

Descent 1311

Chapter 1311 Multipliers

Leonel silently listened to the detailed analysis of the dictionary. When it was done, he nodded and organized his thoughts. It wasn't perfect, but he hadn't expected it to be. He was lucky enough to have a combination of treasures that could allow it to work, but he wouldn't believe himself to be infallible. With how large the Dimensional Verse was, if it was so easy to make it to the top, then Leonel would already no have a chance at becoming King, someone else would already have a combination of treasures far better than himself, not to mention an elite head start.

'The replication requires energy, a lot of it. The only reason Monkey felt so undefeatable was because all his strength was provided by the Dimensional Verse since he was a Savant. However, the tentacle womb has lost the Savant nature it had after the fusion. So, all the energy now needs to be provided by me...'

This was the most troubling part. The amount of energy required was astronomical.

It was somewhat better since Leonel had the koi fish and the Silver Tablet, not to mention the Segmented Cube. But, even then, it was heart rending. Leonel hadn't even spent any money yet, but he already felt poor.

Depending on what the tentacle womb was replicating, it would require a different collection of Force sources. However, after calculating it all, the amounts were fairly consistent.

The replication of a Third Dimensional existence would take a single Third Dimension Pure Force Crystal. The Replication of a Fourth Dimensional existence would take ten, a Fifth a hundred, a Sixth would require a thousand and a Seventh was currently impossible.

In addition to this, there was a multiplier effect added on top of this. A Tier 1 Ability was a x1 multiplier, a Tier 2 Ability was x2, a Tier 3 was a x5, a Tier 4 was a x10, and a Tier 5 was a x100, not to mention requiring an equivalent amount of Breaking Force Pure Crystals.

If that was the only multiplier, things might still be fine. But, of course, it wasn't.

Then came the scale for Lineage Factors. Fourth Dimensional Lineage Factor came with a base multiplier of x2, Fifth Dimensional Lineage Factors were x5, Sixth Dimensional were x10, and Seventh Dimensional Lineage Factors couldn't be replicated.

Then there were Innate Nodes. This made things even more complicated. There were two categories to consider. One was the rarity of the Force and the second was its Inherent ranking.

Within the first category of rarity, there were four tiers. Bottom tier Forces like normal Elements of wind, fire and like without special add ons or abilities. Middle tier Forces that could be considered a step beyond like Light Elemental and Dark Elemental Forces. There were then High tier Forces like Space Elemental and Dream Force. And, finally, there were the Pinnacle Forces. These included fusion Forces like Leonel's Scarlet Star Force and it also touched upon Forces that existed on Planes of their own like Anarchic Force, Universal Force and Breaking Force.

To form an Innate Node of the bottom tier, it would require x10 multiplier, middle would require x100, and high tie would require x1000. As for Pinnacle Tier, it was currently impossible.

These multipliers only became worse when the individual ranking of the Innate Node was taken into consideration.

This was already an overwhelming amount of information to take in. But, there was a reason the dictionary had taken so long to analyze everything... Because there was even more, and these might even be more important than the previously mentioned parameters.

These parameters were related to the sentience and overall constitution of the replicated creature. It didn't matter how much talent you stuffed into a clone if they had the intelligence of a toddler, and it definitely didn't matter if the materials they were constructed of were simply too fragile.

Toward this end, the tentacle womb had the ability to assign a level of intelligence. This ranged from Empty Vessel, to Low IQ, Middle IQ, High IQ, and Fully Sentient.

An Empty Vessel would only be useful for the likes of Wise Star Order and Heira who could ditch their bodies and pick up a new one at their leisure. Such a creation would be absolutely useless to Leonel who needed an army of actual soldiers.

Unsurprisingly, the multiplier for this was just x1.

The Low IQ variant was a measure better, but not by much. It only had the ability to sustain itself and work on instinct. It could feel hunger and its body knew how to pump its blood and move its heart. But this was all.

This came with a multiplier of x2.

The Middle IQ variant was basically the minimum requirement for a decent soldier. Though they couldn't have complex thoughts of their own, they could follow orders. They could attack when they were told and retreat when they were told.

This came with a multiplier of x5.

The High IQ variant, though, was likely the lowest Leonel felt was actually possible. Their thoughts weren't overly complex, but they could also follow orders. In addition, they could begin to display some battle prowess of their own and could display skill in the usage of their bodies. Most importantly, though, variants of this level gained the ability to learn and retain information.

This came with a x10 multiplier.

The final level spoke for itself, but it was unfortunately impossible for the tentacle womb to do this. Or, depending on the way you looked at it... It might be for the best.

Finally, there was the constitution of the construct. Clones tended to have far shorter life spans and far less durability than real living beings, just healing from a middle tier injury could shave years off their already short lives. However, the tentacle womb could actually combat this!

At the first tier, a clone would have a lifespan of six months, at the second, it would be one year, then two, then five, then ten at the highest. In addition, those with the highest constitution could be 'recycled' and produce a new unit at less than a fraction of the original cost.

Unsurprisingly, these also came with ridiculous multipliers. The first level was x1, then x2, then x10, then x100 and, finally, x1000.

With all of this laid out, if Leonel wanted to replicate just one of these Rapax foot soldiers it would take...

'It would cost 1 000 000 Fifth Dimensional Pure Force Crystals, and that's assuming it had a Tier 1 Ability Index, no Lineage Factor and no Innate Node...'

Leonel exhaled a breath.

Chapter 1312 Deity

Leonel had tried forming a Pure Force Crystal for several months previously, but he had failed to form even a single one. Not a single one.

How was he supposed to gather a million under these conditions? He wouldn't even know where to begin. Luckily, he didn't have to worry about this alone for long.

"Hey old man, come to Lab 001 for a second."

Leonel didn't speak loudly, but he controlled everything with the Segmented Cube. With a thought, his voice would be projected anywhere he wanted it.

Wise Star Order had been within the Segmented Cube the whole time, having fun with his new favorite toys, or, rather, disciples. This was good though, as it seemed that Candle and Vice were actually doing much better.

Not long after Leonel called out, all three came into the lab to find the enormous tentacle womb looming within a glass case. Candle and Vice weren't allowed into the Lab Setting usually, so this was only the second time they were seeing the tentacle womb after they first fought it.

Candle almost immediately hid behind Wise Star Order, shrinking herself down to the point it seemed she might want to vanish completely. Though, this was much better than her panic-producing hundreds of impenetrable barriers.

Despite Candle's reaction, the current tentacle womb actually looked much better than it did in the past and even seemed to be tending toward a more aesthetically pleasing variance.

Its bottom half was still as grotesque as ever, a vine network of slimy, greyish, purplish, blackish tentacles, protecting the exit of its womb. However, its upper half had become a budding flower with more layers and petals than most could care to count and sharing the very same color scheme.

The mind of the tentacle womb was hidden within and there was actually the face of a beautiful woman that took up the center of the bud. The face was an inhuman sort of beautiful, the kind that felt computer generated. Due to this, despite the fact it was objectively more beautiful than any face Leonel had ever seen, including his mother and Aina's, it still didn't truly feel like it was...

It also obviously didn't help that the face appeared in such an odd location.

That said, Leonel could imagine that as the tentacle womb finished its evolution, it would grow into its own and likely finish what was likely just the beginning stages of its maturation.

"What did you call me here for?"

"I have questions, of course. What are your thoughts on Pure Force Crystals?"

"Rare in the Human Domain." Wise Star Order replied.

"In the Human Domain? Why specifically in the Human Domain?"

"Pure Force Crystals are the representation of purity. They follow just one path and are dead set on it. In the Human Domain, there are too many disciples, not enough unified thought, too much free thinking. It's not an environment conducive to the appearance of Pure Force Crystals."

Leonel's brow furrowed. The way Wise Star Order talked about things seemed simple, but they were laced with profound meanings far beyond his comprehension. He spoke of the creation of an inanimate object as though it hinged on what the animate did.

In the past, Leonel might have already dismissed this as absolutely ridiculous. But, he had learned enough from Wise Star Order by now to understand how it all came together.

The introduction of the Life Grade to him opened up a whole new door. And, when he felt the last dying wish of his Crafter's Quill, he realized just how tangible that reality was. At that point... These matters didn't feel so ridiculous to him at all and he had even accepted them wholeheartedly.

"Then let me guess, the Spirituals have the highest concentration of Pure Force Crystals there is?"

"I guess the answer to that is both yes and no."

"How so?"

"Well, specific tribes of Spirituals would have very specific stores of Pure Force Crystals, namely Elemental ones. But, they might not necessarily have others. Those will be left mostly to other Races."

"What about the Rapax?"

"They're a good example. Their natural armor makes the density of defense specific Pure Force Crystals especially high. In addition, they have a large variety of Pure Force Crystals that directly benefit the body."

"I see... So if I need a million Fifth Dimensional Force Crystals, what do I do?"

Leonel sighed. He wanted to say that he could rely on the koi fish, but how would he do that? It had very clearly shown him its limits just a day ago when it failed to separate Anarchic Force from regular Force. Obviously, it had its limits, and they were quite severe.

"Do you think I'm a God?"

Wise Star Order looked at Leonel as though he was looking at an idiot. He couldn't understand how someone could be so smart and yet simultaneously stupid.

"Alright, I'll take a different approach then..."

Leonel began to explain to Wise Star Order all the cards he had in his hands, from the tentacle womb to the koi fish, not to mention their deficiencies. With those things laid out, he waited in hopes of hearing a different answer.

"... Of course the fish wasn't able to separate out Force here. It's a Fifth Dimensional existence and you haven't spent any time nurturing it at all. This is a Seventh Dimensional world. If it was already powerful enough to do as it pleased here, you think you would have been able to subdue it so easily.

"A koi fish with those characteristics would be like a worshipped Deity in the Spirituals Domain. Creatures with this ability are very rare and have elevated intelligence. How an idiot like you managed to catch one is beyond me.

"Also, the difficulty of forming Pure Force Crystals is all relative. If you're in a Fifth Dimensional world, especially in a region as weak as the Milky Way, of course you wouldn't form even one in several months. But, if you're in a Seventh Dimensional world, a single Fifth Dimensional Pure Force Crystal isn't nearly as valuable..."

Leonel's brows shot up.

Chapter 1313 Command

Wise Star Order sighed. This rat truly had way too much luck. How it is that things ended up this way was beyond him.

But, when he thought about how this koi fish had appeared on Earth, he felt like it was no wonder.

"I guess it makes sense for this little one to appear on Earth. Your world probably hasn't chosen one yet. There's probably a large concentration of highly talented beasts vying for it, then."

"Hm?" Leonel's head snapped back, his Dreamscape suddenly sparking wildly.

A conversation he had with Uncle Montez resurfaced to his mind instantly.

Montez smiled mysteriously. "Every world has its own Champions. The Champion of the humans is the wielder of the World Spirit. But, when it comes to newly evolved worlds like yours, beasts are at a great disadvantage... Did you think that the universe just favored humanoid creatures? Of course beasts have their own opportunities.

"Whether or not you can find out more will depend on yourself and this little one."

"Someone once told me that a world has both human and beast Champions and that the human Champion is the wielder of the World Spirit. What does the beast Champion get, then?"

"Oh? You do know about this?"

"Is it not common knowledge?"

Leonel was already so used to being in the dark about things that this was his instinct. But, from Wise Star Order's reaction, this seemed to be unlikely.

"No... You seem to not have a grasp on even the simplest things, but then somehow understand things that almost no one does." Wise Star Order shook his head. "Not every world has a beast 'Champion', and

not every world can have one to begin with. The requirements of a beast are, unfortunately, far more stringent. And, usually, it's quite difficult for a human as well, at least to fuse the World Spirit into one, but the difference is that the beast equivalent might never appear at all while the World Spirit is guaranteed to appear."

"Why is that?"

"Well, there's a balance that has to be struck. There is no 'Beast Domain' in the Dimensional Verse like there is a Human Domain. Beasts appear everywhere and are technically widely accepted. At the very least, beasts aren't discriminated against. Any conflict between a species and beast is usually quite pure and free of bigotry and a sense of superiority. Usually, it's just a fight for resources and/or land.

"Due to this and other inherent advantages beasts had, it's infinitely more difficult for them to claim territory for themselves. They don't need the protection of the Regulator like humanoids do. They can exist everywhere.

"However, beasts have no less intelligence than humanoids do. Or, more accurately, a certain subset of them do. While it's technically fair for things to be like this, the Regulator still allows freedom of choice, even to beasts. So, those that want more for themselves can take the route usually left to humans.

"It's nothing new... It's simply the birth of a second World Spirit known as the World Beast. I'm not too clear on the abilities considering how rare World Beasts are, but I don't doubt that they share much of the same abilities the World Spirit does."

"I see..."

Leonel's gaze shifted up to the little mink curled up atop his head. He hadn't thought of asking for Blackstar's help even once during his battle with the Rapax and the little guy seemed to have the ability to sense when he wanted to do things alone.

However, at that moment, Leonel couldn't help but remember the tentacle wombs initial evaluation of the koi fish versus Little Blackstar. It deduced that the former was worth way more... Until, that is, Little Blackstar perfectly assimilated with his Void Beast blood.

This made Leonel wonder, though, if Little Blackstar in his base form was actually believed to be so much weaker than the koi fish, what other beasts were lurking in the dark on Earth waiting to become the World Beast?

Was the koi fish really the pinnacle? Or were there other monsters lying in wait? And if he managed to raise up Little Blackstar to become the King of them all, would they obediently fall in line?

Leonel's gaze narrowed.

"So what you mean to say is that under normal Seventh Dimensional conditions, the koi fish would actually be able to produce Fifth Dimensional Pure Force Crystals very quickly?"

"Yes."

"But I can't leave the Void Palace, even my mom couldn't for decades. There's Anarchic Force everywhere here..."

Leonel wasn't really speaking to Wise Star Order anymore when he said this. Rather, he was speaking to himself, trying to find a solution. It was likely that the next time he got to leave the Void Palace, he would be headed to the Morales family Heir Wars. That meant there was no longer any other chances to take a different direction. Would he just have to abandon the tentacle womb for now and focus on other things? It was looking like it...

"Haven't you noticed yet?"

Leonel's pupils suddenly constricted. That was right, how could he have not noticed.

"... There's no Anarchic Force in here."

It wasn't that Leonel wasn't sensitive to such things, it was rather that the Force he could use here was just as thin as the Force he could use outside, so he hadn't noticed originally.

Leonel was used to the Segmented Cube multiplying the Force concentration several times over in here, so when it hadn't, he had assumed that it was because of the Anarchic Force. But, it seemed that he was both correct and incorrect.

With a thought, Leonel could tell that the Segmented Cube was actually siphoning away the Seventh Dimensional Force to fuel its evolution. And, because the Anarchic Force was so thick, it couldn't complete this function and increase the Force concentration at the same time. It also didn't help that the region within the Segmented Cube was so much larger than it had been in the past.

'I see...'

"Divert Force from evolution and focus on maintaining high concentrations in Lab Setting." Leonel commanded.

Almost immediately, the atmosphere began to shift. A strong gush of Force flooded the region to the point Leonel suddenly felt extremely light on his feet.

What he didn't know was that though the Segmented Cube had listened to his command, a certain little girl spirit frowned in her sleep, her little fists waving about in a tantrum.

Chapter 1314 What is it Worth?

With the change to the Segmented Cube, Leonel felt as though he could finally breathe. It was as though he had been taken half breaths all this time, slowly suffocating, and he only now became aware of just how much oxygen he had been missing out on.

He didn't realize how much he had missed high densities of Force until now. But, more shockingly, he hadn't realized just how good just breathing in a density of Seventh Dimensional Force felt.

With a thought, Leonel's mind reached out to the golden scaled koi fish and had it begin to work. Still scared from its previous failure, the little one was a bit hesitant at first, but quickly acclimated once realizing that the air had been thoroughly cleansed.

Leonel watched this scene intently, not taking his eyes away. The True Selection had suddenly taken a backseat for a moment. And to Leonel's shock, just moments later....

The golden scaled koi fish opened its little mouth, its fins still gliding through the water like thin strips of white silk. A strong surge of Force formed, radiating outward with a purity hardly seen. The entire lab was covered in a pure white fog that almost made Leonel moan. And then, it happened...

The Segmented Cube whirred to life under Leonel's command. The white fog concentrated, and almost instantly began churning out Pure Force Crystals. In just a moment, a pile of ten had formed and it showed no signs of stopping.

There was no cohesive whole it at all. Leonel could see Crystals of all sorts of Elements within. He knew that depending on the subject he wanted to clone, he would need to make the golden scaled koi fish focus on very specific types of Force which would likely slow its progress greatly. But, this did nothing to dampen his mood at all.

Just two seconds to form ten Fifth Dimensional Pure Force Crystals! Two seconds! At that sort of pace, it would only take just two to three days to form the million needed to clone one low level Rapax!

After a surge of excitement, Leonel forced himself to calm down. Things were finally slowly coming together, but he still couldn't get ahead of himself. There were many things that needed to be worked out. In addition, he still wasn't sure if making a bunch of clones was the best use of his resources right this moment.

While it sounded like a great idea, clones were a hassle. Setting aside the moral dilemma, they had short lifespans and would require constant command to show their true potential. In addition, it had to be understood that the Pure Force Crystals needed to create them was just an initial investment.

Every clone formed would manifest at Tier 1 of the Dimension they were born into. If Leonel wanted to grow their strength, he would have to feed them more Force Crystals. In addition, even the highest constitution the tentacle womb was capable of reproducing right now couldn't break through Dimensions, meaning they would never be able to reach a new level... At least not at the tentacle wombs current level.

There were all sorts of other small problems that Leonel couldn't even bothered to deal with right now.

"It would be better if I invested everything into evolving the tentacle womb and koi fish now, leaving cloning until later. I have a feeling that Fifth Dimensional Clones wouldn't be helpful to me in the slightest, and I wouldn't be able to form Sixth Dimensional Force Crystals until the koi fish entered the Sixth Dimension, likewise for the tentacle womb. It can't form Sixth Dimensional beings until it too enters the Sixth Dimension..."

Leonel was under no illusions that Fifth Dimensional backers would be enough to win him the Heir Wars. Not only would he need strength well into the Sixth Dimension, so too would his subordinates. If he got greedy now and lost his patience chasing numbers, he would be handicapping himself.

Luckily, Leonel had only wanted a proof of concept for now. And... He had a much better idea for what he should be focused on right this moment.

With a thought, the Silver Tablet appeared once more.

Within this thing, many outstanding talents were slumbering. Not to mention Leonel's Generals and especially Goggles, Leonel often found himself thinking back to the Speedster and his former fiancée. Leonel had already decided.

On the outside, his brothers would build up their strength and charge their way into the Void Palace. And, on the inside, the core of his faction would begin with himself, Noah, Aina, the others and the geniuses slumbering within this Silver Tablet.

It was about time that Leonel unleash Little Blackstar. He had been sitting on the little guy's Ability Steal powers for long enough. First, it was because he didn't want his closest friends to lose their personalities. But now that he had the Silver Tablet, that was no longer a worry.

Within the walls of the Void Palace, with so many geniuses around and so many chances to kill them, what better place could there be to steal abilities?

"Goggles, I'll awaken you first."

With a thought, Leonel had the golden scaled koi fish focus on gathering Pure Neutral Force. Suddenly, the large and daunting amount of Force he needed to gather to resurrect his brothers felt so small and insignificant now...

Feeling this change, Leonel couldn't help but sigh.

What was life, exactly? If you could just stuff someone's soul into a tablet and resurrect them on a whim when you had enough energy, what was life worth? Was he wrong for believing it had any intrinsic value at all?

And what about Camelot's existence? Did mere words on a page really give life to living, breathing people... With thoughts, emotions, and aspirations of their own...?

Leonel remembered how lost he had felt when he realized what secrets the Silver Tablet was hiding. They were emotions that he had yet to resolve even now... But the question itself was too profound. It made Leonel feel as though there were a large pair of hands hanging over him above, pulling not just him, but everyone along at its leisure...

Leonel exhaled a long breath, his gaze flickering with resolution.

Chapter 1315 Holding Himself Back

Leonel appeared outside the Sub-Dimensional Zone with a Rapax beneath his feet and Aina tied to his back once more. The latter still seemed to be in an endlessly peaceful sleep and Leonel almost felt back for taking her away from the comfortable bed she had been lying upon before. But, he had no choice.

Though the Segmented Cube was very comfortable, it wasn't conducive to Aina's growth any longer. Because the Segmented Cube filtered Anarchic Force away, if he left her in there, she wouldn't be able to acclimate and that would only weaken her into the future.

'I wonder, though. If the Segmented Cube can filter Anarchic Force, I bet it can selectively raise its concentration as well. I've heard that this is good for your training long term, I'll have to try it out later...'

Leonel had no idea just yet that with this thought, he had gained access to something Void Palace disciples paid exorbitant fees for, for free.

With a thought, Leonel put the Rapax's corpse away. He had to take it out to ensure that the Zone recognized his victory. But, with Cursed Beasts still lingering around, he couldn't just leave it lying around.

Leonel swept his senses around before shooting forward once again, streaking up the mountain at the greatest speed he could muster without destroying his stamina.

Inwardly, he was intrigued. Blinded by his previous greed, he had forgotten that it should have been impossible to take things out of a Sub-Dimensional Zone until it reached the standard of the Gold Grade. Only Gold Grade Sub-Dimensional Zones and above could produce treasures that one could take out and use for themselves in the real world.

Though a Rapax wasn't exactly a treasure to most, its corpse was definitely one to Leonel and it should have disappeared along with the Zone. But, it didn't.

'Interesting. Could it be that they used the shell of a Gold Grade Zone to form their challenges? What an embarrassment of riches... They wouldn't even know that a Rapax's corpse would be useful to me. Though, I guess you could probably trade it in just like you could Cursed Beast corpses.'

Leonel was 100% correct. The Void Palace had, indeed, used previously Gold Grade Zones as a shell. But, no one had ever seen through such a thing so easily.

The journey forward wasn't met by any opposition. In fact, it felt almost too easy. Outside of the occasional beast that crossed his path, there was nothing else. Of course, these beasts were nothing compared to the Rapax and Leonel almost felt too naïve for having thought them to be strong. His horizon felt far wider now than they had been before.

'... It'll be a bit of a challenge.' Leonel thought to himself as he sliced apart another beast, leaping onto a branch and skipping toward the canopy of another tree. '... I'm not sure how the Void Palace will react to new people suddenly showing up within their borders.

'They're likely already aware that I have extra people with me just by virtue of the Zone's reaction, but...'

This was the only real worry on Leonel's mind now. It was one thing if he could just keep his people hidden within the Segmented Cube. With the size of the Segmented Cube, the amount of things he could accomplish was endless. He could train them, acclimate them to Anarchic Force, and he could even allow them to benefit from the Void Palace's resources.

But now, he had been exposed, there was simply no way for him to avoid the detection of a Zone. He wondered if he could get away with bending the rules again. He was probably already public enemy number one with the interference of Orinik and Ossenna by now, why not become a little more hated?

Leonel chuckled to himself. Regardless, he would take things as they came. It was already too late to worry much about it all now.

Slashing out again, Leonel's spear suddenly met some unexpected resistance. But, he simply calmly retreated, stepped out of the way of a downward swinging claw, and attacked the exact same spot once more.

This time, his spear went clean through.

Before the beast could even collapse, he had already stepped by it and stored its corpse away.

That was another problem. Leonel's spears were beginning to become a choking point for him. He would have been able to defeat the Rapax much easier if his spear could withstand his Destruction Artistic Conception, but it couldn't.

Leonel believed that there were two reasons for this and he would only need to fix one to experience a large leap in strength. But, he would need to ideally fix both if he wanted to reach his goals.

The first was that his spears were too weak. Quasi Silver Spears were at the pinnacle of the Fifth Dimension, but Leonel's Scarlet Star Force was relentless. Unless he could find another way to protect them, he would have to upgrade as soon as possible.

The second was that his control over his conceptualization of Destruction was far too weak and ill controlled as well.

While it was true that Myghell had relied on true Silver Grade weapons to withstand his Scarlet Star Force, how could normal Silver Grade weapons compare to a Domain Spear of an Heirloom like Leonel's? Fundamentally, Myghell's comprehension had been beyond Leonel's and as such, he could get away with it.

'In that case, I need to stop wasting time holding back my Destruction conceptualization as though it was just a trump card. It shouldn't be a trump card, it should be a core part of my battle style. Treating it like a final 'gotcha' moment would just impede my progress...'

Leonel felt enlightened. The moment he had unleashed his Destruction, he had broken past a barrier he hadn't even been trying to cross. Why should he keep holding himself back like this? He was only harming himself.

"Blackstar, I'll have to hand Aina over to you."

"Yip! Yip!"

Little Blackstar was suddenly enveloped by a dense black fog, becoming an enormous wolf with twin tails. He gently rest Aina within them and the master-beast pair shot off together.

A faint red glow hung around Leonel, a dangerous light exuding from him. Just this choice alone had made him a far fiercer opponent... One most would definitely not choose to cross of their own volition.

Ironically, though, it wouldn't be long before the pair were forced to stop once again.

Before Leonel, a vast lake covered in a dense layer of fog lay. He stood upon a rocky ledge without room to go left or right, he couldn't even find a path to go around it all.

At that moment, though, his gaze narrowed. There were other rocky ledges around this enormous foggy lake, and some of them had people waiting on them as well...

Right then, Leonel was suddenly enveloped by a light. It was this that made him realize why it was he could see these people from so far away. They too were enveloped by a light.

The difference was, though, that while their lights were gold... his was a violet-gold.

All their attention was focused on Leonel in an instant. They all became aware that an Amethyst Token had appeared.

[Just two today T.T]

Chapter 1316 Golden Sector

Leonel's gaze narrowed. He had a feeling that this was where the true challenges would begin. Everything up until this point was nothing more than a weeding out of sorts, a filter. It seemed that things would only get interesting now.

A faint sort of excitement bubbled up within Leonel's heart, a searing heat pulsing above his right hip. This sort of stage, it was the kind he really wanted to be on. He faintly hoped that... These people would not disappoint him.

...

Cornelius could see the shift in Leonel's demeanor, and right then, it felt like something that had been confusing him finally snapped into place.

Observing Leonel felt like one of the most confusing things he ever had to do. Sometimes the young man was hot, sometimes cold. Sometimes he was murderous and sometimes he was forgiving. Sometimes he was arrogant and at other times he was humble. Sometimes he met the day with a smile and at other times he met it with coldness...

As confusing as his personality was, his battle prowess was even more so. Cornelius couldn't even decide whether he was a talent or an average genius, something that was baffling considering the fact the young man had just single handedly defeated a Rapax soldier. But, that only emphasized just how hard it was to get a read on Leonel...

'Sometimes his true self slumbers... and sometimes it peeks an eye open, groggily observing the world around him as though to check if those before him were worthy...'

As for when Leonel would truly wake up? Cornelius had no way of knowing, or else maybe he wouldn't be so confused.

The main issue, though, was that this was exactly like a certain man. He met the day with a bright smile on his face, joking around and chasing skirts without a care. You would never be able to tell that there was a slumbering monster within him, ready to pounce and destroy everything at the slightest poke.

That slumbering beast, too, only partially awoke from time to time. But... That day that it had fully awakened, that day when it rose up and unfurled its body, roaring into the skies...

The Void Palace's very foundation had shaken.

...

"What the hell is this?"

The voice wasn't overly loud, but it was laced with an unconcealed fury. Its owner stared daggers toward Leonel as though with just this alone, he could see the latter sliced and diced into minced meat.

The young man looked like the picture of a roaring lion. He had a head of hair, side burns and beard that all came together to form the image of a vibrant mane. His two eyes were a piercing bright brown and his teeth lengthened to the point two prominent canines jetted out whenever he opened his mouth.

A sparkling white-gold halberd stretched across his back and his armor alternated in heavy white plates and dense brownish-golden fur. Despite the fact he was in his early 20's, no one would have hesitated to believe that he was already well into his 30's, not because he looked so old, but because his facial hair simply didn't seem fit for someone so young.

Those around this young man almost instantly smiled bitterly. They had known that these days of leisure wouldn't last for so long.

Over the last few days, they could just sit back and do nothing. This overly prideful young master of theirs always insisted on doing everything himself and he continuously plowed forward, blocking and destroying everything in their path.

Usually, this sort of personality would have gotten them into a ridiculous amount of trouble. But, with the current state of things and the set up of this particular trial, it was nothing but good. In the outside world, however, just these last few days alone their young master would have at least killed three prominent figures, ruined the future of at least one noble lady, and would have dove into at least one life or death situation that would have ended with at least three of them losing their lives, only to be replaced by a new wave of youthful retainers.

Then, they would be forced to spend the next coming days cleaning up the mess while their young master rested, only for them to do it all over again the next week. But, this time, the list of those who hated their young master would have increased by that exact number.

It could be said that this young man was even better at stirring up trouble than Leonel. His was Conon Lio, the leading youth of the Golden Sector's Lio family.

Much like Conon's attendants had expected such behavior, they also knew why their young master was reacting like this as well. The Golden Sector was unlike most due to its special structure. In conjunction with its complex history, no single family had been able to dominate it. However, unlike the Three Pillar Sector, the three families that locked heads in the Golden Sector were far higher on the totem pole. In fact, if that very same one to ten scale used to understand the Libra family was used, then these three families would actually faintly surpass them, sitting at solids eights and nines!

Due to this, despite his achievements, Conon hadn't been able to monopolize the Amethyst Token like a talent like him would have in practically any other year. Instead, he had been locked into a stalemate with the young heir of the Tarius family, Armand, and the young miss of the Pyius family, Simona. Unluckily, all three families had birthed outstanding talents in this generation.

As though that wasn't bad enough, Conon, Armand and Simona might have been the tip of the iceberg, but they had several cousins, brothers and sisters who could only be considered a step below. In fact, in a weaker generational pool, it would have been possible for one or two of them to have gained an Amethyst Token. And, one of these individuals was Conon's elder brother who stoically stood to his side right this moment, Gunter Lio.

And yet, now all of these geniuses were seeing a right they were snubbed from due to unfortunate luck, sitting in the palm of a nameless young man they had never seen or heard of before.

No... they had heard of him, just a few days ago. But, what they had heard only fueled their rage all the more.

Chapter 1317 A Choice

Leonel could feel the animosity, it was almost palpable. The hairs on his skin stood on end and his blood vessels dilated. The pumping of his heart grew slower and more forceful, a subtle crimson energy racing throughout his body.

In the blink of an eye, his body had been covered in a thin veil of sweat. However, it wasn't the kind of sweat one would gain out of fatigue or fear. It was the kind of sweat that would cover a boxer on their way to the ring, having just completed a small round of cardio to warm their bodies up. It was the kind of sweat that would soak a runner in the middle of a run when they finally set their pace and hit their perfect stride. It was the kind of sweat that didn't allow the body to rise past a certain level of heat, settling in at the perfect degree for prime functioning.

When Leonel's body entered such a state, he felt more alive than he ever had before. His Nodes worked as one, circulating his blood throughout his body and leaving him a state where he was absolutely prepared for everything. One could have easily mistaken him for a predator on the prowl, his expression seeming decidedly less human in those moments.

BANG!

At that moment, a geyser shot into the air. The temperature skyrocketed and vision from all angles was completely blurred.

Leonel was forced to retract his Internal Sight at that moment. He felt like a scolding heat was ready to fry his mind if he remained any more stubborn. It was a shocking sort of feeling for someone like Leonel who hadn't felt true heat in years.

Thanks to his Fire Elemental affinity, what was usually overly hot for others was a breezy spring day to Leonel. For his Internal Sight to be fried like this... It was definitely a unique experience. But, considering his body was still just fine, it was clear that his mind had a weakness that the rest of him didn't share.

Leonel slotted in this realization to the back of his mind and kept it for future deductions. For now, though, his mind focused entirely on what was before him and he remained supremely focused, ready for anything.

However, what happened next felt somewhat anti-climactic.

The geyser fell and the heavy mist it had come with faded. But, there was hardly any other change but a platform that had appeared one meter ahead of Leonel's cliff ledge. This platform of rock hung upon absolutely nothing and it seemed that everyone had gotten one. Each group gained exactly one of these.

Leonel didn't think very much about it at all. With a single stomp, he leaped onto the platform, Little Blackstar following behind him just as quickly.

Almost the instant he landed, though, he vanished, disappearing as though he had never been there.

The minutes ticked by and soon, with a VWOOSH, Leonel and Blackstar appeared once more. Nothing seemed to have changed at all. Aina was still resting on Blackstar's tails, Little Blackstar was still floating within the forehead of his construct and Leonel still stood, unmoved.

However, if one looked very closely, it was possible to see that a subtle hint of blood drizzled down the pointer and middle finger of Leonel's right hand, dripping down to the ground in slow, steady droplets. And, at the same time, the fire in his gaze had only grown more savage and unfettered.

He stared intently ahead, waiting for the next. And, he wasn't disappointed in the slightest.

BANG!

Another geyser appeared. Leonel seemed to have forgotten about all the eyes on him, intent to focus on what was before him, his mind thirsting for battle as the sheen of sweat that covered him began to emit just the slightest hints of a steamy fog.

This time, three platforms appeared. One ahead, one to the left and another to the right. The ones to the left and right were about two meters away from Leonel's current platform while the one ahead was just a single meter away once again.

Leonel's gaze narrowed when he noticed this change. Despite the fact it was subtle and almost meaningless, it made his mind whirl into action. In truth, in this state, he wanted to do nothing more than turn his brain off and fight to his heart's content, but to him, this was too obvious of a detail to miss out on.

The rules of this game were still obscure but the general gist was obvious enough to Leonel: Use the Platforms, defeat their bosses, and reach a certain destination.

If the main goal was to reach a destination, then a movement of two meters obviously seemed better... Or did it?

To Leonel, the destination could be deduced through simple logic. Varying groups of geniuses surrounded the outline of this lake. That meant it would make little sense for the destination to be any opposing bank or cliff edge. By process of elimination, the destination was most likely the center of the lake itself, something that was easily over a kilometer away.

At a pace of one meter per bout, it would obviously take 1000 battles for Leonel to reach the center. However, to his left and right, there was a movement of two meters. The bad news, though, was that unlike the center platform, these ones deviated from the path toward the center. So, although they allowed him to leap a larger distance, they still ultimately left him further away.

That said... Leonel had to believe that there was a reason why these left and right platforms would exist.

If the Void Palace wanted a simple race to the center, they could have done so. In fact, Leonel wasn't the only one who had jumped at the platform the moment it appeared and he also now wasn't the only one to have already come out.

Now, they were all faced with the same dilemma. Would they take the straight forward path? Or would they risk it all for the unknown.

Leonel's grin widened.

With a stomp of his foot, he launched himself onto the right platform, his intent blazing as he and Blackstar vanished once more.

When they reappeared, they found themselves in another foggy world filled with white borders.

Ahead lay another Rapax soldier.

[I'm sorry everyone, I woke up with a headache today and it threw my whole day off. More action tomorrow :)]

Chapter 1318 Good

Leonel shot forward, his Divine Armor appearing on his body.

His palm flipped over, forming a claw with his fingers curled toward the sky. As though a wild beast, he sliced upward, the rupturing glass of space following his every movement. But, what was even more dangerous were the tendrils of destruction that filled in the cracks, layering Leonel's strike with a violent abandon that shook the core.

BANG!

Leonel's claw and the Rapax's ax kick met, but it was the latter that found itself sprawling backward.

'That's the first effect. Destruction cripples Force not much unlike Anarchic Force, burning it to ashes.'

Leonel's steps shifted, his claw morphing as he pressed his fore and middle finger together into a short spear. He pierced forward as the Rapax stumbled back, its leg now thrown high into the sky.

After two battles with the Rapax, Leonel had already learned of their weaknesses. The race as a whole had poor posture. At first, it looked like a coincidence, but after three encounters, it most definitely wasn't. For an entire race to share the same habit, there was clearly a reason for this.

When the Rapax hunched over, their spines coiled, the plates that covered their torsos were as tight and compact as possible, making the more fragile joints almost impossible to target. At best, one would be able to attack non-lethal areas like the arms and legs.

However, when forced to open up, the joints went from non-existent and snapped closed to open by a sliver.

In truth, this couldn't be said to be a 'weakness' at all. Even when standing to their full height, the gaps in the Rapax's plate armor was at most counted in millimeters. In addition, the skin of the Rapax was especially tough, albeit not nearly as tough as their steely carapace. Still, it could be said that the

defenses of their exposed flesh was only two or three ticks below Leonel's own when he activated his Bronze Runes. That alone was enough to make them impervious to lower Tier Bronze weapons.

Still, this slight and almost negligible flaw was more than enough for Leonel.

PCHU!

'No, I'm wrong. That's too simple and doesn't give Destruction enough credit. It's not burning things to ash, it's erasing it from existence. This is the reason why the Rapax, despite not emitting Force and keeping it circulating within its body, can still have its strength weakened by me.'

Leonel had yet to meet a Rapax that used an external source of Force. And, yet, his Destruction characteristic still had the effect of greatly weakening its attack. On the surface, this didn't make much sense unless he was underestimating the effect of his Scarlet Star Force from the very beginning.

Leonel's Spear Force pierced through the more fragile skin of the Rapax, slicing through its body and incinerating its inner organs to ash.

'More, this isn't enough.'

The moment Leonel appeared outside once again, he had already leapt forward. This time, there was only a single platform to choose from, once again about two meters ahead of him. When he landed, he found himself in a new world once more, facing yet another Rapax.

Leonel wasn't a fool. He had realized many things by now.

The rules and regulations of this True Selection seemed almost too loose. They didn't limit who could group with who, they didn't make any effort to separate allies and even threw them all in the same village without a care, and they made no attempt to regulate what might be seen as unfairness.

But... Was this entirely true?

Leonel felt differently. In fact, he believed that the Void Palace had a perfect pulse on everything that was happening.

All things considered, the appearance of the Sub-Dimensional Zone seemed completely random, especially if there was a trial like this one waiting not long after. That was unless one considered the one thing a Zone could do perfectly that anything else might slip up with: And that was counting them number of individuals in a party.

Leonel's Segmented Cube could hide people from far too many methods of detection. And, Leonel wasn't the only one with a treasure that could accomplish such a feat, especially with so many young geniuses with astonishing backgrounds around.

So, the Void Palace borrowed the power of the Regulator to shore up potential loop holes. Using the Zone, they saw through any hidden trump cards a youth might have. Then, after doing this, they threw these simulations at the group one after another.

Leonel could feel that these weren't real Rapax he was facing. The only real Rapax was the one whose corpse now hung in his Segmented Cube. These... Were nothing more than practice dummies set with the assumption that Leonel's group had the support of six individuals total.

But, Leonel wouldn't have it any other way. There was no better method the squeezing out every ounce of potential he had.

Leonel flickered and vanished, his body appearing atop the Rapax. With a strong punch downward, its head completely caved in. What once was an armor Leonel couldn't leave even the slightest scratch on lost all of its structural integrity beneath a single vicious blow, crushing the skull of the Rapax and shattering its brain.

When Leonel appeared above the foggy lake once more, his gaze flickered, the vague image of a hidden rune dancing within his irises. He felt that he was faintly approaching his first watershed. His Innate Node thrummed with life, his body feeling as though it was alive.

Leonel had come to realize that so long as he didn't actively call upon Scarlet Star Force and simply allowed his body to naturally regulate how much he could withstand, what could have been a lethal dose to anyone else became like a steroid pumping through his veins.

'This feeling... Is good.'

Leonel leapt forward, vanishing once more. The ire of his peers didn't make him waver in the slightest. In fact, he very much hoped that he would run into one of them very soon. He wanted to see what the geniuses of the Human Domain had to offer.

Chapter 1319 Roundhouse

Leonel's hair fluttered, his body surrounded by powerful Artistic Conceptions. His Star conception looked almost no different from his previous Summer conception. However, the difference in its power was akin to night and day.

Leonel had already set the path for his Heavenly Body Realm comprehension after stepping foot into the core of the Milky Way Guild's Disaster World. His Summer construct was formed as the foundation of his Star construct. His Fall construct was the foundation of his Moon construct. His Winter construct became the foundation of his Planet construct. And, finally, his Spring construct became the foundation of his Meteor construct.

The Summer construct spoke for itself. Radiant Core was a dense mass of Radiant Force, a high radioactive-like Fire Elemental Force. It had strong gravitational and magnetic properties, making it both good for defense, and great for increasing Leonel's offensive output as well. Leonel often liked to use it as a core of his Blade Forces to form volatile drills.

Leonel's Fall construct was only used on occasion, but it was exceptionally powerful, it was dubbed 'A Slow Death', by him. When he released its Artistic Conception, autumn leaves would fall from the skies in gorgeous colors ranging from bright orange to somber reds and browns. It had the effect of sucking away life force, matching with Leonel's Winter construction, Withering Snowfall.

Withering Snowfall was a lot like A Slow Death but rather than targeting the life force of people, it targeted their attacks. When in effect, it felt like the Force in the area had dried up as ash fell from the skies like snowfall.

If an autumn leaf of A Slow Death touched you, you would feel sluggish and slow. If an ashfall of Withering Snowfall touched your technique, its strength would plummet...

Leonel didn't change the names of A Slow Death and Withering Snowfall, and now, they worked together better than they ever had before.

Leonel's Planet Construct became a ball of gorgeous white. Around it, Moons of red, orange and brown rotated, their very presence making one feel as though they had aged a decade. The cycles of the Moon made one feel as though time was passing at varying rates, distorting one's image of reality as though their mind had been cast into an odd illusion. At the same time, the pull of the Planet could cause Force to bend beneath its will, pushing and pulling, multiplying or eradicating...

Together, they were a perfect team, tugging on both reality and imaginary... Having evolved, A Slow Death now placed far more emphasis on 'Slow', a lulling of the mind, a false sense of security, a pulling of wool over the eyes... Likewise, Withering Snowfall placed far more emphasis on Withering now...

Finally, there was Golden Drops, the conception of Spring and now Leonel's Meteor construct. It was the most simple and straightforward. As Spring, it released small droplets of golden rain, each as heavy as an anvil. And now, it released enormous rocks of golden fire, each as heavy as a small mountain!

Subconsciously, Leonel's conceptions of Destruction seeped into his Heavenly Body Realm. It was impossible to avoid. His mind was wrapped into all things Scarlet Star Force, he hardly realized just how many stages he was blazing through without a care.

He just wanted more. He couldn't seem to be satisfied, and he didn't seem to understand fatigue. He kept pushing and pushing, relentlessly.

He didn't even realize that his Moon conception was becoming the most warped, evolving to something that stepped beyond what should have been possible for the Heavenly Body Realm.

It took Leonel four battles to grasp his Meteor construct, eight more to grasp his Planet construct, and easily more than a dozen to grasp his Moon construct.

By the time he fused them all together, reaching the pinnacle and touching upon a state even among other True State comprehenders, he had already fought over 40 battles.

Leonel improved by leaps and bounds with each. Even though the Rapax he faced were supposed to be getting stronger, he seemed to improve even faster than they did. With every strike, his prowess increased by small percentage points. He became more acclimated to his own body, he learned more about his Destruction conceptions, and he began to truly take advantage of his sharpened minds and the awakening of his Soul.

For the first time, Leonel was given challenge after challenge worthy of his talent level. Rather than being stuck in an organization filled with those who couldn't hope to match up to him, he was finally in a world where he couldn't just casually take step after step, and the result...

Leonel's potential was dragged up piece after piece, bit after bit. It started like a trickle but it eventually became an overwhelming tide, a tsunami that washed all those away.

Even still at Tier 5, he faced a Tier 8 Rapax dauntlessly. He grabbed onto its throat, ripping its neck from its shoulder and feeling its final squeals vibrate his palms.

When Leonel appeared again, there was no longer anywhere else to go.

BANG!

This time, it wasn't a geyser. A platform crashed against his, fusing into a makeshift arena with lethal edges and a diameter of just over 20 meters.

Up ahead, a group of geniuses shrouded in veils of gold met Leonel. There were just three of them, but each one carried their own air of haughtiness and pride. When they saw the violet gold sheen around Leonel, their gazes narrowed.

"That's him. The pathetic bastard who had his mommy get his Token for hi—"

Leonel's mind was still in battle mode. He hadn't even considered the idea that these people would want to exchange words. And, even if they did, what did it have to do with him?

His body seemed soaked in a bloody aura, a dense crimson fog fusing with his violet King's Might.

BANG!

His fist crushed the ribcage of the man who had spoken. The sound of shattering bone and an upheaval of blood and vomit resounded as he was sent flying backward.

His two teammates snapped out of their shock, they both reacted at the same time, rushing backward to save their group member before he fell off the edge and toward his death. But, Leonel had followed closely behind.

In a blink, his foot had appeared by the side of a young maiden's face in a perfect roundhouse kick. After fighting so many Rapax, his mind had been infused with all sorts of perfect kicking forms and his body had adapted just as easily.

BANG!

His foot hooked across and downward, slamming her cheeks into the rugged stone platform and deforming her lovely features from two sides at once. If he had used any more strength, her entire head would have burst like a watermelon.

The third and final teammate just barely managed to catch the first Leonel had sent flying before he was sent over into the lake below. However, when he looked back, all he could do was look on in shock.

How... How was the gap so large?

A steamy breath left Leonel's lips, the veins beneath his skin pulsing with a subtle red-gold color.

Chapter 1320 Is That All?

The third teammate's gaze turned steely. Regardless of the situation, he was still a genius in his own right and the weight of a Golden Token wielder this year was far heavier than it had been in previous years. As far as he was concerned, they had underestimated Leonel, but they wouldn't continue to do so.

Setting his teammate down, he immediately flipped his palms to reveal a twin pair of short sabers. With a step, his figure flickered and vanished, appearing before Leonel with a wind.

It only took a glance for Leonel to pick out several things. A strong Wind and Dark Elemental affinity, Level Two Saber Force, Tier 9 strength, and what seemed to be either a Lineage Factor or Ability Index capable of making his presence fade. That matched with a top level Fifth Dimensional movement technique and it felt like he had truly disappeared.

Just this alone made the difference between these enemies and the ones Leonel had previously faced all too obvious. Just a random young man actually had so much Talent. Leonel would often not run into an individual with even one of these talents, let alone all of them.

The young man was right to be confident in himself. His blades flickered through the fog, jetting toward Leonel's throat like twin pincers, ready to sever his head from his shoulders.

BANG!

The young man suddenly found himself in a daze, his brain rattling in his skull and his jaw feeling like it might shatter as a strong upward pressure shot into it from below. It took him several moments for him to realize that Leonel's heel was blasting his head upward, his sabers just inches from the latter's neck and yet feeling like a world away.

The young man couldn't wrap his head around how Leonel had grasped such impeccable timing. No, how had Leonel even been so fast? How had he been so confident?

Leonel's legs formed a perfect split in the air, his heel driving up through the young man's jaw with such fierceness that the latter's feet lifted off the ground, sending him spiraling into the foggy skies like a rocket.

The young man tried to reach out with the last reserves of his strength to close the final distance. But, his efforts only made Leonel's gaze flicker.

CRACK!

The final bits of structural integrity the young man's jawline had left crumbled. A muffled cry tried to leave his lips but ended up dwarfed by a mouthful of shattered teeth and jaw bone shards.

SHUUU!

He spiraled into the air as Leonel slowly lowered his leg, the dense crimson around him and the subtle red-gold of his veins becoming more prominent.

With a dull thump, the young man fell back down to the ground, his body having shut down completely. And, maybe for him this was for the best. The pain of having half your face shattered was most definitely not something anyone would want to be conscious for.

Leonel released a breath, his chest moving at an even rhythm. He didn't even seem to have exerted himself, his breathing remaining unhurried and unbothered.

'Is this all?... How boring.'

Leonel was disappointed. Maybe it was his mistake for still unleash everything, he hadn't even held back his Ability Index.

In truth, as fast as Leonel was progressing, he still needed to find time to comprehend his Ability Index as well. Wise Star Order had told him that this was the only way to stop the restrictive ability Anarchic Force had on his Dream Force. But, at the same time, using his Ability Index made battles too easy.

Leonel had progressed so fast that what had started as a challenge had become the same mundane nonsense he was used to. Was this really the pinnacle of the Human Domain? There had to be more, there had to be something waiting...

The glowing cloaks of the three down and out geniuses rumbled before separating from their bodies. Soon, they became floating orbs in the air.

'Oh? You can take them? Okay.'

Leonel reached out, causing the three orbs to come toward him. Then, he flicked his wrist toward Aina and let her absorb all three.

An audible crack resounded as the Golden Tokens of the three youths shattered. However, Aina's color still seemed to be gold without the slightest change.

'I see, so this is a choice. Those that go straight ahead have the best chance at dodging a forceful confrontation between geniuses. However, those that go right or left will eventually find themselves in a fight. You can either go straight and choose to keep the Token you have or deviate and seek out something better.

'I already have an Amethyst Token so I don't particularly need this. However, if I can raise Aina to an Amethyst as well, it'll be a great advantage for the future. Plus... This is still a good opportunity to hone my combat prowess...'

From Leonel's understanding, only those who wielded Golden Tokens could immediately become Quadrant Ranked disciples upon entering the Void Palace. Those without Golden Tokens would have to slowly prove themselves to rise above the Nominal disciple rank. However, what no one had explained just yet was what the Amethyst Token could do.

If Leonel was correct, the Amethyst Token just might represent a straight path toward the Galaxy Rank. Or, at the very least, you would get the chance to try. With this attempt, not only would a whole host of new resources be opened up, but it would also save Leonel many years as well.

If he could bring Aina along with him and they could work together, the benefits would be exponentially greater. That way the two of them could forge a path for everyone else to follow behind.

Having come to this conclusion, Leonel's gaze sharpened.

BANG!

A geyser erupted once again. But what was interesting was the fact that the path ahead didn't gain an explosion. In fact, the path the three youths had come from was still open.

'Interesting... The easy path, or?'

Leonel's feet were already moving as he jumped toward the mist left behind by the geyser.

