

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 851 - Tools?

Now that they were accepted by the camp people, both of them were eager to demonstrate how strong they were. Thus, they looked at the weekly comparison event's meaning changed.

Under normal circumstances, the humans were asked to spar with each other to show how much they progressed before pointing out certain mistakes others were making.

This would increase peer pressure to improve oneself.

If someone was making the exact same mistakes week after week, it would clearly mean that one was slacking off.

Being publicly called out for the mistakes was embarrassing, to say the least.

With that simple psychological strategy, everyone was indirectly forced to work hard as long as they attended the weekly comparison event.

Thus, the number of flaws they had drastically decreased since they had begun to hold these events.

Linus's efforts had paid off and he was proud to be able to show Jason what he had created in only a few years.

By now, almost everyone wanted to attend the weekly comparison event, but now Linus had started to limit it to only a specific number of people who were allowed to attend them.

This was another factor that forced everyone, who wanted to attend the event, to work even harder.

He had turned being accepted into the event as a matter of prestige.

The attendees had to be careful to show their utmost efforts and allow none to overtake them.

It was a great system to make everyone work hard, and the few dozen people wanted to prove to Jason that there was a reason that they had been rightfully chosen.

With that in mind, the first few people began to spar against each other, while the rest were watching intently.

Some were even preparing notes in order to point out mistakes in the combatants' martial art technique, how they could have used their mana circulation better, and so on.

Seeing how focused everyone was, reminded Jason of Argos.

He couldn't help but smile at the memory of his school where the most prodigious talents worked hard to become stronger.

Unfortunately, Argos had not been a good place to cultivate and become stronger which was evident by looking at the current situation.

It was impossible to compare the prodigies of Argos with the people that were currently fighting against each other because their talent was at most above average.

Not even a few minutes passed in which Jason observed the fight before he quickly got bored. However, he forced himself to continue watching the battle.

Initially, he was excited, but right now he had to avoid his facial expression from openly expressing his disappointment.

It was quite obvious that the most prodigious talents on Argos didn't leave the planet because they could use other means to achieve great things.

Furthermore, they were too prideful to accept the fact that they had to submit themselves to other races in order to grow stronger.

However, this was perfectly normal for the average talent.

There were only a handful of truly talented people that would accept submitting to others after all.

Unfortunately, none of the combatants he was watching belonged to this category.

If Jason had to pick a positive aspect, it would be the strength of their soulbonds, and the fact that they were able to forcefully create a fusion with the Ninad beasts they had bound.

While comparing his smooth fusion in which he could naturally release and manifest all body parts according to his own will, he felt that the forced fusion looked hideous.

The fusion with soulbonds was nothing less than sacred for Jason because the feeling of having fused with one of his soulbonds was truly miraculous and great.

Yet, the longer he looked at the fights, the more disgusted Jason felt.

Jennifer noticed this, and she could partially understand how he was feeling.

Though she had never had soulbonds, even she could tell that the combatants in front of them were not only untalented but they also forced their soulbonds to fuse with them.

There was no free will of either party in the soulbond, and the unwillingness of the soulbonds to fuse with their binder was evident because the body part manifestation was not working properly.

In fact, it looked like the manifested body parts were acting as if they repulsed their binder's body.

This clearly showed that the soulbonds and binder didn't have a great relationship with each other.

Their bond seemed to have been forced, which caused her to frown for a moment before she lowered her head in an effort to hide her emotions.

She had seen Jason and the relationship he had with his soulbonds up close.

So while comparing that to the other humans, Jennifer couldn't help but feel that the Shiman camp was barbaric.

As she tried to think of ways to stop frowning, her thoughts automatically drifted to Jason.

Just the thought of Jason, and his five soulbonds that were clinging to him like glue was more than enough.

Reclaiming her poker face, she looked up, where Jennifer was able to continue witnessing the battles of the humans that were using the manifested body parts in a cruel manner.

They didn't even care if the body parts of their soulbonds were being torn out or injured, just because it didn't harm their combat prowess.

This clearly showed how little they cared about their soulbonds' well-being. Jennifer was now of the belief that the people inside the Shiman camp were treating their soulbonds as mere tools.

Looking over to Jason, she saw that he was calmly sitting there, looking at the situation as if it had nothing to do with him.

The sight astonished her for a moment because she felt horrible while looking at the situation.

As such, Jason's behavior was odd, but when she looked at him intently, she realized it was a facade.

She spotted a faint glint in his eyes, his twitching hand that held hers, and the Stigma above his right eye that was slightly fluctuating.

Only now did Jennifer understand that he was holding himself back.

When she perceived this, Jennifer told herself that she had to hold back too.

Her instincts had almost made her jump up from the seat to see someone tear out the wing of another combatant.

The manifested body parts were replicas of the soulbonds' real bodies, but that didn't mean they weren't directly connected to each other.

While Jason felt bad for every single scratch that appeared on the body parts of his soulbonds and cared about them more than his own body, the humans around them were the exact opposite.

To them, shielding their own body was far more important than the body parts of the soulbonds they neither wanted nor cared about.

Thus, they didn't even attempt to protect the manifested body parts and let it be torn apart to save their necks.

As such, the spars that lasted a few hours were testing Jennifer's patience to the limit.

She was forced to keep a poker face while watching the bloody battles that were mostly harming the soulbonds' manifested body parts.

Only when the last spar ended did she finally sigh in relief, glad that the torture was over.

Meanwhile, Jason's expression eased up too, only to hear Linus who was sitting next to them saying something.

"Normally we would now start ranking the fights according to the number of mistakes that have been made, followed by the detailed explanation of every single mistake.

However, because we have two new guests, how about we allow them to spar against two of our group? They should be able to fight well together, and I don't believe that fighting them will be boring!"

Linus' idea was quickly accepted by the others with a loud cheer.

They were similarly interested to figure out how strong Jason was because his mana fluctuations were extremely dense.

Meanwhile, Jennifer's three energies were similarly strong, giving off a dangerous vibe.

Thus, they were eager to see Jason and Jennifer fighting together against two of their camp members.

As for Jason and Jennifer, they could only look at each other with a meaningful look.

They both nodded their head as they thought of something only to simultaneously mumble,

"Don't overdo it!"

"Hold back, okay?"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 852 - Two Versus Two

It had been quite some time since Jason and Jennifer had fought against someone together.

As such, they feared that their teamwork would not be up to the mark.

After all, they had never attempted to devise a proper combat style to adjust to each other's strengths and weaknesses, to begin with.

Despite that, they knew each other quite well, including their combat style, affinities, abilities, and special traits.

With that in mind, they entered the combat ring before choosing their opponents.

There was a large crowd of people they could choose from.

The easy and safe bet would be to pick up the two weakest, but when the two of them made their final decision, the others looked at the dumbfoundedly.

Contrary to their earlier belief that Jason and Jennifer would choose the weakest of them, it was almost the exact opposite.

Both of them chose Linus one of the strongest humans from the rest.

Their opponents entered the ring with a confused expression as they looked at each other.

They couldn't understand why they were picked.

However, they gave a sly smile to each other which made it clear that the two knew each other, and that they were friends too.

But that was what Jennifer and Jason were already aware of.

In fact, this was the biggest reason for them to choose these two as their opponents.

Having seen their fighting style in addition to their behavior while talking to each other had helped Jason and Jennifer pick them up.

They had noted down several things about the two before arriving at a decision.

First, Linus' behavior and fighting style were comparable to parallel lines, but that was not the case for his friend, whose behavior didn't represent his combat style, at all.

Rather, his fighting style was the complete opposite of his rather timid behavior as he fought his opponents rather aggressively.

Everyone in the weekly comparison event seemed to know this, which was why they didn't like fighting the young man. And, from the looks of it, this had also been the case for Linus.

Yet, oddly enough, Linus was like a leader to everyone, while his friend was submissive when it was not about fighting.

Because of that, Jason and Jennifer believed their choice was the best.

If their guess was true, their opponents should have more problems than they were currently thinking about.

With that in mind, they smiled at each other before going into their combat stance.

Jason circulated mana circulating throughout his body, while the three fused energies were coursing through Jennifer.

This increased their strength from the beginning, but Linus and his friend were doing the exact same thing.

As such, Linus, and his friend believed that they were at an advantage.

Linus was at the Initial phase of the Ascension stage, with a combat prowess of a Low Ascension stage being.

Meanwhile, his friend had the same cultivation base, but an even higher combat prowess.

But, it would be only minutes before their confidence would come crashing down.

Their false hopes of emerging victorious in the simple spar only increased when they fused with their soulbonds.

The transformation saw fur growing out of Linus' friend, and his body enlarging while his eyes turned pitch black.

Simultaneously, feathers sprouted all over Linus's body and gray wings emerged on his back.

His hands were also transforming, and a tail grew out of his coccyx.

This confused Jason a little bit because the tail was furry while the rest of Linus' body was covered in feathers.

Despite the confusion, he quickly averted his attention before allowing Petri to enter his mana core.

Initially, Jason didn't plan to fuse with his soulbonds, and even now he was reluctant.

Yet, thinking back on the way in which all the humans from Argos treated their soulbonds was more than enough to change his opinion.

Fusing with Petri would normally allow Jason to grow scales all over his body followed by the several-meter-long tail.

Yet, instead of doing so, Jason decided to grow scales above his right eye, preventing the others from seeing the newly emerging Stigma.

Other than that, his eyes turned into reptilian slits, and the ferocious aura of the Basilisk, the king of serpents, leaked from his body.

Fueled by the anger he had suppressed within, it was next to impossible to block off the aura of the Serpent King.

As such, he released it to a certain extent, and the aura enveloped a part of the combat arena.

However, he concealed the rest that would be more than enough to enshroud the entire dojo.

Seeing the change in Jason's eyes that were now golden and reptilian, the black scales above his right eye, and his aura, everyone except Jennifer was baffled. Linus couldn't help but exclaim,

"You...have already mastered the fusion with your soulbonds?!?" But only a moment later, Linus saw several more scales forming on Jason's face, only to fall off.

This made Linus assume that Jason was far from mastering the soul fusion.

Little did he know that everything was a trick and that the scales that fell off were the loose scales on Petri's body. Jason cleverly utilized the fact that the Cursed Basilisk would soon shed his skin.

Because of his phenomenal track, everyone believed that Jason had been able to create a natural fusion, but that his connection with his soulbond was not yet firm enough to master the fusion process.

Despite knowing that their fusion was better, they were astonished about the sudden revelation of Jason's natural fusion, as it was different from their artificial one.

But even then, they were not shocked to the extent that they were unable to fight.

Rather, it motivated Linus and his friend to give their utmost efforts as the ferocious and anger-intertwined aura was challenging them for a fight.

Thus, the four charged at each other without hesitation the moment the fight started.

Linus and his friend shot at them with great speed; Linus from the air and his friend from the ground.

Yet, rather than advancing to their opponents, Jennifer and Jason first approached each other.

In a swift move, Jason instinctively grasped Jennifer's waist before he threw her towards Linus, using all his physical strength.

This was more than enough to exceed the speed Linus could reach within the short moment that had passed. Jason's momentum allowed Jennifer to appear right in front of Linus as a longsword manifested in her hand.

It was only a moment later that darkness enveloped Jennifer and began expanding explosively.

It enshrouded the entire arena within a moment.

This required lots of mana, but this was more than fine with her.

The only thing she had wanted to do was to distract Linus' partner, making both of them believe that she was about to attack Linus.

However, this was not the case, because she had just wanted to shroud the entire combat arena in darkness, preventing them from seeing anything.

Thus, only their other senses worked, which included her own.

Merely Jason was able to see everything.

Because he could see everything, while the others couldn't Jason was unable to avoid grinning as he released his petrification and race specific weakening curse, targeting Linus' partner with it.

Through that, Linus was severely restricted, while everyone else could only perceive a tremendous amount of mana being consumed by Jason.

Following that, a sword appeared in his hand, and without hesitation, he slashed it at the young man, who sensed everything.

Ready to deflect the attack, his entire focus had been on Jason.

Thus he was oblivious to Jennifer advancing towards him from above.

It was only a split second before Jennifer reached him that the young man's senses warned him.

At that moment, he could see the brightly glowing, golden reptile eyes of Jason that were filled with wrath as the attacks from two sides, and the aura of the Serpent King reached him!

Yet, instead of giving up, the young man didn't accept losing so quickly or easily as if he was nothing but a pushover.

Triggered, the bloodline of his soulbond was activated, and surged through the young man, as his entire body enlarged further.

His crimson eyes turned blood red while his body released a presence that was more of a beast than a human!

'Now we can fight!' He could barely think as the wild instincts of his soulbonds began to overwhelm him.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 853 - Secret

Roaring out in anger, Linus' friend lost all his reasoning as his strength steadily increased.

He moved with a rapid speed, shooting upwards, straight towards Jennifer.

Perceiving this, Jason was about to shout out a warning, only to see that she had instinctively released her two pairs of wings.

Flying away at the last possible moment allowed her to narrowly evade the young man, whose looks had changed to that of a mindless beast.

Quickly retracting her wings after she had evaded the attack, Jennifer looked upwards, where she saw that her darkness had been dispersed by sheer force.

This was not enough to startle her, but when she and Jason saw what happened a moment later, they couldn't help but stare at the young man and Linus in shock.

While Linus had taken a dive down in order to reach Jennifer moments after she had averted her trajectory, the young man had reached Linus.

His fingers had curled around Linus' neck, dragging him with until they reached the ceiling before the beast-like young man bashed Linus into it.

Somehow, the spar got out of control after only a few seconds had passed.

This was unexpected, and Linus, whose head was bashed into the ceiling, couldn't help but feel as if the situation had turned against him somehow.

It had been years since his friend had lost control owing to his soulbonds misbehavior, after all.

Thus, owing to the not so welcome surprise, Linus could only endure a few hits until his friend realized that he was hurting Linus and not an opponent.

And this was also something, he just noticed when Jason emerged next to him.

Jason was armed with Byakur in his hand while bloodlust was leaking from him and his aura.

Meanwhile Jennifer appeared on the other side of the beast-like young man.

She held a bright glowing sword enveloped in light in one hand, while there was another sword radiating gloomy darkness in her other hand.

Releasing her entire energy at once she moved the swords together to create an intense, repulsive reaction as she slashed out.

A sword beam of darkness and light that began to merge into a single source of energy was shot out from her swords that disintegrated.

An ear-splitting sound echoed through the dojo as the beam penetrated into the flesh of the ever-enlarging young man, who roared out in pain.

Yet, despite the shocking amount of energy that had been released by Jennifer, not even the young man's shoulder was cut off.

His right arm went limp as if it was simply hanging there, causing the young man to be unable to hold onto Linus while maintaining a steady hold of the ceiling too.

Thus, he let go of Linus, who fell to the ground, barely strong enough to even move his gray wings.

After landing on the ground, he took a few deep breaths, before staring at the ceiling.

Panting, he saw that Jason's sword had begun to enlarge, and pitch-black flames enveloped the blade.

At this moment, he noticed dozens of mana fluctuations around him as everyone was shooting towards his friend, who had lost control over himself.

However, at this moment, Linus couldn't help but stare into the flames Jason had manifested as he mumbled,

"There is no need for you guys to act..."

Before, he was fairly certain that Jason had bound powerful beasts to his soul, but after sensing the boost in his physique, he was sure of this fact.

Jason had barely taken a second to manifest the black flames that caused Linus' enhanced senses to tell him that he should leave as quickly as possible.

His tail had stiffened, and the same happened to his feathers as he witnessed how Jason exerted some sort of movement technique.

Linus had watched in a mixture of awe and jealousy as Jason inflicted more than a dozen cuts into his opponents, while the black flame entered his friend's body.

This shocked Linus for a moment, but even more so was the fact that his friend fell to the ground.

It was only a few moments later that the suddenly released bloodline quickly receded as he returned to his original form.

His clothes were torn in places, and a huge gash covered half of his upper body.

Yet Linus couldn't look at his friend with sympathy because his head was aching heavily.

Blood trickled down the side of his head, and only after taking three potions did the bleeding finally stop.

While Linus gulped down a few potions the others rushed to his friend after they had reassured him that nothing could happen anymore.

They were acting in a disciplined manner as if they were used to such incidents.

This gave Jason and Jennifer the hint that their soulbond contract with the Ninad beasts was possibly not as great as they had imagined.

'So not only is their physique unstable, and not fully compatible, but their control over the fusion is also not perfect?'

It was a simple conclusion based on the current scenario that Jason had made use of.

Just by looking at Linus for a few moments, Jason presumed that only a few people that bound Ninad beasts with a big personality, or other problematic characteristics could act like this.

However, this was just his assumption, and not proven, yet.

Nevertheless, Jason felt reassured that none of the spectators planned to attack them, while Linus approached them with a faint smile.

"I could have never expected you two to be so powerful. To think that Max's Berserker Bear soulbond went out of control because of your combined attack is truly unbelievable.

This means that you two would have been strong enough to kill him, not bad! Thank you for not killing him, you have some great soulbonds!"

Seeing the glint in Linus' eyes, Jason realized that he had attracted his attention, which was exactly what he had planned to do.

There were many unknown factors, but based on the given situation, Linus seemed to be one of the people with the highest authority in the Shiman camp.

And this was the case despite his cultivation base being lower than that of many other humans inside the camp.

In the end, this said a lot about Linus' potential, including his soul world's size, special traits, and so on.

After all, the severe wounds Linus had sustained were already fully healed minutes after their small spar ended.

Even with the potions he had gulped down, this shouldn't have been the case.

Making use of his Emperor Eyes, Jason saw a new type of mana coursing through Linus body, gathering around the areas that had been injured.

This was interesting, and by inspecting the entire situation thoroughly, including the fact that Linus acted like he was seriously injured and that he had to use potions to heal himself, Jason understood something.

'Either, he wants to hide at least one soulbond, its abilities, and special characteristics, or there is something else, which I cannot comprehend yet!'

Linus' enhancements were not much different from the others but according to the transmutations of his mana, he had more soulbonds than the rest of his group.

As such, he was unlikely to have bound a Ninad beast...or he bound a different one, a unique kind!

Even if that was not the case Jason was sure that Linus had a secret.

This could prove to be extremely dangerous for his stay inside the camp, and the plan of killing the Lord of Death!

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 854 - Natural Soul Fusion

Jason couldn't be sure of the reason for Linus to hide certain things.

But given the fact that he was considered one of the higher authorities, it was most likely for safety purposes, or to have a trump card up his sleeves.

Even if that was not the case, it was pretty obvious that Linus had held back against his friend, who had mercilessly bashed his head into the ceiling.

Not letting rage overwhelm his rational mind was a pretty tough thing to do because it was certainly still painful.

After all, Linus was the one bleeding severely while his friend had not even received a single scratch!

However, even then, Linus was calm, and Jason couldn't help but wonder if the young man was stronger than him and Jennifer.

As such, it was important to be more careful in the next fight against Linus, if it were to ever occur again!

Minutes passed, and the chaos subsided, replaced by everyone returning to their daily routine.

Seeing how quickly everything was wrapped up, as well as the urgency with which the young man was taken care of, Jason and Jennifer couldn't help but be a little bit stupefied.

After all, the others had returned to their seats, where they awaited the evaluation of their fights, which included mentioning their mistakes, one by one.

From the looks of it, this was far more important to them than Jason first assumed.

This was unexpected, even more so because one of them was heavily injured, but it was as if being injured was a routine to them.

Because he perceived this, Jason had decided to adapt to their mindset.

Thus he returned to his seat with Jennifer by his side.

If they had been looked at with mild interest earlier, the others were now even more impressed with them.

Jason was not sure how great this was for their plan, but it was early enough that he figured out that it was no problem, at all.

After getting just a glimpse of his true combat strength, they might regard him highly, but not to the extent that they feared him.

The same was the case with Jennifer, and despite the abrupt end of their small battle, it was pretty great that they were able to spar one time together, without any of them being forced to reveal too much of their true capabilities.

With that in mind, there were still many things they could do during emergencies, opening ample opportunities for them.

However, this was not important as of now because the others began to point out the mistakes of their friends and colleagues.

None of them held back in clearly stating what they had done well, what movements had been wrong, or incomplete, and how they could have used their affinities better.

Previously, Jason didn't think much of this event but seeing that everyone seemed to care about the precision of their comrades' combat prowess, he was a little bit astonished.

He assumed that not a single human at the Mid Ascension stage or higher attended the weekly comparison events.

This clearly indicated that this event couldn't be taken seriously owing to the fact that not a single professional martial artist was present.

Despite that, and the evident fact that the real potential of the present men and women was, at most, above the average, Jason felt that they were meticulous.

What they lacked in talent they made up for in hard work and the fact impressed him.

However, that was where his appreciation of the humans ended.

It was their soulbonds who were probably doing the most work while receiving the least recognition or nourishment, which annoyed Jason, who didn't comment on the mistakes of the others.

Instead, he quietly watched everything, trying to figure out what everyone was truly thinking and if their mindset was aligned with the thought that soulbonds were mere tools.

He was not sure how long it took, but it felt like an eternity before the young men and women had finished pointing out the mistakes of each other.

After they were done, they turned towards Jason and Jennifer.

"How about we assess your fighting style as well? We didn't see much because of the shroud of darkness, but there are still a few things I could point out!" It was Linus who said this with a small smile on his lips.

Jason didn't have anything to say against this, and neither did Jennifer.

As such, they nodded their heads while awaiting the assessment of Linus, who had fought against them, and the others who had watched the spar from the outside.

"Because we didn't see much, we might as well point out the most evident things first.

As such, I think we can agree that your naturally formed soul fusion is a great thing, and once you can truly control it, you might be closer to the Lord of Death, but right now, you need to work on it a lot.

If my guess is correct, you can fuse with your soulbond's eyes, and because you've already created an aura, your soulbond can also influence your aura.

That is an advantage, but it's sad that you can already manifest an Aura.

It looks like you'll be missing out on the aura technique we, the humans of Argos, are currently creating.

As for your combat techniques, I can tell that you rely a lot on your soulbonds, and your movements are extremely smooth, so I think you possess a powerful movement technique, am I right?"

Jason just nodded his head when Linus finished his evaluation, only for everyone else to follow suit, adding whatever they liked and disliked.

He didn't really agree to everything, but that was not something he could be bothered about right now.

It was a big mess, but Jason simply accepted all the evaluations he had been given, taking them into consideration even if most of them were utter bullshit.

This was important in order to understand what the others thought of him, and if necessary to make use of this received intel.

With that in mind, Jason was able to stay calm even if the others were saying utter nonsense.

But, that was not the case with Jennifer who was shaking uncontrollably, ready to throw fists at everyone who insulted him.

Seeing this, he couldn't help but feel that Jennifer was getting flustered unnecessarily, but instead of minding it, Jason felt that it was nice to watch.

Yet, instead of staying focused on Jennifer's adorable behavior, he averted his attention back to Linus once everyone was done assessing his strong and weak points.

"You said that my natural soul fusion is somewhat comparable to that of the Lord of Death but just inferior. But, who is the Lord of Death?"

Looking directly into Linus' eyes, he tried to put on a mask of confusion and curiosity, in order to appear genuinely awed by the person he wanted to kill.

These emotions were mostly fake, but that didn't matter because he was clearly stating what he wanted while showing the most suitable expression to achieve his goal.

As such, Linus and the others were not suspicious of him because the name 'Lord of Death' had been mentioned a few times in context to his natural soul fusion.

Thus, it was perfectly normal for Jason to ask who the Lord of Death was. Because of that Linus didn't hesitate as he answered the question.

"To put it simply, the Lord of Death is also a human from Argos, precisely, the human, who gained the most attention from the Shadow walkers.

He has both a huge soul world and a high soul amplification.

He might only have the ability to form a soulbond with Undead beasts, but the Shadow walkers have their own means to counter this problem!

As for why we compared him to you... he can also undergo a natural soul fusion with one of his soulbonds, just that his fusion is far more formidable!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 855 - Horror Of Impatience

Getting to know that the Lord of Death was most likely truly Lux, was both truly relieving and frustrating.

The additional fact that he was able to fuse with one of his soulbonds made Jason feel conflicted.

He was happy to have more intel that confirmed his theory about Lux being the Lord of Death, but the natural soul fusion was something that irked him.

And this was even more so the case because he recalled the strongest soulbond of Lux.

If his memory wasn't wrong it was probably the Lich, or whatever the existence that became stronger by devouring the souls of others had been.

It was annoying to think that Lux might be able to fuse with this being, and receive a boost in his strength.

What worried him was he had no clue how strong they were alone, either.

As such, his mission became suddenly more difficult than it had previously been.

He felt a little bit frustrated about this predicament, and the increased dangers, but at the same time, Jason was not really scared.

After all, Lux had never been a cultivation prodigy, and it had only been around 10 years since he had left with the Shadow walker.

Given the wrong information that Lux possessed a high soul amplification, he must have bound many powerful Undeads.

But even then, it was important to pay attention to one's physical limitations.

If one was not careful about this, one's vessel might break owing to the increased strength that couldn't be held together anymore.

With that in mind, the fact that Lux had not yet reached the Lique stage despite having spent around 10 years with Shadow walkers, and the limitations that were brought forth by one's vessel, it was impossible for Lux to be as strong as Jason.

However, even if Lux was as powerful as him, his cultivation base couldn't be higher, and neither his combat prowess.

Jason might have left Argos a few years after Lux, but his cultivation talent was several times better than anyone present.

Thus, even Linus, who seemed to have lived on Manyr for his entire life spanning several decades, was not on par with him.

This was something Jason was confident in.

Because of this, he quickly calmed down his raging thoughts that were making him feel increasingly uneasy.

His mind was trying to make him believe that Lux was still stronger than him, just like it was the case 10 years ago.

After defeating the demons in his thoughts that were trying to shake his confidence, Jason took a deep breath before he asked,

"If the Lord of Death is so formidable, shouldn't we try to ask him about natural soul fusions? He should know more than I do...and maybe he can help all of us to form more natural fusions with our soulbonds!"

Jason tweaked his voice to sound excited and eager to get to know more about soul fusions.

Not all of this was an act, because he was actually eager to get to know more about the Lord of Death, though he knew more than enough about soul fusions.

Yet, after seeing the frown on the faces of the other humans, Jason couldn't help but feel that he had said something wrong.

However, it was at this moment that the injured young man spoke for the first time.

"It's not that we don't want to form natural fusions, but we feel like it's impossible to achieve this with the Ninad beasts! As for the Lord of Death, he might reside in the Shiman camp, but he would rather kill you and turn you into one of his soulbonds instead of answering a single question!"

The first sentence made a lot of sense because Jason was fully aware of the fact of why the Ninad beasts didn't like forming a natural soul fusion with their binders.

After all, there was no way that any beast would love being treated like replaceable tools!

In his opinion, treating one's soulbonds well was the most important to form a firm, natural soul connection with them.

But Jason didn't think that anyone in the camp would even think of doing the same. And it was not hard to guess why.

Nevertheless, he couldn't watch the innocent beasts being treated worse than garbage, which made him propose something.

"Is it truly impossible to gain a strong enough soul connection with Ninad beasts, making it impossible to fuse with them? Are you guys treating your soulbonds well, to the extent that they would voluntarily sacrifice their lives for you?"

Even if he was not obliged to do anything, Jason felt that he had to say what he said. However, when he received several weird gazes, he knew that his words were considered the gibberish of a drunkard.

With an indignant look, Linus asked him.

"Why should we treat our soulbonds well? They're just the means for us to become stronger, nothing more or less!"

Jason bit his lower lip when he heard this before he countered.

"I treat my soulbonds like my family, and assumed the same to be the case here. Maybe it's not necessary to form a strong enough bond with your soulbonds to fuse with them, but I believe it helped me a lot.

However, I might as well be wrong, so I hope the lot of you won't take offense at what I just said."

It could have been a futile effort, but at the same time, Jason couldn't just sit there and stay put. He had to speak his mind and let out his frustration to an extent.

Now that he had shared his thoughts, he knew that he had to be careful.

After all, he wanted to stay inside the Shiman camp, which was more important than before as Lux was said to live here!!

The intel about Lux's exact whereabouts didn't matter because he could easily figure it out. For now, it was already more than enough to know that he was inside the Shiman camp.

Because of this, he had to hold back his opinion about the way in which everyone seemed to treat their soulbonds.

This made him feel guilty, but there was no other way...for now!

Considering that there were several camps of humans from Argos,, Jason was sure that many treated their soulbonds wrong.

The fact that they were solely on the lands of the Shadow walkers, with many more races that might have created similar camps made him worry about all the soulbonds.

Jason couldn't change everyone's mindset overnight, but if at least a few people were to understand the importance of treating their soulbonds better, he would have won half the battle.

When more people would become aware that a happy soulbond was important in order to build up a proper soul connection, everything would become much easier.

In fact, Jason knew that the Celestia bloodline was making many things easier for him.

He believed it was a major reason for him to be able to form a fortified soul conjunction with his soulbonds in a year from binding them to his soul.

However, this didn't mean that it was impossible for others to do the same, even if it would take a little bit longer.

Unfortunately, the fact that it took longer was the biggest issue because most humans Jason knew were extremely impatient.

Impatience was the worst foe of Cultivators, and this was the biggest disadvantage humans had to face.

In fact, Jason might consider himself to be impatient as well, but this was not necessarily true.

Once he found the right time and opportunity, he could cultivate for a very long time when nothing would torment his mind, and distract him from doing whatever he wanted.

This was also why he had been able to cultivate for an entire year with Jennifer by his side.

Had she been away from him and hunted by other Cultivators, he would have hardly taken a breath of relief.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 856 - Shattered Expectations

After the evaluations were completed, Jason thought that the weekly comparison event would be over now, but that was not the case.

In fact, it was almost as if it had just started.

Only when Linus told them that sometimes the event lasted for three days and two nights did Jason understand that it was more like a weekly trainings camp than anything else.

That was the case because people grouped themselves in pairs and began to spar against each other once again.

However, this time, nobody was allowed to use any mana or the artificial soul fusion.

Jason found this interesting because the restriction forced everyone to solely rely on their combat awareness, physical strength, and combat style.

Through this, they were able to comprehend much more than during the times they were forced to rely on other things such as mana circulation, the utilisation of specific martial art techniques, using their soulbonds' manifested body parts, and much more.

With that in mind, Jason decided to join the others, while continuing to emphasize that a natural fusion was much better.

At the same time, he clearly demonstrated that his physical strength was far more than that of the others.

His movements were smoother too without the problem the others had.

As a matter of fact, the issues of the humans around him were solely based on the enhancement they received from the Ninad beasts.

This should tell Jason that the humans themselves were at fault for bringing forth these problems.

However, he couldn't think that way after everything that had happened because it was more like the Ninad beasts were more sensitive towards the soul binding process than normal beasts.

Their soul amplification was higher, and it looked like they were easier to form an artificial soul fusion with even if that was forced.

But that was not helpful considering that the Ninad beasts seemed to be able to retaliate much more than normal soulbonds owing to their sensitivity.

As a matter of fact, Jason's Emperor Eyes were slowly able to comprehend the things he hadn't been able to perceive clearly only hours before.

Through this, he could see that Linus had to keep an eye on his soulbonds, preventing them from doing however they pleased.

This decreased his possible combat prowess by a small margin.

Jason couldn't tell for sure whether this was owing to the fact that Linus' soulbonds were stronger than his or due to the soulbond contract.

However what he was sure of was the fact that Linus was not the only one with issues, but everyone with a Ninad beast was struggling to bind with them.

Yet, at the same time, nobody seemed to be bothered about it because the advantages of binding a Ninad beast outweighed the disadvantages.

Jason felt that this was hypocritical, but he refrained from commenting.

He just continued sparring with each of the young men and women, while trying to focus on fighting those with the highest physical strength.

That was something he attempted to do because he wanted to subject himself to a lot of pressure, if he wanted to exceed his limitations, to advance his mastery in the Hermes Celeration movement techniques.

As for the Bladed Ruyi Bang martial art technique, Jason had many ideas, but until now he had been unable to practice it properly.

Because of that, he had yet to reach even the lowest basic mastery.

But that was fine with him because the movement technique was more important for now, and he planned to achieve something else with the Bladed Ruyi Bang technique, to begin with!

With that in mind, Jason made use of his opponent's strength to increase his combat prowess in a slow, but steady manner.

He even attempted to not use his eyes or the passive effect of the foresight blessing.

Unfortunately, this was easier said than done, and Jason was indirectly forced to cheat.

The passive effects of his Emperor Eyes and foresight blessing were not something that he could simply ignore.

Thus, his perception was enhanced and the ability to tell where he would be attacked next received a boost too.

Using this to his advantage, he was able to fight with more precision, allowing him to execute higher combat prowess.

Following that, the others were astonished about the way he fought.

To them, it was a mystery of how he was able to predict every single move of his opponent in advance.

This was madness and his accuracy enraged them to the extent that their strength was increasing as adrenaline pumped into their veins.

Yet, instead of defeating Jason easily, they continued to struggle as their movements became even more sluggish due to their loss of concentration.

In the end, Jason was sometimes able to defeat his opponents, and sometimes not, but he never lost his focus on the comprehension of the movement technique. Though this was not the case for the others.

As a matter of fact, the humans he fought were sweating profusely and were barely able to get their act together. Meanwhile, Jason was using the time in between the spars to focus on his comprehension, if he understood everything properly, and what he could do to fix the mistakes he saw.

This difference was what made a true prodigy stand out from someone who was a rookie and an untrained combatant.

Given that circumstance, Jason decided that sparring for a few hours was more than enough for him to understand everything he wanted to.

His comprehension of the Hermes Celeration movement technique had increased, but that was not the most important fact.

Rather, it was interesting and a major achievement for him to have a rough understanding of the combat prowess every participant of the weekly comprehension event had.

With that in mind, he left the dojo, along with Jennifer, who was right next to him.

Ensuring that nobody else would hear him, he quietly mumbled,

"I'm quite disappointed...Were my expectations too high about this camp?"

Jennifer heard him mumble, but she didn't comment.

In the end, she was not sure what she could do to help him because her mood was as bad as Jason's.

They might have gotten accepted in the camp, and Linus had allowed them to stay inside his large home.

But that didn't change the fact that everyone treated their soulbonds like a use and throw tissue, to put it nicely.

She hadn't seen a single human, who treated their soulbond nicely or anything that could be considered close to affection or love.

This made her believe that Jason was an anomaly amongst the humans from Argos but in a good way.

Lightly tapping Jason's back, she tried to distract him from the sorrow engulfing him.

Little did she know that Jason's thoughts were somewhere else, focused on finding Lux, the Lord of Death.

The title given to Lux was cringeworthy, but that was not something to be concerned about.

Instead, it told Jason that he had to be careful about the abilities of Lux as well as his army of Undeads.

He was aware that it should have skyrocketed in number as a decade had passed since their last meeting!

Thus, he couldn't afford to be reckless and plan every move thoughtfully.

Hence, instead of wasting his time, he soared into the air before releasing his entire mana and divine energy into the Emperor Eyes in order to see everything around him.

By utilising his eyes' ability, he could finally start searching for Lux, who was said to be nearby.

It was only half an hour later that he began to smile brightly as he mumbled,

"I found him!! He is...at the Peak of the Prismar stage!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 857 - Encounter

When he perceived the mana fluctuations of Lux, Jason's immediate reaction was to sense it again.

They were transmuted to an extent that it took him a while to recognize them.

Nevertheless, after confirming that they did, in fact, belong to Lux, Jason couldn't help but have one thought in mind.

'Should I assassinate him right now, and leave directly afterward?'

This would be, by far, the best thing he could do in order to soothe his rage fueled heart.

However, at the same time, Jason couldn't help but feel that this was wrong.

There was no reason for him to kill Lux, except the fact that he had shot at him 10 years ago. As such, it was evident to be angry, but was that really enough for Jason to fly towards the Shiman camp, and assassinate someone over a decade old trivial conflict?

In the end, Jason felt that actively searching for someone to kill at sight, and meeting on a battlefield as foes was a huge difference.

From the beginning, Jason was not inclined to kill anyone. That had changed a little bit over the last few years when he was left with no option but to kill when it was necessary, and even if it was just to make an example out of someone.

Despite that, his entire being seemed to be screaming to him, telling him not to assassinate Lux right now.

This was weird, and something that he hadn't felt before, whether it was for others he had killed without hesitation or his way to end Lux.

As such, Jason stared in the direction of the Lord of Death's abode, not sure what he should do right now.

Before making a move, he had to replenish the used up mana and divine energy, either way, but that was not something that would take an extremely long period.

Thus, he thought of making up his mind before doing something that he might regret.

He had never had second thoughts of killing Lux so he was not sure why he was hesitating right now.

"He is only at the Peak of the Prisma stage? If that's the case, his vessel shouldn't be able to allow him to reach the combat prowess of a Cultivator at the Low Ascension stage. If he did attempt to do that it would break apart, right?"

It was Jennifer, who asked this doubt to Jason.

She was not sure if she understood the vessel theory that Jason had created in connection to the soul awakenings of the humans from Argos.

However, Jason could only nod in response to her.

His sight that was still enhanced by mana and divine energy enabled him to perceive that Lux was only at the Initial phase of the Ascension stage, even with his soul amplification.

Either he had held back on binding more Undeads, or he was looking for stronger soulbonds to bind.

Jason believed that Lux's body must have reached its limit once he did the soul fusion with the being whose soul connection was firm enough to create a natural fusion.

Lux's soul world was huge, but his soul amplification was extremely low.

This meant that the number of soulbonds he had were already in the double-digit, but that was not really a problem in Jason's opinion.

Rather it made things much easier for him after he figured out that there was only one beast he should pay attention to.

After all, it was this beast that altered Lux's mana fluctuations the most, strengthening him substantially.

If he was not wrong, this Undead being must be the same as ten years ago, which was intriguing but also quite dangerous.

Even a decade ago, the Undead being had been an extremely powerful being that was able to grow stronger by devouring the soul of the deceased.

So now, he wasn't sure what to expect of the Undead being and its strength that must have reached a formidable level.

Being an Undead would normally bring forth many problems, but given the fact that it was able to become stronger turned most disadvantages into dust.

However, Jason was able to keep calm when he gauged that this being was most likely at the Ascension stage.

He was not sure what rank it was, and could only take a guess.

But he knew that the moment Lux were to fuse with this beast, he would certainly reach the combat prowess of a ordinary Low Ascension stage Cultivator.

By adding all kinds of other factors such as his scheming behavior to the mix, Jason was able to figure that Lux's strength might be on par with his combat prowess.

This intrigued Jason to the extent that he was only answering Jennifer's questions in short sentences before he approached the house of Lux.

He had barely been patient enough to replenish his mana and divine energy before marching towards Lux's house.

As he was nearing the house, Jason noticed that the vile energy of the undeads was slowly becoming denser, but that was no surprise to him as he had already expected something similar.

The lack of people in the surrounding houses was a great indicator of the possibility of Lux possessing something that made others reluctant to even come close to him.

In addition to that, the unique type of energy or Aura that permeated the surroundings were formidable and would have affected Jason if not for his determination to accomplish the task.

Jason simply ignored it without doing anything to repel it as his retracted Celestia aura was passively doing this already.

His Celestia aura was exceptionally helpful, and Jason couldn't help but smile faintly before he entered the largest house of the entire Shiman camp.

It was no clear indicator but being inside the largest house made him think that Lux probably belonged to the most talented batch of humans inside the Shiman camp.

This was weird because he didn't recall Lux as extremely talented in terms of cultivation or combat prodigy.

Yet, instead of dwelling on this thought for too long, Jason approached Lux's location with determined steps with Jennifer in tow

She was not sure what exactly Jason was trying to do, or if he had a plan, but she trusted him wholeheartedly.

As such, there was no need for her to ask anything, even after they arrived right in front of the door that was hiding Jason's target.

Strong currents radiated from the door behind which the center of the death energy was located, as well as the person Jason had been looking for.

Thus, the moment the door was opened, the distinct and malicious death energy flooded the two of them, but neither of them was forced to retreat owing to it.

Rather, the death energy was trying to envelop them before infiltrating their bodies and senses in order to draw out the life force nurturing Jason and Jennifer.

However, both of them repelled the death energy, while staring at the skinny young man, who was seated on the ground cross-legged.

His looks had changed tremendously in a decade.

Had he not been able to sense the familiar facial features and the mana fluctuations,? he wasn't sure if he would have identified Lux correctly..

Jennifer looked at Lux, with an uncertain expression, not sure whether to think that Lux looked disgusting or strong.

His frail-looking body rivaled that of a malnourished person and he appeared to have no powers at all.

Thus, Jennifer took a moment to think if he was really as strong as she had heard because the sight in front of her confused her tremendously.

Not knowing what to make of him, she looked at Jason for help but this didn't seem to be of any help.

He wore identical expressions of confusion and was staring at Lux as if he was a complete stranger.

While Jason and Jennifer had barged into Lux's room, he was still cultivating.

Despite sensing the presence of the two young adventurers he stayed seated as he didn't feel any killing intent radiating from them.

He didn't remember the fluctuations of Jason so it looked like they were probably new faces that were intrigued about him.

Little did they know that their mistake to enter his abode in a rude manner would cost them dearly.

As such, he quickly completed the cultivation cycle and cleanly finished cultivating for the time being.

As he got up from the ground, he wasted no time in releasing strong death energy that pierced through Jason and Jennifer's body.

"Who the hell dared to barge into my home?!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 858 - Alive And Dead

"Who the hell dared barge into my home?!"

Roaring out in anger, Lux shifted in his seat while his eyes were still closed.

His mind was occupied with something else other than the two infiltrators.

At this moment he straightened his back, as his bones creaked while death energy kept leaking from his body.

The bottom portion of the room turned pitch-black and it was only a fraction of a second later that dozens of Undeads emerged from the darkness.

Within moments they surrounded Jason and Jennifer, even before Lux took a single glance at them.

Opening his eyes, he looked at Jason and Jennifer with an unruffled expression.

While his expression was unbothered, his eyes that were pitch-black just like the lower portion of the room, scanned both of them.

After scanning their mana fluctuations, Lux calmed as his lower lip curled upwards.

"It looks like I have two esteemed guests...and you two are very powerful at that...how about you two become my soulbonds?...But for that, you'll have to DIEE!"

From the looks of it, it was impossible to speak with Lux because he summoned his remaining soulbonds.

They were large in number and easily filled the entire room with more than a dozen Undeads at the Peak Prismar and Initial phase of the Ascension stage.

Other than that, there were also many Undeads that had a lower cultivation base.

But none of that mattered to Jason because he couldn't help but smile dryly as he was attacked by Lux.

Not only did Lux not remember him, but he was also more aggressive than it had been the case ten years ago.

This was something Jason presumed to be the case owing to his soulbonds' influence that was much stronger than he had assumed.

He knew that his soulbonds altered his personality to some extent, and their daily comments were not exactly helpful either.

But thinking that dozens of Undeads were ravaging in Lux's mind made Jason flinch.

However, instead of wasting his time and not retaliating against the attacks, he decided to act quickly.

Yet, before anything else, he grasped Jennifer's hand before pulling her behind him, clearly showing that he wanted to fight Lux alone.

With Jennifer's light affinity, it wouldn't be much of a problem to overwhelm the opponents around them. Their strength was not exactly high, but at the same time, it was just a waste of time and energy.

As such, Jason allowed Solaris to enter his mana core for a moment but didn't even think about fusing with the black origin flame.

Instead, he made use of the increased mana consumption as he initiated his counterattack.

By releasing his Aura, and activating the Stigma, before intertwining the black flame affinity with the moonlight affinity, and divine energy, Jason was able to enhance Solaris' flames to the max.

This spike was more than enough to burn even beings at the Low Ascension stage if used properly.

Solaris' flames exploded all around him as he released them from his entire body except his back. The searing flames engulfed Lux and his soulbonds that were burned to ashes in an instant.

There were no painful screams, owing to the fact that the Undeads didn't feel any pain.

So the only reaction they received was only Lux's growling that reverberated through the room before he quieted down too.

Without a second thought, Jason retracted the flames, storing them inside Solaris for later use.

It was impossible to convert the black flames back into mana and divine energy, but Jason had recently found a clever alternative of storing them inside Solaris.

He was not sure if his soulbonds could do that before, but it didn't really matter because he could store up as many flames as he wanted, and release them without restraint.

This was interesting because it was possible to store flames for an entire month, or even several years, just to release everything at once.

Despite Jason's interest in this topic, his focus was on Lux, whose appearance had changed once again.

Several of his soulbonds at the lower ranks had already turned into cinder.

Solaris' flames had severely damaged Lux's soul world core owing to the destroyed bond, but that was not something Jason was worried about.

Instead, he smiled at Lux, who had retracted the other Undeads inside the soul world, in order to save them from being turned into heaps of ash.

Having fused with one of his soulbonds, Lux's appearance changed from the skinny, almost lifeless-looking young man to a burly man.

His skin had turned bluish, while his eyes were now naturally pitch-black.

There were also other changes that were happening, but they mostly affected the death energy all around them, followed by his strong presence, the inner structure of Lux's body, his mana veins, and even more so, his strength.

Considering that the strongest soulbond of Lux had been similar to a skeleton, Jason wondered if it had evolved. It should be possible for beings that could continue to grow...even if it was an Undead.

Despite having undergone a soul fusion, Lux's appearance was no different to an ordinary human being...a dead one, but that was not what mattered, either way.

Unable to suppress a subtle smile, Jason said something he had been wanting to say to some other humans on Argos, whom he would love to meet once again.

"Long time no see, you piece of shit!"

The last part was something Jason added on a whim, but it suited the situation perfectly, and caused Lux to halt in his tracks.

Looking at Jason, he tilted his head, wondering what Jason might mean because he didn't remember him from anywhere.

This caused Jason's smile only to widen because he felt that it was not unlikely for someone, who had spent a decade cooped up in Shadow walker's den to remember anyone.

As such, Jason muttered while looking Lux in the eye.

"Argos, 10 years ago, in the four-star rift in Cyro City. You shot me, bastard!"

He was not sure why, but Jason felt the urge to curse at Lux, and doing so was extremely pleasing.

Lux was still writhing in pain due to the destroyed soulbond connection owing to some of his soulbonds' death, so there was more than enough time for the two of them to speak.

Yet, instead of reacting to the insult, Lux just nodded his head before he mumbled,

"Ah, so it's you...I forgot you were alive."

Under normal circumstances, Lux's remark would have hurt his pride.

But right now, as he stood staring at Lux, letting the realization of him being alive sink in, he merely shrugged his shoulders.

More than being annoyed Jason felt like he should be laughing right now.

That was because he felt Lux's combat prowess that was close to ordinary beings at the Low Ascension stage.

However, that was not what caused Jason to almost laugh out loud.

Dozens of people at the weekly comparison event had tried to scare him about Lux's natural soul fusion for no reason apparently.

"I'm still alive, yes, but I don't think that's the case for you, is it?"

Jason just said the things that were on his mind.

There was no reason for him to hold back either, fearing to be killed by Lux as it wouldn't happen, not now or ever.

He presumed that even Jennifer was strong enough to kill Lux, and he would be able to achieve the same, even without using the natural soul fusion.

Thus, Jason acted fearlessly as he pointed out that Lux was already dead, which one shouldn't be able to perceive under normal means.

But, before he killed him, he wanted to wipe that smirk off his face. Thus, Jason taunted him further.

"Oh... not only are you dead, but you fused with the same blood orb from ten years ago. To think that the Shadow walkers allowed you to do that...impressive!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 859 - Unexpected Challenge

Lux was looking at Jason in dumbfoundment, not sure how exactly he had been able to figure out his well-guarded secret. Not only was he dead, but he had fused with the same orb that was in his possession for more than ten years.

Seeing Lux's reaction that was the first change in his expression, Jason felt that he had hit the bullseye with both of his statements.

He didn't really remember what kind of orb Lux owned to revive the beings he had killed moments after they died.

But what Jason recalled was the fact that Lux could turn living beings into undead by simply killing them.

The orb would do the remaining work of turning their soul and mana core into some sort of Undead core. This core harbored the mana that was required to empower the remains of their body.

That was also the reason why Lux, the Lord of Death, was mostly in possession of Skeletal soulbonds.

Jason assumed that by fusing with this orb, Lux was killed, and revived.

This increased his strength, the control over his soulbonds, and it was probably also the origin of the death energy.

This was quite intriguing, and oddly enough, Jason had momentarily forgotten about his anger at Lux for nearly killing him.

It was almost as if his anger had never existed, which made him wonder why he was even standing in front of Lux, to begin with.

However, even if Jason was suddenly feeling like this, he was certainly not wasting his time inside the Shiman camp.

There were so many things he had yet to figure out that it felt weird to him to be facing Lux.

Now that he was looking at Lux, he seemed less terrifying than years ago, which was most likely owing to the fact that he fought thousands of opponents.

Through the decade, Jason had fought opponents whose looks were more hideous, while their strength had been much higher in comparison to Jason's at the time of their battle.

There might also be a trace of inexperience in his first deadly encounter with Lux, but right now Lux was no match for Jason.

After retracting the Celestia aura, deactivating his stigma, and no mana circulating through his body, only Jason's mana fluctuations which he didn't conceal were a clear indicator for his strength.

But that was not enough to scare Lux, which was not what Jason had planned to do, either way.

"I'm quite disappointed in you. Didn't you have a few years of advantage over me? How come you left Argos, and you're still not at the Ascension stage?... And here I hoped to encounter someone I might fear to fight a life-and-death battle with.

But given your current strength, I'll simply have to execute you without any real fight.

That's quite boring, isn't it?"

Shaking his head, Jason continued to look at Lux, while exposing his true feelings.

In the end, Lux was one of the few humans he had feared in his childhood.

Even if he had never shown it to anyone, the 'Lord of Death' as he was called now, had been someone Jason had feared owing to his merciless behavior and decisive acts.

The memories of the rift were still crystal clear in his mind.

Yet, right now, Jason knew that he could kill Lux at any moment, which was something everyone inside this room perceived.

Lux was not feeling any threats right now, but his entire being screamed at him to leave. Surprisingly, even his soulbonds were telling this to him, which had never happened before.

With his intention to kill Lux having died down, Jason felt a little bit depressed.

Meanwhile, Jennifer, who was beside him, couldn't help but speak the harsh truth.

"I think you are forgetting that you are different from normal humans. Why are you even trying to compare yourself to someone you might have lost to ten years ago? Wasn't it obvious that you're stronger than him by now?"

It's impressive that he reached the Peak of the Prismar stage in only ten years, as a being from a planet in the Infant phase, but your heritage is a 'little bit' stronger, isn't it?"

Jennifer's words felt like a punch in the guts, yet, unfortunately enough, he couldn't come up with a retort.

Her words were the truth, but she had a weird way of stating the facts.

It was truly impressive for Lux to enter the Peak of the Prismar stage after leaving Argos at the peak of the Prismar stage, and only ten years had passed.

His own achievements were even more impressive, but they were mostly owed to his Celestia bloodline, innate talent, and hard work.

Thus, he couldn't help but look at Lux with a little bit of astonishment as he mumbled,

"I guess he could only cultivate that fast after being nurtured by the Shadow walkers, and reviving himself through the orb he merged with. It should have enhanced the speed at which he can cultivate..."

After he said so, Jason and Jennifer began to discuss a few things, completely ignoring Lux.

He couldn't believe that they didn't even spare him another glance and casually talk about other things while he stood stiffly in front of them, expecting to be attacked by a lethal strike at any moment.

Yet, nothing happened for several moments and only by listening to the words of Jason and the woman he had brought along, was Lux able to grasp that their thoughts were already worlds apart.

They weren't paying any attention to him anymore, and he began to wonder why they had barged into his new home if they were just going to debate while he watched in confusion.

But he couldn't ask that to them for the fear of being killed, Lux could only quiet down.

The fear of being killed was something he hadn't felt for almost a decade since he left Argos.

Even after entering Manyr, a new planet that was filled with ferocious beasts that could tear apart the strongest existence on Argos in a blink, he hadn't really been afraid.

Thus, he felt a little bit weird right now, not believing his eyes that it was truly the little Jason who was standing in front of him.

It was a sharp contrast to the terrified Jason he had seen years ago.

Now, he was nonchalantly speaking about cultivation, his speed, the fact that he was not comparable to normal humans of Argos, and so on.

Slowly overcoming the fear of death, Lux recalled that he was dead himself, the Lord of Death, and the harbinger of it.

As such, he didn't think of backing away as he stared at Jason in hatred, loathing the fact that a nobody had been able to reach the strength that was comparable, or even greater than his.

Yet, to Jason's fortune, Lux didn't lose all his reasoning, and instead of blindly attacking Jason, who would receive his partner's support if something were to happen, he cleared his throat before he voiced out a challenge while gritting his teeth.

"YOU!! I challenge you to a life-and-death battle!!"

It was only when Lux had yelled at him that, Jason turned back to Lux.

He blinked his eyes as if he was surprised to see Lux, who was staring at him with hatred.

This caused him to feel a little bit confused, and Lux to be furious.

He only shook his head because Lux should know that he had no chance against him.

"Well, if you are eager to leave to the afterlife, just tell me when and we can fight..."

The glint in Lux's pitch-black eyes told Jason that there was a deeper plan Lux had in mind, and it was exactly as he had thought as the sickly-looking man roared again.

"In three days we will fight, and you will die at my hands!!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 860 - Insanity

Jason could already predict what Lux would do in the following three days because it was not really hard to understand.

Yet, despite having predicted that Lux would give his utmost efforts to become stronger in these three days, it was still unexpected to hear that the Lord of Death would kill his own people and their soulbonds to do so!

Showing no remorse, in the next three days, he killed the strongest opponents he could face and revived them as Undead before binding them to his soul.

Through this, Lux's strength skyrocketed to a whole new level than cultivating would allow him. His strength had reached an extent his vessel was barely able to endure but even then it was not enough for him.

As such, for three sleepless days, Lux killed, revived, and bound his own kind and their soulbonds.

It was as if he was consumed with the goal of defeating and killing Jason.

This clearly showed how serious he was about his battle with Jason as an opponent.

In the end, Jason had just let Lux go on a killing spree while observing everything from the sidelines.

He was interested to know what the other humans would do against Lux.

However, oddly enough, they didn't do anything, which confused Jason because the other humans from Argos should know that Lux could possibly kill them too.

It was way too confusing that they simply accepted everything the Lord of Death did and let him slaughter humans like guinea pigs.

Nobody raised their voice let alone retaliate which caused Jason to ask what was going on.

Linus had seen the bloodbath, and from what Jason perceived during the last few days in which he had been inside the Shiman camp, he cared the most about the people of the camp.

Nevertheless, this was not enough to make Linus act against Lux, clearly showing that there was more behind it.

And it was only when Linus gave them a proper answer to the chaos around them that Jason, and also Jennifer understood the situation properly.

"It is not that nobody of us wants to do something against the Lord of Death's barbarism, but neither are we allowed to obstruct him in doing anything he wants nor are we supposed to intervene in any kind of decision he takes.

That's one of the orders we received from the Shadow walkers!"

Given the fact that everybody else was powerless against Lux, Jason didn't have to be the smartest to understand that the Lord of Death was considered to be an extremely important asset to the Shadow walkers.

This was quite intriguing, even more so because nobody under the soul contract with the Shadow walkers was allowed to intervene in Lux's decisions, which played into his hands.

"So if he challenged me to a life-and-death battle, and I kill him, you guys are not allowed to intervene, right?"

Jason simply asked what had been on his mind since the last three days.

But upon hearing Linus exclaim as he turned towards him, it was next to impossible for him to keep a straight face.

"So... the rumors are true? How did you even end up offending the Lord of Death, so soon, at that?"

Linus was a little bit frustrated that Jason would die because he had planned to present him to the Shadow walkers as his big discovery in order to get promoted.

He had not the slightest doubt that Lux would kill him without even batting an eyelid.

He had already chalked out a plan wherein Jason would be able to live a good life as long as he followed the clauses provided by the Shadow walkers.

However, given the current situation, Linus could only sigh deeply, not understanding why Jason had to offend someone like Lux, and how he was even alive to tell him that.

After all, Lux didn't follow any rules, and proposing a life-and-death challenge was not something he would usually do if someone displeased him to the extreme.

"Well, it's not our problem if you can kill him, but even if you can kill him, the Shadow walkers will either turn you into their slaves or kill you, which would be less torturous.

Furthermore, I doubt that you can kill him, and the chances have further decreased after he turned several of our people and their stronger Ninad soulbond into his Undead soulbonds.

So...good luck, I guess?"

It was clear that Linus didn't like Lux, but even then, he was unable to do something against the Lord of Death.

Other than that, Linus only stated the facts as he saw them, clearly expressing his opinion of the situation.

Afterward, he wanted to find out more about how Jason found a way to end up in the perilous situation to offend Lux.

This was something Jason was not sure about either because he would have spared Lux as long as he didn't do anything stupid to him or Jennifer.

As such, he couldn't help but be a little bit confused too, which he clearly expressed.

With that in mind, Jason decided to reveal a little bit of the truth he had hidden before.

"Well, it's possible that I entered Manyr a little bit later than you guys assumed.

When I called myself a 'child' I was referring to the late teens.

Either way, this is not important, but the fact that I know Lux from before the two of us left Argos!"

In the end, it didn't matter how much he revealed to Linus because the fight against Lux was going to start in less than half an hour.

Afterward, he would leave, and everything would be fine, even if Linus were to say something to the others.

It was a simple plan, and other than tweaking the time period of the story he had told, Jason didn't do anything.

As such, Linus only got to know that Jason knew Lux from Argos, and that they had some bad blood though he didn't know the details of their past conflicts.

When he heard this, the only reaction Linus gave was to nod his head before averting his attention.

"Alright...In that case, given the minuscule possibility of Lux's death, it is my duty to inform you that all Shadow walkers in the surrounding area will be informed about his death.

By the way, this also includes the death of the other humans Lux killed. The notification the surrounding Shadow walkers will receive is not as intense as it would be with the Lord of Death's death, but considering that more than five of us died, I believe they've sent someone over!

Telling you this is the bare minimum I can do, considering that the Lord of Death kills whoever he pleases...even a friend of mine wasn't spared..."

Jason didn't know that Linus had also lost someone, but now he understood the reason for Linus to not like Lux.

Owing to Linus's dislike of Lux, he had given him information that was far more useful than what he had acquired until now.

It was bad that Shadow walkers were likely to be on their way to the Shiman camp, but that was not really unexpected.

Jason had assumed this which was also why he and Jennifer had already taken a proper look at the portal that led to the secret realm the Ninad beasts called their home!

Under normal circumstances, taking a look wouldn't be all that special.

But when Jason had tested the portal once in order to see where the portal led to, Jennifer simply followed suit and stepped through it.

Being able to enter the portal meant one particular thing which neither the Shadow walkers, nor other races seemed to be aware of- that other races were able to enter the portal, and the place at which the Ninad beasts lived.

Jason assumed that either the Aeus race, the three cultivation energies of Jennifer, or maybe even the fact that she was a halfling was an important factor to allow her entry to the portal towards the Ninad beast's realm.

That meant, even if a Shadow walker were to come searching for them, they could flee as long as they were incapable of defeating their opponent!

With a backup plan in mind, they were much more confident and unbothered about Linus' warning.

Yet, little did they know that news about something that was about to happen in the Julandra was spreading through the Shiman camp like wildfire and that the news would shock Jennifer greatly!