

Abyssal 161

Chapter 161 - Decisive Battle

Close to the center of the continent, a grand battle between the Heavenly race and the demonic horde was going on.

This battle started two days ago when the Heavenly Guard had lost its effect and the demons inside it were freed once again.

High in the sky, the Soul Forging existences of both sides were fighting, creating explosions that were displaying all types of energies and colors. But despite the grandeur of their fight, everyone could see that the winning party was obvious.

One side had forty-one Rank 4 individuals, who were either Angelic Paragons or Angels of Supremacy, working in an orderly manner, and always helping their comrades in case of danger. They were encircling their enemies and slowly and safely draining them from their power.

On the other side were twenty-seven Rank 4 demons, who could not care less for the rest and only wanted to kill anything in front of them and escape, since they had realized the futility of their fight.

The Heavenly race was not taking any chances in this fight. Their losses have been beyond catastrophic in their previous battles and they have lost more than fifteen Rank 4 of their people.

They were able to increase their numbers thanks to the warriors that were invading other worlds had returned to help them face the immense threat that was rising in their world, and they were doing everything possible to stop more casualties among them.

With their power, they could have killed most of the demons in a very short time, but that would have been dangerous since they would be exposed to all types of suicide attacks and open the possibility of some of the Rank 4 demons escaping in the midst of chaos.

The two most powerful individuals in the battle were Oliver and Tomas.

Olivar was sending all types of weapons and beasts made of lava against the demons and Tomas was focusing on those demons that were close to escaping, using his Yin Law to weaken their attacks and the Yang Law to push them back to the encirclement.

On the ground, there was also a fight, and although the destructive power generated in it could not equal the one on the sky, the number of people fighting could be counted in hundreds of thousands.

The disparity in numbers was not as overwhelming as their first battle, and although the Heavenly race army no longer had Volcano Eruptions to increase their power, they were dominating the demons.

Tomas was focusing on the entire Rank 4 battlefield, always looking for a problem that could occur. He had managed to return to this world a couple of weeks ago and thanks to his bloodline and some extremely precious medicines, he was able to heal all the wounds on his body and soul.

He had just stopped a demon from escaping when a message was heard in his mind.

"My Lord, we have terrible news from the Magi side!"

The Angelic Paragon recognized the voice immediately. It belonged to the Rank 4 Angelic Paragon named Mirok, who had arrived in this world not too long ago. He was the leader of his scrying force, which was focused on tracking the Magi's actions.

Both Oliver and Tomas recognized the immense threat that those Magi represented, especially after they lost Martin and six Rank 4 Angels of Supremacy to them.

Therefore, they had made a force to try to scry their movements and also sent a great number of spies to monitor their actions.

The Duke became nervous when he heard Mirok's voice. The scrying force has been incapable of truly seeing the actions of the Magi due to a red fog always appearing when they launched their spells.

Tomas was able to recognize that red fog as something created by a very powerful individual using the laws. But since his spies on the ground had found nothing, he was hoping that they were waiting for the man who defeated Martin to come back from the void.

"Tell me exactly what is happening."

Tomas' words were firm and his tone was severe as he commanded the man.

"There was an alteration in the natural energies of the world and the red fog was not able to hide them this time so we were able to scry the Magi and it seems that they are creating magic towers."

Tomas' eyes widened, and he immediately tried to contact his spies but no one responded. The last time he spoke with them was two days ago right before starting the fight with the demons.

He was very smart, so in a matter of seconds, he was able to deduct that the Magi had managed to obtain the information about the time when the Heavenly Guard will vanish from Martin and had been waiting for them to be too focused on the demons to make their move.

Using the red fog to protect from the scrying and killing their spies without them realizing anything.

When he thought of the pitiful fate of his comrades and to what tortures they performed on the Duke to obtain the information, Tomas' eyes filled with rage, but he did not let his emotions get out of control and focused on the threat.

"Tell me immediately where are they building the next tower!"

Tomas could not hide the urgency in his voice.

He knew about the famous Ten Towers Formation from the Magi World. They have only put four of them, but that has given them great control over a considerable part of this continent, and the more towers they have the harder it will be to truly defeat them.

"That is the problem my Lord, six towers are being built at the same time! Four of the towers have two Rank 4 life forms as guardians each and the other two have only one. By the energy we are receiving, they have advanced plenty and it won't be long before the towers are finished. I will send you their locations right now."

Tomas was shocked, and his heart grew cold. If the Ten Towers Formation was built, most of the continent will be under the control of the Magi, and they will be able to slowly extend their invasion until all of it was dominated by them.

No matter what, the Duke knew that he could not allow them to continue so he started to figure out a plan to stop them.

After analyzing the battlefield, he reached the conclusion that he could at best take ten Soul Forging existences away without compromising the encirclement over the demons.

Knowing that time was of the essence, Tomas contacted Oliver and another eight Rank 4 Angelic Paragon and informed them about the situation they were facing.

After the initial surprise, each of them took a group of Rank 3 Heavenly race members and flew away with their maximum speed.

It did not take them long to reach the point where they had to separate.

Although it will be safer if they are together, they will only be able to destroy two towers by doing that, three if they are lucky, not to mention that the Magi will escape before they even get close if they see such a big group coming their way, so they decided to split.

They were close enough to feel the aura of those Rank 4 Magi when they focused on where the towers were being built.

As Tomas analyzed the power of their enemies, he was frowning. He could feel a very powerful duo in one of the towers, and after some consideration, he decided for Oliver and an Angelic paragon named Fin to go there.

The other couples were not particularly stunning, so he did not worry too much about them. What was disturbing him were the two towers that only had one Rank 4 life form each.

In one tower, he detected a dark aura coming from the person guarding it and he was able to connect him with a necromancer.

Although Rank 4 undead creatures reanimated by magic are not very powerful, they are excellent meat shields, and they will give the Magus a lot of time.

Tomas sends against him a man named Tyron whose wings were purely made of bones. That Angelic Paragon will be the best opponent against that man.

The Duke gave everyone their respective target, and since he was the leader of the army, they followed his instructions.

"Remember, our goal is not to defeat them, but to allow those at Rank 3 to destroy the towers and then you must leave immediately."

Tomas was solemn as he spoke and the others knew what his concerns were. They did not have significant injuries from their fight against the demons, but their energy pool was very low and they will not be able to fight with all their power for a long time.

The Angelic Paragons left and Tomas flew to the tower that had the strongest guardian.

Accompanying Tomas were three Master Rank 3 Angelic Paragons. Despite their numbers, they are extremely powerful and a normal Magi at the same Rank could do nothing against them.

It did not take them long for them to be able to see the tower and the surrounding individuals.

The tower was being built by dozens of red automatons who were working at a very fast speed and there were three people flying in front of it.

One of them was a giant covered by lightning, another was a woman with a black ice dome around her, and the last was a man riding on a massive creature.

The most striking of all was the man, high in the sky, from whom a monstrous killing intent was being released, covering everything for hundreds of kilometers.

Chapter 162 - Cultivator Vs Angelic Paragon

Heinz had also detected Tomas and the other three Angelic Paragons. His eyes were cold and a sharp killing intent could be seen inside them.

Before Tomas could get close enough so that his attack could reach the magic tower, Heinz took a single step forward.

The Rank 3 Angelic Paragons could not see how special that step was, but Tomas could and he immediately made the energy in his body burst to the peak in order to respond to the immense threat he was feeling from the man that had just appeared in front of him.

Teleport a large distance and arrive right in front of your enemy was dangerous since as your body starts to appear, you will not be able to properly respond an attack

But what Heinz did was not simply teleport in front of Tomas. What he did was fold the space between the two of them, allowing him to walk from the space he was standing to the one in front of Tomas in one step.

Heinz did not attack directly against the Angelic Paragon, but instead broke the space beside the two of them, creating a suction force that swallowed both and threw them out thousands of kilometers into the sky.

There wasn't any need for words and the moment they appeared in the sky, they stimulated every single ounce of power inside them and released their Law Avatars.

Eight Taoist trigrams circling a yin-yang symbol appeared behind Tomas and his wings glowed due to the thousands of inscriptions inside them.

Heinz's blood sword also manifested itself, but it was different than before, as now surrounding its edge was a grey power that seems to be able to affect space.

Previously the Law of Space was only able to grant external help to his Law Avatar since it was not able to achieve synergy with the rest of the laws, but now, thanks to his increased comprehension, Heinz was able to channel that destructive might of the law into the avatar.

When Tomas saw Heinz's Law Avatar, he became nervous. His comprehension of the Law of Space did not reach the first level yet, but it was enough to realize that the grey power was a phenomenon produced by space being broken.

The next thing the Angelic Paragon saw was Heinz slashing with the sword on his hand into the air, and then the massive Law Avatar appears right above him and mimics the movement.

The speed of the attack surprised Tomas, but he reacted immediately and he responded with his dark blue wings, releasing a blue light that intercepted it.

Tomas had reached a very high level in his Yin Law, due to the help of his bloodline, and it was able to use softness to diminish the striking power of an attack or even right away invalidating them.

But when the massive sword touched the blue light, after a moment of initial slowness, the severing force in the Law of Space, Law of Killing and Law of Sword ravished it, slashing space itself as it continued its march.

When he saw this, Tomas was shocked. His usual pattern was weakening the enemy attack with the Yin Law and then counterattack with the Yang Law, but the offensive might of Heinz's Law Avatar was too much.

Immediately he channeled all the power of his Law Avatar and from his dark red wings, a beam of sword light was fired against the giant sword that was approaching him.

The momentum of Heinz's Law Avatar was finally stopped, but before Tomas could do anything, the twenty thousand meter sword appeared above the Duke and fell with immense speed and power.

This time Tomas attacked with his Yin Law and Yang Law at the same time, managing to stop the sword in one movement, but in the next instant, he had to once again answer another attack from the Law Avatar.

Unlike his opponent who was under the immense stress of the sword barrage, Heinz was completely calm and he performed all types of attacks with the sword in his hand.

There was no question about who had the lead on this battle. Originally when Heinz just arrived into this world, his power could only equal the one from Tomas, but with the improved comprehension of the Law of Space, everything changed.

He was able to fuse the destructive might of space into his Law Avatar, making it reach a whole new level. His offensive, defensive, and survival skill made a qualitative leap and he could now be considered a true absolute powerhouse inside a Middle World.

Of course, suppressing Tomas was the best he could do, and killing him will not be possible. At most he could destroy his body if he was willing to receive some grave injuries himself.

But his mission was just to gain time, so he merely focuses on stopping the Angelic Paragon from doing anything.

It took a lot to explain events between these two Rank 4 life forms, but in reality, from the moment when Heinz folded space and took that step until now, less than ten seconds had passed.

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Explosions were filling the sky as the two Rank 4 were fighting, but the situation below them was different.

The three Neo-Demons and the Angelic Paragons had not started their fight yet, and they were analyzing the other party.

Zatiel was looking at his opponents and his expression was solemn as he calculated the card they have at their disposal.

Thanks to the training in the Fiend Essence Extract Chamber and them absorbing the energy in hundreds of Heavenly race members, their power has increased considerably and since they have completed more than twenty-five percent of their Elemental Bloodline Marrow, they could be considered at the Advanced Rank 2 Neo-Demons.

This is not a mere title since it means that now their Elemental Bloodline Marrow has generated enough blood in their body for them to activate a skill known as Blood Essence Combustion.

As its name says, the skill will allow them to burn their new blood, increasing their power and also improving the characteristic granted by the Elemental Bloodline Marrow.

But there is a severe shortcoming, and that was it will damage your body and could affect your potential. As long as it is not used in excess, the damage will not be too severe and after a couple of months of healing, any possible consequence will be mended.

'If our opponents were Master Rank 3 Magi, then by using Blood Essence Combustion and our runic sets, we could defeat them, but they are Angelic Paragons. Luckily we were prepared beforehand!'

Zatiel looks for a moment at Sophia, and he remembers when she had asked him for the body of that Angelic Paragon they first killed for some experiment in alchemy.

The Rank 3 Angelic Paragons were named Robert, Marvin, and Justin. Robert was a short man with a thin body and wings made of air, Marvin had a robust constitution and his wings were formed from metal as for Justin, he was very tall and his wings were constructed by grey fog.

Both Marvin and Robert had impressive armors on their body, and Justin had what seemed to be a runic set inscribed in him.

They had served under Tomas for a long time and were experienced warriors, so when their instincts told them that the three individuals in front of them were a threat, they discarded the fact they were Rank 2 life forms and took them very seriously.

The trio was clear about their mission and they prepared to assault the tower and destroy the automatons before they could advance more.

But then they felt something wrong in their bodies and the next second, they detect a foreign substance affecting their nervous systems.

They were able to immediately realize that there was an undetectable poison in the air and they had been affected by it.

Their bloodline grants them resistance to a great variety of toxins but this one seems to be made especially for them, and they were forced to use part of their energy to contain it, and even then, they only slowed it down and were not able to purge it.

The three Angelic Paragon realized the danger of their situation and without waiting they flew to the tower as they channel all the power they could.

Zatiel, Sophia and Ezequiel did not hesitate and activated their runic set and inside their chests, a golden, black, and blue flame started burning.

The Neo-Demons flew to intercept the Angelic Paragons and the first to do it was Ezequiel who just reformed his body after transforming into lightning, right in front of Marvin.

His skin was covered in diamonds and he threw a punch with all the power of his giant body at the Angelic Paragon.

Marvin was surprised by the speed of Ezequiel despite his gigantic body. When he saw the fist that was as big as his entire body approaching him, he did not doubt its power and his skin became metallic while he punched with all of his power.

A sonic boom filled the area, and the two were thrown back dozens of meters after the impact.

Chapter 163 - I Got You

Despite one being a three hundred meters Titan and the other being less than three meters tall, the winner in the fist collision was the Angelic Paragon.

The two had been pushed back dozens of meters, but unlike Ezequiel whose entire arm was trembling and bones were fractured, Robert's body was firm as a rock.

Ezequiel's attack was not ineffective since he was able to let some of his lightning and thunder enter the body of the Angelic Paragon, but the amount was too little and it will need to increase considerably to show a true effect.

The disparity between the power of their bodies was not just due to their Rank. Unlike Ezequiel, whose Blood Diamond Skin only covered the surface of his body, Marvin's bones and flesh obtained metallic properties.

But the difference in power did not diminish the fighting intent in Ezequiel's eyes, if anything, it only increased, and he decomposed his arm into lightning before reforming it, completely healed.

He could use this type of regeneration, since, right now, every cell of his body was infused with lightning.

When Marvin saw this, his eyes narrow, and he frowned. He was stronger than his opponent, but his energy reserves were already decreased due to his fight with the demons and he needs to suppress the deadly toxin affecting his nervous system, so the longer the fight continues, the worst it will be for him.

The Angelic Paragon launched himself against the titan, and the power in his body was rising.

"AHHHH!"

Ezequiel did not even try to move away and with that roar, he made lightning concentrate on his arms and charged at his opponent.

As this contest of physical power was going on, Zatiel and Sophia were intercepting their enemies.

Robert was approaching the tower at an amazing speed, but before he could reach it, a man with a dark golden domain appeared in front of him.

He saw how the man had released jets of golden flames from his feet to increase his speed, but he also detected the flaw in that technique and that was its lack of maneuverability.

The dark golden fire domain forced him to use some of his energy to activate the magical properties of his armor, but he did not stop his march and with amazing dexterity, he evaded Zatiel and continued on his path.

But right in front of him, the gargantuan figure of the Undying Leviathan appeared, and it tried to crush him.

The Angelic Paragon did not falter in front of the creature, and without stopping, he raised his hand, releasing a tornado that sent the Undying Leviathan flying away.

Robert's path was unobstructed, but his eyes widened as he saw how, from the Undying Leviathan's shadow, appeared the Nether Crow and with its incredible speed, it attacked him.

The distance between the two was insignificant, especially with the crow's speed, but displaying astonishing flexibility and rapidly changing movements, Robert moved his body away from the attack trajectory.

Despite having evaded the Nether Crow, Robert was impressed as he knew that neither of his comrades could have responded to that attack, but he did not have time to think much since a greater feeling of danger assaulted him.

The origin was a sword charged with negative energy. The attack had a precise angle and the moment it appeared was perfect.

This flawless attack was thanks to Zatiel's True Strike. He was able to see the actions of the Angelic Paragon before he made them, which allowed him to attack at the instant he could do the most damage.

Robert knew he could not avoid this attack, so he moved his body in a way he could get less hurt and made powerful wind surround his body.

Despite the armor and wind, the sword was able to trespass them and leave a deep laceration on the Angelic Paragon's thigh.

The damage of the sword was not much, but the negative energy infected the leg and in his condition, the least Robert wanted was another power harming his body.

The Angelic Paragon's wings flapped and dozens of wind blades were fired against Zatiel.

From Zatiel's chest a jet of golden flames was fired, separating him from Robert, but even then some of the wind blades still reached him, leaving numerous wounds on him.

To the shock of the Angelic Paragon, the wounds healed immediately and in less than a second they all disappeared.

Robert knew that he could not reach the tower without at least incapacitating Zatiel, so he attacked with everything he had. As for the healing abilities, that sort of skill took a lot of energy so he was confident his opponent could not keep it for long.

What he didn't know was that Zatiel's regeneration was a natural condition of his body thanks to him having active Blood Essence Combustion, and it used a very small amount of energy.

Zatiel did not hesitate and he attacked along with the Nether Crow and Undying Leviathan.

Just like the other two, Sophia was also fighting against an Angelic Paragon. A great stream of Styx water was swirling around her dome and from it, dragon's tails and claws were being fired.

Unlike Ezequiel and Zatiel's attacks, the attacks of Sophia did not have a great striking force, but the power in them was different.

Her attacks were filled with all sorts of poison and curses that could greatly damage even Rank 3 life forms with powerful bloodlines. This was thanks to them being made from Styx water and were improved by her runic set.

The runic set she was using, and that took the form of a witch outfit, was known as The Black Death and its function was increasing the power of all type diseases, curses, poisons, and as well as to grant great speed to the user.

Justin's power had similar functions, so he was able to detect the danger in Sophia's attack. Grey fog was covering his body, blocking most of the attacks from reaching him.

From the grey fog, bullets, arrows, and spears were created and launched against the Neo-Demon.

Sophia had the Styx water moving through the exterior of her black ice dome, and they protected her from most of the fog's attacks.

But the bullets were incredibly fast and powerful, so they were able to reach her body unless a great amount of Styx water was put in its path.

Sophia could feel that the damage on her body as the bullets pierced it was not severe, but the fog was able to fuse into her bloodstream and it had corrosive properties.

If this fog enters inside Zatiel or Ezequiel, they will have to spend part of their energy to contain them. But trying to harm Sophia's blood with it was like trying to harm lava by using fire.

Still, every time some fog enters her blood, she gets paler and even coughs blood, showing to the Angelic Paragon a picture of great damage.

Seeing this made Justin increase the power and frequency of his attack, focusing all of his minds on the offense, which weakened his defenses, making more and more Styx water enter his body from the dragon's claws and tails.

The battle between the three Angelic Paragons and the three Neo-Demons was getting more and more destructive.

Zatiel, Ezequiel, and Sophia were displaying astonishing abilities and battle power, but they were still losing.

Ezequiel and Marvin were sending all types of attacks against each other and every time their fist clashed, explosions of lightning filled their surroundings.

The titanic figure of Ezequiel was covered with injuries and since he did not have the energy to heal all of them, he focused only on those wounds that limited his battle power.

Marvin's body was also damaged since it was filled with lightning and thunder.

Robert had three big incisions and a great number of small ones all over his body, but although Zatiel's body was perfectly fine, the truth was that hundreds of attacks had already landed on him and he was starting to get exhausted.

The Angelic Paragon with wings made of winds was also affected, and the negative energy in his body was reaching very dangerous levels.

The most intense battle was the one happening between Sophia and Justin.

The Angelic Paragon had suffered plenty of damage from the Styx water and he was coughing blood from time to time, but he had managed to make a great number of his fog projectiles harm Sophia.

On Sophia's body, dozens of open wounds could be seen, although the corrosive effect of the fog was not harmful to her, she still took damage from the physical aspect of the attacks and her regeneration abilities were not powerful enough to rapidly heal them from them.

The three Angelic Paragons knew that it was a matter of time before they would win, but unfortunately for them, time was not something they had.

They could feel the energy of the magic tower growing and it won't be long before it is finished.

Justin's eyes became resolute, and he activated his runic set, which increased his power greatly, and he created a curtain of fog around him, covering him from everyone's sight.

When this happened Sophia's eyes narrowed and she sent dozens of attacks against the fog but none of them was able to penetrate it when all of a sudden a figure was formed inside her dome.

The Neo-Demon turned around and moved with great dexterity. But she was not able to stop the hand covered in grey fog from piercing her stomach.

Justin was surprised by Sophia's reflexes. His runic set allowed his entire body to turn into an undetectable fog that could trespass on any defense and reform instantly when he wished.

The fog curtain was just to trick his opponent as he attacked them. His hand was targeting her heart, but she was able to move at the last moment. However, Justin did not worry as the amount of fog in his attack was enough to kill her.

But when his skin comes in contact with her blood, he could feel the Styx water that had entered his body during the fight go crazy and a sense of imminent doom assaulted him.

The Angelic Paragon acted without hesitation and was about to move back when he saw how Sophia grabbed his hand that was in her stomach and looked at him with her crimson eyes and a smile.

"I got you!"

Chapter 164 - We Have Won

Sophia's blood, while she had activated Blood Essence Combustion, could be considered a source of all types of terrible curses and deadly poisons.

The moment Justin's hand entered in contact with it, countless magic diseases affected him, and when Sophia's blood was able to enter his bloodstream, it acted as a catalyst to the Styx water that entered his body during the fight.

Justin's physical strength was superior to Sophia, but he was not able to get rid of the Neo-Demon's grasp since right now he was in such a feeble state that he could barely move.

He was feeling nauseous, his brain was burning due to fever, pustules appeared all over his skin, and his senses were shutting down except for his sense of sight that allowed him to see the crimson color affecting his mind and stopping him from thinking straight.

Despite heavily injuring her opponent, Sophia did not relax. She was also in a critical condition, the physical damage done to her was severe and her energy pool was about to go empty.

When that happens and the Angelic Paragon manages to suppress those curses and poisons, she would lose the fight.

She concentrates on her Chaotic Core and sends a message. Then along with great killing intent, she channels all the power she has left in Oceanic Nothingness, pushing the spell to the limit.

The currents of Styx water that were circling outside the ice dome enter in it with great power and from Sophia's body more black liquid comes out, covering the body of the Neo-Demon and Angelic Paragon with ferocious currents.

Nothing could be seen in the dome other than the highly destructive currents of Styx water, but two words were heard.

"Abyssal Blast!"

Powerful explosions of chaotic energy were felt inside the ice dome.

Everything happened so fast that Robert and Marvin were not able to react. They were shocked and worried about the condition of Justin.

This made them lose focus in their battles for a moment, and it proved deadly because Zatiel and Ezequiel were waiting for it.

From Zatiel's feet jets of golden flames were released pushing him right in front of Robert, and once there, all of his energy concentrated into his Eye of Life and Creation performing his strongest attack that contained Life Release and Abyssal Blast.

"Abyssal Life Release!"

Six pairs of beams of energy were fired upon Robert, and although the Angelic Paragon tried to use his impressive speed to dodge them, Zatiel was too close and the attack was too fast.

He was only able to focus all of his power into his armor and made a tornado appear around him before the attack reached him.

As this was happening, Ezequiel had transformed his body into a river of lightning from which a titan's hand arose.

"Ancient Titan, Right Hand!"

Right now Ezequiel's blood was filled with powerful lightning so by using it as a medium, he was able to instantly cast this mighty spell. But something was different about it, and that was that inside it, he had left all the power of his Abyssal Blasts.

Marvin felt an immense threat from that hand as it flew at him with impressive speed. The Angelic Paragon was only able to fill his armor with energy before making his wings grow and form a metal cocoon around him.

The attack affected both Angelic Paragons almost at the same time and filled the sky with explosions of chaotic lightning and flames, making Marvin and Robert crash like meteors to the ground where they created immense craters.

In the sky, Sophia's ice dome broke and the Styx water vanished, showing the figure of the Neo-Demon and Angelic Paragon.

Justin's right arm was gone, as was his shoulder and part of his rib cage. All of his skin was rotten, and there was not a part of his body that was not crushed due to the powerful current.

Light came out from his eyes and mouth, and the reason was the hand that had just pierced his chest and stabbed his heart, killing him.

Sophia could barely maintain the rune in her hand active and was falling to the ground when the Nether Crow appeared and grabbed her along with the Angelic Paragon before flying back to the Sun Domain, where the Undying Leviathan swallowed them.

Zatiel focuses on the belly of the creature and saw that Sophia was channeling all the energy obtained from the Angelic Paragon into her marrow and after there was nothing left, she fell unconscious.

The reason why he and Ezequiel were able to take advantage of the Angelic Paragon's concern on their friend was due to the woman's message telling them she will be fine, allowing their focus to remain in the battle.

When he heard that message, Zatiel knew that her situation was very dangerous, but he trusted her. The woman that had managed to gain a place in his heart was not some trash that could not fulfill her responsibilities and needed others to always help her.

By risking her life, she had managed to do what neither he nor Ezequiel achieved. She killed a Master Rank 3 Angelic Paragon alone.

From the craters, movements could be seen and eventually, both Marvin and Robert came out.

Marvin was feeling immense pain due to his wings being charred, and lightning had filled his body, wreaking havoc inside it.

He had to focus all of his remaining energy on stopping the toxins and lightning from continuing its destruction, and worst yet was that his consciousness was damaged and was filled with a chaotic will.

Robert's condition was even worse since his body was weaker, so the damage to it was greater. He had lost both of his legs and the negative energy had invaded his blood and was destroying it.

Ezequiel and Zatiel saw the horrible condition of their enemies, but neither of them acted and remained looking at them from a distance.

The reason for the lack of action was simple, they had no power left in their bodies and if it wasn't for the Blood Essence Combustion still active, they would have fallen to the ground due to the lack of energy.

They had their runic sets deactivated, and Zatiel could barely maintain his Rank Spell. Ezequiel's condition was worse since he had to sacrifice a great amount of his blood for the spell he just used.

Neither of the four could truly continue fighting, but it was much worse for the Angelic Paragons than was for the Neo-Demons.

Robert and Marvin's mission was to destroy the tower and even if their path was clear now since neither Ezequiel nor Zatiel had the power to stop them, they will not be able to pierce the defense of the tower and destroy those automatons.

There was immense rage and frustration in their eyes. They lost a friend and the tower that will bring immense harm to their people was about to be completed.

High in the sky, the battle between Heinz and Tomas was still going. They were both very tired due to the extended period that their Law Avatars had been active.

The cultivator has not stopped his sword barrage from the beginning of the fight and has forced the Angelic Paragon to maintain his defense at all times.

Tomas' condition was not as severe as one may think, after all, he is the strongest warrior of the Heavenly race in this world. The damage he had received was not serious and his racial regeneration abilities would have been enough if it wasn't for the Law of Blood in his opponent attacks, that make any injury grow and obstruct his healing.

The worst part for him was that he did not know how things were going in the other battlefields and if the towers had been destroyed.

The explosion from Abyssal Life Release and Ancient Titan Right Hand had drawn the attention of both and they sent a part of their consciousness to see what was happening.

A smile appeared on Heinz's face and he even started to laugh, but Tomas' reaction was completely opposite.

He knew how strong those three warriors are and even if they were tired from their previous fight against the demonic horde; he found it hard to believe they were in such a terrible condition and that one of them was dead.

Tomas could feel the energy of the tower growing, signaling that it was only moments away from its completion, and then it will start to generate a force field that will force him to escape.

The Angelic Paragon had only one card left, that could allow him to destroy the tower, but doing it so soon after the last time will have severe consequences, and even with his powerful bloodline, the damage could be permanent.

"Ah, for my race," Tomas sighs, but in the next moment, determination filled his eyes.

"Law Avatar: One with the Law!"

The eight Taoist trigrams circling the yin-yang symbol melted and fused with Tomas' body, greatly increasing his power.

Heinz's eyes narrowed as he saw this and a great fighting spirit was felt from his body, but he did not engage with the Angelic Paragon.

Fusing with his Law Avatar will have even greater repercussions on him since he did not have a bloodline that could mitigate the damage.

'We have already won, there is no need to risk my life when there is nothing to gain and everything to lose. Unfortunately for them, from the beginning, they have been deceived for my brother's plan and they have not even realized yet!'

Chapter 165 - War Casualties

Heinz acted immediately when he saw Tomas fusing with his Law Avatar. He used Void Disruption to appear beside Zatiel and then covered the three Neo-Demons with his consciousness before teleporting far away from the tower.

Tomas saw as this happened but he did not try to pursue them. His current power will allow him to easily defeat Heinz, but he knew that the cultivator should be able to fuse with his Law Avatar by the law comprehension he was displaying in their battle.

The Angelic Paragon thought that Heinz would at least try to stop him and the fact that he discarded the tower without hesitation confused him, but he did not have much time so he focused on his mission.

The power of the tower was growing and the Angelic Paragon knew it would be a matter of minutes before it was completed.

Tomas' wings were able to cut space creating a portal in which he entered. Just as space was healing itself, another rupture appeared beside the tower in the sky.

It took a second but Tomas was able to exit from it and without delay, he sent a beam of sword light into the tower, disintegrating it along with all the automatons in it.

Heinz, Zatiel, and Ezequiel were able to see this from a distance. That was the tower they just fought to protect with everything they had and now it was destroyed in an instant, but they were calm as if the tower itself was worthless.

Tomas was focusing on Heinz and when he saw his complete lack of interest in the tower, his confusion grew even stronger. Unfortunately for him, his time was running out and the power of the world was already acting on him.

He appeared beside Robert and Marvin and covered both of them with his wings, before breaking space again and entering in it with the two Rank 3 Angelic Paragons.

If he were to leave them behind, Tomas was sure that Heinz would imprison them. If that were to happen, their lives will be under the cultivator's control.

Despite the severe damage done to his body and soul, Tomas did not feel any regret. Without the towers, the Magi will never be a true threat against them and once the demons are killed, they will

be able to focus all their attention on them and use their numeric advantage to purge them from this world.

Heinz was calm but the power in his body was ready to burst in case of anything and he only relaxed when he saw Tomas breaking space and leaving.

"He did not find it even with his current power and control over the laws. It is normal, our action had filled him with confusion and the time he had left before being thrown out into the void was too little."

Zatiel had also his attention on the Angelic Paragon. If his soul had reached Rank 5, then he would have noticed it, but fusing with your Law Avatar only increases your power.

The Neo-Demon looked at the destroyed tower and the crater left from the Angelic Paragon attack, but if you follow his sight, you will notice that he was actually looking at the ground under it.

A great accumulation of energy could be felt from the ground where Zatiel was looking and a moment later, a force field started to appear and extended into the sky.

Tomas had managed to reach a safe distance with Robert and Marvin before no longer being able to resist the power of the world and being sent to the void. As if a cruel joke, the last thing the Angelic Paragon saw was the force field he had risked his future to prevent, begin to form.

There was nothing Tomas could do, and a sense of disappointment and failure was filling his heart.

The same was happening in the other five locations. All the Angelic Paragon had managed to either destroy or at least disable the towers, which should have prevented them from creating those force fields but like in a nightmare, their worst fear was happening in front of their eyes and there was nothing they could do to stop it.

They were not the only ones who were confused since most of the Magi army and Daybreak clan also did not understand what was happening.

Their mission was to protect the tower until the automaton controlled by those Soul Forging existences finished their job, but as the fight was reaching its peak and heavy casualties started to appear, they were told to make a tactical retreat and focus on guarding their lives.

It was only when Zatiel saw the force field rise and knew that it would soon fuse with the others making the part of the continent covered by it something dominated solely by them that he truly relaxed.

A smile appeared on his face as he saw his plan working.

The towers in the ground were decoys from the beginning whose only function was to hide the energy generated by the true towers being built hundreds of kilometers under them.

This task was taken care of by those weaker Rank 1, who had been ordered to hide their activities from everyone else

They had spent weeks making tunnels for thousands of kilometers before reaching their destination, where they started to build the true towers.

Their mission was not truly safe, despite not being carried on the battlefield. If those Rank 4 Angelic Paragon had detected the true tower, they would only have needed to send a powerful attack to the ground and create an earthquake that would have killed them all.

But since only those at Rank 4 and a few others knew the truth, the army fought with everything they have, so their actions plus the fact that there was an actual tower in their sight, was enough to mislead the Heavenly race.

They were enjoying the feeling of victory when all of a sudden both Zatiel and Heinz looked at the direction where the tower that was being protected by the Daybreak clan was.

Heinz felt how the sword tattoo he had left in Dante was used and, thanks to the Primordialis-Core, Zatiel was able to realize that fourteen Rank 1 Neo-Demons had died, all of them at the same time, just now.

Immense coldness appeared in Zatiel eyes when this happened but he did not lose control over his emotions.

He analyzed the force field near him and when he saw that it was powerful enough and that it will be able to protect the tower from any sort of incursion long enough to send aid, he spoke to Heinz.

"Let's go."

Heinz acted immediately and covered them with his consciousness before starting to teleport where the Daybreak Clan was supposed to be.

Zatiel did not waste time. He uses his core to verify the condition of Dante, Rax, and Kilo and communicate with them.

Casualties were to be expected in a battle like this, after all, even he was in danger of death when he fought against that Master Rank 3 Angelic Paragon, but he had made arrangements to ensure the safety of his people.

By only having him, Ezequiel, and Sophia protecting one tower, he was able to focus all of his people in the other accompanied by a Master Rank 3 Magus.

More important yet, he had put Zitira, who was the strongest Rank 4 after Heinz, as part of the duo designed to protect it.

Less than four Neo-Demons had died before this, as for the Sunlight Champions, although he could not track them, their casualties should have also been very low. The fact that fourteen Neo-Demons died in the same moment meant that the attacker must have been someone at Rank 4.

It did not take long for Zatiel to establish a link with Dante.

"Tell me exactly what happened," Zatiel's voice was calm, but it only made the coldness in it feel stronger.

"It was the Duke named Oliver who attacked us. When he saw the force field rising, for some reason, he concentrated on me. More specifically, on my Eye of Life and Creation, and thanks to my Animus abilities I had, I was able to feel the immense hatred he had. It happened very fast and I do not know how he did it, but his power increased tremendously and he was able to get near me. Luckily I was able to fend him off with my sword tattoo and then teleport with it."

There was immense hate in Dante's voice. He also knows about the death of their people thanks to the Sun Tadpole and his memory allowed him to see the face of all of those who died.

"How was he able to get near any of you? What happened with the Magi?" Killing intent was present in Zatiel's voice.

When the task was given, he had made the importance of protecting his clan very clear to those Rank 4 Magi.

Zatiel could accept the Neo-Demons and Sunlight Champions dying in battle since that was the risk every warrior accepts when he goes to war, but being butchered without being able to resist due to the lack of concern by the higher-ups was not something he would allow.

He couldn't care less for their status and power, if they let his people die, he will kill them both.

Chapter 166 - Gratitude

Dante was not able to answer Zatiel's question. By the time he noticed Oliver increase in power and he felt the animosity targeted to him, the Duke had managed to slip past the two Rank 4 Magi and was already sending what could be described as an ocean of lava against him.

He had used the sword tattoo to stop the lava attack since although it was targeting him, it will have killed all the Sunlight Champions and Neo-Demons close to him. After that, the tattoo was able to teleport him very far from the battlefield and outside of the Angelic Paragon's reach

It was Rax who offered an answer. From the way the Neo-Demon was breathing it was obvious he was very tired.

"Ancestor, I had maintained part of my focus in the battle among those Rank 4 and saw what happened. At first, both Magi were suppressing the Angelic Paragons since it seems they were already very tired before the battle even started. When they saw how some of his people had managed to harm the tower and destroy the automatons, they relaxed but the moment they noticed the force field growing, the Angelic Paragon with lava wings, the one named Oliver, went berserker and it seems he took something that increased his power.

He sent one attack against the Magi, which sends the two flying away and then he charged against Dante and released that powerful spell. When he saw how he had managed to escape, he focused his rage on us and he made thousands of lava ball rain?above us."

When Zatiel hear from Rax how things happened his eyes narrowed. The way Oliver managed to increase his power was not important now, but he could see that the repercussion of whatever he did will be extremely harsh since he did not use it during the entire battle.

What bothered him was that Oliver chose to use that method not to kill the Rank 4 Magi but to go after Dante. No matter how special the boy was or how good his strategies were, they should not have made a Rank 4 life form resort to self-harming methods just to kill him, after all, he was a Rank 1 life form.

Zatiel could not have known that Oliver connected Dante's Eye of Life and Creation to the prophesy and thought that he was the one who opened the portal to the Abyss. That and seeing the force field that will make them lose a great part of the continent, was enough to let his rage consume him.

"How were you able to survive?"

Zatiel was very clear of the power of an attack performed by a Law Avatar and it should have been more than enough to kill all of them.

"It was thanks to the Magus named Zitra. She appeared in front of us and stop most of the ball of lava, but still, some of them manage to reach our people. Kilo and I are in our dragon form, carrying our people and flying away from the battlefield, under the cover of the force field.

The Magus remained behind stop those Rank 4 Angelic Paragons from going after us."

Under the force field formed by the Ten Tower Formation, the Havenly race will be able to show less than ten percent of their power, but Zatiel knows than that level of strength is more than enough for the Duke to kill all those Rank 2 and 1 life forms in a matter of second.

Zatiel knew that the Magus has put her life in danger to help his people escape, and unlike before that his eyes were full of killing intent when he thought they have left them to die, gratitude could be seen on his face.

"Rax and Kilo, lead our people to the first tower. We need to regroup and heal before we decide what to do next. Dante, you will intercept them in their path and start to heal those wounded."

"Yes, Ancestor."

"Yes, father."

Despite what their feelings are, all of them were clear that they are too weak to do anything against the Duke that had just butchered their people, and try to go after him will be suicidal and stupid.

Zatiel, Heinz, Ezequiel, and the Undying Leviathan were approaching the tower at an impressive speed and when they very close to it, they saw a pillar of light carrying someone inside was moving to the direction of the mountain range.

Heinz was able to see Zitra figure inside the pillar, but when he saw that no one was going after her, he chose to maintain his path.

When they finally reached the place that the Daybreak clan was protecting, they saw a river of lava extending for hundreds of kilometers and that consumed the bodies of all the people that had died during this battle.

The consciousness of Heinz extended and he searched the surroundings but he was not able to find any clue of the Angelic Paragons.

"They must have escaped when they saw that they will not be able to hunt your clan and felt my presence."

Zatiel was silent and all of his focus was on the river of lava, and after a moment coldness appears on his eyes.

The power in that spell was enough to destroy the souls of his people.

"You should remain here. Stabilize the area and bring the tower to the surface. Once you are done with that finish the teleportation formation in the tower. The force field is already established so we have more than enough time now."

Zatiel voice was completely emotionless but there was dormant wrath hiding behind his eyes.

"What are you going to do?."

Although Zatiel was not showing anything, Heinz saw the monstrous killing intent that was growing in his heart.

"I will return to my abode, the damage accumulated in my body due to the last battle is extensive, I will need to spend some years healing."

Zatiel looks at the river of lava that contains the bodies of his clan and that was used to break their souls until the image was engraved on his mind.

He and Ezequiel mounted over the Undying Leviathan that had Sophia on his belly, and fly away.

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It took several days for the Undying Leviathan to reach the mountain range. Zatiel energy pool was weakened due to the use of Blood Essence Combustion and he could not use all of his power.

Sophia had awakened during the travel and was now sitting along Zatiel and Ezequiel on the creature's head.

All the Neo-Demons and Sunlight Champions were waiting for him. Their number was more than a third less than the one who entered this world.

Zatiel used his Animus abilities and focus on their emotions.

He could feel the anger they had against the Angelic Paragon that massacred their people and the sadness due to the loss of their companions.

But what draws his attention was the immense desire for power that was growing in their hearts. Instead of giving up on revenge due to the immense difference in strength, they were all aiming to reach the level where they should not feel so impotent anymore.

All of the people Zatiel brought to this war were first-generation, the first of their people to become Sunlight Champion and Neo-Demons, the ones that have experienced how cruel the world can truly be.

Some of them were starting to forget that, due to the years of safety and comfort, but seeing their friend and loved ones died has awakened them.

Zatiel signals Dante to come near him and as he does, he saw in the eyes of the boy that he had changed.

During all of the previous battles, Dante did not have a single casualty but now almost a third of the army was lost. The cruelty of war was forging his character.

"How many of our people have died?"

"One hundred Sunlight Champions and fifty Rank 1 Neo-Demons were on the battlefield, along with the Rank 3 Magus, Rax, Kilo, the three Brain Golems and me. Before the Duke acted, during the entire battle against the Heavenly race we lost three Neo-Demons and ten Sunlight Champions,

most of the casualties were due to self-destructive attacks from some members of the Heavenly race."

Dante stops for a moment, and as he remembers the sharp contrast of their dead after Oliver's attacks, hate fills his heart.

"After the Duke used his spell against our people, the total number of deads reached seventeen Neo-Demons and fifty-two Sunlight Champions. The fifty Sunlight Champions that were constructing the tower underground were unharmed, due to the tower defensive mechanism resisting the attacks on the surface."

After hearing Dante's words, Zatiel closes his eyes and sighs.

"How easy things were back then."

Dante, Ezequiel, and Sophia hear his word, but they did not understand what he was talking about.

When Zatiel was the Incarnation of Death and Destruction, he could send billions of his subordinates to sure death and feel nothing, but now he had lost less than one hundred of his people and all sorts of emotions were affecting him.

Zatiel opens his eyes and absolute calmness could be felt in them as he raises his voice, letting all of his clan hear his words.

"Remember what just happen and never forget. Power is everything, without it, your life is just an illusion that can be erased at any second."

Different reactions appeared to his words, but they all the Sunlight Champions and Neo-Demons were showing a great will on their eyes.

Zatiel nodded as he saw this and spoke to Ezequiel and Sophia.

"Go to the chamber and start to heal your injuries, we need to temper our bodies or else we run the risk of leaving flaws that could affect us in the future. I will go after taking care of something."

Zatiel eyes focus in one room of the tower, where Zitra was resting.

Chapter 167 - Evolution Of Duality

Zatiel had reached the floor that was owned by Zitra and was standing outside a large gate. This was the only way to enter the residence unless you are strong enough to overcome the magical defenses of the tower.

He waited just a few moments outside the gate, before they opened by themselves, allowing him to enter.

Shadows were filling every inch of the residence, not allowing the slightest form of light to be present.

Even with his night vision, Zatiel's sight was impaired, but the shadows could not stop his Eye of Life and Creation.

There was nothing special on the walls, not even a piece of furniture. Zatiel did not find it weird since this tower was just a temporary residence and its true purpose was the army headquarters.

What called his attention was the sphere of light he could see with his Eye of Life and Creation in the center of the room. It was covered by shadows constantly feeding it and was stopping any dispersion of the light.

In this sphere was a woman that seemed to be floating and was using the light in it to heal her wounds. Zitra's condition was pitiful, burn marks were covering all of her body and they had some sort of energy that difficult any type of healing, the worst part was her right arm that was completely carbonized.

It was obvious that stopping both Angelic Paragons from attacking the Daybreak clan by herself had carried a great cost.

Zatiel saw all of this, but his face was emotionless and he continued advancing until he was right outside the sphere of light. His Eye of Creation allows him to see the extremely harmful energy inside the Magus.

Her condition was even worse than her body was showing, but despite that Zitra's aura was as firm as always and she refused to show any sort of weakness as she looked back at Zatiel.

"Why did you do it?"

Zatiel's question carried a deep meaning, and he focused on Zitra as he waited for her answer.

Seeing her condition, Zatiel could theorize how great was the danger she faced to protect Kilo, Rax, and the rest.

By any intent or purpose, she went beyond what was expected of her.

The other Magus that was working with her, Ronald, the one with a Trent body had escaped after being severely hurt by Oliver's attack. His actions were justified, after all, Zatiel could not ask him to risk his life for his people.

Of course, that was the rational way of thinking, but Zatiel had already marked that Magus and he will handle him in due time.

Zitra was staring back at Zatiel. She felt that anything other than the truth will be a serious mistake.

"I don't know them and I don't care about them. I will normally just fulfill my job as a protector, but I will never risk my life for people who I have no relation to, even if we are on the same side. After all, this is a war for profit."

Zitra's words were cold and practical but despite her stipulated lack of concern for the Daybreak clan, when Zatiel heard her, instead of anger, a smile appeared on his face.

The mind of the Neo-Demon worked the same as her. If it was his clan, he would do anything in his power to protect them, but if he was defending another group, he would fulfill his obligation however if true danger appears he will definitely prioritize his safety over the others.

This was the best anyone could expect of an army, made by different groups, that was formed with the sole purpose of just obtaining wealth.

Besides, no matter how harsh Zitra's words were, to Zatiel her actions meant everything.

When Zitra saw Zatiel's smile, her expression became a little less distant, and she continued speaking.

"But I know that you truly care about them. You are an anomaly and you will reach a level of power and influence in the future that may surpass mine, so having you in my debt is worth the risk."

As she spoke, Zitra was concentrating on Zatiel and saw that despite revealing her intentions, his smile did not falter.

"Good, I can accept that."

Zatiel was satisfied with the woman's answer. If she had tried to deceive him, things would have been different, but by bluntly telling him his goal, she achieved it.

Zatiel sits down on the ground and he takes the corpse of a Rank 3 magic creature from his ring. Before Zitra could ask what he intended to do, she saw how he used his golden flames to start to consume the carcass.

The power in Zatiel's golden flame was much weaker than before since his injuries were still present. It will have been faster to directly use his golden flames on Zitra, but he has too little of them, so using the energy of the corpse was the best path to follow.

The process will take a long time with the current power of his flame, so Zatiel chose to pay part of his debt immediately.

"Can you explain to me your understanding of the duality between the Law of Light and the Law of Shadows?"

Zitra was surprised by Zatiel's question, but there was also curiosity in her eyes. She saw how Zatiel was able to use the two opposite powers of the negative energy and his golden flames, to achieve an equilibrium that greatly increased his strength.

She was curious about how he did it. Even if they are from different sources, the way he managed to find balance could help improve hers.

"Light and shadows are two opposite but connected laws, they empower each other and are one of the fundamental dualities of the universe. By making my shadows absorb the light in the surroundings and concentrate it in a single point, I can increase the reach of the first and strengthen the second."

Zitra's voice was soft, but as she spoke, the shadows and light in the surroundings behaved as she described.

Zatiel nodded when he heard this. The Magus talent was impressive, and even more remarkable was her deep understanding of the way her laws can act together despite her young age.

"You are right, but your vision is too narrow, just focusing on shadow and light will limit you. If you manage to induce the 'devouring power' of the Law of Shadows you could use it to consume all types of energy, not just light. By then the power of your Law of Light will be increased as its source will be greater and you can begin to use the 'power of order' of this law."

Unlike with Totto, where Zatiel only gave some vague route to follow and let the Magus figure out things for himself, right now he was giving Zitra the best path for her laws. One that can allow her to become a Being of Laws if she manages to reach the peak of it.

After hearing Zatiel's words, Zitra was doubtful. Your law comprehension was very important and if you were to follow someone's guide but then you realize they were mistaken, the damage could be catastrophic.

She closed her eyes, and slowly and safely started to see the effect of Zatiel's pointers.

Zatiel nods as she sees her behavior. He focuses on the carcass and prepares to show her the apex of her path.

After several hours, Zitra's body trembled, and the shadows and light seemed to change. The difference was too minuscule to truly notice it, but it was there.

Zitra's eyes opened, and they were sparkling as she looked at Zatiel. The time was too little for her to draw the power that he spoke, but she was able to prove they indeed were present and that they will help her become stronger.

This realization fills her with excitement. To her the most important thing was not status or relationships, it was power, only with it she will be able to control her destiny.

After seeing that Zitra had focused again, Zatiel's aura changed and a dark power that seems to be the representation of emptiness filled his right hand. Meanwhile, a bright power filled with life appears on his left hand.

"Pay attention, I will show you the evolution of duality. It will be very fast and I can not control it, so try your best to understand the principles behind it."

When Zitra heard his words, she starts to nod with all her strength and her eyes widen, as if she was afraid that something could escape her sight.

Zatiel almost starts to laugh as he saw the always composed figure of this mighty Magus genius behaving like this, but he did not lose focus and channeling all of the power of his True Names, he started to put his palms together slowly.

The emptiness aura that was Dexisus was beginning to interact with the genesis power of Natux, and they slowly started to create something.

What appeared between the two palms was a white spark, it was feeble and it gave the impression that it was an illusion as if it wasn't really there. But the moment it appeared, all the light and shadows in the room froze on their own volition as if they were in the presence of something bigger than themselves.

Chapter 168 - The Price To Pay

The Law of Shadows and the Law of Light in the room were being manipulated by Zitra, and despite the might of the white spark if she were to channel all of her power into them, they will act again.

But just like her laws, the Magus was captivated by the white spark. She could feel all sorts of wonderful phenomena acting inside it, and she was even more impressed when she saw in it a reflection of her own younger self when she was an infant.

It was as if in the spark, the beginning of her life was being displayed.

The white spark was present less than a second before it vanished, making the shadows and light in the room act again.

It took a moment for Zitra to focus after the white spark disappeared. But the image of it in her mind remained very clear.

"Please, demonstrate it again!" Zitra could not hide the desire in her voice.

In the white spark, she saw the path in which her laws will attain a level she did not though it was possible before.

However, when she saw Zatiel condition she saw how great was the price he had to pay to create it.

The youthful appearance of the Neo-Demon had deteriorated greatly and it seems he had aged decades, his breathing was harsh and it was clear he was extremely exhausted.

"I'm sorry for my thoughtlessness, are you all right?" Zitra voice was soft and her eyes were focused on Zatiel.

If anyone who knows her were to hear her words, they will be surprised. Due to her appearance, her interaction with men had always been problematic, especially when she was weak, which made her attitude to most of them distant and cold.

Zatiel did not have time to care for her words, as he was trying to control his breathing and focus on the Eye of Life and Creation.

His eye glowed and took control over part of the golden fire that the corpse of the Rank 3 magic creature had produced and bathe his body with it.

As the healing power of the flames touched him, his condition started to improve and youth returns to his face.

"Don't worry, I will be fine. This type of injury can be hard for others to heal, but not for me. I underestimated the effect that displaying the white spark would have on me. Anyway, that is the final goal of those who seek dualisms between their laws, if you achieve that with your laws and fully control it, you will be able to become a Being of Laws."

Zitra's eyes shined with excitement. She was more than clear of the immense difficulty that the path that Zatiel has shown has, but no matter the difficulty, this was a clear path to eternity.

Billions of lives are born in each generation in the Magi World, and yet one of them reaching the Soul Law Domain Rank will be a miracle.

But more than ninety-nine percent of those existences who can decimate continents with a move of their hand perish under the passage of time since they are not able to take the last step to become a Being of Laws.

"I will send these flames to you. You must focus them on where the damage is more severe and is more difficult to heal."

Zatiel's Eye of Life and Creation once again glowed and he sends all the flames that remained to Zitra's body.

The Magus focus on the fire and at first, she was doubtful of how useful they could be after all she was a Rank 4 life form, but when they interacted with her body she was shocked.

Her light also had healing properties, but although their quantity was much greater, they could not compare in their quality.

She felt how even those wounds that had damaged her internal organs were healed, and immediately she made the flames fill her bloodstream before starting to forcefully purged the harmful energy inside her blood.

This accelerated method produced great damage in her body, but by using the golden flames she was able to withstand it.

After an hour the flame was completely spent. Although Zitra was very tired and her face was pale, she was able to remove most of the energy that those Angelic Paragons left in her body, which will make her healing from now on much faster and smoother.

Zatiel analyzed her condition once again with his Eye of Life and Creation and when he saw her great improvement he nods and stands up before walking to the door.

Zitra saw as Zatiel was leaving and although she had many questions, she remained silent and did not stop him.

The help he had given her was immense and she did not dare to ask for more.

The Ancestor of the Neo-Demons continues walking until he was at the door, where he stopped and turns back to look at Zitra.

"My love for my people is greater than you think, as is my debt to you. No matter the dangers, I will find a way to pay it in the future."

Zitra saw how Zatiel disappeared after saying those words, and a smile appeared on her face before she was covered once again in shadows.

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The years passed and the invader force of the Magi World becomes an immovable power in the Fornes continent.

There was no need to speak about the immense hate and rage of the Heavenly race, but with the Ten Tower Formation already establish there was little they could do.

The Soul Forging existences of the Magi World could instantly teleport between the towers, and inside the force field, the warriors of the Heavenly race could use less than ten percent of their powers.

Once the domain over the continent became firm and their presence in the world could not be threatened, the harvest of the resources started.

As the custom of the forces of the Magi World when they invaded a world, a council was created to take important decisions and divide the land and resources they obtained.

As the strongest warrior and the one who had the coordinates of this world, Heinz obtained twenty-five percent of the area under their domain and two votes in the council.

Normally the rest of the Rank 4 will divide the rest into equal parts and each will have a vote in the council, but things were different this time since there was an additional member in the council that was not a Soul Forging existence.

It was Zatiel who was given a seat in the council under Heinz's orders. Of course, the decision of the cultivator created a great dissatisfaction with those Rank 4 Magi.

They all recognized the great part that Zatiel had on achieving an extremely fast and safe control on the continent, but most of them had the idea of just giving him some wealth as a reward since the idea of Heinz will diminish greatly their benefits.

If they would have been able to establish a firm front and were all nine of them under the same banner, they may have influenced the decision of Heinz.

Unfortunately for them not only did Zitra and Tutto not support them but sided with the cultivator.

With the three strongest of them choosing to give Zatiel a seat, the rest could only agree.

The first subject of discussion that the council had to take was the proposition of the Heavenly race to buy the captives of their race back.

When the force field was established, a great number of settlements and cities dominated by the Heavenly race were covered by it.

Although Tomas and Oliver find it extremely shameful to trade with individuals who they considered beasts, their love for their people was greater than their pride and they were offering a great price for them.

Most of the council agree with the doing trade deal since they had little use for those Rank 1 and Rank 2 Heavenly race members.

Unfortunately, the number of captives they had was little since there was one of them who made his entire clan hunted them day and night with impeccable strategies in the first weeks that the force field was established.

Zatiel had more than ninety percent of the captives under his control and when he saw the proposition of the Dukes, he only gives a cruel smile and rejects to sell.

Although the other Rank 4 offered to sold their prisoners to the Dukes, when these ones hear the number of captives they offered rage filled their eyes, and decided to shut down any negation.

This made the hate in the Heavenly race grow but Zatiel could not care less and he even went to the extreme of impaling those deceased Heavenly race members he had killed and put them in the periphery of the force field for all to see them.

Their faces were distorted by the pain they had suffered before their deads, and not only had their wings missing but also their legs and arms were gone. Their skulls were open, showing that parts of their brain had been removed.

This level of cruelty surprised even the most vicious of the Magi.

After seven years the number of impaled people of the Heavenly race reached more than ten thousand and in the chest of all of them, a phrase was carved.

"THE PRICE TO PAY FOR HARMING THE DAYBREAK CLAN"

Chapter 169 - Going For Peak Rank 2

During these seven years, hundreds of Neo-Demons have come from the Magi World to the Beta Heavenly World. Their jobs were to take control of the land owned by the Daybreak Clan and harvest their resources.

As for the Sunlight Champions that came to war, they all returned to the Daybreak Magic Tower. The reason for sending them back was that there is where the Sunlight Core, which is fundamental for their training, is present.

The goal why Zatiel had brought them to war was to test them, to see who of them was worthy of becoming a Neo-Demons, and what he has seen was extremely satisfying. But there is a problem with the bloodlines they needed.

Most of them do not have an ancient heritage that could be harvest through atavism, so Zatiel needed to find suitable bloodlines for them and until he does, it better that they increase their power has Sunlight Champions since the path itself is meant to improve the speed of Neo-Demons training.

Right now all of the Neo-Demons that entered this world when the war started were in the Fiend Essence Extraction Chamber.

Including Dante, the number of Rank 1 Neo-Demons that remained alive after the Ten Tower Formation was established were thirty-four.

Thanks to the constant battles, the huge amount of resources at their disposal plus the help of pieces of Fallen Star and the chamber all of them have reached Rank 2.

They had been constantly increasing their energy pool with the Abyss Aura extracted from those demons and their Elemental Bloodline Marrow with the captives from the Heavenly race.

This was the reason why they had so many corpses of Angels to be able to impale ten thousand of them over these years.

The demons that were flayed and chained to the wall were been constantly replaced except for those at Rank 3.

Zatiel had managed to secure a great number of demons over the years and had bought the ones owned by the other members of the council.

Rank 1 and 2 demons could be replaced easily, but those at Rank 3 could not. Every time these demons were about to succumb due to the drain of their energy and vitality, Zatiel will heal them and allow them to rest until they could be used again.

Luckily for those demons, they were essentially brain dead, or else these would have to experience this perpetual cycle of torture.

In the center of the chamber, there were Zatiel, Sophia, Ezequiel, Kilo, and Rax. They were surrounding the unconscious Rank 4 Angelic Paragon, Martin.

The five of them had an immense amount of power running inside their bodies and consciousness. They were all giving a great sense of stability, clearly depicting that any damage done due to the accelerated training and use of Blood Essence Combustion was mended.

During these years Zatiel had remained almost every single day inside the chamber and his strength has increased considerably but the greatest improved he had was not as a Neo-Demon but in his Animus path.

Becoming a Rank 2 Animus was not very hard since he had hundreds of brains at his disposal to increase his Mind Force and his proficiency in the disciplines was very advanced, especially in Clairsentience.

But there was something different about Zatiel's Animus path, that even the Mind Ruler race did not have. That was the mantle of invisible Will Aura that was covering his body.

Will Aura is a form of using Mind Force, that Zatiel was able to employ thanks to the Path Technique known as The Will That Guides The Heart.

The Will That Guides The Heart has a multitude of uses, most of them focused on increasing the power of the body.

As a Rank 2 Animus, Zatiel could currently use the Aspect of Endurance that creates a mantle of Will Aura around the entire body increasing his defense and attack, and the Aspect of Fortitude that consists on increasing the output of Will Aura, this amplifies the physical abilities by a huge margin, but it also spends an immense amount of Mind Force.

The Aspect of Endurance and the Aspect of Fortitude, are the two most elementary uses of Will Aura, but they are fundamental as one progress as an Animus and trains The Will That Guides The Heart.

The rest has also become very powerful but it was not Ezequiel or Sophia, the ones who battle power obtained the greatest increase. That feat belonged to Rax and Kilo who had advanced their bloodline to Rank 5, transforming it into a King bloodline.

They were still weaker than the other two Neo-Demons with Emperor bloodlines but the difference has diminished greatly. Unfortunately for the two of them, the Metallic Dragon bloodline reaches its peak at Rank 5 and their atavism technique will be no longer of use.

Of course, as Neo-Demons, Kilo and Rax will not be subjected to any type of bloodline shackle, and they can improve it by assimilating other bloodlines into the Bloodline Heart, but they have to be careful.

The information that they obtained from the Chaotic-Core when their Bloodline Heart was finished stipulated that using inferior bloodlines will have negative effects, so they must assimilate another King bloodline or better yet an Emperor.

Zateil was analyzing the four them and he was very satisfied with their improvement.

'A.I. Chip, scan the five of us.'

As usual, after Zatiel command, the voice of the chip was heard and the information was sent to his mind.

[Bip... scanning targets

Name: Zatiel Daybreak

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 2 Daybreak bloodline) / Animus (Rank 2)

Strength: 128.4

Physique: 246.6

Speed: 159.9

Abyss Aura: 254.2

Sun Force: 261.5

Mind Force: 134.5

Elemental Bloodline Marrow. 61.2% completed

Name: Ezequiel

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 2 Storm Titan bloodline)

Strength: 221.4

Physique: 258.2

Speed: 100.2

Abyss Aura: 252.9

Elemental Bloodline Marrow. 60.8% completed

Name: Sophia

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 2 Styx Dragon bloodline)

Strength: 112.1

Physique: 199.2

Speed: 145.2

Abyss Aura: 261.2

Elemental Bloodline Marrow. 62.4% completed

Name: Rax

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 2 Metallic Dragon Bloodline)

Strength: 188.2

Physique: 203.1

Speed: 139.4

Abyss Aura: 250.7

Elemental Bloodline Marrow. 60.3% completed

Name: Kilo

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 2 Metallic Dragon Bloodline)

Strength: 192.2

Physique: 200.1

Speed: 141.4

Abyss Aura: 252.3

Elemental Bloodline Marrow. 60.1% completed

Note: All targets have finished transforming the marrow in all of their bones to Elemental Bloodline Marrow with the exception of their spine.]

To reach the peak of Rank 2, the Abyss Aura of a Neo-Demon must have reached over two hundred and fifty and have 100% completion in their Elemental Bloodline Marrow. Zatiel case was special but by ingestion immense amount of Rank 3 Magic Creatures over the years, he had managed to reach the required amount of Sun Force.

Fulfilling the first goal was easy with the Fiend Essence Extract Chamber constantly pumping refined Abyss Aura into their Chaotic-Cores, but the conversion of their marrow was something different.

Each of them has consumed the energy of hundreds of warrior of the Heavenly race with their Heaven Swallowing rune, but now that they have reached the part where they will have to transform their spine, the energy of Rank 1 and 2 Angels is no longer useful.

Right now they all could be considered to be Master Rank 2 Neo-Demons.

But Zatiel wanted to advance to the next level and that is where the Duke of the Heavenly race enters.

Martin's entire body was covered in runes. These were very similar to the Heaven Swallowing rune on the Neo-Demons hands, and its sole purpose was to slow down the bloodline combustion of the Rank 4 Angelic Paragon.

The amount of power a Soul Forging existences has inside his body and soul is hundreds of times greater to the one of a Rank 3 life form. It is like the difference between an ocean and a river.

Zatiel knows that even if the process of bloodline combustion is slowed down if he alone acts a great part of the energy will be lost due to his inability to absorb it all. So he had decided that the five of them, the head of the spear of the Neo-Demon race, will be absorbing it together.

"You can start." Zatiel looks at the four of them and gives the command.

Ezequiel, Sophia, Rax, and Kilo were completely concentrated on this task. They are very clear how incredibly valuable the energy inside this Rank 4 Angelic Paragon.

They focus all of their power in their hands and use it to pierce at the stomach of Martin. Even though this was a soft part of the body and the magical defenses of the Angelic Paragon were deactivated, it still took a great effort for them to pierce his skin.

Martin's face contorted due to the pain, but Zatiel was not worried that he could wake up due to the pain and trauma.

Before he did this, he had asked both Heinz and Totto to use their power to harm the soul of the Duke and then use their laws to imprison it, so he could not wake up by himself.

Seeing that the rest were on position, Zatiel closes his eyes and activates Aspect of Fortitude, greatly enhancing the mantle of Will Aura around him and then he concentrates all of it on his hands.

Focusing all of his power on his arms, he buries his hands on the Angelic Paragon chest breaking his rib cage and then piercing his heart.

Chapter 170 - Evolution Of True Name

The moment that Zatiel hand pierced Martin's heart, the mouth and eyes of the Angelic Paragon open and an immense amount of light came out from them. It was so intense that all the Neo-Demons in the chamber feel their eyes burning for a second.

Luckily the runes covering the Duke's body acted immediately diminishing the power of the bloodline combustion, decelerating the speed of the process thousands of times, and reducing the amount of light that was being generated.

Zatiel, Sophia, Ezequiel, Rax, and Kilo had their eyes closed. There was an absolute focus on their faces as they absorbed the energy that the Angelic Paragon was generating.

Before this point, flaws could be accepted since with enough time and tempering they could be mended and will not leave any lasting damage. But the moment they started to fuse the blood essence created by the Elemental Chaos Heart and Bloodline heart in the marrow of their spine, everything changed.

The vertebral column is the principal axis of their bodies and any damage done to it will provoke a severe reduction in their battle power. It is fundamental in every application of force, so the strongest it is the more physical power you can display.

But the most important function is its connection with the spinal cord since not only contains it but also brings protection. The spinal cord it's an essential part of the central nervous system since it is the one who communicates the brain with the rest of the body.

The spinal cord is considered the tree of life. In most blood and flesh life forms, the brain and the spinal cord are the first things to be created and from where the rest of the body is formed.

Right now the five of them were using the immense amount of energy obtained from the Rank 4 Angelic Paragon to transform the marrow on their vertebral columns.

This will not only increase their physical power and enhance their bloodline abilities but once the Elemental Bloodline Marrow in their vertebral column reaches a high enough level, it will start to gradually and safely alter their spinal cord.

The pain the five Neo-Demons were feeling was excruciating, like if acid was being pumped into the bones, but not one of them let it affect their concentration

The days passed and the power on the five of them was steadily increasing. From time to time, the sound of bone cracking could be heard, and they were so loud that some of the Neo-Demons mistake them with thunders

Zatiel could feel the changes in his body. His physical strength has increased considerably and his blood was carrying the healing properties of his flame.

It reached the point, that his blood could now be considered an elixir capable of healing any physical harm of a Rank 2 life form.

Similar changes were happening on the rest, and they feel the power that was filling their veins.

Thanks to the runes, it took four months for the bloodline combustion on Martin's body to be over. But even then, the five Neo-Demons did not open their eyes and merely removed their hand from inside his chest.

The energy they had obtained from the Duke was still working in their bodies and they were analyzing the changes inside them.

Two months later Rax and Kilo open their eyes and the moment they did, a great sense of power could be felt from them.

From between their scales white and dark-red flames were coming out and the heat in them was so high, that it could easily burn any Rank 2 life form that touched it. These were not a spell but merely a state of their body that did not require any energy to be active.

A few hours later Sophia opens up her eyes. The scales that were always hiding under her skin now had a black color, due to the Styx water being fused into them.

With this, any attack on the Neo-Demon will need to pass through it to affect her, and it will destroy any sort of harmful power that tries to invade her body.

All of a sudden the three of them were startled since they feel a burst in power way greater than the one occurred on themselves.

Zatiel eyes open and his Eye of Life and Creating was more bright than ever. His veins seem to create a golden path on his skin and there was an immense sense of life force filling his body.

But despite these impressive changes, he was not the one who alerted the other three Neo-Demons. The burst of power also broke his concentration.

The one who was generating the phenomenon was Ezequiel. The power on his body had just stabilized a few moments ago just like the rest but all of a sudden it started to grow again.

The Neo-Demon still had his eyes closed, and to the wonder of all who were looking, he started to disintegrate into arcs of lightning so thin and small that they were invisible for most of them.

The only one who could see them was Zatiel, thanks to his Eye of Life and Creation. And still, he could only see the energy in them and not their physical form.

Zatiel eyes widen and wonder was filling his heart as he saw the transformations occurring on the first person he had trusted in this life.

Thanks to his experience and his Eye of Life and Creation, he realized that whatever was happening with Ezequiel, it was induced by the laws.

The only reason he could think something like this happened was that finishing his Elemental Bloodline Marrow has provoked his True Name to evolve.

Ezequiel had a single True Name but thanks to his heritage as Neo-Demon and Emperor bloodline, it was as impressive as Natux, something created with the help of a Law Bloodline.

Even Zatiel could only speculate the might of the True Name of Ezequiel now, but it definitely is something incredibly powerful.

Just like when Dexisus and Natux reacted to his actions and created the white spark that affected the laws of the universe and gave birth to Dante, the True Name of Ezequiel was also affecting the laws and transforming him into something different.

"There are arcs of lightning filling the chamber, they belong to the Ancestor's Right Hand. You must not hinder its actions and if they interact with any of you, do whatever you need to provide help. That is an order!"

Zateil's words resounded in the mind of every Neo-Demons and by the tone and seriousness, it was clear that he will not allow any mistake from anyone.

The arcs of lightning started to enter the body of the demons and the unconscious people of the Heavenly race. It even enters inside the dead body of Martin.

The arcs of lightning spend hours inside them, but no one in the chamber dares to do anything and they remained completely still.

When the lightning came out from them, Zatiel saw with his Eye of Life and Creation that they were had changed and red energy was present in them.

The next target of the arcs of lightning was the Neo-Demons. As they felt the new energy enter inside them, they all stop any sort of defense from their bodies had and let the arcs of lightning do whatever they want.

The kobolds knew that Ezequiel is the most trusted warrior of their Ancestor and also the absolute guardian of their race, so even if Zatiel would not have ordered them, they would have done everything in their power to help him.

The arcs were inside the Neo-Demons a couple of hours and as they exited their bodies, the red energy inside them was stronger and their changes greater. As for Dante and the kobolds, they were a little pale but nothing else happen.

After finishing with them, the arcs of lightning concentrated on the strongest of the Neo-Demons.

Zatiel, Sophia, Rax, and Kilo suppress the innate ability of the blood to destroy any foreign energy entering their bodies and let the arc of lightning fill their bodies.

Zatiel was using his power as an Animus and tracking what the arcs of lighting were doing. Although he could not truly see them, he was able to deduce that they were interacting with the core of their cells, the genome.

It seems that they were analyzing it and changing to improve themselves. Once they were done, the absorbed a small amount of blood and left.

The arcs of red-colored lightning gathered in the center of the chamber and this time, they were visible. But they did not reform into Ezequiel's body, it seems that something was missing.

The answer came soon as in the sky a storm started to generate and lightning was filling it.

As if answer a call, the arcs of red-colored lightning immediately went to meet it.

Zatiel opened the door and let the lightning leave before he and the rest of the Neo-Demons exit as well.

The lightning in the sky draw the attention of the Magi and their curiosity grew even stronger as they the red-colored lightning raising to the sky.

Despite everything, the Magi still did not know what was happening but then they saw how all of the Rank 4 lifeforms, that were previously in the tower, appear in the sky.

Their souls were strong enough to feel the laws acting and knew that something important was happening.