eventually he is going to win.

These guys are in fact worse than grace. At least she could land a decent hit or two on him. But there is nothing these guys could do unless Sam becomes lazy and closes his eyes and senses off completely, he wouldn't be able to do any critical damage.

He couldn't take it anymore and decided to finish the whole thing off.

Sam increased the fusion level and disappeared like dark smoke when the shadow feathered missed him, he was dazed for a second on how fast Sam has become, and that one moment of daze was enough, Sam reappeared on his back and broke the two wings directly.

Everyone could hear the crack at the joint of the wings.

The feathered fell down as he is relying too much on his wings, so after Sam broke it, they are down.

The remaining feathered lost his composure for a moment because of this and Arkiv managed to increase the distance, he aimed the bow and launched arrow after arrow.

Soon the shadow feathered was pinned to the ground. His wings are riddled and couldn't be used anymore.

Sam and Arkiv both exchanged a look and they understood that both of them are disappointed.

"It seems like Silva city is still better than you guys. At least, they have proper planning and Grace put up a fight. You guys are too weak."

Arkiv said as he crouched and started tapping the face of the feathered. When he looked at the annoyed and outraged expression of him, he was satisfied and said with a smile.

"I want to ask since you know grace, does that mean you guys are of the same status?"

The expression of the feathered changed a bit.

"It seems like it is true, then you will make perfect hostages. I would like to see what the person in charge would think. To save their sons and give up the fragment or would they leave you for the sake of the goddess' orders?" Arkiv continued

"How dare you?" The feathered spoke.

PAK

A good slap landed straight on his face.

"I didn't let you talk my boy. Your job is just to stay put." Arkiv slapped and said this with a sweet and harmless smile.

Sam threw handcuffs that negate the spiritual energy usage and Arkiv proceeded to tie that guy up, meanwhile, Sam did the same with the second guy.

Boom *Boom*

While they are doing this, several explosive sounds could be heard from a direction. They looked at each other as they are a bit familiar with these explosive sounds.

These are sounds of grenades. They could easily guess who produced those sounds.

It has to be Arman.

Both of them shook their heads in disappointment. This means they have to take another one of those annoying journeys wasting their time.

But that could change if they could save some time from that. Sam really wished that someone would be holding a weapon fragment with them and

bring it back to the temple after they went back to the temple so that they could snatch it.

Anyway, first they have to get to Arman and make sure that everything is okay.

Sam threw the two guys into the chessboard and both of them ran towards the directions of the explosion.

After five minutes, they could still hear the explosions and soon they saw the blue lightning crackling all over the place.

Arman seemed to have finally started fighting.

When they reached the place, they saw him being surrounded by ten or so feathered who are trying to fight him from the sky, but Arman is like an agile but powerful monkey who is jumping around the trees and made the lightning strike one after another.

The feathered are the ones having a hard time.

He even took out the lightning blade saber and cleaved through the bunch. He seemed to be pretty pissed and soon they understood why, there is a burnt and ravaged patch of forest nearby which is still burning, and some of the trees charred in the middle of it, there are more than a dozen feathered lying dead.

It seems like he is totally frustrated by their constant pestering.

Even without them interfering the fight was over.

Arman finally relaxed a bit, but he still has the saber in his hands as he leaned against a tree and sat down panting.

Sam and Arkiv came out and started walking towards him.

"When did you guys come?" He asked without much surprise as if it is natural for them to be here.

"Well a few days actually, we came from the rear route so we have to take a detour around the city. So, how long since you escape, from the looks of it, the damage on the temple and the city are still fresh."

Arkiv asked in return.

"Yesterday. I actually worked together with the other guy."

"Who is it? Is it Akhil?" If it is that guy, it would be annoying. He is a piece of work in the forest."

"No, it is the guy from the thunderbolt sect. Donner."

"Okay, you guys worked together and escaped, so where is he now?"

"I don't know, we escaped in different routes out of the city and got chased by a large group of feathered, even though they had wings like birds, they are as annoying as flies, I couldn't take it anymore and deal with them."

While Arkiv and Arman are having a conversation, Sam is currently busy checking the surroundings. He is taking the corpses for the necromancy and such.

"So, how are you guys here this fast?"

"Well, we fell into the same city and I am the only one who got caught. This guy was still okay and managed to escape. So, it was easy. You know how resourceful he is, so I didn't even bother to escape and even managed to get some decent training." Arkiv explained.

"At least, it is nothing like the training I did. There are two pesky little shits in that city. They always leave us in a handicap to beat us up. I would really like to meet them once again."

"Are those two shadows?"

"How do you know?"

"Hehe."

While they are talking and cleaning up the mess, some other feathered who also saw the large commotion from afar are making their way here.

Sam took notice of them through the telescope and they made their escape.

They took a long detour and moved towards the front of the city.

There is not much they can do from the rear end or the side.

After they escaped, that night they had a proper meal and started discussing their future plan.

"So, what are we going to do next?" Arman asked Sam.

"Of course, we have to get the weapon fragment and leave this place. We didn't know how long it would take for you guys to make your way to the temple, since we finished it fast, we decided to check another city and get another fragment.

It is risky to not hold the fragment until the last minute.

If we only need one before the Palace we can manage, but if it's two, then it would be troublesome, that is why we came here.

Anyway, we will deal with this city just like we did with Silva city. But before that, we need to know about the details regarding the higher-ups.

The king and the priestess? How are they?"

"It is actually a queen and the priest here."

"Queen? So, are the two shadows her sons or just students and subordinates?"

"Of course they are sons. Those two fuckers are so important to her."

"Then it might get easy. We will start our plan from dawn tomorrow."

The next day they started working. The three of them scouted the area around the city. The size of the city and the layout are similar to that of Silva city.

The only difference is the distribution of trees in the forest.

Here the forest is not as dense as the forest around Silva city. But it is still alright.

Sam has a new plan for this.

For the next week, the three of them escaped the pursuit of the feathered and set up the traps so that they could finish this faster.

After it was done, Sam let the zoi termites out and made them clear a patch of the forest right in front of the entrance of the city, and in that patch, he crucified some of the feathered bodies. He stuck two recording crystals on their chests. One for each and waited for the other party to make the move.

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Chapter 843: Plan

Sam, Arkiv, and Arman are sitting on a tree.

The crucifixion was already noticed by the feathered city.

The open patch in the middle of the forest is not exactly hard to notice. But the feathered didn't touch the bodies, they just surrounded the area and looked around to see if they could find the three of them.

But the three of them are sitting far away looking at it through the telescope. Soon, they saw a person who seemed to have a high status come out of the entrance and enter this patch.

He saw the two crucified bodies, but he didn't touch it. He only touched the two recording crystals which is almost part of the skin now.

He looked at his subordinates and said.

"Take them down first and examine their bodies, before you take them in and perform the burial. Take those recording crystals out and see what is inside."

The soldiers started taking them down and pulled the crystals out.

For the first body, the crystal pulled some flesh along with it as if it was attached to it by some glue, but it still came out. On the other side, the second crystal took something else out.

There is some metallic piece attached to the recording crystal and as soon as they pulled it out...

BOOM

An explosion happened and the purple smoke spread all over along with the bright orange and blue flames.

When the dust settled, the person who pulled the crystal was dead, the people that are near him are also dead. The rest of the group standing there are all infected by the poison.

They could feel their blood burning and their bodies feeling weak and corroding.

Even the person that came and gave orders was the same.

Sam who is watching everything through the telescope spoke.

"When will they ever be smart enough to not just pull down the corpses directly without examining them? One-touch and use of spiritual sense would be enough."

"No one thinks that someone would use the dead bodies to set traps like this. What do you think of everyone? As retarded as you? They think normally, they assume that you have the decency to respect the dead bodies."

Arkiv replied snidely.

"Respecting dead bodies. I don't think there is a place for morals and virtues on a battlefield, particularly when one side is overpowering the other with numbers, strength, and resources. The highest level of respect I can give them is to use any means possible for me to defeat them. Any more than that, it is impossible for now."

"Just imagine your dead body being used like that? You wouldn't feel good right?" Arkiv asked as he looked at Sam.

Sam chuckled at Arkiv's persistence on this matter. This is what he has been doing for a while. Even though he didn't object, he did make sure that he didn't like it.

"Answer me, Sam. How would you feel if it was your body?"

"If my body turns into a dead body one day, then I will make sure that no one else is alive around me to use like that, I will make sure that no one would come anywhere near until my body becomes one with earth."

Arkiv didn't know what to speak of that. Sam continued with a smile.

"I don't know why you are so aversive to this method. But since you are like that, I didn't force you to use them. But remember this, you cannot provoke an enemy and expect them to fight in a way you want, you cannot ask help from an ally and criticize them on how they help. Both of them are hypocritical and entitled."

With that, they left to do the remaining tasks.

Meanwhile, at the explosion zone, the people that are still hurting with the poison are squealing in pain and the feathered who are stationed on the city walls came looking for him.

They shifted them to the barracks and collected all the dead bodies that could be collected before giving them proper rituals.

After finishing that, one of the soldiers took the recording crystal which was placed on the first dead body with him.

Since the person who pulled this out is not too close to the explosion, he managed to survive with some wounds and poison. But the survival is not for long. They were taken into heal, but the healer has no clue about the poison.

While the feathered threw them in the temple pools to see if they could save them, the Queen and Priest are looking at the recording crystal which was safe.

They saw the recording of the two shadows feathered.

The Queen's aura raged like she was set on fire.

"How dare they? How dare they capture my sons? I will kill them. I will kill them." The Queen yelled.

"Queen Rata, you cannot do that. The Goddess ordered that their lives shouldn't be harmed. But you can do as you want as long as they stayed alive. But before you could do anything to them. We have to capture.

I think it is about time we release all the city forces to search for them."

"Send them then. I want my sons back alive and well. If they were harmed in any way, I will crucify them alive and torture them until they wish they are dead."

The priest left to pass the orders.

The queen who flapped her dark black wings similar to that of the twins and flew out of the temple and stood on top of the arch to look over the city as she observed the forces leaving.

She really is angry.

As soon as the forces came out of the city...

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

A series of explosions happened one by one within the city.

Necromancy really does come in handy.

The forces that flew to the skies were shocked and halted in their tracks, while the queen felt the horror for the first time.

All this while she is angry and that is that, but now that she knew her opponents have the ability to cause explosions in the city like this, she felt like she should be more serious and consider her moves well.

She went to the nearest explosion zone and there was only one dead body and the body parts.

This caused her to become angrier and wary at the same time.

She called for the priest and ordered him to send all the forces and search for him properly without any delay.

And then she passed orders for a curfew.

After sending the soldiers out and arranging a camp for them right next to the city gate, she passed new orders.

A curfew was placed on the whole city.

No one should come out of their houses until they were ordered again.

Only a team of people will be moving to give the necessary rations of the cultivation resources and food they would be needing for the next few days until the situation changed.

So, as soon as Sam sent an undead acting like a living feathered inside the city, he was taken down easily, even though as soon as they caught the undead, Sam made him explode the grenade causing some damage, the precautions taken were still impressive.

After this incident, the rest of the infiltrators were attacked from afar without even touching to avoid unnecessary damage.

Sam who is observing this all, felt really impressed and surprised.

These measures are really decisive and proper.

If only the Silva city king took such measures, they would have lasted long. The Queen here didn't care if the people would complain or think that she is weak or they would panic imagining there is trouble, she decisively shoved them into their houses.

"Not bad. Let's go prepare for the next step. Before we ask for the exchange of the hostages and the fragment, we have to show her our strength.

Unfortunately, there is no stream passing through the city to show we can affect them differently, but we can do the same thing as before. Let us block the routes once again and strip them off the resources for now.

Also, let's attack the city walls in different positions and show them their weakness and finally kill as many soldiers as you can let the wights and ghouls make them undead and bring them to me. I will send some new gifts to the base instead of the city like they expected.

Let us see how they would manage to handle this. And Arman, you are in charge of the two shadows for an hour every day, pay them as you like, and record the video, we will send the daily updates to the Queen.

If by any chance the transcendent stage cultivators and the queen herself decide to join the fray, focus on running and hiding. Let us not engage with them for the time being.

I don't think we would as lucky as before for the Goddess to get angry at another ruler here.

Arman, I want to know details about the Queen. Every small one of them."

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Chapter 844: Threat

For the next week, everything went on fast-paced.

Sam didn't bother to hide the Wights and Ghouls, he even let the Minotaurs and Orangutans out and let them fight, while he and the beasts blocked the routes one by one.

Even though the forces of this city have more presence, they don't want to break the rules too. They are still trying to stay within their limits, but the Transcendent stage cultivators still came after the first blockage and it was left for Specter to deal with.

The specter teamed up with the Ghouls and Wights to deal with the transcendent stage feathered one by one as they are not searching in groups, even though there is some damage on this side, a proper ambush is all it takes.

Some wights got injured severely in the process and they had to be put back on the chessboard for recuperation. But still, the price was worth it for the transcendent stage feathered.

While the situation is like this, some of the Wights finally broke through. With all the vitality they absorbed from the trees in the Charbhum realm and this Planet, it was only a matter of time and it actually came at a perfect time.

Now he has more edge over the others.

The Queen inside the city is having the worst time though, every day their losses increased. And by the end of the week, there are almost ten transcendent stage cultivators down and Sam has blocked the two main routes directly with all the equipment in place.

The trade was halted completely. At least currently, the curfew is going on and it wouldn't impact much, but even the curfew is not a long-term solution, so they have to think of alternatives.

After the successful blockage of the first two, Sam is currently wrapping the presents for the kings and the soldiers.

He is currently operating on the undead feathered as he placed all the gifts within them.

After the wrapping is completed, the undead that almost looked like they are injured and running away all ran towards their camp near the city wall.

The leaders of the camp are already wary of these things, so one of them yelled at the top of his lungs.

"Halt right there and tell us your names and which unit you belong to."

But the undead didn't stop, they only listen to the Wights and Ghouls that made them. Not some random yelling feathered.

Seeing that they are not stopping at all, the captains ordered their teams to attack without any care.

The Undead have only one job to reach the camps and the soldiers made it their job to stop them.

But they couldn't do that as the wights are ghouls are controlling the undead properly, they don't even have to fight back, all they have to do is a dodge, block, or even absorb some attacks and take damage. As long as they reached the camp, everything is fine.

Even though some of the undead fell before they reached, most of them did and they pressed the triggers placed on their body.

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

The series of explosions could be heard all over near the city wall. The soldiers were thrown into chaos.

At this moment, Sam appeared on harbinger in the sky and started kicking the metal balls into the already existing frenzy.

After kicking that, he dropped a scroll right there before leaving.

Nobody cared why Sam is looking different from the two humans that escaped the temple. In fact, they don't have any time to care. They had to take care of their own.

The priest left the city and went to the explosion zone. He guided the soldiers and healers to save the people that could be saved and then finally picked up the scroll. After reading the contents, he brought it back to the Queen.

Queen looked at the scroll with a complicated gaze.

The contents of the scroll are simple and straightforward.

"We are not as weak as you think and this is only the beginning. If you want to risk the lives of your soldiers and the people, along with your sons, then

please continue what you are doing. If you don't want to do that, just for the sake of a self-centered goddess, give that weapon fragment and take your sons back.

If you don't make a decision by the dawn, I can help you make a decision. Wait for my next present."

With that, the message ended.

Looking at the Queen's angry and conflicting gaze, the priest spoke.

"Queen Rata, you cannot think of handing it over. Your sons are important but so is the word was given by the Goddess. I would like you to give me a chance. Even if we break the rules for a moment, she might forgive us, but if we give the fragment away, then we would be facing her full wrath."

"You have until dawn. If something happens to my sons, I will kill you for convincing me."

With that, the queen left.

The priest had a complicated gaze and flew out of the temple.

He wanted to take action himself because he knew that the Queen has an extremely soft spot for her sons. She would definitely let go of her queen position and live a normal life if it is for her sons, much less a meaningless weapon fragment that is just collecting dust under the temple.

While the priest took off to the forest, Sam completely nullified his activity. He took everyone with him and went into hiding.

He didn't attack, defend or make any other plans. He didn't want to go for a full war on this city like he did with the Silva city. The Queen here is more emotional than the King there and she spoiled her sons rotten. At least King Silva knew how to toughen his little girl up, but here these guys are nothing but pampered princes.

So, there is no way she would let them feel the pain and the suffering.

But Sam wondered about one thing though. The golden feathers.

Grace had multiple golden feathers on her position, but these two guys didn't which didn't add up at all.

So, Sam entered the chessboard and asked them.

At first, they didn't want to speak, but after some 'careful' and 'gentle' pampering, they did open their mouths.

It turned out the feathers are not just given, they are earned through the competitions held for the younger generation. The competitions are held in the central temple where all royals of the six cities gather along with their best fighters and Grace turned out to be the best of all of them.

And these golden feathers were the rewards from the goddess and only works for the feathered.

Sam is a bit disappointed after the whole explanation.

The functions of the golden feathers are not as good as he thought.

The night passed with the team running around the forest stealthily without doing anything and right before dawn, Sam sent the team to do their new tasks, they are preparing for something big, and Sam to prepare something for that.

After sending everyone, he entered the divine dimension and made a new toy. This is not actually completely new, this is just the modification of the sealing devices that restrict the cultivations by blocking the energy flow of the body.

He is modifying the seal in such a way that instead of just blocking the energy, it will forcefully inject the energy. But the latter part is difficult without any entity there to manipulate and direct the energy properly, which led to Sam using a spirit.

The spirit's job is to use the elemental energy from the elemental stones placed in the device to forcefully seal the energy of the body and then forcefully inject this energy into that body.

After making the arrangements, he ordered everyone to do their part.

The first step is to send a video to the city and that too directly to the queen. From what Sam heard from Arkiv, the priest here is some kind of nut job and he is scarier than the queen the whole time even though she is more powerful.

So, Sam made multiple videos and made them reach many soldiers along with a note telling them to deliver this to the queen.

While that is happening, he sent some presents to the city walls with less defense.

The forces mostly focused on guarding the front of the city as there are no side entrances and it would take a long time to take a detour.

So, Sam decided to attack these places on a large scale enough to scare the people who are still under curfew to be scared.

Then the final step, they have to wait for the queen to make her move.

When the queen saw the video Sam sent to her, she couldn't keep it to herself anymore.

She started weeping as she felt the sorrow and the rage hit her at the same time. If possible she wanted to kill them both, but the Goddess clearly stated that the weapon fragments could be lost if push comes to shove, but the players shouldn't be killed.

So, she has to control herself and decide.

When she was about to take the decision, the priest who got the wind of the news came to find her and see her state. When he saw the video, even he couldn't take it and felt suffocated. Even though he wanted to persuade her

otherwise, he couldn't bring himself to when he saw their situation. But when he saw the statue of Nike, he hardened himself and thought of a different idea.

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Chapter 845: Exchange

That day, there is no more activity from both of them. The search from the feathered was stopped completely and there is no one who came to search them.

Everything is silent.

After the next day has passed, Sam sent another video and a small scroll with the message to the queen with the silver pigeon.

The pigeon just dropped the message at the entrance of the temple and returned.

The message is simple.

It is the place and time for the exchange of the hostage for the weapon fragment. But before that, they have to do some preparations according to his instructions and then only they will exchange.

When the priest took a look at the requirements he rejected them immediately.

"Queen Rata, this is complete nonsense, you cannot possibly think of agreeing to his demands at all. He is just using your love for your sons to do all this."

"Then what do you want me to do? My sons are being tortured as we speak. Their bodies wouldn't be able to take it."

"Then agree to my plan. We would be able to take them down easily. They are only a couple of humans."

"What couple of humans? When will you stop underestimating others and overestimating us? You don't know anything. You don't know what kind of world is outside this planet.

You don't know what humans are actually capable of.

The goddess you pray so much is not invincible against them. Do you think that she ordered us to not kill them because she is fair, just, and kind? Because she is afraid to do anything to them. She is afraid that someone would come knocking on her door and that knock would be enough to destroy her whole mansion.

If you don't know anything just shut up and stay put., Don't downplay their abilities."

Her sudden outburst made him feel a bit lost. The priest didn't expect that not only would Queen speak like this, but she is also even thrashing the goddess.

At first, he thought she is just speaking out of her anger, but when he carefully ruminated on her words, he understood that she gave a lot of information unknowingly.

He took a bit time for himself and thought of something.

He flew back to the Queen and told her his plan and now all they have to do is wait for the time to come.

Sam and his group are all in their positions waiting for the feathered to come here.

This time, the situation is a bit different. He didn't just call for representatives and some transcendent stage cultivators to pick up the hostages, rather he called for the Queen and the Priest.

The next morning at dawn the forces of the city are all moving to the side of the city. They just left the front gate open and stayed in a formation.

Meanwhile, the Priest and the Queen moved out of the city. Only two of them.

The rest of the transcendent stage cultivators started following them after fifteen minutes.

Sam is using the telescope and started following them from afar as he traced their path and after they crossed every major point Sam marked, he let the wights and ghouls out to take their positions.

Arkiv and Arman are in their own positions already.

After everything was set in place, Arman finally appeared before the Priest and Queen along with the two feathered.

The shadow feathered.

Currently, they are in the worst state they could be and there is not a single thing they could do about it.

Their shadow elemental fusion was activated, but there are golden lines all over their body. This is because of the modified seals Sam, placed on them.

He forced them to use the shadow fusion and then placed the seals in the middle of the process. The seals contained the light elemental stones and the light elemental energy which contradicts the shadow a lot is being injected forcefully into their bodies. This caused their body to be a battlefield between the two contrasting elemental energies.

Hindering their motion, breathing, thinking, and any other physical or mental activity.

When Queen Rata saw her sons in such a state, she was angry and furious and her aura raged crazily and Arman felt the pressure.

But he just placed his hands on the necks of the two guys and their screams made her calm down.

"Brought what I want?" Arman asked coldly after the pressure was lifted.

She threw something at him and Arman caught it. Sam who is standing from afar looked at the object that flew across through the telescope and frowned.

He couldn't examine it properly but he felt like something was off. For them to throw the fragment without any resistance and insistence to send the hostages first, this is not normal.

Arman is currently wearing a communication device that is like a Bluetooth headset, Sam was about to say something, but he saw something else in the background and got distracted by that for a second and Arman let the hostages go, he jumped back and threw a key towards the Queen and said.

"The lock would be open if he uses his fire elemental energy for a half-an-hour with proper concentration and after that, you have to clean the body of the light elemental energy immediately and maintain the cleansing process for one hour. If not, they will have permanent damage." Arman said while he took a step back.

At this moment, Sam spoke into the communication device.

"Arman be careful. Something is coming from your left."

Arman turned around to see. There is a Azure lightning growing brightly.

"Shit, why did this fucker come now of all times?" Arman cursed and took out his saber. The blue lightning covered his whole body as he ran backwards.

Sam looked at the situation and informed Arkiv.

"Arkiv, do your thing."

Immediately, Arkiv who is hiding near the camp of the transcendent stage cultivators that are following the queen and the Priest from a distance and shot an arrow at the group.

The wights and ghouls who are in their position started shooting the metal balls and other things full of poison. There are some fire elemental ghouls and Wights, so they could handle it.

The poison grenades, the spikes full of poison smoke, the pin grenades and the undead bombs that are constantly blasted over the group are all in full swing and the ghouls and Wights started retreating, but not before they activated a couple of soul formations on the already injured group.

Sam didn't want to use the undying flames, that is why he put the exchange in the morning instead of night.

Meanwhile, Sam took out the hover car and moved towards Arkiv. He picked him and collected the ghouls and wights into the chess board.

Arman is still running the direction of the city as he threw the fragment in his spatial storage. Donner is after him with a battle hammer swing lightning strikes from a far. Arman is repelling them with his own saber lighting strikes.

The forest is full of flashes.

After Sam Arkiv up, he moved towards Arman's location.

While the Queen and the Priest are busy saving the two guys and the transcendent stage feathered are enduring the horrors of the poison and stuff.

Sam finally arrived at the entrance of the city along with Arkiv.

Arman and Donner are fighting like crazy as they created a destroyed path in the forest. Both of them are caught up in a fight within that route and just when Arman was finally about to create a distance and jump on the car, Donner caught up and held him tightly.

He took the stab of the saber to his chest and hit the battle hammer on Arman's leg prompting both of them to drop their weapons and get exchanged in a fierce grapple.

The lightning element flew around and destroyed the surroundings while both of them didn't let go.

Arman wants to get out of the lock, but Donner is hell bent on taking him on.

All the commotion got the remaining forces to be alerted.

"We have to help him." Sam said and came out of the car along with Arkiv.

Donner was evenly matched with Arman and he has only one goal at the moment and that is not even to defeat Arman, he only needs the spatial ring that has the fragment.

When Arman saw the both of them coming out, he made an attack that damaged both of them and ran backwards. He took out the fragment from the storage and threw it towards Sam.

Sam jumped upwards to catch it, but Donner threw the battle hammer towards Sam. The hammer flew with Azure lightning and with the amount of power it packed, Sam had to dodge it, but Arkiv who is behind shot an arrow at the fragment so that Donner wouldn't get a hold it.

But Donner didn't seem to have cared, all of a sudden a blood drop appeared in his hand and Sam was shocked. This the blood art that was given to the rest of the Players.

The hammer that Sam just dodged flew back to Donner and it has some new patterns.

He didn't go for Arkiv or Arman who is already injured, rather he went straight for Sam without care and used his full power.

He is as fast and forceful as a bolt of lightning.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 846: Secrets of the Temples

Sam didn't have time to dodge. Donner is that fast. So, he tried to block the attack with all his might as he activated the earth elemental fusion.

But even before the fusion could be completed, he felt the heavy impact on his chest throwing him off.

Sam felt his bones crack and lungs shake as he spat a mouthful of blood.

Donner didn't even bother to follow up with that and took the weapon fragment on the ground before running into the city.

He ran towards the temple and all the three of them could see a streak of lightning. Arman who is already injured was also about to use the blood art, but Sam stopped him as the three of them took off in the car as they followed Donner.

Sam was really impressed by Donner's speed because he is almost as fast as the Hover car, which should have been basically impossible normally, but with the blood art, it is possible.

Donner's use of lightning is a bit different. While Arman has the chaos under control and used it precisely, Donner let it have a free reign as it liked. It can even be seen in the way he is running with the help of lightning and it actually suits his battle style using the hammer.

Soon they entered deep into the city and are moving towards the temple.

Meanwhile, back at the hostage exchange point.

"Why are there more humans here? Are they not supposed to be only two? Where did the other two come from?"

The Queen asked the priest.

"I don't know. Nobody noticed anything odd at all. We didn't even suspect anything before much less know that they are here."

"Are they from another city?" She asked while she channeled the dark elemental energy into her sons' bodies to ease their pain.

"I don't know. But if they are really from other cities and they already got the weapon fragments, wouldn't that mean..."

He trailed off at that and looked at the city where the lightning is rattling constantly.

While they are contemplating something, the chase in the city already entered the temple. Donner is aiming for the back entrance so that he could leave the city and be on his journey to the forest.

When they are in the central hall, Sam involuntarily looked at the familiar place and the majestic statue in the middle, and when his eyes landed on the base of the statue, he felt that something is odd. But he still continued the chase.

But just when they were about to exit the temple through the rear exit, he stopped the hovercar and thought of something, he forgot because of all the frenzy.

He turned the car around back to the temple to take a look and when he looked at the surroundings, he remembered many things he saw in the Silva temple and the Central temple. He couldn't help but smile.

Arkiv and Arman are a bit frustrated and anxious that they would let Donner slip.

"Don't worry, we would get the weapon fragment, sooner or later. But I think I found something crucial here."

With that, they stayed there for over half an hour.

When Sam was doing his thing, Arkiv and Arman were surprised by his actions and what he got.

By the time they are finished, the forces of the feathered are already coming to the temple. The three of them once again took off in the hovercar and zoomed into the forest.

"Can we catch up to him?"

Arkiv asked as he looked around. His eyes are glowing weirdly. This is his very own eye technique.

He is an archer after all.

"I think we will. You should know about blood art better than I do. He is bound to be exhausted sooner or later."

"Yeah, he would. But he is really good at hiding.

In the past two weeks, while we are working, he not only managed to avoid the transcendent stage feathered and other forces, he also managed to hide from us."

Arman replied from the side.

"Well, you don't have to worry about hiding in this route. The beasts wouldn't let you hide even if you want to. They are annoying.

As they spoke, both of them got caught up with Donner who is fighting with a bunch of beasts.

Arkiv opened the door of the hovering car and climbed to the top of the roof with his bow.

He started shooting Donner while taking advantage of his perilous situation.

But Donner is no soft persimmon, he just broke through the deadlock and diverted the beasts towards the car and Arkiv.

They clashed continuously and the rest of the journey continued in similar circumstances.

Donner would go forward and clash with the beasts, Sam and the team tried to attack him and he would either attack them back or let the beasts hinder them while he escaped.

This made the journey which is supposed to be over in forty days to take sixty days.

Now, they are in the middle of the seventh month by the time they reached the central temple.

Donner entered the temple hurriedly and took a battle stance as he looked at Sam, Arkiv, and Arman who came out of the car.

"We are already at the temple, so leave me alone. The fragment is mine."

Sam just smiled and said.

"Sure."

With that, he left the place and went to one of the temple halls along with Arkiv and Arman.

In Silva city's temple which is completely covered with rubble and almost destroyed, Sam saw some intricate inner mechanisms that could lead to something. An entrance, a defensive system, or something. But he didn't think much as he couldn't understand it too much because of its destroyed state.

At most he thought it was just normal secret storage or locker, just like the place they stored the weapon fragment.

After he came to the Central temple, he roamed around the temple for around fifteen days and set up many traps here by taking advantage of the architectural structures of the whole temple and in the process, he entered many small temple halls that are here.

The temple halls have various sculptors and engravings depicting many things. Some showing Nike's might, some showing her stories with Zeus and her devotion to him, and some showing the process of the temple construction.

But the one thing that made him interested the most is the exact replication of the temples.

The small temples within the temple grounds here are the same as the temples that are in the six cities.

The temple grounds are structured in such a way.

That there is one larger temple and six smaller temples surrounding the large one and some temple halls and other structures surrounding these six smaller temples.

At first, he didn't care much about the six smaller temples and the engravings on them. But now that he saw the temple in the Rata city, he understood the resemblance.

That is why he halted in his tracks to check some things in the temples and revelations astounded him and his friends.

Now that he learned these six smaller temples resemble the ones in the cities, he wants to see what he could find.

So, he went to the temple that looked similar to the one in the Rata city and started moving the statues and other things.

There are many secret levers and cogs that he moved and rearranged some.

Arman is sitting on the steps at the entrance with a saber as he looked at Donner who is meditating far away.

He is wary of him. Because the sounds coming from the temple are extremely loud and it would be weird if Donner didn't become curious.

After Sam worked for an hour or so, the whole setup moved and a secret door was opened which has stairs leading to an underground area.

When Sam entered, the tunnel which was completely dark was illuminated all of a sudden as the formation is activated.

When he entered the cave, there are some engravings of words and images all over.

He carefully read all of them and finally, he arrived at the large opening this place led them to.

Inside there is a book glowing brightly.

Sam picked the book up and looked into it.

RATA.

The word was written on the cover page. When he opened the book, there are a few lines on the first page.

"If you are not from the Rata branch of the feathered. This book has no use for you."

After some examining through the book which described a cultivation technique that he couldn't practice, he looked around in the room and finally found something. An engraving.

There are a few more words written there.

"This book is the property of the Rata branch of the feathered race.

This is the lost secret art of the race which was placed here by Nike. If you are here, then that means, you are not from the feathered race. Nike placed a curse on this world and this path can only be accessible by people that are not from the feathered race.

But this book has no use for you no matter who you are. It can only work in the hands of the Rata Feathered and the art can only be learned by them.

So, if you don't mind. Please hand this book over to them."

The plaque is destroyed and only pieces of it were left which compiled this message.

Sam was a bit confused. But he threw the book into his divine dimension and left.

He wanted to see if he can find out what is inside the other temples. But thought was bugging him.

If it was this easy to crack the code of the temple, why didn't the feathered race obtain this book earlier?

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 847: Players Gathered

Sam walked to the Silva temple and wanted to crack the code of the temple too.

But while he was doing so, several thoughts are eating his mind.

It is easy to crack the code, once they identify the similarities between the two temples. And Sam is not narcissistic enough to think that he is the only guy who managed to guess the purpose of the similarities in tens of centuries.

But that raises the question, why it was not opened until now?

Sam doesn't know, but he wants to know that. As for how to know that, the only way he could think of for now is to try and open other temples and see if he could find any plaques similar to the one that was in the Rata temple.

It also stated that the path wouldn't open for feathered. Sam would like to know the reason and find the whole story so that he could think of ways to utilize it to his own benefit.

So, he started working. For the Rata temple, he already had the required info and knowledge from the city. But for the rest he didn't.

The closest he had is the Silva temple which he is trying to open next.

He managed to finish half of the process within an hour and that is as far as his information could lead him.

And the rest of the process is going to be a night mare.

Sam started decoding the unlocking procedure with only the clues left here and for that just observing with eyes is not enough.

He started looking at the mechanisms, walls, pillars, statues and every inch of them with the observation ability.

He couldn't even afford to leave a single millimeter of the stone brick of a temple unexamined, if he really wants to open it.

The process is long and testing his patience.

He really wanted to just give it up in the middle. But he didn't because, before he took any decision, he wanted to see if it was all worth it. So, he took the book to the second floor of the divine dimension.

He started simulating the whole process of the art is a body that was described in the book to a very minute detail.

When he was done with the whole process, he was stunned. Until now, he really underestimated the feathered and their potential. So much, that he didn't even bother to collect them in his chess board. But now that he saw this, he felt like he should do that.

The art is actually suitable for the feathered with the shadow elemental affinity, which is the Rata family branch. But the family bloodline is so thin that barely three to four people are carrying the bloodline for the next generation

and this time, it is still two and they are the twins and the previous generation is obviously the queen.

Sam doesn't know what kind of elemental affinity that Silva family has. But from the looks of it there is a great possibility that they are of wind element.

He really wants to see what could feathered do if they got their hands on this method. He might even reconsider collecting a few. In fact the heirs of each city and make them practice technique. He would have another powerful force with him that he could deploy in a different business branch of his.

So, he went back to work.

For the next ten days he worked his ass off to unlock the second temple.

For some reason the normal spiritual sense is not actually going through the walls and the stones of temple.

He couldn't even see the stone structure, much less the contents beyond the stone structure.

After Sam got the book from Silva temple, he moved to the next one.

Now that he has the experience with these mechanisms Sam started getting the hang of it a bit and sped up a bit, but he is sure that that it would take at least twenty days for the third one.

But what he is not sure about or he didn't know about is that as soon as he took the book in the temple, something happened in Rata city.

The temple's central hall started glowing and the statues of Nike shook wildly before shattering into pieces.

In the place of the statues, a pillar came out with the name of RATA written on it along with an engraved sculptor of a feathered in shadow form.

The same thing happened in Silva city with the only differences being the statues already being mostly destroyed and the names and engraved sculptors are different.

The Queen and the King on both places was astonished and they ordered their subordinates.

"We are going to the Central temple, be prepared."

But they couldn't go immediately, because they had to take care of the damage caused by Sam's visit on the two places.

In actual fact, their orders were to not care about the central temple or the players after the players get the weapon fragment.

But now that is not going to happen. They want to go back to the central temple.

Queen Rata is visiting the top floor of the temple every day after this phenomenon.

There is a large silver plate with a single pillar of black light floating over it. That is the only thing she could see every night.

After the Silva temple is open though, she saw another pillar of light.

She immediately ran towards the plate and cut her palm to drop some blood on it.

The silver plate glowed brightly and the pillars of light disappeared.

"King Silva? King Silva?"

She started called as she looked at the Silver plate.

Soon the glow disappeared and an image appeared on it.

The image of King Silva.

"King Silva, your temple opened as well?"

"Yes, just now. I am guessing your temple opened earlier."

"Yes."

"It seems like the feathered are finally going to be freed from the shackles."

"I think so too. We are planning to go to the Central temple. Maybe these players coming here is for our boon instead of a curse."

"It is a boon for us. We are also planning to go there. But not this early. We are planning to be there in three and a half months.

By then, all the players would have gathered there and we wouldn't have trouble at all. If every temple opens, we all have to be there to activate the central temple. Even if they didn't make it by then, we can wait until their event is completed and ask whoever opened this to open the rest.

This is the closest we have come to freedom.

For some reason Nike is not reacting now. So this is the only chance we would get."

"We will be there then."

With that the communication was cut off.

Meanwhile, back in the central temple after Sam finished off the second temple and moved to third, the next batch of players came.

This time it was Noah who happened to land solo in a city and came here with the weapon fragment.

After a few days, Agun came along with Kumar and both of them were fighting like crazy.

Sam sped up the process of unlocking and in the next month he unlocked two temples.

Every player became curious over this. They knew that Sam wouldn't do anything unnecessary. For him to take so much time out of all this, they felt like there is something precious here.

By the end of ten and a half months, every temple was unlocked. But when Sam was on the final stage of unlocking the last temple, he heard a commotion outside. He finished the process quickly and went outside to take a look and he was surprised by what he saw.

It is arrival of the last two players. The only path that was left unchecked.

Akhil and Dayus are coming from there. But not in a normal way.

A bunch of feathered are following them while holding Akhil like a prisoner.

Every other player was alerted.

Sam felt amused and walked forward with the rest of them.

As soon as Dayus arrived in the temple with the rest of them, Akhil who acted weak moved all of a sudden and kicked in the groin of the feathered that is holding him and escaped with his shackles.

He ran towards Sam and asked.

"Help me with these please."

Sam placed his hands on the shackles and turned them into powder in a few seconds.

The feathered wanted to follow, but Dayus waved his hand to stop them from moving forward.

"No need. There is no use holding him down here anyway."

Arkiv who has contacts with everyone spoke.

"You have some pretty good following here Dayus."

Dayus looked at him with a side eye and spoke.

"Agun, Donner. Do you have your fragments?"

Donner nodded and went away and Agun shook his head. Kumar held the fragment there.

The three players were united and they are all looking at the rest of the players with a hint of pride. They really felt they already won because they are sure they would get another fragment.

Dayus swept them with a look and said.

"Let us show our hands. Who has the fragments and who doesn't?"

Everyone didn't mind. Agun didn't have the fragment. Sam and Arkiv also raised their hands. He looked at the rest of the people who didn't have any fragments.

"Well, I need one more fragment for my teammate Agun here. If one of you hands it over, then we will not fight it out with you. I think it is better if Arman hands it over. After all, you guys are a team of three and you don't have two, so it will be even."

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 848: Arrival

Sam looked at Dayus with a raised eyebrow.

There is a reason why he gave the fragment to Arkiv. Because Arkiv also has lightning elements and he is a perfect competition for Dayus, he wanted to create some tension and make the three, Dayus, Agun, and Donner to come at him, Arkiv and Arman.

It is better than going after them to hunt for weapon fragments.

And it seems like his plan worked.

"You know it is not going to happen. Just get on with it already."

Arkiv spoke and the tension started building up in the group. Nobody knows who is going to make the first move and in the end, it is Agun that made the first move.

He is the most impatient of the group. He threw a giant ball of flame towards Arman and ran after it to get closer.

He expected a return attack or something like that, but to his surprise, nothing of that sort came.

Sam started running away without any shame. In fact, there is a smirk on his face and the duo followed him.

The rest of the group started clashing as well and the frenzy of the feathered following Dayus is only an additional nuisance in all this.

After running for a while, Sam jumped up and stood on a large stone pillar, and closed his eyes.

Arkiv and Arman also jumped to the nearest stone pillar and got ready with their attacks.

The sky was covered with blue lightning while started shooting like crazy.

Before the rest of the followers could notice what is happening, explosions occurred in the surroundings.

The group of feathered were completely caught in it while the three players managed to defend themselves a bit.

But that is only temporary.

As soon as they were distracted by the explosions, Arkiv and Arman attacked.

Arman's lightning strikes landed continuously without any break, but two of the three players following them are actually the lightning users as well.

So, it is not an ideal element to fight here. But it is a good thing that is mostly there for support, to distract the three of them as Arkiv attacked.

The arrows pierced through the dusty smoke and reached their targets.

By the time the dust cleared, Sam disappeared along with his two teammates.

The same situation happened again and again.

The numbers of the feathered are dwindling like crazy while the three players are getting exhausted.

And that exhaustion led to confusion and before they knew it, they are inside a pit, Sam has prepared before.

The gravity of the pit is increased by many folds and they couldn't just jump up. Right when they thought they got the hold of the gravity, it would change and make them plant their faces into the ground.

The feathered that are flying was also dragged to the ground because of the gravitational pull.

"Sam, let us get out of here."

Dayus screamed at the top of his lungs. But Sam didn't care.

He sat at the edge of the pit with his teammates and said.

"Give me your fragment and I will leave you guys alone. I won't participate in the rest of the fight."

"You wish."

Dayus said angrily.

"I am only asking for one. But that has to be yours. You are a team of three, I am pretty sure you can handle the rest, if I leave you now."

"Why should it be mine?" Dayus asked suspiciously.

"Because, I didn't like the condescending way you talked to me earlier. It has to be you. Otherwise there is no deal. Even your survival is in your hands.

After all, there is no rule against killing other players."

"Like hell, you would kill me. If you did that you would be isolated by the rest of them."

"Are you sure about that? Is it really me they are going to isolate? Or someone who teamed up with locals to fight with the fellow players."

As he spoke, Dayus started laughing as he looked in a certain direction.

Sam looked in that direction only to see some feathered coming over. He looked at Dayus and said.

"Do you think you are the only one who can amass numbers? I just didn't want to use them with the fellow players."

With a wave of his hands the ghoul team and Wight team, all came out of the chessboard.

"This is only half of it. Do you want more?"

With another wave of hand Yanwu and the rest of the beasts came out.

"You seemed to have forgotten that I am the most resourceful guy here. Now be a good lad and give me that weapon fragment before things get out of hand. After all, I am sure that I won't be able to hold back anymore. My patience is running thin."

Dayus felt conflicted but he couldn't do anything for now. Even though the gravity pit problem is temporary and they will eventually figure out a way, Sam seemed like he nicked every corner of the temple in traps.

"You guys are three and you would only have two if I give you one. Why are not asking for two."

This is the only suspicion that the three people in the pit have in common.

"It is none of your business. Give me one and I will stay out of your way for the rest of the game, even if I want to join in and get another one, it wouldn't be from you. Deal?"

Dayus was conflicted a bit, but he still nodded.

"Deal."

Dayus took his weapon fragment and threw it towards Sam who caught it and left the area with the ghouls and Wights back in the chessboard.

After Sam left, the gravity effect on the pit disappeared and the three of them came out.

"Let us go. We have to make sure we get two fragments."

Sam and his teammates just walked out of the battlefield and sat at the steps of the largest central temple, which is also the main temple.

This temple has a compound of itself inside the walls and it is highly likely that palace of inheritance might appear there.

While Sam is waiting the rest of the candidates fought with tooth and nail to get a weapon fragment for themselves.

Noah is still holding on to hers for now while Kumar and another person from the Herb garden are still trying their best to fight it out within themselves.

But the battle continued intensely.

The trio of Dayus, Agun, and Donner are met with some serious resistance as the rest of the candidates, whether they had a fragment are not extremely fond of their way of doing things.

This is not exactly a great thing after all.

The battle went on for days.

Akhil is going after the trio fearlessly. He seemed to have really held a grudge against Dayus. He is relentless in his attacks and didn't hold back.

Every attack seemed to have been aiming for a kill.

While the situation is like this, time passed and there were only fifteen days till the next Palace of inheritance.

All the candidates came to a consensus that they wouldn't fight in the last week before the Palace of inheritance. Which means they only have a week for now.

While the situation is already tense, something else happened. A group of feathered led by King Silva just came out of the route from the Silva city.

Sam was completely surprised and alerted at the same time. While he is contemplating on what could the reason be, Queen Rata did the same and the rest of the routes soon followed.

Within the same day, all six kings or queens came along with a large group of feathered with them.

All the players stopped their battle as they felt a bit nervous. Even though they are strong and they might be able to take some Transcendent stage cultivators on if they really tried, this kind of lineup is too much for them.

They don't know what to do.

Sam who has a relatively amicable relationship with King Silva looked at him in askance. King Silva gestured for Grace to move forward and explain the situation to him.

She flew towards Sam and whispered to him.

"We are here because someone unlocked the secrets of the temples here. We need to talk to that person. Is that you?"

"Secrets of the temples?"

"Yes, one of you unlocked the temples and according to my father, there should be a book under it. We need that book."

"Why do you need that?"

"Is it really you?" Her eyes brightened. At this moment, Arkiv came from the side and pulled her by her wing, and said.

"Why are you whispering to him so closely? You can talk normally."

"Is it a friendly exchange or a serious one?" Sam asked Grace.

"This is a friendly exchange. We are not here to threaten anyone. But we don't want to be played either. I hope you can make the decision."

"I want to talk to your father privately. Only me and him." Sam replied after some thought.

"I will ask him."

She flew back and asked her father.

Who nodded and both of them walked into the Silva temple.

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 849: Palace Appeared

Sam and Silva stood in the Silva temple.

Silva looked at the still open secret door and was pleased to see that. He went to the central statue and started rotating it back and the secret door slowly started closing.

It took around a hundred or so turns to do that and after the secret door is closed, the statues started moving and slowly disappeared into the slots that are replaced by pillars similar to that of the ones in the Silva city.

Sam was surprised.

"It seems like you did this accidentally, you didn't know that you should close the temple back."

"Not exactly accidental. I saw that there is a resemblance between the temple here and the temple in the city, so I wanted to see if there is anything hidden and it seems like it is real."

"You really are our boon. I will come straight to the point. We want those books. What do you want in return?"

"Before we discuss further and come to a decision, tell me something. Why didn't you guys open these earlier? From the information I gathered, you cannot enter the path, but you could send a beast, an undead creature, or something else. There are other options for you.

Why did you wait all these years?"

"It is not like we wanted to wait. We were forced to wait. First of all, every person that was born on this planet is bound to follow the rules of Goddess Nike, they are trained and bred in such a way. Only after we leave this planet would we learn the real truth.

We are not actually the descendants of Nike. She is just like any other feathered. In fact, she didn't belong to any of the six main branches.

We don't know how she managed to become what she became today. But after she attained those heights, she didn't want another feathered to attain the same heights, so she stole the secret arts of the six main branches, but the ancestors who are on the verge of death after the battle with her managed to use their bodies and souls as a sacrifice to seal those arts within the planet.

To prevent Nike who can take over any feathered body with the possession just like she did with me, to get these books, they made sure that anyone from the feathered race wouldn't be able to take it.

As for opening it. We were brainwashed since childhood and even though we knew that there is something hidden inside, we are not allowed to go there and in fact, for the children and youngsters, the secret rooms are actually the prisons for the spirits of the demons that tried to annihilate the Feathered race.

That was what we were taught.

The people who left this planet after reaching the transcendent stage peak will learn what exactly is happening but it is already too late.

Once we go there, we would be fed with Pill of servitude to not talk or do anything about this and only one from each generation will return to this place as a Consummate and I will wait for the next Consummate level feathered to appear in my city and go back to that place.

This is what happens.

Nike is not our goddess, she is just a petty self-centered woman who wants to feel revered and validated constantly.

Once a consummate level person appeared from each of the six branches while cultivating this technique, they would be able to unseal the curse that is making Nike able to access this place.

Even though the wormholes and portals connecting this planet to the other are destroyed, at least we won't die if we break through the Consummate level in this place."

Sam was surprised when he heard that.

"You don't have any other transportation methods to other realms from here?"

"No."

"Well, it seems like we can really make a proper deal. But there is one condition to proceed."

"What is it?"

"You guys have to wait until our test is over. It will start fifteen days later and it might take a few days to few weeks, I want you to wait until then and we can discuss it after that. I have all six books and the rest of the players don't need to get involved in this mess.

You can discuss with the rest and come to a conclusion."

"There is no need to discuss. Since it is with you, we will wait for now. But we take our temples as the residence."

"Sure, but for the next week, the battle would be intense. So, don't let your youngsters get in the way, those guys wouldn't hesitate to kill."

"Okay."

With that, the discussion is over and the battle went on and on.

The last week was pretty intense and the players destroyed a good portion of the temple properties. Most of them are Nike's things so there is no problem for the feathered.

Even though the youngsters wanted to stop that and retaliate, but the kings and queens stopped them from doing anything stupid.

By the end of the week, everyone stopped.

Now from the count, the six people that have the fragments are Arkiv, Arman, Donner, Dayus, Noah, and Akhil.

Akhil actually went after the trio to get the fragment at first, but they came to a truce for a while where the trio took it from Kumar.

As soon as they did that, Akhil went and got that one, then the trio had to move to another batch to get the second one.

If possible they wanted three. But Agun has to compromise as he doesn't have a lightning element and it is not as beneficial to him as it is for his teammates.

For the next week, everyone is healing and recovering from the whole commotion.

And finally, their entry badges which are in their spiritual sea started reacting on one day.

The Palace of Inheritance appeared and the badges are guiding them towards the entrance of the central temple.

Everyone who has a fragment walked towards it. But when they saw Sam walking towards it, they are a bit surprised.

"Where are you going?" Agun asked from the rear.

Sam took out a weapon fragment which is actually a piece of the shaft of the spear and said.

"I have one so I am going."

Everyone else was surprised, but the one that was most surprised is actually Donner. He took out his own fragment and took a look.

It looked exactly similar to the one Sam has in his hands.

"How is that possible?" Donner asked as there is a faint sense of dread in his heart.

"It is possible because the fragment you have is fake," Sam answered nonchalantly.

"Fake?"

Donner looked at Queen Rata who is standing in the back far away.

She just shrugged which made Donner feel a bit helpless.

"You guys were in on this?"

"No, actually. It was their plan to put a fake instead of a real one in the exchange, but too bad they didn't know we two are there until the last minute and they also don't know we already got the fragment from Silva city and we know where it is hidden.

So, when we are escaping, I noticed that the mechanisms in the temple are not active, so I went on check while I was checking something else.

Too bad, you fell for the act."

The act Sam is talking about him trying to attack Donner all the way back to the temple.

They battled constantly as if they are really trying their best to get the weapon fragment from him.

Donner became angry and threw the piece of metal at Sam.

It was surrounded by the blue-colored lightning. Sam's hands were covered with silver lightning as he caught the metal piece.

"Better luck next time."

With that he walked forward with the fragment in his hands along with the rest of the players.

When they entered the temple's main door, they went through that familiar feeling and reached the main hall of the Palace of inheritance.

But as soon as they did that, the weapon fragments disappeared from their hands.

The Avatar stood there and said.

"You don't have to worry about too much in this Palace of inheritance.

The tests are direct and easy to understand and they are directly relevant to your strength.

Pick a room and go in.

You have to stay in there for two days to get over the first round. Then four for the second round, eight for the third round, and ten for the fourth round.

If more than one person finishes the fourth round, then you will have a final battle.

Until then you wouldn't have contact with anyone.

You can use any form of medicine and standard weapons. You cannot use special weapons, consumable weapons, and even the formation flags and inscription ink are banned inside.

You can only battle directly. Even your beast pets and companions are not allowed.

All you have to do is fight and endure the circumstances.

All the best."

RE-BIRTH OF A GENIUS. CREATOR/DESTROYER

Chapter 850: Test

Sam opened the door and walked into the room.

The whole room is completely empty. There is nothing else except for a circle in the middle.

A circle big enough for a person to stand properly. He walked towards the circle and stood there.

Suddenly the whole room started glowing with a purple electric glow and in holographic hourglass with white sand could be seen dropping slowly.

A screen appeared with Round 1 written on it.

At this moment, the whole room seemed to have changed. Lightning started raining down on Sam from the top of the room.

He dodged it hurriedly, but it didn't stop. Several lightning strikes started falling one after another. Each strike is extremely strong and chaotic. Full of deadly lightning energy.

Sam doesn't even know if he could take it without flinching. He looked at the ceiling to see if he could get any visual on that. But as soon as he did that. The lightning suddenly came from the sides and hit him.

He fell forward and felt like his muscles were all swollen up for a second.

"It is better if you don't look up."

The Avatar's voice could be heard in his mind.

Sam stood up slowly and looked around. The lightning strikes are still falling, but it was not too difficult to dodge. If he used the lightning element, he is confident that he can take them all directly without too much of a problem.

It is not that big of a test. At least until the moment, he thought like that.

Because at that moment a few silhouettes started forming from thin air and six feathered appeared.

But they are a bit different from normal feathered. These guys are actually wearing a full body armor. Only their wings and eyes are exposed outside. Even the hands are covered by metal gloves.

Every one of them is holding a spear.

Sam just stood there as he waited for them to move.

The six feathered are currently surrounding Sam and all their spears are held towards him and they stabbed simultaneously, all at the same moment. Sam ducked the stab as he crouched on the ground and slid to the side.

He held the legs of the feathered and forcefully took him down and rolled over making sure that he is not exposed to the rest of the five feathered.

His arms turned metallic and fingers turned sharp as he stabbed into the armor with his palm and hit directly at the heart.

When the lightning was about to strike Sam he threw the body upwards to block it and moved forward to take on another feathered.

When a spear came flying towards him, he dodged that and jumped towards the feathered in front of him like a cat and took him down once again. This time, his metallic hands are targeted at their wings.

The wings were cut down and he stabbed the heart through that hole.

The rest of the group are showing no emotions, not even a bit of rage, anger or even a flinch when he killed them like they are nothing.

They seemed extremely robotic and they are not using their wings.

There is no one flying around. The wings are more of a hindrance.

There is no challenge except for the lightning dodging.

He made quick work of the rest of the group and was done with it.

At this moment another bunch of silhouettes started forming in the air and another bunch of feathered came out of nowhere.

Then came another six feathered with the same type of armor. But this time, they are flying, and unlike before they also have elements.

And the battle began once again.

Sam didn't even get a second to rest. Not that he needed it at the moment, he just felt that he would be needing it later if the battle got too intense as the change in the nature of the feathered is a clear indication of the increase in difficulty for each level.

Sam took out two daggers this time and activated the shadow element.

The room is still pretty dark and the feathered is not flying too far. They are just gliding a bit higher than the floor.

He moved like a ghost as he dodged the lightning and the attacks from the feathered as he left nicks and slashes all over their bodies.

They slowly started falling and soon the second wave was also done in.

But he didn't feel happy, because after the second wave came the third, and this time their strength seemed to have increased. Until now, the six of them are barely at Late-stage, but this time, they seemed to be of Peak stage and all of them had different elements while they flew higher.

The difficulty kept on increasing.

Sam started fighting like crazy. He stored the daggers away and took out the staff as he jumped constantly to smash the feathered flying around him.

But the situation just went on and on.

By the end of the first day, he dealt with feathered that came with various perks and difficulties, and then he got a breathing space in which he took a giant swig of the heavenly wine.

After finishing that off, the feathered appeared and this time, they increased in number.

Apart from the original six, there are another six but they didn't fly. They attacked from the bottom while the first six attacked from the wind.

Whenever Sam tried to look up, the lightning is striking from random sides and the more he looked at it, the more intense it is becoming. That is the only lightning strike he couldn't dodge since he entered the room.

He couldn't use harbinger. It came under the classification of special weapons.

It was really annoying.

After some time, Sam thought of something and activated his partial light elemental fusion. He started running around as he dodged the attacks and the lightning strikes and suddenly looked upwards just for a moment.

The lightning struck the spot he was in but it didn't manage to hit him, instead, the feathered who didn't have any elemental affinity and chasing him to get clean close-quartered combat was stuck by that and halted in his tracks.

Sam turned around, deactivated the elemental fusion, and swung his staff to hit him straight at the neck with the full force of the wind at the end.

Upon contact, the highly concentrated wind cannon was launched at the point-blank range at the windpipe of the feathered which made the throat burst open and the feathered fell to his knees.

Sam used the same trick again and started tricking other feathered to fall under the rage of the lightning strikes.

But the feathered are not stupid. After the third target, the rest of the nine already guessed what could happen and immediately stopped following him.

They are focused on the long-range attacks and in fact, tried to avoid getting close to him. After multiple tries, Sam managed to get near one feathered but that guy waited as he has fallen for the trick, but stopped Sam right in the track with a kamikaze attack to make him get stuck with the lightning.

Sam collapsed on the floor.

And the feathered tried to take advantage of this and tried to hit him.

"I didn't want to use this early, but fuck it."

Sam's body was deactivated from the light elemental fusion and he activated lightning elemental fusion. He looked like a silver ball of lightning as he started punching the feathered that came near him.

He didn't care about the lightning strikes that are coming from the top.

He manipulated most of it to attack the feathered constantly and the rest of it was completely absorbed to recharge the spent energy.

Soon, this wave was finished and the next wave came.

This time, the number of feathered increased by Six again.

Space is now a little cramped and the worst part is, the new addition is all lightning type and they are immune to the lightning strikes that are landing from the top.

They are just attacking Sam without care and even if Sam wanted to use the same trick, he couldn't do it and the lightning strikes seemed to be taking some toll on his physical body even with the fusion as the merging and manipulating process is taking some effort from the spiritual core.

He has to take some heavenly wine in between which is leaving openings for the rest of the feathered.

Even though he is capable of fighting them off, this is really annoying as it is time taking.

The worst part is, he couldn't even use the shadow soldiers who could have bought him some time and even these bodies are disappearing as soon as he killed them.

He can only grit his teeth and endure this whole long annoying process.

After this wave is over, twelve out of eighteen turned out to be immune to lightning and the next one all of them are immune to lightning which forced him to change to the earth elements and use gravity to deal with them.

After that, twelve are immune to lightning and the six are of lightning elemental fusion. This went on and on.