

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 131 - 2vs200+

Due to his fast mana replenishing speed, Jason decided to fully exert his weightless step movement technique, to charge at his two opponents, which was both at the 2nd Adept rank, in addition to the amplification of their beast, which increased their strength to common 3rd Adept ranks.

Even though Jason was innately only at the 1st Adept rank, due to the baptism from the black Origin flame, his strength and mana core size were comparable to common 4th Adept ranks.

As such he was stronger and faster than his first two opponents.

Exerting weightless steps, his speed increased by 20%.

Reflecting his opponent's straight spear thrust with one dagger, he leaned even further towards the ground, before he appeared in front of the spear wielder.

Jason could only see a shocked impression on his opponent's face, as he cut through his neck with his dulled dagger.

The spear wielder took one step back and his legs began to shiver, as they lost all strength, giving in.

Jason didn't care about his `death` opponent and he saw Seron attacking his opponent without using any mana, as Jason appeared behind the sword wielder, finishing him off.

Right now it was more important to save as much mana as possible, at least for Seron, while Jason could use almost as much as he wanted, which frustrated Seron the most.

His soulbond was already exhausted and couldn't use anymore mana injections, while Jason could fight to his heart's content with some marginal adjustments.

He had to adjust his combat style much more than Jason and because of that, Jason's fights seemed more proficient and elegant.

It seemed as if Jason's mana was without limit and both Seron and Jason looked fine finishing 20 spars in a row, only with some sweat pouring down their temples.

Their classmates looked at them as if two Lord-rank beasts emerged in front of them and they wondered how these two freaks suddenly appeared in their Class without them knowing.

Time passed and it was only when the 50th spar began, that Jason began to regulate his fighting style a little bit more while Seron was also visibly exhausted.

Suddenly at the 51st spar, Leo Heart and another top ranker of their class entered the combat arena.

With their 5th Adept mana core and physique in addition to their amplification, they were at the 6th and 7th Adept rank respectively and Jason frowned.

"I'll take Urk" Jason said to Seron, who could only nod helplessly.

Their combat prowess was extremely good compared to their mana core rank but even though that was the case, the difference in their mana core rank and physique was still apparent.

In addition to that, they already fought 51 battles, if one included their own spar, which took most of their energy.

Looking at Till, Seron could only lament in his heart.

`What is your plan, master?!` he asked in his mind as the battle began.

Leaning forward, Jason shot towards Urk, the student with a mana core size of a 7th Adept, as he released he a bright red flame that enveloped his whole arm.

Urk obtained a fire affinity from a low-evolved beast and he was extremely proud of his strength.

When he was placed in Class 75 his self-esteem seemed to be completely shattered, as he couldn't comprehend this kind of unfairness.

Thinking of himself as a prodigy, he didn't even understand that his soul-awakening was more likely average with only 3 vacancies and a single affinity, towards fire.

The only thing that was relatively good about his soul-awakening was his soul energy, but even that could barely count as meeting the requirements.

With his rather high mana core rank, he was confident in defeating anyone in his class and even the classes above him, but now these two clowns in front of him stole the attention he wanted to obtain because of their single spar and the toy fights against 50 other pairs.

Urk wanted to receive praises from his teacher and classmates, as such he went all out and the flames that enveloped his arm were flickering powerful with his desire.

Jason knew that his opponent had a fire affinity, which was at the same time the reason for him to choose this opponent.

In Urk's hand was a longsword, one of the most common weapons used by most hunter's and Jason's smile widened, causing Urk to feel humiliated and even more enraged.

Throwing a fireball without aiming carefully, Jason evaded it with a jump to the side which he completed with a roll to stand up directly.

With his weightless steps, he was extremely nimble and could evade the relatively slow fireballs from Urk with ease, which enraged his opponent even more.

As Jason was only five meters apart from Urk, he summoned a wall of fire in front of him, before he cleaved through his own firewall.

The firewall should disguise his attack and this tactic worked under normal circumstances.

Unfortunately, this was useless against Jason, who had his mana eyes activated during the whole spar.

Seeing the longsword cleaving through the firewall, Jason evaded the attack by leaning infinitely close towards the bottom, not without stopping his charge forwards.

The firewall was still standing, even though the upper part was cut and dissipating.

Urk supplied the lower part of the firewall with mana because he wanted to have enough time, to get into his combat stance once again.

How could he have known, that Jason didn't care about the low-evolved ranked firewall, because he himself owned a black origin flame and was resistant to most flames that were weaker than his own.

The firewall as obstacle was completely ignored and Jason charged through it while even his hair didn't incinerate which was an astonishing fact before his dagger cut through Urk's calves.

Jason finished his smooth move with a half turn and a thrust towards Urk's neck, which `killed` him within seconds.

Even though Jason knew this fight would be rather short, he was disappointed with Urk's combat experience and stupid tactic, causing him to lament their school's average strength.

With some mana left within his mana core, Jason ignored the enraged piercing stare Urk threw towards him, as he charged towards Leo's back, which was uncovered.

Only when two meters distance was between Leo and him, Jason got discovered when an earth wall erected between them.

Seron was fighting with Leo head-on, reserving some of his mana, when his fighting spirit suddenly ignited once again as he perceived Jason approaching them.

He didn't want to wait for Jason but right when he was about to charge at his opponent once again, Seron noticed that Leo erected an earth wall behind him and a bad premonition erected in his mind.

"DON'T YOU DARE JASON!!" Seron shouted when he saw golden eyes flashing out of the right side of the wall, with his dagger ready to thrust towards Leo.

Seron didn't like Jason earning all the praises and he was only a few meters apart from his opponent.

Activating his floating sky movement technique, he appeared in front of Leo without notice, and due to the pressure on two sides, Leo was completely overwhelmed as he covered himself with a thick membrane of earth.

Unfortunately, this was relatively useless, as Seron activated his sword technique, cleaving apart the earth wall, before Jason appeared below Seron, thrusting out with his dagger right into Leo's chest, `killing` him.

Jason and Seron won another battle and they smiled exhaustedly, even though Seron was pissed, which he displayed by punching Jason on his shoulder with some strength behind.

"Don't steal my prey" he said laughing lightly when they went back to the starting position.

There were still more than 50 battles in front of them at least as long as everyone wanted to fight them, which they didn't hope.

After fighting against Leo and Urk, that were among the top 5 students within their class, the others were all rather demotivated and nobody wanted to fight them with the exception of the other top students that wanted to regain their reputation.

Suddenly they saw Seron taking out two red-orange reagents.

While he gulped down one, he gave Jason the other one, which caused them to doubt the fairness of this battle

Lamenting to their teacher, the only response these top students received was:

"Before you show me that you are capable of sparing more than 50 spars without taking a single energy replenishing reagent, you guys better stay quiet!"

This statement caused the stirred-up mob to quiet down instantly, without anyone complaining about Jason and Seron anymore.

Jason was glad to get an energy replenishing reagent from Seron, as he himself did not have any potions, which was somehow frustrating and had to be changed soon.

Gulping down the liquid, his energy replenished extremely fast and he felt extremely vigorous in a matter of seconds.

The same could be said for Seron and the top students looked at them with fear, even though their strength was higher compared to the two youths.

Till saw this and said, "I increase the reward for defeating Seron and Jason to 100 Lace points while holding out for five minutes will be enough to obtain 50 Lace points."

This statement caused many youths to look at Seron and Jason with even more greed than before and it didn't matter if they lost, as long as they survived five minutes they could earn 50 lace points.

With this small fortune, they would be able to purchase a new combat technique or similar rare items in a much shorter period.

Entering the combat grounds one after another, Jason and Seron gave Till an annoyed stare.

If glances could kill, Till would have died a few hundred times right at this moment.

In the end, they could only sight as both made themselves ready to continue their spars.

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Chapter 132 - Artisan Tower

It was already evening when the last spars were fought and Seron already gave Jason another two energy replenishing potions, as their fights seemed to become more exhausting after the rewards were increased.

Both couldn't even move anymore, even though their mind was still working on full speed, while they replicated the fights, they underwent, laying on the ground.

Without the ability to move anymore, that was the only thing they could do as their mind was the only thing that seemed to work.

Recreating their fights was one way to improve one's combat experience and Jason thought the 100+ fights he went through today increased his observance and minuscule movement by a large margin, while he got the hang of his body after he received the baptism.

Overall not only his strength increased thanks to the baptism, but also his mana circulation increased by a lot, which enhanced his techniques proficiency and even his passive mana replenishing and absorption which was done by his sub-area.

This overjoyed Jason but he could barely force a smile on his face.

Till released the other students from their torture and they could go home, while he picked up Jason and Seron as white golden manifested on his back.

He brought both of them back home, while Seron was dropped off at a large mansion where a maid already waited for them.

Seeing Seron's dirty and disheveled appearance, without any strength left in his legs, she looked fearful at Till, before she dragged him inside.

Jason looked at Till who was deep in thoughts and before Jason could say anything Till said.

"I assume you are now Shane's disciple... You don't have to answer, but keep in mind that this decision is an extremely dangerous one.

Consider that you could also pull in the Fler's with your decision...Have you ever thought about that?" Till said with a serious tone and Shane had completely forgotten that he could have drawn the Fler's accidentally into the fray, causing his face to sour... He had only thought about himself and didn't know what he should do now.

But everything was already done and he couldn't really change it.

The only thing that he could do was to ask his masters about this matter, as he didn't want to see any of the Fler's injured because of his misdeed.

Jason nodded seriously before he barely opened his mouth, trying to change the subject.

"What happened to the school mission and so on? Can I still receive some lace points for the Goblins and stone weapons with runes on them?"

Till looked at Jason with a perplexed expression

'You want to talk about that? Isn't the protection of the Fler's more important?' But he disregarded this thought as he thought Jason had already asked Shane about this matter.

As such he answered: "You'll still receive the same rewards as before, the only disadvantage is, that the stone weapons with runes on them are worth slightly less compared to before and the same can be said for the protection pendants.

Nevertheless, you'll still receive a fortune for them because most runes inscribed on the stone weapons corroded thanks to the poisonous rain cloud, the guards summoned.

You can go to the Artisan tower tomorrow and I doubt you'll be disappointed with what you get."

Till thought for a moment and he remembered that the government still had to pay Shane his fee of 20% for all the materials they received from the Goblin basement.

"Please tell Mr.Blair, that he should tell us where we should send the Star notes and credits towards...We received quite a lot thanks to him and fortunately, Cyro-city is still standing firmly, even though we had many casualties."

"Ahh!" While they were flying, Jason also remembered that Shane had to receive his commission from the Goblin basement but he thought that sending it to his bank account like Shane wanted, was too suspicious.

As such Jason thought for a moment and said "Give me the star notes and Credits in a spatial ring.. Ah and please don't try to find his base. My eyes can see GPS devices and so on easier than others"

Till nodded nonchalantly but he had to acknowledge that Jason was definitely not stupid. The fortune Shane would receive was humongous and even he had to say, that he was jealous about it, but there was nothing one could do.

Shane Blair saved the whole Island in the end. Old Drake would have been killed and the whole city annihilated.

Even though he was on Astrix, he could barely kill the Goblin King, and to be honest, he could only find him thanks to the device Mr.Blair lend him.

Otherwise, the Goblin King would have probably strengthened himself even more

"Mr. Greil? Can I receive my lace points also from you? I don't want to go to school tomorrow morning and the Artisan tower is quite a distance away from school?"

Till was thrown out of his thought and he only nodded because there was no reason to decline Jason's offer and only a minute later, he landed in front of the Fler's house, where he dropped of Jason.

They exchanged the goblin soldier, goblin mage apprentice and hobgoblin corpses one the street which was weirdly eyed by his neighbors before Jason received a notification on his quantum bracelet.

His school profile was updated and Jason had now 100 lace points, which was nothing compared to the wealth that hung around his neck inside the conservatory causing him to smile dryly.

His quantum bracelet was also completely overfilled with inscribed stone weapons and forging materials but he was reluctant to sell them forging materials because he would so learn how to forge soon enough

The only thing that he didn't really like was the extremely unsightly anvil that was heavier than anything he ever lifted.

Jason said goodbye to Till who looked at him with an interested gleam in his eyes before he soared into the sky.

Looking at Till who flew nimbly through the air, Jason also wanted to be able to fly as soon as possible when he went inside the house, thinking about flying around with a smile on his face.

Jason greeted Gabriella and Mark who sat at the dinner table eating and he sat down with them to eat something.

Apparently, Greg was absorbing mana as if he was obsessed, after Jason's strength increased.

Even Malia was overwhelmed by Jason's skyrocketed strength, causing her to focus more on increasing her own strength instead of helping Jason out by answering questions all the time.

As such Jason ate with Gabriella and Mark before he went upside to his room, where he carefully sat on his bed before practicing the Heaven's Hell technique.

Afterward, he felt extremely exhausted and after feeding Scorpio with his last remaining strength, Jason fell into a deep sleep.

It was 8 am when Jason woke up by lovely stings that poked him and he could see Scorpio that looked at him intently while transmitting the desire to eat something.

Feeding Scorpio and handing out a small mana stone which he could absorb partially, Jason inspected his soulbond as he noticed that his exoskeleton seemed to have grown more sturdy, while he reached a length of 16 centimeters.

His incomplete mana core told Jason, that Scorpio would soon reach the five-star wild beast rank and Jason had a bad premonition that it would be at the same time when Artemis awoke and he immediately called a shuttle.

Inside the shuttle, he would practice his Heaven's Hell technique.

But before the shuttle arrived, Jason worked out and washed up.

Entering the shuttle and practicing the Heaven's Hell technique, Jason noted, that his soul energy had increased to slightly above 15.4, which caused him to sigh in relief.

If his increase in soul energy stayed the same, he would reach 16 units in his soul energy until Friday, which could be enough for both Artemis and Scorpio.

At least Jason hoped so.

Arriving at his destination, he could see a huge tower in front of him with the size of a few hundred meters, made out of tempered Ouea-glass and Alio-marble which were both grade-2 materials.

Looking up, dizziness overcame him and he almost lost his balance.

Barely being able to stand, he entered the Artisan tower, where he was immediately obstructed by the guard at the front gates, who controlled everyone.

Apparently the Artisan tower had a few enemies and some desperate would try to bomb the tower, with whatever reason there may be and Jason found this a little bit exaggerated.

But he had nothing to hide anymore and his quantum bracelet storage device was scanned, only for the guard to look at him with widened eyes, as he gave him the bracelet back with shivering hands.

Apparently, he had seen the content of his storage device that was crammed with expensive ores, not many people would be able to afford and the extremely big anvil was an even more astonishing sight

The guard made space for Jason, as he thought the black-haired youth in front of him could be the disciple of a high-ranked blacksmith or something like that.

Avoiding offending people like Jason was always his top priority, otherwise, he might even lose his life if he did something wrong.

Entering Cyro-cities Artisan-tower, Jason couldn't help but exclaim as he looked around.

The whole entrance hall was filled with dense mana and the sensation inside could be described as cooling and extremely relaxing.

Walking towards the reception, Jason requested for an Inspector to value some of his materials and weapons.

The receptionist looked at Jason's ID he sent her and she could only look weirdly at the ID and the person in front of her.

'Is that picture old?WHAT? He is barely 14 years old?!' She doubted her eyes and looked at the picture of his holographic ID-picture and Jason in front of her, wondering what was going on.

But noting that he was only 14 years old, she wondered what he would have to let someone inspecting it.

Due to her working spirit, she wouldn't allow any of her esteemed Inspectors to waste their time on something unworthy.

As such a slight seed of prejudice formed in her mind, telling her that Jason didn't have anything worthy with him because he wasn't from a renewed family or clan, which would otherwise be pointed out on his ID.

Meanwhile, Jason wondered, why the receptionist's expression turned so serious within a second.

"Before I can let you through to an Inspector, I have to see if the items you want to evaluate are worth the effort to call them. Please show me what you want to have inspected!!" She stated with a cold voice...

"Here?" Jason asked hesitantly and the receptionist laughed coldly in her mind, stating "Yes, please SIR!"

"Okay...." without minding the receptionist's attitude, Jason entered his quantum bracelet with his mind, and suddenly with a loud *BOOOM* a few tons heavy anvil fell on the ground, creating multiple cracks on the marble floor that was strengthened by toughness runes.

"Ups...."

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 133 - Another Origin

"Oops..." Jason said when he noticed the cracks appearing on the beautiful floor while the receptionist's face paled within seconds as she saw the humongous-sized anvil landing on the floor, breaking it open.

Not only was she pale, but even the people around the entrance hall were also alarmed at the appearance of the dark-blue titanic anvil appearing, and the guards at the entrance charged towards Jason, with their weapons unsheathed.

"What happened here!?" the guard that let Jason through asked seriously glaring at Jason... Damaging the Artisan towers property was nothing to scoff at and it was obvious that this wasn't an accident.

Scratching the back of his head, Jason explained the situation roughly and the receptionist's face grew even paler if that was even possible as her legs gave in, thinking about the possibility that she could be fired or even worse.

Her eyes turned wet with tears pouring down her cheeks.

'Aren't you a little bit over the top?' Jason asked in his mind, and only now did he notice that he wasn't flustered to be the center of attention anymore like it was when he gained his eyesight.

'Weird' Jason told himself, but without giving him any time to think about it, a familiar woman entered his sight causing him to grow slightly excited.

"Miss Sharon!!" He said happily, not knowing why he was so happy to see her.

Jason just didn't like this situation he was in right now and he had much more things to do than wasting time to explain the whole incident he was dragged in.

"Oh...Jason Stella?" Antalia remembered the youth that topped all Basic-Artisan exams with flying colors even though he only learned for a week and a weird shining light appeared in her eyes.

"What happened?" She inquired and Jason summarized what happened, which caused her to look at the receptionist weirdly.

Antalia knew this receptionist for a few years and she was always extremely ambitious and from her knowledge, she roughly knew that the receptionist didn't want to bother the Artisan's inspections too much if it wasn't necessary and most of the time she was right, but apparently not this time.

Sighing Antalia said

"It's okay... Sarah just don't be too ambitious next time, if something like that happens ever again, even I can't help you out" before she ignored the crying receptionist on the ground, as she looked at Jason
"Follow me"

Turning around she walked toward the elevators and Jason had to quickly envelop the anvil with his mana before it was stored away.

Afterward, he looked one last time back at the guards and the crying receptionist with slight pity in his eyes, before he rushed after Antalia.

He wasn't sure where exactly they were going, but he thought Antalia might bring him to an inspector which caused him to follow her.

Entering the elevator, they descended towards the underground, and only a few seconds later the doors opened, revealing a massive white-silver shining hallway with dozens of doors leading to other rooms.

With his mana eyes activated, Jason could see the mana fluctuations through the doors and there were all kinds of testing machines, smithies, brewing rooms, and rooms for runemasters to learn about inscribing.

Antalia explained where they were and apparently the rooms above the surface were for Rank 2 and above Artisans, while Rank-0: Apprentice's and Rank-1 Beginner had to stay below the surface.

This was only so because there were just too many Rank-0 and Rank-1 Artisan to house them above the surface. Otherwise, the Artisan tower would need a height of more than a few thousand meters, which the current dome wouldn't support.

Antalia talked a lot and she seemed to be excessively proud of Cyry-City's Artisan tower, causing Jason to suppress a chuckle.

'How funny it would be to tell her about my masters' Artisan ranks' Jason thought in his mind laughing inwardly.

But Antalia looked extremely satisfied which Jason found it quite interesting, so he followed her to a seemingly ordinary room, they entered without knocking.

Entering the room, Jason saw a middle-aged man hammering on a red shining ore, which began to be shaped under the violent assaults of the hammer strikes, while black grains and impurities seemed to be expelled.

The ingot cooled down extremely fast, while the middle-aged man released a red-orange flame from his hand, enveloping the chunk before it ignited once again.

Continuing to strike the red shining ore until it was shaped a perfect chunk, Jason's mana eyes were drawn to it, as he noticed something important.

First, the red chunk, was a grade-3 fire affinity infused ore, called Hephaestit which was mainly used to manufacture fire affinity mana weapons, and the mana veins within the red chunk seemed to be partially cleansed to Jason, even though he wasn't sure why it looked like this.

Second, and the most shocking factor was, that right in front of him was a Tier-1 D-Rank Origin flame, which was said to be extremely rare...

'Did Shane or Dalia lie to me?' Jason wondered but then he remembered that not even Shane himself had one which meant it had to be rare.

'Who is that man?'

Giving it some thoughts, there couldn't be many humans within on Astrix with such a valuable flame.

'Is that maybe Cyro-cities Rank-5 Blacksmith who is also the president of the Artisan tower?'

Was Antalia trying to bribe him or what was going on? Jason wondered and only now did the bulky middle-aged man notice his guests.

"Oh Tali, what are you doing here? And who is that small boy?" He asked and Jason wondered 'Tali?'

But hearing Antalia's response, everything was immediately clear.

"Dad! This is a student of the 6th affiliated Vanguard school who has passed all Basic-Artisan exams with 100%" Antalia said and somehow Jason thought there was a meaning behind her behaving like that

However, he didn't really care about that because he only wanted to make business today.

"Hello, Sir...My name is Jason Stella and today I'm only here to conduct business with the Artisan tower" Jason said, explaining everything clearly without creating any misunderstanding, while glaring towards Ms.Sharon, without anyone saying anything.

The middle-aged man seemed nice and he decided to ignore his daughters scheming as he greeted Jason friendly

"Hello Jason, my name is Cheng Sharon and I'm the president of the Artisan tower and also the only Rank 5 Blacksmith we have here"

Cheng's smile seemed genuine and Jason shook his hand with a bright smile and Cheng could hardly contain to comment on his looks.

"Pretty! Are you sure you're a man?" He asked causing Jason to frown.

Since the baptism, his skin seemed much smoother and if his facial features weren't sharp, one would think he was a flat-chested woman which was not what he wanted.

Looking at Cheng, he wondered why he didn't look similar to him because Cheng's skin was not as fair as his, but thinking about the difference of Ranks between their Origin flames, Jason conducted that a D-rank baptism was relatively weak and would only cleanse a small portion of impurities.

But what wondered Cheng and his daughter was rather that Jason seemed unmoving with his comment that he was either the president of the Artisan tower or the only Rank 5 Blacksmith which was new to them.

Normally everyone wanted to get closer to them once they found out that Cheng was the president or Antalia his daughter, but Jason frowned, which was refreshing in Cheng's opinion as he began to laugh.

While Cheng laughed, Antalia looked at Jason seriously and she couldn't avoid asking.

"Why are you not astonished about my dad?"

And Jason's answer caused Cheng's laughing to immediately stop as it seemed to have been stuck in his throat.

"I don't think anyone else except the Artisan tower's president and Rank 5 or probably almost Rank 6 Grandmaster Blacksmith should have an Origin flame on Astrix, right?"

Both Antalia and Cheng looked at Jason with widened eyes as the existence of the Origin flame was their family secret and Jason could only chuckle, saying

"If you expose your flame like that, it's only normal for someone like me to notice an Origin flame" With that he meant his mana eyes but he continued without explaining

"May we start our business?" Jason asked politely and Cheng subconsciously nodded his head without caring that he previously wanted to finish forging a mana weapon out of the Hephaestit chunk he had already prepared.

"You are here to get some things inspected, right? If my daughter brought you to me, you must have something expensive with you. Show it to me, please!" Cheng was subconsciously already politely to Jason, who was only 14 years old, as it was not normal for a youth at his age to either know about Origin flames or how to identify them.

'Maybe he is an heir from a different Island or even Canir? Who knows... anything could happen and its not like it's the first time either' Cheng thought while seizing up Jason once again.

After receiving his baptism, Jason's mind became more rational than before and he didn't mind the attitude others give him as much as before.

As such he entered his spatial device with his mind and threw out: 215 stone weapons with inscriptions on them, 60 iron weapons made out of rhyolite ore, 25 low and mid-grade-1 weapons that previously belonged to hunters, three peak grade-1 weapons from the hobgoblins, inside the large room, which was now littered with weapons.

In Jason's hand, one could see 15 protection pendants and with a smile he could barely draw the attention of the two Artisans in front of him.

Antalia couldn't get a grip over her emotions as almost the whole room was littered with weapons but it seemed as if there was something missing?

Meanwhile, Cheng's thoughts were completely different from his daughters

'Stone weapons with intact runes on them? There are definitely not from the Goblin siege! Almost all runes were destroyed by the corrosive rain...' as he faintly heard his daughter's voice

"Where is the anvil?"

BOOOM

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 134 - High

Suddenly a dark-blue anvil appeared out of nowhere, landing on the ground, almost cracking up the ground due to the immense weight it possessed. The anvil was large enough to reach Jason's waist and radiated calm and tranquil mana.

Luckily they were within a forging room which was required to hold out some weight, otherwise, Jason would have never taken out the heavy anvil again.

He had already destroyed the entrance hall's floor which made him already uncomfortable.

Cheng, carefully inspected the stone weapons with runes on them, when he turned around in shock once he heard the loud particular sound generated by crashing on the floor, he immediately knew that it was something extremely valuable.

But once he saw the anvil, his breathing stopped and he slowly staggered towards the anvil without saying a single word as sweat pearls appeared on his forehead.

Antalia noticed her father's weird behavior she had never seen before and frowned because she couldn't really detect anything exceptional from the anvil.

But Jason was pleasantly surprised after seeing Cheng's behavior because Shane behaved similarly but more restrained before he told Jason what exactly the anvil was.

After Shane told him what exactly the anvil was, Jason didn't want to sell it anymore which Shane rejected.

Shane said his anvil it better and Jason was in dire need of star notes to increase his cultivation faster.

As such selling, the anvil would be much better, because Jason wouldn't need it anyway.

Before Cheng could say anything, he was once again shocked by Jason's next words

"That's a pseudo-mana peak grade-3 cloud titanium anvil and it has the effect to calm the blacksmith's mind, while additionally tempering the ingots shaped on it."

Cheng's legs almost gave in hearing that and looking at Jason's calm expression, he wondered what kind of terrifying youth his daughter brought to him.

'Tycoon!' was the only thought running through his mind, while his determination to obtain the cloud titanium anvil soared.

He searched for new forging equipment for a long time and this anvil in front of him was one of the best things he could ever get the hand on, considering the connections he had throughout the Archipelago and some parts of Canir.

There was only one extremely big issue...the price!!

Cheng frowned deeply, as he knew that he didn't have enough funds to purchase such a treasure, even though he had amassed a small fortune over the last few years.

He paled slightly and looked at Jason uncertain.

"I want all of it..but what about the price?" Cheng asked, hesitating slightly which caused Antalia to look at both Jason and Cheng taken aback.

She wanted to boast about her father being the president of the Artisan tower, but now it seemed like her own father was trying to curry favor with Jason, a common student?

This seemed extremely weird and shocked her to the core as her father was normally extremely prideful.

Jason looked at Cheng and wasn't sure what exactly to say...Shane hadn't told him the price for the cloud titanium anvil which caused him now to frown.

Cheng saw Jason's frown and the sweat pearls on his temples thickened as he wanted the anvil in front of him, even if he had to take a loan.

"10.000 Star notes? How about that??? But I don't have enough on my hand right now... It will take some time to gather all of them..."

Chen offered and Antalia cried out in shock "WHAAT!!!!!!", while Jason could only hardly contain his expression.

He knew that Grade-3 weapons for example were worth a few hundred million credits, which was equivalent to a few star notes, and considering that the cloud titanium anvil was a pseudo-magic grade-3 object, Jason had thought he would probably get something between 300 to 500-star notes, which were more than enough for him.

But 10.000-star notes... that were 1 trillion credits and Jason's eyes bulged unconsciously, thinking about this fortune and he could only look at Cheng with shock.

"No" Jason could only faintly say which caused Cheng to look even more desperate.

"How about 10.500-star notes? I don't have more, even if I take a loan..."

But Jason had to regain his senses before he could say

"No, 10.000-star notes are more than enough, but can I exchange the star notes with other necessities?" Jason asked, also beginning to sweat...

What was the use of a fortune, if he couldn't purchase anything in bulk which was quite difficult as a common student.

Considering this, Jason had to use Cheng as his sole connection to obtain things.

Cheng's tension slightly eased up "Yes, yes!! That's definitely possible. Please state what you need..."

But Jason's mind was almost empty and he couldn't really think of much, what he needed right off the bat when a few materials appeared in his mind.

"I only need around 1000 Star notes, 50% Mana stones ranging from grade 1 to 3 in large quantities, a few of dark iron, jade iron, tanzanite, magic silver, star sand, a bunch of magical ranked mana cores from all kinds of elements, including spatial, light and darkness, grade-1 blood essences, a large quantity of Nightshade flowers, blaze maples, stonecrops, radiant twigs, Creola azaleas, mountain peony, hideous bee honey, And a ton grade-2 soil"

Before Jason knew, he had already stated dozen of things he needed, and unconsciously Antalia, had opened up her holographic screen to write down all things he stated.

Looking over the list, she began to frown deeply.

These were all items used for Rank-0 to Rank-3 Artisans from all three occupations and gardeners.

With this, she could only wonder what Jason wanted to do with so many materials.

"Ah! And I would like to change the storage device of my quantum bracelet to a more advanced one which includes a larger storage device with a preservation function. I hope that is possible. If I ask for too much, I hope the rune inscribed weapons are enough to compensate for it."

Jason tried to make a generous face but Antalia could only curse in her mind

'Ya!! DOn't you think your a little bit over the top?!' but before she could say anything her father showed a radiating smile and answered

"DEAL!" while holding his hand out to shake Jason's

It didn't take Cheng long to consider this deal, as he would never find such a treasure like a cloud titanium anvil ever again, except on Canir maybe...

However, the prices there were even more devastating for such treasures because of the big families that tried to monopolize everything and he was even more glad that he could trade with a large number of low-grade materials, as the merchants he knew would give him a discount for bulk purchases.

In the end, he would pay the most for the mana stones, as the merchant trading them gave the smallest discount.

Thinking everything over, Cheng calculated that he would have to pay Jason at most 9.000 star notes which was a discount of 10%, and even if he would have to pay more, it would definitely be fine with him.

Signing a contract, both Cheng and Jason seemed to be pleased with the outcome.

Cheng obtained a pseudo-mana peak grade-3 anvil that increased his chances to enter the Grandmaster Blacksmith rank(6th) and Jason received a fortune worth of materials.

Thinking about the herbs and plants he would receive soon, Jason decided to plant them into his conservatory in order to let them grow and stay fresh.

Maybe he could even obtain some harvest from them, as Jason would at first learn how to forge from Shane, which was still a month or so away.

Before he would learn how to forge, Shane told him that he had to memorize all the important aspects from the bulk of books he sent him.

Only after some time passed, he would really start to forge and to learn that, he would require a mountain of materials as mastering anything could only learn how to forge out of failures.

There has never been a master falling from the sky, except unfortunate cases that ended bloody.

Before Jason would go to school, Cheng told him to follow him in order to change out his quantum bracelet's storage device.

Cheng manufactured a special quantum watch together with a fellow runemaster not long ago with a large storage device which he wanted to give it to Jason.

The quantum bracelet was made out of peak grade-2 and low-grade-3 materials and completely black in color, while the storage device had a space of 100mx100mx10m which was 40 times the size of his former storage device.

One could say that it was a present from Cheng to Jason and he thanked Cheng politely which shocked the Rank-5 blacksmith.

'Why is this youth so polite to a nobody like me? Does he not understand that I want to gain his favor?' he thought without even considering that Jason's background could be shallow.

If Cheng knew that Jason was an orphan without any wealth, he would wonder how a treasure like a cloud titanium anvil got into his hands.

With his newly obtained quantum bracelet, Jason left the Artisan tower after the configuration was done.

Now, Jason was finally able to download all files sent by Shane and Dalia from his large memory stick.

While waiting for the shuttle, he received a notification from Antalia

with a weird emote behind that almost caused Jason to throw up.

'Isn't she a little bit too old to throw herself at a 14-year-old student?' Jason thought as he opened one book sent by Dalia and Shane.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 135 - Scorpio

Sitting inside the shuttle, Scorpio appeared in front of him, pleading for mana stones, which wondered Jason.

Scorpio had only requested food until now, but Jason felt an itchy sensation coming from his small soulbond, causing him to feel expectant...

'Is it already time?' He wondered as he took a batch of small mana stones from his vast storage device.

Cheng would need some time to gather all materials but to comfort Jason he already received a `small` batch mana stones and he asked himself if it was already enough for Dalia to enhance Scorpio's potential but it was unlikely.

But that could wait for some time, as Artemis' evolution was more important than increasing Scorpio's potential.

Once Scorpio's potential increased, he would look out for a suitable evolution path for his cute scorpion who laid on the grade-1 mana stones on his lap.

Mana filled the whole shuttle and Scorpio absorbed everything greedily until they arrived in front of the school-gate.

Carefully holding Scorpio and the mana stones with both hands, he left the shuttle without disturbing his soulbond's mana absorption.

Searching for a tranquil place, Jason sat down, leaning on a tree before placing Scorpio once again on his lap.

Taking out some more mana stones, he began to absorb the mana inside them and his surrounding.

He had a mountain of low/mid/high& peak grade-1 mana stones and lots of grade-2 and they were most likely more than enough for him to reach the master rank.

They were worth a fortune but remembering Dalia's words about the vast mana she required to enhance a beast's potential, Jason ignored this mountain.

Grade-1 and Grade-2 mana stones were pure and efficient enough for someone to reach the magus rank at a relatively fast pace, while grade-3 mana stones would be even purer and denser.

Meanwhile, grade-4 mana stones couldn't be used by someone below the magus rank under normal means, except if there were special occasions like the splitting mind technique, Jason had undergone with the mana isolation circle.

Once the mana inside mana stones was released one had to either absorb it or it would slowly start to scatter and only because of the mana isolation circle, Jason was able to absorb everything.

This however was extremely dangerous and only thanks to the devilish valkyrie-shield fruit, he survived.

Remembering the pain, Jason shuddered involuntarily, before he distracted himself once again.

Time passed and it was already lunchtime when he noticed that Scorpio was molting once again.

The old green exoskeleton was slowly expelled while a darker and lusher shining exoskeleton could be seen.

Inside the exoskeleton was a faint blue trace vibrantly gleaming, as if it was alive.

Scorpio's length increased to almost 18 centimeters and sensing through his incomplete mana core, Jason ensured that his soulbond reached the five-star rank.

Its exoskeleton was tougher and larger compared to the previous one and Jason thought that Scorpio might grow a little bit more, considering that the size of the exoskeleton had enough space for slight growth.

His own body expelled some old skin after his mana absorption finished, but overall not much changed, as he was already cleansed from most impurities.

It would wonder him if there were many impurities inside his body until he reached the expert rank.

But his skin grew slightly tougher, while his mana core and physique strengthened a tiny bit.

However, compared to the amplification caused by the Black Origin flame, it was almost nothing.

What Jason confused about his Origin flame, was that every time he saw an Origin flame, his own flickered vigorously, transmitting him the thought of insatiable hunger.

Maybe his origin flame wanted to devour other origin flames but there was no way to test it out without searching for a different origin flame or experimenting with another one.

Nevertheless, considering the dangers, Jason had to disregard this thought.

It didn't take long for Scorpio to regain its senses after the molting was completed and it jumped around joyful as its strength advanced further.

It had the desire to help Jason out of a sticky situation and it grew stronger with each day passing after Jason received the Origin flame's baptism.

As such Scorpio wanted to grow even stronger and with the mana it absorbed, it would begin to plant a poison affinity seed, once it had accumulated enough.

It roughly understood that Jason's new master could enhance its strength somehow but right now it had already a good enough potential to reach the awakened stage.

As such Scorpio wanted to gift Jason a poison affinity within his mana which meant that he wanted to create a poison affinity.

Without knowing how long it would take, Scorpio clung onto a mana stone and continued absorbing it, without caring about Jason, who looked at Scorpio confused.

'Are you becoming greedy?' Jason wondered, but it couldn't be considered bad if his soulbond was ambitious.

Even though Scorpio's strength increment could be considered positive, the amount of soul energy it needed increased to 10 units, while Jason's own soul energy was amplified to 16.75 units.

If Artemis needed 11 soul energy, Jason had to increase his own soul energy by more than 2 units for her to barely fit inside.

And even this as the worst-case scenario was not possible to achieve for Jason who could at most increase his soul energy by 1 unit until Friday evening.

Because of that, he decided to disregard the possibility of increasing his soul energy to let Artemis fit into his soul world.

Even though he did not have enough space for her, she would most likely still listen to his orders.

The only issue was, that Jason couldn't really store her inside his soul world without having enough soul energy and due to that, she would have to stay with him the whole time.

He wasn't sure how much her appearance would change and if it was even allowed for Artemis to come out of the soul world while he was in school, as she would most likely attract more attention than Scorpio, who sat on his shoulder, inside his pullover bag or hidden somewhere to not enter the soul world with the Artemis's ice aura caused by her evolution, around.

Thinking about that, he would have to inform Till about this and the problem would most likely be solved but it still bothered him that he didn't have enough soul energy for Artemis causing him to sigh deeply.

Jason took a bag out of his storage device with a large towel and a few additional mana stones.

Placing the mana stones below the towel, he laid Scorpio on top of the towel in order to avoid any discomfort, when he carefully put on the bag.

Walking slowly towards the combat arena, Jason continued reading.

He figured out that his knowledge increased with each day passing, as Shane and Dalia's wisdom and experience could only be called vast, which was definitely an underestimation.

It didn't take him long until he reached the combat arena and unsurprisingly he was one of the first to arrive, as there was still more than an hour left until combat classes would start.

As such Jason sat down and practiced the Heaven's Hell technique, to increase his soul energy by 0.1 unit with a single sitting.

When Jason opened his eyes, he noticed that Seron sat next to him, while most classmates already arrived.

Seeing Jason opening his eyes, Seron asked

"Do you think we have to spar all the time with each other? Hopefully master has something else to do, otherwise, we will adapt to each other's combat style and it will become boring, don't you think so?"

Smiling slyly he added, "We need some stronger opponent with different combat styles...our classmates are too weak."

And as if Till heard Seron talking to Jason, he walked into the combat arena next to the Instructor Brain, who taught them the `Weaponry Knight` technique.

Looking around, Instructor Brain noticed Jason and upon inspecting his mana core, his eyes bulged and a trace of fear could be seen within them before he averted his gaze to the other students.

"From today onwards, I'll be responsible for Class 54's combat training. Due to the wide range of combat experience, the school decided to take the best combatants from every class in order to create a special combat class to further develop their respective combat prowess even more.

Jason Stella and Seron Gier please follow Mr.Greil. He will be responsible for the special combat class!"

After the Instructor finished his short speech, the whole class went into an uproar.

While Jason and Seron looked at each other with bright smiles, the weaker students gossiped with each other about what the special combat lessons were.

However, the loudest voices were the top students, who couldn't accept this decision.

'Why weren't they taken to the special combat classes?? They were the top students of their class?!?'

And before the combat arena went completely into a chaotic chicken nest, one could hear Till stating.

"Right now only 2 students from every class will be selected to enter this lesson.

If anyone of you has the courage to fight either Jason or Seron, please come out. Otherwise, scram and wait until next week, where anyone is allowed to challenge the 150 special combat class seats.

In order to prevent too many students from challenging anyone, you'll have to pay 10 lace points to do so anyone.

The 10 lace points will be deducted and not returned, winning or losing doesn't matter, the reward for winning will be the permission to enter my special course while losing will punish you with a two-week ban from challenging anyone.

Instructor Brian will proceed and explain everything to all of you."

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 136 - Big

The top students felt betrayed about the school's decision but there wasn't anything for them to do because they had to acknowledge that Jason and Seron were too strong for them.

At least for the moment and mainly because of their weird abilities, they still had to analyze.

Jason and Seron looked at each other smiling brightly, when they heard that they would be able to spar with the strongest students from all classes.

This could be considered an immense opportunity and Jason was even happier to have received such a pleasant privilege.

Thinking back to the time where he was only a novice rank and extremely weak, Jason noticed that it hasn't even been that long since he became strong enough to compare himself with his peers, and thinking about his current combat prowess, he could only smile.

With a mana core rank of a 1st Adept, he could already defeat other classmates with a mana core rank of the 5th Adept rank, after adding the amplifications from soulbonds and in Jason's case his baptism.

Jason's mana core size and physique reached the 4th Adept rank while he could still defeat 7th Adept ranks with his strategies, mana eyes, and his evolved ranked black fire affinity once someone underestimated him.

Being underestimated was rather unlikely within the special combat classes and Jason was expectant to see how strong the other classes were.

Following Till, Jason and Seron talked to each other and Seron estimated that most students had the strength that was comparable to theirs when they didn't use their most powerful attack.

The biggest problem in his opinion was the excessively powerful elemental affinities from evolved beasts and some even said that there was an unblemished beast soulbond within the 6th affiliated Vanguard school, which shocked Jason.

Even though this student was said to have only a few soulbond spots it was already rare for someone to contract an unblemished beast as the first soulbond but Seron looked around unbothered.

In Jason's opinion, Seron's behavior could only be described as nonchalant, as Seron told him, that his second Soulbond will be a rare guardian rank cub, which was even more shocking than getting to know that someone formed a contract with an unblemished beast.

They trailed behind Till for five minutes until they arrived at the highest floor of the combat arena, where the other students were already waiting for them.

Looking at the badges on their school uniform, one could see 74 different numbers in pairs and it seemed as if they were the last to arrive.

Once they entered the combat arena, everyone immediately began to scan their mana core rank, before they smiled weirdly.

'A 1st-Adept rank and a 3rd Adept rank? Is that some kind of bad joke?' they asked themselves upon inspecting Jason and Seron's core, while Seron and Jason did exactly the same.

Everyone except Jason could only see the mana core rank, while he could see everyone's real strength behind them, forcing him to smile weirdly.

While Seron saw mana core ranks between the 4th-7th Adept rank, Jason noticed that only around 30 students had a mana core size of a 5th Adept, while the strongest one's seemed to have already reached a mana core size infinitely close to the Expert rank, which caused a wide gap between the strongest and second strongest, who had a mana core size infinitely close to the 9th Adept rank.

Fortunately, there was only one of such existences and Jason immediately thought it had to be the students that bond an unblemished beast.

Seeing Jason's gaze remaining longer on her than on others, the slender girl with blond hair and blue eyes wasn't sure what to think about him, except for one thing that was for sure.

'HOT!!' She thought as her gaze remained on Jason, even though he averted his gaze to scan through the other students around her.

Jason was astonished to see that the top student of class one was the blond girl with her slender build but her mana core size spoke more than a thousand words.

Mixing himself among the 148 other students, Seron and Jason looked at Till who began his short speech.

"Today, everyone here can be considered the best of the best among the combatants in our school's first grade. Due to our negligence, the school didn't establish a special combat class for the last few years to strengthen the new generations' best warriors, but after the goblin tide occurred, all schools will start to focus more on enhancing the abilities of our combatants once again. This is the reason we founded the special combat class.

In this special combat class, everyone will fight against each other and learn about all kinds of combat styles first hand, while we will focus on learning a variety of tiered techniques.

The school will provide a large number of techniques in order for everyone here to increase their strength by a large margin, but don't think everything is free!

You'll only be able to learn these techniques as long as you remain in the special combat class, which means once someone who aspired to enter the special combat class defeats you, your permission to read the technique will immediately be removed.

Some of you may question why we give out tiered martial art skills and the answer involves multiple reasons.

First, we obviously want to strengthen the next generation to prevent any accident like the Goblin tide to happen ever again.

We already suffered enough through the last few months with too many casualties during the beast tides, like it happened in Jiro- and Cyro-City.

This could have been avoided and the government grants the schools a small fund to help out with increasing the future strength of Astrix.

As for the second reason, the three big schools and the government decided to hold a tournament after the new year starts, which is only 100 days from now on.

With this, the big three want to motivate everyone to strive for more, as the rewards can be considered huge, to simplify it.

Among the rewards is a piece of peak grade-3 equipment, pseudo-mana low grade-3 equipment, and even soul weapons and armor, high-quality fruits to increase one's soul energy, impurity cleansing fruits, and even some that increase the affinity towards a certain affinity.

But that's not it and there is much more, which has been provided by the Drake family to strengthen our newest generation!

These items are not even commonly found on the other islands and one could say that some of these rewards are even rare on Canir!

In total, 3000 students of every grade will be able to participate in the tournament, while 1000 spots belong to the Vanguard school.

You all may think that every branch will have 150 spots, while the main school has 100 spots, according to the student ratio attending the schools, but that is completely wrong.

Right now, only students from your own school can challenge you for the special class spot, but one month from now, even the other branches and the main school students will be able to challenge you.

In order for everyone to understand the strength of the Vanguard main school's first-graders.

Right now, within the main school, more than 500 students have reached the 8th Adept rank and among them close to 100 students have reached the 9th Adept rank, while a few ascended to the Expert rank.

Including their soulbonds, one could estimate that around 1000 students with a mana core size at the 9th Adept rank exist within the Vanguard school.

900 among these 1000 will challenge you if not even more and you'll have to either win or fight desperately in order to participate in the "Big-Three tournament".

This may be shocking and to be honest, even I'm baffled because such high mana core ranks were rarely seen in the Archipelago when I was young.

Humanities strength is increasing with each day passing, as Argo's mana increases slowly and the resources it creates become more, increasing the chances for youth like all of you to ascend into higher realms in a shorter amount of time.

What this means for everyone is clear, most of you are essentially too weak and in two months we want everyone to give their best to become stronger.

If each of you wants to keep the spot within the special combat class, everyone has to give 150% for the next three months until the tournament starts.

Everyone has been sent a special permission key to the quantum watches and bracelets, once you get challenged, a signal will be sent to you and both will have to meet up inside the school.

The time one can get challenged is only within the combat class lessons, otherwise, it would be extremely difficult to find a time where one can meet up, and additionally, it would be unfair to send someone a challenge at 2 am, right?

That's mainly it...Everyone is already granted permission to access all kinds of techniques, but keep in mind, that once thrown out of the special class, the access to these techniques will be locked until one can defeat someone else from the special class, retrieving their seat.

Strive for more and keep becoming stronger, that is my wish for everyone and don't let your butt kicked by someone else!!"

Till ended and the whole surrounding seemed perilous quiet, while Jason and Seron looked at each other.

Right now they could barely defeat someone at the 5th Adept rank with their soul world amplification and the main Vanguard school is said to have some powerhouses this year from all kinds of hidden clans and families and they owned strong techniques as heirlooms, like Seron's family had.

But this didn't mean that both of them were discouraged. It was only a new challenge for them to show their determination and ambition which increased even more.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 137 - Kneel

Seron didn't need any combat technique, as he was already his quantum bracelet was filled by hundreds of techniques he received from his family and only his weak mana core rank prevented him from learning them in-depth.

But for Jason it was entirely different, he only had tierless foundation techniques, an all-rounder tier-1 weaponry knight technique, and the only special technique he had was weightless steps.

As of now, Jason could only use Tier-1 techniques for a long-term fight, without injuring himself, which was the reason for him to pick two particular Tier-1 techniques for the beginning.

[Transience Strike] a Tier-1 technique focusing on a single strike, to kill one's enemy without much effort.

[Hazardous-Assassin] another Tier-1 technique with multiple sequences used to deal heavy strike towards the enemy with two daggers.

Both techniques he picked out increased his offensive and the only reason for him to do so was that he already knew shallow tierless defensive techniques, he never used during a fight.

In the end, he used daggers to fight and it would be considered dumb to deflect blunt weapons and greatswords with a dagger.

As such he wanted to focus on his speed and attack in order to prevent landing into the position to defend against anyone.

It might be stupid, but for his current goal, it was the only path he could choose.

After he found these two techniques, Jason also looked for an Archer technique and a peak-Tier-1 technique called [Spinning Arrow] jumped into his view.

As the name suggested one could shoot spinning arrows that changed their trajectory within the air, due to a certain circulation of mana within the arrow and it was said to be a difficult Tier-1 technique.

Downloading the three techniques, Jason seemed pleased and Seron asked him, if he wanted to learn the techniques now or if they should search for opponents to spar when a boy and the blond-haired female walked straight towards them, without caring about anyone around them.

It almost looked like the combat arena belonged to them and that they were king and queen within the special combat class, which caused Jason to smile lightly.

The boy with his brown hair and green eyes greeted them, while the blond-haired girl remained silent.

"Hello, my name is Milo Derk and this is my classmate Bella Wol, we noticed that both of you belong to Class 54 which increased their class ranking by 21 grades and we liked to spar with our school's celebrities."

Milo said but Jason and Seron only looked at each other confused `Celebrities? Who?` before their attention turned back to the brown-haired youth, looking at him as if he was a degenerate.

Seeing that the youths were confused and looked at him like that, Milo's lips twitched lightly, which turned even worse when Bella next to him began to chuckle lightly before she asked.

"Are both of you free to spar with us? According to your mana cores, it won't take long until the two of you will be thrown out of the class. Let me see how tough the two of you are" She said, smiling full of fighting spirit.

Apparently, she was similar to Jason, even though both of them didn't know anything about each other.

She was an orphan and raised up by a loving adoptive family. Even though they didn't have much money, her adoptive father was a decent hunter and when she awoke her soul, he gave up everything to support her, causing her to end up in the 6th affiliated Vanguard school.

She wanted to care for her family who adopted her and entering a good school was the best way to become stronger.

With her high amount of soul energy and four soulbond spots, she was confident in defeating the two youths in front of her.

It was said that class 54 was the most dangerous among all classes, because of two recently emerged freaks that defeated everyone within their whole class during a combat-lesson and she wanted to find out more about them.

After she noticed that their mana core rank was extremely weak, she was immediately disappointed.

Jason noticed that Bella was looking at them with a fighting spirit, but behind that, he could also faintly see traces of disappointment and even disgust which wondered him.

Both Seron and Jason accepted their proposal and they went to the combat arena as one of the first among the 150 students within the combat arena and it wasn't long until the first few began to gossip and even laugh at Jason and Seron because they dared to fight Class 1's top 2 students, even though their opponents were multiple levels above them, which annoyed the two friends.

Without him knowing, Jason's pride he accumulated over the last two weeks was hurt at least as much as Seron's who came from one of the big families.

Over the last few weeks Jason increased his strength by a few times and even now there were still peers looking down on him which not only frustrated him but also a deep sense of anger began to emerge in his mind, which he never felt before.

It had been a long time since Seron had been looked down upon and in the past, it was only his family that dared to look down on him but for peers that were only at the Adept rank to look down at him like that, was unacceptable and caused him to grit his teeth.

He despised his own situation because he only began to absorb mana for a short time...if only his mana veins weren't malfunctioned, he would have already reached the Expert rank and beat these idiots into a pulp, if they dared to look at him and Jason with ridicule and even disgust.

His mind was about to enter a state comparable to a berserk mode when Jason tugged at his shoulder.

Turning around with anger, he was about to explode trying to release his anger, when he gazed into Jason's eyes...

Unconsciously stepping back, Seron could only be intimidated by Jason's cold eyes that radiated a faint trace of killing intent while the calmness within them seemed to be more dangerous than his own state.

"Can you use your mana injection on other people?" Jason asked calmly and Seron only nodded subconsciously.

'Who the hell is her?' Seron couldn't help but think, still staring into Jason's eyes.

He had never seen someone comparable to Jason, except war veterans and old geezers that survived through thousand deaths by a thin thread, but the most important thing Jason had in common with them was the calmness they radiated.

If he knew that Jason's killing intent was his master's fault thanks to the devilish valkyrie-shield fruit and torture he endured in addition to the baptism Jason underwent due to the Black Origin flame, which caused him to see everything much clearer, Seron wouldn't know how to look at Jason.

Nodding his head Jason thought for a moment until he said

"If you can inject me with four or more mana injections immediately after the fight starts, we will show them who these idiots are laughing at" with his lips curling up into a cold smile.

He didn't have anything against Bella or Milo per se but an example had to be made to show everyone who they laughed at.

Seeing Jason's smile, Bella felt weird while Milo began to despise the two students in front of him, that had the weakest among the weakest mana core among all 150 special combat class students.

They were about to start the countdown, when Jason turned around.

"Mr. Greil, can you please supervise the battle and summon your Greater Blessed Wolf to prevent anyone from getting injured? We don't want anyone to receive permanent injuries, right?"

This sentence caused the surrounding to laugh out, as it seemed that Jason didn't want to receive any injuries from the fight, but Till felt completely different with a bad premonition forming in his mind.

He just couldn't get the hang of Jason at all, which was the most dangerous thing that could happen when fighting someone.

Jason was unpredictable which caused even Till to be slightly uncomfortable, as he summoned his white goldish furred wolf.

Turning back to Bella and Milo, Jason saw Milo's anger, and smiling at him with a radiating smile, caused him to feel even more enraged.

It was as if his eyes said "I want to beat these two idiots into a pulp"

Till ordered his soulbond to radiate his healing ability right off the bat because he felt that something was extremely odd and an uncomfortable feeling spread through his whole body when the countdown slowly began to resound through the combat arena

"3....2...1" When the countdown reached one, Jason stepped forward, while Seron placed both hands on Jason's back in the center of his scapula, and while the mechanical voice exclaimed "Fight start" Seron immediately released four mana injections within a short succession, flooding Jason with a devastating and almost uncontrollable amount of mana, causing blood to pour out of his orifices.

Meanwhile, Milo covered himself with his wind transmuted mana as he charged towards the two of them with bloodshot eyes and his two daggers in his hands, while Bella shot three water jets toward Jason and Seron.

Not even a second passed until Jason injected all of the mana within him into his eyes while releasing his accumulated killing intent to the fullest potential within his eyes.

Meanwhile, he also utilized the abyssal effect, whichs power was amplified by a few times thanks to his increase in mana core rank, baptism and four mana injections.

"Kneel!"

One could only faintly hear a quiet, yet overbearing voice coming from Jason, filling the whole combat room with a deep sense of death and the subconscious intention to follow his order.

A few weak-willed students at the 4th Adept rank followed his order subconsciously, even though the order wasn't directed at them, forcing them to kneel down on the ground.

Fear spread through every cell within their body causing their instincts to take action without them noticing it and they couldn't imagine how it would feel if this was directly ordered towards them.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 138 - Worship& Fear

Radiating a dense eerie and perilous hue around, Milo who was only a few meters apart from Jason began to hesitate for a quarter of a second which was enough for him to look straight into Jason's golden-eyes that were filled with coldness and killing intent.

Subconsciously, his attack stopped and his daggers fell to the ground lifelessly, as he stared into these deep eyes, falling deep into an abyss that was filled with nothing....

Suddenly Milo sensed something in the far distance that looked down on him seemingly comparing his whole existence to an ant.

Noticing the sheer pressure radiating from the being, Milo's eyes widened and tears poured down his cheeks, when he fell down on his knees, without the will to stand up once again, while his wet eyes turned lifeless.

The water jets, flying towards Jason disintegrated into smithereens due to the sheer pressure radiated from Jason's killing intent and mana, while Bella noticed that something was wrong when Jason's eyes pierced right into her mind.

This caused her to enter a deep black abyss like Milo, without anything except a weird but alarming and dangerous pressure radiated from within.

Without noticing, she subconsciously fell onto the ground exactly like Milo, while her eyes remained dry, due to her distance towards Jason.

Shivering violently, the frightening and uncomfortable sensation caused by the pressure completely shattered her will to fight Jason.

She only dared to look at the bottom, not even daring to try looking into Jason's eyes due to fear and a small trace of reverence emerged within her without her knowing.

What happened a moment ago was deep imprinted into her mind, causing a deep fear against Jason to appear.

Jason meanwhile receded his killing intent as his whole body grew weak, almost forcing him to collapse on the ground when Seron took a hold of him.

"Can you inject another mana injection?" Jason's weak voice could barely be heard by Seron, but he only nodded and injected Jason with mana.

After receiving a full portion of mana, Jason immediately circulated around his body and partially into his aching eyes,

Standing firmer on the ground below him, Jason looked around and sensed that almost everyone was looking at them, or rather him which was weirdly enough not as uncomfortable as a few months ago.

The only problem was, that they looked at him as if he was a monster that cultivated itself a human body, trying to invade mankind.

Nevertheless, behind the apparent fear these top students felt, there was also a deep sense of worship to the strong.

Defeating the two top combatants from Class1 as a 1st Adept rank was definitely more than anyone of them could do.

They already had problems overwhelming either common students one or two levels above them or stronger students with the same mana core size.

Jason's achievement broke their worldview completely and the only thing that reassured them was his exhaustion which could be clearly seen by everyone.

While the classmates outside the sparring grounds looked at Jason with awe and fear, Milo and Bella had pale faces, while Milo fainted, Bella was still looking at Jason with fear as a quiet "S**T" could be heard.

Since Bella entered the 6th affiliated Vanguard school, she never even looked at the students in lower classes and focused only on herself in order to become stronger in order to enter the main school, however, this black-haired youth in front of her should only be a 1st Adept rank from Class54, causing her to grit her teeth.

She was terrified...If more youths like Jason existed, why did she even try to become stronger over the last few years...

Bella mastered many tierless combat techniques, increased her mana core rank as fast as possible in order to earn some pocket money by hunting stronger beasts and after her soul-awakening, she was not only admitted to a branch of one of the best schools on Astrix, but even her soulbond was special.

And now this feeble youth in front of her beat her within seconds by a single glance?!

She couldn't accept it! Trying to stand up, she pushed herself from the ground and was about to stand firmly on the ground, when her vision blurred, causing her to lose balance before she fell back to the ground.

Till was already acting, when he felt the deep sense of killing intent in addition to Jason's eyes' ability, causing even him to hesitate for a millisecond.

While rushing towards Milo and Bella, Till was deep in thoughts, thinking that Jason's eyes couldn't only be mana eyes...

'Was his background a lie? Is he maybe...? No! Otherwise he would never accept Shane as his master!' Till regarded Jason as mysterious, which he found uncomfortable, and even more so because his disciple and Jason seemed to have a proper friendship.

Milo and Bella were taken out of the combat area by Till while Jason received help from Seron.

Once they sat down, nobody dared to come closer to them while they were only looked at like zoo attractions.

Jason decided to ignore his peers while Seron didn't even notice them to begin with because he looked at his friend as confused as the others.

Even though he stood behind Jason, rather than being invaded by Jason's killing intent, Seron could only feel a hunch of awe when the mana inside Jason surged out from an unknown ability, which most likely came from Jason's special trait.

Because he didn't want to inflict the killing intent into Seron, Jason could barely prevent it from surging into his friend behind him.

This caused the overall killing intent to weaken slightly, but the results were even better than Jason expected.

While Seron looked at Jason, he was thinking carefully about his eyes' ability and how far he could go with them.

Jason wanted to participate in the Big-Three tournament and receive all kinds of rewards, which was more than enough reason for him to have one or two tricks in his sleeves which would definitely not be bad and his black Origin flame could be considered one, as it was already as strong as a mid/late-evolved fire affinity.

But his eyes' ability seems unstable, without injecting a little bit of killing intent into them.

And killing intent couldn't just appear like that, at least for now.

There had to be even the slightest trigger point to cause a surge of killing intent accumulating within him, even if it was only something minuscule and he couldn't control it perfectly with his will.

Without enough mana, his eyes' ability was also not strong enough and thinking about it, Jason estimated that he could barely intimidate someone at the same mana core rank or slightly above while creating a small seed of fear within them.

To accomplish this, he had to inject all of his mana inside the ability, which would almost completely destroy his combat prowess, as fighting without mana was not the best thing one could do.

It was a one-time attack and not something to attack multiple times.

The greater blessed wolf healed Milo and Bella as well as possible, while Milo woke up after 10 minutes.

Bella was already able to stand once again after a short recuperation time and looking towards Jason, a deep sense of anger could be seen within her eyes with a small hue of fear, covered deep in the back of her eyes.

She had never feared anyone until now, as her mana aptitude was advanced and since her soul awakening a few months ago, she was revered as a prodigy.

Now, however, she kissed the ground in front of another youth, that was seven levels below her to boot at.

Milo woke up and looked around confused, not knowing what happened, when he spotted the black-haired youth with golden eyes and he seemed to be in deep thoughts.

Cold sweat poured down his back and without caring for anything else, he rushed towards Jason, as his instincts told him.

One had to know, that Milo's instincts were extremely good and since he was young they always benefited him.

He wasn't particularly rich, but due to his instincts, he picked an evolved ranked beast with the potential to reach the magical rank, which made not only himself but also his family proud.

In addition to his large number of soulbonds he can form, he had sometimes even found rare herbs within the wild-zone that were covered extremely well.

One time, he even helped an old lady who fell on the ground while crossing the street.

It was not only his instincts that caused him to help her but also his innately rather soft heart, while he looked rather crude and spoiled on the outside.

Thanks to helping the old lady, he found out that she was the mother of a Grandmagus, who was extremely thankful for helping his mother.

As such he gifted Milo something expensive.

Since then he completely trusted his instincts.

Appearing in front of Jason, the black-haired youth was thrown out of his thoughts as he looked up not knowing what Milo wanted from him.

Even though Milo flinched when they looked into each other's eyes, he bowed down deeply and shouted with all his might.

"I`m sorry for provoking you two!" which caused an even more chaotic situation than Jason and Seron defeating Milo and Bella, as everyone thought it was more of a one-time thing due to the top students underestimating their opponents, even if the spar created a deep sense of fear within them.

Everyone looked perplexed at Milo and Jason, while Bella turned around with widened eyes, shocked about what her friend said to Jason, not understanding what the hell Milo thought.

Jason looked straight into Milo`s eyes that quivered and he could see sincerity, even though there seemed to be something else.

As such he accepted Milo`s apology, because he wasn't hurt, rather than that he beat him up.

"It's fine, if you want, you can sit down."

He didn't care about Milo at all but it was only weird, that he seemed to have accepted the abyss ability from his eyes rather easily, compared to Greg and Leo Hearth, which wondered him.

Without further ado, Milo followed what Jason said and Seron`s thought seemed to turn even more complex noticing that.

"Was he a king in his former life?"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 139 - Artisan

Jason was way too exhausted to continue sparring and nobody dared to come closer to them, even though Milo was looking around foolishly, while Bella looked at him like an idiot.

There was nothing for Jason to do, except watching some spars in front of him, and while observing them he tried to passively gather mana while his sub-area did the same.

He wanted to figure out if he could stack the passive technique`s effects and increase his mana gathering and absorbing like that.

If that was possible, he could exert much more mana during a fight without worrying about his expenditures.

Furthermore, he could increase his absorption effect without wasting much time and increase his mana core faster...

Jason was already close to breaking into the 2nd Adept rank thanks to his cleansed body he received from the baptism and it would only need a few more days to reach the threshold.

With the mana stones he received, he was confident in breaking through multiple times in the next 3 months until the Big Three tournament would start and the only thing he had to take care of was not to be seriously injured or something similar like that.

It didn't even matter if he would be thrown out of the special combat class for a few days which was not that unrealistic, considering that there were thousands of students alone in the 6th branch school.

In the hope that rumors about him would spread, Jason had to defeat Milo and Bella in an extremely terrifying manner.

He was confident that there were already rumors spreading around him, as the last 300 years were not only the age of the mana outbreak but also a time for technology to develop even further, thanks to the seemingly infinite mana supply.

Other than watching spars, Jason figured out that from his combat experience alone, he was definitely more profound than them, with the only disadvantage being his non-existent proficiency with affinities and his own black origin flame's affinity usage.

This would give his classmates a large advantage, even though his combat prowess in every other aspect was better thanks to Greg and Seron's constant help as sparring partners.

He wasn't sure what to do with Milo, but time would tell him and he didn't want to waste time thinking about that for now.

Before he went home, Jason decided to tell Mr. Greil about his situation with Artemis and requested permission to let her enter the school grounds and the combat arena because he had to enter the combat area everyday thanks to the special combat classes and the upcoming challenges.

Till only nodded his head, without caring much about it because such a request wasn't an exceptionally rare occurrence on Canir's highschools before he messaged the principal of the affiliated school.

While the principal only looked at the message with shock, both Jason and Till weren't aware of what they did to the unfortunate principal, who had never seen such a case from a first-grader in his whole career.

If Old Drake heard this, he would also be astonished about Jason's soulbond evolving after a few months already, even though he was rather tolerant to shocking news, but fortunately, he was the principal of the main school.

At the Fler's, Jason saw Greg and Malia and both looked like they were beaten into a pulp, causing Jason to run towards them.

Upon figuring out that they also entered the special combat classes of their grade, Jason began to laugh for a few minutes.

Even though Jason laughed, he was extremely astonished to see Greg obtaining a spot in the special combat class, and it looked like he fought with all his might, which Jason admired.

And only now did he also realize that Greg broke into the 4th Adept rank, which was probably thanks to the pressure he had to overcome during his fight, which was something to celebrate for.

Considering Greg's classmates' average strength at the 7th Adept rank, the top students of his class should already be at the 9th Adept stage.

Adding a low/mid evolved beast to his calculations, Jason calculated that Greg must have defeated someone with an Expert rank physique.

'How the hell did he win?' Jason asked himself, but how should he know, that the reinforced horned bull unsealed a part of its hidden bloodline, enabling it to increase Greg's physique by a few levels for a short amount of time.

Only due to this [Berserk] skill, Greg called it later was it possible for him to barely enter the combat class ranking.

Meanwhile Jason's thoughts

There was still the possibility that Greg's class had only weak combatants or was filled with youths playing lowkey, but considering that it was the main school and checking Greg's injuries, that looked extremely serious even after Gabrialla healed him, showed his will to enter the special combat classes.

Jason could only nod in admiration as his view about Greg changed somewhat.

Malia looked better than Greg but still injured, with her burned clothes and disheveled hair.

Apparently, she also fought the top of her class to enter the special combat class, and considering that she was already in the top 10 classes, it was even more difficult for her, even though she was already at the Master rank as one of the only ones.

Her being at the Master rank was also the reason that she barely defeated her opponents, as her combat prowess was rather bad compared to real prodigies in Astrix.

Her mana aptitude was superior to others while her combat aptitude could have been better, which doesn't really matter as she has a wide knowledge.

Furthermore, nobody would ever force her to fight someone with a life or death battle, at least Jason hoped so.

Having reached the Master rank at the age of 16, she would probably be able to compress her mana and create a drop of mana before she turns 20 years old which is definitely a great feat.

The aptitude towards mana on Canir was not per se better than on the archipelagos, while only the big family clans and companies increased this aptitude ratio slightly, by inheriting their mana aptitude to their descendants.

There were always exceptions, either positive or negative while both Jason and Malia could be said to be positive examples.

After they talked with each other for some time, everyone went into their own room to absorb mana or to train outside, honing their combat techniques.

Right now the most important thing for everyone was to increase their combat prowess and mana core rank to gain a good ranking on the Big-Three tournament if they were still able to take hold onto their spots, as the benefits were just too good.

Jason wanted to break into the 2nd Adept rank before Friday or rather before Artemis finished her evolution and because of that, he took out a few mana stones to actively absorb mana, before he took Scorpio out of the bag with all the mana stones within.

Some of the mana stones lost a little bit of their luster but Scorpio's mana absorption rate was much slower than Artemis and his own, causing Jason to place Scorpio next to him before he began to absorb mana for the next few hours until he switched to the Heaven's hell technique.

After finishing the five-braided soul energy helix, Jason was once again awoken which leads him to absorb for another few hours mana.

He knew that the practical Artisan exams would start tomorrow, but he wasn't even the tiniest bit worried, as he knew the crux for most of the basic things to do thanks to the books he started to read.

Jason hoped he would be allowed to forge a graded weapon instead of some basic things which were almost worthless.

In addition to that, he was expecting what kinds of herbs he would receive to concoct a potion and what type of rune he would have to inscribe to pass the exams.

But somehow, Jason had a bad feeling that he would be disappointed tomorrow.

Reading the few dozen profound books with thousands of sites each in addition to Shane and Dalia's teachings would probably be much more helpful than the Rank-3 and Rank-4 lectures he would be able to attend.

Jason had two monsters as masters, after memorizing the books in his memory chip, he would finally be able to learn something from them and Dalia could maybe even increase Scorpio's potential once they meet again.

As of now, Jason was forbidden to contact them, as a kind of motivation or punishment, which he couldn't really understand.

The only exception was if something urgent happened or he finished memorizing all books.

This was some kind of passive torture to him and he lamented about this a lot, before he washed up, changed his clothes, and went into bed.

Waking up early in the morning once again thanks to Scorpio stinging him, Jason finished his morning workout, washed up, changed into his uniform, and ate something for breakfast when his shuttle arrived.

Inside the shuttle, Jason practiced the Heaven's Hell technique like always and noting that he reached soul energy of 17.1 units made him joyous, even though it wouldn't be enough for Artemis.

Inside school, he received the location for their practical test and it was in a small extra building that looked like a miniature artisan tower.

However, in reality, it was probably only an exquisite warehouse as he noticed that the forges he could see were portable and quite advanced at that.

The interior of the large hall, they were inside, was crude and if Jason was not wrong, nobody cared about this building as cobwebs and could be seen everywhere.

Jason smiled weirdly as the contrast between the high-technology advanced forges and the whole building seemed to have an intentional effect.

They tried to increase the Artisan tower's reputation, even though some of their school's teachers looked displeased.

Nevertheless, Jason didn't care either way and he sat on his designated forge, patiently waiting for everyone to enter the room.

One-by-one the examiners came inside and unsurprisingly it was the same blacksmith and runemaster he had seen before while Antalia stood in front of the once again, eyeing Jason with curiosity.

This caused him to shudder and he decided to ignore the busty woman's gazes, focusing on his forge, when he heard the task they had to accomplish

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 140 - Heart Of A Blacksmith

The bulky middle-aged man was firmly standing on the ground with a straightened back, viewing over the students that looked at him expectantly awaiting a task to accomplish.

"Dear students of the 6th affiliated Vanguard school, today are the Artisan exams, and I or rather we assume that not many of you have never forged, brewed, or inscribed anything in your life.

If you have....congrats but that doesn't matter to us.

The tasks we want to give all of you isn't that difficult... For the blacksmith exam, forge a weapon without completely destroying the ores mana conductivity.

We don't care about the weapons-grade, aesthetics, or anything else.

The weapon only has to have a certain degree of mana conductivity and shouldn't crumble under the pressure while cutting the meat of a low-wild beast. There is no time limit but if you want to participate in the other exams, you should not waste too much time, as we only test them today."

Ending her short speech, Antalia and the runemaster said something else before they went up the stairs to the floor, where their test would be conducted.

Jason sweated under the gaze Antalia threw at him and he felt extremely uncomfortable when he heard a number of loud bangs where the bulky man stood.

Turning around, he could suddenly see all kinds of ores used to craft weapons, while not a single grade-2 ore could be seen.

'What kind of miracle do they want students to do with these high-quality forges?? Most students don't even know how to operate a forge because the provided knowledge is so shallow...' Jason wondered.

Nevertheless, the ores were worth quite a lot and the students could take whatever piece they wanted.

While the other students rushed forward, Jason activated his mana eyes to conduct a quick inspection of all kinds of ores in front of him.

And unsurprisingly there were many ores with death mana veins inside them, indicating that the ore itself was dead and couldn't be used for forge weapons that relied on mana conductivity to gain a certain toughness and sharpness.

Smiling lightly, Jason noticed a few students picking the largest pieces of ores they could see and among them were dead ores, causing him to frown lightly.

Sighing deeply, he looked for a familiar ore and when he found something, a small smile emerged on his face.

'Jade-Iron ore!...and a large amount at that'

While some of them were already dead, Jason picked out the best one, before he went back to his designated forge.

Blacksmithing could be divided into many sections and they were as follows.

The first step was only required if one was working with ores and it the step was called 'reduction' , which was used to oxide the ore, obtaining the pure ingots.

This step wasn't that difficult, as Jason knew the exact heat Jade-Iron required to heat up.

Too much heat would cause the mana veins to evaporate and die, while the ore itself would just melt.

A low heat would be totally useless as the oxide wouldn't react with the charcoal within the flame to create carbon dioxide, leaving behind the pure metal.

Jason was quite sensible to heat thanks to his origin flame and he didn't even need to look at the panel to know how hot it was when he stopped increasing the heat perfectly.

Not more than a few minutes passed before Jason saw the mana veins within the jade iron ore turning slightly yellowish.

Taking out the reduced jade iron ore with reinforced tongs, Jason noticed green sparks within the red heated-up ingot.

Turning towards the hammer press, he used it instead of hammers to form a chunk of Jade Iron because he didn't want to waste too much energy right off the bat.

Carefully using his feet to activate the hammer press, he used the tongs to slowly form the desired shape of the chunk.

Jason had used an especially large piece of Jade Iron ore because he knew the size would decrease by more than 50% until he had his desired chunk and without using more precious time, he couldn't bear smelting more Jade-Iron ore.

In the end, it wouldn't even matter what kind of weapon he made, as long as it didn't break while cutting some meat.

As such Jason would just make a crude dagger and finish his assignment as soon as possible.

Slowly forming the chunk, Jason was eyed from the side because other students thought he was dumb, using a hammer press to make a chunk without damaging the mana veins.

However, these students forgot something important as they would have never thought that Jason did not only save much time but Jade-Iron was rather resilient towards a violent forming of its mana veins compared to other ingots, causing it to be the best material for beginners to use.

Nevertheless, it was still rather uncommon to use a hammer press to preserve intact and undamaged mana veins, but in front of him stood one, and without wasting too much time he reheated the slightly formed chunk until it was close to the melting point, perfect for him to form it.

Jason repeated this process a few times before a 15 centimeters long, five-centimeter width, and 1-centimeter thick chunk was finally formed.

1 centimeter was perfect for his task and he went directly to the second step.

Heating up the Jade-Iron ingot once again, he placed the end of it on the anvil that stood in front of him, while the other end was gripped by the tongs.

Taking out a rounding hammer, Jason hammered on the corners of the chunk to slowly form the end of the chunk into the shape of a knife point.

The round side was supposed to be the back while the flat edge would become the cutting edge.

Reheating and Shaping the jade iron chunk for a few times, Jason had to be careful as the chunk was not especially thick and could easily break, but fortunately, nothing like that happened.

Leaving enough space for the tong to grip the end of the chunk, Jason looked at the piece of Jade-Iron with a satisfying smile.

It looked better than expected and now he had to establish a blade.

Heating up the chunk once again, he repeated rows of small taps with his hammer up the blade to narrow the Jade-Iron.

Working on both sides, Jason prevented it from distorting which was also extremely important to maintain a good balance.

Jason pondered if he should have a distal taper, which meant the blade gets thinner the closer one gets to the tip, but he decided against it because it wasn't necessary for his task.

The small dagger was almost finished and Jason reheated the jade iron chunk once again with sweat pearls forming on his face.

Even though he was resistant to heat, it was still hot and his body wasn't adjusted to the heat, causing him to sweat heavily.

Looking around, he noticed that his classmates looked like they were dying within the flames as most school uniforms had already ignited, causing the examiner to jump into the fray.

Jason had long since covered himself with a fire-resistant robe and face protection to prevent any kind of accident to occur, even though his fire resistance was superior than the flame in front of him.

Heating up the grade-1 crilo-oil next to him to 50°C, Jason took out the shaped dagger and adjusted some marginal flaws he didn't like before he cooled down the hot jade iron ingot within the slightly heated up oil in front of him.

Jason heard a sizzling and if he didn't know what he was doing, he would be extremely scared but fortunately, the quenching succeeded.

Water would have also worked but Jason wanted to go sure as rapidly cooling down the hit chunk of Jadeiron within oil prevented cracks to appear while quenching, which could happen using water.

The chances were small but safety sure and after the dagger was cooled down to a certain degree, he took it out to reheat and quench it again before letting it slowly cool down in the air to temper it even more.

Turning off everything, the flame disappeared and Jason turned away from the smithy to the working bench that stood next to him.

Now it was time to sharpen the dagger to a certain extent and he placed the whetstone he found inside the smithy's drawer into water until he couldn't see any bubbles rising from it anymore, which was the perfect state, before he took it out, laying it on a towel.

Placing the dagger on the whetstone he lifted the back of it by a 20-degree angle, causing the blade to touch the whetstone.

Dragging the heel of the knife down and pressing the knife down to the whetstone, Jason had to completely focus on the blade.

From the heel all the way to the tip in gliding motion going back and forth.

One side then the other side and the only thing he had to worry about, would be keeping the 20-degree angle while maintaining the same amount of pressure on it.

Once the whetstone dried up slightly, Jason applied some water on it before he finished sharpening it on the rougher side of the whetstone.

Turning around the whetstone he watered the fine side and repeated the same process until Jason thought the knife was sharp enough.

He wasn't completely satisfied with his first product, but it looked better than he expected and if Jason knew that his whole procedure was observed by Shane, he would most likely have tried harder.

Unfortunately, that wasn't the case but Shane who hid inside the shadow of the building nodded his head in approval, while the Rank-3 Blacksmith noticed Jason walking towards him, with question marks in his eyes before his expression turned into astonishment when he saw the knife in Jason's hand.

Jason knew that he would pass this exam and he waited for the perplexed blacksmith to finish his examination before he went up to the second floor after he took back his first produced dagger.