

DEMONIC 1251

Chapter 1251 1251. Immortal Lands

Daniel stepped forward after Skully left. He neared Noah and lowered his head to speak. However, Noah gave him an answer before he could say anything. "I don't care whether your relationship with Faith has political value or not. Chasing Demon has supported June and me even if our feelings could start a war. I don't see why I should be against you two."

Daniel remained speechless for a second before nodding. He then raised his head to focus on Noah's reptilian pupils, and memories also began to rise inside his mind.

Noah had been an unreachable rival for most of his life, but Daniel had started to bloom as a cultivator only after he had given up on that rivalry.

Still, Noah had been crucial in Daniel's growth. He had shown him how limited his mindset was, and his many achievements had worked as an inspiration.

Daniel couldn't express how grateful he was for all the chances that the Hive had given him. He was nothing more than a noble without a nation after the Elbas family forced everyone to migrate, but he had found a new home that he wished to protect with his life.

The Hive had given him far more than a home. Daniel could grow both as a person and a cultivator among the Elders.

Nothing similar would have happened without Noah. Their adventure in the Bare Dungeon when they were only human cultivators had been the start of his real journey.

"Let's meet again in the Immortal Lands," Daniel eventually said as he suppressed his memories. "I'm sure Faith won't get over the fact that you didn't say goodbye to her otherwise."

Noah nodded, and Daniel turned to leave. He flew directly inside the dimensional portal and disappeared from the world.

Elder Julia flew toward Noah at that point, and she bowed before he could say anything. However, she began to peek at him when she saw that he remained silent.

"I don't think there is an Elder who loves the Hive more than you," Noah eventually said. "Only you can be my successor. I'm sure you will be a great Matriarch."

Elder Julia smiled, and she straightened herself before bowing again. She felt delighted that Noah had acknowledged her value, but there was something else that she wanted to settle before leaving.

"I need a second in command in case something happens to me," Elder Julia said after she straightened herself again.

"That is up to you," Noah replied. "You are the leader of the Hive now."

That line wasn't enough to satisfy Elder Julia, who continued to give voice to her request. "That won't do it. I want you to take part in this decision. This is an order."

Noah's eyebrows arched at those words, but a smile appeared on his face when he saw Elder Julia's serious expression. A few names appeared in his mind, but he soon made a decision.

"Daniel Udye," Noah said. "He is the best candidate for that role."

Elder Julia smiled too at that point, and she bowed one last time before turning to fly toward the dimensional portal. Her figure disappeared in a blink.

"Imagine how awkward these goodbyes would have been if the Elbas family didn't improve the portal," Flying Demon commented as he looked toward the vortex. "We would have to wait for the powerhouse to reach the other world before sending the rest. It's quite convenient now."

"I think I will miss these jokes," Noah said as he shook his head. "Be sure not to remain trapped in a separate dimension this time around. I won't be there to save you."

"Don't worry!" Flying Demon replied as he flew toward Noah. "I will wait until I reach the Immortal Lands to fall into some trap. You should be able to save me at that point. Maybe you can even use that spectacular technique."

Flying Demon pretended to wield something extremely heavy and swing it around. It was clear that he wanted to recall the battles when Noah had used magical beasts' corpses as weapons.

"If only we had more time," Noah said as he sighed when the Demon reached him.

"What do you mean?" Flying Demon asked. "We still have the Immortal Lands. I'm sure we will find the time to drink some good wine between millennium and the other. This isn't even worthy of being a separation."

"He is right," Dreaming Demon said as she reached Noah and her lover. "Our destination is the same. We will simply meet up there. Making grand promises among us is useless."

"Continue being the backbone of the Hive, Tisha," Noah said as he smiled toward Dreaming Demon. "It will get quite messy pretty soon."

"Let them come," Dreaming Demon said before releasing a loud snort. "I can't wait to see which organization will be foolish enough to attack us."

"I leave the Hive in your hands then," Noah concluded. "See you in the Immortal Lands."

The Demons wore broad smiles while they nodded at those words, but they soon turned to fly to the dimensional portal. Their figures disappeared as soon as they crossed the vortex. Now only June and Noah remained in the sky.

June flew toward Noah, and the latter opened his mouth to speak, but she promptly placed a finger on his lips. She even shook her head to convey a message that only her lover could understand.

They had already said their goodbyes privately. They didn't need words anymore at that point. They only had to separate and find each other again in the Immortal Lands now.

Noah revealed a warm smile as he took June's hand to free his mouth. The two of them then exchanged a deep kiss, but June soon turned to leave too.

When her figure disappeared inside the dimensional portal, Noah flew toward that dark vortex and stared at the passage.

There was a lofty life in front of him. Noah was the strongest existence among the three organizations, and his last battle against God's Left Hand and Great Elder Diana had revealed that he belonged to a superior league.

He could even aim to conquer the world if he abandoned the old one. Virtually no one could oppose him there. He could even unite the three organizations into a massive force with the power that he wielded.

However, Noah had never desired a throne nor underlings to command. Being a leader was a burden that he didn't want to endure.

Noah liked freedom. He desired to have no limitations during his pursuit of power. His goals had always been the stars high in the sky, and it had never changed until that moment.

'Heaven in front of me,' Noah thought as he turned to stare at the main world, 'Hell behind my back.'

The cries of the Eternal Snakes filled the sky. Noah could sense some powerful specimens in the distance, near the mountain chain that had previously acted as a danger zone.

His smile slowly vanished as an expressionless face replaced it. A dense coldness came out of his reptilian eyes when he thought about the many specimens he had to kill to save the world.

The dimensional portal was still active, but it would lose its power in one year. Noah could always change idea, but he moved before even considering migrating.

Noah flew back to his cave on the seabed. Countless hunts waited for him, but he had to prepare one last asset before he could feel confident in approaching the many packs that had formed in the world.

It was time to improve Snore.

Chapter 1252 1252. Abilities

The Hive, the Council, and the Shandal Empire left the world on the same day. Great Elder Diana and God's Left Hand led their underlings away before the Hive as a sign of respect toward the strongest organization in the world.

No one knew what the Elbas family was up to, but the Royals didn't visit the dimensional portal before the other organization left, and Noah went in seclusion right afterward.

Noah needed to keep his mind focused on his project, so he couldn't pay attention to the Elbas family. He would learn whether the Royals had left the plane only after he came out of his cave.

The three organizations' departure relieved the world of some internal pressure, but that didn't fix its condition. There were still too many rank 6 existences in the lower plane, so the net of cracks continued to enlarge.

The world had a time limit, and Noah knew that far too well. It was as if he had a death sentence hanging above his head, which fueled his unwavering concentration during his project.

Noah knew that the dimensional portal would remain stable for only one year, but he had long chosen to stay in the main world. He even lost track of the passage of time once he started modifying Snore, and his only hope to leave that world vanished without him even noticing it.

The projects of cultivators near the peak of the heroic ranks would often take a while, and Noah used his first year of seclusion just to set the foundation of Snore's new power.

Snore was a being made of dark matter through a variant of the Body-inscription spell. It was different from Night. It required a connection with Noah since it was a proper Blood Companion.

That made it limited in certain aspects of its power, but it gave Noah more freedom regarding what he could modify.

Night didn't give up on its species. It could express so much power because Noah had built a body capable of an improved version of its innate abilities.

Instead, Snore was a consciousness placed inside a powerful weapon. Noah had created life by fusing the consciousness of an Albino Snake and a body capable of wonders. In theory, its potential grew alongside Noah's expertise.

Since his abilities had always been stronger than his copied elements, Noah had equipped Snore with those attacks to create a puppet capable of facing any enemy.

However, Noah had gone beyond the simple elements after creating the dark world. Those attacks ended up becoming lacking as he continued to surpass his previous limits, especially when he used his ambition.

Night could keep up with him because its innate ability was incredible, and it carried the knowledge of a divine magical beast. Its new body had also removed the restrictions on its species, which gave it the chance to improve even more.

Instead, Snore could only improve the abilities that Noah had built for it. Its growth also depended on the dark world, but its superior affinity with that technique didn't make up for the difference in power with Night's innate gifts.

Noah had started to plan Snore's modifications as soon as he tested his battle prowess, but the various events that had fallen upon the world had kept him busy.

Still, he could now focus on his project, and some of the ideas that he planned to implement in the Blood Companion's body surprised even him.

Snore had dark matter as its fabric and used elemental attacks as its abilities. The saber-shaped runes placed on its wings were weapons that copied Noah's spell, but they were disposable items that didn't even suit the Blood Companion's overall structure.

Noah knew that it was time to give a direction to Snore's evolution. The world's perilous condition gave the push that his mind needed to invent an innate ability worthy of belonging to his Blood Companion.

In theory, Snore could launch the dark world since its body could create abilities made of six elements, but Noah found no point in turning that into an actual attack. His black hole already spread dark matter quickly, so he had no reason to build a copy of his technique.

It was pointless to give Snore abilities that he could already use. They would always be stronger when Noah cast them, which would only make him ignore his Blood Companion when it came to battles.

Snore needed something unique that only its status as Blood Companion allowed it to use. Moreover, Noah needed to be able to rely on that ability during battles.

Years slowly passed as Noah took away, modified, and rebuilt Snore inch by inch. Its foundation was solid and only needed a few additions, but its arms, wings, and head required thorough analysis and changes.

First of all, Noah cut away the arms. He had planned to make Snore able to launch slashes when he first created it, but that idea had turned out to be a failure.

Noah's slashes were attacks that only he could launch. No other existence in the world could replicate them, and even Sword Saint's will had failed in copying their power. Snore had no chance to succeed in that feat.

The wings were useful, but Noah could achieve the same result by creating a sea of saber-shaped runes. The feathers usually had a higher-starting power, but Noah didn't want to have too many abilities reliant on the primary energy.

That would only lower the amount of primary energy in the environment faster. Noah would feel forced to use fewer abilities to optimize the charging of his strongest spells. It was better not to have weak skills at all at that point.

Noah cut away those vast, feathered wings and replaced them with three pairs of smaller wings. The new ones didn't have any weapon attached to their structure. He had created them with the sole purpose of increasing Snore's speed and agility.

Snore's skin became sturdier as Noah reinforced its structure with more layers of dark matter. He wasn't applying any special method to improve the quality of its body. He was piling more materials on each other.

At last, Noah began to work on Snore's head.

Noah didn't want to deprive Snore of its ability to launch different elemental attacks. They could reveal themselves useful against tricky opponents, and it couldn't hurt to have some variety in its fighting style.

Yet, he wanted them to be only one of its basic abilities, something on which he could build something stronger.

Noah had eliminated the dark world from the poll of possible techniques, but his mind remained fixed on the idea that he had to use all his copied elements for Snore's final ability.

'Creation leads to destruction,' Noah thought when enlightenment dawned upon him.

The dark world was only one of the applications of the copied elements. Noah used them to cast that technique because his higher energy was an expression of his creation, but he could turn them into an ability that Snore could operate more efficiently.

The dark world was a fusion of six elements copied through the dark matter. They worked together to create a place that responded only to Noah's will and acted as his domain.

However, Noah could make them have the opposite effect. He could force instabilities in their fusion to release destructive energy capable of eradicating the very matter of the world.

Chapter 1253 1253. Changes

Noah left the cave in the seabed for the first time after fifteen years spent in seclusion. The cracks in the sky had widened in that period, but their size was in line with Shandal's predictions.

'Less than five hundred years,' Noah thought as he glanced at the sky before setting off for the western side of the new continent.

Noah flew slowly and let his superior awareness learn as much as possible about the new environment of the world. Various packs of Eternal Snakes appeared in his path, but he avoided all of them.

It wasn't time to fight them yet. Noah wanted to train for a while before starting his massive hunt.

The environment had already started to change in those years. The magical beasts released auras capable of changing the territories around them into lands that suited their species.

It usually took centuries for a single pack of magical beasts to modify an environment. Still, the world had already begun to show changes due to the numerous Eternal Snakes in the sixth rank.

The temperature had dropped, and ice covered vast areas. Even part of the sea couldn't escape that change.

Noah guessed that the world would soon contain only one species of magical beasts. It wouldn't take much before Eternal Snakes in the first rank started to appear either.

Nothing could stop that trend. Noah couldn't perform a clearing operation on the entire world just yet, so both landmasses and sea would soon turn into the perfect breeding ground of the Eternal Snakes.

A layer of thick ice covered a location in the sea west of the new continent, and Noah dived right through it to reach his destination.

The seabed soon appeared in his eyes, and Noah expanded his consciousness to find traces of formations in the area. His mental waves eventually found dormant inscriptions, and he didn't hesitate to swim toward them.

Those lines lit up when Noah touched them, and light engulfed his figure. He soon found himself in the familiar environment separate dimension, which appeared far larger now that no one occupied it.

Noah used a few teleportation matrices powered by formations that gathered "Breath" from the outside world. A city eventually appeared in his eyes, and he quickly moved toward its center.

The city's central building was the tallest structure in the area, but Noah only cared about what it contained. A secret room on the last floor hid a teleportation matrix that led him to a separate location that confined a large piece of black fur.

The Hive couldn't carry the Seventh Kesier rune through the dimensional portal. That was a proper divine item coming from a divine magical beast. That tunnel through the void would have never endured the pressure that it released.

Thirty-seven and his disciples had planned to make copies of the Seventh Kesier rune as soon as Noah brought it back from the hidden world. Yet, the project was quite ambitious, and it had taken them centuries only to come close to a decent imitation.

Kesier runes wouldn't carry all their miraculous power in their copies, so it was always more beneficial to train with the original. Still, even the imitations were quite valuable since they were more efficient than other training methods for the sea of consciousness.

The Hive mainly wanted to use the copies as insurance in case of invasions, but it could also trade them for items with equal value. It wasn't a surprise that Thirty-seven had something ready before the attack of the Eternal Snakes.

'I wonder if I should bring this in the Immortal Lands,' Noah thought as he looked at the rune. 'I don't have a proper use for it after I become a rank 7 mage.'

Noah was still wondering whether he would build his Inheritance. He rarely did things for others, especially those that he had never met. However, most cultivators abided by that tradition.

Inheritances didn't only express the dreams of their creators. They were a mark of the existence of the cultivators.

Noah's allies had already left the world, so he couldn't gift his teachings to anyone close to him. Yet, Divine Demon had created his Inheritance without giving it to the Demon sects, so Noah could take him as an example.

'I guess I have to save the world first before thinking about leaving something behind,' Noah thought as he suppressed those ideas.

His mind focused entirely on the Seventh Kesier rune at that point, and a long training session began. Noah didn't only expand his mind in that period. He also ate and cultivated as if the world wasn't about to end.

Years quickly passed as Noah focused on improving his centers of power. His battle against the Eternal Snake had proven that he could face peak rank 6 magical beasts, but he wouldn't find a solitary creature in the current environment.

He had to become stronger before he could approach the hunts. That would be his second-last long seclusion before he started to focus only on the Snakes. He would enter the last one once he obtained enough materials to resume his experiments with the creature's innate ability.

Noah tried his best to keep track of the passage of time at that time. He couldn't let five hundred years slip by while he focused on improving his centers of power.

Still, a whole century went by before he snapped out of his constant training. His dantian had to show signs of an imminent breakthrough for him to understand that he had spent too long in seclusion.

'Time to hunt,' Noah thought as he left the separate dimension.

Noah flew through the world and inspected the various lairs that the Eternal Snakes had built. A large part of the landmasses had turned into blocks of ice in those years, but the number of rank 6 specimens appeared lower than before.

That was within Noah's predictions. Many rank 6 magical beasts couldn't cohabitate for a long time without a leader who suppressed their innate aggression.

The net of cracks had enlarged a lot in those years. He could still see the sky, but it was clear that the world was going toward its end.

The quasi-rank 7 Eternal Snake had created the largest pack and had settled at the center of the new continent, where the silver liquid of the divine beasts had fallen.

The peripheral areas of that landmass and the old continent accommodated smaller packs, but the nine peak rank 6 Snakes led most of them.

The only place that contained even smaller packs and weaker Eternal Snakes was the sea, but that was enough to give Noah an idea of how he had to approach the hunt.

Noah flew toward the most distant area from the continents and dived into the sea. His consciousness expanded at that point, and he searched for any trace of life that was worthy of his time.

It didn't take him much to find a few Eternal Snakes that wandered outside of every pack. Even the magical beasts' world had exiled specimens, and they were the first creatures that Noah had decided to hunt.

'I should kill them quickly,' Noah thought when he looked at the three rank 6 Snakes in the distance, and dark matter came out of his chest.

Chapter 1254 1254. Escape

The dark matter spread at the bottom of the sea. The Eternal Snakes in the distance could immediately sense the danger coming from that spot, but they charged toward it without any hesitation.

Magical beasts with such a high rank wouldn't escape in front of a threat. They knew that they stood near the peak of the world, so they treated anything dangerous as potential food.

Snore quickly formed as more dark matter came out of Noah's chest. He wouldn't rely on the dark world in that battle. He had already confirmed that the Eternal Snakes wouldn't give it time to express its power.

The Blood Companion's appearance had changed. Its overall size was still the same, but it didn't have its arms anymore. Three pairs of scaled wings had also replaced its previous ones, and its face was far different than before.

Snore's head was still similar to a snake, but it had features that made it resemble a dragon now. Its nose wasn't flat anymore, and its mouth had become sharper.

Moreover, the six horns that came out from behind its eyes gave the creature a fiendish appearance. They made a sharp turn to point forward and cover its head. They resembled a piece of armor rather than crucial body parts required for Snore's new ability.

Noah's ambition filled his aura and made his cultivation level grow. That empowerment partially affected Snore, who pointed its horns toward the three creatures and began to prepare its new ability.

'Attack the strongest one,' Noah thought, and his orders reached the Blood Companion through the connection in his mind.

The Eternal Snakes were still at some distance from Noah, so Snore had the time to prepare its ability.

Its horns began to tremble. Sparks, fire, ice, rocks, wind, and dark matter started to come out of them. Each horn appeared capable of replicating only one element, but that was only the initial phase of the ability.

Ice spread in the area as the Eternal Snakes spewed silver liquid during their charge. Water froze and shattered, but Noah limited himself to watch them as his ambition continued to push his cultivation level upward.

The elements kept accumulating inside Snore's horns before that energy flowed in its throat. The Blood Companion adjusted its aim and opened its mouth to release a dark beam that made the Eternal Snake's halt in fear.

The energy launched by the beam was so violent that pieces of Snore's mouth crumbled during the attack. Part of its throat fell apart. The Blood Companion injured itself to cast its innate ability.

The Eternal Snakes tried to leap away from that attack, but the dark beam was too fast. The upper tier specimen couldn't dodge it, and it could only spit large quantities of silver liquid in the hope that it could block part of the offensive's destructive might.

Then, something unusual happened, and the Eternal Snake remained dumbfounded at that sight. The dark beam pierced the layers of ice and came into contact with the silver liquid without freezing. It appeared immune to that ability.

The beam landed on the Snake's body and continued forward. It pierced the creature and spread in the sea behind it, disintegrating the very fabric of the water that happened to cross.

Snore closed what remained of its mouth after its attack touched the upper tier specimen. The energy contained in the beam had destroyed its lower maw and most of its throat, but dark matter soon flowed out of Noah's chest to fix that injury.

The upper tier Snake didn't feel pain initially, and that continued even after Snore closed its mouth. However, when it looked at the spot where the beam had landed, it noticed that a large circular hole had appeared on its body.

Snore's attack had pierced the Snake from side to side, and it had even ignored the defenses in its way. Noah had created a weapon capable of destroying everything down to the very fabric of the matter.

That was the alternative application of the six elements in his possession. Fusing them into an orderly array gave birth to the dark world. Instead, forcing them to condense into a violent mass of energy and releasing them at the same time created a beam capable of destroying the matter itself.

Noah nodded when he confirmed that his technique worked as he had planned. The dark beam left behind a tunnel devoid of any particle or laws. It was the ultimate weapon of destruction.

The beam was a technique capable of annihilating matter. The silver liquid couldn't freeze it because the wild energy would destroy it before its effects could spread.

The energy created in that unstable manner also couldn't survive for too long in the open. It would spread and destroy as long as it had the power to do it.

Noah didn't know what he had created during his experiments. He vaguely recalled hearing of energy with similar behavior in his previous life, but he knew that his product was completely different.

The "Breath" affected the laws of the world too much to use his past knowledge to identify specific types of energy or matter. Noah only knew that he had invented a destructive version of the dark world, and its power was immense.

The power carried by the beam was so violent that even the caster suffered some damage when it launched that attack. However, Blood Companions had terrific healing capabilities, so Snore was the perfect creature for that ability.

The upper tier Eternal Snakes slammed its head on the ice around that had survived the beam to create shards capable of healing the huge hole that had appeared on its body.

Still, no number of shards could ever fix that injury. The ice tried to stop the bleeding, but it couldn't close that huge hole.

The upper tier Eternal Snakes released a roar that echoed through the water, and its underlings soon gathered in front of it. The two middle tier creatures acted as a meat shield as the trio resumed their charge toward Noah.

'Again,' Noah thought as his ambition pushed his power toward the limits of the liquid stage.

Snore didn't hesitate to execute his orders. A dark light began to shine on his horns again, and the elements reappeared on their surface. The energy they accumulated then flowed in Snore's throat, and the Blood Companion opened its mouth to release it.

The three Eternal Snakes were in a straight line as they swam toward Noah. They spat their silver liquid to create multiple layers of ice and accumulate enough shards to heal themselves, but the beam destroyed everything in its path.

The attack landed on the first Snake's head and pierced it from side to side before continuing toward the silver liquid behind it. That innate ability couldn't do anything, so the wild energy reached the second creature's head and made a hole in it.

The beam continued even after that. It reached the layer of ice protecting the upper tier creature and destroyed it. Yet, the Snake had disappeared by the time the attack crossed that defense.

Noah almost couldn't believe his eyes when he saw the upper tier Eternal Snake swimming in the distance. The creature had decided to escape when it saw that its two underlings had died in one attack.

Chapter 1255 1255. Loo

The upper tier Eternal Snake wasn't the only one surprised by the might of the dark beam. Noah was also in awe of the attack's power. He knew how strong Snore had become, but he could barely believe that it could make holes in magical beasts in the last tier of the sixth rank so easily.

Snore had finally become able to wield the real power of the dark matter after the modifications. The base level of Noah's fourth center of power didn't limit its prowess anymore. The Blood Companion had obtained an ability on par with its Master's slashes!

'I can go wild,' Noah revealed a cold smile as he thought that.

A human-shaped crack replaced his figure as he entered his dimension. Eternal Snakes were nimble once in combat, but their maximum speed couldn't compare to Noah's movement technique.

The upper tier magical beast tried its best to run away, but a shadow soon appeared above its head and released a thick slash that flung the creature into the seabed.

The Snake straightened its position and filled the area with the silver liquid, freezing the water and creating a defensive layer. Still, Snore had reformed by then, and it didn't hesitate to launch another threatening beam.

The attack pierced the ice and landed on the Eternal Snake's body, creating a large hole right below the other. Silver shards soon converged in that spot to close the injury, but Noah wouldn't give the creature time to heal.

Noah reappeared next to the first hole. His cultivation level had broken through the solid stage with his ambition, and the dark world had flowed inside the Demonic Sword to push its power beyond its structural limits.

The Eternal Snake opened its mouth to spit its silver liquid toward Noah, but the latter had already raised its weapon. The slash that followed that gesture opened a fissure that finished severing the creature's body.

Noah severed the Eternal Snake's body, and its head fell on the seabed. A dense trail of silver liquid accompanied its fall, and ice-shards soon tried to patch its injuries.

However, Noah had attacked the hole near the Snake's head. The creature had lost most of its body in that exchange.

The upper tier Eternal Snake was nothing more than a head connected to a few strands of maimed flesh. It couldn't even move properly in that condition. Noah could land on it and press his blade on the injury created by his first slash.

The pleading cries of the Snakes couldn't shake Noah's mind. He filled the Demonic Sword with dark matter again and began to pierce the creature's skull.

Using Snore's beam would kill the creature more quickly, but Noah wanted to preserve the Eternal Snake's glands. His Blood Companion had already ruined the two middle tier specimens, so he had to be careful when collecting his prey.

The Eternal Snake managed to endure the initial lunges, but the light in its eyes eventually vanished and put an end to Noah's first hunt. His kill count amounted to three rank 6 specimens already, but he could use only one of them for his main project.

Noah knew that the world only had less than four hundred years left, but he wouldn't postpone a project that could improve his species. Becoming stronger would make him hunt faster, so he didn't mind investing time in the testing phase.

Noah collected the corpses in his space-ring. He had taken a few more storage devices before the Hive's departure, so he could store the creatures freely for the time being.

He didn't want to dispose them inside the separate dimension just yet. His ambition was still pushing his centers of power above their real level, so he could keep hunting.

The area that he had chosen for his first hunt held only small packs of weaker Snakes. The strongest ones were in the new continent, so he could enjoy his battles without worrying too much about his strategy.

Noah could go wild. The strongest specimens in the area were in the upper tier, but Snore could carve holes through their bodies with its new ability. Those threatening creatures couldn't oppose him anymore now that all his assets had reached a satisfying level.

The only drawback of Snore's new ability was its high consumption of dark matter due to the constant regeneration and the violent energy condensed in the form of a beam. Yet, the black hole in Noah's chest didn't seem to have limits.

Noah even wondered if he would witness his fourth center of power reaching its limits in those hunts, but the black hole continued to work normally even after he spent a whole day hunting Eternal Snakes.

It was easier to prolong the effects of his ambition if he didn't push his centers of power too much. Remaining at the bottom of the solid stage was enough to kill all the creatures in the area and maintain the empowerment for an entire day.

Noah's hunts had played exactly like the first one. The Eternal Snakes would initially try to face him due to their innate aggression, but Snore suppressed them every time.

The Blood Companion also became used to its new ability as it continued to fight. Its aim improved, and it soon managed to hit the Snake's neck with extreme precision.

Noah didn't have to worry about losing valuable materials anymore by the end of the day. It took him only one hunt to seize all the body parts that he needed for his project, and he had also obtained a large amount of nutrient flesh in the process.

The cave dug in the seabed had become too small for his needs at that point, but Noah didn't mind investing some time to enlarge it. He wanted to return to the separate dimension only when he needed to cultivate.

'I knew it would be easier now that Snore has become useful,' Noah thought as he inspected his loot, 'But I didn't expect to meet the requirements for the testing phase so soon.'

Noah sat in front of seven maimed reptilian heads. They all had a series of holes at their center due to the many lunges used to kill them.

Most of them were at the peak of the lower tier, and only one of them was in the upper tier. The leader of the area was in the first group of creatures, so Noah could find only weaker specimens during the rest of the hunt.

He had more corpses in his space-rings. The rest of the bodies of those seven creatures and four more Snakes had remained inside his storage devices because he had ruined their glands during the battle.

Noah could only use them as resources for his body, but that result didn't disappoint him. After all, he had already gathered more than enough resources for his project.

'I should start immediately,' Noah thought as he began to dissect the heads to seize the organs that he needed, 'Completing this phase will bring me one step closer to improving my bloodline.'

Creating a complete prototype wasn't the end of Noah's project. He needed to fuse his product with his body, which meant that he required something on a similar level.

Still, his body didn't follow standard labels when it came to describing its power. Even a specimen in the upper tier couldn't match the energy contained in its tissues.

Noah was sure that he would need the glands of a peak rank 6 specimen to complete his project and obtain that incredible ability.

Chapter 1256 1256. Experiments

Noah knew the flaws of the Elemental Forging method better than anyone else. He had long since surpassed the previous experts in that field. He was a pioneer when it came to that inscription method.

One of the most significant flaws in the Elemental Forging method was that inscribing the same item multiple times would lead to a weaker structure. The final product wouldn't carry the intended power either.

Noah had fused his body with a Light-devouring Dragon when he was only a human cultivator. In theory, he had already used the first round of forging.

That was the reason why he had held back from improving his bloodline. He had managed to link the fourth center of power to his heart, but that wasn't a proper forging. His body had taken care of fusing the two organs for him.

Yet, Noah's body had gone through many changes since the fusion with the magical beast. It had evolved to express his individuality, and it had also entirely changed after attuning with the black star.

Noah's confidence came from that event. His body had evolved past the initial forging and had broken through the limits of the three major types of beings. Many experts still viewed him as a hybrid, but Noah knew that he had become something far superior.

Since the evolution had modified every fiber of his body, Noah felt confident that it didn't carry any trace of the previous forging. Moreover, the dark matter improved his tissues constantly, so he didn't believe that they still counted as inscribed items.

Noah couldn't test that because any trace of his forging had vanished after the many evolutions. Thirty-seven's hesitation came from that issue. The automaton wouldn't advise undergoing a forging in those conditions.

However, Noah had already made his mind, and he had also chosen the organs that he had to fuse. A failure in the procedure wouldn't kill him if he limited the forging to a few parts of his body.

The organs that he had decided to modify were his lungs. The Light-devouring Dragons' innate ability was powerful when it came to the magical beasts' world, but it fell short compared to Noah's prowess.

A strong ability wasn't enough for him anymore. Noah needed the best of the best at his current level. He would ignore any skill weaker than his slashes otherwise.

The Light-devouring Dragons' flames had unlimited potential, but Noah's growth had outclassed even that ability. His fast improvements didn't give time to his innate ability to catch up.

Noah's flames were by no means weak. They were stronger than any innate ability cast by magical beasts in the middle tier. Yet, his battle prowess had already reached the peak of the upper tier, which made them useless when he went all-out.

The ability that Heaven and Earth had deemed as unfair wasn't even worthy of its casting time in Noah's eyes. His power barely made any sense anymore, especially with his ambition removing the limits of his centers of power.

Noah didn't want to give up on his flames, and he wouldn't just ignore them as he strived for the higher ranks. Improving an ability was easier than creating a new one in the end. He preferred to invest time in that project rather than spend years meditating to invent something.

Of course, Noah invested time in that project because he believed that the finished product would bring his battle prowess to a superior level. He could already imagine his flames obtaining the same capabilities as the Eternal Snake's silver liquid.

There was another aspect of his body that made him confident in the success of the procedure. The black hole automatically helped in any struggle that Noah faced. He didn't even need to control it to obtain its support.

His fourth center of power would surely help during the fusion. Noah didn't fear anything with the dark matter by his side.

The main problem in that project was the modification of the Eternal Snake's glands. Those creatures had a water aptitude, and the nature of their innate ability didn't work well with flames, even if they were of the darkness element.

That was a structural issue that Noah had to solve to approach the last stage of the project. He also had to modify the glands to match his lungs in terms of raw power and fabric.

The experience gathered while creating living weapons helped Noah with those issues. Thirty-seven had also reviewed the project, so Noah already had a series of concrete ideas for the testing phase.

The glands didn't share the same sturdiness of the Eternal Snake's skin. They were softer and had an innate immunity to the freezing properties of the silver liquid.

Noah's lungs were the same, even if their immunity worked on his flames. His first step consisted in making the two organs compatible while modifying only the glands.

It would have been easier to modify both organs and make them reach a common ground. Still, Noah couldn't change his body due to the flaws of his inscription method.

Each Eternal Snake had two glands, and Noah approached the testing phase one organ at the time. He even experimented more wildly since he had gathered many corpses. He could ignore losing a few materials if that helped him create the strongest possible version of his final product.

Noah had to come out of his cave from time to time to search for crucial materials. The Hive had emptied the inventories in the separate dimension, so he had to gather resources by himself.

That ended up being relatively easy. The higher-ups of the three organizations had completed a thorough inspection of the world after they came out of the separate dimension, so Noah knew where to find the materials that he needed.

The Eternal Snakes' invasion couldn't affect those spots too much because they contained rank 6 materials. Noah mostly needed sturdy metals that could change the glands' nature, so there was a limit to the damage that those creatures could cause in those areas.

The only obstacles in the gathering of materials were the creatures that inhabited those areas. Yet, that only increased the number of corpses in Noah's possession. His kill count went from eleven to sixteen in the weeks that followed his first hunt.

Noah's initial tests turned out to be complete failures, but he expected as much. Changing an organ's nature wasn't an easy feat, especially when he had to make it as powerful as his lungs.

Noah could test more than ten different metals on each gland since he only aimed to change their nature in that phase. His approach was similar to when he had modified the Demonic Form spell. He would cut the organ into pieces and test different fusions to see what worked.

Noah had to come out of his cave to gather materials multiple times during that phase. He even had to find another opening for the red sea to search for creatures and materials that could bring the nature of the glands closed to his needs.

In the end, he completed that phase by involving the Will-consuming runes in the procedure. His greed, ambition, and dark matter managed to change the nature of the glands after sealing them together with a combination of different metals retrieved in the sea of magma.

Noah felt excited at that initial success. That was the biggest hurdle to overcome before the actual fusion, and it had taken him only a couple of years to complete it.

The following phases were easier. Noah only had to apply those modifications to a complete gland without ruining its intrinsic properties.

Then, he needed to hunt a peak upper tier Eternal Snake without damaging its organs. Noah had already killed a creature on that level, but he had ruined its glands when he dissected it. Still, he knew that the battle wouldn't be as harsh as the previous one.

Chapter 1257 1257. Clearing operation

The second phase of the project wasn't as troublesome as the first, but Noah had to approach it slowly because a failure would ruin a whole gland.

Still, his many successful hunts gave him a large number of core materials. Noah could take more risks and fix every flaw instead of focusing on creating a product that his dark matter had to improve.

The world barely noticed the death of those Eternal Snakes. Noah had hunted only scattered packs in peripheral areas, so the landmasses' situation didn't change in the slightest.

The same went for the sea. Noah didn't have the time to search for the remains of the previous fauna. The vast dark depths hid some creatures that had survived the invasion, but he had no interest in them.

The net of cracks had continued to expand in that period. Noah's hunts couldn't help the world's condition just yet, but he didn't feel anxious.

He didn't know how many rank 6 creatures he had to kill before the world could start to heal, but he had no reason to hurry. Each hunt slowed down the cracks' expansion, and the Eternal Snakes helped in the matter.

The invasion had destroyed the previous fauna, which left the Eternal Snakes without any food. They could only resort to cannibalism to appease their hunger, and that helped the world.

It would be a problem if more Snakes were to reach the upper tier or the quasi-rank 7 stage, but magical beasts needed a massive amount of energy for each breakthrough. They even had to survive long periods of hibernation.

Five hundred years wouldn't be enough to complete those breakthroughs. A few peak lower tier Snakes could reach the middle tier, but they weren't an issue for the world.

Still, the world's structure would suffer if too many battles were to happen at the same time, especially if they involved powerful creatures.

Noah knew that he couldn't approach the strongest specimens until he relieved the world of some pressure. It was safer to clear the entire sea before moving his focus on the landmasses.

He even planned to leave a few corpses in the sea of magma. The Eternal Snakes would find it hard to reach them there, so the bodies release their "Breath" in the environment rather than passing most of it to other creatures.

Noah completed the second stage of the testing phase in five years. He had taken his time to remove any instability, and the final product ended up surpassing his initial prediction.

Noah had planned to rely on his dark matter when there were only nine Eternal Snakes in the world. His project saw a relatively stable organ as core material.

Instead, he could now create perfectly stable and improved glands since he had gained access to multiple Eternal Snakes. The project could enter its final phase now. Noah only had to clear all the areas that wouldn't cause harsh battles before approaching the actual fusion.

Noah's kill count had reached twenty-two specimens after his various travels to gather materials. Still, only two of them were in the upper tier. The creatures in the lower tier were always more numerous.

Of the twenty-two corpses, Noah decided to keep only twelve of them. The creatures in the middle tier and above were useful for his body, and the Demonic Sword didn't mind eating some of the weaker ones. As for the others, Noah threw them in the red sea to disperse their energy in the world.

It would take a while for the magma to disperse all the "Breath" they contained, but Noah couldn't do any better. He had even tried to hide them from the fauna down there. He could only be more thorough once he fixed the main issue.

A lower plane would typically have ten to fifteen existences in the sixth rank at best. That number changed according to the species and actual power of those beings, but that was enough to give Noah a vague idea of how many Snakes he had to kill.

His world was also different due to the fall of the piece of Immortal Lands. That lower plane could contain far more powerful existences than average because of the energy that the new continent had brought to the environment.

The planes could also stretch those limits by redirecting part of their energy to suppress the internal pressure, but Noah's world was too damaged. He guessed that meeting the standards calculated in normal conditions wouldn't be enough for his situation.

Noah had completed the testing phase, and he had disposed of the corpses that he didn't need. He needed a peak rank 6 specimen to complete his project, and that required some preparation.

The nine peak rank 6 creatures all lived on the landmasses and had large packs under their control. Some even shared a few regions peacefully, making their overall power too much for Noah to handle.

Some of those peak rank 6 Snakes also worked as underlings of the quasi-rank 7 specimen, making entire areas of the new continent unapproachable. Noah had to rely on his experience as a hunter if he wanted to safely face those magical beasts.

Noah didn't waste time. He had to clear the sea first, and he didn't hesitate to begin his long match across the seabed.

The third wave of invaders had brought the number of rank 6 specimens in the world above one hundred, but almost forty of them lived in the sea. Noah had already killed twenty-two of them, so he only had to complete that part of his worldwide clearing operation.

The Eternal Snakes living in the sea couldn't do anything against Noah. Their innate abilities couldn't do anything against his destructive might.

Snore's dark beam was a deadly weapon that they couldn't block even after piling countless layers of ice. The wounds that it inflicted also made it impossible for the shards to fix them properly.

Night was a constant threat. It could appear out of nowhere and inflict precise wounds that could reach even their bones. Still, it rarely needed to make an appearance in that phase of the hunt.

Noah was relentless. His desire to complete his project made him hungry for more battles. His Demonic Sword also never failed to pierce the Snake's defenses, and his spells could help him ending the hunts more quickly.

Finding and killing all the specimens in the sea took a while. That environment was too vast even for an existence like Noah. Still, his innate awareness always allowed him to find traces of his targets.

Noah killed twenty rank 6 specimens in the years that followed the beginning of his clearing operation. That number increased whenever one of the Eternal Snakes living on the landmass decided to migrate.

The world didn't reward his efforts. The net of cracks continued to expand even after he had taken care of so many powerful creatures, but Noah didn't mind that.

The new valuable corpses allowed him to improve both his body and his Demonic Sword, while the weaker ones ended up in the red sea where the magma took care of giving "Breath" back to the world.

Only the Eternal Snakes in the human ranks that had appeared after the environment's modifications continued to occupy the sea. The other creatures in hiding were still too scared of the invaders to come out in the open.

Noah didn't relax after clearing the sea. Those battles were nothing more than hunts devoid of any danger, but he was about to approach a battlefield that could cause him some trouble. It was finally time to attack the landmasses and complete his project.

Chapter 1258 1258. Slow approach

Noah's only real target was the old continent. The new one was unapproachable due to the presence of the quasi-rank 7 specimen, and most packs there could work together without creating too many internal conflicts.

One attack on those lands would cause a massive mobilization of reinforcements. Noah would find himself against hordes of rank 6 magical beasts in no time.

Attacking the old continent was safer, and it required less planning. Noah didn't even need a strategy there. He could take his time and slowly kill all the Eternal Snakes in those regions.

Noah didn't need to aim for the peak rank 6 specimens right away. He could slowly clear the area with hit-and-run tactics. It didn't matter if he happened to lose a corpse or two in the process.

Moreover, he didn't even need to salvage the Snake's glands unless he met a peak rank 6 specimen. He could pursue the quickest approach and ignore the damage that he inflicted on those creatures.

Noah flew above the old continent a few times to perform a simple inspection of its fauna. Three peak rank 6 Eternal Snakes occupied those lands, and they had thirty weaker specimens under their rule.

Those creatures had created three large packs that ruled over different sides of the continent. Ironically, they had divided the landmass according to the old areas of influence.

The mystical fog and the mountain chain were natural borders, so Noah didn't feel surprised when he saw that arrangement. He had also expected that the Eternal Snakes would consider the Papral nation more valuable due to its distance from the inactive dimensional portal.

The ground in the Utra nation was too frail. It could barely accommodate the eight rank 6 specimens that had chosen it as their home. The continent's central regions were in a similar state, but they could withstand the pressure coming from its nine powerful creatures.

Instead, the Papral nation could easily accommodate its sixteen rank 6 specimens. The main issue there was the lack of food, which would eventually lead to internal clashes in the future.

Noah picked the Utra nation as the starting point of the clearing operation on the old continent. As he flew closer to those regions, he could see that the ground was trying to recover now that the dimensional portal had stopped working.

However, the presence of the powerful pack of Snakes made those efforts vain. The energy in the environment converged toward those creatures due to their innate absorption of "Breath".

'Four in the lower tier, three in the middle tier, and the leader,' Noah summarized in his mind after completing another analysis. 'I might be able to face them together, but I don't know if the world can endure that kind of battle.'

The world was still unstable, so Noah had to avoid long battles, especially when they saw him going all-out. Part of him wanted to test the limits of his current prowess, but the hunter inside him knew that it was too early for that.

Noah approached the southern coast of the old continent and threw some leftovers of his previous hunts in the sea before hiding inside the sea.

Dark matter came out of his chest once he reached a suitable spot for his ambush. The dark world unfolded around him and hid his presence. Snore also materialized and prepared its deadly beam.

Noah wasn't sure if that bait would work. Magical beasts had sharp instincts, and he couldn't cover the aura of the dark world. He could hide inside it, but he couldn't suppress the radiations of his technique.

Still, Noah knew that the magical beasts had an instinct that often suppressed their ability to think straight. He was aware of how intense their hunger could become.

Those Eternal Snakes had never learnt what it meant to live in a poor environment. Their passive absorption could satisfy them in the Immortal Lands, but it wasn't enough in the lower plane.

Their lingering sense of belonging to the same pack led by divine beings made them resort to cannibalism only when they couldn't endure their hunger anymore. Yet, that was only a temporary solution that didn't solve their core issue.

The Snakes were in a weaker world that couldn't come close to the Immortal Lands in terms of density of "Breath". Their invasion had also killed the few preys that they could hunt.

Those who managed to adapt to the change of environment would remain calm and probably survive the imminent struggles. The others would start inevitable internal battles that would lead to a few survivors.

Noah had to wait for weeks before the area above him showed any sign of life. A massive reptilian head stuck out of the coastline and observed the bait in the distance.

Its forked tongue analyzed that part of the sea and warned the creature about the danger hiding in the depths. Still, the Snake waited a bit before retreating into the landmass.

The Snake reappeared a few weeks later. It still performed its careful analysis of the area before disappearing again.

It seemed that the creature didn't trust Noah's bait, but it was clear that it could barely hold back its hunger. It wouldn't have come to inspect the leftovers otherwise.

The Eternal Snake took only a week to reappear for the third time. Noah could see that a trace of determination had emerged on the creature's face, so he prepared Snore for the attack.

However, the beast retreated again after its usual round of inspection. Noah had to wait until its fourth visit in the area to see platforms made of ice forming above the sea.

The Eternal Snakes moved quickly. It didn't want to remain among that dangerous sensation for too long. Its idea was to fill its mouth with leftovers and return to the safety of the landmass.

Still, a ray of violent dark matter carved a hole in its head and killed the creature on the spot. The beast couldn't even hope to dodge since it could sense the attack only after it left the dark world.

His first prey on the landmass ended up being a middle tier specimen. Those in the lower rank were aware of their weakness, so they didn't explore past their patrol areas.

Noah quickly seized the corpse and took a part of its flesh for himself. The rest of its body went with the bait to improve its appeal in the eyes of those beasts.

His tactic worked since another middle tier Snake soon jumped off the coastline and began to fly toward the bait. Still, it shared the same fate as the last creature. A dark beam pierced its head and killed it on the spot.

Noah took the entirety of the corpse at that time since he didn't want to risk luring out the peak rank 6 specimen. He would directly face the leader once he removed its underlings.

The third middle tier creature appeared on the coastline and followed the example of its predecessors. Its death happened in the same way too. One beam was enough to kill that massive Snake and seize a large amount of valuable flesh.

Noah left the bait in place to see if any of the lower tier specimens would arrive. Yet, they didn't move from their territories even if they had lost their pack's higher-ups.

Chapter 1259 1259. Spring

Noah threw more resources in his bait to lure out the peak rank 6 specimen, but the creature didn't leave its lands. The lower tier specimens were the same, and that left him out of options.

That was the limit of the safe approach. Noah had only managed to kill three specimens before the real battle. Noah didn't know if the world could withstand it, but he would do his best to avoid any unnecessary attack.

'The weaker creatures will surely jump into the battle once I start fighting their leader,' Noah thought as he resurfaced and stored his bait. 'I can only take care of them first if I want to avoid useless shockwaves.'

The lower tier creatures didn't even modify their patrol after the death of the middle tier Snakes. Noah knew where they were, which allowed him to create a strategy that could limit the damages on the world.

Noah flew above the southern coast before stopping and bending his knees. He had already planned the route in his mind. He only needed to be as precise as possible now.

The peak rank 6 Eternal Snake lived near the mountain chain because it was the only land in that part of the old continent that could withstand its pressure. The other creatures occupied the frailest regions, and Noah could meet them before his real target if he made the right turns.

Coldness came out of Noah's figure as he focused on his task. A map of that side of the old continent appeared in his mind, and a route quickly formed on it.

Then, a human-shaped crack replaced his figure, and Noah disappeared inside his dimension.

The dark scenery seen from inside the personal dimension didn't give Noah many details about the old continent's actual environment. Yet, he had already memorized the Snakes' position, and he could predict their reactions due to his vast knowledge in the magical beasts' field.

Noah followed the western coastline until he abruptly stopped and wielded the Demonic Sword. A lower tier Eternal Snake had appeared in the lands under him, and the creature released a surprised roar when it noticed his figure.

Dark matter quickly flowed inside the Demonic Sword before Noah slashed at the beast. A massive mass of blackness in the form of a blade flew out of his figure and crashed on the surprised creatures before it could even release its silver liquid.

Noah's ambition had begun to build up during his sprint. His cultivation level had reached the quasi-solid stage by the time he met his first opponent.

The Snake in the lower tier couldn't defend against that attack. That was one of Noah's strongest slashes launched after his ambition had boosted his power.

The storm of dark matter engulfed the creature and ripped its flesh into pieces. The slash carried Noah's sharpness even in that massive form, and the Snake's innate defenses couldn't hope to stop it.

Noah charged toward the storm and waved his hand when he found the maimed corpse of the Eternal Snake. The slash had destroyed most of its flesh and lowered its value, but he didn't mind that loss.

His body was in the middle tier, and it required far more energy than any other creature on the same level to improve. Noah had reached the point when he couldn't consider magical beasts in the lower tier as a proper meal.

The maimed corpse disappeared as a human-shaped crack replaced Noah's figure. He sprinted toward the eastern coast at that time. The opposite side of the continent accommodated another weaker creature.

Noah's innate awareness sensed that something had changed in that environment after the first prey released its roar. His consciousness could only feel that for a fraction of a second since he immediately sprinted again, but that was enough to make him aware of what was happening.

The pack had learnt about the presence of an invader. The four remaining creatures on that side of the old continent would now converge toward Noah's first victim.

Noah still had an advantage, so his second hunt went smoothly. He reached the eastern coast, found the lower tier specimen, and ripped its flesh apart with a slash that unleashed a storm of dark matter.

His neat and precise attacks couldn't prevent his second prey from releasing a cry. The remains of the pack learnt about Noah's new position.

After storing the maimed corpse, Noah sprinted again. He flew alongside the eastern coast at that time, and he left his dimension when he saw a powerful trace of life in that dark scenery.

That supposedly was the spot occupied by another lower tier specimen, but Noah found two pairs of reptilian eyes turning in his direction after he reappeared in the sky.

The peak rank 6 Eternal Snake had reached its underling, and it didn't hesitate to fill the area with silver liquid during Noah's slight hesitation.

'Not yet,' Noah thought before a human-shaped crack replaced his figure.

The peak rank 6 specimen could wait. Noah had to take care of the weaker creatures before fighting his real target.

Noah sprinted toward the western coast to intercept the last lower tier Snake on that side of the continent. His innate awareness flickered when it sensed that a powerful creature was nearby, and Noah came out of his dimension to launch another sharp storm of dark matter.

The Eternal Snake appeared in his vision for only an instant. The storm of dark matter immediately engulfed its figure and destroyed its flesh.

'Almost there,' Noah thought as he unfolded his dark world.

The two remaining specimens in those lands quickly reached Noah's position after hearing the cry of his third prey. The sight of the dense dark cloud didn't scare them, and they charged toward it without even stopping to analyze the threat.

However, a straight black line came out of the dark world and pierced the lower tier Snake's head. Noah had his fingers pointed toward that creature, and he curved them upward to finish off the beast.

The black line followed the movement of his fingers. It continued to cut its flesh and bones until it came out from the upper side of the Snake's body.

Even the peak rank 6 specimen stopped to watch the effects of Noah's spell. It was still alive, but its instincts gave it different sensations. It was as if they already considered it a corpse.

The weaker Snake suddenly opened into two parts. Noah's spell had almost severed the creature in half. It had missed only a small amount of flesh.

The creature was still in one piece, but its injury didn't even give him the time to launch its silver liquid. The Snake died without understanding who had killed it.

The peak rank 6 Eternal Snake turned toward the cloud while wearing a wary expression. The dark world collapsed under its eyes, and the dark matter caved in to take the shape of a humanoid armor around Noah.

Noah wouldn't use his Demonic Form now that he was in front of his real target. The end of his project was finally in his reach and the excitement that he felt made his ambition push his centers of power into the solid stage.

Dark matter flowed inside the Demonic Sword and turned it into a four hundred meters long blade, and Snore formed behind his back. A shadow also came out of his ring before vanishing in the environment. Noah wouldn't hold back when facing an opponent at the peak of the heroic ranks.

Chapter 1260 1260. Victory

Noah's previous attacks had spread destruction through the world. His storms of dark matter had created large fissures in the fabric of the sky, and even his spell had opened a few cracks.

The frail ground of the old continent had crumbled under his attacks, but that was nothing compared to what was about to happen. Noah had restrained himself before, but he couldn't do the same against his last opponent.

The peak rank 6 Eternal Snake filled the area with silver liquid that created multiple layers of ice. It had seen how deadly Noah's abilities were, so it wouldn't take risks when facing him.

On the other hand, Noah was quite at ease. He had already beaten a similar creature in the past. The effort had left him badly injured, but he was far stronger than before now.

His centers of power were still on a similar level, but he had added a powerful weapon to his arsenal. That addition alone gave him all the confidence that he needed in the battle.

Of course, he couldn't attack mindlessly. He still had to retrieve the creature's glands, meaning that he had to leave the lower part of its head undamaged.

The Snake leaped toward Noah. Its charge destroyed part of the defensive layers to create a cloud of ice-shards that fell on the ground.

The creature didn't need to hold back. Its species was famous for its healing abilities, so it had naturally developed a reckless battle style.

Noah respected that behavior, but he had long since learnt how to counter that troublesome ability. The Eternal Snakes could close their injuries with the ice-shards, but they couldn't regrow entire pieces of their bodies.

The Eternal Snake reached Noah in an instant. Silver liquid came out of its open mouth, and its fangs threatened to close on the black armor. Yet, a series of cuts appeared on the slimy insides of its maw before the creature could finish its attack.

Magical beasts had a fatal weakness that cultivators could easily exploit. Their battle style was always the same, and there was a limit to how much they could improve it.

Even creatures that had lived in the Immortal Lands and bordered the state of intelligent beasts couldn't do much about that. Their single center of power didn't give them any chance to break through their species' limitations.

Noah had already studied the Eternal Snakes and learnt all their moves. He even knew their internal composition better than any other expert in the magical beasts' field, so that species couldn't surprise him anymore.

His opponent wielded raw strength far superior to his, but that would be useless if it couldn't land a single blow on him.

Night ravaged the insides of the upper part of the creature's mouth before leaving that spot and merging with the environment again. Noah used that chance to sprint toward the center of its body and thrust the Demonic Sword in its flesh.

Snore quickly reformed and wrapped itself around the Eternal Snake's body. The Blood Companion's mouth opened to launch its deadly dark beam near the spot damaged by Noah.

The beam effortlessly carved a hole in the Snake's body, and Noah swung his blade as soon as the violent energy dispersed. The creature became aware of its surroundings only to see half of its body falling toward the ground.

The Snake released a cry that expressed both pain and anger. The ice-shards that had previously accumulated in the environment flew toward its mouth and body to close the injuries. Meanwhile, its head shot toward its enemy.

However, the Snake didn't sense anything when it closed its mouth on the human figure, and a painful sensation soon spread from its body.

The creature saw that Noah had reappeared near the large injury and had stabbed its flesh again. The Blood Companion had also reformed by its side, and the dark beam soon shot out of its mouth to carve another large hole.

Noah followed Snore's attack with a powerful slash to cut the pieces of flesh that kept the injured part connected to the main body. Another big chunk of the Eternal Snake fell toward the ground under its angry gaze.

Technically speaking, the Eternal Snake was faster than Noah in close combat. Its physical might was also above his, and the shockwaves that the creature released with each attack could destabilize him.

Yet, Noah knew what type of attack the creature would launch. He didn't even need to see his opponent to know where and when he had to dodge.

That gave Noah the ability to be a few steps ahead of his opponent. He sprinted even before the enemy's attacks started, and he reached its body in time to exploit the openings left during its offensive.

Moreover, the ice-shards couldn't completely heal the wounds that he inflicted. Except for the cuts in its mouth, the Snake's innate ability couldn't fix the damage that it was suffering.

Those exchanges continued for a while. The Snake's body kept becoming shorter every time the creature attacked, and it soon found itself without the flesh needed to perform its leaps.

The Snake lost its agility and explosive speed after Noah cut away enough of its body. He didn't even need to predict his opponent's attacks at that point since he was faster in that phase of the battle.

The creature continued to struggle. It didn't give in even if it had lost most of its body. Still, its attacks were quite pitiful in that condition. They didn't even meet the standards of a peak rank 6 existence.

Noah continued to sever pieces of its body until the Snake was nothing more than a reptilian head standing on top of a trail of ice. Its innate ability had closed its injuries, but its current state made it unable to move properly.

The Snake could only release more silver liquid and create a frozen structure that protected it. Yet, that ice was nothing in front of Noah's blade. The Demonic Sword dug a hole in those defenses in a few slashes.

Noah reached the head and landed at its center, right above the creature's brain. Dark matter flowed inside the Demonic Sword before he thrust it downward.

The Snake's cried in pain, but Noah didn't stop. His ambition continued to push his centers of power beyond their limits on its own. Thinking that he could complete his project made his individuality explode.

After the seventh lunge, the light abandoned the Eternal Snake's eyes. Noah's kill count had reached fifty specimens at that point, but the main achievement was that another peak rank 6 creature had died.

Only eight peak rank 6 Snakes remained in the world now. There was still the quasi-rank 7 creature above them, but Noah couldn't spare any thought for the hunt after his last victory.

He didn't even care about the condition of the world. Noah would take his time to study the expansion of the cracks later on. Now he could only think about his project.

His ambition continued to surge even if the battle was over. Noah had to forcefully suppress it to stop the empowerment that it gave to his centers of power.

The drawbacks soon arrived, but Noah ignored them. He quickly gathered all the body parts on the battlefield before leaving the old continent to fly toward the separate dimension.

He needed to be completely isolated to feel at ease when performing the fusion. He couldn't trust the cave in the seabed with so many threats in the world.