

DEMONIC 1771

Chapter 1771 - 1771. Cancer

"Do you really want to do that?" King Elbas asked without specifying the nature of the mission.

Noah and King Elbas had gone over the possibility of harnessing energy from the worlds connected to Heaven and Earth's system. The outsides of the sky had many Mortal Lands and other structures that gave power to the rulers. Gaining access to that fuel was only a matter of reaching them.

The conversation between the two didn't reach exact conclusions. Noah's plan was rough and lacked many details, but King Elbas felt confident in covering them if he had enough time to prepare.

Still, they didn't decide anything yet. Going past the sky was a crazy plan that King Elbas wanted to consider only as a last approach, but Noah seemed inclined to deploy it now.

"What can we even do?" Noah laughed as the group of experts moved their eyes between King Elbas and him. "The lands inside the sky are doomed. We can capture the surviving giants, but we'll gain an era at best, and we would have to live it here even. The time to be daring has arrived."

The experts had clearly heard Noah talking about the outsides of the sky, but they all hoped to have misheard him. Those areas had always been the last danger zone in the entire world, according to common knowledge. Adventures past the white layer never led to anything, and they often killed those who dared to approach them.

"We need a long time to prepare," King Elbas exclaimed while faint random words escaped his mouth.

"We also need proper targets. Assaulting weak worlds is pointless for our cause. We must aim for large and rich lands that can fuel our home for a long time while hurting Heaven and Earth at the same time."

"We can't find them from here," Noah replied. "I suggest we start a systematic exploration and see what works. When can you start working on this?"

"The dome and generators of suction force can almost adjust themselves on their own by now," King Elbas revealed while continuing to talk with himself whenever he paused. "I don't need to wait. I can dive into this new quest immediately. Still, it will take a long time just to be ready for the first phases."

"It's fine," Noah laughed. "I have other matters to attend in the meantime. They might take a while, so don't rush anything."

"I never rush anything," King Elbas snorted. "My creations are never hurried. They are as perfect as they can be when they leave my hands."

"We need more than perfect here," Noah continued. "We are about to venture through uncharted territory. There is almost no record at all of those areas."

"Because no one ever goes too far," King Elbas added. "The entire matter about the void and the different dimensions is still unclear since Heaven and Earth make sure to cover their tracks."

"Or kill those who go too far," Noah sighed.

"Do you want to include us at some point?" Wilfred snorted when his curiosity was about to explode. "I thought this was a gathering, not a private conversation."

"He is right," King Elbas commented. "Even you can't do this on your own."

Noah sighed as his mind sorted different thoughts. He had understood the issue, and he had even found a solution. The problem was convincing his troops to support him.

'If only I could generate energy like Heaven and Earth,' Noah sighed in his mind as Snore materialized under his feet and made him rise higher in the air.

Noah sat on Snore's head as the experts followed him in the air. They didn't know the meaning behind that gesture, and Noah knew that he had done that for no special reason. He was only following his instincts before announcing his craziest plan yet.

"We aren't rank 9 existences," Noah eventually announced. "Our laws can't generate energy from nothing, and the storms are too dangerous. We must accept that our power can't make us save ourselves if we only keep our eyes in the world under the sky."

"How would going outside even help?"

"We can indict a selection and limit the consumption of energy,"

"Some of us have already calculated how many would have to immolate to stabilize the decline of the black landmass,"

The experts from the human organizations immediately gave voice to a series of ideas, but Snore hissed in anger after they interrupted its master and made them go silent.

Noah didn't like their proposal either. They were suggesting a systematic sacrifice of the troops on the black landmass to find an equilibrium between the absorption and consumption of energy.

However, that plan would fail once King Elbas' devices couldn't find more energy around the landmass. The experts could still move the black lands deeper near other giants at that point, but the approach would eventually lead to a complete failure.

Noah wanted a solution, not a slow defeat. Surviving wasn't enough when the opponents were Heaven and Earth. His organization had to strike back and carve its place into the world.

Moreover, Noah felt a bit disgusted at the idea that those cultivators preferred to sacrifice their companions rather than challenge Heaven and Earth.

His feeling didn't come from morals or ethics. He felt weak when he thought that his organization had gained such weak-willed experts, and a mental note slowly formed inside his mind. He had to remove that dirt sooner or later.

"Heaven and Earth's system has many worlds connected to the whiteness of the sky," Noah explained. "We know them as sources of new existences and laws, but some of them are only useful for their energy. I want to take them and use their power to fuel our survival."

"Are you crazy?" One of the cultivators who had proposed the sacrifice shouted. "The void is outside of our reach. That's Heaven and Earth's territory."

"Who said that?" Noah asked. "Who decided that the void belonged to the rulers?"

"The natural order of things," A second cultivator supported his companion's argument. "We can't absorb energy inside the void. I don't know where you heard these things about the other worlds, but I'm not sure you can rely on that information."

"We gained that knowledge when we resurrected a rank 9 cultivator," Alexander announced. "Do you remember Radiant Eyes, the expert who forced you all to abandon your homes? We defeated her through this dead existence and learnt about the structure of the world as a reward."

No one could speak after those lines. The cultivators knew that Alexander wasn't lying, and contradicting the knowledge of a rank 9 cultivator who had managed to come back to life would destroy the very foundation of their beliefs.

Rank 9 existences were the peak. They didn't have to be entirely correct, but their words had to be pretty close to the truth, close enough to found a crazy plan on them.

"It doesn't matter what you think is better," Noah continued as growls mixed with his voice. "You have opted to turn on yourselves rather than finding a path that hurt Heaven and Earth. I would normally consider you as failures, but our situation forces me to give you a second chance."

A series of gazes landed on the three cultivators who had tried to propose the sacrifice. The trio suddenly felt out of place, and worry even built in their minds.

"I need to fly across the Immortal Lands again," Noah announced while deploying the dark world and activating the workshop to create something worthy of his task. "A small team can follow me. The others have to remain here and help King Elbas with the preparations for the mission. He is in charge while I'm away."

"Wait," Alexander stepped forward. "What about the Legion? Do you have other orders for us?"

Noah had basically forgotten about the matter of the two organizations. He already considered everyone part of his force, but that seemed the right moment to clear everyone's doubts.

"The Legion will stop existing right away," Noah ordered. "We are the last stand in a broken world, and we plan to become parasites in a realm that doesn't belong to us. We are Heaven and Earth's cancer, and that will be our new name."

Chapter 1772 - 1772. Speech

The order left many experts unsatisfied and irritated. Noah wasn't only forcing them to become a single organization. He was even ignoring the various factions and ideas that the other experts could offer.

His behavior didn't reflect a wise leader. Noah was acting like a tyrant when his cultivation level had yet to reach the last stage of the eighth rank.

The other experts knew that Noah's current cultivation level wasn't even close to his actual battle prowess, but many still didn't feel too good about the recent events. Everything was changing quickly,

and their fates were in the hands of a madman who seemed to have little to no care for the rulers of the world.

However, his closest friends and the experts who had followed him for a long time could quickly make up their minds about those changes. Noah had always been in charge of both Legion and nameless organizations in the last period, so gaining a new banner and layout didn't affect them in the slightest.

The same didn't go for the experts recently obtained from the Outer Lands. Their organizations had traditions and histories almost as long as the higher plane, and abandoning them in favor of a madman seemed utterly inconceivable.

"I can smell your anger," Noah exclaimed while moving his eyes among the various higher-ups. "You give value to names, but they mean nothing to me. I live for the cultivation journey. Everything else is a pointless remainder of how weaker existences have to band together to have a chance at opposing the world."

"But you still decide to throw them away on your own," Elsie complained. "I'm not asking you to care. I only want respect!"

"Respect?" Noah asked as chilling growls came out of his mouth. "I had to fight the Crystal City right after ascending. Most organizations chose to side with that eternal force and cast me out. The world has tried to capture, kill, and torture me since I stepped on the higher plane, but I'm here, and you are everything that remains of that old system."

Elsie didn't know what to say at those words. The situation angered her to no end, but Noah was right. He was the very reason why the Immortal Lands had survivors.

"Your system reeked of corruption and laziness," Noah continued. "You have nurtured useless experts and showed them to the world as if fame could win wars. Heaven and Earth did us all a favor when they destroyed everything. They removed their old farm to create a new one that didn't include me, but I'm still here, and I won't stick to their game."

Noah's pride intensified during his speech. His aura was calm, but the air inside the region became heavy. He was expressing the core of his existence, and those who had known him for a long time could see how he had grown.

"Heaven and Earth's cancer won't become your shield!" Noah roared. "Organizations should launch experts toward the higher ranks, not give them the chance to laze around and gloat over flimsy achievements. There are only two sides now. You can become part of the world or fight it."

Needless to say, some of the experts from the human organizations who had initially felt distrust and anger toward Noah began to calm down. That speech was more than inspiring. It seemed to explain the nature of the cultivation journey in words that they had never found.

"Don't delude yourselves," Noah eventually announced. "I can't make miracles. Every piece of me is a gear that I had to develop through countless battles and crazy plans. I want you to do the same, even if many will die in the process."

"Who are you to say that your path is correct?" Elsie continued, but her voice didn't carry any anger at that time.

"There are only two paths left," Noah scoffed. "Heaven and Earth can offer you a law from their system and keep you alive until I destroy them. The other road will force you to suffer, but it will also grant you the power to oppose the world."

The doubtful experts remained silent. They had always known that their anger toward Noah was misplaced, but they still wanted to avoid an all-out war against Heaven and Earth in that condition. It was clear that they couldn't win.

"You shouldn't look at me for answers," Noah laughed. "I'm a mistake. My law forces you to ignore your natural limits because Heaven and Earth's system isn't perfect. Still, my existence is only a trigger. All of you can reach the same achievements without my help."

Noah Balvan, commonly known as Defying Demon, had just announced that his whole existence was a mistake, but his law didn't crumble. Instead, his pride shone stronger than ever and generated an even stronger pressure.

"Some of you might think that my departure will be the right moment for a rebellion," Noah continued to laugh. "You are right, but you'll fail anyway. Existences who can only see their survival can't match those who look toward the higher stages. The value of their laws is completely different since only growth can lead to something worthy of the name life."

Noah turned toward the dark world at that point. His speech was over. He had already uncovered the entirety of his belief in front of those underlings. Everything else had to come from inside them. Their power would always lack some important feature otherwise.

"How could you survive with this mindset?" Steven asked.

The expert was one of the cultivators who had accepted the change in the organization quickly. His cells and the secret organization as a whole were no more anyway. Following Noah was his only option.

"I didn't," Noah replied without turning toward the expert. "I died to come here, I died to turn myself into a hybrid, I died a few times to force my centers of power to advance, and something inside me has died on multiple occasions too. Surviving is easy when you are ready to give up on yourself, but can you even call that life?"

"Where are you going anyway?" Jordan asked while she memorized all the faces that seemed unaffected by Noah's speech. "Why do you need to fly across the higher plane again?"

"Most of the old Immortal Lands were part of the magical beasts' domain," Noah explained. "The other side must have many survivors. I want to make them part of the Cancer."

"Do you want to add even more expenses to these lands?" One of the cultivators that didn't feel anything during the speech asked.

"It's not want," Noah replied without turning. "I'm doing it. The magical beasts are Heaven and Earth's punishment for their d.e.s.i.r.e to take control of the world. They are vital to our quest."

The rat king showed a proud expression that even humans could recognize. Noah had publicly acknowledged its kind. No other organization had ever given it that amount of recognition.

"How do you plan to make all those survivors fit here?" Steven asked.

"I trust that Elbas will have everything ready by the time I come back," Noah explained before glancing behind him. "Don't involve him if you want to rebel. Die without creating problems."

Chapter 1773 - 1773. Building

The speech left most experts with doubts and worries, but the situation didn't give them much flexibility. Noah was tyrannical and rude, but he had always spoken the truth. The world had only two available factions now.

Some of the experts from the human organizations remained set on their idea to sacrifice existences and lower the consumption of energy. However, that plan required them to be in control of Cancer, and their power definitely wasn't enough to seize that position.

Noah ignored almost everything after his speech. Many experts remained and hoped to go over their possibilities, but he had already moved past that matter. The plan was in place now. It only lacked all the necessary preparations and the polishing of the various details.

The dark world eventually expanded until it enveloped Noah. The experts couldn't see nor contact him anymore at that point, which forced them to abandon their hopes of changing his mind.

Heaven and Earth's Cancer would venture through the void past the white sky and try to steal the rulers' energy. Nothing could change that anymore. The experts could only prepare for Noah's craziest plan yet.

Noah could vaguely trick his creation to use the Demonic Deduction technique when building a proper version of the massive six-armed dragons. He could invent a weapon meant to destroy that featured a device similar to the separate space. The blueprint was already in his mind, so the workshop moved at full speed to turn it into a real item.

The experience amassed throughout his life made Noah invent a new life-form in a matter of seconds, but he still had to spend the following weeks and months solving various flaws.

The decision to build a living being rather than a weapon came from his expertise and the final product's durability. Inscription masters could fix items, but existences could heal by themselves. Moreover, they could work on their own and evolve with time.

The world lacked materials, but Noah had everything he needed inside the dark world. The dark world could replicate every resource in the world, and his ambition could fix eventual issues with the power level.

Noah was basically creating a massive lifeform by fusing Great Builder's teachings and his experience with living weapons. He built multiple unique fake cores that suited his creature perfectly and filled its body with abilities that didn't create instabilities in the overall structure.

Noah hadn't performed such a thorough and intricate creation since building Snore's body. His expertise had always allowed him to approach those projects differently, and he had never needed a second massive snake anyway.

However, he had finally required something that could go past his current arsenal and that had to go beyond the disposable creations of the workshop. Noah needed a trustworthy and efficient companion for his task, and only creating it could ensure that the being met his requirements.

Another important matter required Noah's attention, but he purposely chose to let the others handle it. He needed a team for the journey across the broken higher plane, but handpicking its members was a bother since his organization had too many valuable options by now.

Noah eventually opted to let his companions handle that part of the mission. They knew that he had to fly across the higher plane to gather magical beasts, which was enough to define all the requirements for the task.

The massive creature slowly took form, and Noah tested the various complete parts each time before moving to the next ones. The dense dark sea expanded as his project continued, and it soon spread past the region.

The creature's size wasn't necessarily important, but Noah wanted to make sure that its separate space would have enough room for all the surviving packs in the old magical beasts' domain.

Moreover, the mission was bound to take centuries, which forced Noah to improve the initial raw idea of the separate space. A mere empty area that could fit an army of magical beasts wouldn't be enough for those creatures if he had to keep them inside it for a long period. He needed to create a proper environment that would allow them to thrive.

The dark world on its own could create that, but Noah didn't want an entire domain to feed on his energy. Even the high-infinite power of his black hole couldn't provide enough nutrients.

The solution had to come from outside his centers of power, but the world had almost nothing to offer. Sacrificing part of the black landmass was out of the question, so only the giants could provide what Noah needed.

Of course, Noah couldn't waste time collecting giants to harness the power contained in their insides. He even wanted to leave those outside the black landmass alive for the sake of his organization.

The only viable solution was a device that could progressively build a world inside the separate space while Noah collected giants and energy in general.

That device had to be a core organ of his dragon-shaped creation due to its necessary connection to the separate space in its insides. Noah was building a living being with a separate dimension as one of its innate abilities, but his task required him to go beyond those simple notions.

The separate dimension couldn't depend on the dragon's energy. Noah's black hole would become empty in no time after he started gathering magical beasts otherwise.

The separate space had to take its power from the energy absorbed from the outside world. It even had to build a suitable environment at the same time, and making the process efficient required a lot of time, especially since Noah couldn't rely on the Demonic Deduction technique there.

Noah did everything slowly and with utmost care. His new creature had to be perfect. It didn't matter if its overall battle prowess wouldn't end up matching Snore. He only needed it to be the best possible helper for his mission.

Noah's companions felt slightly threatened in front of that massive creature. Even Snore was only as big as the dragon's forehead, and the peak upper tier power radiated by its fabric placed it one step above them.

'You know why I built you,' Noah thought while placing his hand on the massive forehead. 'I don't need to give you orders or a personality. Just listen to the wills that have fused with the different parts of your body and take life.'

Noah's ambition intensified and flowed inside the giant six-armed dragon. Its fabric didn't improve since Noah wasn't trying to push its level toward the ninth rank. He only wanted to awaken the d.e.s.i.r.e for life that every living being had.

The dragon was technically alive already, but the lack of will made it nothing more than a massive mountain with wings, scales, and claws. Yet, that feature started to change as the ambition flowed inside its structure and forced the different meanings left behind to fuse.

The creature's eyes slowly focused, and its reptilian eyes began to radiate an azure light. Noah even smiled when he sensed the weight of the dragon's mind pushing on the walls of his mental sphere.

Chapter 1774 - 1774. Roars

A deep growl resounded in Noah's mind after the mental connection formed. The dragon didn't give voice to the usual shrill cry of a newborn. Its tone sounded deep and ancient, as if the creature had taken a nap that had lasted for eras.

A torrent of emotions flowed inside Noah's mind and made his mental walls shake. Those feelings felt familiar and synchronized with his existence after they filled the insides of his ethereal center of power.

Noah knew those emotions. They carried the entirety of his cultivation journey and d.e.s.i.r.es. The massive six-armed dragon was an embodiment of his existence, just like the Demonic Sword, but its character was developing past its sources to generate something completely separate.

The intensity of the internal pressure decreased as the dragon's personality took form. Random flares of hunger, confusion, astonishment, happiness, and pride surged in Noah's mind, but they quickly waned when they found similar feelings inside the center of power.

The dragon had yet to acquire complete clarity, but its instincts knew that Noah wasn't an enemy. He was more than a father. He was the very reason behind its existence.

'Welcome to the Immortal Lands,' Noah transmitted through the mental connection as he quickly came up with a name. 'Your name shall be Shafu, devourer and creator of worlds.'

'Shaaafuuu,' The dragon transmitted inside Noah's mind through a growl that made his entire mental sea shake.

Noah's sea of consciousness slowly adapted to the echo of Shafu's deep voice and grew immune to their dangerous properties. The creature's mental pressure soon became nothing more than a heavy weight placed inside his mind that pushed his mental walls to expand.

The dragon retracted its massive head and pointed its reptilian eyes at Noah. Its eyelids were bigger than him, but it could still see the stark resemblance of their vertical pupils.

Shafu had inherited a lot from Noah's existence, but its separate personality was transforming those feelings and d.e.s.i.r.es into something unique. Yet, their eyes were identical.

'You are going to roar, aren't you?' Noah laughed through his mental connection when the dragon raised its head toward the sky and opened its huge mouth.

Cracks opened on the black landmass as the dragon gave voice to a deafening roar that spread soundwaves everywhere in the environment. The sheer power contained in that simple cry could generate catastrophic events, but Noah only laughed when that noise made his whole body tremble.

Snore, Duanlong, Night, and the Demonic Sword instinctively came out of Noah's body and gave voice to different roars to announce the arrival of a new companion. Even Noah lifted his head and joined that event. The sky had to know that he had developed a new weapon.

The event scared the existences who had lived near the region in the last years. King Elbas had warned everyone about the dangerousness of Noah's experiments, so no one had dared to be too close to the immense dark world. Yet, the threatening soundwaves and the massive cracks that spread through the landmass forced them to intervene.

A few rank 8 cultivators flew toward Noah's position, but their expressions froze when they understood that the source of the destruction was a huge winged mountain with six arms.

The sheer power generated by that creature didn't help their determination either. The dragon stood at the very peak of the eighth rank. It was a monster only one step away from the apex of the cultivation journey.

Noah had to go all-out to achieve that result, and the outcome didn't disappoint him. His ambition was already able to bring him to the peak of the eighth rank if he focused it on a single feature. The dragon had simply managed to benefit from that ability since Noah had taken his time to empower the entirety of its structure piece by piece.

The dragon, Noah, and the other companions continued to roar their happiness, and the landmass kept falling apart. The cultivators in the distance couldn't do anything about that situation, so they contacted the existence temporarily in charge of Cancer to understand what to do.

A series of golden runes lit up on the cracked ground near Shafu, and shining lines grew from them to create a circular formation. Noah stopped roaring when he sensed familiar auras appearing above those inscriptions. Some of his friends had teleported there.

'Calm down now,' Noah transmitted through the mental connection. 'You'll have the chance to go all-out very soon. Let's try not to destroy our only home for now.'

'I am homes,' Shafu replied, and Noah couldn't help but pat its head.

The dragon's personality was still adapting to its massive form and multiple influences. It would take a few weeks before it fully developed into a m.a.t.u.r.e character with precise features, and Noah didn't mind that.

Shafu had expressed one of its core features. It lived to create worlds, which it described as homes.

"Betraying you doesn't sound so bad now," King Elbas snorted while remaining inside the golden formation. "I understand that you don't care about this mess because you won't be here to hear those annoying complainers, but try to make things easier for me at least."

The formation shielded King Elbas and his group from the soundwaves. Those inscriptions weren't a teleport built at the last second. They seemed older and connected to the ground.

Shafu eventually stopped roaring, and the other companions imitated it before flowing inside Noah's body. That small demonstration was over.

"The pig is right," Noah laughed. "You complain even if you already have a solution. You must really like it."

"I do, as a matter of fact," King Elbas wanted to sound annoyed at that remark, but the voice that came out of his mouth was proud and arrogant.

King Elbas snapped his fingers, and a series of golden lines materialized above all the areas destroyed by the soundwaves. A net of inscription covered the cracks and forced them to close before restoring the ground to its previous state.

"I am almost ready to depart," Noah announced after the golden lines vanished. "I bet you are here to join the mission."

Noah's eyes moved among the experts who had teleported with King Elbas. He saw Fergie, Steven, Jordan, June, and Daniel. The sight of his old acquaintance surprised him, especially due to Faith's absence, but he didn't bother to probe too deeply into his reasons.

"Divine Demon didn't want to come when he recalled that your targets were magical beasts," June explained. "They are boring challengers, according to him."

"I thought you needed a hybrid like me to give a better impression to those beasts," Jordan added before glancing at the massive dragon. "I see now that you won't have a problem there."

"I'm your first underling," Fergie exclaimed before recalling the various companions inside Noah's body, "First human underling. It's my job to follow you."

"You are going to explore the Immortal Lands," Steven continued. "My cells might have some survivors. I can't miss this chance to come with you."

Noah glanced toward Daniel at that point. The expert wore an aloof expression, but there was a clear interest in his eyes. He seemed to look forward to the incoming mission.

"Heaven and Earth are aiming to purify the world," Daniel said in a firm tone. "I know you don't approve, but I might learn something from the process."

Chapter 1775 - 1775. Familiar

Noah felt honestly happy that Daniel had decided to step up and do everything in his power to advance through the cultivation journey. The cultivator's light shared some common ground with Heaven and Earth, but it was also different.

Daniel only wanted to learn from Heaven and Earth's idea of purity to improve. Noah had studied the world in the past to grow, so he couldn't say much about the matter. His hate toward the rulers didn't make him deny that chance to his friend.

The mission didn't require other preparations after Shafu's birth. Noah only had to wait for the dragon to stabilize its character before departing, and his teammates didn't mind spending a few weeks cultivating in the area.

The group departed after Shafu developed a fully-fledged personality that didn't carry unstable features. The experts jumped on its back and flew high in the sky as they left the black landmass.

Shafu's power didn't hurt the weaker experts on its back, but its innate suction force made them almost unable to cultivate. The energy in the environment flowed toward the creature, so the team needed to steal from those thin currents.

Of course, that was barely enough to activate their centers of power. The world was basically devoid of energy since most of it was inside the few remaining giants or had already fused with the sky. Shafu's suction force only worsened the situation since it had priority over that power.

Noah could take Shafu's energy and make it flow toward his centers of powers, but he found no reason to do so. The dragon wasn't absorbing much, and it needed that fuel to shape the separate dimension inside its body.

Shafu had a separate space, but it was a mere empty area covered by dark matter now. The creature needed a lot of energy to turn it into a proper dimension that could suit armies of magical beasts, and the only source of fuel was in the giants.

Noah waited for a few years before allowing Shafu to attack the rare giants on the path. Their new position wouldn't affect the black landmass even if King Elbas decided to move it, so the dragon could go all-out and show its true potential.

The scene ended up being quite anticlimactic. Shafu was immense, and the level of most of the giants had already fallen under the middle tier of the eighth rank. The dragon only needed to open and close its mouth to eat those whole structures in one bite.

Noah kept track of Shafu's organs the first times it ate giants. He had tested its innate ability already, but everything could take a wrong turn since the rulers' laws filled those structures.

Shafu's stomach could contain entire giants, and they didn't take much to transform into waves of energy once they reached that organ. Then, the fuel would flow toward the separate space inside the dragon and force it to develop lands according to a specific pattern that Noah had decided beforehand.

Those patterns were mostly generic now since the separate dimension lacked magical beasts. Barren plains and mountains made by the reassembled energy obtained from the giants began to appear in the separate space and created a close environment where the fuel couldn't escape.

Those features would change once the first magical beasts settled in the environment. Shafu's separate space would adapt to those creatures and develop lands that better suited their species.

Shafu had to keep part of that energy for itself, but its consumption wasn't high since the dark matter that made its fabric stored a lot of power. The dragon wasn't even fighting, so its requirements were even lower.

The team marveled at how easily Shafu ate the giants. They even felt slightly envious of the creature since it had priority over those sources of energy. Still, they didn't complain due to the obvious necessity of feeding the dragon first.

The magical beasts' domain had been the largest windless part of the Immortal Lands. Noah would take centuries to cross all of it even when relying on Shafu's high speed, and he even failed to find packs of magical beasts during the initial period.

It wasn't hard to keep track of space, especially for Noah. He could sense when his group entered the previous magical beasts' domain, but the initial years of exploration didn't show any survivor.

Yet, it seemed that the magical beasts' domain had generated more giants with its regions, and Shafu never spared them. The separate dimension inside its body developed quickly during the travel, and it soon reached a size that left Noah reasonably satisfied.

A peculiar sight eventually unfolded in the group's eyes. Shafu had dived toward a giant to eat it, and a black region appeared in the distance right under the structure.

Noah felt a familiar feeling when that region entered the range of his consciousness. He knew exactly what that land was. He had created it when he was on the other side of the Immortal Lands.

Shafu took care of the giant before absorbing that region into its body. The dragon didn't eat the land. It only moved it in a space not connected with the developing separate dimension.

More black regions or shattered environments that Noah, Robert, and the Foolery had tainted during the mission on the other side of the Immortal Lands appeared on the path as the group dived deeper into the old magical beasts' domain.

Most of them were mere chunks of the regions that Noah had transformed in the past, but he couldn't do much about the matter. It was clear that his work on the other side had been far from perfect, which had led to the shattering of many mutated lands.

Those chunks were still valuable, so Noah made Shafu store them as the exploration progressed. The entire group even began to lose hope as the first centuries passed without finding any trace of magical beasts, but Noah kept going. A single pack would make the entire journey worth it.

Noah's companions struggled to understand his dedication to that task, but they didn't think too much about it since his reasons often had crazy plans behind them. However, he wasn't hiding much at that time. He only wanted to gather troops that couldn't possibly side with Heaven and Earth.

His senses eventually picked up something. Traces of life hidden among fighting giants entered the range of Noah's consciousness and made Shafu take a sharp turn in that direction.

A peculiar scene soon unfolded in the groups' vision. Two giants at the peak of the middle tier were fighting to shatter themselves, but their energy flowed into a black land hovering nearby.

The black region had a large group of familiar figures resting on both sides of its surface. A layer of silver ice even reinforced that land and encircled most of it.

'Their name is definitely fitting,' Noah laughed in his mind when he inspected the pack of Eternal Snakes.

The creatures were living near the two giants to create an environment that could provide some energy. The pack had shrunk after the apocalypse, but it still featured many powerful specimens.

The Eternal Snakes couldn't fail to sense Noah's arrival. He was standing on a massive black dragon that was bigger than the giants. Shafu basically was an immense source of energy for every starving creature.

The leader of the Eternal Snakes woke up and unfolded its upper tier aura, but anger soon flowed into its power when it recognized Noah. A shrill hiss came out of its mouth at that point, and Noah's mind quickly translated that cry into the word "traitor".

Chapter 1776 - 1776. Liar

"I'll handle this on my own," Noah announced while stepping off Shafu's back. "It's personal."

The group behind him couldn't say much after those words. They watched Noah leave the massive dragon and fly around the two giants and near the black region while the leader of the Eternal Snakes lifted its body and revealed its immense size.

Noah could immediately understand the layout of that lair. He had seen something similar with Snore when it was still an Albino Snake. Most of the creatures were hibernating to preserve their energy. They were limiting their absorption of "Breath" to the minimum due to the severe conditions of the environment.

Their behavior came from their instincts. The Eternal Snakes had understood that the world would soon stop to provide enough energy, so they resorted to hibernation to delay the inevitable doom.

Noah could already imagine them resorting to cannibalism once the Immortal Lands became empty. Only a few millennia divided the pack from that solution, but his arrival there could prevent that outcome.

"Can we ignore our past?" Noah asked through a low growl. "Many years have passed since we fought against the Crystal City together. I believe we both have benefitted from that."

"Your voice is noise," The upper tier Eternal Snake hissed. "You are a traitor and a liar!"

The snake snapped and used its huge body as a spring to shoot toward Noah. Silver ice even accumulated in its mouth as it opened it during the charge.

The sight of the traitor had made it forsake its situation. The snake didn't care that its attack could quicken the giants' destruction. It only wanted to kill the existence that had dared to trick it.

A loud clanging noise and a series of shockwaves spread through the area when the snake slammed on Noah. However, the attack didn't even manage to make him take a single step back. He had only needed to raise his hand to stop the threatening charge.

The snake could barely believe its eyes and senses. Noah's pride inevitably seeped out of his figure after that feat. He had stopped the physical attack of an upper tier magical beast with his b.a.r.e hands without resorting to his ambition. His action had expressed his position in the food chain, and the creature struggled to accept it.

Cracks opened on the giants nearby. The shockwaves came from the clash of two existences who wielded upper tier physical strength. The middle tier materials that made them could barely endure the power released in the impact.

"I understand your anger," Noah growled, "But fighting here will only destroy your home. I swear I'll follow you to a remote location if you listen to me for a bit."

"Why would I even listen to your lies?" The snake hissed before spitting silver liquid and covering the entire area with ice.

Part of the giants also froze. The snake's attack had an immense range and seemed able to freeze everything, but Noah had gone past those simple abilities.

The Eternal Snakes' innate ability was far above average in the magical beasts' realm, but it didn't even manage to touch Noah's requirements. He was beyond the silver ice. It was nothing more than a small piece of his arsenal.

The ice continued to spread until a black spot appeared near the snake's mouth. The blackness expanded before creating a small black flame that started to burn on top of the frozen landmass.

The flame didn't appear special, but a dense substance suddenly covered it and imitated its features. The fire expanded at that point, and the whole frozen landmass soon ended up burning in Noah's ability.

Noah and the Eternal Snakes had a long relationship. He had learnt how their innate ability worked millennia ago, so he could instantly devise a method to counter it. He had only needed to make the dark world gain his flame's features and add a few unique aspects.

The ice melted, but Noah spared the frozen pieces of the giants. The upper tier Eternal Snake stared at him in astonishment as he turned toward one of those big structures and kicked it toward Shafu.

The dragon opened its mouth and ate the giant. That massive puppet was nothing compared to the immense companion. It was even too little to fill the entirety of its throat.

"I've just halved your remaining time," Noah growled. "Do you want to eat your kind so soon? I just asked to exchange words!"

The Eternal Snake was going through countless emotions. Noah had barely wielded a rank 8 battle prowess during their last encounter, but he could treat upper tier abilities as jokes now.

The intense pride seeping out of his figure could make every magical beast bow. Noah embodied the peak of every species, and his cultivation level had yet to reach the peak of the eighth rank.

The snake could resist Noah's pride only due to the similar feeling that burnt inside its mind, but the reality of the situation was evident. Noah had grown beyond every prediction, and that improvement went past the mere rise of the cultivation level. He had become a true leader in those years, maybe even better than the creature.

"You are a liar," The snake said, but its hiss had lost volume at that time.

"I had to trick you back then!" Noah snorted while speaking through roars and growls. "You would have eaten me! Still, I don't need to do that now. I have no reason to deploy those cheap tactics."

The snake remained silent for a while before a hiss came out of its mouth. "Talk then."

Noah couldn't help but smile at that point. He had finally forced the stubborn leader of the Eternal Snakes to resort to words instead of battles. His confidence in his task increased a lot after that achievement.

"I have a plan to recreate the Immortal Lands," Noah explained. "Heaven and Earth are the opponents, so I need to gather a powerful army. I can offer your pack a place where to stay in the meantime."

"I would gladly fight Heaven and Earth after eating you," The Eternal Snake commented.

"Why don't you change your priorities then?" Noah suggested. "Take care of Heaven and Earth before coming after me."

"How do I know this isn't another trick?" The Eternal Snake asked.

"I have nothing to gain from it," Noah laughed while spreading his arms. "Look at the world. Everything is in ruins, and we are some of the few survivors of the catastrophe. What can I even get from betraying you?"

The snake didn't manage to sense Noah's honesty, but his words were on point. The small black region was its entire wealth, but it wasn't too valuable. Its pack couldn't even absorb its energy since the mutated terrain couldn't handle so many suction forces.

"I want the first bite at Heaven and Earth," The Eternal Snake announced after remaining in silence for a while.

"I can give you that," Noah replied as his face turned serious.

"What about the thief?" The snake eventually asked. "I want his head."

"That's impossible," Noah explained while opening his palm and creating a sphere of azure energy that carried a copy of Shandal's power. "I have already eaten him."

Chapter 1777 - 1777. Bottleneck

The upper tier Eternal Snake didn't know what to say anymore. Noah appeared all-powerful. He had a massive and threatening creature behind him, he had stolen one of the giants, and he had even eaten the thief.

Moreover, he was offering something that everyone in the world needed right now. Noah was willing to give a place to stay to the Eternal Snake, which silently implied the presence of energy in that location.

His offer didn't end there. Noah wanted to fight Heaven and Earth, which were the magical beasts' natural enemies. Even the stubborn Eternal Snakes would consider that chance. The possibility to strike back on the existences that had destroyed the world sounded too good to be true.

"One last thing," The Eternal Snake eventually exclaimed after remaining silent for a while. "I get the chance to eat you after dealing with Heaven and Earth."

"Only the chance?" Noah laughed before pointing at Shafu. "Enter my companion. It has a lair that I'm sure you'll enjoy."

"Our pact said nothing about allowing your pet to eat us!" The snake complained, but Shafu released a threatening growl when it heard the creature comparing it to a pet.

"It's not eating, you stupid beast," Noah shook his head. "Give me one of your underlings. I'll let it tell you how things are on the inside."

The Eternal Snake remained confused, but it still gave voice to a hiss to summon one of its underlings. A creature in the seventh rank awakened and created a path with its ice to slither toward its leader.

Noah withdrew his flame at that point and led the creature toward Shafu. The snake clearly feared the dragon, but it couldn't do much in that situation. It had two threatening existences telling it what to do already.

The dark matter that made Shafu welcomed Noah and the weak snake in its insides. Noah could lead the creature directly into the separate dimension, which adapted to the beast's species and generated ice with the giant's energy.

Noah didn't need to affect the separate dimension in the slightest. Shafu did everything on its own. It inspected the Eternal Snake's features and generated the environment that would make its species thrive.

The snake was ecstatic at the sight of the expanding frozen landmass. It wanted to live there already, but Noah dragged it out of Shafu and threw it back in front of its leader.

The two snakes exchanged a few hisses, and the leader soon showed a surprised expression. The underling had described everything in detail. Shafu was the key to safety.

"I should probably warn you," Noah announced after the leader gave voice to a loud hiss that awakened all the underlings. "Other packs will live inside Shafu once I find them. I don't want to see any battle for the territory. There's enough space for everyone."

"We shall get the largest piece!" The upper tier Eternal Snake announced, and Noah cursed in his mind.

Noah didn't know how to explain that the separate dimension experienced a constant expansion. The snake would probably never believe him, but he couldn't allow fights inside Shafu.

"No," Noah replied as his growls started to generate a chilling aura that expressed his real power. "You go there, take what you need, and behave until I drop you all in my home. I don't want fights, cannibalism, or random acts of destruction. Just roar to the black sky if you want something. I'll hear it."

The upper tier Eternal Snake could only go along with Noah's requests. It had already accepted everything in the end. That small limit on its behavior wasn't a problem when the environment could offer enough energy.

The pack of snakes slowly entered Shafu, and Noah kicked the second giant on the dragon's mouth once that migration was over. He even picked the black region and stored it inside his companion's separate space before resuming the travel.

The group met many giants busy fighting to deplete their energy, and Shafu didn't spare any of them. Small and broken pieces of the lands that Noah had transformed on the other side of the Immortal Lands also appeared from time to time, and the dragon took them too.

Finding survivors turned out to be complicated. The flying magical beasts had no reason to remain among the almost complete nothingness, so they migrated toward the only place that still contained enough energy.

Noah could sense faint traces of the migrations of the various packs toward the stormy regions during the travel. The ground of the giants carried hints of life before and during the apocalypse, so they became his only source of information.

Rare didn't mean impossible. The magical beasts' survival instincts had made most surviving packs migrate, but the same was true for the opposite approach.

Some of the smartest creatures knew that the windy regions were too dangerous for the entities under the ninth rank. The magical beasts had to decide between risking to become food or underlings for stronger existences or try to survive in the almost complete nothingness, and some chose the latter.

The packs that had decided to roam from giant to giant to harness their energy became Noah's targets. His journey followed a precise path that would eventually make him cover the entirety of the area before the stormy regions, so he didn't miss anything.

The group met multiple packs during the mission. Their rarity didn't matter much when the experts were willing to invest years in the exploration and fights inevitably happened from time to time.

Noah rarely felt the need to intervene. He limited himself to expand his pride whenever the battles reached a critical situation, but that seldom happened since his companions managed to seize control often.

The mission asked Noah to submit those creatures, but he also wanted his companions to benefit from the journey. Shafu even took all the giants, so the only available gains consisted of improving the battle experience or special features.

Jordan could work on her pride during her fights. June was a battle maniac that didn't mind testing herself against stronger opponents, even if they were simple magical beasts. Fergie only wanted to gather experience, and Steven d.e.s.i.r.ed to take care of everything quickly to continue searching for eventual surviving cells.

The battles against the packs of magical beasts weren't exciting and didn't provide much to the experts' laws, but they could still improve their overall state and mindset. They were survivors fighting against other survivors, and the whole experience eventually led to benefits for their existence.

Leaving the comfort zone was always one of the best approaches to the cultivation journey. Having to deal with magical beasts in that post-apocalyptic world forced the experts to broaden their mindset and consider one of the most important aspects of their laws.

The ninth rank required the ability to generate energy from nothing, and the scarcity of "Breath" in the environment naturally pushed their existences toward that power. It was nothing more than an instinctive reaction of their centers of power. They needed fuel to work, so they had to push their owners toward realms where they could remain unaffected by their surroundings.

Noah also managed to close his distance with the solid stage in that period. His body brimmed with energy, but he would still grow weaker if he didn't absorb anything from the outside world. His ambition forced him to fix that flaw, which only brought Noah closer to the breakthrough.

The same happened to his companions since they benefitted from his ambition. They were evolving toward the right direction thanks to the peculiar features of the world, and Noah could only rejoice at that sight.

However, Daniel struggled to seize real benefits. He appeared stuck, and even Noah's ambition failed to help him crossing his bottleneck.

Chapter 1778 - 1778. Nostalgia

"Who would have thought that knowing you could have led to these spectacles?" Daniel laughed when he sensed Noah nearing him.

The group had stopped at the edges of the stormy regions. It was time to turn back in a different direction and repeat the process. They had already done that multiple times, and they had to continue until they covered the entirety of the old magical beasts' domain.

Daniel was admiring the stark separation between the emptiness of the area illuminated by the sky and the thick currents of chaotic laws. The edges of the windy region were quite clear in that spot. It was as if two different worlds were meeting on a line that stretched for thousands of kilometers.

"You have arrived here with your own strength," Noah replied in a plain tone while floating next to him. "I can't generate talent. Not yet, at least."

"Did I?" Daniel asked as his voice gained a tinge of desperation. "I feel that I've spent the past millennia chasing you. My path should represent complete purity, but I keep seeing your darkness ahead. I don't know how June handles this."

"She doesn't handle it," Noah continued. "Her path requires an opponent. I'm her endless battle."

"And my undying curse apparently," Daniel scoffed. "I don't know how useful I'll be in the final battle, but you'll probably be fine anyway. You always are."

Noah couldn't help but feel sad seeing his old friend in that state. Daniel was near the peak of the gaseous stage, but he was failing to approach the breakthrough. His cultivation level was on point, but he required more time.

Daniel embodied one of the most tragic aspects of the cultivation journey in Noah's eyes. Every expert had a different training speed. It was only normal for some to grow faster than others, but that inevitably led to separations.

Daniel wasn't alone in his situation. Dreaming Demon, Flying Demon, and Faith were in the same condition. They were falling behind while Noah was pushing his power toward the end of the cultivation journey.

They were even among the experts who had performed better among Noah's old friends. Others like Elder Julia had never reached the Immortal Lands according to their knowledge, and June and the others rarely talked about her anymore. Too many millennia had passed. There was a chance that she had died in the lower plane.

"Comparing yourself to others blinds you," Noah sighed.

"I know my flaws," Daniel revealed. "I'm not a lost kid anymore, Noah. I'm just contemplating the inevitable consequences that my pace will create."

The situation wouldn't have been harsh on Daniel if the final battle against Heaven and Earth didn't feel so close. Everyone close to Noah knew that something massive was about to happen, but only a few chosen would have the chance to take part in it.

That slower growth speed had become a fixation after accepting that knowledge. Daniel knew that he would probably miss important events, which would increase the distance between Noah and him even further. Improvements usually took longer to arrive in the higher stages, but that feature didn't seem to apply to Noah.

"The cultivation journey is solitary," Noah sighed. "We have always known that. We are already lucky enough to have someone able to stand by our side and travel similar paths."

"A path that forces us to leave most of our long life behind," Daniel shook his head. "We are gods, but we struggle to keep friends. One step toward the higher stages makes us forget about thousands of acquaintances."

"Are you regretting it?" Noah asked. "I won't patch your law together if you fall apart."

"I'm not sure I can," Daniel laughed. "Is it me in control of my law, or is this power that rules my existence? Where does Daniel Udye end and purity begins? Can you even separate your mind from your ambition?"

"My ambition is the result of Noah Balvan's evolution," Noah exclaimed. "I don't think human words can fully express this change. We have long since stopped being humans in the end."

"It would have been easier if we couldn't catch up at all," Daniel sighed. "You are the constant reminder of perfection shining above us. Our power can only hope to remain under your light."

"You are one of the few existences in the entire world who has seen my flaws since the beginning of my cultivation journey," Noah laughed. "Perfection doesn't exist in this world. I'm better at something, worse at others, nothing more than that."

"The great Defying Demon is trying to be humble for the sake of his old friend," Daniel scoffed. "I would almost believe you if I didn't see you taming an upper tier magical beast by raising your hand."

"You forgot about its pack," Noah pointed out. "Those Winged Turtles are cowards. I'll probably put them in the frontlines in the next war if they don't improve."

Daniel laughed, and the two experts fell silent at that point. They enjoyed the sound of the raging currents in front of them while nostalgia and other emotions surged in their minds.

"The cultivation journey is wrong," Daniel eventually exclaimed, "This version at least. The separate planes, the Tribulations, the forced fairness, everything makes experts divide themselves due to a mere difference of power."

Noah remained silent since Daniel seemed about to get somewhere. The best he could offer to his friend was an attentive ear.

"Look at this purity instead," Daniel continued while waving his arms and pointing at the emptiness behind him. "You are the leader of the last organization in the world, but magical beasts, hybrids, and humans at every level can speak to you. Everyone can touch your existence. This is how the world should be."

Noah glanced at the emptiness behind him before focusing on the chaotic laws again. He disagreed with Daniel, but that was fine. Different existences had to have various beliefs at their core. They wouldn't even reach the divine ranks otherwise.

"I will create it, Noah," Daniel said after taking a deep breath. "I will create a world where the cultivation journey doesn't have to respect such stupid rules."

"Do you want to become Heaven and Earth?" Noah asked.

"Heaven and Earth have seized the world for their own benefits," Daniel snorted. "I want to make things right. This light should unite, not divide, and I'll prove it."

"I can't wait to see it," Noah laughed, but Daniel lowered his head at those words.

"You won't," Daniel eventually said as his eyes fell on Noah and a sad smile appeared on his face. "You probably won't be here by the time I reach that level."

"You can always find me," Noah replied.

"That's June's path, not mine," Daniel commented. "You won't come back, and I won't look for you. It seems that our existences exist to have many opposites."

Daniel turned to return toward Shafu, but Noah interrupted him with a question. "Will you take care of the others once I'm away?"

"Of course," Daniel announced while shooting a wide smile toward Noah. "I'll take care of everyone."

Daniel turned again at that point, and Shafu soon welcomed him back. Noah inspected his figure jumping on the dragon and becoming faint among the darkness. His words still resounded in his mind, and he knew why they were so heavy to hear.

Noah was a harsh leader, but he was good, and he forced his underlings to grow. However, Daniel was beyond him in that field. The cultivator took care of the experts' minds before attempting to increase their level. Moreover, his actions were selfless. Daniel truly wanted the best for his peers.

'They will be in good hands,' Noah sighed in his mind before glancing at the chaotic laws again.

'We should return in only a few more centuries, a millennium at max,' Noah thought as destructive plans formed in his mind. 'The attack on Heaven and Earth's system should begin right after.'

Chapter 1779 - 1779. Return

The group explored every inch of the empty area contained inside the stormy regions. Shafu ate all the giants on the path and used their energy to fuel the creation of perfect lairs inside its separate dimension.

Noah met and subdued many different magical beasts' packs. They were rare in that environment, but their previous domain was so vast that enough of them had survived the apocalypse and remained in those areas.

Shafu's separate dimension grew crowded as Noah kept promising salvation and food to the various packs on his way. His companions even limited themselves during eventual battles to make sure that he gathered enough specimens.

The high consumption of energy of the magical beasts inside Shafu forced the group to move quickly. The giants were a limited resource that would soon vanish, so Noah had to bring everyone back to the black landmass before the creatures inside the separate dimension started requiring the dragon's power.

That hurry didn't make Noah grow careless or superficial. He made Shafu explore everything thoroughly. His approach even led the group in areas that would have marked the entrance to the other side of the Immortal Lands before the apocalypse.

The long journey forced Steven to accept that the members of his cells had disappeared. Noah couldn't find any trace of those cultivators. They had probably died during the catastrophe, but the old leader wanted to believe that some had survived by escaping toward the stormy regions.

It didn't matter if the group explored the depths of the emptiness or its vastity. The environment remained virtually the same. They found giants, pieces of black ground, a few packs of magical beasts, and unexpected sources of energy that had managed to survive the apocalypse.

A white river would appear every once in a while. Noah even found a giant that contained a lake, but those strange scenes were rarer than the pack of magical beasts. Still, he threw them inside Shafu anyway since he prioritized the creature's state.

Noah didn't find any trace of the human organizations on the other side of the Immortal Lands. His group had escaped back then, so that area had theoretically fallen in the hands of Heaven and Earth's followers.

However, the rulers didn't spare those areas with their destruction, and Noah could only guess that the cultivators had found their way toward the sky. The actual size of that structure's insides was unclear, but he felt pretty sure that Heaven and Earth had enough space for all those experts.

A doubt that Noah didn't consider before appeared in his mind during the exploration. The higher plane would take all the existences ascended from the Mortal Lands, but it didn't have ground anymore now.

Noah wondered how the ascension worked now that Heaven and Earth had destroyed the destination, and he could only find a reasonable answer. The rulers were probably forcing those new divine existences to live inside the sky.

The mission ended after the group flew across the entirety of that empty space. Their travel quickened the dispersion of energy, but Noah didn't mind that since the fuel didn't go to Heaven and Earth.

Moreover, he planned to solve the issue with the next mission. The very survival of those who opposed Heaven and Earth depended on the success of that journey.

Noah and the others decided to return to their home once the mission was over. Shafu was full, and countless magical beasts filled its insides. Yet, the outside world didn't have available energy sources anymore, so the dragon had to free itself of its heavy load as soon as possible.

Returning to the black landmass didn't take much. The experts on Shafu's back barely felt the passage of the years required for the travel after they spent centuries exploring the destroyed higher plane.

Noah made sure to send a few mental messages as soon as the black landmass appeared in his vision. He needed Robert and the Foolery to make sure that the release of the magical beasts happened properly.

Golden lights lit up on the regions at the edges of the landmass right before Shafu could fly over them. King Elbas, Robert, the Foolery, and a few other experts materialized there and glanced at the giant dragon halting its body above them.

"I'll send them in batches," Noah announced while peeking from the dragon's back. "Make sure to fuse the new lands to the landmass quickly. They are getting excited."

King Elbas promptly snapped his fingers, and another layer of golden lines materialized above the regions. Defenses and other mechanisms activated while he modified some of those inscriptions to prepare everything for the arrival of the new creatures.

Robert and the Foolery moved to the edges of the landmass and expanded their aura. The ground began to mutate, but their power didn't do much there. Yet, they had understood that their role was to create harmony between the original regions and the other incoming territories.

Noah nodded at that sight before patting Shafu's back. A wave of dark matter expanded from its belly at that point, and a dense sea soon covered a large area next to the landmass' edges.

The black sea suddenly retracted and revealed that a new large area had appeared where there was only a void before. A huge frozen region began to float next to the landmass and clashed with its edges while trying to fuse with its fabric.

King Elbas' inscriptions immediately covered the region and reduced the clashes caused by its unstable state. Then, Robert and the Foolery focused their auras on those spots, and huge mountains appeared on the landmass' edges as the two lands fused.

The process didn't take much, but Noah had yet to complete the migration. He patted Shafu's back again, and its dark matter expanded to send all the Eternal Snakes into that frozen lair.

Multiple rank 8 auras spread through the environment as the snakes occupied the frozen region and raised their massive bodies to inspect their new home. The immense landmass made their instincts tingle in hunger, but the many rank 8 experts watching the scene reminded them about their situation.

"Next!" Noah shouted while Shafu sent another wave of dark matter to teleport a large bushland next to the frozen region.

King Elbas, the Foolery, and Robert immediately activated their abilities to fuse that new area to the landmass and the frozen region. New mountains appeared as their mutations forced the cracked and frail edges to evolve, but the second lair successfully joined their home at some point.

Noah sent a pack of flying hyenas into the bushland before moving to the next lair. Shafu contained hundreds of different environments in his body, so the migration would still take a long time.

King Elbas and the others worked together with Noah to quicken the whole process, but they still ended up remaining at it for entire days. There didn't seem to be an end to the packs gathered during the mission, and the black landmass eventually gained enough new lands to become twice as big.

Countless roars, cries, and different noises resounded from the side of the black landmass divided by mountains. The different packs announced their happiness at the sight of the new home. They weren't in a hopeless environment anymore, and their feelings inevitably burst out of their figures.

The black landmass even benefitted from the addition of so many regions. The various packs involved a higher consumption of energy. Still, the lairs contained all the power gathered from the remaining giants, and part of it flowed into the original domain after the fusion.

Chapter 1780 - 1780. Items

The addition of lairs full of energy benefitted the landmass, and the high stability of the black domain did the same for those different regions. The whole structure slowly stabilized and began spreading its various features throughout the entire continent. The area's quality had clearly increased, but the same was true for the number of beings feeding on it.

The benefits were only temporary. The energy gathered from the giants across the broken higher plane would eventually end, and the ground would start to crumble as the many existences living on it began to affect the power in its fabric.

Still, King Elbas and the others felt astonished by the magnitude of Noah's feat. The Cancer's power had multiplied after the addition of so many powerful magical beasts. The organizations now had countless rank 8 entities, which a significant number of them in the upper tier.

"How did it go on your end?" Noah asked as he jumped off Shafu and landed on the black ground.

"I have a plan and the tools to deploy it," King Elbas explained, "But the issues mentioned back then are still here. We don't have clear targets. We'll have to explore blindly for a while."

"That's fine too," Noah exclaimed. "It wouldn't be a crazy plan otherwise. How is the situation with the cultivators instead?"

Noah was obviously asking about the potential rebels in his organization, and King Elbas immediately understood him.

"They are quiet," King Elbas revealed before glancing at the countless new regions that Noah had added to the domain. "They won't like what you did here. You could have bought millennia to the landmass if you didn't bring the magical beasts with you."

"Pleasing them isn't on my list," Noah snorted. "These magical beasts will be more useful than them in the incoming mission anyway. Also, the newly appointed ruler will need their help if a rebellion breaks out."

"Do you have someone in mind already?" King Elbas asked when he heard Noah mentioning that topic.

"Jordan?" Noah roared toward Shafu. "You'll take care of everything once we are gone."

"What?!" Jordan promptly asked while peeking from the dragon. "I want to come with you. How can I lose the chance to be part of the mission outside the sky?"

"You will lose it," Noah replied in a plain tone. "Only the strongest will go there. The mission requires solid stage battle prowess this time."

Jordan couldn't help but feel disappointed about that announcement, and the same went for some other experts still sitting on the dragon. Fergie and June immediately peeked from Shafu's back. Evident anger and annoyance filled their faces.

"I will follow you!" Fergie shouted.

"I'm not spending millennia waiting for you to come back," June snorted.

"What can you even do there?" Noah shouted. "There won't be strong opponents. We are going after worlds that Heaven and Earth have already broken. The worst we can expect is a powerful punishment."

There was another reason behind his decision to include only the most powerful experts in his organization. The void completely lacked sources of energy. It wasn't a broken plane that still had random currents of "Breath" or waves of dust that carried some power.

Picking existences who had more energy inside their centers of power was only logical. There was a high chance that weaker experts would only exhaust themselves during the travel outside the sky due to that feature, and Noah couldn't allow it.

Fergie and June weren't stupid. They had already understood why Noah wanted to keep them out of the mission, but the news felt disappointing nonetheless.

The main issue was the complete absence of attractions in the broken environment. The higher plane didn't offer lands to explore or enemies anymore. It was a dead world that was only waiting for its energy to vanish.

"We'll be in the same situation," Noah continued. "The void might even be worse. Don't worry. We'll take back what we can and restore the higher plane."

Fergie and June couldn't say anything at those words. Noah had already decided, so they limited themselves to jump off Shafu and admire the new scenery.

The giant Heaven Tribulation that covered the entire black landmass had expanded after the various lairs obtained part of its features. However, King Elbas' protections were already in place. The golden dome had stretched over the new lands as they fused with the main domain, so the lightning bolts didn't manage to do anything.

Instead, the sudden expansion of the Heaven Tribulation ended up benefitting Noah's domain. Heaven and Earth didn't adjust their punishment to the new size of the landmass, so the golden dome managed to seize far more energy than usual without wasting nearly as much.

The absorption actually ended up surpassing the consumption after the expansion of the Tribulation. That feature was only temporary since Heaven and Earth would soon adjust the nature of the energy carried by the lightning bolts, but King Elbas didn't dare to waste that fortuitous chance.

Steven and Daniel also jumped off Shafu, and the dragon flowed inside Noah's c.h.e.s.t to immerse itself into the black hole. The creature had returned to its natural habitat, and the organ didn't fail to replace the stressed and damaged pieces of its body.

"You might even fight more than us," Noah announced when June shot an angry glance toward him. "Suppressing rebellions will be up to you all. A few battles might occur while we are away."

"It still feels depressing to lose this chance," June eventually sighed, "But I won't put the mission at risk because of my stubbornness. Make sure to warn me when you are about to leave."

June set off toward a distant region after that announcement, and Daniel did the same even if he went in a different direction. Jordan remained in the area since she had to exchange a few words with Noah and King Elbas in private to define her time as a ruler, while Fergie and Steven didn't move for different reasons.

Fergie was also disappointed, but he wouldn't leave Noah's side anyway. He could still learn and improve by seeing him preparing the crazy plan. Instead, Steven already saw himself as one of the core members of the mission, so he wanted to review the various features of the task.

"I have already created something that can work in the void and keep track of the hole," King Elbas announced once everyone gathered around Noah and him. "I must admit that this is my greatest work yet."

King Elbas took a series of flags from his space-ring. They had a series of inscriptions that created the shape of a horned human head on the fabric. Those designs were for Noah since they depicted the old symbol of the Hive, but he barely managed to notice it due to the breathtaking aura seeping out of the items.

The flags were quasi-rank 9 items. They weren't disposable either, which made them more valuable. Noah couldn't even begin to imagine how King Elbas had managed to build something so powerful while his cultivation level remained in the liquid stage. That was an incredible feat that went beyond logic. The expert had managed to avoid the limits applied by his higher energy and had created something incredibly powerful.