

DEMONIC 1781

### **Chapter 1781 - 1781. Test**

King Elbas took other items out of his space-rings and proceeded to explain their effects. The quasi-rank 9 flags were the core tools required for the mission since they handled the connection with the hole in the sky.

The expert had made them to cross eventual spatial suppression from Heaven and Earth. The group would always manage to find their way back inside the broken Immortal Lands with them, which solved one of the major issues with the mission.

King Elbas even had special bracelets that could keep track of every team member through a special network that he controlled with a separate item. It was a system of upper tier tools that could create marvelous effects.

The other tools mostly involved the issues connected to space. King Elbas knew that Noah had great mastery over that aspect of the world, but he didn't want to bet everything on him, especially since Heaven and Earth had tried to counter him for a while by then.

Those items were also upper tier weapons. It seemed that only the flags had come out as something logic-defying. Everything else was terrific, but it still fit King Elbas' standards.

"I have prepared something to study the environment in the void," King Elbas explained while taking out a pair of glasses that featured thick lenses. "These will make us able to look past dimensions. We'll see the void and the other spaces connected with those areas."

"Can they look past the whiteness even if Heaven and Earth are overseeing the scene?" Noah asked.

His curiosity had the better of him. Noah had always respected King Elbas' talent and achievements, but he ended up questioning his words anyway since the mission didn't allow failures or missteps.

"They can't if taken alone," King Elbas explained, "But I'm sure I can destabilize their control over a certain area if you give me enough time."

King Elbas had worked hard to prepare everything for the mission. He seemed even ready to start the quest right away, but he didn't hesitate to stop Noah's excitement when that feeling began to flow into his expression.

"They are all prototypes," King Elbas added before Noah could give any order. "I'm confident in the flags, but all the other items need testing in the actual void. They work inside my replicas of the environment, but everything could be different since Heaven and Earth have spread their influence there."

"Do you want to do some actual test then?" Noah asked while wearing an excited smirk.

"Now?" King Elbas asked. "I haven't even created all the items that I need. These are only the necessary tools, but I want to be ready to deploy multiple plans and even more countermeasures."

"Won't gaining experience from the actual environment benefit those creations?" Noah asked, and King Elbas struggled to find an answer.

Noah was an inscription master, so he knew how much King Elbas could benefit from the testing in the real environment of the mission. However, the latter didn't want to agree with him out of fear of traveling to the void right away.

His fears became true even when he remained silent. Noah couldn't wait to see that new environment. The two experts exchanged a meaningful stare that ended with King Elbas' curiosity seeping out of his figure.

"Dammit," King Elbas cursed. "Just a quick trip. I need to place a few sensors there anyway."

"Don't tell anyone that we are leaving," Noah ordered while turning toward Jordan.

King Elbas shook his head and heaved a sigh, but he still followed Noah when the latter set off and left the area protected by the golden dome.

The duo didn't have any problem crossing the wide array of lightning bolts constantly crashing on the golden dome. They distanced themselves from the landmass until one of King Elbas' sensors rang.

"The hole is right above us," King Elbas explained, and Noah nodded before shooting high in the sky.

King Elbas promptly followed him, and the duo flew higher until only whiteness filled their vision. The pressure falling on Noah's mind also intensified, but a black dot eventually appeared above him.

The dot expanded until it became a massive hole in the immense white layer that covered the entirety of the higher plane. The exit grew closer, and the two experts soon found themselves right under it, but they didn't cross it immediately.

King Elbas placed multiple items around the edges of the hole. They were mostly sensors meant to study Heaven and Earth's laws more in detail, but he also attached one of the quasi-rank 9 flags.

Of course, King Elbas couldn't just place the items on the sky. That white material absorbed laws, even those contained inside inscribed tools. He required a protective membrane that could isolate that feature, and Noah discovered that the expert had already prepared twelve different versions of a slimy substance meant for that purpose.

The first nine versions failed to fend off the sky's absorbing properties, but the tenth worked perfectly. It created a series of golden patches around the hole's edges where King Elbas placed all his tools.

"The other side now," King Elbas exclaimed before handing one of the golden bracelets to Noah.

Noah took the item and let the dark world handle it. The organ couldn't understand the entirety of the bracelet's functions and structure, but it could make it work better when inside the currents of dark matter.

King Elbas grabbed a small shard of glass from his space-ring, and he nodded when he saw that the tool kept track of Noah's position. Everything was working for now, and even the items attached to the sky had begun to show their functions. Still, that was only the easy part.

King Elbas and Noah exchanged a nod before crossing the hole. Immense white walls encircled them as they flew higher. They were in an immense tunnel that radiated intense laws belonging to Heaven and Earth's system.

The duo didn't dare to speak so close to the sky. King Elbas even used part of his isolating substance to cover his figure before offering it to Noah.

A golden rock ended up in Noah's hand, and he quickly imitated King Elbas' movements to use that item. The mineral released a strange golden powder that created a protective layer above his skin. That substance also fended off Heaven and Earth's mental pressure.

The blinding light dimmed in Noah's eyes as the substance covered him. Everything became clearer in his vision and eventually allowed him to see the complete darkness of the void waiting for his group.

An external force tried to drag Noah's law out of his body, but his existence was too firm to suffer from the dangers of the void. The same went for King Elbas. That new environment couldn't do anything to affect him.

A world without Heaven and Earth's light unfolded in their vision when they exited the immense white tunnel. Noah and King Elbas didn't find any trace of the dimensional passage that connected the hole to the Mortal Lands, but they didn't let that sight trick them.

They both knew that Heaven and Earth's light spread past the sky, but the white layer under them seemed unable to push its glow into the void. There was something off with that scene, and King Elbas promptly took out his items to test a few theories.

Noah studied the empty scene. He couldn't see the stars from there, but he still admired that complete blackness. It felt good to be in a dark environment after spending millennia under constant whiteness.

"I created the hole," King Elbas announced while using a strange item that resembled a clawed finger to pierce the fabric of space.

A line opened in that complete blackness, and white light came out of it. Noah neared the expert before they both peeked past that crack in the sky.

An even more intense whiteness hit their eyes and blinded them, but their minds could send mental waves on the other side. It was hard to study the structures in that environment, but a surprising discovery soon captured their attention.

Both Noah and King Elbas were sensing traces of life on the other side of the crack.

### **Chapter 1782 - 1782. Layers**

Noah and King Elbas couldn't miss that feature. The blinding environment past the crack in the void was hard to inspect, and the whiteness even tried to hide part of its insides, but the traces of life inevitably tainted that unnatural cover.

The mental waves spreading through the whiteness inspected every faint trace of life and tried to understand their sources. That process ended up being relatively easy. King Elbas and Noah couldn't fail to recognize the familiar energy radiated by magical beasts, humans, and hybrids.

"Why can we sense it so clearly?" Noah asked.

"I think you don't realize how powerful we are compared to these weaker worlds," King Elbas explained.

Noah gained a clearer understanding of that area after King Elbas' explanation. The whiteness acted as a protective layer, but its power barely reached the divine ranks. Heaven and Earth had no reason to invest more energy in those zones since they only featured human and heroic existences.

'No wonder Divine Architect managed to see other Mortal Lands,' Noah realized in his mind. 'No wonder King Elbas and Second Prince succeeded in creating the dimensional tunnel.'

It would have been impossible for rank 6 cultivators to ignore Heaven and Earth's restrictions if they used their full power. The knowledge concerning other Mortal Lands and the higher plane would have been untouchable for heroic experts otherwise.

Instead, Heaven and Earth seemed to have limited the power of the barriers among the weaker worlds. The rulers didn't bother to deploy a lot of energy for that task, which probably hinted at their indifference.

Learning about the different Mortal Lands and the higher plane was an important matter for existences. A greater understanding of the world could give insights on the whole cultivation journey and would allow them for the dangers ahead.

Still, the same wasn't valid for Heaven and Earth. The rulers had no reason to care about that knowledge. After all, every expert in history had failed to use the structure of the system to their advantage. The best they could do was migrating toward different Mortal Lands, which didn't cause any problem for the white sky.

The secrets hidden by the whiteness slowly revealed themselves as the two experts continued their inspection. Its nature grew clearer and allowed King Elbas and Noah to understand its true purpose.

The light appeared more intense, but that was a trick. The areas past the void respected different rules where the seventh rank was the peak. Noah and King Elbas perceived that glow as blinding because it carried the highest available power in that isolated environment.

The cover created by the whiteness wasn't even a proper effect of that radiance. It was only a consequence of its task. The light was dividing the various weaker worlds into different separate dimensions that contained multiple Mortal Lands.

"These targets are useless," King Elbas eventually revealed. "It feels incredible to finally learn about the entire structure of Heaven and Earth's system, but the Mortal Lands can't help us. A single rank 8 existence can turn them into dust in a mere training session."

Noah didn't need King Elbas to explain that part. He had already noted those features in his mind, but he didn't lose hope.

The Mortal Lands couldn't do much for his organization. They contained too little power, and their energy even belonged to weaker realms. Noah's dark matter could consume them in less than an instant.

However, his targets had never been the Mortal Lands. Noah wanted the worlds that even Heaven and Earth saw as worthy nutrients. He d.e.s.i.r.ed something with the same power as the plane that had given birth to the Devils' crisis on the other side of the Immortal Lands.

"We must look deeper into these dimensions," Noah exclaimed. "The power of the light should give us hints about the nature of the separate dimensions. Let's find something worthy of our time."

"We shouldn't, not right now," King Elbas complained. "Let's do a proper and systematic exploration once we gather the entire team. Getting lost now would be a pity."

"Your items are working, right?" Noah asked as a canny smile appeared on his face.

"These cover only a quarter of all the preparations that I want to complete before the mission!" King Elbas snorted. "Also, what do you mean by work? My items always work!"

"Your golden rocks failed to isolate the sky many times," Noah said in a mocking tone while shaking his head.

"I would have killed Heaven and Earth already if I could counter the sky without performing any test," King Elbas scoffed. "You won't trick me this time. Continuing now is too dangerous. The flags, the bracelets, and the dimensional blades work. I need to polish them and create other stuff."

It was rare to see King Elbas suppressing his curiosity, but that made Noah realize how dangerous the situation actually was.

Truth be told, Noah was almost perfect for those types of missions. His innate awareness allowed him to keep good track of his position. His understanding of space could make him ignore the need for special items to pierce the void. Moreover, his higher energy could create a trail that even that emptiness couldn't destroy.

Yet, Noah understood King Elbas' worries. The environment had too many unclear variables. Preparing was mandatory, especially since they had a bit of time before the situation on the black landmass became critical.

'It would have saved us a lot of time,' Noah sighed before taking his head out of the crack.

King Elbas did the same, and he also heaved a deep sigh when he saw the crack in the void closing. The connection to the whiteness soon vanished, and the experts returned immersed in the complete blackness.

"We should go back," King Elbas suggested. "You also have to prepare. Don't tell me that the breakthrough is still far away."

"We both know that you'll get there first," Noah snorted. "I won't be able to advance until I find a valid source of energy. I need to steal from Heaven and Earth for my cultivation journey."

"Everyone inside the sky needs that," King Elbas replied, but his eyes suddenly sharpened.

Noah's instincts also sensed that something was off, and his eyes immediately went on the hole in the sky. The whiteness radiated by that blinding layer almost prevented him from seeing that passage, but he eventually managed to confirm that everything was ok.

However, that realization revealed another issue. Noah had clearly sensed that something dangerous was happening in his surroundings, but he couldn't understand the nature of that feeling.

Both Noah and King Elbas glanced at the hole again before exchanging a meaningful stare. They had silently decided to remain there and find out the reason behind that sensation instead of retreating.

The two experts descended closer to the hole before waiting for the danger to hit them. The sensation seemed to intensify from time to time, but nothing moved or happened in the emptiness of the void.

'How can I sense danger without the slightest fluctuation of energy?' Noah wondered, but the void soon gave an answer.

The two experts had unfolded their minds, and something eventually alerted them. The void seemed to bend in a spot near Noah. Part of its fabric stretched and gave birth to a pointy weapon that flew toward his head.

### **Chapter 1783 - 1783. Non-existence**

Noah instinctively waved his hand toward the pointy structure shooting toward him. Slashes came out of his fingers and pierced the void to interrupt that attack, but they didn't register any impact. They continued to fly through the blackness as if nothing had ever stood on their path.

King Elbas didn't miss that interaction, and the curiosity flowing out of his figure revealed how surprised he was about the event.

No energy was flowing through the void. The two experts didn't even sense the barriers among the dimensions bending to give birth to that attack. No trace of life had appeared among that blackness either. It was as if the event had never happened at all.

King Elbas and Noah were inscription masters who had studied fields that most experts would never approach. Their knowledge crossed normal understanding and allowed them to identify the nature of strange features in instants.

However, they had never seen anything like that. The void had moved without radiating any energy. Space seemed to have become an enemy in that environment.

'This doesn't make sense,' Noah cursed in his mind as both experts flew closer to the hole in the sky. 'How can something do anything without laws?'

The void was pure emptiness. It didn't contain energy or laws. The true meanings that ruled the dimensions worked on a separate layer of existence, but they had no connection with the blackness. After all, space simply existed everywhere.

Noah and King Elbas exchanged a glance. They were missing something. The void was showing abilities that didn't reflect anything they had learnt in their long lives. It was alive without being alive. It was attacking without radiating energy. It imitated space, but the layers among the dimensions didn't move during the last event.

"Do you still want to go back?" Noah asked while wearing an excited smirk.

"Shut up," King Elbas snorted. "This is different. We can't let an unknown threat exist before bringing the others here."

The Demonic Sword materialized in Noah's hand, and King Elbas drew an upper tier fiery spear from his space-ring. Both experts prepared for a battle, even if the void wasn't giving them an opponent.

"Do you know what this is?" Noah asked as the dangerous sensation intensified again.

"I thought black stuff was your thing," King Elbas laughed.

"I get it," Noah said as his smirk broadened. "Let's go crazy."

Noah and King Elbas didn't let the void move again. They pointed their weapons forward and released massive attacks that filled a large area with destructive power.

King Elbas' higher energy fused with the spear and resonated with its golden flames. The radiance that came out of the weapon almost overcame the whiteness before a massive golden sea filled the void.

A piercing slash shot out of the Demonic Sword, but the attack didn't disperse while flowing into the distance. Instead, it created a sharp trail of energy that expanded as dark matter flowed in its insides.

The two attacks touched, but Noah and King Elbas made sure that they didn't affect each other. A golden sea of light and a dense sharpness filled the area around the two experts and prevented every strange attack.

Noah and King Elbas kept their eyes and mental waves on their attacks. They had launched massive techniques that would force every lifeform to leave the area.

Something eventually moved inside the attacks, and Noah shot ahead. He flew through the scorching golden light and activated the unstable substance to endure King Elbas' powerful technique.

The faint trace of foreign energy had appeared among King Elbas' attack. Noah didn't manage to sense from where it had come from. Still, his instincts had reacted to that movement, and his body had shot after it.

The golden light didn't manage to slow him down, and the foreign energy was fast. It ran undisturbed across King Elbas' attack and tried to disperse deeper into the void.

Noah didn't want to get too far from the hole. He placed the Demonic Sword on his forehead and unleashed a storm of black slashes as his consciousness expanded.

The attacks didn't aim to hit the strange energy directly. Noah only cut its path ahead and forced it to retreat toward him.

Noah didn't know how to describe what he saw once the foreign energy entered his vision. A tiny black dot that turned out to be a small human figure was moving through the golden light while black slashes continued to materialize inside the attack and block its path.

The tiny human didn't have any facial features, and it also lacked hands and feet. It almost resembled a small and incomplete doll, but its insides were empty. Actually, it didn't have proper edges even.

'What in the world is that?' Noah wondered as he approached the creature and surrounded it with his dark matter.

The golden light burnt the external layers of his black sea, but Noah had enough higher energy to waste. Also, he didn't want to make King Elbas retreat his technique since he had no idea of the creature's capabilities.

'What?' Noah shouted in his mind when he saw that even his higher energy couldn't stop the creature.

The tiny human figure moved freely through the sea of dark matter, and Noah's technique didn't even sense its presence. That creature didn't seem to exist, but Noah could clearly see it.

'Why did it run away from my slashes then?' Noah wondered before giving sharp features to his higher energy.

The tiny human suddenly panicked when it saw walls of sharp dark matter closing on its position. A cage soon formed around its figure, and the creature finally stopped attempting to escape.

King Elbas flew toward Noah when he sensed that he had stopped. The golden light vanished and revealed a fuming Noah that didn't feature any injury. The scorching attack had tried to pierce his skin, but the unstable substance had prevented it.

King Elbas couldn't hide his annoyance when he saw that Noah didn't suffer any injury, but his curiosity eventually took over his mind. The expert placed his eyes on the small dense sphere in Noah's palm that radiated an intense sharpness.

Noah modified the nature of the dark matter to allow King Elbas to see the insides of the cage. The expert's eyes widened when he saw the tiny human figure trapped inside the dark matter. His consciousness tried to inspect that creature, but his mental waves didn't manage to touch anything.

"How can something like this even exist?" King Elbas asked as his annoyance grew.

The expert was in front of one of the most interesting creatures in the entire world, but his senses could barely perceive it. Even his scanner couldn't gain a read of that strange being. All his items failed to see anything.

"I don't think it actually exists," Noah explained. "It doesn't have matter or energy. It's a mass of emptiness that can pierce almost every material and spell. It's closer to the non-existence, to be honest."

"Can something like that even appear in our world?" King Elbas asked.

"Who knows?" Noah replied. "Heaven and Earth might have destroyed and rebuilt the world countless times as far as we know. They might have experimented in different types of life forms during those attempts."

"Do you think they threw the failures into the void?" King Elbas asked while putting a hand under his chin.

"I don't know what to think," Noah sighed. "Why would something immune to everything even run away in front of my sharpness?"

**Chapter 1784 - 1784. Laughs**

"We can't launch an exploration in the void with such unclear threats," King Elbas reminded Noah while trying to study the empty creature.

"We know that they fear my sharpness," Noah explained. "This shouldn't depend on my special features. We can easily handle them with Sword Saint."

"We still need to test that," King Elbas sighed while bending toward the cage and rubbing his chin. "I wish we could learn more about this creature before going back inside the sky, but I can't interact with it at all."

"There is something that we can try," Noah suggested. "Keeping it here is pointless anyway. You can't study emptiness."

King Elbas showed a confused expression that transformed into a curious face when it understood that Noah wanted to do something strange again.

Noah descended inside the hole and waited for King Elbas to pick his items before flying toward the other side. The two experts were technically back in the areas under the sky now, but they remained at the edges of the white tunnel since they had something to test.

"Why would this even cause a reaction?" King Elbas asked when he saw Noah creating an opening in the cage that led directly toward the white sky.

"I have no idea," Noah laughed, "But something so strange must have a connection with Heaven and Earth. The sky might show us something more about this creature after absorbing it."

King Elbas laughed inside his mind. Heaven and Earth could destroy the entire higher plane on a whim, they controlled an immense system of worlds, but Noah could treat their sky like a mere reagent if the situation required it.

The tiny human figure immediately shot through the opening in the cage, but it hesitated to advance when it saw the whiteness of the sky on its path. It seemed scared, but Noah didn't let it remain still.

Part of the cage disappeared as Noah placed it on the sky. The white material absorbed the energy inside the dark matter in no time, but Noah didn't care about that. He only wanted to see the imprisoned creature moving forward.

The creature couldn't escape. It had Noah's sharpness above, under, and behind while the sky drew closer in front of it. It had to choose where to die, and its decision seemed to fall on the dark matter.

Noah and King Elbas revealed surprised expressions at that scene, but the former didn't let the human figure do as it wished. His sharp dark matter went blunt before the creature could hit it, and its emptiness slammed on his harmless sharpness.

'It worked!' Noah shouted in his mind before changing the nature of the cage.

His last action had been a gamble. Noah didn't know if partially suppressing his sharpness could work against the creature, but his decision had paid off. The dark matter was pushing the tiny figure toward the sky now, and nothing could stop the imminent clash.

The creature tried its best to avoid touching the sky, but it failed to kill itself before the clash. Its empty figure seeped inside the white material and fused with it.

Noah and King Elbas waited for a reaction, but nothing seemed to arrive. However, a series of black lines eventually appeared on the white material and gave birth to a tall humanoid creature that carried actual facial features.

'It does resemble a hybrid,' Noah thought while inspecting that stunning scene.

The sky was giving birth to a peculiar lifeform after fusing with the empty creature. Countless ideas and hypotheses surged inside Noah and King Elbas as the scene unfolded. Their minds were going through many theories, but they found themselves forced to start everything again when they saw the creature opening its large eyes.

"It has actually come back to life," King Elbas exclaimed.

The creature's eyes moved through the area before it fixed them on the two experts and wore a pleading expression. It was clear that it wanted Noah and King Elbas to free it from the sky, but the duo had no intention to help.

The two experts didn't dare to touch the sky. They were too weak to handle that material with their b.a.r.e hands. Moreover, they both wanted to see how Heaven and Earth reacted to that event.

A white flash suddenly appeared above them. King Elbas and Noah immediately pointed their weapons toward that spot, but a mixture of surprise and fear filled their minds when they sensed a rank 9 aura spreading through the tunnel.

The two experts didn't dare to exchange a glance in that situation, but they knew that they were sharing similar thoughts. That was the time to escape, but their speed wouldn't do much against a rank 9 existence. It was better to rely on Heaven and Earth's fairness at that point.

"Remaining here is a smart choice!" A youthful voice reached their ears before a laugh spread through the tunnel. "Unless you are frozen in fear. You would still gain something, but everything would be far more disappointing."

The light above them dimmed and revealed a young man who wore a white robe that featured large sleeves. The expert had long white hair, white eyebrows, and piercing black irises that seemed to fuse with his pupils.

"Don't worry, don't worry," The young man announced before giving voice to the same laugh. "I can't touch you, but I bet that you know that. Noah Balvan and Xavier Elbas are aware of Heaven and Earth's fairness."

The cultivator descended through the tunnel, and the two experts promptly exited it to keep their distance from the foreign existence.

"No need to be so careful either," The young man laughed while approaching the strange creature stuck inside the sky. "I've come for this one. Things like these should remain forgotten."

The cultivator touched the sky, and his hand pierced the white layer before landing on the strange creature. Noah and King Elbas could only see it convulsing in pain before vanishing inside the whiteness.

"You really have a talent for troubles," The cultivator exclaimed and laughed while taking out his hand from the sky. "They normally don't come so close to the sky. Their fear of Heaven and Earth is too intense."

"What has attracted them?" Noah asked when he saw that the cultivator didn't seem to mind sharing his knowledge. "What are they anyway?"

"Woah, calm down," The cultivator said while gesturing at him to stop. "We are still enemies. I can't tell you that those cursed by Heaven and Earth naturally attract them."

Noah and King Elbas remained speechless, but the cultivator soon winked at them to reveal the nature of his actions. He was really sharing his knowledge with his opponents.

"I think what they were is a better question," The cultivator continued while folding his arms and raising a finger to his cheek. "I've only seen the process happen a few times, so I don't know much. Heaven and Earth throw away a lot of stuff into the void. It's hard to connect that thing to a precise period."

The two experts continued with their silence. They had learnt something new about Heaven and Earth, but they feared triggering a punishment if they asked for too much.

"Most of them should fear sharp stuff," The cultivator added. "It reminds them of the time when Heaven and Earth severed them from their existence. You might have to be careful during your journey past the sky."

### **Chapter 1785 - 1785. Caesar**

The cultivator's words left Noah and King Elbas shocked. Heaven and Earth were already aware of their plan to steal energy from the worlds connected to the higher plane. Their grand strategy had already met a massive hindrance.

"Did you think Heaven and Earth weren't aware of that?" The cultivator asked while giving voice to his youthful laugh. "You might live in lands that they can't reach, but some words will always spread in the whiteness."

Noah and King Elbas couldn't help but exchange a glance. They didn't know why the cultivator was revealing so much, but it was clear that they had a problem.

"Don't look at me like that!" The cultivator laughed. "Heaven and Earth won't act until you hurt them, so the first part of your mission should go fine. You will only have to deal with these forgotten creatures."

"I didn't think Heaven and Earth could have traitors," Noah eventually exclaimed.

The cultivator's level was hard to discern since his power was immense, but Noah could sense that his law belonged to Heaven and Earth. The expert was part of the rulers' system, but his actions seemed to go against them.

"I'm not betraying anyone!" The cultivator shouted while interrupting his laugh for the first time. "I serve Heaven and Earth loyally. We only have different opinions on the path ahead."

"Can you even have different opinions?" Noah mocked the expert.

"I know you think of Heaven and Earth as monsters," The cultivator announced, "But they aren't different from other existences. They do what's best for their path. You all just happen to be on it, which is the very reason behind my different opinion."

The two experts remained silent at that point. It didn't matter if the cultivator was crazy or his words actually had knowledge backing them. They silently decided to listen to him and postpone their many questions.

"The hero's journey requires a quest, trusted friends, and, most importantly, an enemy," The cultivator explained. "The quest is pretty much done, and Heaven and Earth even had armies of trusted friends. What they lack is a proper enemy that can make them go past their limits."

"Is that why you are helping us?" Noah snorted. "Do you want to elevate our position to sworn enemies to help Heaven and Earth?"

"I don't know if it will be one of you," The cultivator replied while giving voice to his laugh. "I think that you are the best candidate, but who knows? Maybe one of your descendants will provide a proper opponent. I'm pretty sure this figure will appear in your organization. I just don't know when."

"We won't join your little plan," King Elbas scoffed. "Our path doesn't belong to any system. We are variables in a world that seeks control over everything. How can we even end up on this journey after your warning?"

"You are already on it," The cultivator laughed. "Your existences won't even allow you to stop. You are cursed to play your role, but I must make sure that Heaven and Earth don't kick you out until you are ripe."

"How would they even kick us out?" Noah asked. "They must abide by their fairness."

"The sky contains armies who have prepared for eras," The cultivator announced as his smile froze. "I acknowledge your power, but you have no idea how strong your opponent is. Heaven and Earth can't unleash their arsenal on you yet, but you'll eventually reach the ninth rank, and that will remove almost every limitation."

A threatening aura started to flow out of the cultivator. Noah and King Elbas saw the world in their vision transforming into a spectacle of intense lights that almost left them blind.

"You will grow," The cultivator eventually exclaimed while retracting his light, "You will seize a few victories, but you'll eventually lose. I need you strong to make that defeat an important event for Heaven and Earth. You will open the path to the tenth rank. It doesn't matter if you want it or not."

The cultivator turned toward the sky at that point, and his figure began to merge with the white material.

"Don't fear the beings hidden inside the darkness," The cultivator warned. "They are peculiar failures of old systems. They will be your opponents for this mission, but you can handle them."

The arms of the cultivator almost completely entered the sky during his final speech.

"You shouldn't use this hole," The expert continued. "Heaven and Earth have found their last valuable world on the other side. That alone should give you a target."

The cultivator continued to enter the sky. The white material had begun to absorb his legs by then.

"Heaven and Earth will send something after the theft," The cultivator added, "But you can handle it. It will be hard, and some of you might die, but those who survive will set the foundation for a rebellious higher plane."

The sky absorbed even his waist and started to drag the rest of his torso. Noah didn't know if the cultivator had any power over that procedure, but he studied it with great interest nonetheless.

"Do a good job and create a proper base for your breakthroughs," The cultivator ordered. "You need enough to survive until the ninth rank, so travel past the sky multiple times. The whiteness contains many worlds that Heaven and Earth use as sources of power. You won't lack targets."

Only the head of the expert remained outside of the sky by then. The cultivator's aura had also almost vanished.

"Prepare as much as you can," The cultivator ordered. "Grow strong and put up a decent fight once you meet the rulers. Try your best, and make your lives matter, at least in front of Heaven and Earth's eyes. Become the necessary stepping stone for the last breakthrough."

The cultivator was about to disappear inside the sky, but Noah promptly stepped forward.

"What's your name?" Noah asked as a cold smile appeared on his face.

The cultivator's mouth was already halfway through the sky, but he still managed to give voice to a single word, "Caesar."

The cultivator vanished completely at that point, and even his aura disappeared from the area. Only Noah and King Elbas remained slightly past the edges of the hole, but they both remained stuck in their position to review the recent events.

Everything had happened too quickly. The immense number of revelations had left them speechless, and they needed some time to accept the cultivator's words.

Heaven and Earth's awareness about the plan past the sky was a tragic event, but the duo couldn't do much about it. The rulers knew that Noah's organization would explore the void, but the latter wouldn't let that feature discourage them.

The void contained the existences discarded by Heaven and Earth throughout the eras. Those cursed by the rulers even attracted them, so Noah's team would definitely meet them during the mission.

However, Noah's organization had two powerful sword masters who could take care of those creatures. Issues would arrive if those strange existences had developed different abilities, but the team could only test that on the field.

Caesar had a special mission in mind, and Noah and King Elbas didn't mind playing along if that brought them benefits. They had yet to test that the holes on the other side could feature valuable targets, but part of them instinctively believed in the cultivator's words.

"Xavier then," Noah eventually mocked his companion. "I thought your first name was King for a period."

## Chapter 1786 - 1786. Teases

"Come on, Xavier," Divine Demon sighed. "You don't need to explain how hard everything is just to brag once you solve the situation."

"Xavier can't miss the chance to complain," The Foolery sighed while shaking its head. "I wonder how he ended up with his law. I can think of something else more fitting."

"Friends, we must consider what Xavier brought up," Wilfred announced. "The mission requires different preparations now. We can't barge into the void blindly anymore."

"We would have never done that," Robert snorted. "Xavier was going to take care of everything anyway. He simply has more work now."

Noah and King Elbas had returned on the black landmass after the events with Caesar, and they had immediately gathered the experts involved with the mission on the other side of the sky.

Alexander, Sword Saint, Wilfred, Divine Demon, Robert, the Foolery, Steven, and other experts with solid stage battle prowess had reached the two experts in an instant, and they had remained silent while the duo explained everything that had happened in the hole. Of course, Noah didn't hold back from revealing King Elbas' real name, and that had given birth to a series of teases toward the expert.

"I can prepare for many threats as long as I have time," King Elbas explained while ignoring the other experts. "I can even do something about the specific weakness of those empty creatures, but I'm an exception there. The issue isn't with the many problems connected with the mission. I only want us to consider how Heaven and Earth might benefit from it."

"Why would they even benefit from it, Xavier?" Divine Demon asked. "We plan to steal from them. That's usually a bad thing for the victims."

"Can't they steal the world back at some point?" Elsie suggested. "You said that you wanted to rebuild the higher plane. Can't they turn it into part of their domain?"

"That would still require them to spend energy," Noah explained. "Rebuilding the world on their own should cost less unless they have restrictions that I don't know."

"I don't buy that quest thing," Steven commented. "Why would Heaven and Earth even need a special opponent? No rank 9 existence should be a match for them."

"No normal rank 9 existence at least," Robert added while glancing toward Noah.

That gesture didn't go unnoticed, and everyone understood the reason behind it. Noah was a liquid stage existence who could defeat solid stage cultivators even after Heaven and Earth had filled them with counters to his abilities.

His cultivation level was completely off. Noah's centers of power almost wielded solid stage battle prowess on their own. His body could overpower many upper tier creatures, and his influence could rival many older experts.

It was clear that Noah could manage to touch Heaven and Earth once his cultivation level reached the peak of the ninth rank. He only had to preserve his unreasonable strength until that point. There was a

high chance that his battle prowess could step into the legendary tenth rank once he stood at the peak of the cultivation journey.

"I don't agree," Alexander exclaimed while scratching his chin. "Caesar's words hinted at the d.e.s.i.r.e to change Heaven and Earth's approach. He doesn't want the rulers to cut away eventual failures. He wants them to boost their power through achievements."

"I won't become cannon fodder for Heaven and Earth's plans," Wilfred snorted. "I'd rather die early and slow down their plan than become strong enough to help them with their journey."

"No one dies," Noah put an end to that topic. "No one stops training either. Those were the words of a single rank 9 cultivator. You can't let them cloud your vision."

"Do you want to execute the plan anyway?" Sword Saint asked. "Don't you fear that everything could be a trap?"

"Not really," Noah exclaimed while shrugging his shoulders. "I'd rather create a proper base here before venturing through the stormy regions. Also, hurting Heaven and Earth has the priority for now."

"That's what I wanted to hear!" Sword Saint announced. "I would have gone to the void on my own otherwise. I can't wait to see these empty creatures."

"Are you sure the three of you can handle those beings?" Elsie asked. "They might be weak against sharpness, but they won't die in one blow."

"They won't follow us once we cross the void," Noah explained. "Also, I've already talked with Xavier and decided to work with him to create special defenses. Sword Saint will even join us, so we should have nothing to worry about in that field."

Noah and King Elbas had only gone over their ideas for a brief time. They didn't decide anything specific yet, but they had come up with a few prototypes already.

King Elbas' expertise could make his higher energy imitate Noah and Sword Saint's auras, but that approach was a waste of the golden flames. The cultivator could do far more if he worked together with the two experts in sword arts. His inscriptions could fuse with their attacks and give birth to a perfect counter to the empty existences in the void.

"Those who don't feel certain about this trip should leave now," Noah eventually announced. "I won't carry dead weight. We must be swift in this mission, so make up your mind now."

A few cultivators from the old human organizations inevitably stood up and performed a deep bow before leaving the area. Noah noted their names in his mind before turning toward those who had remained and nodding at them.

His friends were all there, and a few figures from the old human organizations had surprisingly chosen to remain inside the group.

Elsie didn't even try to move, and the same went for three cultivators in the solid stage who didn't feel like giving their opinion during that discussion. After all, they agreed to keep fighting. Everything else was pointless.

"We have our final team then," Noah announced while inspecting the various experts around him. "There's no turning back now. Those who only have to grow stronger should seclude themselves for the time being. The others must talk with Elbas and let him handle all the projects required for the mission."

Noah stood up and prepared himself to set off after those orders, but Elsie quickly stopped him.

"Where are you going?" Elsie asked.

"The domain has many solid stage battle prowess experts now," Noah revealed. "The human and hybrid side have already given their share. I must contact the magical beasts now."

"Do you need a hand?" Alexander asked, and Wilfred added a nod to that scene.

"I think it's better if I go alone," Noah replied. "You should focus on reaching your peak. Don't mind the limited amount of energy inside the landmass. Just take everything you need."

Noah set off at that point and flew toward the nearest region that clearly appeared as a land attached later on. The tall mountains that divided it from the rest of the domain and the other lairs were an unusual sight, but he crossed them without even bothering to inspect the layout of the frozen area.

A snake raised its head at his arrival, but it quickly lowered it again for fear of eventual repercussions. Noah floated past the creature and waited for the pack leader to appear before explaining the details of the mission.

### **Chapter 1787 - 1787. Sharpness**

Every expert involved with the mission outside the sky began to work on their tasks. Most of them only needed to increase their cultivation level as much as possible and polish their abilities. Still, others had to prepare actual tools and techniques vital for the journey.

King Elbas became the busiest existence in the entire organization, and only Noah came close to him. The former had to prepare countless items while cooperating with specific experts to create perfect counters for various dangers outside the sky. Instead, Noah had to summon the different leaders of every magical beast pack and force them to work together.

The upper tier magical beasts didn't like to abandon their packs. Most of them relied on their underlings to express their real power and preserve their lives, but they had to follow Noah's orders since the mission didn't exist without him.

Noah disregarded the creatures that were useless without their pack. He preferred to leave them on the landmass as potential allies against eventual rebels instead of bringing a noisy horde in the mission.

Gathering the magical beasts was only the first of his vital tasks. Noah had to join King Elbas afterward and help him with the special defenses that relied on his sharpness. Sword Saint also took part in that procedure, and the trio soon came up with great countermeasures to the empty existences.

The years passed, and everyone slowly approached their best condition. The various tools required with the mission also reached a complete state. No one thought that the time would really come, but the truth was that they would leave soon at that pace.

The time eventually arrived, and the various experts gathered on the other side of the black landmass to review the plan one last time.

King Elbas and Noah had explored the path through a different hole before the gathering. They had followed Caesar's advice and had gone to the other side of the higher plane to find suitable targets.

Their exploration turned out to be quite fruitful. Caesar had spoken the truth. The areas revealed after piercing the void on the other side of the higher plane were different. They still had layers of whiteness meant to isolate lower worlds, but they also featured special zones with a far more powerful light.

It was clear that those powerful white layers didn't only contain Mortal Lands since Heaven and Earth wouldn't waste so much energy to isolate lower worlds. There had to be something valuable there, something that could go past the weaker light, which was exactly what Noah wanted.

The two had even tested the entirety of King Elbas' items and had prepared the area for the mission. They didn't leave anything on the other side of the sky due to the presence of the empty creatures, but its insides were a safe space that could hold some of the tools and inscriptions while everyone finished preparing.

The final layout of the group featured Noah's friends, a few cultivators from the old human organizations, and many upper tier magical beasts. It was a strange team that released massive waves of power in the environment and that even Noah could barely control.

Alexander, Sword Saint, Wilfred, Divine Demon, Robert, and Steven were solid stage experts that Noah didn't need to keep in check since they followed their orders out of respect for his authority.

However, Elsie and the three cultivators in the solid stage who had decided to join the mission still had some doubts, and their loyalty toward Noah mostly depended on the black landmass.

That feature was inevitable since the four experts had yet to spend a lot of time under Noah's rule. Still, they understood the severity of the situation, and they agreed with him when it came to the plans that could fix it.

The magical beasts in the team were harder to control. The Foolery tried to act as a bridge between the loyal side and those creatures, but the pig didn't belong to their kind anymore after Noah's enhancements. Its level had also remained in the liquid stage, which made most of the pack leaders look down on it.

Noah had to release his pride constantly to make sure that those magical beasts didn't fall prey to their anger or instincts. They were hungry beasts that had begun to regret leaving their valuable lairs to return to that emptiness. Knowing that their targets were in the void only worsened their annoyance.

Yet, the strange group remained united, and no major complaints echoed among them. The mission could finally start, and tension inevitably accumulated among the team after they left their safe spot on the landmass and flew toward the hole that King Elbas had marked previously.

Noah had to lead the group to inspire them and make them disperse their worries. His role in the frontlines would force him to face more dangers, but Alexander, Sword Saint, and Robert didn't let him alone.

The four led the group through a tunnel in the sky and entered the immense void. Everyone gathered there at that point, but the experts had to wait among the blackness since King Elbas had to prepare a few tools for the other side of the sky.

King Elbas used his golden rocks to create a membrane above the sky that stopped its abilities. Golden patches slowly covered the edges of the hall before many different items appeared on them.

Noah recognized the quasi-rank 9 flags and the inscriptions fueled by black cans that contained a dense liquid created with King Elbas. However, they were only a tiny part of the storm of items that the expert was throwing on the golden patches.

King Elbas activated sensors, screens, flares, defenses, trackers, and beams meant to signal the hole's location. Most of those items were in the upper tier of the eighth rank, and only the quasi-rank 9 flags went beyond that level.

The wait among the blackness forced the experts to spread part of their influence through the environment. That worked as bait for the many creatures hidden among the void, but they expected as much.

Noah and the others saw the void bending toward them while creating sharp spikes that threatened to pierce their bodies. Yet, King Elbas' defenses activated at that point, and a series of black and silver slashes suddenly materialized inside those attacks.

King Elbas could replicate certain attacks, but he preferred to pursue a different approach. He stored the attacks of his companions and connected them to a series of sensors that could notice even the slightest movements inside the void.

Moreover, King Elbas had added a unique feature to some of his sensors. The empty creatures were peculiar, but they had weaknesses, and he could exploit them.

His sensors launched sharp waves of energy through the void and studied their reactions. The empty creatures couldn't slip past those powers, so they inevitably revealed their position and allowed the entire group to focus on them.

A slash appeared in the void whenever the empty creatures revealed themselves. The inscriptions even dealt with the morphing of that blackness and allowed Noah and the others to proceed.

The group inspected how well everything worked, and they felt gladly surprised that King Elbas didn't mess up anything. The inscriptions worked perfectly, and the defenses were on point even.

Noah and Sword Saint decided to fill the environment with their sharpness while they waited for King Elbas to create a path across the void. The expert calmly waved his strange clawed weapon and used it to make an opening that led to the separate dimensions.

Whiteness immediately flew out of the crack, but Noah didn't care about it. He peeked inside the gap and made sure that nothing happened before crossing the fissure with his whole body and ending up in a foreign environment.

The blinding light of a layer with power near the ninth rank forced the experts to close their eyes, but Noah quickly restored their vision.

His aura darkened the environment and allowed the experts to see a broken planet that sent its boulders toward the whiteness.

### **Chapter 1788 - 1788. Tactics**

The scene created by the broken planet was spectacular. The structure was massive and floated behind the powerful white membrane that isolated it in a relatively small separate dimension.

Its giant boulders were as big as small regions, but they vanished as soon as they touched the light. The membrane even radiated a relatively intense pulling force, but the broken world fought against that power. The experts on the scene could sense its faint d.e.s.i.r.e to live.

Noah and King Elbas had devised a few plans after their inspections, but most of them relied on guesses generated after studying some of the main features of that environment.

They knew that the separate dimensions hidden inside the void had worlds and that some of them were suitable targets. They were also aware of the nature of the white layers that isolated those structures. However, they could plan the actual theft only after finding a suitable plane since they had to adapt to its condition.

A white layer with power that approached the ninth rank isolated the broken world from the other separate dimensions. Moreover, the light seemed able to teleport its matter instantly. Pulling it outside appeared quite troublesome. It was safer to send someone inside to steal the target.

"Come on," Noah said in a firm tone. "Let's divide ourselves as we planned."

The fact that the experts had to adapt to the different situations of their targets didn't mean that they had approached the mission unprepared. King Elbas had created plans for many hypothetical conditions, and the others had memorized them before leaving the black landmass.

Divine Demon, Sword Saint, Alexander, and Noah stepped forward and waited for their companions to make their move. King Elbas took out countless scanners and inscribed items as Robert, Steven, Elsie, and the three solid stage cultivators flew in front of the membrane and raised their hands to launch powerful abilities.

The membrane tried to resist their offensive, but its light slowly vanished as the many powerful abilities continued to ravage its fabric. Heaven and Earth didn't create that white layer to defend their targets from external attacks, so piercing it ended up being easier than expected.

A hole opened in the membrane, and Robert's team immediately deployed different abilities to keep its edges open. They did their best to avoid spreading more destruction, and Noah's group didn't hesitate to enter the separate dimension.

Noah had assigned specific roles before the mission, and he had even created teams with specific assignments that depended on the talents of their members.

Divine Demon, Sword Saint, Alexander, and Noah were the best among the group when facing unknown threats. Their sheer power and adaptability made them perfect for those moments since their chances to survive dangers were extremely high.

Meanwhile, King Elbas was the expert among the group who had the highest chance of finding out a method to bring the explorers out if something went wrong. He had to remain outside of the dangerous environments to remain able to complete his role.

The other experts had various useful talents, but they wouldn't shine in that situation, so they limited themselves to open a path through the white layer.

Wilfred and the Foolery remained next to King Elbas. Their task was to protect the expert and his inscribed items due to their importance to the mission.

Instead, the army of magical beasts didn't have any special role. They were the brute force of the group, and their task consisted of going all-out when the situation required it.

Some of their innate abilities might turn out to be useful, but the team didn't want to rely on them too much due to the obvious issue in controlling those creatures. After all, they were hunting targets that could benefit the black landmass as a whole. They didn't want to put upper tier beings in front of those massive sources of power.

A strange sensation hit the four experts that entered the separate dimension. Their centers of power grew heavy, and cracks spread around them whenever they tried to fight that suppression.

Noah soon understood that the issue wasn't with his centers of power or any external force. The rules of the world were simply different in that environment. Divine existences shouldn't be there, and the laws that ruled that place knew that.

The suppression didn't hinder the team's power. The experts only had to be careful of preserving the integrity of the separate dimension since they feared what could happen if the white layer completely crumbled.

That was the exact reason why Robert and the others didn't completely break the membrane. Alerting Heaven and Earth was only a secondary concern. Their main worry concerned the chain reaction that the destruction of one of the separate dimensions could cause.

Heaven and Earth had hidden the worlds connected to their system in many separate dimensions inside the void. Some of them even occupied the same separate space and hinted at a lingering connection among all of them.

The destruction of the white layer would force the world contained inside the separate dimension out. It would end in the void or in separate spaces that held other similar structures, and its influence would inevitably affect the whole system.

The best outcome to that situation that the group could think of saw the world appearing in the void and orbiting around the white sky. Still, that was only one of the many possibilities, and it considered only the damage to the actual system. It didn't say anything about Heaven and Earth's reaction.

Being careful was mandatory in the mission, especially since the group wanted to avoid triggering a massive reaction from the rulers. Caesar had told them that Heaven and Earth would act once an actual deed happened, but the group d.e.s.i.r.ed to limit those events until they gathered enough energy for their home.

Noah felt strange as he neared the broken world. His instincts couldn't fail to sense the presence of a connection between the planet's aura and his existence.

'Is this the world that has generated the Devils?' Noah wondered while inspecting the aura radiated by those materials.

His instincts rarely got the wrong impression, and they didn't disappoint Noah even in that situation. The broken planet was the source of the Devils that had afflicted the other side of the Immortal Lands, but its current state was pitiful. Even its immense anger had dispersed after the long destruction.

The world seemed to notice Noah's arrival, and unclear noises suddenly resounded from its surface. The broken planet wanted to talk, and its words sounded like pleas when they reached Noah's mind. It wanted him to save its existence from Heaven and Earth's light.

'It's still alive,' Noah concluded in his mind before accelerating toward the massive structure. 'It might benefit our home as a whole if the landmass gains some intelligence.'

Noah's interest in the world intensified after he confirmed that it had retained traces of a will. His figure crossed the empty insides illuminated by the membrane and landed on the broken planet before spreading his consciousness.

The dense mental waves created cracks in the separate dimension and quickened the destruction of the world, but Noah managed to cover the entirety of the broken planet in a few seconds. He could feel its damages and d.e.s.i.r.es at that point, and his thoughts inevitably awakened Shafu from its rest.

'Eat it up,' Noah ordered while placing his hands on the barren surface, 'But don't digest it.'

Shafu gave voice to a displeased cry inside his mind before activating one of its innate abilities. No pulling force came out of Noah's figure, but the world under him suddenly disappeared anyway.

### **Chapter 1789 - 1789. Lucky**

The sudden change in the environment slightly startled the experts. The white scenery had featured a massive brown planet, but empty space that the light didn't hesitate to fill now unfolded in their eyes after Noah touched the ground.

Shafu had taken the broken planet in its insides, but it didn't touch the boulders that were already flying toward the white layer. Noah had chosen that approach on purpose to delay Heaven and Earth's reaction, and his figure quickly shot toward the opening after he completed the theft.

Divine Demon, Alexander, and Sword Saint imitated him and crossed the opening in an instant. Robert and the other experts let go of the hole's edges at that point, and the white layer quickly expanded to fix the gap.

Tense seconds followed that event. The experts stared at the large separate dimension and waited for Heaven and Earth's outbreak, but nothing arrived. The structure continued to pull the boulders and debris toward the membrane as if the planet was still there.

"What did you find?" Noah asked while turning toward King Elbas after a few seconds had passed.

"Heaven and Earth's will is faint here," King Elbas revealed as some of his items flashed. "I don't think they have much control over this area."

"Maybe they are waiting for the losses to reach a critical point," Robert suggested. "They might have a greater punishment ready for us to cross the line."

"I don't know how much energy they can spend," King Elbas continued as his eyes moved among his items. "They have absorbed most of the power released by the Immortal Lands and dead existences, but they must use it to restore the higher plane. We might actually be at the edges of their jurisdiction."

King Elbas' words had a deeper meaning. The whiteness outside the sky clearly was at the edges of Heaven and Earth's system, but he implied something else with his line.

Controlling everything was taxing, and Heaven and Earth could barely accomplish that in the areas under their sky. The lack of immediate reaction made King Elbas feel as if his group was in a lawless zone.

"That doesn't matter for now," Noah announced. "We must find other targets. Heaven and Earth have almost squeezed this world dry. We need more."

"Quick tour around the area?" King Elbas asked.

"As quick as possible," Noah confirmed. "Let's fly across the entire separate space and move on if we don't find anything valuable."

The group didn't talk anymore at that point. The experts shot forward and flew along the edges of the separate dimension. It didn't take them much to find a similar structure, and a broken world similar to the previous unfolded in their vision.

The same membrane with power that approached the ninth rank encircled the second world. The plane had the shape of a triangular landmass that featured a massive mountain, but its fabric appeared quite frail even from outside the white layer.

The group had found an older prey or a world that didn't initially contain much energy. Faint disappointment appeared in their minds at that sight, but they suppressed that feeling and replicated the previous approach.

Noah reached the tall landmass and made Shafu absorb it before shooting out of the separate dimension. He didn't feel any will coming from the group at that time, but the plane still contained energy, so he didn't complain.

"Quick, quick!" Noah reminded his companions before the group shot forward again.

The group eventually found an invisible barrier on their path. King Elbas didn't hesitate to take out his dimensional clawed hand to open a crack and lead the experts back into the void.

The recent exploration had cleared the last doubts concerning the structure of the separate dimensions. Heaven and Earth didn't create a separate space and filled it with different areas. Instead, they build the layer and let their light expand an isolated area inside the void.

King Elbas quickly tapped on his bracelet after the crack closed and sealed the light in the separate space. The group had reappeared in an unknown part of the void, and the blinding light released from

the sky under them covered every trace of holes and similar passages for the insides of the Immortal Lands.

That was the greatest hurdle in the exploration of the worlds outside the sky. The whiteness made it impossible to find the way back to the hole. It even covered other passages that could be in the surrounding areas.

Even the strongest experts would struggle to find their way back on the other side of the sky. King Elbas' items weren't an exception, but he had already tested them and adapted their functions to the strange environment.

The items didn't suffer from Heaven and Earth's influence due to an intelligent function that he had added right after his first exploration of those areas. The heavy light and pressure of the rulers could make most inscribed trackers useless, but King Elbas' creations made use of that power and rendered it harmless during the absorption of energy.

They could work properly even if some fluctuations in their results happened from time to time. King Elbas knew where the group had to go to find their hole, and the experts didn't hesitate to lead his companions.

The group flew across the void for a while until King Elbas descended and made the experts approach the sky. The blinding whiteness filled their vision, but a hole that featured a flag with a horned face eventually appeared in their eyes.

The inscriptions and defenses placed to take care of the many empty beings were still in place, and their efforts had yet to end. Sharp slashes continued to materialize among the void whenever an attack that bent the darkness tried to arrive. Everything was working so perfectly that the forgotten creatures didn't realize that Noah's group had been away for a long time.

"Who's lucky here?" King Elbas asked while landing among his floating inscriptions.

Almost everyone dodged his gaze and remained silent while he waited for an answer. Only the Foolery stepped forward and raised its head to announce its reply.

"Pick a direction then," King Elbas snorted. "Tell me where I have to open another path."

"There!" The Foolery exclaimed while pointing its feet toward an empty spot in the distance.

King Elbas shot forward, and the rest of the group followed closely behind. His dimensional claws appeared in his grasp and cut the void once he reached his destination, and whiteness flowed into the blackness once again.

"Only rank seven membranes here," King Elbas announced wafter he peeked inside the crack. "Nothing worth stealing. Does someone else feel lucky today?"

Multiple experts decided to give their suggestions, and King Elbas didn't disregard any of them. He flew wherever his companions said, but he only found weak layers there.

King Elbas and Sword Saint followed the group from the rear guard. The empty creatures had reappeared after the group left the area protected by the inscriptions, so the two experts had to deal with the morphing void.

Still, those enemies weren't an issue for the two experts. Sword Saint seemed able to handle them on his own, but Noah didn't want to leave him alone in that dangerous environment.

The group eventually found another membrane that featured power near the ninth rank, and all the experts quickly flew inside it. Multiple separate dimensions that featured broken worlds unfolded in their eyes, and Noah didn't hesitate to give the order to start stealing them.

### **Chapter 1790 - 1790. Lazy**

The mission strangely encountered only a few issues. The empty creatures were a constant threat that forced Noah and Sword Saint to fight while the group flew across the void, and some separate dimensions had trickier layers.

However, the experts didn't meet anything that could force them to deploy their real power. Their extensive preparations seemed to be enough to cover every unforeseen situation, but that answer didn't satisfy the most paranoid among them.

Noah had slowly realized that the void didn't contain great dangers. Heaven and Earth didn't even seem to bother about the worlds in their system. He might complete the mission on his own if King Elbas gave him the items required to avoid getting lost.

Of course, Noah never lowered his guard. He actually grew more careful as Shafu kept absorbing worlds in its separate space.

Caesar had told the group that Heaven and Earth were aware of their intentions. The experts were even succeeding in many thefts, but their actions didn't trigger any punishment. The rulers were basically allowing them to restore the world.

Noah didn't believe for even a second that Heaven and Earth had spent energy to destroy the higher plane only to open a path for him. The sole thought that the rulers could have committed such a colossal mistake was unreasonable, but the journey proceeded smoothly nonetheless.

The group had even failed to think of how Heaven and Earth could exploit their efforts. Noah would use the energy gathered in the mission to rebuild the higher plane, but those lands would carry his mutations, so the rulers couldn't transform them back easily.

Everything seemed to go against Heaven and Earth. They would lose two times due to the initial consumption of energy and the loss of some of their valuable sources of power. In theory, stealing the broken worlds had to be Noah's worst deed in the rulers' eyes, but they didn't even bother to slow him down.

The confusion and worry didn't make the group stop. The experts continued their long journey across the void and limited their energy consumption since the environment didn't offer "Breath" to absorb.

The experts even held back from seizing the light of the membranes since they didn't want to anger Heaven and Earth, so their energy inside their centers of power continued to decrease. Only their minds could sustain themselves without external fuel, but their dantians and bodies constantly moved toward their limits.

Everyone had predicted that outcome. The experts had devised special methods to prolong their endurance and remain in the void as long as possible.

Many had stored massive amounts of energy in special containers that they could use to refill their centers of power. King Elbas had even prepared some of those items for his companions, so their reserves never reached a critical state.

The magical beasts had it worse, but Noah allowed them inside Shafu's separate space whenever they were about to fell prey to their hunger. The process depleted part of the energy accumulated with the theft, but that outcome was better than having angry creatures losing control of themselves.

The journey across the void and the many areas created by the white separate dimensions made the experts face strange scenes and peculiar environments.

The experts ignored all the membranes with power under the eighth rank, but they inevitably glanced at their insides from time to time. Those weaker separate dimensions usually contained Mortal Lands, and the group couldn't help but admire the different environments they featured even if they didn't have much time to waste.

The short inspections couldn't satisfy their curiosity, but the group could only suppress that feeling. Those worlds were too weak for their needs, and they couldn't forget about their priorities anyway.

Instead, the stronger worlds reserved surprises that the experts could appreciate. Noah and the others had to approach planes of various shapes, fabric, and layouts. It even often happened that some of them carried weak wills that had resisted the relentless absorption.

Noah and the others were rank 8 experts who had lived for countless years, but the vastness of the universe managed to leave them speechless. The faint desire to ditch Heaven and Earth's system and venture through the endless possibilities past the sky inevitably appeared in their minds as new peculiarities appeared.

Still, those thoughts would remain nothing more than dreams as long as their existences remained unable to generate energy on their own. Those incredible scenes ended up reminding them of their situation. Their laws required Heaven and Earth's system to survive since the void didn't offer anything.

"We have another proper rank 9 membrane this time," King Elbas announced after creating a crack in the void.

The group had grown used to the pace of the mission. They had stolen dozens of worlds by then, and they had even overcome the various challenges that those different environments put on their path.

The team had become a well-oiled machine that barely required conversations to know what to do. A few glances were enough to tell them how they had to approach the target.

Sword Saint, Robert, Steven, and Alexander stepped forward while King Elbas took out a few potions from his space-rings. Dealing with proper rank 9 membranes required multiple attacks that bordered the limits of the eighth rank and special items that could weaken their target, but the group already knew how to act.

King Elbas threw the containers toward the whiteness, and the four experts quickly followed. The items exploded when they touched the light and released a corrosive black substance that weakened the membrane's fabric and allowed the group to create a hole with a single wave of attacks.

More items flew out of King Elbas' space-ring at that point. Keeping a rank 9 membrane open was a problem since it was in its nature to remain closed, but the four experts could pull that off with the help of special substances and materials.

Yet, the effects of King Elbas' items would run out quickly, and the experts would be able to delay the closing of the hole by mere seconds at that point. Those who went inside the separate dimension had to act quickly or wait for their companions to reopen a passage.

Noah never feared those situations, and his presence inside the separate dimension was also necessary, so he shot through the hole as soon as it opened. Divine Demon and Wilfred followed him to ensure that everything went well, but their eyes inevitably widened when they realized what the membrane contained.

Proper rank 9 membranes could hide most of their insides until the experts actually crossed them. The same had happened there, so the trio could understand the target's nature only after flying past the whiteness.

A massive pale-purple jellyfish covered in layers of blue ground floated among the whiteness and seemed to ignore the pulling force that affected the materials on its body. Its giant tentacles hung from the base of its dome-shaped head, and crackling noises resounded in the area whenever they touched the light.

Even Noah hesitated in front of that massive creature. The rank 9 aura that flowed out of its figure made him realize that the target was too powerful for his group.

Noah didn't need to give any order. He turned, and his eyes met his companions' stern gazes. That short interaction was enough to make them understand how to proceed. They had to leave right away.

Still, the jellyfish showed signs of life when the three experts disturbed its sleep. Its tentacles lazily cracked on the white layer, and massive fissures opened everywhere.

Noah and the others hurried toward the hole, but the cracks reached its edges before them. Then, an explosion resounded in their ears, and a massive force landed on their backs.