

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 171 - Mysterious Beast

Being thrown out of his masters' hideout definitely felt bad and Jason wondered how his soulbonds were supposed to come to him, as they were also thrown through the spatial portal, which woke them up from their sweet dreams.

Scorpio opened its drowsy eyes, only to see Jason smiling at him.

Immediately fully awake, Scorpio jumped towards him in order to greet Jason, only to notice that it almost jumped too far.

Feeling its increased strength, it was overjoyed as it rubbed its rough and slightly spiky exoskeleton at Jason.

Artemis also woke up and noticed that her arch-enemy received Jason's whole attention, which she couldn't accept at all.

Screeching out, she was about to grab Scorpio to throw it into the water as Jason caressed her plumage which caused her to stop almost instantly.

A few minutes passed until his two soulbonds stepped back, freeing him from their imprisonment.

Remembering Shane's words about his fortified soul conjunction, Jason wanted to enter his soul world and figure everything out, as he felt a pain in his soul world.

Apparently, both Artemis and Scorpio were fighting over his soul energy which ended with none of them receiving any of it.

Jason himself had to divide his soul energy and he could give either one the majority of his soul energy.

Right now, he had 150 soul energy units, thanks to Scorpio's sudden metamorphosis and increase in strength, causing Jason to ponder how to divide it.

However, Scorpio already owned and annexed 15 soul energy units of him.

This meant that even if Artemis annexed the remaining soul energy units, Jason accumulated over the last weeks, it would be useless, as there was still not enough vacant soul energy units for her to be stored within his soul world once again.

After entering the evolved stage, Artemis' soul energy increased to 130 units, but unfortunately for her was that she was still maturing and growing stronger.

Right now, her required soul energy increased to 140 units and it was still growing exceptionally fast, even though Jason only fed her the lowest possible mana unblemished and magical ranked mana cores once in a while, which she digested slowly.

This didn't cause her to feel less frustrated, which she showcased with a small blizzard enveloping her and Jason had to try his best in order to calm her down.

Allowing Scorpio to annex 45 additional soul energy units, he immediately entered Jason's soul world, where one could see a paper-thin manifested connection between both Jason and Scorpio.

Jason already predicted that, but upon seeing that the connection was extremely thin, he began to wonder if he could fuse with Scorpio like Till did, with the same speed and degree.

But even before he could continue his train of thoughts, Jason felt his whole body itching, as his strength began to amplify thanks to Scorpio's shared strength through the soul world core.

Normally it would take longer for the whole amplification from the soul world core to reach him in order to strengthen his physique and enlarge his mana core size but it seemed like the fortified soul conjunction caused the whole process to accelerate, which was good to know for the future.

Feeling his skin becoming tougher, while his bones and flesh were strengthened, Jason understood that Scorpio's evolution relied more on his endurance and exoskeleton rather than a mana strengthening or anything else, as his mana core size only increased by a small margin compared to the rest.

He didn't reach a higher rank through the amplification, but his physique became tougher, while his mana core size increased slightly.

With his body still itching, Artemis squeezed herself on his shoulder in order to mark her territory, as he stood up in order to go home to the Fler's house.

The shuttle he called, arrived only five minutes later, as he entered it.

Sitting inside it, Jason decided to practice the Heaven's Hell technique with his newly increased soul energy.

The single practice he did right now, increased his soul energy by roughly 1.2 units, which was extremely high and roughly 0.8% for each practice he did.

As such, Jason felt confident in reaching a higher soul energy in order to store Artemis within his soul word, soon.

It was already Sunday and almost lunchtime when he arrived at the Fler's house.

He was happy to see the Fler's who looked at him with astonishment because they didn't expect him to come home so soon.

As such, they asked him if something happened, which Jason didn't deny, as he told them that Scorpio would evolve soon and that it already underwent an incomplete evolution.

Even if he lied to the Fler's, the truth would be revealed sooner or later, as he couldn't hide Scorpio's existence and appearance forever because it would grow further with time passing.

In the end, telling the truth was much easier than lying, but the Fler's seemed to be extremely shocked about his revelation, as Greg asked with shining eyes.

"Do you know a Beast-Creator?!?" Greg was almost shouting, which took him by surprise, but after thinking about it for a moment, he remembered that his friend had a reinforced horned bull, that could evolve as long as it had enough mana, the right valuable ingredients which had to be concocted into an evolution solution.

The Fler's were already searching for a Beast-creator since they found out about Greg's soulbonds hidden bloodline and its additional potential but the requirements to even gain an appointment to see a Beast-Creator were already extremely harsh.

In the end, it wasn't even ensured if the Beast-creator could help them out or not.

And even if he could help, they would have to search for the required materials and pay for them.

Calculating everything together, the requirements to evolve a beast were extremely harsh, even though it would be worth every credit.

Figuring out what Greg meant, Jason wasn't sure what to say, as an Idea popped up in his mind.

`From what I read in books, evolving a beast with a sealed higher bloodline in their body is the easiest for seasoned Beast-Creators. With enough information, Dalia should be able to tell me what materials the reinforced horned bull requires in order to evolve, as long as she knows about the Lesser Minotaur race.

It should be feasible...or is that too much to ask? Let's give it a try!`

Clearing his throat, Jason pondered how he should begin as he said hesitantly.

"I know a Beast-Creator but neither do I know what rank this beast-creator is or even his or her name.

One could say, I accidentally met this beast-creator and he took a liking to Scorpio, as it noticed its potential. Maybe I can ask the Beast-Creator if he can help Taurus out in order to evolve, but I can't promise anything for sure!"

With some small lies attached, Jason couldn't reveal his master's existence because she was hiding from the public.

As such, Jason decided to create a mysterious beast-creator, which would hopefully solve all of his problems.

He couldn't promise anything, but Greg and the Fler's seemed to feel overjoyed by Jason's simple words, even if he didn't ensure anything at all, as he gave them a slight ray of hope that seemed to have almost vanished due to the harsh stated conditions, Astrix's low-ranked Beast-Creators stated.

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Chapter 172 - [Fusion]

After eating lunch with the overjoyed Fler's, Jason went inside his room, in order to test out something he long since awaited.

He wanted to fuse with his soulbond and try to manifest their body parts on him!

Previously, Jason thought it was more likely that Artemis would be his first soulbond to form a fortified soul conjunction with him, but surprisingly Scorpio who still thought of Jason as his mother was the first one to fortify his connection with him.

This was most likely thanks to Scorpio's sincerity as Jason transferred the pain it had to endure to himself to protect it.

Artemis was jealous of Scorpio's achievement and wanted to have the same bond with Jason, but unfortunately, this would still take some time, even though the bond the two of them was already thick and unbreakable.

Once Artemis' connection with him fortified, it wouldn't surprise Jason, if their bond would be thicker than the one he had with Scorpio.

There was no particular evidence to prove that, but he just felt that it might be the case.

As such, Jason anticipated his fortified soul conjunction with Artemis, as he entered the soul world, while Artemis laid on the bed, sulking.

Within the soul world, Jason saw Scorpio running up to him.

Touching Scorpio, he felt their thick bond, with the thin fortification connecting them, when he began to test out multiple things.

His knowledge about soul fortification was minuscule or rather non-existent as he hadn't read any books about it.

The only things he knew about it were the words Till told him and it was nothing special.

He wasn't even sure, what exactly he should look out to manifest parts of Scorpio's body on him

`What exactly is a fortified soul conjunction` Jason asked himself, as he tried to remember Till's word in addition to his own assumption.

`A fortified soul conjunction is the extremely distinct connection between the contractor and its soulbond. Both can't be separated anymore and can even be considered a single entity, which allows the contractor to fuse with his soulbond, manifesting its body parts, like wings, claws, and so on...`

As he thought of these words, Jason was even more confused

`Does this mean Scorpio exists within me and can't live if I die? What about the other way around? Will I die if Scorpio dies? And to what degree can I manifest Scorpio's body parts? He is only 80 centimeters, which means I can't cover myself with his complete exoskeleton, or can I?... Can I even manifest anything except his exoskeleton? What about its claws and stinger? How do I manifest them?`

There were too many unanswered questions but nobody could answer them right now which forced him to answer them by himself.

Trying to instruct Scorpio with a few things it should try, Jason left the soul world.

Standing up, he waited for something to happen, as he initiated Scorpio to start the experiments.

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But nothing happened as minutes passed, which caused Jason to wonder if he made a major mistake.

`Do I have to accept Scorpio as well? Like giving him permission?`

Thinking this could be the solution, Jason tried to enter his soul world only partially, testing out if he could open a door between each other like this, but nothing happened.

Suddenly, he noticed something within his mind, where the soul world was placed as a marginal-sized golden dot that could barely be discerned by Jason.

Keeping his focus on the dot, Jason forcefully thought about opening a door between him and the soul world, as the dot began to increase in size, crushing the wall between contractor and soulbond.

It was painful but bearable, as he entered the soul world to take a look at what happened right now.

From within the soul world, he could only see Scorpio slowly approaching a large golden gate that suddenly appeared out of nowhere with a small open gap within it.

And just like that, Scorpio vanished, as Jason's whole body began to itch violently and it felt extremely weird, as his mana core increased in size, while his physique was strengthened.

`What??` There was no pain like it was the case with every shared amplification from his soul-world and it felt more like he was infiltrated by something familiar and still strange.

Leaving the soul world, Jason looked at himself with his mana eyes, while he scanned himself at the same time.

He immediately figured out that his mana core size and physique received a boost to the 8th Adept rank and even further, while something particular resided within his mana core, which shocked him.

Even if Jason didn't know how Scorpio entered his mana core just like that because it was connected to everything in his body.

`Is that how it works?` Jason asked himself, as felt that Scorpio could do whatever it wanted to within his body.

`Has everyone such a high amplification like I do, or is this also thanks to my unique soul?` He didn't know for sure, but it wasn't important for the moment.

Smiling dryly, Jason wanted to test out something particular, that might be able to increase his combat prowess by a few folds.

Transmitting his thought to Scorpio within his mana core, while thinking about it at the same time, Jason felt his coccyx itching, as a searing pain spread through it.

Suddenly his jeans bulge, as he heard a ripping sound.

Running towards the mirror in his room, Jason felt something growing from his coccyx with an extremely slow speed, as he looked at the mirror in shock.

"DAMN!" Jason exclaimed with an almost childish voice when he saw a green, blueish stinger growing out of his lower back, with a size of roughly half a meter.

Even though it looked extremely cool, Jason immediately noted a downside.

It took an extremely long time to fully grow and he thought it might have something to do with the paper thing fortified soul conjunction or because it was their first try.

Trying to retract and extract the stinger multiple times, the growing speed increased slightly.

But even so, it still took a long time and Jason concluded that it was because their bond was still not completely stable and the time they knew each other was also short.

As such, Jason was confident that everything would become better with time passing.

There were only two downsides with the Fusion ability, Jason almost immediately noticed.

While being fused with Scorpio, the energy and nutrition demanded to grow the stinger seemed to be rather high, while Scorpio itself couldn't fight next to him, during their fusion, which was kinda obvious.

The stamina consumption was rather high, which meant he would have to limit its usage, if he didn't have enough energy potions or high nutrition food, but that was definitely fine, for now.

Playing around with his newly obtained ability to manifest Scorpio's body parts on his own body, Jason noted down many things he was able to do with it, as multiple combat strategies appeared within his mind.

Even so, less than half an hour passed until Jason fell onto the bed, without any energy left, as Scorpio departed from his mana core in order to return back to the soul world.

With this in mind, Jason's mana core size and physical strength plummeted to the mid 7th Adept rank like it was before.

The questions in his mind did not decrease and rather than that, it seemed like they increased as he was curious about the golden gate and the requirements to establish a fortified soul conjunction.

It was only Sunday afternoon, as Jason jumped up from his bed because he had too many things to do when he took out food to eat before he ran back out of the house past the Fler's that didn't even bother to ask where he was going anymore.

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Chapter 173 - Secret Forging

Calling a shuttle, Jason felt restless due to the idea that formed in his head.

Inwardly, he already apologized to Shane, as he would do something his master told him not to do in the meantime.

However, Jason couldn't wait anymore, as his daggers looked as if they would break anytime, which annoyed him extremely.

How should he be able to fight in the special combat class challenges without a personal weapon, he knew from the inside-out.

It was still possible for him to use training weapons for the challenges, but it would be uncomfortable for him to handle, as most of these weapons were badly balanced and crudely forged.

The same could be said for his tempered jade iron daggers, as the grip on his handle was not as comfortable as customized ones, which he could easily change now.

Only 40 minutes later he arrived in front of the Artisan-tower which he entered after going through the Identity-check.

Walking towards the reception, Jason saw someone familiar as he approached the woman that previously tried to make his way to an item appraiser more difficult.

Upon seeing Jason walking towards her, she frowned as sweat pearls emerged, pouring down her temples.

Trying to adjust her stance, she wanted to remain level-headed without indicating the anxiety that spread through her whole body.

"Hello Sir, how may I help you out today?" She asked politely, without looking into his eyes in order to avoid anything that could annoy Jason.

She had learned her lesson from last time and offending Jason could end up in a devastating accident.

As such, she tried her best to do what Jason wanted, as long as it was within her possibilities.

"Hello, I'd like to rent the best forging room for the next six hours if possible," Jason said, trying to sound nonchalant, as he noticed the women's weird expression.

"Is Sir aware of the fact that unregistered blacksmiths can only rent basic-forging rooms? If that isn't enough I can only call a superior to request a special permission or Sir has to register within the Artisan tower and underwent the designated tests." The receptionist said hesitant, trying to sound as helpful as possible

Hearing Jason sigh deeply, goosebumps covered her whole skin, which wondered Jason.

"Well...Please call your superior if possible. Either of the Sharon's should have high authority, right? Just tell them, Jason Stella, the youth that brought the cloud titanium anvil is there."

Jason was still calm, even though the receptionist was astonished that he said "either of the Sharon's" without any title, as it was impolite and rude.

'How can he call our Artisan-tower president without his title?' She wondered but didn't dare to say anything, as she was still afraid of him.

She made a call directly towards the president's secretary, who was even more astonished to receive such a call.

But even if she was astonished, she decided to tell the president what happened, as she knew that the president could only reach the Grandmaster Blacksmith rank, which was called Rank-6 thanks to the cloud titanium anvil.

This information was only known by a few important figures within the artisan tower and if the man at the reception was really the one he said he is, they shouldn't offend him in any way.

What astonished her, even more, was that when she told the president about the youth at the reception, he immediately jumped up to rush towards the reception, only to see Jason, with curiosity gleaming in his eyes.

Jason noticed strong mana fluctuations approaching him fast, as Cheng appeared next to him, which astonished him a little bit.

Greeting each other, they ignored the receptionist and other people in the surrounding, as Cheng immediately led him somewhere.

"Do you want to trade, sell or purchase something?" Cheng asked, hoping to hear that Jason might sell something valuable once again, only to be surprised about Jason who shook his head, as he said

"I want to rent a high-tier forging room in order to forge for the next few hours."

Hearing this, Cheng was confused and he only nodded his head, until he noticed what Jason meant with his words.

"What? You're going to forge here? Why? Don't you have a master with a forging room?" This shocked Cheng greatly and he felt a glimmer of hope igniting, only to be extinguished a second later.

"My master doesn't know I'm here, because he wouldn't allow me to forge weapons now, because it's too early...That's why I need to rent a forging room here" Jason said, without really trying to hide anything.

Cheng understood this, as he learned the basics longer than a year before he was even allowed to forge a weapon.

However, there was a huge difference between Jason's basics and the basics Cheng was thinking about, as he learned reduction and other methods of extraction ingots from ores and so on at first.

Jason however, learned all of it through books and immediately started with perfectly cleansing ores while shaping them into bars.

In the end, Jason's way of learning things was completely different compared to the common path as his mana eyes and origin flame in addition to his almost perfect memory, he obtained through his brain refining, changed a lot.

Thinking for a little bit, Cheng wanted to see Jason's progress, as he was interested in the black-haired, golden-eyed youth in front of him.

"You can use my private room at the top of the tower, or one of the high-ranked forging rooms underground free of charge, but can I observe your forging process? I'm kinda interested to see how your progress is.." Cheng sounded excited and Jason noticed that.

However, Jason halted immediately in his steps, saying without hesitating for a single moment

"That's not possible!"

If he let Cheng observe his forging process, his mana eye's stage would be exposed.

This wouldn't be that bad per se, but the real problem would be his exposed black origin flame, which Jason didn't want to show anyone right now.

It was impossible to keep his origin flame as a secret forever, but with his current strength, it would be better to play rather lowkey.

Cheng was taken aback to receive such a direct rejection, as he thought it wouldn't be a problem for him to observe his forging technique.

"Really?... Is there really no way for me to observe your forging technique?" He didn't want to give up without trying it once more, as he looked into Jason's eyes that looked as if he was pondering

But what he heard shocked him even more.

"It is possible for you to accompany me during my forging process, but only if you sign a soul contract with some extra paragraphs."

"WHAT?!" Cheng couldn't believe what he heard, but seeing Jason's serious expression, he knew that the youth in front of him wasn't joking a tiny bit.

Seeing his seriousness about the matter, Cheng became even more curious about what Jason was hiding and he pondered if he should accept his demand or not.

"You probably don't want me to tell anyone what I'll see in the forging room, right? What exact extra paragraphs do you have in mind?"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 174 - Quasi

Jason was astonished to notice that Cheng was considering signing a soul contract with him, which he would have never imagined before.

`Is he really that interested in my progress, or is it something else that attracted his attention?' he pondered and it might have been wrong for him to mention a soul contract that could have made Cheng curious.

However, he already said so, and going back on his words could end up in a worse situation than letting the Artisan-tower president watch over his forging process after he signed the soul contract with him.

Pondering for a second, Jason stated a few things he found important.

"If you want to observe my forging process, you're not allowed to tell anyone about it, which includes writing it down anywhere.

Recording it and any other means to spread what you saw is also strictly forbidden.

Furthermore, if anyone asked, you have never observed me forging anything within the Artisan tower.

If the receptionist tells anyone about me trying to find a forging room, just tell them that you know me from your daughter and that you brought me to a forging room, because you took a liking to me.

After a short chat I left, okay?

Other than that, you should never try to find out who my master is or where I learned what I can do, alright?

Ahh... and additionally, everything we are talking about today will be kept a secret, forever!"

Saying so, Jason released a thread of his soul, that was shaped into a piece of paper, as he wrote down the paragraphs he said before in an orderly manner.

"If you agree to the previously stated things, please sign the contract and we can continue," Jason said, smiling brightly in order to lighten up the tension which builds up between both of them.

He might be overbearing right now, but it was extremely important for him to not reveal his black origin flame at the moment, because he couldn't protect himself, yet.

Seeing Jason smile, released the tension accumulated within Cheng slightly, but the stated facts were more detailed than he thought, as he read through the almost transparent soul contract in front of him.

They were slightly different than what Jason said, but the content was roughly the same.

Everything stated, prevented him from leaking anything he would see and hear from Jason.

Furthermore, it would be, as if he had never asked the youth in front of him to observe his forging process.

As such, everything would be kept a secret from anybody.

The only thing that annoyed him slightly was that it was a one-sided soul contract without any binding force towards Jason.

Jason could also undo the soul contract if he wanted to, which was unlikely to happen.

Pondering for a moment, Cheng noticed that he grew even more curious than before, as it was impossible for nothing special to happen if Jason tried too hard to keep everything a secret.

As such, he signed the soul contract as his curiosity and impatience were the worst characteristics he had.

After Cheng signed the contract, Jason sighed in relief, as it was the first time for him to do something like that.

Small sweat pearls poured down his temples, but that was it and the tension between both of them almost immediately dissipated as they went towards Cheng's private forging room on the highest floor.

Walking towards the forging room, Jason noticed that there was not a single person who saw them, which wondered him quite a bit.

Cheng noticed Jason looking around, as he explained to him.

"There won't be anyone who might see you, because the path towards my forging room is solely for me, because others distract me easily which is prevented like that.

Sometimes an idea pops up in my head and I have to immediately try it out.

After being multiple times distracted on my way towards the forging room, I told my secretary and everyone on the highest floor to keep the hallway towards my forging room free."

Jason found this weird, but he only nodded his head as if he was agreeing to Cheng's way of thinking, only to see enter the forging room, which was even larger than the one Shane had.

But upon scanning through everything with his mana eyes, he felt disappointed.

All tools, the force, smithy, and so on radiated a weaker color than he was already adjusted to all the time within Shane's small and comfy forging room.

Sighing deeply, Jason looked at Cheng with a piercing gaze as he asked

"Can I begin now, or is there anything I should look after?"

Seeing Jason so unbothered about the high-graded equipment he collected over the period of several dozen years felt upsetting, but he couldn't say anything against him, as he estimated that Jason's master was a higher-ranked Blacksmith than he was.

"You can start whenever you want to, just treat everything here as if it belongs to you," Cheng said, as he saw Jason taking out dozens of basketball-sized jade iron ores.

This was nothing special, but upon seeing a black flame igniting in Jason's hand, the origin flame within him shrieked out in fear, before it floated as far as possible from the black flame Jason ignited while staying within Cheng's soul world.

`What is wrong?!?!` Cheng had never felt any emotion from his D-rank origin flame and now a deep sensation of fear and submission overwhelmed him.

He didn't know what was going on and roughly the same applied for Jason with an important contrast.

His black origin flame transmitted him the desire to infiltrate Cheng in order to devour his origin flame, which worried Jason a little bit.

Controlling it carefully, he began to perfectly cleanse the Jade iron ore after he extracted the ingot.

Cheng took a few minutes to control his origin flame, as he roughly figured out why Jason didn't want him to tell anyone about today's happenings.

`He also has an origin flame!!! And it has a much higher grade... OMG...Isn't he only 14 years old...HOW?!` Barely being able to think straight, Cheng couldn't comprehend what exactly was going on, as his gaze returned back to Jason.

Only to see Jason easily purifying the jade iron in front of him, as impurities and sludge were exhaled from the jade iron ingot just like that.

There weren't even many special hammer strikes Jason applied and Cheng only detected that Jason was using his mana extremely accurately in order to lead the impurities out of the jade iron bar, without hurting the mana conductivity.

Upon seeing Jason exhaling the impurities within the jade-iron so easily, Cheng wondered if he was dreaming, when the black-haired youth suddenly began to strike the ingot into a rough dagger-like shape.

Only now did Cheng realize something particular about the jade iron in Jason's hand which caused him to blurt out "WHAT?!" before he regained his senses.

`He can already perfectly cleanse a grade-1 ore? And in only 30 minutes at that....Who is teaching this monster....OMG If I could only tell someone...` Cheng regretted his decision to have signed the soul contract.

Hours passed and Jason was fully focused on his forging process, and he even forgot that Cheng was present, when he took a look at the brightly green shining dagger in his hand that was 30 centimeters long and razor-sharp.

Smiling while looking at his first well-done product, Jason saw the familiar faint black color radiating from it and he immediately knew that the dagger was already a top-grade-1 product which shocked him.

It was only his second try to forge a weapon but his second try was already a few hundred times better than his first one, as he applied multiple newly acquired techniques in order to temper the blade better and produce a more aesthetic-looking dagger.

While the backside of the dagger was shining in a dark green color, the sharp blade side had a lighter green thought and was sharpened extremely fine with an expensive whetstone.

The handle was customized for himself and his right hand fitted almost perfectly into it, as he wrapped it into comfortable but tough evolved beast hide.

Looking at the dagger in his hand once again, Jason felt that it was still not perfect for his first one, as he took out his perennial neoxid.

There he firmly gripped the remaining inscription solution he had left from his runemaster basic exam, as he filled half of the content into the empty ballpoint that appeared in his hand.

Cheng looked carefully at what Jason was doing all the time and the whole forging process went extremely smoothly as if the 14-years-old youth in front of him had been doing it for years.

Immediately identifying the inscription solution in Jason's hands, Cheng's eyes widened as shock spread through his whole body.

`Can he also inscribe runes on the dagger, without worsening the mana consumption which could destroy the whole blade? What monster did I found here.....WAIT!! Won't his perfectly cleansed jade iron dagger be considered a quasi-Mana dagger if inscribed with suitable runes?`

The more Cheng thought about what Jason did, the more shocked he became, as he noticed Jason smoothly inscribing two different kinds of runes on the dagger.

It was the sharpness and toughness runes, Jason imprinted into his mind from the Goblin's weapons.

Finishing the process with his mana eyes activated all the time, he was satisfied with the result, as he injected mana into the blade, which brightened up with the runes gleaming in white light.

'He really manufactured a quasi-mana-dagger just like that, while only being 14 years old...' Cheng almost lost his reasoning, while looking at Jason who's smile radiated the whole room in shock.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 175 - True Meaning Of A Beast

Cheng wasn't sure what to think about Jason anymore, as the abilities he showcased couldn't come from a normal 14-years-old youth that only began to learn any lifestyle occupation a few months ago.

At least that's what Antalia, his daughter told him when he asked her about Jason some time ago.

This was because Jason's knowledge he used to answer the artisan exam question were from the books about the basic lifestyle occupations the Artisan tower provided.

Jason's answers were almost solely from these books without any additional knowledge.

As such, Cheng had to conclude that Jason's knowledge was either only recently acquired or he intentionally tricked his daughter during the exam, which was more likely.

'How long is he already learning the path of a blacksmith? And he is even an upcoming runemaster.... This youth is a Monster!!' Cheng looked at Jason slightly frightened, yet more jealous, as the capabilities of the youth in front of him were so much higher than his own, which was too shocking.

However, Jason didn't stop after the quasi-mana grade-1 dagger was finished, but rather than that, he took out another batch of jade iron ore, as he ignited his black origin flame once again.

Forging another dagger, that was slightly curved and only 28 centimeters long for his sub-hand, he inscribed the same runes into it as he did with the first one.

Holding up the finished product, Jason was perfectly satisfied with his result, even though his ambition told him to try forging a real mana weapon.

However, to do so, Jason would have to mix certain ores with the perfectly purified Jade-iron and he wasn't proficient in mixing an alloy while maintaining a high mana conductivity.

The mana conductivity of real mana weapons had to be multiple times higher than the current daggers he crafted.

However, even if that was the case, his quasi mana daggers were already able to pierce through evolved staged beast hide, which was more than enough for the moment.

Maybe he could even inflict an injury through an unblemished beast hide as long as he injected enough mana, but it was unlikely.

Having finished his hidden task, Jason wanted to go home, as he noticed Cheng looking at him almost lifelessly.

Smiling lightly, Jason could only apologize for having wasted the artisan-tower president's time, as he walked out of the forging room, after reminding Cheng about the soul contract once again.

Cheng couldn't even hear Jason, who already left the forging room silently, as he was lost in thoughts, thinking about this youngster's capabilities.

Regaining his senses after a long time, he only began to notice that there was nobody left with him, which left him a little bit disappointed, as he wanted to ask Jason way too many questions, which left him curious.

Jason already sat within the shuttle practicing the Heaven's Hell technique on his way to the Fler's house.

His soul energy felt energized and vigorous, which caused Jason to smile lightly, as he stepped out of the shuttle to enter the Fler's house quietly because it was already past midnight.

Everyone was either sleeping or absorbing mana and Jason didn't want to bother anyone.

As such, he went to his room with Artemis, who was squeezed on his shoulder.

Jason wasn't even aware of Artemis' existence for the whole period since he arrived within the Artisan tower until he entered the shuttle and he had to listen to her complaining screeches for several dozen minutes until she finally calmed down.

Washing up and changing his clothes, Jason slept soundly until he was woken up by Artemis quarreling about food the next morning.

Jason already provided her unblemished and magical ranked mana cores which she digested extremely fast.

This was rather bad news for his finances, as Jason wasn't exactly sure how long he could hold out with the funds he received from the cloud titanium anvil he sold to Cheng.

Most of the mana stones were already used up for Scorpio and the star notes were about to diminish slowly with his expenditures thanks to Artemis, even if it was barely noticeable.

But even so, Jason shouldn't have to worry about that too much, as he could sell perfectly purified ingots of all kinds of ores for multiple times the purchase price if he really were to go bankrupt.

It was Monday morning and he practiced his Heaven's Hell technique once again within the shuttle, as he arrived in front of the school gate.

Even though Jason wasn't sure if Dalia was fine or not, he wanted to look for her as he felt somewhat guilty because of what happened the day before.

Arriving in front of the blue shining lake, Jason activated the covered rune, only to see the spatial portal appear at the same position as a day before.

Artemis on his shoulder screeched out as he stepped through the portal into Shane and Dalia's hideout.

Seeing Shane in front of him with Dalia next to him, supported through Shane's shoulder, Jason was immediately worried.

Running towards them, he even forgot to greet them, as he blurred out

"Master, how are you? Is everything okay? I'm so sorry about what happened...If I knew Scorpio would evolve during the mana core cleansing and cause such a chaotic and dangerous situation, I would have never asked you to help me out.."

Jason sounded worried and continued to question her about her health, which caused her to smile weakly as she ruffled his hair.

"Why are you so weak-willed? I offered my help and it's not your fault. Rather than seeing it as something bad, shouldn't we try to figure out what exactly happened? Isn't it interesting that Scorpio began evolving without any materials which could help to initiate an evolution except the thick, condensed mana?"

Let's both just take it as a lesson to prepare better for the next mana core cleansing.

However, before that happens, Shane told me that Scorpio underwent an incomplete evolution!

We have to evolve Scorpio in order to prevent possible permanent injuries with the unknown possibility of a second evolution that could happen during the second cleansing.

Scorpio has to finish his first evolution, which should be our first task for the next few days."

Trying to stand firmly, she wavered for a moment, causing Shane to continue supporting Dalia as she continued

"I heard you transferred the pain Scorpio had to endure to yourself, which saved its life. This was brave but also stupid. Please protect your own life before anyone else.... But Shane also told me you formed a fortified soul conjunction with your second soulbond because of that, which is an extremely rare opportunity.

This can be considered a blessing in disguise, don't you think so? " Dalia asked, but she didn't even wait for Jason's answer as she said

"Can you please summon Scorpio? I want to figure out which evolution path he took or if it's a new one?"

Dalia's voice sounded extremely curious and impatient, which wondered Jason slightly, while Shane sighed deeply.

She was extremely excited, even though she felt weak, as Scorpio could have evolved into an unknown race as Artemis did.

Seeing Artemis once again, her eyes glowed too, but unfortunately, she wouldn't let Dalia come too close to her in order to test her throughout.

It seemed as if Dalia could be compared to a sponge, as long as it had something to do with beasts, their habits, way of living, evolution paths, mutations, ingredients that could help beasts to evolve, their potential and so much more.

Each theme was more interesting than another and Dalia's knowledge about beasts was much higher than anything else, caused by her thirst to know everything about beasts.

Neither Jason nor Shane knew where this thirst came from and both asked themselves if the true meaning of a beast creator was this incomprehensible thirst to understand more every cell within beasts.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 176 - Favor

Summoning Scorpio, Dalia walked toward it with small steps, while she received support from Shane.

He couldn't hinder her in doing whatever she wanted, as such Shane decided to be the pillar to support her, in every decision she took.

There was nothing else he could do.

"Ohh!!...Interesting....but how? Is it thanks to the compressed mana, in addition, to forcefully cleansing its mana core, or is there something else the cause for this lightly shining sapphire-colored exoskeleton?...."

Shane and Jason could only hear Dalia mumbling stuff to herself as she continued to inspect Scorpio while releasing her weakened mana in order to detect the minute details.

Turning to Jason, she asked "Can I draw out some of its blood in order to make a more in-depth test? I'm already relatively sure what race your small soulbond is, but I could also be wrong with it having a unique variation mutation, which I want to find out."

Nodding his head, Jason transmitted the thought to Scorpio, who looked at him as if he was betrayed, as a small syringe appeared in Dalia's hand.

Drawing out Scorpio's blood, Jason just transmitted the pain his soulbond received to himself in order to lessen his soulbond's thoughts about a betrayal.

When Dalia was done, she turned to Jason or rather Artemis with the same desire and curiosity gleaming in her eyes.

"Artemis...my dear cute princess....Can I also have some of your blood?" Dalia asked, trying to suck up to her but everything was useless as Artemis screeched out, rejected the proposal without hesitating for a single second.

She didn't want anyone except Jason to touch her and drawing blood out of her was even less thinkable for her...

Jason smiled only at Artemis' reaction and he knew that she didn't like it, even though he was also curious about the test result Artemis could bring.

The amount of mana within her blood increased substantially and if this continued for good, Artemis' mana and blood would be completely fused, enhancing every body part, without her doing anything at all.

With this, she would most likely even be able to defeat beasts stronger than her, as long as she didn't have an innate disadvantage.

But even if that was the case, Jason wouldn't force Artemis to do a test, she didn't want to.

Dalia left Jason and Artemis with a dejected face, before she took out a small and compact testing machine, which would test Scorpio's blood in order to find out similarities or contrast compared to certain other beasts.

The test would take some time and Jason remembered Greg's situation suddenly, as he voiced out his concern.

Clearing his throat, he felt noticeably uncomfortable as he started

"Master...I didn't want to hide the fact that Scorpio evolved from the Fler's, because it would be a hassle and Greg, a good friend of mine who helped me out to come to Cyro-City has a reinforced-horned bull, with a sealed Lesser Minotaur bloodline.

Figuring out that I met a beast-creator, they asked me If I could ask you, the mysterious beast-creator I created if there was a way for you to help Greg's soulbond to unseal his bloodline...

I also want to help him, but I'm not sure if you can or want to help out..."

Dalia looked at him without any noticeable emotions which made Jason feel even more uncomfortable, as she said

"Well..helping out your friend shouldn't be a problem. If his non-elemental bull has a sealed bloodline, it won't be that much of an issue to unseal it, as long it's determination, pain-resistance, and the correct resources are provided.

If you have the bull's data, you can show them to me, and I'll tell you what ingredients I need to concoct the evolution solution, it will need. to evolve

As long as they have the resources, I'll be able to concoct a potion or pellet in order to ignite the sealed bloodline.

With that, the bull will have to endure endless pain like Scorpio did, as it will undergo a small transformation.

The most important fact for this transformation will be the amount of mana in the surrounding.

With enough mana, it might even finish its evolution directly, but the required amount is extremely vast, as you might have already noticed.

As such, Greg and the Fler's should already start to collect a mountain of mana stones in addition to the magical treasures, I'll name later. This will take a rather long time even for above-average households.

In the end, a slow unsealing process should be easier but more painful for both Greg and his soulbond to endure.

Even so, it's the faster process, as the bull will metamorphosis and enter a maturity process once again, exactly like your two soulbonds"

When Dalia finished, she looked at Jason, who showed multiple emotions at the same time.

On one side, he was extremely happy for Greg to be able to evolve or rather unseal his soulbond's bloodline, but if his friend had to endure the same pain as he did, it would be a devastating process.

In the end, it could even harm Greg's mental health, but Jason was confident in his friend's endurance.

As such, everything was fine, as he sent Dalia the newest data about Taurus, Greg's soulbond.

Reading through the data, an "Ohh" escaped her, as she read through the data slower, in order to memorize everything.

Two minutes later, her gaze returned to Jason, as she said

"Well... This will be easier than I thought...Your friend's soulbond has already started to unseal its hidden bloodline, probably without even noticing it. As such, the required resources will be less while the ignition of its bloodline will be less painful, even though the metamorphosis will stay the same."

Hearing this, Jason was astonished and he suddenly remembered the day, when the special combat classes started.

`Was it then?` He asked himself, as he remembered that Greg was even capable of obtaining a special combat class seat within the main Vanguard school, even though he barely entered the 4th Adept rank that time.

This had to be the answer and Jason felt enlightened after understanding the reasoning behind Greg's special combat class seat ranking he accomplished in the beginning.

Greg was most likely still unaware of this, as he was thrown out of the special combat class seat ranking and unable to retrieve it again.

Jason was deep in thought and didn't even hear a single *PIEEP*, that came from the small compact blood testing machine.

Only when he heard Dalia exclaiming cheerfully, Jason looked up, only to see a holographic screen in front of his cheerful master.

Shane was also astonished to see Dalia being so cheerful, even though he was weak, as she said

"Jason, you're really fortunate, I don't really know exactly why or how Scorpio did it, but his evolution path is exceptional.

If I'm not mistaken, Scorpio will evolve into a Radiant Sapphire Scorpion, which is a Magical ranked beast, if enough potential and resources are given...you're truly fortunate!"

"HUH?" Shane and Jason exclaimed at the same time as both couldn't believe what happened right now.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 177 - Radiant Sapphire Scorpion

Jason was astonished to figure out that Scorpio evolved straight into a beast that can reach the Magical rank, without any intermediate evolution.

But there was something only he knew, which was the only thing that plummeted his mood slightly

Even though Scorpio was only an Incomplete radiant-sapphire scorpion right now, it had the potential of an unblemished ranked beast.

This meant, even if Scorpio evolved, it could at most reach the peak Unblemished rank, without having its mana core cleansed once again.

Nevertheless, figuring out that his second soulbond already reached such a high evolution from it initially being a three-star wild miniature Parascor.

Jason only fed it the holy-white bacuri fruit in order to enhance the potential to the awakened rank and now Scorpio already reached the potential of an Unblemished beast?

He couldn't believe what he saw and Dalia said, while his storage device had only a bunch of high-graded mana stones left.

Dalia's special constitution was extremely beneficial, but the resources it required were even more terrifying and Jason was unsure how long it would take for him to enhance Scorpio higher than his current potential, as the demanded mana only increased exponentially.

But rather than focusing too much on that, Jason had other issues as collecting a huge amount of mana stones in order to cleanse Scorpio's mana core even more.

Doing so would be a waste of time for now and rather than doing that, Jason would have to collect funds in order to purchase the required materials to evolve Scorpio.

Additionally, there was Artemis, who he had to feed magical ranked mana cores, which were also expensive.

In the end, Jason was in a dire need of funds, and forging weapons would be the easiest way to provide him with that as he looked at Shane with his eyes that spread from dire need.

Shane also figured out that Jason's fortune would diminish extremely fast after the mana core cleansing, but figuring out that his disciple also had to provide his second soulbond with high-graded magical treasure would end up with a large hole in his little disciple's wallet.

Noticing Jason's gaze, Shane only nodded lightly, before adverting his attention back to Dalia, who looked weak, yet energized.

Thinking about ways to improve his financial issue, Jason also thought about the Big-Three tournament which rewarded the top students with many rare and more importantly, expensive magical treasures, he could batter or sell in order to receive the things he needed.

Meanwhile, Scorpio felt uncomfortable because of Dalia's gaze, as he ran back to Jason, only for a green-blueish magic circle to appear below it.

Entering the soul world, Scorpio felt immediately better as the soul world was his home, that no stranger could infiltrate.

The only problem he had inside the soul world was the terrifying and eerie aura, radiating from the Black Origin flame, causing Scorpio to feel weird and uncomfortable, the closer he came to it.

As long as Scorpio maintained a certain distance to the Black flame in the center of the soul world, everything was fine and fortunately for him was that the soul world was vast, providing more than enough space to stay.

It was still early in the morning and after Dalia's curiosity was mostly satiated, she provided Jason with the materials required to unseal a non-elemental Magical ranked bloodline for the Fler's to collect them.

She didn't care if others find out what ingredients exactly were needed to unseal Greg's soulbonds bloodline, as the method to concoct everything together was only in her mind, while many other high-ranked beast-creators might use different approaches to unseal a non-elemental beast's bloodline.

Reading through the list Dalia sent him, Jason figured out that he knew most of these materials, but their price was astronomical due to their scarcity.

`Well... It seems as if the Fler's have to suffer for some time now.` He thought while smiling dryly, as he noticed since a few weeks ago, that Mark and Gabriella were at home all the time, not minding to hunt or catch any beasts in order to gain credits.

This would most likely change now as the Fler's would have to work hard in order to provide Greg with some financial aid.

If they didn't provide any financial aid to Greg, it would take years for him to gather enough funds which would decrease his overall progress by a lot.

Even with their help, it would probably take a few months to gather the funds.

Suddenly, Jason noticed that he received another list from Dalia, and the content written inside the file were magical ingredients that were even more expensive, causing him to frown deeply.

Sighing out, he immediately knew that the second list of magical ingredients was required for Scorpio to finish his evolution, instead of staying incomplete.

From his initial 1000 star notes, Jason used 300 in order to purchase new self-cleaning clothes, magical ranked mana stones, and much more, while the mana stones he had were redacted to 5% from their prior mountain.

Even so, it would still be enough for him to hasten up his cultivation process if wanted or for Scorpio to absorb it in order to strengthen itself for quite some time.

As such, Jason wanted to use only 500 star-notes from his funds at most, in order to purchase the high-ranked magical ingredients, which was roughly half of what he most likely needed to obtain everything needed.

As such, there was still a need of 500 star notes or 50.000.000.000 Credits.

Thinking for quite some time, Jason wondered how much he could receive from a perfectly purified grade-1 bar or even a quasi-mana weapon, as he opened the online shop in order to start a small research.

For one of his quasi-mana peak-grade-1 dagger, Jason could receive roughly 500.000 credits, due to its status as a quasi mana weapon.

If it were a real mana weapon, its damage output and even more so the price would soar tenfold if not more.

Calculating with his current capabilities, Jason could forge a quasi-mana grade-1 weapon rather easily within four hours without accident.

But even so, Jason's mood was extremely bad, as he continued his calculation

`If I have to produce 10.000 weapons like my dagger, I'll need 40.000 hours or 1.666 days, without any sleep!!!!!!` "NOOO!!!" Jason cried out attracting Shane's attention, as he saw his terrified gaze.

Smiling knowingly, Jason immediately figured out that Shane felt with him, which didn't mean he would supply him with financial aid.

Rather than that, Shane wanted Jason to grow stronger faster and one had to fail in order to stand back up.

Without failure there won't be success and Shane was sure this challenge would be important for him to overcome.

Jason could also take an easier path, by selling a large number of herbs and ore he stockpiled, but this would be too easy and hinder his future progress.

As such, Shane didn't say anything at all, while holding Dalia who was also aware of Jason's current thoughts.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 178 - Materializing Rift

Even though it was still morning, Jason wanted to go into the forging room to perfectly purify as many jade iron bars as possible in order to craft a dagger, only to make some inscription solutions as soon as possible.

However, before he could do so, the ground below them shook violently, while the lake above them became restless.

His view blurred by the sudden appearance of high-density mana fluctuation that came out of nowhere from further away, as he looked up to Shane and Dalia, who seemed to be as shocked as he was.

The fluctuation increased, even more, causing an indestructible pressure and Jason was barely able to turn towards the direction he sensed the fluctuations, as his mana eyes detected something extremely weird dozens of kilometers far away.

Normally, he could barely see mana fluctuation one kilometer away from him and the only exception was the mana vein below Cyro-City as it was hundreds of kilometers below the city, while Jason could still see it.

This was solely thanks to the massive amount of pure and compressed mana which shocked him initially.

However, the bigger issue right now was, that Jason saw a small dot, dozen of kilometers away from his current position, enlarging, while the density he perceived seemed to grow thicker and thicker.

"F**k" Jason blurted out and his masters noticed him looking straight towards the direction they discerned the mana fluctuations, as Shane sighed deeply before asking.

"Can you see a ^blueish-black dot with an extremely thick mana density and high purity?"

Jason wanted to answer and turn around but he was unable to look away from the current scenario that happened far away, as he only said "Yes...This dot is also enlarging", before he could once again hear a deep sigh.

However, now both Shane and Dalia were sighing, which made Jason curious as he was about to ask when Shane said.

"If my senses are not rusted due to my old age, these fluctuations and the black dot you can see is the manifestation of a temporary rift.

Weird is only the position of the rift....It's in the central area of the outer district, exactly where the Goblins destroyed everything...."

Hearing what Shane said, Jason was shocked, but his gaze was still drawn to the enlarging dot, which's inner part seemed to contain a complex but bewitching effect.

If this rift was above the five-star rating and a Hell-rated rift, Cyro-City might even face annihilation.

As far as Jason knew, one-star rifts could only connect planes with an average combat prowess of wild stage beasts with many unranked and awakened beasts to Argos.

In the end, the ratings from one- to four-star were exactly the same for both rifts and wild zones, while five-star rifts had magical ranked beasts as an average combat prowess with many unblemished and guardian ranked beasts habituating the planes, world, or whatever they were connected to.

The main problem for Astrix's overall situation would only appear, once a Hell-ranked temporary rift appeared.

As for the highest-ranking for rifts, called abyss, Jason didn't even want to imagine what kind of terrifying existences could inhabit the other side of the rift.

Hell-ranked rifts were innate different to the star ranks, as the average combat prowess was unknown, due to an equal number of Guardian- and Lord-ranked beings inside.

If that was everything, humanity's most promising prodigies could venture inside to make a huge fortune, but there was a certain problem.

Within Hell-ranked rifts, there were even Monarch-ranked beings, that were equal or rather stronger than Sovereign-ranked humans, who solidified a prismatic crystal within their mana core.

Jason only found out what the rank after the Lord-rank was after pestering his master for a long time.

Additionally, he figured out that Shane was one of the most powerful beings, humanity had, while only a small number was more powerful than him several dozen years ago, before he had to flee.

He was also not sure what the next rank could be called, but Shane was relatively sure that there has yet to be a new rank to be discovered with the construction of multiple prismatic crystals within the mana core.

If even Hell-ranked rifts had Monarch-ranked beasts, what about Abyss-ranked rifts?

Even Monarch-ranked beasts might as well be stronger than the most powerful humans due to the increasing gap in human's innate strength to beast's that naturally happened with the increase of one's strength

He didn't even want to imagine what Abyss-ranked rifts could bring to humanity if such a rift appeared on Canir or on the Archipelago.

As long as humans didn't have multiple Lord or one Monarch ranked beast, their strength would remain weaker than the opposite beast.

Shane also told him that there was one time a Monarch-ranked beast wreaked havoc on Canir and only thanks to the collaboration of multiple big families was it possible to force the Monarch-ranked individual to retreat.

Jason was shocked when he heard this, but it was not difficult to understand that humanity was at the bottom of the food chain after the foreign intelligent races emerged, due to humanity's inability to wield mana at that time.

Thinking about the foreign intelligent races, Jason wondered how strong they truly were, as only a few individuals of several races invaded humanity at once, while he himself had never seen any of them in person.

Due to his knowledge, Jason felt an unknown fear spreading through every cell in his body, as he noticed Shane calming down, which could only be advantageous for Astrix's citizens.

Hearing him sigh in relief, Jason decided to avert his gaze from the materializing rift.

Noticing his disciple looking at him, Shane began to explain.

"The rift you can see is most likely only a four-star rift with unblemished beasts as its main combat prowess.

However, I can't be sure of that for now, because I'm too far away for me to perceive minute details. Let's just hope I'm right, otherwise, Cyro-city will suffer too many casualties if the rift is a five-star

At least Astrix will survive, as long as there won't be a Hell-ranked temporary rift."

Looking him straight into the eyes, Shane seemed curious about the temporary rift, as he announced

"Let's take a look. I can transport all of us there..." He didn't even finish his words, as a large spatial portal appeared in front of them, with Shane grabbing Jason and Artemis with his released mana, while he coiled his arm around Dalia's waist.

"Let's go!!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 179 - Restrictions

Unaware of what would happen the next moment, Jason was dragged through the spatial portal with Artemis, as they appeared within a devastated area, not far from Cyro-City's destroyed walls.

There were many destroyed buildings around them with many areas without the slightest intact constructions, while a dense and compressed mana compound could be seen by everyone's eyes in the sky, only ten meters above the ground.

With his special mana eyes, Jason could immediately tell that the mana density was extremely high, which terrified him a little bit, as he hadn't seen anything comparable from any kind of beast.

Even the Goblin King's compressed mana seemed to be an infant in comparison and he concluded that it was because constructing a connection with the other side, required a lot of mana.

This mana connection was called world-bridge by many and Jason liked this name, even though the result was terrifying as the rift in front of him seemed to be at least at the four-star ranking, which meant the other side of the world-bridge had an unblemished beast as it's average combat prowess, while many beasts would be at the magical rank.

In the end, he thought even a four-star ranking could be devastating for Cyro-City because it was unknown how many beasts could suddenly emerge from the temporary rift if there would even be a single one to begin with.

While Jason could only look at the materializing rift in awe, Shane enveloped all of them in a thick darkness coat that would envelop them in order to cover their whereabouts.

Shane slowly approached the rift, while he and Dalia remained at their current position.

According to his eyes, the whole mana density intensified as the purity increased, while the dot-shaped mana fluctuations tore apart space while increasing in size.

The torn space looked completely different to Shane's ability, as Jason could see a thick mana stream behind the dot-shaped construction building up slowly, as a landscape came into view.

There was also something else within the infant-state rift, but Jason was unable to perceive what it was.

He could only barely see three different colors, radiating from deep within the rift, a golden somewhat familiar color, a silver, mysterious color, and an eerie and perilous black color.

Somehow, they looked like the purest form of affinities, he noticed within his soul world, but Jason was unsure of this fact, and wouldn't dare to utter nonsense towards his masters, who looked extremely serious.

While Shane inspected the materializing rift, other humans could be seen rushing towards the rift with a terrifying speed, while wings could be seen on their back, or lower bodies of agility-typed beasts.

Scanning them with his mana eyes, Jason could tell that their strength was almost comparable to Till's as he estimated that their strength might be still at the Grandmagus rank, infinitely close to the Lord rank.

Fortunately, they couldn't perceive them thanks to Shane's thick darkness coat which enveloped them completely.

While Shane inspected the materializing rift from a short distance, the Grandmagus's that arrived a few seconds ago, decided to maintain a certain distance while taking out a few machines from their spatial rings in order to test the rift.

More than a minute passed as Shane came back to them, when the Grandmagus ranked humans surrounded the rift with the oddly shaped machines in their hands, they activated.

A weirdly shaped dome was constructed as Jason could visible see the runes within the dome, causing him to wonder what the hell these Grandmagus were doing, as Shane said

"Let's go back. I've inspected the rift wholly and figured out the most important things. It's definitely weird, but on the other side, it might even bring unforeseen treasures...who knows

With this being said, Shane opened a spatial portal, where all of them went through, while Jason couldn't take his gaze from the materializing gaze in front of him.

There was something about it that attracted his attention but Jason wasn't exactly sure what it was, as he stepped through Shane's spatial portal, only to appear a few dozen kilometers away from the thick mana fluctuations.

Jason was still unable to take his gaze from the mana fluctuations, as Shane's voice could be heard behind him.

"If you want to know more about the rift, you should at least look at me, while speaking, is that too much to ask demand you?" Shane said, almost lamenting about Jason's behavior as he turned around without hesitation.

Even if the materializing rift in front of him was bewitching and extremely interesting, receiving information about it was much more important than just plainly looking at the whole materialization process.

After noticing that, Jason's whole attention was on him, Shane began to explain everything he comprehended within a short amount of time.

"My previous estimation about the materializing rift is certainly correct, as the fluctuations are comparable to four-star rifts, I've seen often enough before.

But there is something that makes me uncertain about the whole process.

If my comprehension is not completely wrong, Magus-ranked humans or Magical-ranked beings will be unable to venture through the temporary rift, which will inevitably restrict the opportunities for either side by a huge margin.

If neither humans at the Magus rank or Magical-ranked beasts can enter the opposite side, only unblemished-, master- or individuals below these ranks would be able to enter the temporary rift.

Otherwise, it might be problematic for the space tunnel, the rift creates to maintain its stability, which is something beasts instinctively avoid, while we already had our own incidents with such cases.

This would restrict both sides but it could also end up as an opportunity for us because the strongest foe to face on the other side of the four-star temporary rift should be magical ranked beasts that can be avoided through certain detours of high-density areas."

Hearing this, Jason was astonished as he had never heard anything about restrictions from rifts, which caused him to look a little bit confused, which Shane noticed, as he calmly explained.

"Jason, you might not be aware of the importance of restrictions, but humanity probably survived only thanks to them, as an Abyssal-ranked temporary rift appeared within Canir more than one century ago, shocking every single being on the continent due to the portal's sheer size.

Fortunately, only a few Monarch-ranked beasts were able to squeeze themselves through the rift's restrictions, while humanity was barely able to get the hang of the calamity these individuals caused.

Every rift has its own restrictions due to the accumulated mana it innately has and apparently Cyro-City is extremely lucky with the restrictions preventing any magical ranked beasts to emerge out of the portal, as some rare and terrifying existences might even be able to conceal themselves and venture through the city, without anyone noticing them until it would be too late.

At the beginning of the mana outbreak, temporary rifts were one of the most devastating occurrences that could happen to humanity, and only now, we can roughly understand their rankings and restrictions.

If Cyro-City were to be the center point of an abyss-ranked rift, we would immediately flee without looking back to Astrix ever again, because the dangers wouldn't be worth the possible benefits.

With this four-star rift, however, there might be a chance for some Master-ranked human prodigies to gain many benefits by venturing into the temporary rift, even if its definitely dangerous, which goes without question"

Listening carefully to Shane, Jason's curiosity about temporary rifts grew, as many ideas flashed in his mind, as he asked.

"Is it suicidal for me to enter the four-star rift too? Or might I even gain a lot from it? What about the period the temporary right will open? Is there a way to figure out how long a temporary rift remains open to venture through?"

Some questions that tormented his mind, blurred out of Jason without him realizing, as he looked at Shane with an expectant gaze, waiting to receive answers

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 180 - School Announcement

Looking straight into Shane's eyes, Jason was expectant to receive a pleasant answer however, unfortunately, he was left disappointed with Shane serious explaining

"You shouldn't even remotely think about entering a four-star rift with your current combat prowess. You're simply too weak, and you can at most defeat weaker evolved ranked beasts thanks to your elemental affinity.

However, their strength is multiple times higher than yours, while they can retort with their own affinity attacks! If you can't defeat an unblemished beast, your life will be under a constant threat, without a high chance to survive.

Trying to adventure through the rift for the sole reason to find treasures that will solve your financial problem is stupid and arrogant.

Even fighting against beasts at the same rank, you shouldn't be too full of yourself.. With your physique and mana core size, you'll be able to fight mid-awakened beasts easily, but without your affinity, even peak-awakened and the weakest evolved ranked beasts will tear you apart as if you're a piece of paper."

This was definitely not what Jason wanted to hear and his facial expression showed this, causing Shane and Dalia to smile dryly, as they could roughly understand their disciple's reasoning.

When Shane continued, Jason's facial expression soured even more.

"The four-star rift is only a temporary one which will dematerialize in a month from now on. Within a month you'll never be able to reach the required strength to survive on the other side. I'm sorry, but you won't be able to use this opportunity!"

Even though Jason was stubborn, it would be stupid for him to enter the rift just like that.

But it still hurt his heart slightly, as he wanted to experience how the other side of the rift would look like.

`Were there buildings from other civilized races, or only nature in its purest form? What kind of unknown magical treasures, beasts, herbs, ores, and mysterious things exist there?`

He wanted to know everything and reading books solely began to bore him, as it was a one-sided action without pushing his adrenaline higher.

In the last weeks, he hadn't left Cyro-City for a single time with the last adventure being his journey through the goblin settlement.

He felt as if he was imprisoned within Cyro-City, even if he had more than enough tasks to focus on.

If he continued everything according to his own plan by increasing his combat prowess as well as possible, without being hindered, he wouldn't leave the dome for quite some time.

But was that really what he wanted? If Jason was honest, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do because it was obviously extremely dangerous in a place with unblemished ranked beast as the average combat strength

Even so, Jason grew more curious about the other side, and he tried to find a solution to satiate his desire, without doing anything suicidal.

For him, it felt like the last few weeks were just too one-sided with his affinity training, forging, Heaven's Hell practice, and so on.

There was an indestructible demotivation spreading slowly through every inch inside his body, planting inside his heart which only Jason could feel.

Jason was sure, if there wasn't a change in his schedule soon, he would go insane or maybe feel unmotivated to do anything at all.

After discussing and explaining the incident about the sudden materializing rift with other facts that involved the rift's appearance, Jason understood rifts much more.

Because it was still early, he had more than enough time to cleanse other grade-1 ores into purified bars in order to become more proficient with the different types of cleansing processes with all kinds of ores, which was necessary to build a strong foundation.

Time passed slowly and it was already lunchtime when he practiced the Heaven's Hell technique inside his soul world in order to increase his soul energy to 154.8 units.

Thanks to Artemis and Scorpio's high demand on soul energy, Jason was required to have 200 soul energy units in order to store both of his soulbonds inside his soul world, with an additional 0.01 soul energy unit for his black origin flame, which lustfully gazed at the vacant soul energy inside his soul world.

His black origin flame was already extremely powerful without having annexed a single soul energy unit and Jason wanted to nourish it with soul energy.

The only problem was that he wanted to take one step after another.

If his black origin flame could enhance his physique and mana core size without a baptism, Jason would ponder what to do, but according to Dalia, the only time he would receive an increase in strength and mana core size would come with each baptism, while the flame's capabilities would increase with the quantity of soul energy units it annexed.

Thinking about his black origin flame, Jason remembered something he wanted to check, as he entered his soul world once again.

Previously, he wasn't sure if the black origin flame was comparable to a normal soulbond because it required a normal soulbond contract, but after checking what he wanted to figure out, Jason was astonished to see that the thin connection between him and the black origin flame became thicker, even if he already expected this outcome.

His eyes widened and his mind was tormented with multiple questions, as a "huh?" escaped from him, which was noticed by Shane and Dalia due to their high mana core rank and exceptional senses.

They would never distract their disciple during his soul energy refining process, but it seemed as if he was done, as they came closer to Jason.

"What's wrong Jason? Is there an obstacle or something, hindering you in your Heaven's Hell practice, or has something else happened?" Dalia asked while Shane stood next to her equally curious, as Jason looked straight into Dalia's eyes.

Without trying to hide anything, Jason's curiosity about a certain question filled his whole mind, overwhelming the other questions by a large margin.

"Is it possible for an origin flame to establish a fortified soul conjunction?" He asked, because the connection between him and the origin flame became thicker, which indicated that not only the communication between them intensified but also their trust, which sounded weird to Jason.

Nodding her head, Dalia pondered how to answer this question in order to satiate Jason's curiosity, because his eyes seemed to pierce her with his thirst for knowledge.

"Well...That's difficult to answer...Yes, because the connection between the contractor and soulbond origin flame will be strengthened with the compatibility between both increased due to constant usage.

At the same time, I want to answer this with a no, because even after using my silver origin flame for more than a hundred years, I wasn't able to establish a fortified conjunction with it and I haven't heard about a single human capable of doing something like that.

Nobody knows if it is really possible, but according to our knowledge about the soul world and soulbonds', it should be.

Some tried to experiment with their origin flame in order to establish a fortified soul conjunction without any results.

As such, humanity gave up on their experiments for the time being, until everything about the constant threat of foreign intelligent races and strong beasts, would lessen around them with a tranquil ground to continue experimenting.

A few theorists think that the innate compatibility of one's soul world towards the particular origin flame is important, while other theorists say that the constant usage of the origin flame would be the final solution."

Jason nodded his head, after listening, as he remembered his soul world trembling when it perceived the existence of the unawakened black origin flame.

'Was that a sign?' he wondered, but there was obviously no answer and he could only disregard this thought for the time being, as his quantum bracelet vibrated violently.

Looking at his quantum bracelet, he noticed that it was only an announcement from the Vanguard, school, which he wanted to disregard, as he subtly glanced at the content.

[School announcement: Special combat classes will be canceled for the next three days. Normal combat classes will be continued with the Special combat class seats joining them.]

`Is that because of the four-star rift?` Jason asked himself, with the weird feeling that the next few days could change a lot for him.