

Descent 1591

[Chapter 1591 Monster](#)

In that instant, a palm suddenly appeared above the young man's head, causing his expression to change.

He could no longer use his spatial Force in long range, but he had concentrated it to the point where even Leonel's lotuses took a long time to cut into it. As such, within a five meter radius of him, he could sense everything clearly. In addition, because of the special abilities of space, he could sense ripples of space up to 15 meters away.

Whereas the sight range of Internal Sight ended abruptly, all space was connected to more space. Any changes to the mesh would inevitably have extended travel.

However, while this was the case, the face of the young man was still ugly because he could feel his stamina being quickly drained as Leonel forced him to replenish his dome of spatial Force again and again.

The young man released a growl, his palm shooting up to meet Leonel's.

A wild ripple of space and pure power met.

BANG!

Leonel's palm was forced back up but the knees of the young man bent so fiercely that he almost fell to the ground.

The latter grit his teeth, hard. He flipped over two palms, a twin pair of silver sickles appearing in his hands for just a moment before he threw them out with all the strength he could muster. Before they even landed, he flipped his hands over one again, forming another pair, one of which he threw in the air above his head only to replace it with another flip of his palm.

Five silver sickles manifested in quick succession, one of which hovered high in the air and two of which were quickly spinning toward Leonel's chest.

Leonel's gaze flashed. This was another issue with his Lotus Domain, it was useless against physical objects. That said, while these were physical objects, it was powered by something quite obvious.

The twin giant lotuses surrounding Leonel panda construct spun, ripping the Spatial Force from the twin pair of sickles, stripping them of all their profundity before snatching them out of the air with two hands.

At the same time, two of his arms wielded his spear, piercing straight for the young man's forehead. If such a blow landed, let alone being pierced through, the young man would find his head shattered into a rain of blood and gore.

The young man crossed his arms about his chest, the third sickle above his head swinging down as though it had a mind of its own carrying with it a fierce momentum.

The three sickles blocked with a single mind, their three blades intersecting. But even before they struck, the eyes of the young man widened. He suddenly couldn't sense his other two sickles anymore. What the hell happened?!

There was no way for him to see beyond this fog and his Internal Sight was entirely useless. He felt as though he was trying to swim forward in a raging, relentless storm.

BANG!

Spear and sickles met, the resonating boom sending violent ripples of space in all directions.

The eyes of the young man glowed with a cold light. These brats really thought that he was a pushover.

After he had run away the first time, he realized that he had been overly cautious. That woman he had battled had been blown away too easily by his spatial barrier. And, as he meditated on the lotus that tricked him that day, he realized that it was just a clever trick to redirect his Spatial Force. While it was quite profound, it wasn't impossible to circumvent.

If it wasn't for this fog barrier that messed with his senses, how could he be toyed with like this?! He was a Fiend Class genius! While he had no chance at the Top Prize, he had pride of his own! How could he lose to two who had just been promoted from the Human Class?!

Fury lit his gaze, a silvery light exploding forth from his eyes. With their blades connected like this, he knew exactly where Leonel was. He would make them pay for daring to underestimate him.

The silvery light grew, becoming a vaporous sort of energy that almost looked like dancing solar flares.

"Die."

Just as the young man spoke that word, his eyes widened.

At that moment, a twin pair of sickles he couldn't have been more familiar with had come back toward him. They arched so beautifully in the air that, for a moment, he was mesmerized.

Too few people knew that even in comparison to bowmanship, Leonel was on a completely different level when it came to using throwing weapons. As much control as he had over his bow, when the medium of the bow was removed and all that was left was the weapon and himself...

He was a God.

The young man simply couldn't react at all, the odd Time Force distorted his reality entirely, cutting through his Spatial Barrier as though it was never there at all. And maybe that was because to that pair of sickles, the Spatial Barrier hadn't been erected yet...

The pair of sickles ripped into either side of the young man's collarbone, rotating through his lungs and out his shoulder blades.

The young man coughed up a mouthful of blood, his control over his Force waning as he shot backward.

BANG!

He collided with a tree just as the blades exited his shoulder blades, and just like that, his blades hooked into the tree's black bark, leaving him hanging as his blood slowly dripped down.

The young man coughed and wheezed, his blood slowly leaking down from his body. However, his mind remained clear enough for a deep fear to shake his heart.

Time Force... That was definitely Time Force... What kind of monster had he offended?!

The fog around the panda construct and the spatial affinity youth dispersed, revealing a looming 10 meter tall form to the latter.

Leonel sat with Aina in his arms, a light smile on his face. He seemed to be in a good mood as though he hadn't just fought a vicious battle. Just one mistake back there and he could have very well been the one nailed to a tree.

Luckily he had already analyzed this young man's ability previously and the latter was very unlucky that Leonel's spatial affinity was quite good as well, allowing him to more easily restrain the youth all while using less stamina to sustain his Yin-Yang Domain.

"Just answer my questions honestly and I'll have no reason to kill you."

[Chapter 1592 Effort](#)

The young man grit his teeth, but now that he was pinned down and Leonel's lotuses were spinning around him, there was little he could do. The trees of the demon world were far too sturdy and his weapons were far too elite to be so easily dealt with.

Now that he was pinned up like this, there was simply nothing he could do but be obedient.

"First question, why are you alone?"

This wasn't what was at the forefront of Leonel's mind, but he wanted to soften this young man up a bit and also get a baseline for him. With the young man in his Dream World, every single detail of his being was imprinted into Leonel's mind. If he wanted to lie after Leonel had grasped a feeling for when he was telling the truth, it would be almost impossible.

The young man looked toward Leonel with disdain. He realized that Leonel must have thought that teaming up happened here just like everywhere else.

"This is the Fiend Class Sector, not some kiddie pool," the young man replied with a sneer.

Leonel sighed and shook his head.

BANG!

A palm of the panda construct slammed into the tree, shocking the young man and causing it to sway about wildly.

The young man grit his teeth, the pain of his body swaying on blades more than just a few words could describe. Unfortunately, he had the sturdy body and bones of a Sixth Dimensional existence and he could only experience his body being slowly cut into with every sway.

"I need answers, not cheeky replies. Get to the point and stick to it. While you're at it, put away that condescending look and smirk. In case you didn't notice, your life and death is in my hands."

The young man's jaw steeled. If looks could kill, maybe a laser would have already pierced right through Leonel's forehead already. But he remained unmoved, his gaze growing frighteningly cold as an aura of majesty exuded from him.

"... There are no groupings in the Fiend Class Sector," the young man spoke through gritted teeth, "the demon world bubble is too large. It's easier to split up, and that's part of the challenge anyway."

Leonel's eyes narrowed. Easier to split up? Too large? This made sense, this place was indeed far too large.

"Since this is a real world, how exactly do you plan on counting the 10% mark? Were all of these demons already tagged?"

The young man's brows furrowed. This Leonel Oliidark really didn't understand a single thing at all, did he? But this made sense, the young man had never even heard of an Oliidark family, so it had to be a small place that gained some good luck and produced a genius like this.

Maybe he could take advantage of this?

"10%? What do you mean?"

Leonel shook his head.

BANG!

Another palm slammed into the tree. This one was even harder than the last, causing the young man to seesaw on the two sickles as though he was trying to cut himself into three pieces.

He roared out in pain, his body trembling. But while Leonel had made a move to stop the sway before, he allowed the swaying to naturally end this time.

"Don't waste my time," Leonel said coldly. "Now, I'll ask you again, how exactly do you plan on counting the 10% mark?"

Leonel could already see the marker's for "recognition" in the young man's eyes the moment he mentioned 10%, but now he was pretending like he didn't know? It was a stupid lie, but it was also a good one for Leonel to call him out on.

The earlier he caught the young man in a lie and the earlier he made him realize that he couldn't be lied to, the less likely he would be to lie in the future. If Leonel's question continuously became more complex, even with his abilities, if the young man became smart and started to tell half truths, it would become difficult to differentiate them.

With things being like this, it would be less likely to be a problem.

Like this, Leonel began to squeeze out all the information he needed. Ten minutes later, he nodded and turned to leave, leaving the young man pinned to the tree. As far as Leonel was concerned, he could figure out a way down himself.

...

'Things are more complicated than I thought, but also simpler depending on how you look at things.'

Things worked a lot differently in the Fiend Class Sector and it turned out that he and Aina were left in the dark all the while. However, it was a good thing that they had been because without their current strength, knowing would have been absolutely useless.

The reason Leonel hadn't found an exchange all this time was because in this Sector, even earning a chance to exchange required a hard battle. He had to find a certain or certain demons with gems hidden within their bodies. These gems could be shattered for a direct teleportation into a new space where he could then exchange for what he needed.

The value of the gem and the quality of store you were teleported to was dependent, unsurprisingly, on the strength of the demon.

If Leonel wanted a path to the highest echelon exchange there was, he either needed to defeat one Tier 9 higher Fiend Class demon with a gem, ten Tier 9 middle Fiend Class demons with a gem, or a hundred Tier 9 lower Fiend Class demons with a gem.

With the latter two options, the gems would have to be combined into one using a special method which would still require higher Fiend Class demon blood...

In other words: battle and more battling.

Without the strength to defeat a higher Fiend Class demon, you could forget about getting a chance to enter the best exchanges. This rule was likely put in place for the likes of Leonel who gathered so many points in the Human Class Sector and hoped to use them here.

In the past, this would have been a huge hurdle to jump for Leonel. But now... it would just require a bit more effort.

Before, he had just been looking for demons compatible with himself, Aina and his friends. But now that he knew he had to look for gems, his entire outlook shifted.

[Chapter 1593 The Best Trap](#)

Leonel began to quickly make good on what he had missed out on.

The gems were most likely to be found in demons with spatial affinities. This made them very difficult to catch and lock down, and since they were quite rare, just finding them was a great hassle.

Leonel had no reason to hunt down such demons previously because he didn't know anyone with such a higher spatial affinity that would also be in need of such demon carcasses aside from maybe that genius of Earth, Karolus.

He had been potentially thinking of nailing down some with spatial affinities later on if he had the time remaining, but it hadn't been an absolute top priority until this moment. Now, he would go all out against them. As for their escaping abilities, he wasn't worried.

Leonel began to quickly cut down one after another, quickly racking them up.

Defeating a Tier 9 higher Fiend Class demon was simply impossible, a Tier 9 middle Fiend Class one was still too difficult. However, a hundred Tier 9 lower Fiend Class demons was something that he could just barely handle.

The first two or three were actually exceptionally difficult. At Tier 9, the gap was so large that even Leonel had trouble making it up. He had to use a series of tricks and ambushes to get his way.

However, as he grew accustomed to the kind of spatial affinities these demons had, he began to see patterns and it made deploying his Lotus Domains even faster.

As Leonel added more and more Spatial Forces to his repertoire of lotuses, it became easier to dissect and calculate new lotus formations for Spatial Forces that he didn't recognize. At the same time, he became even more adept at using the Time Forces that they generated on the other end.

There came a point where Leonel grew confident that so long as his enemy used Spatial Forces, he could one shot them.

Of course, the caveat was that they had to use Force at a level at this Lotus Domains could counter. Unfortunately, for now, the control higher Fiend Class demons had over their Forces, especially at the highest Tiers, already crossed into Realms where it was near impossible for Leonel to wrest control in.

However, Leonel had no intention of targeting such demons. He would find exactly what he needed here.

...

Leonel's illusory spear cut out once again, splitting the head of a black horned demon in two.

It had been three days since he tortured the young man, or rather Falen of the Defensive Ward Pavilion, and he finally claimed his last gem. Leonel now had exactly what he needed save for one item: the blood of a higher Fiend Class spatial affinity demon.

The good news was that this one didn't need to be Tier 9, it could be any Tier. So Leonel was hoping to find one that was either Tier 1 or Tier 2 to handle. He felt that he was beginning to run out of time as the competition on the leaderboards had only become fiercer.

The secret of the gems wasn't the only thing Leonel had learned about in these three days. According to his new understanding, the Top Prize of this Sector wasn't based on the 10% rule. Rather, it was a bit special.

According to Falen, one first had to enter the top 10 in points. Once 10 trillion points had been accumulated across all participants, the top 10 would be locked in and the final phase would begin.

Within this final phase, everyone of the top 10 would be granted a chance. This chance would be used to teleport them to a new region where a final demon would be waiting. This would trigger a one on one battle where the first of the 10 to win would be granted victory.

Then, once this battle was concluded, one could then use the exchange method to teleport to the highest level exchange and claim your Top Prize.

Due to these rules, most with a chance had likely already killed a Tier 9 higher Fiend Class demon to claim the gem they needed and would be immediately ready to do teleport should they be the first to claim victory.

However, that also left a slight problem for Leonel to face as well...

Most had ignored his existence earlier because they all rightfully assumed that he had come from the Human Class Sector. As such, they assumed that he would fall quickly from the top 10 spot he had claimed, and this much had been true at the beginning.

Leonel quickly fell and was about to fall out of the top 10 entirely when his points suddenly began to jump upward. From falling out of the top 10, he began to maintain his ranking. Although he didn't move up, his descent downward started to slow enough that those on the fringe began to panic and look for him.

The ranking wasn't necessarily entirely about strength. There were many near the bottom that would have a great chance at winning the one on one battle first.

Take Leonel, for example. A huge reason for his killing speed was his Internal Sight and Dream World, and his ability to quickly locate perfect targets for himself. Not everyone had such an ability!

In the minds of many on the fringes, hovering between 15th and 11th place, they had already realized that their only chance at claiming a top 10 spot was to take Leonel down.

At the same time, those hovering around Leonel's rank knew what those below were thinking. As such, many of them wanted to deal with Leonel themselves as a strictly defensive tactic.

Like this, every individual from 15th to 7th place had their antennas up in search of Leonel, tracking a moving dome of fog and attempting to corner him inch by inch.

Unfortunately, Leonel's escape abilities were too great and he often found them long before they even spotted him.

Leonel's luck, though... was bound to run out.

Some understood that it was best to work smarter, not harder.

Rank 13 – Thaela Urizana – Endless Twilight Pavilion.

Thaela had realized something very interesting. While noting the point jumps in Leonel's score, she realized that he was suddenly entirely focused on killing lower Fiend Class demons. Realizing this, she made a guess at to Leonel's goal and realized that once he hit 100, he would be looking out for a higher Fiend Class spatial affinity demon that would be easy to deal with.

She knew just how rare such creatures were and she happened to have the perfect ability to lie in wait.

This wasn't a camouflage ability, but rather a cloning ability.

With time running out, she was confident that Leonel would come even if he knew it was a trap.

She was very clever. Just by observing Leonel's point total, she was able to tell that Leonel had no intention of joining the final battle. It wasn't that he didn't want to, but rather that he didn't even have the strength to.

And she was very much correct. Leonel had no intention of chasing after the Top Prize in this Sector, he simply wasn't strong enough. He couldn't even defeat a Tier 4 higher Fiend Class demon, but this final demon was most definitely not just Tier 9, but a Tier 9 higher Fiend Class demon that was an elite amongst them all. In fact, there was even a small chance that it might be a Chaos Demon.

This was why Leonel was in such a rush. There was no way he could allow himself to be teleported to the final battle, but he also couldn't give up his points because he needed them to trade for the final item that would get them home.

This left him with only one choice: he had to leave the demon world, and there was only one path to doing so that solved everything...

And that path needed a higher Fiend Class demon's blood.

Thaela didn't have to try very hard. While Leonel had been fighting these last three days, she had found and marked several such demons, leaving eight clones hidden nearby their locations.

When she spotted Leonel's fog domain quickly approaching one of them, her lips spread in a beautiful smile and all of her clones suddenly vanished in an instant, fusing into her main body.

Her prey was here.

...

Within the fog domain, Leonel's eyes were narrowed and his jaw was clamped shut.

The best trap was one an enemy knew was there and still had to run into. He was very used to using his intelligence against others, but it seemed it was his turn to take a taste of his own medicine.

[Chapter 1594 Amusing](#)

Leonel's frown settled down, his features smoothing out and his countenance becoming frighteningly cold. He didn't know who this woman was, but he was absolutely certain that she was extraordinarily powerful. In addition, he could deduce exactly why she was waiting here, so she was also very much confident in the gap between their strength.

With just a single glance, Leonel could tell that this young woman was in Tier 9 of the Sixth Dimension. Not only that, but she was also comparable to a high Fiend Class demon or else she wouldn't even dare to come here to fight Leonel for a chance to fight an elite demon to begin with.

In all likelihood, then, this young woman was not only comparable to a high Fiend Class demon, but she also should be comparable to an elite one even among them.

Leonel immediately noticed her fusing back with her clones. Her doing such a thing, especially so prematurely, seemed to open up a gap for Leonel to escape. After all, now that her clones had vanished from the sides of the other demons, so long as Leonel ran, he should be able to escape her.

The main issue with that, though, was that Leonel didn't believe that someone intelligent enough to force him or all people to walk into such a trap could possibly make such a rookie mistake. In fact, he calculated that there was a better than 80% probability that should he try to run now, he would end up in an even worse situation.

Although he couldn't be certain, this young woman likely had other contingency plans ready to deal with him, and it made him feel somewhat wary that he couldn't immediately sense.

In that case, there was only one option to take... do the very thing she least expected him to do.

BANG!

The ground beneath Leonel's panda construct shattered and he rippled through space like a beam of light. In a mere instant he appeared at the edge of his fog domain, and then everything shifted and changed.

Leonel went from being the center of his fog domain, to being at the edge, and then instantly becoming the center once more. Just like that, the barrier which had been a distance away from Thaela appeared right at the edge of his nose, causing her brows to shoot up. The sudden change was so fast and quick that her heart couldn't help but skip a beat, only to quickly calm a moment later.

She hadn't expected Leonel's Fog Domain to move so suddenly and quickly, it was hard to fathom. Domains like this one should take time to shift and they definitely shouldn't just flash forward by 10 kilometers in the blink of an eye.

But what Thaela didn't know was that this wasn't the work of just one domain, but two of them.

And, what she also didn't know is that while her heart relaxed just the smallest bit when she realized the domain had stopped right in front of her, a bow had already appeared in the hands of Leonel's panda construct and in less than half a breath, it had already formed an arrow and said formed arrow had been released.

It shot through Leonel's domain with an impossibly great speed.

At such a level, it should have made a whistling noise in the air or released cacophonous booms of shattering sound barriers, and yet it was deathly silent, too silent.

Leonel's Starry Light Domain had formed a tunnel of light for it to shuttle through, following its arc with absolute perfection as though Leonel had already predicted the exact trajectory of the arrow... because that was precisely what he had done.

'Danger!'

The brows of Thaela shot up. It wasn't an especially strong scent of danger, but something told her that she might fall into an ever-growing precarious state if she took one wrong step.

The higher one's Dimension, the more in tune with this instinctive feeling one became, and this was especially true for those that had formed Star Runes and God Runes.

Intuition was something even the primitive man of Leonel's Spear Domain Heirloom had been able to grasp and pass along to Leonel. But this was an especially special case and just went to show how amazing the spear masters of the ring were even at the lowest levels.

But at these Tiers and Realms, intuition became an instinctual part of everyone's fighting style and it would often dictate exactly how they planned to react.

Feeling such a thing, Thaela immediately reacted, her palms flaring outward and ripples of space flowing like a current around her.

BANG!

At that exact moment, Leonel's fog domain flashed forward once more, suddenly cutting off Thaela's vision the instant she was feeling comfortable once again.

Although Thaela thought that this might happen, the timing was an issue. The instant Leonel's arrow was about to peek outside of the fog domain that was barely a centimeter from Thaela's nose, her vision and Internal Sight vanished.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Thaela immediately chose to retreat, but Leonel's arrow slaughtered the layers of her Spatial Force, rushing for her nose.

The feeling of danger became absolutely overwhelming, and yet it was precisely at that moment that Leonel flashed once more, appearing to Thaela's back with a piercing spear.

An arrow from the front and a spear from the back. Thaela was completely pincered and had nowhere to go.

However, it was precisely at that moment that her serious expression became a cold smile. A mere Tier 1 Sixth Star wanted to fight her? How amusing.

Her hands shifted through the air and several new Runes formed. In an instant, the situation changed.

Leonel's arrow, which had been coming toward her skull, multiplied into three and suddenly vanished, appearing to her back and intercepting the tip of Leonel's spear.

Leonel's attack met Leonel's attack, the sudden stunning reality forcing him to take a single strong step back.

The ripples of space around Thaela became ten times stronger than they were previously to the point where she levitated into the air, gracefully dancing out of the way of the reverberating impact of Leonel's collision as a bottom of red liquid manifested in her palm.

[Chapter 1595 Oblige](#)

Thaela smiled a sweet smile as silence fell over the area, playing with the bottle in her hand.

"This is the blood you wanted, right? No need to answer, I already know that that's the case. But if you think this pitiful amount of strength is going to be enough, I would suggest that you obediently hand over your head to me. If you do so, I can take care of your Oliidark family while you're gone. If not, and

you force me to fight this battle to the end and waste my time, then not only will I not lift a finger to help your Oliidark family, I'll also kill them to the last man, woman and child.

"Make your choice quickly, my time is limited."

Thaela obviously didn't want to fight this battle, if she could voluntarily get Leonel to give up his life, that was for the best.

Unfortunately, there was no simple way to exchange points in the Fiend Class Sector. Due to the top 10 rules, and in order to mitigate the use of teamwork, an exchange of points wasn't possible. That was why although there were two members of the Endless Twilight Pavilion in the top ten, Thaela still had to fight for her spot on her own instead of borrowing from two who should have been her teammates.

Due to this, the only way to take points from someone else was to kill them. This was also why Leonel hadn't gained Falen's Demon Points either.

If Thaela wanted Leonel's points, the only method was to kill him. But this fog domain and Leonel's abilities were far too troublesome, and if there was no chance at all, Leonel could very well just run away despite the contingency plans she had made.

As such, she chose to immediately set down her requirements. If she threatened Leonel later, when she had less control over the situation, she would come off as the weaker party. If she did so immediately, though, especially after so easily dealing with his attack, even if he didn't immediately accept, a shadow would be cast over his heart and he would definitely hesitate.

What Thaela didn't know, though, was that the moment Leonel heard these words, the frostiness of his gaze went from purely due to him focusing on calculation, to him being infuriated.

What a vile woman.

Leonel didn't care about the Oliidark family or if they were wiped out. In fact, he assumed that once he vanished from thin air, they would suffer such a fate just for being associated with him. However, it was the principle of the matter that left him enraged.

The only reason Leonel didn't care about the fate of the Oliidark family was because they had harmed a great deal of individuals. In fact, if he was correct, that restaurant he had worked in when he first reached their city had likely been wiped out to the final person.

However, these weren't matters that Thaela was aware of. Leonel could tell by the look in her eyes and the curl of her lips that she wasn't bluffing in the slightest. She had every intention of doing what she said, and for what, exactly...?

Resources? Treasures? Glory?

If she knew who his true family was, wouldn't she target them? If she could find where his mother was, where his brothers and cousin were, where the people he cared about were hidden, would she even hesitate?

Leonel's gaze sparkled with a crimson light, dense golden Runes dancing within his irises.

He had already figured out what Force she was using, but it wasn't an easy one to handle at all despite the fact he had become very used to making Spatial Forces his own. In fact, from what Leonel could see, her cloning abilities and spatial affinity were actually linked as one, likely to form an odd Ability Index or Lineage Factor.

The Force it was based on was called Emulation Spatial Force. It was an exceptionally rare spatial Force ranked in the top five of Spatial Forces and it was an even rarer fusion of Dream Force and Spatial Force.

Among Dream Forces, it was actually quite weak, but among Spatial Forces, it had the greatest dexterity, flexibility and manipulability.

Essentially, using a combination of Spatial Force and Dream Force, Thaela was able to recreate all sorts of illusions that could interact with the world. The Spatial Force aspect applied real, tangible changes to the world, while the Dream Force aspect formed illusions that hid the involvement of Spatial Force.

This only confirmed Leonel's speculations. Thaela didn't need to fuse with her clones, they weren't technically real clones to begin with. But because they could move through space, she could put down a clone an impossibly far distance away because even in comparison to light, Spatial Force moved faster!

It was no wonder that Thaela was intelligent enough to force even Leonel into a trap. Those with Dream Force affinity all tended to be extremely intelligent in comparison to their peers.

And, due to the fact Thaela wasn't layering Dream Force atop of Spatial Force, and her Emulation Spatial Force was a perfect fusion of the two, despite Leonel's exceptionally high Dream Force affinity, he couldn't instantly form a counter to it.

In addition, since Thaela's "illusions" were actually real and capable of interacting with the world, being able to see through them was useless. After all, they weren't fake, they could truly hurt him.

The most fearsome part of this Emulation Spatial Force was the last ability Thaela had displayed just now.

In a mere instant, she had gone from "damsel", to copying his arrow with her Emulation Spatial Force and pasting it twice more, forcing Leonel to face not just one of his own attacks, but three of them.

Despite having come to understand this, Leonel's expression only became colder and colder.

He didn't care how powerful Thaela was. It was fine that she had been clever enough to get him here. This was a competition after all, he couldn't be mad that she was trying her best for herself.

But now, she had taken it a step too far.

Two of Leonel's arms held up a bow, and of the remaining four, two held his spear and the other two hovered in the air, palms open... as though waiting for something to land in them.

At the same time, a large twin pair of lotuses appeared hovering to his back, tilting forward from its base and forming an enormous disk behind Leonel.

And then, three vibrant blue Stars appeared, pulsing with a blinding light.

He didn't want to do this because it was too dangerous. But this caution was unwarranted.

He was a man with two Destruction Rune laden Innate Nodes in his body... A man who had spent years suppressing Anarchic Force within his body...

If there was anyone who could control the opposite of Vital Star Force, it was him.

Since Thaela liked to play with life and death so much, he would oblige.

The vibrant blue energy began to crawl forward, entering the rotating formation of lotuses and beginning to seep into the ground with a deathly dark blue aura.

[Chapter 1596 Silver Waves](#)

The two remaining free hands of Leonel's panda clapped together, releasing a sonic boom as fearsome as a clap of thunder. The rushing black fog gathered together as Leonel's bow string was drawn back.

The signal of danger roared in Thaela's mind, several times more powerful than it had been before. It was so violent that her brows shot up, her eyes widened and goosebumps racing across her skin.

Thaela didn't hesitate, releasing a roar that manifested a Star to her back. It sparkled with silvery lights and just the faintest hint of blue. It would only take a single glance for others to see that this was a manifestation of her Emulation Spatial Force.

The space around her rippled so violently that it formed visible waves of silver and black in the air. In one moment, she had gone from a sneering mastermind to what looked like a goddess standing amidst tall silver waves.

Her star shimmered behind her like a radiant moon. Her hands pressed together, a strong fighting intent blazing from her.

The moment Leonel released his arrow, she sensed it. But what shook her heart was that the ripples in space were less ripples... and more a violent destruction of the integrity of space itself.

Thaela's mind spun at incredible speeds, quickly forcing her shock down.

Logically, the only existences capable of destroying space like this were the monsters of at least the Seventh Star. They could forcefully impose their will on the world, even increasing their speed by bending the laws of physics to their wills.

At the Eighth Star level, such an existence would be able to cause true destruction, their strength reaching beyond the bounds of reason. Once this realm was touched upon in earnest, rules like the impossibility of destroying energy were thrown out of the window.

However, there were methods of accomplishing this long before reaching these levels if certain parameters were met or if certain Forces were under your control.

As someone adept at illusions, there was hardly a single Force that Thaela didn't at least have some familiarity with. So, the moment she sensed such destruction, she thought of three Forces immediately.

Scarlet Star Force, Death Force and Fallen Star Force.

Of these three, there wasn't a single one that she hoped to run into. They were all incredibly fearsome and every single one of them had the strength to pose a real risk to her.

By the time Thaela finished these thoughts, the air had already entered her rippling waves. The closer it got, the more she was certain. This was most definitely Fallen Star Force.

Thaela's expression became more dignified. While all three would be able to threaten her, Fallen Star Force was especially heavy. It was like an anchor sinking into darkness that wanted to take everything with it.

While Scarlet Star Force crumbled something from the inside out, Fallen Star Force seemed to use a violent gravitational energy to shred everything in its path to pieces. Both were lethal for different reasons, but if there was one that was especially dangerous when formed into a speeding arrow like this one... It was without a doubt this dense black Force hiding within a silvery light.

All of Thaela's spatial Force bent around the path of the arrow, weighing it down and shredding it into piece, appearing before her in a flash.

Thaela's expression was ice cold by this point. Her spatial barrier might have been ripped apart, but it had bought her enough time to think and calmly analyze the situation.

It was obvious that she wouldn't be able to get Leonel to simply hand over his head. In that case, she would need to take it herself!

One of her hands formed several changing seals and her other hand flipped over to reveal a translucent whip that looked like it was carved of glass, and yet it seemed to have even more flexibility than a normal whip.

Her whip-wielding hand flexed, her wrist forming a spiral pattern. At the same time, within her body, her Nodes and nodal pathways shifted.

Her whip shot forward, forming a tornado around the incoming arrow and a rush of powerful Water Force followed suit.

'So she has that Ability?'

Leonel had seen this Ability Index once before from an envoy of the Void Senate. With those hand seals, she was able to instantly shift the position of her Nodes and just as instantly cast a technique without circulating her Force.

'This means that her Emulation Spatial Force is more likely to be related to a Lineage Factor. In that case, I have to be more careful because a Lineage Factor is rarely just an affinity and an affinity alone, there are other factors attached to it.'

Thaela used the easiest tactic, overwhelming the Fallen Star Force until it had run out of energy. She refused to fight it head on and she also refused to allow Leonel to just sit back and shoot arrows toward her freely.

Her spatial ripples reformed and became even more powerful as a second Star appeared to her back. If before she could cover 10 or so meters within Leonel's Starry Star Domain, it had now ballooned to 30 meters.

She enveloped Leonel's construct in those ripples and her pupils constricted when she saw the presence of three Stars.

A Tier 1 could already manifest three Stars?!

Thaela's expression only became colder. The longer she allowed this fight to drag out, the more variables would appear. She was already running out of time, this was simply unacceptable.

Her whip shot forward like a venomous viper. At that moment, it became difficult to differentiate its strikes and her Emulation Spatial Force. The translucent properties of the whip fused into the silvery waves as though it was right at home.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Leonel took several heavy steps backward as his bow was drawn once more.

The whistle of an arrow caused Thaela's ears to twitch.

[Chapter 1597 Shattered](#)

Thaela split into six clones, her body shifting and avoiding the arrow.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Leonel's spear shot forward again and again, each attached with a word or phrase. His mind quickly analyzed the strikes of Thaela, saw through the smallest of flaws, and used his comprehension to choose the best combination to deflect it away.

But the strength gap was far too great, especially now that he was facing six clones all at once. Thaela seemed to want to end this all as quickly as possible.

Leonel released another arrow, but his pupils constricted when Thaela's real body instantly shifted with one of her clones, avoiding his attack and only suffering the blow with a fake.

The combination of illusion and space was too useful. When their battle first began, Thaela had called over her other clones from dozens of kilometers away and they instantly returned to her. Now, she was using this same ability as an evasion technique. Leonel had simply never seen such high level applications of Force.

At the same time as Leonel was in awe, Thaela was steeped in derision and disdain.

'To have such a powerful Force and only be capable of using it to attack... he really does come from a backwater family I've never heard of. Such a high level Force and he doesn't even know how to use it properly. Pathetic.'

Thaela's whip became faster as a fourth Star manifested to her back. She pressed harder and harder, feeling that time was running out.

At first, she wanted to be more cautious, and she still was, but she also knew that there was a point where the effort wasn't worth the return. If it wasn't for these weird domains Leonel kept pulling out, she would have defeated him in a few exchanges.

He was unable to threaten her, so she would press harder.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Three of Thaela's Stars were of Emulation Spatial Force, but the fourth was also silver one. The moment these appeared, her Water Force changed, losing its delicate blue color and becoming almost like streams of mercury.

The streams of liquid metal fused into Thaela's rippling spatial waves, making them heavier and denser. At the same time, her whip became even more difficult to strike and its attacks became more and more lethal.

Thaela's clones all unfurled a hand, twisting their wrists about. At that instant, the whips they wielded that were only formed of Emulation Spatial Force fused with this mercury-like Water Force, making their attacks also several times more forceful.

Leonel's expression flickered, but the moment he suffered the first attack, his spear construct cracked. He was immediately forced to repair it, but the second attack also forced it to crack.

His panda construct shuddered, his steps backward becoming more frequent and harder to stop. His stamina drained faster and faster. With every attempt to maintain his construct, the amount of Force within him was being taken away at a quicker rate.

Leonel's cold gaze was frightening, but it couldn't change anything.

If he was fighting with his real body, he would have already been beaten into a half dead state.

He knew that he couldn't allow his construct to collapse. Without it, setting aside himself, it would put Aina in a direct line of fire. And knowing the kind of venom that was within Thaela's heart, he couldn't even hope that she would be spared.

If it wasn't for the fact his construct enveloped himself and Aina, making it impossible for Thaela to tell that there was someone with him, he was certain that she would try to take advantage.

No matter how infuriated Leonel was by this disciple of the Endless Twilight Pavilion, there was little he could do about the power she wielded. She was stronger, faster and more adept in practically all facets in comparison to him.

On top of that, her abilities perfectly fused into one, and while her thinking speed and intelligence wasn't quite on Leonel's level, it wasn't far enough away that he could toy with her like he usually did against those with far higher "stats" than himself.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

One of the arms of Leonel's panda construct shattered into a rain of Aurora Star Force. It tried to quickly reform under his control, but the gap was taken advantage of by Thaela. She was attacking from six different directions at once, how could she not?

Leonel immediately pierced out his spear with his real body. If the whip continued like this, it would most definitely shatter the chest of his panda construct and run right through his body. But, first, it would pierce through Aina who sat on his lap.

Leonel's eyes were practically entirely crimson by this point, but it didn't change his base strength.

His panda construct's chest shattered just as he expected. He couldn't even use his Starry Light Domain because Thaela's dense Water Force and Spatial Force had completely surrounded him, and his Starry Star Domain's spatial affinities were trash in comparison to Thaela's spatial affinity.

His spear could only meet her whip directly, his Bronze Runes lighting up to their maximum potential. And yet...

His arm shattered.

This seemed like an odd thing to say about a human's arm and not a construct, but that was just the best way to describe it.

Leonel's arm's surface cracked like glass, his entire arm erupting in a shower of blood. It was impossible to even tell what kind of mangled state it was in beneath the rain of crimson.

Leonel coughed up a mouthful of blood, taking Aina in an arm as both he and his construct were sent flying.

He sent out another arrow just to buy himself some time, but Thaela completely ignored it, shifting with one of her clones once again and directly sacrificing it as she unleashed a barrage directly upon Leonel.

Leonel roared, using [Instant Recovery] immediately and piercing forward with all his might.

Five whips collided with him at once.

If before his arm shattered, it immediately became a bloody mist this time, the haziness and fog of crimson that hung in the air obstructing even Leonel's vision.

Thaela brandished her whips once again, a tide of Spatial Force and dense Water Force rushing forward with an endless momentum.

[Chapter 1598 Helpless](#)

In the blink of an eye, a complex Force Art in the form of a shield appeared before Leonel. His Force surged and it just as quickly took form.

To his back, two dark blue Stars appeared, their presence causing the space in the surroundings to tremble.

The Force of these Void Star Force Stars fueled the Force Art Leonel had manifested from within his Dream World, giving it a strength that was several tens of times more powerful than if he used a normal Water Force.

BOOM!

The shockwave sent Leonel flying back even faster than he had originally, but his eyes burned like two bright lights.

The moment his Void Star Force Stars had appeared, the heaviness of Thaela's mercury-like Water Force didn't seem so heavy anymore and even the spatial Force spread out into the surroundings began to twist and deform out of her control.

Leonel didn't know much about Void Star Force at all, he only knew that it represented the pinnacle of Water Force just like Scarlet Star Force represented the pinnacle of Fire Force. However, the moment it appeared, he felt more in tune with it now than he ever had before.

Leonel wasn't sure why this was, but if he had to guess, it was likely because of this new feeling his unearthed Dark Force affinity was giving him. Void Star Force was considered to be top three in Dark Forces, so there was potential there for this to be of help to Leonel.

Leonel's position quickly shifted in the air. His right arm was gone and his inner organs were very much injured. He had been forced to use his [Instant Recovery] already just so that he could have enough strength to block, and he wouldn't have another such opportunity any time soon.

However...

Leonel threw out a demon corpse and a palm of his panda construct shattered it apart. A raging blood and fuel flew toward him and into his body, gaining two paths to choose from. Leonel, without hesitation, chose one and swallowed it whole.

'[Instant Recovery].'

Leonel's body flashed and his arm grew back out.

All of this happened in an instant, even as his body was still flying backward. In fact, even his spear, which had been thrust back with him, was still there for him to snatch out and grab.

Leonel's Bronze Runes erupted to life once again as a large number of illusory Force Arts formed in the skies.

Biding his time wasn't working, plotting and scheming wasn't working, he couldn't even find a single opening.

Aina was right, about his approach in battle, that is. He only incrementally showed his strength in battle because it was of benefit to him. Catching enemies off guard and slaughtering them before they could display their full strength had been the method to his victories for a very long time now. But this Thaela... No, it felt like this entire Zone in specific made this incredibly difficult.

These geniuses were on an entirely different level and the methods with which they used their Force was so multi-variable and multi-layered that for Leonel, who didn't have nearly the same amount of flexibility, it was impossible to use his normal methods.

The only way he would have the slightest inkling of a chase was to put everything on the table and use his abilities as freely as he could. Only that way might he stand a small chance.

To Leonel's back, seven Stars erupted with life. Three were a radiant sky blue, two were a murky dark blue, and the final two were a shining beacon of crimson-gold light.

Among them, the two red-gold ones stood out the most, the presence of their Star Runes alone applying even more pressure on Thaela's rippling silver waves. From being able to control a 100 meter radius with ease after her third Emulation Spatial Force Star's appearance, it was forced back down to 10 meters in the blink of an eye.

Leonel immediately gained some room to breathe, but he didn't relax for long.

Three arrows of red-gold formed on his bow at once, shooting like streaking meteors toward Thaela.

Thaela's eyes widened to the point it seemed like they would pop out of their sockets.

She was absolutely certain, she couldn't have been more certain. Just then, in the final moment before her silver waves were forcefully restricted, she had definitely seen it...

Seven Stars?!

A Sixth Star expert should only have Six at most! How did Leonel have seven?! It didn't make any sense!

When Thaela sensed the coming arrows, her expression only became more unsightly.

First Fallen Star Force and now Scarlet Star Force? Not only that, but Scarlet Star Force that was clearly powered by Star Runes?! Her defenses couldn't deal with this, it was foolish to even try to defend.

Thaela swapped with another one of her clones, not understanding what was happening. How could one person control so many powerful Forces?! She had never even met someone with Scarlet Star Force Stars before, such a thing was practically legend!

The human race couldn't possibly form them, only the Spirituals might have one or two appear in a generation, and very rarely, there might be a demon. But such a demon would most definitely be a Chaos Demon and wouldn't appear here!

For Leonel to both have such Stars and even have formed their Star Runes, especially the latter point... There was only one explanation: He had an Innate Node!

Thaela's expression danced between coldness and greed. She knew exactly how powerful Innate Nodes were, intimately. But such an Innate Node was not like others...

'Dammit...'

Thaela found an entire sky of flood dragons rushing toward her, each fueled by Scarlet Star Force.

She was absolutely infuriated. This idiot had no idea how to properly apply his Force and all he knew how to do was ram it ahead into bigger, stronger attacks.

"Idiot. Idiot! IDIOT!"

Thaela wasn't mad that Leonel wasn't strong enough, she was enraged that he was just strong enough to delay her.

A fool like this couldn't possibly defeat her, the gap between them was too large. But when this talent was combined with the annoyance of this fog domain and the fact that Leonel could move about more freely with his Starry Light Domain now that the effectiveness of her own Stars had been limited...

What was supposed to be a quick battle became long and protracted.

Thaela didn't even suffer a single injury, resolving every one of Leonel's attacks and evading the ones that she could not. She was too smart, too well-versed in battle, and her library of techniques and methods of applying Force were far too vast.

She could use just a single Force like Emulation Star Force to evade, to defend, and to attack. And not only that, but she could do so in a myriad of different ways.

She could evade by swapping with her clone or folding space. She could defend with those silvery waves or forming meat shields out of her clones and even had a special domain capable of mitigating Force. As for her methods of attack, they were too numerous to even name.

However, in the face of her skill, Leonel just threw an avalanche of everything he had.

Magic spells covered the skies, he wielded two bows in four hands, shooting as fast as he could, and his spear became nothing more than a defensive tool.

He was pressing just as hard as Thaela. He couldn't afford to lose here, and he definitely couldn't go to fight that demon. He wouldn't be able to leave that one on one hell until the demon was killed, but at least here, there was still a small chance that he could escape.

But the harder he pressed, the more strength Thaela seemed to show and his Force only seemed to dwindle faster.

A helpless flicker of light appeared within Leonel's eyes.

He looked down at Aina who was in deep meditation and realized that he couldn't just leave her here like this.

He turned and began to run.

Thaela gritted her teeth. "Don't think you can run from me!"

In a single blink, Leonel made it to the edge of his Light Domain and he used his Earth Force to bury her underground. Then, in another blink, he appeared before Thaela once again sent out another powerful strike.

BOOM!

The two separated, four of Leonel's panda construct's arms shattering to pieces once again.

Thaela released an infuriated screech, feeling that things were slipping out of her hands. Unfortunately, it was already too late.

The 100 trillion Demon Point mark clicked into place and an energy that Leonel couldn't resist enveloped him.

Thaela could only watch as Leonel vanished, her glare absolutely murderous.

The fog domain around her finally vanished and she began looking around with veins popping in her eyes.

Even if Leonel died, she wouldn't let his soul rest in peace.

"Where did he hide that little bitch?"

She ground her teeth.

She had already calculated that Leonel's flash teleportation range was only 10 kilometers, so there was a radius around here where Aina was.

After she shattered Leonel's panda construct, her Spatial Force had caught on to the fact that there was a second person, but she seemed to be in a deep state of meditation that was difficult to come out of.

Since she couldn't kill Leonel, she would go after his little lover.

Fury rushed through her veins. She had actually failed to kill a Tier 1 instantly, she was absolutely livid and needed something to vent her anger on. Not only would she kill his little lover, but she would make sure it was a terrible death.

A 10 kilometer radius? That was nothing.

...

Leonel appeared in a world of darkness, his face pale and his breathing haggard. He clutched his spear in his hand, looking ahead in absolute silence.

A heavy weight surrounded his body, threatening to force him to his knees.