

## **Demonic 2311**

### Chapter 2311. Drill

Divine Architect had almost sounded arrogant, but King Elbas knew that her statement had carried pure confidence. Still, the situation wasn't in her favor, and King Elbas couldn't predict what would come next.

The mirror was still working as intended, but King Elbas could stop its power. Having access to unlimited energy was a significant advance, but Divine Architect couldn't benefit from it if that power didn't reach her.

King Elbas was more worried about Divine Architect's crystal body. He was almost sure that his previous attack had landed on that sturdy material, but the minor injury resulting from that clash hinted at the existence of serious problems.

'How sturdy is that body?' King Elbas wondered while calculations happened in his mind.

The fake quasi-rank 10 state had evident flaws. King Elbas could keep it active as long as his world remained relatively stable, and he could even stretch that limit with his creations. However, his time remained short.

Meanwhile, Divine Architect probably had countless items in store. Those armies alone wouldn't have been a problem for King Elbas, but the crystal body changed everything. He might not last long enough to kill Divine Architect if she managed to surprise him a few more times.

Of course, King Elbas had never expected the battle to be easy. He actually believed that he was the only one in his team who could defeat Divine Architect. Still, the situation was getting out of hand.

"Turning me into a corpse," King Elbas chuckled. "You lost your best items and your fake skin. I only need to get through that body of yours, and victory will be mine."

"Best items?" Divine Architect repeated. "You seem to have misunderstood me."

Divine Architect's body began to shine with a white radiance that unfolded her aura. Her domain filled the void, but no portals appeared. Instead, her energy condensed until an oval structure materialized around her.

The oval structure didn't carry any special features. It was nothing more than a huge white layer, but King Elbas felt unable to underestimate the power running inside it.

That energy didn't wholly belong to Divine Architect. King Elbas could sense multiple natures flowing through the white structure and clashing to give birth to new power.

"You should recognize this," Divine Architect announced. "One of your companions founded his world on a similar technique."

"I see," King Elbas commented. "It's a workshop."

"I never gave it a proper name," Divine Architect revealed. "My mind can execute the same functions without resorting to this tasteless show of power. I simply thought it was time to clarify the difference between you and me."

A tremor ran through the white structure, and the waves inside it crashed on each other according to specific trajectories. The impacts gave birth to natures that King Elbas recognized, and his face turned cold when he saw giant figures coming out of the workshop.

An avatar, a three-headed dog, a telescope, a cloud, and a castle left the white structure and took their position around Divine Architect. The items were identical to those destroyed by King Elbas during the previous exchange. They even carried the same amount of power.

"Don't think too much about it," Divine Architect stated. "I can do this with the mirror too. I might not have your final energy, but I can still alter my materials to turn them in what I need."

The white layer turned liquid, and Divine Architect absorbed it into her body. The fusion didn't lead to an increase in power. The privileged cultivator was merely showing how that technique had always been part of her.

"Who is the ant now?" King Elbas mocked while pointing his spear forward. "I've already destroyed those items. I'll only do it faster now."

"Go ahead," Divine Architect declared. "I won't stop you."

King Elbas snorted, and a pillar of golden light shot out of the spear. The attack engulfed Divine Architect and her items, and King Elbas used that chance to teleport in the middle of the mess.

"The avatar," Divine Architect sighed while enduring the golden attack with the sheer might of her body. "Of course."

King Elbas heard those words, but he ignored them. He teleported above the avatar and prepared himself to stab his spear in its head, but his survival instincts suddenly screamed.

The mirror had launched a tiny needle as soon as King Elbas activated his movement technique. The item had even predicted King Elbas' target. The expert found the small weapon right in front of his face by the time he lowered his spear.

The attack was impossible to dodge. The needle stabbed King Elbas' forehead and fused with his body before releasing a humming soundwave that expanded through the entirety of the higher plane.

The noise destabilized the golden energy, which started to lose power, but a tremor suddenly ran through it and brought new firmness to its structure. The same happened to King Elbas' body, which shone with even more might than before.

That outcome allowed King Elbas to complete his attack. The spear stabbed the avatar and unleashed a torrent of power that instantly burnt its entire structure.

King Elbas' offensive didn't end there. The torrent of energy flew deeper into the void before splitting into different currents that transformed and jumped into different paths.

One current transformed into an arrow that teleported before the telescope's large side. The attack pierced its lens and ravaged its insides before turning it into nothing more than fuming dust.

Another current morphed to take the shape of the giant nine-headed hydra. The creature reached the three-headed dog in an instant and absorbed it into its body to burn it.

A rain of spears reached the cloud, and a river enveloped the castle. The two items tried to adapt to the threat, but King Elbas turned out to be one step ahead of them. They couldn't do anything while the attacks turned them into dust.

The golden radiance dispersed at that point. King Elbas had cleared the area with a single attack, leaving Divine Architect in the open.

Divine Architect seemed about to say something, but King Elbas didn't give her the time to speak. The hydra's heads fused back into his robe, and his crown started to shine as he dived toward Divine Architect.

The void burnt as King Elbas focused the entirety of himself and his creations on a simple attack. The spear became the center of a drill-like structure that enveloped King Elbas while he dived toward Divine Architect.

Divine Architect's calculations were perfect, but King Elbas stood outside them. His current offensive was faster and stronger than anything shown before. Her mirror was ready, but she couldn't use it to interrupt that charge.

The spear landed at the center of Divine Architect's chest and unleashed the entirety of the accumulated power on that spot. White light gathered inside the targeted crystals, but the golden aura soon overwhelmed that radiance.

King Elbas didn't hold anything back. He unleashed everything, even including the power of his robe and crown. His level went back to the liquid stage during the process, and his spear shattered due to the massive torrent of energy flowing through it.

Divine Architect's body was truly incredible. King Elbas confirmed that during the clash. However, he had lived most of his life with the best hybrids in the world. His standards were incredibly high, and Divine Architect couldn't surpass them.

The crystals shattered and created structural instabilities that King Elbas didn't hesitate to exploit. Golden lines spread through the hole dug by the spear and expanded the damage inflicted on Divine Architect.

The energy carried by the attack was so vast that King Elbas had to remain still for a while. His presence was necessary to push everything toward the right target, and his body inevitably suffered.

Still, when the attack ended, Divine Architect had turned into a maimed version of her previous self. Her crystal body carried a giant hole that ran from her abdomen to her shoulders. It was actually lucky that her arms had remained attached to her.

Chapter 2312. Hole

Divine Architect floated through the void. It was unclear whether she was dead or alive, but King Elbas didn't drop his guard.

King Elbas felt weakness making its way inside his mind. The drawbacks of the fake quasi-rank 10 state were no joking matter. His very world had suffered severe injuries, but he couldn't retreat to fix the damage just yet.

The giant mirror remained in its distant spot, but its functions appeared dormant. King Elbas studied it, but he couldn't find any ability in the making.

The same went for the scanners around the mirror. They spun due to their lingering momentum, but they weren't doing anything special. They even started to separate due to the absence of orders or control over them.

Everything seemed to point out in the direction of King Elbas' victory, but he knew that the battle couldn't have ended already. He felt that in his very existence. Divine Architect would be a disappointment otherwise.

A dim light eventually came out of Divine Architect's crystal eyes. The radiance lasted only for a second, but it returned stronger than ever right afterward.

The maimed crystal body released screeching noises as its arms and legs began to bend and move. Divine Architect's iconic aura also came out, but no portals appeared as that domain unfolded.

Divine Architect's eyes went dark when she regained complete control of her body. Her detailed face remained aloof as she inspected the damage caused by King Elbas. A regular expert would show some surprise, but she appeared devoid of emotions in her current state.

"Impressive," Divine Architect announced when her inspection ended. "Truly impressive."

"You can sound calm as much as you want," King Elbas stated. "It won't change the truth. I know that I've surpassed your expectations."

"You really did," Divine Architect admitted, "In multiple fields even. Your peak power is far higher than I expected, and the same goes for your energy consumption. You improved."

King Elbas snorted, but he knew that Divine Architect had spoken the truth. His fake quasi-rank 10 state was an incredible technique, but the final battle didn't give him the time to achieve complete control over it.

The margins of error were also quite vast. King Elbas had created a level of power that rank 9 experts couldn't reach. It was only normal for the technique to be partially wild.

Nevertheless, King Elbas had smoothed out his use of the fake quasi-rank 10 state after the last battles. That was also his first time pushing the technique to its utmost limits. Divine Architect wasn't to blame for failing to evaluate his full potential. She lacked the numbers to calculate that prowess.

"It's a pity your world has yet to reach the peak," Divine Architect continued while pointing at the hole in her chest.

"I would have killed you without resorting to my technique in that case," King Elbas responded.

"No," Divine Architect corrected. "Sure, you wouldn't have given me the chance to study you, but killing me is too much. I would have simply fought seriously from the very beginning."

The hidden meaning behind Divine Architect's statement was quite evident, but King Elbas didn't address it. He used that silent moment to patch up his world and prepare it for the imminent exchange.

Divine Architect's eyes flashed with white light. She seemed to have noticed something, but she also decided to ignore the matter. Instead, she waved her hand to make the mirror and the scanners fly back to her.

The mirror took its spot behind Divine Architect and aligned its center with the hole in her chest. Meanwhile, the scanners started to rotate around her without performing any specific functions.

"The mirror is an unlimited energy source," King Elbas pointed out, "But it can't heal you. Its output of energy has obvious limits."

"I don't need to be lectured about my creations," Divine Architect declared. "I know exactly how much energy my mirror can produce, and I'm also aware of the complicated composition of my body. Why do you think I praised you?"

"What do you have in mind then?" King Elbas directly asked in an attempt to prolong that conversation.

"I don't blame you for your ignorance," Divine Architect exclaimed. "I didn't give out my real abilities during our exchanges, but you have proven yourself worthy of them."

"Don't overestimate yourself," King Elbas snorted. "You won't trick me. I know that you can only have two or three trump cards able to deal with me."

King Elbas' assumption was far from unfounded. His statement used the very limits of the ninth rank and added them to Divine Architect's incredible talent.

"Only one actually," Divine Architect revealed. "Well, one or infinite. It can be both and more depending on how the universe feels."

The announcement filled King Elbas' mind with deep fear. Divine Architect had yet to do anything, but King Elbas knew that she wasn't resorting to lies. She had mentioned the universe. The imminent exchange had to feature something unfathomable.

"The higher plane is usually unsuitable for this," Divine Architect explained, "But this battle has destroyed enough of its space-time array. It's possible to create a direct connection with the universe even here."

The giant mirror retreated, and the scanners left Divine Architect to spin in a seemingly random spot at her side. Energy left her crystal figure and her item to add power to her rotating tools, and King Elbas remained speechless when he tried to calculate it.

Divine Architect was merely pointing at her scanners, but the energy released by her body was immense. King Elbas guessed that she had melted many of her material to provide that powerful fuel, and the absence of portals only added value to his idea.

The scanners slowly turned into blinding items that accelerated to create a bright circle hovering in the middle of the void. Their speed increased as Divine Architect added more energy to their structure, and the space inside them started to bend.

The event was quite hard to see. Divine Architect wasn't affecting the space-time array of the higher plane. The final battle had already shattered it. Instead, she was targeting the very void in an attempt to reach distant parts of the universe.

King Elbas' astonishment increased as the process continued. He slowly understood the nature of Divine Architect's technique, and that realization almost affected his sanity. He couldn't believe his eyes as they kept staring at the churning space among the bright circle.

"Creating is like breathing for me," Divine Architect revealed. "I have mastered every inscription school that has ever existed, and I've even invented many of them. Yet, I also have innate inclinations."

"You gazed at higher worlds," King Elbas whispered.

"That was an immature inclination," Divine Architect explained. "The ability to look at superior forms of existence is indeed worthy of praises, but it couldn't be my final stage."

The scanners started to release a humming noise once their speed reached critical heights. The space-time array of the void also began to break to reveal deeper parts of the universe.

An unfathomable force seeped through the bright circle once the hole in the void became big enough. King Elbas didn't need to inspect it to know what it was, but his full attention remained glued to the event.

An immense stream of information flowed through King Elbas' mind, but he felt forced to shut his senses after a while. The knowledge contained in that unfathomable energy was too deep for his centers of power. It actually hurt to try to understand it.

"You can understand me, can't you?" Divine Architect asked. "We both are inscription masters unsatisfied with the ninth rank. The higher levels have always been our targets. That's why we created techniques to seize them."

"You can't hope to control something like that," King Elbas declared.

"I won't," Divine Architect uttered. "I'll only point at you and wait for your death."

## Chapter 2313. Universe

King Elbas experienced countless emotions while inspecting the bright circle. He felt unable to speak as curiosity, admiration, respect, and pure amazement ran through his mind and forced him to stay still.

The bright circle was far from complicated, at least when it came to its core. Its nature was extremely simple to deduce for an inscription master who knew what Heaven and Earth had created in the sky. Still, that didn't make the item less astonishing.

Divine Architect had created a telescope that could gaze at the Immortal Lands when she was only a heroic cultivator. Now, she stood at the peak of the cultivation journey, and she had spent most of her life submerged in Heaven and Earth's wealth. Her evolution felt unavoidable.

The bright circle replicated the telescope's ability while adding a portal to its functions. The item created a connection with the depths of the universe to bring superior energy into the higher plane.

King Elbas could sense an energy that couldn't belong to the ninth rank crossing the edges of the higher plane to enter the final battlefield. Deep meanings that only the universe could hide seeped through the blinding portal and leaked part of their power into their surroundings.

Heaven and Earth had created an area that allowed their assets to gaze at the paths beyond the ninth rank. However, Divine Architect had gone past that. She had built something that could bring that superior energy within her reach.

Of course, Divine Architect had clear limits that King Elbas had called out as soon as he understood the nature of the technique. She couldn't possibly hope to control that superior energy. She couldn't even pick the meanings that entered the higher plane.

That gave birth to uneven and messy energy. Multiple natures and waves filled the power seeping through the portals, and some of them were weak enough for King Elbas' mind. He could finally study something and discover far more details.

"That's not even an attack," King Elbas stated.

"Energy is energy," Divine Architect contradicted. "If it kills, it's an attack."

King Elbas understood that Divine Architect wasn't holding anything back. She wouldn't explain the theory behind her technique, but she wouldn't hide what it caused.

Divine Architect's offensive became clear in King Elbas' mind. She was merely summoning the universe's energy to unleash it on King Elbas.

That simple approach didn't take anything away from Divine Architect's fantastic performance. King Elbas actually had to admit that she couldn't do anything else with that energy. That was the maximum expression of Divine Architect's power, and no rank 9 expert could hope to fight her.

"Don't give up already," Divine Architect ordered as the circle spun even faster and started to enforce some order on the superior force. "It would be a waste if I destroyed everything about you."

The portal wasn't trying to affect the superior force. Divine Architect was simply creating a momentum that the deeper meanings could follow. That was the only available path to bend the universe's power to her will.

The item's spinning motion reached the critical point when the colorless force in its insides flowed toward its center. King Elbas watched all of that happen in slow motion due to his incredible concentration, but his instincts eventually snapped him out of his stunned state.

A violent reaction happened when the superior force gathered at the center of the portal. The different types of energy that made that power couldn't coexist, so their clash generated a colorless explosion.

Divine Architect had already pointed the portal toward King Elbas, so most of the energy generated during the explosion flew in his direction. Some flares escaped in the void, but an impressive ray still approached King Elbas at high speed.

Dodging the attack was simply impossible. The lack of harmony in the colorless ray lowered its overall power, but it didn't make it fall in the ninth rank.

King Elbas was against a proper river that carried rank 10 energy. His death seemed unavoidable, but he wasn't a regular expert. Desperation tried to take control of his mind, but that feeling couldn't find a place among his countless plans.

The colorless ray enveloped King Elbas and continued to fly through the higher plane. However, its innate instability made it split into multiple waves of energy that dispersed into the void.

That behavior was predictable. That energy was too deep for the higher plane, so it flew toward a space-time array that could contain it after losing the momentum created by the blinding portal.

"Impressive," Divine Architect commented before a burst of golden energy expanded from King Elbas' spot.

The golden halo dimmed in the next seconds and revealed King Elbas' maimed figure. He had entered the fake quasi-rank 10 state again and had even donned his incredible items, but all of them had suffered severe damage.

The robe had almost disappeared. Golden flames had replaced its edges, but smoke came out of them due to the damage suffered by the final energy.

The spear was also broken. Its tip had disappeared, leaving only a shaft that released dark smoke. A few flames tried to come out of that maimed spot, but they appeared unable to express their power.

A deep crack ran through the crown, and half of it fell from King Elbas' head before shattering into golden dust. King Elbas couldn't recover that energy since the attack had removed any connection with his power.

The hydra's nine heads had come out of King Elbas' back, but the attack had turned them into severed necks. Pillars of dense dark smoke left the many injuries on their surface, and life abandoned them in the seconds after the clash.

King Elbas' main figure was mostly intact, but his surfaces flickered, revealing the severe injuries hidden underneath. He was only pretending to be okay, and Divine Architect saw right through that. Yet, she didn't care enough to address the matter.

"You are such a waste," Divine Architect sighed. "You probably are the only expert in your organization with the knowledge to block my attack."

"You underestimate my organization too much," King Elbas snorted before coughing and spitting golden lumps of flames.

"No one else could have exploited the strands of weaker energy to destabilize my attack," Divine Architect doubled down on her previous statement. "Still, the effort left you barely able to stand. The next blow will kill you."

Divine Architect ignored King Elbas and began to add energy to her portal. She needed to fuel the ability again, and the price was exorbitant. Yet, she didn't lack resources nor minded that expense.



King Elbas felt incredibly weak. The last attack had forced him to use the fake quasi-rank 10 state way too soon. His world was suffering greatly, and that sacrifice wasn't paying off.

"This is so annoying," King Elbas cursed.

"Are you having regrets now?" Divine Architect wondered while her attention remained on the spinning item. "That's quite unbecoming. I guess even you can't remain cool in the face of death".

"Heaven and Earth will know all our trump cards," King Elbas cursed again. "So annoying."

"Please," Divine Architect commented. "I know the limits of your final energy now. I'm also aware of every existing inscription field. You don't have anything left."

"You lack flexibility," King Elbas coughed. "Your flaw prevents you from considering the existence of miracles."

Chapter 2314. Will

Divine Architect's crystal eyes flashed with white light. The radiance didn't disappear like before. Instead, it continued to shine even after a few seconds passed.

It didn't take a genius to understand the meaning behind King Elbas' statement, especially for someone who had studied him for a long time. Yet, Divine Architect almost couldn't believe that her opponent had dared to mention something so ridiculous.

"You are bluffing," Divine Architect eventually announced. "An inscription master can't seize that power. It goes against the very logic of their existence."

"I told you," King Elbas coughed as he tried his best to stabilize his condition. "You lack flexibility."

"Enough with your meaningless words," Divine Architect scoffed. "You will die now."

The blinding circle spun faster, and superior force seeped through it to enter the higher plane. The deep energy was different from before due to the new meanings attracted, but its overall power remained on par with the previous attack.

King Elbas stared at the superior force for a while, but a sigh eventually interrupted his inspection. An annoyed expression took control of his face as he glanced at Divine Demon and the Foolery. Part of him felt glad that they were too busy to look at him.

"That's surprising," Divine Architect exclaimed. "I would have expected arrogance, not fear."

"That's because you won't be alive to see what I'll go through after this," King Elbas responded. "So annoying."

"Did you even hold back because of Heaven and Earth?" Divine Architect mocked. "It almost sounds like you are more scared of your companions."

"You really had it easy in the sky," King Elbas sighed. "Don't worry. I'll make you understand your mistake."

"I'm sure there won't be much understanding going on," Divine Architect stated.

"Not from your side, at least," King Elbas declared before closing his eyes and pointing his broken spear at the spinning portal.

Divine Architect snorted, but she didn't lose her focus. She even had some doubts about King Elbas' claims, but she didn't bother too much about them.

It didn't matter if King Elbas was telling the truth. He was in no condition to face another rank 10 ray. That power went beyond the realm of the miracles.

The portal reached its critical point when the superior energy in its insides started to fly toward its center. A clash happened, and a colorless ray shot forward.

Some energy dispersed into the void due to the different natures condensed in the colorless ray. However, a big chunk of the attack remained pointed at King Elbas and reached him faster than any rank 9 movement technique.

Divine Architect was utterly confident. The eventuality that King Elbas could defend against the attack didn't exist in her mind. Everything pointed toward her victory, so she prepared herself to summon inscribed items meant to dissect, analyze, and preserve her opponent's corpse.

Yet, before the colorless ray could hit, King Elbas exploded with a massive burst of power that made him reach unseen energy levels. He surpassed his previous peak, and a golden radiance flashed before him to meet the enemy attack.

The colorless ray was nothing more than a convoluted mass of unstable energy that featured different natures. Its sheer power went beyond anything in the ninth rank, but its stability wasn't even average.

The sheer power contained in the ray could stop most rank 9 experts from exploiting its innate weaknesses. However, King Elbas had already shown that he could touch those flaws with his fake quasi-rank 10 state, and his current attack was even stronger than before.

The golden flash seeped into the ray and enhanced the instabilities that affected its structure. King Elbas' attack worked as a filter that forced the different energy waves to split or clash.

The ray crumbled into a series of attacks that flew in different directions and explosions. The sheer power unleashed by the detonation was immense, but it fell close to the limits of the ninth rank, which allowed King Elbas to endure it.

The exchange naturally attracted Divine Architect's attention, and pure stupor filled her mind when everything calmed down enough to reveal King Elbas' figure. She couldn't believe her enhanced eyes when she saw her opponent devoid of any injury and at the peak of his power.

"What?" Divine Architect couldn't help but shout.

The matter was far from simple. Divine Architect would have accepted secret weapons or reckless techniques, but King Elbas didn't seem to have resorted to any of them.

King Elbas had merely gone back to his peak and fixed his items. Actually, his level had slightly increased, but that outcome didn't make any sense. Divine Architect had calculated how much energy he had left after the previous exchange, which wasn't theoretically enough to produce those results.

"Did you hide your enhanced final energy before the final battle?" Divine Architect asked as she regained complete control of her mind and tried to come up with reasonable explanations.

"You know I didn't," King Elbas stated as he inspected his recovered figure. "I would have never allowed you to injure me otherwise."

"Where did you get this energy then?" Divine Architect asked. "And don't play games. Answer me."

"We are quite demanding, aren't we?" King Elbas laughed. "I told you. I performed a miracle."

"Stuff like that doesn't exist," Divine Architect claimed. "Divine Demon used the assistance of the world to create his techniques, and the pig isn't too complicated either. We both can translate their miracles into actual techniques."

"But you can't replicate them," King Elbas declared. "Your immense knowledge is a limit that you can't overcome. Instead of isolating yourself in the sky, you should have spent the past millennia among unreasonable idiots."

Divine Architect was tired of those meaningless words. Countless items left her figure and melted before fusing with her blinding circle. She didn't need King Elbas to find answers. She only had to kill him and seize those explanations from his corpse.

"You saw similarities in our paths," King Elbas announced before teleporting above Divine Architect so quickly that even her enhanced senses failed to register that movement.

Divine Architect quickly decided to ignore the teleport. Her body could endure another attack, and she was also ready to sacrifice her inscribed item. It didn't matter what King Elbas did. Both options would leave him exposed.

"But you are terribly wrong," King Elbas continued as he pointed his spear toward Divine Architect. "How we seize power that overcomes the ninth rank already explains the immense differences in our mindsets."

"Shall I remind you that you stole from Heaven and Earth to stabilize your breakthrough?" Divine Architect teased.

"I steal," King Elbas replied, "You attract. I break the rules. You create them. My quasi-rank 10 state changes the very reality of the cultivation journey. You merely build a passage where powerful energy can fly."

"How does that explain your current state?" Divine Architect asked.

"I can't believe I have to explain it after all of this," King Elbas sighed. "My will is simply far stronger than yours."

"You dare insult me like this?" Divine Architect asked.

"I wield the best energy in the world," King Elbas explained. "I have the best technique in the world. In this state, I can push my superior will into the very fabric of reality and alter it."

Divine Architect's eyes shone with blinding light. She finally understood something, but she couldn't do anything about it. The imminent exchange was already set. Nothing could affect the next seconds.

"According to this very reality," King Elbas continued as power accumulated on the tip of his spear, "You never injured me, and my technique has always been stronger."

"These effects can remain active only if you overcome my attack," Divine Architect pointed out.

"Wrong," King Elbas corrected. "Everything will depend on the might that my will forced my world to reach."

After that, a pillar of golden light left King Elbas' spear. Divine Architect, the giant mirror, and the spinning item disappeared among that torrent of power, and smoke came out from deep areas of the void.

Chapter 2315. Roar

The battlefield as a whole had reached a critical state.

Sword Saint and the old man had long since started to go all-out with attacks that left both of them injured. They were both aiming to finish off their opponent, and that moment appeared closer than ever.

The Foolery and Wilfred had cornered Decumia. The latter seemed powerless in that situation, and even her world was only waiting for its opponents to launch the final blow.

Divine Demon and Marcella were equally matched, but Sepunia's sudden burst of power had turned the battle in his favor. The moment of weakness she had created had left Marcella exposed to Divine Demon's massive attack.

Alexander, Supreme Thief, and Great Builder had locked the Rulers' Resolve into a cage meant to absorb the latter's world. The outcome of that exchange was unclear, but the fact that the privileged cultivator had yet to break free gave the higher ground to Noah's companions.

King Elbas had launched what seemed to be a final attack on Divine Architect, but seeing through his pillar was impossible. The bystanders even had to divert their senses to avoid suffering injuries due to the massive amount of power in the technique.

As for Noah, he was still inside the spherical domain of destruction with Caesar. No one could see what was happening, and it was impossible to predict possible outcomes. After all, Caesar was simply too strong.

However, before the results of those final attacks could become clear, a deafening humming noise came out of the sky and spread through the entirety of the higher plane.

The net that had covered the sky shattered as the soundwave left the white layer and spread through the world. The noise didn't even end, and it slowly transformed into a monstrous roar as it continued to echo through the higher plane.

The soundwave carried proper quasi-rank 10 power and didn't differentiate between allies or foes. It unleashed its might on anything it touched, which involved the entirety of the higher plane.

The spherical domain of destruction shattered under that power and revealed Noah and Caesar. Both of them carried injuries, but their expressions hinted at the result of the clash. Caesar expressed pure confidence, while Noah showed nothing but coldness.

The soundwave also destroyed Great Builder's cage and revealed the four experts involved in that battle. Supreme Thief, Alexander, Great Builder, and the Rulers' Resolve wore solemn faces, so it was impossible to understand who had won.

The roar ended up dispersing Divine Demon's massive attack, saving Marcella at the last second. The blood-red energy shot in every direction and vanished into the void as the experts summoned defensive techniques to endure the soundwave.

Something similar happened to the Foolery and Wilfred. The soundwave flung them away and pushed their innate defenses to their limits, inflicting severe injuries they couldn't avoid.

King Elbas' attack endured the soundwave for a few seconds, but it ultimately dispersed. Still, its golden halo remained in the area and hid the outcome of the clash.

Only Sword Saint and the old man continued to fight while the soundwave clashed on their bodies. The privileged cultivator let it reach his world so that his perfection could take care of the attack, while Sword Saint summoned a torrent of blades that created a hole in that formless power.

The two experts resumed their battle almost immediately, uncaring of the changes happening in the higher plane. The old man prepared himself to counter the imminent attack. Yet, surprise appeared on his face when Sword Saint halted his descending arm before it could touch his opponent's head.

"I found it," Sword Saint announced.

"Your time is over," The old man exclaimed.

"No," Sword Saint responded. "We were one step above you."

"We?" The old man repeated, but a second roar suddenly reached his ears and explained the nature of the situation.

The soundwave shattered some of Shafu's scales and damaged the landmass, which only forced the two to reach an agreement. The immense dragon roared its anger as it put strength in its arms, and the giant sword replied with a deep growl.

The landmass let Shafu control its immense power. The dragon swung the blade toward the sky, and a vast black cloud shot out of it before filling an entire quarter of the higher plane.

The cloud condensed into a slash during its flight, and Sword Saint couldn't help but laugh at its sight. His voice grew even louder when the old man tried to fly away.

"Where are you going?" Sword Saint shouted as he grabbed the old man and kept him still.

"You-!" The old man exclaimed before the big slash engulfed him and his opponent.

The attack continued to fly forward, uncaring of the unfortunate experts who happened to be on its path. Noah and the others decided to dodge it, and the same went for the beings fast enough to avoid the slash.

Some fear spread in the privileged cultivators' minds. The slash carried peak rank 9 power, but there was something else to it. Its energy was too deep, and the same went for its anger toward the sky. It almost seemed that the attack could hurt the white layer.

Nevertheless, the slash never managed to touch the sky. A white radiance spread through the landing area before the attack could reach the white layer and stopped its advance.

The event only made Shafu and the landmass angrier. The dragon thrust the immense blade forward and released a piercing slash aimed at the center of that white radiance.

The attack was fast and landed on the first slash in an instant. The two abilities fused to create an incredible technique, but the white radiance didn't budge. Actually, it began to apply its effects on the dark energy.

The entire higher plane remained speechless when the two massive attacks started to condense. The white radiance shrunk together with the slashes until it completely engulfed them.

The disappearance of the slashes revealed the figure hidden among the condensing white radiance. A big, humanoid figure with lightning bolts instead of skin hovered before the sky and inspected the entirety of the higher plane with its pissed eyes.

Noah, King Elbas, and all the other experts who had dealt with Heaven and Earth instantly recognized the figure. The avatar was slightly different compared to their previous encounters, but the power seeping out of its body was unmistakable. The rulers had finally stepped into the battlefield.

The privileged cultivators didn't hesitate to abandon their position. Many weaker experts who had survived the soundwave also ignored their battles to fly toward the humanoid figure.

Soon, a small army surrounded the figure and kneeled in front of it. Caesar, Marcella, and Decumia were in the lead, and Caesar didn't hesitate to voice a line that his companions echoed. "Your throne is almost ready."

"Your throne is almost ready!" The rest of the army echoed.

The figure didn't care about its underlings. Its eyes released a crackling noise when they moved toward specific spots of the battlefield.

The avatar glanced at the Rulers' Resolve's immobile figure, but the pressure radiated by its gaze revealed its true state. The privileged cultivator's body shattered and turned into dust that didn't carry any power.

The crackling figure then pointed its eyes at a fuming spot near the center of the higher plane. The smoke dispersed as soon as pressure fell on its area, revealing a smiling Sword Saint who stood along among the void.

At last, the figure gazed at an area under King Elbas. The golden halo instantly vanished, revealing a series of broken scanners and nothing else.

## Chapter 2316. Final battle

"Pitiful," The figure announced, and its voice spread in every corner of the higher plane. A heavy pressure also filled the world and made many weaker experts unable to fly through the void.

The appearance of the crackling figure changed the final battlefield once again. The few weaker experts still roaming through the higher plane went into hiding using the many secluded locations planted by the golden buildings.

Only the modified magical beasts and the main players remained in the open, but they also moved. Noah, King Elbas, and the others didn't hesitate to abandon their position to regroup.

"You lost so many assets against a bunch of ants," The figure continued. "At least we removed the worlds too weak to stand on their own."

The figure waved its hand, and a crackling noise filled the higher plane. The gesture affected every lingering wave of energy in the world and turned them into rivers that flew toward the avatar.

The rivers condensed into the figure's left palm before fusing with its fabric. The event didn't bring an increase in energy, but the matter was far from pointless. Heaven and Earth were too strong to improve with that weak power.

"Our opponents turned out to be stronger than we had predicted," Caesar responded while breaking his kneeling position and standing up to perform a bow. "However, they are too weak to pose a threat against your might."

"They have always been too weak for that," The figure responded. "Still, this doesn't make them less annoying."

Noah and the other leaders gathered above the landmass during that conversation. They all wore cold expressions, but King Elbas eventually broke that silence.

"Did you manage to hurt Caesar?" King Elba asked.

"Who knows," Noah sighed. "That guy is so problematic."

"I almost killed Decumia!" The Foolery squealed.

"We almost killed her," Wilfred corrected. "Heaven and Earth came in clutch."

"They really did," Sepunia cursed.

"You had the guts to interrupt my battle," Divine Demon scolded.

"That's how a true demon should act, isn't it?" Sepunia giggled.

"No wonder Xavier likes you," Divine Demon laughed.

"Let's avoid this now," Noah ordered. "Who can fight?"

Silence inevitably fell among the group. For the most part, everyone had kept track of each other, so it wasn't hard to figure out who could face Heaven and Earth. Yet, no one seemed willing to announce the opposite.

"I made this breakthrough through my imagination," Sepunia eventually spoke. "It's far from stable."

"I can fight," Maribel announced.

"Same here," Emperor said while pointing at Queen and Vesuvia to include them in that statement.

"I've never been so strong!" The Foolery shouted.

"You can count on me," Wilfred exclaimed.

"I won't back down either," The odd dragon growled.

"Don't even think about leaving me behind," June snorted.

"I can help," Great Builder commented.

"You are exhausted," Supreme Thief pointed out.

"You are too stupid to fight on your own," Great Builder scolded.

"Who saved your ass before?" Supreme Thief complained.

"I did," Alexander joined the conversation.

"Enough," Noah growled before the trio could say something else. "I'll decide who's in or out."

Many wanted to complain and come up with their usual jokes, but everyone remained silent. Their opponent was too strong to waste time discussing.

"Maribel, Sepunia, the dragon, Great Builder," Noah called, "And Elbas are out. Go help Cursed Reality and Pellio."

"Wait a moment," King Elbas declared.

"You won't decide where I die," Great Builder stated.

"I can use my life to buy you some time," Maribel commented.

"My companions are fighting," The odd dragon complained. "I won't remain behind."

Only Sepunia remained silent since her current power was unstable. She wouldn't feel confident unless she spent time learning how to use it.

"It's useless to deploy you," Noah explained. "You will be in the way. Heaven and Earth can kill you without wasting time at all."

The harsh words were on point, but King Elbas and Great Builder didn't find them fair. After all, they had proved themselves in the previous battles.

"Great Builder," Noah spoke before his companions could argue. "You have already helped, haven't you? Go back and help preserve as many lives as you can."

Great Builder wanted to say something, but Alexander and Supreme Thief suddenly nodded at him. They were the living proof of Great Builder's efforts, and denying that would only insult them.



"Elbas," Noah continued, "You need to absorb Divine Architect's stash. Stop complaining and get to a level where you can affect the battle."

King Elbas groaned, but he eventually showed his cards. The broken scanners and Divine Architect's ethereal castle materialized behind him. He had picked them up before grouping with his companions, and he had even started to sort everything out.

"You are also injured," King Elbas pointed out. "And you failed to achieve your breakthrough."

"I'll manage," Noah reassured. "I probably am the only liquid stage existence in the world who can join this fight."

"I'll make it quick," King Elbas sighed. "You idiots will only die if I don't come back soon."

"Go away already," Noah snorted.

"And don't think for even a second that we missed your performance earlier," The pig exclaimed.

"As your master," Divine Demon continued, "I can only be proud of your acceptance of my teachings."

Golden light flashed while Divine Demon was in the middle of his joke. King Elbas, Great Builder, Sepunia, Maribel, and the odd dragon vanished from the area and teleported near the ethereal array of inscriptions.

A series of laughs resounded among the group due to King Elbas' behavior, but June remained silent. Noah didn't tell her to retreat, but he had also silently said that she had no place in the imminent battle at her current level.

"You two," Noah eventually continued. "I hope your new level isn't just for show."

Supreme Thief snorted before unleashing his azure aura. Proper solid stage power came out of his body and filled the void, revealing a superior level compared to his previous state.

Alexander also decided to reveal his power. His aura didn't carry any unique energy, but it filled the area with a pressure that only a solid stage existence could wield.

The situation became clear even to those who had ignored their battle. Supreme Thief and Alexander had succeeded in stealing the Rulers' Resolve's power and achieving complete breakthroughs.

"We are leaving you behind," Supreme Thief joked.

"Get into position," Noah coldly ordered. "They are coming."

The entirety of Heaven and Earth's army stood up and turned to face Noah's group. It almost seemed that those experts would attack them, but none of them moved.

Instead, the crackling figure raised its hand and released a series of lightning bolts that shot toward the sky and covered its surface. An immense storm took control of the higher plane, and that was only the beginning of the final battle.

"It's time to end this," The figure exclaimed. "We will turn into dust any being who dares to oppose us. We are Heaven and Earth, and we will show no mercy."

The noises released by the storms intensified, and countless lightning bolts left their surface to converge toward the landmass. Holes and cracks opened on the immense creature, which tried to attack on its own. However, Shafu roared and diverted that violence toward Heaven and Earth.

Shafu swung the landmass, which launched a massive slash. The attack flew at high speed toward the army, but Heaven and Earth teleported in front of their underlings to interrupt that blow.

"Your time will come soon," Heaven and Earth announced before condensing the entirety of the slash into a dark sphere that shattered under their pressure.

Countless roars filled the higher plane as the pack of dragons led by the time dragon flew toward Heaven and Earth. Their mindless rage couldn't be stopped, and the rulers didn't wait for them to arrive.

Heaven and Earth teleported right in the middle of the pack. Their movement technique was too fast for those creatures' enhanced senses, and what came next ended up being too powerful for them.

A series of lightning bolts left the crackling figure and filled its surroundings with a massive storm that forced everyone outside of it to retreat. As for the dragons in its range, they crumbled into dust.

#### Chapter 2317. Future

The storm consisted of lightning bolts that shot in every direction before splitting into countless sparks. The latter expanded and created an oval area that allowed the many attacks to bounce on its edges.

Heaven and Earth had created a domain of destruction that had enveloped the entirety of the pack. Lightning bolts flew and ricocheted inside it while piercing anything in their path.

Most of the dragons were mere middle and lower tier creatures. King Elbas and the old rulers had improved their innate defenses to turn them into proper weapons that countered Heaven and Earth. Yet, those magical beasts couldn't do anything in front of that immense difference of power.

The lightning bolts turned the dragons into dust. Only the upper tier creature managed to last for more than one attack, but that didn't help.

The storm didn't launch a single attack. The lightning bolts in its insides seemed to have infinite energy as they kept flying left and right. The time dragon endured the first attack, survived the second, but the third shattered its body.

In a matter of seconds, only lightning bolts and dust remained inside the storm. Heaven and Earth shone at the center of that domain, but no satisfaction appeared on their humanoid face.

The crackling figure waved its hand, and the dust started to flow toward its chest. Heaven and Earth absorbed the energy of the entire pack, but that didn't lead to any improvement.

The storm shattered to send multiple flares across the higher plane. The lightning bolts fused with the sparks lingering above the sky and intensified the global offensive.

Even stronger attacks converged toward the landmass. Shafu did its best to absorb and deflect them, but its power remained limited. It couldn't do too much against quasi-rank 10 techniques.

Heaven and Earth turned toward the landmass at that point. The gesture revealed their new target, but their crackling body suddenly froze. A series of golden and orange lights shot out from their insides and hindered their movements.

Noah, Sword Saint, Alexander, Wilfred, Divine Demon, the Foolery, Supreme Thief, Emperor, Queen, and Vesuvia teleported into the area and encircled the crackling figure. They had planned that outcome, so they had been ready to retaliate.

Giant attacks shot out of the experts. They all launched their best techniques in the hope of exploiting that moment of weakness, but Heaven and Earth turned out to be too strong.

The crackling figure burst with massive energy that shot in every direction and fended off the incoming attacks. The offensive even removed the orange and golden infections from Heaven and Earth's body, freeing them of that hindrance.

"Did you think a mere magical beast could have affected us?" Heaven and Earth asked, and their voice launched precise soundwaves that flew toward their opponents.

Noah couldn't focus on his companions in that situation. The soundwave carried a monstrous roar that threatened to break his mind, but a torrent of potential flowed toward Duanlong and allowed it to deal with the attack.

Immense energy filled Noah's body. A power that he should have never absorbed flowed through his veins and centers of power, pushing them toward their structural limits.

Noah couldn't help but voice a deafening roar, and black flames accompanied his cry. A sea expanded before his mouth, but that fire condensed and rotated as soon as he pointed his blades forward.

Destruction, hunger, and greed fused as Noah used the absorbed energy to launch an incredible offensive. Cracks opened on his arms and hands due to the immense pressure that fell on them. He was using Heaven and Earth's power, and his body could barely withstand that.

His companions dealt with the soundwaves in different ways, but only Divine Demon, Alexander, Sword Saint, and Supreme Thief managed to send back attacks on their own. Emperor required Queen's help to help in that offensive.

Heaven and Earth prepared to send another shockwave, but a series of abilities clashed with some of the incoming attacks before they could do anything.

Purple tendrils appeared in front of Alexander's dense fire and Supreme Thief's azure flare. The ability forced the two attacks to change direction and clash with each other. The impact created an immense explosion, but Heaven and Earth's innate pressure prevented it from reaching their crackling figure.

Plants of different sizes and forms grew on the other side of the battlefield, hindering the path of Divine Demon, Emperor, and Sword Saint's threatening attacks. The vegetation shattered under that offensive, but nothing reached Heaven and Earth.

The two defensive techniques ignored Noah's attack, but that didn't help his situation. His piercing slash unleashed everything it carried on the crackling figure, but it failed to shatter the lightning bolts that made its body.

The straight slash and the flames around it shattered as soon as they touched Heaven and Earth. They appeared unworthy of living so close to that superior existence.

"Did you forget about us?" Decumia laughed as she materialized next to Heaven and Earth.

"Heaven and Earth can deal with your tactics," Marcella stated, "But wasting time is pointless."

"Is he coming down as well?" Noah asked as dark matter came out of his injuries and closed them.

Decumia and Marcella glanced at Caesar. The latter had remained near the sky, behind the storms, and he seemed to have no intention of joining the fight. He showed a smile, but he didn't bother to answer.

"Caesar served us well," Heaven and Earth ended up responding. "His task is almost over. We only need to reap what he sowed now."

"The mighty Heaven and Earth relying on someone else's fate," Noah mocked. "What a pitiful sight."

"You have witnessed our power," Heaven and Earth announced. "You would also give some credit to an existence who resisted us for so long."

"You almost sounded like a magical beast," Noah chuckled. "I guess you didn't hate them so much in the end."

"How dare you!" Marcella shouted before pointing her arm at Noah.

Multiple spiky plants came out of Marcella's hand and grew rapidly toward Noah. Her attack behaved like a spear ready to pierce his chest, but that vegetation withered before it could reach its target.

"So much to eat!" The Foolery squealed as it landed on the vegetation and unfolded its hunger. "It's so tasty! Give me more!"

"Piggy!" Decumia shouted from the other side of the battlefield. Purple energy gathered around her figure as she tried to teleport, but a wave of blue energy fell on her and destroyed that power.

"You deal with chaos, am I right?" Vesuvia asked as she teleported in front of Decumia.

"That's nothing we can't handle," Queen stated as she reached Vesuvia's side.

"Isn't the other guy coming?" Decumia wondered. "Did he launch that attack just to piss me off?"

"Probably," Vesuvia giggled.

"Don't listen to this vixen," Queen sighed. "And you, hurry up already."

"You are so cute when you are angry," Vesuvia joked before tapping on the armchair of her throne and creating an ethereal domain that engulfed Decumia.

"Do you really think that a prison can hold me?" Decumia asked as complete darkness filled her senses.

"That's not a prison," Vesuvia explained. "I'm humanity's future, and you are part of it."

Chapter 2318. Anger

Decumia expanded her aura, but even her chaos felt lost. She wasn't trapped, but she had no other words to explain her situation.

Vesuvia seemed to have sent Decumia into a different void, a part of the universe far away from the higher plane. Yet, Decumia knew that her current situation was the result of a technique. She only had to wait for her chaos to affect it.

Of course, the other experts didn't wait for Decumia to break free. Emperor glanced at Vesuvia and Queen before teleporting toward the surviving cultivators who had yet to join the battle.

Decumia and Marcella had the guts to act on their own, but their weaker companions didn't share their confidence. Most of them actually felt relieved that Heaven and Earth had finally stepped forward, but Emperor's arrival brought back the tension.

"Come," Emperor announced after reaching the army. "None of you deserves to hide behind your master's power."

No answer came from the army. The various cultivators had Caesar among them, and they could even use the storms as a form of protection. They had no reason to step forward and face Emperor.

"It's better if you come to me," Emperor exclaimed. "Isn't that right, puppet master?"

"He is right," Caesar smiled before turning toward his underlings. "We can't have our opponents messing with Heaven and Earth's plans."

Caesar had privileged cultivators all around him, and they couldn't help but show confused expressions at those words. Some even tried to beg Caesar with their eyes, but he didn't want to hear reasons.

"If you can't help Heaven and Earth," Caesar continued, "They have no reason to keep you alive."

The statement explained the situation perfectly. A few unwilling privileged cultivators straightened their position before all the other experts followed. The entire army turned toward Emperor and left the storms in the next seconds.

"I can leave the rest to you, right?" Emperor shouted.

Emperor didn't receive any answer, but that felt normal. He couldn't expect his companions to mind him when they were against the strongest existence in the world.

Marcella inspected her surroundings before wearing a frown. She sent more plants forward, but they also withered in no time. Moreover, squeals never stopped accompanying her attacks, which only intensified her annoyance.

Truth be told, Marcella was far from okay. She felt very emotional due to the recent events. Sepunia's sudden burst of power would have killed her, but Heaven and Earth had freed themselves just in time to destroy Divine Demon's attack.

Nevertheless, that didn't change the reality of the situation. Marcella would have lost, and she knew that far too well. She couldn't remain calm after going through that experience.

Heaven and Earth were the only reassuring aspect of that situation, but that didn't help Marcella. She was aware of the bigger picture and knew part of Caesar's predictions, but that only triggered bigger worries. After all, something had already changed.

"This plant is tasty!" The Foolery shouted. "Ooh! What's that flower? Let me eat it!"

The Foolery's cries forced Marcella to ignore her worries and focus on the battle. The pig probably was one of her greatest counters, but that didn't make her powerless against it.

"I'll give you as much as you want," Marcella calmly stated as dozens of roots pierced her figure and gave birth to an immense array of magical plants.

The Foolery couldn't help but halt its reckless offensive to stare at that magnificent technique. The pig obviously didn't care about the vast diversity of plants. Its attention mainly was on the immense amount of energy it could eat.

"It's a banquet!" The Foolery gulped before diving into the middle of the vegetation to radiate its hunger.

Marcella's vast technique kept the Foolery busy and allowed her to focus on other opponents. She couldn't deal with Divine Demon when numbers weren't on her side, but that didn't prevent her from finding suitable targets.

A series of roots, trunks, branches, and flowers stretched out of the array of magical plants and flew toward Wilfred. Noah also saw vegetation flying toward him, and the event made him livid.

Noah was barely paying attention to Marcella. In his mind, some of his companions would take care of her. However, she had decided to target him over a few of his allies.

"Do you think I'm not qualified to fight your leader?" Noah roared as waves of dark matter came out of his figure.

The vegetation flying toward Noah pierced the dark matter, but something inside it stopped its advance. Soon, hundreds of six-armed dragons wielding swords left the black rivers and launched themselves against the magical plants.

The dragons' offensive was beyond reckless. They didn't care about the injuries that the plants inflicted. They only wanted to cut and destroy, and they didn't mind exploding once their stability reached a critical point.

"The last true dragon just died," Noah roared again before placing his swords on his forehead and filling his centers of power with potential. "I'm not in the mood to deal with underlings."

Marcella couldn't believe her senses. Noah's roar carried something deeper than hatred and anger. His fury brought forward something hidden in the depths of his bloodline, which fused with his unfolded consciousness.

Marcella's survival instincts screamed when Noah's mental waves landed on her. She could summon unique plants to fend them off, but she was one step too late.

A rain made of immense slashes materialized through the entirety of the vegetation and around Marcella. Those attacks didn't hesitate to fall on their targets to create a destructive domain that released a dragon's roar.

The six-armed dragons echoed that roar before diving into the destructive domain. The intense sharpness that filled the area destroyed most of those creatures, but they happily died as they unleashed their power on the vegetation.

Marcella saw the entirety of her vegetation falling apart. The same technique that had kept Divine Demon at bay appeared useless against Noah. His ability carried too much destruction, but that wasn't the main issue. Noah had put his superiority into the attack, and Marcella's plants seemed to bow toward it.

'What kind of being is he?' Marcella shouted in her mind before giving birth to flowers that shielded her from the slashes falling on her figure.

The flowers shattered, but Marcella managed to remain safe. A few injuries opened on her body due to the intense destruction in the area, but her immense energy reserves dealt with them quickly.

Still, things didn't end there for Marcella. A big figure suddenly appeared in front of her and sucked her body dry of energy. Her world immediately sent more fuel, but the issue remained.

"Noah is quite angry," The Foolery announced while tilting its head to stare at Marcella.

Multiple injuries had opened on the Foolery, and smoke came out of them. Marcella realized that the pig had also suffered due to Noah's offensive, but the creature didn't seem to mind it.

"I guess I can't play with you," The Foolery sighed. "Besides, I'm also quite angry."

Marcella's eyes widened when she sensed her energy leaving her body once again. The process was even faster now, and the Foolery used that chance to bite on her.

Still, magical plants came out of Marcella and protected her from the Foolery's threatening teeth. She was still losing energy, but she had enough of it to create her vegetation.

"Do you think I need to close my mouth to eat you?" The Foolery exclaimed even if it couldn't move its mouth, and a chunk of Marcella's chest suddenly vanished. She could even see the bite marks on her new injuries.

Chapter 2319. Kill

Noah ignored Marcella right after his attack. A sense of weakness filled his entire being, but the destruction of the immense array of magical plants forced his world to produce more potential.

The weakness vanished quickly, and Noah barely minded that phase. He had long since grown used to that process. The entire final battle had been nothing more than a cycle of exhaustion and power for him.

Noah's eyes quickly fell on Heaven and Earth. The crackling figure had ignored the encirclement and had focused on the landmass. Power was also accumulating in its palms, but its opponents didn't let it go so easily.

Sword Saint, Alexander, Divine Demon, Wilfred, and Supreme Thief had launched massive attacks toward Heaven and Earth while Noah dealt with the magical plants. Techniques that would make any rank 9 cultivator escape in fear converged toward the crackling figure, but the latter barely minded them.

A shockwave came out of the crackling figure and split into multiple lightning bolts that flew toward the incoming attacks. Divine Demon and the others had done their best, but Heaven and Earth's offensive was overwhelming. Their abilities stood no chance.

Divine Demon and the others saw the lightning bolts piercing their attacks and continuing to fly toward them. They all had to resort to evasive maneuvers to dodge the incoming offensive, but the latter didn't stop moving even after missing its targets.

The lightning bolts flew past the encirclement until they reached different areas of the sky to fuse with the storms. Loud cracking noises resounded after the event, and more attacks shot toward the powerless landmass at the center of the higher plane.

Heaven and Earth began to turn ethereal at that point, but their fabric suddenly solidified again. They raised their right arm, and a black torrent fell on it.

"You are a fool," Heaven and Earth exclaimed before their entire body shook to send a powerful shockwave toward the black torrent.

The black energy instantly shattered. The destruction spread through the entire torrent, revealing Noah pressing his blades on Heaven and Earth's arm.

The thundering noises released by Heaven and Earth's body intensified while Noah tried to pierce their arm. The destruction carried by the crackling skin began to affect the swords, and cracks even opened on them.

Noah had to face the truth at that point. Everything slowed down in his eyes and allowed him to inspect the rapid destruction taking control of his swords.

Heaven and Earth didn't suffer any damage even after enduring a melee blow fueled by as much potential Noah could gather. Their crackling skin was too firm, and the impact on their body allowed Noah to gain a vague understanding of the power flowing inside it.

Deep fear filled Noah's mind. He tried to suppress that feeling, but his instincts overruled his will. His very world was telling him that he couldn't hurt Heaven and Earth, and he couldn't ignore that warning.

"We'll deal with you soon," Heaven and Earth announced as a buzz ran through their voice. "Stay put for now."

Noah instinctively absorbed his blades inside his world and crossed his arms. Dark matter came out of his figure, and potential flowed into his body to enhance its defensive properties.

Another shockwave shot out of Heaven and Earth at that point. The attack wasn't wide like the previous. It focused on Noah and destroyed most of his defenses while pushing him away.

Entire patches of Noah's body vanished as soon as the dark matter crumbled. Some lightning bolts failed to reach him, but the few sparks that landed on him were enough to leave serious injuries.



Duanlong worked at the best of its capabilities to reduce the attack's offensive power, and the same went for Noah's aspects. The entirety of his world focused on enduring Heaven and Earth's offensive, but he still had to fly until the edges of the higher plane to disperse its power.

Once the attack lost its energy, Noah found himself far away from the encirclement. The storms raged behind him, and his body showed deep holes in multiple spots. Yet, his eyes never left the crackling figure in the distance.

'Did they just spare me?' Noah couldn't help but wonder when he became aware of his condition.

His chest, abdomen, arms, and legs had deep holes, and the edges of those injuries retained Heaven and Earth's destructive power. Noah could even feel sparks trying to make their way through his body, but that wasn't too much to handle for his incredible resilience.

Noah felt sure that Heaven and Earth could have been far harsher in their offensive. He would have probably still managed to preserve his life, but that preferential treatment made no sense.

A strange but familiar feeling eventually landed on Noah's consciousness. He turned toward the source of that sensation, and Emperor's battle unfolded in his vision.

Emperor was going all-out, unleashing his overbearing power on any expert who dared to approach or attack him. His life wasn't in danger, but he couldn't move freely. The numerical disadvantage even forced him into a defensive stance.

Nevertheless, Noah's reptilian eyes went past the battlefield to gaze at a smiling figure hovering behind the storms. Caesar was looking at him while wearing an expression that explained more than enough, and Noah couldn't help but replace the entirety of his feelings with anger.

'Are they treating me like some sort of sacrificial pawn?' Noah roared in his mind as his world exploded with power, but he quickly calmed down.

Noah could understand Heaven and Earth's behavior. Caesar had basically explained that in the past too. The rulers needed stepping stones, so killing Noah in his current state would be a waste.

'They are waiting for me to reach the peak,' Noah thought, but that conclusion didn't bring peace.

It felt beyond demeaning to have his final opponent treat him like nothing more than cattle. That approach was a proper insult toward Noah. It was as if he wasn't worthy of proper attacks.

The anger slowly condensed and fused with many other feelings. A cold smile appeared on Noah's face, and a tinge of craziness filled his eyes. The Demonic Sword and the Cursed Sword reappeared in his hands as dark matter patched them up. He had made up his mind about the situation.

'I just need to force them to take me seriously,' Noah concluded, and a roar left his mouth before echoing through the entirety of the higher plane.

Heaven and Earth didn't stay still while Noah was immersed in his thoughts. Their other opponents had restored the encirclement and had almost finished preparing new attacks. Yet, Heaven and Earth had other plans.

The crackling figure teleported to reappear above Shafu and the landmass. The movement technique was predictable, but it remained too fast for Noah's companions.

Everyone started to fly toward Heaven and Earth, but the latter used that time to raise their hands and accumulate energy. The storms grew wild and sent even more lightning bolts toward the landmass. The rulers seemed set on destroying that giant creature in one blow.

An explosion resounded on Heaven and Earth's back before they could complete their attack. The sheer violence of the event made the void shake, but the crackling figure remained in one piece. It only lost one spark.

"You really want to die," Heaven and Earth commented without bothering to turn toward the fiendish figure on their back.

"Yes," Noah laughed as growls mixed with his voice. "Kill me already."

Chapter 2320. Overwhelming

"That was your best attack," Heaven and Earth commented. "Such pristine destruction, such intense rage. You got so far, but you can barely scratch the surface of our being."

Noah laughed. His expression showed nothing more than cold madness, but his mind was calm. That peace allowed him to confirm that Heaven and Earth were right. His swords couldn't pierce the lightning bolts no matter how much he pushed and tilted.

"We must have hurt your pride," Heaven and Earth continued while Noah struggled to push his blades deeper into their body. "Good. An ant should know its place."

The lightning bolts seemed to react to Heaven and Earth's mental state. They grew stronger and louder according to their intentions.

The Cursed Sword and Demonic Sword were barely hanging on while being so close to the lightning bolts. Noah had to constantly replace the dark matter around his blades to prevent them from suffering damage. However, his efforts became useless once Heaven and Earth grew serious.

Sparks left the lightning bolts that made Heaven and Earth's body and stretched through the protective dark matter. The defensive layer shattered in no time, and damage soon expanded on the blades.

The Cursed Sword and the Demonic Sword were sentient weapons. They felt pain when those sparks ran through their structures and left large cracks behind them.

However, the two blades didn't give Heaven and Earth any satisfaction. They didn't cry in pain. The rulers could only hear a defying roar and a loud, high-pitched noise coming out of them.

Heaven and Earth seemed confused about that development. They turned their head to glance at Noah, but they didn't notice anything strange. Yet, everything changed when Noah exploded with even more power than before.

"Do you have any idea how much potential I get from hurting you?" Noah growled.

Heaven and Earth finally realized what was happening. The spark Noah had previously cut away was insignificant for the rulers, but Noah was a mere liquid stage expert. The sole fact that he could make a dent on a quasi-rank 10 being deepened his very world.

New potential flowed through the two blades, allowing them to fend off the sparks. Dark matter filled the cracks while they expressed even more power. Noah's physical strength also reached higher levels and made him push the swords slightly past the crackling figure's surface.

The new damage was slightly more than nothing. Noah had merely forced his blades into already unstable areas of Heaven and Earth's body. Yet, two sparks left the crackling figure, and more power filled Noah's world after the event.

Noah didn't hesitate to deploy that potential. Part of it went to his mind to fuel violent thoughts, while the rest went to his centers of power, weapons, and companions.

Duanlong did its best to absorb superficial layers of energy from the crackling figure. Part of the dark matter in Noah's fiendish armor transformed into violent gales that crashed on Heaven and Earth. Night even added its power to the blades to open a path through the lightning bolts.

Meanwhile, Noah's destruction, pride, greed, hunger, sharpness, and anger reached incredible levels of power and added different natures to his attack. He didn't want the slash to be a mere expression of his physical prowess. He needed to add depth to his offensive.

Heaven and Earth budged. The force pushing on their back made them bend forward slightly, but the event didn't actually change the current balance.

Nevertheless, the sole fact that Noah had improved in a matter of two exchanges revealed a new truth. Unleashing everything he had while remaining on Heaven and Earth could kill him, but it could also accelerate his growth.

Heaven and Earth didn't want Noah to die just yet, and, most importantly, they couldn't allow him to use them as a training dummy. The rulers had to take care of other matters first, and they weren't willing to lose face in the meantime.

Four sparks left Heaven and Earth, but the edges of Noah's ethereal blackness expanded far more than he expected. He had managed to make the rulers move. He had forced his will on a superior existence, and his world reacted to that.

Potential beyond Noah's wildest expectations filled his world before flowing into his centers of power. He felt stronger than ever, and even his incredible body started to struggle to keep up. He had long since surpassed the limits of the liquid stage, but he was now reaching a far higher level.

Still, a thick lightning bolt shot out of Heaven and Earth's back and interrupted Noah's offensive. He had to divert most of his new power into his defensive measures and resilience, but he couldn't stop the attack from sending him flying away.

Heaven and Earth watched Noah being pushed toward the storm for a few seconds before moving their focus back on the landmass. Lightning bolts gathered on their palms and condensed to create crackling white spheres that illuminated their surroundings.

Most of the higher plane turned white due to the immense power radiated by Heaven and Earth's spheres. It was unclear how much damage the rulers could inflict with those attacks, but everyone understood that letting them act freely was too dangerous.

Divine Demon and the others struggled to make their way through the blinding radiance. The sheer pressure radiated by the spheres was too heavy for them. Yet, they eventually gave up on crossing the light without suffering injuries.

Alexander, Divine Demon, Sword Saint, Wilfred, and Supreme Thief reached the rulers, but no one could see them among that blinding light. Only Heaven and Earth could notice the many injuries on their bodies, and they made sure to open even more of them.

Heaven and Earth let go of one of the spheres, which exploded right after leaving their palm. The energy inside the item fused with the blinding radiance and added electric properties that the various experts couldn't hope to oppose.

A series of multicolored lights flashed among the blinding domain before the white glow vanished completely. The void regained its natural color, revealing five fuming figures flying toward different areas of the storms.

The battle appeared utterly one-sided. The best experts in Noah's organization couldn't do anything against Heaven and Earth, but that was quite normal.

Actually, it was beyond surprising how mere rank 9 experts had survived so many attacks launched by a quasi-rank 10 existence. Heaven and Earth were partially to blame for that, but they had never planned to let their opponents retain so much strength.

It was clear that Noah's core team wasn't only above Heaven and Earth's expectations. It was also improving during those one-sided exchanges. The rulers could conclude that they wouldn't be able to act so freely forever, but they wouldn't mind that as long as they completed their preparations.

Heaven and Earth's second sphere had condensed its radiance inside its structure. Its behavior resembled a bomb that the rulers launched toward the landmass as soon as the area was clear.

The sphere descended at high speed, and Shafu felt powerless at that scene. It tried to change the trajectory of the item, but its influence couldn't affect it at all.

Still, the sphere slowed down anyway, and chunks of its power even left its structure to fly in a seemingly random direction. Soon, more and more rivers of energy formed until the bomb transformed into a messy mass of lightning bolts.

The lightning bolts weren't dense enough to resist that external influence. They quickly shattered and fused with the rivers to fly in a single direction. Their colors even started to change and turned completely orange right before landing on June's chest.