

DEMONIC 1751

Chapter 1751 - 1751. Ignoring

'I've never seen this reaction,' Noah thought while inspecting the glowing Soul Stones.

That material could store chaotic laws, but it generally had a limit. Noah had never thought that it could reach superior levels after prolonged exposure to the shining waters.

"Does someone care to explain?" Noah asked through the inscribed notebook.

"That's how a complete mine should look like," King Elbas replied through the inscribed notebook.

"That's what Elmer says, at least."

The value of the mine was incredible, but society had gone past money after Radiant Eyes' crisis. The human environment had collapsed, and the cities had turned into ruins.

The Legion might have taken control of those lands, but the hybrids didn't care about rebuilding the previous social environment. Noah had even brought many magical beasts into his organization, which made the use of Soul Stones as a currency completely pointless.

'It's a pity to eat it right away,' Noah thought while studying the lake. 'These waters should be able to transform the environment for a long time. They are a source of chaotic laws that can benefit my entire organization.'

Greed usually drove Noah's actions, but he was thinking like a leader now. Devouring the lake and the entire mine right away could lead to decent growth, but it wouldn't provide any sharp benefits. Preserving that structure seemed the best approach.

It would have been different if a breakthrough were near, but both his body and dantian still required some time. Moreover, Noah wouldn't lose the lake if he gave it to his underlings. He could always absorb it when his centers of power required a final boost.

"How is the situation in the other structures?" Noah asked through the inscribed notebook.

"Every mine is the same according to Elmer," King Elbas promptly replied. "We are confirming it now. There seems to be a lake at the center of every mountain."

'That's too precise to be mere luck,' Noah thought before sending more instructions through the inscribed notebook.

Robert questioned the prisoners thoroughly, focusing more on the stronger leaders. Answers quickly arrived, and he didn't hesitate to convey them to his companions.

"They say that the area creates a natural field capable of attracting chaotic laws," Robert explained. "The absorption doesn't happen in the sky. The energy flows through the underground world."

Noah nodded even if he was alone inside the mountain. He had understood why his consciousness couldn't sense the currents of energy flowing through the region. They existed underground, and the power released by the various mines hid that phenomenon.

"Will they remain the same if we relocate them?" Noah asked, and a positive answer soon reached his mind.

"They attract chaotic laws on their own," King Elbas explained. "The location isn't the issue. That can only affect the amount of energy that reaches the mountains. Still, we can't move them freely. We might affect their radiations if we sever their connection with the world."

Noah came up with a better idea right away. First, he questioned both the prisoners and King Elbas to understand how many Soul Stones he could take for himself. Then, he left the mountain and summoned Night to take care of its base.

The Pterodactyl cut the ground of the Immortal Lands and severed the mountain from its base without affecting the mine. Then, Noah stabbed his hands inside the fissure and proceeded to lift the entire structure.

Night went to take care of the other mountains. The creature severed all of them from the ground, and the experts shook their heads when they saw Noah lifting one of them. They had already understood what his plan was.

"Wilfred!" Noah roared, and the hybrid quickly flew toward him.

Noah didn't say anything. He limited himself to drop the mountain on Wilfred's shoulders before diving toward the ground to lift the others.

Moreover, King Elbas proceeded to reinforce the mountains with defensive inscriptions that improved their stability. Wilfred wouldn't need the fear of dropping them after that procedure.

"Return to the Legion and contact Second Prince," Noah ordered before the expert could complain. "We need to plant these in specific positions and study them further."

"What about the prisoners?" Wilfred asked as clear annoyance appeared on his face.

Wilfred wanted to fight, but he agreed that securing the mountains came first. That source of energy was too valuable for the Legion as a whole. Also, his team was too threatening, so most forces would avoid a direct conflict during that mission.

"Robert and Luke will go with you and bring the prisoners away," Noah announced. "This mission is turning out to be less dangerous than we expected anyway."

The involved experts made up their minds about that task and left the area after performing a second round of questioning. The prisoners told them everything they knew, and the inscribed notebooks could keep them in contact even after the separation anyway.

"Where to now?" Noah asked while grabbing a Soul Stone and letting his dark matter devour it.

Noah had far too many Soul Stones now, so it didn't hurt to use them to improve his growth. Also, he wanted to see if he could learn more about that energy to make his Devil's influence intensify.

"We can keep hitting the branches of the Rotway family," Steven explained. "They always build them around mines."

"We can't carry them without Wilfred and with me busy with the mission," Noah explained. "Let's try something that has more connections with Heaven and Earth this time. We might actually find a fight there."

"I know of a lone branch of the Sailbird family not too far from here," Steven proposed. "You might find a battle there."

"What are we waiting for then?" Noah laughed, and Steven promptly shot ahead.

The other experts followed Steven and let him lead them through the Outer Lands. The winds intensified as they flew toward the edges of the Immortal Lands, but those chaotic laws couldn't make them flinch.

Steven eventually stopped, and the other experts gathered around him. The cultivator turned toward his companions, and his admonishing eyes soon fixed on Noah.

"Can we do this my way now?" Steven asked, but his expression froze when he saw Noah's reaction.

"No," Noah said while shaking his head and summoning Snore.

Divine Demon and Sword Saint didn't hesitate to join the snake. They launched a deadly offensive aimed toward the surface, and their power made the entire area shake.

The area was nothing more than an azure plain that featured a few small rivers, but everything vanished when the attacks reached it. The very ground shattered before a storm of violent dark matter covered the entire area.

A relatively large area didn't tremble during the storm. The defenses that hid the structures there slowly crumbled and revealed the large mansion that featured the emblems of the Sailbird family.

Lights glowed as the dark matter ran through the region. More defenses were falling apart, but King Elbas didn't wait for the end of the storms to continue with the offensive.

A fiery spear appeared in his grasp before he pointed it toward the mansion. Noah shot a confused expression toward the expert, but everything became clear when he saw a beam of golden light shooting out of the weapon and crossing the storm without losing power.

King Elbas had created disposable weapons capable of ignoring the violent dark matter.

Chapter 1752 - 1752. Empty

The golden beam crossed the storm of violent dark matter and landed on the mansion. Its light took fire as it spread through the structure and enveloped it with raging flames that radiated King Elbas' curiosity.

The various inscriptions around the structure crumbled far faster than before with the golden flames raging over their lines. King Elbas' attack didn't carry more power than the dark matter, but the curiosity that they radiated seemed able to analyze and destroy those defenses.

"You are getting good at it," Noah mocked King Elbas while his team waited for the arrival of the experts from the Sailbird family.

"Please," King Elbas snorted. "We both know that I'm the best."

Noah laughed, but he didn't add anything. King Elbas' confidence had a solid foundation. His achievements and current abilities already put him among the best inscription masters in the entirety of the Immortal Lands.

The group waited for the arrival of the experts. Still, no one came out of the mansion even after its walls started to crumble. The situation immediately became suspicious, but Noah waited until the storm dispersed before deciding to take a look.

The fiendish armor and the black roots covered Noah's figure as he descended toward the mansion. He didn't dare to underestimate his opponents even in that situation, but his instincts didn't sense anything dangerous. Actually, they didn't feel anything at all.

The flames had disabled every defense around and inside the mansion, turning it into nothing more than a pile of charred walls. Noah could explore that structure without facing any hindrance, but he didn't find anyone inside it.

'How is this possible?' Noah wondered before glancing toward Steven.

The cultivator saw the confusion in Noah's eyes and decided to join the exploration. He descended toward the mansion, and the same surprise filled his face when he noticed its empty insides.

"How?" Noah asked, but Steven seemed even more confused than him.

"I don't understand," Steven exclaimed. "My reports were quite recent, and nothing can explain such a mass exodus. Where are they?"

Noah decided to resume the exploration after that announcement. Answers to his doubts could be inside those charred walls, and his guess turned out to be correct.

'They didn't waste time,' Noah thought when his senses picked up a peculiar feeling.

His senses couldn't miss that detail. Noah clearly felt the presence of Heaven and Earth's laws on some walls. They were faint, but his instincts couldn't be wrong about that.

'Did Heaven and Earth already notify their underlings?' Noah wondered. 'Still, how did they leave so quickly?'

The mansion didn't show any trace of sudden preparations for a departure. Its defenses had been up before the attack, and the inventory of the structure was still fairly full. The experts didn't take anything before vanishing out of thin air.

"I recognize this scene," Steven snorted when he inspected those details. "This reeks of Crystal City."

"How did they even take them away?" Noah asked. "I don't see formations or teleports anywhere. It should be impossible to do something like this without leaving any trace, right?"

"A teleport usually needs both an entrance and an exit," King Elbas explained when he reached the duo. "You can limit their visibility during one-way travels, but it's clear that someone has stepped in before opening a new teleport."

"I can only explain everything with Heaven and Earth's influence," Noah sighed. "I didn't expect them to warn the other organizations so soon."

"That's not the only issue," Steven continued. "Heaven and Earth might have warned the organizations, but the Crystal City had already methods to extract them ready."

"They probably have a special connection with Heaven and Earth," King Elbas explained. "I just don't understand the type of inscription deployed here."

"Which means that they involve the inscribed items from the cities in the sky," Noah concluded before calling his companions and starting sorting through the inventory.

The mansion contained Soul Stones, inscribed items, weapons of various kinds, and a few scrolls. The techniques described there featured strange abilities that involved inscriptions and divination. They seemed quite valuable, even for rank 8 experts who rarely relied on tomes and similar methods to study new skills.

"These aren't bad," King Elbas announced after studying the scrolls. "I can definitely learn them for something useful."

"They are all yours," Noah exclaimed. "Let's grab everything and destroy this place."

Noah and the others seized every valuable resource and item inside the inventory before flattening the entire structure. Noah's attacks inevitably created a large spot that didn't belong to Heaven and Earth, but he didn't care about those effects now.

"Do you have other destinations?" Noah asked, and Steven promptly nodded before shooting in the distance to lead his team.

The group flew for a few years before reaching their target. A plain hid a branch of the Putgan family, but Noah's attacks forced the mansion to reveal itself. Still, disappointment eventually filled his mind when he inspected the structure and found no one inside again.

"This is getting strange," Steven announced when he noticed the absence of cultivators inside the crumbling mansion. "I can understand that Heaven and Earth are warning the other organizations about our arrival, but the Crystal City still has limited resources and manpower. Yet, they shouldn't know which force to focus on first."

Steven was completely worried, and his eyes often went toward the sky after that realization. It wouldn't be a problem if the Crystal City only managed to save a few forces, but taking care of all of them sounded like an impossible feat.

Noah's group wasn't even following a precise path. They switched target and direction after every trip, which would normally prevent any kind of planned reaction.

"The sky is watching us," King Elbas eventually announced before increasing the number of inscriptions above his head.

King Elbas' presence became fainter. He was trying to shield himself from Heaven and Earth's inspection, but he was unclear about the results of his actions. After all, he couldn't test if the rulers still managed to inspect his position.

"Let's sweep everything and get moving again," Noah ordered. "We can't waste time since Heaven and Earth are already on the move."

The group left in a hurry as if they were trying to outrun the Crystal City. That force didn't have the time to handle all the organizations in the Outer Lands in mere years. Noah and the others had to find a few opponents sooner or later.

The new target was at the bottom of a solitary mountain placed at the center of a plain. The structure didn't have any cloaking device, so Noah could inspect it without filling the area with his violent dark matter.

The mansion carried the emblems of the Newhall family, but it didn't seem to have many defenses in place. Actually, most of them were off.

King Elbas approached the structures and removed the last defenses before entering inside the mansion with Noah. The scene was a bit different from the other empty structures.

Noah could find a few experts of the Newhall family, but they were already corpses. They had clearly fought with someone, but Noah couldn't even begin to understand the laws deployed in the area.

Chapter 1753 - 1753. White

The laws there were too messy. Some of them seemed to belong to Heaven and Earth's system, while others were part of separated existences.

Trying to understand the nature of that hidden opponent from a mere inspection of the mansion was impossible. Noah could point his fingers at the Crystal City, but his ideas remained faint guesses since he didn't even know where that force was.

"Change of plan," Noah announced after the group finished sorting the items and materials in the inventory. "Let's ignore potential battles. Lead us toward branches with an equal share of Heaven and Earth's followers and normal cultivators."

The group set off immediately, and Steven felt forced to lead his companions toward lands they had already crossed. The trip then moved toward unknown regions, and a series of buildings soon appeared when the team approached a large lake.

Noah, Divine Demon, and Sword Saint immediately deployed their abilities to unleash destruction in the area. Still, a series of figures shot out of those buildings before they could launch their attacks.

Two cultivators in the liquid stage and one in the solid stage appeared in the sky and bowed toward Noah's group. He confirmed that their laws didn't carry traces of Heaven and Earth, but their situation seemed quite poor.

The trio carried evident traces of a recent battle. Some of them even had injuries and patches of blood on their robes.

"We know why you are here, Defying Demon," The woman in the solid stage exclaimed. "Someone has warned us about your arrival."

"How did they even know about that?" Noah asked while drawing the Demonic Sword.

"I think it's better if you take a look by yourself," The woman announced before giving a few orders through her inscribed notebook.

A series of inscriptions glowed brightly before going dark. The various buildings lost most of their defenses in a few seconds and allowed Noah to descend toward them without fearing for his life.

Most of his group followed him toward the buildings. Noah didn't know what he was looking for, but everything became clear once he stepped inside one of those structures.

"What has even happened here?" Noah couldn't help but ask when he noticed dozens of corpses filling the floor.

That wasn't everything. The trio led Noah and his team through a few corridors until they reached an area featuring multiple blades stabbed on the floor.

King Elbas' eyes immediately lit up at that sight. The blades didn't have any offensive nature, but they could seal a certain area as long as an expert deployed all of them correctly. Those weapons were isolating a series of shining lines that resembled a teleport.

"I don't recognize these formations," King Elbas exclaimed, "But their aura is still pretty clear. It's definitely something from the sky."

"What has happened here?" Noah asked. "It's my understanding that the Sinnell family has never sided with Heaven and Earth."

"Not completely, at least," The woman replied. "We discovered some time ago that we had different factions inside our organization. We didn't immediately take care of Heaven and Earth's followers since they didn't pose a clear threat to the family, but everything went crazy only a few days ago."

"I bet they came from the floor and announced that we were coming," King Elbas commented while he crouched to inspect the various lines isolated by the swords.

"It was sudden," The woman continued. "These formations appeared past our defenses and let an entire platoon of cultivators inside. That has happened in every building. We still can't figure out how they did it."

"I think you have no chances of finding out through this small sample," King Elbas explained. "I can perform some tests, but I don't know if I can put the innate self-destruction on hold."

"Feel free to play with those lines," The woman announced. "We might have no political relationship with the Legion, but it's clear that we are natural allies now."

"What else happened?" Noah asked.

"We fought back the first wave of invaders," The woman explained. "We have been quite efficient even if many of our companions turned their backs on the Sinnell family."

The cultivator then gestured to the group to follow her. The experts walked through the building until they reached a descending staircase that seemed to lead deep into the faint lights of the underground world.

"The invaders came out shouting your name," The woman said while glancing toward Noah. "I think they did that to scare us, and they definitely obtained some results. Most of the followers in our ranks directly jumped in the teleport when they saw that the battle wasn't going well for them."

"Can you confirm that the Crystal City is playing a part in all of this?" Noah asked.

"I can do better," The woman announced while wearing a cold smile and turning a corner to reveal a series of inscribed cells. "I can let you talk with one of the invaders."

Noah's eyes lit up, and his gaze quickly landed on a chained man inside one of the cells. The cultivator was a mere gaseous stage expert, but his white robe made him become the most exciting part of the last years.

Purple drawings depicted a series of spheres on that white robe, but patches of blood ruined its beauty. The defensive properties of those clothes had also gone silent after the battle. The Sinnell family could suppress his centers of power thoroughly.

"Hello to you," Noah exclaimed as he approached the cell and crouched to stare at the cultivator directly in the eyes.

The man didn't even bother to reply to his gaze. Chains kept his arms raised toward the rocky ceiling, and inscriptions ran through the entire floor.

"I thought we were friends after our history," Noah laughed. "Didn't they tell you that the Crystal City knows me very well? We are basically allies."

"I know what you are, Defying Demon," The man announced in a hoarse voice. "Heaven and Earth have told us a lot about you. Noah Balvan is your real name. Who would have thought that the blight of the Crystal City was a whoreson."

"That's one way to describe me," Noah laughed. "I'm also a monster, a hybrid, probably the most talented existence in the entire Immortal Lands. Just to name a few."

"Don't forget capable of great humbleness," The cultivator scoffed.

"Of course," Noah continued to laugh. "Humility is my best quality."

"You are wasting time if you think that I'll say anything about the Crystal City and Heaven and Earth," The man continued. "You are better off killing me now."

"Not so quickly," Noah said. "I've just met you. I bet that I can get you to talk in a few days. "

"No torture can make me betray the Crystal City," The man snorted. "You can start now. I'll just laugh while you try to inflict punishments meant to break me."

"I think I have a better idea," Noah revealed while wearing a cold smile. "I can take away your precious humanity and transform you into a hybrid."

"The transformation is impossible to complete in mere days," The man announced. "How long will you waste before understanding that the transformation can't exist so freely."

"Don't worry about time," Noah replied as the coldness coming out of his smile intensified. "You are my only connection with the Crystal City. I will do everything in my power to get my answers."

Chapter 1754 - 1754. Influence

Transforming one expert in the divine ranks was a troublesome matter. The process involved laws that went beyond simple stability and similar concepts. It required a complete transformation of one's entity, which usually needed a broken or simple existence.

Fergie, Robert, and the Foolery all had special situations that had allowed Noah to perform a complete transformation. The mutated sharks were the same due to their connection with the chaotic laws.

Instead, the prisoner of the Sinnell family didn't feature any lasting injury on his existence, and his belief also made him a troublesome guinea pig. He would definitely oppose the transformation, which was an issue that Noah could overcome only through sheer power.

"Heaven and Earth won't let me turn into one of you monsters!" The man shouted when he understood that Noah wasn't simply threatening him.

"They barely have enough energy to look out for themselves," Noah laughed before straightening his position and turning toward the path that led to the upper floors. "I'll prepare a few things first. I'll take care of the prisoner after making sure that Heaven and Earth can't find us here."

"Can you even do something like that?" The woman in the solid stage asked.

"Don't worry about it," Noah replied while walking past her. "I've dealt with Heaven and Earth long enough to know how to make them blind."

The woman couldn't help but remain speechless in front of the pure confidence flowing out of Noah's figure. Everything seemed possible when he announced it.

"You aren't as bad as the reports say," The woman commented, and a pensive smile appeared on her face. "I'm Elsie Sinnell, by the way. I forgot to welcome you properly due to the strangeness of our situation."

Noah didn't even bother to turn, but June glared at Elsie. The cultivator wasn't only strong. She was also quite stunning.

It was rare for cultivators capable of reaching the solid stage to retain their young appearances. Even June's features had slightly aged due to the time spent as a prisoner of the Crystal City. Avoiding the effects of time was impossible, but constant growth could help in the matter.

Elsie had a young appearance. She barely seemed to touch her thirties, and her long blonde hair shone on its own due to her law. Her green eyes also radiated a similar light, and her last expression showed a clear interest toward Noah.

June immediately sensed that interest, and she ended up loathing it. Still, Noah noticed her reaction and didn't hesitate to grab her to bring her toward his c.h.e.s.t.

'They are potential allies,' Noah transmitted through his consciousness while dragging June toward the upper floors. 'Get stronger if you want to kill every woman who is after me.'

'I challenge you to find someone who can put up with your addictions,' June replied through her consciousness.

'Or who launches lightning bolts whenever she sees me,' Noah mocked her, and the duo continued to bicker until they exited the structure.

The cultivators from the branch of the Sinnell family felt curious when they saw Noah and June coming out of the building. They initially thought that the interrogation had gone poorly, but Noah's next actions left them speechless.

Noah flew higher into the sky until his vision could see the entirety of the region. His focus didn't go on the buildings. His consciousness spread through the entire area and began to cover it with his ambition.

The ground and air started to change, but Noah deployed the dark world before any transformation could occur. His dark matter modified the broad purpose that his ambition tried to give and put on a different path.

Noah didn't want lifeforms nor a thorough transformation. He only needed the area to turn into something that Heaven and Earth couldn't affect. The rulers would still be able to inspect the outsides of the region after the process, but they wouldn't manage to reach its insides.

The ambition followed the dark world's orders and forced the region to change according to precise directives. The ground became metal, and the air transformed into a dense gas that resembled Noah's dark matter. Even the underground world didn't manage to escape the mutations.

Noah spared only the buildings of the Sinnell family. He had left the other cultivators able to see and sense everything happening to their home, but he didn't know how they would react if the ambition started destroying their inscriptions.

The process didn't take long. Noah had already improved his ability to mutate the world after transforming the entirety of the Legion's domain. It was almost a second nature that he avoided unfolding to its full potential most of the time by then.

Elsie had also come out of the building after sensing what was happening in the outside world. Her eyes inevitably widened in surprise during the process. She could feel the strange power carried by Noah's ambition, and her instincts almost begged her to let that energy affect her law.

Elsie was the only reason the other cultivators didn't try to stop Noah. Most of them had understood that he had no ill intentions, but a small group was ready to attack. Yet, their leader stopped them before they could affect the transformation.

Everything was dark after Noah dispersed the dark world and retracted his ambition. The whole region had turned into a flat metal land covered by a thick black cloud.

Outsiders could even mistake that cloud for one of Heaven and Earth's Tribulations, but their evaluation would be completely off. The rulers couldn't reach that place. Noah had created a night that they couldn't pierce without powerful tools.

"Thank you!" Noah exclaimed when he landed next to Elsie and approached the previous building.

June rolled her eyes at that scene, but she didn't dare to say anything. Elsie was stronger than her, and Noah needed the assistance of her branch to learn more about the whole situation in the Outer Lands.

"What did you do?!" The chained cultivator promptly shouted when he saw Noah and the others approaching his cell. "Why can't I sense them anymore? What have you done to the higher plane?"

"I freed it," Noah explained. "Even ground and air have the chance to pursue the cultivation journey. I just gave them a little push."

"You could cause a catastrophe!" The man shouted. "You might even kill us all! What if the Immortal Lands start to destabilize because of your actions?"

"I'd blame Heaven and Earth for building something so frail," Noah laughed before wearing a cold expression and moving his gaze on the prisoner.

"I won't let you turn me!" The man announced while trying to retreat, but the chains didn't give him the chance to move.

"I've always wanted to see the limits of my mutations," Noah said in an aloof voice while Elsie opened the door of the cell. "How much can humans even handle if they oppose the procedure? Can I still reach a decent result if the experts fight the transformation? I've always lacked suitable guinea pigs and time, but you are here now."

The cultivator shook. He could sense the coldness radiated by Noah's figure. His warden wouldn't feel anything during the procedure. Noah even seemed interested in seeing the transformation go wrong.

Chapter 1755 - 1755. Hidden

Screams tried to resound through the prisons, but Noah's dark world covered the cultivator's cell and contained every sound. Only faint tremors spread through his dark matter, but the bystanders couldn't understand what was happening inside the technique.

It felt hard to change a law that didn't want to transform. Pieces of the man's existence fell apart rather than mutating. The cultivator had a great determination that Noah couldn't shatter through speeches or simple demonstrations of power.

Noah used that chance to learn more about the transformation. He knew how his influence affected the world and magical beasts, but everything was different when it came to actual cultivators, especially Heaven and Earth's followers.

"Stop!" The man shouted while inside the dark world. "The rulers have given me this law. You can't take it away."

"Silencing you would be far easier," Noah sighed, "But what if your voice changes and I don't hear it? See, we both have to do things that we don't like."

"You are a monster!" The man cried while pieces of his body fell apart and transformed due to the mutations radiated by Noah's existence.

"You aren't the first to say that," Noah said in a plain voice while his eyes never left his guinea pig.

'The mutations will eventually affect him,' Noah thought while he made sure that the workshop inside the dark world didn't commit any mistake. 'The only problem is with his mind. I can't lose it.'

Noah didn't care if the cultivator achieved a perfect transformation. Committing mistakes would actually help him more since he had yet to fail in one of those procedures.

Yet, he needed the information in the man's possession. Trying to pierce his mind with his consciousness would only ruin the nature of those memories. The best approach was to turn him into a hybrid that Noah could force to submit. His previous factions wouldn't matter at that point.

Noah had to be careful to preserve the cultivator's mind. His influence didn't attack randomly, but it started from the expert's feet and slowly went up as the body found new stability.

The flesh and various body parts had to crumble before taking a new form. The process was excruciating even for a cultivator who had lived for millennia. No amount of training could make an existence used to that amount of pain.

The transformation didn't only affect the body. Noah's ambition went deeper, right at the core of the expert's law. The cultivator felt pain spreading through his very existence, which made enduring the procedure basically impossible.

Noah had to be patient. He didn't have complete control over the mutations when they clashed with such a strong law, but that wasn't the main issue. His instincts and black hole were already doing their best to take care of the transformation. His problem was the time invested in the procedure.

'No reactions from the outside world,' June's voice reached his mind at some point. 'Are you sure that Heaven and Earth will come?'

'What's sure about Heaven and Earth?' Noah transmitted through his inscribed notebook. 'Just keep an eye out there. They know where we are, but they have no idea about our plans.'

'They don't seem to care,' King Elbas joined that mental conversation. 'We aren't doing much in the end. It's just a single cultivator.'

'A cultivator who can tell us where the Crystal City is isn't a small matter,' Noah explained. 'Those fanatics are the only proper force that still follows Heaven and Earth on this side of the Immortal Lands. They are the ground troops that the rulers can deploy without wasting energy.'

Noah's speech made a lot of sense to those listening to that mental conversation. The consumption of energy had become a popular topic as his group learnt more about Heaven and Earth, so everything that could make them waste more power had turned into a target.

Moreover, Noah had a deep grudge with the Crystal City, so destroying that organization was a must. The only problem was that every other force in the Immortal Lands seemed unaware of its location. Even Steven and his cells didn't know what to think about that.

Still, Noah had the answer right in front of him now. He could give a proper target to his entire organization if the procedure went well, and he wouldn't back down from such an appealing chance.

The cultivator fell apart and reformed. Pieces of his skin would turn into different materials due to the struggles of his law, but Noah eventually overcame all those hindrances and forced the mutated parts to gain a stable form.

The scene was gruesome. The cultivator's foot could randomly transform into a tough mineral. His fingers could become blades even. The interference of his law was only making the procedure more painful, but he eventually exhausted the innate power that Heaven and Earth had put in his body.

Everything went smoothly after that point. The cultivator didn't have any power left in his tissues. He would normally fall apart if he were in the outside world, but Noah's dark matter was keeping him alive.

That near-death state didn't soften the pain caused by the procedure, but the cultivator began to give in after he lost every connection with Heaven and Earth. A complete lack of emotion ended up filling his face as Noah continued infecting him with his influence.

'I'm almost done,' Noah thought without warning his companions. 'I only have to approach his head now.'

Noah still hesitated to move the procedure to that point. Tinges of paranoia built in his mind due to Heaven and Earth's massive power.

His friends in the outside world had yet to report that something was off. Heaven and Earth seemed completely oblivious to Noah's progress, and that left him speechless.

Noah mocked Heaven and Earth often, but he still respected them enough to know that they wouldn't commit such evident mistakes. They would never give him the key to find their ground troops.

An azure light suddenly shone from behind Noah's eyes. He cut the cultivator's head with a simple move of his fingers before activating Supreme Thief's technique.

The cultivator seemed to have lost every connection with Heaven and Earth, but Noah didn't trust his senses when his opponents were existences capable of ruling the entire world.

The cultivator didn't react to that sudden change. He was nothing more than a corpse kept alive by Noah's dark world, so he did nothing when his warden placed a hand on his severed head.

A suction force suddenly spread from his hand, and his dark world immediately enhanced it. Noah entered deep into the expert's mind and tried to draw his iconic technique, even if he knew that the man didn't have much left.

However, something reacted to the technique. In theory, Noah shouldn't have found anything to absorb there, but a powerful force firmly opposed his ability.

'I found you,' Noah couldn't help but smile when he sensed the nature of that energy.

His consciousness covered the man's mental sphere and allowed him to obtain a clear view of its insides. A white lump of light floated among that ethereal space and tried to suppress its glow.

Chapter 1756 - 1756. Orders

Supreme Thief's technique uncovered the hidden trap placed by Heaven and Earth. It seemed that their law had tried to hide deep into the cultivator's mental sea during the procedure, but Noah could draw it out after performing the ability.

The lump of light struggled to escape the technique. It was too weak to ignore Supreme Thief's ability, but it seemed partially resistant to it.

Noah watched the lump of light slowly descending back into the mental sea. The law began to radiate a dangerous aura during the process. It wanted to destroy every last bit of the cultivator's memories, but Noah's mental waves moved faster.

His mind thoughts shattered the cultivator's mental sphere and brought its insides among the dark world. Noah didn't even need to snap his fingers at that point. His dark matter shot forward and isolated the lump of white light.

Noah closed his eyes as the cultivator's memories flowed inside his dark world and revealed their contents. Countless images ran through his vision as the technique dissected that mental energy to uncover every secret.

'Nothing,' Noah concluded while opening his eyes and focusing on the lump of light.

"You have already taken care of those memories," Noah announced while the dark matter brought the lump of light in his grasp, "But you aren't a destroyer. You like to absorb."

Noah activated the workshop and began to tinker with the light. Pieces of memories and random images ended up in his mind, and they didn't only involve the cultivator.

Noah could feel Heaven and Earth's intentions. They seemed unable to self-destruct since the dark world and the tainted region affected their connection with that piece of their energy, so they could only develop a second plan.

The transformation could destroy the cultivator's body and mind. Heaven and Earth wanted to hide that piece of their law and let Noah vanquish it with his ambition.

Their last attempt to devour the cultivator's mental energy only served to sway Noah away from the real target. It was a desperate gamble that they lost in front of their paranoid opponent.

Other information flowed inside Noah's mind after he went through Heaven and Earth's intentions. He could finally see the cultivator's memories and find his answers.

A long cut in space appeared in his vision. The crack seemed harmless, but it also had the ability to disappear and fuse with the world.

It was clear that the crack was an inscribed item, but Noah didn't recognize its nature. That portal felt to belong to a foreign branch of the inscription methods, something that he had only seen in the items from the cities in the sky.

The visions moved forward. The insides of the crack contained an immense separate dimension that featured many castles. Their style clearly belonged to the Crystal City, but he also saw cultivators who wore robes that didn't carry the expected white shades.

'They are hiding everyone there,' Noah concluded while he moved through the various memories.

Many of those memories had inevitably suffered some damage after the various movements. Heaven and Earth had absorbed them while Noah was transforming them.

A few images were blurry, others had sharp cracks running through their fabric, and some were completely missing. Noah felt lucky to have gained a complete view of the portal before encountering problems.

'I can't lose the location!' Noah shouted in his mind as his focus increased.

The workshop began to work harder. It didn't care about the actual structure of the light anymore. Transforming wasn't the point now. It had to restore the last crucial memory, even if that could lead to the loss of other insights into Heaven and Earth's behavior.

An image eventually unfolded in his vision. Pieces of light gathered in his mind and gave birth to a scene that covered a large region. There didn't seem to be anything special about that area, but Noah suddenly recognized a peculiar creature in the background.

A large rat was walking on the azure ground right below the portal. The creature didn't seem interested in that structure, but it had clearly seen it.

Noah promptly shattered the remaining light in his palm. The connection between that law and the sky still existed even after his influence's work. He couldn't risk notifying the rulers about his only clue.

The dark world around him returned inside the black hole, and Noah didn't hesitate to step out of the cell to reach his companions.

The cultivators who were protecting him didn't know what to say at that scene. The prisoner was no more, and Noah seemed in a hurry. Something had definitely happened, but they didn't know if that would benefit their organization.

"Listen up!" Noah roared once he reached the surface, and his voice spread through the entire tainted area.

Both cultivators and hybrids could understand the meaning behind his words, so they quickly abandoned their tasks and gathered around Noah. It didn't matter that he was a foreigner for many of them. They still respected him enough to listen to his speech.

"I have found the Crystal City," Noah immediately revealed as roars fused with his human words. "I only have to take care of a small matter before approaching its actual location."

The meaning behind his speech was pretty obvious. Noah was trying to rally troops since his group wasn't enough for that battle. After all, the Crystal City had teleported away countless experts according to the reports of Noah's team.

"I will abandon my current task right away to focus on this valuable target," Noah continued before his voice gained a chilling tone. "I will consider a coward or worse those who decide to remain in the safety of my domain."

"This isn't your domain," Elsie snorted. "I'm glad for your help, but I won't send my underlings into such an unclear battle."

Noah stomped his foot on the ground, and a massive crack spread through the entire tainted region. His ambition resonated with the mutations inside the terrain and made it split on its own. A simple attack had been enough to mess the entire layout of that land.

The mutations had been different at that time. Noah had controlled himself and deployed his dark world to give a precise purpose to his influence. He didn't make the region better. He turned those materials into an improved version of themselves that had a clear connection with his existence.

"I don't want to fight before a war," Noah explained. "I'm just stating the obvious. You won't become proper allies if you decide to skip this battle."

King Elbas and the others flew behind him during that statement. They all unfolded their auras as dark matter flowed out of Noah's body. He still allowed the cultivators from the Sinnell family to use their senses in that environment, but the dark world also attached itself to the tainted laws in the area.

"Are you really willing to fight us over this squabble?" Elsie shouted. "We won against the invasion of the Crystal City, and this is only a mere branch of the Sinnell family. We have more experts ready to join you or fight your organization."

"You have all read the reports," Noah whispered while wearing a cold smile and gesturing to his companions to leave.

The group remained silent while they left the dark area. Glares would shoot from their eyes, but they didn't attack. The previous words had been enough to make them understand the nature of the threat.

Elsie struggled to take a side, but she eventually ordered her underlings to follow Noah's group. She didn't want her organization to become the next Sailbird family.

Chapter 1757 - 1757. Deal

Reaching the edges of the magical beasts' domain from the Outer Lands would take years, even decades. Yet, it gave enough time to the experts to contact their allies and warn them about the imminent clash.

More cultivators ended up joining the army. The Sinnell family had connections with multiple branches of other human organizations, and some of them didn't want to miss the battle against the Crystal City. Noah's name also helped gather allies since his fame had already spread through all the forces in the Immortal Lands.

Noah and his companions contacted the forces in the Legion. They didn't want those experts to join them right away. The group in the Outer Lands only wanted them to prepare for the imminent war.

"You don't know where the Crystal City is then," Elsie commented when Noah explained that he had to find the rats to understand where their target was hiding.

"Don't worry," Noah replied. "We have already dealt with the rats. They are basically allies at this point."

Noah didn't seem to take the matter seriously. He actually hoped that the rats would fight rather than disclosing their knowledge. It was hard to find such a good source of power, and Noah wanted it all for himself.

King Elbas discussed with the experts inside the Legion's domain to find reports and clues about the rats. Noah's group didn't see them since their return from the magical beasts' domain, so there was a chance that they had moved toward a different location.

The experts inside the Legion's domain gave a surprising answer. They confirmed that the rats had expanded, but their lair's core still resided inside the Land of the Fallen.

'They expanded then,' Noah thought as excitement built inside him.

Noah couldn't even begin to visualize the amount of energy contained in those areas. The rats' innate ability involved their fertility, so they would have countless specimens in their lair.

The army flew forward, but Noah avoided the Legion's domain on purpose. He didn't let those experts take a glance at the transformed lands and moved directly past the edges of the magical beasts' domain.

Familiar lands unfolded in his vision. Noah recognized the regions that he had explored many years ago. Lifetimes had passed since his exploration of the magical beasts' domain. His existence had completely transformed since that journey. He had become a monster that even the immense pack of rats couldn't oppose.

Noah led the army across the border while giving voice to a few growls. He wanted to warn the packs in the area that he had a specific target. The other magical beasts didn't interest him, but they would suffer if they happened to attack him.

Of course, no magical beast would dare to attack Noah's army. The group had so many rank 8 experts that no force in the entire world would ever dare to attack them. Only the Crystal City with their many new allies and the cities in the sky had enough troops to match Noah's team.

"Come out," Noah roared once he returned to the Land of the Fallen. "I'm talking to you, Rat King."

The land remained silent, but Noah's instincts could sense that many lifeforms were hiding underground. The various inheritances in the region couldn't stop his senses from understanding the true nature of the lair.

"I come in peace," Noah roared. "I only want you to ask something about the Crystal City. I know that your pack is aware of its new location."

The pack failed to answer again, and Noah didn't hesitate to wave his hands toward the ground. A series of black slashes materialized in the air and enlarged before falling on the terrain.

The region began to crumble as Noah's slashes dug the terrain and began to absorb the energy contained inside it to grow in size and power. It didn't take much before most of the surface shattered and revealed the intricate underground world.

Noah descended toward the region. The rats had retreated even deeper inside the ground and tried to hide from the army. However, Noah didn't hesitate to launch more attacks to reveal a larger area of the underground world.

"Enough!" A squeak resounded through the underground world, and a series of cries echoed its sound.

"Come out then," Noah roared without interrupting his offensive.

"Make the others retreat, and we'll talk," A second squeak announced, and the entire underground world echoed that cry.

Noah interrupted his offensive and turned toward his companions. He sent a few mental messages to order them to leave the Land of the Fallen, and they followed his directives, even if a few experts from the human organizations gave voice to loud complaints.

A familiar rat who wore a small crown peeked out of one of the tunnels after the experts left. Many rats followed its arrival and created a throne with their bodies while lifting their leader toward Noah.

"You have gotten stronger," Noah laughed.

The rat king was in the upper tier of the eighth rank. It had almost reached the peak of the rank, but its expression showed only fear.

Its instincts were warning the creature about Noah's power. The pride that seeped out of his figure was enough to tell the leader how strong he had become. The rat had a higher level, but it felt completely unable to face Noah.

"You too," The rat king announced. "Now, what do you even want from my pack?"

"I need the location of the Crystal City," Noah repeated. "Let's avoid pointless discussion. Tell me where the crack in space is, and I'll leave."

"What do you even have to offer?" The rat king asked. "We are getting immense benefits from our cooperation with the Crystal City. Why would we even betray it?"

Noah pointed toward the Legion's domain before explaining the nature of the current political situation. "Hybrids, cultivators, and magical beasts under the same banner live at mere regions from here. They will eventually decide to expand, and you are the first pack on their path."

The rat king was aware of the expansion of the Legion. It had spies in all the surrounding areas, so it knew how threatening Noah's allies were.

"You can choose whether to fight them or be on their good side," Noah continued. "I'd prefer to eat all of you, but I think you can be good allies. Yet, you have to choose your side now."

"What will we get if we become your ally?" The rat king asked.

"Do you want to see?" Noah smirked, and a curious expression appeared on the rat king's face.

A squeal eventually came out of its mouth, and a rank 8 rat in the middle tier separated from the throne. Noah stretched his hand, and the creature jumped on him.

"I'll be back soon," Noah announced before shooting past the Land of the Fallen and rejoining his army.

"I'll fly to the Legion's domain," Noah explained when he reached his companions. "Wait for me here."

Noah then put the rat inside his separate space and accelerated toward the Legion. His movement techniques allowed him to reach the domain in mere months instead of years. The lands filled with blue bushes unfolded in his vision before he took out the magical beast and showed that scene.

"Eat one of them," Noah ordered while flying toward the ground and leaving the rat next to a blue bush.

The creature tasted one of the blue leaves before spitting part of it. The taste of those plants was quite awful, but the rat forced itself to eat more when it realized how much energy they contained.

The rat soon ate an entire bush and moved to the next one, but Noah promptly closed his hand on its neck.

"They are only for allies," Noah announced before bringing the rat back in the sky and showing how far those lands stretched.

The Foolery had affected a large part of the Legion's domain. The rat saw immense areas featuring the blue bushes. Those regions were the perfect lair for a pack with such low requirements.

"We never stop producing them," Noah explained. "Is this amount of food enough to satisfy your leader?"

The rat could only nod at that scene. The Legions' domain was a paradise that its pack had to enter no matter the price.

"Good," Noah announced before putting the rat back into his separate space and flying toward the Land of the Fallen.

His army soon unfolded in his vision, but Noah flew past them. He returned directly inside the cracks created by his slashes and threw the rat inside them.

Squeaks resounded through the underground world. The rats discussed the matter, and the leader soon came out of the underground world again. The throne reappeared, and Noah waited to hear the decision of the pack.

"Can we eat as much as we want there?" The rat king asked.

"Sure," Noah announced, "But you will also join the assault on the Crystal City."

Chapter 1758 - 1758. Nature

Securing the help of the rats marked the end of the preparations required before the war. The various organizations had everything they needed now. They only needed to approach the crack in space and take care of the last real opponent on the surface.

Heaven and Earth would have to rely on the troops contained in the cities in the sky at that point, but Noah believed that he would already be in the stormy regions by then. His growth could never slow down, and the areas past the Outer Lands were the only place that could provide suitable benefits.

Troops from the Legion's domain abandoned their task and grouped with the massive army to create an even more threatening force. The number of rank 8 experts amassed into that team was immense, and even space twisted when they moved toward their target.

It seemed that the Immortal Lands struggled to stand such a group of powerful existences. Cracks didn't appear, but it was clear that even the higher plane was reaching its limits.

The ground suffered far more due to the immense power carried by the group. Cracks opened on their own when the group went too close to the surface. The rats were also unable to fly, so their march worsened the situation on the surface.

The army created destruction whenever it passed. It embodied the apex of the human and hybrid organizations that opposed Heaven and Earth as it flew toward opponents that represented the very opposite meaning.

Noah and the various leaders went through various battle plans that involved the different abilities of each expert and species. They knew that they couldn't move the fight into a favorable environment, so they had to make sure that their attacks didn't end up weakening each other.

The army completely lacked harmony. They were nothing more than a group made of different organizations and experts that had ended up grouping against a common enemy.

They didn't have any experience in group fights, especially with those unfamiliar allies. Their different existences and innate abilities could end up weakening each other due to their unsuitable effects, so the group required thorough planning before facing the Crystal City.

Noah even wondered whether the Crystal City knew about their arrival by then. He had done his best to leave Heaven and Earth out of his mental inspection, but they could see the army moving across the various regions.

Noah didn't even know what consequences an eventual warning would cause. The Crystal City could decide to escape from the imminent threat, but it could also request Heaven and Earth's help.

There could be strange and dangerous traps inside that separate dimension. Noah didn't believe that the Crystal City would escape due to the lack of available lands on the higher plane, so he warned his group about the possible dangers that Heaven and Earth could provide.

Noah was an expert of Heaven and Earth by then. His knowledge covered even part of their d.e.s.i.r.es. His ambition had learnt how to destroy their light, so he had understood part of their mindset.

"They will probably use this chance to get rid of us once and for all," Noah explained as the army moved forward. "We'll have to fight inside the separate dimension until we force its edges to shatter. That will be our only weakness, so take care of that issue quickly."

"What if they close a few of you inside the separate dimension?" Dreaming Demon asked. "We should always leave someone who can open a passage outside of it."

Dreaming Demon and many of Noah's friends had decided to join the army and help in the incoming battle. They wouldn't miss the chance to gain battle experience against experts in the eighth rank.

"It won't be a problem as long as they try to isolate me," Noah announced. "Space has become easy to bend. It might even benefit all of us if they try to cage me."

"A tense wall will shatter once a crack appears on its surface," Sword Saint explained. "They will only help you if they try to reinforce the layers among the dimensions."

"Exactly," Noah continued. "They can't stop me anyway. Still, Elbas should always remain outside to make sure that everything moves well."

"What if they use another rank 9 punishment?" King Elbas asked.

"I'm quite certain that they will use it," Noah laughed while spreading his arms. "How can they even hope to oppose us otherwise?"

King Elbas inevitably glanced at the army under him. The sheer number of experts was threatening. They could even aim to clear the entire magical beasts' domain with that army.

"Are you confident in defeating that without me?" King Elbas asked.

"We'll just collapse the separate dimension if we need help," Noah promised. "They can't keep us caged anyway."

His gaze met Sword Saint's long eyebrows. Both of them were ready to create a mess, and the experts behind them even laughed when they heard those words.

Wilfred, Jordan, Divine Demon, and the others couldn't help but express their excitement about the imminent battle. Only Alexander, the Foolery, and a few rank 8 experts had remained in the Legion's domain. Most of the others were inside the army, ready to unleash destruction of the last hindrance on the surface.

The flight proceeded smoothly. No magical beast pack or human force tried to approach the group. No one dared to mess with them, even if their march led them through lands that didn't belong to their domain.

The Crystal City was in a remote region on the side of the magical beasts' domain. It had basically settled at the edges of the Outer Lands, in a plain surrounded by mountains.

The army eventually reached its target. Noah could recognize the plain seen in the stolen memories, but he found no trace of the portal. Even his senses failed to pinpoint the exact location of that passage.

'They are good,' Noah couldn't help but comment in his mind at that sight.

The portal used inscriptions that made him unable to sense its presence. His expertise with space should make that feat impossible, but the Crystal City didn't care about reason and common sense.

"They must have involved something from the sky," King Elbas exclaimed after his inscribed items failed to find anything. "Are you sure that this is the place?"

"Are you calling me a liar?" The rat king said with human words after coming out of the terrain.

"Shut up," Noah sighed. "This is the place. We only have to find a way in."

Wilfred cracked his knuckles, Sword Saint prepared his fingers, Divine Demon started to laugh while stepping forward, but Noah promptly covered them with dark matter.

"Can't you wait for one instant?" Noah asked while slowly dispersing the dark world.

The three experts seemed disappointed, but he didn't care. They didn't experience the power that a separate dimension could unleash. A wrong cut could open the door to a deadly trap and similar dangers, so they had to make sure to succeed on their first time.

"Look," Sword Saint announced after Noah and the rest of the experts remained silent for a while. "It's clear that you can't find a proper method to find the right entrance. The rats won't act as baits either, so let's just destroy everything."

"Piercing the entire separate dimension from side to side might be a good idea," Noah whispered.

"I can try to transform the nature of his attacks," King Elbas added. "I can give them features meant to affect dimensions."

"No one can tamper with my sharpness!" Sword Saint shouted.

"Then we do it with the rest of the army." King Elbas snorted. "Give me some time. I'll build something able to transform multiple attacks."

King Elbas began to tinker with a few materials while the rest of the massive army remained among the mountain chain. Noah felt almost certain that the Crystal City knew about his arrival, so he didn't mind making those fanatics wait. That would only intensify their anxiety.

"I'm done," King Elbas announced after a few days.

The expert suddenly threw a series of golden sticks forward. Those items lit up and created a massive rectangular portal that contained strange energy in its insides.

"Make your attacks pass through the portal," King Elbas explained. "My item will do the rest."

"Come on!" Noah roared. "Just like we planned. The first group must move forward and launch their joint offensive."

Human experts and a few hybrids promptly moved forward and prepared their techniques. Noah and the others retreated during the process, and a wave of multicolored light soon filled the sky.

All the techniques and spells converged inside King Elbas' portal, which modified their fabric and turned it slightly ethereal. The attacks then covered the plain, and tremors began to affect the sky as their might dispersed in the area.

Multiple oval and spherical structures began to take form above the region. Noah and the others could gain a vague understanding of the overall layout of the separate dimension and its traps, but the images were still too unclear.

"Second group!" Noah roared, and a second wave of experts shot forward to launch another threatening series of attacks.

The separate dimension became clear at that point. The army could see all the traps.

Chapter 1759 - 1759. Defenses

The almost clear images of the separate dimension and traps filled the sky and gave targets to the massive army. All the experts were ready to join the third wave of attacks, but Noah suddenly raised his arm to stop their actions.

"Let Sword Saint, Elbas, and I handle the traps," Noah ordered, and the other experts stepped down to give the trio some space.

The separate dimension had many traps that seemed to contain dangerous energy. Noah couldn't understand the exact nature of those spherical and oval areas, but he planned to destroy them before approaching the Crystal City.

"This reminds me of the Mortal Lands," King Elbas snorted while drawing a fiery spear in the upper tier from his space-ring.

"We actually kept you outside of the separate dimension for centuries," Noah laughed. "You had to reach the seventh rank to enter it."

"Remember that I've chosen to spare you back then," King Elbas scoffed.

"Was it a good or a bad decision?" Noah asked while showing an elated smirk toward his companions.

King Elbas snorted, and Noah laughed again while drawing the Demonic Sword. His free hand then pointed at the various traps and made sure that his two companions followed it.

"Sword Saint will take the central ones," Noah explained. "Elbas and I will handle the sides."

The trio exchanged a nod before precise attacks escaped from their weapons and flew toward the ethereal figures floating above the plain.

King Elbas placed his spear on his forearm and released fiery beams made of golden light that burnt everything on their path. His flames pierced the ethereal traps and burnt their insides, but some of their effects still spread into the environment.

Sword Saint materialized a silver sword that released slashes on its own. The expert didn't even need to wave it to launch attacks that hit the traps, pierced them, and shattered their insides.

Noah pointed the Demonic Sword at his targets, and a tiny sword-shaped slash escaped his weapon whenever it pointed at one of the traps. The attacks would land on the small areas around the separate dimension and enhance their flaws before forcing them to shatter.

The barrage of attacks destroyed the traps in mere instants, but some inevitably activated after the shattering of their edges. Toxic fumes, swarms of strange insects, and explosions of various nature spread around the separate dimension and tried to expand toward the mountain chain.

"Fend them off," Noah growled while keeping his voice down.

Wilfred and the other experts behind him stepped forward and unleashed their abilities to take care of the expanding traps. Their role was to clear the area until only the separate dimension remained above the plain.

The experts didn't take long to complete their tasks. The traps were quite threatening, especially when it came to the insects, but the various and powerful abilities in the army made the experts find the perfect counters for those creatures.

Noah raised his arm again once the area was clear. The army waited for his orders, but he remained silent. The separate dimension wasn't reacting to the offensive. It remained still and silent even after losing all its protections.

"Let's go with the disposable army first," Noah announced as the dark world expanded around him and covered a large chunk of the plain.

Noah was letting the army see the other side of the plain, but the experts couldn't understand what was happening inside the dense black sea. Still, six-armed dragons soon started to fly out of the technique and amass right before the separate dimension.

Noah didn't bother to fill that army with fake cores. The dragons were disposable middle tier magical beasts that the workshop never stopped producing. They were perfect for testing the mysterious separate dimension.

Noah added a few modifications to his dragons before sending them toward the separate dimension. He made his ambition flow inside their dark matter to give it an additional effect.

'You can go now,' Noah ordered through his mind, and the dragons gave voice to roars while flying toward the separate dimension.

The workshop had made those creatures able to affect space through Noah's understanding. The dragons stabbed their long claws inside the separate dimension and opened a series of cracks through its surface.

Nothing strange seemed to happen until a blinding wave of light seeped out of the cracks and engulfed the entire pack of dragons. Part of that glow tried to stretch toward the army, but Noah promptly moved the dark world forward and used it as a shield for his allies.

The dark world and the army of dragons shattered when they touched the light, but Noah and the others remained safe behind those techniques. The weaker asset even had the time to retreat in front of such a massive discharge of power.

"They had something else then," King Elbas snorted.

"I also have that," Noah announced before the dark world reformed and covered the entire piece of sky above the region.

The plain and separate dimension went dark as the dark world expanded. Hordes of dragons quickly came out of the dense waves of dark matter and fell toward the cracked ethereal structure. The creatures spat flames that filled the area and burnt every lingering trace of light.

Noah watched the scene coldly. He inspected every blinding flare that shot out of the cracked separate dimension whenever his dragons fell on its surface. Its entire structure seemed to have a few defensive layers stacked on top of the actual occupied area.

'How much energy does it even contain?' Noah wondered before gesturing to Sword Saint to get close.

"Make a hole inside the separate dimension," Noah ordered, "But not on this side. I suspect the separate dimension has enough energy to level the entire mountain chain."

Sword Saint would never refuse to cut things. He directly flew to the left side of the separate dimension and pointed his silver sword toward one of the cracks.

The sharpness in the area became so intense that some dragons shattered before even reaching the separate dimension. Their coreless structures were too frail for that fierce law, but Noah didn't care about those losses. Instead, he moved his offensive away from Sword Saint to hide his presence from the Crystal City.

Sword Saint eventually released an incredible lunge that made the mountains around the plain shatter due to the sheer intensity of its shockwaves. Meanwhile, the actual attack dug a hole inside the separate dimension before piercing it from the other side and continuing its flight through the ground.

The expert felt quite satisfied with that result, but a dangerous sensation suddenly reached his mind and forced him to perform an evasive maneuver.

"It's a ball full of energy!" Noah roared with cries that both humans and magical beasts could hear. "They covered themselves in power. Every damage to the structure will come back at us. Deflate it through smart openings."

King Elbas, Wilfred, Divine Demon, June, Daniel, Faith, and many other experts decided to step forward and join the offensive. The requirement for that role was to be faster than the flare, and many rank 8 experts found themselves suitable for the task.

Countless attacks and a similar number of flares shone in the dark area created by Noah's dark world. Every hole that appeared on the surface of the separate dimension destabilized its overall structure and made it lose part of its light.

The separate dimension soon lost its ethereal features and white light. It started to gain different shades and forms that the army couldn't help but recognize as buildings.

Noah controlled the dragons to help experts in need or enhance the destruction unleashed on the separate dimension. His violent thoughts filled his mind, eyes, and actions as he waved his hands to manage his endless pack.

The separate dimension slowly shrunk until its entire area completely vanished. The army remained speechless at that sight, but part of the sky on that spot twisted to give birth to a second zone hidden deeper into space.

The second separate dimension was as big as the plain. It featured the buildings seen among the whiteness and many more. That relatively small region seemed to contain multiple cities inhabited by countless experts.

Noah didn't need to expand his consciousness to understand that he was in front of his target. The separate dimension wasn't trying to hide anything anymore, so he could see the iconic castles of the Crystal City. He wouldn't forget their purple and white color.

"It had to end with you," Noah growled, and multiple rank 8 presences in the solid stage appeared around him.

"It had to begin with you," The experts repeated at the same time.

Six solid stage cultivators who wore the white robes of the Crystal City had appeared around Noah, but he only showed an insolent smirk at their power.

Chapter 1760 - 1760. Buildings

"That was the moment to attack," Noah laughed as dense waves of his sharp aura flowed out of his figure.

His ambition intensified as his centers of power improved. They quickly grew until they reached the solid stage and upper tier of the eighth rank, which gave even more might to his sharp currents.

The six cultivators remained unfazed in front of the storm, and their hands rose to prepare attacks, but Noah had already acted by then.

The energy gathered by the experts suddenly vanished as a pulling force began to affect their "Breath". Their power literally slipped from their hands and failed to fuel spells.

Multiple sharp feathers also came out of Noah's c.h.e.s.t, and a faint shadow followed them. Snore had discharged its innate ability from inside the separate space, and Night didn't miss that chance to join the offensive.

A messy array of roots even shot out of Noah's right palm and covered his figure while expanding toward the experts. The six solid stage cultivators wanted to take out Noah right away, but they remained speechless in front of four different abilities with power in the upper tier launched in less than an instant.

Noah wasn't holding anything back in that situation. His ambition wasn't sparing any aspect of his existence. It was empowering his centers of power, puppets, and techniques to bring his battle prowess to its very peak.

The cultivators immediately steeled their concentration to counter Duanlong's influence and summon their energy again, but Night arrived before they could complete their abilities. Hands flew as the Pterodactyl severed the most exposed body parts of the experts, but it didn't manage to inflict any serious damage.

However, the sudden injuries managed to disrupt the concentration of two cultivators, which delayed their abilities by a whole second. Only four experts ended up attacking the first wave of Noah's abilities, and the clash filled a large area of the battlefield with destructive energy.

A wave of blue fire that seemed to contain human faces, a series of white spheres, black chains, and an invisible aura with corrosive properties fell on Noah's abilities and tried to reach for their caster.

The feathers exploded as soon as they touched the first enemy ability, and waves of violent dark matter spread between the other attacks and the roots. The higher energy tried to expand forward, so it didn't hurt the parasite with its destructive power. Still, the cultivators' attacks contained too much power to lose against it.

The violent dark matter quickly lost its ground, but the cultivators' abilities found a tight array of black roots after it. Moreover, a dense corrosive aura covered that defense and made their spell lose power before even attempting to reach Noah.

The other two cultivators released their attacks at that point. A massive bird made of scarlet lightning bolts and black ice fell toward Noah and joined the experts' abilities in their offensive.

The parasite's corrosive aura couldn't do much once the attacks of six solid stage cultivators converged on the roots. The dense layer of deadly power crumbled after inflicting some damage, and the rest of the protection followed as the spells advanced.

The entire area fell into chaos as the six abilities crashed in Noah's position, but the cultivators soon noticed that something was off. They didn't sense anything after their spells had pierced the roots. Their energy didn't find anything else to destroy.

"Where is he?!" One of the cultivators asked before a large cut opened on his throat and made him unable to talk normally.

The other experts then recalled the shadow that managed to sever some hands, but they couldn't pinpoint its location. Still, they could sense that countless powerful auras had locked their attention on their figures.

The real separated dimension had materialized on the region, but most of the army was already above it. The various rank 8 experts on Noah's side had turned into invaders as soon as those buildings became visible.

The six cultivators from the Crystal City had tried to use that chance to kill Noah right away, but they had failed in their task. They were in the middle of enemy experts now, and all of them had noticed their gang up on Noah.

"Quite despicable," Steven snorted. "You didn't even bother to look at us."

"Heaven and Earth's followers usually are shortsighted," Robert sighed. "They can only think about taking out the rulers' main issue instead of looking at their situation."

"No one can ignore my sword," Sword Saint said in a low tone while raising his hand to amass his sharpness.

"It's an all-out battle now, you idiots," King Elbas exclaimed. "Do whatever you want, but pay attention to your companions' domains. Try not to kill those on our side."

"Who's up for a challenge?" Divine Demon shouted right after King Elbas' line.

"Where did Noah go?" June asked while joining her palms to generate sparks.

Noah suddenly came out of a crack high in the sky. A wave of bloodlust flowed out of his figure and filled the entire region as he pointed his two blades toward the six experts under him.

A black wave that took the shape of a descending blade came out of his weapons and fell toward the experts. The attack's devouring properties were so intense that they generated a pulling force with the shape of a dark trail that followed the main lunge.

The experts didn't even dream about stopping the attack, especially with all the other experts around them. They immediately resorted to evasive maneuvers and escaped toward external areas of the region.

The lunge destroyed a few buildings before crashing on the ground and piercing its surface. The attack continued to descend and destabilize the underground world for a while until it finally depleted its energy and allowed the region to stabilize.

A long cut opened on Noah's c.h.e.s.t, but he casually spat a fireball toward one of the buildings to fix his injury. The structure burnt without even attempting to defend against the fire, and its energy closed the wound in an instant.

Noah and the other experts on his side turned toward the six solid stage cultivators that had moved farther away. They didn't appear scared, but they weren't completely confident in their ability either. Instead, they seemed determined to give up on their lives if needed.

"Why don't you directly take out the trap?" Noah asked. "Spare us some time. I would have to burn everything otherwise."

"As if you could," One of the cultivators said before snapping his fingers.

The buildings suddenly lit up, but Noah and the others didn't feel any danger coming from them. Instead, strange formations that only King Elbas could identify appeared on their surface and illuminated the entire area.

"They are covers for other separate dimensions," King Elbas explained as multiple auras appeared under them.

Each building turned ethereal as a platoon of cultivators replaced them. The same happened above the burnt and destroyed structures. Multiple experts led by a few rank 8 existences materialized on those spots and proceeded to regroup near the six solid stage in the distance.

The separate dimension wasn't a mass of buildings anymore. It had transformed into a massive army that seemed almost able to match Noah's group. Of course, it didn't have the same number of powerful experts, but its sheer size was something that its opponents had to respect.

'Our battle prowess still surpasses theirs,' Noah thought while inspecting the enemy army. 'The cultivation level doesn't matter when it comes to us, but they should know about it. The trap must still be somewhere.'

"What if we have to trigger it like the last time?" King Elbas suddenly asked.

"Can you listen to my thoughts now?" Noah asked while showing honest surprise.

"I don't need that to understand how your mind thinks," King Elbas snorted before going back to the main topic. "My sensors aren't picking anything even after I added the data about these cloaking buildings. There shouldn't be anything else here."

"It might still arrive," Noah sighed while glancing toward the partially covered sky.

His ambition seeped into the environment on its own and darkened everything. The very sky couldn't resist the temptation to mutate, but that feature wouldn't help him during the battle.

The experts in the enemy army came from different organizations. Most of them wore the white robes of the Crystal City now, but Noah believed that they had changed side only recently. Still, none of them had received a law from Heaven and Earth, which gave no advantage to those wielding the Devils' power.

"Just go all-out without forgetting about your surroundings," Noah eventually ordered in an aloof tone. "Leave one of the white leaders to me. I have a debt to settle."

Waging wars against a massive organization that had gathered countless followers during the past years was nothing much for Noah by then. Only Heaven and Earth could force him to stay constantly alert, but it seemed that his army had to work a bit to make the rulers step into the battlefield.

His orders marked the beginning of the war. Every member of both armies shot forward and prepared themselves for the deadly clash.

Author's notes: I feel far better. The fever should be completely gone and I'm basically back at my peak. I will resume my normal writing schedule tomorrow. Thank you for having been so patient with me.