

Darkness 521

Chapter 521 - First Meeting

As soon as Kahn revealed the Whitlock family, the imperial family of Rakos empire's treasures in front of so many people...

The first emperor and the once peak saint cursed Kahn loudly in his head.

Kahn was showing all these chests and crates filled with diamonds, rubies and invaluable treasures that his subordinates robbed from Imperial Castle inside the final barrier in the forbidden region.

And these weren't even the 10% of what he had in his space ring.

As for why Kahn was settling the bidding using these... because all the hard money he had in gold coins was in dramus, the currency of the Rakos empire. And he had no single coin called Harlen since he was new to this empire.

But what he offered was indeed rarer and more alluring even to the top rich folks of this city named Oslom.

"What in the eternal flames of Hetrax!... How does he have so much wealth?!" exclaimed the dwarven noble.

"This... these gems and treasures are too rare.

I think after appraising it... it will be more than 40 trillion harlen!" exclaimed one of the rich customers.

"Wh... who is your client again?" asked the auctioneer woman and many of the attendees also wanted to know about the identity of this immensely wealthy tycoon.

"Like I said before, it goes against our rules to reveal the identity of a client." replied Kahn in a subtle voice.

"You there!" suddenly, he heard a voice from his back.

It was none other than Venessa who was seated in a corner while being surrounded by her commanders.

She signaled Kahn to come towards her. Kahn then slowly walked towards Venessa and bowed in the same way as everyone did previously.

Gasp!

Gasp!

But for some unknown reason, many of the people gasped in shock instead.

"The audacity of this human!" spoke one of the attendees.

"He dares bow and not kneel in front of a Fireborne?!!" bellowed the noble dwarf in a shirt made of gold.

[Ah, fuck! What kind of fucked up thing is happening here? Why are there so many social customs?] asked Kahn to himself as he had no idea why he was being ostracized since the moment he bid for the body.

"Shhh! Don't be loud, Princess Venessa herself is a half-human." spoke a foxkin who stood behind the dwarf.

"Hmph! She only took after her human mother's appearance. But she's a true Royal Fireborne.

Yet that miscreant dares show this shameful conduct. That's no different than standing up against the imperial family." retorted the dwarf.

At this moment, Venessa had a curious look as she examined Kahn from head to toe.

His face, build, clothes and the confidence he had while being unafraid of everything... piqued her curiosity.

"What's your name? And who is this client you speak of?" she asked without getting angry.

"It's Kahn Salvatore, your highness." spoke Kahn in a respectful tone.

[What the hell is happening?! Why did I suddenly reveal my real name to her?!] exclaimed Kahn in his mind.

[Careful boy! She has a sandhed charm! It makes you speak the truth if you don't know about its existence.] informed Rathnaar.

[This crafty woman! She only looks beautiful, but her brain is that of a witch!] cursed Kahn who was just moments away from revealing how there was no client in the first place.

[I'll take care of this.] said Rathnaar and cast a triangle-shaped formation with a big eye in it.

[I have dispelled the charm effect. Don't get us caught here, boy. You can't afford to be found out here.] said Rathnaar.

"To be honest, your highness. Even I don't know their true identity. I was only tasked with buying this body and given this space ring filled with these treasures." spoke Kahn in a humble tone as he lied.

Because making up a random name would ensure that they'd enquire about that person even more and will blow up their cover.

So saying that even he didn't know about their identity was the best way to not raise unnecessary questions.

"Well, if your highness doesn't like our offer... I shall take my bid back. I don't think either I or my client would prefer to trouble your highness if their identity is that important to you." said Kahn in a gentle tone.

"No!" exclaimed Venessa and quickly controlled her demeanor.

"Since you're paying that much... I'll let your transgression go. But be careful in the future...

Other members of the imperial clan are not as forgiving as I am." spoke Venessa.

It wasn't for herself but for the deceased soldiers and their families that she was going through this unnecessary trouble.

More. Money meant that they'd receive more compensation as well. So Venessa let go of her pride and chose to not stretch the issue.

Because she could take these treasures and through the right channels, she could receive even more money than 40 trillion by selling them somewhere else.

After Kahn's bid... no one raised another one because they simply didn't have enough money on hand.

And finally, Kahn luckily won the body of the jatvuarym after so many risks he took. If not for Rathnaar being an expert, Kahn's lack of knowledge about this empire's customs and artifacts would've thrown off his disguise.

And soon, the whole Vulcan empire would be searching for him.

Kahn bowed again respectfully and delivered the treasure to Venessa's people.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a black shadow passed under one of the crates filled with money that Venessa's people handed to the Oslo auction house as 5% of their share of the deal.

Just by using this one bidding, they earned 2 trillion harlen and all they did was act as a mediator between the seller and the buyer.

[All of you! Tail this man. There's something suspicious about him.] ordered Venessa telepathically to her people through an artifact.

As for Kahn... he was overjoyed to get this legendary rank creature whose bloodline was something he desperately needed for future use.

As for the money he paid for it... Kahn had plans to double his gains.

Kahn looked back at the departing figure of this princess with a royal fireborne bloodline.

Little did they both know... that this first meeting of theirs...

Was going to change both of their lives.

Chapter 522 - Buy One Get One Free

Venessa and her entourage prepared to leave the market hub of Osloom after they were done with the deal.

Afterwards, Kahn took the body of the jatvuarym inside his Dimensional Domain while acting as if he was using an artifact to store it.

Both parties left the trading market in different directions and disappeared from each other's sight.

[That was a really bad deal, boy. You could've simply stolen it and disappeared.]

You went even as far as selling some of the imperial family's heirlooms.] said Rathnaar in a judgmental tone.

"You don't seem to carefully notice things, old man.

Do I look like a guy who would make a bad deal?" asked Kahn with an evil grin.

"Get ready. We have the body in our hands. So we're getting our money back." spoke Kahn.

[How? Stealing from the princess would create even a bigger issue and gather too much attention. Isn't that why you bought it legally instead of stealing?] asked Rathnaar.

"And who said we're stealing from the princess?" asked Kahn in an insidious voice.

[Don't tell me...] asked Rathnaar.

"Yes." replied Kahn.

Soon, he mixed among the crowd and walked off toward a big restaurant to take some rest.

[Master, there are too many people following you. Including spies from the princess' side.] reported Omega.

[I see many people sent by those attendees from the auction house as well.] said Jugram who was half a kilometer behind Kahn.

[No need to worry. The more eyes on me, the better.] replied Kahn.

As the night finally came, Kahn had around 83 people spying on him after he stopped on the outskirts of the Oslom city and entered a dark valley.

Swoosh!

Swoosh!

Soon, 15 other Kahns appeared in front of him.

After he became a saint, the Doppelganger skill turned into a SSS Rank skill as well and now, he could summon up to 15 copies of himself and use SS Rank cores to keep them active all the time inside his dimensional domain where they converted and absorbed the mana and world energy from Rathnaar's core and provided the real body with ample supply of space force.

Soon, all of them disappeared and the original Kahn received his boost of space force and instantly reached his maximum capacity.

Kahn then activated the skill to create a new doppelganger. And this doppelganger possessed all of his skills other than the divine abilities so it was comparable to Kahn before he became a saint. Simply, it was a semi-saint Kahn in a way.

They both nodded at each other and the real one opened a void crack and entered inside the true dimension. As for the doppelganger, he casually walked around the city without being in any hurry. Leading those who tailed him from afar in opposite direction.

The doppelganger Kahn was more than enough to get rid of all of these people that were tailing him.

Someone like him already knew that after buying the corpse of the jatvuarym, the spies of the princess and those who wanted to steal the body from him, the ones who were present during the auction will send their people after him for sure.

But this also meant a perfect alibi since what Kahn was about to do was many times diabolical.

20 MINUTES LATER

Kahn used true dimension and entered the main building of the Oslo auction house that was filled with people even at this late hour.

He speedily walked inside the main storage rooms as if he knew the directions about where to go.

And finally, he stopped inside a vast room whose door suddenly opened from the inside and then closed after he reached the middle of it.

Crack!

Kahn exited the dimensional crack and stepped inside the middle of this room.

Glitter!

Glitter!

In front of him, were heaps and peaks of glittering coins that glowed chrome blue.

Unlike the Rakos empire, the currency of highest monetary value was made from a rare metal which gave it this hue. And now... he was surrounded by crates, barrels and chests filled with it to the point most of it fell out on the ground.

Tap!

Tap!

Two sets of footsteps resounded and two figures appeared behind him.

A man clad in pitch-black lightweight armor and a mage in white and purple robes.

"It's done, master." spoke Ronin.

"We have disarmed and broke all alarms and magic formations that could alert the people of this auction house." said Ceril with a prideful expression.

Kahn nodded in response to these two trojan horses.

This was his real plan when he partook in the auction in the first place.

By using those treasures to buy the corpse of the jatvuarym, he would get what he wanted while gathering the attention of the people on him. Which would help him have a perfect alibi.

And during the process, Ronin and Ceril jumped from his shadow and mixed with the treasures. Later, they hid in the shadow of the crate that was handed to the people of the auction house by the men who came with Venessa.

Since the amount was so big... the crates would naturally go to the main vault for safekeeping instead of being used for cash flow. And through it... he sent two of his best generals who excelled in getting rid of traps, alarms, magic formations and barriers to infiltrate inside the main treasury.

And after he created a doppelganger outside, he used the true dimension to get here undetected while Ronin led him to the main vault from his memory when they were brought in.

And finally, they opened the door from the inside as it was crucial for the plan since Kahn couldn't just destroy it using dimensional cut. Or the entire security of this place would be alarmed and they'd probably have a saint coming after them in case anyone found out.

"We have been counting ever since we were done with the task. If I'm right... this place has their money stored from decades.

And based on my estimations..." spoke Ronin as he gave Kahn a gist of the money they were going to loot.

"It's 126 trillion harlen!"

Chapter 523 - Money Heist

126 TRILLION HARLEN!

As soon as those words fell on Kahn's ears... His expression turned ecstatic as if he was experiencing peak euphoria.

"Haha ha ha!

126 trillion harlens! I'm rich!!" exclaimed Kahn as he started laughing hysterically.

Just on the second day of his arrival, he was already a very rich man in an empire where he had no connections, knowledge or information at hand.

In Verlassen fiefdom, his net worth was 86 Quadrillion as its sovereign. But in this new land... this wealth was his day two income.

For a newcomer in town like him... this was a very good start.

So simply, in exchange for those treasures that cost him 40 trillion harlen, Kahn got both the body and the tripled hard currency like a Buy 1 Get 1 Free offer.

In his case, Buy 1 Get 3 for Free.

"Master, how much are we robbing?" asked Ronin.

"What do you mean by how much?" asked Kahn in return.

"Don't tell me..." spoke Ceril on the side.

"Yes. We're robbing all of it!" declared Kahn with a grin.

[Ha ha ha! That's more like it.] approved Rathnaar.

"But master, wouldn't that enrage them to the point where to send their strongest people after us?"

Kahn then chuckled and replied in a carefree tone.

"You see all this money... it's gained from the commission of providing deals.

All they do is provide a platform for selling and take a 5% cut from it. The higher the cost, the bigger the cut.

This is called white-collar robbery. And I'm sure these people don't even pay their taxes." spoke Kahn as he places his hands on the chests filled with money.

"And what we're doing... is called Tax Recovery." he spoke in a righteous tone as a charismatic aura oozed out of him.

"Besides, if we want to make it big in this empire and hide properly... we're going to need a lot of money. And the security here is very bad.

So we're only safekeeping it... indefinitely." he clarified.

The next second, Kahn tapped his right foot on the floor and soon, the entire wide room was covered in his dimensional domain.

After his rank-up, Dimensional Domain now had a span of 5 Kilometers in radius. So this room which wasn't even half a kilometer in length was instantly covered in the black dome. And the next second, Kahn deactivated it.

As they returned to the room again... this time, there wasn't even a single coin or any chest left.

The whole room had been cleaned out of everything without even making a sound.

This, Kahn had succeeded in his perfect Money Heist.

"Alright, we're leaving. The other me has evaded everyone's eyes as well." he said and both the subordinates jumped in his shadow.

They opened the door and closed it again. Kahn then jumped inside the true dimension again and quickly left the auction house while none of them even knew that they were robbed of years of wealth.

Kahn appeared on the other end of the city and got a room in a high-end hotel.

The next morning, he left the hotel and mixed among the crowd.

[Where are we going?] asked Rathnaar.

[To gather the information.] said Kahn in a firm tone.

After spending a couple of hours, he got inside a vast local library and had to pay three times the amount compared to other species for some reason.

But the rich tycoon Kahn had no problem with it and soon gathered all the information and history books he needed to find in order to get enough knowledge about this empire first.

And the information he gained was shocking to him for so many reasons as he finally found out why he was getting this third-rate citizen treatment ever since he came here.

The Vulcan empire was first established after the Fireborne race took over this land. And later, they reformed the entire with the entire dwarven race who were actually slaves in those times.

Many of the dwarves had fled back in that era and some even went to Rakos empire after Rathnaar had died and his son was the reigning emperor.

In Narnia, four cruel humans reigned as its rulers after overthrowing a witch empress. And those were some dictators they had who oppressed every other race under their rule.

After the Sigfreed clan, the clan of firebornes who came from very far lands took over it... they released and freed all the races. And soon, they formed an alliance with the dwarven race to reestablish the empire.

Since both firebornes and dwarven race worshipped Hetrax, the God of Fire... the religion was accepted as the only religious practice allowed in this empire as Firebornes had the highest affinity with fire while the dwarves had the highest affinity with metals and minerals. Two things that went extremely well with each other.

But in the past 500 years alone, the human race started a lot of coups and caused a bloodbath in the empire in order to take control of the empire.

Even one of the heroes of the past had joined their so-called revolution because he felt like humans deserved to be on the top like a textbook supremacist.

But each time, the imperial family turned out to be the final victor and when the current emperor took over the throne, he took drastic measures.

The entire status quo of the Vulcan empire was changed. And now, there was a completely different status quo in society.

The elites who stood at the top were the firebornes.

The 2nd most powerful and respected race was the dwarves.

3rd part belonged to Demi-Humans such as wolfkin and other species.

4th were the hybrids between many different species.

And lastly... were the humans.

As things stood... humans were subjected to social injustice, harsh treatment whether it was a job or even a business.

There were places and institutions where humans were barred to enter. And even the soldiers in the military were not allowed to rise in ranks past the captain's position. It didn't matter if one was talented or not...

The humans were the scums of society and treated like dirt because of what their ancestors did.

Kahn now finally understood why humans were treated so harshly in this empire's social structure. If it was the old and foolish him, it would've boiled his blood.

But the current Kahn did not feel an empathy towards the humans of this empire. Not because he had become cold or heartless... Rather, he understood why the reigning emperor took these drastic measures.

No matter which world, humans were always the curious and rebellious race. And in the past 500 years alone, they had caused too much bloodbath in this empire so he understood why the current situation was so adverse.

This explained why Kahn was getting such a second-hand treatment and get ostracized everywhere he went because he was a human.

But the him of now didn't care too much about it since he wasn't some savior or beacon of hope for the human race in this place. And neither did he have any intentions to start a revolution.

And thoroughly going through the study about this empire's social structure, notable historical events and in how many regions it was divided as well as the topographical variations concerning people, their life standards, upbringing and set of beliefs instilled in the populace of the empire...

He finally gained the necessary information that was more than enough for him to survive in the new land.

Kahn came to realize that soon, he'd need to travel and find a safe haven for himself to raise his levels and ranks while being in hiding.

And also find a way to gain more resources and money since with each rank up, he'd need twice the amount compared to other saints.

Because the technique taught to him by Rathnaar and using the Chamber of Exaltation was a powerful means to ensure that he was always the strongest compared to others of his rank and levels.

But the lesser dragon's body was only enough till he became a 2nd stage saint. After that, he'd still need external sources since he couldn't absorb Rathnaar's core until he was a 4th stage saint.

So Kahn kept going through books and tried to find anything available on the god who summoned him and the forces who served him.

Obviously, the information about God of Darkness, the Abyss Empire and its location was non-existent in these books that were mandated by the ruling authorities.

The information on ruling powers, who controlled what and established governing forces was not provided in these books. A classic method to keep the population in the dark.

All it took was 300 years and they had erased the existence of those things from the world by carefully brainwashing the generations of people and turning truth into myths and folktales.

And finally, Kahn reached the most important topic that he needed the information on...

The Gods and Empires.

Chapter 524 - The Gods & The Empires

One by one, Kahn went through the details of all the Gods, the respective empires that served and worshipped them and which prominent species or forces ruled over them.

In the end, he wrote down a list for himself after carefully gathering the superficial information that was allowed in this empire.

There were a total of 12 Gods that people were led to believe. And out of the 15 Empires that existed in the world, 12 of them served and followed the doctrine of all of them.

1. God of Light

Name : Aotrom

Empire : Valgus Empire

This empire was controlled and run by Angel species who also call themselves Lightbringers.

2. God of Fire

Name : Hetrax

Empire : Vulcan Empire

Ruled by the imperial clan of the Fireborne species. The one Kahn was currently in.

3. God of Sea

Name : Itasaso

Empire : Tenger Empire

This was an underwater empire. Run by Farraige who were a mixed group of seafolks as well as various aquatic species and identified as a community regardless of their species or origins.

The empire was one of the three biggest empires of Vantrea as it was literally the biggest sea in the world.

4. God of Space

Name : Raum

Empire : Erdve Empire

Controlled by the Rymden species.

Although there was no information about their appearance and physical structure...

☐a☐da ☐o☐☐ This was the only race in the world that was proficient in Space Magic and abilities related to teleportation.

5. God of Time

Name : Vremya

Empire : Amser Empire

Run by Vrijeme, the descendent species of ancient creatures who had time controlling and shifting abilities.

Among all the other empires, this one was the only one that didn't go to war with any other empire. And even changes in ruling powers were caused only from the inside.

6. God of Sentience

Name : Jutigas

Empire : Erzo Empire

Ruled by the Citiaci race, a highly intellectual species that was considered to be the most advanced civilization among all the other empires of Vantrea.

These people were equivalent to the Kryptonians of Vantrea. Even with their low birthrate and limited population of 1 billion people, they were untouchable and no empire ever won a war against them ever since its founding 700 years ago.

7. Goddess of Knowledge

Name : Minerva

Empire : Viden Empire

Run by the Kennes species who were akin to martians for someone from the earth.

It was an empire with many descendants of archaic species from old times and probably the most advanced empire when it came to magic formations and artificing as the Goddess Minerva's decree to

her devotees was to broaden their horizons to the world and use mana and world energy to create new ways to prolong their lives and improve their civilization.

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8. God of Life

Name : Gyvenimas

Empire : Zivot

Run by the Elven species.

This was the empire on the other side of the Vulcan empire where Kahn could've possibly gone to had he not chosen to be in the Fire Empire when he was in No Man's Land.

9. God of Earth

Name : Zemlja

Empire : Erde empire

Ruled by the Pamant. A species that had natural abilities to control the terrain and even travel through the solid ground as if flying in the sky.

10. God of Lightning

Name : Kraatar

Empire : Fulger Empire.

Ran by the Eldingar race, a species with inborn affinity with the lightning element. Their bodies shared the resemblance with humans but had many additional traits in their appearances.

This was an empire nobody dared to pick a fight with since the entire empire was full of beings and creatures with control over lightning, one of the most destructive elements of the world.

11. Goddess of Wind

Name : Aponia

Empire : Vigel Empire

Ran by a joint community of species called Uccello.

The majority of the species in this empire had wings and some of them could transform into bird-like flying creatures or small humanoid bodies. Overall, it is mostly filled with flying creatures and species.

12. God of Nature

Name : Termeszet

Empire : Nadur empire

Run by the Beastkins. It was an empire fully made up of Beastkins and Demi-Human races. And as per the history books, Humans were barred from entering this empire and would be killed on site.

Mainly due to some human empires of the past had waged war on them and enslaved them for centuries.

Even the summoned Heroes of this empire were subjected to constant monitoring.

With this, the information on the Gods and their respective empires ended.

As for the rest of the empires... there was nothing available on Dragon and Demon Empire other than them being ruled by Dragons and True Demon species.

No information about their rulers or the power structure, their society, culture or what kind of different races inhabited them was available.

There were also over half a dozen separate kingdoms spread across Vantrea. But compared to the 14 vast empires, these were like small islands.

And the strongest and biggest of them all was called the Belmont Kingdom. A kingdom ran only by the Vampire race and it was created 250 years ago. But no one had any crucial information on it just like the Dragon & Demon Empire.

As for the last and final empire... there was no mention of it as if it never existed.

Kahn understood that it was the Abyss Empire but he already knew that it was called the Abyss Forest now and there were many Godbeasts living in it.

And just as he expected... there was nothing available about God of Darkness. And what happened 300 years ago.

According to their books, the previous Heroine of Fire died while fighting a Godbeast. But no mention of where and what kind of Godbeast it was.

So after 2 years of his time in Vantrea, Kahn finally had the idea about who were his said enemies and what kind of powers, species and forces he would have to face in the future.

Kahn then understood one crucial thing.

That if he ever wanted to become strong enough to face these empires in order to protect himself...

He had to find his Divine Weapon.

Chapter 525 - Hero of Fire

While Kahn spent the whole day gathering information about the present empires and gods of Vantrea along with the races that ruled over them... a royal warship flew over Osлом city.

This warship didn't have the sigil of the Imperial family but every single citizen who saw it flying above their heads started shouting and cheering like fangirls.

Even the security of the Osлом city or their battleships did not dare to stop their way and even created an open path among the flying ships.

Soon, this warship absconded in the farther parts of the mountain range, completely out of everyone's sight.

As for this gigantic warship which was big enough to fit 20 thousand soldiers in it... a group of thousand workers operated it and in the main cockpit that was as big as one from a particular space-themed movie franchise, were 9 people.

All these people varied in races, sizes and appearance and some were even in their 40s. But the most notable thing about this crew was something else.

Every single one of these people... was a Saint.

All these people were seated on their respective throne-like chairs while 10 pilots below their floor routed the warship.

And at the top among their seats, was a dark red throne where a man around the age of 30 was calmly gazing around the scenery from the wide glass window.

Soon, their crew of mighty saints reached the battlefield that was drenched with blood just yesterday.

"Lord Axel... Yesterday, Princess Venessa killed a legendary rank creature called Jatvuarym. It could change forms and even killed 300 thousand soldiers and destroyed over two thousand battleships in just an hour." spoke a succubus enchantress with two blue bat-like wings on her back and two black horns protruding out of her head.

"As per the reports, it was comparable to a 2nd stage saint. Yet she killed it by herself within an hour." spoke a dark elf in red attire for scholars who seemed to be in his 30s but was actually a century old.

And finally, the person they were addressing to stood up and walked closed to the window of the flying warship.

This man had wavy blonde hair, blue eyes and was currently donned in a legendary rank black and red armor.

This was none other than the man who was tasked with ensuring if Kahn entered the Vulcan empire or not since the top powers couldn't come this close to No Man's Land.

Axel Lobethrox... 9th summoned human hero and the current Hero of Fire.

"Lord Axel, the Imperial decree is to confirm that the new Hero of Darkness might have arrived in our empire from No Man's Land.

Although we can't enter it... one of your divine abilities might help us track him." said a 2nd stage hybrid saint who looked like a human but was actually half-orc and possessed the genes of both species that made him 3 meters tall.

"I sense that there's more to it than what they're telling us." he spoke in a firm tone.

"What do you mean, lord Axel?" asked the succubus.

"Edna... don't you think sending the entire Hero's party just to track one person is kind of overdoing it?

The empire's spies are more than capable of finding this Hero of Darkness you speak of. Yet they sent us right when we were close to purging the riots in the northern border, the other end of the empire." spoke Axel as he put both hands on his waist.

"It looks more like they want me to be the face of it and avoid direct involvement.

I know all you have your complete loyalty to this empire but I keep getting this feeling that all of us are just being used as scapegoats." said Axel and turned his head around.

"We all know that No Man's Land is a prohibited zone. Yet here we are... sent to track one man.

If I'm not wrong... if anything goes wrong there... we will be the ones to take the fall and the empire will say that it was Hero's party who infiltrated on their own volition." he clarified.

To this declaration, everyone's expression turned grim as they too understand the situation.

Because what Axel said... was the truth.

After half a day, their warship reached the foremost region of the southern border. And their group exited to venture towards the No Man's Land on their own.

After crossing over a hundred kilometers by flying in the sky using their saint force... Axel finally signaled his group to stop.

They currently hovered in a junction between valleys and it was the only entry point available to enter the Vulcan empire if someone came from the no man's land.

The next second... Axel's body let out a scarlet red aura and soon, a 10 meter tall massive ethereal eye that glowed yellow and radiated a divine aura came to be.

Axel then clasped his hands and closed his eyes. In the following moments... the eye of Sauron... Ahrm, this divine eye expelled a yellow beam of light and illuminated the whole 2 kilometers of the region.

Suddenly, Axel opened his eyes and looked to his left.

Swoosh!

He appeared a few hundred meters away and stopped at the top of a cliff.

Right now, he just used one of his Divine Abilities called Sage's Eye.

It allowed him to gather information about everything in this world. Whether it was some ancient artifact or some long-lost heirloom.

And just now... the Sage's Eye allowed him to sense the aura of Darkness element.

Axel's body then emitted a blue fire that quickly spread across one kilometer radius. But neither was this fire hot or burned anything it touched. Rather... it revealed the past of this region as the winds passed and trees fluttered. Even the positions of the suns were replicated in the sky.

This was his another divine ability... Chrono Vision. The ability that allowed him to recreate the events of the past in any particular place.

"Hmm... there's something wrong here." spoke Axel and used Sage's Eye again.

"There!" suddenly, Edna spoke as she pointed her finger behind Axel's back.

All of their party members were shocked to see the figure that appeared behind Axel.

A blue holographic silhouette of a man who was taller than Axel came to be.

But other than a blurry intangible humanoid shape that vibrated and appeared like a white mist, there was nothing visible.

No face, eye color or the type of clothes this humanoid figure wore.

By using two divine abilities together, Axel instantly found out Kahn's location.

However... since Kahn was traveling this region using the True Dimension... only his ethereal form was unveiled by these two divine abilities. The only thing they could not see through.

"This... this affirms that the Hero of Darkness is indeed in the Vulcan empire!" exclaimed a female archer tomboy look who had white ears and a long furry tail of a fox.

"This... this guy is indeed crafty. God Hetrax told me that nothing can hide from the Sage's Eye in this world. Yet somehow, I can only see a silhouette and not his real face or appearance even after running through the past.

It must be one of his divine abilities." spoke Axel with a thoughtful expression.

"Lord Axel... we should quickly report to the capital that he has indeed entered inside the Vulcan empire." spoke the scholar dark elf.

But before he continued... Axel interjected.

"And what do we get if we reported it?" asked Axel as he raised his left eyebrow.

"What do you mean, lord Axel?" asked Edna again.

"Think about it. Even with my divine abilities... we don't even know what he looks like.

I can't use both of my divine abilities all the time. So tracking him will take a lot longer.

Plus if we report about his existence... all we have accomplished is being a good informant.

Under no scenario is reporting the truth useful for our party." clarified Axel.

Just then, another member of the party spoke.

A white-haired hybrid woman with the head of an eagle and two black wings behind her back decided to intervene.

"I assume you have other plans. Am I right, Lord Axel?" she asked in a curious tone.

Axel's hair fluttered as a strong gust of wind passed by. He let out a sigh and spoke in a gentle tone that reached to all of their ears.

"My plans you see... it may appear like the most outrageous and crazy idea to all of you. Some of you might even disagree with me instantly after hearing it or think of it as an act of treason.

But I hope you hear me first and allow me to explain my reasons." replied Axel.

"And what is your plan?" asked Edna again in a curious voice.

Axel then gave them all a stern gaze and spoke in an authoritative tone and with resolute eyes.

"We hide the truth about his arrival."

Chapter 526 - Hero's Party

The whole party was flabbergasted as soon as Axel Lobethrox, the Hero of Fire...had suggested hiding the truth about the Hero of Darkness arriving in their empire.

"Blasphemy! That's no different than high treason!" shouted halfbreed orc warrior with a giant battleaxe in his hand.

But to his response, Axel turned his head around and spoke to this second stage saint.

"Tell me, Tamak. What did we do in the past one year other than stopping some local rebellion and killing some low-level monsters?" asked Axel and looked around his teammates with a serious expression.

"Although I was much welcomed in the empire after my arrival and all of you were recommended to enter the hero's party...

Did we really achieve anything on our own?

All of our achievements are aided by the imperial family and even to this day... We are still seen as nothing but chess pieces.

They tell us where to go, how to behave, what to speak to the people and who to help or kill." he spoke in a heavy tone.

"Even your clans and parents see you all as nothing but glorified decorations who join me in parades and events decided by the empire where all we do is smile and wave hands at common citizens.

They are using me as a symbol to raise people's hopes and loyalty to God Hetrax.

And as things stand... We are becoming a thing of the past. Nothing but pawns for everyone to throw around here and there." he iterated.

To his words... None of them seemed to have any intentions to retort. Because this had been their reality from the past year.

All of them were the talented young prodigies of the empire back in the day when Axel was summoned in the Vulcan Empire.

They had their goals and their ambitions. And through their hard work, they earned the right to enter the Hero's Party. The biggest honor for any young prodigy in the history of their empire.

But instead of walking the path of heroes and saviors who aided people in need... they had become nothing but puppets who didn't even have the right to leave the party now.

"We don't have any real achievements since I arrived 5 years ago.

If we continue at this rate... it won't be long until we become nothing but clowns for the ruling authorities." he continued.

"The Imperial clan doesn't care about us and neither does the church. We're just here to make appearances in front of the people.

I haven't even managed to make a breakthrough to the new rank because of how they keep me parading as their poster boy all the time and force me to attend their pretentious banquets between nobles." he spoke and clenched his fists.

"What are you suggesting, lord Axel?" asked Mikaela.

"Look, if you had one shot or one opportunity, to seize everything you ever wanted in one moment. Would you capture it, or just let it slip?"

Said Axel as he presented a plan.

"If we tell this to the imperial authorities. They will capture and kill the Hero of Darkness.

But if we say that he didn't enter and search for him by ourselves... We can not only do the job... but get all the credit for ourselves.

That would also ensure your bright future in your clans as well as solidify your positions to become the leaders of next generations." proposed Axel.

"This is truly a godsend opportunity and we can't just let go of it in the name of loyalty or patriotism.

His core is also one of the keys required for the final piece.

If I have that... What do you think will happen?" he asked in a smug tone.

"Not only will I be a hero to the empire but my name will echo through all the other empires of Vantrea.

And as part of my party, all of your names will become historical figures as well.

So I propose that we hunt him on our own without reporting to anyone about the truth.

And once we're done finding him... killing him won't be a problem since not only I'm stronger but we also outnumber him greatly... we will become the true heroes of the whole world." he said in an excited tone.

"We have much more to gain by keeping this a secret than just reporting it to the authorities like loyal soldiers.

So are you all going to be little obedient children and take charge of your fate and earn that respect and prestige that all of you have been working so hard to get for decades?" spoke Axel as he tried to rile up his comrades.

A heated discussion happened between the 9 members of the Hero's party and finally... they reached a consensus.

"This is the biggest risk I'm ever gonna take in my life... but you know what..." spoke Tamak.

"Fuck those bastards! I'm done being their pawn." he declared.

"Yes... I too feel like I never got to use my abilities to the full extent.

So what if this Hero has some divine abilities. He is only one person at the end of the day." spoke Mikaela.

"Besides... he doesn't have one thing like us." spoke Edna, the succubus enchantress, and continued in a vehement tone as everyone listened to her with a joyous smile.

"The power of love and friendship."

The next day, the main target of the Hero's Party... the man who aspired to be someone who couldn't even be defeated by the power of love and friendship, left Oslo city using the true dimension.

10 days later, he was finally close to the biggest and most important city of the empire instead of hiding in a border among mountains and caves till he ran out of resources and ways to increase his strength to the higher rank.

Instead of hiding like rats in a hole, Kahn and the company decided to enter Lion's den.

And finally, they reached 100 kilometers close to the heart as well as the capital of the fire empire...

ARKENSAN.

Chapter 527 - The Upgrade

Kahn and the group stayed at an inn outside of Arkensan where Omega acted as the leader and Kahn only acted as a servant of the group to keep their status quo in check according to the social structure of this empire.

And at night... Kahn finally heard a loud noise in his mind during sleep.

[The System has been upgraded to version 2.0]

"Alright then 2.0, tell me what's new in the software update." said Kahn in a humorous tone.

[Because of the host's breakthrough to a new rank... many functions for the system have also become available and the previous interface has been greatly improved.

Following are the newly added functions :

The host can now directly absorb the bodies of any deceased being, gain their abilities, skills and bloodlines because the Plunderer skill and Space Law acquired by the host have morphed and adapted into a new form of power.

The host no longer has a need to touch any being's body or eat their cores. The system will help the host automatically absorb it and allow direct absorption of the energy from the source.

Current range : 10 Kilometers] listed the system.

"Finally!" exclaimed Kahn in joy.

Because previously, the plunderer skill only allowed him to convert energy, mana and world energy from resources such as mana cores and ores.

And with the newly unlocked function, Kahn could absorb the entire body and harvest the energy in it to raise his levels as he did with the Guardian Dragon.

But it was limited only to increasing his levels and world energy stage. It had nothing to do with gaining abilities or anything else from the corpses.

However... this new function after the system was finished with the update allowed him to bypass that restriction.

So no more touching the mauled and bleeding corpses to absorb abilities and bloodline like a creep and spend hours standing or squatting while using Ability Absorption divine ability.

All Kahn needed to do was just pull the body into his Dimensional Domain and let the divine ability do its work.

He could also control if he wanted to keep the body or completely absorb it as well.

So this was indeed a big upgrade for him. And on top of it... the range was 10 kilometers. So he could gain hundreds of abilities, and bloodlines all at once from thousands of dead bodies instead of going through them one by one.

Next, System continued with the new details.

[Following are the Dimensional Law abilities that have been upgraded :

Dimensional Domain now has a total span of 10 kilometers due to the host's rank up to Saint Rank in Space Law.

Dimensional Cut now has a range of 5 kilometers. The host can target anything or any being in this range and attack or kill them using the Dimensional Cut skill.

Dimensional Shift has been greatly enhanced. Host can now transfer 3 body parts and organs inside the true dimension at the same time.

Dimensional Void can now be accessed at host's will and a void crack will automatically appear in front of the host within having the need to cut through two dimensions using a weapon.

All these abilities will receive an increase in range with each of the host's future level-ups and breakthrough to higher ranks] reported the system.

The next second, Kahn quickly activated Dimensional Domain and covered only his body under it while leaving the rest of the room alone.

"Waha haha ha!! Wahaahahaha!!

WAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!"

Laughed Kahn like a maniac and reveled after hearing this information.

This was simply too big of an upgrade. Previously when he became a saint, the range of these abilities increased by 5 times.

His maximum range was 1 kilometer and that too was only for Dimensional Domain before becoming a saint. Later, it increased to 5 kilometers while other dimensional abilities received some increase in their range as well.

But after the system update... the total range was doubled for all of them. And the number of organs or body parts he could transfer to the true dimension also rose by 3 times.

To top it off... he no longer needed to manually open a void crack using space force encapsulating Lucifer. Now, he could step inside them at his will.

And the cherry on the top was that all of their ranges will increase after he leveled up and made a breakthrough. This was definitely going to help him in the future because while facing an army of thousands of opponents... he could simply pull them all inside the Dimensional Domain and reduce their stats by 65%.

This way... the enemies will clearly lose the advantage of numbers and Kahn will have the upper hand in both one on one or an open battlefield.

Suddenly, Kahn heard another notification from the system.

[King of the Dead has been upgraded to Legendary Rank and renamed as Sovereign of the Dead.

The skill now has a span of 10 kilometer radius from the host's location.

The host can now directly create subordinates and evolve them using Synthesis Divine Ability without needing to touch them while merging the bodies and select which body to be merged with which one despite their locations and distance between them.

The host can also directly evolve them into higher ranks as long as the requirements of specimens and resources are met instead of evolving them one by one and then merging again.

The range of Sovereign of the Dead will increase with each new breakthrough to higher ranks.] informed the system.

Stunned!

Kahn was too stunned to speak.

As if this humongous upgrade in Dimensional Law skills wasn't enough... now even the ability he absorbed from the Undead Lich in Bromnir Dungeon went straight from SS Rank to Legendary Rank and now unlocked additional features.

"System, what caused this upgrade?" asked Kahn in a bewildered voice.

To his query, the system replied casually as if it was no big deal.

[The host's Darkness Element capacity has increased.]

"Because of what?" he asked curiously.

And the system finally revealed what caused such a major upgrade.

[The body of the darkness element Dragon.]

Chapter 528 - Version Two

Kahn was left speechless by this revelation. Because he had already absorbed most of the Darkness element from the guardian dragon's body when they fought. But suddenly, the system said that it ended up increasing his reserves even more.

And even now, he was only half done with absorbing its body. So there was a possibility that his darkness element reserves will either increase in capacity again or the quality will be improved.

"Show me the current Darkness element capacity." commanded Kahn.

[Darkness Element reserve capacity : 50%]

"Bloody hell! Did it go from 43% to 50% just from absorbing half of the body?

Will it increase even more?" asked Kahn.

[No. The quality of the host's darkness aura, dark magic and darkness elemental skills and abilities will be improved and the skills will get additional output damage and effectiveness.] reported the system.

"Tell me the current boost after I became a saint." he ordered.

[Darkblade, Dark Lightning Strike, and Darkness Barrier have become 5 times stronger in terms of attack damage output and effectiveness than before and their range has also multiplied by 5 times.

All of them are currently at Saint Rank.] replied the system again.

"Good. If there are any more surprises because of the upgrade, tell me now." said Kahn who was already content with the new update.

[Ruler of the Night ability under Hero of Darkness title will now get an additional 10% increase in stats and buffs. It will increase with each rank up.

From now on, with each rank up... the host will receive additional 15% stats to all physical attributes.

Time to use Synthesis and Ability Absorption divine ability is reduced by 40%.

All of the host's abilities and skills have an additional 20% boost in effectiveness and range.

The system will undergo another update after the host becomes a Demi-God.] said the system in his head.

"15%... 15%!!" exclaimed Kahn.

"And that too will increase with my rank? Good dear lord." said Kahn as he smiled happily.

Because the Hero of Darkness title, which made him 3 times stronger at night, was going to get an additional 10% boost. Means if he ever became a peak saint, the 10% boost will become 100% and since the base value was 3 times his original stats, the additional 100% meant that he will have another 3 times boost stacked on it.

In simple words, Kahn when using the Hero of Darkness title at Peak Saint rank would be 6 times stronger than his original saint.

And with 15% boost in all physical stats at that rank meant 150% additional stat points. Making him one and half times physically stronger compared to any other peak saint.

It also meant that there was a chance that he could fight a Demi-God while only being a Peak Saint just like Kravel, the War Deity could do.

So after tallying all his gains after the system's upgrade... Kahn concluded that this upgrade was nothing but a miracle to him.

Kahn calmed down and then asked the system...

"Let me ask you something. I expected there to be some sort of user guide when God of Darkness gave me the divine but you're far too advanced to be just a guide interface.

On top of it... just me breaking through to Saint rank has affected you as well. So mind clearing my doubts?" queried Kahn.

[The system is only an interface provided by God of Darkness to the host because Ability Absorption & Synthesis are unique divine abilities that need the knowledge about all species in the world and information about how skills and merged abilities work.

Otherwise, there are many possibilities and conditions while merging subordinates or any skill that may adversely affect the host.

The system is there to monitor the usage of those two divine abilities, terminate anything harmful to the host and provide the best-suited outcome.] clarified the system in a lifeless tone.

"Then what about the other chosen Heroes? Do they also have a system?" he asked again.

[The system is unaware. The possibility cannot be denied that the other Gods did the same for their respective heroes but there is no solid evidence of that to be the case either.] it replied.

"Hmm... I guess I'll have to be careful if I ever face a Hero. Who knows if they have one as well.

It's better to be careful than thinking that I'm a special case." said Kahn.

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The next morning, he decided to delay his departure and sent Omega and Ronin to gather necessary information about the capital Arkensan first, all of its regions, ruling powers and authorities as well as the local business overlords and underworld organizations that controlled the capital.

He already had enough money to get his hands on top-grade and detailed information.

And this place was something he could not afford to be negligent about and end up catching the attention of people he was trying to avoid.

Meanwhile, He entered the Dimensional Domain again and this time, he stopped in front of a massive 100 meters tall body that still looked freshly charred because of how things worked inside his domain.

Kahn now stood in front of the corpse of Jatvuarym. The legendary rank monster with Metamorphosis bloodline.

Previously, he sold off a small portion of his wealth that he stole from the imperial castle and bought the corpse in an auction.

But he intentionally didn't absorb it because the system was going through an upgrade and he didn't want to risk anything in its absence.

Back then, Kahn had no idea how the update was going to affect him so it was a reasonable choice to wait for ten days.

This time, Kahn didn't touch or formed any form of connection with this legendary rank creature that could shapeshift and use different forms based on the situation to kill its enemies.

But after the surprises he got during the night... he felt that it was a wise decision since absorbing it now could be more beneficial.

Kahn folded his arms behind his back and spoke with a gentle smile.

"Activate the Ability Absorption divine ability."

Chapter 529 - Metamorphosis Bloodline

Kahn stood 5 meters away from the corpse and commanded the system to start absorbing abilities without touching it. This was going to be one of the memorable moments for him.

Since the first day of his arrival in Vantrea, Kahn always had to physically touch the corpse and wait for hours to get their abilities and bloodlines. Sometimes, he had to endure the pungent and intolerable smell coming out of the bloody corpses for hours.

And in the case of the Legendary rank monsters he hunted in Verlassen, it often took 7 to 8 hours where he had to stay silent and wait till the procedure was finished.

But now... he no longer had the need to do so and he could keep a body in his dimensional domain and still carry on with ability absorption while he was doing other works.

This was a moment of liberation for Kahn so of course, he wanted to enjoy this with his own eyes.

And now that the system upgrade reduced the time needed to absorb these bodies by 40%, it took Kahn barely 5 hours to completely be done with the process instead of the usual 8-9 hours.

"Report."

[Following are the new abilities and skills acquired by the host :

Physique Transformation (Legendary Rank) (Passive) :

Allows the host to transform into any being and creature the host has a complete bloodline of without any delay or harm done to the original body.

However, the host must learn to function and move in these different forms by himself.

Bloodline Assimilation (Saint Rank) (Active) :

Allows the host to mix different physical and magical traits of different bloodlines the host is already in possession of while perfectly balancing the physical structure of the host.

The host must possess a significant portion of bloodlines and physical skills for them to fuse.

Note: Since the different physical & magical traits of the different bloodlines will put a huge strain on the host's body after using them to merge; the activation span of this skill is short.

Current time limit: 30 minutes.

Bloodline : Jatvuarym bloodline

Current bloodline purity : 60%

Note : The host must absorb the core of Jatvuarym.] reported the system.

"That was short..." said Kahn but without a delay, he started absorbing the core as well.

In just 30 minutes, he absorbed the core using the Plunderer skill he got from the guardian dragon.

System then notified him that he rose by 6 levels just from the core alone. Normally, even as a saint, it would have helped him rise at least 20 levels but because of how Kahn used the chamber of exaltation, he only received 6 levels of increase since he needed double the resources to level up.

[Congratulations to the host!

The Metamorphosis bloodline from Uthraqiris and Jatvuarym have perfectly fused.

The Metamorphosis bloodline has been upgraded to Mythical Rank!

Following are the newly merged skills and abilities.

Absolute Transformation (Mythical Rank) (Passive) :

The host can now transform into higher rank beings regardless of their rank and species such as Dragons and even Godbeast if the host has 100% bloodline purity.

During the transformation, the host will possess the perfect and identical aura, presence, abilities and elemental affinity of that species or race.

Bloodline Fusion (Legendary Rank) (Passive) :

The host can now create variant bloodlines by himself and even impart those bloodlines to the subordinates who have met the 100% loyalty condition.

The resultant bloodlines will be greatly enhanced and the abilities and skills gained from different types of bloodlines will naturally adapt and adjust to the host's physiology.

Congratulations to the host!

Asura Mode now has a better rate of perfectly merging more and different bloodlines!

The activation span of Asura Mode has been tripled and will increase with the purity of bloodlines used in this mode.

The total number of bloodlines that can be merged at once has been increased to 8 bloodlines at once.

The host can choose which bloodlines to merge based on his personal presence.

The number of bloodlines that can be used in Asura Mode will increase with the host's rank.

Buff in physical strength increased to 400% in this form.

Buff in magical skills and abilities increased by 200% while using the Asura Mode.

Current skill use time limit : 45 minutes.

Note : The same effects of Asura Mode can now be added to the Spirit Replica skill.

There is no skill activation time limit on Spirit Replica as long as the host can provide a stable source of world energy to this skill.] reported the system.

"And it was truly worth spending 40 Trillion Harlen." spoke Kahn with a smug expression.

Because unlike his previous Bloodline Merge ability where he could barely mix 3 bloodlines and use the Asura Mode for meager 15 minutes but now that the Metamorphosis Bloodline became a mythical rank bloodline... the time was tripled.

And most importantly... he could even transform into even a dragon or a godbeast in the future. All he needed was their bloodline at 100% purity and Kahn could transform into almost anything.

Thanks to Absolute Transformation... he won't be just morphing like other beings but completely change his aura, bloodline and body's affinity with elements and physical as well as magical skills that particular race and species was specialized in.

It's much more effective than just changing his face or physical appearance. And if Kahn's assumptions were right...

Even a saint rank being won't be able to see through his perfect disguise at this point.

And the potential to use different bloodlines will increase with his rank. So the applications were simply limitless.

So compared to the gains Kahn received... even the forty trillion was a very small price for such a broken and OP ability.

Two days later, both Omega and Ronin returned and met Kahn.

They held a meeting inside Dimensional Domain and everyone walked through all the intel brought by the two subordinates.

"This place..."

Said Kahn and then pointed out a particular place on the map of the capital brought by Ronin.

To the place he wanted to go first inside the capital Arkensan.

"Will be our hideout."

Chapter 530 - The Hideout

After 10 days of constant travel and changing many routes as well as his appearance four times, Kahn and the crew finally arrived at the capital of the Vulcan empire called Arkensan.

Kahn took his time hiding his tracks using true dimension so no one could detect him and he changed several transportation methods so if anyone tailed him from Oslo city, he wouldn't even imagine that he was in the capital.

And after 2 days of rest after the system resurfaced after the upgrade and Ronin brought the required Intel about the capital and how things functioned there... the gang finally reached a particular place in Arkensan.

Kahn already gathered enough information that Arkensan was as vast as Rathna. But the key difference was that it wasn't divided by districts but 6 different regions that were a few hundred kilometers in the perimeter.

Each of them had a different type of structure and living conditions.

One section was set in mountains while the other was on seashores. One section was at the peak of industrial advancement while the other being the biggest economic hub of the capital.

Unlike the Rakos Empire... there was no government in charge or any noble factions who controlled one sector of the empire or had their people in positions of authority.

Everything was under the control of the Firebornes and the whole empire was governed under an Imperialism structure.

After the Imperial Clan, the strongest force was the Church of Hetrax which was the only and official religion of the empire.

And also, there were many temples and sanctuaries made for deities who accepted servitude to God Hetrax.

The 9 deities who served Hetrax were called the Nine Eternal Flames. There was even a folktale about how the one to get the blessings from all nine deities would become the personification of these deities and will have the right to become the official spokesperson of their god.

As for Kahn, he stopped at the one section that he desperately wanted to settle in first.

Unlike his previous preference in Rathna, it was neither an industrial area nor an economic hub.

But the section that was specialized in smithing and forging. The place that was the biggest manufacturing region of weapons and armors in the whole empire.

Kahn finally arrived in Nidavellir, also nicknamed as...

Home of the Dwarves.

Kahn and the team walked across the crowded streets of Nidavellir that were bustling with millions of people in just a few squares spread across this region established over a dozen enormously vast mountains that were connected to each other perfectly.

The architecture, the buildings, gigantic statues, constructs and the well-developed settlement here made Oslo city look like a backwater town.

They entered a tavern to take rest and gather some information from the locals.

They all took a seat over the left corner and just when they were about to place their order and enjoy the local food...

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"Who allowed humans to enter here?!" shouted a red foxkin as he looked at Kahn, Ceril, Jugram, Armin and Ronin.

Unlike Omega, Blackwall and Oliver, the rest of the subordinates looked like pure humans.

The red foxkin then pointed out towards a sign that said 'No Humans Allowed' that was hung on the wall.

"Get out!" spoke the foxkin.

Just then, a gray rabbit-kin woman walked in.

"Nick, they're already seated here. Stop making it a big deal." spoke the rabbit woman with two long, pointed and fluffy ears who seemed to be the cashier of the tavern.

"Judy, I already told you! No humans in my tavern!" he said in an exasperated tone.

"These bastards only ruin everything wherever they go." he continued in a contemptuous tone.

"All right, we will go." spoke Kahn and signaled their crew to leave.

He gave a look towards the duo of fox and rabbit named Nick & Judy and spoke to himself...

[Why do I feel like I've seen them somewhere before?] asked Kahn to himself.

"Master... I want to teach them a lesson for disrespecting us." spoke Ceril as his hands trembled with rage.

"No need. They're just common people following the set of beliefs instilled by the ruling authorities and religious institutions.

Besides, this will be the same case all over the empire. Are you going to beat the crap out of millions of people?" asked Kahn.

He let that insult go because that's what the situation was for humans in many places. And Kahn didn't have time or the will to play the game of oppressor and dictators. Not in a place where he was a wanted person.

Kahn then sent the three subordinates who looked like hybrids and Demi-Humans to gather some information in crowded places.

All they did was throw around some hundreds of Harlens and in half an hour, they reported back after people willingly gave them all the useful information they wanted.

One harlen was equivalent to one gold dramus in this empire so nobody could resist the temptation of earning such a large sum just for some directions.

"There are 3 places we could go. The closest one is in the west, just 20 kilometers away." spoke Oliver.

Kahn and the group then traveled to 2 big buildings where thousands of people were either customer or worked in weapon manufacturing companies.

However, they weren't allowed to enter both of them... again because their side had humans in it.

And given the population... humans were already a species with the lowest count in this empire. So their business didn't even feel the need of having humans as customers.

And finally... they stopped in front of the gates of a big headquarters. Compared to the previous two places... it wasn't crowded or even had half the people entering or leaving. And there was no restriction on humans from entering either.

Forget restrictions... there weren't even proper guards stationed at the main entrance.

Kahn then looked at the massive plaque made of jade and read the name of this weapon forging enterprise...

The Oakenshield.