

DEMONIC 1791

Chapter 1791 - 1791. Giving in

The rank 9 membrane shattered and discharged its power. The white layer was quite weak compared to other rank 9 items since Heaven and Earth only wanted it to isolate the worlds in its insides, but it still contained enough energy to cause a lot of damage.

An implosion followed the destruction. The energy in the membrane created currents of power that shot toward the insides of the separate dimension and crashed on themselves. The impacts generated even stronger white waves that spread their raging might everywhere in the area.

Noah, Divine Demon, Wilfred, and the giant jellyfish ended up facing the first wave of raging currents. Still, the white gales bounced back into the area when they hit the creature's body.

The same didn't happen for the three experts. They were small, so they didn't have to endure the entirety of the power contained in the membrane. However, they couldn't avoid all the current either, which hit them while they were trying to regroup with their companions.

The three experts instinctively activated defensive technique as their instincts warned them about the imminent danger.

Divine Demon's influence transformed part of that raging whiteness into azure energy that fought to protect him. That power copied the currents but acted against them as if challenging them to overcome their alternative version.

The muscles on Wilfred's back bulged and released faint shockwaves that exploded right above his skin to deplete part of the currents' power. Still, the whiteness hit him anyway, but his body had already reached its peak defensive stance by then.

Layers of dark matter covered by black roots created a shield behind Noah while he deployed the unstable substance. Snore and Shafu even exposed part of their body to provide as much protection as possible. Duanlong also tried to divert that raging energy, but it didn't have enough time to deploy its innate ability.

The many defensive abilities of the experts managed to shield them from the deadly features of the white currents, but they suffered severe damages anyway.

Noah and Wilfred saw the muscles on their backs vanishing under the threatening properties of the gales before they managed to escape their range.

Part of Divine Demon's body disappeared once the whiteness engulfed his figure. Half of his torso, an arm, and the side of his face vanished, but he also managed to leave the implosion's range.

The rest of the experts in the group couldn't help their friends during their struggle since they also had to retreat to safety. Still, they didn't hesitate to support them once they escaped the most dangerous area.

Raging currents tried to chase after the trio, but massive attacks exploded on their path. A storm of slashes, a huge purple mass of toxic power, and a wall made of dense matter fell on the flying whiteness and stopped their charge.

The attacks didn't actually stop the currents. The whiteness' purpose was to absorb energy, so it depleted its power to devour the power contained in the experts' techniques.

The outcome was still positive, but the experts inevitably showed annoyed faces at that scene. The membranes were easy to pierce for such a well-prepared group, but the experts would struggle to face them if the whiteness could completely redirect their energy toward destructive purposes.

Heaven and Earth continued to appear too powerful for them. Some of them were on their way toward the ninth rank, but they felt too weak to deal with what the rulers had amassed throughout countless eras. The final opponent was still far away from their grasp.

King Elbas threw a few items toward the injured experts once they regrouped. He launched two pills that contained an immense amount of energy toward the two hybrids, while Divine Demon received a plain-looking potion.

Noah spat a fireball toward the pill and absorbed its energy through his innate ability. His back healed quickly, but many spots remained uncovered. Some even reached as deep as his bones.

Wilfred ate the pill, and the bleeding on his back immediately stopped. Flesh even began to grow from those missing spots, but it was clear that he required a few training sessions to fix his condition.

Divine Demon's eyebrow arched at the sight of the bottle containing a dark-yellow liquid, but his influence acted before he could decide what to do with the item. The container shattered, and the potion transformed into an azure substance that fused with his injuries and began to restore some flesh.

Divine Demon ended up being the only one who experienced a full recovery in mere minutes. Wilfred and Noah's bodies required too much energy to heal in that short period, but their innate resilience made them express their full power even in that condition.

"Heaven and Earth must have taken a gamble with that thing," Robert explained once everyone turned toward the jellyfish. "I bet they have trapped it without alerting its senses."

"I've never seen a magical beast like that," Noah honestly revealed. "It's not as powerful as other rank 9 creatures, but it contains an immense amount of energy in its body!"

Noah had the time to listen to his instincts after surviving the gales. He had managed to inspect the jellyfish and study its body through his superior awareness.

The creature appeared quite dumb. Noah couldn't hear any emotion or cry spreading from its figure. It seemed a mere mass of power that had taken a peculiar shape and faint survival instincts.

Its power seemed to belong to the lower end of the ninth rank. The jellyfish didn't feel as strong as the rank 9 dragon met in the Outer Lands or the armadillo in Sword Saint's memories. Yet, its body radiated far more power than all the worlds captured during their mission.

"Let's go!" King Elbas shouted. "This separate space will collapse when the light depletes its power!"

"No!" Noah promptly contradicted him, and all the experts turned in his direction.

"Do you want to fight it?" King Elbas asked. "I understand that this creature can help us rebuilding the world quickly, but it's not worth the risk."

"F.u.c.k the world," Noah snorted. "I want to eat it!"

Noah's statement left everyone speechless for a second, but they soon understood what was going on in his mind. He had just found a weak rank 9 magical beast, and the best experts in his organization were with him. Wasting such an exciting chance felt like a waste.

However, the experts didn't want to risk their lives to feed Noah. He was their leader, but they had chosen to follow him because he didn't give such unreasonable orders.

"Everyone gets a piece," Noah explained. "We have the best army in the world, and our opponent is a creature that Heaven and Earth have weakened for who knows how long. How can we even think of retreating?"

The experts went over the matter in their minds, but the growls that had accompanied Noah's voice ended up triggering the hunger of the magical beasts behind the group.

Those creatures gave voice to loud battle cries that expressed their d.e.s.i.r.e to join Noah in the attack. The sole thought of getting their hands on rank 9 materials was too tempting for them.

The experts threw away their thoughts after understanding that all the magical beasts were ready to charge ahead. Reason didn't matter anymore in that situation. It was time to give in to their greed.

Chapter 1792 - 1792. Reaction

"We all know what we are good at," Noah exclaimed as the group prepared for the imminent fight.

"Plans are useless now. Let's simply kill it without dying."

"That thing has deflected attacks that have almost killed us," Elsie commented as a weapon appeared in her hands.

"I have six possible explanations for that," King Elbas announced. "A few exchanges should be enough to lower them to one. Creating a countermeasure would be a mere matter of time at that point."

"See?" Noah laughed. "I told you that we know what we are good at."

Noah wielded the Demonic Sword and the cursed sword. Bloodl.u.s.t flowed out of his figure and made the magical beasts behind him hesitate to charge forward.

Noah's bloodl.u.s.t was a scary power now that his battle prowess had stabilized in the solid stage. The magical beasts couldn't help but feel scared when those violent thoughts reached their figures and triggered their survival instincts.

"Tentacles," Wilfred plainly announced while scratching his head.

"Tentacles!" Divine Demon shouted while shooting a challenging look toward Wilfred.

Wilfred pretended to ignore that gaze, but his mind felt dizzy for an instant, and he suddenly found himself looking toward Divine Demon. The latter revealed a smile before giving voice to a battle cry and exploding into a laugh.

"Head," Alexander sighed.

"Head," Robert added.

"Tentacles' base," Steven continued.

"I'll just eat," The Foolery announced.

"Is that how you handle battles?" Elsie asked. "We are against a rank 9 magical beast!"

"I'm not sure it's a proper magical beast since it comes from outside of Heaven and Earth's system," Noah contradicted her.

"Why would that even matter?" Marina, one of the cultivators from the old human organizations, asked.

"An expert can't ignore details," King Elbas explained. "They are what laws enhance in the end."

"But he wanted to eat it!" Keith, another cultivator from the old human organizations, exclaimed.

"Food is everything in a man's life," The Foolery announced while lifting its head and closing its eyes.

"Is it aware of its species?" Viola, the last cultivator from the old human organizations in the group, asked.

"I've stopped asking questions when it comes to the pig," King Elbas sighed. "I'm starting to believe that Heaven and Earth have created it as my unique curse."

Noah cut the conversation short by giving voice to a roar that made every cultivator, hybrid, and magical beast in the group shot forward.

The experts divided themselves according to their previous announcements, while those who didn't speak approached the parts of the jellyfish that seemed to suit their abilities.

Noah ended up flying with Steven toward the base of the tentacles to check if the insides of the creature's head featured the same powerful defenses as its pale-purple skin.

The jellyfish had many threatening tentacles, and faint sparks ran through them. Those pale-purple lightning bolts released small clouds of a dangerous substance whenever they left the limbs and dispersed power in the environment.

The tentacles appeared unapproachable due to those scary features, but Wilfred and Divine Demon didn't seem to care about that. They stopped in a safe position under those limbs and started launching abilities.

Steven and Noah also flew in that area before moving toward the insides of the dome-shaped head. The two of them had a more conscious approach to the battle, but they ignored the various dangerous sensations that reached their minds too. After all, it was only normal for their instincts to scream in fear when fighting a rank 9 creature.

The other experts approached the head and other seemingly exposed parts of the creature's body while the magical beasts gathered around it and started launching their innate abilities.

The jellyfish was massive, so the experts in the group could avoid affecting their companions' abilities. Everyone could seize a personal spot and see if their attacks caused some reaction in that pale-purple skin.

The white storms were still raging in the environment, but their power was slowly vanishing as they caused the separate space to expand further. They were too far to affect the battlefield, but the experts still made sure to keep track of their movements.

The creature didn't do much when the first wave of attacks landed on its body. It limited itself to wave its tentacles slowly. That simple gesture opened cracks that pierced the separate space and connected it to the void, but the entire area soon retracted and fixed the opening.

Noah was far from stupid. He knew that his group didn't have many chances to defeat a rank 9 creature even if the most powerful experts of his organization were on the battlefield.

However, he could use the seemingly poor intelligence of the jellyfish, its supposedly weakened condition after Heaven and Earth's long absorption, and the environment to his favor.

The collapse of the separate space could help him inflicting severe damages to the creature if the joint offensive of his group failed. Noah could deploy the same tactic used to defeat the Space Hounds even if he couldn't make massive dimensional portals close according to his d.e.s.i.r.es.

The main issue was finding out whether his group could hurt the jellyfish at all. In theory, the large team should have enough power to damage a rank 9 magical beasts, but Noah didn't know if that would even bring the creature closer to a critical condition.

The assault was mandatory. Noah had to see the power of the jellyfish with his own eyes to understand if his group could really hunt the creature. The shattering of the separate space wouldn't be enough to kill it, so he needed to make sure that his group could hurt it.

The initial exchanges revealed disappointing outcomes. Wilfred and Divine Demon's abilities couldn't get past the sparks that ran through those limbs, even when they worked together. A lightning bolt appeared whenever their attacks were about to crash on the tentacles and turned them into masses of energy that dispersed into the area.

Noah and Steven didn't do much to the insides of the creature's head with their powerful attacks, and they even had to deploy evasive maneuvers once the tentacles' bases grew closer to their position.

The magical beasts didn't achieve anything either. They were launching a relentless offensive that featured different innate abilities, but nothing seemed to work against the pale-purple skin.

Robert and the Foolery found themselves in the same situation as their companions.

The horned expert tried to use the properties of his toxic substance to learn about the creature's weaknesses and adapt to his attacks. Still, he couldn't find out much since his ability never managed to infect that tough skin.

The Foolery's teeth almost broke when it bit on the base of the jellyfish's head. Its power didn't allow it to injure the creature even if its existence had completely changed by then. The pig had a dantian and a mind now, but it still couldn't pierce that skin.

Only Alexander managed to find something that worked. He was using a strange ability to control the ground still attached to the creature's body and make it flow through its skin before detonating it.

The plan ended up flowing past the pale-purple skin and exploding. Blue storms spread through the jellyfish's half-transparent head, and the creature even began to move after sensing that pain.

Its tentacles shot forward as anger filled its body, but most experts were outside of their range. Only the Foolery was still on its skin, but its speed allowed it to avoid the storm of lightning bolts that shot out of the limbs.

Chapter 1793 - 1793. Collapse

The storm of lightning bolts released a threatening amount of power that forced the entire group to retreat. Each of those attacks carried enough energy to inflict severe injuries to the experts, but the environment worked in their favor in that situation.

The separate space was too frail to hold the full power of a rank 9 creature. It didn't matter how weak the jellyfish was. It was still too strong for an area that was approaching the critical point.

The lightning bolts shot everywhere in the area, and many of them chased after the escaping experts, but cracks appeared on their path and eventually made them fall into the void.

The attacks were so powerful that they would pierce the separate space before reaching the experts. Noah and the others only needed to fly away for a few seconds before the entire offensive vanished and the area shrunk by a lot.

"I made him angry," Alexander exclaimed while giving voice to a playful laugh.

"Its skin is a natural shield that uses most of its power!" King Elbas announced while joining the group. "The insides are soft and unprotected. They probably contain the energy required by the skin. We can damage it by attacking those spots, but we would lower its value in the process."

"Who cares?" Noah laughed as his aura skyrocketed.

Isaac's ability activated and forced his might to reach an insane level without making his centers of power grow. Faces appeared in the dark aura that left his figure, and scarlet shades soon fused with them to give a grim appearance to the scene.

Then, Noah activated his ambition, but the law affected only his body and his weapons. He was ready to go all-out, but the situation didn't require the entirety of his power yet. He only needed his attacks to be deadly and his flesh to endure the drawbacks.

"Wait!" King Elbas suddenly exclaimed. "Give me some time to create something that can affect its skin. We don't need to waste its energy."

"We can't let it be too strong after the separate space collapses," Noah explained as roars mixed with his voice. "We need it to suffer from the event, and we have to weaken it to obtain that outcome."

Noah spread his arms and slashed his swords once he completed his line. His weapons were pointing at completely random directions, but their edges disappeared during the attack.

The giant jellyfish seemed to return to its near-dormant state after the experts retreated, but a storm of black slashes suddenly materialized in its insides and began to spread through its body.

Noah's slashes carried his immense greed, and the jellyfish's insides were full of energy that its skin used to be impenetrable. Still, it seemed that the creature didn't have much control over that fuel, so Noah's attacks could devour it freely to increase their power.

The slashes grew in size and power as they ravaged the jellyfish's insides. A series of wounds opened on Noah's c.h.e.s.t once he lost control of his attacks. The technique continued to feed on the energy and improve, but Noah suffered the drawback before knowing the final might of his blows.

The group stared in awe at the massive dark slashes flying everywhere inside the jellyfish. The creature's half-transparent body allowed everyone to watch the movements of Noah's attacks and their growth. Those techniques even bounced whenever they hit the pale-purple skin and continued their destruction.

The creature didn't know how to stop that offensive, and Noah felt in the same situation. His slashes were out of control in an environment full of energy. Their constant growth even made him fear for what they could become.

"Did you just choose to give us a different opponent?" King Elbas asked while shooting an admonishing gaze toward Noah.

"They have to stop at some point," Noah said while scratching his head. "They must."

"They have reached the ninth rank," Steven commented while staring at the jellyfish.

"It's only a matter of time," Noah replied.

"They are almost as strong as the creature now," Robert added as the slashes kept growing.

"You might want to leave their trajectory," Noah suggested when he saw that the jellyfish didn't do anything to stop the slashes.

The attacks soon matched the jellyfish's power and became able to pierce its skin. They stabbed the pale-purple flesh and stopped bouncing around to gather even more energy.

The thick skin and slashes had the same power, and both of them continued to absorb energy to face that opponent. Still, the jellyfish's skin couldn't grow too strong due to the limits of its level, while Noah's attacks didn't have restrictions to respect.

The slashes eventually grew stronger than the skin and pierced it before flying into the environment. They were fully-fledged rank 9 attacks by then, and the experts quickly moved away from their trajectory to avoid experiencing their pulling force. Yet, the separate space opened again in front of that power, and the blows soon fell into the void.

Many cuts had opened on the jellyfish's head and tentacles. Some of those limbs even ended up hanging by a mere thread of skin. The scene marked Noah as the official counter to those types of creatures. The only problem with that position was his lack of control once the slashes became too powerful.

The jellyfish's level even fell after losing so much energy. It didn't return inside the eighth rank, but the creature felt weaker now.

"Should I launch them again?" Noah wondered.

"You would kill its rank 9 status," King Elbas commented. "Let's avoid that for now."

"Indeed," Wilfred announced. "I'm not losing my chance to get rank 9 nutrients because you like to see how powerful your attacks become."

"They were nice in the ninth rank," Noah admitted while a faint laugh escaped his mouth.

"What now?" Elsie asked when she saw that her companions had no intention to take the matter seriously.

"We force the separate space to collapse earlier than usual," Robert explained before turning toward Noah.

Noah activated the Demonic Deduction technique and spread his violent thoughts among the group. Every expert accepted them, and even the magical beasts had to overcome their fears to experience those instinctive plans.

The entirety of his group learnt that plan in a matter of seconds. They had to stabilize their minds after that wave of violent thoughts, but they recovered quickly and prepared themselves to deploy that strategy.

Everyone coordinated to attack specific areas of the shrinking space. They deployed precise techniques that opened cracks. Spiderwebs of fissures eventually filled the entire battlefield, and large chunks soon separated from them to converge toward the jellyfish.

Noah's plan had made the experts attack specific spots that could place the jellyfish at the center of the collapse. The creature would suffer as much damage as possible at that point, and the falling pieces of separate space would even restrain its movements.

"We must run away now," King Elbas explained, and Noah gave the order through a roar.

The entire group showed their back toward the jellyfish and crossed the opening that King Elbas had promptly opened. The experts and magical beasts soon returned to the safety of the void, but they began to leave the area to wait for the arrival of their opponent.

The jellyfish would eventually reappear in that spot. Noah and the others hoped that the collapse of the separate space could kill it, but things rarely went how they wanted, so they prepared themselves to launch a new series of attacks.

Chapter 1794 - 1794. Ambush

The group of cultivators, magical beasts, and hybrids pointed their weapons and hands toward the empty void as they waited for the insides of the separate space to appear.

The concentration reached by those existences would make any area tremble, but the void was an exception due to the absence of matter. Still, something happened anyway. Slight fluctuation represented by faint flashes of pale-purple light appeared whenever the intense auras spread over the spot where the jellyfish had to materialize.

The flashes didn't intensify. They suddenly transformed into a mass of pale-purple light that took the shape of the massive jellyfish. Lightning bolts ran through its body as the injuries caused by Noah's slashes enlarged. The creature was experiencing the full pressure of the collapse of a separate space, and the event worsened its condition.

The wounds didn't release blood. Only a dense pale-purple liquid came out of them, and waves of energy accompanied it. The creature had no control over that power, so it flowed out of its body and created gales that dispersed into the void.

'Dammit!' Noah cursed in his mind before deploying the dark world.

The sea of dark matter soon engulfed the jellyfish and made sure to preserve its energy. The higher energy shattered and crumbled as that intense power raged in its insides, but Noah continued to provide a fuel that could isolate it.

Ensuring that the energy remained in its place was far easier than restraining the jellyfish. The creature didn't feel to be in pain, but it clearly sensed the discomfort caused by the sudden release of its power.

Its skin grew paler when it lost access to part of its energy. The creature appeared as a mere container for its power according to that scene. Its behavior resembled Noah's parasite rather than an actual magical beast.

'Don't tell me that it just grew around that energy,' Noah wondered while inspecting the scene.

The dark world was allowing the other experts to inspect its insides. Everyone hesitated to launch attacks since the wounds were still enlarging. They didn't know if the creature would die before the pressure vanished, but they didn't want to worsen its condition unnecessarily. They still had to split the jellyfish's body later on, so preserving it would benefit them in the long run.

Noah had a different view about the matter, and some of his friends began to share his ideas when they noticed the behavior of the energy.

The jellyfish clearly had a rank 9 body, but its structure grew frailer without the constant nutrients provided by its immense energy. Its almost-transparent skin started to lose its appeal since the fuel trying to make its way through Noah's dark world seemed to be the true reason behind its current level.

"I'm keeping track of the amount of energy inside your technique," King Elbas announced while turning toward Noah.

"What does that even mean?" Noah snorted.

"I'm just warning you," King Elbas explained. "I know your habits. I want to see fair division here."

"I have put it in its current condition," Noah complained. "I get the bigger share."

"Technically, the power came from its energy," King Elbas argued. "The creature hurt itself. Your slashes were only a lucky trigger."

"They still make me gain points," Noah replied.

"Which go back to zero since you depleted part of our gains," King Elbas didn't hesitate to say. "You should even lose part of your share to compensate for it."

"I knew that I didn't have to make an organization," Noah sighed. "It's all politics and words after the first successful missions."

"We can still fight to settle the matter," King Elbas proposed in a calm tone, but Noah suddenly waved his hand, and a small slash flew out of his fingers to fly right above the expert's head.

King Elbas didn't initially understand the reason behind Noah's actions. Threats wouldn't work in that situation since they had known each other long enough to learn a lot about their respective character.

The answer arrived once King Elbas turned to inspect the void above him. He immediately noticed that the blackness had bent to create a spear aimed for his head, but Noah's slash had severed the attack before it could reach a dangerous distance.

The event seemed to trigger a reaction in the environment. The void bent and stretched in many spots to create multiple strange figures. Part of the area transformed into spears that converged toward the experts. Others grew denser and intensified the pressure on the battlefield.

"How can they even do that?" King Elbas couldn't help but curse.

The empty beings hidden in the void were generating abilities without deploying energy or using matter. Even their attacks were nothing more than different shapes taken by the void.

'How can the void gain a shape if it doesn't have matter?' Noah wondered as the situation grew more dangerous.

Those empty creatures had lost their bodies, laws, and everything that could make them feel like actual living beings. They appeared existences that had fused with the void to survive the severing, but even that didn't explain how they could give power to emptiness.

The matter didn't even concern the theory behind the path to the higher ranks. Those empty creatures couldn't generate energy from emptiness. They didn't seem to use "Breath" or other forms of power at all. They didn't follow any rule, and they even seemed to work against the very system that had cast them out.

A faint idea suddenly appeared in his mind as he waved the Demonic Sword to sever most of the empty abilities. Sword Saint promptly joined him in his offensive, but he didn't bother to think about the actual nature of those creatures. He only wanted to cut stuff, even if it meant attacking the void.

"Their law might be non-existence," Noah whispered, but everyone heard his voice since it spread through his intense aura. "Maybe non-energy is a better name."

"How can they have a law without deploying energy?" Steven asked as everyone continued to point their weapons and hands toward the jellyfish inside the dark world.

"That's the whole point," Noah explained. "Their law makes them not exist. I think it even puts restrictions on their behavior. They might need to live inside the void to survive."

"I saw at least a dozen empty figures moving among the attacks," King Elbas exclaimed. "How can all of them have the same law? Do you think it has something to do with the void?"

"I think Heaven and Earth can't cast existences out of their system without paying the right price," Noah continued. "They must trigger a consequence due to their fairness."

"Do you think Heaven and Earth created them?" Robert asked.

"I think they have purposely altered their existence to cast them out," Noah explained. "That might have given birth to a law that went against the very nature of their world. It wouldn't be surprising if all the discarded creatures shared the same true meaning since they had all gone through the rulers' tinkering and severing."

Chapter 1795 - 1795. Blow

Noah's words left the experts surprised but curious. His speech made sense. An existing theory saw the birth of the magical beasts as the necessary price to pay for Heaven and Earth's control, so it didn't feel too unreal for those empty existence to fit in the same category.

Heaven and Earth's power made each of their drastic decisions create immense consequences in their world. The same could have happened to the existences that had once belonged to their system. The simple act of stripping them away from everything they had could have given birth to a law that went directly against the rulers.

Non-existence and non-energy were words that the experts struggled to understand. Even Noah found it hard to describe them after having his idea. After all, their entire knowledge came from beings that fed on energy. Having to classify creatures that did the exact opposite felt almost impossible.

Still, the group didn't need to understand the empty creatures to fight them. They knew their weakness, and that was enough for the time being.

Noah and Sword Saint took care of keeping the empty creatures and their attacks at bay. Dark and silver slashes flew across the void and destroyed the pointy spears and twisted areas that filled the battlefield with a strange pressure.

A few figures moved through the void as the slashes ravaged the area, and some of them ended up getting hit by those attacks. Their tiny bodies broke at that point, but they seemed to remain able to move even in their maimed state.

The other experts continued to inspect the insides of the dark world in the meantime. They studied the jellyfish as it endured the collapse of the separate space, and dark expressions slowly appeared on their faces when they saw that the creature was surviving the blow.

King Elbas decided to go on the offensive once the force falling on the creature started to disperse. It was better to attack with the help of the separate space's collapse than in a fair battle with the jellyfish. Holding back for the chance to gain more materials was pointless if they had to replicate the powerful event that had ended up opening many cuts on the pale-purple skin.

Attacking had become the best way to preserve as many materials as possible now that the jellyfish appeared about to defeat the external force. Waves of abilities flew out of the platoon as King Elbas

threw a fiery spear toward the dark world. His decision to resume the offensive made everyone discharge their accumulated power.

The dark world opened when those abilities arrived. The dark matter created a perfect passage for those attacks that led them directly to the injured spots of the jellyfish.

The massive and multicolored wave of attacks didn't manage to do much when it hit the creature's skin, but the same didn't apply to the techniques that approached the injuries.

Foreign energy entered the creature's insides and started ravaging them. There wasn't much to destroy there, but the abilities managed to consume or force out the fuel contained inside the jellyfish.

The creature inevitably weakened after losing another chunk of its power, but the experts couldn't do much about that. The jellyfish's power appeared determined to fall under the ninth rank, but King Elbas and the others had started to care only about its energy.

The chaos spread inside the dark world destroyed large chunks of its dark matter, but Noah did his best to enlarge the area covered by his technique while he continued to deal with the empty creatures. Snore, Night, and Duanlong even came out of his figure and began to help with the offensive, but their efforts mainly worked to preserve the waves of energy.

The jellyfish weakened as the process continued, but the pressure generated by the shattering of the separate space eventually vanished and allowed it to act as it wished. The creature tried to pull part of the waves of energy inside the dark world back inside its body, but Noah's companions didn't let that be.

Night sensed a wave of power filling its body and bringing its power on the upper tier of the eighth rank. Noah was empowering the creature with his ambition, and faces even appeared in its empty insides as the effects of Isaac's ability spread.

Cutting the jellyfish open was nearly impossible for normal experts, even if they focused on its injuries. However, Night probably had the best offensive in the entire higher plane. Its ability ignored materials and focused directly on the laws that kept them in one piece.

Night even had the double boost from Noah's ambition and stolen ability other than a series of violent thoughts that flowed through the mental connection. The Pterodactyl was at its absolute peak, while the jellyfish's skin had started to lose power long ago.

The injuries on the jellyfish's head suddenly enlarged as Night severed the law that kept its flesh together. The creature even sent a few details back to Noah, and the latter didn't hesitate to call Robert.

The expert neared Noah, but the two didn't exchange words. A wave of bloodthirsty thoughts engulfed Robert when he was close to his leader, and a deeper understanding of the jellyfish's skin filled his mind.

Robert couldn't help but reveal a crazy smile as a purple substance gathered in his palm. The toxic materials gained the shape of multiple tiny horns that shot toward the dark world and crossed it to reach the jellyfish.

The attacks seemed to have some effects at that time. The toxic substance still couldn't go past the skin due to its fabric with power in the ninth rank, but the same didn't apply to the insides of the injuries.

Purple spots accumulated on the wounds' edges and spread while consuming the few strands of energy that still filled its skin. Robert's law finally started to inflict some damage over time, and the experts quickly tried to imitate him.

Waves of energy flew toward the jellyfish as the attacks moved forward. Still, they couldn't do much since they lacked Noah's unique insights on the actual weaknesses of the creature.

Noah decided to spread his influence at that sight. Bloodthirsty thoughts and ideas on how to destroy the jellyfish entered their minds and gave new power to the offensive. Moreover, Robert's ability was slowly destroying the last defenses of the creature's skin, so the second wave of attacks ended up inflicting damage.

Spiderwebs of cracks started to open on the jellyfish's head and release even more energy. The dark world contained it, but some flares eventually left the wounds and pierced the dark matter before dispersing into the void.

The experts knew that they had to end the battle quickly to preserve that energy, so they continued their assault. The creature tried to fly away once the danger became too massive, but King Elbas and the others never stopped attacking to keep its position still.

The entirety of the jellyfish's head slowly fell apart and released a cloud made of a slimy pale-purple substance and a lot of energy. Noah paid attention to the changes in the creature while fending off the empty creatures. It seemed that his companions had managed to deliver a killing blow.

Chapter 1796 - 1796. Corpse

The energy left inside the jellyfish spread inside the dark world as its head shattered. The dark matter barely managed to contain those dense waves of power, and some of them inevitably reached the void to disperse.

Shafu ended up materializing itself among the void. Its massive size made it cover the entirety of the battlefield with its body, and its wings quickly flapped to send some of the dispersing energy back into the dark world.

King Elbas turned his attention toward the empty creatures that surrounded the group. Some of the magical beasts had already started to fight them, but their abilities had no effect.

The expert deployed the same inscriptions that he had set on the hole. Floating formations quickly appeared around him and locked on the empty creatures before releasing a series of slashes that carried Noah and Sword Saint's power.

King Elbas added many layers of inscription to make sure that the formation had enough power to deal with that crisis. His priority was to give Noah and Sword Saint enough room to share the benefits of the hunt.

The empty existences slowly retreated as Noah, Sword Saint, and the golden formation released attacks that could damage and kill their opponents, and the scales of the battle ultimately ended up in their favor.

The creatures with no body and aura stopped launching attacks and retreated at high speed. They waited until they exited the group's range before fusing back with the void.

Noah and the others spent a few seconds inspecting the now empty scene before turning toward the jellyfish. Its body was still inside the dark matter, and the same went for a large chunk of its energy.

"Don't play around," King Elbas announced as soon as peace spread among the group. "I've seen you hiding part of the energy inside your technique. I'm sorry. You can't have those nutrients all for yourself."

"It didn't hurt to try," Noah said while shrugging his shoulders and making the dark world draw closer. "I'm surprised you noticed that. I made sure to hide it really well."

An obscured trail of dark matter became visible and allowed the experts to see that Noah had tried to keep a large amount of energy hidden inside his technique.

"I have been too obvious," Noah sighed while retracting his companions and moving the entirety of his ambition toward the dark world.

The technique immediately grew stronger and denser. It became a proper prison that pushed the energy and the jellyfish toward its center. It even used some fuel to restore the parts that were about to fall in the eighth rank.

"Is this how a leader should act?" Elsie asked as a tinge of annoyance appeared on her face. "Do you even steal from your underlings?"

Noah glanced at her and gave voice to a laugh before snapping his fingers. The experts immediately stopped seeing the insides of the dark world, and even the powerful aura radiated by the creature stopped flowing into the void.

Some flares of energy still managed to escape the technique, but the dispersion was far less after the enhancement provided by the ambition. Some human and animal faces even appeared on the outsides of the dark world, and the suppression only grew stronger.

It became clear that Noah could have hidden the energy if he really wanted. No one would have been able to sense it inside that version of the dark world.

"Why did you even try then?" Elsie asked as confusion filled her face.

"It's fun to tease Xavier," Noah explained.

His friends couldn't help but laugh at that scene, but the experts from the human organizations remained speechless. They had just fought a rank 9 creature, but those existences still found the time to play around.

"You'll eventually get it once you spend enough time with us," The Foolery exclaimed while nearing the cultivator and patting her shoulder.

Elsie's expression became blank when she saw the pig patting her shoulder. She had spent her life inside a human organization, so she didn't know how to react to that unreasonable scene.

"The pig really has a talent," Divine Demon commented when he noticed that annoyance slowly built inside Elsie's mind. "We should make a challenge! Let's see who can make Xavier angrier!"

"How could I even refuse?" The pig shouted while lifting its head. "How can your miracles even defeat unbound talent?"

"That's the spirit!" Divine Demon shouted as energy flowed out of his figure.

Noah and the others felt a chill running down their spine. The two most unreasonable existences in the entire higher plane were challenging themselves. King Elbas' friends couldn't help but glance at him and show their deep sorrow.

"It has been nice knowing you," Wilfred exclaimed.

"Be sure to leave your space-rings behind," Noah reminded him.

"Death comes to us all," Robert sighed. "Friends are deadlier than foes at times."

King Elbas didn't take the matter lightly. He had wielded a new upper tier fiery spear as soon as he heard that the challenge concerned him. However, a sudden burst of lightning bolts pierced the dark world and created large holes in the technique.

"How can it be still alive?" Steven asked as the entire group performed evasive maneuvers to dodge the incoming attacks.

"It isn't," Noah explained. "The damned tentacles are discharging their remaining energy!"

"Can you suppress it?" King Elbas asked while taking out a different set of items.

The answer to his question arrived right away. The entirety of the dark world crumbled as a barrage of lightning bolts pierced its insides. The energy contained by the technique began to vanish into the void without the suppression of the dark matter. The experts saw the result of their efforts dispersing right in front of their eyes.

"Change of plan!" Noah roared. "Get the energy before it leaves the area. You won't have to split it afterward."

The order made all the experts prepare to shoot forward, but many of them ended up hesitating. The jellyfish was missing the upper part of its body, but its tentacles were still intact and released multiple barrages of lightning bolts everywhere in the environment.

Nearing the creature would give less time to dodge the lightning bolts. Each of those attacks even had bottom rank 9 power, so many experts decided to give up on the energy to preserve their lives.

Noah, King Elbas, Wilfred, Divine Demon, Robert, Steven, and many magical beasts shot ahead without showing any hesitation. They dodged the lightning bolts on their way and approached the trembling tentacles.

It was clear that the jellyfish was dead, but its tentacles were working on their own due to the law fused with its fabric. Those limbs were aware of the creature's d.e.s.i.r.es and fear, so they used their last energies to make the humans pay.

Noah completely ignored the lightning bolts as he shot toward the dispersing energy. His dark world expanded again once he reached a suitable spot, and his ambition flowed inside the technique to make it able to deal with the fuel.

The jellyfish's remaining power slowly vanished. The lightning bolts didn't come out of the tentacles anymore. Even those limbs just started to hang from the maimed head.

Chapter 1797 - 1797. Complaints

Leaving the energy released by the jellyfish in the void would only allow it to disperse. Noah couldn't contain all of it even when his ambition empowered the dark world, so he had to absorb it inside the black hole to ensure that he didn't leave anything behind.

An immense pressure started to build inside Noah. He had been the first expert to reach the corpse, so he had managed to absorb the biggest share of energy. Yet, that power could fuel a rank 9 creature, and even his incredible centers of power fell a bit short.

The black hole struggled to contain that massive wave of energy. It couldn't purify it in its current state, and its edges inevitably grew unstable. Those instabilities then spread toward the rest of Noah's body and made his flesh shake.

Still, Noah didn't stop. He knew how resilient his body was, and he couldn't let that energy disperse either.

His ambition stopped fueling the dark world. The energy contained by the technique created flares that shot toward the void once their restraints weakened, but an intense pulling force stopped their flight before they could disperse in the infinite darkness.

Noah moved Isaac's ability and his ambition on his black hole. The entirety of his reason-defying empowerment went on the fourth center of power and forced it to reach a superior state.

The waves of dark matter in its insides started to solidify while they left the organ's edges and expanded outside Noah's figure. The black hole went through the transformation that only a better fuel could cause, and it generated a dark singularity that grew and created a gravitational pull.

Noah's friends had to retreat when they saw that raging dark matter trying to engulf them into its dense waves. Part of the energy they had seized even escaped their control and flew toward the massive black hole.

The problems didn't end there. The gravitational pull grew smarter as the black hole started to require more fuel to evolve. A second pulling force fused with the first and began to affect the energy stored in the centers of power of the experts in the surroundings.

King Elbas and those who had managed to get past the storm of lightning bolts found themselves forced to leave the area. Their centers of power appeared unable to restrain their energy. Even their bodies started to wither under that influence.

Luckily for the group, those who had managed to fly past the storm of lightning bolts could also escape Noah's threatening influence before he could inflict serious injuries. Everyone managed to leave the

range of the massive black hole, but the relentless growth of the singularity forced them to retreat even more after a few minutes.

"Wait!" Elsie shouted while approaching the retreating group. "Will you let him take everything?"

"Why is she even talking with us?" The Foolery asked when all the experts turned toward her.

The experts didn't know what to say. Their eyes went on the massive black hole before showing blank expressions toward Elsie. There was a singularity capable of absorbing the energy inside their centers of power between them and their gains. They didn't know how the cultivator could even question their behavior.

"Shouldn't we split everything together?" Keith asked.

"He missed the part when the slimy corpse started releasing lightning bolts," The Foolery commented.

The four cultivators from the human organizations turned their angry eyes toward the pig at that point. They knew that the situation had evolved during the hunt, but they didn't expect to remain empty-handed. They didn't think that being reckless in that group could provide more rewards.

The upper tier Eternal Snake lowered its head toward the four cultivators when it sensed their anger toward the Foolery. Its forked tongue trembled in the void before a low hiss came out of its mouth.

"You can't hurt this one," The Eternal Snake hissed while human words came out of its mouth. "We need it for food."

Elsie and her three companions showed helpless expressions when they looked at the snake. They had tried to complain about their leader's behavior, but they had only received insults and threats in return.

Those with a human appearance didn't even bother to reply. They seemed properly confused about her complaints.

Only a few experts and magical beasts had managed to seize a consistent amount of energy. Noah had ended up taking everything else.

"You can't complain once the situation escapes our control," Robert eventually explained. "We threw ourselves into the array of lightning bolts without showing the slightest hesitation. How can you even expect to get a share?"

"Organizations should consider all its underlings," Elsie tried to argue.

"That's why they are dead," King Elbas scoffed. "We don't need useless experts who gain benefits from the work of others. You should start fighting for what you want. Heaven and Earth will kill you otherwise."

"You have chosen to go against Heaven and Earth only recently," Wilfred added. "We have fought them for millennia already. We are all monsters here because we are the only ones who survived."

Being powerful cultivators wasn't enough there. King Elbas and the others had accomplished enough feats to make their names immortal, but they were still there, fighting for resources.

The experts also challenged each other to do better, which explained their extraordinary power even further. They couldn't let themselves fall behind. They wouldn't be able to follow Noah in his crazy plans otherwise.

"Does it always end like this?" Elsie eventually asked while pointing at the expanding black hole.

"Today's has been easy actually," Wilfred announced before exploding into a loud laugh.

"The creature didn't have any chance," King Elbas commented. "Even the idiots from the Crystal City would have survived this battle."

Another wave of astonishment reached the four cultivators. The battle against a rank 9 creature with unknown abilities and peculiar features was nothing for those experts. The group even seemed to agree with that statement.

"How long does it usually take?" Alexander asked while turning toward King Elbas.

"He is empowering the source of his darkness to endure the intense wave of energy," King Elbas explained. "It won't stop until he manages to stabilize his centers of power and start a proper absorption."

"Can we move him?" Steven asked.

"You are free to try," King Elbas laughed.

"We can't stay here," Elsie joined that topic while forsaking her previous arrogance. "Your formation can keep the void at bay, but we have just fought and depleted a lot of energy. The hole isn't anywhere near even. We should start to consider going back."

"It's too early for that," King Elbas announced as his voice grew cold. "We still don't have enough energy for the world. Our stashes of energy are dwindling, but we expected much. A few more decades inside the void should be enough to meet every requirement."

Chapter 1798 - 1798. Suppression

The main issue with the void was the lack of energy. Hybrids and magical beasts had it better since they could rely on the large stash of energy contained in their bodies to keep fighting, but the same didn't apply to the cultivators.

Flying, exploring, and overcoming struggles forced the group to deplete energy that they couldn't refill through natural methods. They had to rely on their items or King Elbas' tools to keep their centers of power full, but they would eventually end.

The consumption accelerated depending on the struggles that they had to overcome. The battle against the jellyfish had forced them to use a lot of energy, which would require them to rely on their stashes. The mission wasn't even over, and they also had to consider the return in their calculations.

Learning that the mission had to last for a few more decades naturally spread doubts among the four cultivators. They understood that the reconstruction of the higher plane had the priority, but they would be close to reaching a critical point after those years. There was a high chance that their stashes would vanish, and that without considering other dangerous hindrances on their path.

Each battle that required the experts to use their full power would shorten the mission by entire years, and they didn't have a way to solve that issue. The environment simply lacked energy.

"Do you ever not risk your lives during your missions?" Elsie asked, but she received only shrugs and laughs as answers.

Noah remained inside the massive black hole while the experts discussed in the distance. The intense energy absorbed from the jellyfish ran through the waves of dark matter and fused with them to increase their power.

The dark matter at the center of the singularity became solid. It transformed into a proper black material that Noah could reshape at will. Still, the situation didn't work in his favor since the process was consuming part of his gains.

'This won't do,' Noah thought while he remained still in the middle of the solid and liquid dark matter.

The black hole was evolving, but Noah didn't want it to reach the superior level since he would have to endure the fall of its power afterward. He had empowered the organ because he needed a better method to contain and absorb energy, but the situation was escaping his control.

'I can't let it condense on its own,' Noah thought while spreading his arms and summoning Duanlong and Shafu.

The dark matter didn't hinder his movements. It didn't matter if the higher energy around him had become one of the toughest materials in the entire world. That blackness was part of him, so his arms could pierce it at ease.

The black hole understood Noah's intentions and began to help him push power toward his flesh. Duanlong and Shafu activated their pulling force from inside his body and started to drag energy toward the same target.

The organ tried its best to purify the energy before it reached Noah's flesh, but part of it remained in its original state anyway. The improved power fused with his flesh, muscles, bones, and organs, while the rest remained attached to the outsides of his figure.

Noah even activated the workshop. Using that technique inside the raging waves of dark matter was troublesome and required his full concentration, but he managed to affect part of the powerful energy like that.

The workshops transformed part of the primary energy that he didn't manage to purify into darkness for his dantian. Noah didn't need to perform his usual cultivation session in that situation since his surroundings overflowed with energy, so the technique could do a better job at improving his level.

Noah felt as if he had fallen into a container filled with a scorching substance. Every inch of his body was on fire. He had energy inside and outside his flesh, but power never stopped flowing toward him.

'It's not enough!' Noah shouted in his mind before cutting away part of the improvements given to the black hole.

Its gravitational pull had already gathered all the energy in the environment, so he could remove it from the list of features improved through his abilities. The same went for the part that handled the suppression of the foreign energy since the dark matter and his companions were handling it.

The empowerment focused only on the purification and the workshop at that point. Noah's flesh and dantian still had some space left, so he filled them before changing approach again.

Going through real breakthroughs now wasn't the right move. Noah knew that the drawbacks would eventually arrive, and the lack of energy in the environment could make the whole procedure quite dangerous. Moreover, he would need years to face that process, but he couldn't spend that time in the middle of the void before making proper preparations.

He had to find a way to contain that energy and give time to his centers of power to absorb it. The black hole also had to return to its original state to control the whole evolution and make sure that he reached the best possible version of himself.

'Shafu!' Noah shouted in his mind, and the dragon quickly absorbed part of that energy.

The separate space that didn't generate separate dimensions became too heavy for the creature in a matter of minutes, but Noah quickly moved to his next plan.

The parasite stretched its branches out of Noah's body and began to feed on that energy. Its power rose quickly, and the same went for its requirements, which Noah didn't hesitate to accept after leading the plant away from that power.

'Duanlong, Snore, Shafu, Night, eat something!' Noah ordered through the mental connection, and his companions didn't hesitate to materialize in the middle of the black hole to relieve some pressure from his constant absorption.

That turned out not to be enough even after the Demonic Sword joined them. There was a lot of power left to absorb inside the black hole, and Noah was starting to run out of options.

His centers of power were full, and the same went for his companions. Storing energy inside his mind didn't help either since the quantity that it could endure was inferior to the body and dantian.

The workshop began to produce suitable meals for Night while the other companions simply absorbed the raw energy that arrived around them. Their power rose quickly, and it slowly reduced the expansion of the black hole.

Noah started to store part of that energy inside his separate space, but it became too heavy soon too. It was clear that those methods weren't solving the issue, but delaying the black hole's breakthrough gave Noah enough time to develop other solutions.

Noah eventually took a gamble. He deactivated his empowering abilities completely. The black hole shrunk to return to its previous state, and it carried with it most of the energy left untouched.

The internal pressure returned and threatened to make Noah's body explode, but the drawbacks eventually arrived and forced the black hole to use some of it to fix them. The process was long, but he couldn't think of anything else to solve the issue.

The drawbacks vanished at some point, but his body continued to tremble. His centers of power shook, and an almost unbearable pressure spread from his c.h.e.s.t. However, he felt able to remain stable for now.

Chapter 1799 - 1799. Mansion

The entire group turned toward Noah once the black hole condensed inside his body. His figure reappeared inside the void, but his appearance left them quite surprised.

Noah's figure was glowing. Dark-purple energy covered his skin and made him shine among the darkness of the void.

That glow trembled since his entire body shook due to the immense power that it was trying to contain. The absorption had started, but the black hole was still purifying and spreading energy through his insides, so his tissues never managed to relax.

The experts instinctively took a step back. Noah appeared about to blow, and they didn't want to be in his range. The d.e.s.i.r.e to help him didn't make them reckless either, so they remained in their spot and waited for him to do something.

"Elbas!" Noah roared while a wave of flames came out of his mouth. "Take out a big training area."

Noah was so full of energy that even a slight movement would activate techniques. The simple gesture of opening his mouth had released a sea of black flames meant to disperse part of the immense power accumulated in his insides. Still, the attack didn't manage to achieve much since the black hole promptly sent more energy to the lungs when it sensed that they had some free spots.

"I can't even begin to count the many things that could go wrong," King Elbas honestly replied. "We would even deplete our stashes if we start cultivating here."

Noah snorted and placed a hand on his glowing c.h.e.s.t. The massive corpse of the jellyfish flowed out of his body and appeared next to him.

The black hole had prioritized the absorption of raw energy since the jellyfish's true power came from it. Yet, the creature's corpse had ended up inside Noah's separate space when the black hole condensed.

The corpse had lost most of its superficial skin, but it was still an immense rank 9 material. It contained enough power to fuel rank 8 items for entire millennia.

Noah didn't need King Elbas to add anything. He already knew that the portable training area could feed on the jellyfish's energy to show its effects. He threw the corpse directly at him and waited for the habitation to appear in his vision.

"Gather up!" King Elbas shouted while pointing toward Noah. "We'll take a break from the mission now."

Doubts inevitably appeared among the experts. Even some of Noah's core group didn't see the connection between the corpse and the years left for the mission.

However, none of them gave voice to questions. Even the magical beasts remained silent while the entire group moved toward Noah's position.

King Elbas waved his hand toward the void once the group was close enough. A golden light flashed among the blackness before a huge mansion materialized in front of the experts.

A peak rank 8 aura filled the void and left all the experts astonished at the sheer beauty and size of the item. The mansion consisted of a series of large buildings connected by an intricate array of corridors and surrounded by a tall defensive wall. It

The mansion resembled a small town rather than a single building, but King Elbas couldn't waste time feeling proud about those astonished gazes. He shot toward the central structure and snapped his fingers before gesturing to Wilfred to drop the corpse.

Wilfred threw the corpse toward the designated spot, and the creature vanished when it touched the side of the central structure. The entirety of the mansion became brighter at that point, but King Elbas made sure to tone that glow down to preserve energy.

"You can go in," King Elbas announced. "The mansion will send you toward specific areas that I've previously assigned to all of you. You might have complaints about my decision, but I want to remind you that I can choose to make your habitations detonate."

Everyone noted in their minds not to disturb King Elbas before approaching the mansion and disappearing once they touched its golden walls.

"Do you need a hand?" King Elbas asked once he remained alone.

Noah snorted before flying slowly toward the mansion. Cracks opened on its walls when Noah touched them, but the teleport activated anyway. A golden hall that featured countless inscriptions soon appeared in his vision and autonomously deployed a series of defensive shields on its surfaces.

The hall had reacted to Noah's dangerous aura. He was a being packed with the energy of a rank 9 creature. Those precautions were necessary.

Noah disregarded the many tools that the hall had to offer and sat on a praying mat placed at the center of the aura to handle the energy that filled his everything.

'I can't avoid the breakthroughs,' Noah concluded after a quick inspection of his state.

The rank 9 creature had given him enough fuel to push his dantian and body to the last step of the eighth rank, but that growth would trigger an immense pulling force that could endanger the mansion.

Noah knew that King Elbas would use the rank 9 corpse as fuel for the mansion, but he didn't know if the structure could hold with the entirety of the group in its insides.

'Oh well,' Noah eventually laughed in his mind. 'I guess he'll just make a new one if I break it.'

Noah closed his eyes and began to focus on the procedure. He had energy outside, on the other side, and inside all his tissues. His flesh had an exorbitant amount of primary energy, while his dantian had fully expanded, but he was forcing it to avoid the breakthrough.

However, the suppression had to end now. Noah removed the restraints and let his centers of power advance on their own, even if he helped with the compression of his dantian since he preferred to face that organ first.

The organ still had energy even after the breakthrough, so Noah experienced a second increase of his cultivation level, even if far less substantial.

His aura exploded outward as his level stabilized in the solid stage. Noah had finally reached the last stage of the eighth rank, but he didn't have time to test his growth just yet since he still needed to take care of his body.

Noah delayed the breakthrough of his body on purpose to let the black hole improve after the advance of the dantian. The new darkness filled the fourth center of power with currents of dark matter that resembled the solid ones gained through his ambition, but they were still a bit weaker than them.

However, the black hole didn't have only one valid ability now. It could deploy the workshop, purify, check Noah's body, and ensure that everything went well better than before without requiring any external force.

Noah relied on the new features to make use of some of the energy attached to his skin before deploying the dark world and letting his body advance. The dark world knew that he didn't want to waste time, so there was a high chance that the hibernation wouldn't last for too long.

Chapter 1800 - 1800. Awakening

The entirety of Noah's existence advanced when he closed his eyes to start the hibernation. His body had always been the foundation of his harmony. He relied on it to fuse his power with the new features brought by his experience and breakthrough.

Noah's law had been ready to advance to the solid stage long ago, but his dantian had to gather enough energy to fuel the breakthrough. The body didn't have limitations in terms of evolution of his true meaning, but its requirements would make every expert in the world give up on the cultivation journey.

The sole idea of obtaining the energy of a rank 9 creature as a liquid stage existence in the eighth rank was unreasonable. The difference in power between them was as vast as the sky, but those rules didn't apply to Noah.

Noah's existence already allowed him to face beings at the peak of the eighth rank. Dealing with a creature in the ninth rank with the help of his best experts had been easy. It was clear that the liquid stage couldn't contain him anymore, and the energy gathered during the hunt had proven that.

His body advanced while Noah went through a dreamless sleep. The dark matter around him helped the center of power with the process and quickened the various improvements. His flesh, muscles, bones, and organs went through multiple enhancements under the strict supervision of the black hole, and some of the energy that he didn't absorb before ended up helping anyway.

Other changes happened during the breakthrough of his body. Noah's companions had eaten part of the jellyfish's energy to reduce the pressure on his centers of power, and they ended up using it during his sleep.

The energy coming from a rank 9 creature wasn't only more powerful. It had a superior quality that made Noah's companions reach the limits of their current level.

They would have normally required a bit more time to absorb that energy completely and take the last step toward the next tier, but a stronger fuel forced them to advance during Noah's hibernation.

His dantian released waves of ambition that made the companions' bodies advance on their own. They had already met the requirements for the breakthrough in terms of energy, so the intense force spreading from Noah's organ triggered the evolution.

The dark world had even expanded inside the hall. The black hole could force workshops capable of benefitting Noah's companions on its own. It didn't take much before Night, Duanlong, Snore, the Demonic Sword, and the parasite crossed the limits of the middle tier and hibernated to reach the new level.

Shafu also contained a lot of energy inside its separate space, so the companions could use it whenever their breakthroughs required more power than expected. The sheer amount of energy contained in that single hall was so intense that the golden walls, floor, and ceiling trembled due to the might thriving in its insides.

Only the six-armed dragon didn't advance. Shafu solidified its position as a peak rank 8 creature, but it didn't take the next step. The creature shared part of Noah's insane requirements, so a single share of the jellyfish's energy wasn't enough to trigger the breakthrough.

The dark world made sure that the waves of energy naturally released by Noah's figure didn't damage the mansion. The breakthroughs went smoothly and didn't cause any problem, but the process almost emptied the stashes of the jellyfish's energy. Shafu ended up being the only one with some fuel left, but it decided to store it.

The dark world flowed back into Noah's figure when he woke up. The black hole updated him about everything that had happened during his sleep, and a smile inevitably appeared on his face when he noticed the power of his companions.

They weren't falling behind. They were keeping up with Noah's improvements in their current form.

A wave of darkness spread from Noah's figure when he straightened his position. His ambition overflowed and seeped inside the mansion to improve its structure.

The golden materials gained darker shades, but their nature didn't evolve. It seemed that King Elbas had already perfected those alloys, but the same didn't apply to the overall structure.

King Elbas was a monster, and Noah couldn't even try to understand the depths of his expertise. The mansion featured many inscription methods that the world had lost long ago, but the ambition didn't care about Noah's ignorance.

Thick black lines appeared on the walls, floor, and ceiling as his ambition continued to flow in the area. Noah ignored how most of those inscriptions worked, but his law improved them anyway. It elevated their nature by relying on their intrinsic power.

Some of those inscriptions obtained abilities that even King Elbas didn't know how to replicate. Noah's ambition made them surpass the cultivator's expertise on their own, and the mansion only benefitted from it.

The structure's energy requirements lowered, the various commands ran faster through the various inscriptions, and its overall sturdiness increased. Even the various weapons spread through the mansion grew stronger as Noah's ambition reached every corner of the large series of buildings.

The other experts had remained inside their respective halls during those years. King Elbas had used the jellyfish's corpse as fuel for the entire mansion. That material had allowed all the cultivators, magical beasts, and hybrids to absorb energy and refill their stashes. They didn't manage to reach the level of their initial preparations, but the process still made them gain many years.

The arrival of Noah's ambition didn't go unnoticed. Everyone in the group knew what it felt to bathe in his law, so they felt surprised when they saw his energy affecting the mansion as a whole and transforming it into something more than a mere habitation with valuable tools.

All the halls grew dark while the experts decided to continue their training. They knew that Noah would return soon, and the mission would resume right after that.

Still, they didn't imagine that the darkness would bring such intense benefits. Some immediately gained insights on certain matters. Others found ways to improve their battle prowess even if they had remained stuck on the same attacks for millennia.

Moreover, the mansion as a whole seemed to provide more energy. The experts didn't know why that was happening, but they were aware of the source of those changes. Noah's energy was unmistakable.

"Can you stop messing with my mansion?" King Elbas' voice suddenly resounded inside Noah's hall as a golden figure came out of its walls.

"I can feel the improvements," Noah nodded while revealing a satisfied smile. "Just accept them. Maybe even learn something."

"Are you Divine Demon now?" King Elbas snorted. "I'm already studying these improvements, but I don't believe for even a second that you had control over it. Your expertise wouldn't allow you to do that."

"How is the rest of the group?" Noah asked to move the conversation away from that topic.

Noah could see that King Elbas had also reached the solid stage. His cultivation level even appeared above Noah's, but the latter didn't mind it. He could only feel satisfied.

"No breakthroughs," King Elbas explained, "We have been the only two to advance, but everyone has recovered already. The void still has much to offer to us."