

Demonic 1821

Chapter 1821 - 1821. Test

Sword Saint didn't say anything. Everyone knew that the stormy regions were dangerous. Many even believed them to be the final destination of the cultivation journey, but Noah and the others had somewhere else to be afterward.

'How many rank 9 creatures do these lands even hold?' Noah wondered while absorbing the centipede inside his separate space.

Mere rank 7 cultivators could live for tens of thousands of years. The magical beasts usually had a longer lifespan since they focused the entirety of their energy on a single center of power, so they could virtually survive forever as long as someone didn't kill them.

The centipede might have been at the edges of the stormy regions for entire eras, and many others magical beasts might be able to claim the same. The areas filled with chaotic laws were even in constant expansion, so Noah couldn't get an idea of how crowded they could be.

Some regions inside the storms would become part of the Immortal Lands as the expansion continued, but that happened before Heaven and Earth destroyed the higher plane. Noah and the others didn't know how the world worked now. They had only confirmed that nothing had changed in the years that they had spent in seclusion.

"This region is basically stable," King Elbas commented while landing on the red sand and spreading his aura inside it. "I believe it would have already become part of the Immortal Lands during normal times."

King Elbas and Noah were thinking about the same topic. They couldn't find other explanations for the milder storms in that area, but they didn't know how to test their ideas.

"Does it even matter?" Sword Saint asked. "The higher plane is someone else's problem now. Our path leads us deeper into the storms."

"The world is a mirror that reflects Heaven and Earth's character," King Elbas sighed. "Learning its functioning can teach us something about the rulers, especially about their flaws."

"What does the sand say?" Alexander asked.

The experts turned toward Alexander to make sure that they heard correctly. The hybrid didn't use a mocking tone. His question had been serious.

King Elbas arched his eyebrows before bending toward the ground. His fingers stabbed the sand as his curiosity continued to spread. His aura seeped deep into the land and tried to understand its secrets.

The seven in the sky remained silent as golden lights came out of the many dunes and spread over the red surface. They could sense King Elbas' intense curiosity in those glows. His d.e.s.i.r.e to learn more about that region almost made the laws around him shatter to reveal their insides.

"The region would have normally left the storms already," King Elbas announced after straightening his position. "I felt its confusion. It has a purpose that it can't express here."

"We could help it leave and see what happens," Robert suggested.

"I can smell Defying Demon in those words," Wilfred commented.

"How do you plan on taking it out?" Steven asked, and a helpless sigh escaped his mouth when he saw Sword Saint and Noah drawing their weapons.

"You can't," King Elbas quickly stopped them. "It can't express its meaning here, but it can't live outside either. The chaotic laws stop it from falling apart, but its structure clearly lacks some core components."

"We can fix that," Noah commented.

"To what end?" Sword Saint asked. "Do you want to make it fulfill Heaven and Earth's purpose?"

"Quite the opposite actually," Noah explained while pointing at the denser storms above him. "These come from Heaven and Earth, right? They must have created this land at some point, so making it exit the storms in a shape that they didn't set is a win."

"The topic of the chaotic laws is still unclear," King Elbas announced. "They are raw energy capable of taking any shape, but we can't confirm their source. Heaven and Earth are the most probable, but many think that they are a legacy of the world before the rulers."

"I have a different view," Noah commented.

"Of course you have," King Elbas sighed.

"We know that Heaven and Earth have started absorbing other laws after failing to reach the tenth rank," Noah began to explain, but King Elbas quickly interrupted him.

"We only suspect that," King Elbas said. "We know that Heaven and Earth are absorbing new laws to expand their existence, but we don't know if they have tried to act differently before."

"One of their underlings has different opinions about their path," Noah snorted.

"That's not proof at all!" King Elbas shouted.

"Anyway," Noah continued. "The "Breath" might have been their first form of energy generated after evolving the primary energy. Heaven and Earth might have conquered the world with it, but the failure in the breakthrough might have forced them to change their approach."

"That's a lot of might," Steven commented.

"Quite a lot," Alexander added.

"It still makes sense!" Noah exclaimed. "The chaotic laws might be their second form of energy, created only for their second attempt in the breakthrough to the tenth rank. They would explain why they can absorb existences so easily."

King Elbas and the others didn't know what to say. The speech made sense, but those events had happened far too long ago. It was unclear whether humans lived back then even. They couldn't find any proof that could prove Noah's theory.

"So," Sword Saint asked while pointing at the land below with his blade. "Do we cut it or not?"

King Elbas spread his arms and heaved a helpless sigh, Alexander and Wilfred shrugged their shoulders, Divine Demon took out a jug of wine and began to drink on his own, and Steven shook his head. Noah glanced at Sword Saint and nodded while expanding his consciousness as much as possible and searching the edges of the region.

The storms hindered Noah's consciousness, but they also caused constant changes in the environment. He didn't take much to find where the red sand ended, and he didn't hesitate to stab the Demonic Sword on those edges to spread his dark matter through the ground.

Sword Saint didn't deploy the same precise approach. He found where the sand stopped and began to launch slashes to divide it from the nearby regions.

The two didn't take much to cut away the entire region, and King Elbas even handled the adjustments on its structure during that process. Robert then stepped in and used his influence to mutate the fabric into something that couldn't belong to Heaven and Earth.

Wilfred, Alexander, and Noah took care of lifting the region at that point. Waterfalls of sand fell when the trio reached its rocky bottom and separated it from the rest of the area.

Heaven and Earth and the storms didn't seem to care about that event, so the group began to fly toward the higher plane. Shafu could store that landmass easily, so the group didn't have to carry anything while leaving the chaotic laws to test if they could steal from them.

It took a while to come out of the storms, and Noah didn't hesitate to make Shafu spit that region once they reached the whiteness. The land reappeared among the world and began to float on its own, but the sky suddenly released a humming sound that spread through the entire higher plane.

Chapter 1822 - 1822. Mother

The sky sounded on the verge of speaking, but no words came out of it. Instead, the whiteness in specific points above and under the sandy region intensified as the humming noise continued.

Noah and the others didn't know what was happening, but they instinctively retreated and deployed defensive measures. They all waited for Heaven and Earth to make their move and show how they handled that loss of energy.

Pillars grew from the spot with intense light. They shot toward the region and engulfed it in their radiance.

The mutated laws that made the sandy region burnt under the intense whiteness of the pillars. They crumbled right in front of the expert's eyes and returned to their state of energy without a purpose.

The pillars vanished once the entire region disappeared, and the energy that the process released flowed toward the sky. Heaven and Earth were claiming that energy back.

"That was underwhelming," Divine Demon commented while taking a sip from his cup.

"How much wine do you even have in your space-ring?" Wilfred asked.

"I don't have any," Divine Demon shrugged his shoulders. "It only appears inside my space-rings whenever I want to drink."

"I promise that I'll eat you rather than let Heaven and Earth have you," Noah announced. "I fear what could happen if they manage to absorb you."

"My heir is so thoughtful," Divine Demon sniffed while drinking from his cup again.

"Why would they destroy these lands but let us keep the energy stolen from the void?" King Elbas asked while scratching his chin.

"Maybe they need them to be inside the storms until the new higher plane is over," Alexander suggested.

"Or maybe the higher plane is their body," Noah exclaimed, "And the lands inside the storms hide part of their secrets."

"We might see it as a simple rebuilding of the world," Alexander commented, "But, in truth, it might be the planning of their new center of power."

"Don't jump to conclusions," King Elbas snorted. "That's just another theory that we can't prove."

"We should ask Heaven and Earth next time we see them," Noah laughed. "Shall we return now?"

The group didn't have to answer to move back inside the storms. Their small break was over. It was time to resume their journey.

The environment inside the storms had already changed in the short period that the group had spent outside. The experts didn't manage to see much during their first exploration, but they had found a few easily recognizable signals back then. However, they didn't find their previous path. They couldn't even see the hole created after removing the region.

The event left the experts speechless, but a second inspection revealed that the stormy regions didn't stay still now. The lack of a higher plane had turned them into a massive ring that rotated while expanding outward.

The rotation seemed to give stability to the lands that went through constant changes due to the chaotic laws. King Elbas actually came up with a map that tried to describe the calculations necessary to bring that balance, but only Noah and Alexander ended up paying attention to him.

Noah's initial worry about the population of the stormy regions slowly vanished as the group advanced for months without encountering any living being. The gales intensified, and the energy in the environment increased, but they didn't find any creature living there.

King Elbas, Alexander, and Robert ended up taking most of them. They needed to exchange part of their share of the centipede to obtain those materials, but they didn't need the former anyway.

Noah enjoyed the travel more than his companions. The chaotic laws could be a dangerous fuel capable of tainting existences, but he had the perfect organ ready for the task.

The chaotic laws didn't fuse directly with his existence. The black hole took them in its insides and turned them into a pure form of energy that suited Noah's standards. He could basically cultivate during the flight due to the intensity of the storms, and his power slowly increased even as the calm period stretched for years.

His companions noticed that he never fended off the chaotic laws, but they didn't try to understand his methods. They were also experiencing benefits in that environment. They simply didn't involve only their cultivation level.

The materials found inside the stormy regions made Robert's law more powerful. He could analyze different fabrics and make his toxic substance learn from them.

Alexander had many abilities that shared Robert's requirements, so he also used those materials for himself. Yet, some of his innate skills even required specific alloys and other exotic items to work or grow, so he always ended up eating what he found.

King Elbas' curiosity was on fire during the flight. He found new and peculiar regions every month. The environment was never the same, and he could always witness structures of laws that he had never seen nor imagined.

Enduring the chaotic laws was constant torture, and Steven's determination could only benefit from that environment. His cultivation level didn't increase by a lot, but his law broadened and intensified.

As for Divine Demon, the expert limited himself to generate jugs of wine from the chaotic laws. He didn't appear interested in the environment or his cultivation level. He followed the group of experts and waited for the next challenge to arrive.

Noah often glanced toward Alexander when he wasn't busy taking care of his cultivation level. The expert had been at the peak of the eighth rank for quite some time, but the recent improvements didn't seem to bring him near the breakthrough.

Noah never questioned Alexander. The group rarely talked at all. They had to be constantly wary of their surroundings, and they even had to handle the matters connected to their cultivation level.

Their senses eventually picked up on something. The experts suddenly felt a dangerous sensation spreading through their minds when a massive figure descended toward them and covered their vision with scarlet fire.

The sudden attack didn't catch them by surprise at that time, but they still had to deploy their best techniques to fend off the flames. They were far deeper into the stormy regions now, so the quality of their opponents had also increased.

Slashes, waves made of a toxic substance, a golden beam, and invisible energy pierced the barrage of flames and cleared a small area above them from the chaotic laws.

The massive figure of a dragon appeared in their vision. Noah found the creature quite odd since he didn't recognize its actual species. The beast's front legs were part of the meat wings that covered almost the entirety of its body. Its skull also had a strange shape since it featured a horn-like structure stretching from its back.

Its body was overall slim, but the vast wings almost tricked the experts' vision. The dragon clearly was in the lower tier of the ninth rank, so its peculiar body made Noah believe that he had found a weaker species.

"Mother told us that you were a dragon," The creature suddenly announced in a deep human voice. "You barely smell like a dragon."

Chapter 1823 - 1823. Gathering

King Elbas and the others turned toward Noah. The dragon was clearly speaking about him, and they inevitably showed their helpless feelings during their glares.

The experts couldn't believe that Noah had managed to cause problems that had stretched inside the storms. They didn't even know how something like that could be possible.

Noah had to search through his memories before connecting the words used by the creature to the long-necked dragon met during his first journey inside the storms. The similar terms used by the two magical beasts assigned them to the same pack in his mind.

Noah raised his head toward the sky before spitting a pillar made of black flames. Words were useless in that situation, so he gave one of the best proofs about the blood inherited by the Light-devouring dragons.

The dragon above the group inspected the flames without showing any emotion. Noah didn't manage to understand if his attack had satisfied the creature even with his superior awareness.

"Are the others your portable food?" The dragon asked after the flames dispersed.

A series of snorts and suppressed complaints resounded around Noah, but he ignored them and explained his relationship as best as he could. "They are part of my pack."

"They must also come then," The dragon announced. "Mother is waiting, and she needs all her children."

"Needs for what?" Noah couldn't help but ask. "We are on a journey. I don't know if we have time to attend this meeting."

"You must," The dragon growled, and multiple growls suddenly echoed around the creature.

Large chunks of the storms disappeared as flames with different shades filled areas next to the dragon and revealed other creatures belonging to similar species.

Five more dragons were flying above the first creature, but the group managed to sense them only after the storms in the area vanished. Those magical beasts all had different shapes. They were dragons, but they didn't belong to the same species.

Divine Demon's eyes lit up at that scene. The expert seemed to feel a special attraction toward dragons, so he grew eager about the imminent meeting. He couldn't wait to see a pack of dragons inside the storms.

Instead, Noah and the others didn't share the same feelings, especially since one of the dragons was a middle tier specimen. The previous orders became impossible to refuse in front of that threatening creature.

"How did you find me inside the storms?" Noah asked.

Scents and auras couldn't go far among the storms. It should be impossible to find someone there. Yet, it was clear that the dragon knew exactly where he was since it had brought its group along.

"A Mother always knows where her children are," The dragon proudly explained. "Move now. She is waiting."

'What a boring answer,' Noah cursed in his mind.

The dragon didn't reveal the secret behind its tracking abilities, so Noah couldn't find countermeasures. His gaze even fell on King Elbas at some point, but the expert shook his head when he understood his silent question.

The silent answer made Noah wear a grim expression. It seemed that the long-necked dragon had access to superior tracking abilities that even King Elbas couldn't understand. Noah ended up fearing that the creature would always be able to find him.

"Do you plan on going against Mother?" The dragon growled when it saw that Noah remained silent.

"Is it possible to know the reason behind the meeting first?" Noah asked.

"No," The dragon announced. "We have yet to learn it ourselves."

"Did you fly through the storms just to pick me up?" Noah continued with his questions, hoping that one answer would reveal the secret behind that tracking ability.

"We were the closest to your position when the call arrived," The dragon said in a human voice as clear annoyance started to appear in its tone.

"You really had to tell it that we are part of your pack," King Elbas sighed. "Do you realize that following them now will make an escape impossible later?"

King Elbas was keeping his voice down. He had also connected the conversation to the long-necked dragon, so he could guess what was expecting them on the meeting. His group risked becoming the hunting party to a stronger creature.

"Part of me wants to go," Noah revealed. "We can learn more about these regions, and they might even show us unique places."

It was undeniable that having stronger beings as allies granted benefits. That was the very foundation of every organization, but it felt strange hearing those words coming out of Noah's mouth.

"Have you gone crazy?" King Elbas asked.

"My heir?!" Divine Demon gave voice to a worried shout.

"He didn't try to keep the centipede for himself now that I think about it," Wilfred commented.

"Something must have happened during the battle!" Robert exclaimed.

"I can inspect his mind with one of my abilities," Alexander announced. "Keep him still."

"Do you really have such a bad reputation?" Steven asked.

"The dragon helped us without asking anything in return," Noah explained. "We can repay this debt and probably gain allies inside the storms. Stop being idiots."

The experts grew serious at that point. They glanced at each other before moving their eyes on the creatures in the sky. Accepting to follow them was the better option under many aspects, especially since they could lose a lot if they decided to escape now.

"Lead the way," Noah eventually roared when he saw that his companions had accepted his position.

The dragon didn't answer. It limited itself to nod toward its companions before the middle tier specimen turned and started to fly among the storms.

The other dragons imitated the middle tier creature, and Noah's group also flew higher in the sky to follow them. The storms didn't manage to reach their position since they were moving in the creatures' trails, but energy still filled their surroundings and gave them the chance to cultivate.

The travel seemed to last for an eternity. No one dared to attack the group with the middle tier specimen in the lead. Only the appearance of other dragons that joined the group disrupted the monotony of the flight and forced the experts to inspect the newcomers.

Years went by until the middle tier specimen finally changed direction and dived toward the regions under the intense storms. Noah and the others could understand that they had gone deeper into those lands since the intensity of the gales had increased, but those chaotic laws disappeared after they descended for some time.

The environment became clear once the storms disappeared, and Noah couldn't help but open his mouth in surprise at the scene that unfolded in his eyes. His previous wonders about the actual population of those lands came back stronger than ever when he saw hundreds of rank 9 dragons belonging to different species gathered in an immense hole.

The hole featured multiple platforms and cavities in which the various dragons stood. All of them kept their eyes toward the bottom of the pit, where three massive creatures in the upper tier sat as they waited for the meeting to begin. One of them was the long-necked dragon that had helped Noah's group in the past.

Chapter 1824 - 1824. Mansion

Noah immediately realized that something was off. The multitude of dragons wasn't the issue there. The problem came from the long-necked dragon's level.

His current level allowed him to evaluate rank 9 existences properly. Noah could clearly sense that the three dragons at the bottom of the pit were in the upper tier, and his instincts reacted accordingly. They begged him to run away in front of creatures that could kill him with little to no effort.

However, Noah recalled his previous meeting with the long-necked dragon. His power wasn't even close to being able to evaluate the creature's level, but it still appeared far weaker compared to its current form.

Noah had found the long-necked dragon while his team was digging through the underground world of the stormy regions. The meeting had been short due to the obvious danger that accompanied the

presence of a rank 9 creature. Yet, he recalled the encounter, and the images from back then were completely different from the scene in front of him now.

Rocks and terrain had prevented Noah from inspecting the entirety of the creature's body in the past. Still, nothing obstructed his view now. The long-necked dragon stood proudly as its silver scales reflected the faint whiteness that managed to seep past the storms that surrounded the calm area.

The size of the creature didn't match Noah's memories either. The dragon had retained its fat body, long neck, and gigantic figure, but it appeared even bigger now. It was so tall that it could stare at the various underlings standing at the edges of the hole.

'Did it improve during this time?' Noah wondered before disregarding that idea.

Noah couldn't sense the dragon's level back then, but he had instinctively placed it in the lower tier of the ninth rank since he had been able to stand its presence. The pressure released from the creature's body was far heavier now. It belonged to a completely different realm. Noah felt able to remain in that region only because the pressure didn't have bad intentions.

It was impossible to get so strong in that period. Many millennia had passed since the encounter, but they weren't enough to bring a magical beast from the lower to the upper tier. The same even applied to the gap between the middle and upper tier, so Noah felt quite out of ideas.

Noah could guess that the creature had been in the solid stage all the time and that he had found it during a special situation back then. Yet, the dragon didn't feature any injury as far as he recalled.

A long period of hibernation could explain the misgiving weaker aura, but even that explanation was a stretch. After all, the dragon would have revealed a brim of his real power during its awakening.

Noah even considered the idea that the destruction of the higher plane had something to do with the sudden increase of power, but that felt impossible too. Skipping an entire tier in the ninth rank would require eras of hibernation to improve the flesh and scales.

'Finding answers on my own is impossible,' Noah concluded in his mind as he exchanged glances with his group while continuing to dive toward the hole.

King Elbas and the others were far from happy about the current situation. They had guessed that something big was up, but they had never imagined that they would find themselves in front of three upper tier creatures. The very peak of the cultivation journey was right in front of them, and they could only remain in awe at that scene.

The dragons that had led the group in that region took their place on the stands and cavities. The lower tier creatures stopped quite soon and occupied areas near the top of the hole while the middle tier specimen dived deeper until it reached magical beasts at the same level.

Noah and the others immediately understood where they had to sit after inspecting that behavior. They landed on the shining pale-blue ground and took their place next to the edges of the hole. All the other dragons were right under them, and those creatures couldn't help but nod when they noticed their actions.

Seeing dragons accepting the group so easily triggered different reactions in the experts. They mostly felt surprised at the organization and calm that those creatures could show. Yet, Noah and Divine Demon experienced different feelings.

Divine Demon was in a daze. His eyes shone, and his mouth remained open in a broad smile as he inspected the entire pit. That immense pack of powerful dragons clearly suited his tastes, and the expert didn't even try to hide that detail.

Instead, Noah experienced a mixture of confusion, astonishment, and respect. It often happened for a pack of magical beasts to have multiple specimens in the same rank as their leader, but it was rare to find so many of them in the same group.

Certain species were exceptions due to their innate abilities or features. The rat and Noah's packs were an example. They both featured multiple specimens that were in the same rank as their leaders.

Still, it was strange to see the same happening in creatures that lacked those peculiarities. Most of the dragons there even belonged to different species. They would normally have no reason to be together, but Noah couldn't deny what he was seeing.

The most surprising feature about that scene was the calm shown by each specimen. Roars resounded as the dragons conversed in a language that only Noah, Wilfred, and Alexander could understand. Yet, they didn't carry any aggression. They didn't behave like magical beasts at all.

'What is even happening?' Noah shouted in his mind as his eyes fell on the unfamiliar upper tier dragon.

The long-necked specimen stood on the opposite side of a forty meters long dragon with a far slimmer figure. Black scales covered the entirety of the creature, and wings that featured a few holes in them grew from its back. Moreover, its eyes were so dark that its eye socket appeared empty.

The dragon between the two creatures was bigger than the black specimen but smaller than the silver one. Opaque-green scales covered its massive body, and rust seemed to spread from their edges. Its front limbs were even longer than its rear legs and forced it to take a sitting position to be comfortable.

Different auras leaked out of the three leaders. Noah couldn't study them properly, but his senses allowed him to understand the general feeling that they were trying to convey.

The long-necked dragon's aura was heavy but gentle. It almost seemed to embrace the entire pack. Noah even felt safe when he tried to inspect it.

The slim black dragon was the exact opposite. His aura was a suffocating poison capable of killing even by staring at its invisible shape. Noah felt a deadly aura trying to spread through his mind when he tried to inspect the creature. His instincts told him that his mental sphere would shatter if he continued.

The opaque-green dragon was harder to describe. It appeared stronger than its two companions, but its aura didn't carry clear power. It didn't even apply the same pressure as them.

Noah tried to uncover more of its features, but his mental sphere suddenly started to tremble, and a humming noise suddenly came out of the mental walls. His mental energy acted on its own while under the influence of that sound, and images eventually ran through his vision.

The world around him disappeared as he found himself in a place that he barely recalled anymore. The corridors of the Balvan mansion unfolded in his eyes, and a familiar figure stood at its end. Noah could see Lily smiling at him even if bruises filled her face.

Chapter 1825 - 1825. Expression

Noah was completely conscious and in control of his centers of power. His mental sphere was working properly, his darkness flowed at will, the black hole rotated as usual, and his body carried its iconic strength. However, everything else couldn't be real. Lily was dead, and that mansion had turned into dust millennia ago.

Lily didn't move, but she wasn't part of a scene stuck on a single image. She felt alive when Noah inspected her, and the same went for the rest of the mansion. He could even look inside its fabric and see the weak "Breath" filling those materials.

'What is even happening?' Noah didn't know what to think.

Truth be told, Noah didn't think about Lily for a while. His life in the Mortal Lands appeared as nothing more than a short dream after he experienced the long adventures of the Immortal Lands. Many meaningful events had happened in the lower plane, but he was far too past them to linger in his memories.

'Is the dragon's aura messing with my perception?' Noah wondered as a tinge of anger surged inside him. 'Does it mean that I can shatter this dream?'

A violent aura seeped out of Noah's body and started to spread in the environment. The real Balvan mansion would have crumbled as soon as he blinked, but that version of the structure was resilient. It endured Noah's destructive thoughts until rips appeared on the scene.

Noah raised his hand and pointed at the largest tear, but a hand suddenly touched his shoulder. He immediately turned and prepared himself to launch an attack, but the accumulated power dispersed when he saw Divine Demon.

"Focus on getting back," Divine Demon exclaimed in a calm voice. "Don't attack it. Just remember where you are."

Noah's senses confirmed that Divine Demon was real. His cultivation level was as he recalled, and every feature of his body matched his memories. The faint azure glow that spread from its hand even helped Noah calm down, and he quickly closed his eyes to follow those directives.

Roars slowly reached his ears again as he focused on his most recent real memory. He returned to the edges of the hole and noticed that most of the weaker dragons were staring at him.

Noah quickly turned to inspect the situation and saw that Divine Demon was still behind him. A faint smile appeared on the expert's face when he removed his hand and glanced at the other existences in the group.

"They are still out," Divine Demon explained. "I wouldn't normally wake you up since the experience might help, but you were about to launch attacks. I had to stop you."

Noah understood the whole meaning behind Divine Demon's words after he inspected the other experts. They were all standing or sitting with their eyes closed. Their first instinct during the strange ability wasn't to attack right away, so they remained calm while inside their coma.

"How did you wake up so quickly?" Noah inevitably asked.

"I don't carry memories," Divine Demon explained. "I went back to the Mortal Lands, but they were almost empty. I saw a few familiar faces before awakening."

Noah could only nod at that answer. Divine Demons' existence was complicated. His character even went beyond the definition of eccentric, but Noah saw him as one of the most talented cultivators that had ever appeared in the world. His determination was even incredible since the decision to forget things didn't arrive out of necessity.

The weaker dragons stopped inspecting them after Noah and the others regained their concentration. The group of experts could only look at the green dragon again at that point. It was clear that the recent experience came from its aura, but they didn't know how that attack had worked.

The situation didn't even allow them to question the creature, so Noah crouched and peeked past the edges to see if the lower tier dragons could help.

"He is an expression of time," One of the dragons explained. "You have only experienced one of your older memories at the first contact with his aura."

"Time?" Noah couldn't help but ask as surprise filled his face.

"The leaders of the dragons carry the fundamental aspects of the world," The creature explained.

"Mother as a deep connection with every dragon-like existence. She can sense them even if they are on the other side of the storms since she expresses our very life."

Noah remained speechless at that revelation. He struggled to believe that Heaven and Earth had let such a powerful ability go when they assigned their punishments.

'I never had a chance to stay away from long-neck,' Noah silently understood. 'The entirety of the storms is its range. What a powerful ability.'

"What about the other?" Noah asked as his attention went on the black dragon.

"He expresses death, Mother's very opposite," The dragon explained.

'So, time, life, and death,' Noah thought as an issue appeared in his mind, and he didn't hesitate to voice it to the dragon.

"Is there another leader?" Noah asked. "These features can't be a case. They are missing one, right?"

"You are correct," The dragon said as other creatures turned and shot surprised glances at him.

Noah didn't understand what was happening, but he decided to resume his position since he didn't particularly enjoy having multiple rank 9 creatures pointing their mouths at him.

King Elbas and the others had heard the entirety of the conversation, and they shared his astonishment. The dragons were far from simple creatures. They were even the strongest type of magical beasts in the

entire world. However, there had to be a limit to how much of the fundamental aspects of the world they could express since they contained different laws.

"I believe you can all understand why we are here," The long-necked dragon suddenly announced in a deep female voice that spread until it reached the edges of the storms in the distance and continued to fly.

The dragons fell silent after those words. The long-necked dragon stared at everyone from above their heads. The creature appeared tired even if its body was full of energy.

"A fight is inevitable," The black dragon announced in its rough voice that threatened to open cracks in the area. "They have trapped one of us this time. We must free her."

"Heaven and Earth are getting close to their final act," The green dragon added. "We can't wait for another chosen to go through the sleep again. We don't have enough time."

Some dragons actually dared to roar complaints, and the three leaders remained silent while they listened to those critiques. None of the weaker creatures said something offensive. They respectfully made their point as they waited for their turn to speak.

"We understand your concerns," The long-necked dragon continued, "But we can't risk losing her now. The final battle is approaching, and we need all our power."

"Not just power," The black dragon shouted. "We need your flesh and bones too. Only determination will get you nowhere. You must prepare harder and save the dragon of space."

Chapter 1826 - 1826. Time

Waves of shock filled the experts in Noah's group again. The three leaders had basically confirmed what the lower tier dragon had said. The trio really believed to express fundamental aspects of the world, and Noah could conform from the various complaints that the entire pack shared that belief.

"How can this be?" King Elbas whispered while turning toward Noah. "Did you know about this?"

King Elbas had expressed his inferiority to Noah in the magical beasts' field multiple times already. He felt no shame in questioning him now that the situation appeared so unreal.

However, Noah could only shake his head at those questions. Those fields were beyond the simple magical beasts. They involved the whole world and the laws that ruled them. After all, space, time, life, and death were true meanings that only Heaven and Earth could completely control.

The matter was even stranger when the experts considered the nature of those creatures. The dragons were magical beasts that didn't have dantians. In theory, they had to be pure power connected to a few innate abilities.

Still, it was clear that the trio's innate abilities expanded in realms that went even deeper than laws. The green dragon had managed to bring the experts' minds back in time after a single glance. That event shouldn't be possible without a discharge of energy unless the creature embodied that true meaning.

The expert couldn't stop thinking about the contradictions with those powers. The species of the dragons wasn't the only issue. Cultivators and hybrids had gained access to laws connected to space,

time, life, and death, but they had never fully mastered those aspects of the world since they had multiple true meanings bound to their nature.

Noah had Shandal's ability and had added his understanding of space to his law after a long study. Yet, he could only stop time for a mere instant, and his control over the fabric of the world was far from complete.

Complete control of space would make Noah able to open cracks that led to the void without deploying additional abilities. Instead, he could only use his understanding to facilitate that process when he used different attacks.

His understanding of space even helped with the Shadow Domain, movement techniques, and dark world, but it never went too far. He was improving as his level grew, but he knew that he lacked an understanding of certain laws connected to that power.

The group wondered whether the dragons were the same, but something told them otherwise. Noah and the others were only rank 8 existences, but their senses became more aware of the three leaders' great differences from the other specimens.

The words used by the lower tier dragon were the best description of their auras. The leaders didn't control the four fundamental aspects of the world. They were expressions of those powers.

King Elbas' eyes grew bloodshot as he started to scratch the side of his head maniacally. His aura tried to improve his study of the three leaders, but he always failed to learn more about their nature, and that outcome created evident backlashes.

King Elbas spat a mouthful of golden flames at some point. The fire fell on his legs and fused back with his body. His figure even began to shake as he failed to satisfy his curiosity.

"I don't get it," King Elbas muttered as his body relaxed and his condition improved. "Why can't I get it? Shouldn't they be laws? Why can't I study their laws?"

"Do you want the simple explanation or one of my crazy theories?" Noah teased as a helpless smile appeared on his face.

"Both, of course," King Elbas snorted.

"We aren't rank 9 existences," Noah announced. "We can't understand the depths of their nature."

"What's the crazy theory?" King Elbas quickly asked after disregarding that boring answer.

Almost everyone in Noah's group had accomplished feats that went beyond the limits of their current level. They always managed to understand something even if their power didn't allow them to gain a complete picture of certain matters. Still, that didn't happen when it came to the dragons.

Noah took that feature as a clue of the dragons' power. The fact that he couldn't understand their nature meant that they had connections with deeper rules of the world. Only Heaven and Earth could touch those realms according to his knowledge.

"Do you know the theory about magical beasts and their role in Heaven and Earth's fairness?" Noah asked as the faint guess that had appeared in his mind expanded and grew more detailed.

"The magical beasts might be Heaven and Earth's punishment," King Elbas promptly replied. "They are the price to pay for the control over the world."

"Dragons are commonly known as the strongest species of magical beasts," Noah continued after nodding at the expert. "What if some of them got special abilities meant to punish Heaven and Earth?"

"You are founding this theory on a single word?" King Elbas asked, clearly referring to when the green dragon had used the word "chosen" during its speech.

"I'm a flaw in Heaven and Earth's system," Noah laughed while shrugging his shoulders. "Breaking this world is in my nature. My mind might be the same. I might be able to gain insights on other flaws due to my unique nature."

"Don't use this to prove your other theories if you are right," King Elbas reminded. "Though, I bet they also ignore why they have such powers."

The dragons inside the pit had resumed arguing, but only the three leaders used roars that all the experts in Noah's group could translate into human words.

In their minds, their leader was to blame for falling into a trap. That small group argued that a new chosen would be better since it would avoid being so careless, but the leaders never budged.

"The character rarely changes," The long-necked dragon explained. "We are all shadows of our previous selves. Our behavior will naturally match the previous chosen."

"Attacking now will also give us an idea of Heaven and Earth's next step," The black dragon continued. "Knowledge is the key to destruction."

"Let's not waste time," The green dragon eventually announced in an ancient male voice. "Who is against saving the leader?"

A bit more than half of the dragons raised their heads toward the sky and spat multicolored flames. The poll had already found its winner. Noah could have joined that vote, but he didn't feel like getting involved in matters that he didn't understand when they involved upper tier creatures.

"So many of you have forgotten the real nature of our task," The green dragon sighed. "You prefer to live in Heaven and Earth's creation than fight to weaken them. I pity what has become of our species."

Danger suddenly filled Noah's mind after the dragon finished speaking. Everything went still as his instincts raged. Even the storms high in the sky and around the area stopped blowing.

Some creatures seemed able to move a bit. They could shake their bodies and roll their eyes, but everything else seemed impossible inside that technique.

Noah's eyes were on the pit when time stopped flowing, so he could inspect the entirety of the scene as it unfolded. The dragons that had announced their d.e.s.i.r.e to let the leader die showed strange expressions as a foreign force spread inside them.

Some teeth and claws eventually started to fall off. Their scales followed, and dark patches spread through the muscles under them before tearing them apart.

A bit more than half of the powerful group of dragons transformed into nothing more than skeletons, but even those bones crumbled when they touched the ground. The body parts that had fallen on the terrain turned into dust that created small piles in their caves and stages.

Chapter 1827 - 1827. Noise

Everyone in the pit became able to move again after the many rank 9 dragons died, but no one dared to say anything. Even the stronger creatures near the bottom of the hole remained still and kept their gazes on the three leaders.

The long-necked dragon didn't appear happy about the event. Transparent tears that made the silver shade of her scales shine fell from its round eyes ran through its huge body. The ground opened when they touched the surface, and energy flowed into those spots to give birth to large white eggs.

Instead, the slim black dragon gave voice to a rough laugh that spread through the entirety of the region and made the dust created by the dead creatures flow toward its figure. Its scales began to release a dark halo as debris entered its nostril. The leader seemed able to feed on those valueless materials.

Noah and the others remained completely in awe of the power shown by the green dragon, but a wave of regret soon filled his mind. The leader had killed hundreds of rank 9 creatures in a single blow, but it didn't leave behind any corpses. He would have been able to reach the ninth rank in a single eating session if he could have gained access to those magical beasts.

Wilfred and Alexander soon reached the same conclusions. The three hybrids couldn't help to exchange a helpless glance before shaking their heads and accept that they couldn't influence that situation.

The green dragon didn't seem happy about his actions. The rust on the edges of its scales spread and tried to dim their shades, but resolve soon filled the creature's large eyes and made it launch a wave of transparent flames toward the sky.

The sudden attack carried the entirety of the dragon's power, but the latter made sure to contain its aura until the flames reached the storms high in the sky.

An explosion inevitably resounded once the flames touched the storms. The gales of chaotic laws began to vanish as the massive attack shattered their fabric and turned them into nothing more than primary energy.

The flames raged forward until they pierced the entirety of the storms and flew toward the white layer that marked the end of the sky. A high-pitched noise resounded after the impact and echoed through the passage created by the attack to spread inside the windless area.

The noise was sickening. Noah, his group, and the rest of the dragons did their best to cover their ears or seal their senses when the high-pitched sound reached them. However, they quickly realized that the event wasn't something that their centers of power could stop.

The high-pitched sound entered their figures and tried to destabilize their fabric. Noah felt his skin, muscles, bones, and organs shaking as they tried to disperse that foreign influence. Still, they failed to succeed.

Injuries opened on their bodies. Only the middle tier dragons deeper into the hole managed to suppress part of that tremors, but even they saw large cracks spreading through their scales. Meanwhile, the weaker creatures had it worse. They had to witness entire pieces of their bodies falling toward the ground and exploding into bloody pulps.

Noah and his group had it far worse. Their bodies couldn't even begin to oppose those tremors. They didn't even feel what was causing that event. Their minds were unable to sense the energy that was making their very fabric shake.

Pieces of their bodies fell apart. Bones broke, and muscles shattered. Robert even experienced the complete detachment of some internal organs.

The group was about to die. Everything happened so quickly that they didn't even manage to cast abilities before ending up in a condition that didn't allow them to muster their energy.

Noah's black hole usually acted on its own, but the organ seemed unable to deploy the dark matter contained in its insides due to the instabilities that ran through its structure. The situation was hopeless. He was about to die because an upper tier creature in the ninth rank had decided to attack the sky.

Yet, the tremors suddenly vanished. Noah, his group, and the other dragons didn't do anything to make that event stop, but their fabric stopped shaking anyway.

Their figures stopped moving again at that point. Noah couldn't even roll his eyes or inspect his surroundings. The bloody pulps that had accumulated under him quickly condensed until they took the shape of the flesh that had separated from him. Then, those body parts fused back with his structure.

The others on the pit were going through the same events. Their bodies reverted to the state before the arrival of the high-pitched noise. Time flowed backward and healed them in mere instants.

Noah couldn't help but breathe roughly when he became able to move again. He felt tired and older. His appearance didn't change, but his black hole sensed that his flesh had gone through many years of life in mere seconds.

'We are damned puppets among gods!' Noah cursed in his mind as his helplessness turned into anger.

Noah wasn't even a rank 9 existence, but he was in the middle of creatures that could shatter and rebuild him with a mere thought. That realm was too far away, but he only confirmed that escaping had never been an option after witnessing the leader's power.

'I hope they don't expect us to do anything relevant,' Noah snorted in his mind. 'They can literally bend time! Why would they even need our help?'

"That's what Heaven and Earth are," The green dragon's ancient voice suddenly resounded inside the hole. "They are a force meant to kill everything in the world, but we are the same in their eyes. Fighting until a winner appears is our only option."

The dragons didn't try to argue anymore. They wanted to save the trapped leader anyway, and the sudden show of power only made them agree with the matter even further. Still, they didn't expect a wave of black flames to fly from behind them and fill the sky after the speech ended.

King Elbas and the others glared at Noah. Pure bewilderment filled their faces as they stared at their leader spitting a wave of flames that created a huge sea in the sky. It was clear that he wanted to claim everyone's attention, but they didn't understand the reason behind that gesture.

The other dragons were the same. It was fine for other rank 9 creatures in the pack to voice complaints or take a direct approach to the meeting, but Noah was only a rank 8 existence. In their minds, he should feel lucky enough to be in the same area as rank 9 magical beasts.

Noah had a completely different view of the matter. The leaders didn't hesitate to kill underlings, so they wouldn't mind sending him toward certain death either. Hence, he would do everything in his power to benefit his journey as much as possible, even if he risked dying in the process.

The three leaders couldn't help but shoot surprised glances toward Noah. His companions immediately jumped backward when they sensed the three intense auras focusing on their position, and Noah slowly stopped spitting flames before glancing at the three creatures at the bottom of the pit.

"What is it, cub?" The long-necked dragon asked.

"Can I get a real explanation here?" Noah asked in a plain voice as if he were speaking to one of his companions. "I got that some of you are special, but I'd rather understand why before deciding to help."

Chapter 1828 - 1828. Pride

The entire hole went silent. Noah's words left leaders and underlings speechless. He didn't ask anything too surprising, but the sole fact that he had decided to speak made them unable to say anything for a while. They simply weren't ready for that event.

"He smells funny," The black dragon whispered as a dark halo spread from its figure and tried to stretch forward before dispersing inside the world.

"Maybe they have fallen too far away from our species," The green dragon sighed, and Noah sensed the dangerous sensation approaching again.

"Do you want to shut me up for my questions?" Noah quickly said before the dangerous sensation could reach its peak. "Isn't that Heaven and Earth's way? How can you fight them if you force your underlings to be dumb soldiers who can't even be curious?"

The intensity of the danger suddenly stopped increasing before starting to vanish. The three leaders couldn't help but stare at Noah in silence, and he felt hard to endure the massive pressure that landed on his figure.

His instincts were fighting against his mind. Noah was basically going against every hidden rule of the magical beasts' world by standing his ground in front of three solid stage creatures. However, his law was stronger than those raw senses. He had to speak in that situation to be true to himself.

"How dare you?!" The lower tier dragon that had explained part of the situation to the group before shouted.

The dragon was a large creature with pale-blue scales. It had a fat body and short legs. It would almost resemble a giant lizard if it weren't for the large wings spreading from its back and the draconic horned head that began to spit azure flames.

A rank 9 attack was about to arrive. The other experts in the group immediately prepared their abilities to face the dragon's offensive, but they retracted their energy when they sensed Noah's pride spreading in the area.

Noah activated everything he had. The unstable substance flowed into his black vessels. A dark aura that featured multiple faces covered his skin and expanded as dark matter gave birth to a fiendish figure. His ambition empowered everything connected to his body, and his pride inevitably flowed out of his body.

King Elbas and the others understood the meaning carried by his pride. Noah wasn't trying to show off. His actions were a necessary declaration meant to remove their status as pawns, so they had to let him handle the dragon on his own.

The experts retreated as Noah advanced. Azure light filled his vision, but he didn't fear it. He knew that his skin would burn if the fire touched him, so he made the dark world expand around him to create a second layer of armor.

Noah transformed into a massive dragon right before the flames could hit him. The dark matter shielded him from the initial burst of power. The fire destroyed the armor and spread in its insides, but a piercing slash created a hole in the attack before it could converge on its target.

Noah didn't use his swords. He limited himself to stretch his fingers as his arm shot forward. His existence did everything else, and the piercing slash generated with his move slammed into the azure flames and forced everything to explode outward.

The lower tier dragons sitting in the nearby caves and stands had to retreat to avoid the chaos generated during the clash. Lumps of azure flames and dark slashes flew everywhere in the area, and the creatures felt surprised to realize that Noah's attacks had enough power to hurt them.

Two figures shot out of the darkness and azure glows that had surrounded the area where the two abilities had clashed.

The pale-blue dragon flew toward the other side of the hole and showed the deep cracks that had appeared on its scales. No blood flowed out of them, but the event remained surprising.

Noah shot toward the storms, and he didn't manage to stop from ending among the chaotic laws. His figure had left a trail of grey smoke along his path, but the sudden appearance of a massive black cloud among the gales attracted everyone's attention.

The black mass fought against the storms to expand and devour their power. Large gales disappeared as a sea of dark matter imitated the features of Noah's flames and gathered energy for him.

The black mass eventually converged toward a single spot on the ground, and Noah soon walked out of the storms. Everyone could see how his body was in perfect condition. He didn't even seem to suffer from the drawbacks of his recent power-up.

King Elbas and the others knew most of Noah's abilities, so they could understand what had happened inside the storms. However, the dragons weren't aware that he could instantly heal his injuries, so the scene declared him the winner of the exchange.

His value as a dragon suddenly skyrocketed, and the same went for his companions. They didn't appear as mere rank 8 existences who had happened to be there by chance anymore. Noah claimed a rightful position among that group of rank 9 creatures.

"Can I get my explanation now?" Noah asked when he returned near the hole and jumped to land on the stands right under the edges.

The black dragon gave voice to a rough laugh when it saw that overbearing scene. It raised its head toward the sky and breathed deeply until a dark gas gathered in front of its mouth and created a long trail.

Noah couldn't help but notice that the trail ended where the previous battle had happened. The black dragon was absorbing something out of it, but he felt unable to understand the nature of that substance.

"You should stop seizing these chances," The long-necked dragon commented once its companion finished absorbing the substance.

"You are always so serious," The black dragon laughed. "Old dragon of time here has already told us that the final battle is near. We should prioritize surpassing our predecessors. Our defeat is inevitable otherwise."

"One side has to win," The long-necked dragon replied, "Another will lose, but life will always reign."

"Will it?" The black dragon roared while continuing to laugh. "Do you even call that life?"

"Each world is a special structure capable of giving birth to lifeforms," The green dragon suddenly said while pointing its eyes at Noah. "Heaven and Earth had to replace the laws in this world during their ascent to power. The true meanings that previously occupied plane transformed into magical beasts that innately hated the new rulers.

"Those true meanings won't die until Heaven and Earth take complete control of the whole world. They will always reappear in new magical beasts."

It became immediately evident that the dragon's definition of world was different from what Noah had learnt throughout his life. He saw that meaning from a cultivator's perspective while the creature intended the material plane and its fabric.

"How can I know that this is true?" Noah asked. "How can I trust you?"

"You can't," The green dragon replied, "But you can trust your eyes."

Noah frowned, but everything in his vision stopped moving again. Yet, he could move at that time, but his curiosity transformed into surprise when he saw that time started to flow backward.

Chapter 1829 - 1829. Backward

Nothing made sense in Noah's eyes anymore, but he simply accepted those events and let them guide him. His poor cultivation level was still unable to understand a lot, but gathering insights and vague clues was already a lot in that situation.

Time flowed backward, but a few figures turned out to be unaffected by that event. Noah, the experts in his group, and the three leaders could move freely as the environment played the events that had just passed.

Afterimages came out of the leaders and experts. They depicted their previous movements as time flowed backward. Noah saw his clash with the dragon, his arrogant question, and his arrival in the region. Everything felt real as if it was happening at that exact moment, but he appeared unable to affect the scenes around him.

The scenes suddenly accelerated. Noah and the others saw the arrival of the other dragons, the flight of the leaders, and the absorption of the storms to clear the area, but time soon picked up speed again.

Only the raging of the storms filled Noah's vision for a while. A massive magical beast would fly backward from time to time. The group even saw a humanoid figure in the distance once, but that spot didn't seem to offer more.

The nature of the storms of chaotic laws made it hard for the group to understand the actual speed of the gales. They didn't notice that everything had accelerated far more than they imagined. The scenes went back by years in mere seconds, but the technique only grew stronger and increased that proportion.

The years piled up until they became centuries, millennia, and eras. The ground saw multiple changes due to the influence of the chaotic laws, but it was hard to inspect them properly with the chaotic laws raging in their vision. Noah's group even grew bored of the process after the technique had gone on for a few hours.

"We are almost there," The green dragon suddenly exclaimed, and the scene froze before falling downward.

Noah quickly noticed that the world wasn't falling. The green dragon was moving those that the technique didn't affect through the scene at a speed that they wouldn't normally be able to reach.

No wind blew on their faces even after they crossed countless regions in the span of a single instant. The group soon exited the storms, and the higher plane with the white sky around it unfolded in their vision.

"It's better to see it from here," The green dragon revealed as the group stopped right under the sky, and time started to flow backward again.

The landmass appeared different from how Noah recalled it. A stronger glow filled the various regions. Its overall quality and quantity of energy were far higher compared to the state that Noah had experienced.

The glow intensified until it suddenly vanished. Immense cracks opened through the entirety of the entire landmass until it transformed into a mass of giant boulders that flew toward the stormy regions and left nothing at all at the center of the sky.

"You have just experienced the first reconstruction of the higher plane," The green dragon explained before moving its gaze toward the storms.

The gales of chaotic laws seemed to react to its gaze. They started to shatter and transform into trails of energy that flew toward the sky. The white layer took everything into its structure, and its radiance intensified as it returned at one of the many peaks experienced throughout its existence.

The Tribulation eventually ended, and the entirety of the original landmass appeared under the group. The plane was different at that time. It didn't feature only divine areas. It was a world where even human and heroic creatures could live.

The green dragon brought the experts closer to the landmass. Noah and the others could see the immense packs of magical beasts running free through the regions. They were the overlords of the entire world, and they occupied every corner of the plane.

"We initially thought to have won," The green dragon sighed. "Heaven and Earth had filled the world with a powerful energy meant to benefit everyone, but everything pales in front of the hunger of the magical beasts."

The green dragon allowed the scenes to go back again. The group could witness the expansion of the magical beasts. Those creatures fought against beings that they didn't recognize. Some of them even resembled humans.

Everything went back until crumbled structures came out of the ground, and the magical beasts only controlled a small region. The world seemed to be at its peak at that point. Tall buildings and flying cities filled the landmass. An intelligent species ruled over everyone else and achieved wonders with the "Breath" provided by Heaven and Earth.

It felt hard to see Heaven and Earth as the enemy there. It almost seemed that the rulers had decided to reward their species after taking control of the world, but they had obviously underestimated their natural opponents.

Time went back, and the magical beasts started to diminish, but the sky shattered together with them. The various cities also broke and brought the world to a state when different species occupied multiple regions. The plane didn't have overlords anymore, only numerous domains.

Yet, a few orange shards were still disappearing in the sky, and the green dragon didn't hesitate to bring the group closer to the few magical beasts that had remained on the landmass.

Entire groups of magical beasts disappeared as the sky lost part of its shards. The process continued until only four creatures remained, and Noah couldn't help but recognize the green dragon among them.

The other three magical beasts were still dragons, but they didn't resemble the current version of the upper tier leaders.

The life dragon was completely white and short. It had had a vast and almost flat body that made it resemble a strange turtle. The death dragon was similar to one of Snore's versions with its small feathered wings and short clawed arms. The space dragon was a black spot with the shape of a proper member of its species, but it was hard to study its features since it appeared made of void.

"We were the first to appear," The green dragon explained. "The laws of the previous world generated more magical beasts as Heaven and Earth continued to expand. We experienced a few defeats due to our disorganization, but we eventually proved the rulers' wrong."

"You were the one who forced them to change the nature of their existence," Noah whispered as shock filled his mind.

"We were just the final demonstration of their flawed path," The time dragon replied. "Taking over a world while retaining the d.e.s.i.r.e to improve is wrong. Worlds shouldn't have wills, and wills shouldn't have worlds."

"The change that we witnessed made them strong enough to break that rule, right?" Noah asked. "They would be right if the magical beasts fail to stop them."

"Indeed," The green dragon sighed. "Heaven and Earth's approach has been methodical and relentless. They forfeited their stability to absorb laws. This world barely remembers what it was before their arrival anymore, and, soon, it won't carry any of its previous law."

Chapter 1830 - 1830. Doom

The experts took a while to absorb everything that they had witnessed. The topics involving the Immortal Lands, their creation, and their history had always been a mystery that no one could confirm due to the immense amount of time that had passed from those events. Yet, the time dragon had shown proper answers, and they found it hard to decide how to react.

Noah and the others didn't know how trustworthy the time dragon was, but the creature stood at the very peak of the ninth rank. Everything around them would lose sense if they couldn't even believe in such strong existences. Still, some of those scenes answered doubts that had remained in their minds for millennia. It felt strange to have a complete view of the world.

The images had stopped right after Heaven and Earth started building the sky that covered the landmass. The dragons that expressed the four fundamental aspects of the world had appeared in that instant, and the same went for the green creature's memories.

Noah couldn't help but review everything in his mind. He had witnessed those scenes while time flowed backward, but his sea of consciousness took care of sorting them out before playing them in his vision.

Heaven and Earth enveloped the landmass with their sky and filled it with "Breath" meant to benefit their old species. However, the laws that they replaced ended up creating armies of magical beasts.

The wars and struggles of the dominant species on the landmass couldn't do anything against the unstoppable magical beasts. Those creatures conquered the world and marked Heaven and Earth's defeat.

It was unclear how connected the defeat and Heaven and Earth's failed breakthrough were. The two events had clearly affected each other, but Noah couldn't understand which was more influential. Still, they led to the same outcome. The rulers decided to change their existence and resume their conquest.

Heaven and Earth abandoned their previous orange shades and destroyed the entirety of the landmass with an immense Worldwide Tribulation. The energy released by the dead magical beasts and the ground fueled the transformation and allowed the rulers to gain their current appearance.

The transformation allowed the white sky to release chaotic laws and create the storms that gave birth to the new landmass. That marked the beginning of the higher plane since Heaven and Earth made sure to build areas meant for divine beings.

The laws of the previous world still existed in that system, so Heaven and Earth couldn't stop the appearance of the magical beasts. However, the rulers now had enough power to attract the nearby worlds and use them as fuel for their slow and steady absorption of those old true meanings.

The process had flaws. Heaven and Earth had changed, but their transformation had been rather abrupt. Their existence couldn't completely deal with that relentless absorption, and their overall stability eventually worsened.

Heaven and Earth tried to regain stability by throwing away some of the absorbed laws. That procedure generated the empty existences that Noah and the others had faced inside the void. Yet, the rulers were only patching up their flaws with that approach. They never fixed their core issues.

Still, Heaven and Earth didn't need to be stable to win. They only required enough power to methodically take control of the laws of the old world and finally put an end to the curse of the magical beasts.

The time dragon had revealed that Heaven and Earth were close to succeeding in their plan, which clearly hinted at a final battle between the sky and the magical beasts. The event would have massive repercussions throughout the entire system, and Noah's organization would end up in the middle of a war that it couldn't affect.

"What will happen once Heaven and Earth take over those laws?" Noah asked after everything in his mind became clear.

"They'll probably succeed in the breakthrough," The time dragon explained while moving its gaze toward the sky. "I've only caught a glimpse of the worlds past these lands, but I believe Heaven and Earth will start going after them at that point."

Everyone looked at the sky past the small chunk of sky hovering around the landmass. The time dragon didn't manage to get a good view of the worlds past the void at that time, but it had seen a few details that left the experts speechless.

Noah fell in a daze when he gazed at the almost complete darkness. The void past the incomplete sky featured small lights in the distance. They were too far away to inspect, but he recognized them. They were the same stars that his ambition wanted to reach.

Faint immense auras even came out of those distant lights. They felt like strange existences capable of wiping out the entirety of Heaven and Earth's system. They seemed to belong to the true overlords of the universe.

"Heaven and Earth won't have much use for us once they stabilize their existence," King Elbas commented as an ugly expression appeared on his face.

"Why are the other dragons different?" Noah asked after he mustered the entirety of his determination to stop looking at the stars and turn toward the green dragon.

Only the time dragon looked the same in the memories. The others belonged to very different species, and Noah understood that the matter had something to do with some of the words mentioned before. However, he wanted the creature to explain everything. He couldn't deal with doubts anymore.

"I'm the only one who survived throughout the eras," The time dragon sighed. "Time is the most resilient aspect of the world. Even the destruction of my body couldn't put an end to my first life. My consciousness resisted even after entering the sky and flowing into the storms. The others had to experience countless deaths as Heaven and Earth kept destroying them."

"Do you reincarnate every time?" Noah asked as a tinge of shock filled his mind.

"We represent the core aspects of the world," The green dragon explained. "We'll be the last laws to end up in Heaven and Earth's existence. My powers allow me to bring the reincarnated dragons to their previous peak quickly, but I seem unable to stop them from dying. The current issue with the space dragon proves that the rulers are only getting better at hunting us."

The dangers connected to the powerful level of the three dragons disappeared from Noah's mind. Even his instincts stopped feeling fear in front of them. Something else had taken control of his feelings, and he couldn't help but curse in his mind when he understood what his group had to do.

The individual cultivation journeys were meaningless in front of Heaven and Earth's complete control of the world. Rank 9 existences already struggled to face the rulers at their current power. It would be impossible to survive once they succeeded in the breakthrough.

The successful breakthrough would doom everyone living inside the sky. Noah could almost feel the end coming after he inspected the recent events. The last destruction of the landmass only brought Heaven and Earth closer to that goal.

"We'll help," Noah eventually announced. "But I want something in return."

"You all have yet to reach the ninth rank," The black dragon scoffed. "This explanation already goes beyond what you deserve."

Noah didn't even look at the other dragons. His eyes remained on the green creature while he announced his request. "I want you to teach me time."