

DEMONIC 721

### [Chapter 721 721. Runes](#)

Noah's question wasn't out of context, and it didn't strictly apply to the Elbas family.

Both the Utra nation and the Papral nation had a fragmented political system.

The raids of the Hive had further divided the forces of the Utra nation into two sides, but the nobles that had joined the Royals weren't considered Royals themselves.

The same was true for the Council and the many sects under its domain.

Having such a divided power was one aspect that had prevented those countries from matching the Empire, and it was also a weakness that the exploration teams couldn't have during the invasion.

After all, their domains would remain exposed if most of their assets were to venture on the other side of the portal, and other organizations could just exploit that temporary weakness.

The Hive and the Empire didn't share that flaw, but the former still had to be wary of meeting a similar outcome. The small number of powerful assets was the unavoidable disadvantage of every new force.

Chasing Demon couldn't risk the current favorable position of his organization just to match the potential gains of the other nations. Yet, the return of the two Demons had given him some insurance.

Though the issue remained, he could deploy at least ten heroic cultivators without weakening the defenses of the Hive too much.

"That would be up to the Council and the Elbas family to decide." Elder Julia answered, but she understood that the Prince's words hid a deeper meaning. "Do you have something in your mind?"

"We can use the Cause," Noah said before turning to dive toward the ground.

Creating a mixed team was necessary to force cooperation between the four forces, but it didn't have more potential allies among them.

Ideally, the exploration teams would see the four forces deploying the same number of heroic cultivators. Yet, the Hive would be in an advantageous position if some of the troops coming from the Utra nation were loyal to the Cause.

After all, they were secret allies, and the nobles would have to cover for any eventual misconduct of the organization that was helping them claiming their independence.

Of course, the Elbas family wouldn't be so stupid to assign the exploration of a new world to disloyal troops. Still, there was a chance that they sent a few of them just to remove troublesome people from their nation, and Noah wanted to make sure that the Hive exploited that possibility.

'I need to prepare for the mission.' Noah thought as he created a small cave when he reached the ground.

There were issues that he couldn't solve before for the time being.

Forging rank 5 Demonic swords would be possible with the current level of his centers of power, but he needed to sacrifice an arm to use it as his core material.

His body was incredible both in terms of power and healing properties, but growing an entire limb would require a lot of time, and Noah couldn't use his rank 5 drug just to forge a saber.

Those drugs were his lifesavers, and he wouldn't use them for something that simply required more time to heal.

Also, he had yet to fuse his two inscription methods.

Expending so many valuable materials just to create something that he would abandon once he managed to fuse the Will-consuming runes with the Elemental forging method was just a waste.

That was one of the problems that inscription masters had to face when they attempted to create items in the heroic ranks. The materials needed for each test were simply too valuable, and they were bound to meet many failures in their attempts.

Noah couldn't just cut one of his arms and hope that the forging would go well in that period, not when he learnt about the portal to the new world.

'First of all, I need to keep the expansion of my mind going.' Noah thought as he pressed index on his right temple and retracted it slowly.

A spherical rune came out of his sea of consciousness, and Noah suddenly felt the pressure inside his mind decreasing when it left his personal world.

The sphere was dark, and it radiated an intense pride as it kept the energy contained inside it still.

That was the second Will-consuming rune that Noah had created during the months before the opening of the portal.

Different from his first rune that used his ambition and greed, the second one used his pride and hunger to function.

Its effects were also different. The saber-shaped runes used his ambition to enhance the sharpness expressed in his individuality and his greed to absorb the primary energy created by his energy. Instead, the spherical rune still used his greed in the same way, but the pride that made it forced that energy to stay still inside it.

That allowed Noah to contain what he intended to use as his core material for his future creations, other than resuming the enlargement of his mind.

'Its power is satisfying, but I still need to test its viability in the forgings.' Noah thought as he inspected the rune. 'Yet, the pressure that it can apply on the walls of my mind is limited since this energy is less dense than the "Breath".'

Noah placed the rune back inside his mental sphere when he confirmed that it didn't lose any energy during the period inside his mind.

The internal pressure returned and weighed on his mental walls, but Noah barely noticed any difference with his usual state.

The primary energy was fundamental compared to the complex structure of the "Breath". That made it harder to control, but also lighter in terms of weight for the training of his mind.

Noah couldn't accept to slow down his growth, but there wasn't much that he could do with his current assets.

'I can only create more of them and fill my mental sphere. Yet, I should make a Blood companion first.' Noah thought as he proceeded to send a series of messages through his inscribed notebook.

He had ignored the issue concerning the peculiar capabilities of his mental energy in that period because he had focused on improving his offensive. Still, he would need to use his full power during the invasion.

So, he needed the spell that had accompanied him since the beginning of his cultivation journey. Also, he wanted to match somewhat the expansion speed generated by a Kesier rune with his methods, even if he knew that it was impossible to achieve the same results.

The elders on the southwestern coast answered quickly and provided him with an updated analysis of the fauna in both the old continent and the new one.

Noah hadn't contacted only them though, and his eyes lit up when he received an answer from the rank 6 automaton.

Thirty-seven's voice resounded in his mind. "The Kesier runes are an expression of pure mental power. They aren't something that can be replicated easily, but I have thousands of researches in that field with me."

### [Chapter 722 722. Whales](#)

Noah had developed an interest in the Kesier runes since he discovered how scarce they were in the Mortal Lands.

His ambition made him train continuously, but he had reached the point where he started to feel the limits of a lower plane.

That was an issue that all the cultivators in the world had to face and overcome with their forces, and his position was even quite privileged since the Hive owned the sixth Kesier rune.

However, he would have to share it with the other rank 5 mages, and that wasn't enough for his standards.

Luckily for him, Thirty-seven was knowledgeable in most inscription methods, and Divine Architect had included the records about the Kesier runes in his programming.

"Send me those that have something in common with my inscription methods." Noah transmitted through his inscribed notebook to answer the automaton.

He knew that his expertise wasn't enough to replicate such a miraculous training method, but he wanted to attempt to make an effective imitation, at least. That wasn't a project for the imminent future, but something that he had to study and use as inspiration slowly.

After sending that message, he browsed through the reports gathered by the elders.

Choosing a Blood companion would generally take an in-depth analysis of his battle prowess and his weaknesses, but Noah could only settle for something that he could use at that moment.

There weren't many creatures in the fifth rank that he could kill in the world, and that number further decreased when he added his element to the equation.

'I'm nearing the might of a complete rank 5 cultivator.' Noah thought as he sorted the reports in his mind. 'But I have little confidence in dealing with something in the middle tier of the fifth rank.'

The growth of every being would be exponential as their rank increased.

Noah had been able to injure and kill rank 5 beasts until then because his Liquid dantian allowed him to express a solid stage battle prowess. However, only complete rank 5 cultivators could handle creatures in the middle tier.

Also, even they would avoid battling a beast that had access to such a powerful body and almost endless endurance.

Noah had access to rank 5 spells now, but his reserves of energy didn't change much. He would end up exhausted before a creature in the middle tier even with the Liquid dantian and rank 4 solid "Breath".

The differences in rank were hard to overcome. His incredible body could fill parts of those gaps, but it reached its limits against something so powerful.

'Maybe I can kill something weak in the middle tier, but that would make the creature worthless as a Blood companion.' Noah thought as he started to send another series of mental messages.

The reports didn't enlighten anything interesting, and all the beasts that had unusual abilities didn't match his element. The lands under the domain of the Hive didn't contain anything that could meet his already lowered standards.

Yet, if the land didn't have what he needed, he would just search for it in the sea!

The sea wasn't famous for its abundance of magical beasts with a darkness aptitude, but it was incredibly vast and occupied most of the Mortal Lands even after the fall of the piece of Immortal Lands.

Its depths could hide something that interested him.

Of course, exploring the sea near the archipelago and the southwestern coast would take a while under normal circumstances. Still, Noah had two powerful helpers that didn't mind helping him in that tedious task.

Flying Demon and Dreaming Demon weren't busy in that period. The Hive had tasked them to create teleportation matrixes and doors inside the separate dimension to facilitate the deployment of troops. Still, they quickly returned to the southwestern coast when they received Noah's message.

The environment of the new continent had a fantastic density of "Breath", and it stood on top of ice created by the spell of a divine being. Magical beasts would gather there if they had the chance, which meant that the sea near the coastlines would see many different creatures that attempted to settle inside its area.

The entirety of the sea was considered a danger zone, especially when its depths were taken into consideration.

Dreaming Demon's mental waves though allowed her and her lover to explore most areas without triggering any pack of powerful creatures that inhabited those zones.

Noah's request wasn't complex. He only wanted them to find a creature in the lower tier of the fifth rank with a darkness aptitude, and that wouldn't be useless once turned into a puppet.

The Demons weren't experts in the magical beasts' field, but they could evaluate the power of a beast thanks to their powerful minds.

Noah spent the weeks after his request creating more spherical runes that he filled with primary energy and stored in his mind and studying the data that Thirty-seven sent him.

The powerhouses of the four nations were away in that period, and every organization was busy making plans to prepare for the invasion in the new world.

The heroic assets weren't in a hurry. Instead, they took their time to make the necessary arrangements and gather useful items that they could need in an unknown environment.

Noah spent part of his days meditating on the fusion between his inscription methods too. Even his cultivation technique needed improvements, but his understanding of his individuality partially dictated its absorption speed. He felt that deepening his creation was the path to tread before approaching the forging of items on a higher rank, so he simply followed that instinct.

Of course, he also began to test his ideas during the forging of some of his rank 4 disposable items.

His initial designs saw the spherical runes being used as the core materials for the Elemental forging method. Still, the primary energy inside them kept on escaping the fusion with other items.

Noah was beginning to evaluate the possibility of using a third rune created only through his pride to force the fusion when the Demons notified him that they had found something.

The portal was in the Utra nation, so there were many branches of the separate dimension under those territories. Noah only had to reach the nearest door to the dimension and use a series of teleportation matrixes to return to the desert on the new continent.

Then, he followed the instructions of the Demons and reached the area in the depths of the sea where they were waiting for him.

"I believe you can sense them too here." Dreaming Demons transmitted through her consciousness when Noah neared them.

His body had learnt about the beasts in the distance from a while, but he wanted to let his mind scan them before making a decision.

'Lazy whales.' Noah thought when his mental waves swept the creatures in the distance. 'They can work.'

#### [Chapter 723 723. Precise](#)

The Lazy whales were a giant species of darkness magical beasts that used the depths of the sea as their hunting area.

Their bodies were strong and suited their large sizes, but they didn't excel in melee battles. Instead, their signature move was the powerful suction force generated by their lungs.

That feature earned them the name "Lazy" since their hunting habits saw them laying at the bottom of the sea and relying on their innate ability to capture prey.

'There is a whole pack there with two specimens in the fifth rank.' Noah thought as his mental waves spread through the sea.

His mind could see how more than thirty giant figures rested on the sandy seabed with their mouths open. Most of them were creatures in the third rank, but there were five of them in the fourth rank together with the two rank 5 leaders.

'One in the middle tier, and one in the lower tier. Perfect.' Noah thought as he retracted his consciousness. 'It might be troublesome nearing them though.'

Giant whirlpools formed from the open mouths of the Lazy whales and created dense currents able to trap any being that touched them. The currents would then drag those unfortunate creatures directly into their stomach.

That innate ability was particularly potent at those depths since the whales could make use of the water to increase the density of their currents. Such a skill would inevitably be weaker in an environment without water, but Noah knew that he couldn't find something perfect at his level.

Magical beasts of the darkness element weren't as rare as cultivators with that aptitude, but he needed specimens in the fifth rank.

The Lazy whales were creatures that expressed their full power underwater, but even their weakened version was enough for him. Also, the strength of their massive bodies wasn't affected by the environment, so he could use it with simple strategies.

"Keep the middle tier creature busy while I take care of the other beast in the fifth rank," Noah said before shooting toward the pack of whales that were still unaware of the three powerful existences near them.

The Demons didn't hesitate to follow Noah and unleash some of their abilities toward the pack. Noah attacked too, slashing with his sabers toward the creature in the lower tier of the fifth rank.

The area became messy as soon as the trio challenged the pack.

The whales noticed the attacks only when it was too late to do anything about them. A series of ice shards swept them and gave birth to white flowers that spread their coldness on the environment. The

water around them began to vibrate too, and those tremors affected the normal functioning of their bodies.

Noah's slashes landed on the creature in the lower tier, and the destruction carried by his individuality spread from the large cuts that they created on its body.

The weaker specimens died in a few seconds under the might of two spells with the power of the fifth rank, but the two powerful beings endured them.

Noah and the Demons saw the long whirlpools turning toward them as the two rank 5 beasts tilted their heads to redirect the suction force of their abilities on the assailants.

A sudden pressure appeared around them as the currents engulfed their bodies, but they were ready for that eventuality.

A small flower appeared on Flying Demon's palm, and the water around him immediately froze when its coldness spread inside the whirlpool. Dreaming Demon closed her eyes, and the rotation of the currents slowed down under the influence of her mind.

As for Noah, he simply roared and accompanied his cry with a torrent of white flames.

Ice and flames reached for their open mouths, but the whales quickly closed them to stop their abilities and endure the attacks with their bodies. A layer of ice spread on the rostrum of the creature in the middle tier, and white flames burned the skin of the beasts in the lower tier.

The skin above their mouths broke and fell apart, but their muscles were barely affected.

Fighting underwater wasn't a problem for heroic cultivators, and that environment wouldn't weaken even their attacks. However, the Lazy whales were simply too big, and they would need abilities that had a large area of effect to suffer serious injuries.

Their size, coupled with the overall power of contained in their bodies, made their species quite troublesome to hunt, even if it lacked a potent offensive method.

"Let's divide them now." Noah transmitted as he shot toward the beast in the lower tier while slashing with his weapons and laying the saber-shaped runes on the battlefield.

The Demons followed his orders and diverted the attention of the whale in the middle tier on them.

Shockwaves spread next to Noah as the battle between the three powerful existences unfolded at his side. Yet, he knew that the elders would handle the beast, so he focused only on his opponent.

He had killed many rank 5 beasts by then, but the Lazy whales were particularly resilient and hard to take down without wasting most of their bodies. Also, Noah could express a rank 5 battle prowess, but his dantians wouldn't last much if he used his full power.

The abilities that required less "Breath" were mental attacks that didn't work well on magical beasts, so he had to rely on his spell, flames, and martial art.

After all, Noah wasn't aiming to kill the creature, but to create a Blood companion, which required a bit of care.

Noah slashed and spat flames toward the whale, but the latter only reactivated its innate ability.

The offensive of the Lazy whales was limited, and they weren't in the upper part of the food chain. They mostly hunted weaker beasts with their suction force, and that was enough to satisfy them due to their peaceful lifestyle.

Yet, their size made them difficult to kill, which was why other predators only took pieces of their skins and muscles when they attacked them. Lazy whales in the fifth rank were more than seventy meters long and could easily endure wounds that would typically sever other creatures in two.

However, Noah wasn't there to satisfy his hunger.

His figure darted everywhere around the body of the creature while releasing countless attacks. The water turned red as numerous injuries appeared on the defenseless beast and released blood in the environment, but Noah promptly stored it inside his space-ring and left it to its automaton.

Meanwhile, the saber-shaped runes all around it kept on absorbing the primary energy that Noah was creating with his offensive.

Noah decided to make use of the runes when they reached a power in the fifth rank, and they didn't fail to pierce the thick layer of muscles that covered the internal organs of the beasts.

It took a while, but the whale eventually died under Noah's patient and precise offensive.

His mind felt heavy after manipulating the runes for so long, but he managed to store the giant corpse of the whale without breaking its core nor losing its blood.

#### [Chapter 724 724. Fusion](#)

'These creatures aren't so suitable as Blood companions.' Noah thought as he stared at the massive corpse laid on a brown terrain. 'But they are natural shields, and I can improve their innate ability with my greed.'

He was inside the separate dimension, making the last preparations for the Body-inscription spell, and he couldn't help but evaluate the prowess of the Lazy whales during the process.

The trio had returned in the tunnel after Noah killed his target, and he had even asked the Demons to let the specimen in the middle tier go. Noah had long since learnt about the drawbacks that accompanied his hybrid status, and he wasn't willing to lower the number of rank 5 magical beasts in the world just to see those nourishments sold.

He was basically preserving the lives of the powerful creatures so that he could hunt them when he was strong enough to face them alone.

Relying on his organization or allies to face enemy groups didn't bother him, but he didn't want to use them even to gather his food. It wasn't only a matter of dragon instincts. Noah simply wanted his breakthroughs to carry an evident mark of his individuality.

'Let's see if this works.' Noah thought before focusing on the insides of his sea of consciousness.



Solid "Breath" rose from his dantian and entered his mental sphere before he immersed it inside the brown sea. His greed invaded the "Breath" and gave to the sharp crystal a suction force similar to his saber-shaped rune.

His "Breath" wasn't something that could change form anymore. It was an energy that was evolving alongside his individuality.

Noah would have to remove his individuality to make it change form like it used to do in the past, but he would never weaken it on purpose just to make it more pliable.

'Now, the rune.' Noah thought as he focused on his ethereal figure.

His half-transparent hands pierced his body and ripped off his stomach, but he didn't smash it to turn it in the dust needed for the creation of a Will-consuming rune. Instead, he decided to forge it with the energy that he had just created.

The ethereal stomach appeared in his palm, and Noah proceeded in imbuing the solid "Breath" that carried his greed inside it.

The Elemental forging method usually required physical materials, but the meanings in both "Breath" and ethereal stomach were identical. The stomach was a raw expression of his hunger, which wasn't refined through the Will-consuming runes method, and his "Breath" contained his greed at its peak intensity.

After all, he used his ambition to bring his meanings to their peak when he prepared the energy to use in the forging. So, their intensity was bound to reach their limits.

The ethereal stomach didn't resist the fusion with the "Breath", and there wasn't any kind of destabilization afterward.

'In the end.' Noah thought while splitting the shard in his palm into two pieces. 'The infusion.'

One piece went for the blood of the whale that the spirit automaton of his ring had filtered when he gathered it from the water. The other went for its heart so that even the core of the beast would carry his meanings.

That was Noah's first success in fusing his two inscription methods.

By applying the basics of the Will-consuming runes, Noah obtained a pure meaning that he could use as a material in the Elemental forging method.

Of course, that procedure was far from optimal.

Noah had to forge the raw rune and his imbued "Breath" before using the finished product with another material, which meant performing two rounds of forging with the same items. That would produce a weaker inscribed item, but Noah wasn't interested in the power of the core and blood during the creation of a Blood companion.

He only needed his meanings to be more intense, and those two rounds of forging gave him that result.

Noah quickly completed the following requirements of the Body-inscription spell. His period spent hunting magical beasts to enlarge his mental sphere had made him extremely fast in creating Blood companions, and even his expertise in the mental battles had increased by a lot.

The ethereal figure of the Lazy whale crumbled and fell on the brown sea after Noah defeated it, but he didn't let his focus waver at that moment.

His mental energy surrounded the minute pieces of the beast's will and attempted to devour them. Still, Noah forcefully held back the capabilities of his mind to complete the Body-inscription spell.

Holding back the properties of his mental waves turned out to be quite easy since he had just severed his hunger to make use of that meaning, but they still struggled to devour the pieces of beast's will. It was as if that was their instinctive behavior.

His mind though had reached the fifth rank, and that breakthrough brought a more profound control on his hybrid features.

An ethereal whale soon appeared near the center of his sea of consciousness and lazily floated above the brown sea.

Noah felt the internal pressure rising, but even the appearance of a rank 5 Blood companion couldn't match the training speed of the Kesier runes.

'I can only store more primary energy inside my mind for the time being.' Noah thought as he evaluated the limits of his mind. 'Anything more effective would have to wait for my expertise to increase.'

Noah stretched his arm, and the whale's tattoo on his chest moved toward his palm. He willed, and the tattoo spread its mouth to use its innate ability.

Noah felt the energy contained in his Liquid dantian depleting at high speed, but a powerful suction force appeared at the center of his palm and stretched for hundreds of meters. The structure of the separate dimension trembled, and cracks appeared on its surface as the pressure affected its stability.

Small pieces of the dimension fell apart and flew toward Noah's palm. His body then turned them into primary energy that was absorbed in a matter of seconds.

'This suction force is stronger compared to the innate ability of the specimen in the lower tier.' Noah thought while retracting his arm.

The result of the procedure left him satisfied since the attack of his Blood companion surpassed the original power of the creature, and he had used it in the air!

Lazy whales usually reached that might with their ability because they made use of the water in the environment. Still, obtaining more potent effects while being in the open clearly showed that fusing two inscription methods would lead to amazing results.

However, that outcome only made Noah sigh.

The creation of a Blood companion signaled the end of the methods that could increase his power in the short period. There was nothing else that could boost his battle prowess more before the exploration of the new world.

'I've reached the point where only long periods of meditations and enlightenments can help me.' Noah concluded in his mind as he moved toward the door that would lead him back to the old continent.

### [Chapter 725 725. Eagerness](#)

Noah returned in the territory of the Utra nation with the portal and went in seclusion as he waited for the higher-ups to form exploration teams.

His body was still a few dozens of rank 5 magical beasts away from reaching the middle tier, but his other centers of power were improving on their own.

The Black hole cultivation technique kept on absorbing "Breath", and the many runes filled with primary energy inside his sea of consciousness pressed on its walls. There was also the Blood companion now, which brought the expansion of his mind to a decent speed.

The absence of the sixth Kesier rune had forced him to train his mental sphere with alternative methods, and they were bound to have drawbacks when compared to the runes. His mind felt the constant pressure radiated by the ethereal whale and spherical runes while also enlarging at a lower speed.

It couldn't be helped. The absence of resources was a curse that afflicted every cultivator once reached higher ranks.

Yet, there was something that Noah gained from that unorthodox training.

The constant pain that afflicted his mind helped in hardening his walls and making them suitable for the intrinsic properties of his mental energy. Noah had to spend only some years in that state before his sea of consciousness allowed him to devour magical beasts' wills again.

In the meantime, he could only meditate, study, and perform tests.

The Divine deduction technique aided all those processes, and Noah's knowledge and expertise quickly rose as he wholeheartedly focused on his researches.

His battle prowess couldn't be improved further unless he widened the creation of his individuality. Yet, he lacked a method that matched the standards of his ambition.

Being with June would probably help him in gaining insights in that field since she was an expression of life in his mind, but the politics of the Mortal Lands didn't allow him to be with her.

So, he could only focus on his researches while he waited for his journey on the other side of the portal to begin.

Thirty-seven had given him the teachings of old and new schools that studied the Kesier runes and tried to replicate their miraculous effects. Of course, Noah had requested for studies in line with his inscription methods.

He was an expert when it came to wills and intense meanings, and that was a feature that he had to exploit if he wanted to obtain some sort of success. However, he also knew that he needed a better inscription method to achieve something so difficult.

His weeks spent in the solitude of his cave saw him meditating on his individuality for most of the time. Still, he forged and tried to find better ways to fuse his inscription methods too.

The rest of his time went on the reports sent by the automaton that he simply studied and analyzed with the help of the Divine deduction technique.

His power was slowly increasing, but such a low rate of improvement was something that Noah had never felt in his life.

He had entered in one of the most tedious parts of the cultivation journey where he could only keep on studying and testing until some understanding appeared in his mind and allowed him to advance.

Many cultivators could lose their path in the endless years spent in the solitude of their training areas, and their will to progress in the cultivation journey might falter after seeing no improvements. The anxiety originated from the fear of the stagnation of their centers of power, coupled with the impossibility to advance without enlightenment, broke many weak mindsets.

Noah had it a bit easier compared to other cultivators since he had created his cultivation technique. His dantian would eventually reach the fifth rank, but its training speed depended on the understanding of his individuality.

'My destruction opens the path for my creation.' Noah thought as he reviewed his life. 'Each of my steps has created a path that Heaven and Earth couldn't see.'

Understanding his destruction had been relatively easy, but his creation was utterly lacking in that aspect.

After all, Noah had lived as a lone cultivator for a large part of his life. He had destroyed everything on his path, and his effects only widened as his power increased.

The destruction of his mansion and his family had completed that aspect of his individuality. Still, that wasn't enough to express the entirety of his life.

'I have forged my path toward this rank. My creations accompany most of my accomplishments.' Noah thought as images appeared in his mind.

His Demonic swords had accompanied him since he learnt the Elemental forging method, and they were a core aspect of his battle prowess. Yet, the creation could be tracked back to Assea, his first Blood companion.

'I've turned dead beasts in puppets that have saved my life countless times.' Noah seemed to understand something when he thought that.

His memories then led him in the Odra nation, where his expertise in the Elemental forging method spiked and allowed him to spread his creations to other cultivators.

'A crucial mistake that feeds on Heaven and Earth's world, but that needs it to obtain materials. I need to forge my darkness before I can hope to match their creation, and that can only happen if I have better methods.' Noah concluded his meditation at those thoughts.

His reasoning always led him to the same conclusion: He lacked a core material that was only his!

The primary energy was perfect for that task, but his pride only allowed him to contain it. He couldn't bend it to his will, nor use it in his experiments unless he created a better inscription method.

Noah was about to focus on his experiments when his inscribed notebook transmitted a message sent by Elder Julia. She was warning him that the higher-ups had finally concluded the division of the exploration teams.

Noah's eagerness exploded when he heard those words, and he quickly wore one of his good robes before flying out of his cave.

The massive portal appeared in his view as soon as he resurfaced, but his eyes went on Elder Julia's figure waiting for him with other cultivators of the Hive.

Their expressions were stern, but Noah didn't fail to notice the eagerness hidden behind their eyes.

They were about to venture into different Mortal Lands! How could they not be excited about it? Even Noah could barely contain himself at that thought.

A new world doubled the number of powerful beasts that he could hunt, other than giving him access to a completely different environment.

His excitement though turned into coldness when he saw the cultivators gathered by the other three forces.

Noah didn't recognize the heroic assets of the Empire, but he was able to spot Faith's enchanting figure among the elders of the Council. Also, when he turned his gaze toward the forces of the Elbas family, he could see both Thaddeus and June stepping forward.

### [Chapter 726 726. Tension](#)

"The portal can't sustain the passage of too many powerful cultivators." Elder Julia explained as the groups gathered at the center of the region. "Each force can only send one rank 5 cultivator and ten cultivators in the fourth rank at the time."

"Is there any restriction on the stage of the cultivators?" Noah asked.

The possibility to form equal teams was intriguing, but the big nations could exploit the variety of their assets and deploy their best warriors. Instead, the Hive would have to restrain itself in that aspect to prioritize the defenses of its domains.

"Six in the gaseous stage, three in the liquid stage, and one in the solid stage." Elder Julia replied. "The rank 5 cultivator must be in the gaseous stage too."

Excited gasps resounded among the elders of the Hive after her words. Noah felt a series of gazes landing on him, but he ignored them even if he had understood the reason behind their excitement.

According to Elder Julia's words, the portal couldn't endure too much power. That led the five powerhouses to calculate the best possible arrangements for the exploration teams.

The portal applied limits to the four nations, but they still wanted to send the most powerful team on the other world.

Their calculations ended up in those numbers, but they had naturally taken into consideration only the dantians of those assets. After all, the "Breath" was heavier than the mental energy when it came to influencing the material world.

Yet, there was someone who ignored the common sense of the cultivation journey inside the Hive.

'Our faction will be the most potent in the exploration team.' Noah thought as he neared the center of the region.

He was a rank 5 mage, but he could fill one of the spots for the rank 4 cultivators in the troops deployed by his organization. That would give the Hive a significant influence once the team reached the other Mortal Lands since it would have two existences with a rank 5 battle prowess!

"The Patriarch of the Balvan family will join us," Thaddeus said as he neared the gathering area followed by June and other rank 4 cultivators.

He wore a proud smile as he said those words, and Noah recognized that expression. It was the same calm smile that he had worn after the entrance test of the academy when he exposed Noah's true identity.

Noah's aura began to spread toward the group from the Elbas family at his words.

He understood what he meant with that smile. Thaddeus was simply showing that he knew the truth behind the event inside the Balvan mansion.

Every organization would suspect Noah for the events in the mansion, but none of them had the proofs needed to incriminate him.

Secrecy had been a must during the raids, and the forces of the Hive had been cautious in hiding as much as they could. Noah had even used only new abilities too!

Accusing him would just lead to endless discussions, and no force was interested in wasting time in processes that would barely benefit them.

Thaddeus' eyes sharpened when he sensed the dense mental waves reaching for him, but his worry soon vanished when his father intervened.

Noah saw Cecil landing in the air next to his son and using his consciousness to disperse the destructive aura that was surrounding his group.

"Do you want to start a war so soon, Lord Balvan?" Cecil asked, but another rank 5 cultivator landed on the scene and sided with Noah.

"The Prince was just giving pointers to a weakling." Elder Austin said before turning and winking at Noah.

The air suddenly became tense, but the arrival of the other two groups forced the cultivators on both sides to divert their focus.

Noah made sure that June appeared in his vision as he turned his gaze toward the other forces.

The Shandal Empire and the Council had reunited the required troops for the team, and they were staring at the two factions that were about to start a conflict.

That was the whole point of creating mixed groups with troops from all four forces. Even if two of them had past grudges that could endanger the success of the mission, the other two factions could intervene and force them to cooperate!

Noah recognized only Gray Fury on the side of the Empire. He was the rank 5 cultivator that had negotiated the terms for the independence of the archipelago with Chasing Demon.

On the side of the Council, he recognized Faith among the cultivators in the liquid stage, and her Master, Elder Clara, as the solid stage cultivator.

The troops of the Royals had Cecil as rank 5 cultivator, Thaddeus as the asset in the solid stage, June among those in the liquid stage, and other gold-robed cultivators that he didn't recognize.

'I expected June to improve a lot in these years.' Noah thought as he analyzed the cultivators on the scene. 'But that Faith isn't normal. She reached the liquid stage before Daniel.'

The improvements in the heroic ranks without a personal cultivation technique were linked to the understanding of the individuality.

Daniel was still immature when it came to his understanding due to his lofty lifestyle, but his breakthrough was drawing near after the experiences accumulated in the raids. Yet, Faith had surpassed him even when her life should have been similar to his.

'The heroic ranks divide the real talents with those who have obtained their power thanks to their status.' Noah thought before focusing on his side.

Elder Austin would accompany him in the mission, but there were other familiar faces behind him.

Elder Jason stood proudly among the cultivators in the liquid stage, together with Elder Hope. He had managed to advance in the last period, proving that his centers of power still hid some potential.

Other rank 5 cultivators floated above the four groups to witness the departure of the first exploration team, and all the assets on the scene were waiting for further directives.

Then, a voice resounded in the air and filled the environment. "Those chosen for this journey, please land in front of the portal."

The voice belonged to King Elbas, and the eleven cultivators from each faction hovered toward the ground at his words.

They didn't mind following the orders of an enemy powerhouse in that situation, so they all grouped right in front of the portal surrounded by shining lines.

The fissure was still dark, but "Breath" kept on coming out from its insides.

The air around the group of forty-four cultivators suddenly became tense when the mission became imminent, and they fixed their eyes on the fissure as they waited for orders.

"Go and bring the pride of your Mortal Lands with you." King Elbas's voice echoed again through the sky. "But remember: It was the Elbas family that gave you this chance."

As soon as his phrase ended, the four rank 5 cultivators in the lead moved forward, and the troops behind followed them and entered in the fissure.

### [Chapter 727 727. Items](#)

The insides of the fissure didn't contain any trace of light. There was only the complete darkness in front of the heroic assets, and even their mental waves couldn't help them in that environment. Their mental waves simply dispersed when they tried to spread them through the darkness.

The group of forty-four cultivators advanced slowly and let the four rank 5 existences take the lead. Their minds were powerful enough to inspect their surroundings without wasting too much mental energy, so it was their task to lead the troops on the other side.

Noah inspected the environment too, but he could only feel disappointed when he sensed that there was nothing at all around him.

They were in what seemed to be a tunnel without solid boundaries. The passage had the same shape of the vertical fissure in the portal, but its edges often mixed with the void outside of them.

'Are we in space?' Noah thought when he lost control of his mental waves and condensed his consciousness inside his mind.

Even rank 5 mages couldn't study the area as they wished. They could only keep track of where they were going.

'No.' Noah answered to himself. 'The tunnel itself is a dimension that connects two lower planes. Amazing.'

Even Noah had to recognize that King Elbas' feat was exceptional as he ventured through the darkness.

There was nothing in the records retrieved in the Mortal Palace about cultivators exploring other lower planes. There was a high chance that King Elbas had been the first to make that kind of journey possible.

The records spoke about experts researching other worlds, but there was nothing that mentioned exploring them!

As for why he had succeeded where many had failed, Noah had a few ideas already.

'A country that pushed the researches in the inscription field to their limits and a material born from the power of five rank 6 cultivators.' Noah thought. 'Yet, only a true expert could make use of them to connect two worlds.'

There weren't enough praises to describe King Elbas' achievement, and they even increased as some features of the tunnel became evident.

Noah felt as if he was being teleported every time he took a step forward. The dimension seemed to condense the space, which allowed the group to cross kilometers with each centimeter that they passed.



Of course, there was a limit to how much Noah could understand with the short investigations that his mind was capable of. Yet, there were a few evident features that the passage revealed.

The door didn't teleport them directly in the new world. Instead, it led them inside an unstable passage that made them able to cross vast distances in a few steps!

'I wonder how many resources did the Elbas family invest in this project.' Noah wondered before suppressing that thought when he noticed that the density of "Breath" around him had suddenly increased.

A pale red light began to illuminate the passage, and another fissure appeared in front of the heroic assets as their advance continued.

The cultivators in the exploration team couldn't contain their emotions and increased their pace toward the end of the passage, and the rank 5 entities did the same.

They were about to step into a different world. That small action was enough to make their names last for millennia!

Noah felt excited too, but he didn't care about glory. His interest was on the lifeforms that filled that plane, as well as the techniques and spells that it could contain if humans inhabited the lands ahead.

The group quickly reached the red fissure and crossed its edges without any hesitation.

A rocky environment appeared in their vision, and the source of that light turned out to be an underground river of magma that flowed right under them.

The portal had connected them to a narrow underground area.

The cultivators spread their consciousness to inspect the environment and sighed in relief when they sensed that there wasn't any lifeform nearby.

"Quick, stabilize the exit!" Cecil ordered, and the cultivators in his faction took out inscribed items that they activated and deployed around the fissure floating in the area.

The members of the other factions fixed their gazes on the ten nobles and Royals to make sure that they didn't try to scheme anything. A dense pressure fell on the cultivators from the Utra nation when the four rank 5 mages began to inspect their every movement.

The other nations had barely managed to prepare their defenses before deploying their troops to join the mission, but the Elbas family was different.

The silver-haired Royals knew about King Elbas' plan, so they had focused on developing suitable items for the journey during the period before the opening of the portal.

That gave a lot of power to the Royal's faction during the exploration since its cultivators owned specific items that benefitted the entirety of the team.

Yet, only the rank 5 cultivators chosen for the mission knew about that, and even Noah was in the dark.

The cultivators from the Ultra nation surrounded the fissure with glowing spheres and strange nails that seemed to stabilize its edges. Then, some of them took out a series of brown runes that surrounded the crack and created another layer of defense.

Noah kept his eyes on June for most of that process, but he didn't fail to inspect the other devices too.

The purpose of those items became apparent after a few inspections, and the heroic cultivators from the other nations were pleasantly surprised to discover that the Royals had come extremely prepared.

There were cloaking devices meant to hide the presence of the fissure, items that stabilized its structure, and even orbs intended for long-distance communications! Also, those inscribed items worked in perfect harmony with the edges of the passage, which showed how they had been built specifically for that task.

Noah and Elder Austin glanced at each other before moving their focus back on the fissure. That short exchange of looks was enough to convey their amazement and helplessness about the distance between their organization and the Elbas family for what concerned the inscription fields.

Cecil waited for each of those items to start working before speaking in a polite tone. "The Elbas family has provided the passage and all the required items for the mission. I'm sure the other nations won't forget this."

He then sent a series of folded sheets flying toward all the rank 4 cultivators of the other factions.

Noah quickly browsed through the words written on the sheets only to see that short descriptions appeared in his mind at that act. The reports concerned the usage and function of each item set around the fissure. They even mentioned some specifics that involved the insides of the portal.

'They are playing fair.' Noah thought as he stored the sheets and moved his gaze toward the ceiling of the underground area.

The other cultivators noticed his action and moved their gazes there too.

"Let's resurface." Gray Fury said, and the team quietly followed his rising figure.

Chapter 728 728. Protect

There wasn't a single leader for the whole exploration team. It was impossible to find an agreement between the four nations on that topic. Yet, the four rank 5 cultivators had long since decided to be reasonable during the mission.

They were in an unknown environment that had only one escape route, and that was obviously fragile.

For once, the cultivators of the four forces would have to work for the greater good of their Mortal Lands instead of minding their benefits.

It couldn't be helped. Greed could lead to the failure of the mission, which could trap them in that unknown land until King Elbas managed to open another passage.

Of course, death was a possible outcome too, and that led them to abandon previous grudges to focus on the exploration.

The group of forty-four heroic cultivators silently dug an opening in the rocky ceiling and flew toward the outside world. The four rank 5 cultivators were in the lead, and Noah was right behind them.

No one dared to complain about his position. Status didn't matter in that place, and the vanguard would usually be the first to meet any potential danger.

Everyone knew that Noah was the strongest among the rank 4 cultivators. That was something that no one could deny due to the power of his sea of consciousness!

The group had to dig upward for a few kilometers before the rocky ceiling ended, and the sunlight filled the tunnel just created.

Wary expressions appeared on the heroic assets as they came out in the open and inspected their surroundings.

The scenery that unfolded in front of their eyes didn't seem to belong to a different world. It was a dull wasteland, which saw some vegetation appearing only at a few kilometers in the distance.

'Not the safest environment where to have our only escape route.' Noah thought when he noticed that the wasteland was, in truth, a volcano.

There were cavities on its sides and traces of burned terrain near them, which carried the marks of past eruptions. The other cultivators didn't fail to notice those details too, and the four leaders acted as soon as the environment turned out to be dangerous.

Their priority was to protect the fissure, so they had to make sure that the volcano remained stable for the entire duration of their mission.

The rank 5 existences had a brief discussion through their consciousnesses before they spread in the area and used their methods to prevent any sudden eruption. Elder Austin even glanced at Noah before diving toward the base of the volcano, and the latter simply nodded at that gesture.

It was clear that he wanted him to manage the situation while they were busy, and Noah agreed without uttering any complaint.

The other rank 4 cultivators focused on him when they realized that their leaders had silently left him in charge of the group.

Noah's figure stood proudly in front of them. His mental waves filled the area and swept them as he made sure that there wasn't any threat. The symbol of the Coral archipelago occupied the back of his robe, and his long hair fluttered in the wind as he remained focused.

The famous criminal that had surprised everyone with his achievement was now protecting them.

It was needless to say that such sight gave birth to conflicting emotions inside those cultivators, especially those from the Utra nation. The Elbas family had worked to suppress Noah since he reached the academy, but he was still there, and he was stronger than all of them.

"Don't worry, Lady Ballor," One of the Royals said as he lowered his head to whisper to June. "We won't let him kidnap you again."

Noah feigned to ignore those words, but his attention inevitably went on the cultivator in the liquid stage that was wearing a golden robe next to June.

He was handsome and had the usual features of the Elbas bloodline, with short golden hair and a pair of shining green eyes. Also, he seemed quite young, which showed his talent in the cultivation field.

Of course, Noah was more interested in his relationship with June since he didn't seem to mind nearing her.

June tilted her head to avoid letting the Royal whisper in her ear and said. "Lix, I don't need anyone's protection."

She then glanced at Noah's back before focusing on the vegetation that spread after the volcano.

"Lady Ballor, I would never mock your prowess." Lix continued. "But he is a demon. You shouldn't underestimate him."

Every cultivator heard their conversation, but most of them simply lowered their heads when they saw Lix brazenly speaking about Noah in that way.

Noah felt the worry carried by June's gaze when she glanced at his back and decided to let go of the matter, but his consciousness suddenly sensed something at that point. His aura sharpened as he focused on the threatening presence nearing their position from a distance, and that change caused a reaction in the cultivators behind him.

Lix and the others in his faction wielded their inscribed weapons while the other cultivators around them retreated. They thought that Noah was about to attack due to Lix's words, but his following action left them dumbfounded.

Shockwaves spread from Noah's feet as he shot in the sky, which seemed utterly empty. However, a dark figure soon became visible, and it reached a distance where rank 4 mages could sense its aura.

The figure turned out to be a huge winged reptile when it crossed the barrage of clouds, which radiated the unmistakable aura of a rank 5 magical beast!

Noah quickly appeared in its trajectory and kicked its mouth while carrying the momentum generated by the Shadow sprint martial art.

The reptile was a beast in the lower tier of the fifth rank, so the cultivators hovering above the volcano released surprised gasps when they saw that Noah's kick made it fly back behind the clouds.

'Rank 5 Flying snake!' Noah thought as he shot after the beast. 'This species lost to the dragons in my world!'

Excitement rose inside him when he saw an extinct species making its appearance right at the beginning of their mission.

The snake hissed in pain, but Noah reached its head before it could focus again and delivered a powerful punch. The creature felt a ridiculous pressure landing on its mouth and flinging it downward along with its entire body.

The snake crossed the clouds once again, but its descent saw it landing on the vegetation outside of the volcano's range at that time. Noah knew that his priority was to let the rank 5 cultivators stabilize the area, so he had pushed the beast away with his attacks.

The beast hissed again and spread its feathered wings to stabilize his fall, but Noah was already on it, and he delivered another kick that pushed it even further away.

The creature understood that it was time to change tactics and released a toxic substance from its fangs, which spread in the area and engulfed both its and Noah's figures.

### [Chapter 729 729. Brawl](#)

Noah felt a dangerous sensation coming from the dark-green substance spewed by the snake as they fell from the sky. The toxic liquid enveloped their figures, and Noah diverted focus when he saw it reaching for his skin.

'Isn't it a bit too powerful for its level?' Noah thought before using his flames to fight back the dangerous poison.

White fire spread in the sky and burned the liquid, which released a green gas that Noah dispersed with his mental waves. However, a confused expression appeared on his face as he turned toward the beast.

'Winged snakes mostly rely on their strong bodies and on their aerial maneuverability to fight.' Noah reviewed that information in his mind. 'But this poison was almost able to match my flames.'

Noah felt that something was off, and that wasn't a sensation born only from his knowledge in the magical beasts' field. Even his instincts were telling him that the snake under him didn't match the power of its species.

Its poisonous attack wasn't its main ability, but it was so powerful that Noah had to use his flames to defend against it.

'Is it a mutation?' Noah began to question himself as he wielded his pair of black sabers. 'Or did I fail to guess its species?'

There were too many variables when Noah took into consideration the fact that he was in a different world. So, he simply decided to learn more about that creature after killing it!

Of course, he was aware that he couldn't use all his abilities in front of Thaddeus.

His mocking words from before the mission had revealed that the Elbas family had learnt something from the battle inside the Balvan mansion. Noah wasn't sure about how much had been recorded back then, but he wasn't going to risk exposing the identity of the secret assailants of the Utra nation.

Also, he didn't need to use those spells to defeat the Winged snake.

The beast spread its maws and shot toward Noah. Releasing the toxic liquid had stopped its opponent's momentum, which allowed it to attack and stop defending.

The snake though wasn't able to close its mouth since two black slashes landed on its insides and created two deep cuts.

A violent aura spread from those cuts and shattered more of the skin inside the mouth of the beast. The snake hissed to no end and failed to reach Noah, who had already landed on one of its wings.

Since Noah's dantian had reached the solid stage, the "Breath" contained inside it matched the power of the energy inside the Liquid Dantian. So, the first form of his martial art had become obsolete.

There was no point in using a simple but powerful slash when he could do the same but add the innate destruction of his individuality to the attack.

It was better to leave the energy inside the Liquid Dantian for the Shadow Sprint martial art since it didn't carry his individuality to begin with.

'What are you hiding?' Noah thought as he slashed again, aiming at the spot where the feathers met the scaled skin of the snake.

His attack resulted in a clean cut that severed the left wing of the beast and destroyed part of the scales and feathers due to the aura that it carried.

Noah quickly stored the wing in his space-ring before moving to the right one.

The Flying snake launched another poisonous attack when it lost control of its flight, but Noah spewed white flames whenever that dark-greed liquid tried to reach his body. Also, he didn't stop his martial art, and a pair of slashes landed precisely at the base of the right wing.

The attack completely severed that body-part, and Noah found himself standing on the back of the falling snake after storing it in his ring too.

The group of cultivators in the distance could only see what seemed him riding the forty meters long magical beast as it left a trail of red blood in the air.

Noah appeared utterly calm, and his gaze even wandered in various spots of the creature. It was as if he was more interested in the anatomy of the beast rather than on the actual battle!

It couldn't be helped. Noah had fought so many rank 5 magical beasts by then that such fights didn't pose him any threat. Also, the dragons in his world had defeated that species of snakes in the past, which showed their inferiority.

However, the power behind its poison was off, and he was set on discovering the cause behind that feature.

The snake couldn't control its descent without wings and crashed on the sparse vegetation that filled the territory next to the volcano.

Noah didn't let go of that chance and released another series of attacks. Yet, the beast had nothing else to lose once it landed on the ground.

A messy and violent brawl exploded in that area, with Noah and the snake exchanging blows. Both of them completely abandoned any defensive stand to focus everything on their offensive.

Noah relied on his technique and raw strength to avoid any grave injury, and the beast used its huge body to try to overwhelm its opponent.

Noah gained the advantage rather quickly, and only a few cuts appeared on his skin due to the shockwaves created by the clash with the powerful snake.

He could avoid any kind of injury if he just flew above the maimed beast to benefit from its lack of wings, but there was a lot to gain from that physical fight.

First of all, he would obtain a clear understanding of the actual prowess of the snake, which would lead him to evaluate the differences from the records studied in his world. Then, he could keep most of his abilities a secret, especially in front of such a variegated group of experts.

Also, he simply liked fighting in that way.

Expressing the power of his body was something that he couldn't often do in battles against cultivators or when hunting beasts for specific reasons. That was one of the few times when he could just let go and have fun.

The battle lasted for more than Noah had predicted.

The snake kept on charging at him even when injuries filled its body. It seemed that no matter how much blood it lost, it would just straighten its position and pounce again.

Nevertheless, it still lost its life after Noah kept on answering to its attacks with powerful slashes that carried his individuality.

'Most of its skin is gone, and the same goes for its muscles.' Noah thought when he analyzed the corpse of the snake. 'This endurance is completely off the scale.'

More unusual features had become evident during the battle, and one of them was the insane tenacity despite the countless wounds on its body.

Elder Austin's voice resounded near him at that point. "Having fun already?"

Noah didn't turn but gave a simple answer. "We'll see."

Then, he slashed horizontally at the corpse to begin the dissection.

### [Chapter 730 730. Organ](#)

The Flying snake didn't reveal anything out of the ordinary at the beginning. Its internal organs and bones matched the records studied by Noah in the past, and even its remaining muscles corresponded to them.

Yet, every fiber of its body felt sturdier at his touch, and the amount of "Breath" that its complete form contained was above the standards of a rank 5 magical beast in the lower tier.

'Are beasts stronger in this world? Is this just a general rule?' Noah thought as he continued with the dissection.

Elder Austin and the other rank 5 cultivators reached his position and oversaw the procedure.

Noah was an expert in that field, so there was no reason to stop the dissection. However, they still wanted to be there in case he missed something or ruined some body parts.

Bones, organs, and strands of muscles disappeared as Noah stored them in his space-ring. The corpse of the snake lost part of its shine as its interiors left it.

Noah noticed how the leaders of the team didn't seem to mind his actions, so he simply kept on storing nourishments that he would eat later on.

The dissection continued with Noah using his instincts and consciousness to find the reason behind the extraordinary power of that species.

'What is this?' Noah thought when he severed a large chunk of muscles to reveal part of the interiors of the creature.

A spherical organ appeared in his view, and Noah was utterly sure that there wasn't supposed to be anything significant in that spot!

He had simply followed the trail left by the energy that the beast had started to release after its death, which led him to find that peculiar structure.

The organ radiated a soft light that flickered as it lost the energy contained in its insides. A tight array of blood vessels linked it to the rest of the corpse, and the tissues around it seemed to be even sturdier than the others.

Noah stopped his actions when he saw the sphere, and the leaders hovering behind him focused on that organ as soon as it entered in their vision.

"This is impossible!" Elder Estelle said when her consciousness enveloped the organ.

She was a middle-aged woman with short brown hair and dark skin, and she was the rank 5 cultivator sent by the Council. She was knowledgeable in the fields that concerned magical beings, and her expertise didn't stop at the magical beasts but covered even the magical plants.

That allowed her to notice the similarities between that spherical organ with the dantians of the cultivators!

Of course, Noah noticed that too, but his understanding of the matter was far more detailed.

'This isn't a dantian.' Noah thought as he neared the organ to let his body gather as much information as it could. 'It resembles a cheap version of my Liquid dantian.'

The spherical organ released primary energy identical to that stored inside his Liquid dantian, but it didn't seem as perfect as his creation. Also, its main function appeared to be the nourishing of the snake's body, as well as the empowering of its innate abilities.

'The presence of a Liquid dantian would explain the power behind its poison and its endurance.' Noah thought as he stored his weapons and reached for the organ with his fingers.

"Wait!" Cecil shouted when he understood Noah's intentions. "Do not taint the corpse further!"

Noah ignored his words and sealed his grasp around the organ before pulling his arm backward. The blood vessels around it broke, but Noah paid attention to preserve the structure of the organ with his gesture. Then, he turned toward the elders and showed the bloody sphere in his palm.



"Magical beasts with a fake dantian," Noah said while moving his gaze toward Cecil. "Has the Elbas family ever heard of this?"

The rank 5 cultivators landed on the ground and inspected the sphere, which released the last bits of primary energy contained inside its structure.

The organ was nothing more than a dark-red ball at that point, but the absence of energy made the cultivators able to ascertain the thickness of its walls.

It was just as Noah had said. It wasn't a real dantian but rather a cheap version that couldn't match the center of power of the humans.

Yet, it even that fake had made the Flying snake surpass the limits of its species!

Countless questions appeared in the leaders and Noah's mind as they kept their eyes on the bloody ball. That feature was something that could make vain the accumulated knowledge of the magical beasts' field.

Also, some issues concerned the actual layout of the Immortal Lands.

'If the Immortal Lands is a huge plane connected to multiple Mortal Lands," Noah asked himself. 'Why didn't we find this feature on any of the creatures inside the new continent?'

The heroic cultivators didn't know much about the Immortal Lands, but Noah had seen the statue inside the Mortal Palace, and his world had explored a piece of them.

He had formulated hypotheses that seemed somewhat on point, but that sudden discovery had already eliminated most of them.

'Is this limited to this lower plane?' Noah thought before rejecting that idea.

Magical beasts with a dantian would be naturally more potent than those without it, which meant that their chances to reach the higher plane would be higher.

It was evident that such an empowered species would need more energy to reach the higher ranks, but that requirement wasn't enough to stop their growth.

'They would be kings among beasts, even if their fertility turns out to be poor.' Noah concluded in his mind.

One of them would be far stronger than its peers, and it would soon take control of any environment with only weaker beasts as its enemies. Its rule would lead to the spreading of its bloodline, meaning that there were bound to be similar creatures in the higher plane.

Yet, none of them had appeared in the piece of Immortal Lands fallen in his world.

Of course, he had considered the possibility that such a feature was limited to the Flying snake species found in this lower plane. There was even the possibility that the fake dantian was something that the beasts of that world had developed only recently due to mutations.

"We know too little," Noah said when he accepted that he couldn't find an answer after analyzing only one specimen.

Not even a day had passed since they had reached the new world, but their notions of the balance enforced by Heaven and Earth were already falling apart.

"I agree." Elder Estelle said. "Let's capture more creatures and study the plants too. We must understand how this plane works."

The other rank 5 cultivators didn't object to her words, and even Cecil simply returned to the group still flying over the volcano. As for Noah, he stored the corpse of the snake before following them back in what was now their base.