

Demonic 1841

Chapter 1841 - 1841. Memories

King Elbas' suggestion didn't work as intended. Noah's group featured stubborn and crazy experts, and they couldn't hold back from giving voice to their suggestions while the study of the head continued.

"You can turn him into a magical beast and let Alexander eat him," Wilfred suggested.

"I'm not sharing my prey," Noah snorted, "And the transformation isn't so easy. I don't know if I can get past his innate abilities."

"Can't we mutate him and see what he has to say once he doesn't belong to Heaven and Earth's system anymore?" Robert asked.

"Again, he is a rank 9 cultivator," Noah sighed. "I would already be inside his mind if I had any confidence in the matter."

"We should cut him," Sword Saint added.

"How would that help?" King Elbas complained, and a helpless sigh escaped his mouth when he saw Sword Saint shrugging his shoulders.

Lord Lewis' situation was desperate, but the scenes that unfolded in his eyes were beyond reason. Those rank 8 experts were in the middle of a battle capable of turning the entire world upside down, but they chose to remain inside the dark world to study him.

Moreover, most of their interactions made no sense. All of them appeared serious until words came out of their mouths. It was as if they were waiting to see who came up with the most idiotic plan.

However, one of the cultivators didn't speak at all. Lord Lewis' eyes soon fell on the silent Divine Demon who supported his chin with one hand.

Divine Demon appeared in a daze when he studied the floating head. His piercing gaze seemed to go past the flesh containing understanding that only those at the peak of the cultivation journey could achieve. Lord Lewis couldn't help but remain astonished in front of that level of concentration. He even felt respect surging inside his existence.

Then, Divine Demon performed a sharp movement with his arm to point at the floating head. Pure resolve shone out of his figure as he opened his mouth to announce what appeared to be the most meaningful words in his entire life. "I challenge you to reveal all our secrets!"

The other experts fell silent. Their eyes went on Divine Demon before moving to Lord Lewis. Some of them even showed a tinge of hope.

"I refuse?" Lord Lewis replied in a confused tone.

"This one is smart," Divine Demon sighed while lowering his arm and shaking his head. "Heaven and Earth have already given them a counter to my final technique."

"You didn't use any technique," Lord Lewis couldn't help but answer in front of the embodiment of idiocy.

"Please, don't feed the idiot," King Elbas said in a helpless tone. "He might really develop a technique if you keep contradicting him."

"Focus on being a good floating head," Noah snorted. "It's in Heaven and Earth's interest to keep me as your main opponent."

"What are you even saying?" Lord Lewis scoffed. "You might have become the embodiment of Heaven and Earth's flaws, but you are by no means their main concern. The dragons and the monster are far more dangerous than you."

"It worked," Divine Demon commented before exploding into a loud laugh and taking out a jug of wine from his space-ring.

"Maybe let him finish to speak next time," Robert sighed, but Divine Demon didn't seem to hear those words.

Lord Lewis suddenly realized that he had revealed an important detail. He struggled to believe that those words had come out of his mouth, and his gaze suddenly went on the expert laughing and drinking. Pure fear appeared in his eyes when he saw how clueless Divine Demon was about his unreasonable power.

"A monster then," Noah's voice suddenly reached Lord Lewis' ears and forced him to divert his gaze from Divine Demon. "How does that fit with the history of the plane? I thought the dragons already expressed the four fundamental aspects of the world."

Lord Lewis felt so scared about what he could say that he directly bit his tongue off. However, the workshop rebuilt it in an instant and forced him to stare at the three cold smiles fixed on him.

Noah, King Elbas, and Alexander were doing their best to think of a way to crack Lord Lewis' mind open. They went over their entire arsenal and realized that their methods wouldn't be effective in that situation.

The few methods that could work were far too dangerous. Noah, King Elbas, and Alexander had abilities and items that could make them pierce the expert's memories, but Lord Lewis belonged to Heaven and Earth's system. The rulers might have placed countless defenses in his mind.

"We must work together," Noah eventually admitted. "I can use the dark world to replicate his memories and avoid the dangers actually contained in his mind."

"I can create a bridge between his mind and your technique," King Elbas revealed. "Can you open a stable crack?"

"Opening it is easy," Noah explained, "But we can't go too deep into his mind. He would just transform what gets too close to his influence."

Noah and King Elbas turned toward Alexander at that point. They were out of options even after deciding to collaborate. They lacked something capable of controlling the memories from the outside.

"I have thirty-one different mental abilities that involve memories," Alexander revealed. "I'm picking a few of them so that Elbas can adapt the item beforehand."

"You shouldn't stay inside the dark world once the technique starts," Noah announced. "It's better to have fewer interferences."

"What should we do?" Robert asked.

"Make sure to warn us if an upper tier creature is about to fall on us," Noah replied.

"We'll just throw Divine Demon at it," Robert laughed, but his expression turned serious when he shot upward to leave the dark world.

Steven and the others followed him, leaving only Noah, Alexander, and King Elbas inside the technique.

Noah provided dark matter that King Elbas used to build formations inside the dark world while Alexander reviewed his abilities. The hybrid eventually showed his techniques to his companions, and the three of them picked some together.

King Elbas began to build the mental bridge at that point, and Noah made sure to reinforce the formations and prepare the dark world for the transformation.

The cultivator quickly completed his task and stood up to point at a specific spot on Lord Lewis' head. The workshop activated and opened a hole there, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to stab a half-ethereal golden straw inside.

Golden shades immediately spread through the dark world. The straw resonated with Noah's technique and affected the images that it showed. The darkness dispersed to make room for King Elbas' iconic color, but those shades were only a temporary event.

Alexander placed one palm on the floating head before touching his forehead with the other. The connection was complete now, and the experts didn't hesitate to activate the technique.

"Tell me about the monster," Noah ordered, and a humming noise suddenly spread through the dark world.

"Heaven and Earth's defenses," Alexander explained before anyone could raise questions. "I can go deeper, but they will devour his mind once they understand that they have nothing else to destroy."

"We have to be quick then," King Elbas chuckled, and Alexander frowned as the blood that had turned azure began to shine.

Lord Lewis rolled his eyes as multiple humming noises echoed through the dark world until the golden light disappeared and blackness filled the area.

Noah initially felt that the dark world had lost connection with the inscribed straw, but he suddenly saw something moving among that blackness.

The familiar scene of the void bending to give birth to empty figures appeared in the trio's vision, but the creature's size in Lord Lewis' memories was insane. The white sky was right under it, and the entity appeared as big as a quarter of it.

Chapter 1842 - 1842. Ethereal

The astonishment felt in front of that scene was hard to put into words. Heaven and Earth's sky was the biggest structure in the world. It could contain the entire higher plane, the storms, and it even expanded as the chaotic laws generated new lands. Yet, the empty creature in the memories could cover a quarter of the white layer.

King Elbas, Noah, and Alexander couldn't help but feel stunned. They had just witnessed the creation of the higher plane and Heaven and Earth's rise in power, but that massive threat seemed to stand above everything else.

It felt clear why Lord Lewis called it monster now. The creature had the potential to eat the sky. It was so big that even Heaven and Earth would have to fear it at some point, but understanding the reason for its presence turned out to be easy.

Noah and the others had learnt that Heaven and Earth had severed laws and thrown them into the void for eras. They had also seen the monster that had appeared inside the sky absorbing the empty existences generated through that process. It wasn't hard to guess that a multitude of them had become part of the same being, but the sheer size of the creature still surprised them.

"Tell me about the cities in the sky!" Noah shouted before his group waited too long on that scene.

The three experts were on a clock. Heaven and Earth's defenses were already trying to stop the technique inspecting Lord Lewis' memories. They wouldn't manage to learn much if they remained stuck on a single scene. It was better to gain a vague but broad understanding of specific topics since they didn't know whether they had enough time to study any of them in detail.

The images changed as soon as Noah gave a new input to Lord Lewis. A blinding white radiance replaced the darkness of the void and transformed the scenes inside the dark world to show an immense silver city.

Countless buildings unfolded in the experts' vision. Tall structures made of opaque whiteness expanded endlessly in the distance and shone under the pure light of Heaven and Earth's sky.

Noah and the others had never seen a similar architecture on their Mortal Lands and the higher plane. Tall structures that ended in domes or long pillars expanded as far as eyes could see. They appeared filled with life, but the experts couldn't understand the nature of that feeling. They weren't sure cultivators lived inside all of them.

Noah was ready to give new inputs to Lord Lewis, but the scene suddenly moved and reached the edges of the city to show a massive white wall. The viewpoint went even forward at that point and traveled through the sky until it reached a second vast array of buildings.

Noah had asked for the cities, so Lord Lewis didn't limit his memories to only one of them. It made the scene depicted by the dark world go over multiple settlements inside the sky before the experts decided that they had seen enough.

Every city looked identical to the others, which eventually made the mutating scenery dull. The experts understood that Heaven and Earth had enough room to accommodate an endless number of cultivators, but they couldn't learn anything useful after seeing the first.

Noah felt tempted to ask about the actual insides of the cities, but he didn't want his time to run out before seizing the real reason behind that procedure.

"Show me the ninth rank and your breakthrough," Noah ordered, and the scenery changed again.

The whiteness vanished before returning. The three experts saw Lord Lewis' breakthrough through his eyes, but it only featured Heaven and Earth's pure light. They couldn't understand anything from that scene, and King Elbas soon gave voice to a loud curse.

"This bastard has reached the ninth rank with Heaven and Earth's help," King Elbas snorted before turning toward Noah. "Did we waste our chance?"

"This might hurt a bit," Noah sighed before closing his eyes to change the nature of the dark world.

The liquid dark matter playing Lord Lewis's memories stopped limiting itself to mere images and started to radiate faint sensations that intensified as Noah continued to modify his technique.

King Elbas, Alexander, and Noah gained the chance to experience those sensations once they accepted them inside their minds. The process made their concentration falter and left them in a daze. They became Lord Lewis as the feelings took over their mental spheres.

Noah felt pure bliss as his body, dantian, and mind mixed their energy and elevated it to create something that went past "Breath", mental energy, and primary energy. That power converged toward the center of his figure and created an ethereal space that expanded inside him.

The ethereal space resembled a sea of consciousness with the features of a dantian. It was sturdy, flexible, and connected to his body in ways that simple mental connections couldn't achieve. It was part of him, but it didn't exist in the same world as his other centers of power.

Pure light filled the ethereal space until the structure stabilized. The energy contained inside the area felt like a pure expression of his existence. It was a true form of himself that even laws couldn't completely describe.

The energy inside the ethereal space started flowing back into the other centers of power after the structure stabilized. It filled the flesh and mind with that new power and radically changed them in ways that Noah couldn't properly explain.

Noah felt as if he had elevated his whole existence without changing. He had developed a purer version of himself that could provide energy that carried the true core of his existence.

Pain spread inside Noah's mind as he remained immersed in those sensations. Foreign energy was devouring his thoughts and memories to erase everything contained inside his mental sphere.

Noah snapped back to reality once the process started to affect his real mental energy. The dark world returned in his vision, and he quickly reversed the changes applied earlier.

The mental connection established through the dark matter broke freed him from Lord Lewis' sensations. The same applied to his companions. Noah, King Elbas, and Alexander regained full control of their centers of power and noticed that their mental energy had halved after going through those memories.

A delirious laugh spread through the dark world and made them turn toward the floating head as the images shown by the dark matter became unclear. White energy was spreading from inside Lord Lewis and was devouring his flesh.

Noah tried to control the workshop to stop the process, but the whiteness was too intense. His dark world failed to affect the light, so he quickly prioritized salvaging pieces of the expert's flesh.

The workshop tore away some chunks of skin and skull. Still, the whiteness eventually devoured everything before exploding into a blinding radiance that destroyed a large piece of the dark world.

Noah quickly restored the dense sea that enveloped the experts who had waited outside until now. Everyone gathered around him at that point, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to explain what they had seen through the help of special inscribed items.

Chapter 1843 - 1843. Replica

King Elbas did his best to portray a perfect replica of the images and sensations obtained from Lord Lewis, but he inevitably failed to provide a flawless copy. After all, his items could only show what he had felt and seen through his senses, which modified the actual events experienced by the rank 9 expert.

The massive empty monster and the cities in the sky didn't suffer from that issue. They were only a matter of images, so King Elbas could create an accurate replica that almost had no differences from the original. However, the process went differently when it came to the sensation connected to Lord Lewis' breakthrough.

Noah could see how King Elbas had seen the event during his exposition. The expert had viewed the breakthrough to the ninth rank as the creation of higher energy that carried the core aspects of his law. It felt like a mathematical issue that involved specific portions of his mental energy and fiery higher energy, and the explanation inevitably confused his companions.

Divine Demon and the others didn't have access to higher energy, not consciously at least. They could understand something from the explanation, but they felt lost when King Elbas made them sense his version of the process.

"It wasn't like that," Alexander complained after the explanation ended, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to lend his inscribed items to the hybrid to make him try to do better than him.

Alexander's explanation felt even messier. The hybrid saw the creation of the new energy as a convergence of every slight aspect of his law and innate abilities. It was a fusion meant to remove any difference and instability in the true meanings and obtain a simple core that could express complicated understandings.

It was impossible for experts with relatively simple laws to relate to that process. Steven, Sword Saint, Robert, and Wilfred didn't have access to many aspects of their true meanings, so they ended up more confused than before.

"It's up to you to try," King Elbas snorted while glancing at Noah. "I want to see how you'll try to remove your bias from your explanation."

Noah scratched the side of his head while everyone turned on him. He had yet to put his latest experience into words. The experts also wanted a version of the story that they could understand even with their different views of the world, so he required some time to sort his thoughts.

"You have three centers of power, right?" Noah eventually started explaining. "They have bathed in your existence for millennia already. They knew who you are better than anyone else in the world, so they can generate the state that you have to achieve in the ninth rank."

That part of the explanation was easy, and most of the experts there already knew about that. Many of them had already heard Great Builder's description of the ninth rank, so Noah's words appeared as mere repetitions spoken by a weaker existence.

Yet, Noah's explanation didn't end there. "You can't elevate your centers of power on your own. Maybe you can through other paths, but Lord Lewis has shown us that you require a new form of energy capable of expressing the entirety of your existence to evolve them."

"Isn't that the higher energy that I mentioned already?" King Elbas snorted when he sensed that repetition.

"Let me finish," Noah sighed. "You need to use your different energies to create an ethereal center of power capable of generating a fuel that expresses your purest form. See it as building a second sea of consciousness and fill it with everything you have."

The second part of the explanation cleared many doubts, but it still left some dark areas that the other experts could only solve on their own.

The other experts couldn't completely understand the breakthrough even when they fused the three explanations and focused on the overlapping details. Still, that was the same for Noah, King Elbas, and Alexander since they didn't experience the actual advancement themselves. They had felt it through Lord Lewis' senses, and the event had even happened through Heaven and Earth.

Nonetheless, Noah couldn't help but feel that the experience had been priceless. He had initially thought that it was enough for his centers of power to advance to reach the ninth rank, but that didn't seem to be the case.

'An existence requires a specific center of power to become a world and produce energy,' Noah summarized inside his mind. 'It makes sense, but I still thought the dantian would have taken care of that.'

The process had to be different for each existence. It wouldn't make sense for the three experts to see the same sensations in three completely different ways. Noah's companions had to come up with conclusions that would work with their laws and make their paths strive toward that destination.

'I need a fifth center of power capable of containing and generating ambition,' Noah thought as his reasoning continued. 'Is the process natural? Will my centers of power instinctively create a new organ?'

Noah wished to learn about those details before approaching the breakthrough, but he didn't know how possible that d.e.s.i.r.e was. He could create an ethereal center of power right away with his current expertise, but he didn't know whether the process would help him or would generate flaws that would manifest during his advancement.

Moreover, his control over his ambition was vague. Noah could deploy his law at will, but it wasn't proper energy that he could manipulate. Instead, Lord Lewis had sensed it as a fuel similar to his "Breath".

The unstable substance seemed to follow the same pattern as Lord Lewis' energy, but Noah had never managed to make that product stable. He didn't know if his difficulties came from his higher energy or lack of understanding, but he found everything problematic anyway.

'I just need to put myself into the new center of power, right?' Noah questioned himself. 'I've already done that with the Demonic Sword, but something feels different here.'

The only expert who could understand his worries was King Elbas, and he didn't hesitate to reach him into his separate area. He found the expert meditating among the dark matter when he crossed the barriers that isolated him, and the latter immediately understood his problem.

"Do you also think that the higher energy might be a problem?" King Elbas asked when he saw Noah's expression.

"How could I not?" Noah scoffed. "The path is personal, but we clearly steer far away from it. We might need to find Great Builder to understand how everything works."

Great Builder's law involved the creation of centers of power. He was bound to know more about the issue that afflicted Noah and King Elbas.

"Normal cultivators sure have it easy," King Elbas announced while showing a faint golden glow at the center of his palm. "Imagine we had a normal path. Heaven and Earth would kill to absorb me."

The glowing ethereal sphere in King Elbas' palm radiated his curiosity, but that feeling was clearly weaker than the expert's current power. It almost felt like an illusion.

"Don't tell me," Noah exclaimed as his mouth opened in surprise.

"I managed to replicate a center of power capable of expressing the entirety of my existence," King Elbas explained, "But it's incomplete and unstable. Look! I don't even have access to its insides."

Chapter 1844 - 1844. Reminder

"Did you just create the ethereal center of power?" Noah almost shouted while asking that question.

"It wasn't too hard," King Elbas scoffed. "I only had to take a bit of mental energy, shatter my flames into weaker fuels, and mix everything to create a stable form. I might have used replicas of my flesh stored a few centuries ago, a metal filled with my curiosity meant for other experiments, a piece of the centipede to add a bit of rank 9 aura, a bit of p-."

"I get it," Noah interrupted King Elbas when he felt that the list wouldn't stop anytime soon. "Do you know why it doesn't work?"

"I built this in less than a day," King Elbas snorted. "I can count thousands of flaws just by reviewing it. I think the main issue is the lack of higher energy in its fabric. It can't express the entirety of myself without it."

"Why didn't you add higher energy then?" Noah asked while crouching to study the almost invisible golden glow.

His mental waves struggled to understand the actual nature of the ethereal center of power. Noah sensed its faint curiosity and energy, but he couldn't pinpoint its exact position. It didn't even feel connected to King Elbas.

"I believe you know how it ends when you add higher energy to the mix," King Elbas commented. "Don't you have a similar technique?"

Noah could only nod at those words. He had reviewed the embodiment of power with King Elbas in the past, and the two had concluded that Noah couldn't create a stable fuel due to the immense diversity among the materials.

Still, their senses weren't lying to them. Both King Elbas and Noah had experienced Lord Lewis' breakthrough, so they knew that the new center of power required the entirety of their existence.

It wouldn't be a problem if their higher energy were only a tool used only to improve some of their abilities. Noah and King Elbas could simply cut it away from their arsenal for the sake of the breakthrough to the ninth rank in that situation.

However, King Elbas had abandoned his "Breath" during his battle against the entire world, and Noah's black hole had replaced his heart. The higher energy had become a core part of their existence, and they couldn't forsake it during their breakthrough.

"Why do we keep making things hard for ourselves?" Noah cursed as he sat on the ground covered by dark matter and started playing with his energies.

His mental energy, dark matter, darkness, and primary energy gathered on his palm and tried to take different shapes as they fused and strived for a stable form. Noah didn't go over that process in millennia since he had already obtained the d.e.s.i.r.ed technique, but it seemed that the cultivation journey would force him to repeat that study.

Noah was an existence in the last step of the eighth rank now. His understanding of the cultivation journey and laws had reached levels that he couldn't even imagine when he created the unstable substance. Yet, he faced the same struggles encountered back then. Those four energies didn't want to fuse.

"It's not like we can stop," King Elbas gave voice to a helpless laugh. "We aren't like Heaven and Earth either. Our existence is nowhere close to their level of instability, so a solution that doesn't involve cutting away pieces of our existence must exist."

"Maybe our centers of power will naturally find a method to stabilize the energies once we reach the very peak of the eighth rank," Noah shrugged his shoulders as he lay on the ground and inspected the blackness around him.

"And get lucky?" King Elbas laughed. "As if that would ever happen. I'm sure we'll have to do something crazy just to take a step in the right direction."

"The world is almost over," Noah sighed. "I'm running out of crazy plans."

"You never run out of them," King Elbas snorted. "And the world isn't over. We are merely stuck in a limited system that doesn't give us access to the other powerful planes."

"I bet you already have a way to travel through the void for millennia if everything here fails," Noah sneered.

"Of course," King Elbas proudly announced. "Who goes against the entire world without creating twenty backup plans? That's simply idiotic."

"We need to express ourselves, right?" Noah suggested after spending a few minutes in silence. "What if the fusion has to happen through our law? We might have missed it in the memories because Heaven and Earth had taken care of that part for Lord Lewis."

"That sounds quite hopeful," King Elbas commented. "I'd rather not approach the breakthrough blindly."

"Me neither," Noah snorted, "But what can we do? I have an idea on how to improve our understanding of the matter, but it's a bit problematic to deploy."

"Here we go again," King Elbas sighed, but Noah quickly straightened his position and revealed how his eyes had already lit up.

"Listen to this," Noah announced. "What if we go hunting for rank 9 cultivators to repeat this procedure? Getting those who don't belong to Heaven and Earth should even be better, and we can use the dragons to track down targets."

"Isn't that a special ability of the life dragon?" King Elbas commented. "Doesn't it only apply to dragons?"

"We can always create something ourselves to hunt down other rank 9 cultivators and steal their experience," Noah revealed.

King Elbas didn't know what to answer to that suggestion. Noah knew exactly how powerful his group was. He was aware that cultivators who didn't give up on their laws would have a high chance to defeat them.

Noah knew how reckless his plan sounded, but he would hate to arrive at the breakthrough unprepared, especially when the matter could endanger his potential. His centers of power even required far more energy than other experts, so he would probably have to struggle a lot to reach the ninth rank.

Noah and King Elbas continued to throw ideas at each other, but they couldn't reach reasonable conclusions due to the lack of data. The hypothesis that their laws had an important part in the breakthrough seemed the only accurate guess, but it also felt rather obvious after they inspected the matter multiple times.

The environment inside the dark world was so peaceful that the experts almost forgot where they were, but the outsiders didn't wait too long before reminding them about the battlefield.

Noah suddenly sensed a foreign existence piercing the dark world and threatening to crash on Steven and Robert. He quickly used the dark matter and his understanding of space to move everyone toward a safe spot of the technique, but intense shockwaves soon ran through the darkness and shattered the higher energy.

The world reappeared in their vision and revealed how the battle had unfolded. The weaker dragons were still busy fighting the swarm controlled by cultivators, but the fight among the leaders showed a sharp change.

The solid stage woman was still high in the sky with part of the shining swarm of c.o.c.kroaches around her, but her opponents had diminished. Noah and the others only saw three dragons around her. The death dragon had fallen to the surface and had destroyed the dark world in the process.

Chapter 1845 - 1845. Touch

The fall of the dragon reminded the experts in Noah's team that they were still inside the giant hurricane. Their recent discoveries about the ninth rank and Heaven and Earth's opponents didn't change their situation. The battlefield continued to rage, and it inevitably caused defeats.

The death dragon was still alive, but everyone could understand its poor state. It appeared stronger than ever due to the many trails of black energy that flowed out of its body. However, that phenomenon hinted at its lack of control over its power.

The situation in the sky worsened after that event. The three upper tier dragons remained on their own against the solid stage woman and part of the swarm. Their abilities raged in realms that Noah couldn't see, but their expressions explained how Heaven and Earth's side had the upper hand.

The death dragon struggled to get back on its legs. Large deadly clouds spread from its mouth whenever it took deep breaths. The creature had clearly suffered far more than the experts could see, but Noah still felt curious about the beast.

The time dragon had acknowledged Noah's worth for reasons that went past his ability to enhance Heaven and Earth's flaws. He already featured three of the four fundamental aspects of the world in his law. His destruction even was one of his most intense sides.

Part of the swarm fighting against the other dragons tried to reach the death dragon, but the black trails of energy killed many flying c.o.c.kroaches before they could touch the creature. However, some simply didn't find any obstruction on their path. They almost approached the magical beast, but a thick slash created a barrier on their way.

The death dragon instinctively turned to its left side and noticed that Noah had launched an attack to slow down the advance of the swarm. His slash radiated destruction that resembled the creature, so even the stronger c.o.c.kroaches hesitated for an instant before continuing to descend.

The powerful magical beast could exploit that instant to launch another wave of deadly energy to take care of the remaining part of the swarm descending toward the surface. The effort barely seemed to affect the dragon. It even appeared stronger after spreading so much death.

The death dragon turned toward Noah at that point. It didn't miss that he had helped with the last slash, but its expression showed a faint confusion. It had felt something familiar inside the attack, the same aura that had forced the c.o.c.kroaches to hesitate.

"What are you?" The death dragon asked in a rough voice.

"I'm me," Noah replied since he didn't find a better way to answer that question.

The death dragon inspected him with its seemingly empty eye sockets. Noah sensed its curiosity, but it was clear that there was something else in its gaze.

The stare felt too intense for Noah to bear. The death dragon pierced the innate defenses generated by his existence and inspected the entirety of his law. A few aspects appeared too unclear to understand due to the complexity of the true meaning and some peculiar characteristics. However, that only intensified the dragon's confusion.

"I see," The death dragon eventually exclaimed. "You might be worthy of all the aspects. No wonder old time dragon decided to help you."

"Can you handle her?" Noah asked while glancing at the solid stage woman in the sky.

"That's not your problem," The death dragon snorted as it turned its head toward the sky.

"Can't you open a way out for us before going back to your battle?" Noah asked before the dragon could set off. "What's the point of keeping us here anyway?"

"You will rise and fall with us," The death dragon stated. "Our victories will be your victories. Our defeats will be your defeats."

"That sounds rather stupid," Noah commented, and the dragon couldn't help but turn its head toward him again.

"Why would you even keep the entirety of your troops in the same place?" Noah continued, even if the death dragon's stare seemed enough to kill him. "You said that I have a chance of inheriting your aspects of the world. The smart move would be to let me go to a safe area."

The dragon gave voice to a sound that resembled a sneer before turning toward the sky again. It seemed about to set off and return to the battle, but Noah didn't let it go away so easily.

"Why don't you teach me more about destruction?" Noah asked. "You know, in case you end up dying."

King Elbas and the other experts in Noah's group turned toward him to show helpless expressions. Their leader was a suicidal idiot who would rather mock an upper tier creature than let it go back to a battle that could determine their survival.

"You are a strange one," The death dragon announced as it took slow steps toward Noah. "Does your affinity with destruction stop you from feeling fear toward me?"

The death dragon reached Noah and pointed its huge head toward him. Its black scales almost touched his face, but he didn't move at all. His instincts screamed and tried to take over his body to make him escape, but he limited himself to stare at the dark depths of the creature's eyes.

Those organs seemed to carry the dragon's complete understanding of its aspect of the world. They were as black as death and as deep as destruction itself. Noah sensed himself inside them, but he also saw far more than he had never managed to learn.

"I'm a rank 8 existence in a battle among peak rank 9 creatures," Noah announced while raising his hand and slowly stretching it toward the dragon's black scales. "My life isn't in my hands anymore. I might as well do what I like."

"Why would you feel happy about your lack of hope?" The dragon growled. "Death is the end."

"Death can also be freedom," Noah exclaimed once his fingers touched the black scales in front of him.

A raging feeling tried to seep inside his fingers and destroy his fabric, but the dragon held back its power and allowed him to sense part of the destruction contained inside its body.

The death dragon was different from other magical beasts. Primary energy filled those creatures and turned their bodies into some of the best weapons in the entirety of the world, but the leader in the upper tier belonged to a superior realm. Its entire body resembled a dantian.

The power seeping out of the dragon instinctively flew toward his mind after passing through his black hole. Noah immediately became able to hear roars and cries as the creature thought, but its influence seemed to carry curiosity rather than pure destruction.

Still, the death dragon's aura flew toward the scarlet lines of the Demonic Deduction technique after acknowledging them as a worthy home. The ability couldn't help but light up at that point, and Noah experienced the most intense wave of violent thoughts of his life.

The wave of violent thoughts generated by the Demonic Deduction technique wasn't something that Noah could lead toward a specific topic. It was too intense for the current level of his mental sphere, and his mental walls even started to shake as the dragon's energy continued to fuel the ability. The lines even stretched and created a thicker array across his mind.

Chapter 1846 - 1846. Flawed

The Demonic Deduction technique advanced with Noah's mind, but it also fed on his blood. u.s.t. The latter was nothing more than a violent feeling that carried pure destructive meanings, so the death dragon's aura worked even better when it reached the scarlet lines.

The expansion of the Demonic Deduction technique hurt as scarlet lines dug the mental sphere to stretch and create a tighter array that filled the insides of Noah's mind with a red radiance that shone above and under the mental sea.

Noah felt as if his existence was on fire. He felt an aspect of his law intensifying while the dragon's energy continued to fuse with his scarlet lines. His violent thoughts started to touch nefarious topics that he had never even considered. Their destructiveness wasn't pure anymore. It gained a meaning that actively tried to spread death through the world.

Noah was only half-conscious during that process. His existence threatened to give birth to flaws while the dragon's energy continued to fuse with one of his iconic techniques. His mind was improving, but the direction of that growth didn't seem to go along with his existence.

Forgetting about the current situation ended up being impossible. Noah inevitably thought about the solid stage woman in the sky, the swarm, and the other cultivators as the wave of violent thoughts filled his mind and threatened to make his mental walls crumble.

Noah considered the scene under perspectives that he would have never acknowledged in the past. Those thoughts even carried far more details in comparison with the past. He felt able to shatter entire regions with a single glance now, and similar understandings happened when it came to the battlefield.

The violent thoughts considered everything, especially the fact that the four upper tier dragons appeared unable to beat the solid stage woman and her underlings. The rest of the troops wouldn't matter once that battle ended, so Noah focused the entirety of his enlightenment toward the leaders.

The violent thoughts tried to give ideas about the solid stage woman and the upper tier dragons, but each plan felt unreasonable since his mind couldn't completely grasp the difference in power with that level. Yet, one idea slowly solidified and gained proper details that almost sounded possible. Noah felt astonished to see that he was actually developing a plan meant to affect a battle among existences at the peak of the ninth rank.

'Don't even think about it,' Noah ordered to himself as faint clarity returned to his mind. 'That's the ninth rank. I can't start messing with that realm due to faint ideas!'

It didn't matter how much Noah tried to look away from his violent thoughts. They thrived inside his mind and fed on the intense energy of the death dragon. They manifested themselves in his vision even if he tried to suppress them, and he ended up developing a plan that could put an end to the current battle.

'Stop!' Noah shouted in his mind again, but a helpless expression inevitably appeared on his face as his d.e.s.i.r.es shattered. 'Am I really going to suggest that?'

The more Noah thought about the plan, the more the idea sounded reasonable. Four upper tier creatures capable of affecting the four fundamental aspects of the world could do basically everything he could imagine. Even the massive storms had to bend in front of their power.

It felt stupid to deploy so much power into a seemingly hopeless battle. The pack of dragons had completed their mission in the end. The space dragon was free, and all the troops were still alive. Continuing to fight felt pointless since the situation didn't seem to benefit their side.

"Your destruction is so stupid!" Noah eventually shouted as the death dragon's aura continued to flow inside his mind. "Make it stop!"

"You can just remove your hand," The death dragon growled.

"Never!" Noah roared. "My mind has never advanced so quickly. Just make better destruction!"

The death dragon remained speechless. Its power didn't come from understanding or enlightenment. Those paths often contained many flaws and remained limited to a small number of laws. Instead, the creature had inherited its abilities from the previous world. They were as perfect as they could be.

However, Noah couldn't help but find significant issues with the dragon's destruction. A feeling that only wanted to spread death felt pointless and hard to deploy. It wasn't ductile at all, and it would only hurt Noah's broad law.

The experts on the scene didn't know what to say. They had no words to describe how disrespectful and reckless Noah was. He was a mere rank 8 existence, but he didn't hesitate to contradict a magical beast that stood at the very apex of the cultivation world.

"Death is the final destruction," The dragon growled after a short moment of silence. "Death would solve this crisis if I were strong enough to deploy its full power."

"But you are stuck in this useless state since you can't win against Heaven and Earth on your own," Noah complained. "You could just make the hurricane fall and open a path for your companions. Destruction can lead to life."

The death dragon fell silent as a faint flicker ran through its empty eyes. The experts in the area could hear Noah and could understand the meaning behind the creature's roar, so they had kept track of the entirety of the conversation. Their expression inevitably lit up in surprise after the last line reached their ears. It clearly was one of Noah's crazy plans, but it sounded almost reasonable.

King Elbas and the others didn't know whether to feel shocked or glad about that issue. Noah had developed a crazy plan that didn't involve anyone's sacrifice or immense struggle. It was a fairly simple tactic meant to get everyone outside of the area.

"That might be doable," The death dragon replied through a faint roar, and the energy converging in Noah's mind suddenly went through some changes.

Noah sensed how the dragon's destruction stopped being a mindless pursuit of death, but that change only lasted for an instant. The energy quickly returned to its previous state, and the tremors experienced by his mental sphere intensified.

'Does its inheritance compel it to abide by its rules?' Noah wondered when he studied that event.

His hand was still on the black scales, and he had no intentions to remove it. The black hole quickly sent dark matter to reinforce the mental walls so that Noah's mind could continue to expand without shattering, but it was clear that he couldn't keep up any longer.

The issue wasn't only with the sheer power contained in the dragon's aura. The meanings carried during the touch transformed the Demonic Deduction techniques and made it generate thoughts meant only to pursue death. That feeling was so intense that Noah even started to imagine how to kill himself.

Noah endured until he felt that the dragons' influence didn't affect his existence, but he removed his hand once his destruction started to resemble the creature.

His mental sphere consumed the remaining destructive aura that lingered in its insides before it stopped trembling. Noah regained complete clarity at that point, but his overbearing and unrestrained character remained.

"Why are you still here?" Noah exclaimed while massaging his temples. "I thought you had a hurricane to destroy."

Chapter 1847 - 1847. Ethereal

The dragon felt pissed. Noah was basically ordering it around, and he wasn't even trying to be polite in the process. However, his idea made far more sense than it wished it to do.

The aspect of the world inherited by the death dragon made it unable to think of approaches that could save lives. Yet, it wasn't alone on the battlefield, and its power still allowed it to share information with its companions.

The death dragon raised its head and gave voice to a deafening roar that forced every existence on Heaven and Earth's side to cover their ears. The flying c.o.c.kroaches clearly couldn't defend against the attack, so many of them died to protect the strongest members of their swarm.

The leader set off and returned toward the battlefield at that point. Noah could only stare as the massive beast left his vision, but his companions didn't give him the chance to remain immersed in his thoughts.

"What were you even thinking?!" King Elbas shouted before adding curses that Noah had never heard in his entire life.

"I'm starting to think that you enjoy this," Steven commented while approaching Noah with the rest of the group.

"How can you still have doubts about that?" Wilfred sighed and spread his arms when his gaze crossed Noah's eyes.

"It's fine," Divine Demon laughed while lying on the air closing his eyes to wait for the battle to turn into a massive escape.

"Crazy leads to victory," Robert exclaimed before lowering his voice and continuing. "Though you could have been a bit more polite."

"Is this already over?" Sword Saint scoffed. "I didn't get the chance to cut anyone."

"You cut half of the rank 8 cultivators on your own," Alexander contradicted him.

"Weaklings don't count," Sword Saint snorted. "I want a real fight."

"We'll have plenty of fights once we leave this area," Noah explained. "Heaven and Earth have confirmed that we have joined the dragons. They won't treat us as normal dangers anymore."

"Do we just join a war that doesn't belong to us then?" Steven asked.

"This war involves the entire world," Noah contradicted the expert. "It belongs to every living being inside it. Still, I agree with you. We can't keep sticking around with the dragons. We must make use of Heaven and Earth's fairness as long as it still shields us from major threats."

"That will put us back to the starting point," Wilfred commented. "I don't mind hunting and slowly approaching the ninth rank, especially after what we learnt from the cultivator, but Heaven and Earth's suppression will be stronger now."

"I have two plans," Noah announced. "One is reasonable. The other is crazy."

"Crazy first," King Elbas promptly said.

"You know about that," Noah scoffed. "I want to hunt other rank 9 existences and inspect their memories to learn more about the last realm."

"That's not crazy," King Elbas shook his head. "That's only almost crazy. Our battle prowess already makes us able to deal with rank 9 cultivators."

"We can always perform the hunt in the cities inside the sky if that doesn't suit your tastes," Noah mocked.

"If only we knew how to get there," King Elbas sighed.

"What's the reasonable plan?" Alexander asked before Noah and King Elbas found a passage that could lead them to the most dangerous place in the entirety of the world.

"We ask the dragons to lead us somewhere nice, obviously," Noah shrugged his shoulders. "The stormy regions are everchanging, but they have also been the home of rank 9 existences for countless years. They can't be just winds and monsters."

The experts accepted the second plan far better than the first. The stormy regions had accommodated rank 9 existences for eras. Supreme Thief had even built his inheritance there.

There was a high chance that other experts had done the same. Noah's group didn't care too much about the inheritances since their power had become too personal to benefit from techniques born from different existences. However, they could still seize valuable resources from them.

Noah didn't feel any appeal toward the resources since his dark world, workshop, and ambition could cover every part of his creation without requiring special materials. His dark matter could imitate everything anyway, so he didn't need anything specific.

Still, Noah would feel too arrogant if he underestimated all the rank 9 existences capable of building special environments inside the stormy regions. Supreme Thief was a monster in the end, and he couldn't be the only one. The experts could learn a lot from those old existences, especially since most of them opposed Heaven and Earth.

Everyone in Noah's team knew how desperately they required help against Heaven and Earth. The rulers had access to countless methods, counters, and troops. They had managed to keep the monster outside the sky and the army of dragons at bay while continuing to strive toward perfection for countless years. The experts required as much knowledge as possible just to make their opponents encounter some difficulties.

Noah didn't reveal the entirety of his plans to his group. Strange ideas appeared in his mind whenever he thought about the empty monster floating in the void. Those who opposed Heaven and Earth instinctively attracted it, but its state as an enemy of the rulers was undeniable.

Noah didn't know if copying the empty creatures' abilities was possible with his law. Those monsters literally had nothing to imitate. They represented the very opposite of existences.

"It's happening," Divine Demon announced after the experts had fallen deep into their thoughts to review their current situation.

The group glanced at the sky at that point. The battle among the leaders was still raging, but something had changed. They had even become able to inspect part of the techniques deployed on that battlefield.

The death dragon was spitting miasmatic waves of attacks that resembled flames inside cracks that led somewhere into the storms. The solid stage woman didn't understand the reason behind its actions, but the other leaders didn't give her the chance to stop the process.

The swarm of flying c.o.c.kroaches surrounded the creatures and devoured their scales, but the radiance released by the silver dragon healed those injuries in an instant. Some attacks even felt erratic since the green dragon made attacks go forward and backward in time to catch its opponent by surprise.

The solid stage woman surprisingly kept up with the strange, powerful and relentless offensive, but the reason behind her superior power soon became clear to Noah and the others. Her strength seemed connected to her eyes since the opposing abilities shattered whenever she blinked. Yet, she also wielded different techniques that appeared to have nothing to do with her existence.

That scene felt familiar in Noah's mind. He could see the solid stage woman deploying perfect counters to the dragons' abilities, and the event felt quite reasonable even. After all, the rulers had fought those creatures for countless years already. They had all the time in the world to develop perfect items meant for those opponents.

The exchanges culminated in a sudden stabilization of the area. Noah saw the cracks closing before being unable to stare at the battle properly anymore. Yet, massive black spots materialized inside the storms around the lands and covered the entire hurricane as soon as the battlefield high in the sky became unclear.

The cultivators and c.o.c.kroaches couldn't do anything to stop that process. The black masses inside the storms detonated and accelerated the raging winds that shot out of the explosions. The entire area fell into pure chaos in less than an instant, and Noah didn't even have the time to speak before chaotic laws reached him and threatened to pierce his face.

However, that gale ended up piercing his figure without inflicting any damage. His body had become ethereal, and he quickly noticed that his companions were going through the same event.

Chapter 1848 - 1848. Dead zones

The event didn't involve only Noah and his group. All the rank 9 dragons and the leaders went through the same process. Their bodies turned ethereal as gales made of chaotic laws filled the battlefield.

Noah couldn't sense the power that caused his ethereal form. He wasn't even sure that his initial idea reflected the true nature of his state. After all, his centers of power weren't reacting to the event. He didn't feel anything unusual.

Other ideas started to appear in his mind after he saw how the many enemies reacted to the event. The cultivators and the swarm fighting against the rank 9 dragons had to prioritize their escape at the sight of the raging gales. Still, the solid stage woman wanted to kill her opponents even if she had to sacrifice herself to complete the task.

However, confusion had appeared on her face as soon as her opponents became immune to the storms. Noah could even inspect her through the small openings that spread among the raging gales. The woman found herself unable to see the dragons. The dense separate area that their powerful existences created had also vanished after the event.

'We didn't turn immaterial,' Noah concluded in his mind at that point. 'We are inside a separate dimension.'

Noah summoned the entirety of his understanding of space as he waved his hands to find a handhold on the layer of that dimension. Yet, he failed to reach anything. He couldn't even understand how he had entered that separate area.

Noah tried to summon his power after the first test turned out to be a failure. His darkness, mental energy, and dark matter could come out of his figure and create techniques as if he were in the normal world, but they appeared weaker than usual. That separate dimension seemed to suppress his power, and he didn't hesitate to bend his fingers to create claws ready to force his way out of the area.

"What are you even doing?" The green dragon suddenly asked while appearing above Noah with the other leaders.

"I wanted to study this technique," Noah honestly replied as King Elbas and the others gathered behind him.

"Do you even realize where you are?" The time dragon sighed before roaring toward the creatures who were still high in the sky.

All the dragons gathered at that point. Noah's group, the four leaders, and the various underlings grouped right above the surface and waited for someone to give orders.

"This is one of space dragon's techniques," The time dragon explained while closing its eyes and expanding its aura until it covered the entire group. "It creates a perfect copy of the world and takes every ally inside it. You are in a temporary space."

Noah couldn't help but glance at the shadowy figure in astonishment. In his opinion, his understanding of space was good, but his methods were mere tricks compared to the abilities that the space dragon could deploy. The creature had turned an entire army immune to external influences. The sheer power showed by that technique was simply impossible to evaluate.

"The fundamental aspects of the world can fuse to create complicated techniques," The green dragon continued as its ancient aura intensified. "Your position loses meaning once you can bend time and space to your will."

The scenery immediately transformed after the green dragon completed its line. Noah didn't feel any pressure, and his vision never went dark. Still, a shining environment that featured a vast plain covered by small scarlet bushes suddenly replaced the storms.

Noah couldn't even understand when that transformation happened. He didn't feel anything, but everything around him had changed. The area only featured weak winds even. The plain seemed the most peaceful environment in the entirety of the stormy regions.

The winds didn't pierce his figure anymore. They stopped when they touched his skin and tried to shatter back into the environment. Yet, the destruction naturally released by his body made their chaotic laws remain attached to him, who quickly absorbed them to transform them into fuel for his black hole.

Noah confirmed that he had returned to the material world. His body could interact with the environment, and the magical plants on the surface instinctively slowed down their growth in front of so many powerful existences.

"Where are we?" Noah couldn't refrain from asking.

The absence of violent storms made the region quite peculiar. The bushes didn't have anything to do with the lack of intense winds. They simply existed on the dark land and radiated their iconic scarlet light.

"There aren't many of these regions among the storms," The time dragon explained. "Cultivators, magical beasts, and hybrids have given them different names throughout the eras, but dead zones remains the most fitting. These places won't evolve without external help in the end."

"They are random creations," King Elbas exclaimed while diving toward the ground and stabbing his fingers on the dark terrain. "The chaotic laws have created something that they can't affect anymore. This land is the unavoidable mistake that every system needs."

"How can a system need mistakes?" Steven promptly asked before his worried eyes fell on the four upper tier dragons.

Steven still didn't feel comfortable talking with his companions while those powerful creatures hovered around him. Existences at those levels could easily take the lack of interest in their presence as an insult, and they always exacted a price in those cases.

His behavior was normal. His companions also shared his worries and hesitation. King Elbas and Noah were simple exceptions who could pursue their interests even if the situation appeared completely out of their control.

"Nothing in this world is perfect," King Elbas revealed while his curiosity spread through the region to understand the nature of the surface. "Every system has flaws. It's only a matter of exploiting them at that point."

"Do you want to exploit this region?" Noah asked.

"Of course!" King Elbas announced. "Imagine if I could replicate this peculiar ground everywhere. We would have a proper countermeasure against the storms."

A growl suddenly spread through the area and shattered the mental waves that King Elbas was using to study the terrain. The death dragon had given voice to a cry that left everyone confused. Noah couldn't understand why the creature would stop that procedure, and a frown inevitably appeared on his face.

"Why?" Noah asked. "We can replicate the peculiar composition of the ground and apply it into multiple spots. Traveling across the storms wouldn't be a problem if we learn about the dead zones!"

"The dead zones are treasures that everyone values," The time dragon explained. "Their uniqueness is a vital part of their power. Leave them be."

"Why is that so important?" Noah asked. "It's just matter in my eyes."

"Live long enough inside the storms, and you will understand," The green dragon sighed. "My pack controls four of them for now. They are the perfect place where to create armies meant to fight Heaven and Earth."

Chapter 1849 - 1849. Approach

Noah didn't accept that answer. First of all, King Elbas wasn't going to affect the region. His curiosity only wanted to study its composition in order to replicate it in other spots of the stormy areas.

Moreover, the separate dimensions could take care of the nurturing of underlings. It was even easy for experts at that level to create a safe space where to raise new dragons and cultivators.

King Elbas shared Noah's thoughts. It felt suffocating to see his curiosity shattering so suddenly. He almost went crazy to see powerful existences denying his well-deserved answers.

"You don't get it, do you?" The time dragon asked when it saw Noah's frown. "It's peculiar."

"We'll eventually have the power to cover the entirety of the stormy regions with these peculiar regions," Noah explained. "Why stopping us now? Why are you protecting these areas?"

"Uniqueness has a cost," The time dragon announced. "Your friend is right. These lands are random but unavoidable events, and that makes them perfect for our task. They are the proof that Heaven and Earth's new system has flaws."

Noah remained speechless for a few seconds at that revelation. He could view the dead zones as expressions of Heaven and Earth's flaws, but he didn't completely realize how important they were. He still failed to grasp the entirety of their meaning, but the time dragon didn't hesitate to resume its explanation.

"These natural flaws are perfect breeding grounds since underlings here can grow without Heaven and Earth's influence," The time dragon revealed. "They would become children of mistakes and thrive as perfect enemies of the rulers. The pack in front of you has come to life through similar regions."

"I still don't see the point," Noah complained. "Why would you limit your assets to dead zones?" We could multiply that number easily if we joined our forces."

"You would turn something special into a common occurrence," The green dragon sighed. "Heaven and Earth would only adapt to the new normality while we would need to find the flaws of the new system. You'd make us waste time without affecting the rulers in the slightest, and we can't afford that with our destruction drawing dangerously near."

Noah finally understood the entirety of the dragons' situation. It felt hard for him to imagine himself in their shoes, especially since he didn't agree with their tactic. Yet, he couldn't completely disregard the approach that they had pursued for so many years either.

The time dragon firmly believed that Heaven and Earth were close to absorbing all the laws of the previous world and take complete control of the plane. That event would doom the magical beasts and put an end to their threatening existence. It could even give the rulers what they needed to complete the breakthrough to the tenth rank.

Time wasn't on the dragons' side, so they didn't want to make risky moves. They needed the dead zones to give birth to underlings that naturally opposed Heaven and Earth. Their status as magical beasts and the grooming inside a flawed area would bring their innate features to their peak. The process would turn them into perfect soldiers for the final battle against the rulers.

Noah had a very different view of the matter. He agreed that wasting time wasn't an option, but he didn't like to be on the defensive side when his opponents could use entire worlds as sources of energy. Waiting would only reinforce Heaven and Earth since their roots ran too deeply into the higher plane.

Heaven and Earth would always manage to seize more benefits than their opponents unless something changed. That wasn't one of Noah's many opinions. It was a fact that came from a thorough study of the events that had led to the current situation.

The magical beasts' side had never stopped losing ground after Heaven and Earth transformed and started using chaotic laws. The destruction of the higher plane had only accelerated their plans, and the reoccurring deaths of the specimens that had inherited the core aspects of the previous worlds stated how the dragons couldn't avoid defeats.

In Noah's mind, something needed to change. The actual size of the event wasn't important. It was enough to force Heaven and Earth to waste energy to modify their approach to gain a small victory over them.

Noah wouldn't even hold back. He would try to spread as much chaos as possible to force Heaven and Earth's hand and slow down their plans. His tactic was extremely aggressive and reckless, but it was far better than remaining in a group of stronger existences without ever getting the chance to improve.

It was pointless to pursue an approach that would lead to certain death. The time dragon had multiple plans and countermeasures since it wasn't delusional enough to go against Heaven and Earth without changing the tactic that had failed for so long. Still, the many fixed aspects of its life that it wanted to preserve made Noah worried about its actual value.

The time dragon probably was the strongest magical beast in the entire plane, but its very nature went against its improvements. Noah had experienced that first-hand with the death dragon. Those creatures expressed aspects of the previous world, which gave a clear set of abilities and limits to their power.

The dragons were born to be the best in a world that didn't exist anymore. Heaven and Earth's transformation had only enhanced their limits since they had built a system that went past the old rules.

Also, the rulers remained able to adapt, which worsened the dragons' situation even more. Noah struggled to believe that the magical beasts had survived until now when their leaders were in such an awful spot. Still, he gave most of the merits to the time dragon.

"What's your next move?" Noah eventually asked as he gave up on the matter.

"Regroup, gather troops, steal from the other lands," The time dragon quickly replied.

"Can you point us at something worth exploring?" Noah asked. "The stormy regions are immense, and the same goes for your lifespan. You must know somewhere that could benefit existences at our level."

"Do you want to leave us so soon?" The time dragon said in a surprised tone. "I thought you wanted to study our powers."

"I still want that," Noah explained, "But I'm afraid that remaining with your pack will only draw me closer to your losing trend. I hope that's enough to let us go."

"You aren't prisoners," The time dragon scoffed before lowering its voice, "But I suggest you stay with us. I feel that you are too important to remain alone."

"I won't improve if I remain here," Noah revealed. "You all are too powerful. You would take care of every issue in no time, and I can't afford that."

"Why?" The time dragon asked even though he understood most of the conversation. "Why would you put yourself in danger again?"

"That's how cultivators evolve," Noah exclaimed before turning toward his companions.

King Elbas and the others didn't have anything to say. They trusted Noah enough to follow his crazy plans. Also, leaving a pack that featured upper tier creatures would grant them the chance to behave as they wished, and they couldn't wait for that.

"There are many interesting places," The time dragon announced, "But I think the best at your level is the city that fell from the sky."

Chapter 1850 - 1850. Departure

Noah's eyes lit up as soon as he heard those words, and the same went for the experts behind him. The group had managed to see the cities in the sky from Lord Lewis' memories, but they didn't expect one of them to be among the storms.

"Did it fall recently?" Noah couldn't help but ask as doubts surged in his mind.

"Some things stay inside the storms forever," The time dragon explained. "Dead zones rarely leave these areas since Heaven and Earth don't want them to reach crowded lands."

Noah revealed a cold smile as a tease escaped his mouth. "Do you really want to send us to a dead zone?"

"Cub, I've seen countless existences rise and fall," The time dragon growled. "I understand existences better than themselves at times. I just wish that you will respect my approach."

Noah glanced toward King Elbas, who was still on the surface. He struggled to contain himself in front of something that interested him so intensely. However, he nodded to express his agreement with the time dragon.

"We won't mass-producing dead zones," Noah announced, "But I have a few things to ask first."

The other dragons had long since spread throughout the region. Most of them had eaten some of the scarlet bushes and fallen asleep to recover from the injuries suffered during the battle, while others directly started mating. Only the four leaders and Noah's group remained in the sky as their conversation continued.

Steven and the others couldn't help but feel strange in front of that scene. Four upper tier magical beasts were calmly conversing with a mere rank 8 existence. They knew that Noah had never been normal, but that felt too much nonetheless.

Of course, his oldest companions had understood that Noah seemed to suit the four fundamental aspects of the world expressed by the dragons. They had seen him deploying techniques that matched them perfectly, and his status as a dragon had never been a secret.

Noah also was one of Heaven and Earth's major rebels. It only made sense for him to go along with those dragons. The only issue was the overwhelmingly stunning scene that featured their leader speaking on even ground with creatures that would normally never bother to care about him.

The experts could understand the ancient time dragon to have enough patience to deal with him. They could even accept that the long-necked dragon loved its underling too much to scold them. The group had even helped save the space dragon, so the creature didn't feel the need to complain about that long and a bit disrespectful conversation.

However, the death dragon had never tried to hold back its rude character before, but it remained completely silent now. Its empty eyes had even taken a strange shape as it inspected Noah from head to toe.

"You need to tell us as much as you can about this city," Noah stated, "And I don't want to stop training with your existence. I wish to gain access to your four aspects."

"That's a lot to ask without giving anything in exchange," The time dragon sneered.

"I'm giving you myself in exchange," Noah snorted. "You are gaining the best possible ally in the war against Heaven and Earth."

"You would have fought them anyway," The time dragon continued.

"But you want to win," Noah replied in a cold voice.

There didn't seem to be an actual conclusion to that discussion, but the time dragon soon stopped talking when it accepted that Noah wouldn't take a no as an answer.

The time dragon gave voice to a low roar, and its three companions echoed its cry. The four creatures' auras shot out of their figures before condensing in four different spheres that floated toward Noah.

Noah could barely contain his excitement when he saw those items. He could sense the dragons' power whenever his mental waves neared the spheres. He felt able to study the understanding that they carried by simply glancing at them.

Waves of dark matter came out of Noah's c.h.e.s.t and enveloped the four spheres before storing them inside the separate space. They weren't heavy, but the pressure that they radiated was quite intense. His darkness would have morphed under their influence, but the higher energy appeared able to endure that power.

"The city is a dead zone that doesn't belong to us," The time dragon suddenly explained. "It has gone through many rulers, but the apes have managed to keep it for a few eras already. You should be careful. They aren't easy opponents."

Noah and the others nodded as the dragon continued to throw information at them. Apparently, the city had multiple secret areas, and legends said it carried a piece of the old sky. The news inevitably

made the group even more excited, and the wait slowly became unbearable as the explanation continued.

The dragon had seen the city fall, but it couldn't learn much after it became part of the storm. Still, it had kept track of its various rulers and wars that had involved it.

The group decided to rest for a while after the explanation ended. Noah's companions didn't spend much energy during their battle, but they had partially inspected a fight among peak rank 9 existences. They wanted to cultivate and try to commit to memory all the images that they recalled.

Noah did the same, but his seclusion in one of the caves of the dead zone turned out to be quite messy. He couldn't hold himself back from studying the four spheres, and a general understanding of his expertise appeared in his mind after a few months of training.

Noah's creation and destruction were some of the oldest aspects of his law. It felt easier to inspect and devour the understanding contained in the black and silver spheres. His destruction actually was one step above his creation due to the latest developments in his power.

The shadowy dark sphere that carried the space dragon's understanding of its aspect of the world came right after. Noah struggled to remain immersed in the knowledge contained inside the item at times, but he forced himself to keep going even when his mental walls started to tremble.

The situation was far worse when it came to the almost invisible sphere created by the time dragon. Noah nearly depleted the entirety of his mental energy to remain immersed in that knowledge for mere days. It was clear that his understanding of that aspect of the world was far worse compared to the others, but he didn't mind that too much.

Noah wasn't trying to obtain that knowledge. The aspects of his laws that matched the dragons were inherently different from their abilities. He didn't get his power from the world. He had developed it on his own, so it obviously suited his existence.

His goal was to improve the aspects of his law instead of copying or inheriting them. His abilities had to remain part of his existence, not legacies of a world that had almost lost against Heaven and Earth.

Still, the time to depart eventually arrived, and everyone returned to the surface. The time dragon seemed aware of their intention to leave, so it waited for them at the center of the dead zone with the space dragon lazily sleeping next to it.

"I bet it's pointless to ask you if you have changed your mind," The time dragon sighed before nodding toward its companion.

The experts experienced the same event witnessed on the battlefield against Heaven and Earth's followers. They didn't feel any pressure, and their vision didn't go dark. However, everything around them changed in an instant.

Crumbled silver buildings replaced the dark plain filled by scarlet bushes, but a faint pressure suddenly landed on the entire group and made them unable to concentrate. When they turned toward the source of that force, they noticed that a Kesier rune was standing high in the sky right below the storms.