

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 121 - Origin Flame

A minute before Jason entered the second door, he was pondering which one to choose.

The left had definitely more treasures inside that radiated mana colors at once, but Jason's was somehow drawn to enter the one in the middle.

This caused Jason to have a slight headache but he just followed his gut feeling, as he didn't want to regret anything afterward.

His mana eyes were not absolute and there was the chance that something important could be amiss if he solely relied on them.

The same could be said for Artemis in particular.

She radiated a distinct color, but this couldn't be seen through other colors and Jason was only lucky to have found her egg when she was extremely weak.

Jason didn't think extremely weak colors or mana radiations could be seen through the wall and in the end, he followed his gut feeling, only to get surprised by a heatwave flooding his face, as he opened the door to the middle hallway.

`Forging room? Maybe this is the hallway used by their blacksmiths?' Jason knew that the Goblins had at least one or two high-ranked blacksmiths as some weapons were either custom-made or crudely forged by someone while weapons made by humans were not as ugly as the weapons he previously saw.

Jason knew they didn't have much time left before they would have to leave this place to prevent anyone from finding out that Shane was alive, which Jason still couldn't understand.

Nevertheless, he also had to be careful.

If someone found out what kinds of treasures he found here, Jason was sure that many would be jealous of him and they definitely would want to steal it from him, as his strength was still not on par with adults.

It would be extremely easy to steal anything from him, which was kinda problematic.

Running through the hallway, Jason felt the heat increasing even more until he reached the last door where he was oddly drawn to.

Opening the door without hesitation, he entered a large room with a smithy situated in the front.

But what astonished Jason more, was that the smithy seemed to be completely filled with colors?

Dozens of different types of ores could be seen inside chests in the corners of the room without radiating any colors

However, the smithy, anvil and other necessities to forge could which could be seen by him radiated colors which was something new to him.

‘Even forged goods can release a colored hue?’ He thought and this was one of the most shocking things that happened today, as it changed most things he previously thought about his mana eyes’ ability.

He had never seen any reagent that radiated a color neither weapons nor garment except the soul weapons from Seron and Till.

As such Jason wasn't sure if he had seen wrong but the weapons from Seron and Till showed signs of radiating a colored hue, which was however suppressed in Seron's case.

Jason didn't know why it was suppressed or if this was intentional, but after seeing all these colors radiating from the items in front of him, he was sure about one fact.

`These things are worth a fortune!!!` Jason thought and it was the first time for him to feel his greed igniting within him.

He wanted to become stronger as soon as possible and wealth was the best way to accomplish this.

As such he collected all lighter items he could find while lifting the ores he saw with all his effort to store them inside his spatial storage.

To store something in one's spatial storage, one would only have to touch it.

However, if it was still in touch with other items one didn't want to store, like the building he was currently in.

Otherwise, one could be able to mine all kinds of ore occurrences without much difficulty.

Storing soil and so on was exactly the same.

Jason had to pick it up to collect it, otherwise, he could also envelop it with his mana.

Fortunately, he decided to preserve some of his mana, for scenarios like he was currently in.

Almost five minutes passed when Jason had collected all ores, even though they didn't radiate any color, as he identified them as rare ores, which caused him to be extremely overjoyed.

After that, Jason tried to pick up the anvil, only for him to notice that its weight was probably more than a ton and forcing him to envelope it with his mana in order to store it away, which was definitely the easiest way.

Unfortunately, Jason couldn't envelop the whole forge with his mana and he would have to leave the smithy behind, when he looked around it once again, to see if he missed anything.

His gut feeling told him that there was something important he missed, while his soul world shook slightly, which astonished him, as he approached the smithy.

Suddenly overwhelming dizziness spread through his head as Jason's soul world began to shake violently, causing him to stumble.

`W-What is going on?` Jason was confused and he wasn't able to regain control over his body as the balance inside him was completely interchanged.

Not being able to stand firmly, he fell to the ground, holding his head in pain.

The pain coming from his soul world astonished him and Jason wasn't sure why his soul world was acting so violently, without any prior signs.

`Has Artemis finished her evolution?` Was the only solution he could come up with but entering his soul world he noted that Artemis was still in her Evolution, which left a confused Jason behind.

Leaving his soul world, the pain vanished as abruptly as it appeared.

However, Jason was now left even more confused, which was apparent in his unsettled expression.

As he was about to stand up, he noticed something weird inside the hearth of the forge.

`A black crystal?` Jason wondered and with his mana eyes activated, it was apparent that this black crystal was nothing special, but his attention was drawn to it.

Inside the black crystal one could see a small almost not distinguishable black fire flickering, trying to break out of its shell which was a bewitching sight.

The fire had the size of his pinky finger's fingertip and it looked kinda cute in Jason's opinion.

The more he looked at the flame, the more interesting it seemed and he decided to take the black crystal with him.

Holding the black crystal carefully in his hand, Jason noticed, that the crystal gave out a cooling feeling, which wasn't what he expected.

Suddenly Jason's soul world shock again, but this time his head didn't hurt and he felt the insatiable desire of his soul world to obtain the black crystal in his hand and it seemed as if his soul world would devour it if he didn't restrict it anymore

`Is this black crystal something good for my soul world?` Jason questioned himself.

Without restricting his soul world, Jason shockingly noticed, that a soul thread detached itself from within his soul world, coursing through his body until it reached his hand, which held the black crystal.

`What do you want from me?` He was about to shout out but he could roughly sense what his soul world wanted from him.

'Binding the black crystal to myself? Does my soul world consider this crystal as a soulbond right now?'

Jason was unsure but before he could decide what to do, the soul thread tried to break through his skin in order to enter the black crystal, while the black crystal began to heat up without him noticing it.

Within a second, Jason's skin was burned and the soul thread left his hand shooting straight into the black crystal's core, without listening to his orders.

`HEYYY!! Aren't you MY soul?... Why are you doing things on your own...` Jason lamented as he began to feel a thin connection establishing itself between him and the black crystal.

Right after the thin connection was constructed a tiny crack appeared on the black crystal and it didn't take long until the crack spread through the whole crystal like a single cobweb.

Jason was curious and slightly frightened at the same time because he wasn't sure what was going on, as he gazed down at the crystal.

The black flame inside the crystal began to vibrate, causing the black crystal shattered.

The released pinky fingertip-sized black flame flickering in Jason's hand, without hurting him at all, while the shattered crystal pieces were laying in his hand without any signs of mana fluctuations.

With his mana eyes, Jason sensed that the flame in his hand was special if he hadn't noticed that before.

But before he could continue to look at the black flame in his hand, he noticed strong mana fluctuations behind him as Shane entered the space behind him.

Shane could only see Jason's back as he announced

"Jason, let's go! The rescue team is already close and within the first cavern hall. If we don't want to stand out, we should go now."

But Jason wasn't moving a single step and it seemed as if he hadn't heard Shane at all.

Seconds passed without anyone moving and Shane felt that the current situation was slightly awkward.

As such he called out Jason a few more times, but there was not a single sign of Jason noticing him, which was frustrating.

It had been a long time since he was ignored by someone and his pride couldn't accept that, as he walked towards Jason to lecture him once they left the Goblin settlement.

`Hmm?`

But only now did Shane notice something unusual about Jason, as he saw a black shattered crystal within his hands.

Looking into Jason's face, he could see a pained expression while sweat poured down his cheeks.

Inside his golden eyes, one could see a tiny black flame flickering around vigorously filled with the desire to live.

Shane noticed that Jason behaved weirdly as he saw a black flame flickering within his eyes.

Touched Jason, Shane had a bad premonition, as he scanned through his body that was excessively hot, seemingly burning from the inside.

Injecting his mana, he could feel the remains of something dangerous yet a blessing.

"What the Hell? Is this brat blessed by heavens?... How did he find an Origin Flame?!" Shane shouted out flabbergasted before he used his spatial magic to teleport them away, with the Orc behind them.

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Chapter 122 - Baptism

Jason only knew that his whole body was burning, while there was no way for him to run away from this hellish fire, streaming through his mana channels, veins, through his heart where it was distributed in all directions.

It was unknown how much time passed, but he could only think about the pain he felt and him being unable to move a single inch.

When his connection with the black flame was formed, it entered his soul world before it began to connect with his body.

Not only was this flame connected to his soul, but it also burned through his body causing a metamorphosis to happen within him, as well as on the outside.

Unknown to him, Jason was lying inside a king-sized bed, while an old but refined woman with silver hair stood next to Shane.

While the woman looked worriedly at the heavy sweating, panting black-haired youth in front of her, Shane looked jealous at Jason.

"How can he find an Origin Flame just like that?! What is such a treasure doing within the goblin settlement?" He grumbled and the woman next to him consulted him with a gentle slap on his shoulder.

"It's not like you can do anything with it, my old geezer, right?" She chuckled lightly before she returned her gaze to Jason.

Shane sighed and he couldn't say anything against her argument as it was true

"Argh...If I only had a spot for another soulbond left.."

Suddenly Jason cried out in pain and the room temperature increased by another two to three degrees.

Black flames spurted out of him with a black, reeking mixture of impurities and old skin, which caused both the old woman and Shane to widen their eyes.

"Dalia? You've never heard about a black origin flame either, right?" Shane asked, and the old woman could only shake her head, curiosity gleaming in her eyes.

Touching the flame with her hand, she sensed a terrifying heat that wanted to devour her, as she took it back after a few seconds. There was not a single burn on her hand and she seemed fine but her words shocked Shane a little bit

"This is definitely not an average Origin flame... It should be at least a B-rank Origin flame... Maybe even A or S, but I'm not sure about that... Even if the Origin flame has only awakened a few hours ago, it's might be comparable with matured D-Rank Origin flames, which underwent its first evolution."

Doubts started to run through Shane's head and he whispered quietly

"Was the Goblin King supported by someone? Was it a human clan that wanted to reign over humanity or one of the foreign intelligent races? Handing out an unawakened A-rank Origin Flame should be impossible for a human and a waste of resources...."

Shane was unsure and only Dalia, his wife could hear him and she was as confused as Shane, maybe even more.

Since they had to flee from Canir in order to hide because of her special physique, many things changed for humanity and even Shane began to change his attitude from trying to save everyone into someone rational who would sacrifice thousands of people to save millions in exchange.

This caused her to feel dejected with her guilt accumulating.

Shane only showed his emotions to her since many things happened in his past and it was only a few months ago, that he showed signs of taking interest in someone else.

And it was apparently this black-haired youth in front of her who underwent the first baptism originated from having bound an unawakened Origin flame.

Even if she knew that Shane only began to show interest in him because of his mana eyes and his soul-awakening, she was also aware, that his observances and interest began to increase the more time passed.

She had the feeling that it was not only his dream that kept Shane on observing Jason.

Dalia thought Shane could see himself in Jason, at least a little bit and she was happy seeing that.

She couldn't bear children due to her special physique and maybe Jason could replace her dream of having someone similar, but that was only a distant dream from her and would most likely remain something like that.

A dream.

First Jason would have to survive his baptism.

Even for D-rank Origin flames, one had to be at least at the Expert rank to ensure one's survival and Jason was only at the 1st Adept rank, while he underwent the baptism of an unknown ranked Origin flame.

Jason seemed to be under constant pain and black blood oozed out of his pores and seven orifices while Dalia couldn't look at this anymore when a lush and vibrant green magic circle appeared in front of her with another dark green magic circle next to it.

Two 1.7 meter tall humanoid-looking trees appeared in front of her. One had shoulder long dark green vines representing her hair while the other one had blue hair, while a vibrant distinct green gem represented their eyes.

Their bodies were similar to gorgeous women with voluptuous curves while barks covered their bodies except for the head and limbs as they looked around curiously.

These two beasts were Dryads and if Jason saw them, he would be extremely astonished to see them.

Dryads were thought to be extinct and seeing two of them and at such a high rank at that, was an extremely rare sight.

Furthermore, their complexion was almost the same as humans which indicated a well-defined intelligence.

This would cause Jason's curiosity to soar even higher but unfortunately, Jason was burning in hell's fire at the moment, oozing out black heaps of impurities while Shane wondered how much impurities more would be expelled from Jason.

But his thoughts were not based on facts, logically seen a Baptism should only force out some impurities inside a body, but considering that Origin flames were even beneficial for Lord ranked humans, it was only obvious that Jason who was at the Adept rank would have to force out a huge mass of impurities.

Furthermore, due to them not knowing what grade his black origin flame was, they could only estimate the baptism's degree roughly.

This whole scenario could be observed for hours, and Jason was filled with a huge pile of his own impurities, which were enveloped by mana and thrown somewhere else with Shane's spatial magic.

The two Dryads were using their mana to energize and regenerate Jason's mana and support his mental state.

It was only after a long time that he stopped roaring out in pain as the leaking blood lessened, leaving an exhausted youth, without any energy left behind

Jason felt completely numb and hours passed without him even being able to open his eyes and it was only the constant supply with a cooling sensation that caused him to feel alive, as he was finally able to open his eyes after an eternity passed

Jason didn't know where he was and he could only remember that Shane appeared behind him and the black flame entering his soul world, causing chaos.

His body began to heat up and he felt as if he was burning alive.

But this burning sensation was already comparable to the pain he endured when he ate the Devilish-Valkyrie-shield fruit and Jason shuddered being reminded about the pain.

Weirdly enough, he could remain much calmer this time, even after enduring this kind of pain once again, which was definitely not normal.

Trying to move his body, Jason felt as if he was filled with energy to the brim.

As such he decided to sit up straight before looking around curiously.

The room he slept in was empty, without much furniture except the king-sized bed, while the walls seemed to be made out of high-grade wood because it seemed to be extremely refined.

Jason didn't even know how much time had passed since he formed a bond with the weird black flame.

Looking at the date, Jason's eyes widened in shock.

'It's already Monday?!' More than 30 hours had passed and Jason was unsure what the Fler's would say about him being out once again.

'Maybe they don't care?' Jason thought, trying to reassure himself because he was not their child or relative, but it was hardly possible that this would happen and he went out of the bed.

Firmly standing on the bottom, Jason felt like he was a newly born because his skin seemed to be much fairer than before and upon looking closer, it was almost transparent displaying his veins and even mana channels, that were directly joint with each other, clearly.

Jason's muscles were much firmer than before, while every cell inside his body was brimming with power.

He punched out with his fists and he could see marginal air currents manifesting, which astonished him.

Sensing throughout his whole body, Jason detected many differences inside his body.

But more importantly was, that he could have never imagined that his body could be so clean from the inside as most impurities he sensed before had been exhaled.

Furthermore, even his mana core was shining faintly, which astonished him.

But that was not the most shocking matter.

After inspecting his physique, he concluded that he had most likely reached the physique of a normal 4th Adept rank which astonished Jason, while his mana core increased also uniformly to the 4th Adept rank.

'Was all of this caused by the tiny black flame my soul desperately wanted to contract?' Jason thought, doubting everything in the world, as he entered his soul world, where he could see the tiny flame flickering next to his soul world core.

'Why are you so close to my soul world core!?! Don't you dare to do anything to my soul energy' Jason thought and even if he was thankful for the metamorphosis he had undergone, he was still extremely suspicious of this tiny flame which caused him excessive pain

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Chapter 123 - Adonis

Apparently, the black flame was not harmful to Jason's soul world core, rather than that it seemed that the black flame could purify his soul energy further, while the soul energy that was the closest to the black flame looked more vibrant and shined brighter compared to the rest.

Thus, Jason tried to use his connection with the black flame to order it below the soul world core and after a few motivating words, the flame slowly floated below the soul world core, purifying everything in a close range.

Jason nodded in satisfaction and decided to leave the soul world after checking how much soul energy he had accumulated and how far Artemis' evolution was.

It seemed like Artemis would evolve at the end of the week which was fine as his soul energy had surprisingly reached 15 units.

But what Jason also noticed was that the black flame used up 0.01 units of his soul energy which was more than a little bit suspicious.

'Was it considered as his soulbond or what the hell is this black flame?'

Leaving the soul world, Jason decided to test something out, because he noticed something particular inside the soul world

Circulating his mana while looking at it with his mana eyes, his doubts were proven correct.

`My mana transmuted and there is a slight touch of a black flame affinity within.`

Thinking about this his expression brightened up

`Have I also gained an affinity through this black flame?` Jason questioned and felt the connection through the black flame, he released some of his mana leading it to his hand, while activating the connection between the flame and him.

A tiny black flame appeared in Jason's head and he jumped up with a bright face.

Due to the loss of concentration, the black flame immediately extinguished but that was not important right now.

He gained his first affinity and it was the tiny black flame that made everything possible!

`Hahahaha not only have I gained a fortune by gathering the herbs, but also another amazing soulbond with an affinity` Jason thought proudly before he remembered that his 3rd soulbond also needed soul energy and a frown appeared in his mind.

`I can't even provide enough soul energy for my two former soulbonds, how should I provide enough for the tiny flame?... Will it devour me, if I can't provide enough energy?` He thought, causing the frown in his face to deepen even more.

Dalia and Shane were sitting outside the room on the couch when they heard Jason waking up, causing Dalia to jump up.

But before she could do anything, Shane held her back, calmly stating

"Give him some time to adjust to everything."

"Ahh.. yeah.." Dalia replied a little bit dejected. She wanted to look how Jason was feeling but Shane's words also made sense.

After a baptism one had to overcome the trauma about being burned alive before one was able to adjust to the increased strength and cleansed body.

Both of them wouldn't expect Jason to disregard the trauma about being burned inside-out, without the slightest hesitation.

Meanwhile, Jason finished expecting his body and it was only now that a disgusting smell pierced into his nostrils, causing him to retch.

His clothes were reeking disgustingly and the room he was inside was also smelling like someone stored garbage inside it for years.

Changing his clothes alone would be useless and he searched for the bathroom, which he fortunately found after opening the second door.

Taking off his clothes, Jason's eyes widened.

'Whoaa!' he thought looking at his chiseled abs in admiration.

Never had he seen such abs and Jason decided to look into the mirror for the first time in the last few weeks.

A tall black-haired youth with golden eyes could be seen.

While his sites were still relatively short cut, his golden eyes were also the only indicator telling him, that he could see himself inside the mirror.

A young man with a chiseled face and perfect proportions could be seen inside the mirror, causing Jason to question himself.

`Is that really me?` Furthermore, Jason noticed that he grew a few centimeters.

He was now over 1.7m tall and muscles covered his whole body, without obstructing his flexibility while he couldn't see a tiny bit of baby fat in his face anymore.

Nobody would believe him that he was only 14 years old and he himself would rather say he was 16 years old if not older.

His fair skin underlined a feeble appearance with his beautiful facial features, while his distinct muscles told a different story.

Wearing oversized clothes, Jason would look rather feeble but now, he didn't doubt that he could be a model which caused his confidence to heighten to an extreme.

Stepping inside the shower he turned on the water and only 30 minutes alter he left the shower with a fragrant smell.

His innate smell was much better compared to before as all kinds of impurities were cleansed from his body.

Outside the room, Dalia and Shane looked perplexed at each other when they heard the water turning on.

`Hasn't he only awoken like 20 minutes ago?` They asked themselves confused and Dalia was even more shocked because the trauma she received from forming a soulbond with her Origin Flame was still apparent in her mind.

It took her a few days to overcome the fear of burning alive and even longer before she allowed anything touching here in fear that it would hurt her, but Jason was showering like nothing happened after waking up for 20 minutes?

When Jason finished showering, he changed into a new set of clothes and left the still reeking room in order to enter a comfy small living room with all kinds of old but mysterious-looking furniture around.

He immediately spotted Shane and a woman next to him, who he suspected to be Shane's wife and greeted them politely.

"Are you fine Jason?" Shane asked and looked doubtfully at Jason. He knew about his experience with the devilish valkyrie-shield fruit but he was still astonished to see that Jason seemed fine, after receiving a similar experience.

"Yes, thank you for your concern, Shane!" `Shane?` Dalia looked at his man, with a gleam in her eyes and a small smile appeared.

Shane avoided his wife's gaze and before he could say anything Dalia introduced herself

"Hello Jason, My name is Dalia Blair and Shane is my husband. Just call me Dalia if you want."

His prediction was correct and he smiled before he introduced himself politely

"Hello Dalia, my name is Jason Stella. It's an honor to meet you"

"Ahh you don't have to be so polite, Shane likes you, just be comfortable with us" Dalia said trying to avoid talking politely.

She didn't like talking politely because it reminded her of humanities' social hierarchy, even though it was courtesy.

But Jason was rather astonished `Shane likes me? Why?`

Averting his gaze to Shane, he didn't seem to avoid him.

"What my wife said is true, I like you but there are multiple reasons for that....

I know it's already late and you haven't been at home at the Fler's for quite some time but I hope you have some time to talk with us. The Fler's were worried about you but I called Little Till to tell them that you have important matters to attend, right now and everything should work out.

You are probably curious about the black flame you formed a soulbond with and what happened in the last 30+ hours, right? Furthermore I want to talk to you about an important subject. But before I'll start a speech about things that don't even interest you, ask every question you want. We will answer everything as detailed as possible"

Shane said while smiling gently and Jason wondered how a single person could have so many personalities.. In Jason's opinion Shane was rather cruel to strangers, while he looked lovingly at his wife and he was even kind to him, which also strange.

Furthermore Shane seemed greedy, which seemed excessive yet not... it was weird.

Jason had too many questions in his mind and he wasn't sure which one to pick so he just followed his gut feeling and began with his questions.

"There is too much I want to know and I would like to listen to your story, but right now, its more important for me to know, what you want from me? I doubt you wanted to play samaritan or nice grandpa from nextdoor when you appeared inside the Sanctuary.

Bringing me to see the whole Goblin beast tide was probably also because of that and giving me inconspicuous benefits by taking me with you to the Goblin basement, was probably also intentionally.

From your eyes, I can tell that the incident with the Black flame was not planned. I don't know if you regret it but you didn't seem to have a prior look within the large goblin basement, if there was anything really important.

Otherwise you would have picked it up before I could, right?"

Jason finished his short speech and Dalia looked at Jason with a bright smile when she averted her gaze to Shane.

Seeing Shane, she began to chuckle lightly, which caused the awkward situation to loosen up slightly.

Shane didn't expect Jason to discover so much

"You got me, Brat.. I'll explain everything....where should I start.."

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Chapter 124 - [Information

Shane pondered how to begin, but he wanted to keep it simple, so he just started straightforwardly.

"You also want to know what I want, right? That's extremely simple..You! I want you! Not your body or something like that but rather than everything else, I want your talent which includes your mana eyes special trait and inconspicuous soul-awakening.

As you already know I'm far from being a samaritan but you'll also change once you figure out how the real world works.

You are still too young to understand that.

Bringing you out to the Goblin tide was for you to see the cruelty from both sides, beasts and humans and I think this was partially successful, don't you think so?

I intended to bribe you a little bit to achieve my goal but you already figured it out and it's definitely true, that the incident with the Black Origin Flame was not planned.

In the end, one could say you are extremely fortunate because I wouldn't be able to make use of this Origin flame, even if I knew about it.

Otherwise I would be really pissed.

I think you already figured out that I'm kinda greedy and this is human nature and nothing to be ashamed of.

Without resources, you won't survive long enough on Argos or maybe even within some dangerous cities.

Staying weak will only harm you in the future if you don't want to back off against stronger ones."

Shane finished and looked at Jason, waiting for questions but Shane's answer only gave Jason more questions

"Why do you need me? My soul energy is extremely weak and it will take years until I'm able to contract a magical ranked beast, let's not talk about a higher-ranked beast. "

He said, aware of his lie about the soul energy.

Jason wouldn't need a few years until he could contract a magical ranked beast. With his current increase of soul energy it wouldn't take that long, because he received a ? amplification from his soulbonds which in return causes the demand of soul energy for every soulbond to lessen by ?.

Furthermore with more soul energy and each practice with the Heaven's Hell technique would increase his soul energy exponential.

Additional to his exceptional soul energy replenishing rate, Jason was confident in Artemis' continuous increase in strength

"I noticed humanity's cruelty a long time ago and we are no better than beasts.

However more important to me is, what exactly this Origin Flame is, that I apparently contracted?"

Jason was aware of the cruelty this world created and humans' inexhaustable greed to become stronger.

They would probably sacrifice as many lives as they wanted to become stronger and Jason could only sigh while thinking about that.

But with this thought in mind, he would rather think about the unknown Origin Flame in his soul world, that was bond to him

"Before I can explain why I need you, It's definitely better to tell you more about Origin Flames... But before that DONT F**K with me !! I know about your soul awakening. How dare you tell me that your soul energy is weak? You have at least a soul energy of ten and it's increasing extremely fast.

With your mutated snowflake owl, you might be able to have a magical ranked beast in a year at most!

With your high soul energy reproduction, we can work hard to achieve the Five braided helix of the Heaven's Hell technique for an additional boost in your soul energy training.

Maybe we can boost your soul energy increase to around 1.5% each day after I get to know how fast your reproduction speed is."

Shane said proudly. It was extremely hard for youngsters to achieve a five braided helix after having one soul only awoken for a few months but Jason's next words shocked him

"Well thank you for your concern about my soul energy but I'm already capable of practicing the five-braided soul energy helix without your help...Furthermore, the increase of soul energy is around 2.5% per day with my reproductive ability"

Jason didn't have a reason to lie, because Shane would get to know it sooner or later and there was nothing to hide.

"See!! Only 2.5% in one.. ONE DAY? What did you say?" Shane thought he had misheard and previously he expected Jason to have a 0.5% increase of his soul energy in one day at most which would be considered ordinary for a common practice for Heaven's Hell at the second level.

Dalia's eyes shined brightly and joy could be seen in her eyes but this was because of two reasons.

It had been a long time for her to see Shane losing control over his voice and him acting so flabbergasted at the same time but also the achievements Jason accomplished without anyone's help were a feat to be proud of.

`Maybe he is really the treasure we searched for` She thought and continued smiling at Jason.

Jason felt a bright smile piercing into him and he wasn't even able to look to his right as he would only feel awkward seeing Dalia smiling so brightly at him.

Shane took a moment to gather his thoughts before he continued with a slightly grim face

"Just forget what I said about your soul energy... Just continue working hard, alright?!"

Let me explain to you what Origin flames are and why they are so special.

As you may have noticed, the Origin Flame is connected to your soul like every other beast you formed a soulbond with, right?

But their relation with each other is slightly different.

Beasts can provide their contractor with a certain amplification in mana, physical strength, and some even an affinity, while they can also be summoned and used in combat.

The amplification percentage is correlated to your soul, which you should be aware of.

The Origin is completely different, from the moment they awaken, they provide their contractor with a baptism which will exhale a huge pile of impurities, which will in return increase one's mana gathering, refining and absorption talent.

Due to the exhaled impurities, there won't be great obstacles while breaking through and you'll increase your mana core rank extremely fast.

Furthermore, the baptism you underwent most likely provided you with a huge increase in your mana core's size and strengthened your whole body.

In addition to all of that. you'll look much better and the aging process will slow down to an extreme, as the impurities inside your body are washed away giving mana the chance to rejuvenate your cells much easier.

Last but not least, you'll gain the affinity for the Origin Flame, which is most likely more powerful than most fire abilities from beasts.

There are two disadvantages for Origin Flames, one is that the Origin Flame uses up a spot for soul beasts, that not many humans have left, once they find an Origin Flame.

This is unfortunate but they can sell unawakened Origin flames for unimaginable prices because the baptism is just too valuable.

Another disadvantage is at the same time an advantage.

You have to nurture your Origin Flame with soul energy by letting it annex more of it.

Right now your Origin Flame shouldn't be that large, while the soul energy it occupies is most likely less than 1 unit. It will increase in size and become stronger the more soul energy it annexed.

Once your Origin Flame reaches a certain threshold, it will evolve into a higher grade, providing you with another baptism, which will cleanse another round of your impurities and strengthen your body.

Origin Flames are divided into different Ranks from E- to S-rank , while their evolution grade is divided into Tiers.

Right now your Origin flame is tierless and after the first evolution it would be called Tier-1

There are dozens of Origin Flames we found until now but the most common one is a common red Origin Flame, which is labeled as E-Rank, the impurity cleansing, strengthening, and strength of it, is not really great, but the ability to evolve makes it worthwhile for most humans to try to obtain even the worst one, while even old geezers want them to live longer and regain some of their youth.

Higher ranked Origin Flames provide a qualitative higher baptism with a larger increase in all kinds of aspects."

Shane ended giving Dalia the chance to say something. Trying to console Jason because she thought he was still shocked about being burned alive

"Jason, you don't have to be scared about the baptism as it will only happen once you want your flame to evolve after reaching its demands.

If the first baptism was too scary for you, you can just leave the Origin flame behind, but you should keep in mind that the chances to obtain a Origin Flame are miniscule and probably less than 300 humans have one, while most of them have below-average ranks.

This is because Origin flames only appear within the most concentrated volcanoes with a overwhelming amounts of mana, which can only be found in special rifts and on the main continent through unique incidents.

It's extremely difficult for flames to achieve sentient and create a crystal layer around their body to stay sentient.

Without this crystal layer they would be flooded by the overwhelming mana currents and lava before they could even nurture themselves, which would take an uncountable amount of years without the support of soul energy."

Saying all of this a silver flame appeared on her hand, floating around her hands as if the flame was playing with her and Jason activated his mana eyes out of curiosity.

`Light-gray?`

Jason saw the radiating color and wondered what that meant and his mind was rattling violently.

"Miss Bl..." He sensed a glare from Dalia and corrected himself "Dalia, is this silver flame an Origin flame? If that's the case, is it a tier-2 origin flame?"

He was only guessing but seeing Dalia's face, his guess seemed correct. `How does he know?`

Before she could say anything Jason continued.

"My eyes are special and I just guessed it. Please don't mind my rudeness..I'm sorry.."

Turning to Shane he continued asking questions

"If I let my Origin flame occupy more soul energy, will there still be the shared amplification of soul energy from my soul world? Or is this occupied Soul energy completely used up? Furthermore, what is the rank of my black Origin flame? Apparently it has only awoken but my strength and mana core increased by a whole stage through the baptism... It feels like the black flame affinity's power is comparable to the strongest fire affinity from evolved ranked beasts."

Previously, both Shane and Dalia thought they would overwhelm Jason with information but it seemed as if the youth in front of them could adapt faster than they themselves. The information Jason provided was more shocking than their information.

Jason's eyes could detect what tier Dalia's origin flame was? The baptism provided Jason with a boost of a whole stage? Comparable to the strongest fire affinities from evolved ranked beasts directly after awakening...

This had to be a bad joke and Jason looked at Shane and Dalia expectantly, while they didn't know what to think about the youth in front of them.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 125 - Shane Brain's Origin

It took them a while before they regained their senses and Shane began to laugh out loud.

"Hahaha You're great!! You are really good!! Hahaha," and it took him a while before he regained his composure.

Dalia was more composed and answered Jason after some time.

"The soul energy you provide will not be completely used up, rather than that you can say that you'll still receive your normal soul amplification. If you provide your Origin Flame with 100 soul energy and your soul has a conversion ratio of 5% you receive five units back.

As for your Origin flames rank... To be completely honest, we don't know that.

Neither do we know where it came from... I think you can agree with us that its illogical for such a treasure is in the smithy of a Lord-ranked Goblin King without receiving support from somewhere.

Maybe they wanted to wait for something to use the Black origin flame and it could be possible that the Goblin King wanted to absorb it to break through its shackles, which is the most likely case as it already possessed a fire affinity.

We also want to know who is behind all of this because supporting a Goblin King in devastating a human island is not beneficial for us.

If foreign races were already able to infiltrate human territory without getting found out it would be bad, as such it was either someone else or we have a perilous time charging towards us.

About your Origin Flame's rank.... We are not sure but considering the pile of impurities you exhaled during the baptism and the increase in mana core size and physique it should be at least an A-rank maybe even S-rank but I don't know about that, because I've never heard about anyone possessing an S-rank Origin flame.

This might also be because we are not connected to Canir for the last few decades, but that is a different story."

Jason nodded and he wanted to find out much more, especially about Canir and their story

"What about Canir? Why are you hiding here? And why are you not in touch with..."

but he was interrupted by Shane.

"Stop! Before you continue asking questions, we should tell our story to prevent unnecessary questions later on, alright?"

He said and Jason nodded in anticipation.

"This will only be a short summary, explaining everything in detail would take too long" Shane informed before he started.

"I was born 250 years ago when the mana outbreak happened only slightly longer than 50 years, while humanity was still overwhelmed not only from the foreign intelligent races but also from all kinds of beasts invading Argos.

Fortunately for me was only that I was born in Canir and my family had a few stronger powerhouses, defending us and the surrounding villages.

Years passed and humanity began to reign supreme over Canir, while I strengthened myself by absorbing mana.

While growing up, many things changed for humanity and one important factor was the existence of the soul-awakening orbs you already know and it was only because we stole one of these orbs from a foreign race, that we could research and duplicate it.

We know that the foreign intelligent races don't use this orb for a soul-awakening because we have never seen them using soulbonds, but these orbs are probably used for something else in their case, according to their genetic pool.

However, this is only an assumption and doesn't have to be the truth.

After awakening my soul, my soul energy, which was considered extremely high at this time, caused many family members to back me with resources, to let me grow even faster.

Being considered a prodigy felt good and I was extremely arrogant during this time, but that was only until my Family that established a small clan, was completely destroyed by a high-grade beast tide with Lord-ranked beings leading it.

During that time, Lord-ranked humans were still a dram and without the help of other clans, my family was only able to send me away.

Without being able to rely on anyone else and the feeling of betrayal from the other close-tied families, I worked hard to improve my strength.

Not caring about anyone else, I became slightly crueler, but that was only until I met Dalia, 150 years ago.

She brought me back to the right path and we fell in love, marrying only a few years later.

Thanks to my strength, I was accepted into her family.

Dalia with her special physique wasn't able to bear a child which caused her family to disdain her behind her back.

They wouldn't dare to do that in front of her, because her special physique was helpful to them and additional her talent in Alchemy caused everyone to see her as perfect if there was not the child problem.

Without bearing an offspring the patriarch disregarded Dalia's existence more and I think it was around 70 years ago, when I was on a mission for the government, that Dalia was abducted from the Shore-clan that was after Dalia's special physique. "

Halting his story for a moment, Shane looked at Dalia before he averted his gaze to Jason to say "I'll let Dalia explain about her special physique later if she wishes to tell you her secret"

"Back to my story: When I came back from my mission, I couldn't find her and the patriarch told me that she voluntarily went to the Shore clan but knowing the Shore clan, I immediately understood that something was wrong.

Arriving at the Shore manor, I found Dalia being forced to exert her special physique in exchange for her life-force, which obviously enraged me.

Briefly summarized, I annihilated the Shore Clan, took Dalia back to her clan, where we were almost immediately kicked out by the enraged patriarch, cutting ties with us.

It was not long until we were deemed as devils, rumored to be in an alliance with the foreign races, and other baseless rumors were spread.

We fled and changed our appearance to a certain degree while hiding on different Islands.

And more than 20 years ago, we decided to live here on Astrix, where we haven't been found, at least until now."

Shane finished and Jason looked at Shane doubtfully. `Was he really that lovingly to sacrifice everything for his wife?` He didn't think of Shane like that and annihilating a large clan was definitely something only the cream of the crop of humanity would be able to do but there was something, Jason couldn't get the hang on.

"Why do you even need me? Do you want me to get stronger than these old geezers that can even force you to flee, to let you live openly? Furthermore, I don't get what's special about Dalia's physique, the only thing I can see is a feeble light white radiating from her...It looks pure but I can't understand that. "

Jason found the information provided by Shane somehow lacking but maybe there were things he didn't want to say and prying in their privacy was not something he initially wanted to do.

Still, Dalia's special physique made him curious and with his mana eyes, there was not really anything special except a white light radiating from her.

This time Dalia began speaking, while she looked even more interested at Jason than before.

His eyes were extremely precious and not `commonly` seen mana eyes!

"My physique is special because of something we call purifying effect. I think you know what Beast Creators are, right? They can cause evolutions of beasts, as long as the evolution path is within their potential range.

Maybe you have also heard about the purification theory, where a beast's potential is forcefully raised by digesting magical treasures, cleansing the beast's body from impurities, which in fact is the cause that increases their potential.

High-grade treasures that can even cleanse impurities from magical or guardian-ranked beasts are extremely rare and my physique could be said to be such a treasure..."

She hesitated for a moment before she continues...not many people knew about her secret

"If I release my special physique, I can cleanse beasts and increase their potential to a certain extent

In exchange, I'll have to either use a vast amount of resources that are even more expensive than the regular treasure, or I can use my life force.

Using my life force, one year could be exchanged to cause a magical ranked beast to reach the potential of a guardian ranked beast.

The Shore clan forced me to cleanse multiple magical ranked beasts and if they knew how exactly my special physique works, I would either be dead right now or so weak, that I wouldn't be able to talk with you.

I've only once increased the potential of a Guardian beast to a Lord-ranked beast, but the demanded resources are way too large and a cleansing magical treasure might even be cheaper.

Just like that, I'm not even sure how many years of my life I would have to waste to increase a beast's potential to such an extent... "

Jason's eyes widened and he questioned himself `Can there be such a powerful body constitution?` But her next words shocked Jason even more.

"Maybe you won't believe me but my soul-awakening was the worst for my clan. I awoke with an affinity to wood and fire, with less than 3 soul energy units.

At this time, sentient beasts with a wooden affinity like treants or dryads hadn't been found yet and with my low soul energy, the Clan gave almost all of their wealth to obtain a B-Rank Silver Origin Flame.

My special physique was probably also a reason to provide me with the Origin Flame, in order to increase my lifespan, which can then be burned up by my physique.

Years passed and I married Shane but we still haven't found a single sentient tree or something similar when Shane came back with a special treasure that should be able to cause mana-infested woods to awaken sentience.

I used it on two half sentient branches instead of one large tree because my soul energy was still extremely small and furthermore, I had two soulbond spots left to be occupied.

Without the will to fight, I wanted to receive two wooden affinity beasts. "

Saying that she summoned her two guardian-ranked dryads that looked around curiously.

"These are the two branches and due to my physique in addition to vast amounts of resources, I increased their potential and evolved them both into dryads"

Jason was perplexed. This special physique of Dali was extremely precious but probably also extremely dangerous.

He would never want to have such an obvious body trait because he didn't think Dalia could completely suppress her physique to prevent anyone from finding out by sensing through her.

'Well... it's not like my mana eyes are less obvious..'

While Jason was still deep in thoughts, Shane decided to lead the conversation again.

"To be honest with you, I followed you since your soul-awakening and I made a background check to find out if you're suitable for us and you exceeded my expectations and probably also Dalia's.

We don't want you to fight für us or something like that but rather than that it is more important for humanity to see a ray of hope.

You may not be aware of your talent but alone your soul awakening is good enough to consider you as prodigious.

It is unknown how many soulbonds you can contract and it looks like your soul energy will increase many folds in the next few months or years.

I'm confident about your combat prowess and by combining these facts I think you can help humanity to unite or at least form a defensive line on Canir.

You may not be aware of the dangers humanity has to face in the last few dozen years but even before we had to flee from Canir, more and more beasts invaded it from temporary materialized rifts while the intelligent races approached us on Canir.

While everyone believes that humanity is united in the federation, that is only a facade.

You already know that the Archipelago is divided among the big clans, families, and firms while the same could be said for Canir.

In Canir most countries are reigned by a clan and instead of fighting together against the threat we should face together, they prey on each other to obtain more lands and resources.

This is either done by scheming, crafty tricks, or even open battles, and even if a country would be annihilated due to the invasion of foreign races, I doubt that other clans would help.

They would probably either wait until everyone is weakened before they would begin their own conquest and annihilation of foreign races.

Considering the unimaginable potential of your soul awakening we think with our support you will be able to change something and in accordance with our research about you, we think you also want to change this society and it would only help the weaker ones if everyone worked together.

Jason looked at Shane with a complex expression, before he subconsciously blurred out

"Are you drunk?!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 126 - Deuce

Hearing the reason why Shane wanted his talent Jason was a little bit flabbergasted

'They want to nurture me so I can unite humanity? Did they fall on their heads or was their isolation bad for their mental health?'

Jason was a rather gentle kid but he had never led anyone, rather than that he was a social-cripple who couldn't even socialize in school.

How should he change the mind of powerhouses comparable to Shane if he was like that?

Even if he wasn't fond of the society with its hierarchical system, it was only normal to let stronger ones lead weaker humans with the exception of a few wise men and women.

The only thing that really shocked him was the enmity among humans and the big clans.

They were already under a devastating threat and now Jason found out that humans additionally fought against each other?

It sounded like a bad joke and Jason paled thinking about millions of humans that died needlessly because of that.

Shane and Dalia noticed that and they couldn't really do anything to help him understand the current situation.

The most problematic was that the information they provided about Canir were already outdated and the threat from foreign races could have increased by a large margin

'But why me? Can't they search for someone else? It's not like I'm a saint or something like that.'

Jason needed some time to think their proposal through when a certain question nagged at him.

"I have a question about the Goblin break out...Both of you are under the assumption that the Black Origin Flame can't be from Astrix and is probably from someone supporting the Goblin King to reign over the island, right?"

Is it possible that another faction from the human race supported the Goblin King and provided it with enough resources, to nurture a runemaster, blacksmiths, and even an unawakened Origin Flame?"

This question was essential for Jason to figure out what to do. Even if the chance was minuscule, it couldn't be accepted that some humans could decide over more than 300 million lives only because of some small benefits.

He knew that Seron and Till were good examples for descendants from big families and Jason also thought that not every big family would sacrifice humans to gain small benefits, but they were most likely the minority.

Jason had read enough stories about humans to find out that they are greedy enough to sacrifice or murder others in order to gain wealth and power.

Shane sighed while Dalia looked down, visibly sad.

"In my opinion, this incident was most likely planned by a foreign race.

However, Astrix is one of the furthest islands from the main continents with the foreign races situated on.

As such I'm relatively sure that humans participated in this whole Goblin King issue. I can't say for sure that one of the big families, clans, or companies participated, but the chance is definitely there.

And to be honest, It wouldn't be surprising."

Shane said and Jason saw that his eyes gleamed in anger and frustration, as he was also a victim of the greed from the big clans.

All of them wanted Dalia's special physique and he wanted to protect her. As such he became a devil in humanity's eyes, while the true devils lived among humans.

He had to hide, while the others could continue with their hideous acts.

Jason had already the bad premonition that humans were colluding with foreign races for a long time, but figuring out the truth was still appalling.

More than ten minutes passed and he was still unable to gather his thoughts, while Dalia ordered the Dryads to release some of their fragrance to ease Jason's mind.

She was sorry for Jason because he was only 14 years old and they asked him to unite humanity.

It seemed extremely wrong to force such a huge responsibility on him, but after searching for 70 years, Jason was the first one that seemed to have the potential needed to accomplish this task.

His soul's size was incredibly huge, his soul energy reproduction was fast and he could already practice the five-braided helix of the Heaven's Hell technique.

Additionally, his body was cleansed by an unknown, yet high-ranked Origin flame, Jason's mana core rank would increase extremely fast and his combat prowess was superior to most peers without gaining any special instruction since a young age.

They also found out that Jason's knowledge was vast while his memory seemed extraordinary due to the fact, that he had already refined his brain, which Shane also observed.

Having formed a sub-area at the age of 14 was also a feat, not many could accomplish.

And in the end, Jason seemed extremely calm during important moments, while his determination was not ascertainable.

Dalia wondered, how Shane found Jason, but he seemed to be their final solution!

It was already lunchtime when Jason gathered his thoughts.

After thinking for a long time, he came to the final decision, but another question in his mind should give the final drop to his answer.

"This question might sound rude, but what can both of you provide me if I try my best in uniting humanity? There is not really much I'm lacking right now... only time and I can purchase resources with the spoils I received from the Goblin King's basement."

Jason had now enough wealth to purchase a vast pile of resources, after selling the herbs and ores he collected.

Was there even the need for him to promise the Blair's to unite humanity, If he was not confident in leading anyone, or even achieving the required strength?

Not really!

In the end, Jason could only think of a few things, they could provide and he wanted to hear them saying it before he would tell them his decision.

The two of them were prepared to answer this question and it was only obvious to ask that after they noticed that Jason got a fortune from the basement and in addition even an unknown ranked Origin Flame.

"First of all, we don't want to provide you with mana stones and other resources like that, because we think you shouldn't completely rely on us.

But that doesn't mean we can't give you anything. While I'm a Rank 7 Blacksmith and Rank 5 runemaster, Dalia is a Rank 7 Alchemist and Rank 6 Beast Creator, which is mainly because of her physique. We can teach you all lifestyle Artisan occupations and in addition the Beast creator occupation. Due to that, you can gain a fortune by selling your products later on.

Our knowledge surpasses that of almost all humans, with the exception of a few old hag and gramps I know and it is extremely rare that someone at our age takes in multiple disciples.

Both of us want to teach you everything, while Dalia can even help you with the control over Origin flame, which even fewer people can provide.

And I doubt you believe, we don't know any martial art techniques? Don't forget that both of us hail from prosperous clans, even if mine has fallen a long time ago.

I noticed that Little Till gave you the unique technique[Splitting Mind] after you've accomplished a mission...Let me be honest... I can give you more, once your body is ready...There is also the family heirloom from the Shore family, which is a Blessed graded technique that was found in a temporary manifested rift."

Shane finished and Jason who wanted to remain calm, couldn't help but sweat as his eyes shined with desire.

`The cream of the crop..` Jason thought as he heard about the Artisan ranks of Shane and Dalia...

To be honest, this was already enough for him to accept their proposal...

His desire to obtain more knowledge was insatiable and furthermore, he obtained the opportunity to learn exclusive and rare martial art techniques.

As such he couldn't contain himself anymore, even if Shane didn't say what Jason wanted to hear.

"REALLY?" He shouted and jumped up. "Can I learn everything?"

The desire in Jason's eyes shocked Shane and Dalia. Dalia smiled brightly and gently said

"Of course you can... " before adding " If you provide me with enough mana, I can even increase your soul beasts potential to a certain degree, if you want to."

Now the words, Jason wanted to hear fell and he looked at Dalia seriously

"Really?" and his voice grew even more excited

Shane looked at Dalia with a blank gaze.

`Does she like this brat that much` He wondered, as increasing the potential of beasts would hurt her, even with the required resources supplied.

It wouldn't shorten her lifespan but Dalia was sensible to pain and would avoid it if possible.

"Hmm" Dalia nodded with a gentle smile. She noticed Shane's gaze but decided to ignore it.

Sighing, Shane turned back to Jason and warned him.

"There are a few things you should know, once you decide to either accept or decline our proposal.

If you decline it, you'll have to form an advance soul contract, that you have never seen or heard about us.

Lying to us or thinking about breaking the contract will immediately kill you, but it is still better than torture, right?

Accepting our proposal means that most big families will hunt you because learning from us makes you our disciple.

The chances to die once that happens, are high, to put it simple.

Furthermore, once you accept our proposal, don't force Dalia to use her physique too often, it's dangerous!"

Jason already predicted that he would be hunted once he accepted the proposal stated by Shane but the last sentence caused Jason to look confused.

"Is it really that dangerous to increase the potential of beasts?" He asked innocently, slightly worried about Dalia.

She was extremely nice to Jason and could be considered a cute granny.

Thinking that she would be in danger because if she increased beast potential would be frustrating.

Shane was about to answer as Dalia interrupted

"It is per se not dangerous, it only hurts and my body is sensitive to pain. I won't die or receive permanent injuries"

But Jason looked worried at Dalia and said

"Can't that be prevented?"

Shane stated

"It can be prevented but the resources required to upgrade a beast's potential triple or increase by even more and thus it would be much easier to search for magical treasures with the same effect.

Fortunately, Dalia won't feel much pain to increase the potential of beasts below the magical rank. As such, after you accept our proposal, we immediately accept you as our disciple."

Gritting his teeth Shane added

"Once you have the required resources, Dalia can increase your soulbonds potential to the unblemished rank, without receiving many backlashes but after that, it'll be painful."

Jason was already sure what to decide, but after hearing Dalia's offer he was touched.

"I don't want the weak to suffer, but I can't promise anything..." He hesitated because he was unsure if he would be able to do it.

Furthermore, he was unsure what he wanted to do in the future and if accepting their proposal was even useful for him, as he had to shoulder a huge responsibility in this case.

Looking up, Shane and Dalia looked at each other for a moment, before they nodded, accepting that Jason would have to give his best, as Jason was their best solution they found within the last 70 years.

They weren't even sure if they searched already for too long and it could already too late.

Noticing their approval, Jason sighed in relief, as he said

"Disciple greets Master Shane and Master Dalia... it's an honor to meet both of you"

The whole atmosphere lifted up and Dalia's smile was now even brighter, almost radiating the whole room while even Shane sighed in relief, showing a thin smile.

Nobody would know what was going to happen in the future, but Jason's decision to accept the "Deuce-Master", was the best choice he could have ever made.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 127 - Death Knight

Hours passed and it was almost evening when the three of them finished their conversation.

Only now did Jason's new masters understand his desire for knowledge because Jason asked hundreds of questions about almost everything.

This included herbs, ores, their ranking, beasts, habitats, landscapes, temporary rifts and their connection with us, permanent rifts, and what the other side really was...

Was there a whole planet on the other side or was it only a world fragment, plane, or something else? If it was a planet, where exactly was this planet situated?

A whole different universe, only a few stellar-systems or multiple galaxies away.

What about Argos...how strong are humans compared to the foreign races, what are the rankings after the Lord rank, and how many of such individuals existed?

When was he able to learn forging, brewing, inscribing, and everything important to understand how to evolve beasts.....and so on...

Shane and Dalia looked extremely exhausted at Jason who was still spirited to ask more.

Previously they weren't sure if Jason would be able to learn even two Basic-Artisan occupations from them but now they didn't have to hesitate for a second to answer such a simple question.

If Jason wasn't capable to learn two lifestyle-occupations... Nobody would and they gave Jason a memory stick with a few hundred book-files that were extremely large.

Unfortunately, his quantum bracelet began to work slower once he received all files and Jason noticed that the memory storage was completely filled.

Because he used external memory storage for the things from his new teachers, Jason had to purchase a better memory chip in order to access everything without attracting unwanted attention.

The files were locked and only Jason's fingerprint and iris scan could unlock them.

Once he would purchase a new memory chip, he would also purchase a larger storage device that had an integrated cooler and a larger space with much more functions.

It would be expensive but Jason could just sell a few ripened fruits, he had thrown into his storage.

His whole storage of 2500 cubic meters was filled with all kinds of things and Jason wondered if he would still receive the Lace points from the goblin corpses because they were now completely annihilated.

Thinking about it, Jason noticed that it was not really important as before, because he could obtain much more credits by selling the rune weapons and pendants to the Artisan tower, while the other things he received from the Goblin basement were even more valuable.

Looking at the sealed herbs inside his storage device, Jason frowned which was noticed by Shane and Dalia.

Over the last few hours, their relationship became much better and it was comparable to a real Master-Disciple relationship, while Jason had two knowledgeable teachers, that knew almost everything.

After inquiring what was wrong, Jason stated the problem with the sealed herbs and that he couldn't just plant them at the Fler's home as they were too valuable and would attract much attention.

The solution was much simpler than he expected as Dalia took out a miniature conservatory from her ring that was a spatial device specially made by Shane.

The spatial device made by Shane couldn't store beasts or rather sentient beasts, however, there was a section specially made for gardening, which Dalia loved.

With this, Dalia was able to store pots with herbs and trees inside the spatial device, even though they were alive.

With this, they would even grow within the specially made spatial ring, as the time flow continued normally.

What Dalia gave Jason, was something similar. It was an adjustable miniature conservatory, which could grow in size and was originally 10000 sq. meters large, which was a shocking size to imagine.

He couldn't store it in his common spatial storage, but the conservatory was made out of rare metals and tempered glass and could even take hits from magical ranked beasts, without shattering.

There was even a magical watery system, that only had to be supplied with enough water and mana stones in order to work for a long time.

As such, Dalia gave it to Jason with a strengthened vine from one of the dryads to transform the conservatory into a pendant.

The conservatory in its smallest form was only 3cm long 3cm in width and 0.5 cm in height, which was incredible and Shane looked at his masterwork with a proud face.

Producing this conservatory took a great amount of effort and many spatial affinity mana cores had to be sacrificed to find out the collaboration between space, time, and life itself.

Compressing living beings was seen as impossible but not knowing how it worked and spreading the rumor that it was not possible were two completely different matters, while Shane now knew how to do it.

Giving such a precious present to Jason was a good way to gain his favor but if Dalia had gifted that to Jason a few hours ago, Shane would probably be furious.

This, however, changed quickly after he found out Jason's thirst for knowledge in all kinds of aspects which caused him to admire his new disciple a little bit.

Dalia led Jason outside, where he noticed for the first time, that they were below a sea or lake.

Jason could see a faint blur of a stone arch above the lake's surface and it seemed somehow familiar...

Looking at Shane with a perplexed expression Dalia chuckled while saying.

"Next time please don't jump into the lake naked.."

Hearing that, Jason immediately blushed and he knew where they were.

'6th affiliated Vanguard school, below the lake inside the forest...F**!' and Jason could only cry on his inside, as he remembered the first day of school when he jumped into the lake, naked at that...

"Now, enlarge the conservatory slightly and plant the herbs and trees. Sealing them away for too long will only damage them and decrease the efficiency of your plants."

Following the descriptions from Dalia, Jason enlarged the conservatory, and only now did he notice how large it really was, even though he didn't use the biggest size.

Nevertheless, it still fits easily inside the dome surrounded hideout from his new Masters and he wondered how they managed to create this base underwater.

Taking out the soil as first, he filled the niche to plant the trees and herbs inside.

After the soil was used up, Jason took out one plant after another outside.

Before, he wasn't sure how beneficial his trip through the Goblin basement was, and only now could he see everything clearly.

Alone from the herbs Jason gathered, there were 51 colored ones, while many colorless plants were simply thrown into his storage space.

Even the colorless plants were rare and Jason wanted them to stay alive, as fresh ingredients were always more worth than ones that were harvested a few days ago.

As such, Jason began to use his hands to plant all of the plants one by one.

Shane would have never thought that Jason had gathered so many herbs within such a short amount of time and his suspicion about Jason's mana eyes grew once again.

"Jason we are considered as your masters now, right? I hope you don't mind telling us about your mana eyes? "

He simply asked and Shane was sure that Jason would answer everything because both he and Dalia told Jason their secrets.

Jason didn't even look up from working and answered without thinking about the consequences for a long time.

"I don't really know if I have mana eyes or something else, but I can see almost everything with them. For example that you have four different kinds of beasts contracted while two of them are darkness attributed, another one has a water affinity and your last soulbond has a spatial affinity. I can tell that because of the transmuted mana and the colors within the mana.

Dalia's mana is transmuted by her silver origin flame and the wooden affinity.

Furthermore, my eyes have weird effects, one of them can roughly tell either the potential of beasts or the purify or their mana core, I'm not sure about that.

There are different colors radiating from almost every beast and until now, I've never seen a beast with a higher rank than the color I've seen.

Another effect of my eyes is that they can somehow Intimidate others once I'm angry. This only applies to beings below my own rank or unguarded humans.

The last effect I know is called[Abyssal effect] and is caused by my killing intent in addition to supplying my eyes with more mana. I don't know if Shane watched my spar against Leo, but if you did, the effects should be clear.

I could almost defeat someone two stages above my rank with that.

Unfortunately, I don't really know anything about my eyes, and the information I provided are not proven or something like that.

My eyesight increases exceptionally with my mana core rank increase and the same can be said for my trait.

The stronger I get, the better I understand my `mana` eyes."

Jason finished and he had almost finished planting all the trees and herbs when he looked up right into Shane's doubtful eyes, as he noticed something weird

'Why did I tell them everything? Couldn't I have hidden a few facts?..' Sighing, Jason noticed that it was already too late, so he had to confidently charge through everything.

"Should I prove some of my information somehow?" He simply asked without any sign of being agitated about getting doubted.

"I believe you but can you still show me what exactly you meant with seeing the potential" Shane said and four beasts were summoned in front of the conservatory.

In front of Shane appeared a hundred meter long and 2.5 diameter width blue scaled snake with sapphire eyes, next to a 20-centimeter long golden mouse with golden eyes.

Jason felt chills when he saw the next beasts and at first, his gaze fell on the Bane of the thousand eyes wolf which he immediately avoided, only to look at a pitch-black armor with blue flames spewing out of the visor slits.

Death personally could be perceived from this direction and Dalia told Jason to store away the conservatory before the herbs would wither and rot.

The death aura radiating from this black armor was overwhelming and Dalia was worried about the well-being of the plants, which subsided after Jason adjusted the size of the conservatory.

After Jason put on the conservatory necklace everything should be fine, as the material the conservatory was made of could prevent any outside auras infiltrating it, as long as it was not forcefully pushed in.

"Please tell me what their potential is and their rank if possible" Shane said, looking carefully at Jason, whose eyes were now shining lightly.

Jason saw a new color he had never seen before...wait! 'Didn't the Goblin King also have this color?' He asked himself and only now did he realize that it wasn't only the blue flame that radiated from the Goblin King but also a Dark-blue hue indicating its potential.

"The golden mouse is a magical ranked beast with a spatial affinity and your weakest soulbond.

The Bane of the thousand eyes wolf is a mid-guardian-ranked beast, that reached its limits according to the potential I see, while the Water serpent probably has some dragon bloodline in it because its rank is at the peak of the Guardian rank while the potential should barely reach the Lord rank and that death radiating armor thing, which is probably a Death Knight, should be at the Lord rank while it's potential is also used up. Only the Water serpent can grow slightly, while all other beasts have used their potential completely up"

Jason finished and Shane could only nod helplessly. His assumptions were completely right, His soul energy was extremely high since he awoke his soul and with that, he had only formed soulbonds with high potential beasts, except the `Sly space-jumping mouse` as he needed a beast with a spatial affinity and this beast was considered one of the best, considering that he could only form a contract with a magical ranked beast at the highest due to his low affinity with the spatial attribute.

"That's great! With that, you don't even have to use Dalia's physique to contract a good soulbond!" Shane said, trying to hide his jealousy.

It was already evening and Jason should go back to the Fler's as they were probably worried about him, even if his Till called them.

He received a pendant with golden runes inscribed from Shane, with which he could enter the underwater hideout if he was not there and Jason went back with millions of thoughts tormenting his mind.

Too many things had happened in the last few days.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 128 - Leave!

Jason arrived at home, still disturbed by the thoughts rummaging in his mind.

Too much happened during the last few days and Jason was barely able to concentrate enough to practice the Heaven's Hell technique within the shuttle.

But it was necessary because the time when Artemis' evolution finished was approaching.

Arriving at the Fler's home late at night he silently entered the house only to be greeted by a bulldozer hugging him while slender arms squeezing through the thick arms, that enveloped his whole body.

Greg and Malia were hugging him and behind them, Jason could see Gabriella and Mark.

Gabriella looked at him worried but seeing that he was fine her tension eased up.

Mark also sighed in relief when he saw that Jason was fine. He had been away for three days in a row without sending a single message, which was not normal for him.

His teacher called them saying Jason was in an important breakthrough but it seemed weird to them as the timing was unfitting.

What kind of breakthrough would take 3 days, at Jason's mana core rank at that.

Maybe if one wanted to break into the Magus rank a breakthrough could take so long, but that was definitely not something Jason could achieve soon.

It took Jason more than three minutes until he was able to escape the siblings' grasp and they began to calm down.

"Where have you been for the last few days and what kind of breakthrough took you three days?" Greg asked curiously and Jason wondered what he meant.

'Did Till tell them that I had some kind of breakthrough?... What should I tell them?' Jason wasn't sure what to do and he decided to hide the truth in a small lie.

"Rather than a breakthrough, I had some complications with my third soulbond. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, there was a mutated fire elemental hatchling, that was about to die and I formed a contract with it to prevent that... Unfortunately, I underestimated the consumption of soul energy, caused by this mutated fire elemental, causing it to go overboard and almost out of control...The last few days were extremely exhausting but everything is fine now"

Jason tried to explain without telling anything about his Origin Flame because Shane told him, that he should hide the Origin Flame's existence as a secret.

At least as long as it was possible.

Shane said that he should just explain that he had a mutated fire elemental as soulbond if someone asked, as this was a possibility to gain a mutated fire elemental with a black flame as soulbond, even though it was rare.

Releasing a small black flame on his hand, everyone looked at it with astonishment.

Even Gabriella and Mark had never seen a black flame and it was bewitching to look into.

A moment later, Jason closed his fist and the flame vanished into thin air.

Gabriella came back to her senses and asked slightly worried, once she finished scanning Jason about his well-being.

"But you are definitely okay, right? There is no internal injury within your body or soul??"

To which Jason nodded.

All of the Fler's were nice and kind to him and Jason was happy to have met them and he felt bad lying to them.

They talked for some time and Jason received a lot of information about the Goblin tide and where the Fler's were during that time.

Apparently, the Fler's were at home sleeping or absorbing mana and they had only heard the beast tide alarm sound through the whole city and reports about a beast tide later.

But only a few hours later everything was over and they hadn't seen a single Goblin close to them.

Nevertheless, there seemed to be more than 1 million victims from the ghettos or rather poorer districts where the Magus and Grandmagus rank fought their battle.

After they finished talking, Jason went into his bed, which seemed to devour him, sending him into a deep sleep.

It was 6 am when Jason felt stingers attacking him and it was Scorpio waking him up.

Over the last few days, Scorpio was forced to stay inside the soul world against its will, which was mainly because Jason hunted Goblins that could kill Scorpio without any effort.

After the Goblin tide and with his Baptism, Jason had no chance to do something for Scorpio and it could be said that it was lucky that soulbonds subsisted, while feeding on the contractor's mana.

It was less efficient than high-nutrition food with a large amount of mana but it was still enough to survive.

Jason took out a lot of dried mana flies at the awakened stage and fed them to Scorpio.

It seemed as if his second soulbond would soon reach the five-star wild rank and Jason hoped that this would happen after Artemis finished her evolution because the amount Artemis required was much more compared to Scorpio.

Nevertheless, Jason had to increase his soul energy for all of his soulbonds, which included his Origin Flame, which still annexed only 0.01 units.

*

After doing his morning workout with some extra reps, Jason washed up, changed into his school uniform, and went down to eat breakfast, before he called his shuttle.

Practicing the Heaven's Hell technique inside the shuttle, Jason estimated that his soul energy reached 15.2 units and he was still some units away from the minimum required soul energy needed, even though he would receive some shared soul energy from Artemis.

In the end, playing safe was important in this matter.

His new masters, also called Deuce-Masters, told him that he should stay in school and continue to study as if nothing happened.

Over the next month, he should read all books they sent him while he should at least understand the basics.

Shane and Dalia knew about him attending the Basic-Artisan exams and this could be said to be a small mission from them.

Thanks to his mana eyes, Jason was confident to pass these practical exams with flying colors.

There was no reward or punishment at the moment but it was obvious that Jason would lose some of his master's favor if he failed the first small mission.

Arriving at school, Jason entered Class number 54 as he saw his classmates already sitting there.

Looking at Jason, some of them were stupefied...

'Has he done some plastic surgery over the weekend?'

'Was he not in school because of his pain after the surgery?'

Were some thoughts of jealous youths, while the girls looked at Jason's broad shoulders and his chiseled face as they could hardly contain themselves.

They wanted to approach him and make him theirs.

Right as the first girl was about to give it a try, Till entered the room causing the girl that took the first step to turn around with lightning speed before she sat down.

Till noticed Jason's attendance and was astonished

'How has his appearance changed so much over the last three days? His body seemed to be much more muscular and well versed for all types of movements...'

Enveloping Jason with his mana, Till figured out that his body seemed to be perfect for all kinds of landscapes, his muscles seemed flexible, strong, and tenacious.

However, Till's who already predicted something over the last few days could only sigh in regret.

'He really took him in as a disciple?' Was his thoughts and he could only lament. Jason was really a promising child but having Shane as his master was definitely a double-edged sword.

On one side, Shane could teach him his vast knowledge and piles of martial art techniques he knew, while on the other side, Jason could die faster than someone counting down from 3, once it was found out that he was Shane's disciple.

But there was nothing he could do as he started his lessons.

After the mana breakout school was divided into theoretical and practical lessons.

While theory subjects were taught in the morning the afternoon was filled with practical lessons like combat.

Jason completely disregarded the theoretical subjects because he already knew everything that Till taught them at the moment, which was somehow disappointing.

As such he opened the smallest file he received from Shane as he began to read it.

Shane's books were mostly about runes and Blacksmithing.

Each Book contained knowledge about one particular processing step which had to be perfected

While reading, Jason completely forgot that he was in school and he felt like he entered an extremely focused state.

Time passed without him being aware of it and only when he sensed a strong mana fluctuation enveloping him, Jason looked up to see that he was still in school.

Looking up, Jason noticed many of his classmates eyeing him while Till looked at him intently.

"Mr. Stella, is my lesson boring for you?"

Jason looked at Till slightly confused and only now did he understand that he undermined his teachers' authority.

"Mr. Greil your lesson is not boring, but I already know everything important for the next few months" Jason stated

Eying Jason once again, Till had an idea as he retorted.

"If my lesson is boring and you already know so much, please tell me what an Origin flame is including its advantages and disadvantages"

'Origin flame? Why that one...' Jason thought and he began to sweat lightly, thinking that his teacher might have found out his secret,

But his worry was without reason and Jason could calm down after a few seconds.

"Origin Flames are flames that gain sentience deep inside volcanoes with concentrated mana around. They're extremely rare and after gaining sentience, they create a crystal layer to not get washed away by the forceful energy in its surrounding[...]

The price for an unawakened Origin flame is extremely expensive because one can form a soulbond with them before they awaken and in exchange for soul energy, initiating a baptism that will cleanse the body from impurities and increase one's lifespan[...]

There are two disadvantages for Origin Flames, one is that it uses up a spot within the soul world, which not many humans have once they find an unawakened origin flame.

Another disadvantage is at the same time an advantage.

One has to nurture the Origin Flame with soul energy by letting it occupy more units[...]

Once an Origin Flame reaches a certain threshold, it will evolve into a higher Tier, providing the contractor with another baptism, which will cleanse another round of impurities and strengthen the body."

Jason finished his long speech, while Till looked at Jason as if he was a monster.

'How can a high schooler answer this question? How does he know about Origin Flames?!'

Till was frustrated as he had thought that he could trick Jason out.

However, it seemed as if it was the other way around and they looked at each other, and Till made a decision that caused an uproar in the whole classroom.

"Jason, you don't have to attend early classes anymore. Just read through all mandatory books and come to the afternoon classes. I don't think it's necessary for you to waste any time here with my theoretical lessons...Leave!"

Till said with some might behind his words and Jason only smiled lightly as he bowed to his teacher before leaving the class while being eyed by 200+ pairs of eyes.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 129 - Don't Even Think About Holding Back!

There were still a few hours left before the combat classes would begin and Jason looked out for a quiet place to read his books.

It was only around lunchtime when Scorpio began to sting him once again in order to throw Jason out of his focused reading.

Scorpio was like a timer for him and every few hours he would either wake him up because he was bored or hungry.

Looking at Scorpio, Jason thought that it would take probably only a few days until he reached the five-star wild beast rank, which should be fine, considering that Artemis would also finish her evolution soon.

Giving Scorpio something to eat, Jason took out something for himself, before he practiced the Heaven's Hell technique.

After that, it was already time for him to rush to the combat arena, where he found Seron and some of his classmates.

Seron was also absent at the theoretical lessons, which was probably because of the same reason, Jason had.

The subjects provided at the 6th affiliated Vanguard school for first graders were basics that could be learned within a few weeks, with some tiny bit of effort.

Seeing Jason, Seron was shocked. Not only was he now taller than himself, but he also looked much better than by a few grades causing Seron's jaw to drop.

It seemed like Seron was still at the 3rd Adept rank and Jason began to smile. With Seron's enhancement from his unknown soulbond, he should be able to reach the 4th Adept rank in both mana core size and physique, which meant that both Jason and Seron had now the same strength.

When Jason was weaker in both, Seron could easily win while holding back which frustrated him a lot, but maybe it would be different today.

They greeted each other and began to start a light conversation until all of their classmates arrived.

Going inside, they went to their groups like always and waited for an Instructor or their teacher to arrive.

But not Jason and Seron.

Both of them went silently towards the combat arena, where they would have their spar.

They didn't want to wait for anyone as increasing the mastery of one's martial arts techniques was mostly done under pressure during a fight.

With this thought in mind, the AI started the countdown for their spar

[3....2....1...Start!]

Starting the fight, both Seron and Jason summoned their weapons at the same time before they executed their movement technique without hesitating for a moment.

But Jason's execution seemed slightly faster and only now did he really feel the difference between cleansed mana channels and impure mana channels that obstructed his mana circulation.

Jason's movement technique was slightly weaker but it seemed like his control over his technique skyrocketed as his speed increased by almost 20%, which was much more than normally possible with the weightless steps technique at his current mastery

It took them less than a breath to reach each other, while Jason's daggers twirled around creating sparks at Seron's sword that could barely evade the onslaught of multiple dagger strikes.

Seron hadn't expected Jason's speed to reach such a degree and from the impact caused by his strikes, Seron could tell that Jason's physique was not much worse than his own if not on par.

Seeing a bright smile on Jason's serious face, Seron disregarded everything his master told him when attending school on Astrix.

'Don't attract too much attention. Hold back your strength. Hide your identity from anyone!'

His identity was long known by Jason and fighting with him was just too satisfying and beneficial for himself, that he couldn't help but release the shackles he put on himself.

Exerting the Floating sky technique to his fullest potential, Seron's speed skyrocketed while Jason noticed that Seron's mana core increased slightly in size, while it became even more difficult to his strikes.

Instead of overpowering Seron with his newly acquired strength, Jason took note, that Seron stopped holding back in order to fight with his whole strength.

This caused his already bright smile to turn even wider.

"Don't even think about holding back" Jason shouted as his mana erupted, injecting even more in his movement technique in addition to his lower body.

Jason seemed much slower than Seron but his choice of weapon was much better a close combat fight as he could nimbly attack while evading the slightly slower sword of Seron.

But this didn't mean Seron had no chance, rather than that, Jason was overpowered as Seron's physique and mana core size reached the standards of common 5th Adepts infinitely close to the 6th.

Under extreme pressure, Jason's mind was thinking of multiple paths to find a way out of the barrage of slashes caused by Seron.

Unfortunately, Seron's technique seemed extremely precise utilized and once Jason found a flaw, Seron retreated immediately, when Jason slashed out with his dagger.

Fighting Seron head-on was extremely difficult to and Jason's lack of combat experience to fight any human head-on came into play.

Neither Greg nor Seron fought him completely seriously until now and fighting Seron with all his might, it was apparent that Seron had a much wider variety of combat experience.

But Jason's will was much grander than anyone could think of while giving up was not something found in his vocabulary.

As such his exceptional eyesight searched for a way to get out of this fight as he evaded all kinds of sword slashes, cleaves, and thrusts by a hair width to find a flaw in Sharon's defensive.

Minutes passed and both had used up a large margin of their mana...

At least it seemed that way but Jason knew it better while the smile that stiffened during the fight blossomed once again.

While Seron held back with his mana consumption while trying to focus on the passive mana replenishing technique which was too taxing, Jason's mana pool was already replenished.

The fight continued and Seron had to use some of his mana reserves inside his mana pool, causing Jason to use even more mana in his attacks.

Jason's speed increased further while his proficiency with the weightless step technique had already crossed the basic mastery and was on the way to the familiar mastery.

Seron's speed decreased due to the lack of mana and Jason's speed increased at the same time.

He thought it would be soon over when Seron's mana exploded suddenly, refilling most of his mana instantly.

With widened eyes, Jason couldn't help but smile.

'Is that his soulbond's effect? Not bad!' he thought without thinking about the shock this caused in their surroundings.

The spar between both of them took over ten minutes and the mana consumption of both was astronomical, while their fight even pressured the surrounding youths that sparred half-heartily.

Till arrived shortly after the two youths began sparring and a frown could be seen on his face, seeing Seron giving his all, even revealing his soulbonds special inherited ability.

'Seron don't procrastinate the fight....Jason has almost infinitely mana with his current consumption...'
He sighed but Till had to say that it was shocking seeing Jason being able to defend against Seron for so long.

If Seron was more proficient with daggers or other high-velocity weapons instead of the longsword, he would probably have won, but Seron liked fighting with longswords which was also why he received a longsword soul weapon from his father, when he awoke his soul, even though his mana channels were almost completely crippled.

While Seron trained his body and sword martial art techniques without mana consumption since he was four, Jason lacked in combat experience and their fight demonstrated both of the youth's determination to increase their strength while trying to find each other's flaws.

These flaws were fixed as soon as they were attacked and the comprehension ability both showcased was shocking to the surrounding students.

Till smiled as he was once again reminded that it was a good choice to drag Seron to Astrix, even though it was initially only for his second soulbond....

Meeting Jason was probably much better than finding the second soulbond.

Their fight dragged on for another ten minutes and both of them were sweating heavily.

Jason's mana replenishing lost slowly its effect as his consumption increased over time, while Seron had used his soulbond's special effect multiple times in succession which seemed weird to Jason, as both distanced themselves from each other.

Taking a few deep breathers, Seron warned

"Look out! If you don't want to injure yourself, better forfeit or use your whole mana to deflect my next attack!"

With his mana eyes activated Jason noticed that Seron used up his whole mana pool in addition to two instant refills which seemed even more suspicious than before as a white-bluish loose membrane began to envelop his longsword.

Circulating the mana in a certain path Seron pulled back his sword and was about to swing down when goosebumps spread all over Jason's skin with the sensation of danger filling his mind.

'Oh s**t' He cursed inwardly as he noticed that the mana membrane peeled off from the sword, shooting straight towards him.

With a terrifying speed, that even Till astonished, Jason could only helplessly look at the sword ray shooting right into him, when he instinctively felt something in his soul-world shaking violently.

He lifted his arm and a black flame appeared right before the sword ray pierced into Jason's hand, as he released his whole mana pool at once.

BOOOM

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 130 - Seron's Mutated Soulbond

BOOOM a thick cloud of dust was whirled up, enveloping the whole combat area while Till charged towards them, in order to see if Jason was fine because the black flame couldn't be seen.

Jason's Black origin flame was as strong as a peak-evolved ranked fire affinity and destroying the sword ray wasn't considered a problem for it.

However, Jason had never used it before.

As such he was only able to summon the flame in the last moment before the sword ray arrived.

From the outside, it looked like Jason was about to block the sword ray with his hand, which was unimaginably stupid causing Till to charge towards them.

If something were to happen, he would immediately throw Jason into a freezing capsule and give everything he could to keep him alive.

However, right as the dust cloud vanished with Till standing where Jason should have been, he saw him right in front of Seron who looked down at Jason with widened eyes.

After using his soulbond's ability so many times in addition to his most threatening sword technique, Seron's mana was completely used up, and seeing that Jason was completely fine was not something he could comprehend.

He couldn't even say anything before Jason stated "It's my win today" with a bright smile on his face.

Storing away the daggers in his hand, Jason supported Seron who was extremely exhausted to leave the combat area where they passed Till who looked at Jason with doubt.

'How is his strength so much stronger compared to three days ago? Seron's sword-ray should have already reached the might of the evolved rank attack!'

It was obvious that Jason couldn't destroy the sword ray with his bare hands, as such there had to be something different but Till couldn't get the hang of it.

Jason and Seron were supporting each other as they left the combat arena while their classmates looked at them with widened eyes and traces of shock underlining their obvious astonishment.

Some of their classmates even dropped their weapons involuntarily while observing Seron and Jason's intense spar.

They sat down at a nearby bank inside the hall and didn't talk for some time, not minding the onlookers.

The silence was awkward but the questions that stirred in their heads could only be answered by revealing each other's secrets and asking for something like that was not to be sought at.

In the end, Jason decided to not as Seron about his soulbond, and rather than that a praise was appropriate as Seron's soulbond was simple to cheaty

During the whole fight, Seron had at least refilled his mana ten times while Jason had to reduce his mana consumption even if he had the passive mana gathering technique.

Sighing, Jason said "Our spar was really nice and your soulbond's ability was really unexpected!", trying to break the awkward silence and Seron replied earnestly:

"It had been a really long time since I was able to fight any of my peers head-on without holding back but your mana replenishing caught me off-guard!"

Hearing that Jason was a little bit confused.

"Hasn't Mr. Greil told you that I refined a sub-area inside my mind?" Jason said innocently while looking at Seron.

"Y-you mean the Splitting mind techniques first level? You've done that?? Did you want to die?!" Seron shouted, jumping up from his seat, looking at Jason as if he was a stupefied monster.

Refining his brain and splitting a small fracture from it to create a sub-area at the Adept rank...no! Probably even at the Novice rank?

'Maybe there is something wrong with Jason's brain? Or did he just want to die...?'

Jason looked dumbfounded at Seron's outburst of emotion and chuckled lightly... One could say that the Mind division he underwent was comparable to a death wish at his rank, but thanks to the devilish valkyrie-shield fruit, he survived, even though he almost became insane, ending up in a small trauma...

Thinking back on the danger he underwent, Jason shuddered, before he looked at Seron once again.

"Well... I'm doing fine, right? Due to the sub-area and the automatic passive mana replenishing process, I was able to defeat you in the end." He said with a sly smile which infuriated Seron.

"That was only because Slimy was exhausted!" Seron's tongue slipped and he cursed himself inwardly.

"Slimy? Is your soulbond a slime?" Jason asked curiously as he couldn't imagine naming a soulbond Slimy except it was either slime or some other "slimy" beast.

'I'm so stupid!' Seron thought but now Jason could find out what his soulbond was, once he researched a little bit.

As such Seron decided to tell Jason the truth.

Clearing his throat, he began

"My soulbond is a mutated mana slime without any affinity. Rather than that because of the slime's innate attributes, my malfunctioned mana channels could be fixed to a certain degree.

Due to its mutation, I received the ability called [Mana Injection] which can immediately replenish my mana to a certain degree.

Normally, I can use this ability only once a day but the mutated mana slime can store the usages to a certain degree.

During our fight I used up too many stored [Mana Injections] at the same time, causing Slimy to end up extremely exhausted...

It was unfortunate that I couldn't win against you but what makes me more curious is the fact, how you defended against my sword ray!! This sword ray should have been at the evolved rank!"

Seron explained before he decided to ask Jason, what he was curious about.

Both of them already told each other a few secrets and Seron thought it was useless to hide the other less secretive things.

Jason knew more about him than most people from his own clan, except his parents and siblings.

While Jason's knowledge was already relatively vast, he didn't know that an ability like the [Mana Injection] existed, so he was astonished and a "cool" escaped from him accidentally.

Seron looked at Jason before he began to laugh heartily.

Thinking too hard, Seron had thought Jason could tell his secrets to other families, their own clan had enmity with in order to gain credits but looking into Jason's eyes, he knew that there wouldn't be a single problem to tell him the truth.

Jason's eyes seemed more trustworthy than his own close family, which was somehow scary but at the same time reassuring.

Due to Seron's laughter, Jason was also infected by it and they began to laugh sincerely, causing their surroundings to look at them extremely weird with complex expressions.

'Are you two combat machines even aware, that we have combat lessons right now?'

And not long passed before Seron and Jason noticed that they were enveloped in thick mana and dragged through the hall until they arrived inside the Comat arena once again.

"If you can laugh, honing your skills shouldn't be a problem! Continue sparring!" Till said, trying to show a serious face, but both Seron and Jason noticed that Till was also amused by them and rather proud about their combat prowess.

But Till's next announcement, caused both Jason and Seron to frown deeply.

"We will now make Team battles, as a small mission, each team that is capable of defeating Jason and Seron will receive 10 Lace points while surviving for 5 minutes will reward you with 5 Lace points"

Suddenly the whole combat area turned into a bunch of hyenas eyeing Jason and Seron, that stood inside the combat arena not knowing what was going on.

There was nothing to lose for their classmates as not a single lace point would be deducted and they began to queue up to fight Jason and Seron, with greed, overwhelming their emotions.

There were only 5 to 10 Lace points they could obtain but converted it was still a fortune of 100.000 to 200.000 credits.

Both he and Seron were confused about how their conversation turned into a battlefield against all of their classmates.

However, Jason had not fought against many elemental affinities, as such, he was expectant to fight his classmates, that eyed them carefully.

He himself was only at the 1st Adept rank but his strength and mana core was comparable to the common 4th Adept rank, as such not many of his classmates had an advantage in this field.

After fighting Greg and Seron for weeks, his combat experience was much higher than before, even though there were quite a lot of unfamiliar abilities and affinities he had yet to come in contact with.

Most classmates decided to wait for the first few rounds to finish until they would challenge Jason and Seron in order to prey them once they were exhausted.

As such the exhaustion should overwhelm them after some battles because they would definitely not win over 100 spars in a row.

Being able to accomplish something like that, would require a vast amount of energy, mana, and concentration, which could hardly be afforded at the Adept rank.

Maybe one would be able to fight for a long time once one reached the magus rank or similar ranks, but at the Adept rank, one was still considered a drop in the ocean.

But rather than feeling demotivated, a black fire burned within Jason's golden eyes, unknowingly to everyone while the fighting spirit released by him filled the whole room, driving away Seron's slight hesitation through the emergence of a fighting spirit, that was unknown to him.

"Let's go!" Jason calmly said as the first battle started.