Darkness 191

Chapter 191: Snapped Back to Reality

The next day... Kahn was sitting in his office. Yesterday's events left a deep impression on him. Because yesterday, his entire outlook on power scaling was changed again.

Because after watching Kereberos & Ismatrazel fight.. The only thing he felt was like watching some Gods fight against each other.

Just the First Stage Saint Rank magician was someone who could destroy an army of 10 thousand by simply moving his hands and a few spells. Even for a Semi-Saint Rank fighter like him who was only a threshold below that realm, it was far beyond his capabilities.

Previously, Kahn thought that a saint rank fighter would be at least 3 to 4 times stronger than him. Even his Survival Instinct blessing, which covered the largest area compared to any other of his abilities currently had the range of only 1 kilometer effectiveness radius.

But just the normal spells from the vampire mage were enough to kill everything in 5 kilometer radius and the strength of the protection barriers alone was something those magic cannons that could obliterate everything in the same distance weren't even able to scratch them.

Even Kahn with all of his skills would be reduced to dust if hit by such attacks but the first stage saint like Kereberos wasn't even fazed in the slightest.

"I need to study and comprehend this World Energy.." said Kahn to himself.

Because the biggest game-changer was the use of World Energy.

All the spells and barriers weren't made from Mana but world energy instead. Only the elemental attacks had the mana infused in them while the world energy was the main force driving them.

Compared to a saint rank who could use world energy, Kahn was like a toddler who hadn't even learned how to walk. Because his current comprehension and mastery over the world energy were non-existent.

Although Ability Absorption Divine ability helped him absorb some world energy from the attacks of the vampire lord during the duel when they came to Rathna.. It wasn't even able to absorb 1% of world energy. At best, Kahn could only feel its existence.

"System, tell me the exact reasons why I need to be level 200 and eat a saint rank entity's core?" asked Kahn to the dormant system.

[The host must become physically strong and capable of withstanding the flow of World Energy in the body and a First Stage Saint Rank's core is used as a source of the world energy to initiate the breakthrough to this new rank. With each increasing stage, the requirements will carry through and the host may rise in ranks.] replied the System in its lifeless and robotic voice.

"And what about my proficiency in using World Energy? How does that affect me in the long term?" he asked.

[Every 10% of proficiency in using the world energy will allow the host with a 100% increase in strength and force behind attacks and spells made using the world energy.

But the world energy can't be just accumulated by absorbing from an external source. The host must study and comprehend it to increase the usage capacity and effectiveness.]

"Wait what?! Doesn't that mean I will be twice stronger compared to other saints even if my comprehension is at 10%?" asked Kahn in surprise.

[No. The host will only have twice the effectiveness based on the mastery. If the opponent has 20% mastery over the world energy, the host will be able to fight them equally. But the more difference in mastery, the more difference in overall strength. The host is advised to study and raise his comprehension of world energy.

The Ability Absorption divine ability can provide aid to the host in absorbing it at a much faster pace compared to other living beings. The host is advised to find more sources containing it.]

"I see. So I only have an advantage over someone on the same level as me and on the same efficiency in using world energy. But I'm still weaker compared to others.

Well... I need to at least cross the semi-saint rank first.

Forget world energy... I still haven't learned enough about mana, magic spells, formations, elemental attributes. And there's also the study of Space Magic & Dimensional Law.

I need to learn Blacksmithing & Alchemy to upgrade the Drakos Armor in the future and have enough knowledge in alchemy to save my own life in crucial conditions.

And I'm only good at using swords & daggers even now. There are still tons of weapons and combat techniques I need to learn and master.

Although I can always acquire skills by killing others entities, the real knowledge & experience only comes from studying and practicing.

At this rate, I will stay far weaker and left behind compared to the other 12. I don't want to die if any of them ever meet me or find out my identity." reprimanded Kahn to himself and pulled his hair in frustration.

"And then there's these bastards from the noble clans and factions. I always won't come out alive like this time if even a first stage Saint tries to kill me. And that bastard Ismatrazel is even a bigger threat. He's nearly 75 times stronger than me.

On top of that... He's not even the strongest person in this empire." spoke Kahn as his aura left his body because of the mental pressure taking the best of him.

Yesterday alone, he was forced to realize that at best, he could be a bigshot in only a small street. Even the weakest of the Saint rank fighters could easily crush his head under their feet.

Although he had managed to hide his awed and gobsmacked expression after watching both the godly saints fight yesterday.. He was still not over how their strength varied from worlds apart.

Even the vampire mage who could easily erase Kahn to nothingness hadn't even put a scratch on the Vampire Lord.

The strength of these Saints was far beyond his understanding. It was like a different realm of existence in itself.

"As soon as I'm done with settling this business. I will start learning magic & space law.

If I keep being ignorant & negligent..

I won't even survive a year in this world."

Chapter 192: More Than What You Bargained For

In the following week.. A sudden big announcement shook the entire Rakos Empire. Let it be a small city or a big and fully developed civilization in terms of technology or living standards of citizens.

Many bustling streets and markets had this news announced via loudspeakers and projection artifacts that this evening, will be a grand execution ceremony in the Pureblood Faction.

And it will be publicly broadcasted throughout the empire using a grid of broadcasting networks and artifacts from city to city.

And the ones to be executed were not some enemies but the traitors within the faction.

As soon as this news was spread all over the empire, it shook the native citizens and even the powers belonging to the opposition faction such as the Demi-Human faction & Neutral faction.

The Pureblood Faction consisted of 300+ clans. Each one of them was strong enough to easily rule over their respective cities and even the strongest clans from Flavot city could not even come close to being mentioned in the same sentence.

And suddenly, all of them decided to hold off an execution ceremony for some reason.

The normal citizens of the empire that varied from different species, races and life standards only knew of such big clans and names. But their lives didn't revolve around the inside happenings of these superpowers.

Any ruler was acceptable as long as no harm came to their normal lives and their rights were protected. So people had only superficial information about these factions.

Just like Kahn when he lived inside Flavot city, the majority didn't even know or care about who were the leaders of these factions. Only the people who played the game of power struggle in their sleep and wanted to hold power had the most information and interests in these factions as they too belonged to a particular side.

And suddenly, these factions openly brought these matters to the public. And this wasn't about just one clan, but all of them.

When Kahn heard this news, he too was taken aback. He quickly took out the jade medallion contacted Szayel.

"What the hell happened? Did I miss something.. Why is there suddenly such a big commotion?" asked Kahn to the vampire heir.

"Oh.. I thought you knew. Let me explain.." said Szayel and took a deep breath audible through the transmission artifact.

"Do you know that the day I was attacked.. The same happened to the majority of the clans in our faction? Over hundred and thirty clan heirs, having the qualifications and promise to become their clan's next leaders were killed in the same week as me getting attacked.

Some died in their homes while others died at the hands of said enemies belonging to opposite factions. In many cases, the heirs went missing and were presumed dead.

I wasn't the only one but the whole faction's future generation was targeted. And after you helped us track one of the traitors. We finally had a thread to track the main culprits.

In the past week, using Kereberos who was one of the people in command, we've successfully caught thousands of people in our clan and through them, we caught and imprisoned more than 20 thousand traitors who made deals with the enemy just because they were either discontent with the rulers of the clans or wanted shift in power.

Not only did we find their nest.. But we found everyone who was connected and shared their motives in all the respective clans.

What's happening now is nothing but a grand purge." said Szayel merrily.

After telling Kahn about the inner happenings and how the whole faction was been cleansed of the worms.. Szayel also revealed how their forces caught the people and killers involved from the Demi-Human faction & hired professionals. That there was a war happening in the shadows over the past week and thousands of people were killed.

But instead of feeling safe and secure. Kahn was pissed off.

"Fuck, fuck, fuck!! I'm so screwed!! Now everyone is gonna come after me one way or another!" shouted Kahn angrily and flipped the table.

No Way could he have foreseen that it wasn't just the traitors from the Vandereich clan but also the ones spread in the whole faction itself.

He thought that the vampire mage was just one of the people who wanted Szayel out of the equation and after he was caught, Kahn would have room to breathe and won't have to look over his shoulder again.

But what he thought was but a spark actually turned into a fucking wildfire!

And if his part in this was revealed outside of the Vandereich clan. He would be a public enemy number one for the Demi-Human faction and even the remaining traitors who were still not found or imprisoned.

A little bird revealing the word of his part in the play and he would be done for real.

This was no different than a looming death.

Kahn was now dragged into a grand scale war.. More than what he bargained for.

He now instantly regretted saving Szayel that day. Because the outcome that resulted from his involvement far outweighed what he received in return.

Now all he could do was pray to God of Darkness to come out alive of his current predicament despite being an atheist in his previous life.

"Fuck this shit! I'm not getting mixed up in these factions and their wars ever again!" exclaimed Kahn even though it was already too late for him.

"I hope that after this whole execution thing is done in the evening.. I can find a way out or at least get myself a protective shield.

I can't put anyone's life at risk again." said Kahn.

At this moment, he had no idea how this outcome that he couldn't predict before the announcement would affect him in the long run.

Kahn then took deep breaths and tried to calm his mind.

His countenance then turned somber and the calculative side of him reappeared on his face.

"I hope at least Ronin succeeds in the task I gave him."

Chapter 193: Grand Execution

When the evening came, a scenario that shook the entire Rakos Empire to the core happened.

As if already planned from weeks, the swift arrangements such as millions of big and wide

projection screens via artifacts were spread around all the major cities and towns of the empire in the main streets and public places.

There was a sense of fear among the masses as if the Pureblood Faction was trying to stage a coup or something. Even the government authorities didn't dare to prohibit this display of force and breaking the law.

The whole atmosphere was grim and everything was happening as if an inevitable doom was about to come over the empire.

For people in the capital Rathna, millions of people had gathered over their respective clan's headquarters and miles of the area owned by their clans.

Just the Vandereich clan alone had 2 million people spread around the 50 kilometers of their clan's main headquarters. And everything was being maintained in order.

Hundreds of flying ships, warships and projection artifacts were spread around various sectors of the land and the vampire clan was going to burn 4 thousand of their clan members alive as they were part of the traitor group who wanted to take over the clan and joined hands with the enemies to topple the current management by killing Szayel & Vivian.

This was the story that was spread for public knowledge.

And the other subsidiary vampire clans spread around the empire were performing the same ritual.

But this wasn't just the single clan but most of the clans from the Pureblood Faction who were publicly displaying their traitors to the masses for some reason.

Many did not understand why would one of the most powerful factions in the empire stupidly and boldly display the number of traitors in their midst to the public instead of burying the matters underground?

Unlike the vampire clan, the Elves had prepared the method of hanging while the Dwarven clans resorted to burying their traitors alive in the ground. The Demi-Human clans such as the wolfkins had arrangements to cut off limbs while the snakekins had decide to kill their traitors by throwing them inside the pits full of hot oil.

Botir Clans resorted to their most savage method. By crushing their traitors under gigantic boulders since they had exoskeleton armors all over their bodies. Like crushing a crab's shell with a hammer.

In the main headquarters of the Vandereich clan, was an open ground sizing for 3 kilometers in length. Thousands of soldiers surrounded these traitors who were tied in chains and unable to use any of their skills and abilities under restriction seals.

And at the end of it was a gigantic platform that had 28 wooden poles that had big logs placed at the bottom. And on each of them, the traitors who had high positions & authority in the clan's management were tied and sealed using many magic seals and formations. All of their mouths were gagged. Some were even 4th stage saints but they too were shown no mercy.

Amongst these people, was Kereberos Mor Vandereich. The vampire mage who had targeted Kahn previously and was caught by the clan leader as soon as Kahn finally found his identity.

This first stage saint rank mage was now reduced to a braindead person who couldn't even maintain his head in a single direction, swirling it around like a mentally ill person.

And behind these people, was a platform even higher. There were 12 seats where the most powerful people of the clan sat. Namely the Elders and the Clan Leader, Ismatrazel Mor Vandereich.

Every single one of them was donned in their white and golden regal clothes as if the Kings of different countries were gathered for a gathering. Every single one of them was a Second Stage saint and above.

These were the main powerhouses of this clan.

The clan leader finally stood up and started his speech. The same occurrence was happening over two hundred different clans spread over the empire and all of it was being broadcasted to the masses.

"People of the Vandereich Clan! As all of you may know... the people that are tied in front of me are the traitors who betrayed our clan for the sake of personal gains and agendas.

They conspired with our enemies who want nothing but our demise only for the sake of authority and power. They intended to cripple our future generations so they could take over later and have their own people get into the positions who would run our clan in the near future.

So that when the time came.. All of your fates would be sealed and left in the hands of these scums who would even kill their own kin for the sake of power.

So tell me.. What should we do with these traitors? Tell me.. What is your judgment?!" declared and asked the clan leader.

At this moment, his grandiose and heroic figure was being broadcast in front of billions of citizens spread around the entire empire.

"Death to the traitors!"

"Kill them!"

"Burn them!"

A million people shouted in unison in the main headquarters of the clan, just the noise alone shook the ground as if it was bound to crack.

On the other side, billions of members of all the different clans and citizens belonging to the same species were also cheering loudly. Even they felt a relevance to this declaration because nobody wanted someone in their family who would sell them out or kill them in their sleep.

After delivering the speech for another ten minutes, he finally signaled the commencement of burning the traitors.

And as for the 28 traitors who were tied on the platform below. They felt their soul shudder in disbelief because they had been assigned a particular executioner.

A slim and tall figure of a breathtakingly beautiful girl, clad in the clan's signature armor as her long silver hair fluttered in the air walked towards the row of these traitors who were tied on the thick wooden poles.

This beautiful girl with bright red eyes simply stirred the hearts of millions of males and females alike who were watching from the different corners of the empire as soon as her face appeared on the screens.

It was the very girl who tried to kill Kahn on the day he arrived at the vampire clan's headquarters. The daughter of the Clan Leader and Szayel's stepsister...

Vivian Mor Vandereich.

Chapter 194: The Ancestor

The grand execution ceremony was happening throughout many powerful clans who ruled over regions and had millions of people under them. And their spearhead, the Vandereich clan was no exception.

Vivian Mor Vandereich, who appeared like some princess of a kingdom and made millions of hearts stir and beat faster than usual as soon as she appeared on the screens spread throughout the entire empire when nearly 2 billion citizens were watching the grand execution ceremony from different places.

To the onlookers, it appeared as if a silver-haired angel descended from the heavens and was about to deliver divine retribution.

Her pristine and innocent appearance had soothed the souls of many males and the number of people who were transfixed on the spot and had a 'love on first sight' scenario were in millions.

But little did anyone know that this seemingly pure and untouchable goddess was actually a ruthless killer and one of these traitors herself. The reason why she was not hung on one of these poles was known only to a dozen people.

In Vivian's right hand was a brightly burning torch and she was tasked by the clan to burn these 28 traitors who once held influential and important positions in the clan. There was even a Third Stage Saint rank swordsman, one of the Elders lied amongst these traitors.

Rather than sparing the life of this powerful warrior, the Vandereich clan had decided to kill him instead.

At this same moment, Ismatrazel & several of the other Elders were looking at Vivian as if trying to gauge her expressions and see if she had the resolve to burn these people or not.

Unbeknownst to everyone watching her throughout the empire, she felt a chill in her body and had goosebumps all over it.

The clan heiress gathered the strength to move her body as she walked from one end to the other and started to light up the wooden logs below them as the fire quickly spread and consumed these vampires.

Unlike the fictional stories on Earth, Vampires in Vantrea had no problem walking in the sun or could only be killed using a silver bullet or a stake to the heart. They functioned just like humans but one thing was the most effective to kill them.

Death by fire.

Their bodies did not have any form of resistance against fire at all. Like meeting a catalyst, they would burn 5 times faster and thoroughly compared to many other species. And hence, this method was chosen by the clan.

One by one, bodies were burned alive but no screams were heard as all these people had been gagged and couldn't use any of their skills or mana under the seals. All they could do was flail their bodies before turning into ash at a visible rate.

From the end where she started, stood Szayel. His countenance was completely unfazed, maintaining the aura of nobility and the clan heir. But inside, he was laughing happily.

Because the people Vivian was ordered to burn were once her own allies and backers who conspired against him and chose to sell him off to the enemies. The ones who shared the same ideology were being sent to the afterlife by her own hands.

He was simply rejoicing after looking at the irony.

Vivian on the other hand was feeling her soul was being crushed as she was forced to kill her allies. To everyone watching the ceremony, it felt like she was given the biggest honor but in reality, she was traumatized from killing her backers who she spent years together behind the shadows.

When she reached the end and everyone except one vampire was left alive... Vivian let out a tear of grief.

And since it was being broadcast to everyone.. Ismatrazel decided to speak in.

"My daughter, Vivian Mor Vandereich is thoroughly devastated from the fact that among the people she just burned now.. Lies an elder of our clan who watched her grow since she was but a newborn.

The person she had a sense of attachment to has turned out to be someone who traded her life for power and authority. So to kill someone who she once admired is weighing down on her. " clarified the clan leader in his kingly voice.

But to onlookers, this was as emotional as it could be. Thousands of weak-willed also teared up as if they too felt her pain.

In the end, Vivian completed the ceremony by putting Kereberos on fire.

The same fate was delivered to the thousands of traitors who served these people by the soldiers of the clan.

The same was happening over other clans as they too punished the traitors in their own respective methods.

Gruesome execution happened and it sent a message to everyone about what happens when you betray your own people.

The truly informed and powerful understood that this was also a form of a declaration against the enemy factions that the Pureblood Faction will not tolerate any of this in the future.

That there was a line that was crossed and they didn't fear killing even their strongest fighters if they joined the enemy side.

When the night finally came, the entire estate was finally cleared out. Millions of people who came to watch the ceremony were escorted to their respective accommodations.

Only a few people knew that this whole grand execution plan was actually something in the works for over a month. As for who planned it all, nobody knew except for the top clan members and people of the Faction Council.

At this moment, inside the Elders Council hall.. All the members who were present during the execution ceremony including the clan leader were kneeling.

In front of an elderly vampire who was extremely frail and looked like he had one leg in the coffin just from his appearance was sitting on a throne.

"It is done. Everything you planned for was executed perfectly as you previously commanded, Great Father." spoke Ismatrazel.

"Ah.. We are lucky that we found out about one of the culprits and everything happened according to our plans. You too made a good choice to use that human boy as a bait, my son." spoke this elderly and frail figure who had long silver hair dropping to his knees.

His gaze then landed on a female who was now wrapped in chains from her hands to her torso. She too was kneeling on the ground like everyone else. Albeit not with respect but because of extreme fear in her eyes.

After looking at her sullen and ashen expression, the Great Ancestor of the Vandereich clan who was also the leader of the Pureblood Faction. A Seventh Stage Saint Rank entity and also one of the three strongest people in their entire empire asked in a tyrannical tone that sent shivers to everyone present in the room.

"Now, my dear granddaughter... Are you ready to repent for your crimes against the clan?"

Chapter 195: A Sealed Fate

Allister Mor Vandereich, the previous clan leader of the Vandereich clan and the current Faction Leader of the Pureblood Faction now sat in a carefree manner on his throne.

"You've greatly disappointed me. Both I & your father had high hopes for you. And whatever qualms you had with Szayel.. It should've stayed in the clan. You've committed the taboo of colluding with the enemy. And to think that you share the same ideology of our species ruling over others.. I thought we taught you better than that.

That was the reason why our species nearly went extinct in the empire once. And this approach instilled by my predecessor & me is the reason why we Vampires are now one of the strongest forces in the empire.

But you wish to cross that line and destroy everything we've built over the past 3 centuries?

If not for me & your father.. The Faction Council would've decreed to burn you alive with all those traitors. But it doesn't mean you will face no consequences." spoke the old faction leader in his domineering voice that froze Vivian's entire body. His wrathful gaze had shaken her core as if she was looking at inevitable death.

"Forgive me for intruding, Great Ancestor. But I still don't understand why did we have to go to such extreme measures? These matters should've been dealt within the faction. Why these public executions?" asked one of the elders.

"To make a statement. After those runts from Demi-Human Faction killed the majority of the clan heirs, crippling our future generations... There was a need to show that we won't take it without uttering a word.

Although we can't openly declare war on them and put the entire empire in chaos... this was something that needed to be done. Otherwise, soon they would've spread the rumors about the dead clan heirs and we would've lost all our prestige anyways.

As for the people responsible from their side.. We've killed 50 thousand of their faction members over the past month hidden from the public eyes. This will also be a reminder for them to not cross the line ever again.

And because of this display of executing the traitors, we've scared everyone who ever had a thought of it and increased the loyalty of our clan members who felt threatened for their future because of this revelation." explained the faction leader.

"Understood, Great Ancestor." spoke the elder.

"As for you.. We didn't have you killed because it would've broken the spirit of our clan members to see that the clan heiress herself was one of these traitors. It would've done more harm than good.

But now.. You shall be punished with Core binding ritual." decreed Allister.

"No!! Have mercy on me, great ancestor... Grandfather! I promise I will never do anything like this again. I will serve the clan with all my soul! Just give me another chance! Please!!.." shouted Vivian as her body was shivering in fear as soon as the decree from Allister reached her ears.

"Silence!! This is your second chance. From now, your core shall be bound to your stepbrother, Szayel Mor Vandereich.

You will be prohibited from having a marriage.

You can no longer have a family or children of your own.

Your position as the clan heiress has been discarded and you will never rise in ranks in our clan.

Your candidacy for the Clan Leader's position has been nulled.

You will serve Szayel as his servant till your last days. If he dies, you will die along with him.

You are to obey his every order even if it means harm to your own life.

After the seal has been placed, you won't be able to kill yourself either. Your life will have only one meaning.

To serve and protect your master. And serve the clan.

This shall be your punishment for betraying your family!" declared the old vampire, showing no mercy towards his granddaughter whom he once cherished the most.

Vivian dropped on the ground, she started crying and begging for forgiveness. Her pleads for mercy filled the entire grand hall.

Szayel on the other hand, looked at her with lifeless eyes as if something in him had changed. Although he was overshadowed by Vivian's talent and glory most of his life.. He never truly hated her.

But after finding out that she didn't even care whether he lived or died as means to accomplish her goals.. He learned a very harsh lesson.

Now, he didn't care whether she was killed or forced to become his slave. All he could think of was how to become strong and become worthy of being a good clan leader in the future.

He looked at Vivian who was now grabbing his leg and pleading for forgiveness but there was no empathy for her in his eyes.

Because if not for Kahn showing up that day and saving him.. He would've died a horrible death in a noname place and the now crying figure of Vivian wouldn't even have blinked twice.

He had learned his lesson already. That in pursuit of power, authority and strength.. Even your own family wouldn't shy away from killing you.

And this was how he too had to become if he wanted to survive in this world where only the powerful made the rules.

Dozens of mages then entered the and under the orders of the clan ancestor, the very painful and terrifying ritual of core binding was performed on Vivian as her soul shuddering screams frilled the grand hall.

Although Allister & Ismatrazel felt a lot of pain in their heart.. They had no choice but to abide by the clan's rules. Letting Vivian live even if it meant as a slave to the clan and giving her a fate of no freedom is the best thing they could offer.

Because in their clan, there was one rule that transcended everything.

'The Clan comes first, everything else later.'

[Great Father.. What about that human boy?] asked the clan leader to his father using a telepathic communication artifact as they watched the whole procedure.

To his query, the faction leader replied in a solemn tone.

[I know you want him as your discipline but now is not the good time. Although he's a human.. We can use the ancient bloodline ritual to turn him into a vampire as I witnessed once more than two centuries ago. But first...

I would like to meet this Kahn you speak of.

And see if he's really worthy of becoming someone like the First Emperor.]

Chapter 196: The Uninvited Guests

A week had passed ever since the grand ceremony of public executions of the traitors in the pureblood faction. It had been the talk of the entire empire and the scenes of merciless killings were displayed to the public on squares even now.

Let it be a grown-up man or a child. Most of the populace had already seen it. Although the narrative was that these traitors tried to thwart away the ruling powers and joined hands with enemies to kill the future generations. Not many knew exactly which enemy they were talking about.

Not everyone in the empire had that much of free time to learn the history or enmity of these factions. Their world didn't revolve around the power struggle between the top 1%.

But to people who held power and authority. It felt like a war was bound to happen. Even those who had no involvement felt a sense of uncertainty about the fate of the empire.

In the Rukon district, Kahn sat in his office while doing his usual work of tallying the numbers and verifying the reports and transactions for the shipments and dealings. The business was doing pretty well ever since he joined the Chamber of Commerce himself after he threatened the remaining members as Zeus.

And with Houdini gone missing.. The committee members were even more scared for their lives and abided by his instructions. Kahn was officially granted a seat on the committee under the pretense of adding fresh blood along with 6 other new members.

One of the old members was now the new president and he now held a position in the name. Kahn made it clear that he won't be partaking in the meetings or create any trouble for any of the members as long as no one bothered with his business in the district.

And as a result, some of the members shifted their business related to weapon manufacturing to different districts because they feared the Semi-Saint Rank Archer named Zeus.

But to Kahn.. This wasn't enough.

What he lacked now was a true sense of security. Not for him but the company and its employees.

Although he could always hire new security personnel in thousands.. There were two main issues he was concerned with.

Loyalty & Unity.

Even if he hired some top-rank security enterprise, they were as good as a bunch of mercenaries who worked for money and had no sense of loyalty or responsibility towards the employer.

There had been many incidents where the guards absconded with both the money and with goods. So he was concerned about it.

Although he had more than 1300+ subordinates now... they were not the kind to be mixed with normal humans and all of them were completely black let it be their flesh or their clothes and gears.

Only Omega & the Six Generals had distinguishable features in terms of appearance. So there was also an issue of them mixing with normal guards.

"Phew! How the hell am I going to manage all of this myself? The money is no longer a problem but I still need better ways to obtain cores and ores. And I need it not only for myself but for everyone else too. Omega, Six Generals & then the Legion. Plus there's this snake whose stomach is even bigger compared to all of them combined.

Even buying these in bulk isn't a long-term solution. It's more a waste of money than gaining good resources. Even S Rank cores sell for too high a price and given my requirements.. I would have to sell the company if I want to reach level 200." said Kahn as he sighed.

"Human! I am a higher being. So obviously I need more resources than the rest. The so-called S Rank cores you provided me didn't even raise my level at all." a grim and ghastly voice resounded in Kahn's head.

"What?! Those were 5 thousand S Rank cores you damn serpent! Why don't you try earning them by yourself?!" retorted Kahn.

The one who just spoke now was none other than Rudra who had awakened from his comatose state a few days ago...

He was now a level 100 entity after fully absorbing the Magma Drake's bloodline and core. And since he didn't have 100% Loyalty to Kahn, he didn't qualify for the Impartation skill and couldn't take a human form either.

From what Kahn anticipated, Rudra would at least need to absorb a Mythical Rank metamorphosis bloodline or eat the core of such being to transform and take a human form. Something that was out of Kahn's reach now.

Just when Kahn was lost in his thoughts about how to get more resources to raise his levels.. A voice rang in his head.

[Master! Enemies!] shouted a stoic voice in his head.

"Jugram, what's wrong?" asked Kahn.

[There are multiple eople are entering the company's gates.. From their aura, I can say that they are far stronger than you.] informed the hell berserker subordinate.

Kahn quickly activated Survival Instinct and Hunter's Intent at maximum capacity. But to his surprise, they didn't pick up any sense of danger or killing intent in the 1 kilometer radius.

[Who could it be?] he thought.

Kahn quickly ran towards the ground floor and came to the entrance of the company building.

What he saw then had completely baffled him.

Jugram, who was a High Lord subordinate and the main person in charge of the security of their company building, was kneeling on the ground in front of a luxurious magic carriage with silver deer-like monsters pulling it.

He wasn't kneeling out of respect but because he simply couldn't stand the aura of the person that just exited this carriage used only by the nobles.

A slim middle-aged elf and then a rustic warrior-like dwarf walked out of the carriage.

But this wasn't just one carriage.. There were four more of these carriages coming in belonging to different clans as per their sigils.

To Kahn, who had felt the aura of Kereberos, the first stage saint magician.. He knew one thing for sure.

All the people that were coming out of their respective royal-ish carriages had one thing in common...

They were all Saints Rank people!

Chapter 197: The Opportunity

Kahn now stood in front of these godly figures who could simply wipe out everything in 10 to 15 kilometers area on a whim. Just from the aura alone.. The weakest one of these uninvited guests was a 2nd stage saint while the strongest ones were at the 3rd stage.

Kahn felt a sense of impending doom as the mighty figures suddenly showed up at his front door, completely unannounced.

There was no grand welcome ceremony or thousands of soldiers escorting these powerhouses. As if these weren't saint rank people, one of the top figures in the entire empire but a ragtag bunch of tourists who came to his place by mistake.

"How can I be of help, Sir?" asked Kahn as he slightly bowed.

There were 8 Saints now gathered in front of him consisting of an Elf, Dwarf, Wolfkin, Lionkin, Thrall, Botir, Mithrans & one female Human. All of them dressed like Marques, Dukes & Dutchess amongst nobles.

"Pardon our sudden arrival without prior information. We are here to meet the owner of this Bloodborne company." spoke the middle-aged elf in the front who was also a 3rd stage saint.

"Please follow me, your lordships." spoke Kahn in a respectful tone and gestured all these insanely powerful figures to follow after him.

After they all came to a big meeting hall where Kahn usually did the deals with big clients, all of them were seated on luxurious & lavishly carved comfortable cushions chairs and were given refreshments.

"Where is your owner? Why hasn't he come to greet us yet?" asked the white wolfkin.

To the question, Kahn let out a sigh and sat on the main chair of the host & the owner of the company.

The very next second, he quickly released his War Dominance at full capacity and revealed his aura of a semi-saint rank person.

Kahn then sat down and placed his hands on the armrests as he spoke.

"I am the owner."

Shock!

All the guests were slightly taken aback. Not because they felt any sense of threat from this man. But because who they thought as the normal attendant was actually the owner they had come to meet.

As for why did Kahn reveal his measly aura in front of these sharks?

Because Kahn understood that none of these people had any malicious intentions towards him and despite being one of the top 100 strongest people in the entire empire, all of them came here in a formal manner and had no halo of entitlement or overbearing aura around them.

They weren't here to cause trouble as far as his intuition could tell him.

"You.. So the rumors were right. So young yet a semi-saint rank already." spoke the old dwarf with eyes wide open.

The rest of the saints were no exception.

"So you're Kahn? Looks like Lord Ismatrazel indeed spoke the truth." said the mature woman, a second stage saint.

"Tell me something, Mister Kahn. Which clan do you belong to? And who was your teacher?" asked the green mithrans.

"Yes. I would like to know as well." spoke the regally dressed thrall.

"None. And I'm self-taught." replied Kahn solemnly.

Another surprise!

Even these top figures of the empire were left speechless.

"How's that possible? There are only 5 semi-saints under the age of 30 and all of them belong to top clans. They're either their heirs or children of the saints. How come we never heard of you?" asked the red Lionkin saint.

But Kahn quickly interjected before more questions piled up.

"Pardon my abrupt interjection but can I ask why are all big powerhouses such your grand selves here? I don't recall having made any form of relationship with any of you." asked Kahn sternly.

"Ah, where are our manners.. Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Emhyr rav Emreis, clan leader of the Nilfguardian Elven clan." said the 3rd stage Elven saint.

"I'm called Zoltan Vichay, clan leader of the Dwarven clan."

"I am Triss Remigold, Leader of the Council of Witches. Pleased to make your acquaintance, Mister Kahn." spoke the redhead lady in the green dress.

"I'm Dandelion Pankratziv, I extend my best wishes to you Mister Kahn." said the blue thrall.

One by one, all of them introduced themselves.

There was no sense of pride or pretense of superiority in their tone.

Although Kahn was far younger than them, all of them showed the perfect decorum fitting of their personality & positions.

[Yeah, yeah.. And I'm Kahn of Rivia.] he thought.

Kahn nodded in response to all of them.

"Actually.. All of us have come here to personally thank you as soon as Lord Ismatrazel told us about your part in catching the traitors amongst our clans." spoke the elf.

The next second however, the atmosphere in the room turned somber.

"Thanks to you.. We were finally able to avenge our children and clan's heirs were mercilessly killed more than a month ago." he said.

[So that's what it was..] thought Kahn as he tried to hide the surprise on his face.

"No need, Lord Emhyr. I did it to save my own life as well. I too was one of the targets for saving the Vandereich clan heir's life." revealed Kahn truthfully.

"To be honest, we didn't come just to offer our thanks. But for business as well." said Triss in her melodious voice.

"Huh.. This is.. Unexpected." said Kahn as he was slightly taken aback.

Because in reality, Kahn was not even qualified to even sit at the same table as these powerhouses let alone being treated as an equal.

"We've come here after hearing specifically from Lord Vandereich about how they've greatly benefitted recently from buying their weapons supply from you and how the quality itself was far better than what others offer at twice the price.

And I will not lie.. We had some of our people buy these weapons and armors from your stores spread over the district and I must say... we've found those claims to be true. So tell us, Mister Kahn... would you like to do business with our clans as well?" revealed the Elven saint.

To Kahn.. This question seemed more like teasing. He barely managed to jump from his seat and say yes.

But the next second.. A brilliant plan hatched in his mind.

Because soon, he would finally have what he was worried about just half an hour ago.

Soon, Kahn would have his own... Shield & the Sword.

Chapter 198: The Shield

In the main meeting room, 9 people sat on luxurious chairs, all of them varying from different races, species and skin color. But the atmosphere of the room was tranquil despite the top and mighty figures sharing the same room.

Normally, people of this caliber would only gather together when a celebration or gathering of top clans and the top 1% of the empire had a reason to get together.

"So what do you think, mister Kahn? Are you interested?" asked Triss, the redhead witch.

"About that.. May I ask why are you interested in doing business with our company? I'm pretty sure there are plenty of bigger companies & given the kind of supply your clans would need.. I'm afraid we're not that capable as of yet." said Kahn.

For a company that was established in a single district, the offer didn't make sense. Because these clans would need weapons & arms for more than 80 million soldiers. And his company's current output was 30 million at best.

"We're well informed about your current capacity and know that you are centralized in Rukon District only. So we have some propositions." said the white wolfkin.

"What we propose is that you do these deals exclusively only to us and clans of our faction only. In return, we will also make rules that we shall only use your services as far as certain weaponry and tools are concerned. And you give our deals and contracts the first priority.

And if there are any orders for customized weapons and armors, we're to be put above others. How does that sound?" asked the Elven saint.

At this moment, instead of getting overwhelmed or feeling greedy, Kahn had a calm aura around him and spoke.

"I think I have a better alternative. How about I give all of you a 30% discount on selling cost on top of the conditions you mentioned?"

Gasp!

All the saints, who were the top leaders of their respective clans and organizations were surprised. Because if you looked at the grand picture.. This 30% discount could save them hundreds of millions in cost on top of the 50% they were already saving by dealing with The Bloodborne company instead of trading with their usual partners.

"But I have some conditions as well." spoke Kahn with a slight grin on his face.

"Do tell. I believe we can work things out if you stick to your words." said the Lionkin as he folded his arms and looked at Kahn with curiosity.

"In exchange for these exorbitant discounts.. What I want is all your clans becoming my shield and my sword." said Kahn as he interlocked his fingers and folded his legs, sitting as the main boss in a political party's meeting.

"What do you mean?" asked Zolton, the Dwarven saint.

"What I mean is I need all of your clans and organizations to work as the ones in charge of my company's security, let it be my stores, my warehouses, transportations, shipments and any properties that are in the company's name." said Kahn in a calm tone.

"What?! What do you take us for? Do we look like some kind of mercenaries to you?!" exclaimed the thrall saint.

"Hear me out, sir Dandelion. This isn't like what you think.

Currently, I have limited properties and spaces where I can do the production. If our deals are contracted, I would naturally have to expand my company and open more facilities, have more warehouses, stores and buildings for management to meet the demand.

And one of the important parts of it would be the security. Instead of hiring some unreliable organization and weaklings who are only there to fill up numbers without having actual combat experience or skillets.. I'd rather prefer to trust an ally than a hired help.

I want your trained fighters and strong warriors in charge of my defense and security.

Naturally, I would station and distribute your forces on my own accords.

This way, you spend less, provide some help in let's say, a few hundred thousands of soldiers combined from all of your clans and save plenty of money in the process." declared Kahn.

Sigh!

"Aren't you afraid that one day, we might as well take over your business by force then? I'm sure that you're not a fool who is not informed about the consequences of leaving your fate in someone's hands." said Emyhr, the elven saint in a direct tone, not hiding his concerns.

Kahn nodded and replied in a stern tone.

"Let's say that all of you do plan to gang up on me and do think about doing what you say.. The key is the Grandmaster Blacksmith, sir Albestros Winston. Without him, there is no Bloodborne company.

And if you try to force him into working for you. Just one word of it and others who are looking for big opportunities and have the same amount of manpower as you would gather and oppress your clans under the pretense of justice.

Besides, you may not know this but I'm a close friend of Szayel and Lord Ismatrazel also has a favorable impression of me. After all..

He did want me to become his disciple."

Shock! Gasp!

All the saints present were surprised and caught off guard as soon as Kahn revealed the last part.

[This kid isn't simple. He's too calculative and mature for his age.] spoke the elf to all the other saints us a telepathic transmission artifact.

[No wonder Lord Ismatrazel told us to work with him... wait! Now that I think about it.. He..] said Triss.

[Yes. Lord Ismatrazel sent us here to become his shield. He knew we would have no choice but to become his backers one way or another even if the kid didn't say so himself.] replied the thrall.

[Don't miss the last part! If even Lord Ismatrazel wants the human kid to become his disciple.. Then think about the potential this boy has. Maybe in five decades.. He could even become stronger than any of us.

Just him being a semi-saint at this age without the backing or resources of any big clan or a faction already speaks about him being a once in a millennia prodigy.

I'm afraid his talent even exceeds the Raven Sorceress of the Neutral Faction who is of the same age as him. No wonder the Vandereich clan wants him on their side.

He could also become one of our top powerhouses in the future if he joins the Pureblood Faction.] spoke the wolfkin.

[Yes! Let's not waste time, agree to his conditions quickly.] said the Lionkin telepathically.

"We agree!" declared Emyhr.

"Good. This meets the Shield part of our deal.."

Kahn took a pause and gave a slight grin and continued in a merry voice.

"Let's et's talk about the Sword."

Chapter 199: The Sword

Everyone who thought that they were finally done with the business deal were left surprised again after Kahn declared that the previous arrangement was only half the part.

"What?! This isn't the complete deal?" asked Zolton.

"Yeah.. The previous part only concerns security. But I've recently been enlightened about how I'm shorthanded when it comes to fending off my rivals or starting a crusade against those who intentionally make an enemy of me.

What I want is an army of more than a hundred thousand soldiers ready to fight under my command should I ever need to fight some force in the future...

And I mean those numbers from each of your clans." said Kahn as he explained the Sword part of their deal.

As soon as his words resounded in the hall, the atmosphere quickly turned silent.

Some of the members felt that Kahn was reaching for a yard after being offered an inch.

To use the lives of their people in his own fights.. This was simply unacceptable.

Bang!

"Who do you think you're talking to?! Thousands of people come to our clans just to get a minute of our time & beg us to work with them.

Do we look like some idiots who will offer the lives of our people just for the sake of saving some money?!" shouted the Botir saint.

"At least hear me first." spoke Kahn and then continued again.

"There's a reason why I'm asking for this condition. It's not like I'm really going to need your clansmen for a war, it's more of a precautionary measure. And on top of that, I would look after all the provisions and expenses required should a situation like that arises.

What I want isn't an army to fight a war but a force of deterrence. Something that would scare my enemies even in their dreams if they plan to harm me or my people.

And I am offering you one more thing as a compliment if all of you accept this condition." he said.

"What is it? It better be worth it." said Emyhr.

"Out of total payments of our deals, you can pay 30% of it with...

S Rank & higher-grade monster cores & mana ores." proposed Kahn.

"Huh.. Why? Isn't money more beneficial to you?" asked Triss.

"Well, I'll be honest. Although we're currently not short on resources, given your requirements & quantity for each of your clans.. We'd soon fall short on them. You all know how important cores are. The higher the quality, the faster we can finish the products.

And sir Winston also expressed that he will prioritize the orders of the customers and clans who pay with S Rank cores & ores. He says it makes his work even more powerful & refined.

If I try to get them on the market price, I'll have to waste all my fortune & I won't be able to get these resources in bulk either. So I think people of your prestige & background can easily manage them & help me deliver the products on time as well." explained Kahn.

Although he spoke those with just & righteous expression on his face... this was an outright lie.

"Done!!"

"Deal!"

"I agree!"

Complied all the saints haphazardly.

[Hmph.. Suckers!] thought Kahn in his mind.

Although there was some truth to it.. It wasn't that important factor in the production of Epic Rank weapons & armors. The S Rank cores did help in the procedure as a source of mana & infusing different elements to them. But in the end, it all depended on the skills of the Blacksmith.

What Kahn really aimed for here was the high-grade resources he needed to level up. Even with his current wealth, he could barely afford enough S Rank cores & ores for himself. And he'd have nothing left for the subordinates who also needed these in upcoming months as soon as they were done processing the cores they ate last time.

Only Kahn was able to absorb the energy to raise his levels in a matter of hours but others still needed weeks despite rising in ranks. This was the difference between normal creatures and Kahn who had the Ability Absorption divine ability.

And after he threw in the Grandmaster Blacksmith's name.. The hungry wolves lunged at the meat as soon as it was revealed.

But to all these saint rank leaders, this was a big steal.

Because although their clans had these resources in millions of numbers.. Even they had to spend a long time just processing these cores and absorb the mana and energy to rise in ranks.

And beside them, there weren't others who could utilize them at a fast pace. The higher the grade of the core, the more time required.

And their clans had millions of S Rank cores and thousands of SS Rank cores.

They had water spilling out of the cup already.

But with Kahn's last proposition, not only would they save a lot of money, they could also make great use of these resources.

Plus the priority given to their orders by the Peak Grandmaster Blacksmith himself.. That was already far more appealing to them than just saving money.

They were getting far more than what they were paying for.

"And another thing. I will offer an extra 10% discount if you use lend us your flying ships to do the deliveries & use for transportation.

Plus if you want a form of dealership contract & sell our product in your own business settlements.. I will give that clan first priority when producing the consignments." said Kahn as he threw the final pitch in the chaos he already created.

"I accept!"

"Count me in!"

"Mister Kahn, I hope you stick to your promise."

"Please draw the paperwork soon!"

Exclaimed the saints as like children wanting candy.

The terms Kahn was offering them were far beneficial to them on many levels for both their respective clans and for their personal needs.

Now did they understand why the Vandereich clan shifted all of their tenders for weapons supply to the Bloodborne company.

The clan leaders could see that they were saving a lot of money here and by using their own forces, they could also create a big network of business with the help of Bloodborne company.

Kahn then took out a dozen of Blood-Bind contracts along with the Blood oath Token he robbed from Houdini. He gave a light smirk and spoke.

"Let's begin our new partnership, shall we?"

Chapter 200: The Achievement

As soon as Kahn took out the blood-bind contracts & the blood-oath token, the mighty and godly figures were slightly surprised.

Normally, it was them who demanded for these measures to the people who came to make deals with them and that too with terms and conditions which only favored their side.

But here, it was Kahn deciding the terms and conditions of the contract and didn't hesitate twice before he directly took out these contracts and the blood-oath token.

Usually, just their word was enough to make sure the deal was considered done but in this case, it was the young and a beginner businessman making them sign the dealings and even using the artifact to

facilitate the deal. As if their word & reputation had no meaning to them and the young semi-saint rank human did not have an ounce of respect towards their background or prestige.

But at this moment, they did not waste their time arguing or doing unnecessary talk since the terms and conditions of their agreement were far favorable to their side and in the long term, they would save their respective clans and organizations a lot of wealth.

Just from the impression they received from Kahn who was not only a prodigy in their eyes but also a fearless person who didn't even show a hint of slight fear or cowardice in front of them, earned him their acknowledgement.

When someone of their rank went to a business meeting, it would be the host licking their shoes just to receive these saint rank people's grace. But here, they were treated like a normal customer if the 30% discount term was out of the equation.

To people like them, who themselves were fearless of anything or anyone... this way of conducting business while retaining your calm demeanor throughout the whole meeting and not getting overwhelmed after knowing who they were had given all the clan leaders a good sense of understanding about the young man.

In the next few hours, both the contracts and the blood-oath binding was done. The first batch of weapons, armors and tools along with the expected quantity was decided. Since it was the first time, the contracts were done only on an annual basis and both sides would be subjected to penalty should either of them fail to deliver upon the agreement or the payments.

On the paper, it looked like Kahn was losing 40% of the money he should be receiving. But in reality, he had benefited from these deals the most.

Although he wasn't making too much profit. But what he gained was free security, skilled and trained fighters to guard his properties and business sites, having the names of these powerful clans officially attached to his company after he would have their people protect his enterprise.

And it greatly solved the problem of expanding his business to other districts. From now on, these clans who also signed the dealership contracts on top of the arms deals; would sell his company's products in their established shops and settlements.

Although they'd make a small profit over it.. But with that, the Bloodborne company would rise in popularity, prestige and the name of Albestros Winston, the Grandmaster Blacksmith would also spread throughout other districts of Rathna.

This was a form of free exposure & marketing.

And unlike him, these forces had far better ways of transportation including flying ships for long-distance shipping and deliveries. So he'd also use their devices to his own advantage.

And there was little chance of them ganging up on him as he would be the one to place their soldiers on buildings & stores of his own choosing. Naturally, he would mix them which would also prohibit their respective forces from colluding & stealing his products.

Even with being part of the Pureblood faction, these forces weren't neighbors or had blood relations to pull off such stunts.

And the problem regarding the amount of resources Kahn & his High Lord subordinates were in dire need of was finally solved as soon as he would receive these S Rank cores in the quantity of hundred thousands every month.

So he and all of the subordinates could steadily level up without having to go hunting in the forest and search for legendary rank monsters at this point. Because even High Lord rank monsters didn't raise too many levels and they are very rare, to begin with.

Just the down payment in Orichalcum plates he received from all the 8 saint rank clan leaders was worth a billion gold coins. And the entire deal would get his company's annual income to more than 8 billion gold coins if he factored in the usual business earnings & the money he'd get from the Vandereich clan, his first-ever customer.

After he made calculations about the taxes, management & salary of the employees.. He was completely overwhelmed.

Because even after giving Albestros his cut, all the expenditures done on management, transportation & production... Kahn would still earn a billion gold dramus as annual income.

And that too with only his current capacity. If he opened more stores and company buildings.. There was a chance to make the double in just upcoming months.

Kahn heaved a sigh and let out a gentle smile as he spoke..

"Let's get to work!"

ONE MONTH LATER

Kahn now sat in the main office of his new company building.

The new headquarters of the Bloodborne Enterprise was now 5 times bigger, wider and just in their new headquarter alone, were more than 20 thousand people working dozens of enormous buildings. From logistics to production and distribution.. He had all of the specific departments set in different building in this 6 kilometer premises.

The total of 42 thousand employees and 97 shops were now under the name of Bloodborne company. And even more blacksmiths were begging to join their enterprise to work under & learn from Albestros every single day.

With the billion dramus he received, the first thing Kahn did was to buy out one of the biggest and most suitable industrial facilities situated in the central area of the Rukon district.

The previously used building given to them by Prithvi, the Grandmaster Alchemist was no longer efficient for their use as the base of operation. But he didn't abandon the site.. Instead, he still kept it as it is and hired more people to work there as a branch office.

The old building was situated at the northern end of the district. And Kahn then bought another big company building at the southern end of the district. So these 2 branches acted as storage, distribution & production facilities who would act as a hub to deploy the product to their partners, the forces of the saint rank clan leaders; given how his company was getting popular and the demand was increasing drastically.

The first 3 weeks alone went into settling the new places and hiring more employees with blood-bind contracts in play.

Jugram was in charge of the security of the main headquarters where Kahn also worked.

While he left Omega in charge of managing and protecting the old building. As for the new branch office.. Was left in charge a particular murderous and sadist subordinate of his who recently met the requirements to take a human form.

It was the same subordinate who liked nothing but playing with the dead.

Ceril, the Necromancer.

After he took a human form, Ceril was now a dashing black haired grown-up man who wore glasses and always had a mage staff & a grimoire in his hands.

Ceril looked a lot like Kahn. Just a more nerdy and bookworm version of him. He was clad in white and purple mage robes and seemed like an extremely intelligent person from first glance. Even to many female employees, he appeared as the mysterious and ladykiller boss just like those Korean Drama

After working tirelessly for the past month... Kahn now had officially established himself in the capital and set himself up as a person with money, resources and authority to some extent.

Even though he wasn't as powerful as the major clans, factions or the government authorities.. He was still ahead of the 4 billion citizens of the Rakos Empire.

What took many people decades of hard work, he did it in just 4 months by playing his cards right and making friends of the powerful people.

Kahn wasn't some thousands of years old Cultivator reincarnated as a young boy who knew all the recipes of high-grade pills & potions and even knew how to make legendary weapons because of the knowledge & experience from his past life.

And neither was he a top video game expert of some MMORPG game sent back in time who knew the rules & easy ways to become strong very quickly or make money and resources based on the knowledge of the future events.

He was someone with a clean slate when he entered this new world. So this was why he had to work his ass off to make it big and even risk his life in the mean process.

Because the idea of a weak MC suddenly rising ranks, power, authority and fighting the top dogs of the world didn't work in real life. So he had to play all his cards carefully.

After everything was finally settled, Kahn had now officially established himself in the capital and possessed everything he needed in order to grow strong and live his life on his own accord.

For him.. The fruits of his labor had finally paid off.