

Demonic 2111

Chapter 2111 Green

The passage had always been hidden inside the separate reality, and Fiery Mountain realized that only now. Pure astonishment, regret, and relief mixed on her face as she stared at the giant door that connected the scorching environment to a different area.

Noah retracted the dark world and stopped affecting the door. The passage was already working on its own, so his influence was unnecessary. The separate reality had accepted that he had found the answer, so it helped finalize it.

The door's insides were bright green. A vibrant aura came out of it, but its details remained hidden by the space that separated the two environments. Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain could only confirm that the new place didn't carry any trace of Heaven and Earth's power.

That last detail was more than enough to reassure the experts, but it was also superfluous. Noah and June didn't care about the potential presence of a trap due to their lack of other options. Instead, Fiery Mountain felt completely ecstatic at the idea that she could finally leave that broken environment.

"What do you say?" Noah laughed while staring at the portal. "Do you want to follow us through this labyrinth?"

Fiery Mountain's first instinct was to refuse the offer. She had witnessed the creation of the portal, so she would learn to replicate the process in a few years. However, Noah's aura exploded during his laugh, and she sensed a deep attraction to his power.

Fiery Mountain didn't know how to explain what she was experiencing. Generally speaking, cultivators' worlds needed to expand their influence to grow. The presence of other powers would usually slow down that process, but Noah's aura generated the opposite feelings.

The expert hesitated, but the situation was undeniable. Fiery Mountain had been unable to leave the separate reality for countless years, but Noah and June had found an exit in mere hours. They could be her ticket back to the higher plane, and Noah's unique aura only intensified her desire to follow them.

Fiery Mountain snorted before suppressing her pride and approaching the two experts. Noah and June revealed cold smiles before moving toward the portal. The old cultivator followed them, and the three soon entered the giant door.

The space-time array fell on the three experts and tried to teleport them. Fiery Mountain panicked for a second when she felt that the portal wanted to separate her from her new companions, but a dense aura suddenly enveloped her and fended off that worrying force.

Noah made sure that the teleport affected the three of them in the same way. The three experts soon found themselves in a completely different environment filled with the same green light seen from the other side of the portal. It didn't take long before their vision stabilized and allowed them to inspect the flourishing vegetation in the new area.

Giant trees and immense crowns filled every corner of the environment. Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain remained slightly stunned in front of such a massive number of magical plants. Bushes as tall

as buildings and branches as large as mountains stretched toward the sky and created an area that did its best to hinder the experts' vision.

Only a narrow space divided the rich vegetation from the environment's ceiling. The separate reality didn't even try to hide its borders on that floor. The area was immense but limited, and magical plants almost filled the entirety of its space.

"What do you think?" June asked after she performed a quick inspection.

Noah shook his head as he let his body and mind experience the environment. He took deep breaths to savor the different scents that reached the sky, and his instincts did their best to evaluate the various magical plants. Many of them were in the ninth rank, but they felt relatively harmless.

"I don't know much about magical plants," Noah admitted. "Still, this floor seems different."

"I might actually surpass you in that field," June revealed. "Let me study the area for a while."

June left Noah's lap and dived into the flourishing vegetation. Meanwhile, Noah let his potential empower his mind before expanding his consciousness. He couldn't fill the entire area, but flares of mental waves shot out of his figure and explored the environment. He would soon gain a general idea of the whole floor.

Fiery Mountain didn't want to appear useless, but she felt unable to help the two experts. She wasn't an expert in the magical plants' field, and Noah's inspection seemed faster than anything she could summon. Sending her mental waves would only hinder his study.

"Don't worry," Noah stated without looking at his new companion. "You have nothing to prove."

Fiery Mountain opened her mouth, but no words came out of it. She found herself without anything to say. Actually, part of her wanted to remain silent while she inspected her new companions and bathed in Noah's dense aura.

"What exactly are you?" Fiery Mountain instinctively asked without even realizing what she was about to say.

"I'm a mistake," Noah casually replied while continuing his inspection. "I'm Heaven and Earth's greatest mistake."

Fiery Mountain knew that there was far more inside Noah, but she suppressed her curiosity for now. She would have time to learn more about him. Remaining inside his influence was enough for now.

June returned to the empty area right under the ceiling after a few hours. Noah only needed a look at her face to know that she didn't find anything valuable, but she still summarized the results of her inspection. "Each magical plant belongs to the same species, but they are different. I can't find the same oddity from before."

"The key is different this time," Noah concluded before bringing his gaze back on the countless plants that expanded under him.

His inspection had also been fruitless. Noah didn't find anything special. The area only had those giant magical plants that did nothing but grow.

"The separate reality seems to provide the energy for these magical plants," June continued her explanation. "There is no ground. The base of this floor is a mass of roots that expand until the edges of the area. We can reach the bottom, but I'm afraid that destroying everything won't work this time."

"I agree," Noah sighed. "Do they have any unique ability? Do you even recognize these magical plants?"

"No, I've never seen nor studied them," June admitted. "Yet, their ability is quite evident. They only want to thrive."

Noah remained silent for a few seconds before raising his arm to place his hand on the ceiling. The sky there was azure, and the same went for the layer above him. The fabric of space twisted at his touch, but the cracks that opened under his fingertips only showed more azure light.

Noah tried to repeat the process in a spot next to him. He waved his hand, and a crack opened, but more azure light came out of it. There seemed to be multiple layers of the sky around the area, so piercing the fabric of space wasn't a solution.

"Maybe we only need to make the magical plants reach the sky," Fiery Mountain suggested.

"I thought about that," June revealed. "There is only a problem."

"We are pretty sure that they have already tried it," Noah continued.

"They?!" Fiery Mountain asked before three presences suddenly entered the range of her consciousness.

Noah, June, Fiery Mountain turned toward the source of those presences. Three figures had appeared in the narrow space between the vast crowns and the ceiling. They had humanoid shapes, but roots and leaves covered their bodies and hid their features. Only their rank 9 auras were clear, and one of them even touched the liquid stage.

Chapter 2112 Infection

Fiery Mountain instinctively took a step back. She was strong for her level, but she couldn't go past it with her power. Actually, the sole idea that someone could overcome the gaps among the stages of the ninth rank seemed unreal except in specific events.

Instead, Noah and June felt entirely at ease. The two had already proven to themselves that their power alone was more than enough to overwhelm those three opponents, so they could focus on other details.

The three experts were clearly cultivators, or, at least, they had been that before transforming into that mess of branches and leaves. Noah could sense that their bodies and worlds still existed behind the corruption applied by the plants growing from them, but everything felt muddled and hidden.

The oddest detail was with the experts' power. Usually, stronger worlds would have a higher resistance against external influences or infections, but the roots were applying the opposite effect. The two cultivators in the gaseous stage still retained traces of their past selves in their auras, but the same didn't apply to their stronger companion.

"I'm taking the stronger one," June announced while Noah was still thinking about the situation.

Sparks began to crackle in June's eyes, and she even summoned her power to prepare for the imminent battle, but Noah pulled her from her robe before she could shoot forward. June shot a confused glance toward him, and he promptly shook his head.

"They might know something about this area," Noah explained. "Also, we need allies."

"I promise I won't kill it until you find a solution," June swore while wearing an untrustworthy smile.

Noah heaved a sigh as the Demonic Sword materialized in his left hand. June's eyes lit up at that gesture. She knew that he had given up on the matter, so she quickly shot toward the three experts.

"Try to stop her from killing the strong one," Noah ordered without bothering to turn toward Fiery Mountain. "Don't let her kill you in the process."

"There is a liquid stage cultivator among them," Fiery Mountain tried to complain.

"I know," Noah sighed again. "There's only one liquid stage cultivator among them."

Fiery Mountain frowned, but Noah didn't give her the time to question him any further since he shot ahead to chase June. The expert found herself alone in the sky, but she quickly decided to join the battle.

A mass of lightning bolts exploded among the sky when June crashed on the liquid stage expert. The latter didn't cast any technique and faced her with its bare body, which managed to endure the impact. Some of its leaves shattered, but new ones quickly grew from the branches.

June obviously took that as a challenge. Her figure became devoid of energy for an instant before releasing an even stronger power. Her level shot directly to the liquid stage, and the flora under her inevitably suffered.

Noah arrived right after June exploded with her second wave of power. He quickly unfolded the dark world to contain her destruction and gain better control over the battlefield before dividing the three experts. They didn't even realize that an external force had teleported them to different areas.

Fiery Mountain had started to follow Noah when the dark world enveloped her in its dark waves. She initially raised her guard but slowly relaxed when she realized that the technique didn't hinder her movements or senses. Actually, she felt stronger than ever inside those black crystals.

Fiery Mountain could inspect everything clearly. She knew that Noah had told her to handle June, but she had no intention to affect that battle. She tried to step toward one of the isolated gaseous stage experts, but she suddenly discovered that the dark world had brought her closer to June's fight.

A random lightning bolt flew past Fiery Mountain and alerted her survival instincts. That attack would have left her severely injured if it had hit her directly, and her desire to avoid that fight only intensified after that realization. However, when she tried to take a step back, the dark world brought her even closer to the center of that battlefield.

Noah decided to ignore most of what was happening on the battlefield with June, Fiery Mountain, and the liquid stage expert to focus on the two gaseous stage cultivators. The dark world was strong enough to keep them imprisoned in its black crystals, so he didn't need to act to reinforce the suppression. Yet, he still approached one of them to study it.

Noah casually waved the Demonic Sword to launch a slash. The attack didn't carry much of his power, but the dark world enhanced it before locking the gaseous stage expert in its position.

The slash slammed on the expert, but Noah immediately understood that he didn't inflict any damage. Some leaves had shattered, but the branches had kept the overall figure intact.

Noah's eyes sharpened as he waved the Demonic Sword again. A roar echoed through the dark world as the blade unleashed its true power. The dark world locked the expert in its position again, but for a very different reason at that time. The technique had to make sure that it survived the attack.

The slash crashed on the expert's left shoulder and severed it cleanly. The branches couldn't block anything when Noah attacked seriously, and the injury gave him the chance to inspect the cultivator's insides.

It turned out that some of the expert's internal organs had survived the transformation. The cultivator wasn't really human anymore, but it retained part of its original form.

Of course, Noah didn't care about the internal structure. He wanted to see if he could find more traces of the expert's world, but his inspection failed. Still, he managed to understand the details behind the transformation during that study.

The branches weren't parasites. They weren't even independent magical plants either. The cultivator seemed to have transformed into something that resembled the vegetation below.

'How can these plants affect a cultivator so deeply?' Noah wondered before creating a six-armed dragon through the workshop and sending it at the area's base.

Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain had reached the same conclusion after studying the environment for a bit. The magical plants wanted to grow, but the separate reality didn't give them enough energy to reach the sky, so the three had thought to provide the fuel needed to complete that process.

It was safe to assume that anyone would reach similar conclusions after inspecting the environment. Proper experts in the magical plants' field might have different ideas if they recognized the species inside the separate reality. Still, Noah believed that the three tainted experts had tried to give their energy to the flora, and he didn't hesitate to test his theory.

The six-armed dragon reached one of the weaker magical plants and started to send its power to the roots that made the ground. It wasn't hard for a being made of dark matter to create something suitable for that flora, and the latter wasn't demanding in terms of quality either. Almost everything could work as fuel.

Nevertheless, a foreign force began to affect the six-armed dragon as soon as it started feeding the weak magical plant. The infection spread quickly, even if it came from a specimen in the eighth rank. It seemed that the disposable beast's innate defenses didn't have any effect against that force, and Noah soon sensed something coming toward him.

Chapter 2113 Source

The infection knew that Noah was the six-armed dragon's source. It sent its energy from the creature toward him through an ethereal channel connected to his world.

Noah could stop the energy to end the infection right away, but he let it fly toward him for a while to inspect its nature. He couldn't explain how a mere rank 8 magical plants could overcome his disposable rank 9 dragon. There had to be something unique there, and he had every intention to find it.

The time in his vision slowed down as the ethereal blackness poured potential inside his mind. Noah studied the infection flying toward him and trying to approach his world. That strange energy was dense, and it didn't match the power signature of the magical plant that the six-armed dragon had fed.

'Where does it come from?' Noah wondered as the infection was about to end up on him.

The infection didn't destroy the dragon's innate defenses. The latter simply didn't activate when the foreign energy entered its body, and Noah didn't know how to explain it.

'Is it an innate ability?' Noah asked himself while detonating the six-armed dragon.

The disposable creature exploded and damaged many magical plants with the raging waves of energy that its body released. Most specimens in the eighth rank directly dissolved under that force, and the same went for the infection trying to reach Noah.

The environment didn't react to the event. The other magical plants didn't seem to care that a hole had appeared among their array of roots. Noah could even see the separate reality's base providing more fuel to regrow the destroyed bushes and trees, but the process appeared incredibly slow.

Noah quickly created another disposable dragon through the workshop and sent it downward. He couldn't find answers through a single inspection, but the two gaseous stage opponents weren't a problem, and June was taking care of the liquid stage cultivator. He had the time to perform a thorough study.

Six-armed dragons flew out of the dark world, reached the array of roots at the bottom of the separate reality, and exploded when the infection was about to touch Noah's world. He relied on the entirety of his senses to study that unique energy to find special features or details that he had missed during previous inspections.

A pattern eventually became evident. The infection carried the same type of energy every time. It didn't matter which specimens the dragons targeted. The magical plants always released the same invasive power even if their structure wouldn't usually be able to discharge something so strong.

'They are connected,' Noah eventually concluded.

That was the only possible answer to the strange phenomenon. The magical plants shared the type of energy used to infect other beings, but another problem soon appeared. Noah confirmed that the invasive power couldn't come from the actual roots, branches, and trunks.

At first, Noah had believed that the invasive power was simply unique enough to ignore the structural inadequacy of some weak magical plants and the dragon's innate defenses. However, it soon became clear that the answer was in-between those hypotheses.

The infection could ignore the dragon's innate defenses because it tried to improve those creatures. The branches and leaves that the invasive power forced to grow among the scales and dark matter reinforced the disposable magical beast.

The same applied to the cultivators. The three infected experts featured high defensive capabilities, even if they had sacrificed their sanity and worlds to obtain them.

The infection could bypass the innate defenses by masking itself as a positive force, but its power remained too high for most magical plants. After all, tricking the senses of rank 9 beings wasn't an easy feat, so that power had to be somewhere near the peak of the ninth rank.

Of course, magical plants in the seventh and eighth rank didn't have the structural stability to work as channels for such a dense invasive power. Even some specimens in the ninth rank would struggle to release something so strong. Yet, none of them showed any damage after infecting the dragons and trying to affect Noah's world.

The only possible explanation was that the magical plants didn't send that invasive power. The infection had to have a different source, and Noah sacrificed countless disposable dragons to find it.

Noah's eyes lit up at some point. He left the dark world and let it handle the battlefield. Meanwhile, the space-time array replaced the green spectacle in his vision as he placed a hand on the fabric of the separate reality.

His fingers pierced the fabric of space and created five cracks that expanded as he swung his hand. The five fissures tried to close, but Noah promptly sent his energy forward and forced them to enlarge. A large hole soon took form, but its shape was unclear since the azure light flowing from its insides fused with the natural color of the sky.

Noah obviously knew where the crack's edges stood. He could easily keep track of the two different layers of the separate reality, and his aura expressed his destructiveness to enlarge the passage. The hole soon transformed into a vertical gorge that allowed him to study everything standing under the floor.

The area under the separate reality's fabric appeared empty. The clear azure sky seemed to fill the entirety of its limited space, but Noah eventually found a green spot in the distance. The figure didn't notice him, and he didn't hesitate to launch a massive slash toward it.

The slash made the reality's fabric tremble as it absorbed energy and grew. The figure eventually noticed the attack, but it didn't get the chance to dodge it. An explosion happened before that green shadow could move, and a screeching noise followed the rumbling sounds released by the raging black waves.

Noah knew that his slash didn't destroy the figure. His consciousness had been unable to reach the green figure, but his instincts had been clear. The green shadow was in the upper tier.

The waves of black energy continued to rage, but an array of sharp roots suddenly pierced them to shoot toward the crack. Noah revealed a cold smile when he saw those green limbs stretching toward him at high speed. His instincts screamed in fear, but he didn't move.

When the first root barged inside the other layer of the separate reality, Noah summoned his understanding of space to close the crack. The Demonic Sword also roared while flashing with a dark light. The green limb was about to slam on the center of his forehead, but it lost power before it could complete the attack.

The Demonic Sword had severed the root, and the giant crack had closed before other attacks could reach that side of the separate reality. Noah released dark matter to envelop the severed limb and study it through his enhanced mind.

The green root tried to dissolve, but the dark matter kept it in one piece. The power released by the severed plant attempted to infect the higher energy, but Noah replaced every spot that started to transform.

Something immediately became evident. Noah knew that he had found the source of the infections, and studying it might open the path for a cure.

Chapter 2114 Cure

The severed root struggled inside the dark matter, but the latter prevented most of its functions. The green limb couldn't dissolve or escape the suppression, and Noah made sure to replace everything that got infected.

Meanwhile, Noah enhanced his mind's capabilities to study the root. He had found the very source of the infection, so he wanted to develop a cure. His plan didn't only involve the upper tier magical plant seen in the other layer of the separate reality. He also wanted to save the three experts to increase his number of allies.

The dark matter around the root acted as an extension of his mind and helped him study the tough and strange limb coming from the plant that the separate reality had tried to hide. The upper tier specimen was beyond odd. It had a solid structure, but it appeared able to turn into infective energy in an instant.

Noah couldn't identify its original form during the inspection. The upper tier magical plant resembled one of Snore's earlier versions. Depending on the situation, it could be solid, gaseous, and ethereal, and each state carried different features.

The solid state carried the toughness proper of an upper tier specimen. The root was only a mere limb, but Noah could guess that the trunk wouldn't be so easy to cut. The same went for the branches near the magical plant. It seemed that the distance from the main body affected the innate defenses of that structure.

The gaseous state began to carry the infective properties. Branches and leaves started to grow from the dark matter whenever the root tried to disperse among that prison, but Noah never let the infection spread. He controlled it perfectly as his study continued.

The ethereal state was extremely peculiar. The magical plant used it to pierce the layer that divided the two layers of the separate reality. It could send its energy in the flora around Noah in that form. As for the channel, the upper tier specimen used the connection created whenever the cultivators tried to give their energy to the roots.

After confirming those features, Noah moved to a deeper study of the root. The dark matter took different forms as it tried to find cures and counters to the infective energy. The magical plant was in the upper tier, so the project was far from easy. However, Noah had access to superior fuels, and his ethereal blackness could improve them. The difference in power wasn't an issue for him.

Noah studied the root while the dark world suppressed the three tainted experts. June continued to fight the liquid stage cultivator, and Fiery Mountain slowly accepted her role during that battle.

The battle grew harsher as June gained access to higher forms of energy. Fiery Mountain quickly found herself unable to create defenses against June's attacks, so she focused on saving the liquid stage cultivator whenever the situation became too dangerous.

Fiery Mountain felt stunned whenever June unleashed an attack that surpassed her previous technique in terms of sheer power. The old expert couldn't understand the nature and reason behind June's world. She could guess how it functioned, but the sole idea of something with unlimited potential felt impossible to comprehend.

Still, June barely cared about the presence of that ally. She unleashed her lightning bolts without holding anything back, and her opponent soon started to suffer serious injuries. Her attacks had begun to pierce the defensive layer of branches and leaves long ago, and they had begun to leave holes in the expert's body during the last phases of her offensive.

Noah was doing his best to ignore June and Fiery Mountain. He didn't want to affect their battle or scold June about her approach, but he kept track of the liquid stage expert's state.

The many holes that June had started to open in the liquid stage cultivator forced Noah to accelerate his study, and a solution slowly began to take form.

The infection transformed the cultivators by fusing with their bodies and enhancing some of their features. In theory, the process wasn't harmful, which was the very reason behind its dangerousness. The innate defenses didn't recognize the infection as a threat, so they let it pass.

That feature caused problems for Noah since he would find it hard to differentiate the infected parts from those that still retained traces of the original world. Reverting the transformation seemed impossible in those conditions, so his cure had to follow a different procedure.

Noah thought and experimented with the root until he perfected the procedure. His idea was complicated and required a long transformation, but he did his best to simplify it. His priority was to save the liquid stage cultivator from June as soon as possible.

Noah returned inside the dark world and activated the workshops. His dark matter had already built connections with the three experts, and he used them to study everything that seemed connected to their original world. Bringing them to their state before the transformation was impossible, but he could achieve something decent as long as they didn't completely forget about their true selves.

The workshops built three different chrysalides through a fusion of dark matter and pieces of the three cultivators. Noah wanted to make sure to create the perfect environment where the three experts could allow their true selves to grow and find their worlds. He couldn't do much more from them due to how deeply the transformation had affected their existence.

Once the workshops completed the chrysalides, Noah shot toward the three cultivators and put them inside the items. He had to suffer a direct hit from June's lightning bolts during the process, but the attack didn't leave any injury since the dark world weakened it before the impact.

The dark world dispersed afterward. Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain reappeared among the azure sky, and their attention quickly went on the three oval chrysalides floating next to them. The two women could sense the three experts from inside the structures, but their senses soon went on the faint strands of energy released in the environment.

"What are you doing to them?" Fiery Mountain asked as her senses told her to stay away from those strands of energy.

"You could have let me fight it for a bit longer," June complained.

"Our future allies need to be alive," Noah scolded before sighing. "I'm forcing out of their worlds everything belonging to the infection. There won't be much left of them after the process is over, but my energy can help rebuild part of them, hopefully."

"What now then?" June asked as she crossed her legs.

"We wait," Noah explained. "I need to keep track of the process and adjust it according to their personal needs. After that, we'll go after the true enemy of this floor."

"True enemy?" Fiery Mountain questioned.

"There is a magical plant in the upper tier in a hidden dimensional layer," Noah revealed. "I believed we have to defeat it to clear this floor."

"Upper tier?!" Fiery Mountain exclaimed as she tried to calculate the amount of power her group would have to amass to defeat such a powerful opponent... However, her surprise soon turned into worry when she saw June's excited smile.

Chapter 2115 Incredible

Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain remained in the sky while the three chrysalides continued to separate the cultivators from their infected parts. The process was extremely slow, but its positive effects eventually became evident.

The change didn't happen immediately. The chrysalides had to push away a lot of infected energy before the faint shapes of the original worlds could become clear. The liquid stage expert also took longer to regain a part of its real power, and its state remained slightly vague even after results appeared.

The two gaseous stage experts had it easier since the infection had left part of their previous worlds intact. Their power fell as they lost their tainted energy, but the dark matter in the chrysalides made sure to help them fill the gaps created by the procedure.

The energy required by gaseous stage worlds was immense, especially while they were trying to heal. The chrysalides started to lose power as the process continued, but Noah constantly refilled his creations with dark matter. He also modified his higher energy multiple times to create the perfect environment for each expert.

The chrysalides' structure and the auras around them often changed as Noah adapted his dark matter to what he learnt about the cultivators. He could improve the three different environments as the three experts retrieved parts of their true selves, and he didn't hesitate to rely on the ethereal blackness to enhance his efforts.

Noah could handle the gaseous stage experts without needing his potential, but the liquid stage cultivator began to show significant improvements only after his ethereal blackness came into play.

The process felt endless since the separate reality didn't offer any distraction. Noah also had to keep track of his chrysalides, so June couldn't disturb him too much. She often teased Fiery Mountain, but the two women eventually grew bored of those interactions and focused on their cultivation level.

A change happened when the first chrysalis started to crumble. June and Fiery Mountain immediately interrupted their cultivation to turn toward Noah, but they relaxed when they noticed that he wasn't worried.

Everything was part of the procedure, so Noah let the event happen without affecting it. The chrysalis crumbled, and its shards fused with the human figure inside it.

The expert's world was still unstable in that state, and its power had yet to return to its original level. However, a vortex soon came out of the cultivator's figure and began to absorb the energy in the environment.

Noah acted at that point. He had long since memorized the structure of the woman's world, so his dark matter could transform into the perfect healing fuel. Waves of higher energy left his body and filled the vortex while the cultivator remained dormant. Her power started to rise, but she continued to sleep.

The second chrysalis shattered while the first was in the middle of the last phase of the healing process. A man came out of it and created a second vortex after the structure's shards fused with his figure.

Noah quickly sent a different wave of dark matter to the second vortex before moving his attention to the last chrysalis. The liquid stage expert had yet to come out, but that was within his calculations.

The woman eventually opened her eyes. Her world activated and started spreading its influence through the sky, but something cracked during the process, leading her to spit a mouthful of blood.

The panic in the woman's eyes was evident, but Noah promptly unfolded the dark world to suppress her power and review the current state of her world. It soon became clear that a few parts of her energy had yet to stabilize, so he forced her to remain still until everything reached a decent harmony.

The experience with the woman allowed Noah to find instabilities in the man's world before they could cause problems. He quickly fixed what he noticed and let the expert continue to absorb the dark matter to regain his power.

The man didn't need Noah to suppress him. He slowly woke up and unleashed his aura before taking it back in his figure once his awareness returned. A confused expression appeared on his face, and his eyes moved among Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain before widening when they fell on the various magical plants.

The cultivator opened his mouth, but no words came out of it. The event confused the man even more, but he closed his eyes and concentrated before managing to voice a simple line. "I'll rest for a bit."

The man crossed his legs and started cultivating. Noah inspected his world for a bit before deciding to ignore him. The cultivator had already gone past the dangerous phase of his recovery. Everything else depended on him.

Something similar happened when the woman's world finally stabilized. She took longer to realize the nature of her situation, but she also decided to cultivate after sensing her condition. Noah could move the entirety of his focus on the last chrysalis at that point, but the situation looked far from good.

The man and the woman eventually stopped cultivating and opened their eyes to inspect their surroundings again. Clarity finally filled their gazes and expressions, but they found themselves staring at random spots of the area from time to time.

"Are they okay?" June asked when she noticed that odd behavior.

"I couldn't bring back everything," Noah sighed without moving his gaze away from the chrysalis. "They are probably trying to remember pieces of their lives."

"Did you rebuild two different worlds with your energy?" Fiery Mountain asked without hiding her astonishment.

"Technically, they built them on their own," Noah explained. "I only provided the fuel."

"Only the fuel," Fiery Mountain shook her head. "Do you realize how incredible something like that is?"

"I know that it's incredible," Noah responded. "Though it's only normal for my organization. One of its members is even better than me at this."

"Better how?" Fiery Mountain asked as she tried to imagine the power of that expert.

"He would have probably managed to save him too," Noah stated as the chrysalis shattered and revealed an inhuman figure that only vaguely resembled a man.

The scene attracted everyone's attention. The experts in the sky inspected the inhuman figure losing pieces of its body as it slowly fell apart. Noah's dark matter still tried to heal it, but it was clear that the process wasn't working.

"There wasn't much left of him," Noah continued. "His world was also deeper than the others. It would have been different if I had memories or something similar, but alas."

Noah waved his hand, and the dark matter that was healing the expert began to destroy him. The inhuman figure quickly turned into a wave of energy that Noah inspected thoroughly before absorbing inside his body.

The black crystal purified the energy and sent it toward different parts of Noah's body. He barely felt that power, and he didn't even care about it. His ethereal blackness slightly expanded, but that was it.

"What do you remember?" Noah eventually asked while glancing at the two cultivators who had just retrieved their human shapes.

The man and the woman exchanged a glance before approaching Noah silently. They didn't know each other, but they both knelt before him as a sign of obedience and respect.

Chapter 2116 Companions

The two gaseous stage cultivators had yet to achieve a perfect state, but the group wasn't in a hurry. Both had lost part of themselves when Noah rebuilt them. They were fine, but they needed their new forms to develop for a bit so that they could grow used to their power.

Noah, June, and Fiery Mountain used that time to get to know their new companions. Both of them had a middle-aged appearance, but the man had a far older look. His short dark hair had grown white near his temples, and the same had happened to a few spots of his unkempt beard. Still, his blue eyes radiated pure vitality and might.

Instead, the woman looked far more youthful, even if she retained a mature appearance. Her long black hair resembled silk as she floated through the still sky, and the light radiated by her brown eyes created a captivating gaze. She was enchanting, and she didn't hesitate to express that feature whenever Noah inspected her.

Of course, that behavior aroused June's anger, but the two women settled the matter quickly. A series of cold glances from June's side and a few intimate interactions with Noah were more than enough to mark her territory. Noah also played his role in making the gaseous stage cultivator understand his position in his relationship, so everything ended up peacefully.

The man went by the title of "Old Tyrant", and his world was able to subdue the matter in its range. That ability went beyond the simple taking control of the laws in the environment. It allowed the cultivator to create different lifeforms that echoed his power, and the complexity of those creatures determined their might.

Instead, the woman's name was Gabrielle, and her world had the ability to spread a barrage of purple crystals that enhanced her energy if it passed through them. Her techniques were rather hard to use since she needed to prepare the battlefield to express her true power, but they felt incredible nonetheless.

June and Fiery Mountain had seen the two cultivators expand their worlds while they recovered, but only Noah could claim to know them deeply. His dark matter had been a core material in reconstructing their existence, so he could confirm that they were valuable allies.

Old Tyrant and Gabrielle had submitted to Noah as soon as they healed, and that state didn't change as they expanded their power. Noah also sensed his ethereal blackness stretching during the process. He had rebuilt the two cultivators, so they added potential to his world as they grew stronger.

The calm and peaceful situation in the sky couldn't last forever, and unrest soon started to spread as both Old Tyrant and Gabrielle became used to their new state. Everyone wanted to leave, and Noah didn't hesitate to make the hunt start.

"Is everyone ready?" Noah asked while glancing at his companions.

June wore a broad smile, but the others didn't share her confidence. Noah had described the magical plant hidden in the other dimension of the separate reality, and their group appeared unsuited for such a challenging hunt.

Still, Fiery Mountain had already seen Noah and June express power that went far beyond their level, and the other two experts felt that their lives belonged to Noah now. They wouldn't refuse a call to arms, even if that meant fighting an upper tier specimen.

The faint anxiety and hesitation in the three experts didn't satisfy Noah, but he let the matter go. Old Tyrant and Gabrielle had also been stuck inside the Cursed Labyrinth for a long time, so they weren't aware of the powers that had appeared inside the higher plane.

It would take the two experts time to understand that cultivators, hybrids, and magical beasts were doing their best to approach the final battle, which required strength beyond regular labels. Noah or June's levels had to be the norm to join the fight against Heaven and Earth, and the two of them had every intention to show their might during the journey across the Labyrinth.

Noah didn't wait for verbal confirmations. His fingers soon stabbed the fabric of space and opened a giant crack that led to the dimension hidden under that floor. A screeching noise immediately came out of it, but Noah didn't give his companions the time to inspect the area. He unfolded the dark world, enveloped his group, and brought everyone through the fissure.

Flares of dark matter expanded as soon as the dark world seeped past the crack. The higher energy created giant pillars that tried to stretch in every corner of the area, and the almost empty scene soon saw a giant black spiderweb taking control of the azure sky.

The hidden dimension was bigger than the other, but it was also mostly empty. Only the upper tier magical plant occupied it. Still, its roots seemed able to stretch endlessly, and they didn't hesitate to pierce the many black crystals that expanded in their reign.

Noah had learnt a lot about the infection during the healing process. Old Tyrant and Gabrielle didn't develop any immunity after their transformation, so the upper tier magical plant was as deadly as ever. Even Noah had to pay attention to its annoying power.

The dark world was necessary to keep the group's presence hidden. Noah made his technique create countless pillars so that his companions could move freely in the area without fearing the roots.

The roots tried to infect the dark world by sending their energy inside the various pillars, but Noah slashed his swords relentlessly as he moved through his black crystals. His technique then made sure to redirect his attacks toward every area that required assistance, allowing him to suppress every threat before it became too dangerous.

The dark world also echoed Noah's ambition, and his companions could benefit from it as they moved through the various pillars and flares. June, Fiery Mountain, Old Tyrant, and Gabrielle experienced the empowerment that only Noah's potential could provide, and they didn't hold back from expressing their new might once they reached suitable positions.

June took a spot in a pillar standing above the magical plant. Many roots had pierced that structure, but slashes had flown through the crystals to destroy them and suppress the infective energy. She could let her Perfect Circuit perform many cycles and send everything it produced between her hands to give birth to a crackling spear.

Fiery mountain settled herself in a pillar under the magical plant. She gave birth to a massive fuming giant that slowly condensed itself into a smaller form. Rivers of lava came out of its rocky structure from time to time, but the black crystals around it made sure to preserve that power.

Noah let Old Tyrant take control of the black crystals around him. The expert created a series of copies of himself before fusing them to create a giant head that carried his facial features. The structure amassed power, and a blue light began to shine inside its mouth when it opened it.

Gabrielle had to remain behind and pick one of the largest pillars. Her purple crystals mixed with the black environment, but she quickly sent waves of energy toward them. Her attacks ricocheted among those structures and amassed power as they prepared themselves to fuse into a single massive beam.

Then, when Noah slashed his blades forward, everyone unleashed their attacks, and the upper tier magical plant found itself caught into a storm of energy.

Chapter 2117 Third Floor

The magical plant survived the first barrage of attacks, but many of its roots shattered. Still, they released their infective energy before falling apart, which transformed the area around the specimen into a dead zone that no one could approach.

Noah had to cut away some of the pillars near the plant due to that infective energy. He had learnt a lot about those dangerous properties, but his power wasn't enough to fend it off when it came in such massive quantity. Yet, he quickly adjusted the layout of the dark world to create more safe areas from where his companions could launch their offensive.

The hunt entered a cycle of attacks and adjustments. Each exchange made the magical plant lose large chunks of its body, which mostly consisted of roots and branches, but they also generated waves of infective energy that tried to take control of the area.

Noah and the others had to launch a series of attacks to vanquish that infective energy before focusing their offensive on the magical plant again. The process allowed the upper tier specimen to regrow part of its body and launch its roots toward the dark world, but its attempts to reach the experts failed every time.

Noah demonstrated his excellent battle experience, control of the space-time array, and understanding of his opponent as the exchanges unfolded. June had never doubted him, but the others soon accepted that they could rely entirely on him and focus on their attacks.

The dark world didn't only protect the group from the incoming attacks and infective energy. Noah teleported the experts toward better locations and improved the enhancements on their abilities as the battle continued. The more he learnt, the better he could support his companions, and the latter found themselves stunned in front of his expertise.

The flexibility of the dark world also created waves of stupor in Fiery Mountain, Old Tyrant, and Gabrielle's minds. Noah's technique could perform multiple actions at the same time even if they had different purposes. Moreover, the potential that enhanced their abilities left them completely stunned. There seemed to be no limit to what Noah could achieve with his power.

The matter felt even more incredible when Fiery Mountain thought about a past conversation. Noah had claimed that there was someone better than him when it came to supporting methods, but her mind couldn't fathom the existence of such an expert.

Noah already appeared as an unparalleled monster, and learning the higher plane had more existences like him made her accept that joining Heaven and Earth's Cancer wasn't only her best option. It was necessary for her very world.

The magical plant slowly revealed its true form as the offensive continued. Noah and the others managed to get closer to the specimen as attacks never stopped leaving their figures, and a giant green trunk soon entered the range of their senses.

The upper tier magical plant wasn't as big as Heaven and Earth's tree, but it remained immense. Moreover, its branches and roots resembled snakes that could stretch endlessly, and the threatening infective energy that they released had the power to end the battle in a single blow.

Fiery Mountain, Old Tyrant, and Gabrielle felt sure that the battle would have been impossible without Noah. They didn't even take into consideration the sheer difference in power between them and their opponent in that evaluation. The dark world was literally saving their lives every time the roots and branches flew toward them.

The upper tier magical plant was a formidable opponent. Its infective energy alone was enough to place it above the average of most specimens at the same level, but its endless roots and immense resilience only improved its status.

However, Noah was perfect. His dark world made every attack from the magical plant useless, and his slashes remained the most threatening aspect of the joint offensive.

June didn't fall too much behind. Her crackling spears transformed into proper pillars of orange light that released dark halos as her Perfect Circuit provided her with better energy. At times, her attacks even threatened to surpass the sheer power carried by Noah's offensive.

Old Tyrant, Fiery Mountain, and Gabrielle did their best to match the power unleashed by their companions. Their worlds couldn't reach Noah and June's levels, but the potential flowing through the dark world and the enhancements provided by the dark matter made them able to hurt the magical plant, and that was enough for the hunt.

The magical plant could only continue to lose pieces of its body. Its seemingly endless resilience couldn't do anything without energy to absorb or targets to infect. Its roots and branches eventually vanished, and its trunk soon crumbled. Shards of its existence tried to regrow and expand, but Noah's group never stopped attacking.

The situation didn't change even after Fiery Mountain, Old Tyrant, and Gabrielle stopped sensing the presence of the magical plant. Noah didn't allow them to halt their offensive, and the fabric of space in the area inevitably suffered from that decision.

The hidden dimension showed an even deeper layer of the floor as the destruction unfolded. The area featured the same azure sky as the other environments, but it was empty and even a bit unstable. It was clear that the creator of the Labyrinth didn't plan for the contestants to reach that place.

"That's enough!" Noah ordered at that point through a roar that everyone could understand.

The crystals of the dark world transformed into currents that flew back inside Noah. The four experts were continuing to fuel their attacks, but they put an end to their offensive when the azure sky shone around them.

A sense of weakness immediately fell on the four experts and Noah. The potential had enhanced their power for a long time, and they had to pay the price for that.

Noah didn't let his companions endure everything on their own. He opened a passage for the area filled with magical plants and performed a few tests with his six-armed dragons. The flora didn't try to infect his world anymore, so he quickly turned everything into energy.

The dark world expanded again and began to send the absorbed energy toward the experts. Noah kept most of it for June and himself, but no one dared to complain after witnessing the power that they were capable of unleashing.

Nevertheless, a foreign force fell on the dark world before the experts could recover. The Cursed Labyrinth tried to teleport everyone away, and Noah let the structure do its work after stabilizing the space-time array around his group.

The environment changed in a matter of seconds. Purple light replaced the azure sky, and an immense, dense sea expanded in every direction. The dark world reappeared right above those dark-green waters, and Noah quickly brought it away from that place.

Noah had saved the energy absorbed from the magical plants, so the group could continue recovering from the drawbacks caused by his potential. Still, Noah didn't waste time during the process. A series of six-armed dragons left the dark world and began to explore the area while everyone was busy healing.

'Ooh,' Noah couldn't help but exclaim in his mind when he sensed his six-armed dragons falling apart as soon as they entered the sea... 'We have company.'

Chapter 2118 Bare

Noah couldn't be wrong. His instincts had started to send clear signals as soon as the Labyrinth teleported the dark world on the third floor, and those sensations had only intensified after the inspection of the green sea. There was something that spoke his language in those waters, but he didn't rush downward.

The energy saved inside the dark world continued to heal the experts. June was the first to recover completely, and the three cultivators followed. Noah had taken the biggest chunk of fuel, but his centers of power required far more than his companions, so he ended up being the last to recover.

Nothing happened while the dark world hovered among the purple sky. The third floor was almost identical to the second, with only the green sea instead of the thick flora. Still, the presence of lifeforms in the waters made everything more complicated, and Noah couldn't explain why they had let his technique be after his inspection.

Noah's senses, instincts, and short inspection had confirmed that the sea contained a numerous pack of magical beasts. He didn't manage to reach their leaders, but the feelings that he experienced told him that there was at least one upper tier specimen in the area.

However, Noah didn't know whether those creatures were part of the trial or not. The first floor had required a key hidden among the laws in the area. The second had wanted the defeat of the upper tier magical plants and the following extermination of the flora. The third was still unclear, and Noah wanted to gain a better idea of the area before meeting the pack.

After completing the healing process and dispersing all the drawbacks, Noah made his preparations to leave the dark world. The workshops created an army of powerful six-armed dragons, and the companions in his arsenal expanded their senses to be ready to support Noah.

Those inside the dark world could see through the black crystals as if they were transparent. Noah wasn't hiding anything, and June inevitably voiced a question at the sight of her preparations. "Are we going out?"

Noah knew what it meant when June's eyes shone like that. She had understood something, and the event didn't surprise him. June wasn't a hybrid, but she had gained access to a similar power in the past, and her current form placed her body near the peak of what cultivators could achieve. It was only regular for her instincts to be sharp.

"The sea is full of magical beasts," Noah revealed. "They are strong. I want to recruit them, but I need to check for eventual connections to the floor first."

"So?" June asked.

"So, I must go alone," Noah explained. "You know how magical beasts are. If they are as old as our three new companions, there is a high chance that they might take the presence of a cultivator as an insult."

Noah was speaking the truth. He would never stop June from getting into a potential fight, but the environments inside the Cursed Labyrinth were old, far older than him. The creatures and experts there didn't get the chance to experience the many changes suffered by the higher plane. Many of them believed that the three great factions were still fighting over the world.

Noah didn't fear an all-out battle against the pack. That was one of the possible paths toward getting new allies in the end. However, he would have to defeat the leaders for that, and those powerful specimens were his real targets. He didn't have the time to groom weaklings. Heaven and Earth were too close to the final fight.

June didn't like having to remain behind, but she understood that some matters needed touch that she wasn't able to provide. She rolled her eyes, shot toward Noah, and left a long kiss on his lips before resuming her cultivation inside the dark world.

Noah left the dark world, and his army expanded through the purple sky. Everything seemed normal. The separate reality had clear borders, at least in its upper part. Noah even pierced the fabric of space to inspect the dimension hidden under the area, but the latter was empty, devoid of surprises or secret opponents.

The lack of clues or unique features forced Noah to accept that the magical beasts could be a core part of the test. He didn't like that outcome, but he couldn't change the reality of the situation. After a second and thorough inspection of the sky, he began his descent toward the green sea, and the army of six-armed dragons followed behind him.

The green waters were incredibly cold. That temperature obviously didn't affect Noah's body, but it was low enough to make him experience some discomfort.

That detail was extremely odd. Noah didn't feel anything similar from the previous inspection of the six-armed dragons, and the same happened now that his underlings dived inside the sea. His disposable creatures experienced a drop in the temperatures, but the event was so faint that they barely perceived it.

'Does it react to my aura?' Noah wondered as he continued to dive deeper into the sea with his army.

Nothing attacked his dragons at that time. Noah couldn't even find lifeforms through his consciousness. The pack had gone into hiding, and he didn't know whether everything was a big trap or not.

Potential started to flow out of the ethereal blackness to enter Noah's body. It was far from smart to rely so heavily on his ambition after going through a heavy round of drawbacks, but Noah didn't care. His resilience would compensate for any stress that his reckless behavior forced his centers of power to accumulate.

A growl suddenly generated soft soundwaves that spread through the green waters. Giant bubbles also started to rise toward the surface from an area that Noah couldn't reach with his consciousness. Still, he didn't need his mental waves to recognize a warning. The pack's leader didn't want him there.

"I've come to talk," Noah roared, and his voice spread in every direction. Some of his soundwaves even left the sea to echo among the purple sky.

Silence followed his announcement, but Noah waited. Even his army stopped advancing. He was doing his best to show respect toward that pack, and his approach turned out to be correct.

Another soundwave spread from the depths of the green sea, and Noah recognized it as a summoning that carried various details. He had to leave his army behind and continue his descent alone. The pack's leader wouldn't accept other conditions for the meeting.

The black crystals sent waves of dark matter inside his body and created a series of new black vessels. The unstable substance started to flow toward them to bring his physical strength to its limits.

Noah began his descent after achieving his best physical form. His dragons remained behind, and some even left the sea to act as guards for the dark world. The technique didn't really need them, but they did it anyway.

The green waters grew clearer as Noah continued to descend. Except for the purple sky, the area lacked light sources, so Noah didn't understand the reason behind that brightness. Yet, the answers to his questions arrived as soon as he reached the seabed.

The sandy and rocky ground under the sea featured immense vein-like structures that flashed with a pale-green light every few seconds. That behavior made Noah think about an actual living being, but he had never seen anything so vast.

Finding that strange detail made Noah happy. Those veins seemed to have no connection to the pack, meaning that he could recruit the various creatures without endangering his chances to leave the floor. Of course, everything was still too vague to be sure, but Noah still considered that discovery great news.

"What brings a creature like you here?" A deep human voice resounded through the waters as a vast figure became clear next to the closest vein.

"I have entered the Cursed Labyrinth, and now I'm here," Noah growled as more details appeared in his view.

The vein appeared even more majestic in that form. It was one of the few sources of illumination in the area, but that was more than enough for Noah. He didn't need to see to study his potential opponents, but interest inevitably appeared on his face when his eyes fell on the leader.

As Noah had predicted, the pack leader was an upper tier creature that seemed to border the level of the four dragons. Still, he didn't expect it to belong to a species of giant turtle-type magical beasts.

"It's rare to have visitors here," The giant horned turtle exclaimed as the immense vein flashed at its side.

"You won't be able to eat any of us," Noah stated before the creature could say anything else.

"That we'll see," The upper tier turtle exclaimed before shooting forward.

The specimen abandoned the veins to perform a short leap. The leader was fast, but Noah had long since predicted something similar to happen. His arm almost moved on its own and let the creature slam in his hand.

An immeasurable force flowed inside his body, but the matter ended there. Noah had stopped the immense magical beast with his sole hands.

Chapter 2119 Turtles

"Are you done testing me?" Noah growled while the giant turtle failed to push him away.

The upper tier creature didn't hide its astonishment. Noah was still a gaseous stage hybrid in its eyes, but he could block a direct charge from a magical beast at the peak of the cultivation journey with his bare hands.

"You seem worthy of a conversation," The turtle stated, but its instincts suddenly screamed in fear.

"You have yet to gain my approval," Noah roared as his fingers pierced the tough scales on the turtle's mouth and generated a spiderweb of black lines that spread through its triangular head.

The turtle had sensed the danger even before Noah unleashed his destruction, and it didn't hesitate to retract its head. Most of the magical beast's body hid inside its brown shell, leaving Noah with nothing but a few chunks of gory flesh in his hands.

Noah's actions triggered a catastrophic event. Hordes of giant horned turtles came out of the sandy and rocky seabed and encircled him in no time. Those creatures were massive, but their size didn't seem able to affect their speed. They resembled the Foolery in that field.

Noah finally had the chance to study that species and the pack as a whole. The turtles were smaller than Snore, but their bodies were vaguely spherical, which granted them imposing figures anyway. Their shells were brown and had simple diagrams carved on them. Their four legs had sharp claws, and their tails were short. Their heads featured two curved horns, two reptilian yellow eyes, and two rows of sharp fangs.

As for the pack, its sheer number could rival the army of dragons, if not even surpass it. The encirclement featured many rank 9 specimens, but only the leader was in the upper tier. Still, its underlings were extremely powerful, and the creatures under the ninth rank didn't appear weak either.

Noah couldn't help but smile in front of the sheer power of the pack. He didn't see potential threats in those many magical beasts ready to charge at him. In his mind, those specimens were valuable assets in the battle against Heaven and Earth.

'What would happen if I fill the higher plane with this pack?' Noah wondered as his knowledge about Heaven and Earth's fairness ran through his mind.

"I have decided," Noah eventually growled. "I'll let you join my organization. Our opponent is the sky, and we won't stop until it crumbles."

The leader had crashed on the seabed during its abrupt retreat. It had started even to approach Noah again after its pack had come out of the sand. Yet, his arrogant statement made it shoot on the frontlines.

"What is it?" Noah joked. "I don't want to kill any of you unless you turn out to be part of the Cursed Labyrinth."

"Don't you dare to see us as part of this prison," The leader threatened, but its words only broadened Noah's smile.

"It's set then," Noah laughed. "I'll bring everyone out of the Labyrinth. Once we return into the higher plane, we'll wage war at Heaven and Earth."

"Are you crazy?" The leader asked.

"Most likely," Noah continued to laugh.

The leader didn't know how to behave in front of Noah. His power was undeniable, and the upper tier turtle also felt sure that he had kept a lot hidden. However, his statements were dangerous.

The magical beasts were Heaven and Earth's natural enemies, but that had started to work in both ways after the sky turned white. The rulers were fearsome opponents that even the four heirs of the old world couldn't defeat. It was only typical for many creatures and packs to decide to remain outside that war.

Of course, the turtles could retain that mindset only due to their long imprisonment. They didn't know how bad the situation in the higher plane was now. They never had the chance to witness Heaven and Earth's relentless suppression, so they never made up their mind about the matter.

"I should eat you for injuring me," The leader declared.

"That won't do," Noah scoffed. "I can kill you and take your pack, but I want you too. I might have enough time to groom your underlings in the middle tier, but the others probably are too late already."

The turtles didn't like Noah's insolence. They hissed in anger, but their leader remained calm. The upper tier specimen had tasted Noah's power first-hand, and it had to admit that he wasn't bragging.

Of course, the leader didn't believe that Noah could actually defeat it. The battle would be close, but it guessed it would come out on top. Still, some doubts existed, and they were enough to make the upper tier specimen consider a temporary alliance.

"How do you know that you can leave this place?" The upper tier turtle asked.

"We have already cleared two floors," Noah revealed. "We only have seven more to go. There might be a secret area with the creator or creators, but we'll see."

"We have been stuck here for entire eras," The leader exclaimed. "How can you even dare to underestimate this place? Are you calling us weak?"

"You are definitely weak in some aspects, at least," Noah didn't hide his thoughts. "Do you know anything about formations? Can you dissect laws and rebuild them to suit your needs? Can you glance at the fabric of the world and see lines ready to bend at your will?"

The leader didn't answer, but its stance was obvious. The turtle was a creature in the upper tier, but it remained a magical beast. Its high rank had granted it great intelligence, but it had knowledge about formations or similar methods.

Those creatures had no chance to overcome the Labyrinth, but Noah saw no shame in that. The magical beasts had different advantages in the cultivation journey, and he had always respected them, at times even more than cultivators.

"Why are you ready to trust us?" The leader continued with its questions. "We can betray you as soon as you bring us out of this place."

"You won't," Noah responded through a tone that carried all the confidence in the words.

"And why is that?" The leader snorted.

Noah showed an arrogant smirk and raised his hand. The ethereal blackness began to send dense waves of potential toward his palm, which created a dark and unstable sphere in that spot.

The sphere unleashed ethereal flares that left thick black marks on the green waters. Those tainted areas began to evolve right away, and ice began to appear among the sea.

"Is that it-?" The upper tier turtle tried to belittle Noah after witnessing the black sphere's power, but everything changed when its eyes started to inspect that dark energy properly.

Noah had started to guess that the sea had strange properties, but he didn't know what exactly they did. Instead, the upper tier turtle and its underlings had lived there for a long time, so it was safe to assume they had learnt almost everything.

Nevertheless, the sheer size of the pack had been the last hint that Noah had needed to complete his evaluation. The turtle had found a method that allowed them to survive without resorting to cannibalism. He was also starting to understand something since his body and disposable dragons were gathering information non-stop.

"I won't only bring you out of here," Noah promised. "I'll also make sure to improve your species. Don't worry. Your eyes aren't deceiving you... I will grant you power if you allow me to."

Chapter 2120 Memories

The offer was tempting and in the turtle's favor. Noah wanted to avoid battles, so he waited patiently for the turtles to finish thinking and discussing.

The turtles couldn't hide their discussions from Noah. They hissed openly, without breaking the encirclement, and their topics showed him that they were pretty reasonable.

The chance to leave the Cursed Labyrinth was appealing, but the turtles weren't ready to put their trust in a stranger. Noah was even a strange hybrid, which didn't work in his favor.

The other main topic involved what Noah had said about Heaven and Earth. The turtles naturally hated the rulers, but they didn't want to escape their imprisonment only to end up in a war. Their state was quite perfect, but they still didn't know enough about the changes in the higher plane to decide whether a fight was necessary or not.

"I can help you with that," Noah intervened since the topic about the rulers and the higher plane had started to become the main part of the conversation.

All the turtles went silent to turn toward Noah, and he revealed a cold smile as he placed two fingers on his right temple. A dense mass of black mental energy came out when he pulled his hand, and he sent it upward to play the memories that it contained.

The pack had the chance to witness the current state of the higher plane. Noah's mental energy acted as a screen that conveyed far more than images. That fuel replicated the emotions he had experienced during those moments and the things he had understood during eventual inspections.

The turtles didn't trust Noah, but the truthfulness of his memories was undeniable. They could experience what he had experienced, see what he had seen. It was as if they were there, flying among the weak sky that Heaven and Earth had spread throughout the higher plane.

The scenes in the memories changed often, but the life dragon's death was the moment that generated more reactions among the turtles. Those creatures were old and powerful enough to know the time dragon and its mission, so that sight told them exactly how harsh the situation was.

The discussion didn't immediately resume. The turtles had to think about what they had just seen, but many gazes soon converged on the upper tier leader. Most of the weaker specimens lacked the power and understanding to decide. Eventually, only the rank 9 creatures began to speak.

"We won't join your organization," The upper tier leader declared once the rank 9 specimens had finished exchanging ideas.

"You will," Noah responded. "Everyone will. It will soon come the moment when there will be only Heaven and Earth and their Cancer."

"What are you saying?" The leader asked. "Should we put our lives in your hands? That will never happen."

"I don't expect it to happen," Noah chuckled coldly. "I'd rather kill you all by myself than have such weaklings in my organization."

"Then what?" The upper tier turtle continued.

"I want you to use me," Noah explained, and his words confused all the magical beasts in the area.

Noah unleashed his aura to highlight his statement. The dark halo that left his figure expressed the same effects of his potential but in its standard intensity. That was his normal influence, and the turtles could experience its effects now that they bathed in it.

At first, many turtles tried to run away since they thought that Noah was attacking them. However, their instincts soon had the better of them. They could sense that the dark aura would bring nothing but benefits, and they started to experience them now.

Noah also had the chance to study the green waters further during the process. His influence was forcing the turtles' bodies to look for paths where they could evolve, which obviously required energy.

The sea didn't remain still in front of that new demand for energy. The green waters started to shatter and transform into thin currents that fused with the various turtles. The floor was actually helping its challengers, and Noah didn't see any adverse effect during the process.

The event made Noah notice another aspect of the floor that he had been unable to see during his previous inspections and the past discussion among the turtles. The sea didn't start giving power to the pack now that Noah had opened new paths. The waters were already aiding the magical beasts. They just didn't need so much energy before.

Noah didn't let that discovery faze him. His human words mixed with roars and pride seeped into his aura as he voiced tempting lines. "Follow me, use my power to grow strong, and then decide who to follow. I won't force you, but you will be part of Heaven and Earth's Cancer. You already are in my mind."

"You are one arrogant creature," The leader commented, and Noah limited himself to wear his cold smile.

The two stared at each other for a few seconds under the tense gaze of the other turtles. If the leader gave the order, the assault would begin, and everyone understood that a bloodied battle was very likely to happen. The magical beasts had tasted Noah's power now, so they knew that he couldn't be underestimated.

Tremors ran through the weaker turtles. They would be the first to die if a battle were to unfold, but they couldn't retreat, not with their leader there. Some creatures even glanced at the army of dragons

above and at the dark world past the surface. The situation looked far from good for both sides. There was no way of predicting who would win in a direct clash.

Nevertheless, the leader eventually exploded into a loud hiss that made the water shake to no end. Its order was more than clear. It had announced its acceptance of Noah's offer.

Noah roared to seal that deal, and his aura spread even further. He even took the time to place a few quasi-living workshops before landing on the seabed. The weaker turtles dispersed, but the leader swam toward him.

"How long have you been here then?" Noah asked as he saw on the sand.

"Difficult to say," The leader admitted. "I used to be good at counting the human years, but the environment here never changes, so I only had to lose track once to make my efforts vain."

"What did you try while you were stuck here?" Noah questioned. "Why is the sea helping you? Did you investigate those flashing structures?"

"We tried pretty much everything," The upper tier turtle sighed. "The edges of the area don't budge, and the seabed is quite shallow. Instead, those structures disappear if we pierce them. The sea then restores them after a while."

'I need to study the whole seabed then,' Noah sighed in his mind before repeating one of his questions.

"Why is the sea helping you and your pack?"

"My pack wasn't always so big or healthy," The leader revealed. "The phase that followed the first period here has been harsh. We couldn't gain the energy necessary to sustain ourselves, and hibernating was too dangerous in a foreign environment, so we ate each other for a long time."

"This is your natural habitat, right?" Noah asked. "You are so fast because you are underwater, so I bet that the sea mutated after you spilled too much blood."

"You know your stuff," The leader responded without hiding its surprise.

"This might be a problem," Noah explained. "You might have already made it impossible to create a key for the next floor."

"What?!" The turtle shouted. "We didn't-"

"You were only doing your best to survive," Noah reassured while inspecting his surroundings. "I should be able to bring everything back to its previous state. Of course, that will be the last resort, but it seems proper to warn you."

"Previous state?" The upper tier turtle exclaimed. "My pack won't be able to eat properly."

"You will have to face that risk," Noah sighed as waves of dark matter started to leave his figure and dive into the seabed... It was time to gain a complete idea of the third floor.