

DEMONIC 1591

Chapter 1591 1591. Order

Jordan had followed Noah's orders and had handled Ava's offensive while her companions took care of the gaseous stage opponent. However, Divine Demon had eventually seized control of the battle and forced the others to settle for a supportive role.

Ava was like Duke. She only used a fixed set of abilities during her battle. Her law made her able to turn her blood into different weapons that exploded whenever they touched her opponents. Instead, her spells forced the ground to wither and use its energy to fuel various barriers.

The winged expert usually used her blood to create spears that flew toward her opponents. Jordan had quickly become unable to handle that offensive since her attacks couldn't match the power of a liquid stage existence, so Divine Demon took her place.

Divine Demon's law countered Ava's spells. The expert tried to use the ground to fuel her shields, but Divine Demon took over the world and forced it to help him. The azure halo around him never ceased to shine, and it eventually overcame the scarlet radiance that filled the separate dimension.

"Give me more!" Divine Demon shouted. "I shouldn't even be able to touch you, but your techniques can't match my expertise. Is that everything you can do?"

Divine Demon's taunts didn't manage to make his opponent's flinch. Ava wore an aloof expression that didn't reveal any emotion. She limited herself to open her skin and draw blood that turned into various weapons.

Spears, swords, hammers, and more flew toward Divine Demon, who deployed all the energy taken from the world to create marvelous techniques.

Divine Demon didn't need Noah's teachings on the path toward the ninth rank. He had always been a monster capable of following his journey without lingering on bottlenecks and similar hindrances.

Still, his cultivation level didn't allow him to defeat Ava. He didn't even have Noah's incredible techniques and advantages at his disposal. He was a simple cultivator, so his law had to create unique abilities to fend off that offensive.

The space opened whenever Divine Demon's influence spread through the area. Those cracks attracted the various weapons and sent them into the void.

The others could attack Ava at that point. Jordan, Luke, and their companions sent waves of spells toward the winged expert who didn't manage to create defenses due to Divine Demon's influence.

Noah observed the exchanges. He had never underestimated Divine Demon, but he knew that his influence shouldn't surpass Ava's. His achievement mainly depended on the same flaws that had afflicted Duke, even if it remained pretty amazing.

The ability to take over the world's energy with a liquid stage cultivator contending that power spoke for Divine Demon's might. That feat left Ava defenseless and allowed her opponents to injure her weak body.

Noah could finally notice how Ava's body seemed above the human standards. She wasn't near the level of the magical beasts, but she went beyond the limits of her species anyway.

Noah linked that power to her partial transformation. It was clear that the separate dimension had tried to force her existence to evolve, but the result was nothing more than a flawed product.

'I wonder if Radiant Eyes has also gone through the same process,' Noah thought while inspecting the battle. 'That shouldn't be the case with a rank 9 existence, but it's better to leave this separate dimension anyway.'

Noah was slowly becoming aware of the nature of the mountain. Ava and Duke's condition and the chrysalises were enough to explain part of the many functions of that separate dimension.

His conclusions made him feel even more worried about that place. The deeper layers of the mountain had to feature dangers that even liquid stage cultivators couldn't overcome, and Noah didn't want to see them.

"This is too easy!" Divine Demon shouted while cracks opened around him. "I promised that I would defeat you without attacking, but this is too boring."

His taunts failed to trigger any reaction in the expert again. Ava continued to throw weapons at her opponent, but her attacks always ended up inside the void.

Ava's human body made her quite frail. Her opponents' attacks could injure her due to the lack of defenses. She soon lost her limbs and entire pieces of her torso, but she continued to use her blood to create storms of weapons.

Divine Demon didn't even bother to watch that assault. He crossed his legs and sat on the air before taking a jug of wine from his space-ring and filling a cup. Dark-red weapons were flying toward him, but the world opened to protect him.

His companions' offensive always followed that event. Jordan and the others used that chance to launch their attacks and inflict injuries on their opponent. Ava's blood allowed her to remain in one piece most of the time, but her enemies were slowly shattering her into pieces.

Luke eventually threw a gale that seeped into Ava's skin and made her tissues explode. The expert had nothing more than torn muscles and shattered bones at that point, so the following attacks reduced her to a bloody pulp.

Divine Demon didn't bother to watch Ava's death. He had no care for that event. He limited himself to sip wine while his cultivation level increased due to his successful challenge.

"I guess I will join Wilfred once I get back to the Legion," Divine Demon said when he sensed Noah approaching from behind. "You did great on your own. You definitely are the only existence worthy of being my heir."

"We should leave," Noah exclaimed while ignoring those words. "We don't know what the dimension hides. Let's go before we trigger another defense mechanism."

"I still think we can handle a few more layers," Divine Demon complained. "Look! These liquid stage experts couldn't do much against us. We can keep going until we meet solid stage threats."

"Something has forced those cultivators to transform," Noah explained. "They couldn't defeat that influence, so I have to believe that we can't do it either. There is no point risking our lives for a bunch of corpses."

Divine Demon sighed before storing his jug and cup. Noah was right. The separate dimension only offered challenges without ever giving rewards. It was better to spend their time inside Supreme Thief's inheritance at that point.

"I can contact a few experts and work something out," Luke said once he neared Divine Demon and Noah. "It's a pity to leave the mountain here. We should hide it from the human domain to gain a monopoly over this resource."

Noah wanted to nod. Luke's plan was the best compromise in the current situation. However, a buzzing noise suddenly came out of the ground and made the whole separate dimension tremble.

The sky and the ground shook while echoing that noise. The sound wasn't painful, but it made Noah and the others unable to move. They felt as if an external power had taken control of their bodies.

Noah felt unable to use his consciousness. He could still think, and he even retained complete control of his thoughts. Yet, he couldn't use them to manage his centers of power.

Even the black hole went dormant. The buzzing noise was suppressing his law and influence, and it gave him an order that he couldn't oppose.

Noah and the others quickly formed a platoon and began to attack the ground. They created cavities and dived into them in a matter of seconds.

The orders carried by the buzzing noise didn't feature human words, but its meaning was clear. The sound wanted the group to reach the bottom of the separate dimension, and they didn't have the power to fight it.

Chapter 1592 1592. Control

Noah could vaguely understand what was happening. His mind was working perfectly, so he could sense how that buzzing noise was affecting his power.

His instincts warned him about a threat that he couldn't fight. Noah felt powerless against that influence. His entire existence was under the control of the vague orders conveyed through that sound.

Noah's group dug large tunnels through the separate dimension's ground. They reached the second layer and continued to dive deeper into the insides of that structure.

A third layer eventually appeared in their vision. That structure was almost identical to the previous, but it featured far more chrysalises on its walls.

Noah let his instincts study his surroundings. He couldn't cover the underground hall with his consciousness, but his senses were still active, and they could inspect the environment.

'They don't have middle tier magical beasts in this hall,' Noah thought while his body moved on its own.

Noah didn't have much time to study his surroundings. His eyes went on the ground as soon as he reached the third layer, so he had only caught a glimpse of the chrysalises. Still, he couldn't see any middle tier creature during that short inspection.

The buzzing noise forced the group to dig deeper. It led the experts into the fourth layer that featured even more chrysalises.

Noah repeated his short inspection while his eyes moved through the area and landed on the ground. He didn't see middle tier magical beasts there either, but he began to wonder whether he had ended in the wrong hall.

The answer to his doubts arrived after the group reached the fifth layer. Noah could finally see middle tier bees inside chrysalises at that point, and that sight only made him sigh.

'Why is this even happening when we stopped so early?' Noah wondered while the noise forced the group to dig deeper.

Risks always accompanied explorations through the Immortal Lands. That was part of the cultivation journey. Yet, many danger zones often allowed careful experts to cross them.

Noah had always been careful unless his situation required him to do otherwise. He had used the same approach inside the mountain, but it seemed that his luck had run out.

'I guess it had to happen at some point,' Noah sighed inside his mind. 'Being careful can't keep you safe forever. You will eventually find a danger that you can't overcome in a plane that features rank 9 existences.'

Noah felt at peace. He had long since accepted that experts could be unlucky at times. It was impossible to avoid that randomness in a world filled with experts stronger than him.

The group reached and went past the sixth layer. More underground halls continued to appear as they kept digging through the separate dimension. Noah could even lay his eyes on chrysalises that contained upper tier bees at some point.

The buzzing noise intensified as the group dived toward the depths of the separate dimension. That sound eventually lost any obstruction when they reached the twentieth layer, but their eyes couldn't see anything since they felt forced to stare at the ground.

The noise eventually allowed them to raise their heads. The group could finally inspect their surroundings, and that scene made their minds freeze.

Countless silk-like threads covered the floor, walls, and ceiling of that underground hall. Noah couldn't see any tunnel in front of him, but he was still unable to turn, so he couldn't check the area behind him.

The threads converged toward a ten meters tall chrysalis that was the source of the buzzing noise. Noah and the others bowed as soon as they saw that cocoon, and their heads continued to look at the ground for a whole hour before the sound forced them to straighten their position.

"You will soon become part of my pack," An eerie female voice suddenly resounded from the cocoon. "Rejoice! I turn you into my children and lead you into a glorious conquest."

The buzzing didn't stop while those human words spread through the underground hall. That sound forced Noah to step forward and bow again to accept the expert's blessing.

"I acknowledge your power," The voice resounded again. "You will be the first to transform into one of my children."

A dense liquid came out of the scarlet floor and enveloped Noah. He felt that material invade his tissues and try to alter his fabric to improve its overall power.

However, the black hole suddenly started rotating again and took over that part of the process. The organ forced all the energy transmitted by the dense liquid to pass through its dark matter before sending it back to Noah's body.

Noah's power slowly increased. He felt that every cell of his body improved under that intense nourishment. The dense liquid contained enough nutrients to trigger a transformation, so he could seize a lot of power from it.

The expert inside the cocoon continued to summon more dense liquid, but the black hole never allowed that energy to transform Noah. That resource even accepted the organ's authority and let it take complete control over the procedure.

"What is happening?" The female voice suddenly resounded again. "Why don't you transform?"

Noah wanted to reply, but he couldn't move. He could only bathe in the marvelous feeling generated by the fast growth of his centers of power. The process didn't only involve his body. Even his dantian, mind, and black hole improved under those nutrients.

"What are you?" The voice asked before a dense wave of mental energy seeped inside Noah's body.

The expert inside the cocoon inspected every inch of Noah's body. Her mental energy even studied the black hole, but she didn't seem satisfied with her discoveries.

"Speak!" The voice eventually exclaimed. "Tell me why my energy can't force you to transform."

Noah suddenly regained control of his body. He crouched while his consciousness instinctively expanded and gave him a clear view of the entire underground hall.

The area didn't have tunnels, but it was quite big. It featured only one cocoon, but the power inside that form seemed able to overcome all the other bees in the higher layers.

'She must be in the ninth rank,' Noah concluded after that brief inspection. 'What can I even tell her now?'

"My body already is the epitome of perfection," Noah explained while straightening his position. "Your liquid can force me to improve, but it can't change my species."

"Are you telling me that I can't improve you?!" The voice asked in an angry tone.

"Quite the opposite," Noah continued. "Your liquid has no harmful properties. It has realized that my species is already perfect, so it only focuses on providing nutrients."

The expert inside the cocoon went silent, but Noah could sense from her influence that she was accepting that explanation. Her aura could affect any existence under the ninth rank, so Noah's words had to be the truth.

"Well," The voice continued, "I will move on the others then."

"If I may," Noah exclaimed before the noise took away his control over his body again.

"Speak freely," The expert replied.

Noah cleared his throat before trying to find a way out of that situation. "I presume that you are Radiant Eyes. I would like to know your intentions before choosing my next words."

Chapter 1593 1593. Energy

"Are you asking for my story?" The expert inside the cocoon asked.

Noah limited himself to nod. He didn't want to give any hint that he was only trying to find a way to deceive that expert.

"My story is quite similar to every other existence who managed to approach the ninth rank," The expert explained. "I departed toward the storms once my cultivation level had reached the proper level and worked to perfect myself."

"Why did you build the mountain?" Noah asked while wearing a curious expression.

"Hybrids are undeniably better than every other species in the Immortal Lands," The expert replied. "I had to evolve myself to fend off Heaven and Earth's annoying punishment. I couldn't stand another day of that constant Tribulation during my time as a simple human."

"I do happen to suffer from the same punishment," Noah revealed. "My hybrid status can't protect me, sadly."

"Did you trigger Heaven and Earth's rage at your level?" Radiant Eyes asked. "I had to overcome the breakthrough to the ninth rank before receiving their offer. No wonder my influence can't improve you."

Noah bowed again in front of that compliment. His curiosity wasn't a lie, but his behavior wasn't sincere.

Noah felt nothing but respect toward experts who had managed to reach the ninth rank. Radiant Eyes had also refused to join Heaven and Earth, so she deserved his admiration.

However, Noah didn't care about those polite gestures. He was truly curious about the expert's story, but he was going out of his way to please her.

"I built this mountain after reaching the ninth rank," Radiant Eyes continued. "My patience was at its limits, so I had to do something. This whole structure is a breeding ground capable of turning energy into magical beasts that follow my orders. It can also alter other species to make them similar to my idea of perfection."

Noah nodded, even if his worry intensified. He had avoided Radiant Eyes' influence due to his black hole, but his companions didn't feature his same perfection. The dense liquid would transform them if he let the expert continue.

"Are you also transforming yourself?" Noah asked while his mind worked at full speed to find a viable solution.

"Of course," Radiant Eyes replied. "However, my procedure isn't perfect, so I'm holding it back while I experiment on other beings. I always end up creating mindless puppets."

"May I suggest something?" Noah asked as an idea popped into his mind.

"Always!" Radiant Eyes explained. "I'm not an arrogant leader."

"I suppose you want to use all of us as guinea pigs to perfect your transformation," Noah said.

"You are correct," Radiant Eyes quickly replied.

"Then, you must know that you won't learn much from us," Noah continued. "You need to learn how to transform humans into hybrids, not hybrids into your creations."

"Do you dare to question my methods?" Radiant Eyes shouted, and her heavy influence spread through the hall.

A scarlet halo seeped out of the chrysalis and pressed on Noah and the others. They soon became able to understand the nature of her law. Her light seemed to carry the very essence of transformation.

"I happen to have experience in this field," Noah revealed. "My current body comes from a fusion with a magical beast. I'm not a natural hybrid."

Noah had decided to reveal that detail of his species when he noticed that Radiant Eyes was letting him speak. He didn't fail to sense that the expert seemed desperate for a solution to her issue.

The revelation left Jordan and Luke's group speechless. They had always thought that Noah was a natural hybrid, but it seemed that they had to add that feat to his many achievements.

"How did you manage to succeed?" Radiant Eyes asked after a short silent moment.

"The fusion has to happen between suitable creatures," Noah explained. "You keep failing because your process is forceful. Your idea of perfection can't work for everyone. It can only work on you."

Radiant Eyes remained silent for a long time. She wielded the power of a rank 9 existence, but she had continued to fail in her transformations. She had even created a cocoon multiple times to perfect herself, but she had always fallen short in that aspect.

"What do you suggest?" Radiant Eyes eventually asked.

"Holding yourself back hurts the procedure," Noah replied. "Your fear of ending up like your puppets makes you unable to go all-out during the transformation. You aren't allowing yourself to evolve."

"I have already obtained a hybrid body," Radiant Eyes contradicted Noah.

"Then, why are you inside a cocoon?" Noah asked.

The buzzing noise suddenly stopped. The silk-like threads snapped and freed the cocoon. A crack eventually opened on the chrysalis, and a tall figure slowly came out of it.

Noah's companions had regained their freedom after the noise stopped. They could turn toward the cocoon and remain in awe of Radiant Eyes' figure.

The expert still had a humanoid body, but the abdomen of a scarlet bee grew from her back. Three pairs of insect legs also came out of her torso and additional body part.

A short layer of scarlet fur covered her insect body parts. Two antennae grew from her forehead, and her eyes were almost as large as her cheeks.

Noah almost lost himself inside those giant scarlet eyes. They lacked human features and were nothing more than a pair of red lights that radiated their color on the hall.

Noah had never laid his eyes on something so powerful. Radiant Eyes' cultivation level even surpassed the dragon met in the windy regions. She was a monster among monsters, and the world could only bow in her presence.

"I'm intrigued by your idea," Radiant Eyes announced. "I have the complete procedure already in my mind, but these lands can't give me enough energy."

"Why don't you travel deeper into the Outer Lands?" Noah asked. "I'm sure that the chaotic laws will eventually meet your requirements."

"No," Radiant Eyes quickly rejected that idea. "I need a constant flow of massive energy once I start the procedure. The storms alone can't satisfy me. I need existences who contain a lot of power and many of them!"

Noah had felt slightly relieved after Radiant Eyes had accepted his idea, but that new development had made his worry return. He didn't know what the expert had in mind, but it didn't sound good.

"The magical beasts are too weak," Radiant Eyes pondered. "I don't want to sacrifice the hybrids either. I guess that the humans will do."

Radiant Eyes stepped forward, and the ground morphed under her influence. The terrain opened before the whole hall shot upward and carried Noah's group across the superior layers.

The entire separate dimension began to transform. The underground layers broke while carrying all the chrysalises toward the surface. Tall mountains quickly began to fill the insides of that area and changed the very nature of the whole structure.

"I won't be able to gather energy once I start the procedure," Radiant Eyes explained. "You will side with my bees and gather resources from the human domain. Bring me back as many cultivators as you can. Don't hold back even with the experts in the seventh rank."

Chapter 1594 1594. Hand

"When will you start your plan?" Noah politely asked while eyeing his friends.

Jordan and the others could understand the many meanings hidden behind his gesture. They needed to find a moment to inform the rest of the Legion and get Alexander out of the human domain.

"We'll start it immediately," Radiant Eyes announced before waving her hand to bring the exit closer to her position. "I have wasted too long due to my fear."

The crack flew toward Radiant Eyes and enlarged until it could envelop Noah's group. That fissure crossed them and brought them to the outside world, in one of the fissures that filled the mountain.

"This shape won't do," Radiant Eyes said before expanding her aura.

Her law covered the entire mountain and began to affect its structure. The scarlet rocks and terrain transformed while kicking Noah and the others out of the fissures.

"What's your plan now?" Jordan asked once the group left the range of Radiant Eyes' aura.

"What do you want me to say?" Noah snorted. "I don't see insect wings growing on your back, even if she is a rank 9 existence. I handled the situation quite well, all things considered."

Jordan wanted to rebuke, but she had to accept that Noah's words were on point. He had saved them from that threat, even if he had to sacrifice the entire human domain for that.

"I have a beginning of a plan," Noah whispered as the mountain transformed, "But I'd rather avoid deploying it. Let's follow her orders until the situation becomes too tragic. Who knows? She might actually turn the Legion into the ruler of the Immortal Lands."

Divine Demon and the others shot a curious glance toward Noah, but he didn't reveal anything. Noah didn't want to deploy his plan, but he wouldn't hesitate to start it as soon as Radiant Eyes became a threat.

Noah knew that Heaven and Earth had underlings capable of dealing with rank 9 existences, and he even had a connection with the secret organization now. He wouldn't hesitate to use those mighty existences to take care of Radiant Eyes for him if the situation required it.

Of course, Noah would rather avoid relying on Heaven and Earth, but he had to suppress his pride since his opponent was a rank 9 existence. His priority had always been to remain alive, even if that meant contacting his sworn enemies.

The mountain slowly transformed into a massive scarlet giant that began to walk toward the human domain. Radiant Eyes' aura didn't spread through the nearby regions, but Noah and the others followed that structure anyway.

Neither of them believed that they could escape from a rank 9 expert. The entire Immortal Lands might not have a safe place against that existence.

Noah and the others tried to fly next to the giant, but that structure was too fast. It could cross entire regions with a single step, which made it far quicker than Noah's team.

Noah eventually decided to sit on the giant's shoulder, and his companions imitated him. The titan would take a while to reach the human domain even at that speed, so the group could use that time to cultivate and maximize their gains.

The environment wasn't ideal since the giant's body trembled whenever it stepped on the ground, but the group could easily ignore those earthquakes. They could cultivate in peace for months and prepare for the inevitable battle.

Dreaming Demon and Flying Demon managed to approach the breakthrough during the travel. The recent experiences and battles had improved their centers of power to the point that the liquid stage couldn't contain them anymore.

The two Demons underwent the breakthrough while the giant continued to cross entire regions in a matter of seconds. They reached the solid stage and stepped on the same realm that June had obtained a long time ago.

Only Daniel and Faith were still in the liquid stage, even if the latter was about to approach the breakthrough. Daniel was also close, but he seemed to need a bit more than his companions.

On the other hand, Divine Demon didn't even try to approach the breakthrough. He cultivated, but that environment didn't allow him to grow properly.

Divine Demon couldn't affect his surroundings since they belonged to Radiant Eyes. Her aura was so intense that every law automatically fell prey to her power.

Noah focused on absorbing the power obtained during Radiant Eyes' attempted transformations. His black hole had already handled most of that process, but he liked to spend some time trying to understand how strong he had become.

'I wonder if I can get a whole sea made of that dense liquid,' Noah sighed inside his mind before resuming his normal training sessions.

Noah was the less anxious among the group, and only Divine Demon could be as calm as him. Both of them had understood how hopeless their situation was, so they were doing everything they could to gather more power during that short time.

The golem eventually reached the borders of the human domain, and a large mansion soon appeared in the group's view.

Almost every organization had gathered resources in specific locations. That mansion was full of cultivators, inscribed items, and valuable materials.

However, those cultivators trembled when they saw a monstrous figure flying out of the giant and filling the entire region with her consciousness.

"Monney family," Radiant Eyes whispered while inspecting the whole area. "You will do for now."

Radiant Eyes raised her hand before lowering it slowly. A massive palm suddenly materialized in the sky and began to fall toward the mansion.

The cultivators tried to attack the palm, but nothing they did could leave a mark on that technique. The massive hand fell, and the whole mansion crumbled under its might.

The inscribed defenses, spells, and techniques used to stop the palm shattered and transformed into a wave of energy that fused with the mountain.

The attack reduced the cultivators inside the mansion to a bloody pulp, and their energy followed the previous trend. Their power amassed above their corpses and flew toward the giant.

Noah almost started to drool at that sight. The energy that had fused with the mountain seemed enough to bring his body in the middle tier, but Radiant Eyes had taken all of it.

"Let this day mark the beginning of my great domain!" Radiant Eyes announced before turning toward Noah's group. "Rejoice when I say that I will grant perfection to every being in the world."

Noah pretended not to hear those words, and he even ignored the stares of his companions. He was only going along with Radiant Eyes' plans right now. Everything else would come once he learnt more about her condition.

"There should be a city ahead of us," Noah explained while pointing in the direction of the next settlement.

"You must handle that," Radiant Eyes replied. "I have enough energy to activate the transformation, but I need you all to keep gathering resources for me. Any energy will do."

Noah sighed when he saw Radiant Eyes returning inside her golem, but his mood soon improved. Countless bees were going out of the mountain, and they didn't hesitate to fly where Noah had previously pointed.

Chapter 1595 1595. Curse

The golem, the swarm of bees, and Noah's group advanced through the regions until they reached a small city called Solma. The settlement only had two rank 8 cultivators, but it featured countless defenses that instantly activated at the sight of the massive threat.

"The human domain will never forgive us for this," Jordan transmitted through her consciousness.

Radiant Eyes' aura didn't spread outside of the titan, but the bees could still hear Noah's group. The experts had resorted to their consciousness to speak, but they limited those interactions as much as possible.

"We managed to bring the Balrow family to safety, luckily," Noah replied through his mental waves.

In theory, the human domain only featured enemies now. The mindless assault launched by Radiant Eyes wouldn't hurt any of their friends. Noah and the others could avoid holding back and warning other forces.

The army of bees featured countless lower tier specimens, many creatures in the middle tier, and two leaders in the upper tier. The swarm was at the peak of the human domain in terms of power. Noah's team didn't have to worry about the outcome of their battles.

However, those experts still wanted to find ways to benefit from their situation. The bees would tell Radiant Eyes everything, so Noah's team had to come up with something that could make them improve during those battles.

Noah and the others limited themselves to think those plans. They didn't dare to test them before knowing how those bees acted in the outside world.

The bees didn't hesitate to shoot toward the city as soon as they confirmed the presence of cultivators. Noah's team followed them, but they let those creatures act as cannon fodder during the first part of the assault.

The human domain had deployed most of its reinforcement against Alexander, who was attacking regions far away from Noah's position. They wouldn't have the time to return in time, especially since most of the teleports were around big cities.

Multicolored shields and various defensive mechanisms tried to fend off the bees' assault. Lightning bolts, massive arrows, and large fiery boulders cut through the swarm, but they only managed to kill or injure the weaker creatures.

The bees in the middle and upper tier could hold their ground against those protections. The two leaders even destroyed the shields in few attacks, so the assault soon turned into a slaughter.

Those magical beasts weren't smart. Most of them were newborns that had yet to develop their bodies completely.

The two rank 8 cultivators tried to escape once the defenses fell, and the bees didn't bother to chase them. They had countless rank 7 cultivators in front of them, so they barely noticed the duo running away.

Instead, Noah and the others knew how to handle that situation better. Noah quickly teleported in front of the two escaping experts and blocked their retreat while Divine Demon and Jordan chased after them.

"You are a curse!" One of the experts shouted when he recognized Noah.

The two experts were gaseous stage cultivators. One of them was from the Monney family, while the other belonged to the Sailbird family. They were both quite important in the political environment of the human domain, but they were nothing more than targets in Noah's eyes.

Noah glanced at the swarm behind his targets before focusing on the two experts again. He suppressed a roar when the unstable substance entered his black veins and shot forward to secure a quick kill.

The cultivators deployed their best abilities. Dense mental waves created an ethereal barrier, and potions exploded in the area to give birth to toxic clouds.

Noah drew the Demonic Sword and summoned Duanlong to weaken those abilities. The dragon took care of a large chunk of the toxic clouds before Noah slammed on the ethereal barrier.

The dense mental waves tried to seep into Noah's mind and alter his thoughts, but that technique didn't manage to do much against him. Noah had opposed his bloodlust since he obtained the cursed sword. That influence succeeded in slowing him down, but it only delayed the inevitable.

Noah filled the area with dark flames that burnt the mental waves and what remained of the toxic clouds. Duanlong handled the remaining energy lingering in the sky, and two figures soon appeared in the distance.

The two cultivators had used that chance to escape again, but Noah quickly caught up with them. The experts were slower than him even if he didn't rely on his teleports.

Mental waves and red pills flew toward Noah, but he teleported before they could touch him. He reappeared above the expert from the Sailbird family, and his blade promptly descended toward his opponent.

Both cultivators activated their defensive measures. Mental waves seeped into the world and transformed its fabric into a crystallized wall. Poison also spread through the area and created a dark-green barrier that the air couldn't withstand.

Noah didn't interrupt his attack. His blade continued to descend until it crashed on the poisonous barrier. A fissure eventually opened in that defense, and a singularity continued to fly until it pierced the crystals.

Noah could finally see the two experts again and his hand shot before they could rely on other defensive measures. Black roots came out of his palm and crossed the barrier until they reached the cultivator from the Sailbird family.

The expert's skin became dark-green and began to radiate a corrosive aura that fought the roots. Still, the Demonic Form managed to keep him in the same position for an instant, and Noah didn't hesitate to exploit that chance.

Noah performed a thrust that launched a precise singularity. That invisible energy crossed the fissure and made the expert's head vanish.

A wave of flames then came out of Noah's mouth while he glanced behind him. The bees were still busy collecting rank 7 cultivators, so he could exploit one of the many loopholes in Radiant Eyes' orders.

The fire burnt the headless corpse and forced the second expert to escape. Noah didn't hesitate to chase after him, but a white beam soon pierced the sky and blocked the cultivator's path.

More flames also covered the area. Jordan and Divine Demon had finally reached that part of the battlefield, which left the cultivator alone against two monsters and a dragon.

"The Monneay family will reward you if you spare me now," The expert shouted. "I serve no purposed as dead. You can use me as a consultant if you need it.

"Can't you see what is happening?" Noah laughed while shooting forward and grabbing the expert's neck. "A rank 9 existence is roaming through these lands. The old rules don't apply anymore."

"Please!" The expert pleaded, but Noah pierced his low-waist before he could continue.

Dark matter quickly covered the expert's dantian and sent its energy back to the black hole. Noah then crushed the cultivator's neck and stored everything in his separate space.

The bees didn't sense anything. They even rejoiced when they saw Noah throwing the corpse toward the titan, which disappeared as soon as it touched those scarlet rocks.

'This might even work better than I expected,' Noah thought while the bees finished gathering corpses to throw at the titan. 'I expect these creatures to improve, but it doesn't hurt to exploit this situation for the time being.'

Chapter 1596 1596. White

Noah was a prisoner, and his companions weren't any better. However, the poor control over the battles gave them the chance to seize a few benefits.

June and the others didn't actively join the assault. They had no reason to fight rank 7 cultivators when they had a swarm of rank 8 bees battling on the frontlines.

The same went for Luke and his two companions. They could exploit the chaos of the battlefield to seize the many resources hidden inside the city.

Jordan and Divine Demon had done the same after Noah killed the second rank 8 expert. The battle had lasted a little more than a few minutes, but Noah's team had greatly benefitted from that victory.

Noah was happy as long as he continued to gather resources. Cultivators provided far more nutrients than magical beasts due to their dantian, so they were perfect targets.

Solma city wasn't as important as Vagona city or other larger settlements. However, it had still existed for eras since it was far from the border with the magical beasts' domain. Yet, a few minutes had been enough to turn it into a pile of bloodied ruins.

The bees gathered didn't stop at the rank 7 cultivators. They began to seize the various debris across the city and send them into the giant. After all, every building in the Immortal Lands featured valuable materials.

Noah and the others helped in the process, even if they had different motives. They did their best to uncover every deposit or inscribed container to seize valuable resources while the bees were busy prioritizing their queen's well-being.

Cleaning the entire city took a bit. The battle had been far shorter in comparison. Still, the army soon set off to travel toward the next settlement.

Luke had memorized the entirety of the human domain throughout the years, so he was a perfect guide. He led the titan toward a new settlement, even if he often stopped to clear packs of magical beasts.

Radiant Eyes had been clear. She needed energy, and those magical beasts could provide it. It didn't make any sense to avoid them only because they weren't the perfect target for the rank 9 existence.

The bees seemed to have similar thoughts since they always followed Luke inside the wild regions. Noah and the others joined those battles, but they couldn't enjoy them with two upper tier specimens fighting with them.

Easy fights provided a limited number of benefits, especially for battle-oriented existences. June suffered more than anyone else in the group since her laws wanted her to go all-out often.

The army eventually reached another small city, and Noah had to witness the same one-sided battle again. That settlement also had two rank 8 cultivators, but he could seize only one dantian since the bees had grown smarter after the first assault.

Noah didn't manage to fight on his own at that time. A middle tier bee had flown toward him as soon as he attacked the two leaders. He had to cover the area with flames to pretend that killing his target had been an accident.

Radiant Eyes didn't speak anymore. She was completely immersed in her transformation and only required more energy. The two upper tier bees were in charge of the army, even if they needed Noah's group to point the way.

Luke became a guide that led the army across the human domain. The group attacked cities, mansions, and any settlement. They didn't even spare the many magical beasts met along the way.

'These cowards didn't hesitate for a second before sending a Tribulation against me,' Noah cursed in his mind after completing his seventh battle. 'Yet, they let an all-devouring army led by a rank 9 cultivator roam freely through the human domain. Dammit! Don't tell me that I really have to rely on Heaven and Earth for this crisis.'

Noah liked his current situation, but he didn't accept his lack of a solution. Escaping from a rank 9 existence was simply impossible at his current level. He had to rely on external powers, but that was also an issue.

'I don't believe that the human domain will keep ignoring this threat,' Noah thought while the army resumed their endless advance. 'They have to do something at some point.'

Noah's guesses didn't come true even after his twelfth attack. He had also failed to seize any dantian during the battle since the bees reached the escaping experts before him.

The assault didn't seem able to end, but that wasn't a surprise. Radiant Eyes had two upper tier specimens in her army. The experts who could face that threat were deep into the Outer Lands.

Noah relied on many tricks to keep seizing dantians and valuable resources. He used Duanlong to absorb all the energy lingering on the battlefield. He deployed the dark world to block the bees' vision and have some time alone with his opponents.

His tricks didn't stop there. Noah used Snore at times to fill the energy with violent dark matter, even if part of that power was simple higher energy that didn't carry the snake's destructive power.

The constant assault almost prevented Noah and the others from cultivating, but Jordan and Noah had fewer problems compared to their companions.

Noah and Jordan could use those battles to improve their bodies since they only needed nutrients. Instead, the others had to find free moments during the assault to cultivate a little.

Neither of those experts dared to touch the golem's skin. They were too afraid that Radiant Eyes would label them as food and absorb them.

The experts had to find other places where to cultivate, and time was also an issue. The army moved quite quickly, so they couldn't build training areas between a fight and the other.

"Fine!" Noah transmitted through his consciousness. "Contact Heaven and Earth. I've had enough of this situation."

"I have tried to do that for a while," Luke replied through his mental waves. "My methods are useless. We must go to the secret location, but I don't know where it is!"

"I guess it's time for you to contact your old superiors," Noah replied. "This situation is almost impossible to bear. Tell Heaven and Earth to do something useful this time around."

"I refuse," Luke promptly transmitted. "This situation isn't too bad. We get free resources and countless inscribed items. I think you should accept your new condition."

"You sure like to give up," Noah commented before putting his worries aside.

Noah couldn't do anything to change his situation at his current power. The mindless destruction continued, and Radiant Eyes grew stronger inside the giant.

More bees also started to come out of the giant. It seemed that Radiant Eyes didn't stop giving birth to magical beasts during her transformation. Her mountain would use all the leftover energy and use it to create new underlings.

The battles continued. The army had destroyed more than forty mansions and cities by then, but their gains had started to decrease. The various organization had understood the nature of the threat by then, and they had ordered a full retreat.

That wasn't a permanent solution since the organizations didn't have many regions at their disposal. They had the magical beasts' domain on one side and the Outer Lands on the others. Enemies surrounded them.

A change eventually happened during that endless invasion. The army was taking care of a magical beasts' pack in one of the wild regions when a flash of white light spread through the sky and blinded both Noah's team and the bees.

When the light dispersed, the army could see that a single human figure had appeared on the ground. The man was in the middle of a fuming cavity, but the smoke twisted and transformed under his influence.

Then, a heavy aura spread through the nearby regions and landed on the army. Noah's team barely had the time to hide behind the golem before a catastrophe unfolded in their vision. All the rank 7 bees died instantly, and the same went for many creatures in the eighth rank.

Chapter 1597 1597. Puppet

Noah and the others had managed to avoid the expansion of the expert's aura, but their instincts didn't stop screaming in fear. They could sense that the new threat wasn't something that they could face.

The expert had the aspect of a middle-aged man with long white hair and no beard. He wore a white robe that didn't have any spot nor emblem, and a white halo covered his figure.

Noah couldn't understand his cultivation level. He could vaguely sense that the man existed past the eighth rank, but his energy was too different from the "Breath" to belong to the world.

'We can't stay here,' Noah thought while trying to find a way to convey those words to his companions.

His team had managed to avoid the deadly attack, but their power ended there. The golem had shielded them from the heavy pressure, but there was a limit to how much they could rely on Radiant Eyes.

The bees filled the sky with a threatening buzzing noise. The golem echoed that sound and made the air shake. The whole army was showing its intention to fight, but Noah and the others couldn't share those feelings.

"The puppet has finally arrived," Radiant Eyes' voice came out of the giant and filled the sky.

The air transformed as her influence spread through the air. Dense shapes made of scarlet light gathered in the sky and flew toward the few remaining bees to cover them with their radiance.

The two leaders in the upper tier and many of the middle tier specimens had survived the expansion of the expert's aura. The buzzing noise released by their wings intensified when the scarlet halo covered their figure, and their power also increased under that nourishment.

The expert raised his eyes toward the army. Pure disgust appeared on his face when he looked at those magical beasts. His white irises also featured anger at the sight of the massive scarlet giant.

Noah tried to keep track of the expert's gestures, but his senses seemed unable to capture him. The cultivator was in a different world. It was as if he existed in a separate dimension even while walking on the fuming ground.

"I will use your energy to complete my transformation," Radiant Eyes' voice came out of the giant again. "Rejoice! You are about to become part of a perfect existence."

"Perfection already exists in the world," The expert whispered, but his voice reached all the nearby regions. "Your very life is nothing more than a spot, and I will take care of cleaning it up."

A white halo burst out of the expert's figure. His light pierced the scarlet light around the bees before melting their bodies. The massive army transformed into trails of white smoke in a matter of seconds.

The light also affected the scarlet giant. The red rocks and terrain that made its figure began to melt and release white smoke under that influence.

Noah felt pure terror. He was calm, but his instincts had never screamed so loudly. The expert embodied their fears. He was Noah's natural enemy.

Battle intent instinctively flowed out of Noah's figure. His centers of power wanted to fight that existence. His bloodlust exploded outward and tried to find its place among the dense auras that filled the sky.

The expert's eyes flickered when he sensed Noah's bloodlust. He felt slightly surprised to sense that aura, but a smile soon appeared on his face.

"You are also here," The expert whispered. "Don't worry. I will take care of you after I handle this sinner. My Masters didn't forget you."

June and the others turned toward Noah. Worry filled their expressions. They knew that Noah had fought Heaven and Earth many times, but they didn't expect that a rank 9 existence was aware of him.

Those words left Noah speechless. Heaven and Earth were rarely vocal about their intentions, but it seemed that their followers didn't share that feature.

'Do they make up for Heaven and Earth's flaws?' Noah wondered while trying to suppress his bloodlust.

Noah couldn't help himself. His centers of power had found their most hated enemy and wanted to express those feelings. They wanted to show how they had survived after the many punishments sent by Heaven and Earth.

"Stay here and witness my greatness!" Radiant Eyes shouted from inside the golem. "Do not fear death! Feel blessed to have served one of the greatest existences in the Immortal Lands!"

"I'd rather avoid that," A voice suddenly resounded from behind Noah and the others.

The voice surprised Noah's team, the white expert, and Radiant Eyes. They all turned their attention to the source of the sound and saw a smiling young-looking man.

Alexander sighed when the heavy auras radiated by the two rank 9 existences landed on his body. A multicolored halo quickly seeped out of his skin and fended off that pressure.

Noah could sense that Alexander wasn't relying on a single ability. The multicolored halo came from countless spells activated simultaneously to generate something able to fend off those auras.

"It's time to leave," Alexander announced before waving his hand.

A multicolored aura shot out of his figure. Dense gales that featured different elements and effects crossed Noah's team and crashed on the giant.

Noah and the others widened their eyes when they saw the gales flinging the giant away and throwing it toward the white expert. Alexander's attack had worked against an item created by a rank 9 expert!

A series of formations suddenly appeared under Noah's team. Golden flames also flowed out of those lines and covered them in a dome that quickly affected their figures.

Noah and the others became ethereal before disappearing. Their vision went black before a blue light shone on their faces. The familiar regions of the Legion filled the scenery and made them feel relieved.

"How did you even cause this mess in a few years?!" King Elbas shouted and made Noah's team turn toward him. "Well, congratulation, you mindless brutes. We have to deal with two rank 9 experts now."

King Elbas' anger froze when he saw Second Prince standing among Noah's team. Countless emotions surged on his face while he tried to understand how to react to that sight.

"You have failed to sense my arrival," Second Prince proudly announced. "You have actually failed to sense me at all."

Noah ignored that interaction and shot toward Alexander. The expert was on the ground, and pure pain filled his expression.

Alexander started to slam his head on the ground while giving voice to different roars. The many magical beasts' faces inside his aura spread forward, but he managed to suppress them before they could reach his companions.

Noah waited for that violent aura to return inside Alexander before approaching the expert. His mental waves flew inside his mind and studied his mental sphere to understand what was happening, and the scene left him speechless.

Countless ethereal figures were spreading chaos inside Alexander's mental sphere. His mental walls shook whenever their cries spread through that area, and waves of mental energy surged in a desperate attempt to suppress them.

The ethereal figures depicted countless magical beasts. They weakened Alexander so much that Noah could easily inspect the insides of his mental sphere.

Chapter 1598 1598. Crazy

Noah had never witnessed such a chaotic mental battle. Alexander's mind contained an army of magical beasts that tried to destroy his mental walls as soon as his suppression vanished.

The various specimens had different levels. They went from the heroic ranks to the peak of the eighth rank. Noah could even see some creatures that bordered the ninth rank among that massive army.

Dark matter flowed out of Noah's chest and entered Alexander's mind. The expert's mental walls could withstand that pressure, especially since Noah focused on stabilizing the mental walls.

His black mental energy also entered Alexander's mind. His mental waves immediately attacked the weaker ethereal figures and devoured them to reduce part of the power of the immense army.

Alexander slowly regained some clarity. His mental waves stopped being a mess of violent waves and began to suppress the various magical beasts through organized attacks.

Noah continued to use his mental energy to devour the ethereal figures while slowly withdrawing his dark matter. Alexander didn't need the higher energy anymore after Noah's efforts.

Alexander eventually calmed down, and Noah stopped devouring ethereal figures. A pressure landed on his mind when his mental waves returned inside his center of power, but his mental walls quickly took care of it.

"You are quite resourceful," Alexander laughed while laying on the ground.

"And you are a mess," Noah sighed while sitting in front of him. "Though, I must thank you. I didn't know you could hold your ground against rank 9 existences."

"I can't!" Alexander exclaimed before exploding in a laugh again. "Do you have any idea of how many innate abilities I had to fuse to launch that attack? You are lucky I didn't end up eating you all."

"I actually have an idea now," Noah said while giving voice to a faint laugh.

The others went through different emotions while watching that interaction. Initially, they remained speechless at the sight of their leaders ignoring the imminent threat. Then, they sighed before sitting next to them.

It was clear that they had to discuss how to handle Radiant Eyes and the white expert. They had escaped before understanding how the battle between the rank 9 existences would go, but they had to prepare for the worst.

Yet, they had some time now. Alexander had managed to get them out of that hopeless situation, so they could prepare for the threat. Of course, they didn't have many ideas when it came to fending off rank 9 existences.

Divine Demon took out a few jugs of wine before handing cups to the other experts. No one dared to reject that offer, so they soon found themselves drinking in silence.

"Do you lose abilities when the ethereal creatures vanish?" Noah eventually asked.

Alexander shook his head. "No. They are part of my drawbacks. They become part of my existence and try to break out of my mind whenever I turn my attention elsewhere."

"I might be able to take care of that issue one day," Noah explained. "I can even start working on the weaker magical beasts for now."

"Your mental waves are quite peculiar," Alexander replied. "I won't mind relying on you in the future. The Legion needs strong leaders."

"Does anyone want to talk about the two monsters in the human domain?" Jordan eventually asked and forced the group to focus on the main issue.

"I can't fight them," Alexander quickly said. "Maybe I can block an attack, but that's it."

"They might kill each other," Second Prince exclaimed.

"Luck won't help us," Noah sighed. "We can only hide for now. Let's gather our troops and move deeper into the Outer Lands."

"Actually, we can hope in Heaven and Earth's victory," Luke explained. "They won't come after us, not with a rank 9 cultivator at least."

"How can you be so sure of that?" King Elbas asked.

"They must respect their fairness," Luke continued. "The laws of the world will lose power if they break their own rules."

Luke's explanation gave the group a greater understanding of the Immortal Lands. Those few words managed to make them consider the higher plane as a consequence of Heaven and Earth's individuality.

"There might be something else now that I think about it," Noah suddenly announced as an idea appeared in his mind.

Talking about Heaven and Earth had reminded him of the two existences who had died because of those powerful underlings. Great Builder and Supreme Thief had been monsters during their eras. Noah didn't know whether they were stronger than Radiant Eyes, but having them at their side would significantly improve their situation.

"How can you even have ideas that can work against rank 9 existences?" King Elbas snorted. "Are we about to do something completely crazy, right?"

"I have done crazier," Noah whispered. "Kind of."

"That's my heir!" Divine Demon shouted. "Let's do that!"

"You don't even know what he is proposing!" King Elbas complained.

"You should trust your friends more, dad," Second Prince commented.

"I thought the Immortal Lands had to push me on a solitary path," King Elbas sighed. "How did I even surround myself with these idiots?"

"We must resurrect Great Builder and Supreme Thief," Noah explained his plan while those experts bickered.

His announcement made Luke's team, King Elbas, Jordan, and Alexander spit their wine. That revelation had been too sudden, and its contents were far crazier than they expected.

"Do you want to resurrect rank 9 existences to take care of rank 9 existences?!" King Elbas shouted.

"That's completely idiotic! We want to take care of our threats, not increase them."

"Do you even know their character?" Luke asked. "Do you want me to tell you some of the stories recorded in the archives of the secret organization?"

"I must say that they aren't completely wrong," Alexander whispered. "We shouldn't trade a threat for another."

"A possible threat is better than a clear one," Noah snorted. "Don't chicken out now. I'd rather avoid spending the next millennia running away."

"I'm with you, my heir!" Divine Demon shouted. "Though, who is Great Builder?"

"Can you stop forgetting important things?" King Elbas complained.

"This is the secret behind my power," Divine Demon snorted. "You should try it sometime. I don't mind instructing you on my ways."

"This might actually work," Jordan said while Divine Demon and King Elbas continued to bicker.

"It's set then," Noah announced while standing up. "Luke and his team will take care of gathering the various allied cells in the secret organization. Elbas and his son will work with the Balrow family to create the teleport. The others must focus on their training. We have an inheritance to complete."

"I will join this mission," Alexander explained, "But I will run in the Outer Lands as soon as we complete it. My mind can't take it anymore. I need to let my instincts go wild for a while."

"Nonsense," Noah snorted. "You have just become the best training method for my mind. I will slowly devour the magical beasts inside your mental sphere and stretch your stable period."

"I can think of something to help," King Elbas announced. "I became curious about your condition anyway. I already have a few blueprints in mind."

"I will help Elbas with the blueprints!" Divine Demon announced.

"I'm considering switching sides," King Elbas sighed.

"We have a plan then," Noah exclaimed. "Alexander, come with me. We have a lot of work to do."

Chapter 1599 1599. Mission

The experts started working on the plan after the jokes quieted down.

Jordan and one of the cultivators in Luke's team informed the rest of the Legion about the plan. They also summoned Pearl and the other experts from the Balrow family to help them convey the news.

King Elbas and Second Prince began to work on the teleport while listing ideas on how to handle Alexander's issue. They even had a lot of catching up to do since both had changed throughout the years.

Divine Demon secluded himself to complete the requirements for the breakthrough. The gaseous stage had stopped being able to contain his existence.

June and the others also secluded themselves. They had grown tired of their cultivation level after witnessing their companions facing powerful opponents time after time. They wanted to get their hands on a rank 8 battle prowess as soon as possible.

The other rank 7 assets inside the blue regions were in a similar situation. Their leaders wanted to resurrect a rank 9 existence. Those underlings couldn't accept to remain so useless.

Theodora began to send mental messages toward the other experts of the Legion. That organization had other powerful leaders in the Outer Lands, human domain, and magical beasts' reign, but it was time to group up.

Wilfred couldn't learn the news because he was busy with his breakthrough. Still, he could sense the commotion happening around his training area, which made him decide to quicken his process.

Alexander followed Noah in his training area. The two experts immediately began to work on Alexander's situation, and they even contacted the hybrids handling the Legion's inventory to receive further help.

Potions, pills, and similar resources rarely worked on Noah. Most of them targeted cultivators, so their effects never managed to improve his innate features.

However, the Legion had gathered countless resources after the recent attacks. Alexander's force had even annexed multiple organizations that brought their inventories with them.

Noah could compensate for the lack of efficiency with quantity. He was unaware of the outcome of Radiant Eyes' battle, but he could still sense that his time was short.

Alexander and the other hybrids had similar feelings that made them go all-out in their procedures. Every expert in the Legion stopped saving resources to get as much help as possible from those items.

Noah mostly used drugs that could help his mind. His training with Alexander saw him relying on the innate features of his mental energy to take care of the instabilities inside the expert.

The procedure forced Noah to devour countless ethereal magical beasts. Initially, he took care of the horde of weaker creatures since they barely affected his mind, but he soon started working on the stronger ones.

Devouring the ethereal figure of one of the rank 8 magical beasts made his mind suffer like never before. Noah would normally take long breaks when it came to that ability, but his situation didn't allow him to be careful.

The drugs managed to remove the need for long breaks, but they couldn't eradicate the various drawbacks that accompanied that ability. Noah's mental walls grew thinner as his mind expanded, and a splitting headache soon became a constant aspect of his days.

On the other hand, Alexander's state improved as the procedure continued. He was experiencing Noah's resolve first-hand. The powerful expert could see how relentless Noah was with his training.

Noah never stopped nor took breaks. His mind was a bottomless pit, and his mental walls were firm materials that seemed able to handle any pressure.

The time spent without protection from the white sky had made Noah's mind reach new levels of stability. The various drugs also helped during the procedure, so Noah could go all-out.

His centers of power had started to harmonize as his cultivation level increased. The path toward the higher ranks had made his existence converge toward a stable shape, but Noah ruined that process with the recent training.

His mind grew exponentially. His mental waves cheered whenever Noah brought them more food. He felt as if he was finally unleashing the full potential of his center of power.

The plan eventually took form while everyone was busy training.

King Elbas completed the teleport and moved to his next project. His son started devising drugs to help the various rank 7 hybrids and magical beasts in the blue regions.

Wilfred came out of his training area and began to help with the plan. His breakthrough had been a success. He was a proud existence in the liquid stage now.

Divine Demon also approached the breakthrough during that period, and he eventually advanced. He didn't meet any problem during the procedure, so he could soon join the others and help where he could.

Daniel and Faith also advanced in that period, and Fergie pushed his power toward the peak of the seventh rank. It was evident that Noah's first underling would reach the next level before his old friends.

Noah did his best to fill the regions with his ambition after Alexander left. He bathed in the white light of the Immortal Lands and cultivated in the open while his pack thrived around him.

Pearl and the other experts from the Balrow family taught everything they knew about the pyramid to the various experts in the Legion. Their force had cleared the fourth layer, so their knowledge was vital to the mission.

Luke's team gathered the allied cells in the secret organization before activating a series of sensors previously placed in the human domain. The experts tried to understand the outcome of Radiant Eyes' battle, but they couldn't see much.

A battle between two rank 9 existences was a massive event, even for the Immortal Lands. The space of the higher plane could barely hold that spectacle. The energy released during the fight was enough to transform countless regions forever.

Luke's sensors couldn't see anything. There were only light and earthquakes. Weaker existences didn't have the right to witness that fight.

The Legion and Noah's army eventually gathered above a series of golden lines that stretched for entire regions. Every expert with rank 7 cultivation level or above had to join the mission. The survival of both organizations could depend on its outcome.

The overall power of the group was enough to shake the very foundation of the Immortal Lands. The army featured so many rank 8 existences that even some of the strongest human organizations would retreat at that sight.

"I must say," Wilfred whispered while glancing at Noah. "I'm starting to think that you really had some influence on our growth."

"No point wasting time," Noah roared. "Elbas, activate the formation!"

King Elbas snorted before snapping his fingers. Golden light and flames filled the formation and covered the army. Noah and the others slowly disappeared, and a massive pyramid eventually appeared in their vision.

The structure shook from time to time. It almost seemed alive, but not in the same way of Radiant Eyes' mountain. The Balrow family had dug the pyramid out of its previous position, but its appearance had remained the same. Time was unable to affect those dark-yellow bricks.

"I will start clearing the last layer," Alexander announced while turning toward his companions. "Follow the plan! Take care of the fifth layer before joining me. Remember that our survival depends on the mission!"

Countless roars and battle cries followed his words. Every expert in the army gave voice to their determination before entering the pyramid.

Chapter 1600 1600. Trials

The Balrow family didn't have much intel on the higher layers. The main issue was the lack of suitable experts willing to spend entire centuries exploring those areas and clearing various trials.

Great Builder's tests were also far above normal standards in terms of difficulty. The expert was a monster, so only monsters could obtain his resources.

Noah felt partially out of place in the fifth layer. In theory, only existences in the liquid stage could overcome the tests there, and his battle prowess had yet to reach that level completely.

However, Noah wasn't alone. The whole Legion and his organization were with him.

Wilfred and Divine Demon were in the liquid stage. King Elbas and Second Prince were geniuses of the inscription field, and the various magical beasts and hybrids had nigh-endless resilience. Noah could rely on his companions to take care of most of the tests.

The corridors of the pyramid had enlarged after the army's arrival. The structure wanted to be able to contain those troops. Yet, the tests didn't change.

Noah had initially thought that overcoming the tests would be accessible in that situation. After all, he had a whole army behind him. However, he soon had to accept that Great Builder had foreseen that possibility.

The tests on the fifth layer mainly featured environments that negated the advantage of Noah's group. The experts had to cross poisonous corridors, ethereal blades that tried to take control of their mental waves, and seemingly endless armies of middle tier puppets.

The various layers of the pyramid were also labyrinths. Noah and the others had to spend a lot of time finding hidden doors and secret passages to reach the deeper parts of their floor.

Of course, their wealth increased as they continued to overcome trials. Great Builder wasn't stingy on the rewards. The group obtained mountains of Soul Stones, inscribed items at a suitable level, and even techniques that inscription masters could add to their arsenal.

The quality of those rewards was incredible, and they were even valuable enough to become a core part of the Legion's assets. King Elbas could barely contain himself in that environment, and most of his companions shared his feelings.

Only the rank 7 assets couldn't do much on that floor. They limited themselves to swarm certain trials with waves of attacks, but that was it. Their cultivation level was too low for the fifth layer.

"How long until you can take down that annoying shield?" Noah roared while ducking to dodge a massive tail.

"I told you that it was better to approach these defenses with fewer troops!" King Elbas shouted. "This almost goes past my expertise!"

Noah and the others were fighting a massive, scaled sphere that floated in the middle of a large corridor. A series of long tails had grown on that inscribed item after the experts started the trial, and their number matched the contestants.

The sphere also had a dark-yellow shield that protected it from every attack. Noah and the others had yet to touch it because of those defenses.

King Elbas had understood the features of the scaled sphere before approaching the trial, but Noah didn't want to send only a small group. Divine Demon, Jordan, Wilfred, Pearl, and Luke had joined the battle, which made the item grow seven tails.

The tails were far faster than all the contestants. They could land on the experts before they even noticed the attack. Noah, Divine Demon, Wilfred, and Jordan had ended up acting as baits for those limbs since they were the only ones who could withstand them, but that led to further problems.

The four experts had to deal with seven tails while King Elbas, Pearl, and Luke tried to find a viable solution to the shield. Still, the process took a while, which forced Noah's team to endure the assault of the tails for a long time.

A tail cracked on Noah before he could straighten his position. A large cut opened on his chest as the brute force carried by the limb flung him away.

The unstable substance made Noah able to survive the clash and stop himself at some distance from the trial, but his companions had to handle all the tails during that time.

Divine Demon's aura made the tails lose track of him from time to time. He could sneak past those limbs and reach the scaled sphere, but the dark-yellow shield around the item made it impossible to touch.

Wilfred was even better off. His recent breakthrough had made his battle prowess skyrocket. Many tails would land on him, but they only managed to leave marks on his skin.

Jordan couldn't do much. She had a giant hybrid body, but her transformation only made her an easy target. The tails shattered her scales whenever they landed on her, and her complexion slowly began to suffer from that constant beating.

"I'm almost there!" King Elbas shouted, and Noah gave voice to a loud curse before shooting toward the scaled sphere again.

Two tails quickly flew in his direction and slammed on his body. They opened two large cuts on his chest, but the dark-yellow shield suddenly vanished and allowed his companions to exploit that moment.

Tails flew toward Jordan, Divine Demon, and Wilfred, but the latter quickly leapt forward and attracted the attention of the other limbs. They crashed on Wilfred's chest, arms, legs, and head, but they only managed to push him back.

Divine Demon and Jordan could use that chance to reach the scaled sphere and launch a proper attack. Jordan used her dragon's claws to target the flaws pointed out by King Elbas, while Divine Demon transformed his azure energy into something that could damage the item.

Jordan's attacks were effective even if her cultivation level didn't put her at the same level of the inscribed sphere. Still, King Elbas' tactic was on point, so she could focus her efforts on the structural flaws of that defensive mechanism.

The battle went differently for Divine Demon. King Elbas had explained to him how to handle that defense, but the expert didn't care. His azure energy turned white, and a series of spears gathered next to him before shooting toward the sphere.

His attack shattered many scales and allowed Noah to see the insides of the item. He could even find a fake core after its superficial layer had fallen apart.

The sphere tried to activate the shield again after that offensive stopped, but King Elbas spread a peculiar powder through the area that stopped that function. Noah and the others could alternate between the tails and the main item at that point, and they soon managed to inflict consistent damage.

Wilfred ended up delivering the finishing blow. Noah took care of three tails. Jordan and Divine Demon handled the other four, so Wilfred could approach the sphere and punch directly on its damaged insides.

The attack made the inscribed defense explode. A storm of scales and metal spread through the corridor, but Pearl and Luke took care of stopping it.

The door on the other end of the corridor unlocked after the team destroyed the scaled sphere. Noah and the others quickly entered the room, and their eyes widened at the sight of a massive battle formation.

A small book that contained instructions for the formation stood on a pedestal at the back of the room. According to those teachings, rank 7 experts could deploy that technique and temporarily obtain rank 8 battle prowess.