

Demonic 1831

Chapter 1831 - 1831. Fate

Noah's request seemed to go beyond what the black dragon was willing to accept. His power was undeniable, but he remained a mere rank 8 existence. He couldn't request for the most ancient creature in the entire world to be his teacher.

Even the gentle silver dragon appeared annoyed by that request. She couldn't comprehend how Noah could even think about asking that. He was a single law while the green creature literally had the fate of the world on its shoulders.

However, the green dragon didn't immediately refuse Noah's request. Its eyes sharpened as it tried to inspect his existence and uncover his true nature.

The green dragon had lived long enough to develop unique instincts that made it understand when something could help against Heaven and Earth, and those feelings rang when it inspected Noah. Also, it felt hard to evaluate his overall power. Noah wasn't trying to shield himself from the inspection, but the leader still struggled to get a clear view of his existence.

"What are you?" The green dragon eventually asked.

Noah couldn't put his existence into simple words. He had started as a simple flaw in Heaven and Earth's system, but his journey had led him to become something more. The current world even had a giant proof of his ability to oppose the rulers.

Still, explaining those features to the dragon appeared impossible. The creature had to see them for himself and reach its own conclusions.

Noah stepped forward and carefully neared the green dragon. The creature felt slightly surprised about his actions, but he made sure to suppress the innate power that its scales released.

Noah took a deep breath as his hand rose to touch the giant dragon's forehead. He lowered his innate barriers and let its senses seep deep inside him.

The time dragon was past mere sensations. A scent could reveal entire pieces of someone's life, and the creature could even discover profound meanings from a simple touch.

Its unique power even allowed it to inspect Noah's memories, even if from the outside. The dragon used its ability to watch the entirety of Noah's life as if it was a spectator hovering next to him.

The creature went through everything. It saw Noah's unique birth and his many struggles to leave Balvan mansion. It inspected the many adventures and feats experienced in the Mortal Lands. It even studied the various battles against Heaven and Earth's punishments.

It soon became evident that Noah was a source of flaws in Heaven and Earth's system. His very nature could force the rulers to commit mistakes and taint their laws.

The green dragon had never seen such a peculiar existence. It had built its entire life on opposing Heaven and Earth, but it had never come close to finding someone with Noah's influence.

The leader actually felt strange when it understood Noah's power. The green dragon served the sole purpose of defeating Heaven and Earth, but it had only come close once to defeat them. Everything had been a slow but relentless defeat after the rulers transformed.

Instead, Noah could hurt the rulers even after their transformation. His life came from the new system, which made him more suitable to handle Heaven and Earth's white version.

The green dragon suddenly lowered its head and separated from Noah. Some anger and unwillingness appeared in its eyes, and the group of experts inevitably felt worried about that reaction. However, the creature was too strong, so they didn't even bother to deploy defensive techniques.

Confusion appeared on the black and silver dragons. They had never seen their companion in that state. It almost seemed desperate.

"What have you done?" The black dragon growled as a dangerous black aura seeped out of its scales and flew toward Noah.

The powerful aura opened cracks in the scene created by the time dragon. Those memories began to shatter as the angry creature wanted to punish the puny existence that had dared to hurt its companion.

"Stop!" The green dragon suddenly ordered, and the power carried by its roar almost deafened Noah's group.

The black dragon felt confused. Its eyes moved between its companion and Noah, but it eventually decided to retract its aura. Still, it remained annoyed, and it didn't stop from showing its feelings to Noah.

Meanwhile, the green dragon was trying to rebuild the determination that had allowed it to survive so long. Learning about the nature of Noah's existence had shattered that feeling, and the creature had needed a few seconds to calm down.

The green dragon slowly forced itself to look at Noah. The latter saw immense sadness in its eyes, but he ignored the reason behind that reaction. Everything had happened too suddenly for him to start reviewing the issue.

The green dragons' thoughts weren't too hard to discern. Its life was the product of a world that wanted to survive. Its expression of time was one of the four main powers necessary to defeat Heaven and Earth.

However, the dragon had failed to understand something simple during those countless years. Its aspect of the world and the magical beasts under its lead had stopped being Heaven and Earth's perfect enemy after their transformation. Its pack belonged to the old system, which finally explained why the rulers had continued to seize victories.

Instead, Noah was a flaw born directly from the new Heaven and Earth. He was a son of the new system, and its aura embodied part of the meaning that drove the green dragon.

"I've seen countless laws rise and fall," The green dragon suddenly announced. "I've experienced loss so often that defeat has become part of my existence. I can see everything that has been, but I've grown blind to the obvious."

The dragon gave voice to a sad laugh after its speech. It seemed to age by countless years in those short seconds. The rust on its scales expanded as the green shades released by its body dimmed. Its eyes even seemed heavy as it struggled to keep them open.

"I can't teach time," The dragon explained. "We are only expressions of those laws, but our understanding isn't innate. However, I can let you experience my power. Is that enough?"

Pure shock surged inside the other two dragons. Their companion didn't only agree with Noah's request. It was even trying to adjust to his needs.

Noah's eyes sharpened as countless thoughts surged and shattered inside his mind. He reviewed his entire knowledge in the span of an instant to understand why the dragon had changed its approach, and a vague answer eventually appeared.

"I'm no fated warrior," Noah warned the dragon. "Don't try to put your hopes on me. I'll simply escape from this world if I see that I can't defeat Heaven and Earth."

"I've lived for countless years," The green dragon laughed. "Fate doesn't exist, but laws have peculiar ways. The clash against Heaven and Earth is inevitable. I'm only trying to cover as many paths as I can."

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"That will be enough," Noah eventually announced. "We'll help you save the space dragon."

Chapter 1832 - 1832. Past

The scenes created from the green dragon's memories shattered after that announcement. Noah and the others found themselves back into the pit, and everything started moving again.

Only Noah's group and the three leaders knew about their previous conversation. The various rank 9 dragons didn't even notice that time had stopped for many hours.

Truth be told, Noah started to wonder whether time had really stopped or the green dragon had made the group experience those events in the span of an instant. His curiosity toward the laws of time had intensified after sealing the agreement with the creature. His mind started to cover those topics as he waited for the meeting to end.

"Everything should be clear now," The green dragon roared. "Let's fly!"

The order made the other dragons release battle cries before shooting toward the storms above. The black and silver leaders guided the many underlings toward the chaotic laws, while the time dragon remained behind and waited for the eight experts.

"Sit on my back," The green dragon ordered. "It will be easier like this."

King Elbas and the others shot hesitant gazes toward Noah, but he ignored them and flew toward the giant creature. He knew that his companions wanted to question him about the previous conversation, but he couldn't explain much. Even his ideas were nothing more than guesses created after inspecting the entirety of his knowledge.

Noah had found some correct conclusions, but he didn't understand their depths completely. He knew that the time dragon had started to see him as one of the best assets in the war against Heaven and Earth. However, he remained unaware of how intensely the creature had begun to believe in him.

Part of him even believed that the dragon was exaggerating. Teaching him time was one thing, but allowing his entire group to sit on its back showed how much the creature valued them.

The dragon wasn't completely to blame for its newfound fervor. The creature had seen how Noah's law already included aspects that its companions had obtained from the world. Life, death, and space were part of his existence, but he had developed them on his own, without the help of an angry world.

That feat only increased Noah's value in the dragon's eyes. He wasn't an existence chosen by stronger beings to play a role in an inevitable battle. He had seized his current power and understanding through struggles and blood instead of inheriting it without proving his worth.

The group timidly approached the time dragon before sitting on its back. Everyone could feel the immense power contained in the body right under them. The creature only had to decide that they were enemies to kill them, so tension inevitably built among them.

Only Noah felt relatively at ease. Strange feelings had started to flow toward his mind as soon as he sat on the dragon. The scenes in his eyes became unclear as everything started to gain multiple features.

The storms, the ground, and even the types of laws that the scene contained gained additional features. Different versions of the fabric of the world appeared on the scene and fused with reality.

Noah took a while to understand that he was experiencing the world from the green dragon's perspective. The creature saw the past and the present fused in everchanging images that constantly flew through its vision.

'How can it even survive this?' Noah cursed in his mind as his mental walls started to tremble.

A single patch of the world contained countless images due to the long time that it had experienced, but Noah saw all of them. Moreover, they continued to increase as the seconds passed since more past accumulated in the area.

"Focus on the present," The green dragon suddenly announced while setting off and flying toward the pack that had already entered the storms. "Don't let the past weigh on your mind."

Noah had to use the entirety of his concentration to suppress the additional images that the world manifested. His eyes became completely black as the black hole sent higher energy toward them. The dark matter helped bring him into the present. Still, it took him a while to stabilize that process without the help of his center of power.

The environment had already transformed when Noah managed to focus on his surroundings again. The green dragon was flying right behind its pack, and the storms around the group couldn't even try to land on them.

The gales of chaotic laws shattered and transformed into trails of primary energy that flowed toward the dragons. Their innate absorption was enough to destroy the storms around them and provide nutrients.

King Elbas and the others had remained tense throughout the entirety of the flight. They had slightly adapted to the constant danger flowing out of their ride, and they had accepted that the situation was completely outside of their control.

The travel felt endless. It went on for entire years, which eventually forced King Elbas and the others to resume their training. They all felt worried that cultivating there could anger the dragon, but the creature barely seemed aware of their presence.

The green dragon only cared about Noah. It answered whenever he questioned some of the scenes that appeared in his eyes. The same went for the faint feelings that filled his mind whenever the creature poured more of its aura around him. He had gained a personal master, but that fantastic feat didn't lead to immediate results.

The world in Noah's eyes changed whenever he lost focus on the present. The past became nothing more than a book that he could browse whenever he wanted.

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Noah started to feel able to affect those images at some point. He couldn't do much. The past felt immutable, but he could push the present forward.

Of course, he never succeeded in altering the flow of time while on top of the green dragon. The creature was simply making him experience that power, but Noah had yet to develop abilities connected to that field.

Time felt strange. It was far different from the other aspects of his law, and only space seemed to share a few common features.

Space and time were everywhere, but the former had a weight that Noah could almost quantify. It was a complicated array that filled every inch of the world and created an invisible layer on which matter could exist.

Instead, time seemed impossible to notice. It wasn't even a force that he could study. It affected everything in the world, but it didn't seem to exist.

The deep thoughts that filled Noah's mind disappeared when the pack entered another stormless area. The green dragon stopped making him experience its view and allowed him to focus on the environment.

A massive hurricane unfolded in Noah's eyes. The structure was so big that the other storms in the area couldn't help but flow toward it.

Faint white lights shone inside the hurricane. Noah could immediately recognize Heaven and Earth's laws in that radiance, but he couldn't sense much with the storms hiding the true nature of those glows.

"The space dragon is inside!" The green dragon roared before flying in the lead of the group and charging forward.

Noah and the others instinctively bent backward when they saw the massive hurricane filling their vision. Their bodies wouldn't survive the impact with those intense storms, but the environment stopped moving before the dragons could touch the raging structure.

The group could enter the hurricane safely now that the storms had stopped moving.

Chapter 1833 - 1833. Army

Noah and the others couldn't stop their astonishment when they gazed at the insides of the massive hurricane.

Multiple cracks connected to the void hovered around a large mountain surrounded by a swarm of shining white dots. Vast patches of the area had collapsed to create black holes that stood high in the sky, and a second hurricane struggled to get past their suction force to reach the ground.

A middle-aged woman who had a few wrinkles stood right under the storms high in the sky. She wore a white robe that matched the brilliant color of her eyes. Her long grey hair fluttered in the intense winds that managed to seep into the area, and a fierce smile occupied her face.

A second inspection revealed that the lumps of white light were winged c.o.c.kroaches that radiated Heaven and Earth's aura. The cracks in space were fending them off, but they were slowly fusing with the fabric of the world to stabilize the area and open a path toward the mountain.

'What should we even do here?' Noah couldn't help but wonder in front of that spectacular scene.

The winged c.o.c.kroaches had abilities that reminded Noah of the pack of rats, but they were more extreme. Their bodies appeared incredibly frail, but the swarm had hundreds of thousands of them ready to give up on their lives to push forward.

The creatures had different levels. Most of them stood at the bottom of the ninth rank, but their power increased toward the center of the swarm. Some even touched the upper tier.

The cultivator in the sky appeared able to control the swarm, but her cultivation level alone was enough to scare Noah's group away. She was a solid stage expert. No advantages could make Noah and the others fight her.

The black holes and the cracks radiated a suction force so intense that lower tier creatures would lose control of their bodies once caught inside them. The second hurricane was the same. It featured the same powerful gales that filled the first.

The battlefield was out of Noah's league. Even going all-out couldn't grant him a meaningful role there. He was less than a pawn in a chessboard that featured multiple queens.

Noah didn't delude himself before joining the battle, but he hoped for specific opponents that he could fight. Instead, the battlefield had turned out to be a mess that existences at his level couldn't even enter.

Noah's first instinct was to escape, but the storms behind him started to blow again after the entirety of the dragon pack crossed the first hurricane. He was stuck inside the battlefield, and only a victory would give him the chance to leave it.

A long time had passed since his last time waiting for orders. Noah was completely clueless about what to do, and his companions were the same. The group could only wait for the three leaders to give a battle plan.

However, their expectations turned into dust when the time dragon raised its head toward the sky and gave voice to a battle cry that made all the creatures shoot forward.

Noah's expression inevitably froze at that scene. The time dragon was one of the most ancient beings in the higher plane, but it didn't even bother to develop a proper plan. It simply made its underlings charge ahead.

King Elbas and the others searched for Noah's gaze, but he wasn't ready to turn. He wanted to see how the battle unfolded before deciding if he could jump into it.

His eyes remained on the weaker dragons. The level of Noah's group stood next to those creatures, so their opponents could be suitable enemies for him. Yet, the beasts limited themselves to jump among the swarm and released waves of flames. They didn't even bother checking whether their companions were around them before launching their attacks.

"My fate is to die among the oldest idiots in the world," King Elbas sighed when he watched that scene.

"Don't worry," Divine Demon said while patting his shoulder. "You also have the youngest idiots. Never sell yourself short."

King Elbas began to think that death wasn't a bad option since it would free him of his curse, but everything changed once the three leaders stepped on the battlefield.

The life and death dragon shot high in the sky and charged at the solid stage cultivator while spreading strange auras into the environment.

The death dragon's dark aura filled the battlefield and spread destruction everywhere. The cracks connected to the void expanded, and the ground opened, but dark patches appeared inside the swarm as the c.o.c.kroaches died under that influence.

The life dragon's blinding aura also expanded to fill the entire area, but its effects were far different. It only affected the dragons and the techniques that they deployed by empowering their overall offensive.

Noah couldn't help but notice how the creatures' attacks grew stronger. The effect didn't apply only to a single species. Every dragon launched better flames and fought with more intensity as if they were in a frenzy.

The time dragon flew toward the mountain. Its aura expanded and made the swarm stop for a few seconds to cross the c.o.c.kroaches and reach the structure.

Its influence on time didn't only affect its enemies. The green dragon also made sure that the injuries of everyone on the battlefield stopped bleeding.

The same went for the c.o.c.kroaches' lifespan. The time dragon could accelerate their time, and many of those creatures died as they touched that powerful aura.

Only tiny specks of light remained around the mountain after the three upper tier dragons used their powers. The threatening swarm had turned into nothing more than a few patches of whiteness that illuminated the area covered by the storm.

'Is it over already?' Noah wondered while inspecting the scene.

The life and death dragons were fighting together against the cultivator. They seemed able to overpower that expert even on their own, but they had no reason to divide themselves in that situation.

On the other hand, the cultivator didn't rely on the few remaining c.o.c.kroaches to fight. She didn't even try to launch more attacks while the two dragons kept her locked in a relentless discharge of flames.

The empowered dragons eventually killed all the remaining c.o.c.kroaches. The area was basically safe at that point, except for the cultivator in the sky.

The time dragon launched a few cries toward the mountain, and an earthquake soon spread from that spot. Cracks opened on the structure and spread until an explosion resounded. Large boulders flew in every direction and revealed a peculiar dragon resting on its legs.

The creature didn't have clear features. It resembled a shadow with the shape of a massive winged dragon. Its fabric reminded Noah about Snore before it took a solid form. It was a strange sight to see a magical beast in such an unstable state.

"You took a while," The space dragon laughed before glancing high in the sky.

The cultivator was still holding her ground against the two dragons, but the frenzy in her face never disappeared. Her smile widened, and the new state of the battlefield made her explode into a loud laugh.

Chapter 1834 - 1834. Impact

Everything was happening so quickly that Noah and the others barely managed to keep up. The pack of dragons had defeated most threats in mere minutes with the help of their leaders, but Heaven and Earth had a counterattack ready.

The army of cultivators featured dozens of rank 8 experts and a few leaders in the ninth rank. Most of them were only gaseous stage existences, but they weren't the primary source of danger in the scene.

The massive swarm behind them flew past the storms and dived toward the pack of dragons. The aura that he radiated made the second hurricane disperse into a wave of gales that fused with the first calamity and reinforced its structure. The pack of c.o.c.kroaches featured multiple upper tier creatures, and the two dragons busy fighting the woman felt the need to stop to inspect their power.

"The rulers have seen you fight countless times already," The woman laughed as she flew toward her troops. "You couldn't possibly think that a small defeat would take us by surprise."

The three leaders had never tried to take the cultivator by surprise, but the arrival of the new threat ended up making them experience that feeling. Still, they quickly suppressed their astonishment and deployed a simple battle plan that involved the weaker underlings.

A few roars came out of the time dragon, and the two leaders echoed it. The shadowy creature also gave voice to those orders with its deep but young voice, and the underlings didn't hesitate to follow those directives.

The dragons shot upward in a violent attempt to overwhelm their opponents with their sheer numbers, but the swarm of flying c.o.c.kroaches soon appeared on their path and gave birth to a messy battle.

Meanwhile, the time and space dragons left the ground and shot upward to join the other leaders in the battle against the powerful woman. In their minds, she was the major threat in the group, so they wanted to take her out quickly.

The woman now had four upper tier creatures against her, but she didn't feel to be on the losing side even after they encircled her. The cultivators behind her waited for her orders, but she simply nodded at them while ordering some c.o.c.kroaches to gather.

The cultivators joined the remaining part of the swarm at that point, but some decided to fly toward the surface when they noticed the experts below. Noah and the others appeared as easy prey for the army, and they preferred to avoid remaining near a fight that involved upper tier creatures.

Twenty rank 8 cultivators in the solid stage and an expert in the gaseous stage of the ninth rank landed on the surface and showed their proud smiles toward Noah's group. Heaven and Earth's laws shone out of their figures, but they seemed able to resist the influence that Noah and Robert radiated.

Noah didn't feel surprised about that feature. Heaven and Earth had started countering the Devils' power since his return to the other side of the Immortal Lands. The fact that their underlings had become immune to that power felt almost normal, especially after he considered everything he had learnt about the rulers.

"Noah Balvan has joined the dragons," The man in the ninth rank exclaimed as faint chuckles came out of his mouth. "We considered that possibility, but we didn't think that you would jump into such dangerous situations so soon."

The man had short brown hair and shining azure eyes. Pure confidence came out of his burly figure, and the ground around him inevitably shattered as his aura leaked into the environment.

The cultivator appeared quite young, and his gaze carried a fanatical resolve. He seemed to be ready to give his life for Heaven and Earth.

"You don't need to shout my name every time you see me," Noah sighed while the Demonic Sword and the cursed sword appeared in his hands. "You know me. I get it."

The cultivator's eyes sharpened, and a cruel smile appeared on his face. His aura even intensified as he prepared to launch his best attack toward the eight experts.

"You want to try that, right?" King Elbas asked as inscribed items started to come out of his space-ring.

"I need to see where I stand," Noah confirmed. "Handle the others. I'll fight him."

"What should we do after we take care of them then?" Alexander asked in a bored tone.

"Try not to die, I guess," Noah announced while his eyes went to the sky.

The members of his group did the same, and fear inevitably spread inside their minds. The dragons, the swarm, and the cultivators had already resumed their fight, and the entire area had become unapproachable. Intense shockwaves spread everywhere in the environment and hurt those who happened to be in their path.

Even the lower tier dragons struggled to remain in the area. The shockwaves released by their leaders and the solid stage woman were too much to handle for all the other existences nearby. Large chunks of the swarm fell apart whenever flares of energy shot out of the main battlefield.

"Do you dare to face me alone?" The man asked when he saw Noah stepping forward to fly toward him.

"Facing is the wrong word," Noah revealed. "I want to use you as a training dummy to understand the level of my battle prowess."

Noah's abilities activated after his announcement. His ambition, Isaac's ability, and unstable product filled his centers of power, black vessels, and companions to bring his condition to his peak. He didn't hesitate to enter his strongest state when his opponent was a proper rank 9 cultivator.

"This scourge underestimates you, Lord Lewis," A woman among the group of rank 8 cultivators announced while stepping forward to appear in Noah's path. "Let us take care of him while you slaughter his friends in front of his eyes."

"How can Heaven and Earth even give power to these existences," Noah sighed as an intense pulling force came out of his figure and converged on the woman.

The cultivator lost control of her body when that power landed on her. She had Heaven and Earth's enhanced law running through her centers of power, but she appeared unable to oppose that power. Worry even appeared in her eyes when she saw that her body wouldn't stop flying toward Noah.

Lord Lewis snorted and teleported in front of Noah. His hand took the shape of a sword as it descended toward his head, but the cultivator suddenly noticed that Noah wasn't there anymore.

Noah's aura reappeared after a second. Lord Lewis turned and saw the beheaded figure of his companion descending toward the sky while a trail of blood came out of her open waist.

A rank 8 cultivator in the solid stage couldn't do anything against him after he empowered his centers of power. His ambition almost made him reach the very peak of the eighth rank, and his assets were simply too strong after he improved them.

Lord Lewis couldn't help but accept that Noah had surpassed the limits of the eighth rank long ago. However, his confidence remained. After all, the real test would happen against him.

"Don't die on me too soon," Lord Lewis whispered before pointing his left hand toward Noah.

A powerful beam came out of his fingers and created a massive wave of power that tried to envelop Noah, but corrosive roots came out of his body as he slashed forward.

Chapter 1835 - 1835. Energy

Noah was empowering every aspect of his existence and arsenal. His centers of power neared the peak of the eighth rank, and his companions also touched its edges.

The parasite's corrosive power was beyond reason. The magical plant was the embodiment of one of Noah's strongest spells and expressed pure destruction that fused with his attacks to enhance his already incredible features.

Noah had slashed forward with the Demonic Sword and cursed sword while using his insane physical strength to fuel the attack. His black hole had even provided dark matter that copied the power of his technique and intensified his might.

Moreover, Noah's darkness was expressing its destructive side to the fullest since violent thoughts filled his mind and made him innately able to understand how to maximize the effects of his attack. The white beam that came out of Lord Lewis' fingers seemed able to burn his body after a mere touch, but that light never managed to reach his skin.

Lord Lewis saw how black lines had spread on his attack before it could reach Noah. Those stains had detonated once a piercing slash shot out of the two swords, and the beam destabilized before clashing with the incoming technique.

The clash between the two attacks generated an explosion that made sharp, corrosive, and intense gales of energy flew in every corner of the region. None of those aspects managed to overwhelm the other, and the exchange ended up in a draw.

Lord Lewis felt shocked at that sight. Noah had actually matched his power even if the influence inherited by the Devils weren't effective against Heaven and Earth's law anymore.

The disappointed expression that appeared on Noah after the exchange even intensified his astonishment. Lord Lewis could clearly see that Noah expected to do better in the fight, and his mind could barely accept that sight.

Every expert under Heaven and Earth's rule knew Noah. The rulers warned all their underlings about that unique existence and even informed everyone about his abilities.

However, seeing Noah's actual power during a real battle was completely different from hearing reports and studying a few recordings. Lord Lewis could finally understand why the rulers felt so worried about him. Noah existed in a realm meant only for himself, and his influence could make other experts imitate his growth.

Noah was the cultivator with the highest potential in the world, and he could even transfer his determination to others. Moreover, the last exchange had proven that he had completely stepped into the ninth rank in terms of battle prowess.

Lord Lewis had been angry and arrogant before, but he quickly realized what he had to do for Heaven and Earth's greater good. He had to kill Noah even if the task requested his life as the price.

"I take back my words," Lord Lewis announced. "Die quick-."

Lord Lewis cut his announcement short because he saw something strange next to Noah. A lump of dark matter had suddenly appeared at his side and had remained connected to his body.

The cultivator inspected his surroundings to understand what was happening. The lump of dark matter wasn't meant for him, but he couldn't ignore that feature.

King Elbas and the other experts had started fighting against the other cultivators, and they had already seized the upper hand. Still, an issue soon became clear in Lord Lewis' mind when he studied those battles.

"Where is Edna?" Lord Lewis asked, and Noah revealed a confused expression.

"Who is Edna?" Noah asked as he looked around while imitating Lord Lewis' gestures.

"The cultivator that you have killed before," Lord Lewis revealed. "Why aren't Heaven and Earth bring her back?"

"Oh," Noah exclaimed while scratching the side of his head with the handle of the Demonic Sword. "I usually call them food after they lose their heads."

Pure anger appeared on Lord Lewis' face when he turned and saw Noah's cruel smile. The latter had used the dark matter to seize Edna's corpse during the exchange and prevent eventual resurrections. Noah even wanted to exploit the expert's fake immortality to improve his body.

"You actually are quite useful," Noah revealed to make sure to get inside Lord Lewis' head. "Heaven and Earth make even the most useless of you immortal. You are basically asking me to exploit that."

"You monster!" Lord Lewis shouted before pointing both hands toward Noah.

Light gathered in his palms before a large beam shot forward and tried to envelop Noah again. However, the latter sprinted before the attack could reach him.

The world seemed to bend as Noah sprinted around the incoming beam. A single step allowed him to cross an immense distance, so he managed to arrive next to Lord Lewis when he had yet to retract his hands.

Noah waved both swords horizontally, but a violent wave of energy suddenly came out of Lord Lewis' figure and flung him away. The damage caused by the cursed sword and the attack fused to create multiple scarred patches of skin and large wounds, but his body endured them easily.

"My law is energy, you monster," Lord Lewis announced. "Heaven and Earth have even fixed the flaws that had afflicted my cultivation journey. You can't touch me, and you can't overcome my attacks. Let go of Edna now!"

"Fine," Noah sighed, and the lump of dark matter appeared in front of him.

The black sack opened, but its insides were empty. Lord Lewis stared at that scene for a while before raising his head and seeing a massive slash flying toward him.

Lord Lewis snorted while waving his hand. A gale of energy came out of his body and fended off the slash, but Noah's figure quickly appeared above him. Noah was delivering a descending blow with both weapons, but another flare shot toward him and pushed him away.

"Told you," Lord Lewis snorted. "It's impossibl-."

Lord Lewis had to stop speaking since he noticed that something was off with his insides. His first instinct was to deploy the technique meant to counter the Shadow Domain, but his issue appeared different.

The expert inspected his insides until he noticed that a small cut had opened on his dantian. The event surprised him beyond any reason, but Noah didn't hesitate to continue with his offensive.

Lord Lewis had to deploy his flares again, but they inevitably lost power since part of the energy escaped from his dantian before creating a proper technique. The burst that came out of his figure hit Noah, but he managed to endure it and push forward.

The expert saw two blades descending toward his face, and his survival instincts made him release far more power than before. His dantian hurt as that discharge of energy stretched the injury on the organ, but he successfully generated a technique able to fend Noah away again.

Yet, a cut suddenly opened on Lord Lewis' throat and spread until his head almost went upside down. The expert recalled about Night at that point, but he felt surprised about its new power anyway. He couldn't see the Pterodactyl at all.

"I won't let two lucky attacks make me lose this battle," Lord Lewis announced when he saw Noah charging ahead. "I'll show you what it means to reach the ninth rank."

Lord Lewis closed his eyes as his domain expanded. His technique fused perfectly with Heaven and Earth's laws and created an environment that transformed even Noah's energy into a white fuel.

Chapter 1836 - 1836. Problematic

Lord Lewis had managed to hit Noah with his flares multiple times already, but the latter didn't mind those events. His incredible resilience fused with the many techniques that enhanced his innate abilities and allowed him to stand his ground against a rank 9 cultivator.

Of course, the battle wasn't in Noah's favor. His attacks barely managed to match Lord Lewis' offensive. His resilience and many assets were the only reason why he appeared to come out as the winner of every exchange.

Noah had definitely suffered more injuries due to Lord Lewis' superior power and the drawbacks of the cursed sword. However, he appeared far better off than his opponent. Night had even managed to inflict an injury in a spot that directly affected the expert's power.

The battle would have lasted a long time, but Noah had set the foundation for a victory. It would have taken him a while to actually make Lord Lewis deplete his energy and put him in a position where Heaven and Earth couldn't resurrect him, but he had the chance to succeed.

However, Lord Lewis decided to stop playing around. King Elbas and the others were suppressing his underlings, and Noah had already killed one of them. The expert had even suffered injuries that could lead to a surprising defeat, so he had to approach the battle seriously.

The greatest difference between existences in the eighth and ninth rank was in the intensity of their law. Lord Lewis had seen that Noah could endure his normal attacks, so he decided to change his approach.

His domain expanded, fusing Lord Lewis' aura with the world and the laws in the environment. The area started abiding by different rules, and Noah couldn't ignore them during his charge.

Darkness, dark matter, and faces had accumulated on Noah's words, but they transformed into white energy as soon as Lord Lewis applied new rules to the world.

Lord Lewis was pure energy, and everything could become his fuel. Noah's abilities transformed into power that the expert could use to launch attacks, and he wasn't ready for that.

The white energy that had suddenly replaced his power lingered on his swords for less than an instant before exploding. A scorching sensation spread through his arms, torso, and face, and his mind also sent similar feelings due to the damage suffered by the Demonic Sword.

His sword instinctively returned inside his body when the first waves of power hit its structure, but it couldn't avoid suffering damages. The new state of the blade made it able to use Noah's energy to materialize itself in a perfect condition, but it couldn't heal the wounds on its existence in such a short time.

The explosion inevitably flung Noah backward and forced him to release energy to stop his momentum. Still, the darkness spreading from his back transformed into Lord Lewis' white power before detonating again.

Noah found himself flying forward at that point. He didn't commit the same mistake, but his options were almost non-existent in an environment controlled by such a troublesome domain.

Lord Lewis flew forward to face Noah head-on. His body brimmed with white light and transformed him into a blazing figure that shot toward his opponent at high speed.

The battle instincts that Noah had honed for millennia almost made him launch a wave of fire, but he suppressed that desire and unleashed the dark world. He would typically try to force his way through a domain, but Lord Lewis' technique had troublesome features that didn't let him use energy. He couldn't launch attacks in that situation.

The dark world basically was a pliable and improved version of a domain due to the dark matter that made its structure. Noah could change its rules depending on his situation, and his priority was to create an environment where he could use energy.

The dense dark matter began to transform into white fuel as soon as it spread into the environment, but the technique appeared more resilient than the rest of Noah's arsenal. It survived long enough to give him the time to prepare a few attacks.

The dark world shattered as Lord Lewis pierced its edges. The power released by his aura was enough to break the dark matter and create a conical hole that enlarged and deepened as he continued to press forward.

The expert could sense that he was close to Noah's position, but a series of six-armed dragons eventually appeared on his path. Lord Lewis didn't even bother to look at those rank 8 upper tier creatures since his expanding domain started transforming their structure right away. Still, they detonated before Noah lost control of them.

Raging waves of power shot in every direction, but the dark world closed around Lord Lewis to isolate him. The shockwaves released by the explosions ended up converging toward him as they ricocheted on the encirclement's edges.

Half of those waves transformed into white energy that shielded Lord Lewis by the time the attack reached his figure, but Noah had expected a similar outcome. He had even studied how the domain transformed energy.

Nmfv hmpit nzutaho jvfo lvfnu ovu uruzew zuiufut gw ovu uknimlamrl jmpit efar fdouz ovu ozfrldmzqfoamr, Im val tulozphoamr hmpit ofzeuo ovmlu Inmol frt uknimaov uaz difjl.

Black lines appeared on the white energy that had enveloped Lord Lewis. The event left him shocked, but the waves of power that his domain didn't manage to affect suddenly crashed on his protection and detonated Noah's destruction.

The entire defensive layer created by the transformed energy exploded and ended up hurting the other defenses that protected Lord Lewis. The white light that surrounded him flickered, and a slash promptly shot out of the dark world to exploit that moment of weakness.

Lord Lewis decided to ignore his trembling defenses to pour his entire power on his domain. Part of the dark energy carried by the piercing slash transformed into white lumps that exploded to weaken the attack. Still, the expert didn't have enough time to fend off the incoming blow entirely.

Noah had done his math correctly. What remained on his piercing slash crashed on the expert and destroyed the rest of his defenses. Lord Lewis found himself completely in the open, with only his domain protecting him, and that was enough for Noah.

A shadow shot out of the dark world and flew toward Lord Lewis. He wielded both blades and released attacks right after touching the expert's domain.

A series of slashes flew through the sky and enlarged as they absorbed energy, but white lumps appeared on their structure and tried to devour them from the insides. Yet, black roots suddenly came out of those attacks and destroyed the foreign energy.

Lord Lewis found himself forced to launch an attack to face the incoming rain of slashes. He waved his hand, and a flare shot out of his fingers. His energy engulfed Noah's offensive, but it reminded him that he had forgotten about something.

Noah didn't hesitate to add an attack at that reminder. He came out of a crack that had materialized behind Lord Lewis, and his two blades released a massive slash when they discharged the energy accumulated inside the Shadow Domain.

Chapter 1837 - 1837. Trapped

Lord Lewis couldn't dodge an attack launched up close, but his very existence was an expression of power. He was raging energy that he could deploy with the slightest wave of his fingers.

A massive slash fell on Lord Lewis. Small white lumps tried to taint Noah's energy, but the expert's domain didn't have enough time to transform a consistent part of the attack.

A black pillar formed in the area. Noah's darkness and dark matter created a sharp structure that featured countless faces. Pure destruction flowed out of that black mass, and Lord Lewis was right at its center.

Spiderwebs of cracks opened from the spot where the pillar touched the ground. The tough lands that had survived inside the chaotic laws for many years inevitably shattered when Noah's destruction ravaged their fabric.

The bloodlust that filled the area was so intense that scarlet shades appeared among the dark light that the pillar radiated. Lord Lewis' domain continued to transform Noah's power into white fuel, but he was in no condition to use it.

Still, Lord Lewis didn't let the pillar overwhelm him. The initial fall of Noah's power had opened long injuries across his body, but he remained a rank 9 cultivator. He lacked the iconic resilience of the magical beasts' world, but he stood at the peak of the cultivation journey nonetheless.

Lord Lewis released flares of white energy that pierced the pillar and started to destroy its structure. Noah couldn't stop that since he had already launched one of the strongest attacks he was capable of. Yet, he could worsen the expert's situation while he remained inside his destructive energy.

Noah closed his eyes and placed both blades on his forehead. His consciousness spread through the world and inside the Shadow Domain that he had expanded in the area. He could see Lord Lewis' insides even if his domain transformed his mental waves, and he didn't hesitate to launch his attack.

Lord Lewis was inside a sharp mass of energy that never stopped ravaging his body. Black lines would appear on his torn skin whenever Noah's destruction managed to gain a greater understanding of his existence.

Those lines detonated at the first touch with the sharp energy, and injuries continued to open on Lord Lewis. He couldn't shield himself from those attacks since they affected his very existence, but he could release enough power to escape from that situation.

The white energy carried by Lord Lewis' existence set his body aflame as he released flares that pierced the sharp pillar and destabilized its structure. He could already see a few exits high above him after launching some attacks, but he continued with that approach until the entire blackness around him started to crumble.

A proud smile appeared on Lord Lewis' face when the pillar started to fall apart, but his expression froze when he sensed foreign energy inside his maimed body.

His counter to Noah's Shadow Domain immediately activated. Multiple dense white layers of energy covered his insides and shielded him from the deadly technique. The expert still suffered a few injuries since his methods couldn't completely stop Noah, but he didn't suffer any severe wound.

Yet, eight cracks that led to a dark dimension opened around his figure as soon as his countering of Noah's Shadow Domain reached its peak. Slashes that carried different features quickly came out of them, and the expert found himself defenseless at that sight.

The slashes had reappeared into the real world right next to Lord Lewis, so his domain didn't manage to shield him. He still released flares toward the incoming attacks, but they inevitably failed to carry enough power to stop Noah's offensive since he was still protecting his insides.

Most of the slashes had the parasite's corrosive aura around them. Some even had proper roots spreading from them and feeding on their power. Instead, others carried a few large feathers that didn't hesitate to detonate once they touched Lord Lewis' figure.

The convergence of attacks gave birth to a peculiar scene. Part of the slashes wanted to explode to release their energy, while others continued to absorb fuel until they had enough power to cut through the law that filled Lord Lewis' insides.

The different nature of the slashes prevented the expansion of an explosion, but they didn't affect the overall power released in the area. Lord Lewis experienced raging energy that tried to ravage his body, sharp power that pierced his skin, black roots that enveloped themselves around his figure, and lumps of fire that tried to burn his existence.

The different nature of the various attacks made them hard to counter at the same time. Lord Lewis didn't even know if the counters developed by Heaven and Earth could even work in that situation since Noah's offensive appeared far stronger than he had predicted.

His hesitation made him endure the full power of Noah's offensive for a second more than he should have, but he promptly activated a few counters after that. Lord Lewis' energy lost intensity as it gained special features meant to counter those attacks, and they slowly lost power.

His domain soon helped in the matter. The darkness carried by the pillar and explosions vanished, and the same went for the flames and roots that had tried to take over his body.

Lord Lewis could finally bathe under the Heaven and Earth's faint light, and the rulers didn't hesitate to pierce the storms to make a white pillar envelop his figure.

The whiteness wanted to heal the expert, but Noah didn't let Heaven and Earth do as they wished. Lord Lewis saw that a massive figure had appeared in the area after the white light had enveloped him. A giant snake had spread its wings and had released a rain of feathers that flew toward his spot.

King Elbas and the others ordered a full retreat when they saw that attack. They charged farther in the area to make sure that the imminent storms of dark matter couldn't reach them.

The rank 8 cultivators that they had as their opponents knew about Noah's abilities. Some of them recognized Snore's attacks and prepared for a preemptive escape, but King Elbas and the others didn't let them leave the area so easily. They launched attacks meant to trap the group in their current spot and forced them to endure the incoming storms.

Snore's feathers converged on Lord Lewis and created the predicted mess. A black dome made of chaotic storms spread in the area and enveloped the cultivators and Lord Lewis as the explosion expanded and started ravaging the environment.

The black storm enveloped the entire area encircled by the hurricane. The raging waves of dark matter spread everywhere and didn't differentiate between friend or foe.

Noah had retreated in time to dodge the storms, but his hunger slowly took over his mind and made him fill the chaotic laws behind him with flames enhanced by his many techniques. His condition started to improve at that point, but a sigh escaped his mouth when he saw the black gales transforming into white walls.

Lord Lewis was still alive and able to show his power, but Noah didn't have time to lose. The storms were keeping the existence stuck into their center, and Noah didn't miss that chance to deploy the Shadow Domain again.

Chapter 1838 - 1838. Bait

Noah filled the insides of the raging storms with attacks sent through the Shadow Domain. Lord Lewis' domain and flares continued to transform and destroy his dark matter, but his assault was relentless.

Noah never stopped. He didn't care that his reserves of energy were growing dangerously short. He had even forgotten about the monsters fighting in the sky above him. His thoughts only concerned defeating his first rank 9 existence on his own.

Still, Lord Lewis' energy appeared endless, and his domain continued to be a major pain for Noah since he lacked a proper counter. All his abilities only allowed him to buy time against that technique.

The raging storms appeared as a terrifying monster, but Lord Lewis slowly took care of them and transformed all the dark matter into a white sea. The expert had succeeded while Noah had continued to launch his attacks through the Shadow Domain.

The result of the exchange seemed to point toward a simple conclusion. Noah could clearly hold his ground against a rank 9 cultivator, but defeating an expert at that level seemed too much even for him.

The fundamental gap between their abilities was too large. Noah had to go all-out just to match or pierce techniques that his opponent saw as normal. Lord Lewis' law was even hard to face for Noah's existence.

Noah couldn't completely give up on the fight, especially since Lord Lewis had clearly suffered from the recent offensive. The expert's skin had more holes than intact spots, blood filled the entirety of his figure, and his aura had even grown unstable. Still, he had no problem standing, and his existence slowly stabilized to bring his domain to its peak.

Heaven and Earth tried to illuminate Lord Lewis again, but a shadow appeared under the shining pillar before it could reach the expert. The figure then pierced that white structure and covered its trail with a dark substance that almost reached the sky.

Night reappeared in the sky after it destroyed the pillar. Its peculiar figure almost disappeared among the faint light that managed to get past the storms, but darkness slowly spread from its lines.

'I'll handle the light,' Night confirmed through the mental connection before raising its head when it saw that another pillar was about to fall on the expert.

Duanlong came out of Noah's separate space on its own and flew toward the Pterodactyl. It wasn't its intention to help the creature. The dragon only wanted to absorb energy for Noah.

'Now,' Noah thought as his gaze fell on the powerful expert, 'How do I kill him?'

Lord Lewis revealed a gruesome smile when he saw that the two companions were cutting away his chances to recover. He didn't care that Heaven and Earth couldn't heal him. After all, his opponent wasn't a rank 9 existence. Defeating him was only normal. In his mind, the best Noah could do was buying time until his existence ran out of energy.

Noah's mindset had started to grow unstable due to the many attacks launched with the cursed sword. He had burnt chaotic laws to heal his physical injuries while the raging storms still filled the area, but his mind only had the black hole on its side.

The bloodlust radiated by Noah's figure almost took the shape of dense scarlet mental waves. Part of his unfolded consciousness had changed color due to the mass of violent thoughts that filled his mind. He was approaching his limit, but the Demonic Deduction technique was also becoming more effective.

"How can you be so strong?" Lord Lewis asked when he saw that Noah didn't attack. "I honestly don't get it. Does your power come from Heaven and Earth? Are you like the empty creatures that have tried to invade the higher plane?"

Noah felt actually surprised that Lord Lewis knew about the events with the empty monster, but he soon realized that probably every expert in the ninth rank living in the sky could directly gaze downward to keep track of the world.

Moreover, they had to have a tighter connection with Heaven and Earth. Every rank 9 cultivator in the sky had to be relatively important to the rulers, so there was a high chance that their network of information surpassed everything that Noah had ever seen.

"Do you think that I'm good because Heaven and Earth made a mistake?" Noah asked while inspecting the Demonic Sword. "My achievements wouldn't be the result of my efforts then. I would only be one of the many talented existences in the world. I'm the strongest only because no one can match my backing."

"Exactly," Lord Lewis laughed. "Everything you are is in direct opposition to Heaven and Earth in the end. It would explain how the bastard son of a small family has managed to reach these heights."

Lord Lewis was trying to drag Noah into a trap with his words. It didn't matter if he managed to confuse or cause doubts inside him. The expert would benefit from both outcomes.

Instead, Noah was only buying time. His Demonic Deduction technique was working at full speed. He could already think of a few ways to kill his opponent, but they all involved attacks that the world had yet to see. He preferred to keep them a secret as long as possible to avoid eventual counters.

Still, that appeared impossible in that situation. Noah would reach his limit before Lord Lewis, so he couldn't wear him out with many techniques.

"I haven't thought about that since my life in the Mortal Lands," Noah revealed. "I know that it's the only logical conclusion, but that's the whole point, right? My power isn't logical, which might be why you can't beat me."

"Your arrogance is blinding you," Lord Lewis laughed as his domain continued to expand.

The ground and the air transformed into white energy that started to rotate around his figure. Lord Lewis' law resembled Divine Demon's, even if his abilities relied more on sheer power than different techniques.

Lord Lewis was clearly preparing to launch a massive attack, but Noah was in the same situation. He only had to decide what to reveal to the world.

"I thought it to be arrogance at first too," Noah laughed, "But Heaven and Earth tried to stop me so often that I started to believe in myself. What I say turns out to be right, and my mere words have even become able to alter the nature of things. You might have avoided becoming a lapdog if you had my confidence."

"You are delusional," Lord Lewis shook his head. "Did you lose too much blood?"

"I swear that it's true!" Noah announced while pointing at a spot above the expert's head. "Look, I know that a giant dragon will appear above your head and kill you with a single attack. I said it, so you can be sure that it will happen."

"What kind of delirious-," Lord Lewis scoffed, but a powerful aura suddenly appeared above his head and made him look at the spot pointed by Noah.

A large crack opened in the sky, and Shafu's giant body came out of it. The creature was so big that it covered the entire mountain. It actually had to stay above Night and Duanlong to have enough space.

"What does this even prove?" Lord Lewis asked, but two blades suddenly cut away his head.

His body and centers of power still worked, so he quickly moved to pick them. Yet, Noah materialized next to him and cut everything into a thousand pieces.

The expert seemed still alive even in his condition, and Heaven and Earth struggled harder than ever to reach the surface and rebuild him. Shafu had created the perfect bait, but Noah had yet to kill the expert. However, if he had to be true to his mind, part of him wanted to study him first.

Chapter 1839 - 1839. Study

Lord Lewis' gruesome pieces trembled on the ground and tainted it with blood, but a white glow covered them and tried to shield them from incoming threats.

Heaven and Earth raged to get past Night, Duanlong, and Shafu, but they didn't have many options. Piercing the storms was easy, but their light had to go through the entire battlefield to reach the surface, and the three companions were covering non-crowded areas on purpose. The rulers didn't have a clear path, and their whiteness never managed to shine on Lord Lewis.

Interest filled Noah while he studied the bloody glowing pieces. Lord Lewis' centers of power were no more after the last attacks, but his law still thrived. It had lost power, but it existed.

Noah struggled to understand how a law could survive in that state. He had learnt a lot about rank 9 cultivators throughout his life, and he could inspect the expert right under him. However, his mind still failed to realize how someone could live when it was technically dead.

His eyes quickly swept the battlefield. King Elbas and the others had already taken care of their opponents, but the rest of the fights were still ongoing.

The four upper tier dragons were fighting against the woman in the solid stage while part of the swarm supported her. That battle appeared relatively even, and Noah couldn't understand much about the abilities deployed by those entities.

There seemed to be a membrane that obscured his senses around the peak existences in the ninth rank. Those entities didn't create any shield to fend off inspections, but that structure had formed anyway.

Noah soon connected the intensity of the energy released in that area to the membrane. The dragons, cultivators, and swarm were releasing a lot of power during their exchanges, which inevitably created instabilities in the fabric of space and filled the area with dense laws.

The area had naturally transformed into a separate space that featured only energy belonging to existences near the peak of the ninth rank. Noah didn't feel surprised that his eyes and consciousness couldn't reach its insides.

The other rank 9 dragons were fighting the swarm while the remaining cultivators managed the flying c.o.c.kroaches and made sure that they deployed correct battle formations. It felt strange to see experts giving orders to magical beasts at a higher level, but everything made sense when Noah considered the nature of those creatures.

Moreover, the flying c.o.c.kroaches weren't simple magical beasts. They radiated Heaven and Earth's aura, which almost made Noah believe them to be closer to organic puppets than actual living beings.

His eyes fell back on Lord Lewis at that point. The expert was trying his best to muster enough energy and stabilize his body, but Noah didn't miss even the slightest change in his glow.

Lord Lewis didn't have fuel anymore according to Noah's inspection. His dantian was in pieces, and the same went for his mental sphere and body. Yet, his white radiance continued to intensify and bring his bloody fragments back together.

'How does he even work?' Noah wondered as he crouched and filled the area with his dark matter.

Noah knew that he had been rather lucky. Lord Lewis had developed a technique to counter the internal attacks of the Shadow Domain, but he had remained unaware of Noah's presence on the battlefield until after the teleport.

Lord Lewis could only counter what his abilities allowed him to do since Heaven and Earth didn't provide any additional item. Noah had been able to use his companions and techniques rather freely even after the expansion of the domain. He would have probably failed to seize that victory otherwise.

The event revealed that Heaven and Earth lacked complete control of the areas inside the chaotic laws, and Noah could immediately create a few hypotheses concerning that topic. Yet, he didn't want to waste time with such an exciting opportunity at hand.

'He can clearly generate energy from nothing,' Noah quickly concluded after a thorough inspection of the bloody pieces and the environment.

Lord Lewis' pieces weren't absorbing energy from the environment and weren't burning their fabric to generate their glow. Their power came from something that Noah couldn't see nor sense, which hinted at the realm that every existence wanted to reach.

'Is his power unlimited?' Noah wondered before disregarding that idea.

Lord Lewis appeared able to generate energy from nothing, but the pace was quite poor. Noah didn't know if the expert could do better when his centers of power were in one piece, but he guessed that the process would remain slow.

After all, the expert didn't make use of that ability during the battle. Lord Lewis had preferred to transform the environment into his power instead of generating more fuel on his own. The issue could depend on the unique law that Heaven and Earth had given him, but it could also show how Lord Lewis was still bad at that skill.

It felt hard to contain those rank 9 materials inside the dark world. A sense of weakness even filled Noah as his ambition dispersed. Heaven and Earth had lost track of the expert after the dark world expanded, so Noah preferred to avoid worsening his drawbacks.

The dark world expanded toward the storms on its own while making part of its dark matter copy the features of Noah's flames. Waves of energy quickly flew toward his figure and helped suppress the drawbacks, but he barely noticed those events.

Duanlong and Shafu entered the dark world to help with the absorption, and Night returned inside the separate space since its duty was over. Noah's condition quickly stabilized as the black hole took care of sending the absorbed energy toward key spots inside his body, but he didn't pay attention to that process. He fed the Demonic Deduction technique with his blood, and violent thoughts filled his mind. Yet, they couldn't teach him much about the expert's power.

The Demonic Deduction technique only reached obvious conclusions. Noah wanted to see if he could use his innate tendency to destruction to learn more about the expert, but his approach failed. His mind couldn't find the source of Lord Lewis' power, so it only created different plans that involved his iconic abilities.

'Do I really have to risk reassembling him?' Noah sighed in his mind before structures with the shape of mechanical arms came out of the fabric of the dark world and started tinkering with the expert.

The workshop quickly assembled Lord Lewis' head while making sure to remove every connection with the rest of his body. The other pieces stopped moving after a tremor ran through the face floating among the darkness. It seemed that the rebuilt part had become the center of his existence, which turned the rest of the pieces useless.

The dark world quickly absorbed the pieces while Noah watched Lord Lewis opening his eyes and giving voice to loud curses after realizing the situation he was in.

"Free me, you monster!" Lord Lewis shouted. "What are you even planning on doing with me?"

"I'm just looking for answers," Noah replied in an aloof tone. "I want to see the exact difference in our nature before killing you. Try to stay still."

Noah sat on the black surface of the dark world and started his inspection. Painful cries and pleads often came out of his position, but no one outside the technique could hear them.

Chapter 1840 - 1840. Instincts

A battlefield featuring existences that stood at the very apex of the cultivation journey usually were a major form of attraction. Still, Noah could only ignore everything outside the dark world. His senses barely managed to go past the dense energy released by the four dragons and solid stage woman.

Fights raged outside the dark world, but Noah's focus remained on the head floating among the dense dark matter. Lord Lewis screamed in pain and cursed whenever the workshop reassembled him to study part of his power, but answers rarely arrived.

There was nothing logical in Lord Lewis' power, but Noah expected much. The ninth rank theoretically was the realm that went past laws. The true meanings would transform into worlds capable of generating energy without requiring fuel.

That level went beyond reason and understanding. Its features even depended on the specific law that had managed to step into that rank, which made eventual studies far more complicated.

Lord Lewis' situation was even peculiar since his current law came from Heaven and Earth. It was a copy of his original true meaning that the rulers had given to him after absorbing his existence.

'Is his source of power hard to find because his law is quite simple?' Noah wondered as some of the arms of the workshop stabbed into the head sent a wave of energy to trigger a few reactions.

Lord Lewis' floating head lit up as soon as the dark matter flowed into its fabric. Noah couldn't see any black shade in that radiance, but he knew that the expert didn't have organs that could perform that transformation.

The dark matter had transformed into white light without passing through a dantian. Lord Lewis didn't even use his mental waves in the process. It seemed that his flesh could trigger that event on its own.

Watching that scene didn't clear Noah's doubts. Lord Lewis' flesh obviously contained the essence of his law, but it lacked a source of power. The workshop had even made sure not to send energy to it, so the transformation basically happened without any explanation or visible phenomenon.

Noah replicated the test after drying Lord Lewis' face of energy, but his flesh continued to transform the small amount of power sent by the workshop. The worse state didn't even seem to affect the process.

"Why can't you generate more energy?" Noah eventually asked when he accepted that his tests weren't going anywhere. "You would have already escaped."

Lord Lewis snorted without adding anything. He wasn't willing to reveal anything, especially after understanding that Noah was gathering information about the ninth rank. His torture would be worth it if he managed to delay Noah's improvements by a bit.

Noah saw in Lord Lewis a resolve that only driven experts would have. The cultivator didn't let his condition make him lose his mind, and his loyalty didn't crumble even after the painful tests. He was one of the few existences that Noah felt unable to turn to his side or torture until he obtained answers.

"I have three possible explanations to your power," Noah continued, even if Lord Lewis clearly wouldn't help him.

"My understanding of the ninth rank might have flaws deeper than I realize," Noah announced while raising his forefinger toward the expert's head. "I think my idea is pretty clear, but you never know when it comes to superior realms, especially the last."

"I might not be able to understand much because your power doesn't really come from you," Noah continued as his middle finger joined the forefinger. "That's possible, but keeping you isolated from the outside world should eventually exhaust your power if that were the case, and we both know that you aren't getting weaker."

"The third possibility comes from our different natures," Noah added while stretching another finger. "My expertise covers different laws and aspects, so I can't completely understand how you do what you do."

Lord Lewis' face had remained emotionless. It didn't show the slightest reaction to Noah's words. His loyalty toward Heaven and Earth seemed to come before his life and feelings.

"I think that all three explanations are partially true," Noah eventually sighed, "But that causes a bigger problem. I can't solve three issues at the same time. I don't even know if I have enough time to solve one of them."

Noah had been honest with the expert. Thinking stuff aloud was only a method meant to bait reactions out of his prisoner, but everything he said was true. He had hit a wall there, and the entirety of his arsenal appeared useless in that situation.

The dark world sensed something while Noah remained immersed in his loud thoughts. King Elbas had walked through the dense dark matter and had expanded his consciousness to search for his leader.

Noah quickly controlled the dark world to open a path that led directly toward him, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to walk through it. Still, the cultivator couldn't help but freeze when he saw the peculiar situation in which Noah had been for the past minutes.

Multiple pointy arms and dense tubes connected Lord Lewis' floating head with the rest of the dark world. Noah had obviously reacted many layers of protection to isolate and keep at bay the expert, so his technique remained safe from eventual flares of energy.

"Perfect timing, Elbas!" Noah shouted when King Elbas decided to approach him. "I need a hand with this one. Do you want to study a rank 9 cultivator?"

King Elbas' eyes lit up at that offer, and he didn't hesitate to take out a few inscribed items. Noah even helped the expert by modifying the dark world according to the effects of his tools.

More figures entered the dark world, and the entirety of Noah's team eventually walked past the black edges. Passages that led to the floating head opened in front of them, and they soon grouped with the duo busy studying what remained of the rank 9 cultivator.

"You do realize that we have multiple apocalypses going on around us?" Steven asked when he saw that Alexander and Robert didn't hesitate to sit next to Noah and King Elbas.

"You can go ahead and join them," Robert snorted.

"That's not our fight," Alexander plainly added.

"How can we even affect those battles?" Noah asked without leaving his eyes from the floating head.
"Our fight is over. It's better to study how to reach the ninth rank."

"He's a literal floating separate space ruled by his domain," King Elbas concluded after his inspection.
"We can't understand how he works because we don't exist inside him. Still, I believe he has advanced only recently. It would explain how he can't produce enough energy to break free."

"Can you think of a way to get his memories?" Noah asked.

"How?" King Elbas snorted. "I can barely sense his power. I don't know if I can pierce his mind, and the process may even hurt me. He is still a rank 9 cultivator."

"So what?" Noah sighed. "Do I just eat him now?"

Lord Lewis didn't show any reaction to that comment. He appeared ready to die at the first chance.

"You and Alexander have the best instincts," King Elbas shrugged his shoulders. "You can continue to fuel him and try to gain ideas."