

DEMONIC 1441

Chapter 1441 1441. Decision

Noah felt at a loss of what to do. Those Rats had outsmarted him. They had been more prepared and organized than his group. He was utterly powerless about that situation.

Jordan and the others reached him one instant after his flames laid waste to the army. They had been only one step behind him during his chase, so they had seen what had happened.

The same confusion that filled Noah's mind appeared on their faces, and coldness soon filled their expressions. Their situation was clear. The pack in the Land of the Fallen was already aware of their arrival.

"You are the expert," King Elbas said to Noah.

The scenes of that short battle reappeared in Noah's vision, and the Divine Deduction technique improved his analysis. Noah quickly grasped every important feature of those creatures, and he didn't hesitate to explain them to his companions.

"They are fast, but only during the initial phase of their sprint," Noah explained. "Any of us can reach them in a long chase. They have innate hiding abilities, and they are organized."

Snore came out of his chest and opened its mouth. Two hairy bodies came out of the Blood Companion, but a cold expression appeared on Noah's face when he saw their state.

The Rats that he had previously captured had bitten each other's neck while Noah was busy with the chase. That was his mistake. He had the chance to separate them with his dark matter, but he didn't expect them to commit suicide.

"They are selfless," Noah continued. "They would rather die than fall in enemy hands. We shouldn't consider them as a simple pack. They are a full-fledged army carrying an incredible determination."

The trio fell silent at his words. They had initially believed that the Land of the Fallen would have been easy to explore as long as they avoided its central areas. Still, it seemed that the new ruler of that area was far more troublesome than they expected.

"They are still quite weak, right?" Don asked. "You must have killed two hundred of them just now. The main pack must feel this loss."

Jordan and King Elbas glanced at Noah, and an ugly expression appeared on their faces when they saw him shaking his head.

"Weakness in the cultivation world indicates a higher fertility," Noah explained. "In this case, it might very well be the strongest feature of this species."

Noah had never seen a pack made of so many divine beasts. He didn't face any upper tier creature either, so he felt sure that his opponents had been nothing more than a minor pack, a force meant only to die if anything terrible happened.

"They were scouts," Noah concluded, "And they have completed their mission."

His words stated how serious the situation was. Usually, Noah and the others would have nothing to fear from magical beasts, even if they featured multiple specimens in the upper tier. However, their opponent was a rank 8 creature at that time, and it was now aware of their arrival.

An obvious doubt appeared in their minds after that realization. The four of them wondered whether it was wiser to turn back and avoid the Land of the Fallen.

The giant Crab was probably looking for them, but that creature didn't have the Rats' threatening hiding abilities. The group would sense it from far away, and they would have the time to change direction accordingly.

However, they had nowhere else to go. The magical beasts' field was still vast and hid countless regions that they had yet to explore, but the group wanted to grow now.

It was pointless to have an immense world at their disposal if the experts could only explore its tip. Their power needed to increase if they wanted to make the best out of their journey, and only the Land of the Fallen could provide quick improvements.

Noah was the first to break the silence that had fallen among the group. His knowledge of the magical beasts' field had allowed him to assess the nature of the threat faster than the others. He could also evaluate their situation better, so he felt the need to speak before the others made personal decisions.

"They only know our faces and level of power," Noah said. "They are unaware of our abilities. On the other hand, we know their species as well as their innate skills. We are at a disadvantage now that they are aware of our arrival, but our situation remains almost the same."

Noah's reasoning was on point, but he ignored that the Crystal City had begun to search him. The picture drawn on the leaf wouldn't help the Rat King. It was for the hunting team.

"Escaping shouldn't be a problem either," Jordan added. "They can't fly, and any of us can launch attacks powerful enough to open a path among their corpses. Also, they can't control every corner of the Land of the Fallen."

"He said that because being in a group increases his chances to survive the exploration," King Elbas replied. "Those beasts are dangerous only if they can swarm us, which is far more difficult if we are together."

Noah revealed a cold smile toward King Elbas, but he didn't deny his claim. The Royal was right. He would never march toward the Land of the Fallen if he were on his own.

"This is the meaning of a team," Don said. "We aren't admirable characters either. His reasons apply to all of us."

"Only if we decide to join the exploration," King Elbas replied.

"This side of the Land of the Fallen features inheritances that the human side can't normally visit," Noah said. "Imagine multiple Hellish Landscapes waiting for us to arrive. Our power is off the chart, so we stand a good chance to obtain something."

"You bastard," King Elbas whispered as his curiosity intensified.

Noah had only needed to describe the details of the Land of the Fallen to trigger King Elbas' curiosity. The Royal had no choice but to visit that place now. His individuality forced him to explore that place.

"You would have come anyway," Noah said. "I'm simply avoiding useless conversations. We might enter an inheritance before the rank 8 leader learns about our existence. If we hurry."

"Defying Demon is right," Jordan added. "We are faster than those creatures. Setting off now might prevent them from warning the main pack."

Don struggled his shoulders. He had already decided to continue the exploration. The sole fact that the Land of the Fallen featured so many magical beasts was too appealing for him.

Jordan felt the same. The Rats were weak, but they were divine beasts. Even if they didn't provide the same amount of energy as other creatures, their numbers could make up for that features.

The inheritances were only a bonus for the three hybrids. Having the chance to kill hundreds of divine beasts was already enough for them. The power of their bodies would skyrocket if they could kill thousands of Rats every day.

"It's decided then," King Elbas said before turning in the direction of the Land of the Fallen. "We better hurry."

The three hybrids imitated him and prepared for a long sprint, but King Elbas added something before setting off. "The matter of the Bloodline Inheritances is also over. We won't divide the crystals since someone has already finished his part."

Chapter 1442 1442. Crowded

It wasn't hard to understand where the Land of the Fallen began. The group flew past regions rich in life that forests and packs of magical beasts until they arrived in a vast empty prairie.

The prairie was immense. It spanned as far as the group's eyes could see, and it only featured short strands of grass as forms of life. It didn't contain any magical beast according to their senses.

Large craters tainted that otherwise flat land. Traces of old battlefields filled the prairie, but the passage of time had almost covered most of them. The terrain of the Immortal Lands was so rich that even fights among rank 8 cultivators couldn't turn its regions into wastelands.

The emptiness of the prairie was a clue that Noah didn't miss. He had already confirmed the Rats' extraordinary hiding abilities, so the lack of magical beasts hinted at the presence of those creatures.

No magical beast would give up on inhabiting such a vast region. The area was rich in "Breath", and its terrain contained enough power to nurture entire packs for countless years.

The energy in the inheritances hidden in the prairie leaked from those structures and flowed into the outside world. The ground benefitted from the presence of those structures, especially since they weren't proper areas meant to test cultivators.

The inheritances generated by the dying wills of powerful experts were generally messier than the others. The cultivators who had died on those battlefields didn't have the time to create proper trials. The world had simply taken the form that they desired.

That made the Land of the Fallen appealing to most cultivators. The trials there would either be easy or downright impossible. Those inheritances lacked the complex challenges that could appear in structures like the pyramid.

Noah and the others didn't speak. They had already decided their approach during their hurried flight. Their goal was to enter an inheritance and ignore any creatures hidden underground.

The Land of the Fallen in the human domain had signals. The cultivators had explored it long enough to find the entrance of most inheritances contained there.

However, the Land of the Fallen under the control of the magical beasts didn't have those features. Noah and the others were in the blind, but one of them could solve their issue rather quickly.

King Elbas took out a series of golden lenses from his space-ring. Those curved pieces of glass floated in front of his face as he inspected the prairie.

The lenses showed him the flow of the "Breath" in the area. King Elbas could analyze that phenomenon to understand which spots could potentially hide an inheritance.

King Elbas could also see the nature of that "Breath" through his lenses. He could understand its element and the vague true meanings that it carried.

That gave him a chance to pursue inheritances that seemed to suit his individuality. The three hybrids knew about that, but they couldn't do anything to stop King Elbas from exploiting his advantage.

It was only normal for the Royal to make his choice according to his individuality. The hybrids would have done the same if they owned items capable of accurately detecting the "Breath".

"This way," King Elbas said as he flew toward one of the large cracks.

The grass was shorter in that area, and an oppressive aura came out of the crack. Something inside that structure caused those strange reactions in the environment, and the group didn't hesitate to dive toward it.

The depths of the crack featured many intricate runes on its azure walls. King Elbas wanted to stop studying them, but their situation didn't give him the time to satisfy his curiosity.

When the group was about to reach the end of the crack, the walls on their sides broke. A tide of hairy creatures flew out of the tunnels that had opened. An earthquake also spread through the areas, and countless boulders fell toward them as that destruction continued.

It was as if the whole crack didn't want them to reach its bottom alive. The Rats controlled the environment so well that they could use it to their advantage.

"They want to separate us!" Don exclaimed when he gained a general understanding of what was happening.

The four turned to face every side. Noah, Jordan, and King Elbas launched flames toward the countless creatures jumping on each other's back to reach the experts. Instead, Don waved his hands to shatter the boulders above him and create monkey-like puppets to hinder the Rats' assault.

Hundreds of creatures died in an instant. That pack didn't feature any upper tier creature, so the black, red, and golden flames killed countless specimens in a single blow.

That slight loss didn't seem to affect the pack. More Rats came out of the tunnels, and loud squeals filled the entirety of the crack. Those cries even echoed through the surface and alerted the creatures living in other spots.

The group counterattacked as they continued their descent. The experts wanted to find an entrance quickly, but their expressions turned cold when they saw Rats coming out of the crack's bottom.

They could create a path through those creatures, but they wouldn't have the time to explore the area before the Rats coming out of the walls reached the bottom.

A tide of beasts also appeared on the surface. The sheer size of the army obscured the white light of the sky and made the crack fall into complete darkness. The Rats had surrounded the group in less than ten seconds.

"We need to find another one!" Jordan shouted, and the experts began to launch their attacks toward the Rats falling from above them.

The multicolored flames easily opened a path toward that army and allowed the experts to return to the surface. King Elbas didn't need to take out his lenses anymore. He had already gained a general understanding of the area during his first inspection, so he could lead the group toward the next inheritance already.

The group flew out of the crack and moved in a seemingly random spot of the prairie. A second inspection revealed that the grass had grown following a specific trend. When looked at it from above, it depicted a symbol that resembled a rune.

Still, before the experts could reach that spot, the ground broke, revealing an underground structure that contained hundreds of Rats.

Noah and the others had to stop again, but the Rats didn't hesitate to jump toward them. Some of those creatures even managed to reach them after using their companions as platforms, and their sharp teeth tried to stab their flesh.

That assault didn't manage to injure the experts who quickly vanquished that pack. Yet, more Rats appeared inside that underground structure, and the group soon had to give up on that spot.

King Elbas quickly led them toward another area. A narrow but deep pit soon unfolded in their vision, but Rats came out of it before they could even approach it.

When the experts left that spot, they discovered that Rats now filled every inch of that region. Only the distant areas were still empty. Thousands of magical beasts had come out of the ground to attack them.

Noah and the others exchanged a glance at that point and flew higher in the sky, in areas that the Rats couldn't reach. Then, they began to throw attacks toward the surface.

The Rats were too dangerous to face on the surface, but the experts could slowly destroy them from far away.

Chapter 1443 1443. Wave

Noah was in ecstasy. His flames weren't ideal at a long distance, but they still managed to kill many Rats when they filled the ground. Then, the minute fiery tongues that flew back at him filled his body with energy that the black hole purified and redirected toward his tissues.

He had abilities that could inflict more damage on the enemy army, but the situation was too perfect. Noah could absorb an immense amount of energy without the slightest effort. The Land of the Fallen turned out to be the best training area for his body!

Noah thrived on the weakness of the Rats. Those creatures didn't give him as much energy as other magical beasts at the same level, but even that lower amount was enough to improve his body by leaps and bounds.

Don, Jordan, and King Elbas noticed that Noah wasn't using his best attacks, and they sensed that he improved as his kill count increased. Still, they didn't say anything about the matter.

Their situation was too safe. The Rats couldn't reach them, so they could slowly clear the path toward the inheritances without meeting any danger.

The experts resembled gods of destruction as they unleashed a relentless offensive toward the prairie. Countless Rats died during the assault, but their number didn't diminish. More creatures jumped on each other to create a meat shield that protected the region's underground areas.

Noah felt that something was off. He had already confirmed the intelligence of those creatures, so he couldn't understand why they didn't retreat into the ground.

The group's offensive couldn't even damage the environment too much. At that distance, rank 7 cultivators couldn't reach the regions' deeper parts with their attacks. The ground already stopped a lot of power.

Yet, his doubts didn't make him slow down his offensive. The Rats were probably planning something, but Noah didn't care as long as he could continue to absorb that immense amount of energy.

Eventually, the Rats began to retreat. Loud squeals echoed through the entire prairie. The whole army was going back underground, where the enemy attacks wouldn't reach them.

Noah spat as many flames as he could before a helpless sigh escaped from his mouth. All the Rats had vanished. His undisturbed hunt was over.

'My body has crossed the halfway mark of the middle tier,' Noah thought happily.

Typical hunts couldn't even come close to providing such growth. The Rats had given Noah so much energy that his body had completed years of training and meals in a few minutes.

Noah felt slightly dizzy, but his black hole quickly dispersed that sensation. His body's sudden growth had created an unbalance in his existence, but the fourth center of power took care of harmonizing everything.

Power filled every fiber of Noah's body. That sudden change was an unusual feeling for him since he would rarely get the chance to seize such marvelous benefits. It was almost impossible to find a resource that would give him as much energy without forcing severe drawbacks.

'I wonder if I can bait them out again,' Noah wondered as the Divine Deduction technique activated.

Suddenly, Noah didn't care about the various inheritances anymore. He only wanted to face the army of Rats again. Killing them gave him greater benefits than any non-final trial.

"Maybe they will leave a few paths open now," Don said.

"I hope they keep struggling till the end!" Noah replied as he turned toward his companion to show his broad smile.

Still, when Noah looked toward Don, he noticed that a massive shadow had appeared in the distance. That silhouette reached heights that his eyes couldn't see. It resembled a mountain that was quickly moving toward them.

Don, Jordan, and King Elbas noticed the shock on Noah's expression and turned. The same astonishment and confusion appeared on their face as their consciousness expanded toward the shadow to understand its nature.

The group couldn't initially make out the true nature of the shadow, but everything became clear when it was about to reach them. The mountain was nothing more than a tide of Rats piled on each other!

"Forward!" A Rat in the upper tier shouted from the top of the massive wave.

Its voice was a mixture of a long squeal and a human word that carried an immense pride. The upper tier creature announced itself as the leader of that army, and it didn't mind speaking in a language that even cultivators could understand.

Everything connected inside Noah's mind after he saw the wave. That attack was the reason behind his odd sensation. The Rats didn't stay on the surface to protect the underground areas. They needed to perform a specific movement to create that offensive.

The Rats on the prairie had acted as if they were a sea. Their movements had given birth to a wave on the other side of the region. As the attack continued to move through the sea of creatures, its size increased, eventually leading to that current shape.

The four experts had vast battle experience. That unusual sight didn't manage to freeze them. Their instincts took charge of their movements, and they quickly turned to escape from the wave.

The group initially tried to fly upward, but their minds soon warned them that they would fail in that task. The wave was too tall for them to fly above it.

The best approach was to fly away in a straight horizontal line until the attack lost its momentum and the massive wave crumbled. There was a limit to how long the Rats could remain in that position. The experts had to last until that point.

Piercing it wasn't an option either. The wave was too thick. It would overwhelm the group after they killed the beasts in its external layers.

Scaled wings came out of Jordan's back. King Elbas transformed into dense flames. Don covered his body with a metallic material that made his momentum increase.

Noah transformed into a black blade that released dark matter. The four experts deployed their movement techniques to escape from the wave.

A long chase began. The group ran away from the wave that kept moving faster. Other Rats also came out of the ground to join the massive attack and preserve its momentum.

The Rats' efforts allowed the wave to reach the group. Countless creatures fell on the experts and forced them to interrupt their movement techniques to defend themselves from those beasts' sharp teeth.

Noah had to rely on Snore's dark beam since his flames couldn't burn the Rats quickly enough. He still used his black fire, but the Blood Companion helped him in that struggle.

A single Rat couldn't hurt him, but the thousands of them could pierce his body. Noah had to suppress his greed to preserve his life. Those beasts had the chance to kill him before the flames could save him.

The wave dragged the group away until it crashed on the ground in an area outside the prairie. Noah managed to stop himself in time to see the many creatures around him sprinting away to return to the prairie.

His companions soon became visible among that escaping tide. They were mostly fine. Don had suffered little to no injuries, and King Elbas had relied on his inscribed items to defend from the assault.

Jordan had been the only one at ease inside the wave, but she didn't like the recent event. She was a mighty hybrid on the path to becoming a rank 8 existence. Those Rats had humiliated her, and she decided to make them pay.

However, a series of presences suddenly appeared behind them. A group of cultivators flew down the mountain nearby to inspect them. Many of those experts wore the Crystal City's iconic robes, and three of them were in the solid stage.

Chapter 1444 1444. Inscribed items

The group featured fifteen experts in the liquid stage and three cultivators in the solid stage. It was a force that could make entire guilds escape in fear.

Only large organizations and families had the manpower to deploy such a fearful force. Those cultivators didn't even try to hide their identity. Most of them came from the Crystal City, while others wore robes that featured the Sailbird family's symbol.

Noah and the others instantly forgot about the Rats. A significant threat had appeared in front of them. The event seemed almost coincidental, but they soon noticed a familiar leaf in one of the solid stage cultivator's grasp.

"I didn't know that the Crystal City had such a close relationship with the magical beasts," Noah taunted the group. "You make deals with them. You accept their help. What's next? Do you also fornicate with them?"

His sharp words masked his anxiety. His mind grew cold as Noah evaluated the power of his enemies. He had to admit that the situation appeared quite grim.

"How can a mere hybrid even understand our greater purpose?" Charles said as he crushed the leaf in his grasp. "Defying Demon, you have caused enough trouble. It is time for you to meet your punishment."

Noah didn't answer. His mind had entered a pure battle mindset. He had no words to waste on those fanatics.

The robes of the members of the Sailbird family didn't escape his sight. Noah instantly connected them to Ethan Sailbird, and a silent curse filled his mind.

That was different from the past. Noah had faced many attempted assassinations in his life, but his battle prowess had always been superior to his assailant. However, he had to admit that his group fell short against that force. The Crystal City and the Sailbird family didn't underestimate them. Their effort was almost overkill.

'Tricks won't help me here,' Noah thought as special darkness flowed out of his black hole and activated Miss Void's spherical diagram. 'I need to use all the resources and techniques accumulated in the past centuries.'

Miss Void's spell allowed him to touch the layer between the two dimensions, and his aura immediately started to expand it. Noah began to create his Shadow Domain but prepared for a tough battle.

"I'm actually a human," King Elbas said as an arrogant smirk appeared on his face.

The Royal seemed happy that Noah's enemies had sent such a threatening force against them. He took their seriousness as proof that he was an existence worthy of respect.

"Do you still carry our oath?" Charles asked. "The Crystal City will give you a fair trial if you didn't remove our mark."

"Oh, no," King Elbas replied. "That oath was terrible. I only wanted to point out that I was a human."

Don and Jordan couldn't help but release a short laugh, but their expression quickly turned cold. It was clear that the Crystal City wouldn't attack only Noah, so they had to decide how to divide those enemies.

"I can take care of the woman," Jordan said. "The blonde seems set on Noah, so one of you has to handle the other. Which one of you wants the solid stage?"

Charles had brought a second solid stage cultivator from the Crystal City, and she seemed stronger than Percival. Jordan had decided to handle one of the greater threats and leave everything else on Don and King Elbas.

Noah was the main target of that assassination, so Charles would take care of him. He seemed even stronger than the woman, but Jordan couldn't do anything about that.

"I have always wanted to test myself against a solid stage cultivator," King Elbas said. "The monkey here should be more than enough for the other liquid stage."

"I'm part monkey," Don said. "You will only fail if you try to use that as an offense. Every hybrid in the Legion takes pride in their origin."

"If only I could dissect all of you," King Elbas replied as he shook his head.

"You might want to survive this battle first," Don added before focusing on the weaker troops behind the three solid stage cultivators.

Percival felt underestimated. He would understand if the hybrid in the liquid stage was to pick him as his opponent, but having to fight a human in a lower stage was too much, in his opinion.

Defying Demon had offended the Sailbrird family, so it made sense for Charles to be his opponent. Cassandra was stronger than him, so Jordan was a perfect match for her. Yet, King Elbas seemed the weakest of the group, so Percival felt the need to vent his anger.

"Do you know what this is?" Percival said as he pointed at the symbol on his chest. "This is the mark of an organization capable of deploying rank 8 cultivators. Lord Ethan will turn my guild into an official force of the Sailbrird family after this mission. I don't want this achievement to come after defeating a mere sacrificial lamb."

"Sa-," King Elbas began to speak, but his arrogance didn't allow him to repeat those words.

His aura expanded, and countless inscribed items came out of his space-ring as he shot a hateful glare toward Percival. His figure turned into a golden beacon as weapons, shields, and much more showed their presence in the outside world.

A golden shield filled with runes covered his figure. More runes appeared on his skin, and his crown started to radiate a blinding light that bent the matter in the environment to his will.

Tens of swords floated behind his figure. Spears, arrows, and large ballistae joined that array of weapons, and golden flames soon began to burn on their sharp edges.

Two massive golden puppets straightened their position in front of him. A third golem then appeared behind him and placed its hand on the ground so that King Elbas could step on it.

A few fiery beast-like creatures filled the ground in front of him. They began to chant roars that echoed King Elbas' arrogance and spread it further through the environment.

All those items were peak middle tier inscribed weapons. Their number surpassed the hundred, and more of them continued to come out of his space-ring. There was no end to King Elbas' creations.

"What the f-," Percival began to say, but King Elbas snapped his fingers, and his puppets spewed a wave of golden flames that interrupted the expert.

King Elbas' attack marked the beginning of the battle. Don gibbered as he slammed his fists on his chest. A long cry eventually came out of his mouth, and the ground morphed to create a giant armor around his figure.

Don then threw himself at the group of liquid stage cultivators, and his armor exploded before they could even launch attacks. A storm of metallic and rocky shards filled the sky as Don shot toward the now divided experts.

Jordan's wings came out again, and she slowly rose in the sky without moving her gaze from Cassandra. The expert from the Crystal City followed her, and the two created a battlefield above their companions.

"I heard you use swords," Charles said as he straightened his forefinger and middle finger. "I wonder if your sharpness can leave a mark on my individuality."

Chapter 1445 1445. Bloodlus

The white robes of the members of the Crystal City had purple drawings that represented their individuality. Charles's clothes had a single sword that cut his chest horizontally.

Noah's instincts screamed when Charles straightened his fingers. He knew that something dangerous was about to arrive, and he quickly deployed his movement technique to dodge the attack.

Noah had trained in all his new techniques during the past centuries, especially on the Shadow Domain.

Noah had created a place inside the dark world where he could store primary energy and turn it into the special darkness required by Miss Void's spell. He had freed the Shadow Domain of the workshop through that process. He had even learnt to enlarge the layer between the dimensions during a battle.

However, the Shadow Domain required time to reach Charles. The expert would also move during the battle. Noah needed to drag the fight as long as possible to rely on that technique.

The dark world expanded as Noah transformed into a blade. The suppression of the dark matter fell on Charles, but he snorted and fended it off by expanding his aura.

An intense sharpness filled the environment. Charles' aura cut through the dark world and brought him back under the white light of the sky. Noah's techniques appeared utterly useless against the expert.

"Mere tricks," Charles said as he waved his fingers toward the flying Noah.

Charles' sharpness intensified as a curved slash flew out of his hand and created a deep crack on the ground. Noah transformed back in his original form after the blow, and his cold eyes fell on his legs.

The slash had severed his right foot. It had been fast enough to hit Noah while he performed his movement technique. It seemed that even his arts weren't enough to fill the gap that separated him from a solid stage cultivator.

"You can run as much as you like," Charles said as his sharpness intensified again. "I will cut you piece by piece."

The world went dark for an instant as Noah's flames spread through the area. The region had magical plants and ground that his fire could burn, so he didn't hesitate to rely on his innate ability.

Tiny tongues of fire flew back toward Noah and rebuilt his foot. His injuries vanished in an instant, and even Charles felt surprised about that feat.

"What an unnatural healing ability," Charles said. "You consume the world to fix yourself. Your very existence is a threat to the Immortal Lands."

Charles was about to wave his fingers again, but his mind suddenly sensed a threat. His eyes darted through the environment, but a black mark appeared on his white robe before it could find the hidden opponent.

When Charles glanced at the mark, Snore's reptilian head came out of Noah's chest and launched a dark beam. The violent dark matter flew toward the expert, who promptly slashed toward the attack.

A massive slash cut through the dark beam, but the attack didn't find Noah when it reached the ground. Darkness surrounded Charles again, and a series of draconic roars filled the area.

Charles' expression became cold when he saw an army of dragons moving through the darkness and pounce at him in a reckless assault. Those creatures were only beasts with power near the peak of the middle tier, but their sheer number could make even solid stage cultivators worry.

However, Charles wasn't a simple divine cultivator. He was a proper member of a large organization. He was different from the experts that Noah had faced during his previous battles in the Immortal Lands.

Charles lifted his fingers to his forehead and expanded his consciousness. As he closed his eyes, countless slashes came out of his figure and cut the dragons into multiple pieces. Many fake cores broke and fell outside of the dark world after the attack. The expert had defeated the army in a single blow.

Noah's eyes widened when he saw that slash. Charles was using Sword Saint's techniques. The expert had probably found another piece of his inheritance during his life.

'I also have them,' Noah thought as the Demonic Sword came out of the separate space and landed in his grasp.

The workshop continued to create dragons, and countless fake cores flew out of Noah's chest to fuse with those creatures. A small golem also came out of the separate space. Noah didn't hesitate to activate his middle tier disposable puppet in that battle.

The small puppet entered one of the dragons as the tide of beasts shot once again toward Charles. The expert waved his finger to destroy the dark matter around him, but he soon found an army of middle tier creatures jumping toward him.

Charles snorted and clapped his hands. The soundwave released by his gesture was sharp and cut all the dragons into two pieces. Yet, the disposable puppet came out one of them and enlarged as it charged toward the expert.

The puppet reached a height of four meters before waving its mace toward Charles. The expert's fingers darted toward the weapon and cut its tough metal. His hand then grasped the golem's neck and stabbed its metallic skin.

Cracks spread on the golem's neck, but a dangerous sensation suddenly appeared in Charles' mind. The cultivator turned toward the source of that sensation and saw that a sharp beam was flying in his direction.

Charles wanted to launch an attack toward the incoming lunge, but the puppet promptly grabbed his arm. A detonation followed its gesture, and the sharp beam landed on the expert an instant later.

Then, Snore came out from a corner of the intact dark world and launched its dark beam. The disposable puppet's detonation had created a gray cloud, but everything crumbled when the violent dark matter swept the area.

Noah waited inside the dark world. It was in his interest to drag the battle as much as possible. Moreover, he wanted to see if his attacks had managed to injure his opponent.

His understanding of the solid stage was vague. Jordan had never fought seriously during the journey, so Noah didn't know how strong existences at that level were.

Snore's beam never stopped flowing, but a slash soon pierced the attack and cut the Blood Companion's head into two parts. Charles then came out of the dispersing dark matter, revealing that Noah's offensive didn't manage to inflict any damage.

"The power of our robes depends on our cultivation level," Charles explained. "This is a defensive item in the upper tier. I acknowledge your strength, but you can't defeat me today."

Night had managed to leave a mark on the robe before, but it had caught Charles by surprise. The expert didn't cover his body with his sharpness. The defensive item had endured the Pterodactyl's full power.

When Charles' sharpness flowed out of his figure, most attacks would crumble even before reaching his robe. The situation would be different if Noah could wield power in the solid stage, but that was the limit of his usual abilities.

'I can't defeat him with attacks in the liquid stage, no matter how off the scale they are,' Noah accepted in his mind.

His efforts in the past centuries were pointless in front of the sheer power wielded by a solid stage cultivator. His amazing techniques were nothing more than tricks for Charles. They lacked the strength to pierce through his individuality.

Charles revealed a smile, but his expression froze when an intense bloodlust leaked out of the dark world. Red shades even appeared among the dark matter, and a tired voice resounded in the area.

"My time to kill has come again," The cursed sword said. "Will I taint my blade with the blood of my enemies, or will another Master die today?"

Chapter 1446 1446. Blade

"Don't announce yourself!" Noah shouted inside the dark world.

His hand was on the black handle that had begun to come out of his chest. The cursed sword had announced itself as soon as Noah had summoned it. Its voice had even leaked out of the dark matter.

Charles didn't understand what had happened, but Noah scolded the cursed sword anyway. He couldn't let the weapon announce itself in every battle. It was better to get rid of that habit now.

The cursed sword fell silent, and Noah let go of the matter once he sensed its regret. He drew the blade from the separate space and held it firmly in his right hand.

After the training with Sword Saint, Noah had abandoned his dual-wielding. The expert's techniques didn't require him to use multiple weapons. Yet, it was time to diverge from those arts.

Noah wasn't Sword Saint. The expert's training had been helpful to unify his individuality, but he had to travel on a different path now. His law was already in harmony. Noah could finally surpass the peak reached through those arts.

Red shades began to shine among Noah's mental sea. His bloodlust slowly seeped into his thoughts, and an intense desire to kill Charles filled his mind.

His instincts reacted to that bloodlust. Desires that Noah had abandoned after he surpassed the hybrid status returned and tried to make him lose control of his body.

Noah felt like a hungry beast, with the only difference that he desired blood instead of food. He wanted to kill everything that lived. He craved to cut any living being on his path.

Of course, that wasn't his first time drawing the cursed sword. Noah had already tested its effects and gained experience in its handling. He didn't let his mind fall prey to the bloodlust. He reached an almost frenzied state, but he remained in control of his body.

'Go all out,' Noah ordered through his mind, and his companions followed his directives.

The dark world also obeyed. A different blueprint lit up in Noah's mind. The finished dragons broke up and dispersed into strands of dark matter that the workshop used to create a different beast.

Snore's head peeked out of the dark world to launch its dark beam. Charles waved his fingers and launched a slash that pierced the attack and cut the Blood Companion into two parts.

A snort came out of his mouth before he blew toward his side. His sharpness intensified, and the figure of the big Pterodactyl soon appeared next to the expert.

Charles had started to sense Night, and his mere breathing was enough to stop its charge. The Pterodactyl didn't suffer any injury during the attack, but it was clear that the expert outclassed it.

'I have five to seven attacks depending on how much my body can take now,' Noah thought as he lifted the Demonic Sword and the cursed sword above his head.

His bloodlust intensified, and the Demonic Sword started to generate dark matter. The dark world resonated with the two blades, and its higher energy transformed to support those weapons.

Part of the dark world began to glow with a red light, and vortexes appeared on other spots. Noah's technique supported the two blades by enhancing their influence and the power that they could unleash.

Snore and Night had kept Charles busy while Noah prepared the attack, but their assault was starting to lose its effects. The solid stage expert was too strong. It had learnt the limits of the two companions after a few exchanges, and his counterattacks had become more threatening after that.

Night had suffered injuries. Charles had limited himself to blow toward the Pterodactyl whenever he sensed its presence, and the sharpness carried by his breath had slowly started to affect the creature's body.

Snore was better off. The Snake was virtually indestructible, but its ethereal figure had grown unstable after Charles severed its head into two parts multiple times.

The two companions were slowly reaching their limits, but Charles had yet to fight seriously. He was only playing with those two creatures as he waited for Noah to make his move.

A tentacle suddenly shot out of the dark world. Charles destroyed it with a simple hand gesture, but he soon realized that the threat was far from over.

Countless tentacles shot out after the expert destroyed the first one. Charles quickly clapped his hands to create the sharp soundwave, but some of those limbs survived the attack and entangled themselves on the cultivator's body.

Noah didn't know if Charles had really fallen for that trick or if he was only pretending. Still, he couldn't hesitate anymore. He had to join the battle and risk exposing his new abilities.

The two blades descended, and the dark world followed the energy that they released. Two massive slashes, one black and one dark-red, flew through the sky and crashed on Charles' figure.

The power released by the attack surpassed what liquid stage cultivators could wield. The two slashes together were a blow that could win against spells cast by solid stage experts!

When the two slashes hit Charles, Noah felt a stabbing pain spreading from his chest. A spiderweb of wounds opened on his torso and reached his shoulders. Blood immediately flowed out of them, and a sense of weakness filled his mind.

Noah roared as a wave of flames came out of his mouth and spread in the environment. His fire burned magical plants and weak spots of terrain to bring energy back to his body and heal his injuries.

The many wounds closed in an instant, but a cross-shaped slash suddenly cut through the two clouds that had formed in Charles' position and forced Noah to focus on his opponent again.

The Demonic Sword liquefied and covered the cursed sword. It acted as an armor that protected the blade and enhanced its power. Noah quickly pulled the weapon back and performed a lunge as soon as enough dark matter had accumulated inside its fabric.

Charles had yet to come out in the open again, but Noah attacked anyway. The space of the Immortal Lands bent due to the power carried by the lunge. No cloud came out of it, but a thin black line appeared between Noah's weapon and his opponent.

When the line hit the cloudy spot where Charles was, an explosion resounded in the area, and the smoke dispersed instantly. The expert became visible again, and his fingers were trying to fend Noah's attack off.

Charles couldn't believe his eyes when the black line cut the upper part of his forefinger and middle finger to land on his flat belly. His robe dispersed the energy that remained in the attack, but that sight didn't make the expert any happier.

Even if Charles wasn't fighting seriously, Noah had still managed to win in a direct clash between their sharpness. Noah's superior power came from an inscribed item and multiple techniques, but Charles couldn't accept that defeat.

His law wasn't so special if any inscribed item could defeat it. The expert behind that victory was even weaker than him. Charles began to have doubts about his true meaning after that exchange.

Noah spat flames again to heal himself. He had almost lost his entire arm after that lunge, but his fire restored his body to its peak. He was ready to fight again.

"You aren't simple," Charles said. "You are worthy of seeing my blade."

A white sword with two sharp sides appeared in Charles' hand. His sharpness flowed inside the weapon, and a series of purple marks became visible on its structure.

When the sharpness expanded through the environment, Noah saw how a series of cuts suddenly appeared on his body. Charles didn't even attack him, but he had suffered injuries anyway.

Chapter 1447 1447. Question

Noah transformed into a black blade that launched dark matter to perform an evasive maneuver. Black flames also filled the environment as he flew to escape Charles' sight.

The flames healed his body, but the sense of weakness that had begun to permeate his mind became more intense. His bloodlust also intensified. His consciousness was slowly slipping away due to the drawbacks of the cursed sword.

"Disappointing," Charles said as he waved his sword toward the escaping Noah.

A wave of sharpness flew through the environment. The attack destroyed every plant on its path and turned into ash the superficial part of the ground as it reached Noah.

Noah felt forced to stop and slash toward the wall of sharpness that was about to fall on him. His Demonic Sword left the cursed sword and reformed in his left hand before the two blades released a thick dark-red slash.

The slash pierced the wall of sharpness and allowed Noah to pass through the attack. Yet, a deep cut opened on his chest and forced him to rely on his flames to heal his injuries.

Charles had stopped playing around. His blade danced in the air and launched a series of small curved slashes that flew on different trajectories as they converged toward Noah.

Noah couldn't avoid that attack. He lifted his blades above his head and slashed toward the curved blows when they were about to converge. The two abilities gave birth to an explosion when they clashed, and tiny shards of chaotic sharpness flew through the environment after the impact.

A vertical wound appeared on Noah's torso. The weakness that had filled his mind intensified even if he spat more flames to heal his injuries.

Noah felt that his mind was slipping away. The bloodlust was taking over his thoughts. A part of him already desired to charge recklessly toward Charles.

Noah had launched only four attacks with the cursed sword, but his condition had already deteriorated. His new blade's drawbacks were too severe, but that weapon was the only reason he was still alive.

Charles' attacks were too powerful. Noah could block them only when he used the cursed sword, but that brought him closer to an insane state. Even his body had begun to show signs of instability. Healing it wasn't enough to disperse the drawbacks of the bloodlust.

Noah took the pills gained in Supreme Thief's inheritance and stuffed them in his mouth. One of them wasn't enough for his body. He had to eat all of them to feel their effects.

His body regained some stability after the dark world purified those drugs and redirected their energy toward his tissues. Noah even regained some clarity, but Charles didn't give him time to recover.

Charles slashed again and forced Noah to answer with another attack. Two huge black and dark-red lines flew toward the incoming white curved cut and created another explosion. Noah fended off Charles' blow, but his body paid the price for that feat.

A large wound opened on his chest and spread until it reached his right foot. A waterfall of blood flowed out of the injury, and Noah spat flames to heal it. However, the fire didn't return to him. There was nothing left to burn in the area.

"It's over," Charles said as he raised his sword, but Noah quickly placed both blades on his forehead.

His consciousness expanded and carried his bloodlust in the environment. Noah's sharpness intensified, and massive cuts began to open in the whole area.

Each cut gave birth to more slashes. That piece of the sky fell into chaos as Noah's sharpness created an endless stream of attacks that forced Charles into a defensive position.

Charles waved his sword madly. He wore a stern expression as he replied to every slash that flew in his direction. To his surprise, some of those attacks managed to pierce his sharpness and land on his robe.

Noah didn't hesitate to fuse the two swords again and perform another lunge. Snore and Night also appeared behind him and attacked the expert, deploying the full-power of their innate abilities.

The thin black line flew together with a shadow and a black beam made of violent dark matter. Noah's sharpness didn't affect the attacks, so they soon landed on Charles' body.

A cloud formed and vanished as the clash between the different individualities severed everything in the area. Night managed to fuse with Charles' robe before that spot fell into complete chaos, and those inscribed clothes eventually crumbled under the might of Noah's endless cuts.

The lunge pierced Charles' sharpness and landed directly on his body. The expert almost didn't believe his eyes when he saw the thin black line creating a large hole on the right side of his waist.

Noah had managed to hurt him. He had managed to surpass his sharpness, blade, and robe. Even if he was only a liquid stage hybrid, Noah had showed the potential to fight against a cultivator far stronger than him.

The drawbacks of the last two attacks brought Noah to the brink of madness. His body became a mess of maimed skin and exposed organs. Blood never stopped flowing from his injuries, and his mind began to ask him to give in to his instincts.

Noah knew that he had reached his limit. His body and mind would crumble if he launched another attack. He fell on his knees and gasped for air as he supported himself on the two swords.

That was the end of his immense effort. Noah didn't even feel able to perform his movement technique to escape. The seven attacks with the cursed sword had drained him. His endless cuts were his last hope now.

Charles struggled to fend off Noah's sharpness. The endless cuts were a technique founded on Noah's ambition. That was the secret behind their relentless assault.

The cuts eventually reached Charles' body. The expert didn't know what to do when injuries opened on his skin. Nothing he did seemed able to stop Noah's technique.

Charles' blade began to shine at that point. An immense amount of his sharpness flowed inside his sword that released it in a single explosion. Every trace of Noah's attack vanished after that blow, and the endless technique finally stopped creating more cuts.

The explosion of sharpness flung Noah and the companions away. He never lost control of his connection to the Shadow Domain, but he was struggling to remain focused on his body.

His mind was weak and his tissues unstable. His black hole was doing its best to keep him together, but Noah was suffering more than what that organ could fix.

Charles didn't know what to say. Many injuries had appeared on his body, and the hole on his way proved that Noah could potentially kill him at his current level.

That realization made Charles' expression even more severe. He suddenly felt lucky that he had found Noah when he was in the liquid stage. Charles didn't dare to imagine what might Noah would wield if he reached the superior stage.

Charles pointed his blade toward the crouched Noah before retracting his weapon. He was preparing a lunge to finish that battle, but a shadow landed near Noah at that point.

Noah was desperate to find a way out of that situation, but his tricks were over. The Shadow Domain still required some time, and he had no way of gaining it.

A shadow suddenly crashed on the ground near him. After a clash with his opponent, King Elbas had fallen there, but no injury had appeared on his body. He seemed fine, but he wore a severe expression.

Noah had an idea when he saw him. His mind was on the verge of slipping away, but his black hole was keeping him sane and forcing his organs to work properly even if injuries filled them.

"Elbas, how is your alchemy?" Noah asked.

King Elbas glanced at him before replying with his usual arrogant tone. "The best, of course."

"How can you fuse primary energy, "Breath", higher energy, and mental energy to create something stronger than any of them?" Noah quickly asked.

"By fusing them? Impossible," King Elbas explained. "The higher energy will always carry more power. However, you can create an unstable product to obtain a great surge of energy for a short amount of time."

Chapter 1448 1448. Control

Noah had experimented in the "embodiment of power" since he had obtained it. He had committed to memory how the four energies interacted with each other.

He had tested every mixture and rearranged them in countless ways, but he had never managed to create a product that could satisfy his needs. The dark matter was always a better fuel since the other energies carried less power.

'My ambition has tricked me again,' Noah released a short laugh when he thought that.

Pain spread through his body when he laughed. His tissues were at their limit. Yet, his black hole carried enough power to force his mind to work faster than ever.

His tainted mental energy flowed inside the Divine Deduction technique and gave birth to a series of bloodthirsty thoughts. His need to destroy intensified, but that desire ended up improving his creation of an unstable product that featured his four energies.

When Noah found an answer, his black hole started to create the product. Mental energy, primary energy, darkness, and dark matter fused inside the center of power and triggered a chain reaction that threatened to blow Noah's chest off.

The black hole suppressed that unstable product and redirected toward the black vessels. Noah didn't have time to consider whether those channels could withstand that violent surge of energy. Charles had almost completed the lunge. He would die if the technique didn't work.

The black vessels were a core part of his innate ability. They existed because the black hole had fused with his body and needed a channel for the dark matter.

They couldn't withstand the violent energy that was flowing out of the black hole. Most of the black vessels exploded as soon as that unstable product tried to enter them.

Black spots formed on Noah's skin as his black vessels exploded. His body convulsed, and blood flowed out of his mouth. More blood also came out of his many injuries, and his overall condition worsened.

Noah's body was about to crumble. It had finally surpassed its limits. His skin began to fall apart as more injuries spread.

Still, some of the thickest black vessels managed to endure the violent energy. Noah's tissues didn't recognize that substance, but the immense power generated by its explosive force flowed inside them and filled them with strength.

Noah slowly straightened his back and roared at the sky when he sensed that surge of energy pervading his tissues and spreading through every inch of his body. Black flames came out of his mouth as that cry echoed through the area and reached the regions nearby.

Noah's cry didn't carry any human meaning. It was a simple roar. A gesture meant to vent part of the power that was filling every fiber of his body.

His skin began to heal only to break again when that violent energy seeped inside it. The process was excruciating, but Noah could only endure it as he prevented his mind from falling prey to his bloodlust.

Charles didn't stop his attack even when he saw that something had happened inside Noah. He thrust his blade forward, and a white beam made of sharpness flew at high speed toward his kneeling opponent.

No sharpness leaked into the environment. The lunge had condensed Charles' energy, giving it the best piercing properties in his arsenal. That attack could even pierce the wave of Rats.

The lunge crashed on the ground and dug a deep diagonal hole. Charles' sharpness then seeped into the terrain and opened cracks in the superficial layers of the region. A faint earthquake also spread, but a confused expression appeared on his face.

Charles suddenly turned when he saw that a shadow had appeared next to him. His eyes widened at the sight of a bloodied Noah waving his hand at him.

Noah was a mess of blood and injuries. His dirty long hair covered most of his face, and his swords had also disappeared. However, Charles could see the intense icy-blue light radiated from his cold eyes.

Even when his body was shattering, Noah was calm. His mind was on the verge of falling prey to his instincts, and pain spread from all his tissues. However, he remained in control of himself.

Charles promptly waved his blade, and a slash shot toward Noah. The attack would reach his head before Noah's fingers could touch the expert.

A deafening roar came out of Noah's mouth as he headbutted the slash. The attack crumbled under his physical might, and shock filled Charles' mind.

Charles knew that hybrids could reach incredible levels in terms of physical might, but he had never heard of someone as strong as Noah. The latter's body was in the middle tier, but its sheer power could withstand attacks launched by cultivators in the solid stage!

Charles instinctively started to retreat, but Noah's hand reached his chest before the expert could escape from his range. His fingers stabbed his skin and tore away his entire rib cage with a single movement.

Noah chased after the expert. His mouth never stopped spitting flames, and his speed reached levels that would render even solid stage cultivators speechless.

Charles found himself unable to escape from Noah's chase. He could only continue to launch attacks and hope that his opponent died before it was too late.

A series of slashes flew out of the expert's sword and crashed on Noah. Marks appeared on his broken skin and muscles, but that offensive didn't manage to slow him down.

Noah continued to fly, uncaring of the attacks that converged toward him. His body was so in pain that he didn't feel anything when those slashes landed on him.

Charles didn't let Noah catch him. Noah had surprised him the first time, but he wouldn't commit the same mistake again. His figure performed short sprints that used his sharpness to cut through the air at an unbelievable speed.

Noah could only spit flames that managed to envelop his opponent from time to time. Part of the energy that they managed to seize returned toward Noah, but he barely felt anything during the process.

His mind was continuing to slip away even in that condition. He was even struggling to maintain his trump card active now.

Eventually, the energy obtained through the violent product ended. Noah felt weaker than he had ever felt in his life as he descended toward the ground and crouched.

Charles heaved a sigh when he saw that scene. His consciousness swept Noah, and another sight came out of his mouth when he confirmed that his body was falling apart.

The sole fact that Noah had been able to fight in that condition was incredible. Part of him acknowledged the hybrids' superior strength after that battle, but his belief remained firm.

"This has been incredible," Charles said. "You are only a hybrid in the liquid stage, but you can already injure cultivators in the solid stage. I can't let you leave any longer. Your future potential is too scary."

Charles pointed his sword at Noah. Blood flowed from his open chest on the remains of his white clothes, but his appearance remained noble.

"I recognized Sword Saint's techniques in your sword arts," Charles said. "I will kill you with my blade out of respect for your expertise. Goodbye, Defying Demon."

Noah spat flames, but the silver radiance that surrounded them didn't spread in the environment. Charles also noticed that something was off. He had seen Noah's fire, but that ability had suddenly disappeared somewhere.

'What is happening?' Charles thought before something appeared inside his body.

Charles lowered his head and peeked at his insides from his open chest. Countless spiked spheres had filled his body. They were inside his blood vessels, muscles, and organs. Moreover, black flames surrounded those disposable weapons.

Before he could utter any other sound, the Instabilities detonated, and his body vanished into a cloud of corrosive smoke and black flames.

Chapter 1449 1449. Potential

A surge of energy flew inside Noah's shattered body as he crouched on the ground. The flames had burned anything that the Instabilities didn't manage to destroy. That power had then converged toward Noah to restore his condition.

Charles didn't expect that sudden attack, and even his incredible individuality couldn't help him once Noah placed attacks inside his organs through the Shadow Domain. Miss Void was right. Her technique was unbeatable once it showed its true power.

The black hole was aware of Noah's poor condition. The organ skipped many rounds of purification to provide energy to his tissues and start the healing process.

The fourth center of power knew that Noah didn't need purity now. His body was falling apart. The black hole had to keep him alive before focusing on anything else.

Charles was a human, so his dantian contained most of his energy. The Instabilities had destroyed that organ during the explosion, but the black flames had burnt the "Breath" inside it.

That energy resembled a tide that pressed on Noah's tissues and forced them to heal. Skin, organs, muscles, and bones grew and stabilized under the strict attention of the black hole.

Noah's body was too far gone to heal instantly. His tissues continued to fall apart during the process, so they required far more energy than usual to return to a normal state.

Pain filled Noah's mind as his skin shattered and regrew. The process continued for a while until his body found some stability again and started to heal properly.

His black hole had depleted most of Charles' energy by that time. Saving Noah had taken almost every grain of the solid stage "Breath" contained in his dantian.

As Noah began to heal properly, some clarity returned to his mind. The bloodlust retreated as his condition improved, and he suddenly realized what he had achieved.

It had taken Noah everything accumulated in the past centuries to succeed in that amazing feat. He had needed every single technique and spell found in the many inheritances explored since he reached the Immortal Lands to defeat a solid stage cultivator.

Noah knew that his battle prowess wasn't at the same level as those experts. The solid stage was too far away. His victory against Charles wasn't a fluke, but it wasn't something he could do every time.

He had been one instant faster than his opponent. Charles had the chance to finish him, but he didn't expect Noah to have the Shadow Domain.

Noah couldn't even blame him. He had felt the same surprise when he entered Miss Void's inheritance. The Shadow Domain defied logic, but its power didn't lower the importance of his astonishing feat.

Noah had defeated a solid stage cultivator while he was in the liquid stage. Thinking about that made his ambition explode outward. A surge of power came out of his dantian and filled the environment with his influence.

The area began to transform. The destroyed and burned rocky terrain of the region started to evolve. The ashes became terrain, and the rocks became metal. Black lines also covered the land and spread Noah's influence further.

The air darkened. The white light radiated by the sky stopped shining as brightly as before. The areas affected by Noah's aura rejected that glow to use his ambition as their new illumination.

His ambition didn't manage to stop the white light completely, but the region experienced a sense of darkness for the first time since its creation. Noah was obscuring the matter in the area as his law force it to evolve.

His potential had finally grown enough to show substantial effects. Defeating a solid stage cultivator had proven how Noah had no absolute limits when it came to his battle prowess, and his individuality had reacted to that event.

Normal training sessions couldn't give that boost. Noah had spent centuries slowly increasing his influence on the environment, but his steady growth almost consumed the potential that the process generated.

However, defeating Charles had proven that Noah was already strong enough to be near the solid stage, so his ambition began to reflect that. If Noah wanted, he could now use his law to increase his cultivation level again.

Noah slowly straightened his back as a draconic roar came out of his mouth and echoed through the region. He felt the need to announce his victory to the world, and holding back while his ambition grew was impossible.

Flames shot out of his figure and filled the sky. Noah had to treasure every grain of energy that he had, but he couldn't stop. He had to shout and vent after that difficult battle.

After his roar, Noah turned to lay on his back. The area became brighter as his ambition flowed back inside him, but a satisfied smile slowly appeared on his face.

Snore reformed, and Night flew toward him. The Demonic Sword also came out of his chest to protect him. They could sense how tired Noah was, but they also felt his happiness.

His body was healing. His individuality had amassed enough potential to push his cultivation level near the solid stage. He had found a solution to the "embodiment of power", and he was still alive. The situation called for a celebration, but his allies were still fighting against their opponents.

Don's situation wasn't as bad as his companions. He was against fifteen cultivators in the liquid stage, but he was a hybrid that bordered the breakthrough toward the solid stage.

The power wielded by his body was immense. His skin could endure spells launched by cultivators on a similar level, and his attacks could even fend them off.

Don also had a law. His individuality carried the true meaning of adaptability. He could transform any material connected to the earth element into different giant armors that he devised according to his situation.

In theory, Don couldn't lose the upper hand. He could always create armors that suited his situation to hold his advantage in every battle.

Those armors also relied on his physical strength and used it to improve their power. The hybrids in the Immortal Lands had learnt to use their superior features far before Noah, so Don could deploy arts of his own.

Don created a metallic layer to cover his skin and used different materials to build armors around his figure. His fists became claws, tails, horns, and giant hands as he fought against the group of cultivators.

His attacks released shockwaves that spread through the environment and forced those cultivators to retreat by a few steps. Don was a monster among enemies. His offensive was relentless, but he struggled to inflict deadly blows.

Since the cultivators were working together, Don never managed to kill any of them. Divine experts were hard to kill, and the situation forced Don to focus on his defensive armors.

The few times that he managed to attack safely weren't enough to kill his opponents. The experts were also aware of that, and they didn't hesitate to pursue a slow approach toward the battle.

Their priority was to exhaust Don since they couldn't find proper openings in his defense. Still, the hybrid quickly understood their plan and his offensive became more reckless.

Injuries began to appear on his body, but a few cultivators also died. Don's approach still featured a battle of endurance, but he removed the slow part to focus on deadly attacks.

Chapter 1450 1450. Counter

Golden light filled the area where King Elbas and Percival were fighting. The expert in the solid stage threw lightning bolts from his fingers whenever he managed to find one of the Royal's items among a dense sea of flames.

Swords, spears, and flames flew relentlessly toward Percival, but a thick layer of sparks covered his body and protected him from any incoming attack. His lightning bolts always destroyed the items they hit, so King Elbas slowly lost terrain during the battle.

Still, King Elbas had unleashed the full power of his creations. Inscribed items never stopped coming out of his space-ring. Percival continued to destroy them, but there seemed to be no end to that offensive.

King Elbas hid among the golden flames launched by his puppets. He wore an unsightly expression as he studied his opponent. Percival was the weakest of the three solid stage cultivators, but that didn't make him any easier to defeat.

"Can you stop using these annoying tools?!" Percival shouted as he joined his hands to release a circular shockwave that dispersed countless lightning bolts in the area.

The golden flames and all the items in his range crumbled under the might of his individuality. Percival was a storm that released destruction with his every move. His lightning bolts had the power to pierce anything, especially inscribed items that were weaker than him.

King Elbas never stopped throwing items at his opponent. He had already lost hundreds of inscribed weapons when he spoke with Noah, and more of them crumbled after he resumed his fight.

The battle wasn't going anywhere, but King Elbas knew that he couldn't continue like that. He would eventually use all his items, and Percival would have a clean shot at that point.

However, King Elbas didn't stop relying on his peak middle tier items. Massive bolts, flames, and puppets flew toward his opponent in a desperate attempt to pierce his defenses and reach his body.

The greatest difference between cultivators in different stages was their sheer power, and Percival completely overwhelmed King Elbas in that field. The Royal couldn't defeat his shield with those peak middle tier items.

King Elbas didn't have techniques that could make him ignore that difference in power. Even Noah had to rely on an item to express solid stage battle prowess. The Royal had to do the same if he wanted to win.

Still, King Elbas had other plans. His space-ring hid many secrets, but he didn't want to reveal them yet. His curiosity had to complete one step before he could fight for real.

Percival released another spherical shockwave, and raging lightning bolts began to linger on his figure and destroy anything that entered his range. The expert shot toward the sea of flames at that point and countless inscribed items fell prey to his destructiveness.

The cultivator couldn't sense King Elbas among the golden flames, but he didn't care about that. The Royal had to come out after he destroyed everything.

Percival wasn't even worried about his reserve of "Breath". He was in the solid stage, so he obviously had more energy than King Elbas. It didn't matter that the Royal was mainly relying on inscribed items. Percival wouldn't exhaust himself before his opponent.

King Elbas flew through his sea of flames as he escaped from the lightning bolts that surrounded Percival. The number of inscribed items in the area fell rapidly, but no worry appeared on his face.

A peculiar aura came out of King Elbas. His figure radiated intense but tiny radiations that seeped inside the lightning bolts and studied their nature.

Information about Percival's individuality quickly filled King Elbas' mind. His consciousness also memorized features that only experts in multiple fields of the cultivation journey could list. The Royal was using his inscribed items to escape long enough to learn everything about Percival's law.

When Percival flew toward the last area of the sea of flames that he had yet to destroy, King Elbas came out of his cover and retreated through the sky.

The cultivator destroyed the golden flames before chasing after King Elbas. Percival had grown so annoyed by that golden color that he sought to destroy anything that carried those shades.

Percival was faster than King Elbas, so he quickly reached the Royal and prepared himself to launch the long-awaited final attack. He had already hit his opponent once before, but the golden defenses had stopped his techniques. Yet, King Elbas was almost defenseless now, so Percival felt sure that it was time to land a finishing blow.

King Elbas turned when Percival was about to attack. A massive lightning bolt flew toward him, but the Royal didn't attempt to dodge it. He simply lifted his hand and closed his eyes as his curiosity filled the entire area.

The lightning bolt suddenly vanished right before touching King Elbas' fingers. Its energy dispersed into the environment and disappeared in the white sky.

"What?" Percival exclaimed.

King Elbas had only lifted his hand. He didn't use any unique item or technique. His individuality had surged for a second, and the lightning bolt had vanished under its influence.

"What did you do to my attack?" Percival asked.

"Those who reach the solid stage should be talents among talents," King Elbas said as he shook his head. "Look at you. You have so much power, but you barely separate yourself from things that already exist in the world. There is nothing to fear from the storm if you know what it carries."

"What are you even saying?" Percival asked again. "I am the storm. Heaven Tribulations shy away in fear of my lightning. I can turn everything you have into ashes and pierce the toughest metal. I am true, unstoppable power!"

"A dumb law for a dumb cultivator," King Elbas replied as he heaved a helpless sigh. "Power alone is useless, especially in front of me."

"Such gall!" Percival said as the crackling noise that surrounded his figure became more intense. "I don't know what trick you used, but it won't work against an amount of power that would make even solid stage cultivators run away."

Percival joined his hands, and the lightning bolts around his figure flowed back inside his skin. Sparks ran through him and converged toward his arms.

The crackling noise intensified as Percival separated his hands. A massive surge of power spread in the environment when he revealed the small orb that had appeared among his palms.

The orb released crackling noises and flares that pierced the ground when they touched it. The attack seemed powerful to generate lightning bolts since it didn't lose any power when those surges happened.

"Block this," Percival said as he let go of the orb.

The crackling sphere flew slowly toward King Elbas, who tried to escape. However, he soon noticed that the aura released by the orb prevented him from using his abilities. It created a field where only the lightning bolts could exist.

King Elbas' curiosity intensified again at that point. He lifted his hand, and his whole arm turned into golden flames that crumbled under the pressure radiated by the orb.

That destruction continued until King Elbas lost half of his torso. The orb had suddenly stopped before reaching his head, and Percival could only remain speechless at that sight.

Percival didn't stop the orb. His attack was still under his control, but he didn't manage to make it continue its flight. Something was preventing it from moving.

King Elbas closed his eyes, and the crackling noise slowly lost some intensity. The process continued until the attack vanished and gently released its energy into the world.

Percival didn't know what to say to that scene. He didn't lie to King Elbas. Even solid stage cultivators would struggle to face that attack.

"How-," Percival began to ask, but blood suddenly filled his mouth.

King Elbas had thrown three inscribed blades during that moment of distraction, and the weapons had pierced Percival's waist before he could complete his question.

"How did I do it?" King Elbas said as he completed Percival's question. "I learnt how your law works and created an energy that destabilizes it. Your lightning bolt can't exist near me anymore."