

Abyssal 331

Chapter 331 - Prima-Eldritch Universe Final Battlefield

After going through the portal, Nero found himself in a small room. The Fallen did not have time to inspect the place since unbearable pressure assaulted him.

Nero was able to detect the origin from the pressure immediately. It came from a fifteen-meter tall man with red hair, five dragon horns emerging from his head, two imposing wings bathed in a dark red fire, and a black aura surrounding his muscular body.

As he saw this man, an illusion appeared in the Fallen's mind. He saw a gargantuan dragon, so immense that he could have swallowed the fish-like Being of Law that almost killed him a few minutes ago.

This dragon had sixteen wings on his back, dark red scales covering his body, and flames emerged from his mouth with heat so immense that they set the laws of the universe on fire.

Nero saw how this apocalyptic dragon turned his head and stared at him. The moment that happened, the illusion vanished, and the seven winged Fallen saw the draconic man looking in his direction.

The man stared at Apex and gave him a gentle nod before looking away.

"Since your next guest has arrived, it is time for me to leave. I will relay your message to my brothers and inform you of our decision as soon as possible." The man's voice was full of ferocity, but you could hear the respectful tone he employed.

"Are you sure you don't want to stay a little more? I was hoping we could play a game before you left."

After hearing those words, Nero noticed the person standing in front of the draconic man. He appeared to be an amicable old man with a ponytail and thick white beard.

His aura was non-exiting, and at simple sight, he appeared no different than a mortal.

"I have no desire to enter a contest I know I will lose. Goodbye." The draconic man performed a small bow and disappeared.

"How boring." Disappointment appeared in the old man's face when he saw the draconic man leave, and then he turned to Apex.

"So you are the one called Apex. I can see that you have already entered the Beyond Redemption Stage. Good, if you were one of those cowards that did not dare to leave the Beyond Limit Stage, this meeting would have ended immediately."

Apex did not say anything after hearing the man's words and limited himself to performing a deep bow.

It was easy for Nero to understand this older man's identity after everything that just happened.

'Is this seemingly helpless old man really one of the supreme overlords of the universe?.' After that thought passed through his mind, Nero saw how the old man focused on him and adopted a severe expression.

"Did you call me a helpless old man?"

Nero's eyes widened when he heard that, and shock filled his heart.

'Can he read my mind?'

"Yes, I can. Now I will ask again, did you call me a helpless old man?"

Before Nero could even say a word, he saw an endless golden aura emerge from the old man that made the room along with Apex and Eve disappear.

The seven winged Fallen felt the true nature of the golden aura immediately. It was killing intent, one so pure and majestic that it appeared capable of crushing the universe itself.

While the dark red dragon impressed Nero, this aura was at a completely different level.

The old man's killing intent continued to grow as he approached Nero, and when they were right next to each other, the Head of the Magi World, a Rank 9 life form, began to make funny faces.

Nero's body shivered, and disbelief filled his face. The golden aura disappeared the next second, and the Fallen saw the old man laughing.

"Hahaha, relax, I am just messing with you."

Eve and Apex stared at the old man as he laughed with all his strength. The woman just shook his head after seeing the Magi World's leader making fun of a little child.

"Head, you should act with more decorum, remember your position."

"Little girl, I have told you many times, the purpose of power is to do whatever you want." The old man gave Eve a kind smile before focusing on Apex and clasping his hands.

"Issac, The Truth of the Universe, greets you."

Apex also clasped his hands and returned the gesture.

"Apex, The End of the Heavenly Race, greets you."

After the formalities were over, Issac made a chair appear and sat in it before speaking.

"Tell me, Fallen, why did you ask for this meeting."

"I want your assistance to let my race enter the Prima-Eldritch Universe Final Battlefield."

When Issac heard Apex's request, his eyes narrowed, and he glanced at Nero for a moment.

"You know very well that all great powers of the universe have a Rank 8 life form monitoring those who enter and leave the battlefield, and that includes the Heavenly race. There is no way they would pass the chance of killing your kind." Apex did not say a word after hearing that and just kept looking at Issac.

"I can help your race, Fallen, but that would force me to fight against the Heavenly race and maybe even begin a small war. So, the price you will have to pay will be equally great."

"What will I need to do?." Apex did not accept immediately. Access to the Prima-Eldritch Universe Final Battlefield was necessary for his people's growth, but his life was even more critical for the Fallen race.

"I will call you one day to fight by my side, and that day, you must be ready to lose your life if needed since I will be taking the same risk." An extremely solemn expression appeared on Issac's face when he spoke those words.

Apex was surprised when he heard that. The Head of the Magi World was mighty, and no one in the universe could say they could kill him. There was only one enemy in the Fallen's mind that could pose that level of threat to such a powerful being.

"The Great Old Ones?"

The moment Apex mentioned them, Eve's face became somber, and Issac nodded to the Fallen.

"Has the state of the Final Gate deteriorated to the point even people like you are worrying about it?" Apex's voice was solemn as he spoke that question since it involved something that affected all the universe.

"Not yet, the runic formations in the gate still stand firm, but they are deteriorating at a fast rate. If my hypothesis is right, someone is exercising pressure from the other side. I have already warned the rest about the danger, but many think that the best path is to reinforce the gate's defenses and buy as much time as possible. They want to use the help of the Universe Will to fight them once they enter our universe and slowly erase them, even if that means to lose a considerable part of this one." Disdain appeared in Issac's face when he thought about that cowardly approach.

"We need to fight them head-on and not give them the chance to contaminate the universe." Issac's eyes shined with battle intent when he spoke those words, but the next moment, he sighed.

"Unfortunately, I am not strong enough to lead the entire universe. If only he were still here, things would have been much easier. His power and ferocity could make all of us tremble, and no one would dare to say no to him."

Isaac didn't need to mention his name for Apex and Eve to know who he was referring to, the man who could make the two great fiend planes of the universe tremble under his might.

The trio felt an immense admiration for that person since he reached the level they all dreamed of obtaining.

"If another Rank 8 life form is born in my race, I will accept following you to an all-out battle against them the moment they enter the universe." Apex shared Issac's feeling that slowly defeating them was the wrong path, but his life was not his own anymore; it belonged to his race.

The Head of the Magi World understood the Fallen's reservation, and he accepted his conditions for helping him.

"Then it is a deal. From now on, your people can enter the Prima-Eldritch Universe Final Battlefield under the Magi World's banner."

After agreeing to their deal's conditions, both Issac and Apex began to speak in a strange tongue that made a peculiar and powerful aura invade the room.

It was only present for an instant, but it was enough for the duo to understand that the consequences would be dire if they broke their words.

Once the purpose of their meeting was over, Issac looked at Nero with a smile.

"Little Fallen child, you made me laugh, so if your battle power reaches the Void Stage while you are still a Rank 6 life form, I will teach you my Omega Law."

Nero did not know what those words meant, but he understood it was very beneficial for him when he saw the smile on his teacher's face, so he immediately bowed and expressed his gratitude.

"I will do my best."

Apex nodded after seeing his apprentice's behavior, and after giving one final bow to Isaac, he took Nero and disappeared.

Chapter 332 - Devil Lord Animax Soul Rune

In the core of the territories dominated by the Aeternum Empire, there was a majestic white magic tower filled with impressive runic formations.

The magic tower and the large city built around it shared the same name, Rasputin, in homage to its creator and leader.

On the magic tower's upper floor, a handsome young man with blonde hair and green eyes was sitting on a throne. His body was not overly muscular, but it carried a tremendous physical strength, and runes were covering his skin.

This man was one of the youngest Origin Runemasters of the empire and an overall genius, Salazar Rasputin.

A couple of meters in front of Salazar, a five-meter tall man was kneeling. The might of this man's soul force made clear he was a Rank 5 life form, but still, he was adopting a respectful and somewhat submissive posture.

"Are you sure there is no sign of mobilization from the Order Corps?" There was a severe expression on Salazar's face as he spoke that question.

"Yes, my Lord. A squad led by three Rank 5 life forms was going to deploy five days after the massacre of the clans that had sided with us. However, without any explanation, they were ordered to stand down. I did thorough research and learned that the corps' Vice-Captain gave the order to stand down a day after he met the new Head of the Empire Commercial Association."

When Rasputin heard that, he frowned, and all sort of information passed through his mind.

The Order Corps was a punitive force from the Aeternum Empire, and their mission was to punish all those clans who disobeyed the rules and codes from the empire. They were feared and respected for their power and the fact they only responded to the Emperor.

Tritus Fonder, on the other hand, used to be a nobody. Rasputin would not even have known his name if it wasn't because he helped the previous Head of the Empire Commercial Association deal with him.

However, after the events occurring in the Daybreak Magic Tower, Tristus came back as a Rank 4 life form. He got control over the Empire Commercial Association in less than two days, and his influence just kept expanding. One of the reasons he was able to amass so much power so fast was the Soul Rune Convention he was organizing in the name of Zatiel Daybreak, and that only one hundred people could attend.

"Tritus Fonder is that man's puppet, or else there is no way he would have been allowed to leave with his life and given such an important task. The Vice-Captain of the Order Corps is a Rank 5 life form at the 6th Engraving Stage, and the only thing that could have drawn his attention was the Soul Rune Convention."

When the tall man heard Rasputin's words, a complicated expression appeared on his face before speaking.

"My Lord, should not we forget about that man?. Taboo Existences are incredibly difficult to handle once they have developed their strength. We have hidden our identity very well, so I don't see what gain there is in continuing clashing against him." After he spoke those words, the man saw how the runes that covered his body glowed and frozen his soul, body, and energy.

Salazar's eyes were cold as he looked at the man, and his body released an evil aura that made the entire magic tower tremble.

"Frederick, if you think he would forget about us if we no longer attack him, then you are only useful as a weapon and nothing more. He had shown more than once that he would seek revenge for the slightest grievance, so there is only one path for us now, and that is to kill him before he kills us."

The tall man, Frederick, did not dare to respond and kept looking down, even after the evil aura and restrictions over his body were gone.

"Hmph, Taboo Existences may seem impressive when they are young, but they are all a bunch of trash that did not manage to reach eternity and perished beneath time. His skill will undoubtedly face a bottleneck he would not pass, while I will keep rising higher. Besides, who says he is the only Soul Rune Master." Salazar's eyes shone with pride as he spoke those last words, and shock appeared in Frederick's face.

"Go and tell that ma..." Before Salazar could finish his sentence, an expression of agony appeared on his face.

"Lord Salazar!." Frederick was startled, and before he could get closer to Salazar, this one rose his hand and stopped him.

"I am fine." Salazar was grabbing his head, and after taking a moment to focus, he continued speaking. "Go and tell that man we need to meet."

Frederick did not dare disobey, and after bowing, he left the room.

After he was alone, Salazar's expression twisted as he experienced immense pain.

"What is happening to me. What is causing these attacks of pain and why so many of my memories are lost?."

A Rank 5 life form like Salazar should remember every detail of his life, from the moment he was born. However, not long ago, he found out that he had forgotten years of his life.

Salazar was sure someone was targeting him, and he did not dare to leave his magic tower.

How could he know that what he experienced was the side effect of a man he knew most of his life being erased from space and time?

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In the Neo-Demon Realm's void, Zatiel was floating unconscious among the giant waves of elemental chaos.

To most life forms, being surrounded by elemental chaos would only worsen their condition, but to a Doom Bringer, it only granted beneficial features.

The Neo-Demon's Apocalyptic Star in his stomach swallowed elemental chaos, refining it and then sending the purest form of this one to the rest of the body, but that wasn't all.

In Zatiel's stomach, there were also dozens of golden stones. These were high-quality origin stones, and they were replenishing his Soul Origin and helping the True Will recover.

After a week of resting, the Neo-Demon finally opened his eyes. The first thing he did was assess his condition.

'The wounds on my body were profound, and the energy of that devil was hard to purge. Luckily, my vital organs were not injured in the fight, and thanks to my unique regeneration ability, I am physically fine now. On the other hand, that woman's spell hurt my True Soul, and my True Will needs to rest before being at full capacity again.' Zatiel was satisfied with his condition; after all, he fought two Devil Lords that were an entire Rank above him.

He communicated with the NRAI and learned that all the Neo-Demons were able to endure the Three Severings, and they were now in the process of strengthening their True Wills.

A smile appeared on Zatiel's face, and the next moment, he sent a command to the NRAI and teleported to the Beta Heavenly World.

He appeared in the Fornes continent, close to the Underworld Forge. The giant gate used to swallow souls was gone, and Hades was sitting above the forge.

Zatiel understood that the ancient Being of Laws was enhancing the forge's ability to gather the pieces of his existence scattered throughout the universe, so he did not bother him.

He took Xenia's broken body from his spatial ring and used his Rebirth Eye to analyze her True Soul.

"Good, the True Soul fell into a coma, so I will not need to waste time weakening it."

Zatiel took a deep breath of Enlightenment Mist and made hundreds of materials appear before starting to work.

The Neo-Demon processed the materials until transforming them into a red liquid, and then he used it to create runic lines in the air.

The Animax Soul Rune Zatiel was creating was a very difficult one, and if it wasn't for the help of the Enlightenment Mist, he was not sure he would have been able to complete it before his True Soul reached the Peak of Rank 4.

Once the rune was seventy-five percent completed, Zatiel began to extract pieces of Xenia's True Soul and fuse them into the runic lines.

The rune's final form was that of a pentagram, and in the center, you could see the Devil Lord's figure.

A wide smile appeared on Zatiel's face as he detected the power of the rune.

"Excellent, with this, I will be able to act freely in Baator."

Chapter 333 - Zatiel's First Defeat

After completing the Animax Soul Rune made with Xenia's True Soul, Zatiel rested for a couple of hours before beginning to work in the next one.

Zitu's True Soul was not in a comatose state like that of Xenia, but it was still pretty injured, so after using his Rebirth Eye, Zatiel managed to weaken it enough so it could not put any resistance.

The process went smoothly, and before the day ended, a new pentagram rune appeared in front of Zatiel. However, unlike the previous one, this had a ghargatula sealed in the center.

The Neo-Demon stored the rune in a unique orb, just like he did with the last one.

'This two should be enough for the initial part of my plan in Avernus and Dis. I will gather more once I have established a foothold. I also need to collect a couple of Demon Lord's True Souls. Hunting demons is easier since they are usually more foolish, but it would be dangerous going to Abyss in my current condition. I will wait until I am in peak condition before leaving.'

After deciding his next moves, Zatiel disappeared from the Fornes continent and appeared inside the Garden of Creation.

The Neo-Demon did not waste time and headed to the Sacred Soul Tree's crown and sat in the Soul Throne before closing his eyes.

The Soul Throne was the divine treasure born after the sun cocoon's bloodline had finished its formation.

Zatiel felt how the throne enhanced his perception and understanding of the laws exponentially. Trying to increase his comprehension of all the laws would be a futile task, so he focused on three, the Law of Soul, Law of Creation, and Law of Destruction.

Those with bloodlines do not need to explore the universe and analyze heavenly phenomena to obtain information about their laws. All they need is in their blood.

Zatiel felt like he was in a dream, and different kinds of wonders were occurring around him. There were six kinds of panoramas

in his bloodline, each one corresponding to a unique law.

The Neo-Demon did not pick the Law of Rebirth to study, despite being less developed. The reason was that by pushing all of the other laws to the Initial level, he would have an easier time understanding the one that shared a connection with all of them.

He remained in that dream state, focusing on his bloodline's phenomena for several days, deciphering the mysteries of the laws.

Zatiel left a piece of his consciousness connected to the outside world to receive updates on important events.

The first piece of information that awoke him from his training was that the first Neo-Demon to no longer resist the strengthening of their True Will was his son, Dante.

After ten days, the Neo-Demon with the Daybreak Bloodline fell unconscious.

Although Zatiel was a little disappointed, he was not surprised. The True Will's first test had nothing to do with talent and everything with determination and willpower.

As the son of an entity like Zatiel, Dante subconsciously knew he had a shield protecting him and that no matter how difficult things were, his father would always have a way to fix everything. He may have matured thanks to war's cruelty, but he could not compare with the kobolds born in Wasteland.

They were people who saw their mothers and fathers devoured by monsters, who experienced the agony of seeing their children perish to sickness and famine. Those able to survive that and keep striving forward could not be looked down on.

'I was planning on sending him to Abyss, but I think Baator will be of more help to him. Being able to persevere in a place where he has to suppress his hate and disgust for evil entities will help him grow.' Dante was his son, and he loved him, but Zatiel would not allow someone born of his Primordial Essence to be mediocre.

Zatiel closed his eyes and continued deciphering the laws in his bloodline.

He received another piece of information on the fourteenth day. During that day, all but Rax and Ezequiel succumbed to the pain. Sophia and Kilo were the last to fall unconscious and were only one hour away from reaching the fifteenth day.

Zatiel was satisfied with their tenacity since, by enduring fourteen days, they all obtained an Early Star Defiant True Will. Their achievement was according to his estimates, but someone surprised him, and that was Rax.

The old kobold, who was once a little Rank 0 life form with a foot in the grave and no real power at all, endured seventeen days of strengthening.

'Well done, Rax, you can consider me impressed. It seems I can give you more responsibilities from now on. Seventeen days should give you a True Will at the Late Star Defiant Rank.'

Zatiel was extremely pleased with the achievement of the kobold leader. When he first decided to help that small kobold tribe in Wasteland, he trusted that impressive individuals could arise from it, and Rax proved he was right.

Although willpower was not the same as strength, every member of the Neo-Demon race had divine talent, and as long as they pushed themselves to the limit and always kept striving forward, they would reach eternity.

After some thought, Zatiel decided to use his authority as the Neo-Demon Realm's Ruler and observe Ezequiel's condition.

The Neo-Demon with the Primordial Bloodline was trembling without stop, and you could see from his face that he was experiencing unbearable pain.

After seeing his condition, Zatiel went back to his training.

The Neo-Demon opened his eyes again on the eighteenth day of strengthening, not because the NRAI sent a message, but to check on Ezequiel.

Blood was leaking from the mouth and palms of the Neo-Demon. He was clenching his fist and teeth as hard as he could, with the hope it would help him a little with the pain.

Zatiel's eyes were filled with amazement by the determination of his first follower. He closed his eyes again and opened them on the nineteenth day.

Ezequiel was convulsing on the ground and had lost every ounce of control over his body, but he still kept pushing forward and refused to surrender. This time Zatiel did not go back to training and continued looking at him.

Three hours after the twentieth day began, Ezequiel could no longer endure the pain and fell unconscious.

'Twenty days, one less than me. Without the memories from my past life that helped me develop my willpower, nineteen days should have been my limit, so it can be considered his victory.' As that thought passed through his mind, a smile appeared on Zatiel's face.

'This is the first time I taste defeat in this life. Not bad kid, not bad at all. I guess the name Invictus truly fits you.'

Zatiel was able to see how Ezequiel's True Will took form and opened his eyes, signaling he reached the Peak Star Defiant Rank. Still, it did not end there since an almost invisible dot of light manifested in the eyes of the golden humanoid.

Although the True Will had not truly reached the Star Breaker Rank, it was certainly above the Star Defiant Rank.

'It should only take him a couple of weeks for his True Will to reach Low Star Breaker Rank, just like mine.'

After making sure that all the Neo-Demon were fine, Zatiel went back to train.

The help of the Soul Throne made that every week of training equal to a year. Something very beneficial to Zatiel since each of his laws was incredibly challenging to develop.

After three months of continuous training, his Law of Creation and Law of Destruction reached the Peak Potential level, and his Soul Law reached the boundary of the Initial level.

'I was hoping they would all reach the Initial level, but I guess this is the best I can hope for less than half a year of training.' Zatiel understood that although his talent was unparalleled across the entire universe, his laws were equally challenging, so he felt satisfied with this improvement.

His True Soul and True Will had fully recovered thanks to the rest and the dozens of high-quality origin stones in his stomach, so it was time to travel to Abyss. Before leaving, he read the updates about the type of True Doomsday Body the Neo-Demons had chosen.

Many of the kobolds chose the Absolute Solar Yang True Doomsday Body. They did not do this to copy Zatiel but due to their primary weapon being their flames. The rest chose a True Doomsday Body that perfectly suited their battle style, but Zatiel frowned when he saw the one Ezequiel had selected.

'The Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body. Why did he choose that one?'

Chapter 334 - World Strength

The Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body granted unbelievable survival skills. Unless you could annihilate his soul with a single thought, trying to kill a Neo-Demon with this type of body was almost impossible.

The Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body allowed the user to divide his actual body into avatars that could act utterly independently from each other. Each of those avatars could go to wars, train, and experience everything the original body could.

While Neo-Demons can form multiple avatars, they only had one True Soul, True Doomsday Body, and True Will that would remain in one of the avatars' soul dimensions.

But this is where the amazingness of the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body presented itself. The True Soul, True Will, and True Doomsday Body could instantly teleport from one avatar to another.

Unfortunately, this fantastic True Doomsday Body had a flaw. The original body's power would be divided equally between the avatars, and the loss of each avatar would force the Neo-Demon to enter extended periods of recovery.

In the beginning, the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body allowed the user to form three avatars, and each of them would have thirty-three percent of the Neo-Demon's real power.

Zatiel's battle against Zitu proved that numbers matter little when the difference in power is too high. The clash between the two life forms with a battle power of Rank 5 generated shockwaves that could severely wound standard Peak Rank 4 life forms.

People who specialize in tasks with a high level of mortality, like spies, scouts, or assassins, should pick the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body. It was not designed for someone like Ezequiel, whose destiny was in the heart of the battlefield.

'What is he doing? He should have picked a True Doomsday Body of the kind meant to give an overall increase of the battle power, like mine.' Zatiel understood Ezequiel's personality very well. Although he had a cold head, he was still a ferocious fighter and would not remain outside the battlefield.

The Absolute Solar Yang True Doomsday Body may not seem as impressive as the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body. However, once it is fully developed, it could grant a physique so immeasurably heavy that a Neo-Demon could crush a world with a stomp of his feet, a body so hard that no weapon could pierce him, and flames so powerful that they could ignite the laws.

Although he was confused, Zatiel did not interfere with Ezequiel's choice and remained watching him.

The Neo-Demon had become a five thousand meters tall giant after awakening his True Soul and becoming a Rank 4 life form. The True Neo-Demon Doomsday Chamber had a nearly endless amount of space so that it could hold him no matter the individual's size.

Under the attentive watch of Zatiel, Ezequiel divided his body into three avatars, each approximately one thousand seven hundred meters tall.

What happened next shocked Zatiel and showed him, the creator of the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body, a new way of using it.

Ezequiel's avatars ignited, blue flames covered one, black covered the other, and the last one had his body filled with grey flames.

Slowly, their size was decreasing as the flames burned parts of them. The fire stopped when the avatars were only five meters tall, and Zatiel's Rebirth Eye showed him their true nature.

The avatar consumed by the black flames got rid of the energy and soul essence in him. It was now a body that represented the physical aspect of existence in its purest form.

The avatar consumed by the grey flames got rid of the physical and soul essence in him. It was now energy made flesh and represented the energy aspect of existence in its purest form.

The last avatar, the one consumed by the blue flames, got rid of his physical and energy essence. It had a phantasmagorical appearance and represented the spiritual aspect of existence in its purest form.

Zatiel was baffled by what was happening. Ezequiel had the Primordial Bloodline, and he should be trying to fuse the three cores of his existence into a superior force. However, the Neo-Demon just used the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body to divide them thoroughly.

The avatars remained with their eyes closed as their figures stabilized, and Zatiel did not lose this opportunity to analyze them with his Rebirth Eye and the NRAI.

The other Neo-Demons had already left their chambers, but Zatiel did not meet with them and just gave them some instruction on how to pick their first Apocalyptic Star.

Finally, after a month, one of the avatars opened his eyes. It was the one who discarded energy and soul essence.

"I am the Astral Body Avatar, the physical manifestation of the Primordial Bloodline." The avatar spoke those words out loud as if he was making a statement.

The next one to open his eyes was the one that energy made his flesh and blood.

"I am the Energy Essence Avatar, the energy manifestation of the Primordial Bloodline."

The last one to open his eyes was the one whose body was made purely of soul force.

"I am the Nether Spirit Avatar, the spiritual manifestation of the Primordial Bloodline."

The avatars got closer to each other, and their figures began to superimpose one over the other. Slowly, they started to become a single entity again.

Zatiel used the NRAI to scan the changes on Ezequiel.

The energy, soul, and body were now working as a single entity and in complete harmony. Although they had not fused and become one, their current state was miles ahead of the one Ezequiel had achieved before creating the Astral Body Avatar, Essence Energy Avatar, and Nether Spirit Avatar and merging them.

As Ezequiel assessed his condition and got used to his new power, he heard a voice in the chamber.

"How do you feel, and what did you obtain after going through that?" Zatiel spoke in a respectful tone, making clear he was not giving an order and that Ezequiel could choose not to respond. His question was one born out of pure curiosity.

Ezequiel did not have secrets for the man he considered family and who had guided him in the path of power, so after grasping his new body, he spoke.

"First, the fusion of the avatars purified my bloodline. Right now, my body is similar to that of a true Primordial, with essence, body, and energy acting like one. My physical strength grew immensely, as did my spiritual defenses. The most impressive thing is that my ability to commune with the universe and its laws obtained an immense improvement."

When he was a Rank 3 life form, Ezequiel had to push his body to the limit to harmonize with the world, but now, he was in a constant state of attunement with the universe.

If he was inside or next to a world, he could drive its vitality and spiritual energy to assist him in a fight, significantly increasing his battle power.

"I can now peer into the Flawed Universe and borrow the World Strength with ease. The last one is of immense help to my avatars."

Ezequiel once again divided his body into three avatars. Even though the avatar's cells contained soul, energy, and body, their cores remained the same.

"Their power is equal to a third of my own without augmentation, but each of them can use the World Strength with the same intensity that my original body. Thanks to that, now each avatar can express seventy percent of my strength." The one who spoke was the one with a ghostly appearance, the Nether Spirit Avatar.

Zatiel could not help but be impressed by Ezequiel's achievement. Using the World Strength was similar to what he did in the Beta Heavenly World by controlling the World Consciousness, although more peaceful and less overbearing.

Ezequiel had partially fixed the Immortal Avatar True Doomsday Body's flaw by making external power its own.

"The avatars are also an excellent training system. By studying them separately, I can decipher the mysteries of the physical, energy, and spiritual aspect of existence with more efficiency. That will make it easier to unite them, improving my current abilities and developing new ones." Ezequiel now had a path to follow that will develop his bloodline and grant him unique techniques.

"I see. I will not bother you anymore." After saying those words, Zatiel's presence vanished from the chamber.

Once he was alone, Ezequiel began the formation of the heavens in the True Doomsday Body.

The first five heavens were equal to every Neo-Demon and appeared in the stomach, liver, lungs, hearts, and brain.

After some consideration, Ezequiel decided to form a Unique Heaven in each of his hands and spine. The last one was a Twin Heaven positioned in his knees.

Once all of those heavens obtain an Apocalyptic Star, Ezequiel's body will be so powerful that crushing stars with nothing but his bare hands will be an easy task.

Chapter 335 - The Forgotten Lands

Zatiel left the Garden of Creation and appeared in the void near a High World. The Neo-Demon had planned to travel to Abyss once his condition improved, but first, he wanted to make sure of something.

He used his Rebirth Eye to see past the waves of elemental chaos and saw hundreds of objects with different forms rotating around the High World and slowly feeding it the energy and laws inside them.

When Zatiel saw this, he could not help but sigh and massage his temples.

"Ahhh, I guess even the best plan can encounter some complications. It doesn't matter. I am not an omnipotent being and cannot control everything. Besides, this is not a bad outcome."

The objects surrounding the world were the resources and artifacts belonging to the Neo-Demon's Armory.

Zatiel knew that he would need resources and weapons in the future when he created the Neo-Demon Realm, so he made sure to prepare everything and leave it inside a dimension in the White Sun.

However, something happened in the years after his demise and before his reincarnation.

The runic formation that covered the Neo-Demon Realm was not a static entity. It was alive and constantly evolving, just like the worlds it contained.

A few thousand years ago, a lucky chance presented itself, and the High Worlds entered a state of accelerated growth. For that condition to remain, they needed a supply of powerful energies and laws, and the NRAI chose to use the objects contained in the armory.

This decision was bound to generate problems for Zatiel, but the Neo-Demon Realm was the ultimate weapon, and the NRAI core directive was to ensure its growth.

"They are part of the High World right now, and trying to remove them would harm the realm's runic formation, so they are gone. I will have to search and gather resources again, but the Neo-Demon Realm grew almost twenty percent in power thanks to the actions of the NRAI. I would have made the same decision." The Neo-Demon did not longer bother what he could no longer change, and just when he was about to leave the realm, he received a message.

"Just in time." A small smile appeared on Zatiel as he returned to the Beta Heavenly World.

On the Fornes continent's, Heinz, Zitra, Totto, Tyrus, and the rest were waiting.

After the group finished their transformation and regressed to Rank 3, they were sent here by the NRAI and instructed not to leave the continent. The NRAI considered them alien entities and would not allow them to move freely.

"I am glad to see that you are all doing fine. How do you feel." Zatiel's voice drew the attention of everyone.

"We feel a little weak, but nothing more." Zitra was the one who spoke and gave the Neo-Demon a beautiful smile.

Zatiel returned the smile to his new lover and analyzed the condition of the group. The appearance of everyone was the same as before except for Totto.

The last time Zatiel saw him, he looked exactly like a mummified corpse, but now his appearance was that of a short black-haired man in his forties.

"So you took advantage of the procedure to undo your Lich estate and regain your human body. Good for you."

Totto limited himself to smiling and nodding. The Magus was pleased with his current condition. He became a Lich and renounced the worldly pleasures to overcome his lack of talent, but he would no longer need it.

"Ok, then let's start. You have to endure the attacks to your will and maintain consciousness. " Zatiel made a giant ball of pure Abyss Aura appear and signaled everyone to adopt a meditative position.

Heinz and the others followed Zatiel command, and the Neo-Demon created several whips of Abyss Aura and began to work on everybody at the same time. His consciousness was more than strong enough to make several Chaotic-Cores simultaneously.

Although they showed pain as the process advanced, none of the ones present had a weak will, and in a matter of minutes, several new Neo-Demons were born.

The group was too strong to obtain a noticeable upgrade in power for a newly created Chaotic-Core. However, the moment the knowledge about the Neo-Demon race entered their minds and how they could assimilate and combine bloodlines without any side effects like bloodline shackles, they were shocked.

They all looked at Zatiel with amazement and wondered how he had created something so miraculous.

Zatiel only smiled and waved his hand, teleporting everybody to the Garden of Creation.

"Although you all are Rank 3 life forms, you are still Rank 0 Neo-Demons. You have to complete your energy pool's conversion from their natural energies to Abyss Aura and transform your bodies. The moment you reach Peak Rank 0, you can choose one of the Peak Emperor Bloodlines in this place. I will see you all soon." Zatiel made a mountain of resources appear before disappearing.

The Neo-Demon found himself in front of a World Gate the next second. He put the coordinates in the gate but was more careful this time and sent a piece of consciousness first.

The process took some time and was extremely uncomfortable. Zatiel made sure that, unlike in Avernus, there was no power interfering with teleportation in the Abyss layer he would go, so without further delay, he went through the portal.

The Neo-Demon appeared in a dilapidated city. Other than some insects and mutated rats, he was all alone. A black and filthy fog filled the sky, and Abyss Aura was in the air.

Abyss Aura would constantly contaminate the body of any creature that was not a fiend, forcing most foreigners to leave after a short time, but that was not a problem for Zatiel. A Doom Bringer had Elemental Chaos running through their bodies, something much more dangerous than Abyss Aura.

'The Forgotten Lands have not changed much even after I harmed its origin. The price those fools had to pay to fix it must have been very high.' Zatiel analyzed the terrain around him, and there was reminiscence in his eyes.

He had traveled to Abyss' third layer, one of the many he had ruled in his previous life. This layer's name, The Forgotten Lands, was due to the laws in this place affecting its inhabitants' minds and draining their memories.

Only those who had awoken their True Soul could resist this memory stealing power, which made most individuals in this layer nothing but mindless beasts that act purely on instinct.

Zatiel did not let remembrance affect his mind and focused on his mission. The first thing was to locate the Demon Lords.

Using his consciousness to search was not practical. The process would be too slow, and a Rank 5 life form would detect it. Demons may be violent and chaotic creatures, but their battle instincts were second to none.

As a Neo-Demon, Zatiel had another scan and search tool that originated from his True Will, named Heart Scan. This ability not only covered more terrain than consciousness and was harder to detect, but it also perceived the emotion in the people inside it, making it easier to discover ambush and surprise attacks.

If he were a normal Neo-Demon, Zatiel would have used Heart Scan, but the Rebirth Eclipse Bloodline owner had an even greater scanning weapon.

The Neo-Demon rose in the air and focused his power in the Rebirth Eye. Immediately, he was able to see countless kilometers ahead of him. Thousands of demons and dozens of colossal cities appeared in his sight, but he kept looking.

After ten minutes of searching, a cold smile appeared on Zatiel's. He found a horde containing a few hundred lesser demons, four Rank 4 Demons, and a Demon Lord. They all had severe wounds on their bodies, and it appeared they had just left a battle.

'They are the perfect target. If I can take the Demon Lord by surprise, I may win the battle without draining all my energy.' A plan appeared in Zatiel's mind, and the next moment, he began to manipulate the Law of Death.

Slowly, every trace of vitality in his body began to vanish, and even his soul aura disappeared. He was no different than a corpse.

If his Law of Death were at the Potential level, that would be the most he could accomplish, but since it had reached the Initial level, there was something else he could do.

His body obtained a phantasmagorical appearance and became translucent before disappearing inside the earth.

Laws have a wide range of abilities. Just like the Law of Shadow can grant teleportation and swallowing skills, the Law of Death can hide your presence by giving you a lifeless body, and if your comprehension of it is high enough, you can become intangible like death itself.

Chapter 336 - Demon Lord's Assassination

A demon horde was traveling through The Forgotten Lands. It became evident by the severe injuries in all of their members that they had just participated in a great battle.

The Demon Lord leading the horde was four meters tall and looked like a minotaur, but a skinny one, to the point of seeming skeletal. Rather than bull horns, he had curved horns like those of a ram, and his feet ended in claws instead of hooves. He also had a serpentine tail that ended in a tangled clump of steel-like spines, and all of them secreted extremely deadly toxins.

Of the entire horde, the Demon Lord was the one with the worst injuries. His left leg was missing, as did his right eye, and there were holes all over his body contaminated by poison.

The most severe damage was in his back. There were four lacerations coated by a silver aura, and they were so deep that they had managed to cut his spine in several parts.

Despite his terrible condition, there was no sign of pain in Demon Lord's face, only endless wrath.

He was a *bulezau*, a type of demon known for their violent and irrational behavior. They would start fights to the death and wars for the most minimal altercation.

Usually, foolish individuals who only know how to charge ahead die very fast, but *bulezau* were known for their extraordinary battle power. Their bloodline granted them the ability known as *Baphomet's Rage*, which multiplied their strength for a few minutes before leaving them exhausted and weakened.

"Those bastards. The moment my injuries heal, I will kill them all!" The Demon Lord's eyes burned with fury as he spoke those words, and the Rank 4 Demons near him did not dare to look in his direction.

They are well aware of the bestial savagery of their leader. Another Rank 4 Demon was able to survive the battle and escape with them, but he made the mistake of staring at the enraged *bulezau* and was devoured.

As he talked to himself and promised to kill every one of his enemies, the Demon Lord felt his instinct warning him about an immense danger. However, before he could fuse with his Law Avatar, an invisible and undodgeable force struck his True Soul.

The Demon Lord saw a purple portal trying to draw his consciousness into a nightmare dimension. He was a Rank 5 life form at the peak of the 2nd Engraving Stage, but the power in the soul invasion spell was overwhelming him.

As he felt his consciousness about to succumb, pure and wild rage filled his heart and soul.

Demons may be foolish and stupid, but that did not mean they had weak spirit defenses. The best way to fight against a soul invasion spell is by having a pure mind, and that of the bulezau only had ferocity and slaughter intent.

The Demon Lord was able to fight back the purple portal and perceive reality again. Unfortunately, his opponent took advantage of the fraction of a second he was unconscious and buried his white sword in his back, cutting his heart in two.

'Impossible!. My body is as hard as a Rank 5 Artifact. How could he pierce it with such speed and without using his Law Avatar?.' The Demon Lord was shocked, but he soon realized that the sword took advantage of the cuts on his back to overcome his body's defenses.

As a Law Engraving existence, having his heart cut in half was not the end for his body. Still, the combined damage of this new injury and the old ones paralyzed him, and he could not defend from his opponent's index finger that penetrated his skull and filled his soul dimension with purple fire.

The purple fire burned his consciousness like if it was paper and severely harmed his True Soul, and before this one could escape, Zatiel put a Sealing Rune in the Demon Lord's body.

Everything, from the moment Zatiel used his Rebirth Nightmare to attack the Demon Lord's consciousness until he put the rune on his body, took less than a second. The Neo-Demon was able to hide his presence until the last moment by using the Law of Death and not activating his Law Avatar.

The horde was only now able to notice the Neo-Demon's presence and saw how he stored their mighty leader's broken body in his spatial ring.

The Rank 4 Demons were shocked, and without hesitation, they prepared to escape. Demons may be chaotic killing machines, but those that have awoken their True Soul can reason, and they understood fear very well.

The four Soul Forging existences activated their Law Avatar and flashed away immediately.

When Zatiel saw the group trying to run away, he sneered.

"Useless." The Neo-Demon activated his Law Avatar and waved his sword, releasing two arcs of blue and purple fire.

The Rank 4 Demons targeted by those arcs felt terror and even burned their life force to increase their speed, but they still were caught by the flames and destroyed in body and soul.

Zatiel focused on the last two Rank 4 Demons, and his Rebirth Eye glowed. Without warning, the duo lost consciousness and fell to the ground.

The Neo-Demon's right eye began to bleed after that. The Rebirth Eye's power was almost all used up after attacking the Demon Lord's True Souls and these two Rank 4 Demons.

After getting rid of the only ones who could fight against him, Zatiel deactivated his Law Avatar and focused on the lesser demons beneath him.

These lesser demons could not form memories due to the power of The Forgotten Lands, and without their leaders' orders, they did not know what to do. They roared to the Neo-Demon but did not dare to get near him.

Zatiel saw some manes in the horde, and his eyes filled with coldness. The memories of his time as a lesser demon, a slave to other powerful fiends, were the ones he hated the most.

He opened his mouth and released a gravitational force that affected all the lesser demons. The creatures attempted to resist, but it was futile, and in a matter of seconds, they were all swallowed.

The Neo-Demon regained all the lost energy he used in this battle. He waved his hand and brought the two unconscious Rank 4 Demons to him before reading their minds. The duo was too busy enduring unimaginable torture to put any resistance.

The Demon Lord he had defeated was named Philistos. He was a Count and was lured out of his city by another Demon Lord called Horuda.

Philistos heard how this Count was spreading rumors about him. Being a short-tempered individual, he immediately led his army to Horuda's city to seek revenge.

Unfortunately for Philistos, Horuda had allied with two other Counts, and they ganged up against him.

The trio was sure they would win, but they underestimated the bulezau. Philistos used all of his weapons and trump cards and was able to equal his enemies.

In the end, neither party was able to achieve victory, and Philistos left the battlefield with what little remained of his army.

'The only reason I was able to win so easily against this bulezau was due to his severe injuries and weakened condition. My Rebirth Eye has almost no energy left, but if I let the trio rest, it will be tough to defeat them, not to mention I will have to fight them one by one. Although one of them is at the 2nd Engraving Stage, the other two seem to be at the 1st Engraving Stage, and their current condition is deplorable.' After some thinking, Zatiel's eyes glowed with determination and looked in the direction of Count Horuda's city.

It took a moment, but soon a broken city that had witnessed a massive battle appeared in the Neo-Demon view. The fight between the Demon Lords had destroyed the city's walls and the runic formations in them.

In the center of the city, Zatiel could feel three powerful presences.

'The city's runic formation lost their offensive and defensive properties, but their scanning abilities seem to be active.' A plan appeared in the Neo-Demon mind.

Without wasting time, he used the Law of Death to hide his presence and obtain an intangible body before submerging into the ground and flashing to the city.

Chapter 337 - Three Vs Three

Three Demon Lords were inside a castle in the center of a broken city full of fiend corpses. The sky was covered with poison clouds that originated from the energy released by powerful life forms.

One of the Demon Lords was a man with a canine head, four arms that ended in pincers, and a red shell covering his body. He was forty meters tall, and there was a huge hole in his stomach and back.

The other was a woman with pale skin, red hair, cloven hooves instead of feet, and there were three giant tails with poisonous stingers emerging from her back that extended for more than one hundred meters. One of her arms was missing, and you could tell by the wounds in her back that she used to have two more tails, but they were ripped off.

The last Demon Lord was a muscular, pale-skinned, hairless creature with a humanoid shape. His massive arms end in sharp, barbed claws. Two massive bone wings stretched upwards from his shoulders, and there was a third eye in the center of his forehead. One of his arms was missing, his wings were broken, and toxic green energy was infecting his wounds.

"Horuda, how are you planning to pay for the massive losses we just endured. Most of the lesser demons we lend you are gone, and I have personally lost all my Rank 4 subordinates. You told us you could contain Philistos even after he goes berserker, but in the end, that crazy bastard surpassed you. We were forced to save your life, and our bodies are now filled with severe injuries." The Demon Lord with the canine head spoke those words, and his energy began to circulate faster as he looked menacingly at the pale-skinned creature.

"I agree with Leina. We lost too much and saved your life, so the price you will have to pay should double what we originally agreed." The female Demon Lord also circulated her energy after speaking those words.

Horuda looked at the duo with coolness after he heard their demands and sneered.

"Hmph, the only reason you saved me was that Philistos would have killed you two after he was done with me. Leina, Juin, remember who is the strongest of us three and don't think you can threaten me for a second." Horuda's wounds were the most severe, but the moment he unleashed the power of his soul, the entire city began to tremble, and a solemn expression appeared in the duo near him.

The strength of the True Soul of someone at the 2nd Engraving Stage was usually fifty percent higher than that of a life form at the 1st Engraving Stage. Although one's soul power did not perfectly represent an individual's battle power, it was a good estimate for most life forms in the universe.

After seeing that the duo understood they could not push him around, Horuda took a deep breath and spoke.

"I will pay you a thirty percent extra due to the losses you received, but you will have to help me attack Philistos again once our injuries are healed."

Although they wanted more, Leina and Juin understood that this was the best offer they would get, so they nodded after looking at each other.

Helping Harouda deal with Philistos was something they would do even if he did not ask. The duo knew the bulezau's demonic nature very well, and he was certainly going to seek revenge against them, so they needed to join forces and kill him first.

Once they renewed their deal, the trio adopted a meditative position and continued resting. Leina and Juin did not plan to leave the city until they stabilized their condition and expelled the toxic energy inside them. The duo would not risk walking around The Forgotten Lands with their injuries.

They had rested for less than an hour when all of a sudden, the city's alarms warned them of a powerful source of energy heading to them. The group was already on high alert, so they immediately released their Law Avatars and fused with them.

The Demon Lords were about to release their consciousnesses' full power to find their enemy's location when an invisible force attacked their True Souls.

The power in the soul invasion spell was too weak to pull their minds into an illusion, but it numbed their consciousnesses for a second and provoked immense pain.

The trio was trying to locate their enemy using their eyes, and they were surprised as the earth broke apart a couple of meters away from them, revealing three identical figures.

Zatiel and his two Rebirth Incarnation had their Law Avatar, and Doomsday Incarnation activated. The incarnation had golden plasma surrounding their spikes, making them appear like scythes, while Zatiel had it concentrated in his white sword.

They took advantage of the Demon Lords' lapse of concentration to send the first attack.

The Neo-Demon headed for the strongest, Horuda. His golden sword released a blast of golden, blue, and purple superheated plasma that consumed the Demon Lord.

One of the Rebirth Incarnations severed an arm of the Demon Lord with a canine head, and the other cut one of the female Demon Lord's tails.

The Demon Lords were all Rank 5 life forms, and they would have been able to respond to the attack of Zatiel and his incarnation in normal circumstances, but their condition was too deplorable.

The attack generated shock waves and blasts of plasma that destroyed the castle and everything in a thousand meters around it. The space near the group broke, and the next second, the six found themselves very high in the sky, where their attacks could not harm The Forgotten Lands.

The Demon Lords realized by the speed at which Zatiel arrived after the alarm was set off that they could not outrun him, and the Neo-Demon would not leave without their souls, so the six began a battle to the death immediately.

The Rebirth Incarnations used their spines covered by golden plasma to fight a melee battle against the Leina and Juin. They completely disregarded defense and focused entirely on offense. Injuries accumulated fast in them, but they did not care and would gladly let their bodies be stabbed if they could deal equal damage to their opponents.

Zatiel's battle with Horuda was the most impressive of all.

The Demon Lord did not grow gigantic after fusing with his Law Avatar. He remained five meters tall, but his skin obtained a metallic luster, and his claw grew one size and had a silver aura covering it.

Although Zatiel had his sword and spikes, Horuda matched him despite having only a single arm.

'His main law seems to be the Law of Metal. His attacks have striking severing power, and his body is incredibly resistant. He is physically stronger than me despite his injuries, and it is tough for me to penetrate his metal skin. The energy left by Philistos attacks is still inside him, and I can take advantage of that.' Zatiel analyzed his enemy's battle style, strong points, and weaknesses in a moment.

The Neo-Demon no longer focused on penetrating his enemy's defenses. After each attack, he took advantage of the openings to make cuts in the Demon Lord's metal skin.

Those wounds were barely noticeable, and Horuda kept striking with even more power.

"Stupid foreigner, you thought you could defeat me just because I was injured. Soon, I will flay you alive and devour your body piece by piece." Horuda smiled once he detected that his enemy's attack could not overcome his defenses.

The Demon Lord's attack grew faster and stronger as he used his energy to increase his physical strength, and while the cuts in his body reached the hundreds, they did not bother him at all.

Horuda had just pushed Zatiel's white sword out of his path and planned to cut the Neo-Demon when he saw the eyes of this one glowing.

The next instant, the Demon Lord felt his blood catch fire.

Each one of Zatiel's attack had deposited a tiny amount of purple fire containing the Law of Rebirth that transformed life force into death force, and blue fire charged with the Law of Destruction from Baator.

Those flames gathered and exploded the moment Zatiel sent the signal. Horuda's body was already at his limit containing Philistos's energy, and the blue and purple flames generated a chain reaction.

The Demon Lord's body froze, and he began to cough blood uncontrollably.

Zatiel would not lose that opportunity. He charged all of his power into the white sword and hacked in the direction of Horuda's head.

Chapter 338 - Two Out Of Three

Horuda was more than ten thousand years old, and as a Demon Lord, he had fought countless battles where his life could end at any time. By using his experience and the threat of death, he was able to push his body beyond its limits and move his head just in time to avoid the white sword cutting it in half.

'My body can resist it!' Horuda was sure the damage he would take would not be too much, even after taking the attack head-on.

A hurricane charged with superheated plasma was blasted in every direction as the sword descended.

When the white sword landed in his chest, the Demon Lord knew he had underestimated the power it carried.

Only one word came to Horuda's mind as the white sword broke his collarbone, destroyed his ribs, and incinerated his right lung.

'Heavy.' The Demon Lord felt as if a sharp meteorite had collided with him.

By pushing the yang attribute of his Absolute Solar Yang True Doomsday Body to the limit, Zatiel had driven the weight of his white sword to an unbelievable level.

The physical damage Horuda suffered was immense, but the worst part was that the destructive energies inside him went out of control.

Rage appeared in the eyes of the Demon Lord. He no longer bothered with the consequences and redirected all of his energy into his left arm. By disregarding the rampage of Zatiel's flames and Philistos' toxic aura, Horuda made sure that his next attack would display the full power of a Rank 5 Demon at the 2nd Engraving Stage.

Zatiel's eyes narrowed as he detected the claw carrying a raging silver aura that was about to strike him. They were too close to dodge it, and his all-out attack had left him exposed.

A light appeared in Zatiel's eyes as he analyzed the battlefield. He was able to extract the white sword from Horuda's chest, use his wings as a shield, and twist his body right before the claw landed.

The Demon Lord's attack generated a sonic boom that extended for thousands of meters and had the power to shred the bodies and souls of Rank 3 life form to pieces.

The Neo-Demon right wings shattered once the claw struck them, but the destructive power in Horuda's attack did not end there. Zatiel's right arm and a considerable part of his chest, containing his lung, kidney, and liver, were pulverized.

The damage would have been much worse if it wasn't for the hardness of his body.

The attack sent Zatiel flying away with an incredible speed. Immediately his bloodline began to work on regenerating the lost limb and organs, but the silver aura surrounding the wounds made the task very difficult. His Rebirth Force was consuming itself at an impressive rate, trying to heal him and expelling Horuda's nefarious energy.

Horuda wanted to chase after the Neo-Demon and immediately finish the job, but his body was too hurt, and he found it hard to move. He made sure to maintain his consciousness over Zatiel, and when he detected where his attack sent him, his eyes widened.

"Leina, look out!" Horuda saw how Zatiel was fastly approaching the battlefield between the female Demon Lord and a Rebirth Incarnation. Usually, he would not care if the woman lives or dies, but now that they were facing such a dangerous opponent, the loss of an ally would be fatal.

Leina heard the warning. After releasing her consciousness to explore the surrounding, she detected the Neo-Demon was coming her way.

Unfortunately, she could not divide her attention as the Rebirth Incarnation rushed to her like an enraged beast.

After fusing with her Law Avatar, a green toxic aura covered the female Demon Lord's body, and her tails became more slender.

She prepared to push her opponent away and focus on her defense until Horuda could assist her. To her shock, the Rebirth Incarnation allowed one of the tails to pierce his chest to get closer to her.

'Why did he do that?' Leina did not understand his opponent's decision. Her attack had destroyed the incarnation's heart, and now it would not be able to continue fighting.

She obtained her to answer the next moment. The Rebirth Incarnation gave her a cold smile before self-destructing right in front of her.

"BOOM!"

A blast of purple and golden plasma that contained all the energy left in the Rebirth Incarnation consumed Leina instantly.

The superheated plasma filled the sky with powerful energies.

The female Demon Lord was able to leave the core of the explosion after a second. She was missing the lower half of her body, and the rest was completely burned.

'I need to run.' That was the last thought Leina had before a white sword cut her head off.

Zatiel immediately put the Sealing Rune on the Demon Lord's head and trapped her True Soul.

The Neo-Demon stored the head in his spatial ring before focusing on the one-armed Demon Lord coming his way. His condition was dire, but he did not run and remained close to the zone where his incarnation exploded.

Quietly, his Eye of Life and Creation was gathering the energy close to him.

The moment Horuda arrived, the battle between the duo renewed. The Demon Lord had already given up on his body since the damage in it was massive. Nonetheless, he needed to kill Zatiel first so his True Soul would be safe.

As the battle continued, deep cuts appeared in Zatiel's body, and Horuda's organs rotted until becoming dust.

The Demon Lord's body shook once his heart began to stop working, and the Neo-Demon took the opportunity to push his claw away and fire a beam of energy from his Eye of Life and Creation.

The beam contained a significant part of the energy the Rebirth Incarnation released after his self-destruction, so its power was great. It landed right in Horuda's face, destroying most of it and causing immense pain.

The Demon Lord's eyes were destroyed, and he could not control his consciousness due to the pain and the damage. However, he felt a palm positioning right above his heart and how a massive amount of chaotic energy was about to be released.

"Apocalypse Blast." A concentrated beam of chaotic energy that contained all the Elemental Chaos Zatiel had left was released from his palm.

Zateil's energy pool was low by this point of the battle, but it granted enough fuel so the blast could destroy most of Horuda's chest, giving the final strike to his heart and lungs.

Before the True Soul could escape the soul dimension, Zatiel put the Sealing Rune on the Demon Lord's broken body and transferred it into his space ring.

Now that Horuda and Leina were both defeated and sealed, Zatiel focused on the last battlefield.

His last Rebirth Incarnation and Juin were both tired and injured. However, this final Demon Lord had impressive defensive abilities, and it would need a lot more damage for his body to give up.

'My energy pool is empty after using Apocalypse Blast, and I can hardly move my body right now. I don't have too much Soul Origin left, and my Astral Origin is also running low. I need to focus my Rebirth Force on my wounds. Even if I can defeat this Demon Lord, I don't think I can stop him from escaping.' After taking into consideration every factor, Zatiel sent a command to the Rebirth Incarnation. There was no need to keep fighting when the outcome would not gain him anything.

Juin and the Rebirth Incarnation were in an impressive melee battle with pincer clashing against scythes made of golden plasma. Then all of a sudden, the incarnation separated from the Demon Lord and began to fly away.

The Demon Lord with a canine head was surprised. Just a second ago, his opponent was an emotionless machine that would not separate from him no matter the damage he took, but now he left just like that.

Juin did not chase after the incarnation and took a moment to breathe and analyze the battlefield. The Rebirth Incarnation pressure on him forced him to focus entirely on his fight and ignore everything else.

Fear filled his heart when he noticed that he was the only Demon Lord left alive. Although he also saw Zatiel's deplorable condition and the fact one of the Rebirth Incarnations was gone, he did not dare to bet and ran away immediately.

The Neo-Demon saw how the Demon Lord escaped. He was a little disappointed by not being able to trap them all.

'Two out of three is not so bad.'

Chapter 339 - Doppelganger Fiend Rune

Once the Rebirth Incarnation reached Zatiel's side and detected that the Demon Lord was already far away, he deactivated Doomsday Incarnation before breaking the space by his side, taking him and the Neo-Demon to the center of the ruined city.

Zatiel sat on the ground and began to stabilize his condition after deactivating his Law Avatar and Doomsday Incarnation. His face was pale, and most of his inner organs were either destroyed or harmed. The only silver lining was that his hearts, brain, and spinal cord were fine.

The Rebirth Incarnation did not remain still. He released his Sun Domain and began to explore the city.

A few moments after the incarnation left Zatiel, explosions and screams were heard all around the city. While this happened, the Neo-Demon reviewed the fight and analyzed his battle power.

'Horuda was severely injured due to his battle with Philistos and had used all of his life-saving cards. My battle power should be approximately that of Rank 5 Demon Lord at the 1st Engraving Stage. Using the full power of Rebirth Nightmare and the Rebirth Incarnations, I could fight someone at the 2nd Engraving Stage, but if they have sturdy spirit defenses, I would probably lose.'

Although his power was impressive, Zatiel knew there was room for improvement, especially in the Rebirth Eye's soul invading abilities.

The Rebirth Incarnation returned after fifteen minutes and brought five Rank 4 Demons. Three of them were dead, and the other two were just unconscious. He presented them to Zatiel before transforming in ash due to his vessel's soul, body, and energy been fully drained.

The Neo-Demon swallowed the three corpses and immediately felt his condition improving a little. He used his new energy to read the mind of the two living Rank 4 Demons, and once he learned the location of a functioning World Gate in the city, he devoured them as well.

Zatiel did not plan to remain in The Forgotten Lands. He immediately flew to the World Gate and left Abyss.

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Unlike his trip to Baator, Abyss' battle only damaged his body, not his True Soul or True Will. Once he expelled Horuda's silver aura, his bloodline was able to regenerate his vital organs and limbs pretty fast.

After five days of resting in the Neo-Demon Realm's void, surrounded by endless elemental chaos, Zatiel fully recovered.

After he finished his healing, the Neo-Demon teleported to the Forness continent. Everything was just like when he left.

Zatiel sat on the ground and took a deep breath of Enlightenment Mist before working on his runes.

The ones Zatiel was making were identical to the ones he did with the True Souls of the defeated Devil Lords, with the only exception that the new ones had a Demon Lord's picture in the center.

In less than four days, Zatiel had used the True Soul of Horuda, Philistos, and Leina. He analyzed the Animax Soul Runes, and after seeing they were in top condition and fully functional, a smile appeared on his face.

'Excellent!. I finished much faster than I thought. With this, I can begin the first step of my grand scheme.' Zatiel's eyes shone with excitement as he went through his plans in his head.

He sent a command through his Chaotic-Core, and the next moment, Ezequiel, Sophia, Dante, Kilo, and Rax appeared in front of him.

Zatiel immediately noticed the change in the appearance of the father and son duo. Their bloodlines have grown tremendously in power, jumping from the King level to Peak Emperor.

He had obviously given the kobolds access to the Garden of Creation so that they could pick an Angelic Paragon's bloodline as their second bloodline.

From Kilo's back, six majestic wings made of white fire charged with lightning emerged.

'Fire and lightning. It is a great combo, capable of displaying immense power and countless applications, both in battle and training.'

After analyzing Kilo's wings, Zatiel turned to the old kobold.

Rax had six wings made of a dark red magma in his back.

'Fire, earth, and darkness. An interesting combination. It will be harder to practice and develop than those of Kilo, but they can allow Rax to display an amazing battle power if utilized well.'

Zatiel was satisfied with the choice of the duo. Of course, they still had a lot of work and improvement to do, but they were on the right track.

"I call all of you here to explain my new plan. We will invade, control territories, and extend our dominion in Avernus, Dis, Driller's Hives, The Forgotten Lands, Blood Rift, Wormblood, and the Realm of the Million Eyes." Zatiel saw how his trusted subordinates make shocked expressions after recognizing the names he just spoke, and a smile appeared on his face. "That is right; we will invade Baator and Abyss."

Making incursions in Baator and Abyss, stealing resources, and killing demons and devils was normal and something that many species that inhabit Principal Worlds and Planes do. However, controlling territories was something completely different.

The energies in those great fiend planes were poisonous for almost all the universe's races, making long periods of inhabitation not practical. Although Neo-Demons did not have to worry about that, there was an even more critical reason why trying to establish a domain was not possible, and that was the fact the fiends would attack them without rest.

Devils continuously fought against each other and were incapable of forming real alliances due to their nature. Still, the moment they detect an alien race trying to establish control over a region in Baator, they would all gather against them. And the same happened with demons.

Ezequiel and the rest knew this, so they remained silent and waited for Zatiel to explain how he would fix that flaw in his plan.

Zatiel did not make them wait and showed them the Animax Soul Runes he made with the Rank 5 fiend lords.

"These are Doppelganger Fiend Runes, and once you engrave them in your True Souls, you will become indistinguishable from a devil or a demon. Not even the consciousness of a Peak Rank 6 life form would be able to recognize your true nature. I made them using the True Soul of Demon and Devil Counts, so they will work even after your Paths of Power reach Rank 5."

The five Neo-Demon were amazed when they heard the abilities of the Doppelganger Fiend Runes. They could thrive in Baator and Abyss and gather legions of fiend under their command with those runes.

Zatiel sent the demon runes to Ezequiel, Sophia, and Kilo, and the devil runes to Dante and Rax. None of them hesitated even for a second and immediately engraved the runes in their True Souls.

The process was fast, and the moment the inscription was over, an evil aura could be felt from the Neo-Demons' souls as their appearance began to change.

The change in their bodies was minimal. Rax and Kilo had spikes emerging from their spines, Sophia's wings became like those of a bat, black scales covered Dante's body, and Ezequiel's skin became utterly white.

Anyone seeing them for the first time would be one hundred percent sure they were devils and demons.

After the group had time to get used to the changes in them, Zatiel continued speaking.

"Dante and Rax, you two will work together and head to Avernus. Your first mission is to control a small city, obtain information about the devils around you and the power hierarchy. Sophia and Kilo, you two will do the same in The Forgotten Lands." After seeing that the four Neo-Demon understood his instructions, Zatiel focused on the only one in the group who could already kill a Demon Lord on his own.

He was about to give Ezequiel his instructions when his Rebirth Eye detected something strange, and after a moment, shock appeared in Zatiel's eyes.

"Ezequiel, what is the tier of the star you sealed in your first heaven?."

When Sophia, Dante, Kilo, and Rax heard Zatiel's question, they immediately focused on the five-meter tall Neo-Demon.

"Thanks to the natural strength of my body, my first heaven was able to hold a weak Tier 2 star," Ezequiel spoke calmly, and it was clear for all he did not feel pride in his achievement.

However, everybody else looked at him like he was a monster.

'The Primordial Bloodline. When it comes to the body augmentation, even my Rebirth Eclipse Bloodline falls short.' Zatiel could only sigh in amazement of Ezequiel's physical might.

"Ezequiel, you will go to the Blood Rift. Your mission is to kill a Demon Lord, steal his title and domains, and bring me the True Soul of five Demon Counts. I will give you the runes I used to seal the souls of the ones I fought."

Although his mission was countless times harder than that of the rest, and he would be working alone, Ezequiel did not show anything and limited himself to nodding.

The Neo-Demon with the Primordial Bloodline understood that Zatiel captured alive the five Demon Lords he used for the runes, so he cannot do less.

Chapter 340 - The Test

After giving them their mission, Zatiel sent a stream of information that depicted all the customs, behaviors, and rules of Abyss and Baator.

"Demon and devils have a hierarchy and caste system. No master wants ever to see their subordinates succeed and grow powerful enough to threaten their position. That is why Fiend Lords always use contracts and magic tools to bind their followers." Zatiel tone was serious since this part was crucial.

"Ezequiel, you will gain a Count title with ease. In Abyss, these can be obtained by simply killing another Demon Lord, but after that, you will have to sign a contract with a Demon Duke, where he will try to bind you one way or another. Unfortunately, you cannot avoid these pacts since if you don't have a powerful backing, another Rank 6 Demon will attack your city in less than a week."

A troubled expression appeared in the faces of Ezequiel and the rest of the Neo-Demons. The contract that they will have to sign with the Fiend Dukes will force them to some degree of servitude.

However, Zateil's next words made a smile return to their faces.

"Luckily, the Doppelganger Fiend Rune will be the one marked by the power of the contracts, not your True Souls. Despite that, do not just accept any pact thrown at you since it will raise suspicion."

The Neo-Demons blessed the Doppelganger Fiend Runes since it would help them greatly in their mission.

"Dante, Rax, the laws of Baator were modified by the Archdevils. All the people arriving there through a World Gate will appear near a battlefield. Even though you have fiend identities, that doesn't mean other devils would not attack you. We cannot overcome the laws' power, but we can make sure that you arrive in a fight between Rank 4 Devils instead of one involving Devil Lords."

The duo indicated that they understood Zatiel's instruction. Dante already had the magic knowledge, and they only needed to make some modifications to the World Gate.

"You should depart after having conquered the Star Consciousness inside you. Take advantage of this opportunity to hone your instincts and battle style. There is no better training ground than Abyss and Baator. In those planes, death can arrive any second and in many forms. If you lower your guard for an instant, then you can kiss goodbye to your life." After seeing the solemn expression on everybody, Zatiel nodded. The Neo-Demon sent an orb with Sealing Runes to Ezequiel before allowing them to leave.

The Neo-Demons used their Chaotic-Core to communicate with the NRAI and teleport to the Will Forging Sea. The only one that did not leave was Sophia.

The woman gave Zatiel a charming smile before walking to his side and creating a dome of ice to cover them.

The dome remained for four days, and the moans of pleasure did not stop for a second.

After the ice melted, Sophia's eyes were shining with bliss as she disappeared from the Fornes continent.

Zatiel also had a smile as he saw his lover leave. There had been years since the last time he enjoyed some alone time with Sophia.

The Neo-Demon was about to teleport to the Garden of Creation when he heard Dante's voice through the core.

"Father, the Scientia Kingdom has sent a message to the Daybreak Magic Tower. The test's preparations are over, and they are asking if you are ready to take it right now, so they can send someone to escort you."

A thoughtful expression appeared on Zatiel's face when he heard that.

'I was planning to enter secluded training to fix my battle style flaws and increase my power before leaving for Dis. It is better to handle this immediately.'

"Tell them I am ready."

"I will, Father."

Zatiel went to the World Gate and returned to the Magi World. The Neo-Demon appeared at the Daybreak Magic Tower's peak and used his Heart Scan to cover the entire city.

The somber atmosphere that once filled the City of the Sun was gone. All the people were laughing and training, striving to become better.

The Neo-Demon felt warmth in his heart and remained there for a few minutes until a portal appeared next to him, and Gabriel emerged from it.

"Master Demonologist, I have come to escort you." The Second Prince's attitude was respectful, and he performed a bow after seeing Zatiel.

Zatiel stared at Gabriel for a moment before focusing on the portal, which was still open.

The portal Gabriel created was stable despite the immense amount of energy it was needed to form it. This feat proved the Royal's great control over his power and the Law of Space.

"Your Law of Space has reached the Minor Completion level. For someone so young, it is a great achievement."

"Coming from someone like you, that means a lot, but I got help. My Royal Father gave me a treasure that aided my advance past the Initial level."

Zatiel looked at the Second Prince and shook his head.

"No matter how good a treasure is, if you don't have a solid foundation, they are useless. Everyone uses some form of assistance to improve their law comprehension, just like me with my bloodline. The only thing that matters, in the end, are the results."

Gabriel's eyes shone when he heard that. He took Zatiel advice to heart. After all, he knew that the Neo-Demon was someone who had reached eternity.

The Second Prince bowed once again and accompanied Zatiel through the portal. They moved at an unbelievable speed, and in less than a second, they found themselves in a grand hall in the Scientia Kingdom.

The hall was simple and without any unique decoration, but Zatiel did not notice any of that. His entire focus was on the black-haired man in front of him.

Even though the man restrained his power, Zatiel's eyes showed him that the energy inside him was higher than that of a High World's sun.

"Nice to meet you, Zatiel Daybreak. I am John Erick Rebellion, the King of the Scientia Kingdom." The man showed no emotion on his face as he stared at Zatiel.

"Glad to meet you as well." Zatiel also nodded to the man, and his face became emotionless. The Neo-Demon felt how the King was monitoring every single one of his movements.

"Gabriel, you can go." John did not take his eyes away from Zatiel as he spoke.

"Yes, Sir!" The Second Prince responded immediately, and after bowing to the duo, he disappeared.

"Please follow me. I will take you to the place where the test takes place." John began to walk forward after speaking, and the Neo-Demon followed him.

Zatiel felt the eyes of the King still focusing on him, despite this one looking forward.

The Magus and the Neo-Demon entered a small room at the end of the hall. The only thing inside was a statue of an older man with a white beard and ponytail.

The eyes of the Neo-Demon narrowed the moment he saw the statue. Although he never saw him in person, he recognized the appearance of the Rank 9 life form of the Magi World.

John Erick Rebellion displayed an extremely respectful expression on his face as he bowed to the statue, and then he turned to Zatiel.

"The test is straightforward. I will ask you three questions, and you have to answer them right now." John's face was solemn as he spoke.

"And if I refuse to answer?" Zatiel stared at the King's eyes when he spoke and saw how they filled with coldness.

"Then I will have to kill you."

The Neo-Demon's eyes were emotionless as he heard that. He inspected the room and began to think about the test.

"I am a..." Zatiel was going to say the words woman, but he was unable to continue. After a moment, he closed his eyes for a couple of minutes before opening them again.

John frowned the moment the Neo-Demon opened his eyes. He could not explain why, but he felt like he was in the presence of a completely different person.

The Neo-Demon gave a charming smile to the Magus, making the King of the Scientia Kingdom incredibly tense.

"I am a..." Once again, he was not able to finish his sentence. A confused and naive expression appeared on Zatiel's face, but he returned to his emotionless self the next second.

"I see. I cannot lie in this place even if I believe the lie. So the Omega Law of the leader of the Magi World is related to truth."

The moment John heard that, his eyes widened, and a sliver of fear appeared in his eyes. Due to his power and identity, he has had many interactions with Rank 7 life forms, but the way Zatiel behaved made him understand he was once above them.

The King adopted a fighting stance and was ready to attack. The immense difference in power only made his fear grow as he saw the Neo-Demon indifference.

"Relax. Let's hear what type of questions the leader of the Magi World left for those like me."