

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 291 - Disposing Trash

Once the Dragon mother roared out in anguish, the other Earth Dragons joined, which intensified everything and worsened Till's already sour mood further.

Not wasting any more time, he picked up Seron before he walked out of the Earth Dragon lair, without looking back another time.

Till only stopped his steps when he reached the door separating the tunnel they walked through with the Earth Dragon territory.

Waiting for Jason, who followed Till because he also didn't want to endure something similar to the reminiscence-ceremony another time.

Still, even if they were only shortly exposed to the Dragons' cry of anguish, Jason felt somewhat bad for them as they were imprisoned and their children were deprived which was a bad combination.

However, without being able to change something, he would rather think about himself first before doing anything impossible.

Thus, his train of thoughts subconsciously averted towards his mother because the scenarios with the Earth Dragon mother being forcefully separated from her offspring was similar to his case.

It was the other way around and his mother was killed, but it felt somewhat similar to Jason, who thought the first time for a long time about his mother.

Being busy was on one side helpful in order to avert his attention from bad memories but on the other side, it was also disadvantageous because he began to forget small things about her, such as how her voice sounded and what they did together.

In the end, he was still blind when he lost her, and he never saw her through his own eyes.

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The only thing he had was a picture of her.

She was gorgeous, had a slender figure and long black hair, but the most important was that Jason saw her eye color for the first time when he regained his eyesight, which was one of the things he was the most curious about.

While his eyes had a distinct golden color, his mother's eyes were azure-blue with a light silver strand in them which was a rare color for normal mana eyes, which Jason figured out after talking with Shane and Dalia about his unique eyes.

Apparently, mana eyes didn't have an innate color per se because of their many grades and different mutations.

However, most 'common' mana eyes are said to be dark-blue while 'rare' mana eyes are said to be azure-colored.

Even so, this didn't really help Jason and he could only comprehend that his mother's eyes were similarly unique to his, which was however even more confusing to him.

Gnashing his teeth, he couldn't help but think 'How did she even die with such special eyes...she should have been at a higher rank than I am currently at and would definitely be able to figure out if someone were to attack her, by reading their mana fluctuations?!'

Everything seemed illogical and Jason was unable to understand how she died and he only remembered that she had always been weak since he was young.

At least, that was how she sounded.

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With this, he could only think that there had to be something else she never told him and there were definitely a few missing pieces that hindered him in understanding the whole big picture.

'What am I missing?!'

Jason asked himself while following Till who carried Seron on his back.

However, in the end, his mother was dead and he didn't really know anything about his father, who was presumed to be from the Celestia race.

'What bullsh*t' Jason almost shouted out loud, barely being able to hold it inside, as a question he always wanted to get the answer formed in his mind.

'Why is everything so complicated?! Who the hell is my father and why did they separate? Even if I'm half Celestia, they're just strangers to me! Should I search for my father and interrogate him?!... But...what would that bring?'

Tormenting himself with his train of thought, Jason couldn't help but feel frustrated and sad, as he continued to curse his mother's killer inwardly which he already did several million times over the last six years since she was killed.

'I will definitely find you, even if I have to turn the world upside down!!'

Filled with anger, Jason initially wanted to remain in his own train of thoughts, when Till suddenly said.

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"Jason, thanks for helping Seron today!

Let me tell you this. If Shane, because of whatever reason, can't come, I'll try to take care of everything, alright?"

Trying to take care of his emotions, he could only nod thankfully by Till's words because he genuinely seemed to care about him.

However, Jason doubted that this would also be the case if he were to tell him that he might be a halfling from another foreign race, considering that Till's wrath towards the foreign races seemed deep.

'Did he lose someone to the foreign races?' Looking at Till in pity, whose expression only showed calmness after he took off the gas mask but Jason perceived something else in his eyes which was similar to the time when the reminiscence-ceremony invaded them, forcing their suppressed emotions out.

Sighing deeply, Jason thought that everyone had their own nemesis and bad memories.

While Till seemed to hate all foreign races without distinguishing between them, Jason noticed that he was also not really different because he had an extremely bad prejudice against the big families and prosperous families.

In the end, both Till and his attitude might be wrong, but they were still eligible because humanity never met kind and peaceful foreign races, if Jason's knowledge was not wrong, while his prejudice changed only slightly thanks to Till who hailed from one of the big clans.

He was also unsure about Seron because he was loyal and kind under normal circumstances but emotionally unstable and at the same time naive, and trusted everyone.

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Thus it was not difficult to manipulate him.

At least, that was how he thought of Seron and he might be wrong, but from the last months they were together, it became only more apparent that Seron was exactly how he imagined him to be.

Seron's envy and jealousy when he could walk towards the Earth Dragons unhindered was also another evidence for his assumption and Jason could only shake his head at that.

Till noticed that Jason was not in the best mood and he felt exactly the same which caused both to remain silent until they finally reached the shaft, which lead them outside the narrow tunnel.

Looking at the being inside the mana vein for a long time, Jason couldn't help but feel intimidated because his gut feeling told him that this beast was even stronger than the Shadow walker, Yrael which was the strongest being he got to know until now.

Inside the shaft, the elevator inside ascended slowly, and nobody said anything at all, as the two remained in their own thoughts while Seron was still unconscious.

Now that he finished helping Seron with his second soulbond, Jason wanted to meet up with Shane and in the best case bid farewell to the Fler's before parting ways.

There was also something else he was adamant to do, but this could wait until he met the Fler family.

However, before Jason could even continue with this thought, he sensed that the space around them began to twist as a spatial portal opened a few meters above them through which Shane emerged.

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Descending on the moving ascending platform Jason and Till stood, both immediately noticed that something happened as they saw Shane's expression that was extremely bad.

Before Jason could even say something, Shane approached him with a faint smile.

"Hey Jason, it's good to see that you're fine! Sorry that it took so long, but I had to dispose of some trash before coming."

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 292 - Vanishing

"Hey Jason, it's good to see that you're fine! Sorry that it took so long, but I had to dispose of some trash before coming."

Hearing this, both Till and Jason frowned because they could already imagine what this could mean.

Additionally, there were tiny bloodstains on Shane's clothes, that spoke more than 1000 words and Jason couldn't help but to ask himself what happened during the last few hours, they were underground.

However, before he could ask something, Till rushed forward with Seron on his back as he asked.

"What happened?!? Did you encounter the two Drake family sovereign ranks?... Please don't tell me..."

Smiling lightly, Shane didn't answer Till's question but it seemed obvious what happened, even if Jason and Till were not there.

Without thinking too much about Till, Jason noticed that his master seemed to be sad or frustrated, which was not something he expected to see right now.

Frowning slightly, he could only imagine what happened, when Shane averted his attention to him as he said

"I'll explain everything but you don't have to be afraid of being pursued anymore...At least for now.."

Looking at Till, Shane felt slightly uneasy as he asked himself if Till would also betray him and Jason.

Maybe he would expose them later!

It was not important for him to be exposed as Old Drake's murderer, but it was something else if Jason were to be implicated in the mess he caused thanks to his anger outburst.

As such, Shane couldn't help but sigh as he cursed his bad emotional control when it came to Dalia and apparently also Jason because he completely disregarded the plan he and Dalia made.

Rushing straight to Old Drake might have been naive and stupid but Shane wanted to figure out why his old acquaintance betrayed the two of them, only for him to notice that Jason's talent was the reason.

It might have been a shallow reason for others, but Shane was fully aware of his disciple's talent which forced him to execute Old Drake after he rejected a harsher soul contract.

However, right now, it was still something different to execute Till just like that because he never betrayed them, and rather than that, Shane figured out that he helped them a lot.

Sighing deeply, Shane understood that he should have rather waited for Jason to arrive on the surface before bringing him away.

However, in the end, this would be a waste of precious time because Till could easily comprehend that he was Old Drake's murderer either way.

Explaining everything that happened to Till and Jason, while Seron was still unconscious, Shane underlined Old Drake's reason for his betrayal in order to show Till what exactly the reason for everything was.

Hearing that Shane killed Old Drake, both Till and Jason's eyes widened in shock, even if they roughly estimated that this happened.

Jason's emotions were not really affected by that and he was only shocked about his master's decisiveness, while Till couldn't help but tremble for a short moment before he tried to regain his senses.

Looking at Shane, he was unsure what to say as his mouth opened and closes several times only to blurted out with a sigh.

"That's bad..." Till just said after some time, and looking at Shane with a firm expression, he just expressed what he was currently thinking.

"Soo, by telling me this, you probably want me to remain silent about this incident? Because I know that the two of you are in a master-disciple relationship would allow me to conclude that you killed Old Drake either way, right? Once Jason disappeared, this would turn even more suspicious and Jason would also be persecuted by some big families....Well, maybe not because there are only a few big families that loath you enough to pursued you through the islands if you were to appear ever again....In the end, the Drake family is most likely the big family that hates you the most by now.

If they were to find out that Jason became your disciple, the Drake family would probably send out spies or envoys through the islands to search for him because nurturing someone while hiding is unlikely to happen and furthermore extremely difficult.

Concluding everything, it would only be a matter of time until Jason would be found and where the disciple is, a master can't be far away..."

Carefully listening to Till, Jason was astonished that he could comprehend all of that just like that in such a short amount of time.

However, in the end, what his former teacher said was certainly true and Jason felt that everything became much more complicated than it was before.

Even if his short-term issues were eradicated, the long-term problems caused by Shane might as well be worse.

Till was still shocked that Old Drake, which he knew since he was a small kid, was dead and that Shane was the murderer.

He heard many heroic stories about the two of them, their might and friendship, that turned into rivalry, only to end up in a bloodbath after more than two centuries.

Shane could only hope that Till was reasonable and that he also liked Jason, which might be helpful to persuade the young heir to remain silent.

Not knowing what exactly he should think of the whole situation, Till's mood soured and his eyes turned sad.

Yet, even if Old Drake's death was tragic, Till couldn't help but think that Old Drake overestimated his capabilities and that his greed overwhelmed him when he figured out how precious Jason was.

Old Drake was definitely aware of the dangers because he also knew that Shane, who eliminated a whole big family in order to rescue his wife, was his master, which indicated that Jason was important to him.

Disregarding this meant that he was fully aware of the dangers, yet he chose to act how he did and he reaped what he sowed.

It was harsh, but Till would have also tried his best to help out Jason and they were not even in a master-disciple relationship or something even remotely close to that.

In the end, he would have only acted in order to assure that his own and Seron's clans wouldn't receive any disadvantages through this while his amity towards Jason played a huge role too.

Furthermore, Till hated how the Drake family treated their prodigies comparable to slaves which would have been the final reason for him to help out Jason.

As such, he could only sigh and think that he wouldn't do anything to help the Drake family, whom he didn't favor a tiny bit.

It was tragic that two sovereign ranks and Old Drake died, but in the end, Till didn't receive any disadvantages through this and rather than that, it might benefit his family, who was already anxious about the Drake family's sudden advancement in powerful sovereign ranks.

Nodding his head, Till looked straight into Shane's eyes before he sighed deeply

"I won't tell the Drake family anything about your and Jason's relationship, and I never saw you here....Jason just parted ways with us when we arrived at the surface and I don't know any suspect that might have something to do with Old Drake's death....that should be enough, right?"

Jason was still overwhelmed by everything that happened right now and he couldn't even speak at all because Shane and Till started to make up a simple story in order to reassure his safety.

Seeing this, he felt warm around his heart, but since Old Drake betrayed them, Jason felt as if a small clump manifested around his heart, preventing him from trusting anyone except his masters' who demonstrated their trust to him more than enough.

Only a few minutes, Shane and Till finished their conversation as Shane approached Jason, telling him that it was time to part ways with Till.

Bidding farewell, Jason felt a little bit sad because Seron was still unconscious but there was nothing he could do about that.

There was no time to waste and Shane couldn't say for sure how long it would take for reinforcement to arrive while it would also be bad if someone sighted them.

As such, Shane grasped Jason's shoulder firmly, as he manifested a spatial portal behind them, through which he jumped.

Jason could only see Till waving at him with an uneasy expression as they finally parted their ways.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 293 - To The Cerus Family!

Emerging outside the city within a dense forest, Jason took a deep breath as he looked at Shane who returned his gaze

"What?" Shane simply asked, but when he heard Jason's next words, he could only frown.

"Are you okay, master?"

Jason understood that it must have been extremely difficult to kill his acquaintance who he probably even considered a friend for a long time, and in the end, he was the reason for this.

As such, Jason couldn't help but feel bad even if it was not his fault that Old Drake chooses to betray them, which was the reason for him to ask his master if he was doing okay.

Seeing him sighing, Jason's guilt intensified before he heard Shane saying.

"In the end, this has nothing to do with you and was something between Old Drake and me. Both of us fought against each other quite often, until he received a serious injury that almost broke his mana core.

It was then when he began to change and if I had been a little bit more careful, I would have noticed that he wanted to have you in his grasp..."

Shane's eyes turned serious, as he explained.

"In a world that is ruled by the strong, you will never be able to know for sure whom you can trust fully...Only a soul contract might be able to reassure you that!"

Hearing this, Jason nodded his head but he felt weird by his master's words because they didn't force him into a soul contract when they accepted him as a disciple.

Knowing what his disciple was thinking about, Shane forced himself to grin.

"Right now you're wondering why we didn't demand a soul contract from you, right? Well, in the end, the reason is quite simple.

By becoming our disciple you are already deemed to be pursued by other big families because I eradicated the Shore family.

Now that I killed Old Drake, the Drake family will probably actively search for me and once someone finds out that you're my disciple, they will hunt you which is much easier than hunting me.

Even if we don't have a soul contract, right now you are forced to rely on me and Dalia which is much more important than a soul contract because it is highly likely that you will trust us more this way.

In the future, you might as well betray us but if that were to happen, other big families would never know if they could trust you even a tiny bit without a detailed soul contract.

As such, you would either be forced into submission by a big family, everywhere deemed as untrustworthy and suspicious, or directly pursued because of your high potential."

Jason's eyes widened when he heard Shane explaining everything, and he couldn't help but praise his masters' craftiness inwardly as their train of thought was certainly true.

Right now, he relied on his masters, and betraying them would be comparable to crippling himself as the big families would definitely force him into submission.

He never thought about betraying his masters but he felt a little bit annoyed that their reason for not demanding a soul contract was only their scheming and not amity towards him.

Shane could only smile lightly when he saw Jason's expression as he added.

"We also liked your determination, unbreakable will to become stronger, and attitude towards others, which were definitely also a reason for not demanding a soul contract from you"

Smiling when he heard these words, Jason was satisfied even if he knew that Shane only added the last sentence to please him.

They were still in the forest and Shane wanted to continue their journey towards their new hideout that was situated far away, when Jason suddenly asked.

"Is it possible for us to enter the Fler's house for a moment? I want to write a short message to them....and if it's not too much, I would like to go somewhere else too..."

Pondering for a moment, Shane thought that the first request was not too much and would at most take a few moments when he began to wonder what the second request might be.

"If it doesn't take too long it's fine, but where do you want to go?"

Smiling faintly, Jason's eyes turned suddenly cold and melancholic which wondered Shane who lifted an eyebrow by this sight, when his disciple said.

"I want to make a stop at the Cerus family mansion in Artes city!"

"Huh?" Shane subconsciously blurted out, when he remembered that Jason came from Artes city, but he still didn't know what he wanted to do with the Cerus family.

Seeing that his master was confused, Jason decided to reveal that his mother was employed in the Cerus family when he was younger and that she was killed there when a mysterious young family's heir went on a rampage after being defeated by the older Cerus family heir.

Hearing this for the first time, Shane was astonished and he slowly understood what Jason wanted to figure out at the Cerus mansion.

It was unknown when they would return to Astrix and it looked like Jason was finally ready to get to know who killed his mother.

However, when Shane heard this, there was something else that bothered him.

'If an heir from another clan or family dares to kill the Cerus family's servants during an event or party without anyone doing something against him, while at the same time preventing the news from spreading outside, it might be more problematic than Jason thinks....Reporter are greedy hyenas and if it were to be a small family feud, the news would have already spread but the mysterious clan seems to be influential'

In the end, Shane decided against telling Jason what he assumed as he only nodded his head, agreeing to his disciple's second request.

Shane also said that he can help to interrogate the Cerus family if they were to be stubborn as long as both disguised themselves.

Hearing this, Jason was thankful for this offer which he accepted without hesitation.

Manifesting a spatial portal, both emerged within the Fler's house, where Jason immediately searched for a piece of paper and a pen, which was extremely difficult because both were rarely used in their current era.

Pondering what he should write, he decided to keep it simple instead of melancholic or dramatic.

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Chapter 294 - Blood Sect

Shane and Jason emerged out of the spatial portal that manifested in the air above a small, yet familiar city.

Sighing deeply, Jason was fully aware that they already arrived in Artes city, when he pointed towards the largest mansion inside the noble district without saying anything else.

The spatial portal shifted its position and they stepped through it once again, after putting on a disguise.

Shane decided to wear a silver mask that looked similar to a fox while Jason received a pitch-black devilish-looking mask from Shane which he wore.

Taking out black robes, nobody would know who exactly they were, as they emerged in front of the large Cerus family mansion.

There were a few families that decided to live reclusive because they didn't want to compete with other families for authority positions.

In most cases, they were not confident to defeat them, even if some of those reclusive families had a few strong individuals.

The Cerus family was one of them and they were more peaceful than others, yet they were also said to have powerful offsprings with high mana sensitivity and control.

Nevertheless, this was something neither Jason nor Shane were interested in as they slowly descended towards the mansion.

In the beginning, both discussed how they should make their entrance, and instead of listening to Shane who wanted to amplify his voice and call the Cerus family out, Jason liked to start everything rather low-key before showing their might at once to overwhelm the other side.

Either way, both ways would work out and Shane decided that they would just knock on the Cerus family mansion door as Jason wanted.

Knock *Knock* *Knock*

Knocking on the door three times should have been more than enough and the strength Shane utilized should have been more than enough to wake up everyone in the house, if that was even necessary because there was still more than enough time left before it was midnight.

Through his mana eyes, Jason could perfectly perceive what turmoil his master caused with his knocking, and his faintly released mana fluctuations as he saw someone rushing towards the door in a hurried manner.

Slowly opening the wooden door an old man with white hair came into their view, wearing a servant uniform, telling Shane and Jason that he was the Cerus family's butler.

Seeing two masked presumed men standing in front of the door, the butler's hands couldn't help but tremble for a short moment, when Shane's mana fluctuations enveloped the old butler, whose mana core was barely at the master rank.

Reaching the master rank was nothing special, even less if it was an old man who could live several hundred years with such a mana core rank.

However, the butler would still be stronger than Jason, who could only smile slightly below his pitch-black mask when he noticed this.

"H-Hello... Sirs? How can the Cerus family help you?..."

The butler asked only hesitantly and it was not hard to perceive that he was scared which was not really astonishing because Shane's mana fluctuations were on a completely different level than everything he should have ever felt during his whole lifetime.

Looking at the silver fox masked men whose mana fluctuations were terrifying, the butler tried to calm down as he patiently waited for an answer, only for Jason to reveal their intention instead of Shane.

"We want to speak to the Cerus family head for a moment!"

He didn't request to talk to the family head but it sounded more like an order and the Old butler could only rake his head what was going on because the young voice behind the pitch-black mask seemed to belong to a youth who seemed to be from an influential family if he was accompanied by a powerful guardian.

At least that was what the old butler comprehended from the two masked mens' behavior and Jason's attitude.

Excusing himself while stuttering, the old butler rushed through the whole house as he entered a certain room, where a middle-aged man with short brown hair was seated inside a mana-gathering magic circle.

The middle-aged man already finished off his cultivation when he sensed that something was going on below.

At least the revealed terrifying mana fluctuations that almost ripped him out of his mana absorption state which could have ended up rather dangerously were nothing he could take lightly.

Thus he, Mirga Cerus, the Cerus' family head was already slightly annoyed but he knew that the other party that arrived was much stronger than him which forced him to act politely without rejecting their request as it was not possible.

If the two masked men wanted to meet him, they could also use force and Mirga was glad that they refrained from doing so, which substituted his anger as he ordered his butler to lead them inside his office.

Entering the mansion, Jason was not really surprised to see valuable furniture that was made out of relatively expensive woods and other materials.

However, considering that they were currently in a C-grade city, the Mansion with everything inside was probably worth more than the whole apartment district with several dozen skyscrapers' situated next to each other.

Shaking his head, Jason told himself that his reason to come over here was not to blame others or do something stupid.

'I will inquire about my mother's murderer and leave, that's it!' He repeated several times in his head as they finally entered the Cerus family head's office where they were already awaited.

Migra Cerus was slightly taller than Shane and Jason, but his aura was much weaker than Shane's which created the effect that Shane was taller and mightier even if that was not the case.

As such, Migra could only eye the silver fox masked man carefully and it was not difficult to spot that he was nervous.

Nobody wanted to waste any time and without bothering about an introduction, Jason asked straightforwardly.

"Mr. Cerus, I don't want to beat around the bush and waste each other's time. Today, we are here to inquire more about a certain accident that occurred roughly six and a half years ago! If my intel is not wrong, the Cerus family held a banquet with a few sparrings afterwards to demonstrate your son's

combat prowess. What happened that one of the spars went out of control which lead to the death of several servants after the defeated side wreaked havoc. Who was the culprit?"

Without telling who they were or even showing the desire to reveal a single clue about their identity, Jason allowed the Cerus family head to imagine all kinds of things, which could help him to figure out more.

It was not really necessary to do something like this, but both Shane and Jason didn't bother to think about a new identity they could use to tell who they were because it was useless to do something like this in the first place.

Nevertheless, Jason's small scheme seemed to work because almost immediately after the family-head heard Jason's words, his eyes widened and he became more nervous than he already was a moment before.

"I-I don't know what Sir means....there did not happen anything over the last few years! You may even ask our butler or other servants! If something like this were to happen, we would be devastated because we treat our employees with love."

Saying these words, the old butler behind them immediately nodded his head in order to show that the family head's words were indeed the truth.

However, how should they know that Jason was fully aware of their lies, which caused him to feel disgusted when Shane released his water affinity for the first time.

A small water ball manifested in his hand which swirled around his hand before he shot it towards the family head without hesitation.

It was impossible for the Cerus family head to evade the water ball that had a shocking velocity.

Yet, instead of being flung away, the water ball enlarged when it crashed into his body, only to envelope him completely.

Sealed inside a water bubble, the Cerus family head couldn't breathe anymore and thanks to the water bubble's pressure which Shane adjusted however he wanted, Jason averted his attention towards the butler.

Both Shane and Jason expected the family head to lie about the incident that happened more than 6 years ago which was the reason for Shane demonstrating that they don't accept being lied to.

Shane was also using his water affinity for a certain reason because they wanted to prevent any possible connections between the incident on Cyro-city and what was about to happen in Artes-city as it might even help someone to comprehend that Jason was Old Drake murderer's disciple or something similar to that.

The old butler stared at his master in shock when Jason asked him coldly "What happened 6 and a half years ago?! Tell me the truth if you don't want your master to die or see yourself end in an even worse state!!"

Jason didn't even need to release his mana because his killing intent that was subconsciously released was already enough to show the old butler that their current situation was grave.

It was either tell the truth or die!

Kneeling down, the old butler began to beg for his life as he revealed

"There was such an incident! Yes, Yes!! Please don't kill me and my master !! I will tell everything I know"

Nodding his head, Jason was satisfied with this result and Shane severed his connection to the water affinity which caused the water bubble to burst open.

Taking a few deep breaths, the Cerus family head immediately changed his attitude because he figured out that someone should have told the two masked men in front of him that something happened, as he hastily said.

"Please forgive me my lies!! The other family forced us to never reveal anything about the accident!"

Sighing, Jason and Shane didn't want to remain at the Cerus family for too long, as they told the family head to explain everything without letting out a single detail.

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Less than 20 minutes later, Shane and Jason left the Cerus mansion, and their minds were filled with confusion, frustration, and also shock.

The Cerus family head said that he didn't know the other clans' name, and only told them that a young red-haired and eyed youth suddenly appeared during their banquet, challenging the Cerus family heir's strongest descendant who broke into the Grandmagus stage at the age of 170 years, which was also the reason for the whole banquet to be held in the first place.

The family head's son barely defeated the other youth who was apparently in his 20s and already at the Magus rank, when he enveloped himself in a red hue that felt like a beast's bloodlust state, as he wreaked havoc by killing several servants before he disappeared with his accompaniment.

Hearing this shocked Jason but his frustration was visible as he couldn't even figure out his mother's murderer's name, as he heard Shane mumbling

"Was it the Blood sect?!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 295 - Ravaging

Jumping through several spatial portals, Shane and Jason appeared somewhere deep inside a large and lush forest, when Shane turned around, with a sour expression.

"Jason, I don't know how to say it in a comforting manner. As such, I'll be blunt, alright?"

Jason, who already heard Shane mumbling "Blood sect" before, only nodded his head, hoping that his master might be able to help him figure out who killed his mother as he was unable to get to know it without help which bothered and frustrated him extremely.

The more time passed, the harder it would become to find out who murdered his mother and Jason knew that he was already late with his first approach to obtain more information after more than 6 years passed.

However, unfortunately enough, he couldn't do much before because he had neither someone backing him up nor the strength to do something by himself.

Additionally, Jason was unsure how long it would take for him to return to Astrix which meant that it was his first and most likely last try to figure out more about his mother.

That was, at least on Astrix.

If the Cerus family didn't know more, it was impossible for someone else on Astrix to know much more, except if the mysterious heir lived on this island, which was however very unlikely.

In order to fight a Grandmagus rank while being at the Magus rank and only in his 20s, his mother's murderer must belong to a large family clan who coincidentally encountered the banquet and wanted to have some fun.

However, he probably didn't expect to lose his challenge which caused him to wreak havoc.

Thinking about this possibility Jason bit his lips as he subconsciously released his killing intent which intensified when his train of thoughts continued.

Yet, after hearing Shane's words, he listened intently because he was his last ray of hope to find out more without the need to overturn humanity

"To put it simply... the young man who murdered your mother is most likely from the 'Blood sect' which is an ancient, hidden sect on Canir... When I last encountered members of this sect, they were definitely on par with the big families according to their cultivation rank and combat prowess.

With this in mind, you would have to fight against the Blood sect if you want to take revenge on your mother's murderer.

Normally it wouldn't be that much of a hassle, but this mysterious youth seems to have been one of their prodigies who awoke their sects to inherit bloodlust ability."

Even if it was not pleasing to hear whom he had to fight in the future in order to find his mother's murderer, Jason was glad to have a set destination that was entirely different from searching for a needle in a haystack.

Nevertheless, Jason didn't feel like smiling right now as it was quite obvious that the blood sect prodigy killed his mother because he felt like it.

It was not an accident or even remotely close to that and the small bubble of lies he formed in his mind to protect himself burst open, and he could only gnash his teeth in anger as he turned towards Shane.

Sighing deeply, he felt both angry and sad when Shane reassured him

"Let's go meet Dalia. She is already waiting for you. Afterward, you can keep getting stronger and do as you please!"

Nodding his head, the two of them vanished inside the spatial portal that manifested behind them, only to repeat the same step several hundred times before they finally arrived at their destination.

[Canir, Drake family headquarter (A few hours earlier)]

A thunderous roar resounded throughout the whole Drake family country, as a several hundred-meter-long sky-blue colored Dragon dived down towards the Drake family headquarter, completely disregarding the existence of the surrounding cities.

Manifesting a blizzard, the surrounding landscape froze within seconds as the first weaker humans, living in the Drake headquarters, died by freezing to death.

Most descendants and disciples of the Drake family survived as they were close to more powerful beings who enveloped them with thick mana membranes to protect themselves and the surrounding humans.

Shocked by their sight, they could barely act in time as they rushed towards the family's underground shelter in order to protect the weaker, as the Ice Dragon mother landed on the large pagoda.

After making a pact with Shane to emerge out of the rift where she was stuck for the last 20 years, she was full of wrath towards the Drake family who abducted her baby.

As such she shattered everything in her surroundings which belonged to this spiteful family without caring who was innocent or guilty.

In her opinion, everyone who colluded with this family was guilty and only because she was forced to refrain from destroying the whole Drake family kingdom through the soul contract she formed with Shane, did she only destroy the headquarters.

She was also forbidden to attack others who didn't attack her first when everything was about to be over which she only reluctantly accepted.

However, in order to rescue her small baby, she would do everything and at least she was able to destroy the Drake family on her search for her baby.

Intensifying the blizzard's might, everything around her was frozen, while even humans at the Lord stage had problems protecting themselves, let alone others.

Now that they were also forced to enter the underground shelter that was the only secure place for now, the Ice Dragon mother that looked like a gigantic lizard with humongous wings on her back perceived stronger mana fluctuations appearing around her.

Her strength was comparable to a Mid-Monarch rank beast, which was nothing special for an Ice Dragon, and on her side of the rift, she was seen as a rather weak Dragon with a lower bloodline.

This was also the reason for her to live near the rift which led to her egg being stolen and now that she emerged in Canir, she finally noticed that she was not the weakest.

Nevertheless, even if it was exciting for the Ice Dragon mother to feel like she was strong compared to others, her goal was still the same and she would do everything if she could just retrieve her small baby.

Several sovereign ranks suddenly approached her, yet she fought against them without any issue.

They were extremely weak compared to her current weakened state which was weird, but rather than being displeased, the Ice Dragon mother exterminated the sovereign ranks mercilessly.

Extending her mana fluctuations she searched for her offspring, only to roar out in shock when familiar mana fluctuations appeared in her range.

It was the man's mana fluctuations who abducted her egg intertwined with her eggs mana fluctuations!?!

Still not being able to realize what was going on, the Ice Dragon mother could only see Jael Drake flying towards her, his face full of anger, as a colossal-sized sky blue magic circle appeared on the ground, within an Ice Dragon that was smaller than the Ice Dragon mother emerged from it.

Smiling cruelly, Jael who was full of anger could barely feel pleased by the sight of mother and daughter reuniting, as he ordered his soulbond

"ATTACK HER!"

The Drake family patriarch's soul world shook violently as his soulbond tried to reject the order only for it to be forced into submission through the soulbond contract.

With thick tears pouring down the smaller Ice Dragon's cheeks, it roared out as a warning as she swung with her wings, to ascend in the air where her mother was already waiting for her baby.

However, what the Ice Dragon mother didn't expect, was to be attacked by her own flesh and blood with several more sovereign ranks supporting her attack.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 296 - A Mother's Love

'WHYYYY!?!' The Ice Dragon mother thought as she roared out, not being able to understand what happened to her small baby, that suddenly started to attack her.

Not only was this the case but the smaller Ice Dragon's eyes turned dull as if it gave up on resisting or even living if the soulbond contract didn't force it to stay alive.

Seeing this was devastating for the Ice Dragon mother who couldn't believe what the last 20 years had done to her small baby.

She was not sure what to expect to see in the beginning but right now she thought that living like this, subdued by a vicious man was even worse than dying.

Using her superior physical strength, the Ice Dragon mother pushed her daughter who already arrived in front of her away without injuring her in order to charge towards the vicious man with her offspring's transmuted mana intertwined in his own.

There were several more sovereign ranks next to him, but she didn't care about them at all.

Accumulated mana in her maw, she shot an ice beam towards her opponents to create a chaotic situation when she arrived in front of the first sovereign rank which she grasped with her claw, only to mash it without much effort.

Even if she was only at the Mid-Monarch rank, her physical strength, ice affinity, and mana control were even superior to common late-Monarch ranks because she was a Dragon and would have already killed everyone around her if she was not in a weakened state.

Nevertheless, she was still the strongest being present, while the vicious being that subdued her offspring and her small baby itself were the ones that were the closest to her own combat prowess.

The smaller Ice Dragon had already entered the Low-Monarch rank, while Jael Drake was currently considered a Late-Sovereign rank with his three consolidated prismatic crystals inside his mana core.

Yet, he was still weaker than the Ice Dragon mother in her weakened state, even if it was only by a small margin.

The Drake family patriarch noticed this which forced him to use something he would have never thought to have to use so early, against a mere beast at that.

Gritting his teeth, Jael Drake couldn't accept that his mighty kingdom could go extinct, caused by the emergence of the Ice Dragon mother and his headquarters' destruction.

While he instructed his subordinates to gather around him, Jael ordered the small Ice Dragon to distract her mother for one minute which it did reluctantly, not being able to obstruct her master's words.

With a thunderous roar, the small Ice Dragon emerged in front of her mother as she shot an Ice beam at a close distance, which the Ice Dragon mother couldn't evade.

Roaring out in pain, the Ice Dragon mother knew that she had to do something, however, she was still hesitant to injure her small baby as she wanted to save her from the vicious man's grasp.

Time slowly passed with the two Ice Dragons clashing upon each other, they seemed to be intertwined with each other, fighting ferociously.

That was at least what it looked like in the beginning, but after time passed it was obvious that the larger Ice Dragon was not fighting back against the smaller Ice Dragon who was forced to fight against her mother with all her might, as she bit in her mother's back, ripping out her scales and flesh, revealing crimson red blood as the Ice Dragon mother roared out in pain.

One minute passed and only now did the Ice Dragon mother notice that something was wrong as her surrounding mana was incomparably low compared to a minute before.

Feeling an extremely strong suction force close to her, she looked towards the vicious man, who was holding a silver spear in his hand with complex sky blue runes inscribed on it, as her eyes widened in shock.

'Infant Elemental Runes!!'

The runes began to glow and manifested above the inscription, enveloping the whole white spear which started to vibrate as it ascended into the air.

Filled with the complete mana cores of a dozen sovereign ranks and their soulbonds that stood behind their masters, visibly exhausted and on the brink of collapsing, Jael Drake's pale face showed a cruel smile as he lifted his hand.

Having bound the soul weapon 'Sky frost Spear' which Jael Drake received from the foreign race he was in a contact with, the Drake family patriarch could control it to his heart's content.

Seeing that the Ice Dragon mother tried to flee, satisfaction filled his whole body and when he swung his arm down, the Sky frost spear shoot forward with a loud *boom* which caused cracks in the frozen ground several meters below it.

Jael was not able to control the Sky frost Spear for a long time because his mana was currently not strong enough while his ice affinity proficiency was also lacking, preventing a perfect control over the spear.

Nevertheless, right now, he felt as if nobody on Canir was able to defeat him, which included the few old monstrous humans who survived the mana outbreak and strived for more strength

If Jason were to see the Sky frost Spear, he would be extremely shocked as not only the weapon itself was extraordinary but the inscriptions too.

The sky blue inscriptions were made by an ice affinity in addition to several rare ingredients, but the most important was that the sky blue runes looked similar, yet less profound than the rift's large-scale rune, which was the most shocking inscription he ever saw until now.

Accelerating further, the Sky frost Spear broke through the sound barrier as it pierced into the Ice Dragon mother's shoulder, only to penetrate through its whole shoulder without much resistance.

A thick fountain of blood poured out of the wound and the Ice Dragon mother had to forcefully close the wound with her Ice affinity in order to stay awake.

Averting her attention to the Sky frost Spear which still flew through the sky, its mana fluctuations lessened visibly which showed its huge mana consumption, giving the Ice Dragon mother hope to survive as the smaller Ice Dragon suddenly emerged below it, shooting towards her.

Luning out desperately, the small Ice Dragon tried to kill her own mother, even if she tried her best to prevent doing so.

In the end, it was impossible to go against the soulbond contract.

As such, she tore apart her mother, who could only envelop her own child in a thick mana membrane with every single ounce of mana she had left within her after she noticed that the Sky frost spear didn't seem to hesitate to pierce through both of them.

Jael's eyes were bloodshot and he didn't care about anything except the Ice Dragon mother's death, as he shouted, releasing all his wrath towards the large Ice Dragon.

"DIE YOU WORM!!!"

Using up every single drop of mana within, the Sky frost spear turned around and shot towards the Ice Dragon mother, piercing through its chest, straight inside the heart which continued to beat even after a hole appeared.

Piercing out of the Ice Dragon mother's body, the Syk frost spear continued its advance, not slowing down a tiny bit as it reached the smaller Ice Dragon's shoulder which was also pierced through.

The Sky frost spear's advance almost cut off the small Ice Dragon's front leg, only for it to be protected by the thick mana membrane her mother used to protect her child.

Meanwhile, the Ice Dragon mother's life force dissipated extremely fast and she was unable to continue flying as it crashed into the ground, without being able to move a single inch.

There was only a weak, painful screeching coming from the Ice Dragon mother as it looked towards her child with her last breath to see if she was still alive.

The small ice Dragon's eyes were full of life now, but filled with pain, sadness and tears poured down her cheeks as she saw its mother dying in front of her...

Jael Drake smiled brightly and was overjoyed to have finally exterminated such a colossal threat as he retracted his weapon, only to look around as he saw that everything was destroyed.

Even the underground shelter should have sustained damages during the fight which meant that his whole clan was on the brink of destruction, which caused him to grit his teeth in anger.

Suddenly an idea formed in his head and his sour mood lifted slightly as he thought about Astrix island and Old Drake who told him about several prodigies and the Big-Three tournament.

"Let's replace our fallen comrades first!!"

Far away, Shane jumped up from the chair he sat on when he sensed that his soul contract with the Ice Dragon mother dissipated, indicating its death

'Jael was able to kill it?!'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 297 - Aftermath

Several days passed and the news about the destruction of the Drake family headquarter was already known throughout Canir and the Archipelago.

Everyone knew about it, but nobody dared to say or do anything as the news also reported about the death of the attacking Ice Dragon and that the Drake family patriarch bound a similar-looking Ice Dragon as his soulbond.

In order to kill a Mid-Monarch ranked Dragon whose strength was even stronger than that of an 'average' peak-Sovereign rank with its superior affinity and physical strength, the Drake family must have an extremely powerful trump card, which prevented the surrounding Kingdoms from starting a war.

Even if the number of high-ranked casualties was enormous, up to several tens of thousands, it didn't seem like the Drake family weakened in any way as the patriarch finally revealed his whole strength that was hidden before.

Previously, he wanted to remain lowkey without attracting too much attention until he was finally able to overwhelm everyone, but that changed now substantially.

His whole demeanor changed and it was as if the Drake family patriarch has gone insane the day after the Ice Dragon accident happened.

This was however intensified when he heard about Old Drake's death and his two sovereign ranks' disappearance, which felt as if it was too much of a coincidence to be even considered one.

The only person left on Astrix he could rely on to a certain degree was his own son, who was barely at the Expert rank which was not strong enough.

As such he went over to Astrix by himself because it was too dangerous to send other sovereigns over to handle the possible dangers on the small island.

He couldn't be sure who killed his ancestor but there was definitely something wrong.

Yet, even after trying to investigate what happened, it was only clear that his ancestor's murderer was someone with a darkness affinity and that this individual had a strong combat strength according to the killing intent that was intertwined with mana, which everyone felt.

Unfortunately, not even Till Greil knew what happened because he was below the surface with Seron to pick his second soulbond and the Drake family patriarch could only suppress his anger and wrath towards the mysterious person.

Trying to remain level-headed was not possible anymore and Jael Drake decided to use all his means to recuperate his clan's weakened combat power by all means.

With this in mind, the Drake family patriarch took all participants of the Big-Three tournament that reached the Top 100 and offered to take them under his wing.

Astonished about this offer, most students also heard about what happened to the Drake family's headquarter and sensed the opportunity to change their designated destiny as they accepted the Drake family patriarch's offer without knowing what their decision would mean for their future.

Almost all prodigies from Astrix, even if they were not in school anymore received an offer to come over to the Drake Kingdom in addition to a large number of high-grade mana stones, martial art techniques, and much more.

The whole Kingdom started to search for youths with a high soul-awakening and a decent mana aptitude, making them eligible to join the Drake family side as he had his means to forcefully advance their mana core if enough resources were available.

Using all his means, Jael Drake sold the deceased Ice Dragon carcass to influential alchemists, blacksmiths, and even Beast Creators who gathered around him in order to procure the Dragon's scales, flesh, tendons, blood, and bones as every single ounce of it was extremely valuable.

Through this, he could finance everything necessary to rebuild not only his headquarters but it was also enough to slowly recuperate from his clan's weakened state.

The only thing he required was manpower, more finances which he would acquire in the future and the most important, time!

In the end, the Drake family patriarch didn't even bother thinking that anyone would reject his offer because it was too tempting for everyone, which included the most influential clans on Astrix

Rather than rejecting his offer, there were more than enough families that pleaded the Drake family soldiers to take their sons and daughters with them to open their path towards a better life, which was however ignored in most cases.

Nevertheless, this didn't mean that everyone was satisfied with what happened on Astrix and a few families and even influential clans tried to flee from Astrix towards other Islands to seek asylum because they could already estimate what was about to happen to their talented children and other descendants once they were to accept the Drake clan's offer.

The Fler's were one of these families and it was Greg who was adamant about leaving Astrix because he didn't want to accept the Drake family's offer after he got to know that the mana intertwined killing intent came from Old Drake's murderer.

Adding the fact that Jason behaved weirdly, desperate, and as if he was done with his life when before their tournament fight, Greg comprehended that not only was the mysterious Beast Creator, Old Drake's murderer but that something bad happened to Jason that his master acted like this.

With this in mind, Greg knew that the Drake family, clan, and whole Kingdom were not something he ever wanted to have any relation with!

Yet, before the Fler's could even flee, Drake clan soldiers arrived at their doors, inviting them inside the large bus that waited at the front door.

Nobody knew what was going on, but when Greg reluctantly accepted the 'invitation' because he could hardly reject it, he and his family who had to enter the bus saw all Top 25 participants of the Big-Three tournament from all three years in addition to their family.

This created a bad premonition in the Fler's mind and they knew that something bad was going to happen.

Arriving in front of Cyro-City's arena, they were ordered to enter the first floor, where they saw a middle-aged man with a perilous and slightly crazy aura radiating from him.

It was Jael Drake the Drake family patriarch, who started with a short speech.

However, instead of listening, Greg's mind was filled with other thoughts because his gut feeling told him that he had to escape, which was unfortunately not possible.

His parents and Malia were taken to the second floor while only the youths that entered the Top 25 in the Big-Three tournament listened to Jael Drake's speech in which he praised his own kingdom before giving them an exclusive offer to become his direct underlings in addition to a large amount of resources.

Nevertheless, after reading through the whole soul contract which Jael Drake manifested in front of all 73 Students, some students' eyes widened in greed before they turned serious.

From a joyous expression, their mood soured when they saw the soul contract's final clauses turning them into the Drake family's marionettes which was comparable to being enslaved.

A turmoil started but the Drake family patriarch ignored them as a cruel smile emerged on his face.

Snapping with his fingers a high-quality video call of the second floor was projected behind him.

The students turned immediately quiet seeing their family behind the Drake family patriarch because they were tied up and gagged which caused even some students to cry out in shock.

Greg gritted his teeth when he saw this but exclaiming now could end up in the worst possible way as he noticed the patriarch's gaze remaining on the noisiest students.

Pointing at a youth, he emotionlessly asked

"You! Will you sign the contract? I'll ask only once!!"

The youth, Jael Drake spoke to began to shiver as he perceived the patriarch's mana fluctuations and aura around him, as he could only stutter

"C-Can't we....m-ake a c-c-compromise? I- I want to b-e free!"

Disregarding the youth's fear, Jael erupted with his mana as he shouted

"YES OR NO?"

"Y-Ye..NOooooo!" The youth subconsciously shouted before he held his hand before his mouth, shocked about what he subconsciously said.

Hearing this, the Drake family patriarch didn't seem to be bothered, as he ordered

"Execute his family!"

Just like that, his parents and small sister were beheaded by the Drake soldiers without showing any sight of hesitation, as the youth shouted out in shock as he retreated several steps with trembling legs.

"nooo....w-why....Mother...Father!!! Aella!!!" Tears poured down his cheeks as his sadness turned into rage and one could only see him utilizing his water affinity with which he manifested a compressed water blade, only to dissipate into thin air before it could even be shot towards Jael Drake who enveloped the youth with his mana.

Increasing the pressure around the youth slowly, everyone could witness how he slowly died, not being able to breathe only to be freed for three seconds before the suppression intensified once again.

With the youth's death, the whole floor turned eerie silent and nobody dared to voice their opinion.

The youths' faces were paper-white and only their expression showed how devastated and desperate they felt within them.

Greg, who already felt that something was wrong, was now completely sure that today would become the worst day of his life as he stared at his parents who only shook their heads, trying to tell him not to sign the soul contract.

However, how could he not sign the contract, if his parents and Malia, who he loved dearly were about to die in front of him only because of his selfish thoughts?

Even if he knew that the contract was comparable to being enslaved, Greg could only gnash his teeth in fear and anger, as he loosened up a thread from his soul in order to sign the contract.

'I'm sorry Mom, Dad, Malia.....Jason...I hope you'll continue to be stronger than me, otherwise, I don't know what is going to happen if we ever encounter each other again...'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 298 - Terebrean

One could see a young man swinging a large, heavy-looking hammer with swift and mighty strikes on a heated up jade-colored ingot that had silver stars shining within it.

Next to the jadetite ingot, a large black flame flickered vigorously, releasing a calming aura, while the young man with golden eyes smiled at the ingot in front of him with a proud expression on his face.

'Finally!' Jason thought as he took a deep breath before he continued with his forging process in order to forge his first perfectly refined mana grade-1 weapon without anyone's help.

Three months passed since he left Astrix to escape from the Drake family, and there were many shocking and horrifying news Jason and his masters heard.

Knowing that Astrix underwent a substantial change, Jason felt uncomfortable during the first month after he left with Shane because he didn't know what happened to Greg and the Fler's.

However, after figuring out that almost all youths with potential were 'invited' to become a part of the Drake clan, he was fully aware what should have happened to Greg, if he didn't decide to choose death over a soul contract.

This caused Jason's wrath towards the Drake family patriarch to increase and he could only hope that the whole Fler family was still alive.

When he got to know this, Jason's concentration and focus on absorbing mana was disrupted and his masters had to help him to get back on the right path as he was slowly drifting away.

Telling him that he could only rescue his friend if he were to become much stronger, Jason's worsening concentration became firmer once again and instead of solely focusing on finding his mother's murderer who most likely hailed from the Blood sect, he might be able to get Greg and the Fler's alive if he were to become much stronger.

With this thought, Jason's mana absorption heightened because he had a set goal he could follow now and no time to waste.

Now, after three months of hard work, he was finally able to forge his first perfectly purified mana grade-1 weapon which was extremely good in order to build a solid foundation which would also help him to create a good financial basis because mana grade-1 weapons and armors were worth much more than even good grade-2 equipment.

With the perfect basic lifestyle occupation foundation Jason slowly established over the last three months, he was able to perfectly concoct all kinds of grade-1 potions which included potions that had a similar difficulty to the bloodline unsealing solution he concocted for Greg's soulbond.

Furthermore, he was finally able to use several different inscribing solutions which were extremely beneficial in order to build a perfect weapon.

They were still incomparable to his Viridi-Starstream daggers, but time and experience would allow him to create even better weapons than his master.

Jason was confident to achieve this!

Their current location was somewhat dangerous, yet his masters told him that one of the most unlikely places to stay was probably the safest for them to be.

As such, they entered the Lion den as his masters bought a small plot inside a B-Grade city on Terebrean, which was another small Island.

Terebrean was governed by the Jual family and their clan was also one of the big clans that reigned over mankind.

However, it was ridiculous in Jason's opinion that the Jual clan had ties with the Drake family, even after knowing what happened because the Jual clan called themselves righteous and indiscriminating.

This might be true in some cases but only if one possessed talent which was the most important aspect to receive justice and proper treatment from the Jual clan.

They divided their society into untalented people who could at most do labor, work as low salary workers or somewhere else where it was difficult to reach greater wealth, semi-talented people that received better treatment, talented people who were treated like nobles even if they hailed from the poorest possible districts and real prodigies, which was the cream of the crop.

These 'real prodigies' received excellent treatment and were seen as blessed children.

They also received a large number of resources and had everything they needed.

Through this treatment, the talented and prodigious youths were passively tied to the Jual clan, and if they wanted to receive even more benefits they had to enter their clan, which required a soul contract that was not as harsh as the one from the Drake clan.

It would still be extremely difficult to betray the Jual clan which was exactly what the soul contract was important for.

As such, they were discriminating and definitely not righteous.

Nevertheless, Jason was glad that the clan's territory they entered didn't force others to sign harsh soul contracts and it was somewhat reassuring.

However, it was undeniable that they still had some ties with the Drake family which was not great to know.

After Jason arrived at Shane and Dalia's plot with a small house standing firmly on top of it which they purchased, he was astonished that the two didn't bother to hide their appearance when his two masters showed him something special he would have never expected.

Dalia enveloped herself and Shane in her silver origin flame and Jason immediately noticed that something changed about her flame's appearance as it was much more vigorous than before in addition to small stars glimmering within it.

Furthermore, its color intensified and Jason could tell from the enveloping color that her silver origin flame evolved from a Tier-2 flame to a Tier-3 origin flame.

After Dalia retraced her silver-colored origin flame again, Jason was so shocked to see his master's that he almost fell on his butt while retreating.

Their whole facial structure changed and they looked completely different compared to before.

After his masters dyed their hair, even he couldn't say for sure that his masters were in front of him as long as he didn't look at their familiar mana fluctuations.

With this newly acquired ability Dalia's, which allowed her to change the face structure by adjusting their facial features, everything changed and they didn't have to hide anymore.

Jason didn't want to change his facial feature because it wouldn't be really helpful due to several reasons.

From influential families and clans, only Till, Seron, Max, and the Drake family patriarch knew him, while he was not even sure about the latter because he didn't seem to have bothered about Jason's existence that much.

Other than the two youths and Till nobody knew what he looked like and more than that, his most impactful feature were his golden eyes which he couldn't hide even by using contact lenses.

He already tried out multiple different contact lenses but his golden eyes always shone through which was frustrating and interesting to figure out.

However, this was less of a problem because Terebrean was an Island known for their unique eye colors which lessened his eyes' impact.

This was another reason for his masters to decide that they would live on this Island for the time being until Jason was strong enough to enter the real battlefield which was Canir.

If he were to make trouble on Canir now, it would almost be comparable to a death sentence and it was better to be careful than dead.

Without being distracted by school, the Big-Three tournament or anyone like Old Drake bothering him, Jason had much more time to become stronger over the last three month in which he did not only establish a great basic lifestyle occupation foundation.

Many things changed and not only to him but also his soulbonds!

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 299 - Evolution Requirements

During the last three months, Jason neither neglected his mana absorption, further reduced his Heaven's Hell practice to receive more soul energy units, his body refining with the Netherworld's fort technique nor his martial art and affinity practice.

Thus, his whole day was filled to the brim and it was only fortunate that he could passively absorb mana which however didn't mean that he forgot to actively absorb mana as it was much more efficient.

In the end, Jason just slept less, at most three hours a day which was also already considered long for him in the recent days.

He just didn't feel the need for more sleep and felt vigorous enough to work for days with the nutrition and mana inside him.

After he reunited with both Shane and Dalia, they started to experiment with the Terra-Intermediate body refining technique, Netherworld's fort, and Dalia purchased bulks of nutritious food, medical baths, and mana stones to do so.

As such his finances were still relatively high and Jason was happy to have such great masters who supported him in any way even after they found out that he might be from a foreign race.

However, they didn't change even a tiny bit in their behavior which caused Jason to feel gratitude towards them as this was one of the things he feared by revealing his highly likely origin.

The only thing that changed was their teachings because they felt the urgency to force Jason to release his full potential that might still be within him as a foreign race.

Additionally, there was also the issue with the foreign races, Argos planet being one of the weakest planets among an unknown number of others that might even be in the millions, and mankind as a problem itself.

If they figured out everything Jason told them from someone else without having met him, Shane and Dalia would most likely end up in despair which was fortunately not the case.

Somehow without them knowing their small disciple turned into their ray of hope because his talent and demeanor were great and allowed them to nurture him thoroughly.

Through this, Jason was able to reach the 2nd Expert rank without much issue and by only absorbing mana for a few hours every day which was not that much.

Nevertheless, with his mana core rank alone and the further body refining he underwent, he would already be able to fight low-evolved beasts only with his physique alone without the need to receive amplification from his soulbonds for it.

This overjoyed Jason but more shocking was that his combat prowess was much higher than a 2nd Expert after receiving his soulbonds amplifications because all three soulbonds wreaked the peak-Unblemished rank after three months.

While Scorpio's required soul energy increased to roughly 1900 units, Artemis' required now around 1970 soul energy units and was extremely close to reaching the magical rank, once she compressed her first mana drop.

Her strength increased faster than Scorpio's because she could digest mana cores directly without the need to absorb the mana out of normal food that had many unnecessary things inside.

Mana cores had also fewer impurities and there was much more mana inside them than in high-grade beast meat which Scorpio ate.

Even if his masters gave him resources to nurture himself, they were not enough to feed Artemis and Scorpio which forced him to purchase the expensive food.

Through this, his fortune decreased to 50 Star notes over the last three months and the expenses would only grow if he wanted to maintain the accelerated maturing process he initiated by giving them expensive food.

The only unfortunate thing that was also fortunately on the other side was that Scorpio would soon reach his racial limit as a Radiant Sapphire Scorpion which would mean that his food expenses wouldn't rise anymore.

However, this was rather bad in Jason's opinion because he would rather pay a lot for food and see his soulbond becoming stronger than having to pay exactly the same, knowing that his soulbond's strength was stagnating.

This lead Jason to ponder if he should search for items to increase his potential at least a small margin which was harder than he initially thought because he would require something that could forcefully expel the impurities within a beast that already had the potential to reach the magical rank.

Thus, he just decided to not do it because it was more important for Scorpio and Artemis to reach the magical rank by compressing their first liquefied drop of mana which was only the starting point to enter the Lique state.

Sighing deeply it was obvious that this step would take longer than a few days to achieve and Jason would rather give his soulbonds enough time to reach the Lique state than to pressure them.

In the end, he had more than enough time to wait patiently and it would be useless to force his soulbonds in doing something under huge pressure as it could damage their core or create internal injuries which was something Jason wanted to prevent by any means.

Nevertheless, there was something else he was still unsure of because neither he, Shane nor Dalia knew anything about it.

After adjusting the black origin flame's soul energy, increased strength in its fire affinity, and accuracy with more annexed soul energy, it finally reached a soul energy of 2000 units.

Under normal circumstances, origin flames would have already evolved at that point but that was not the case with his black origin flame that seemed to have no desire to annex more soul energy units than it currently had.

The flame's strength already reached the peak-unblemished rank and Jason could perfectly adjust the flame's temperature however he wanted, without many issues or obstructions.

His Netherworld's fort's body refining helped him out with this while his soul connection with the black origin flame seemed to slowly fortify which overjoyed Jason and it would only be a matter of time before this would happen.

Nevertheless, a fortified soul conjunction with an origin flame was not something humanity ever heard of, or openly announced so nobody knew anything about it, and it was also weird for his greedy origin flame to reject the possibility to annex more soul energy units.

With this in mind, he and his masters estimated that 2000 soul energy units were most likely its first requirement to evolve into a Tier-1 origin flame.

This scenario was rare because not only were 2000 soul energy units an extremely high amount for an origin flame to evolve for its first time but his black origin flame was weird, to begin with.

Instead of stagnating at its rank, the black origin flame's affinity strength increased consequently once the amount of annexed soul energy units increased.

As such, Shane and Dalia were not even that shocked about the fact that Jason's origin flame had more requirements other than a large number of soul energy units.

Unfortunately, nobody knew exactly what the requirements were and only Jason would be able to figure it out when his black-origin flame told him so.

The only thing Jason knew was that Dalia's words about the discount according to the soul world's amplification were most likely true as he felt a weird sensation coming from his black flame.

Thanks to his soul world amplification of 33%, it looked like the black origin flame's initial requirement of 3000 soul energy units to evolve for the first time had been reduced to 2000 soul energy.

Figuring out that Dalia's words were true was already reassuring but it was also frustrating and annoying on the other side.

If his prior experience was not wrong, his black origin flame's strength would have increased to the magical rank by crossing 2000 soul energy units which was now however obstructed and somewhat a small disadvantage.

Nevertheless, he couldn't do anything against it and instead of being frustrated and bothered about this fact, he thought that it was more important to find out the other requirements to evolve his black-origin flame.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 300 - Boundary

There was no need for Jason to be in a hurry for anything at the moment and instead he wanted to build a steady foundation to open his path to the Magus rank or also called Lique state.

His finances were neither extremely good or bad and it was somewhat in-between.

However, thanks to his firm consolidation of the basics about the three basic lifestyle occupations, Jason could already be called a Rank-2 Blacksmith and Alchemist, while rune inscribing was the only occupation Jason lagged behind, even if he was close to reaching the Rank-2 standard.

As for his ability to purify ingredients for either of these occupations, they were superior thanks to his constant practice over the last three months.

Having reached Rank-2 in blacksmithing meant that he could forge basic grade-2 equipment, that was less difficult to produce than mana weapons which were one requirement to reach the 3rd Rank.

The same applied for potions, only that the difficulty to concoct the most difficult potions was almost on par with the forging process of mana weapons.

Thus, Jason was already extremely well versed for his young age of 14 years and slightly more than 6 months.

Over the last three months, many things changed but he just didn't have time to think carefully about them because he was adamant about becoming stronger, only to notice something major that might become an extremely big issue in the future.

While his soul energy increased to 13.500 units which was extremely satisfying to see, Jason couldn't be happy about it for the moment.

This was not because his soul energy was too high or low for him to bind a new soulbond but rather that he noticed a small issue with his body.

Right now, his mana core rank was barely at the 2nd Expert rank which was already extremely good for his age and nothing to complain about.

However, after adding his soulbonds shared strength which he received thanks to his soul world amplification of 33%, Jason's mana core size and physical strength reached the same as an average 2nd Master rank had.

Under normal circumstances, nobody would even dare to be dissatisfied about this but there were two issues colluding with each other in order to create one huge issue for Jason's future.

The first issue was that his mana core size was as large as an average 2nd Master's mana core which increased the required time for his mana core to be completely filled.

As such, it would take much longer to break into the 3rd Expert rank, as it would require as much mana as an average 2nd Master required to break into the 3rd Master rank.

With this in mind, Jason's initial plan to break into the Magus rank in the next nine months was for naught while it wouldn't be an issue to reach the combat prowess of a Magus rank thanks to his soul world's high amplifications.

Most of his peers would curse Jason because he complained about something everyone wanted to achieve.

Nevertheless, the second issue was similar to the first, only worse in Jason's opinion.

After his soulbonds' maturity process accelerated, he slowly noticed that something was going on with his body and that it was not definitely something bad!

His physical strength reached the 2nd Master rank, while his mana core was barely at the 2nd Expert rank which was a difference of a whole rank.

In the beginning, it overjoyed Jason to see that he became so much stronger in such a short amount of time only to feel that his body began to ache more often without him doing anything that could cause such pain.

This pain spread throughout his whole body and didn't disappear easily and only refining his body slowly soothed the pain.

However, it didn't take long for this painful sensation to come back, even if it was easier to bear after the Netherworld's fort body refining technique.

When he told this issue to Shane and Dalia, they were astonished and worried but only until Dalia remembered a legend about certain youths with a five-star soul-awakening which allowed him to be called God's child.

The legend was not something well known among normal citizens and only a few big clans knew about it because it was more like a horror story than something heroic.

Remembering the story, Dalia found that it was suitable to Jason's situation, even if he had it much better than the youth in the legend.

Apparently, there was a youth with an extremely strong soul world core a long time ago which allowed him to form a soulbond contract with a Guardian-ranked beast cub right off the bat after his soul-awakening when he was barely 14 years old.

When his family heard this, they were overjoyed and immediately began to search for the strongest and most suitable beast in order to nurture the youth in the best possible way.

Until the youth formed his first soulbond contract, his mana core already reached the Expert rank thanks to his high mana aptitude and the time his family needed to find a good soulbond for him.

The whole family was ecstasy about their descendants' soul-awakening and impatiently pushed him in performing the soulbond contract on the day they brought back the most suitable guardian-rank beast cub.

In the beginning, everything was perfect without any issues and the prodigious youth with his soulbond began to establish a proper soul connection.

However, with time passing, the guardian-ranked beast cub began to grow and the youth's constitution began to worsen.

Not only did the youth's mana core size and physical strength increase thanks to the beast cub's maturity process, but the family also accelerated its growing speed by feeding it with high-quality food.

One morning, only a few months after the youth formed his first soulbond contract, when the guardian rank beast cub reached almost maturity, the youth's family found his lifeless corpse inside the bed, where he laid with a pained expression, a burst open mana core and blood pouring out of his pores and orifices.

In the beginning, everyone thought that it was an assassination but after examining the youth's corpse, one found out that there was neither poison within him nor did anyone else touch him.

Rather than that, there were millions of tiny scars within his body, telling that something within the youth killed him over a long process.

When Dalia told this story, Shane also seemed to remember to have heard this story, and only Jason looked around in confusion before his eyes widened in shock when he began to compare the youth's situation to his own.

Both Shane and Dalia also understood what was going on as Shane averted his attention towards Jason only to say

"You better stop thinking about binding another soulbond for the time being!!"

Nodding his head subconsciously, Jason couldn't but summarize the main issue all three of them seemed to have understood.

"So to put it simple, if my soulbonds become much stronger than I am currently, I might as well die like this youth because of the high amplifications I receive from my soul world, which....my mana core or body cannot bear?!"

Pondering about the story and Jason's words the room turned completely silent and only Artemis and Scorpio who were next to him looked around, not understanding what exactly was going on.

They could understand the words thanks to the fortified soul conjunction with Jason which became thicker over the last three months, but comprehending what exactly everything meant was still not easy.

A rough, possible idea formed in Dalia's head as he uncertainly said

"Maybe the mana core and the physical strength one receives from the mana core advancement comparable to a bowl or maybe a vessel? You said that refining your physique helped you, right? Refining your body might as well help you refine the vessel and allow you to receive a higher amplification from your soulbonds?"

As such, you might as well say that the vessel is frail and you enlarge and refine it by advancing your mana core rank and the corresponding physical strength.

If that's the case, refining your innate physical strength without your soulbonds' strength included might as well be considered a second strengthening process.

Now, you can fill the vessel that has been strengthened!

Your soulbonds' shared strength which you receive through your high soul world amplification is comparable to water or whatever liquid you want to fill inside the vessel.

More importantly, is however that the vessel is neither indestructible nor a limitless hole!

It has its boundaries which you have to strengthen..."