

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 211 - Elemental Crystal Cave

Jason clearly saw a red crystal protruding out of the ground, which radiated a faint light-gray color, and at the same time, fire elemental transmuted mana which astonished him a little bit.

'Why does this crystal look so familiar?' He wondered, and approaching the red crystal radiating faint fire transmuted mana, Jason remembered something he read and saw in many different books from Shane and Dalia.

They were mostly about the three basic lifestyle occupations but also in Beast creations and in even more theses Dalia handed him out.

"Is that a fire elemental crystal?" Jason mumbled as he squatted down in order to touch the red crystal.

Once his left hand touched the crystal, he immediately felt a vigorous wave of fire elemental mana invading him, causing slight pain when it entered his mana veins.

Releasing his black origin flame within himself, the pain substituted before he released the crystal from his hand.

'Interesting!... If all the things with colors I see within the cave are elemental crystals, I'm within an elemental crystal cave, huh?'

He thought while smiling silly...

If Jason was really within an elemental crystal cave, his financial issue would immediately vanish as long as he excavated a decent amount of them.

Now the only question tormenting him, how he should mine them...

Taking a look inside his storage device, Jason was sure that he purchased quite a lot of things, but he couldn't remember having bought a pickaxe.

Upon sensing a bunch of tools thrown into the corner of his storage device, Jason took them out one after another with a small ray of hope emerging within him.

'That's a sickle, an ax.....a shovel!....a hoe? Why did I buy a hoe? Oh!! I really bought a pickaxe!!'

Taking out a pickaxe, Jason's smile radiated the surrounding, as Artemis jumped from his shoulder in order to give him some space, while Jason tried to move his shoulder in order to test out his current capabilities

His shoulder hurt like hell, but he wanted to extract at least this one crystal in front of him because he was curious about it.

If he could satiate his curiosity by enduring a little bit of pain, he would definitely accept it.

Furthermore, it wouldn't take long, because the crystal had only the size of his fist.

As such after two to three painful swings with his low-grade-1 pickaxe the crystal was already in his left hand, while he sealed it in order to prevent it from releasing transmuted mana into his body.

Looking at the red gleaming crystal, Jason tried to remember the advantages elemental crystals had, and the first fact that jumped into his mind, was their capability to strengthen affinities.

With pure elemental crystals, beasts and even humans could increase their affinity to a certain extent, while it was mostly used for beasts to strengthen their affinity because they would innately share it with their contractor.

The extent for elemental crystals to strengthen affinities was restricted to the amount of mana and its purity.

If the purity within was less than the innate purity of the beast's transmuted mana which wanted to enhance its affinity, it wouldn't work, while comprehending a higher-ranked affinity by solely absorbing

a purer transmuted mana was extremely difficult with some theorists even saying that it might be dangerous.

It was said that there was even the possibility to deteriorate the affinity by comprehending something innately wrong, even though the possibility was extremely low.

'Ah!!' Suddenly Jason remembered the main reason for the elemental crystals' price which was not low, to begin with.

The reason was that one could even concoct potions with them, while it was also possible to forge weapons with elemental crystals, and inscribe runes with a certain ratio of crushed elemental crystals within the inscribing mixture would allow one to use a foreign affinity to a certain extent.

Like this one could disguise runes within the ground, by using crushed earth elemental crystals or create traps with a variety of elemental runes.

But more importantly, were the concocted potions and Jason faintly remembered a certain Beast creation book, stating that some potions to evolve beasts had to be concocted with elemental transmuted mana.

Thinking about this statement, Jason tried to remember more paragraphs like this and after a short while, he could already faintly remember a few theses, paragraphs, and even potions stating the same.

'Aren't some wands also made out of elemental crystals...or was it a similar material?' Jason wondered as he remembered a special perk of some wands, allowing someone without a single affinity, to use weak affinities.

Even one of the stated perks, he remembered about the elemental crystals would be worth a fortune, while the elemental crystals in front of him had all these advantages.

Jason's mood immediately skyrocketed and he decided to strive deeper into the elemental crystal cave, while his mana eyes observed everything in order to figure out where the supposed elemental crystals were and at the same time to see if any beast approached him.

Weirdly enough, he couldn't see any beast at all, and the further he went into the cave, the more elemental crystals he found, protruding out of the ground, ceiling, and walls.

'Is it finally my time?' Jason thought overjoyed, as he turned around to figure out if something from above entered, only for his eyes to widen in extreme shock.

"What the hell is that?" He exclaimed, which resounded throughout the cave, as he saw hundreds of beasts flooding the cavern entrance, he walked in a few hours ago.

However what wondered him was, that presumed prey and predator charged into the cavern at the same time seemingly without caring about each other's existence at all.

'What did I enter?!' Yet, even after asking himself the same question multiple times there was no answer and Jason went deeper into the cave to further increase the distance to the beast at the entrance.

Every few painful steps he took, Jason turned around without halting his steps for a single second in order to check what happened above.

'They stopped?' he wondered, as he noticed something even weirder.

'These beasts excavate the crystals?!?' With a shocked expression, Jason saw hundreds of beasts occupying the cavern entrance and even the four different tunnels in order to dig out the elemental crystals, without going deeper into the cave.

'Why don't they come down?' He wondered as the walls around him began to shake violently, startling him, Artemis, and the beasts from above.

Noticing that the beasts from above charged out of the cave, Jason had a bad premonition, however, even after a few seconds passed, there was not a single beast that accidentally entered the depths of the cave as he did, and he finally figured out what was going on, as two of the four the tunnels above him collapsed.

'Is that an earthquake?! Why now?' Jason lamented as he remembered Shane lecturing him that he should always know his surroundings which included the landscape with its perks.

Cursing in his mind, Jason exclaimed angrily "How the hell should I know where exactly tectonic plates are situated?!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 212 - Calming Pain

Everything around him shook violently, and there was nothing to grip in order to stay firmly, causing him to fall on the ground, where searing pain spread out from his shoulder.

Shouting out in pain, Jason cursed his decision to venture into the four-star rift more than ever.

'Why am I so uselessly stubborn?!'

But in the end, there was no use in lamenting about his choice, because it already happened and lamenting about the past was useless.

In order to enhance his body, he ordered Scorpio to enter his mana core once again, causing him to reach the physique of an 8th Adept rank.

With this, he could endure a little bit more force as a few rocks loosened up from the ceiling, falling onto him and Artemis.

Enveloping himself in a tattered exoskeleton out of his coccyx grew a 60-centimeter long stinger, piercing straight towards the rock falling onto him.

Shattering the rock, Jason sighed in relief as dirt fell straight into his eyes, forcing him to close them.

'F**k' Cursing out, Jason used his senses to perceive stones, rocks, and loose soil falling onto him, while he unsheathed his Viridi-Starstream daggers.

Even if there were no beasts around him, large rocks and exploding elemental crystals could still harm or even kill him if he was not careful.

The presumed earthquake took still a long time and the pain in his shoulder increased further, while Jason decided to let his eyes closed in order to prevent more fine dust, dirt, or whatsoever from entering them.

His mana senses were still able to perceive everything around him clearly because he was already accustomed to it since he was young.

When he couldn't see anything at all, he relied on himself to survive in a city without much support for orphans or rather disabled children like him at all.

After his mother died, he forcefully used his 1st Novice rank mana in order to perceive his surrounding as far as possible, which was extremely taxing

Thinking about his mother, Jason felt melancholic, sad, and angry at the same time, because he neither knew who killed his mother, how she looked like, other than her photo and her voice began to slowly disappear from his memories.

Being reminded about that, his mana fluctuations became unstable and filled with anger, causing his perception to become unclear.

'Why did she have to die?!.. Cerus-family...I'll be coming soon. If you don't answe...r!!' He thought in anger, as a large rock fell on his shoulder, causing the already unbearable pain to increase further.

"ARGHH!" Jason shouted out, as he calmed down..'I can think of that later...Let's survive first'

Telling this to himself, an eternity or rather one minute passed until the presumed earthquake stopped.

'That was a long one....?' Jason thought while cold sweat drenched his already completely wet clothes, thanks to the pain and complete focus he overcame.

Opening his eyes, he noticed Artemis next to him looking at him accusingly while her whole plumage was dirtied, which annoyed her.

Jason didn't care about his soulbond being dirty at the moment, as he took out a few potions which he emptied without wasting any time, which caused his aching shoulder to feel slightly better.

Taking out a small bowl and water, he placed it in front of Artemis saying "Drink first and then you can wash up, alright?"

Which she answered by turning away from him like she was about to say "Hmpff!"

Sighing, Jason decided to ignore her for the time being, as he looked around if something important changed in his current situation.

One of the most important issues was the question of the cave collapsed completely, locking him inside or if he could venture out once he wanted.

If he was imprisoned, it wouldn't be that much of a problem, because it would prevent other beasts from invading his current position, but there would be only one extremely terrifying issue.

Once he was completely sealed within the cave without any oxygen supply, his chances to survive would be limited.

However, this issue could be relatively easily solved, because he could either use his physique to clear a path outside thanks to the tools he had, use fireballs to make a crude path, or use a few grenades within his storage device.

As such, Jason was still rather calm, as he activated his mana eyes in order to figure out the situation above.

Fortunately, even the soil radiated faint traces of mana, allowing him to see where less mana was which showed the tunnels.

Upon observing everything carefully, Jason noticed that he could even see the paths leading everywhere which shocked him because it was as if he used an X-ray vision.

It somehow creeped him out, but he was still glad as he noticed that more than enough paths that lead to his current position were free, even though they were partially spilled by rubble.

With an intact oxygen supply, Jason decided to take a good rest, because he was already too exhausted to either eat something or look around for a more comfortable position to rest.

Leaning at the wall, he closed his dead-tired eyes and fell asleep, while Artemis cleaned her plumage not without forgetting to glare at Jason.

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Waking up, Jason wasn't sure how many hours passed, as he cleaned himself within a basin he took out with the water he stored in his storage device.

Taking out a clean set of clothes, Jason exhausted himself by changing them, without hurting his shoulder too much, and gritting his teeth was barely helpful.

He changed into a completely new set of clothes with the exception being his mana grade-2 leather armor which was important for him to survive.

Without it, Jason felt naked and unguarded and somehow he somehow survived the whole incident the day before, thanks to it.

Checking his soul world, Scorpio seemed to have entered it once again and upon looking closer, his exoskeleton seemed to repair itself slowly, which wondered him.

'Is that an effect from the soul world or is that normal?' Either way Jason was unsure what the reason was, but it was definitely advantageous and made him happy.

His soul energy was already completely replenished and without being able to take a look at his quantum bracelet, Jason was unable to tell the time.

As such, he wanted to practice the Heaven's Hell technique in order to improve his soul energy and at the same time to keep the track of time, because his soul energy was fully replenished every five to six hours.

In the end, Jason wanted to stay longer within the cave, because it was the only safe place he found and it could even benefit him extremely, due to the high quantity of qualitative good elemental crystals.

He was not sure how vast the elemental crystal cave was but from what his mana eyes perceived, it was shocking.

To add on, Jason had to recuperate his broken shoulder which still hurt like hell.

'One step after another!' He told himself while approaching the soul world core within himself.

Practicing the Heaven's Hell technique, Jason felt his tension loosening slowly, while the familiar pain spread through his body, calming him down.

The last 24 hours were just too much for him to handle, and the calming pain released everything at once, while Artemis eyed him weird, because Jason smiled while she felt the pain searing through his body.

'Is he broken?'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 213 - Breathtaking Speed

After practicing the Heaven's Hell technique, Jason felt much better, and standing up, his shoulder seemed to hurt less compared to before.

'Is it because of the tension?' He wondered, but moving the shoulder slightly reminded him of the pain.

'Maybe 6 days?' Jason predicted and thinking about the remaining time their expedition team planned to remain within the four-star rift, he estimated that he had between 19 to 24 days left until the rift would close.

'No time to stress myself, right? I shouldn't be that far from the highland plateau.' Thinking about the remaining time, Jason calmed himself down and the most important thing, for now, was to heal his broken shoulder with all kinds of potions, nutrition, and mana supplying the recuperation process.

Pondering what he should do first, he decided to eat something, because his stomach was already revolting against the emptiness inside it.

It was only fortunate for him that he purchased so much food and taking out one plate after another, Artemis approached him in order to receive a mana core.

Handing out an incomplete unblemished beast core, she stared daggers at him, which Jason ignored knowingly, by focusing on his own food.

Screeching out, she revolted but there was no need for Artemis to digest complete mana cores from beasts, because the digestion time was roughly the same, while she would only have to eat more incomplete unblemished ranked cores at once in order to balance the mana scarcity out.

Jason knew why Artemis wanted a magical ranked mana core and it was most likely because liquefied mana was extremely helpful for her, however, he forgot to purchase a large number of such cores, while a bulk of unblemished ranked beast cores waited for Artemis to devour them.

He obtained the unblemished ranked beast cores from Cheng when he sold the pseudo-mana grade-3 anvil and Artemis had to eat them, either now or later.

As such he could only act ignorant and once he finished his large breakfast, Jason decided to actively absorb mana, as a faint smile emerged on his face.

The surrounding mana was extremely dense and somehow even more so after the earthquake which most likely dug out some crystals which laid around him.

Initially, Jason wanted to collect all mana- and elemental crystals before starting to absorb mana, but he wanted to recuperate a little bit more before straining his broken shoulder even more than he already did.

He was already scared that the burden his broken shoulder had to endure the day before was too large to handle and permanent injuries would be the worst-case scenario, for now, which Jason didn't even want to imagine.

Still smiling with the dense mana streams around him, Jason opened his pores without hesitation, as he created a large suction force within him, greedily accepting everything in his surrounding, without differentiating between transmuted mana or neutral mana.

This could be seen as foolish, but from his previous experience, Jason was sure that the black origin flame within him, could cleanse the harmful transmuted mana, expelling it if necessary.

There was no secured proof to this, but his strengthened soul connection with the origin flame told him so subconsciously.

If he couldn't even trust his own soulbonds, who could he trust?

Trusting his gut feeling, he just began to do as he thought, without considering that it might be a mistake.

With time passing, Jason felt all kinds of transmuted mana infiltrating his mana veins, while his whole body was heated up by the black origin flame, cleansing everything instinctively.

Meanwhile, the pain in his shoulder soothed with him circulating mana through his shoulder's mana veins.

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Five whole days passed and Jason sat on the ground with a thick mana cocoon stripped in different colors enveloping him.

Absorbing mana greedily, his mana core creaked loudly, as Artemis looked curious towards his direction.

Circulating the mana through his mana veins, his mana core enlarged slightly, while his physique toughened.

Expelling a black reeking liquid, Jason slowly opened his golden eyes which flickered vigorously.

The colored cocoon slowly dissipated with Jason stopping his absorption and he stood up, only to notice that his shoulder was already completely recuperated from his previous injury.

"Faster than I expected" he mumbled joyously, while slowly moving his shoulder around to test if anything felt uncomfortable.

Figuring out that everything was fine, he looked at Artemis with a smile emerging on his face as he said

"I finally did it!"

Not only did he break into the 4th Adept rank after painstakingly absorbing mana over five days, but he also practiced the Heaven's Hell technique three times a day, which increased his soul energy by a large margin.

Before breaking through, Jason's soul energy reached 239,74 units, while Artemis' requirement increased to 165 units as her strength increased once again, while Scorpio's soul energy demand increased to 75 units.

With this and his black origin flame's negligible 0.01 soul energy demand, Jason required 240.01 units in order to take Artemis into his soul world.

After breaking through, his soul energy increased by one unit and with him reaching 240.74 soul energy units, he could finally take Artemis back into his soul world once again.

It had been a long time and finally, it was done, which made both Jason and Artemis happy, as they smiled foolishly, at least Jason felt like Artemis smiled.

Artemis was happy because she could flee from the narrow cave she loathed, while Jason was expectant to figure out more about the fortified soul conjunction and how much his strength would increase by taking her into his mana core instead of Scorpio.

With a large, white magic circle appearing below Artemis, she screeched out one more time before vanishing from his sight only to emerge within his soul world.

Feeling Artemis within him, Jason smiled lightly and he similarly entered the soul world to take a look at his three soulbonds.

Scorpio grew slightly in size while his exoskeleton was already fully healed from the previous torn state, Jason caused.

The black origin flame was still below his soul world core, purifying and toughening everything, while its demand for soul energy increased even more with time passing.

Now that Artemis was finally back within the soul world, Jason feared his black origin flame's demand, because he wasn't sure how greedy it would become with time passing.

But before he would give his black Origin flame a single soul energy unit, he would save some for safety matters, because Scorpio's evolution might happen a short time after he leaves the four-star rift, while there was also the possibility of him finding a high potential beast.

If that was the case, the worst thing that could happen was the lack of soul energy, which was not something Jason wanted to experience ever.

Soaring through his soul world, Artemis screeched out in joy, as Jason noticed something weird.

'Was my soul world always so large?' He never really estimated the size of his soul world but weirdly enough it felt larger than before, causing him to look around confused.

'And why does everything here seem so vibrant and full of energy?'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 214 - Limitations

Seizing up his own soul world felt weird because Jason wasn't even aware of what his soul world really looked like.

Everything was enveloped in a golden hue and an uncountable number of elements floated around the world, which he was already aware of while he didn't even know what some of them meant.

Jason knew that elemental variations and so on existed, but he never heard of someone having a few rarer elements in their soul world.

Maybe it was confidential or a private matter that nobody revealed this, but it was the first time for him to feel weird looking at his own soul world.

'What the hell is this? Or what am I?' Jason asked... He was curious about himself, Not only did he possess special eyes but also an extremely unique soul world which was definitely not normal.

He wasn't scared of himself, but he was aware that some classmates feared him and his abilities, even though he did nothing to hurt them intentionally.

Even if his soul world made him curious, there was nothing for him to do at the moment, because he could neither ask his masters or anyone else.

And he was unsure if they could even help him, as his gaze followed a mana flow that looked similar to magma, causing him to shake his head.

'One step after another!' He told himself, as he left his soul world, to tell Artemis when she should enter his mana core through the gigantic golden gate that was the connection between the soul world and his mana core.

Standing up within the cave, Jason scanned through his body to take a look, only for him to notice that his physique and mana core size almost reached the peak of the 8th Adept rank, which was more than he expected.

The baptism he received was only extremely powerful when he was at the early Adept ranks, increasing his mana core and physique by three levels, while the effect lessened the higher levels and ranks he reached.

But even if that was the case, achieving a mana core size and physical amplification of four levels was extremely large, which Jason would never achieve solely from Scorpio and the black Origin flame's baptism.

'Did I finally receive Artemis' whole amplification?' Jason wondered.

Before Artemis' amplification was drastically reduced, because he couldn't take her inside his soul world while the soul energy he possessed was too shallow, but this small problem was fortunately not there anymore.

Smiling, Jason wondered how much his strength would increase if Scorpio were to enter his mana core in order to fuse with him.

But even more interesting would be Artemis' fortified soul conjunction, because Jason was now fully connected to both Artemis and Scorpio, even though Scorpio's fortified soul conjunction was thinner compared to Artemis'.

Waiting for Artemis to fly through the gigantic golden gate, he expected a sudden change within himself any moment.

However, even after five minutes passed nothing happened and Jason was about to enter the soul world, as Artemis transmitted him a teasing laugh, causing Jason to frown deeply.

'Hahahah...fuu-nn..y' He thought, before his sight blurred for a short moment, as Artemis finally entered his mana core, causing a tidal wave of energy to spread through his whole body, shaking him violently.

"S**t" Jason shouted out through his gritted teeth, as his legs gave in, by the overwhelmingly large amount of mana that entered his body unhindered.

Around his mana core, appeared an illusionary enlarged mana core, which indicated Artemis' increase he could receive from her, while his physique was forcefully amplified by 100% instead of her normal ? strengthening which astonished him.

He never thought that Artemis amplification would be so tough to endure, but thinking that she was roughly at the 2nd Evolved rank explained everything.

Receiving a 100% amplification meant that her whole strength was converted to him, increasing his mana core and physique immediately to the 2nd Expert rank, before it began to slow down at the 3rd Expert rank.

Artemis 100% amplification could be compared to a power boost, but Jason couldn't feel any happiness as his pores involuntarily opened, with blood oozing out of his orifices and pores, without stopping.

Taking a look within his mana core, Jason only saw Artemis jumping around happily, curiously looking at everything, while he tried to find a way to decrease her amplification which burdened his body too much.

'Sweetie....can you somehow decrease your amplification? My body can't take your full strength!' Transmitting the thought to Artemis, she halted her steps before trying to restrict her amplification, as she felt his pain.

However, it seemed as if she couldn't do it and Jason entered the soul world in order to take a look at the golden gate.

Maybe there was something to restrict Artemis amplification.

Looking at the gaze, his eyes widened, as a faint smile appeared on his face.

'Jackpot!'

The gigantic golden was fully opened once a beast entered his mana core and with Scorpio fully converting its strength to Jason, there was no problem, while Artemis was in a completely different league.

Maybe this would also change, but Scorpio was barely at the late-awakened rank which was somewhat close to his current strength, while Artemis was almost several levels above him.

Increasing his physique from the 8th Adept rank to the 3rd Expert rank, suddenly without any warning was not something his body could handle, and Jason began to close the gigantic golden gate, leaving only a small opening.

Leaving the soul world, Jason immediately noticed that his body was freed from the heavy pressure, as he could move around freely once again.

Artemis amplification was restricted to roughly 34% which was barely more than he would initially receive, causing him to wonder what exactly this golden gate within his soul world was.

Subconsciously opening the golden gate further, Jason felt his physique and the illusionary mana core around his own increasing.

Testing it for more than ten minutes, he already felt exhausted, but a bright smile appeared on his face.

"So the 1st Expert is my limit, huh?" Mumbling, while he averted his attention back to Artemis, connection.

With a smile on his face, he transmitted Artemis his thoughts, as he himself imagined her wings to manifest on his back, as his shoulder blades began to itch, with 1.5 meter long wings slowly developing.

'Fortunately, I took off my leather armor' Jason thought sweating heavily due to the focused mana circulation in addition to the fast decreasing nutrition he had to use up to develop them.

Once Artemis' wings were manifested on his back, Jason felt extremely exhausted, but he didn't want to end it here, as he tried to flap with them, only to notice that they were completely asynchronous.

Losing balance, he fell on the ground with his face first.

'It's even harder than controlling Scorpion's stinger!' Jason noticed and controlling Scorpio's exoskeleton and stinger took him already some time, while his small scorpion soulbond supported him for the whole time, helping him out.

Without Scorpio helping him out to control everything, Jason would already be dead by now, because even manifesting the stinger within an extremely short amount of time was impossible for him alone.

With enough practice it would be possible, but not now!

Sighing, Jason noticed that he had too many things to take care of while increasing the proficiency with his affinities and fortified soul conjunction were definitely one of the most important things.

There was only one disadvantage he noticed about the fortified soul conjunction and he wasn't sure what exactly the reason for this was.

'My mana core is limited to a single beast with a fortified soul conjunction?'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 215 - Everything Is MINE!

It was impossible for Scorpio to walk through the golden gate, while Artemis occupied his mana core, which was somewhat regretful because he was excited to fuse with all of them in order to become a mutant-like existence.

The only thing that wondered him was that his gut feeling told him that the whole limitations of his gigantic golden gate were neither difficult to understand nor complex at once, leading him to become even more confused than he initially was.

But even if his gut feeling gave him such a feeling, there was nothing for him to do which would change the current situation and he couldn't fuse with both Scorpio and Artemis at the same.

Considering his combat prowess, it would be the best to let Scorpio occupy his mana core while fighting with Artemis next to him, but if he were to fight alone in the 'Big-Three tournament', he might as well use his fortified soul conjunction.

'But if I use it, everything will be exposed, huh?' Jason thought but thinking that he didn't have to summon his soulbonds body parts, it could also stay hidden under the disguise that his soulbonds became stronger.

Nodding his head lightly, Jason decided to focus on the present, while trying to flap with the white wings at the same time.

In the end, it didn't work as planned and Artemis within his mana core had to guide him slowly in order for Jason to understand everything.

But even after the explanations, it was hardly possible for him to flap synchronized with his wings, as he sighed in frustration.

Suddenly he felt his wings flapping vigorously, as Artemis controlled them inside the mana core, only for Jason to notice that he was too heavy to even ascend a single centimeter.

'In the worst-case scenario, Artemis might as well fly while I fight in the sky, huh?' Jason thought before he began to chuckle lightly while visualizing a magnificent fight in the sky against some vicious beasts.

Shaking his head, Jason knew that Artemis had to become larger and more powerful in order for him to manifest stronger wings, while his own strength was not enough for him to handle it.

Maybe he could already float if Artemis were to amplify him with her complete strength which instead of a smaller part, which he had to restrict in order to barely endure her being inside his mana core.

Experimenting many different things with Artemis and Scorpio, like the time they needed to switch their position within the mana core and to manifest smaller or larger body parts.

The biggest difference for Jason was the time he required to manifest a foreign body part was much higher compared to his soulbonds supporting him within the mana core, as they obviously knew how their own body worked.

While testing out many things with his soulbonds, he never neglected to replenish the high demand of nutrition and mana in order to manifest everything and after two hours passed, his whole body revolted against taking another bite of the dishes he stored within his spatial ring inside the preservation segment.

As such, Jason was forcefully interrupted to experiment and he could only sigh and store the dishes away once again.

'Aren't there any high-nutrition dishes in my storage device?' He wondered but Jason couldn't remember to have bought either high-nutrition dishes or supplements.

Regretting this decision, he would have to force himself to continue to eat the preserved dishes for the next two weeks, if he were to remain within the elemental crystal cave before venturing out.

Jason already made a rough plan of what to do and his plan involved staying within the elemental crystal cave for another week at the bare minimum.

His demand for star notes was frustratingly high and with his own expenditures added to his soulbonds' expensive demands, Jason could only make a rough plan to achieve the best outcome, without being locked within the four-star rift, or whatever would happen if he were to remain within the rift after it closed.

He already collected lots of elemental crystals and if his memories and perception were not completely in disarray, the elemental crystal cave should have all four types of elemental crystals.

Elemental crystals were classified into four sections also called, Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, and Unique!

Basic elemental crystals were crystals with wind, fire, water, and earth transmuted mana

Intermediate element crystals had ice, metal, lightning, and many more elemental transmutations, while Advanced elemental crystals transmutations like wood, darkness, and light.

Unique elements weren't necessarily better and valuable like the poison element, but other crystals had an astronomical price because of their blood, nature, fiendish, holy, and other unique elements.

The nature element was similar to the wood element but much superior. While the wood element barely controlled woods, nature controlled plants, wood, sentient plants, and if strong enough even beasts with a strong bond to nature.

To think that all four different crystal sections ranging from a rather cheap price to an astronomical height could be found within the elemental crystal cave made Jason curious about the origin of it, while his greed and joy overlapped.

Over the last few days, not a single beast dared to venture into the cave because the memories about the earthquake were still apparent in their mind, while Jason also didn't perceive a single human being coming closer to them.

At least that was what his eyes perceived but he might as well miss something, while he absorbed mana.

It was not like he observed everything consistently but he was still relatively careful because almost everything within the four-star rift might kill him.

As such, Jason stood up in order to start his journey through the cave, collecting the protruding and loosened crystals he could even see without his mana eyes activated.

Gathering one crystal after another, he sealed them in order to prevent the elemental crystals from leaking mana, while at the same time scanning through their complex mana veins in order to figure out how they were composed.

Since he began to forge, Jason was interested in all kinds of materials and how they were composed, while it was even more interesting to see how ores acted when they were heated up, because the mana veins seemed to come alive.

Even if he was interested in testing it out right now, Jason didn't want to waste any precious crystal until he amassed a large enough fortune.

Without him noticing, he already went deeper into the cave, while the crystals occurrences around him increased.

Not only increased the number of elemental crystals around him, but they also released denser mana fluctuation, which caused Jason to smile brightly.

If he had to estimate the cave's value, Jason's brain would most likely melt because what he saw within the tunnel was barely the tip of the iceberg, while the crystals his mana eyes perceived through the ground were much more in number and mana density.

But there were still a few that wondered him.

'Why is there not a single beast excavating these crystals? It doesn't seem to be dangerous and the earthquake as the sole reason sounds somewhat unreasonable...Furthermore, I can't believe the government doesn't know anything about the elemental crystal cave? It's barely a one to a two-day trip away from the highland plateau... Is there something wrong with the cave, which I haven't noticed?

It's really weird to see all four elemental crystal classifications at once because it is said to be rare to find an elemental crystal cave with a single attribute forming crystals over the course of hundreds of years with the surrounding transmuted mana, even less multiple types of elemental crystals at once with all kinds of elements.'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 216 - Hidden Dangers

Without being able to answer the questions in his mind, Jason averted his attention to more important things.

Collecting the elemental crystals while excavating some with his grade-1 pickaxe, Jason quickly noticed that the common pickaxe was quite useless which forced him to envelop it with a thin mana membrane in order to prevent it from breaking.

Fortunately, his passive mana absorption balanced out his consumption and he could calmly mine the surrounding elemental crystals.

Time passed without him realizing, while Jason's soul energy was once again replenished.

Practicing the Heaven's Hell technique, he couldn't help but smile joyously, as he noticed that his soul energy increased by almost three units with a single practice.

An increase of 1.2% for a single practice was not much for someone with barely 1 soul energy unit, but for Jason whose soul energy increased to 240.7, 1.2% was a huge advantage.

Even more so, because he could practice the Heaven's Hell technique three times a day.

Considering that his soul energy reached barely 1 unit slightly more than four months ago, Jason couldn't help but laugh.

'I came pretty far already, huh?' He thought while continuing to mine the elemental crystals.

The further the cave went, the more crystals occurrences appeared in the tunnel around him but there was a weird sensation enveloping him, that caused his body to itch.

However, his mana eyes couldn't detect anything at all, as he let his guard down.

Without wasting time, Jason forced himself to eat enough food in order to supplement his body with nutrition, while the Heaven's Hell practice in addition to the labor drained his energy quite a lot.

Taking a look into his storage device, he smiled but it was somewhat weird.

'Has already so much time passed? Where are all the crystals from?' Jason asked himself, as his sight blurred for a second before he entered his soul world.

'My soul energy has already replenished?' He wondered...' Hasn't it been an hour at most?'

Unbeknownst to Jason more than six hours passed and it was already late at night, while his soul energy was fully replenished.

Shaking his head, the blurry sensation disappeared before he decided to practice the Heaven's Hell technique once again.

Leaving his soul world once again, Jason opened his eyes, as he noticed that his sight dimmed while his senses were restricted.

"Huh?!" without knowing what happened, he felt his body becoming slower, while he couldn't even feel the ground below him.

'What is going on?!' Jason was about to panic, as he forcefully tried to circulate his mana through his veins in order to release the tension, only for him to notice that his senses turned even more sluggish while circulating mana within him.

"F**K!" Exclaiming quietly, he had to figure out what was going on.

Trying to remember what changed during the last few hours, he raked his mind while visualizing the last few hours.

'My mana eyes couldn't detect anything at all, but my senses are suppressed while circulating mana through my body makes everything worse...'

Unsure what to do, he suddenly remembered something his masters always told him!

'Don't rely on your mana eyes too much! The world is vast and you can't think that your eyes will always be the answer!'

With this in mind, he thought 'Does this mean that there has to be something around here without mana fluctuations and that it even reacts with mana and hastens the suppressing process....'

Thinking about all kinds of possibilities, it had to be something poisonous that invaded his body, and Jason couldn't expel it by circulating mana through the mana veins because it turned the situation even worse.

Trying to find a solution, Jason could only remember his black origin flame cleansing the transmuted poison and ice mana from his soulbonds, as he summoned it from his soul world.

Before, his black origin flame did everything by itself, but now it didn't seem to act, which wondered Jason.

'Is the black origin flame only instinctively acting because it sensed transmuted mana?' Jason wondered as he decided to take the risk when he manifested the flame within his body.

In order to not kill himself or even damage anything within him, the flame couldn't be too hot otherwise he could destroy his own cells which would be counterproductive.

Without knowing what exactly invaded him, Jason could only hope as he spread the black origin flame throughout his whole body, which caused him to start sweating immediately, as his whole body heated up.

Even if the sensation of his whole body burning from the inside was uncomfortable, Jason noticed his sight clearing slightly, while his other senses became more distinct.

Sighing deeply, Jason was still unsure what caused his suppressed senses or where it came from, as he perceived something particular within his sweat thanks to his eyesight.

Within his sweat was an almost invisible yellow-greenish liquid, and Jason began to wonder what exactly it was.

'Is that poison?...but where does this come from?' Jason asked himself as he couldn't remember to have ever seen something like that and looking at the ceiling, he couldn't see any liquid dropping down, which caused him to wonder what else it could be.

"OH!?" Jason exclaimed with a sudden Idea 'It couldn't be solid, but what if the liquefied poisonous substance was gaseous before?'

After this thought, he focused on his eyesight, without his mana eyes activated on the surrounding, only for him to find nothing at all.

Averting his gaze, he suddenly noticed a blue shining crystal, that was different from the other he saw above.

However, upon closer inspection, Jason noticed that it was exactly the same crystal...

'Wasn't there a faint yellow-greenish hue within the crystal?'

Turning around he decided to focus on the crystals and suddenly as if a lightning strike hit him, he exclaimed overjoyed

"FOUND YA!" But suddenly his mood plummeted, as he shut his mouth, sealing it completely when he noticed what he was doing.

Concluding the facts he gathered, Jason figured out that the whole deeper layers seemed to be filled with an extremely faint yellow-greenish hue which was hardly noticeable by looking at the soil around him.

Fortunately, the elemental crystals around him shone brightly in all kinds of colors, helping him to figure out the main issue.

'If even I could hardly perceive it with my exceptional eyesight, how can others see it?' Jason wondered and it was the second time for him that his mana eyes were completely useless.

The first time was his mana eyes missing the existence of the black origin flame and the second time could have killed him as his mana eyes couldn't perceive the poisonous air around him.

Suddenly Jason panicked slightly, causing the black origin flame within him to fluctuate lightly, as he noticed that he was deep inside an elemental crystal cave that was filled with poisonous gas.

'Is that the reason most beasts don't dare to venture deeper into the elemental cave?' He asked himself, trying to remain calm, after acknowledging that his black origin flame saved his life once again.

'I really have to nurture it later!!' Jason swore to himself, as he slowly circulated the black origin flame through his body, without leaving any cell out.

Jason didn't know the area of effect the mysterious poison had which was the reason for him to act so over cautiously by cleansing everything within his body.

It wouldn't purify his body but only cleanse his body from poison, disadvantageous transmuted mana, and most likely drugs, which could be labeled as poison.

Trying to stay rational, Jason began to smile lightly, once he estimated his current situation.

'Because I only began to feel slightly blurry when I entered the deeper layers of the cave, the poison can only be further down. With the current density of poison, I can easily handle it passively, without wasting too much focus on it!.'

'As long as my black origin flame can handle it, the whole cave will be mine, because there is no other living being except me!!'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 217 - Jinx

With the black origin flame manifested within him, Jason could easily endure the mysterious poisonous fog, whose origin was still unknown, while his journey through the elemental crystal cave continued.

He didn't venture much deeper into the cave's depths because the poison's density increased, while the mountain of elemental crystals within his storage device amassed.

Jason was sure that he had more than enough funds for Scorpio's evolution and probably even a surplus, which caused him to feel extremely great, while he could barely estimate the current date, without knowing what time it is.

'Has it already been six days?' Jason wondered when he entered his soul world in order to practice the Heaven's Hell technique once again.

He wasn't sure why, but he couldn't comfortably sleep in the cave, leading him to barely sleep only one time after he practiced the Heaven's Hell technique, and he woke up with his soul energy fully replenished.

Thanks to the dense mana around him he didn't really feel tired and instead of solely mining elemental crystals, Jason also absorbed mana actively not missing a single time to practice the Heaven's Hell technique three to four times a day.

Because he only slept a short amount of time and in order to have a rough track of time, Jason was forced to use up his soul energy as soon as it was replenished.

With his soul world's soul energy replenishing speed of slightly less than 6 hours, he could practice the Heaven's Hell technique three to four times a day.

The most time-consuming in this case was, however, that his practice required a whole hour until it was completed, while he had to eat a huge feast every time.

Regretting that he forgot to buy high-nutrition food, Jason could only force himself to eat low-nutrition food on mass, even if his stomach and mind revolted against him eating one dish after another, seemingly without stopping.

In the end, everything was worth the effort, with his soul energy increasing to 316.2 units, while Artemis' demand increased by another 10 units.

With this, Jason was overjoyed to have a surplus of soul energy, which would most likely be used up once Scorpio finished his evolution.

But even if that was the case, he was sure that the same scenario as it happened with Artemis wouldn't happen because he learned out of his prior mistakes.

Having Artemis around him for more than a month was not necessarily bad, but it had its disadvantages.

The last six days were quite boring for Jason and he couldn't do much, except absorbing mana, mining crystals, practicing the Heaven's Hell technique, or doing a full-body workout and everything he did brought him benefits.

His mana core was already filled by a quarter and if he were to focus on absorbing the mana within the elemental crystal cave for the remaining 8 days, Jason was confident to breakthrough.

But that was not necessary, because he was already confident in his current strength and even if he were to use the next week to breakthrough, it was more important for him to find his way towards the highland plateau.

Initially, he only wanted to recuperate his broken shoulder, but the cave's value convinced him to stay here for the last six days.

However, what he saw at the cavern entrance told him that other humans entered the cave a few hours ago, searching for ways towards the deeper layer, which frustrated Jason quite a bit.

He wanted everything for himself, but being greedy would only bring him more problems than benefits.

As such, Jason had to find a path towards the surface, without being found, otherwise, he wasn't sure what the small group that entered the cave would do with him.

He was sure that they would question him if he already mined something and demand him to hand it over, which was not something Jason would ever want to do.

Humans were innately self-centered, at least since the mana breakout and only a few wouldn't care about Jason's fortune, without eying him with greed.

Because of that, he had to remain unseen.

Jason's big advantage was his mana eyes that could see all tunnels and where they lead to, while it was hardly possible for anything to remain unnoticed, as long as it released mana.

One such unnoticed, manaless thing was the mysterious poison at the deeper parts of the case, while Jason was unsure if anyone concealing their mana core could remain hidden from him.

Thinking back on the time, he saw through Max Drake's concealed mana core, Jason was sure that it would be hard for any living being to remain hidden from him, as long as he focused on anything around him.

Nevertheless, his previous confidence about the superiority of his mana eyes diminished with the existence of the mana-less poisonous fog and he couldn't trust them fully anymore as he also looked through everything with his normal eyes.

Without concentrating on the mana flow, Jason could see everything normally and extremely clear and he searched for a path towards the surface without being found out.

Suddenly, he heard something behind him, and thinking that neither Scorpio nor Artemis were outside the soul world, Jason turned around as fast as he could.

With his mana eyes still activated, Jason couldn't perceive any fluctuations at all, as soil crumbled down the wall his attention was fixated on.

His eyes widened in shock, as he thought that another earthquake might happen, only to see that not a single pebble crumbled from other walls, except the one he stared at in the beginning.

Suddenly a grey lizard head pierced through the wall he looked at, shoving away the earth thanks to its flat head.

Jason's eyes widened with a sudden thought filling his whole mind 'I can't see its mana fluctuations!! Did I jinx it?!

Looking shocked at the Lizard showing through the wall, he immediately began to gather multiple pieces of information.

'I can't see its mana fluctuation but without the earth wall between the lizard...no is that a Drake?...Nevermind... without the wall, I can barely perceive a dark-green color, which means this Drake might be at the unblemished rank, right??'

Circulating more mana into his eyes, Jason tried everything to see through the Drake in front of it, which was hardly possible.

From its appearance, the drake looked like a lizard with long, scaled limbs, while its spine was filled with protrusions.

The drake's color was a plain grey, while its protrusions and claws were pitch-black, but Jason didn't care about its look at all.

'Why can't I see your mana rank and fluctuations?! What is special about you???' He almost shouted, because the jinx he inclined to himself shattered his whole confidence over his mana eyes.

But what was even worse, was that even more Drakes without any mana fluctuations emerged out of the crumbling wall in front of Jason, causing him to step back, while subconsciously concealing his mana core as well as possible.

Retreating as far as possible without making a sound, Jason could barely see the grey untraceable Drakes anymore and he had never heard of any Drake with a flat skull, allowing it to excavate tunnels underground, while it can conceal its mana core completely.

Seeing that every single one of the untraceable Drakes had the same ability, even the smaller ones in the back, Jason concluded that it was an innate ability, they received when they were born, which was not less shocking.

There was no need for Jason to remain at the lower layers of the cave and he slowly retreated further towards the surface.

Without his mana eyes being able to ensure him that he was not pursued by someone, he felt naked and insecure...

Upon noticing this, he felt weird

'To what extent did I rely on my mana eyes?!?'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 218 - Death

Without his mana eyes ensuring his safety, Jason ascended the elemental crystal cave slowly, while trying to understand what happened.

'For instance...My mana eyes are not perfect, even though I can see quite a lot, they're not capable of perceiving everything...In the end, it's pretty rare to see something without any mana fluctuations at all but that doesn't mean I can rely on my mana eyes to 100%...F*ck!! What am I even doing?!

This untraceable Drake seems to be a beast underground and they're most likely unable to find me.

Without mana fluctuations, their senses should be worse than other beasts...I think?'

Thinking about all of this, Jason couldn't help but sigh inwardly, not without forgetting to activate his mana eyes in order to know where the small human group from above would be, even if he couldn't trust them fully anymore, they still helped him.

Their small group was far away from his and Jason took only tunnels that wouldn't overlap with the others, as he perceived something particular, causing goosebumps to spread all over his skin.

'Why now?' Jason wondered as he saw a mass of humans at the Master rank entering the elemental crystals cavern entrance.

Without knowing if any of these groups came from the government or if they're all hunters venturing into the four-star rift in order to gain something, Jason had to acknowledge that he was in a tricky situation.

But what was even worse, was that the large human group stayed at the entrance, without doing much.

At least that was what Jason could perceive and he estimated that they established a small camp in order to stay at the cavern entrance for the time being, which caused him a great headache.

'Walking past them like a passerby won't work, huh?' he asked himself, and even without anyone answering, Jason knew the answer.

With his current mana core rank, he could be considered as a pushover at most, which wasn't really how Jason imagined his trip inside the elemental crystal cave to end.

If at least Malia was with him, he wouldn't feel so powerless.

Suddenly Jason recalled Lin and Lux who shot at the magical ranked python without caring about his life at all.

'Or did Lux aim at me?' Jason wondered while Lux's smile appeared in his memory once again.

'I hope Malia is fine....' He thought....feeling guilty that he convinced Malia to enter the four-star rift.

Malia and the Fler's were the only humans he could trust the most while Shane and Dalia were ranked immediately after them.

Even if Jason trusted his masters to a certain extent, he wasn't sure if they only used him for their goals or not.

It was unlikely, but he would probably need some more time to figure out everything for himself.

As such, he couldn't give his full trust to them, at least for now.

If something happened to Malia, Jason wouldn't be able to face the Fler's and even less Greg, as a small trace of guilt filled his mind.

However, even if he felt slightly guilty, it was not as if he forced anyone of the expedition team to enter the materialized four-star rift within Cyro-City.

In the end, everyone decided for themselves and nobody was forced, which relieved Jason's sense of guilt a tiny bit.

Jason still sincerely hoped that she was fine and healthy, but he was likely to face more threatening situations than her, alone from the vast gap of strength between the two of them.

Looking back every now and then in order to figure out if an Untraceable Drake, Jason called them, followed him, he could only be glad that this was not the case.

Meanwhile, Jason continued to approach the cave's upper layers, while he became slightly nervous.

After two hours, the presumed human camp was fully established and smaller groups ventured into the four tunnels, only to find a few collapsed paths.

As such, they were forced to free them, without worsening the situation within the cave.

This would most likely take some time and was the only thing Jason found slightly advantageous.

Due to the construction work, these groups had to do, the number of groups venturing deeper into the cave decreased by a large margin.

'Oh!' After another hour passed, Jason was already quite close to the other groups, when he noticed that the first group that arrived inside the cave, met one of the many small groups that had to split up.

But only, now, upon looking closer, Jason noticed something important, his mana eyes couldn't perceive before when he was deep within the cave, as his eyes widened involuntarily.

'The first small group included only one human, with three....undead human-like beings?!! Is that LUX??' Previously his mana eyes couldn't perceive the transmuted mana, because he was too far away from them while his mana eyes' accuracy was altered by the surrounding mana.

There were thousands of tons of soil between them and each grain, pebble, crystal, and so on released mana fluctuations.

As such, it was only normal for his mana eyes to see not everything through soil far away.

But sensing that Lux was nearby him, caused him to frown, while his eyes turned slightly red in anger.

However, even if Jason was extremely angry and Lux, there was something important he couldn't deny at all.

'How did his strength increase this much in such a short time?' Jason wondered, as his eyes widened in shock, and he rubbed them subconsciously.

Even after rubbing them several times, Jason thought he was in a dream, as he saw ten undead unblemished ranked beasts with dozens of undead evolved ranked beasts emerging next to him.

"WHAT?!" He exclaimed and he could now see 13 undead unblemished ranked human-shaped beings standing next to dozens of undead evolved ranked beasts...

'How?.. The soul energy to contract so many beasts is vast.....At least 10.000 units...but...how did he suddenly obtain so many undead beings??'

Jason didn't know what exactly to think anymore, as he remembered the remaining expedition team members looking around pitifully.

'Did I misunderstand everything?! But isn't an undead awakening, banned in the government?... Why did he suddenly reveal so many undead soulbonds? With 10.000 soul energy units, he could contract a late-magical ranked beast or almost a guardian ranked beast.... Why so many lower-ranked beasts and why now?'

Without seeing how large Lux's mana core exactly was, Jason couldn't tell for sure if Lux used a forbidden undead awakening ceremony in order to obtain more soulbonds, but from his former inspection, Jason was almost sure that Lux shouldn't have had so many soulbonds when they ventured into the four-star rift.

Furthermore, from the rarity of intact, high-ranked undead beings, Jason concluded that something was extremely foul!!

'What the hell is going on?!'

Jason subconsciously halted his steps, as he focused his attention on the battle that broke out above him, causing loud noises to resounded throughout the whole cave.

What was even more shocking, was the thick dense aura seeping through the cave, reaching Jason.

Retching a few times, Jason's body adjusted to the thick dense aura, as he perceived multiple condensed elemental attacks thrown towards the small skeleton army, that accepted them, as if they were nothing, barely pushing them back a few meters.

The number of undead beings overwhelmed the small human group and their summoned soulbonds and Jason witnessed his first murder, even though it was through the soil and quite a distance away...

'F**k!' He exclaimed and his sour mood plummeted further, as he barely perceived something within Lux's hands that glowed like the blood elemental crystals he picked up before, only much more condensed and with a death-aura intertwining within.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 219 - Undead Awakening

Seeing the sphere-shaped item through the ground within Lux's hand, Jason frowned, because he never heard from such an item, which didn't lessen the bad premonition that formed in his mind.

Subconsciously, he went closer towards Lux's tunnel while the small human group was already lying on the ground, with their mana fluctuations dissipating.

Frowning, Jason would have never imagined witnessing something like this through his mana eyes.

Even if he knew that humans were greedy and selfish, Jason thought that he would have some time before he would witness his first murder from a human.

However, after having seen humanity's nature during two beast tides and thousands of dying humans and even more beasts, Jason wasn't really that shocked about death anymore.

In the end, Jason also survived the devilish valkyrie-shield fruit which brought him immense pain, while his mind matured with time passing.

The worst thing however was that Lux approached the dead bodies, with the blood sphere in his hand, as the released death-aura it spread intensified, causing Jason to halt his steps once again.

The death-aura spread through the whole cave, and Jason involuntarily trembled, as he felt his insides invaded by it when he carefully averted his gaze in order to look at the other split groups with a small trace of hope left.

Jason was aware that he wouldn't be able to survive if he were to encounter Lux or even the weakest of his soulbonds without using any other means to protect his life.

Without him knowing, he already unholstered his mana grade-2 Five-SeveN with anti-mana bullets loaded.

With his pistol in one hand, Jason felt immediately more secure, as he would at least be able to defeat the undead evolved beasts, as long as they didn't overwhelm him with their numbers.

In order to eliminate an undead being, one had to destroy their core, which was their only weakness, because they could heal over the course of time by supplying mana towards the damaged areas.

Thanks to his exceptional eyesight, Jason was sure that it wouldn't take long for him to hit a mana core, even if it was surrounded by a bone cage, which was quite common among undead beings, with only a few particular exceptions.

It was slightly problematic that he didn't practice much with any gun because he didn't want to waste his credits before, but in the end, Jason told himself that it would be more difficult to not hit something that was only a few meters away from him.

Trying to find excuses to release his tension, Jason noticed that many groups began to gather, while their path was directed towards Lux.

'Is that really so clever?' He asked himself, as he wondered why Lux did something so reckless without considering the possibility of more groups venturing into the elemental crystal cave.

The smaller groups gathered into groups of 10 to 20 individuals but this only caused Jason to frown slightly because this number was nothing against the small undead army.

Without knowing what to do, Jason's attention was attracted to the blood-sphere he saw within Lux's hands as it released a dense amount of death transmuted mana which infiltrated the corpses on the ground.

Suddenly he saw four soul worlds' manifesting above the corpses, while an intense suction force within the blood-sphere absorbed them greedily before it released an eerie, dark-green colored liquid which floated towards the corpses once again.

Piercing into their mana cores, Jason exclaimed involuntarily, as the dead cores without any fluctuations began to release faint death mana, which slowly intensified.

'He is really able to awaken undead beings!! Where the hell is this treasure from if he can even seal souls with it?'

The government didn't have any forbidden undead awakening techniques, according to his knowledge, and this undead blood-soul sphere, Jason renamed it, was also not a treasure someone on Astrix would possess under normal circumstances.

'Why are so many things suddenly happening on Astrix? Aren't there too many incidents, I'm involved in?!

Since his soul-awakening, too much happened, and Jason felt, as if he was blessed and cursed at the same time, because he found good things in the bad, while unfortunate things seemed to tail him.

'Two beast tides and now Lux becoming insane, can't I have my peace?' Lamenting in his mind, Jason noticed the three dead corpses, slowly standing up.

While their moves were rather slow and crude, their mana core was definitely still at the low-unblemished rank.

Cutting his hand and dropping a drop of blood connection with a soul thread connected on top of the newly awakened undead humans, Lux seemed to have contracted three new soulbonds, which led Jason to frown deeply

'How much soul energy has he?!... I just hope that his soul world's amplification is low..otherwise, everyone within the four-star rift is in danger!!'

Without being sure how much soul energy Lux had left, Jason could only take the worst-case scenario which meant that not only his soul world should be extremely large but also his soul-energy and that he accumulated it over the course of three years.

'Maybe his soul energy reproduction is similar to mine, his innate soul energy was high...or..!' Gasping, a sudden idea appeared in his mind, shocking him.

'What if he doesn't need as much soul energy for undead beings than others for regular soulbonds? Could that be the case? Is the soul energy demand for undead lower? Or is it because of the undead blood-soul sphere?'

He didn't want to think about it and the worst-case scenario shocked him more than expected, as he made a quick calculation according to a 10% soul world amplification.

If it was even possible, Jason's eyes widened even further, as he mumbled "Peak Master? Please don't let him have a mana core size and physique at the Magus rank...."

As long as his calculations were even partially correct, every human being within and around the elemental crystal cave would be in danger and his whole body was covered in goosebumps.

Even if Jason was not a Saint, he couldn't allow the large, gathered human groups to encounter Lux due to multiple reasons.

One of the reasons was that they would most likely fall into Lux's trap, because it was irrational to kill a small human group, by creating such a commotion and it was most likely his plan, to attract the attention of his surrounding.

In a narrow cave, Lux could either use the numbers to overwhelm his opponents, preventing them from fleeing or he would distract them with his undead army while slaughtering them with his high combat prowess.

If Lux's army of undead soulbonds increased even further, Jason doubted that the highland plateau would be safe from his grasp.

With several dozen soulbonds, Lux was already at a devastating advantage, causing Jason to look around in order to find the closest human group to him, as he exerted the weightless steps technique to his current limit while ordering Scorpio to enter his mana core.

If he were to surprise the human group he approached, they would most likely attack him instinctively, which was the reason for him to let Scorpio enter his mana core.

The death-aura within the cave remained the same, while Jason entered the tunnel, where he saw more than 20 humans, wearing the same clothes, with guns and rifles in their hands.

Approaching them, he tried to attract their attention, without shouting, which could be heard throughout the whole cave.

"Hey! Yes...you government protectors!!"

Suddenly the group in front of him turned around with their weapons aimed at him, causing Jason to gulp involuntarily.

'Why is the government always like this?!' He lamented in his mind, as a young, yet tall woman with shoulder-length, blond hair stepped forward.

"Who are you and what are your plans!?" She said in an overbearing manner, causing Jason to roll his eyes.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 220 - Terror!

"Who are you and what are your plans!?" The tall woman said.

'What plan? I'm trying to help you, idiots!' Sighing, Jason ignored the guns aimed at him as well as possible in order to introduce himself.

"Hello, my name is Jason Stella and if I were you guys, I wouldn't approach the center of the death-aura.."

The tall woman noticed that Jason hinted something but she was still suspicious about the youth in front of him, as she scanned his mana core, which increased her suspicion even more.

"What is a 4th Adept rank even doing in a four-star rift?!" She said, almost as if she was looking down at him when she released her mana fluctuations, but Jason was not really impressed by her aura, because he already felt Shane's, which was true terror.

"Does that matter right now?" Jason almost shouted before he continued slightly calmer.

"I saw a young man performing a forbidden undead awakening with my own eyes and he has several dozen undead soulbonds....If this and the other groups want to die, just follow the death-aura and await your own death!"

Hearing what Jason said, was roughly what the rumors told her about the recent incidents with more and more undead beings appearing from everywhere.

'Is it true, what this young boy says?' She pondered when she noticed something was Jason said, causing her eyes to turn cold.

"How do you know that we are not the only group? Better answer honestly!!"

Seizing Jason from head to toe, he didn't seem like a normal youth, because he could remain extremely calm while a dozen guns aimed at him.

His eyes also seemed to be uncommon, but other than that, the youth in front of her looked like he wanted to help them, even if she was unsure why she thought so.

Somehow, Jason's eyes seemed to convince her.

Shaking her head, she had to remain rational!

After Jason heard the tall woman saying so, small sweat pearls formed on his temples, as he tried to make up a slightly reasonable lie.

"Haven't you guys established a small camp at the cavern entrance?! Because of you guys, I couldn't leave the cave unnoticed! I only came out because of this dude performing a forbidden undead awakening...It would only be a disadvantage for myself if he can awake even more undead beings with all of your corpses!"

Trying to sound sincere and somewhat honest, Jason was unsure what else to say when he saw the tall woman ordering her group to lower the guns, his tension eased up to a certain degree.

The tall woman's voice turned slightly gentler as she said.

"Can you tell me what exactly you saw? Don't let anything out" She said before saying "My name is Aylin Uli, nice to meet you..I guess?"

Aylin heard many rumors about undead beings around the area here but she was ordered to venture into the elemental crystal cave they found a few days ago with her team and other workers in order to excavate the valuable crystals for the next few days and not to kill a traitor!

But even if that was her task, the existence of someone killing humans to perform an undead awakening was even more important.

While listening to Jason's explanation, which was slightly altered in order to hide his mana eyes' abilities as well as possible, Aylin and her group's mood plummeted immediately.

Activating a special device, she tried to message the other groups, however, unfortunately, they didn't answer her calls, which caused her mood to hit rock bottom.

Turning towards her group, she gritted her teeth, before ordering

"We have to face this Necromancer!! The other groups don't know how severe the situation is...we can't let them die!" Saying so, everyone's expression turned serious, as they turned towards the center of the death-aura.

Jason could only look at them baffled because he was ignored on one side, while on the other side a small ray of hope emerged within him.

'There are still good people, huh?' He previously believed that the government was filled with evil, greedy and selfish humans, but apparently, he was wrong.

A faint smile appeared on his face, as he run-up to Aylin to say.

"I believe you already know about undead beings, but they can regenerate every injury and don't feel pain. Only by destroying their mana core, they'll be destroyed.

Don't hesitate and use all kinds of weapons without holding back...otherwise, you guys will die...I doubt that the Necromancer, or how you called him came here without a plan."

Hearing Jason following them for some time, Aylin listened to his words, which seemed reasonable.

Turning to him, she smiled lightly, saying

"Thank you! Take care of yourself, okay?"

He was slightly confused that they didn't bother about him, but it was probably only reasonable because they had something more important to do.

The only thing he couldn't understand was, why other people trusted him so easily, or was that only his imagination?

But even if they did, Jason was sincere as he hoped that they would be able to capture or maybe even kill Lux, because the threat was just too big, as he said.

"I hope everyone of you will survive!" But right as he said so, Jason got the feeling, that something was wrong, seeing the large group venturing towards Lux.

But even if he wanted to change their mind, Jason doubted that he would be capable of doing so and the only thing he could do, was to hope for their survival.

While stepping back, his mana eyes noticed that many groups approached Lux and if his estimation was not completely wrong, all of them would encounter him roughly at the same time which was definitely advantageous.

If Aylin were to lead the attack, maybe they could defeat Lux, because she knew more about their enemy than the other groups.

With this thought in his mind, Jason continued his way towards the cave entrance, where only a few workers were left at the collapsed tunnels, freeing them slowly.

The camp was almost empty and only a few peak Master ranked individuals protected the entrance from beasts or other humans invading them, while their guard towards the entrance was negligible.

With this, Jason would be able to leave the cave rather easily, as long as his timing was right.

Arriving at the cavern entrance, there were only a few hundred meters, parting him from the surface, as an ominous, eerie and extremely dangerous feeling approached him.

Turning around in shock, Jason's mana eyes perceived that all humans groups and Lux met up with each other and that a fight should have started because the fluctuations of the undead beings and other humans intertwined with each other as if they were in close combat.

This caused him to frown, as he hoped that they were able to fight the undead beings from further away.

However, there were still more than 100 humans and all of them summoned their soulbonds, giving them a large numerical advantage, which turned the tides.

Nevertheless, the ominous feeling approaching Jason intensified, as he saw Lux standing in the middle of the battlefield with a black marble in his hand, releasing a terrifying amount of mana.

"F**K!" Jason exclaimed, without caring if anyone heard him, as he exerted his weightless steps movement technique in order to rush out of the cave, while he amplified his voice with mana in order to shout

"Immediately leave the cave if you guys want to survive!!"

Right at this moment, a devastating amount of mana pushed Jason from his feet and he immediately manifested Scorpio's exoskeleton, while he supplied his mana grade-2 leather armor with the mana inside his mana-sphere bracelet.

Standing up, he saw many workers rushing out of the tunnels, not knowing what was going on, while the terrifying amount of mana intensified, while only Jason could see what was going on within the cave's depths.

With a shocked expression, he only saw the black marble accumulating more mana before it floated above Lux.

Enveloping him in a black-colored cocoon, Jason's premonition worsened, as he stood up once again in order to rush out of the cave.

Suddenly the whole cave shook violently, as a ***BOOM*** which almost tore apart Jason's eardrums resounded through the cave.

The whole cave began to crumble while he was still more than 100 meters apart from the entrance.