

Abyssal 541

Chapter 541 - A Hero's Welcome

Gilligan was the Grand Elder of the Nether Arcane School, one of eleven great organizations of the Magi World. His mission was to interfere with the troops coming in and out of the Divinity Faith Army's headquarters, Saint City.

For a Peak Rank 6 life form that earned the title of Gods' Slayer, this should have been a pretty straightforward job, but just when he thought he took care of a group of ants, an unexpected genius showed up.

When Gilligan saw the power of those abyssal flames, his aura exploded, and the Supernova Law Domain manifested itself. He raised his hand, making a giant azure fire snake appear.

Despite the demonic nature of his power, Orin's aura was that of a hero as he faced the absolute enemy that targeted his group. A black Supernova Domain materialized, and a red spear appeared on his right hand.

A torrent of abyssal fire began to converge in the red spear, coating the weapon into plasma-like energy.

The Legend and the Magus stared at each other for a second before making their energy explode and attack.

Orin resembled a demonic meteorite as he flashed forward and pierced toward the azure fire snake coming toward him.

Azure hellish flames and black abyssal fire permeated the sky when both attacks clashed, burning every atom of oxygen in a radius of one thousand kilometers.

"What are you waiting for? Run now." The man at the Early Supernova Domain Stage yelled toward the rest of the Divine Legends when they saw how they kept looking at Orin.

"Bastian, he used a power forbidden by the Gods. We must punish him for that sin." A woman yelled back toward the man, and loathing filled her eyes as she stared at Orin.

Instead of showing support for the man that just saved her, she only displayed hate, to the point she seemed ready to help the one who just attempted to kill her a moment ago.

That was the power of religion. Even if it was irrational and lacked any form of logic, it can implant a level of hate so deep in your soul that you could kill a person that did not harm you in any way.

Of course, not everybody who followed a religion was fanatic trash. There were those who knew how to think for themselves and repaid the kindness shown to them.

Bastian was one of those, and when he heard the woman's words, disdain appeared on his face. But the Divine Legend knew how to control his emotions and that he needed to handle this tactically since others in his group also shared the fanatic garbage's belief.

"We can discuss Orin's crimes later. Right now, the most important thing is to reach safety. We can relay what we saw here to our superiors when we are inside the city."

Bastian's words made everybody focus on one goal, to survive. As for the last part, while it seemed to align with the zealots, the truth was that the Divine Legend had a different plan.

"BOOM!"

Another explosion echoed through the sky as Orin's spear and the azure fire snake under Gilligan's control clashed again.

The Legend was pushed back with blood coming out from the corner of his mouth but immediately regained control and charged even more abyssal flames into his weapon.

Gilligan extended his arms before pulling them together, making the azure fire snake bite down toward the Legend.

Orin's eyes widened as he saw that massive mouth about to swallow him, but he showed not a single trace of fear as he unleashed a torrent of spear strikes.

The spears pushed the azure fire snake back, giving the Legend time to put some distance between them. It was then that Orin detected something and glanced at the Legends that were rushing toward Saint City.

His gaze landed on a beautiful woman at the Late Hollow Sun Domain Stage. Her eyes carried on intense feelings that could only develop over a long time and after fully knowing a person.

Orin's gaze lasted only a moment, but he showed the woman a kind smile before turning back toward the Gods Slayers and piercing with his spear forward, shooting a pillar of abyssal fire.

Gilligan sent his azure fire snake crashing toward the abyssal pillar, once again filling the sky with flames.

The pillar failed to equal the azure fire snake, with the blast throwing Orin back, and just as he prepared to attack again, a sense of urgency appeared in his eyes.

He saw how the Gods Slayer managed to gather an immense amount of energy less than a second after that last clash and fired a full-power spell.

Orin just regained his stance when Gilligan pointed his hands forward, and a beam of super concentrated fire emerged from the giant azure snake.

The Legend managed to mobilize barely half of his energy and gathered it into the spear, thrusting it forward.

Gilligan's attack was too powerful, and Orin managed to defend for a second before being overwhelmed and hit by it.

Orin's counterattack was not useless as he managed to split the beam into several minor attacks, saving his life.

Despite his wounds, Orin was fine, but panic appeared on his face when he saw where one of the broken beams aimed to.

"NOOOO!" Orin roared with all his strength as one of the broken beams managed to reach the Divine Legends, killing four of them, with one of the casualties being the woman at the Late Hollow Sun Domain Stage.

The beam carried so much power that the woman's True Soul shattered instantly. As for the surviving members, they were able to enter the gray force field and reach safety.

With the Divine Legends now inside Saint City, Orin did not need to keep fighting the Gods' Slayer, and he could also run to safety.

However, the Legend did not move his body, and his eyes did not leave the place where the woman was present just a few seconds ago.

"I WILL KILL YOU!" Orin roared as his life force began to feed his abyssal flames. Pure hatred could be seen in his face as he stared at the Gods Slayer and flew toward him at full speed.

Gilligan only showed disdain when he saw the behavior of the Legend. As a Magi, he had a firm belief that emotions must never cloud your judgment or guide your actions, especially in a battle.

"Hmph, despite your power and talent, you are no different than a child." Gilligan sneered before his energy and soul force burst, making three giant azure fire snakes emerge from his Supernova Law Domain.

Orin's eyes burned with hatred, and it seemed he could not even hear the Magus' words, as the only thing in his mind right now was to kill.

He thrust his spear forward, generating a pillar of abyssal fire that destroyed one of the azure snakes before fending off the second one.

Burning his life force increased Orin's battle power, but he was still no match for the Gods Slayer. That was proven when the third azure snake hit his back, tossing him away as he vomited blood.

Orin seemed to have suffered severe wounds, but the rage burning in his heart allowed him to ignore the pain. He immediately got back control over his body and pointed his spear toward Gilligan before flashing forward with all his strength.

The Gods Slayer saw the humanoid spear covered in abyssal fire coming his way, and he waved his hand, making the azure snakes shatter into thousands of orbs.

The orbs positioned themselves in the path between Orin and Gilligan and did nothing else. While the Legend felt something wrong, it seemed that his rage did not allow him to do anything but push forward.

Once Orin was in the center of the azure orbs field, Gilligan clasped his hands, making all of them explode simultaneously.

"?BOOM!"

A devastating explosion covered the sky, and Orin was in its core, with azure flames submerging him from every direction.

Gilligan smiled as the azure flame enveloped the Legend, but that expression lasted little, as his enemy managed to come out from the blast and appeared right in front of him.

The distance was too little, and his energy was still in disarray due to that powerful spell, so Gilligan could not stop the abyssal flaming spear from piercing his stomach.

It was the Gods Slayer's time to vomit blood, although it was azure plasma in his case.

The spear carried such momentum that it pushed the Gods Slayer to the ground, where he created a giant crater. Despite the damage received, he immediately stood up and filled his surroundings with azure orbs.

Gilligan expected Orin to chase after him due to the emotional state of this one, but to his surprise, the Legend took the chance to flee into Saint City.

The Gods Slayer chose not to pursue the Legend, as the fight surely caught the attention of the Gods' Heros inside Saint City, and his condition was not optimal. He took out the spear from his stomach before vanishing.

On the other hand, Orin barely crossed the gray force field and entered Saint City. Burn injuries covered most of his body, with one of his eyes missing and his left arm scorched.

Instead of the warm welcome that a hero who battled a Gods Slayer and saved his team should get, what received Orin was a group of armored guards led by a Peak Rank 6 Divine Legend.

It seemed the zealots wasted no time and immediately notified his "unforgivable sin" to the higher up.

Orin felt the force field pressure him, sealing his power, but that was unnecessary as he blacked out the next moment.

Chapter 543 - Let The Carnage Begin

Once they activated the formation, the guards and Orin appeared in a gigantic structure. It was rectangular, with metallic walls containing more than ten thousand cages.

Powerful eyes focused on the trio, and their auras equaled suns, but the guards did not pay too much attention to them and just descended.

Limbo was the name of a facility that worked as both a prison and energy source for the Divinity Faith Army. Some of the prisoners committed grave sins during the lapse of the war, while others were individuals brought here from the Divinity World with the sole purpose of being put in those cages.

Although a new prisoner was a novelty, they soon lost interest and returned to their meditation. Every single one of them spent their whole day training.

They meditated every second, not with the hopes that their cultivation could increase, but to remain alive. There was a special force in Limbo that constantly swallowed their energy and Soul Origin, and if they were to run out of them, the next thing they would begin to lose would be their life force.

That same swallowing force acted over Orin when he entered Limbo, devouring his Soul Origin and energy, worsening his condition.

The two Divine Legends carrying Orin noticed that, but none showed any concern. They limit themselves to continue descending, searching for an empty cell.

While Limbo resembled an underground facility, in reality, it was a secret dimension around half a continent in size, with its dimensional core beneath Saint City.

After descending at full speed for more than an hour, the guards and Orin finally reached an empty cell.

One of the Divine Legends took out the metal orb and approached the cell to activate its formations, while the other kept holding Orin.

"A..."

The Divine Legend with the metal orb heard a noise, and when he turned around, he saw with shock how the unconscious prisoner they dragged here grabbed his comrade's head and blasted him into the ground.

Fear and apprehension appeared in the Divine Legend's eyes when he saw that. He and his comrade were both at the Early Supernova Domain Stage, so for someone to take them by surprise, their power must be insanely high.

He was also very smart and understood that whatever this person wanted, they were not their goal and an immense danger loomed over Saint City.

Unfortunately, before the Divine Legend could activate any form of alarm or contact anyone, Orin's right eye shone with purple light, pulling his consciousness into a nightmarish purple plane.

Absolute terror invaded the Divine Legend's heart and soul, and he could not do anything as a shadow monster appeared in front of him and entered his body.

The duo endured the same torment, and once their wills were broken and spiritual defenses weakened, purple seals appeared in their True Souls.

Both Divine Legends trembled for a few seconds as blood leaked from their ears and eyes, but then, they stood up as if nothing happened and flew up toward the formation leading out of Limbo.

Surprise, confusion, excitement, all kinds of emotions emerged in the prisoners' eyes when they saw that. They did not know what was happening, but they could detect that chaos would soon arrive.

The show was not over, and they saw how the man opened his mouth and regurgitated a sphere made of hundreds of magic matrices and rune formations.

Once the sphere appeared, it immediately submerged in the ground, and the next second, Limbo's magic matrix began to glow as a purple force infiltrated it.

It took a few minutes, but the purple force managed to fully penetrate Limbo's magic matrix, making a small smile appear on the man's face.

Although the prisoners did not know what happened with Limbo's magic matrix, they felt how the force that swallowed their energy and Soul Origin every day for the last century vanished. When they focused on the responsible, something happened that shocked them.

Orin's body began to tremble, and something seemed to be moving beneath his skin before this one exploded, like a balloon full of blood.

What appeared from the explosion was a handsome man with three eyes and eight majestic wings.

He did not even bother to look at the prisoner and took a deep breath before closing his eyes.

The prisoners started to get impatient as the man just remained there without doing anything. Just as some of them were about to speak, they saw him open his eyes and unleash a monstrous aura.

All those caged inside Limbo were seasoned warriors with powerful souls and will. Otherwise, they would not have survived the horrible living conditions of this place. Many were even killer and sadistic murderers, but even they felt absolute terror as that man's aura touched them.

The fear was so immense that they began to hallucinate, and a demonic scenery replaced the metallic walls of Limbo. It was an abyssal dungeon full of melted bodies, disgusting parasites, and deformed infants.

"Poor bastards, rejoice, your life of imprisonment has come to an end!"

Luckily for the prisoners, the monstrous aura provoking those abyssal illusions vanished when a powerful voice echoed through Limbo.

The terrified prisoners saw the gates of their cells opening for the first time since their imprisonment started, and they turned to the sky to see the winged man right in front of the Limbo's only exit.

"I have never been fond of helping out garbage, so this is the deal. Fight and kill until only thirty-three of you are left. I will bring the winners out of this place and help you unleash a battle power beyond your wildest dreams!"

The prisoners found it hard to believe what they were hearing. They were more than fifteen thousand, yet the man wanted them to kill each other until only thirty-three were left.

As they looked toward the sky, the same thought appeared in the mind of every prisoner. Push forward and use the formation to leave this place.

However, there was a monster in their path, and even when he was one against fifteen thousand, the only thing they saw in his face was absolute confidence and hunger.

Their instinct told them they had a better opportunity to survive this bloody battle royale than to face that man.

"Come on, let the carnage begin!"

Chapter 544 - Mayhem

Kurt and several of his strongest warriors were in the Grand Castle's control room. They could watch the entire Saint City from this location and keep a channel with the strongholds in the other continents under the Divinity Faith Army's control.

Even though he did his best to keep a straight face, the Gods' Hero failed to hide his frustration. The situation for the Divinity Faith Army was dire, with them losing warriors, resources, and terrain on a daily basis.

'It has been a week since I sent that man to Limbo. Soon Zelit and the others will arrive for the assembly, and I will learn whether or not I can use him.' Just as that thought crossed Kurt's mind, he saw how the control room shone with red light.

A picture appeared in front of the Gods' Hero, and he saw how two men appeared less than one hundred meters away from the gray force field.

White lightning bathed one man's body while the other unleashed a demonic red aura. The one thing they had in common was that the monstrous physical power they released reached a level capable of twisting space-time around them.

The Gods' Hero's eyes widened, and panic appeared in them. He immediately recognized two of the three individuals that the Divine Faith Army classified as threats of Omega Level.

Their impact on the battlefield was higher than all the Gods' Slayers combined.

Due to energy shortage, Saint City's offensive capabilities were not what they used to be, with their precision and potency weakened. The Grand Castle would not be able to defeat the duo on its own without help, and if they broke the force field, the killing would be unprecedented.

Kurt was ready to channel his energy and soul force into the Grand Castle and lead the attack on Ezequiel and Roku when a new alarm was triggered.

A second holographic picture appeared in front of the Gods' Hero. He saw with shock how the portal to Limbo began to shine, and thirty-three giant monsters emerged from it.

Along with the shock, there was confusion on Kurt's face. He was sure that never before had he seen these creatures and could not understand how they came from Limbo.

They were all one thousand meters tall, with a purple aura coating their bodies and glowing runes covering every piece of their skin.

For a moment, fear appeared in Kurt's face as he saw these thirty-three prisoners.

Their ferocious and grotesque forms could not affect the heart of a seasoned warrior like Kurt, but the fact that every one of them had an aura that could equal a Gods' Hero did the trick.

After the initial shock, Kurt regained control over his emotions, and he noticed how the life force of these creatures was burning at an astonishing rate.

While their life span measured in the hundreds of thousands of years, at this rate, they would not survive more than thirty minutes.

Two mighty forces attacked Saint City simultaneously, one from outside and the other from inside. Even a fool would realize that they were connected.

Kurt knew time was of the essence and was about to send a message to his fellow Gods' Heroes while taking control of the offensive weaponry of Saint City when he felt a spike of energy inside the room.

The Gods' Hero barely managed to turn around to see how two of his men began to glow with purple light before blowing themselves up.

"?BOOM!"

An immense explosion occurred inside the Grand Castle's control room, blowing up part of the walls, allowing an exit to the waves of purple fire.

Kurt exited the Grand Castle through the broken wall, and there were burn injuries all over his body.

"Crack."

Unfortunately for the Gods' Hero, he did not have time to catch his breath as cracks appeared in the force field due to the fists crashing against it.

Fireball and other spells appeared outside the force field and shot against the duo, but without a Peak Rank 6 life form managing it, both Ezequiel and Roku were too fast for them.

"?BOOM!"

More explosions distracted the Gods' Hero, and he saw how the monsters that escaped from Limbo were wreaking havoc inside Saint City, killing and destroying everything in their sight.

The Grand Castle attempted to suppress them, but the runes on their bodies allowed their souls to link together, fighting off that sealing force.

It took less than a second for the situation to go out of control completely.

'I need to return to the Grand...' Kurt could not finish that thought as an invisible force struck his Inner Law Dimension with so much strength that he lost perception of his surroundings.

The Gods' Hero's instincts screamed like crazy, and he did all he could to push his magic defenses to the peak at that moment. His soul force was immense, so he managed to regain sight in an instant.

Kurt felt no pain at all, so he assumed he had saved himself, but then he noticed the small holes in his head and chest. Black electromagnetic energy flooded both of them, destroying his heart and soul.

As a Peak Rank 6 life form, even a meteorite would fail to harm his magic defenses, but an attack carrying Antimatter was too much for him.

The Legends inside Saint City saw how their leader and strongest warrior fell from the sky lifeless. Without leadership and having to face thirty-three unstoppable monsters while two calamities were attempting to enter and kill them all, there was no need to say that absolute mayhem flooded the streets of Saint City.

Among the chaos full of death and destruction, a figure entered the Grand Castle, passing through the purple flames that burned hotter than the sun as if they were nothing.

The Neo-Demon Ancestor knew that just like the King in Yellow would have found it impossible to sneak into Atlas' core without him noticing it, he would also fail to infiltrate Saint City's Grand Castle undetected.

Since a subtle approach would not work, he went in the opposite direction, creating so much chaos that it would project a veil over his movements.

'Up until now, everything went according to the plan.. It is time to find out what the King in Yellow is plotting.'

Chapter 545 - Red Threads

Zatiel's plan was simple and highly effective. First, he took advantage of the explosion covering the group to possess a Divine Legend.

While he could have done this at any time, he chose to do it when Gilligan ambushed the group less than a kilometer away from Saint City, decreasing the amount of time he would be supplanting the Divine Legend.

He was the flash that pierced into the explosion of azure fire and possessed Orin, using his power to forcefully push the Divine Legend's cultivation to the Supernova Domain Stage.

From the beginning, his goal was to reach Limbo, so he needed to commit a sin grave enough that they would immediately arrest him, but not so great that they would kill him on the spot. Using a Demonic Path of Power was the best choice available.

Regarding Orin's partner's tragic death, that was his doing. When Zatiel detected the woman's feelings and read the Divine Legend's memories, he realized the woman could have seen past his facade.

That is why he broke Gilligan's azure beam and secretly used his Mind Force to send a portion to the woman, shattering her soul and killing her.

The woman's death also gave Zatiel an excuse to "overexert" himself, accumulating enough injuries so that he could pretend to fall unconscious the moment he entered Saint City, avoiding an initial interrogation.

Once inside Limbo, he rewrote the magic matrix and took control of it before forcing the prisoners to fight until only thirty-three of them were left.

That carnage had the goal of granting him enough life force, soul force, and blood to write the runes that transformed the prisoners into absolute killing machines.

As for the fact that none of the prisoners would survive more than thirty minutes once Zatiel activated the runes, it did not matter to him.

With all the pieces in place, Zatiel signaled Ezequiel and Roku to attack Saint City before releasing the thirty-three monsters.

Killing the Gods' Hero guarding Saint City was just a side mission. Zatiel would not have wasted his time going after him had the man been away from the Grand Castle.

The moment he was inside the Grand Castle, the first thing Zatiel did was to head at full speed toward the energy core located on the lowest level.

The energy core was the most secure location in the Grand Castle, so it would make sense that the King in Yellow would keep anything dangerous enough to threaten him there.

His instincts also guided him to that place, with a growing sense of urgency appearing in his mind.

There were still Legends inside different levels of the Grand Castle, but Zatiel did not care as they couldn't delay him for even a second.

Of course, that did not mean he completely ignored those Legends. He fired a wave of Mind Force whenever he reached a new level, killing everyone beneath the Primary Sun Domain Stage and stunning the rest.

The closer he got to the Grand Castle's energy core, the more powerful was the pull of his instincts to that place, urging him to move faster.

Zatiel began to frown as he got closer to the energy core. While trusting your instincts was extremely important, their exaggerated response made the Neo-Demon feel that something was wrong.

His instincts' response made sense if one considered that he was getting close to the threat gestating in that place, but he still felt odd.

The Neo-Demon stopped just as he was about to reach the level containing the energy core. He stood still for a few seconds before all the doubt in his eyes vanished.

Zatiel pushed forward as he fused with his Law Avatar, activated Doomsday Incarnation, and unleashed the All-Devouring Domain.

He prepared two years for this mission, creating trump cards that could allow him to get rid of anything they shot him inside the Transitional Plane.

Zatiel reached the final level, and in front of him appeared a massive gate. It was the last obstacle between him and the energy core.

It would take him several minutes to breach the defensive protocols without the access key and soul force of a Gods' Hero.

Zatiel had already spent ten minutes reaching this place and was unwilling to waste more time. After making his energy explode and coating his bone sword with Antimatter, he drove forward at full speed, generating incredible momentum.

"?BOOM!"

A powerful explosion occurred in the Grand Castle's last level, unleashing a torrent of purple fire enhanced by Antimatter that rose through the floors killing everybody still alive.

The bone sword could have pierced a sun from one extreme to the other and even buried itself deep inside a Low World's Crystal Wall but failed to pulverize the gates in one go.

Zatiel's Eye of Life and Creation glowed as he used the power of the Life Origin Essence and burned some of his life force, making his energy explode once again.

"CRACK!"

Thanks to the increased destructive power, the bone sword managed to finally shatter the gates, allowing the Neo-Demon passage into the energy core.

Zatiel's pupils dilated as everything in the room entered his sight, and immediately a bad omen assaulted him. Other than the energy core, there was nothing else in this place, and if that wasn't enough, the pull of his instincts guiding him here suddenly vanished.

Without hesitation, the Neo-Demon triggered a blue ring in his hand, making the power of Space Origin Essence embrace him.

"Too late."

An ancient voice echoed through the room, and Zatiel saw how countless red threads emerged from his body and vanished into the distance.

Some of these threads were so small that he could barely see them even with his eyesight, while others were thick enough that even a mortal could notice them from a distance.

Zatiel frowned as he had no idea what these threads were and their use.

The ring in his hand finally shattered, and the power of Space Origin Essence attempted to bring him out of the Grand Castle.

Unfortunately for the Neo-Demon, the force that should overcome even the power of a Rank 7 spell could not defeat the red threads.

Zatiel's eyes widened as the red threads kept him here, completely ignoring the power of the Space Origin Essence. He could move his body but was bound to the room.

Although there was a great shock in his heart, Zatiel did not let his emotions get out of control and calmed his heart before focusing on the place where that taunting voice came from.

"So calm despite facing a force that you know nothing about. Of all the people I have fought in the billions of years of my life, you are indeed the one I like the most. Crushing your existence and devouring your destiny will be a transcendental experience."

An older man with a plump body walked out from the shadows. There was a kind smile full of love on his face, but Zatiel could see how tentacles moved beneath his skin.

Zatiel had read the memories of many Divine Legends and knew who this older man was, the Overgod's Supreme Pontiff. Still, he knew that was just a disguise, and his true identity was different.

"King in Yellow."

Chapter 546 - Wrath

Zatiel glanced at the King in Yellow for a moment, but he lost interest the next second. The enemy showed no battle intent, so instead, he focused on the red threads binding him.

The Neo-Demon's eyes widened when he saw that he could not touch the threads. It was as if they were not even here, yet their power was more remarkable than Space Origin Essence.

While it may sound arrogant, saying that the Incarnation of Death and Destruction understood every force and law that gave the Prima Universe order and formed reality would not be an exaggeration.

Nevertheless, Zatiel had absolutely no idea what these red threads were and how they worked. Even if they were some mighty Omega Law, he should be able to perceive the Prima Universe's laws that gave birth to it, but he did not.

The King in Yellow saw Zatiel trying to decipher the red threads, and instead of stopping him, he maintained silence and allowed the Neo-Demon to focus.

No matter what he did, whether his soul force, Mind Force or energy, they could not touch the red threads.

If he could not even touch the red threads, how could he fight against them?

Zatiel frowned but did not let his emotions get out of control. He took a deep breath before closing his eyes and remaining completely immobile.

Interest appeared in the King in Yellow's eyes when he saw that and then felt how the forces inside the Neo-Demon began to shut down.

First was his Elemental Chaos, then his soul force and even his life force shut down. In the end, the only force present in the Neo-Demon was his bloodline force.

Then the Rebirth Eye opened, and a wave of mystical power emerged from the Neo-Demon.

Zatiel focused on the thickest thread, and he managed to get hold of it this time.

Coldness replaced the interest in the King in Yellow's eyes when he saw that Zatiel was able to touch the threads after ignoring his other forces and using the purest might of his bloodline.

Zatiel did not notice the change in the eyes of the King in Yellow, as right now images were inundating his mind.

He saw a boy at death doors thrown in a mass grave in the images. Then he saw the same boy many years later standing proudly in the sky as a lightning paragon, coldly watching millions of demons that were worshiping him as a god.

There was no need to say that the boy was the Supreme Neo-Demon, with the first image being the first time he saw Zatiel, as for the second, it should be his time as the Demon Lord Evil.

A profound light appeared in Zatiel's eyes as he saw the effect of this thread. He let go of it and went for the second thickest.

Once again, a set of images appeared in Zatiel's mind. First, they depicted a girl with a deformed body and a weak spirit, afraid of everything, then what they showed was a woman so beautiful that the word perfection fell short, and her eyes were like suns full of willpower.

The second red thread showed him images of Sophia, from their first encounter when the woman was afflicted by her deformities, until now when she was one of the most beautiful women in the universe.

Finally, Zatiel touched the third red thread. He saw a soul born of a miracle with a body resembling a giant brain, and then a handsome young man whose blood burned like a thousand suns full of pride due to his heritage.

The three most potent red threads showed him images of the three most important people in his life. The man with whom he shared a bond stronger than blood, the woman who made him feel love for the first time, and his firstborn.

Zatiel emptied his mind of any thought and focused solely on the information he received.

'These threads, their power comes from the bonds I have made with those around me. The stronger the bond, the stronger are the threads. Could this be...'

The Neo-Demon stared at the King in Yellow and spoke a single word.

"Karma."

When the King in Yellow heard that word, shock appeared in his eyes, but soon an even greater coldness replaced it.

"I can not stop wondering, what is your real identity?"

The King in Yellow's coldness did not bother Zatiel, and he once again focused on the red threads. He felt that the answer was just partially correct.

Whatever this power was, it was also the thing that affected his instincts and led him to believe that this place harbored a threat that he needed to destroy as soon as possible.

'It affected my perception of the events occurring around me, of the dangers and real threats. The power that connects me to the environment and laws, the reaction that I have in the universe and that it has on me.'

A look of realization appeared in Zatiel's face, and he looked at the King in Yellow with a smile.

"I understand. The Eldritch Universe's primary laws, the ones that allow your universe to exist, are the Law of Cause and the Law of Effect!"

The coldness in the King in Yellow's eyes exploded into killing intent when he heard Zatiel speak those words. That level of perception and talent, he could not allow such a genius life form exist in an enemy universe.

"There is no need to act like that. Since you trapped me here, how about continuing the conversation we started in the Beta Heavenly World." Zatiel showed nothing as he felt the monstrous killing intent of the King in Yellow.

As the old monster he was, the King in Yellow only needed a second to get his emotions in order, and he stared at the Neo-Demon before the smile in his meat suit widened.

"Please, do not look down on me. I know you informed your man outside the force field about your current situation. Also, I can see how the monsters you took from Limbo quietly target the energy patterns that enable Saint City's defenses."

Zatiel no longer smiled, and coldness appeared in his eyes as he focused on the King in Yellow. He had not started a fight because he was making time, but it seemed he was not the only one.

"According to my calculations, the force field should resist for another fifteen seconds."

"Oh, you think you can erase me in such a small window of time. You are really confident." Zatiel began to mobilize his energy and was ready to unleash everything he had to face the King in Yellow.

"The force field doesn't matter. After all, our battlefield is not inside this Transitional Plane."

A horrible premonition assaulted Zatiel when he heard that and saw a red thread the size of an arm emerge from the King in Yellow's head and vanish into the sky.

Zatiel realized he could not move from his location, and an immense force grabbed hold of him and seemed to pull into the void.

"Hurry."

Ezequiel heard Zatiel's voice in his mind, and while the Neo-Demon Ancestor's tone was calm, he knew that something very wrong was happening.

Without hesitation, the Supreme Neo-Demon triggered his Bloodline Apocalyptic Metamorphosis, fused with Entropy, and even went to the extreme of burning his life force and soul force to grow stronger.

A shock wave emerged from Ezequiel's body, generating giant cracks in space as his power skyrocketed.

Gods' Tomb's laws began to act and attempted to expel the Supreme Neo-Demon as his raw power went beyond Half Rank 7, but by using his ability to commune with the universe, he was able to hide.

Ezequiel knew the concealment would only last for a few seconds, but that was all he needed, and he immediately began to strike the force field with everything he had.

On the other hand, the thirty-three monsters wreaking havoc in Saint City flashed toward the Grand Castle, and once they were near it, they all blew themselves up!

"?BOOM!"

With most of the Grand Caste destroyed, the gray force field weakened significantly, and Ezequiel made a minor breach in it.

It was a hole the size of a fist, but the Supreme Neo-Demon managed to go through it by transforming himself into a torrent of white lightning.

Ezequiel immediately reformed his body and plunged himself into the burning purple flames that covered the lowest floor of the Grand Castle.

He achieved superluminal speed thanks to his immense power and immediately reached the King in Yellow and Zatiel. He saw the red threads binding the second, and since he failed to understand their power, he chose to attack their origin.

Vibration Origin Essence, Primordial Entropy Lightning, Terminus Force, Elemental Chaos, Astral Qi, and World Strength gathered in Ezequiel's left fist as he punched toward the King in Yellow.

"BOOM!!!"

A multicolored explosion occurred the next instant. The force field that previously acted as a shield stopped the forces from dispersing, resulting in the complete obliteration of Saint City.

"CRACK!"

The gray force field could not resist more than a few seconds before shattering, allowing waves of destructive force to spread through the surroundings.

The only one still alive near the crater that was once Saint City was Roku. He stared at the core of the explosion and saw Ezequiel standing there alone.

Ezequiel's eyes showed the immense rage inside his soul.

"AHHHHHH!" The Supreme Neo-Demon roared as his energy and killing intent blasted in all directions, making the entire continent tremble.

Before he could connect his attack on the King in Yellow, this one smiled at him and vanished along with Zatiel.

Chapter 547 - The Lord Of Beginning And End Vs The King In Yellow (I)

Zatiel felt the red thread connecting him and the King in Yellow. An incredible potent force pulled the duo into the void, and they began to travel at a speed that surpassed the Greater Teleportation of a Rank 7 life form.

It was more than an hour before the Neo-Demon regained perception of his surroundings and the ability to move.

Immediately, Zatiel's consciousness expanded all over the void, and he gained some understanding of his current location. He was in the center of a sea of dead stars and asteroids, on a remote corner of the universe.

However, his surroundings were the least thing that mattered to him. Waiting for him and the King in Yellow in this sea of stars were eighteen golden giants, with even the smallest being larger than a continent!

Their bodies were not the only thing immense since their energy pool and soul force put fifteen of them at the Void Creator Rank. Zatiel failed to perceive anything from the last three, which could only mean one thing, they were individuals who earned the title of Beyond the Shackles existences, Rank 8 life forms!

The King in Yellow glanced at Zatiel before walking toward the giants with a smile on his face. He took his place in the group's center, and his aura was that of a leader.

Zatiel focused on the giants with the Rebirth Eye and figured out their origin. They were Gods, and to his surprise, the ones here were not Avatar but their true bodies and souls.

The Rebirth Eye showed Zatiel how special threads connected the Gods and the King in Yellow. Unlike the ones he developed, a dark and nefarious aura infected the karma between them.

Someone the King in Yellow managed to infect the Gods' karma, and by the submissive stance these golden giants adopted, it was clear how pathetic their condition was.

Facing eighteen Being of Laws, some that developed Omega Laws, any life form beneath Rank 7 would have a hard time even thinking, much less maintaining calm, but Zatiel's eyes showed only coldness as he stared at the King in Yellow.

"The price you must have paid to achieve this should have been exorbitating. Although I don't truly understand your power, using karma to control those Rank 8 life forms surely was not easy, especially since your cultivation is limited to Rank 6. You flatter me, but isn't this too much?."

When the King in Yellow saw how calm Zatiel was, the smile on his meat suit vanished, and monstrous dark red killing intent began to rise from him.

Zatiel was right regarding how much the King in Yellow sacrificed to achieve this.

Just the fifteen Void Creator existences should have been more than enough to overwhelm his opponent completely, but he was not willing to take any chance and brought three Rank 8 Gods. Those were life forms that could destroy worlds, yet they were here to handle a Rank 6 life form.

"You are wrong. I believe that no price is too great as long as I can end you. Initially, I did not intend to display this ability until a decisive point in the next great war, but? you have become a threat so great that I can not let you grow anymore." The King in Yellow's dark killing intent increased with every word he spoke.

Zatiel coldly stared at his opponent, but his eyes also focused on the Gods' response, and he saw the lack of surprise in their expressions. It was clear to him that they already knew that the King in Yellow was not a member of the Prima Universe.

There was still the question of whether these Gods were aware of that after the karma corrupted them, or they knew it from before. If it was the latter, then the state of the Divinity World is beyond redemption.

There was no pity in the Neo-Demon's heart for these parasites that feed on people's fear, weakness, and hopes, but an entire Principal World under the control of the Eldritch Universe was an imminent threat.

"The power of Cause and Effect is undoubtedly impressive to allow you to display this might. Although I guess between leeches, the bond is easier to achieve."

The moment the King in Yellow heard Zatiel's words, a flash of immense wrath appeared in his eyes. The idea of being placed in the same category that the Prima Universe's Gods triggered a powerful emotional response in him.

Usually, the King in Yellow would have never allowed those emotions to show themselves, but right now, he was so sure of his victory and proud of his wits that for a small instant, he allowed himself to relax.

"Hmph, don't put me in the same category that these slaves that need to feed on something so pathetic as faith." The King in Yellow did not bother to hide the disdain and contempt he felt for the Gods.

Complicated emotions emerged on the golden giant's hearts when they heard the King in Yellow. Every day, billions of life forms worship them as omnipotent entities, yet now they were nothing but pawns at the order of someone who saw them as insects.

"I was born to stand above everything, with the karma of the King. Everything must serve me, the King in Yellow, the True God. The sole purpose of existence is to evolve until I see fit to plunge it into chaos and madness to devour it!"

For the first time since he infiltrated the Prima Universe, the King in Yellow allowed himself to express the core belief that guided his actions.

Those words carry willpower so monstrously pure that the Gods by his side could not stop themselves from kneeling, as they felt themselves in front of a life form whose destiny was that of the King of the multiverse.

The King in Yellow understood the mysteries of the universe and the might some life form could achieve.

The Prima Universe' Primarchs and the Eldritch Universe' Great Old Ones were existences that could alter reality with their thoughts.

Even knowing their power, the King in Yellow saw them as nothing more than food and slaves. From the bottom of his soul, he saw himself as a life form whose destiny was that of the one and only King!

Chapter 548 - The Lord Of Beginning And End Vs The King In Yellow (II)

Zatiel felt the King in Yellow's aura reach him, and his eyes began to glow with silver light as the True Will fought against the willpower of his enemy.

In the end, none of them were able to overcome the other, since when it came to the purity and might of their wills, both Zatiel and the King in Yellow stood at the same level!

The Neo-Demon did not waste his time focusing on that, as his complete attention was on the King in Yellow's words and emotions. From his initial and extreme rage at being compared with the Prima Universe's Gods to the pride and conviction displayed when he expressed the belief that his place was the King of all existence.

Although the Neo-Demon wanted to know more about his opponent, he knew that it was all the King in Yellow would share. Those words were already a lot and only spoken due to the man's euphoria and self-confidence.

"I must say, I admire how calm you are, but please don't tell me you are expecting someone to come and save you."

The power of karma once again blasted off out of the King in Yellow, and Zatiel saw how red threads began to connect the dead stars and asteroids, instantly forming a world's size cocoon.

Zatiel's eyes narrowed as he felt the might of the karma cocoon, and the thing that amazed him the most was how it completely and utterly blocked any form of connection to the outside.

"You already know how hard to grasp the power of karma is, and I can guarantee that unless they knew our exact location, even Primarchs would need a few minutes to find us. Nothing can escape this place without my consent, not even an iota of your soul."

The King in Yellow's eyes glowed with pride as he saw his plan come to a success. He went to great lengths to make sure that there was no way of anyone tracking them, and the cloaking power of karma was something the life forms of the Prima Universe don't know and would find impossible to counter in a short time.

He even forced the Gods' true bodies to come to this place instead of Avatars to leave no trail.

Zatiel stared at the karma cocoon, and his Rebirth Eye showed him that the King in Yellow was telling the truth. No one would be able to find him, and his Soul Seed could not exert enough force to bring pieces of his soul away from this place.

As he found himself at a complete dead end, the coldness in Zatiel's eyes began to vanish, and slowly a smile appeared on his face.

"Hahahahaha."

Of all the reactions the King in Yellow expected to obtain, a laugh was the only one he did not anticipate.

"Me searching your soul, stealing your memories, and devouring your destiny sounds funny to you?" There was wrath in the King in Yellow's voice as he spoke to Zatiel. The Neo-Demon's laugh made him feel uncomfortable, as it generated doubts and questions in his mind regarding his plan.

He waved his hand, and the golden giants' eyes glowed, unleashing the power of their souls.

The Neo-Demon felt an immense force crushing him from every direction, and blood leaked from his mouth, but even then, he continued laughing. He stared at the King in Yellow with a bloody smile.

"The reason that I laugh is that for the first time since I awoke, I lost control!" Zatiel's eyes glowed with a silver light so powerful that the King in Yellow felt as if flames were coming out of them.

"Even in the Beta Heavenly World, when you captured my clone, all went according to plan. I knew I would survive and defeat you as things moved forward. But now, I am truly shocked and could not have imagined this would happen."

The King in Yellow saw how ecstasy began to appear in the eyes of his enemy.

"The feeling of not knowing what is happening, of being one step away from death. I had forgotten how thrilling it is when your life is about to end, and every piece of your existence urges you to survive at all cost!"

Zatiel roared those last words, and then the soul forces that were crushing him disintegrated as a red light appeared in his eyes.

The King in Yellow's eyes widened, and he felt that something was incredibly wrong, so he commanded one of the Rank 7 Gods to flash forward an attack without hesitation.

Although that would destroy the Neo-Demon's soul, making reading his memories almost impossible, the King in Yellow felt his instincts screaming, urging him to act now.

The Peak Rank 7 God's speed was incredible, and in less than a millisecond, he was in front of Zatiel and fired a punch toward his head.

Zatiel's bloody smile did not falter as that punch came near to his head, and before it could touch him, a blast of red aura emerged for him and crushed half of the God's body!

The King in Yellow and the other Gods saw with utter shock how the Peak Rank 7 God failed to escape the red aura and ended with his entire body and soul pulverized!

Things did not end there, as the aura began to condense around Zatiel, and a red sun appeared in a second.

Ivar the Flawless gave three rewards to the Neo-Demon for his help. Two of them were Beyond Prima Omega Arts for him and Ezequiel, and the last one was a spell capable of unleashing the full might of the Astral Chaos Omega Law once.

The Aeternum Empire's Ancestor stored the spell in the core of the red seed that contained his Beyond Prima Omega Art. That was the reason for the difference between the one obtained by Zatiel and Ezequiel.

When the King in Yellow saw that red sun, he felt a tremendous hatred. Ivar the Flawless was the main reason why the Eldritch life forms failed to overwhelm their enemies in the Prima-Eldritch Universe Final Battlefield.

However, once the initial shock passed, the King in Yellow calmed down, and the smile on his face returned.

"I must say that it is an impressive trump card, but do you think it would be enough? There is no way your soul and body can mobilize such immense power. Your only path now is to blow yourself!"

Zatiel returned the smile to the King in Yellow, and he did not deny those words since they were right. The power of the Red Primeval Sun was too much for him. His body and soul were already on the brink of collapse due to the immense pressure the spell generated.

"Their original purpose was different, but improvisation is the essence of survival."

The King in Yellow heard those words and saw how violet seals began to appear all over Zatiel's body, and he was sure they also reached his soul. Even by his standards, those seals were terrific.

At first, the King in Yellow did not understand their purpose, but then he saw with horror how Zatiel's body moved, adopting a battle pose as the power of the red sun gathered in his right hand.

"IMPOSSIBLE!" The King in Yellow roared those words, as he could not believe that a Rank 6 life form could mobilize a spell capable of achieving Rank 9 battle power.

Under his order, the fourteen Rank 7 Gods and two of those at Rank 8 marched forward and attacked with all they had.

Sadly for the King in Yellow, the Gods were too slow, and Zatiel had already fired his punch forward before they could get near him.

"You don't fuck with a Neo-Demon!"

Those were the last words the Gods and the King in Yellow heard before a tsunami of Astral Chaos clashed against them.

Chapter 549 - The Lord Of Beginning And End Vs The King In Yellow (III)

In a remote location of the Prima Universe, there was an area full of asteroids and dead stars. Even a Law Overlord would not see anything wrong with this place at first sight, but all of a sudden, space began to tremble before a red cocoon the size of a world appeared.

Cracks began to arise on the cocoon before part of it shattered, and a tsunami of Astral Chaos emerged from the opening. The red force obliterated everything in its path, under a weight that could collapse black holes.

A figure emerged from the ocean of primeval Astral Chaos that could eradicate Low Worlds. What escaped that apocalyptic force was a Rank 8 God.

Although, to be more precise, the only thing left of the Beyond Shackles existence was a small part of his chest.

Once that piece of the Rank 8 life form left the Astral Chaos, it exploded, showing a gray humanoid with tentacles instead of legs and a yellow robe covering his body.

The King in Yellow looked at the primeval Astral Chaos with eyes full of murderous rage. He managed to escape by entering the Rank 8 God that he left by his side and using that body as an escape capsule.

At first, he thought that everything went according to his plan. Even when Zatiel showed the Red Primeval Sun, he calmed down almost immediately, but even in his wildest dreams, he never imagined that a Rank 6 life form could fire a World-Ending Spell.

'Those violet seals, they were the key for that attack, but how? Even Primarchs could not create something like that.' The King in Yellow's thoughts were interrupted due to his instincts screaming like crazy, and he turned around just in time to see a bone sword penetrate his chest.

Zatiel's cold eyes stared at the King in Yellow as he pushed his bone sword deeper. Armor covered his body, and six swords were floating around him.

The Neo-Demon was in his maximum state, with Bloodline Apocalyptic Metamorphosis activated and having fused with Myriad.

A purple electric matrix covered his bone sword and both of his arms, making them release an absurd level of energy.

The King in Yellow clenched his teeth as the bone sword pierced so deep into his chest that it managed to come out of his back.

He was shocked by Zatiel's state. There was no wound on the Neo-Demon, so that meant that he managed to control the spell with such precision that no collateral damage reached him.

At this moment, when they were next to each other, the King in Yellow was able to feel an aura in the violet seals that were vanishing from Zatiel's skin, and the rage in his heart increased as he thought of someone.

'That fucking tree!'

The King in Yellow figured out that the one responsible for those violet seals that allowed Zatiel to mobilize a Rank 9 spell was no other than the World Tree.

Despite his wrathful state, the King in Yellow did not lose focus, and he felt how the bone sword was about to unleash an extremely destructive force.

Instead of dodging or blocking the bone sword's power, the King in Yellow chose a different path.

Zatiel was about to unleash the power he charged in the bone sword when he felt the King in Yellow's hand touch his chest.

"Karma Inferno!" The moment the King in Yellow pronounced those words, the billions of red threads coming out from Zatiel shone.

An immense sense of danger assaulted the Neo-Demon, but no fear appeared in his eyes, and he only focused on unleashing all the power of his next spell.

"Apocalyptic Supernova Immolation!"

The purple matrix covering the bone sword glowed before extending into the King in Yellow's insides at a monstrous speed.

They both started together. The karma threads ignited, making a red fire cover Zatiel's entire body, while the purple matrix torched the King in Yellow's insides.

As the flames of karma and rebirth inundated their bodies and harmed their souls, the King in Yellow and Zatiel felt unbearable pain, even for individuals with their level of willpower.

However, the only thing in their eyes was killing intent, and instead of trying to separate, they channeled more energy into the flames.

"?AHHH!"

"?AHHH!"

They screamed as the power of karma and rebirth reached a level capable of instantly incinerating anything beneath Rank 7.

The King in Yellow sensed the purple matrix extending deeper into his insides, now covering every corner of his body except for his brain.

He felt how the purple matrix attached to his life essence and used it as food to deploy the purple fire that destroyed his insides.

On the other hand, Zatiel felt the karma threads piercing deeper into his body, allowing the red fire to infiltrate his bloodstream, but that was only part of its power.

The Neo-Demon felt that the memories of all the people he cared about were being distorted, changing those joyous moments with horrible and treacherous experiences.

His willpower was powerful enough to allow him to fight back, but he could not stop the negative emotions from invading his soul.

Zatiel's eyes showed the rage and madness plaguing his mind, but he kept control and began to raise his bone sword, enlarging the cut inside the King in Yellow.

Black blood leaked from every orifice in the King in Yellow's face, but he resisted the pain and put both of his hands over Zatiel's helmet before making the power of karma explode.

The Neo-Demon felt the force affecting his memories and emotions growing stronger, to the point he began to lose track of what was real and what was fake.

He could not allow the force affecting his memories and emotions to keep growing, so he sent a command, and the next second, a purple sun emerged from his right arm, making the electric matrix disappear.

Immediately, the sun fused into the left arm, enhancing the purple electric matrix in this one, and Zatiel took out the hand from the bone sword's handle before punching the King in Yellow's face.

The King in Yellow was sure that he could resist that fist, as his body was equal to that of a Rank 7 Demon Lord, but when it touched his face, his eyes widened by the immense power he felt.

That punch was not only strong but also fast, heavy, hard, and carried a heat that could ignite a continent in an instant. It sent the King in Yellow flying away, destroying dozens of stars and asteroids on his path.

Those purple suns were Zatiel's Apocalyptic Extremity Suns, the unique ability of his Bloodline Apocalyptic Metamorphosis.

The purple suns had two powers, the first being an overall enhancement. If Zatiel used the power of the three on his entire body, he would grow thirty percent more powerful, but if they concentrated in a single extremity, it would improve one fold.

By fusing two on his left arm, the Neo-Demon improved everything about the extremity by two hundred percent!

The second power consisted in fusing with the enemy's body and devouring their life essence to unleash an endless rebirth fire. The Neo-Demon called this ability Apocalyptic Supernova Immolation.

Zatiel's face twisted by the pain and hate that was invading him, making it hard for him even to think, but after using his Mind Force to appease his soul, he flashed toward his enemy.

The King in Yellow regained control over his body only to see an enraged Neo-Demon flashing toward him, and the first thing he did was a hand seal.

A dark eldritch aura emerged from the King in Yellow, as the illusion of a horrible creature that resembled a larva with tentacles holding a flute appeared above him.

The next instant, a flute materialized in the King in Yellow's hands, and this one began to play it.

No sound came from the flute, but Zatiel stopped mid-flight, and he grabbed his head as the craziness in his eyes grew stronger.

"AHHHHHH!" The Neo-Demon screamed in agony as the negative emotions filling him drilled deeper and deeper into his soul.

The King in Yellow smiled as he saw the madness in the Neo-Demon's eyes, and he kept playing the flute, but all of a sudden, his enemy vanished from his line of sight.

He detected the presence of the Neo-Demon behind him but was too slow to respond, and a large cut appeared in his back and inundated him with even more rebirth fire before pushing him away.

'How did he break my seal in space and teleported so silently that I was not able to detect him until it was too late!'

The answer to his question emerged the next second when he saw a lonely bone sword a few hundred meters ahead of him.

Without any warning, the Neo-Demon materialized next to the bone sword and attacked him, making another large cut on his chest and sending him flying away again.

'Beyond superluminal speed, using the bone swords as beacons.' The King in Yellow immediately figured out the trick behind Zatiel's monstrous speed, and his eyes narrowed when he detected another lonely bone sword on his path.

He made a hand gesture, different from the previous one, and the illusion of an elephant-like humanoid monstrosity appeared above him. His muscles grew larger, and an immense sense of physical power emerged from him.

Just like the King in Yellow expected, Zatiel appeared next to the bone sword, and then one fist and one blade collided.

Chapter 550 - The Lord Of Beginning And End Vs The King In Yellow (END)

"?BOOM!"

The moment the bone sword and the fist collided, a purple-crimson explosion occurred, generating shock waves that annihilated everything in their path.

Despite the Neo-Demon charging the full power of his body into that sword strike, the King in Yellow's physical might reached such a monstrous level that he only required his right hand to stop it.

At the exact moment when the fist and sword clashed, the King in Yellow fired his left fist toward the Neo-Demon's head.

Zatiel's eyes widened as a punch with enough force to blow his head up was about to land, but in the last second, he vanished, only to reappear holding another bone sword behind the King in Yellow.

The King in Yellow felt how the bone sword aimed to cut his back again, but instead of dodging it, he allowed the wound before twisting his body and striking the Neo-Demon with the back of his fist.

Another large laceration appeared in the King in Yellow's back, infected by rebirth flames that potentiated the purple matrix that penetrated his cells.

As for Zatiel, that fist strike sent him flying away, clashing with multiple stars on his path, and the karma threads were enhanced, piercing deeper into his body.

Crimson fire already filled his circulatory system, burning him from the inside out and even affecting his bloodline.

The moment the Neo-Demon regained control over his body, he saw how a giant fist was coming down to destroy him. His enemy chased after him and was ready to fire a deadly attack.

The Neo-Demon flashed toward a bone sword more than one thousand kilometers away and managed to save himself in the last instant.

Once he got a second to think, Zatiel activated the red ring in his hand, making a stream of blood vitality, life force, and soul force enter his body and Inner Law Dimension.

For the mission into Saint City, he prepared two great trump cards, the first being the ring with the Space Origin Essence that should have teleported him to a secure location in case of danger.

The second trump card was a red ring in which he deposited part of his bloodline, life force, and soul force, which he extracted over the last two years. Its goal was to serve as a reservoir of those essences so that he could take them back in case of catastrophic damage.

Although the red ring contained a crimson sphere the size of a moon, Zatiel calculated that he would be lucky if it lasted more than five minutes at the speed he was using it.

Wrath and madness plagued his mind, making any form of coherent thought harder by the second, but the Neo-Demon managed to specify a goal.

'I NEED TO KILL HIM FAST!'

Luckily for the Neo-Demon, the King in Yellow had the same goal. He was doing his best to keep the rebirth fire at bay, but it wouldn't be long before his battle power began to decrease due to the damage to his vital organs.

Zatiel and the King in Yellow stared at each other for a second before making their energy explode and flashing toward the other, ready to unleash everything they had.

Purple and crimson explosions shone for hundreds of thousands of kilometers as the duo destroyed everything around them.

The King in Yellow constantly switched between the flute horror to increase the madness affecting Zatiel and the elephant-like Great Old One to improve his physical might.

Zatiel pushed his speed to the peak, reaching a level that could equal the incarnation of the Rank 7 Shooting Star Archangel he fought in the Beta Heavenly World!

He also employed the power of his Mind Force and Rebirth Eye. Direct soul attacks would not be useful against the King in Yellow, so Zatiel chose to trick his senses, weakening his reaction time and reflexes.

More and more wounds appeared in the duo, with the rebirth fire and purple matrix already invading the King in Yellow's brain and the karma flames overflowing the Neo-Demon's body and mind.

Instead of their momentum withering due to their life-threatening wounds, it only kept increasing each time they collided.

Another explosion that shattered space-time occurred as the duo collided. Instead of following it with another deadly attack like before, Zatiel and the King in Yellow put some distance between them.

The duo roared as they began to burn their energy, blood, and soul to fire their final attack!

"Azathoth, The First Old One, Sleeping Chaos, Origin of All Madness, Universal Dreamer, I the King in Yellow, summon your power!" The King in Yellow performed multiple hand seals as he pronounced those words, and copious amounts of eldritch aura emerged from him.

"From Death to Life, from Destruction to Creation, with Soul as the bridge, may Rebirth change falsehood into reality!"

The armor covering the Neo-Demon transformed into a giant Rebirth Eye, with a black hole as the pupil.

Zatiel inscribed a new seal into the All-Devouring Domain, using Life Origin Essence, making the black hole invert its rotation.

As the All-Devouring Domain turned white and the eldritch aura condensed, two phantoms of entities that stood above the Primarch level began to manifest!

One of them was an amorphous creature resembling a mass of tentacles with billions of eyes and howling faces. It was so immense that it seemed capable of equaling the Infinite Layers of the Abyss in size.

The other was a humanoid bathed in flaming shadows, and the only thing visible about him was his red eyes. He seemed to personify the concept of the end, the final point that everything must eventually reach.

They were only illusions, but their auras made it clear they were entities that already took a step above Rank 9!

Zatiel extended his right arm, which began to mutate and transform into that of the monsters behind him.

Using the power to change illusion into reality, the Neo-Demon replaced his right arm with the one belonging to the Incarnation of Death and Destruction's phantom!

Right now, Zatiel's right arm contained a power that once sought to decompose the universe into its primal essence before assimilating it.

Light, heat, electricity, protons, electrons, everything around that right arm ceased to exist!

The King in Yellow could not hide his surprise when he saw the phantom behind Zatiel, and enlightenment filled his eyes as he found the answer to many of the questions that had bothered him for a long time.

However, he did not say a word and focused on the fight as anything else was meaningless at this point. His eyes glowed as his right arm exploded, and a mass of tentacles like the ones of the eldritch phantom emerged from his body.

Following the King in Yellow's command, the tentacles began to assemble, and soon, they formed an eldritch arm that unleashed an aura capable of corrupting the laws!

That was like a virus, capable of infecting the host and changing it so it could replicate with more ease.

None of them said anything as they flashed forward, ready to deploy their final attack.

The giant Rebirth Eye crumbled as Myriad once again fused with Zatiel, covering him with powerful armor that enhanced his body.

The King in Yellow made a seal with his left hand, summoning the elephant-like horror again to improve his physical might further.

Silence reigned for a second as a force that sought to decompose and assimilate everything collided with one capable of corrupting and devouring all existence.

"?BOOM!"

From the explosion, arcs of power capable of twisting the laws extended in every direction. The Neo-Demon Ancestor and the King in Yellow sought to overcome their enemy and give the final blow.

In the end, it was the eldritch arm, the one that began to crumble first!

"DIE!" Zatiel roared with all his power, as madness and chaos had already deprived him of his ability to think, and he pulled his right arm forward, destroying the mass of tentacles before plunging it into the King in Yellow's chest!

Shock filled the King in Yellow's face when he saw that. He had lost, and his ultimate power was proven inferior to that of the enemy.

The power in that right arm was about to erase him, and there was nothing he could do to stop his demise.

A smile appeared on the Neo-Demon's face as he felt his arm piercing the enemy's heart, but then a sense of danger so immense appeared that it pushed away his madness and allowed him to regain sanity for a second.

At that moment, the Neo-Demon saw how all but one karma thread vanished. It was the one connecting him and the King in Yellow.

Zatiel saw the King in Yellow smiling as he was about to die and heard four words.

"LET US DIE TOGETHER!"

The King in Yellow channeled his Primordial Essence into that final karma thread and fused it into the Neo-Demon, before crumbling into nothingness.

"AHHHH!" A scream of unbearable agony came out of the Neo-Demon as he experienced a pain that went beyond what he believed possible.