

## Bloodline 591

Chapter 591 Was I deceived too?

Kyle let out a sigh as he defeated his hundredth opponent.

After the illusory figure proclaimed him the victor, he settled on the stage to simply gaze at the sky. The second round for him ended, yet many individuals around him were still engaged in battle, endeavoring to overcome their adversaries. Fortunately or not, he did not face any of his friends after Carcel.

The atmosphere was thick with potent energy due to the ongoing battles. He rested his hand on the stage beneath him, and with a crack, a subtle ripple of light emanated in various directions from his palm.

The illusionary figure standing next to him gazed at him as he closed his eyes. The figure wanted him to leave the stage, but when it saw no new fighter had come to battle on the stage, it simply let Kyle be since the human had completed his battles.

As the figure averted its gaze to look in a different direction, another burst of light radiated from his palm, this time the light was intense and darted with lightning-fast speed, enveloping the entire Gladiator Arena in a fraction of a second.

"Done..."

Kyle murmured a few incantations under his breath, and the air around him grew calm. He opened his eyes, and a subtle white shimmer flickered around his body as he sat down with crossed legs to replenish the energy spent during the battles. The fights around him continued, and he calmly awaited the end of the second round.

Simultaneously, beneath the audience seated on the chairs within the towering walls, watching the battles or simply resting after enduring a significant fight, delicate symbols began to glow, intricately weaving an elaborate web across the ground. The ancient symbols carved into the towering walls and beneath the various hovering stages, drawing in divine and spiritual energy from the air to power the arena, began to fade. In just a few seconds, they were engulfed by the delicate symbols weaving a web across the arena.

The individuals in robes sitting in front of the mermaid statue were deliberating on who, besides Kyle and his group, displayed potential. Meanwhile, the shadow generals were focused on watching those from the dark side battling Carcel, Jian, and the others on the different stages, aiming to defeat them to obtain their blood.

That's why it was a huge surprise when a woman in a blue hoodie seated among the audience started shouting and cursing. The sudden commotion caught the attention of many, but before anyone could identify the woman, she disappeared from her spot.

Old Hal was taken aback when she reappeared before him. His eyes widened as he locked gazes with the familiar pale violet eyes. However, before he could grasp why Elizabeth had suddenly shown herself when she was meant to stay hidden in the crowd and only intervene if the shadow generals attacked, she glared at the array masters seated behind him and shouted.

"You useless bunch of fools! What are you all doing while the entire arena-!"

Her words were abruptly cut short by a thunderous tremor that echoed through the air, shaking the entire arena. Immediately, many massive white symbols manifested across the towering walls, enveloping their surfaces. This sight sent shivers down the spines of all who gazed upon them, as the symbols were crafted from pure spiritual energy and were expanding in size with each passing moment!

Old Hal, Elizabeth, and the eyes of those around the two widened as they gazed at the symbols. The array masters moved to eradicate them. But it was too late; the symbols had already been activated.

In a flash, the entire arena descended into chaos as panic seized everyone.

Old Hal swiftly attempted to direct the multitude of illusionary figures within the arena to pacify the turmoil. However, to his and everyone's shock, all the illusionary figures in the arena began to fade into light, eagerly absorbed by the white symbols.

The shadow generals and individuals from the dark side were also caught off guard by the sudden turn of events.

A sense of foreboding crossed Ceano's golden eyes, and an inner voice cautioned him not to allow whatever was happening reach its conclusion. He thought he had to prevent the white symbols from completely engulfing the towering walls.

Will frowned and shifted his gaze towards Ceano to grasp the unfolding situation, only to find the man had disappeared.

The third shadow general redirected his focus forward and saw Ceano suspended in mid-air behind the numerous robed individuals striving to erase the symbols amidst their intense exchanges.

Ceano locked his eyes on the symbols growing in size, and a surge of intensity permeated the air. He quickly clenched his fist tightly to obliterate the many symbols with sheer power because even though he has knowledge of arrays and symbols, he had never seen such intricately intertwined and unfamiliar symbols before. Will's eyes chilled at his actions.

"Wait... why is he helping them?"

A puzzled yet cold expression clouded his face because even though they were not here to disturb the arena and simply wanted to peacefully reach the Lost Treasure Tomb, why the freaking hell was Ceano aiding the enemies in destroying the symbols?

On the other hand, Old Hal and the numerous individuals in robes attempting to destroy the symbols mistook Ceano for attacking them and believed he was involved in all the events unfolding in the arena. They wanted to attack him, but Elizabeth quickly intervened.

"Destroy the symbols first! He's an enemy, but he's not the one who placed them!"

Ceano sneered at them, and as he opened his fist, all the symbols across the towering walls cracked and vanished into particles. But just when everyone thought they could finally regain control of the situation, all of a sudden, a massive circular array emerged from the ground beneath the audience and the countless hovering stages.

It swiftly ascended, easily passing through the bodies of the numerous people floating in the air, enveloping the entire sky above the numerous floating projections.

A sudden realization dawned on everyone fixated on destroying the white symbols on the towering walls when they looked at the massive circular array pulsating in the sky. It became evident that the symbols they were focused on all this time were not the true threat; rather, those symbols merely appeared to divert their attention. Ceano's eyes gleamed with a wild intensity.

"Haha, was I deceived too? But the real question is, by who the hell..."

Chapter 592 Too late...

Elizabeth let out a dry chuckle as she glanced at the massive array above her, brimming with countless unfamiliar symbols. In that moment, she remembered the words she had spoken when she saw the silver-haired man drawing strange symbols all across the arena.

"What's the worst that can happen, huh? This darn situation is the worst that can happen, you fool!!"

She wanted to beat her past self, but now wasn't the time for regret. As the many array masters and Old Hal swiftly advanced towards the colossal array in the sky to destroy it, her sharp gaze shifted to the floating platforms below to locate the silver-haired individual. However, she was utterly shocked when she saw the situation below.

After the many illusionary figures overseeing the arena vanished into lights, the fighters on the hovering stages ceased their battles and began floating mid-air.

The people in the audience also started vacating their seats, filling the space below her with countless floating figures, anxious to understand what was happening.

Wesley, Ronan, Oldeus, and many supreme-rank individuals in the audience had also swiftly ascended to the sky to grasp the situation and ensure the safety of the people they had brought to the arena. The individuals from the dark side had begun launching attacks on others now that the illusionary figures no longer stopped them.

An angry expression crossed Elizabeth's face as she scanned the area for the man who held the nature's favorite title.

"Damn it! I'm gonna beat him up so thoroughly that he won't ever dare to draw a single symbol again, let alone cause such a huge commotion!"

Amidst the chaos happening throughout the Gladiator Arena, Alec, Carcel, Nine, all their friends, and the three old men with the group, who knew what was going on, were a lot calmer than the others.

Alec and those battling on the hovering stages swiftly defeated their opponents and began awaiting Kyle's signal.

Nevertheless, they all found it unbelievable that Kyle alone designed such a huge array. He even placed so many fake symbols to distract the powerful individuals.

Nine plunged his sword into the stage and cast a quick look at the individuals from the dark side who had started attacking. He sensed a looming confrontation about to unfold. Scanning the area to find Kyle, he muttered under his breath.

"Hurry up, the array is ready, now activate it. What are you doing? I thought it was just us going to be fighting."

He wasn't the only one waiting for Kyle to activate the array. Alec and the others were too. In that moment, Elizabeth found the silver-haired man, sitting on one of the stages, looking calm and collected amidst all the chaos around him.

"You little freak!!"

Her enraged voice thundered across the entire arena as she disappeared towards Kyle. If she wanted to swiftly end it all and restore peace to the arena, she needed to catch the culprit first!

Ceano, Will, Old Hal, and the other robed figures were drawn to her sudden outburst and followed her disappearing figure with their eyes to see where she was headed, only to spot a familiar face seated in the direction she was moving.

Almost everyone in the Arena heard her sudden shout, and immediately, all the supreme rank individuals in the arena who could somewhat see her fast figure shifted their eyes to the lone silver-haired man.

Alec, Nine, and the others waiting for Kyle to activate the array all freaked out when they heard the woman's sudden shout.

They couldn't see her due to her fast movements but they knew she just shouted at Kyle and was rushing towards him! They all frantically began searching for Kyle in the crowd with worried expressions.

Ceano eyed the silver-haired man and then shifted his gaze to the array before swiftly moving up to obliterate it. It didn't matter that Elizabeth was a strong enemy he wanted to kill. Right now, he understood that if no one took down the array, not only the people within the arena but he too would face the consequences. Also, he had a hunch that the silver-haired human would target him and Will first because he clearly held no grudge against the others. Will who was confused and angered by the situation, quickly disappeared behind him.

Elizabeth reached Kyle and extended her hand toward him with a solemn expression. However, her eyes widened when he tilted his head with a speed almost equivalent to hers. A faint smirk appeared on his face.

"Too late..."

Kyle murmured and placed his hand beneath his chin to watch the woman rushing toward him, displaying a myriad of emotions on her face. Shock, disbelief, bewilderment - but all of these transformed into a loud shout when numerous chains made of spiritual energy emerged from the ground beneath her and with a speed that was even higher than hers quickly wrapped around her body tightly.

All those watching were stunned as Elizabeth's figure crashed to the ground. She tried to break the chains, but after a few seconds, she shouted in frustration because she realized she couldn't. She glared at Kyle with angry eyes.

"You-!"

She wanted to curse but paused when she saw the gaze he directed towards her. It was nonchalant, devoid of any emotions. Kyle retracted his gaze and finally stood up from his spot. He started floating, and the moment he did, familiar chains that had just held Elizabeth emerged from the ground throughout the whole Arena to bind all those present in the Arena.

In an instant, all the floating figures started to crash into the ground. Nine, Alec, and the others who were waiting for him to activate the array sighed with relief when they saw the silver-haired man unharmed.

Nine raised his weapon and called out Kyle's name, but his voice was drowned within the many voices around him.

"Damn, finally! It's time for us to eliminate the shadow generals!"

His eyes gleamed with excitement, but he blinked with a blank expression as similar chains made from spiritual energy emerged from the ground below him to ensnare him just like everyone else.

"What the fuckin' hell...?"

Chapter 593 He's not alone

Nine was not the only one in disbelief when the chains wrapped around his body. As the chains made of pure spiritual energy held him captive, he dropped to his knees and stared at the floating silver-haired man. In that moment, a realization dawned on him – Kyle had never intended for him to partake in the impending battle!

"You lying piece of crap! You promised we would fight together!"

He refrained from attempting to break the chains because if the formidable woman who attempted to halt Kyle couldn't, how could he, a mere divine rank?

Nine clenched his fingers into fists, frustration evident on his face, as he observed identical chains that had tightly bound his body now swiftly enveloping every individual around him.

His gaze paused on a familiar face amid the clamor of struggle echoing all around as the ones bound by the chains tried their best to break free. It was Jian. The red-haired man too was striving to free himself from the chains, wearing a shocked expression. Nine breathed a sigh of relief, comforted by the fact that he wasn't alone in facing the repercussions of Kyle's deception.

He cast a glance skyward, where Old Hal, the shadow generals, and numerous others were floating, striving to destroy the array but unfortunately were unable to.

Ceano peered down at the silver-haired human floating below, watching everything with a hint of amusement in his eyes. He extended his hand towards the array, all set to obliterate it just like he had previously done with the white symbols.

However, when he clenched his fist, the array stayed firm and unscathed. Instead, a blend of pure spiritual and divine energy intertwined to effortlessly deflect his power from the array as if it were insignificant.

Anger blazed in the second shadow general's eyes, who does this human think he is? Does he believe he can harm him by casting an array all around the arena? No, he can't, even if he were to deploy hundreds of such arrays because Ceano's strength exceeds even his wildest imagination.

He was about to mock the human's efforts, but stopped when Kyle waved his hand, and familiar chains swiftly emerged from all directions, ensnaring Old Hal and the robed figures. They vociferously demanded the human to halt his actions if he valued his life, yet despite their shouts, like Elizabeth and the others, their bodies plummeted to the ground, rendered motionless.

The atmosphere buzzed with countless struggling noises, and after Old Hal and his companions were also bound by the chains, only Kyle and the two shadow generals remained hovering in the air.

Will's eyes flickered with incredulity at the feat achieved by a single human who was only at the divine rank.

If he or anyone else had said this same thing a while ago to someone else, he was sure no one would have believed the words and called them a fool, but it was the truth he was witnessing. He drew in a deep breath and cast a glance at Ceano.

"You handle the array. That's the main issue. I will take care of the human. He's only a divine rank and alone anyway."

Ceano shook his head. He had already attempted, but he couldn't dismantle the array with sheer power because he had just realized the array had absorbed an immense amount of divine and spiritual energy beyond his comprehension.

"I can't break the array, and I'm sure it's definitely not bad news that..."

Ceano's eyes gleamed as he quickly scanned the surroundings. A subtle smirk appeared on his face as he looked down and uttered his next words.

"...he's not alone."

Will caught his words, a bit annoyed that the man called himself the strongest of all yet couldn't even destroy a darn array.

He followed Ceano's gaze to see who else he had to take out besides the silver-haired human, but his ivory-colored eyes sparkled with mischief as he spotted the blue-haired man among the two familiar men floating out from the struggling crowd.

"Oh... it seems I don't need to intervene. I am definitely going to enjoy the show."

He murmured under his breath, and his lips curled upward into a sinister smile.

Initially, he believed that with the powerful array, the human could easily restrain him and Ceano, similar to what happened with Elizabeth and the others. However, all his worries turned out to be needless because they had already won even before the human could lay a hand on them.

Alec and Carcel, who were astonished to find themselves not bound by the chains, looked at Kyle, who retrieved the familiar silver spear from his mind space.

"It's time to end them."

Alec and Carcel locked eyes. The duo sighed and drew their weapons. It seems among everyone, Kyle had only chosen the two of them to fight alongside him, and they were certain now that they had been given a chance, they wouldn't let the shadow generals escape.

Kyle looked at the two shadow generals, and Ceano's smile vanished because unlike Will, who was initially at the middle stage of the supreme rank, his strength decreased and reached the final stage of the supreme rank under the human's gaze.

Ceano stared at his hands with wide eyes and whispered in disbelief.

"How...? No, it can't be..."

Will felt his strength waning and gasped in shock. Ceano turned abruptly towards the array with a furious expression before redirecting his gaze towards Kyle.

"I will kill you! You bastard!"

"There's nothing I despise more than someone who can make me feel weak. I, the second shadow general who cherishes strength above all else, will finish you with my own hands."

Kyle's eyes twinkled with a hint of a smile as he glimpsed the firm, golden pupils fixed on him, shaking for the first time. He vanished from his spot and materialized opposite the two shadow generals.

"Already riled up? I haven't even revealed the real surprise to you two yet."

Chapter 594 So, run to save your lives

Kyle's icy smile displayed his resolve as he gestured towards the sky. His goal was to swiftly and ruthlessly kill the two shadow generals. This way, everyone in the arena would see that this time the dark side had messed with the wrong person.

He didn't plan to harm the other individuals from the dark side. His intention was solely to take out the two shadow generals they worshipped right before their very eyes and let them all go. So they could spread the word in the dark side that he had begun hunting them, to end them.

As he lifted his hand, under the watchful eyes of Ceano and Will, two brilliant beams of light shot out swiftly from the pulsating circular array in the sky and descended upon Alec and Carcel's bodies.

The two men who were approaching Kyle paused in their tracks when the brilliant light enveloped their bodies. Immediately, they felt overwhelmed as their strength began to rise at an alarming speed.

The crowd below, trapped in chains encircling their bodies, was stunned beyond words as the two men's ranks rose from the divine rank to the transcendent rank, swiftly moving through all its levels before reaching the supreme rank.

The light, however, kept pouring onto them, exceeding the initial stage of the supreme rank. It climbed higher, and only when the duo reached the last stage of the supreme rank did the light scatter in different directions with fluttering sounds.

Elizabeth took a sharp breath and ceased her attempts to free herself from the chains, muttering under her breath.

"Just what the heck is this freakin' cheat of an array? How can it even exist? And why the heck did I never know such a powerful array existed all this time!?"

Then it hit her that she, James, and the people with them barely knew about arrays. She realized they had totally missed this powerful profession that could have made them win the war just by using arrays.

Alec gasped for breath and clutched his chest as an immense surge of energy coursed through his body. The amount of spiritual and divine energy in his entire body was so overwhelming that he almost felt like his body was about to burst with extraordinary power, as if he could obliterate everything around him.

Carcel was in a similar state as beads of cold sweat formed on the forehead of the golden-haired man.

Shock was an understatement to describe the level of disbelief visible in the two men's eyes as they steadied themselves in mid-air after gaining an immense amount of strength within seconds.

Kyle glanced at the duo and took a deep breath. He had already infused his share of strength into his body while seated on the hovering stage. Therefore, he only needed to provide Carcel and Alec with their portions so the array could begin operating autonomously, no longer requiring his constant attention to remain active and keep everyone bound in the chains.

Alec and Carcel steadied their breathing and disappeared from their positions to assess their newfound strengths.

Adjusting to such immense power so abruptly was a bit overwhelming, but they were not ones to be daunted by such challenges. They reappeared behind Kyle, armed with their weapons, as he gazed at Ceano and Will, and an innocent smile graced the corners of his lips.

"How do you like my surprise? Now, the battle is between three individuals at the top of the supreme rank facing off against two others, one in the middle stage of the supreme rank and the other at the final stage. It's not fair, I know, that's why I will offer you two a chance to flee."

"So, run to save your lives."

Alec and Carcel were speechless at his playful words, feeling a touch of cruelty in his attitude. It looked like the silver-haired man was getting a bit excited.

Kyle blinked and tilted his head as neither Ceano nor Will budged from their positions, simply fixing their gaze on him.

"Why? Not planning to flee? I'm offering you the chance, you know."

With a snap of his fingers, a small gap appeared in the array above them. He wasn't being cocky and assuming they wouldn't run; it was just that after the array boosted or reduced someone's strength, their power would remain constant even if they wandered away from the array.

Their strength would only return to normal when the array ceased to function or was destroyed. So, even if the shadow generals managed to slip out of the array, he was confident he could drag them back and eliminate them in front of everyone.

However, to Kyle's confusion, the two shadow generals shook their heads at him. Will chuckled, and Ceano, who had been angered by Kyle after his strength was weakened, raised an eyebrow towards him with a taunting and cold gaze.

"Well, we don't intend to run. Why don't you demonstrate what you have got?"

Unlike Kyle, who had no clue about the shadow generals' intentions, Nine, who was observing the scene from below like everyone else, suddenly recalled something crucial. His eyes widened, and he yelled towards Kyle with all he had.

"You bastard! Let me go! I have something vital to share with you! You can't fight without me! Stop right there!"

The people around him were a bit startled by his sudden outburst, but it seemed like his voice didn't reach Kyle because the man didn't even glance his way.



Panic flashed through Nine's eyes as he looked at the shadow generals and the three men floating in the air. In that moment, Kyle furrowed his brows with a bored expression and spun his spear.

"If you two have no intention of escaping, then I don't think we need to waste any more time. Let's just end this."

He spoke in both Alec and Carcel's minds to convey some important information.

'The array will only remain functioning for three hours, and I trust you both know what needs to be done. I will take care of the golden-eyed one; finish off the other.'

Kyle's eyes gleamed as he moved toward Ceano with a speed that was very similar to the one Elizabeth had shown earlier.

He understood that even if the array could endure beyond three hours, Carcel, Alec, and his body wouldn't be able to withstand the pressure for an extended period.

The people beneath watched the silver-haired human with bated breath. Unlike those aligned with the dark side, who were losing hope and filled with fear at the unfolding scene, the rest displayed eyes gleaming with a touch of excitement amid the chains enveloping their bodies.

Old Hal and Elizabeth both inwardly decided not to punish the silver-haired human for his actions if he truly eliminated the two shadow generals. But what transpired next caught everyone off guard, with Kyle being the most surprised as his movements were halted by a hand gripping his arm.

He gazed at the blue-haired man with a perplexed expression.

"Why...?"

A chill ran down his spine when he saw Alec's eyes completely blank, almost as if the man had lost all his senses.

Chapter 595 I made a small mistake

Kyle froze and stared into Alec's eyes. The grip on his arm tightened, and before he could comprehend the situation, the man holding him raised his other hand and struck his chest with force.

Carcel's eyes widened when he saw Kyle being thrown backward in mid-air by Alec. He looked at Alec in disbelief, preparing to ask why he attacked. His words were stuck in his throat when he watched Alec float towards the shadow generals.

"Huh?"

The blue-haired man positioned himself in front of the two shadow generals he was supposed to take down.

Then he raised his sword toward Carcel, and that's when the golden-haired man finally noticed Alec's vacant gaze.

A shuddering breath escaped Carcel's mouth as dark energy began enveloping one of Alec's hands under his gaze. Then a dark petal, pulsating with eerie energy, emerged on the back of his hand.

In the distance, Kyle stopped his body in mid-air and slowly gazed down at his chest where Alec's punch had landed. His pure white shirt, which had remained unscathed throughout the entire second round of Gladiator Arena, was torn, revealing a glaring mark on his cold skin.

A wisp of icy smoke slipped from his lips as his already cold body grew even colder. Under his intense gaze, the dark mark on his chest quickly healed, leaving behind swathes of rejuvenated skin.

"What just happened?"

The voice that escaped from his lips differed greatly from the ones he had been using around his friends. Additionally, the faint smile that always lingered at the corners of his lips after meeting Yue and the others vanished entirely, giving way to a blank, emotionless expression.

He gently brushed his chest and gazed at Alec, who floated before the shadow generals in a defensive stance.

"What happened to you?"

His eyes caught sight of the lone black petal that had appeared on the hand of the blue-haired man, and he remembered some words Hubert, his master, had told him in the No Mana Land.

"Ah... you have signed a dark contract? But the real question is why and when?"

Kyle knew that dark contracts were employed by the dark side to enslave others they couldn't defeat or simply desired to control, forcing them into servitude. But he never imagined that the first time he would witness someone enslaved by the dark side would be one of his own friends.

Carcel looked at Alec and then at Kyle, his brows furrowed tightly. A grave and solemn expression graced his features when he heard Kyle's words.

"What dark contract? And Alec, seriously, what's up with you!? What the heck are you even doing? Snap out of it!"

He yelled with his fists clenched as Alec and Kyle hovered across from each other, both displaying expressions he had never seen before. At that instant, Ceano clicked his tongue with a smirk at Kyle.

"That's all? I thought after everything you have pulled off, you could impress me more. But I suppose I set my hopes too high for just a divine rank."

Will chuckled at his words and flashed a grin toward Kyle, who stared at the two of them with an unreadable expression.

The crowd below erupted into a clamor of murmurs and shouts, drowning out Nine's voice as he yelled at Kyle, throwing every curse he knew at the silver-haired man to elicit just one glance from him. Old Hal closed his eyes with a sigh.

"What a pity..."

Jian, Sinon, Lara, Regius, Yue, Mia were equally shocked when Alec attacked Kyle. But they all could do nothing but struggle to get free from the chains holding them.

Kyle glanced at the shadow generals, then at the man floating before them.

"I made a small mistake..."

He acknowledged his mistake. If he had kept using his scent perception skill, he would have sensed even the tiniest trace of darkness on the people around him. Yet, he stopped using the skill when he entered the Arena, thinking that the strong individuals present would notice his ability.

Ceano raised his brow with a hint of mockery reflecting in his golden eyes.

"Mistake? Of course you did. Now your friend, who is under my control, has his life in my hands. He would fight you to the end at my bidding. So, I reckon you're regretting tangling with me and Will. But as the one in charge here, I might let it slide if you get down on your knees to beg me and..."

A paper filled with intricate symbols materialized in his palm.

He had witnessed Kyle's impressive abilities through all the human had shown. Thus, he intended to transform him into a follower of the dark side, and if the human refused, he could always make him meet his end by his own friend's hands.

"Join the dark side."

A vein bulged on his forehead when Kyle didn't even glance his way and had his eyes fixed on the blue-haired man. Ceano laughed and glanced at Alec. Immediately, dark energy slipped out from his fingers.

"Go and fight them both, but don't kill them because I will end their lives."

Alec blinked, his eyes clouded with haze. The sharp, pounding pain in his head left him disoriented and suffocated. However, as Ceano's words echoed in his ears, he swiftly sprang into action and attacked Carcel, who was closest to him.

A loud tremor reverberated through the air as his sword clashed with Carcel's spear, who skillfully blocked the attack but was still pushed back slightly in mid-air.

The golden-haired man yelled at him to regain his senses, but it seemed as though Alec couldn't hear him. He kept attacking relentlessly without saying a word.

Carcel gritted his teeth. He was unable to harm Alec, knowing the shadow generals had influenced him. Why else would Alec attack his own friends? So, he focused on deflecting the man's strikes while trying to make Alec snap out of whatever spell the shadow generals had cast on him.

Kyle glanced at the two men locked in combat. He caught sight of Ceano and Will closing in on him from the corners of his eyes. A tired sigh escaped his lips.

"Did you truly believe that if you could control one of us, you won? How naive."

Chapter 596 Lost his mind, huh?

The moment Kyle finished speaking, a cold aura emanated from his body, followed by icy blue flames that spread to envelop the entire sky. Both Ceano and Will stopped in their tracks when they witnessed the blue flames engulfing everything around them. A sudden realization dawned on them that the human had yet to reveal all his abilities.

Kyle clicked his tongue and took hold of the hem of his shirt to exchange the tattered one with a new garment.

"I said I made a small mistake. That doesn't mean I can't end you both."

He slid on a gray shirt over his lean and muscular frame and stared at Ceano and Will with a nonchalant expression.

"It's just that I have to fight a bit differently. I detest having to tap into its power because it can manipulate me, but well, I suppose I have no other choice."

He was talking about his bloodline. It's been a while since he last used the blue flames and the strength of his bloodline. Or should he say he stopped using its power after realizing it could subtly influence his thoughts whenever he was about to face a life-threatening situation. Kyle blinked, and the blue flames enveloped his figure. Ceano vanished from his position to reach for him, but his hands caught nothing but a chilling sensation that spread through his palm upon touching the flames.

"Where did he go??"

He shot a quick look back at Will.

"Find him! I have a hunch he's up to something again!"

Will nodded, and they both exerted their strength to quell the flames. But the more they attempted to extinguish the icy flames, the more they multiplied in all directions. It was as if they were endless.

Carcel, who was in combat with Alec, was startled when Kyle's form emerged from the flames that had completely surrounded both him and the blue-haired man.

"Be careful! Alec has completely lost his mind and I doubt he would even recognize any of us!"

He shouted and deflected another lightning-fast attack aimed at him with his spear. His muscles were stretched to their limits as he tried to keep up with Alec's lightning-fast pace, feeling somewhat dizzy.

He knew Alec was under the influence of the two shadow generals, but they had both reached the supreme rank together just a while ago! So how could Alec adapt to such immense strength so easily when he was feeling overwhelmed after using the same strength for not more than a minute.

Carcel's eyes widened as Alec suddenly changed the direction of his attack.

Alec whipped his head towards the silver-haired man and swung his blade at him. However, before Carcel could lunge forward to intercept the attack, icy flames surged out, halting Alec's actions completely. Under the stunned gaze of the golden-haired man, Kyle seized Alec's neck and snatched the sword from his hand.

"Lost his mind, huh? Let's see if he really did lose his mind."

He tossed the sword in the air and it disappeared into his mind space. Alec struggled in his grasp, but his grip tightened on the man's neck enough to leave behind marks before a faint dark aura of dread slipped out from his body to envelope the struggling man. Carcel tried to stop him, thinking he was going to harm Alec.

"What are you doing?? He is under the shadow generals' control! No way he would harm us if he was sober!"

The golden-haired man closed his mouth, frustration clear on his face when Kyle stared back at him with an indifferent expression, as if he didn't care about the reason why Alec's attacked them.

"Don't harm him-!"

He halted his words when he saw Alec ceasing his struggle within Kyle's grasp. The blue-haired man's vacant stare began to darken further, and Carcel discerned with a solemn expression that this time the mist in Alec's eyes mirrored genuine fear and dread instead of mere haziness.

Kyle released Alec, yet the man remained motionless, hovering in the midst of the flames surrounding them. Dread, fear, and desperation shrouded his face, which quickly paled, while a bitter yet twisted smile crept onto his lips. Carcel looked at Alec's state and took a deep breath. He then turned his gaze to the silver-haired man who had begun to leave.

"What the hell did you do?"

Kyle glanced back, noticing a flicker of anger in the dark eyes fixed on him. A smirk played at the corners of his lips. His mood lifted a bit, and he explained, not wanting the golden-haired man to curse him.

"Just a light punishment, firstly because he hid the truth from everyone about signing a contract with the dark side for some unknown reason, and secondly, because he inflicted harm upon my precious body."

He cast a glance at the blue-haired man whose face has turned even paler.

"Let him be; he's just facing his deepest fear. Now that he's under the shadow generals' control, it's best he stays in that nightmare until we are done with them."

Kyle was speaking the truth. He just used his fear skill on Alec to throw him into a nightmare. This was possible because even though Alec had reached the last stage of the supreme rank with the help of the power gained from the array pulsating in the sky, he was weaker than Kyle. This way, even if the shadow generals commanded Alec to do something, he would carry out that task within the nightmare.

Regardless, the silver-haired man couldn't help but wonder what the blue-haired man was experiencing in his nightmare to evoke such intense emotions on his face.

Carcel gazed at Kyle with suspicion. Yet he had no other choice but to accept Kyle's words because right now the silver-haired man was in charge of everything. He just hoped that whatever nightmare Alec was going through wasn't too much... but seeing Alec show such fear, he knew the man was experiencing something very severe. He snapped out of his thoughts when Kyle's voice echoed in his ears.

"Hurry up. Now that Alec is out of the picture, we need to eradicate the shadow generals. Or do you also want to face a nightmare like him? Because if you're not fighting with me, I'm sure I don't need you."

A curse slipped from Carcel's mouth, and after casting one final glance at Alec, he quickly followed the silver-haired man who had opened a small passage in the icy flames surging around them.

Chapter 597 What are they...?

Ceano and Will, who were trying to scatter the icy flames, both became alert when the flames suddenly started to gather in a single spot in the air as if engulfing someone entirely.

A rift opened in the flames that had gathered in a round ball, and Kyle emerged from them, followed by Carcel, both clutching their weapons tightly as they floated opposite the shadow generals.

Kyle smirked, but his face showed no emotion, giving his smirk a dark edge.

"What? Your puppet is out cold. I doubt he will heed your commands any longer."

Ceano knew exactly who the silver-haired man was referring to – Alec. But he couldn't believe how Kyle could abruptly turn against one of his friends, especially after showing such care and warmth towards them upon meeting, all because the latter was influenced by the dark side.

"Why not finish him off? I can sense he's alive and can hear my commands."

Kyle gazed intently into Ceano's eyes, and Ceano observed faint yet powerful blue particles flickering around his fingers before enveloping his entire body.

"I will... if he interferes again. Fortunately for him, that won't happen."

Carcel was stunned by his words but simply tightened his grip on his weapon, confident that Kyle would never harm Alec.

He believed Kyle's words were just a distraction to divert the shadow general's attention away from Alec, who was in the middle of a nightmare.

And he was spot on; although Kyle could take out anyone without a second thought, he knew he would never harm those close to him. At most, he would beat them up to bring them back to their senses.

But Kyle deliberately displayed a hint of pure darkness in his green eyes to the two shadow generals to make them think he wouldn't hesitate to eliminate those in his way, even if they were his friends.

Ceano's eyes were once again drawn to the tiny blue particles swirling around Kyle's body. He couldn't comprehend their nature, but they sent shivers down his spine, as if they possessed the ability to erase him entirely from existence.

'What are they...?'

He whipped his head back and swiftly erected a shield on his left and backside as the silver-haired man disappeared from his spot and attempted to punch him. A deafening boom reverberated through the air when Kyle's fist collided with the barrier set up by the second shadow general.

The atmosphere around them quivered, fissures forming due to the sheer power of the silver-haired man's punch. A grin spread across Kyle's face as cracks appeared in Ceano's barrier, and he struck the barrier again, this time with even greater force.

Will's ivory-colored eyes darkened at the unfolding scene, and dark energy began to swirl around his entire body. In a flash, a dark pulsating orb, entirely composed of darkness, materialized above his hand as he lunged towards Kyle, who was attempting to break the shield.

"You bastard! Do you believe that just because your rank has risen, you can harm us? Absolutely not, for in the end, you are merely a punny divine rank who has forgotten his rightful place!"

Before his words could even fade in the air, a blue spear flew from the distance and stopped him in his place.

Carcel vanished behind his spear. He grasped the hilt before swinging it at the dark orb brimming with potent energy that he sensed could decimate an entire city. The orb in Will's hands shattered with a resounding boom that echoed in the air, sending both Carcel and Will flying in opposite directions when the tip of the spear collided with it.

Carcel halted his body in mid-air, a bit surprised at the strength of such a small orb. He glanced at Will, who had also easily regained his balance mid-air, with a grave and serious expression.

"Your opponent is me. Let them settle their score. By the way, those golden eyes he has don't really suit him, unlike someone I know. I hope Kyle deals with him because those eyes are giving me an uneasy feeling..."

Will heard his words, and a dark smirk appeared on his face.

"His eyes...? I don't think you should worry about something that you can't even grasp. Your friend is somewhat amusing, but I don't think you are. So just die."

He disappeared from his spot, and countless dark orbs, similar to the one he conjured before, materialized all around in the air before shooting toward Carcel with lightning-fast speed.

The air shook with intense dark energy, so much so that many people bound beneath the four men fighting in the sky started to feel suffocation, especially those at the divine rank and pseudo-divine rank.

Old Hal, who had previously thought that after one of the silver-haired man's friends had gone against him, the human had lost this battle, was now in awe at the scene unfolding in the sky.

Elizabeth felt the same, but unlike her and the people in the supreme rank, she could tell that the crowd around her was being affected by the four men battling in the sky exerting all their strength. Nevertheless, it was tolerable, and she believed the crowd could endure it to a certain extent.

'My only fear is that their attack doesn't unintentionally target the crowd below, as it would result in many casualties. After all, a single strike from the from a supreme rank can very well obliterate a large part of a planet if they so desired.'

But what came next left Old Hal and all the robed individuals with the old man in a state of bewilderment.

Kyle, who had been punching the shield around Ceano non-stop, noticed when a curved blade materialized in the second shadow general's hand. He clenched his fist, channeling all his strength into it.

Ceano locked eyes with him and knew that with this strike, the shield in front of him would shatter, but he was prepared to end the human. However, a sly and eerie smile crept onto the corners of Kyle's lips, and just as his fist was about to shatter the shield, he vanished from his position.

Ceano immediately scanned the area with angry eyes, but before he could locate the silver-haired human, Will's screaming voice reverberated in his ears, indicating exactly where the human had disappeared to.

His bright golden eyes chilled when Will, who had easily cornered Carcel with the spell of pure darkness, was punched in the stomach by the silver-haired human who materialized before him.

Will's body flailed like a rag cloth before it crashed into the majestic statue of the demon perched atop the towering walls of the Gladiator Arena.

Instantly, a significant portion of the massive statue shattered, sending dust and debris flying everywhere.

The numerous individuals from the dark side who were seated in the area beneath the very statue, silently watching the battle in the sky like the others, erupted into loud, painful groans as the debris and broken fragments of the statue fell on them.

Chapter 598 You... can see the future?

Kyle relaxed his fist, his gaze shifting to Will, who spat out blood but immediately regained himself and began levitating away from the statue where his body had been forcefully slammed. The part of his shirt where Kyle's fist connected was torn, revealing a glaring dark mark.

Will's ivory-colored eyes gleamed with pure anger and hatred as he glared at the human.

"You little piece of-!"

Before he could finish his words, Carcel's spear once again shot out to impale itself in his body, but much to Carcel's dismay, he easily blocked the attack.

As Carcel and Will once again engage in battle, Kyle glanced at Ceano and tilted his head, the silver spear in his hand.

"I did give you two a chance to escape, didn't I? But it's your fault for not taking my offer... or should I say benevolence?"

Ceano's golden eyes started to shine, and Kyle knew he was plotting something.

Acting swiftly, he tapped into one of the skills he acquired from his bloodline in the No Mana Land: Arcane Visions.

The spiritual energy in his body shook slightly and began to burn at a speed that would have depleted all his stored spiritual energy when his strength wasn't boosted by the array. However, with the tremendous amount of spiritual energy he gained from the array above him, he was confident he could use the skill multiple times without worrying about draining his reserve.

The instant he triggered the skill, multiple visions of forthcoming events set to occur within the next minute flashed in his mind. Kyle let out a dark smirk at the sight of himself covered in blood with Ceano's curved blade poised at his neck. But having foreseen the future, he caught Ceano off guard by deftly repositioning his body and thrusting the silver spear in his hand into the crack that had opened behind him.

As his spear pierced the creature in the crack inching closer towards him, suddenly, a spine-chilling scratching noise of agony echoed through the air, sending shivers down everyone's spines, and he knew he had attacked the right place.

Kyle was a bit surprised that he couldn't sense the creature sneaking up on him, despite his supreme rank strength. He had already stabbed the creature, yet couldn't sense its presence at all.

Nevertheless, he refrained from looking at its body as he had already foreseen the near future.

The creature was completely composed of dark wisps with two shining coin-like eyes. If he made eye contact with it, whether summoned or created by Ceano's power, he would lose his strength, as



its eyes had the ability to drain anyone's strength. It led to his defeat against the second shadow general in just a few seconds.

Kyle glanced at the man. His green eyes sparkled with mischief as he repeated the exact words Ceano uttered when the latter held his blade at his neck after he lost his strength due to the dark creature.

"It's a pity you are dying, human... but no one has ever evaded the gaze of my spiritual shadow. How could you, a mere divine rank who has yet to witness the vastness of the world, escape?"

Ceano's eyes chilled at his words, and for the first time in a long while, he lost his composure in front of a weak human.

"How do you know about...?"

He paused, staring directly into Kyle's eyes with a shocked expression when a sudden realization dawned on him.

"You... can see the future?"

It was impossible for the human to know about his spiritual shadow since they had never crossed paths before. Moreover, he had only utilized it in war, keeping it a well-guarded secret. After fully absorbing Kyle's words, he was utterly convinced that the human possessed the gift of foresight. But how...? How could a mere divine rank possess such a skill when his eyes lacked any trace of spirituality?

Ceano was aware that Kyle's strength had been enhanced by the array, but gaining the ability to foresee the future just by getting stronger wasn't doable. It only meant the human had a skill to foresee the future.

'If whatever I planned could now be anticipated and blocked by the human, wouldn't that lead to my downfall instead of eliminating the human? I must put an end to him. He's too dangerous.'

Kyle vanished from his position, but this time, Ceano disappeared too. A thunderous tremor shook the entire sky above the arena when the two clashed in the air.

Their movements were swift, precise, and equally lethal; one misstep, and the other would lose his entire being.

The tremor in the air intensified with numerous fissures forming everywhere as Kyle's spear and Ceano's curved blade clashed repeatedly.

Except for Elizabeth and the supreme rank individuals who could somehow catch glimpses of the two powerful men battling in the sky, the countless people below couldn't even grasp their afterimages. All they could see was a lingering trail of violent energy left in the wake of the intense confrontation.

Carcel and Will were also affected by the violent currents surging around them. Will was furious when he saw a mere human keeping up with Ceano.

"That bastard should just give up his title as the second shadow general! Does he even have any dignity left when he can't even defeat a mere divine rank!?"

Carcel was also amazed by the scene. He, Kyle, and Alec, all three of them, gained equal strength from the array, so he couldn't understand how the silver-haired man had effortlessly adapted to his

power. Alec's state might be due to being influenced by the shadow generals, but what about Kyle? How was he holding his own against Ceano, who had years of experience?

He destroyed another of the dark attacks thrown at him by the man opposite him and let out a sigh inwardly. He better quit trying to figure out Kyle's true strength; that guy had already outpaced everyone in terms of power. And to think, when they all started getting stronger in the academy, he was the weakest. Carcel glanced at Will, who was cursing out Ceano, his own ally.

"If he has got no dignity left when he can't even handle a mere divine rank, what about you? Do you even know what dignity is?"

Will was furious at his words, and a massive orb of darkness materialized on his palm. It was larger and more intense than any he had used before. The dark energy in the air around him also began to grow violent, but he didn't direct the attack at Carcel; instead, he aimed it at the people below him with a wicked smirk.

"Ah... I missed my target."

Chapter 599 Let's end this, shall we?

Carcel's eyes widened at Will's move, and he quickly rushed behind the looming dark orb heading towards the numerous people bound in chains below.

"You bastard!"

He cursed, but Will chased after him and grabbed one of his legs tightly with a smirk. Carcel kicked and struck violently with his other leg at the man, his panicked gaze fixed on the orb moving dangerously closer to the chained individuals below.

Amidst the crowd, fear gripped those who could perceive the looming threat, with the air buzzing with anxious voices. Elizabeth and Old Hal's faces turned grave when they saw the dark orb. Without hesitation, they got ready to burn a portion of their strength to halt the dark orb's advance. They knew they would lose strength, but saving so many lives was more important.

However, before the orb could reach the crowd, a flickering portal appeared in its path. The portal expanded and swallowed the orb before vanishing into thin air.

Carcel let out the breath he had been holding as he watched the orb disappear, then glared at the man gripping his leg with a menacing look.

Will was taken aback as he witnessed the portal consuming his attack. He intended to intercept the golden haired man's strike, who glared at him with fury and swung his blue spear at him, but before he could act, a familiar voice filled with pure coldness and rage reverberated in his ears.

"I thought this was our battle? How dare you target those uninvolved."

Kyle was seething. If he hadn't acted in time, the dark orb could have harmed Yue or his friends who were bound below. He didn't care about anyone else's life and cared only for them; how dare this bastard threaten his loved ones.

Ceano passed in mid-air when the silver-haired man he was engaged in a fierce battle with vanished suddenly. He scanned the area to find his opponent, but as he rushed toward Kyle, who was floating behind Will, the silver-haired human under his and everyone's eyes mercilessly and swiftly grabbed Will's right shoulder before tearing the latter's whole arm away from his body with a dark

expression. Immediately, a cold aura that could freeze anyone below the pseudo-divine rank spread out from Kyle's body as blood painted his clothes.

Will let out an agonizing scream and instantly lost his balance mid-air. Under the countless eyes, his bloodied body crashed into one of the hovering stages in the middle of the towering walls as the man wailed and screamed in pain.

Carcel's eyes widened at the brutal scene as he looked at Kyle, who displayed nothing but pure anger on his face.

Blue flames erupted from the silver-haired man's body, completely freezing the arm he had torn from Will's body before the ice scattered into shimmering particles.

There was an eerie silence in the air. No one dared to speak; even Ceano was dazed at the scene he had just witnessed.

The hushed stillness was abruptly shattered by Kyle himself as he released the spear in his grip with a cold chuckle, his eyes ablaze with anger and a haunting familiarity that Ceano recognized.

It was a dark void the second shadow general had witnessed before in the eyes of the only person who had the strength to command him and potentially end him within a mere second.

Ceano jolted when Kyle tilted his head toward him. The anger in the human eyes was vanishing, replaced by a growing void with a touch of darkness.

"I should have put an end to both of you much sooner. It's my own doing that this battle has dragged on for so long."

As Kyle's words dissolved into the air, the spear hovering beside him vanished, and a gleaming golden sword materialized in his grasp. The air quivered as he clenched his fingers firmly around the hilt.

"Let's end this, shall we?"

He vanished from his position, and in the next instant, his gleaming sword clashed with Ceano's blade. The quivering air surrounding them hushed as their weapons met, but unlike earlier when Ceano effortlessly deflected Kyle's strikes, this time his golden eyes shook in realization as he felt the immense power behind human's attack, far surpassing anything before.

The second shadow hand clutching the blade trembled as he met the piercing gaze of vivid green fixed upon him.

A sudden realization crept into Ceano's mind that he might lose. However, his golden eyes burned with fury as this understanding dawned on him.

He was adamant about not accepting defeat from a mere divine rank human! Nor would he run away! As one of the formidable shadow generals, feared by all, he was determined to eliminate this human and show him the gravity of provoking someone of his stature.

As their blades separated, a small crack echoed through the air, sounding like steel fracturing, and the voice came from the blade in Ceano's hand. The second shadow general gazed down at the curved blade in his hand, which had endured countless battles unscathed by his side, now tarnished by a crack.

His eyes widened in disbelief as he turned to look at the golden sword in Kyle's hand. Just one ordinary strike from the human's sword had cracked his blade. Did this mean that the human's primary weapon was a sword all this time?

"Then how did he gain such profound insight into the art of the spear? If he has mastered the spear to such an extent, how much has he mastered the sword, which is his main weapon?"

This question was echoing in the minds of everyone who saw Kyle's attack. But before anyone could fully wrap their heads around the fact that Kyle's sword had put a crack in the second shadow general's blade, a sharp aura started to swirl around his sword.

Kyle's eyes were locked on Ceano. When he said he wanted to end the battle, he meant it. A faint murmur echoed in the air as he quietly spoke and unleashed the third strike of his sword art, then disappeared from his spot...

"Ethereal Voidbreaker slash."

However, he didn't head towards Ceano, who was prepared for his attack. Instead, he vanished towards Will, who had regained his composure and was regrowing his missing arm while fighting Carcel.

Ceano's eyes contracted when he didn't face the anticipated attack. This time, without hesitation, he vanished towards Will, but how could he mimic the speed of instant teleportation?

The atmosphere in the arena quivered as Kyle materialized before Will. His blade shimmered with such potent spiritual energy that it sent shivers down even the highest-rank individuals present. Even Elizabeth and Old Hal weren't certain they could evade unharmed from the impending assault Kyle was about to unleash.

Will, who suddenly saw the silver-haired human appear in front of him, tried to jump backward at full speed in mid-air. His torn arm hadn't fully regenerated yet, so he knew he couldn't fight Kyle head-on.

The dark energy in the air enveloped his body completely in a protective shield, but unfortunately his body couldn't evade the attack. With a swift and precise swing, Kyle's sword sliced through the air and hit Will's body with a speed akin to light.

Instantly, a rift of light and spirituality, capable of obliterating anything in its way, trailed the trajectory of Kyle's sword.

The air around the blade trembled with shockwaves reverberating in all directions. The deafening noise of the attack caused everyone's ears to ring, followed by a blinding light that shook the whole arena and enveloped Will's body completely, rendering him unable to even shout.

Intense energy surged through the atmosphere, creating a surreal moment where the boundaries between the ordinary and the extraordinary blurred. The luminous rift expanded on Will's body, and then, as if it had never existed, everything vanished into Kyle's sword, which didn't even sustain a scratch despite enduring such a powerful attack executed by its wielder.

A muffled, anguished cry filled the air as Carcel and everyone else within the arena turned their gaze to witness the chilling sight of the aftermath of Kyle's brutal attack. Half of Will's form had dissipated with the blinding light, the remaining half was also a grotesque sight with exposed bones jutting through shredded flesh.

As the echoes of the attack faded, an eerie stillness settled over the arena, broken only by the soft rustle of displaced air.

Kyle glanced at Ceano who was frozen in his place because, just like Elizabeth and Old Hal, he also sensed that Kyle's attack not only damaged Will's body but also severely wounded his soul.

Ceano's eyes locked with Kyle's as the human raised his hand and, with a sinister grin, flicked his fingers. Instantly, spiritual energy surged from his body, and Ceano's golden eyes dilated when the faint rustle of something snapping echoed in the silent air... He had heard this sound many times on the battlefield.

It was the sound of someone's soul being forcefully torn from their body, and he realized with a shuddering breath that the person whose soul was separated from his body was none other than Will.

Kyle's eyes stayed unfazed as blue flames burst from his body, fully enveloping Will's form and turning it to ice before the ice scattered into particles. He had separated Will's soul from his body and also erased his consciousness, but he didn't want to leave behind any part of the dead man to ensure he could come back to life.

"One dead, one more to go."

Chapter 600 He's not dead, right?

Kyle shook his sword to rid it of the glistening crimson blood on its blade and faced Ceano in mid-air as the man unconsciously withdrew. The green eyes fixed on Ceano became even more eerily silent when a dark aura subtly enveloped the air surrounding the silver-haired man, clearly different from dark energy.

It was evident the human was gearing up for a move even more potent than what he had just displayed to the audience.

Those opposing the dark side held their breath in anticipation as Ceano and Kyle floated facing each other.

Carcel hovered behind Kyle to assist him. But despite being shaken by Will's death, Ceano didn't retreat. Instead, he gazed at Kyle with a solemn expression, focusing on the faint blue particles swirling around the human's skin... as he finally comprehended their nature. Something otherworldly... that no one possesses, at least not in this universe except Azazeal, his master.

Ceano let out a breath as realization dawned in his eyes. The reason behind the human's immense power despite being only at the divine rank became clear. The power to defeat Will, the extensive knowledge he held - it all originated from the otherworldly particles, or should he say the essence within the human, the source from which the otherworldly particles emerged? Greed and another emotion - fear, a sentiment unseen by anyone except Azazeal, flickered through his golden eyes.

He raised his gaze to look into the green eyes, disbelief evident on his face as a chuckle slipped from his lips.

"I admit... I, Ceano, the second shadow general, find myself truly astonished for the first time by a mere divine rank."

He shook his head as faint golden lines started appearing all over his body. His strength began to fade, and he wished for the lone fragment of a powerful soul within his body to gradually dissipate into wisps of dark energy, moving towards a distant location, far from the Sacred Divine Land.

"However, it is not surprising, for you possess something coveted by all in the universe, do you not? So, human, I wonder how have you managed to conceal your existence for so long? I couldn't sense its presence for some reason, but I have encountered something similar before, hence I am aware... I am aware that you hold something truly Cele-"

His final words were drowned out by a loud rumble reverberating through the air as Kyle disappeared from his position, infusing his blade with all the spiritual energy in his body to execute the fourth and last move of his sword art. His sword art had long since transcended from a 3-Star to a 7-Star art after he perfected all four moves within the No Mana Land. A low murmur echoed amidst the loud rumble.

"Void of Silent Darkness."

Kyle's blade was completely shrouded in pitch-black shadows, gliding through the air with spectral elegance, its edge pulsating with immense power. With a swift and precise motion, he aimed the blade at Ceano's body. However, confusion and doubt flashed in his eyes when the second shadow general made no attempt to evade or defend against the attack. Instead, the man merely stared at him with eyes brimming with greed.

As the attack connected, a wave of darkness erupted from the golden blade, engulfing Ceano in a chilling embrace of nothingness. The second shadow general's body, enveloped in the silent void, appeared to dissolve into the shadows, his form disintegrating into mere echoes of existence. However, before his entire body could fade into the shadows entirely, he fixed his gaze on Kyle and spoke a few words with a twisted smile.

"We shall cross paths again... Soon. Then, I shall unearth whatever Celestial resides within your body..."

Kyle's eyes widened at his words, and he finally caught sight of the wisps of dark energy slipping away from Ceano's body, which was slowly but surely turning into a hollow shell. He loosened his grip on his sword and hurriedly reached out to grasp the wisps of dark energy, but it was merely a remnant of what was real. Anger and bewilderment flashed in Kyle's eyes as his hand grasped nothing. The air around him became stagnant, with countless voids forming in the sky to swallow every speck of spiritual energy within.

The eerie silence that followed hung in the air for a long time as Kyle floated in mid-air, staring at his empty hand. The darkness in the air that arose from his action started to fade alongside the voids in the sky.

It was at that moment Carcel, who had been hovering behind Kyle all along, spoke up with a touch of hesitation.

"Kyle...?"

The silver-haired man didn't reply to him and vanished from his spot, only to reappear before Elizabeth. The people around were all startled when he showed up in front of her, but he paid them no heed. Kyle knew Elizabeth was the most powerful person in the Arena and perhaps the only one

who could dispel his confusion. A deep voice rumbled from his throat as he settled on his heels to meet the woman's violet eyes, who returned his look in a daze.

"He's not dead, right?"

Elizabeth snapped out of her daze and closed her gaping mouth when she heard his question. It took a few seconds to fully grasp Kyle's words, and when she did, she let out a sigh and nodded.

"You are right. He's not dead. Ceano, he's very cunning... I believe he anticipated that something would go wrong in the arena and didn't come with his real body. Instead, he sent a part of his soul with another body he likely created using his power."

Kyle closed his eyes briefly and then turned his gaze to the area where the people from the dark side were seated. After the second shadow general's body dissipated, they all had started shouting with panic and dread. He had thought he wouldn't harm them, but now he felt a desire to eliminate them all to release his frustration because one of his preys had escaped.