

DEMONIC 1601

Chapter 1601 1601. Copy

Noah's group could skip most of the trials. They could search for the various secret passages and reach the most challenging part of the fifth layer since the hidden area was probably there.

However, the quality of the rewards had made them decide to invest time in clearing the whole inheritance. The battle formation found after the battle against the scaled sphere was only the last of the many valuable resources obtained in the process.

The weakest part of the army took a break from the trials to learn the battle formation, and King Elbas joined those assets to modify the technique.

Great Builder had already modified that formation back in the days, but he didn't adapt it to the different species of the higher plane. Noah's army featured hybrids and magical beasts, so King Elbas had to change something in the technique's structure to make the best out of those lines.

The other experts continued exploring the fifth layer while the rest of the army trained. Clearing the various defenses brought benefits to many powerful assets, and even experts like Wilfred managed to obtain something valuable.

King Elbas valued everything connected to the inscription field. Wilfred found a martial art that could match his existence after a few modifications. Jordan obtained disposable weapons that suited her law, and the list continued for most of the powerful assets in the army.

Only Divine Demon and Noah struggled to find something perfect for them. The former's law was too unique to rely on items and techniques, and Noah's standards were so high that even middle tier resources failed to meet his requirements.

That eventually changed as the army approached the last trials of the fifth layers.

The exploration became smoother after the weaker assets mastered the battle formation and managed to provide proper assistance during the fight.

Great Builder's trials were smart and managed to ignore the difference in numbers most of the time. Still, having more power at their disposal improved the army's overall experience.

Clearing harder trials led to better rewards, and Divine Demon eventually added himself to the list of experts who had benefitted from the inheritance. He found a technique that could temporarily improve his mental capabilities, and he quickly added it to the few abilities in his memory.

Only Noah remained unsatisfied at that point, but the pyramid eventually managed to give him something decent. He found a spell of the earth element that seemed similar to the workshop.

'This place mostly has resources,' Noah thought while inspecting the diagram of the rank 8 spell. 'Techniques are rare, but they are quite decent.'

The spell resembled a weaker version of the workshop. It allowed the user to morph metals and ground to create almost everything.

'Maybe, Great Builder obtained the idea behind the workshop from this spell,' Noah thought while studying the diagram.

Noah couldn't use the spell in its current state, but he could add it to his arsenal by shattering and rebuilding the diagram according to his existence.

In his mind, Noah didn't plan to turn the spell into one of his main weapons. He already had the workshop and incredible abilities, so that new technique would be redundant.

Still, Noah could turn it into a passive ability, a technique that could improve all the crucial roles played by the black hole.

Noah used the black hole to create special darkness meant for Miss Void's spell. The organ also handled the production of Night's food. It had many tasks at hand, and they often put limits on Noah's power.

Instead, transforming that diagram into something that could improve his organ's performance might remove some of the limits on his stronger abilities. Increasing the production of special darkness already made the spell a decent asset to add to his arsenal.

Noah immediately began to work on that project while his group continued to clear defenses. He never stopped helping with the trials, but he slowed down on his constant training to complete the transformation of that ability as soon as possible.

Great Builder's pyramid didn't offer Noah anything else even after the group reached the last area. Noah had begun to consider that trend quite normal after spending years inside the fifth layer. He had also started to understand the mindset of that great expert, which he had been unable to do during his first visit.

Rank 9 existences were complete monsters. They could seize anything in the world and create masterpieces that could remain with them forever.

The greatest limitation of those existences was their inability to ignore their laws when handling techniques and spells. They were both too personal since their creators had made them for themselves.

That was one of the reasons why Great Builder's pyramid mostly contained resources. The Balrow family didn't consider it an inheritance due to the nature of trials and rewards, but Noah almost justified the expert in his mind.

Great Builder's law was quite clear. He had the workshop, the pyramid, and all the puppets inside that environment. Noah wouldn't find anything about blades there, but he was fine with that since it depended on the expert's power. Having found a suitable spell already surpassed his expectations.

"What do you think it is?" Noah asked while King Elbas studied the corridor before the last room.

"Hard to say," King Elbas replied while shaking his head. "I can only see sensors on the walls. The pyramid might start the test as soon as it understands how dangerous we are."

"You all speak too much," Divine Demon snorted while taking a step forward and entering the corridor.

"It's not a challenge if we spend more time planning the trial than clearing it."

The sensors inspected Divine Demon, and materials slowly seeped out of the wall. Black metals gathered in the corridor and gave birth to a puppet that radiated Divine Demon's aura.

The copy was almost perfect. It even carried Divine Demon's iconic law, and that sight made everyone worry.

The copies could surpass the original if the latter didn't have trump cards. The precious materials used to create that puppet would make it surpass humans in terms of physical strength.

The hybrids didn't fear that outcome. They even desired to test themselves. Instead, the situation was far worse for humans since they lacked the physical strength and resilience of those metal copies.

"Nothing in the world can imitate me!" Divine Demon snorted before unfolding his aura and turning his surroundings into azure energy.

The copy did the same, and a dark-yellow light soon gathered around it. The puppet even managed to steal part of the energy amassed by Divine Demon.

Divine Demon didn't let that sight scare him. He raised his hand, and his copy imitated him. They both condensed their power until they gave birth to higher energy.

The two halos turned white before shooting toward their opponent. The attacks exploded as soon as they clashed, and a shockwave spread through the entire corridor.

A white light blinded Noah's group for a while, but they eventually saw a fainted Divine Demon on the walls of their area. The puppet was still standing, and that was enough to declare the strongest among them.

Chapter 1602 1602. Secret

Witnessing Divine Demon's defeat made the group hesitate to approach the trial. Great Builder's sensors were able to copy the contenders' laws in that unique environment, so the army had to create a proper battle plan.

Noah and the others knew how powerful Divine Demon was. His sudden defeat gave them a clear idea of how dangerous the trial was and how they had to approach it.

Divine Demon had lost due to a physical difference. The puppet carried his law, but its body was a mixture of precious metals that could bring its power to a superior level.

The approach became evident after the experts considered that part. Humans would always be on the losing end in that trial. Only hybrids could have a chance to win.

Noah had to step back from that situation. The test could probably create a middle tier version of his existence, which would put him at a complete disadvantage. It was better to send a hybrid who had already reached the liquid stage and had a body that could match those precious metals.

Wilfred ended up being the obvious choice. His physical strength almost knew no equals, and his cultivation level also had the right power. Only he could have a chance to overcome that challenge.

Wilfred didn't need his companions to explain that solution to him. He directly stepped forward once he understood how the trial worked, and a puppet soon formed in front of him.

The puppet had his same cultivation level, and its aura carried Wilfred's explosive features. Still, the expert seemed far stronger than his opponent.

A violent battle soon unfolded in front of the army. Wilfred and the puppet didn't waste time performing spectacular moves or complicated techniques. They only punched each other and continued until one of them fell apart.

Wilfred bled at first, but the puppet soon began to lose pieces of its metallic body. The hybrids' resilience kicked in, so the expert remained on his feet even after his face had turned into a mass of torn tissues and blood.

The puppet didn't share the same incredible innate abilities. It was sturdy, and its metals were tough, but the lack of proper healing properties soon left it with nothing more than a shattered torso.

Wilfred didn't stop his offensive until the door unlocked. The expert left the broken metals and entered the reward room, which was empty. It only had a narrow staircase that led to a secret area of the pyramid.

Noah and the others decided to rest for a long time and perform a few training sessions. The secret area would feature a powerful opponent, so they had to be at their peak before approaching it.

A few years had to go by before everyone in the army felt ready for the test. The staircase enlarged when the army moved toward the secret area, and the space twisted as they walked through the corridor connected with Great Builder's room.

A large hall eventually appeared in their eyes. The area activated once the army stepped out the staircase, and countless lines lit up on the walls, floor, and ceiling to mark the beginning of the test.

Materials came out of the walls and amassed inside the secret hall. The area enlarged as a massive creature took form. Noah could soon lay his eyes on a winged lion with three heads and eight legs.

The creature was twenty meters tall, and sturdy metal made every inch of its body. Its wings created storms whenever they moved through the air, and its low growls gave Noah an idea of how strong it was.

'Upper tier,' Noah sighed in his mind. 'This will be tough.'

The rank 7 assets immediately deployed their battle formation. They performed long but quick movements that transformed them into a tall nine-headed hydra with power at the bottom of the eighth rank.

The rank 8 cultivators from the Balrow family and some of Luke's companions joined the battle formation to increase its power. Its level quickly grew until it reached the middle tier, but that wasn't enough for their situation.

Luke, Ian, and Jordan eventually decided to join the battle formation. The hydra's power rose until it approached the upper tier, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to help at that point.

A series of inscribed items came out of King Elbas' space-ring and began to cover the hydra. Golden runes and flames suddenly appeared on the creature's ethereal skin and solidified its structure. Its level also increased until it entered the upper tier.

Noah deployed Snore and his companions before covering his figure with dark matter. The Demonic Form came out of his palm and covered his fiendish armor. The Demonic Sword flew out of his chest to land in his hand.

Bloodlust also exploded outward. Noah didn't hesitate to draw the cursed sword in that situation. His opponent was two whole tiers above him. He couldn't risk dying because he was holding back.

The unstable substance flowed inside his black veins, and the special darkness started to enlarge the Shadow Domain. His dark world also expanded before Noah activated his new spell.

A diagram lit up inside Noah's mental sea and generated a long series of benefits. The black hole began to work faster than ever, and the same applied to the workshop.

The new spell gave Noah the ability to control the dark matter better. He already had power over his dark matter, but the spell quickened everything.

'I can use the Shadow Domain more often now,' Noah thought while inspecting the benefits of his new spell. 'The workshop is also far faster. I guess I will waste most of my stash of fake cores in this battle.'

King Elbas deployed countless inscribed items. His assets went from disposable weapons in the middle tier to formations that covered the immense hall.

Divine Demon gathered all the power he could get, and a white light soon shone next to him. His "Breath" had transformed into higher energy again.

Wilfred and the others who were outside of the battle formation deployed their techniques and expanded their aura. They were an army against a single monstrous puppet, but they didn't feel at ease in front of that creature.

"Do it!" Wilfred shouted while glancing at Noah.

Noah quickly activated Shandal's ability. The world froze for the winged lion, but Wilfred and the others were still able to move. The whole army attacked at that point. They launched their best attacks in the hope of inflicting significant damage.

The nine-headed hydra spat multicolored flames, Noah thrust with both swords, and Wilfred leapt toward the winged lion to slam his massive arms on its head.

King Elbas threw the entirety of his inscribed army at his opponent, and the formations under him went after them. The winged lion could still move a bit, but Noah's spell had managed to slow it down long enough for all the attacks to land on the creature.

White lines lit up across the large hall. The pyramid was suppressing those unnatural earthquakes, but it didn't do anything to protect the creature.

The explosion generated by that wave of attacks forced Noah and the others to stop their offensive for a second. The smoke that covered the winged lion made it impossible to know its state.

The smoke eventually vanished, and a low growl resounded in the hall. Noah could finally see the effects of their attacks. They had only managed to break two of its legs and ruin part of its right wing.

Chapter 1603 1603. Legs

'We didn't do anything to the heads,' Noah thought while spitting flames.

The cursed sword had inflicted its drawbacks on Noah's chest, but the dark matter had quickly covered the missing pieces of skin.

The outcome of the exchange didn't bring any positive news. The entirety of Noah's team had attacked the winged lion without leading to decent effects. Breaking two legs and ruining one wing was nothing when it came to the overall power of the creature.

"There are a few frail spots near the base of the legs and necks!" King Elbas shouted right after the exchange. "The heads are the sturdiest parts, but they also contain centers of power. Rip the creature into pieces until you reach those spots!"

King Elbas had taken care of identifying the frailest spots on the winged lion. No one had noticed the weakness at the base of the legs. Noah and the others had mainly focused on the heads, but they understood why they had remained unaffected by the assault now.

"Don't hold back!" Wilfred shouted. "The weak will die, but the strong will survive. Jump forward and find out where you belong!"

Noah knew his place in that battle. He was among the strongest hybrids in the army, and his position as a leader forced him to jump in the frontlines.

The pyramid had also closed the path back to the staircase. The army could either defeat the winged lion or die there.

Noah wasn't the only expert to jump forward. Wilfred, Divine Demon, Theodora, Ian, and Jordan joined him without bothering to launch battle cries.

The hybrids had to take care of the vanguard since they were the only existences capable of surviving the winged lion. As for Divine Demon, he was too reckless to remain in the backlines.

The winged lion gave voice to a screeching noise. Its cry created soundwaves that tried to converge on its opponents, but King Elbas promptly took care of that threat.

The formations that had shot toward the metal creature activated and revealed their power. Golden lines lit up around the winged lion and suppressed part of its power. They couldn't handle its physical strength, but they could stop sound attacks and similar techniques.

Noah and the others jumped forward while unleashing their best techniques.

Wilfred punched the air while trails of mental energy followed his attack. His existence allowed him to send his physical blows toward his opponents, but the addition of the mental energy made him able to enhance his offensive mid-air.

Jordan spat flames while creating different shapes made of condensed air that flew toward the winged lion. A torrent of slashes and weapons converged toward the monstrous creature and tried to spread her influence through the large hall.

Ian howled many times in the span of a single second to create a dense soundwave that took the shape of a defensive wall. The following cries then crossed that barrier and came out as large currents that slammed on the metal creature.

Theodora's law was unique. She could use her mental waves in ways that Noah had rarely witnessed. Her consciousness expanded, and a series of dense thoughts seeped inside the winged lion. It seemed that the will contained in that mental energy managed to calm down the creature and delay the beginning of its offensive.

Noah didn't change his approach. The unstable substance was empowering his body, and the cursed sword gave him the chance to surpass his actual cultivation level. He slashed at his opponent without hesitation. He didn't care about the severe drawbacks at all.

Divine Demon was the slowest of the group. His attention seemed to be elsewhere, but only he knew where it went.

Truth be told, Divine Demon rarely took his losses lightly. The metal copy from the previous trial had managed to defeat him, so it was hard to improve his mood for the time being.

Of course, Divine Demon didn't care too much about that defeat. Great Builder had created an improved version of his existence. There was no shame in losing against himself.

Yet, Divine Demon felt that he had something to prove to the pyramid. That structure had the privilege to see him fall, so he had to defeat all the trials to be at peace with his existence.

Azure energy transformed into a white radiance before flowing inside Divine Demon's body. The technique forced his tissues to go far beyond what regular hybrids in the middle tier could achieve. His Miracles brought his physical strength in a league that only a few existences in the liquid stage had managed to touch.

Divine Demon shot forward after his energy finished empowering his body. He slammed on one of the creature's legs and kept it still while his companions' offensive converged on that spot.

A singularity, an invisible force, soundwaves, and a series of attacks made of compressed air landed at the base of the leg. Divine Demon laughed while the techniques exploded above him, but neither managed to hurt his body.

The leg fell apart during the offensive. The winged lion was a creature in the upper tier, but it couldn't oppose the joint assault of experts who could fill the gaps among stages.

The rest of the army attacked after the third leg fell. The nine-headed hydra launched its multicolored flames on one leg, and the magical beasts behind the battle formation shot forward to slam their powerful bodies on the same spot.

King Elbas supported the magical beasts by activating one of his disposable inscribed weapons. Golden lines suddenly appeared around those creatures and enhanced their bodies to make them able to inflict decent damage.

The fourth leg fell after the army of magical beasts flew through the multicolored flames and slammed on that limb. The dark metal that made the winged lion's body shattered under their assault. It didn't take much to destabilize that weak spot, but the creatures' achievement surpassed what Noah had initially expected.

"Tear them apart!" Noah roared while storing one of the legs. "Focus on restraining its movements. Target the legs and don't die."

A series of "yes, sir" and roars followed his orders. Most of the magical beasts in the eighth rank pressed forward and joined that display of power, but the winged lion suddenly tried to move.

The formations around the creature shattered when it applied its physical strength. King Elbas tried to reinforce them, but the winged lion was too strong. Still, they managed to slow the beast down, and Theodora's mental waves helped in the process.

The magical beasts in Noah's army ended up slamming on the fifth leg, and their companions promptly followed their example. Noah didn't hesitate to launch another slash, Wilfred punched the air, Jordan flapped her wings, and Ian howled. The fifth limb could only fall after that offensive.

The winged lion didn't accept anything else after that. It broke free of King Elbas' lines and Theodora's control before turning toward Divine Demon.

The expert couldn't avoid the creature, but he didn't seem inclined to do that. His eyes shone with a red light when the three heads filled his view and tried to bite him.

Noah almost couldn't believe his eyes. The beast disappeared before it could complete its attack. When it reappeared, it was free-falling from the ceiling.

Chapter 1604 1604. Easy

The winged lion had yet to launch a single attack. Noah's team had kept the creature locked in a chain of techniques that had prevented every attempt to defend or react.

The existences in Noah's army were experts in different fields, but they had been together for so long that they could cooperate perfectly. Moreover, their battle experience allowed them to adapt to any situation and unknown technique.

The winged lion had lost five legs and part of its right wing. The creature had suffered a decent number of injuries, but that didn't weaken it in the slightest.

Three legs were more than enough to make it able to charge ahead. The winged lion had Noah and the other experts waiting for it on the floor, but it didn't give them that satisfaction.

The creature's legs cracked on the air before it performed a sharp turn. It was about to fall in Noah's hands, but it suddenly shot toward the massive nine-headed hydra in the back of the room.

Divine Demon promptly appeared in its trajectory and slapped one of its three heads. The creature changed direction after the attack and slammed into an area that Noah and the others didn't hesitate to reach.

A massive singularity shot toward the sixth leg. Jordan, Ian, and Wilfred joined that offensive until they severed the sixth limb from the main body.

Noah didn't stop there. His body was a mess due to the drawbacks of the cursed sword. Also, his flames didn't manage to burn much. Yet, he didn't hesitate in front of a chance to inflict more damage.

The winged lion tried to stand up, but Noah arched his fingers and grabbed two heads to keep the creature stuck on the ground. A massive force landed on his arms and shoulders and threatened to rip them off, but the empowerment given by the unstable substance made him able to endure it for a few seconds.

His companions launched their best techniques while Noah kept the creature still. King Elbas even sent a few formations to help him in the task.

Divine Demon and Wilfred silently decided to join forces and focus their attacks on the same leg. The two experts flew toward their target and unleashed a flurry of punches that ended up crushing the limb.

As for the others, Jordan and Ian tried to take care of the last leg, but their level couldn't amount to much. They had to accept that only Wilfred and Divine Demon wielded enough power to handle it. They could only support them in the task.

Noah let go of the winged lion, which didn't immediately attack. The creature had to overcome Theodora's suppression before it could decide to charge again, and King Elbas' formations were still around its body.

Snore and Duanlong appeared next to the winged lion and began to suppress it. The snake entangled its massive body around the puppet's figure, and the dragon spread its mouth to absorb all the energy that tried to flow through its opponent's fabric.

Noah flew above one of the heads before thrusting both blades downward. The attack didn't manage to pierce its metal skin, but it destabilized the creature enough to slam it on the floor.

Divine Demon and Wilfred used that chance to help Jordan and Ian. They shot toward the last leg and unleashed their attacks to crush it. The winged lion soon lost its last limb and found itself stuck on the floor.

Pearl, Luke, and the other human experts finally saw their chance to shine at that sight. The winged lion's physical strength was too threatening for their frail body, but they could begin to approach it now that the hybrids had taken care of its ability to move freely.

Luke joined Theodora, and the duo applied a twofold restriction of the winged lion. Pearl and the other experts from the Balrow family helped King Elbas and followed his orders to deploy suitable inscriptions.

The army of magical beasts outside of the battle formation began to assault the defenseless puppet. The creature could only flap its left wing, so its opponents could ravage its right side.

The Foolery and the other magical beasts used all the power at their disposal to pierce that thick skin. Some even died while eating it due to the massive amount of energy inside that metal. Those creatures had the best prey in the world right in front of their eyes, but they couldn't taste it properly.

Noah soon moved his focus on the heads. A sense of weakness had pervaded him after he stored the cursed sword, and his mind was already near its limit.

Noah deployed the entirety of his arsenal. He used the Demonic Form, the Demonic Sword, Night, Snore, Duanlong, the unstable substance, the dark world, and the draconic armor. However, there was a limit to how much he could achieve at his current level.

His attacks could only slam the winged lion's heads to slam on the floor. They couldn't pierce its skin nor force it to submit. It was clear that Noah was too out of place for that situation.

Divine Demon and Wilfred had different ideas. Their attacks could shatter the tough metal fabric of that creature, and removing its limbs had given them the chance to go all-out without incurring useless risks.

The duo felt that the fifth layer was their home. They had fought to the best of their potential and had succeeded. The pyramid was judging them worthy of getting Great Builder's inheritance.

Of course, the last defense of Great Builder's structure couldn't be so easy. It didn't matter that Noah had some of the best experts in the Immortal Lands. There had to be something else, and those suspicions eventually led to him.

"I don't think I have time for a proper evaluation," Noah explained while supporting a missing piece of his skin and pretending that he didn't suffer any injury.

"Give me something," Wilfred almost pleaded to receive additional information about his opponent.

"The battle should be over after we sever its heads," Noah commented. "Rip his wings off and see what happens. That amount of damage should be enough to trigger any hidden ability."

Wilfred didn't hesitate to resume the battle. It didn't take him much to seize the wing since he had hordes of cultivators, hybrids, and magical beasts supporting him.

Noah helped where he could. His attacks were almost useless, but they managed to change the trajectory of some of the creature's attacks. The winged lion was dangerous even in that form, so his efforts saved many lives and stopped multiple attacks from reaching their destination.

White lines spread through the room after the experts severed the wings. They converged toward the lion and made its three fake cores shine. The heads began to radiate a white halo that almost blinded the opponent army.

After the halo dimmed, Noah felt a sudden surge of pain coming from his body. He had sensed an impact, but the situation was too strange to understand what had happened.

His senses soon gave him a general idea of what had happened during the outburst of white light. The winged lion had attacked everyone in its surroundings, and Noah was one of them.

Chapter 1605 1605. Heads

Noah found himself on the wall of the large hall. A horizontal cut threatened to divide his already maimed body into two parts. The unstable substance had saved him from the sudden attack, but his condition was far from ideal.

Divine Demon, Wilfred, Jordan, and Ian were in a similar condition. The attack had divided Jordan and Ian's bodies into two parts and left them without legs. Wilfred's waist only featured a large cut, while Divine Demon had lost a large chunk of his torso together with the lower part of his figure.

The winged lion had also changed. The burst of light had added a few body parts to its figure. Multiple sharp limbs now grew from its back and allowed it to stagger toward its opponents.

Those new limbs resembled sharp spider legs capable of performing sudden attacks. They were so quick that King Elbas and Theodora had to retreat to escape from their range.

'Why would you even give it power-ups?' Noah cursed in his mind before unfolding his dark world.

His annoyance toward Great Builder had reached a new level after that exchange. His body would be fine, but Jordan and Ian were in critical condition. Divine Demon wasn't fine either, but his azure energy was already helping him recovering his dantian.

The currents of dark matter picked the severed lower bodies and forced them to reconnect with their owners. Jordan and Ian felt better after "Breath" resumed flowing through their organs, but they immediately understood that their battle was over.

The dark world could only help them recover faster. The technique couldn't heal such severe injuries, especially in hybrids due to their high requirements in terms of energy. Jordan and Ian had to stay still and let the natural healing properties of their bodies do their work.

"Who can still fight?" Noah asked, even if the dark world was giving him the answer to that question.

"I'm up," Wilfred snorted before standing up and forcing his muscles to bulge until they sealed the cut on his waist.

"I think I can handle one last attack," Divine Demon shouted while his azure energy slowly reattached his torn flesh.

"I will fight!" Jordan announced.

"Me too!" Ian joined that conversation.

"I don't need corpses to be in the way," Noah snorted while applying a series of dense layers of dark matter around Jordan and Ian.

"Did anyone die yet?" Noah asked. "I need to burn something."

Some of the magical beasts took his joke seriously and shot through the dark world to reach his position. Those creatures were willing to give their life to make him recover, but Noah only sighed at that sight.

"We will make rules for that," Noah sighed before focusing on the golden expert. "Elbas, give me something to recover. Try to help Jordan and Ian too."

"Do you think I can fix your mess every time?" King Elbas asked.

"That's your role in my great organization," Noah proudly announced before forcing himself to stand up. His condition was awful. Bloodthirsty thoughts filled his mind, injuries covered his body, and blood poured from the last cut on his waist.

The lack of materials to burn in the trial had rendered his flames useless. His innate ability couldn't burn the winged lion either, so Noah had never managed to recover since the beginning of the battle.

"I might have something for you," King Elbas sighed while continuing to retreat.

King Elbas let a flask float among the currents of dark matter, and Noah promptly made it fly in his hands. The bottle contained a dark liquid that seemed to radiate an aura that matched Noah's law.

"Did you make this for me?" Noah teased King Elbas while breaking the seal on the bottle.

"I did not!" King Elbas shouted. "I have happened to see your flames a few times, and I grew curious. That method is so inefficient, so I created something only to prove that I was right."

Noah had already stopped listening to King Elbas. He emptied the bottle inside the dark world and studied that substance with the help of his technique.

The black liquid resembled a simple mass of pure energy that carried Noah's aura. His instincts even told him that he could directly drink that substance instead of burning it.

Noah decided to give the liquid a try. The black substance condensed in the shape of a pill and flowed toward his mouth.

An immense surge of power filled Noah's body. His injuries instantly healed, and his bloodlust vanished. The drug had made him return to his peak in an instant.

"How many of them do you have?" Noah asked while checking his condition.

"I did only one of them," King Elbas snorted. "I'm not as selfless as my son. I don't waste my skills on others."

Noah had begun to ignore him again. The winged lion was running through the hall, and only its casual stumbling allowed the others to survive. Its coordination was awful, but Noah couldn't underestimate it anyway.

"Let's focus on the heads this time around," Noah conveyed through the dark world. "We can't survive with the slow approach."

"The new legs are weak on the joints," King Elbas explained. "They are too fast for us. I don't know how you plan to reach the heads."

"Can you slow them down?" Noah asked.

"It's quite impossible," King Elbas revealed.

"What if I join you?" Theodora asked, and Luke, Pearl, and other experts also appeared behind her.

"How slow are we talking about?" King Elbas asked after glancing at the other experts.

"Make them stop for an instant," Noah ordered. "Wilfred with me. Everyone else must wait for my signal."

"What's the plan?" Wilfred asked while flying toward Noah.

"We blow one head after I take care of the new legs," Noah announced, and his words spread through the entire hall. "The others must destroy the other two."

"How can we even pass through those legs?" Wilfred continued to question him. "One instant won't be enough. Many will die."

"We send the expendable troops then," Noah laughed as a series of dark figures materialized among the waves of dark matter.

An army of massive rank 8 turtles gathered around Noah and Wilfred before flying in front of them. Those products of the workshop would be their meat shield.

Noah glanced toward the winged lion. A storm of slashes flew out of its violent legs, but they always dispersed after flying for a few meters. Those attacks were only consequences of the immense power released by those new limbs.

"Slow them down!" Noah roared, and the experts activated their methods to stop the puppet.

King Elbas threw runes, Pearl used a strange ethereal whip, and Luke gathered mental energy until he launched a dense needle. The other experts were also working with the trio, and they joined their offensive to stop the legs.

The sharp legs stopped for an instant before moving again. Still, they seemed heavier and out of shape now. It was as if something had seeped into their insides.

A series of explosions suddenly ran through the hall. Noah had relied on all the Instabilities inside his separate space to destroy the legs. His tactic also featured Snore, Night, and Duanlong. The three companions had to launch precise attacks toward the joints.

Most of those quick legs slowly fell apart, and the rest of the army finally had free access to the puppet. Noah and Wilfred shot forward, and the turtles stepped up whenever the creature wanted to stretch one of its maimed legs.

Noah and Wilfred attacked together. The singularity and the punch landed on the lion's neck at the same time.

One head fell toward the ground, and a figure suddenly appeared next to the experts. Divine Demon was barely alive, but he didn't hesitate to place his head on one of the necks and turn it into a melted mess.

"The others now!" Noah roared while grabbing Divine Demon and retreating.

Wilfred ran in the opposite way, but he left a path for the rest of the army. All the experts there managed to attack the last head in a matter of seconds.

Chapter 1606 - 1606. Improvements

A rain of magical beasts, multicolored flames, and cultivators fell on the winged lion. The army targeted the base of the last head with their offensive, and they eventually managed to rip it off.

The metal creature crumbled at that point. The energy that kept it together vanished, so its fabric shattered and transformed into black shards that accumulated on the floor.

Noah quickly went to gather those materials, and a few experts followed him. Wilfred, King Elbas, Pearl, Luke, and other cultivators interested in the inscriptions behind that creation couldn't wait to study the metal.

The group didn't have to talk about the distribution of those resources. They had been together for so long that they could quickly decide how to split the materials.

Noah had already taken one leg, but no one dared to speak when he decided to store one of the heads. The same went for King Elbas since he had been crucial in clearing the whole layer. Instead, Wilfred decided to let the other experts study the last head before claiming it.

Divine Demon didn't care about those materials. Jordan and Ian wouldn't say no to those resources, but their influence on the battle didn't grant them that privilege. The two hybrids settled for a large share of the metal shards and felt satisfied.

The rest of the shards went to the remaining hybrids and magical beasts. That material carried many nutrients that those existences could use to improve if handled correctly. After all, the upper tier was only one step behind the ninth rank, so any piece of metal was a priceless treasure.

The army didn't have the time to cheer after that victory. Some magical beasts had died during the battle, and many of the leaders had suffered severe injuries. They all had to recover, especially since they still had another layer to clear.

Noah sat among his underlings and let his aura fill the hall. A door had opened on the other side of the staircase, but he didn't care about it just yet.

'I didn't think I could improve my body so easily,' Noah thought while inspecting the severed head.

An oval fake center of power tried to activate the severed head. The item contained enough energy to fuel an upper tier creature, so Noah ended up desiring to eat it right away.

Noah suppressed his instincts to study the fake core. The item didn't radiate any peculiar aura. It was a simple mass of power, but it was far more complex than the prototypes described in the four books.

'I might be unable to understand its real power,' Noah thought before closing his eyes and gathering his consciousness around the severed head.

Noah's ambition surged. He had managed to accumulate some potential after the last victories in the fifth layer. Every trial could defeat liquid stage cultivators, so his law had grown after his multiple feats.

His aura flowed inside his mental waves and transformed them into something more than thoughts. It made them become pure carriers of his existence that managed to sense the faint meaning inside that seemingly neutral energy.

An intense desire to live suddenly filled his mind. Part of the energy contained inside the item tried to reach his mental sea, but the black hole promptly sent dark matter to create a defensive layer around his mental walls.

Noah could soon think clearly again, but he didn't disregard the emotions felt during that inspection. The oval center of power contained far more than pure energy. It was a clear statement of Great Builder's inheritance and feelings.

Noah bathed in those sensations while his companions recovered. The faint feeling contained in that energy flowed inside him and gave him a better understanding of Great Builder's law.

The expert's law carried features that Noah had already seen before. It was an expression of life, but it had far more complexity to it.

Great Builder seemed able to turn bricks into lifeforms. His influence was strong enough to force stones to breathe.

Noah could study the materials, but his companions met many hindrances in that process. The ones who could find part of those meanings didn't care about them. Divine Demon and Wilfred were brutes. Only King Elbas could reach Noah's conclusions.

"Who wants to pick it up?" Noah asked, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to stand up.

The expert walked toward the new room and quickly returned while showing an old tome. King Elbas had retrieved the fifth piece of the inheritance, and the pyramid cheered about that event.

The whole structure trembled. It sent Noah and the others back into the fifth layer and chanted mysterious hymns that made the earthquakes more intense.

The same neutral aura coming from the head flowed through the various corridors and empty rooms. That energy wanted to make the air transform, but it suppressed its influence before anything could happen.

'We are close, but not yet,' Noah concluded in his mind before sending the severed head and leg inside the dark world.

The currents of dark matter proceeded to weaken those materials so that Noah could finally absorb them. Some of the experts in this group deployed similar methods to turn those resources into nutrients.

The dark world took care of handling those materials. It slowly turned them into energy that the black hole could send to his body.

Noah had the time to study the new book while the dark world handled the purification. The fifth piece of the inheritance explained how to improve the products of the workshop further.

Noah had already understood that he had to fill his creations with his law to make them reach the eighth rank, but the middle tier teachings dived deeper into that topic.

Those creations weren't a matter of laws or domains. They had to become separate existences after they left the workshop. The technique could only set their meanings, but they had to remain different existences.

Noah had done the same with Snore and Duanlong. The two Blood Companions shared a tight connection with his existence, but they were separate entities. The next level of the workshop required him to do the same with all the disposable magical beasts created through that technique.

'I should be able to solve everything with my ambition and expertise,' Noah thought once he finished reading the fifth book. 'My connection with the dark matter should never give them the chance to escape my control anyway.'

Noah's workshop was different from Great Builder's technique. It only used two resources, and Noah avoided wasting fake cores most of the time.

That difference didn't allow Noah to rely on the fifth book completely. It granted him the knowledge that he lacked, but it prevented him from abiding by all those teachings.

'I can't even use resources coming from rank 9 cultivators anymore,' Noah cursed in his mind, but his annoyance soon vanished.

Noah was in that situation because his existence was unique, and he already had multiple techniques that covered most fields. He didn't need anything else. The books could only improve his version of the workshop and polish some of its aspects.

"Is it time to go up?" Pearl asked and broke the silence that had fallen in the hall.

"Nothing more to do here," Divine Demon shouted. "I wonder how Alexander did on the sixth layer. I wouldn't mind challenging him in some trials."

Chapter 1607 - 1607. Cool

Noah couldn't do much with the fifth book, but that reward still taught him something. Its lessons didn't only involve the workshop. They even explained ways to improve the fake cores.

Of course, Noah didn't need those teachings for himself. His centers of power were nigh-perfect due to the influence of the black hole. Still, his companions might need some work at some point, and he wouldn't dare to miss that knowledge.

Noah reviewed the teachings of the fifth book while the army approached the sixth layer. The energy contained inside the head also flowed toward his black hole while the clearing of the pyramid reached its last phase.

Absorbing energy in the upper tier wasn't easy, especially since Noah was still in the gaseous stage. It would take him time to absorb that power, but he wasn't in a hurry to complete the process.

Noah was confident that the energy inside the head would push his body into the middle tier. A long sleep would follow that breakthrough, and Noah couldn't allow that during the exploration.

The group was mostly safe inside the pyramid, but they didn't underestimate the power wielded by rank 9 existences. Noah and the others were unaware of Radiant Eyes' condition and whereabouts, but they didn't dare to waste time anyway.

The state of the sixth layer left the entire army speechless. Pearl had confirmed that the Balrow family didn't explore much of that place, but its current condition was far different from her reports.

All the trials in the sixth layer were empty. The army couldn't find a single room that still featured defenses. Someone had overcome every test and snatched the resources hidden behind them.

'He did a great job,' Noah thought while countless empty rooms crossed his vision.

Peal had confirmed that the pyramid was empty before their arrival. The only expert in the sixth layer was Alexander. The expert had cleared all the tests on his own while the army was busy in the fifth layer.

King Elbas did his best to find the path toward the deeper parts of the layer quickly. He unraveled the maze and led the army in front of the last trial, where they found a familiar face waiting for them.

Alexander sat in front of the last trial. His aura was a mess of magical beasts' faces and violent shockwaves. His influence almost hurt his companions, but he suppressed it as soon as he sensed their arrival.

"You really went all-out," Noah commented while studying Alexander's poor condition.

"The Legion needed my help," Alexander laughed. "Suffering this much for my organization is nothing."

Noah could sense Alexander's resolve inside those words. Most experts abandoned their organizations once the ninth rank became close, but Alexander was the opposite. His selflessness intensified together with his cultivation level.

"Can we help out in the trials?" Noah asked, but Alexander limited himself to shake his head.

The expert wasn't underestimating his companions. Alexander had long since realized that most of the newcomers were monsters, but his recent experience inside the sixth layer made him decide to keep them outside of the tests.

"You wouldn't be able to surpass the initial tests," Alexander explained. "Leave everything to me. I'll take care of this layer and complete the inheritance."

Divine Demon and the others wanted to complain, but they couldn't say anything in that situation. They had also sensed Alexander's resolve, and they didn't want to disrespect it.

"Open your mind," Noah eventually sighed. "I'll take care of as many ethereal creatures as possible before leaving the rest to you."

"Don't go overboard," Alexander whispered while revealing a broad smile.

"You can't say that after clearing a whole layer by yourself," Noah replied. "You could have left something for us."

"These are the resources gathered in the previous tests," Alexander ignored Noah's last words while handing a space-ring to Wilfred. "I shouldn't die, but don't try to approach the test at your current level nonetheless. Hide here until you become strong enough to approach the ninth rank."

"That sounds like a bother," Wilfred snorted. "Clear the damned test, and don't make me wait."

"Anyone wants to make bets on Alexander's performance?" Divine Demon shouted.

Most of the army ignored Divine Demon, but some of the experts in Pearl and Luke's team slowly approached him while handing of space-rings that contained their bets. Almost all of them believed that Alexander would complete the trials in less than two months.

Noah and Alexander ignored the commotion around them and began to focus on the procedure. Noah's mental waves seeped inside Alexander's mind and devoured every ethereal figure in sight.

His ability had improved after the continuous use back in the Outer Lands. Noah felt more confident during the process, and his experience in mental battles allowed him to devise new approaches.

Noah preferred to devour the ethereal figures inside Alexander's mind since he wouldn't be in danger there, but the situation didn't allow him to play it safe. He could suffer annoying mental injuries, while Alexander had to be at his peak.

The training sessions took a long time. Noah had already devoured all the weak magical beasts, so he had to deal with the strong ones now.

Fighting those ghosts inside Alexander's head was complex due to his limited amount of mental energy. Those mental battles also lasted longer since the ethereal magical beasts had power in the eighth rank.

Noah had to build a mental bridge between their minds and let part of the ethereal figures flow inside his sea of consciousness before starting his mental battles. His head ended up screaming in pain due to that sudden pressure, but Noah endured that feeling and slowly destroyed those ghosts.

Alexander slowly regained some calm. He even grew stronger after Noah took care of most of the lower tier creatures.

Noah didn't stop there. He soon began to approach middle tier magical beasts, even if he didn't dare to fight them among their army. He had to rely on his entire experience in mental battles to handle that mess.

Powerful creatures entered Noah's mind while the dark matter assaulted them and suppressed their power. Noah's sea of consciousness became a battlefield that featured only one enemy at the time, but his mind still trembled non-stop whenever an exchange happened.

His mental walls had thinned after his recent abuse of the devouring properties of his mental waves, but the dark matter took care of reinforcing them. Noah could go all-out inside his mind without worrying about hurting himself. Only the sudden outburst of the middle tier creatures could threaten to injure him.

Still, Noah remained extremely careful, even if the mental battles were his realm. He managed to win those fights, and Alexander soon gained a level of clarity that he didn't experience in millennia.

"I wish you could have been here during my past outburst," Alexander exclaimed after Noah broke the mental connection. "I didn't know you could be so efficient."

"I must go overboard from time to time," Noah sighed. "A safe approach can't always work."

"Will you be fine?" Alexander asked in a worried tone.

"Some tempering under the white sky will solve my issue," Noah revealed. "You should focus on the trial for now. Go and enjoy being the cool leader. You won't have that privilege once I surpass you."

Chapter 1608 - 1608. Meaning

Alexander left right after Noah devoured as many ethereal magical beasts as possible. He only remained outside the trial to give a series of directives and goodbyes to his companions before approaching the test and disappearing behind the large metal door at the end of the corridor.

Noah felt weak. His mind had enlarged quickly, and the energy inside the head was improving his body at a steady pace. Yet, he felt drained and frail.

'My mental walls have reached their limit,' Noah thought while inspecting his condition.

Devouring ethereal magical beasts thinned his mental walls and made him uncomfortable about his current condition. Noah knew that he couldn't fight in that state. A mistake during a battle could make his sea of consciousness crumble right now.

It was rare for Noah to decide to put himself in such a poor condition, especially when he didn't gain clear improvements in battle prowess in exchange for those drawbacks.

The process had brought immense benefits to his mind, but it had been too sudden and forceful. Noah would typically take his time to reinforce his mental walls after every devouring session, but his situation didn't allow him to make his benefits a priority.

Great Builder was his best chance to survive the rank 9 threats in the human domain, and Alexander was the only existence inside the Legion who could complete his revival. Noah had to sacrifice himself in that situation.

'No point playing it safe anymore,' Noah thought after Alexander's figure disappeared. 'I have enough energy to push my body into the middle tier. I should approach the breakthrough.'

The inheritance didn't give Noah the chance to do anything else, so he decided to focus on improving his foundation. He would have to take Alexander's place if the expert failed, so it was better to close the gap that divided him from that level of power.

Radiant Eye's dense liquid had already benefitted Noah's power. Absorbing upper tier resources would make him able to push his body toward the peak of the lower tier and approach the breakthrough.

The harsh requirements of his body didn't worry Noah either. He had amassed countless resources and entire mountains of Soul Stones during his past adventures. The black hole could use all of them to fill any gap that the upper tier materials didn't manage to fill.

Noah went into one of the empty rooms of the sixth layer and approached the breakthrough. His dark world expanded on its own as drowsiness filled his frail mind. He felt unable to delay that sensation in his current condition, so he fell asleep in an instant.

The sleep felt strange. Noah was completely aware of his surroundings during that procedure, but his mental waves barely managed to leave his mind.

That discovery made Noah feel quite elated. It seemed that his mind was strong enough to keep him partially awake even during the breakthrough.

'I might have underestimated my improvements after devouring so many ghosts,' Noah thought while keeping track of the energy flowing through his body and reinforcing its tissues.

The amount of energy depleted during the process was immense. Most middle tier magical beasts wouldn't ever come close to that power during their breakthrough to the upper tier. Noah's requirements had only grown steeper as he advanced through the cultivation journey.

The energy given by the upper tier resources eventually ended, but the black hole promptly controlled his separate space and began to crush Soul Stones to use their power.

Noah had long since accumulated more than a million Soul Stones. He was richer than entire organizations led by multiple rank 8 cultivators, but the breakthrough depleted his resources at a breathtaking pace.

Mountains of Soul Stones vanished whenever his body required more energy. The black hole wasn't stingy when it came to that procedure. It aimed to make Noah's body perfect, which required an immense amount of power.

No one dared to enter the room while Noah faced the breakthrough. The other experts even imitated him and secluded themselves to improve their foundation.

They all knew that a battle would arrive soon. It didn't matter whether Radiant Eyes had survived the fight. Noah's group had gained Heaven and Earth's attention, so someone would eventually hunt them down.

Multiple breakthroughs happened while Noah's body evolved. All the experts and magical beasts in the army had gained many resources and experience during the trials, so most of them were ready to improve.

Fergie's breakthrough surprised most experts. He entered a room as a peak rank 7 cultivator and exited it a few months later as an existence in the eighth rank. He had finally stepped past the realm of gods, and his companions couldn't help but rejoice at that feat.

Some concerns arose after a few years passed. The army couldn't hear anything from the other side of the huge door, so they couldn't check Alexander's condition. Still, they had nowhere else to go. Focusing on their training sessions seemed the only feasible tactic.

Noah eventually opened his eyes, and a roar came out of his mouth. His cry announced to his companions that his breakthrough had been a success. A series of experts soon gathered in front of his room and expressed their compliments.

The breakthrough didn't bring any new ability. It had significantly improved Noah's physical strength and reinforced his black vessels, but nothing more than that.

Noah couldn't complain about the breakthrough. He didn't expect anything significant to happen since his abilities had mostly remained the same during the last period. The addition of Supreme Thief's technique didn't even involve his body, so he knew that nothing would change because of it.

His awakening didn't manage to keep his companions' attention on him for too long since the tall door at the end of the corridor suddenly opened and revealed Alexander limping through the area.

The expert appeared exhausted. Alexander had powerful healing abilities in his arsenal, but he didn't have any energy left to activate them.

Alexander had lost one eye and his left arm. His robe was nothing more than strands of torn clothes that didn't manage to cover his awful condition.

Countless injuries covered his body. Entire chunks of his skin and organs had disappeared, and blood continued to flow from his wounds since he didn't have enough energy to stop it.

However, Alexander wore a hideous broad smile as he approached his companions. An old book rested on his hand. It seemed that the expert had succeeded in completing the last trial and seize the reward.

"Elbas, take care of healing him," Noah ordered while hurrying toward Alexander. "Pearl and the other inscription masters have to come with me."

"Being half a step in front of me doesn't give you the right to order me around," King Elbas snorted even if he took out a series of precious potions meant for hybrids. "I will reach the liquid stage before you. I already sense the approach of the breakthrough."

"This isn't the time for that," Noah reprimanded him before pointing at the tall door that divided them from the last parts of the inheritance. "We took the last book, but nothing happened. I don't even see the usual white lines running through the corridor."

"What are you implying?" King Elbas asked.

"I know for a fact that Great Builder is trying to come back to life," Noah explained. "Clearing the inheritance and seizing the books didn't trigger that process. He might be a liar, but there is a higher chance that we have missed something."

The confused expressions on his companions' faces forced Noah to continue his explanation. "The books aren't simple rewards. They must have a deeper meaning, which might be the technique to resurrect him."

Chapter 1609 - 1609. Revelations

All the inscription masters inside the pyramid gathered to inspect the six pieces of Great Builder's inheritance. There had to be something in the books that could lead to the expert's resurrection, and they had to find it to take care of the rank 9 threats in the human domain.

Noah, King Elbas, Pearl, her companions from the Balrow family, and one expert in Luke's team met in one of the empty rooms to review the six books. Most of them took a while to understand their

contents. Still, Noah and those who had already accomplished something in that field didn't hold back their explanations.

"We know that the entire pyramid is a huge workshop," Pearl said after everyone had committed the contents of the six books to memory. "We also know that it contains countless valuable materials. This can't be a case."

"We explored the entire pyramid," Paul, the expert from Luke's group, replied. "I didn't see anything capable of activating something so massive."

"The trigger must be inside the secret chamber," King Elbas explained. "The problem is that neither of us is up for the task. I might be arrogant, but I can only dream about building something in the ninth rank."

"The pyramid must have multiple methods to trigger the procedure," Noah added. "I don't see a rank 9 expert relying on random contestants for his resurrection. We wouldn't even think about doing it if it weren't for Radiant Eyes."

"What are you implying?" Pearl asked. "Do you think that the resurrection will start on its own even if we don't do anything?"

"It would make sense," Noah continued. "I would never put the greatest achievement of my life in the hands of some strangers. Great Builder must have created a failsafe or something similar."

"That only makes the situation scarier," One of Pearl's companions said. "An expert at that level would normally start the procedure right away, but Great Builder is giving us the chance to complete it on our own. I don't know. It feels like a secret trial."

"What would the purpose of the trial even be?" Paul asked. "We cleared the entire pyramid. We are worthy of his inheritance. I don't understand why Great Builder would add this last hindrance."

"Did anyone try to leave the pyramid?" Noah asked before the experts could fall silent.

"Of course not," Pearl replied. "We don't know how far Radiant Eyes' consciousness can reach. The pyramid is covering our presence, so no one can leave the structure until Great Builder comes back."

"What do you have in mind?" King Elbas asked.

"I'll send one of my magical beasts outside," Noah sighed. "We will know if my guess is right soon enough."

Noah contacted Fergie and told him his plan. The expert ordered one of the rank 7 magical beasts to leave the pyramid, but the creature found the exit sealed.

Fergie tried to do the same for all the exits on the other layers, and he even tested the secret doors hidden under trapdoors and similar passages. Neither of them gave his underlings the chance to leave. The pyramid had trapped all of them.

"It should be as I feared," Noah explained after hearing Fergie's report. "We might be a core part of the second approach to the resurrection. The pyramid might sacrifice us to bring Great Builder back to life."

His revelation made sense, but that only caused his companions to worry. They couldn't help but feel that their efforts had been in vain. After all, they had struggled to explore one of the most dangerous places in the entire human domain only to end up in a trap.

"A trial doesn't only lead to death," King Elbas suddenly announced and forced the other experts to suppress their complaints. "Great Builder has never been stingy on rewards. I bet that this last test will also give something great."

"What can this madman even offer us at this point?!" Pearl shouted to express her anger. "We have been in this place for entire years already. We have enough resources and techniques to build a force capable of taking down the entire human domain. What else can we even desire?!"

The experts fell silent, and King Elbas did the same. He didn't have the answer to that question. He couldn't understand what else he could desire either.

"You will get to see the path," Noah eventually revealed. "The pyramid will give us the chance to create a rank 9 item if we are right about this. This experience is worth more than any resource."

Noah couldn't be sure about that, but his words made perfect sense. Rank 8 existences could survive without resources and techniques, but they wouldn't be able to advance without understanding their path.

Great Builder wanted to give that to his contestant. He desired to teach them about the path toward the ninth rank. Noah had no idea how the expert planned to do it, but he couldn't wait to find out.

"It's pointless to hesitate," Noah sighed before standing up. "Let's take this matter directly to Great Builder. I hope he will tell us what to do."

King Elbas' eyes lit up before he nodded toward Noah. Pearl and her companions did the same once they understood what Noah was talking about.

It was time to bring the matter to the only expert who could give them proper answers. Noah and the others had to go inside the secret chamber and hear what the aura had to say about the whole situation.

King Elbas and Pearl decided to follow Noah on his trip toward the secret area. The army saw them walking by, but no one replied to the growing concern.

Fergie didn't withhold information. He had told Wilfred and the others about the sealed exits. It was only normal for the various underlings and experts to feel scared about that problem.

An intense pressure fell on Noah, King Elbas, and Pearl when the trio entered the secret chamber. The scenery was identical to Noah's last visit, except for the lack of items outside of the invisible barriers.

The aura of the pyramid conveyed its feelings before Noah could ask any question. A current of information suddenly flowed in the trio's mind and made them aware of Great Builder's actual plan.

At first, the aura confirmed Noah's worries. The pyramid was ready to take his life and turn every contestant into materials for Great Builder's resurrection.

Then, it began to describe other approaches. Some of them even saw the pyramid branding the army and sending it to the outside world to gather more resources.

In the end, the pyramid explained the first method. It told Noah and the others how they could activate the massive workshop and find all the resources they needed.

The rewards offered by the pyramid for the first method surpassed Noah's imagination. The structure wouldn't only show his army how to reach the ninth rank. It would also guide them through the various breakthroughs that they had yet to face.

The pyramid even explained why it couldn't start the procedure right away. It turned out that the method was far from perfect due to the lack of proper inscription masters. The structure couldn't recreate Great Builder in its best form. It would forsake its master's harmony without actual experts helping in the process.

Chapter 1610 - 1610. Help

The pyramid explained how it intended to make Noah and the others approach Great Builder's resurrection. The procedure was extremely appealing for those experts. It would make them experience the creation of rank 9 items first-hand.

Inscription masters would pay any price to gain access to that knowledge. They would gain experience in the creation of items that stood at the peak of the cultivation journey. No one would even dare to refuse that offer.

Noah and the others felt the same. King Elbas was so excited about the whole procedure that he risked starting it before warning his allies.

The preparations for the resurrection began immediately. Noah and the other inscription masters involved during the procedure brought the army at the center of the third layer and made it wait for further dispositions.

The pyramid then proceeded to give more directions. It made Noah summon specific experts who were essential to the procedure due to their unique existence.

Noah summoned Divine Demon, Wilfred, Alexander, Luke, Theodora, and even a few magical beasts. The leader of the Foolery and some other creature in the eighth rank had to gather in the secret chamber before the procedure could start.

"We are ready," Noah announced once all the experts gathered among those invisible barriers.

The pyramid replied to his words by unleashing a series of earthquakes that spread through the whole structure. The dark-yellow bricks shook as walls, floors, and ceilings moved to create an inscription hall worthy of witnessing Great Builder's resurrection.

The room containing Great Builder's corpse descended toward the center of the pyramid. The structure had created a large empty area there, but waves of resources soon fell inside it.

A series of walls became transparent and allowed the rest of the army to watch the scene. The pyramid had even created stages from which the experts could inspect the whole procedure.

Noah and the others remained speechless. Countless materials in the eighth rank fell from tunnels that filled that immense dark-yellow hall. Those resources created proper waterfalls made of items that organizations would kill to obtain.

The clanging noises generated by the multicolored waterfalls stopped at some point. Then, a dense aura spread through the immense hall and attracted the experts' attention.

Three oval cores that radiated a blinding white light came out of the tunnels and fell among the piles of resources. Their aura was almost able to suffocate the inscription masters and the experts on the stages. Even Alexander struggled to remain calm in front of those materials.

'Three fake cores in the ninth rank,' Noah thought while studying those items.

His senses didn't allow him to go past that suffocating aura, but he had no doubt. The pyramid contained three rank 9 fake cores, and it wanted to use them to resurrect its master.

An even denser aura then filled the dark-yellow hall. Noah and the others could sense the pyramid's will trying to seep into their minds and desiring to take control of their bodies.

The experts were aware of that procedure. The pyramid had warned them. Noah and the others were too weak to handle the resurrection, and their knowledge was also unsuitable for the task. The structure had to take control of their bodies to empower their abilities.

Noah let the aura seep into his mind. A deep knowledge crossed his mental walls and fused with his mental sea, giving him an understanding of the procedure that he couldn't obtain otherwise.

The other experts soon imitated Noah, and they immediately felt glad to be in that situation. The pyramid was giving them the understanding of a rank 9 existence. It was making them take a trip inside Great Builder's mind.

Noah didn't know how to express what he felt. He had been through a similar experience with Shandal's thoughts, but the feelings generated by that experience made him partially change his view of the world.

Great Builder's experience was immense. Very few experts had reached a similar level of knowledge, and even fewer had done that while stepping into the ninth rank.

The world in Noah's eyes had changed. He didn't see materials or resources anymore. There were only laws in his vision, and Noah could instinctively understand which item they created through their structure.

His eyes also told him how to transform those laws into actual living beings. Great Builder seemed fond of improving everything in the world. He could see lifeforms in every material that entered his vision.

Noah felt strange. A peculiar power had slowly begun to run through his veins. He was stronger than ever, but that power didn't belong to him, so he didn't let it trigger his instincts.

The power forced his body to move against his will. Noah and the other inscription masters raised their hands and chanted hymns toward the incredible expert they wanted to resurrect.

The pyramid even made them express their laws during the process. Noah's ambition, King Elbas' curiosity, Alexander's hunger, Divine Demon's desire to win, and many other peculiar laws flowed through the inscription hall and fused with the heavy aura.

The aura slightly changed after absorbing those influences. It empowered those different laws and created ethereal copies of the experts who had taken the role of inscription masters.

Noah's vision went dark for an instant before everything became clear again. Yet, he didn't find himself in his body. His whole figure had turned ethereal during that short moment.

The same had happened to the other inscription masters. Their consciousness moved on the ethereal figures generated by the aura. They had become products of the pyramid after that process.

The pyramid had explained that too. Noah and the others needed to oversee the procedure, but they couldn't do it in their real bodies. Neither of them carried enough power to handle the resurrection of the ninth rank existence.

"Let's do this," Noah eventually announced once every ethereal figure began to move.

The massive wave of knowledge that had flown inside their minds had taught them how to proceed. The ethereal figures even removed their physical limits. Noah and the others could go all-out and perform inscriptions meant to build rank 9 resources.

Great Builder's corpse was the core material behind the resurrection. However, it was far from enough. The expert's centers of power had suffered too much during the eras spent without using them.

The pyramid wanted to rebuild the centers of power. Great Builder had to be the last creation of the workshop, and he even had to go beyond the usual standards of those products.

Great Builder had to resurrect as a rank 9 existence that carried all his previous abilities and power. The pyramid even wanted the expert to come out better than before, but Noah didn't bother to overthink that.

The experts immediately started the procedure. They waved their hands, and countless materials began to melt.

The piles of resources transformed into multicolored pools that rose inside the hall to create dark pillars. Those structures then sent the power inside Great Builder's body and began to awaken his stagnant centers of power.

The three rank 9 fake cores eventually rose, but they remained in front of the inscription masters as if waiting for them to pick them.

Noah would love to seize one of those items, but his very survival depended on the success of the mission. It didn't take him much to understand what to do, and the dark world soon came out of his real body to fill the entire hall.