

Death 1001

Death... and me

Chapter 1001: Results of the First Test

Sansa faintly smiled and walked ahead. She didn't have a confident face like the others before. Instead, it looked more like she didn't care about this test. As if she had never put the others in her eyes. The reason for that? First, she was obviously part of the Soul Guild. However, the main reason was that she was part of the Infrincal Race. The Infrincal Race was known for its very high Soul Power Affinity. Zasfins, for example, couldn't even hope to get close to them.

After arriving, she put her hands on the Soul Power Measurement Formations and sent her energy inside. Immediately, the formation shone brighter than ever before, putting everyone before, including Oglico and Ancel, to shame.

Sansa then took her hands out of the formation and began to walk back to her place. She didn't even bother to look at the score. There was simply no need for it.

-1st: Sansa Sil, Soul Guild - 2953 Points.-

Immediately, everyone went silent, even the elders watching it.

"That's ridiculous!"

"Can someone below 50 even reach that number?"

"As expected of the Infrincal Race, they're crazy good at Soul Power!"

Even Rean and Roan had to admit they were impressed. 'That girl is very good.'

Roan nodded, saying, 'That wasn't just a result of her race's affinity to Soul Power. I can tell that the amount of effort she put into improving it was by no means worse than ours.'

Rean was surprised to hear that. After all, he knew better than anyone else how hellish Roan's training methods were. 'That good? I can't believe someone would follow a training schedule similar to what you create for us.'

Roan faintly smiled in response. 'It only makes the Realm of Gods more interesting. Anyway, we have an advantage she doesn't have.'

Rean knew what Roan was talking about, saying, 'The Soul Gem System and the Soul Power and Divine Energy Fusion.' Nevertheless, Rean didn't like it. 'I don't think I can take first place if I don't go all out. I didn't want to show the limit of what my Soul Power can reach with my Light Element Affinity's support. In fact, I'm not sure if I can take it even if I do.'

Roan agreed with him. 'Indeed. It's even worse for me since my Soul Power isn't as strong as yours. If someone here has a chance, that's you. Anyway, there's no point in hiding now. We are already expecting to take the Divine Veins in the battles, so just go for it.'

Rean nodded, and they began to wait for their turn to come. By now, Rean and Roan already understood that they were left to the very end. After all, it would be one thing if only one of them was lucky enough to be there. But for both to be there with over 4500 candidates was too much coincidence.

Sure enough, Rean and Roan's names weren't called out until the very final moments. There were 4591 participants, so number 4590 was...

"Roan Larks, Lukimira Sect, come forward."

Roan didn't even blink as he stepped out. He quickly put his hand on the formation and sent his fused Divine Soul Power inside without holding back. One must remember that the twins were now calling the fusion of Divine Energy and Soul Power as Divine Soul Power. They couldn't separate those forces anymore.

No one was expecting much from Roan. In fact, no one was expecting anything from anyone else anymore, not after the display made by Sansa a while ago. However...

Bzzzzz!!!

For a moment there, the formation Roan was using seemed to shine as bright as it did with Sansa. One would be hard-pressed to tell who was brighter. Immediately, that caught everyone's attention. In the elders' room, the Soul Guild Branch Leader's eyes narrowed. He had been in a good mood during the entire test, thinking that no one would get even close to Sansa. Obviously, it didn't seem to be the case anymore.

Following that, he and most of the other powers looked in the direction of Kayla's group. Once again, it was the Lukimira Sect's twins making a scene where no one expected anything from them.

Kayla's eyes were shining. 'Could it be that Roan is really capable of taking that Divine Vein? It is a Silver Low-level Divine Vein, much better than the one that is dying back in the sect.'

However...

-2nd: Roan Larks, Lukimira Sect - 2867 Points.-

Roan failed to take first place. Of course, that didn't diminish the shocked expressions around. Sansa's result was the most interesting as it was the first time her smile disappeared since the start of the test. Although she won against Roan, their numbers were very close. There were still two other Soul Power Tests after this one.

On the other hand, Fabio was more surprised about something else, thinking to himself, 'This young man is still in the Middle Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm. If he was in the Saint Realm like Sansa...'

Naturally, quite a few others also noticed that point, especially after seeing Roan's age that was marked in the age test.

Roan shook his head and then left the formation. 'Sure enough, I'm still lacking.'

Roan then nodded at Rean while talking through their Soul Connection, 'Don't hold back. There are still two more tests after this, so we need as many points as possible.'

Erfalis was also surprised by Roan's performance but quickly put those thoughts behind.

"Next, Rean Larks, Lukimira Sect, come forward."

Rean was already there since he knew he was the last one in the queue. For those who haven't noticed the twins already, it became obvious now. They were identical, except for the color of their hair.

Eventually, Rean put his hands on the formation and sent Divine Soul Power inside. 'Let's see how much my Light Element improves my Soul Power compared to Roan.'

The result came a few seconds later.

-1st: Rean Larks, Lukimira Sect - 3255 Points.-

Death... and me

Chapter 1002: Anti-Soul Power Plates

Although everyone couldn't believe their eyes, Roan didn't think too much about it. Although he received Light Element from Rean when they were cultivating, he wasn't the one who had Light Element Affinity. Because of that, he always felt that his Soul Power was somewhat around 90% as strong as Rean's. The numbers just now proved that theory.

Well, the only one calm was Roan anyway.

"Impossible!" Sansa exclaimed as she looked at Rean. She was quite close to the Measurement Formation, so she could feel Rean's cultivation. He was almost an entire realm below her, so how could his Soul Power be that much higher?

Even Fabio found it impressive. 'Quite surprising. Talents like his and his brother aren't easy to find in a small city like this one. His brother lost to Sansa, but his cultivation is far below hers. Although there are cultivators in the capital stronger than them in Soul Power at the same age, the difference isn't that big.'

Fabio pondered in silence for a bit, thinking about the Royal Family descendants. 'I reckon that with their cultivation, age, and Soul Power, they should be around Tivia and Soiz's level. That's a pretty high level even in the Royal Family. They don't match the top ones, but they aren't that far.'

Sure enough, the Realm of Gods was that big. Rean and Roan's performance could at most surprise Fabio, but that was about it. The kingdom itself had young talents similar or even higher than them. Of course, this was just one kingdom in one 'tiny' region of the Realm of Gods. What kind of talents might one find when taking the entire Realm of Gods into consideration?

In the elders' room, people began to wonder... 'Just how did Lukimira Sect find these twins?'

Kayla was almost laughing out loud after seeing Rean's result. However, her Lukimira Sect was still a small one, so she didn't want to offend the others. She was more than happy enough to have the Royal Family's word that her sect would be fine if she gained a Divine Vein.

Back in the testing room, Erfalis received a Divine Sense Message from Fabio not too long after. 'Continue with the test.'

Erfalis quickly recovered and nodded. "Everyone, the time to admire the results is over. If you want, check the rank quickly because we need to continue with the test."

Naturally, everyone looked straight at the scoreboard.

-1st: Rean Larks, Lukimira Sect - 3255 Points.-

-2nd: Sansa Sil, Soul Guild - 2953 Points.-

-3rd: Roan Larks, Lukimira Sect - 2867 Points.-

-4th: Ancel Yubao, Polivas Sect - 2251 Points.-

-5th: Oglico, Vintchi Sect - 2139 Points.-

-6th: Samu Kip, Kip Clan - 1965 Points.-

-7th...

As everyone checked it, Erfalis turned around and ordered his subordinates, telling them, "Take them out."

Immediately, thousands of square-shaped plates appeared all around the testing field. If one looked closely, it would be possible to see they had inscriptions on them, identical ones. One didn't need to think much to understand that the number of plates matched the number of participants in the test.

The participants' attention was caught as they waited for Erfalis to explain what that test was about.

"As you know, the second test is Soul Power Manipulation. Just Soul Power Strength isn't enough. You need to be able to use it properly." Erfalis then used his own Soul Power to catch a plate. As soon as the Soul Power touched it, the inscriptions activated and tried to drive the Soul Power out. "These plates have anti-Soul Power inscriptions. However, as you can see, I can use Soul Power to keep them in the air."

"This isn't because my Soul Power is high. Instead, the plates' inscriptions were made to allow Soul Power to flow through opening channels in the plates themselves. The problem is that these channels keep constantly changing, so a point where you were using your Soul Power a second ago might be completely different the next second."

Erfalis continued, "As you can imagine, all the Soul Power used outside these channels is nothing but a waste. It will make you become tired quicker as well. The objective here is to find those channels and redirect your Soul Power into them until they close and new ones appear. Obviously, after they close, you need to find new ones to keep the plate afloat."

"Don't worry, each plate will always have at least two channels open at a time, so the plate won't fall as long as your Soul Power is flowing inside. Of course, if you take too long to find the new ones or to redirect your Soul Power properly without touching the anti-Soul Power Runes, they will fall. Another thing. The speed at which the channels change will increase every minute. Obviously, they won't change all at once but randomly. If you can't keep up with the changes, it will fall eventually. This is an absolute test of control as the Soul Power necessary to keep them afloat is ridiculously low."

Erfalis also warned everyone, "By the way, Divine Energy is useless against these plates. They won't keep afloat if you use Divine Energy. Only Soul Power works."

With that, Erfalis concluded, "Now then, everyone will receive one of these plates. You have to use your Soul Power to keep them far off the ground. Once I say start the test, you have ten seconds to make them float with your Soul Power. If someone doesn't start by the time the ten seconds are over, they are automatically disqualified."

Erfalis' subordinates then distributed those plates to the disciples one by one. Finally, everyone had their own plates in hand. "The test starts now!"

As everyone could expect, Rean, Roan, Sansa, Oglico, and all the high-level Soul Power users got their plates floating in just a second. Since Rean and Roan's Divine Soul Power was also made with Soul Power, the plate accepted it as well. Not that it mattered since their Divine Soul Power's strength didn't matter in this test, only their control.

Once all the plates were up in the air, Erfalis mentioned one more thing. "Oh, right! The score is determined by how many minutes you keep them up. Each minute up is worth ten points. That's all. Good luck!"

Death... and me

Chapter 1003: Easiest Targets

In the first minute, no one dropped their plates. In fact, there wasn't even a single cultivator who didn't find it quite difficult to keep it afloat. However, Erfalis wasn't joking. The speed at which the channels changed positions indeed increased every minute.

Of course, just the first change wasn't enough to make anyone panic. The speed did increase, but it was almost imperceptible. At first, it wouldn't show the difference between cultivators. But as it became

faster, this challenge would finely filter the Soul Power cultivators among the rest. However, it would definitely be the case at the end, when the cultivators would be pressured by every small change.

In any case, Roan wasn't worried about that. Instead, he looked at Rean, who seemed to have had the same idea as him. 'Let's stay close to each other.' The reason for that was very simple. The only rule was that one had to keep the plate afloat with Soul Power. One would only be disqualified and impeded from doing anything else if one dropped it. There was no rule that stated one couldn't try to disturb others...

Rean then turned to look at Trinio and Kalau before pondering about it for a bit. However, he quickly gave up the idea to talk to them, thinking to himself, 'They are at most average in the ranking. Others won't bother with them.'

After ten minutes had passed, the frequency at which the Anti-Soul Power Plates' channels changed increased by a lot. Of course, as Erfalis had mentioned before, there would always be two channels open all the time. Because of those two channels, the plates didn't drop straight away. However, some of the cultivators didn't have enough time to find the new channels before those two channels also changed positions.

Clang, clang, clang, clang...

A few seconds later, some of the plates began to fall to the ground. Obviously, the cultivators holding them weren't quick enough to find the channels and control their Soul Power accordingly. Naturally, they got disqualified. It's just that only a very small percentage fell at first, being the cultivators with the worst control over Soul Power.

Things became stable once again until twenty minutes were up. Another spike in the speed of change came up, and plates began to drop once more as the cultivators lost track of the two open channels. By the time 29 minutes had passed, around 5% of the cultivators had dropped out of the competition.

It was then that the 30-minute mark had arrived, and the spike in speed increased jumped yet again. In the next minute, that 5% instantly jumped to 15% of the initial participants. Things only began to escalate from that point onward.

One hour into the competition, more than 50% of the cultivators had dropped out. Trinio and Kalau, surprisingly, were still holding on. It's just that Rean could tell how difficult they were finding it to keep going on. Unfortunately for them, it didn't take long to find out. Kalau dropped from the competition on the 70-minute mark, while Trinio was out in 90 minutes.

Two hours! With that, only the best cultivators at controlling Soul Power were left in the competition after 90% of them were eliminated. The difficulty increased, and many seemed to have trouble holding on.

Of course, there were exceptions. Oglico, Sansa, Rean, Roan, and so on... All those who got over 1500 points were still moving with ease. However, that's not what Rean and Roan were worried about. They kept themselves a little further away from the main group, just in case.

Why? Because they were part of the top competitors in Soul Power but had the lowest cultivation between them. Simply put, they were probably seen as the easiest targets.

Suddenly, Rean and Roan felt the presence of killing intent once more, which didn't surprise them at all. Out of nowhere, a shadow moved in between the participants, aiming straight at the twins. Rean and Roan faintly smiled as they thought to themselves, 'So, they finally couldn't hold back, huh?'

They weren't the only ones, though. While someone was attacking them, other competitors launched their assault against other targets. Sansa and her two friends from the Soul Guild just so happened to be part of the ones attacked.

Immediately, everyone's attention was attracted, especially the elders. It's just as Roan mentioned. The only rule was to keep the plate afloat with one's Soul Power, that's all! This was a moment most of the watching eyes waited to happen.

Rean and Roan had their eyes closed, pretending to be concentrated on their plates when out of nowhere, their hair color changed into a mix of black and white.

'Life Style, First Form, Enhancement!'

'Death World!'

'Death Style, First Movement Form, Shadow Steps!'

In a moment, all those skills were deployed at the same time. Rean and Roan's combat strength soared, and they shot in the direction of the enemy.

The cultivator attacking them was a guy called Foley. He was part of the Ostrao Sect, the same sect as Oglico. His cultivation was at the Initial Stage of the Saint Realm, also the same as Oglico. However, he wasn't as good as Oglico in terms of Soul Power, so he was given the task of getting rid of the competition. Rean and Roan's cultivation was only in the Middle Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm, so with only that, they looked like the easiest targets.

Unfortunately for him, Foley only had the time to see his world turn dark as his Divine Sense lost track of Rean and Roan. The surroundings turned pitch black within a twenty-meter radius around Roan.

'Light and Divine Sense Bending Technique!'

Rean had obviously considered his bending technique as a priority when he found out about Divine Sense. Naturally, he made everything he could to have it working by the time the assembly started. Besides, Roan's Death World allowed his Shadow Steps to blend in with the darkness, making it even harder to see where the twins were.

'Shit!' Foley immediately understood that he underestimated the twins' cultivation too much. With that being said, he stomped his feet on the ground and retreated at full speed.

Suddenly, a voice echoed in his mind through Divine Sense. 'Where do you think you're going?'

Before Foley could answer, six blades of Light and Dark Element came out of the darkness.

'Death Style, Third Form, Three Claws of the Dragon!'

Death... and me

Chapter 1004: Not So Small

Foley felt death approaching him, prompting him to immediately go all out. His Divine Energy burst out of his body as Earth Element gathered around him to form a barrier. However, the attack he was expecting to come didn't arrive. In fact, the moment his Earth Barrier appeared, Roan's Death World disappeared, shining light in Foley's eyes once more.

Clang...

Foley was left confused for a moment. What was that sound he had just heard? Only then did he look at it to see what it was. "M-My Anti-Soul Power Plate..."

He then looked at Rean and Roan, who had returned to their previous position as if nothing had happened. Their Anti-Soul Power Plates were still in the air, floating as if nothing had happened.

How could Foley not understand what happened? Because he felt the threat of losing his life, he completely ignored his own plate. After all, what use would it be to keep the plate floating if he died while doing that? Naturally, his plate fell as a result. It's just that the twins never intended to hurt him from the very start.

"You!" As one could expect, Foley's mind was filled with anger, seeing how he fell for the twins' trick. "Let me see how you can escape now!"

Without caring about anything else, Foley launched himself against the twins once more. However, neither Rean nor Roan moved a single muscle until...

Bang!

Foley was hit by something that sent him flying far away from the twins. He vomited blood straight away and almost died from the impact. Obviously, the one who attacked him was several times stronger. Foley then looked at who it was before hitting the ground. It was none else other than Erfalis, the one responsible for this test.

"You piece of shit! Your plate has already fallen to the ground, yet you're still trying to cause trouble? Consider yourself lucky that I didn't kill you right now." Erfalis then looked at his subordinates, ordering

them, "He is disqualified from this and all other categories. Send this piece of trash to the elders of the Ostrao Sect."

"Yes, Senior Erfalis!" Sure enough, they quickly brought Foley away.

However, Foley wasn't the only one to fail in this test. As mentioned before, several cultivators also attacked other groups. Some succeeded, others didn't. It's just that once their plates fell to the ground, they understood that they got disqualified and didn't do anything else. They could still participate in the other categories later since they respected the rules of not intervening with those still in the competition.

Sansa, Oglico, Ancel, and a few other top participants were all targeted by other cultivators, just like Rean and Roan. Nevertheless, they seemed completely fine as they kept their plates floating. Each of them defeated their opponents without much issue.

However, Rean and Roan were still the only ones who won their fight so easily. They didn't have to hit their opponent at all before they forced the enemy to be disqualified. That's why Foley was so angry. Rean and Roan had the lowest cultivation between those in the second test. However, he lost so shamefully because of his fear of death.

In the elders' room, everyone tried to understand what Rean and Roan did. Unfortunately, their Divine Senses couldn't enter the testing room. Not to mention that Roan's Death World turned everything around him and Rean into pure darkness. It was simply impossible to tell what happened inside that forced Foley to drop his Anti-Soul Power Plate.

In the competition, they had a bad feeling about it, be it Sansa, Oglico, Ancel, or the remaining ones. Divine Sense was much more restricted in the Divine Realm. Since Rean and Roan had purposely stayed far away from the main group, their Divine Sense couldn't reach the dark area Roan created with his Death World.

The only ones who saw what happened were the cultivators around the twins, Erfalis and Fabio. Of course, Erfalis and Fabio wouldn't tell others about how the events played inside the Death World. Then again, nor would the cultivators close to the twins do so since they didn't want to help others to start with.

There was a problem, though. Rean, Roan, and Sansa were far ahead in points. Oglico, Ancel, Difran, Samu, and the others had to find a way to get rid of those three, or they wouldn't be able to catch up to their points.

Naturally, they understood that they would need to join hands to make those three fail. Then, they could use the third test to try and take the first position in the Soul Power competition.

Of course, they weren't the only ones to think of that. Sansa and the other Soul Guild's disciple, who was called Hudi, understood that as well. There were more Soul Guild members before, but they were already disqualified. At first, they intended to defend themselves alone. However, after seeing Rean and Roan's display, they thought that perhaps joining hands with them wouldn't be too bad. The only question was whether it was safe or not since they also didn't understand Roan's Death World.

Hudi then looked at Sansa and told her, 'We need to act now. Oglico and the others will definitely come to an agreement soon.'

Sansa narrowed her eyes but could only nod. Surprisingly, however, she didn't need to move to where the twins were staying. That's because Rean and Roan suddenly moved in their direction at full speed. 'What?! Are they planning to take us down?!'

They weren't the only ones thinking that. The only problem was their cultivation difference. Others thought that it was the right decision, though. If their trick could work on Sansa and Hudi, Rean and Roan would eliminate their main competitor. After all, Oglico's group was far behind them in points.

Sansa and Hudi prepared to defend themselves. At the same time, Roan activated his Death World, which made everyone conclude that the twins really wanted to take Sansa out of the picture.

Oglico, Ancel, Difran, Samu, and a few others also got close, preparing to take action against the ones who survived that aftermath.

Unfortunately for them, Roan had never been the type to stay on the defensive. Besides...even with the Realm of Gods' restrictions, Roan's Death World had never been so small as twenty meters. It was definitely several times smaller than what he could do in the Realm of Mortals with his actual cultivation. However, twenty meters would just be an understatement. Even in the Realm of Gods, Roan's Death World could reach up to... 110 meters!

Death... and me

Chapter 1005: Playing!

Sansa and the others were taken aback. They had just seen the range of Roan's Death World and thought that it was the limit. Never did they imagine that Roan wasn't using even half of its full range. Because they wanted to stay close and act once the battle between Sansa and the twins was over, they got caught up by it.

Surprisingly, Sansa instead received a Divine Sense Message from Rean, telling her, 'Stay still. Just protect yourself.' Sansa didn't know why Rean would ask her to do that, but she quickly passed the message to her guildmate, and they prepared for any possible attack.

Knowing they had everyone inside Roan's Death World, Rean and Roan immediately started the next part of their plan.

'Death Style, Fifth Form, Mirage Assault!'

Their clones immediately appeared and attacked Oglico, Samu, Difran, and Ancel from several positions and angles. Those guys couldn't see inside the Death World since they missed the right time to retreat. Fortunately for them, their Divine Senses still worked. They were able to see the moment Rean, Roan, and the clones' attacks appeared from the Death World's darkness.

'Defend!'

The sound of Divine and Soul Power skills echoed everywhere in the Death World. Rean and Roan's shadows appeared and disappeared because of Rean's Divine Sense bending skill and the Dark World. Then again, Rean and Roan knew that they couldn't beat so many Saint Realm cultivators at once. It would consume way too much energy in the process.

With that, as soon as Oglico and the others got used to Rean and Roan's assault, Rean deployed the third part of the plan.

Roan's Death World just so happened to be similar to the range Rean's Divine Sense bending skill could cover. The only problem was that the further away something was from Rean, the harder it was to cover them with his protection against Divine Sense.

That wasn't a problem at this moment, though. Oglico's group was only using their Divine Sense to protect themselves. They weren't paying too much attention to anyone else other than Rean, Roan, and their clones...or so it was supposed to be.

None of them knew, but Rean's Divine Sense bending skill also covered themselves! That meant that Olgico, Samu, Difran, and Ancel couldn't see each other with their Divine Senses anymore. They already weren't paying attention to the others to start with, so now, they just paid even less attention.

At some point, they weren't battling Rean and Roan anymore. They were battling themselves inside the Death World! Rean and Roan used themselves and the clones to bring those guys together before disappearing, making it look like the person in front of them was one of them. Divine Sense also didn't work against their 'friends' because of Rean, so it was natural that they thought of the one they were fighting against to be Rean and Roan.

Death World, Divine Sense bending skill, complete darkness, and lures! That's all Rean and Roan needed to have these guys fight each other.

Of course, because of Death World, no one could really tell what was happening inside. The only exceptions to this were Fabio and Erfalis. Their Divine Senses weren't blocked, plus their cultivation was too strong for Rean's bending skill to work on them.

'Unbelievable!'

'Truly impressive!'

Erfalis and Fabio were genuinely shocked by the twins' display. Using almost no energy whatsoever, they were about to eliminate their strongest contenders. The only time Rean and Roan acted was when someone from Oglico's group was about to leave the Death World. They would appear on its borders and force them back inside to fight each other once again.

Clang!

Suddenly, one of the Anti-Soul Power Plates fell to the ground. If one was asking why Oglico's group wasn't using Soul Power to scan their opponents, that was more or less the reason. Their Soul Power was completely focused on the plates. If they diverted it to scan the surroundings, they would let it drop and get obviously eliminated.

Oglico's group was basically similar in strength with their cultivations at the Initial Stage of the Saint Realm, so it made sense that they were being forced to dire straights against themselves. Once someone screwed up against the other, they soon dropped their plate.

Immediately after, Erfalis acted, using his Divine Energy to bring the loser out of the Death World. After all, the others couldn't tell who dropped their Anti-Soul Power Plate. Naturally, they couldn't tell that they shouldn't attack that target either.

Roan couldn't help but sigh after seeing that. He was hoping that Erfalis wouldn't intervene so that he could use those guys to fight each other until the end. Rean contacted him in the Death World, telling them, 'Well, let them finish themselves. We can do something else in the meantime.'

'Something else?' Roan asked.

Rean smiled as he answered. 'Yeah, come with me. It will be fun.'

Clang...clang...

Eventually, two more plates were dropped, deciding the fates of their holders. Ancel, Difran, and Samu were now out of the competition.

Only then did Oglico notice that the attacks stopped coming at him. He thought he had finally forced the twins' group to lose. However...

Vup!

Roan's Death World suddenly disappeared, allowing Oglico to see what was happening around him. Difran, Samu, and Ancel were gone! Sansa had an expression as confused as Oglico himself. It's just that although she heard so many clashes happening in the Death World, she and her guildmate never had to use a single skill. Oglico, on the other hand, was obviously injured everywhere and was greatly fatigued.

If there was anything good left for him, it was the fact that he still hadn't dropped his Anti-Soul Power Plate.

As for a certain pair of black and white-haired twins...

"Hey, you didn't use your Death World to cheat, right?" Rean asked with an angry expression.

"Bullshit!" Roan was even angrier than Rean as he replied, "Do you think someone like me would cheat?"

Rean nodded. "Hmph! Of course, you would. For you, everything is valid as long as you win."

Roan rebuked back. "That's only when we're talking about dangerous situations. I'm winning this game fair and square!"

Unexpectedly, they were sitting on the ground and...playing cards!

Death... and me

Chapter 1006: It's good that you know

Oglico was as confused as he could be. Didn't the twins drop their plates while fighting him and the others? How come they were playing cards over there? Not only that, but their Anti-Soul Power Plates just so happened to be floating above their heads as if nothing had happened. Of course, Sansa and Hudi had the same question in their heads.

With that, they looked into the distance and saw Samu, Difran, and Ancel staying by Elder Erfalis' side. They were using their Divine Energy to heal themselves. Of course, they couldn't ever hope to be as good as Rean. Those injuries would take several days to be dealt with. Naturally, they had terrible expressions as they knew what had happened already.

"This..." Oglico then looked at Rean and Roan, finally understanding what had transpired. "How's that possible? I should have been able to tell I was fighting Difran and the others with my Divine Sense..."

Roan then got up from the ground, feeling very good as he said to Rean, "Alright, whether you want to accept it or not, I won."

Rean sighed in response, saying, "Whatever. Next time, we'll play without your Death World active. It's just too hard to see inside it." Rean then looked at Oglico and said, "Oh, right! You're the last one left. Are you going to drop your Anti-Soul Power Plate, or should we force you?"

Oglico's expression was terrible after hearing that. He quickly looked around, expecting the other cultivators still in the competition to back him up. However, they knew that the twins made Oglico's group fight each other somehow. With that being said, they immediately took several steps back, not wanting to get on the twins' bad side at all.

Oglico then looked at Sansa and asked, "What about you?! Will you simply stay there and let them deal with me? Who do you think will be the target next time?"

Sansa and Hudi looked at each other before they looked at Rean and Roan. Sure enough, they were still confused as to why the twins left them out of their scheme. It would have been much better if Sansa and Hudi had been forced to fight as well, just like Oglico and the others. "Care to explain?"

Roan didn't say anything, but Rean was different. He smiled in response before answering, "I know your type. You don't want to rely on shady methods to win this Soul Power test. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe you want to win fair and square, proving to others that you have the highest Soul Power talent in Cosec City. That's how prideful you are." Rean then shrugged his shoulders as he continued, "Well, the fact is that Roan and I also welcome a true challenge."

Sansa was taken aback for a moment before she burst out in laughter. "Hahaha! Good! I like you two! Yes, you're correct. Above everything else, I want to prove that I'm the best when it comes to Soul Power. I might just be an ant when we talk about the entire Realm of Gods, but I still have my pride as a member of the Infrincal Race. I want to at least prove that I really deserve it in a small city like Cosec."

Roan glanced at her for a moment and nodded. That was the reason why he and Rean didn't attack. He also loved challenges, even if it came to Soul Power alone.

Oglico gritted his teeth after Sansa was finished talking and began to take several steps back. "Everyone, you should really think twice about leaving me alone in this situation. If you don't help me, do you think you can deal with those twins, Hudi and Sansa? You'll all be attacked by them and lose this second test as well!"

Rean raised his hand as he said in response to Oglico's words, "The same goes for the rest of you. As long as you don't try anything funny, we won't do anything. Well, even if you do, would you really enter the range of our skills? Do you really want to battle the other cultivators or us?"

Sure enough, that was more than enough for everyone to distance themselves even more from Oglico.

Without any other choice, Oglico began to run away. He just had to hold on until keeping the plate floating became too hard without fully concentrating on it. Like that, he would still have a chance in the third test.

However, he was as badly injured as Difran's group. Besides...

"Oh, you're leaving already?" Sansa and Hudi covered his path of retreat. Somehow, they owed the twins for not dragging them into that mess a moment ago.

"You!"

Rean and Roan also appeared on the other side. However, Oglico didn't want to give up there. So...he selected the weakest target. 'Since I only have to care about myself, anyone in front of me is a target now. Even if they bring that dark area back, they're still Middle Stage Soul Transformation Realm cultivators. I only need one full-powered strike to take them down!'

Oglico then dashed forward in the direction of the twins...or so he tried. Just as Rean and Roan were about to retaliate, Sansa sent them a Divine Sense Message. 'Leave it to me.'

It turns out that Sansa had already expected something like this to happen, so she and Hudi acted first.

Boom!

Oglico then exchanged a few moves against Sansa and Hudi. Unfortunately for him, he was already very tired. Besides, Sansa and Hudi were both in the Initial Stage of the Saint Realm as well, just like him. Rean and Roan only watched them fight, doing nothing.

Clang!

Oglico didn't resist for much longer before he lost control over his Anti-Soul Power Plate. It fell on the ground, sealing his fate together with Diran's group. Sansa and Hudi, on the other hand, still had more than enough energy to spare.

Sansa then smiled back at the twins and said, "With that, we have probably spent somewhat the same amount of energy that you did in your plan. We're on even grounds now."

Rean laughed after hearing that. "Hahaha! You really are the prideful type."

Indeed. Sansa didn't want to gain an advantage for not using any energy at all during the Death World trap. "It's good that you know."

Death... and me

Chapter 1007: Second Test Over

Naturally, Oglico couldn't do anything but retreat. He still had the third test to take, just like the others. However, from now on, the longer Rean, Roan, Sansa, and Hudi allowed their plates to float, the further their score would be from them. In fact, the few others who also remained in the competition might even surpass their positions depending on how long they kept their plates afloat.

No more battles happened after that. Those who wanted to win by making others drop their plates had already done so. Any extra fight had a high risk of making things go south. Besides...it would be useless if none of them could deal with the twins, as well as Sansa's group.

The three-hour mark quickly arrived as more plates fell on the ground.

Three and half hours had soon passed, with the total of participants remaining not more than 7. Rean, Roan, Sansa, Hudi, and another three called Fingpi, Cloud, and Vermont. Sure enough, it was as Erfalis had mentioned. Just because one didn't have the strongest Soul Power, that didn't mean one didn't have much better control over what one had. Those three, who were not even in the top ten before, were proof of this.

When the fourth hour came up, another plate finally fell. Surprisingly, it was Hudi's plate. He couldn't keep up with the rate of changes. "Sigh...sorry, Sansa. I'm taking my leave already."

Sansa nodded, telling him, "It's fine. I'm still here." Although she looked calm, Hudi could feel the difficulty she was experiencing in keeping her plate afloat. In fact, that was the same for everyone, including the twins.

From there onward, one plate would fall every ten minutes when the speed spiked upward.

Clang!

Cloud lost at four hours and twelve minutes.

Clang!

Fingpi lost at four hours and twenty-five minutes.

Clang!

This time... Roan was out at four hours and thirty-seven minutes, leaving Rean, Sansa, and Vermont still in the test. 'As I expected.' Roan wasn't surprised at all since he knew Rean's Soul Power talent was higher from the very start.

Sansa, Rean, and Vermont couldn't even talk anymore. That's how much they had to concentrate on their Soul Power to keep their plates afloat. Nevertheless, the plate would still increase the speed at which the channels changed, regardless of how hard they felt it to be already.

Five hours and three minutes...

Clang!

Vermont finally dropped his own plate. However, he didn't look the least bit unhappy. 'Hehe! My sect will definitely reward me nicely for this,' he thought as he retreated back. 'Besides...Rean and Sansa definitely won't hold for any longer than ten minutes. The next spike at five hours and ten minutes will be the decisive moment.'

He wasn't the only one to think that way. Fabio, Erfalis, the elders who were watching, and the competitors who were outside. Everyone could easily tell by how much Rean and Sansa were sweating over it.

Five hours and ten minutes!

The speed of channels changing once again spiked. It always increased every minute, but the spike every ten minutes was much higher. Rean and Sansa narrowed their eyes and gritted their teeth. Their plates continued to float for a few more seconds until suddenly...

Clang! Clang!

Two plates fell on the ground at the same time! Rean and Sansa were the last ones.

Wow!

Immediately, an uproar came from the participants and those spectators. What were the chances of such a thing happening?

Rean sighed as he looked at Sansa, telling her, "To think that I have higher Soul Power but am in the same level at control."

Sansa didn't seem the least happy. "Even though you say that, I consider it my loss. I haven't forgotten that I'm already in the Saint Realm while you're still in the Soul Transformation Realm. In any case, I won't hold back in the last test."

Rean nodded with a smile as he used his Divine Energy to wipe out the sweat on his face.

Erfalis was satisfied with the results as he called everyone forth. "Very good. The first two places went much further than I expected. Now, we will take a thirty-minute break before we start the last test. Make sure to recover well."

Rean, Sansa, and everyone else nodded in response. Well, those thirty minutes were more for Sansa and Rean since most of the participants left the second test hours ago.

However, Roan narrowed his eyes as he used his Soul Connection with Rean to ask something. 'Why did you lose there? Don't pretend that you reached your limit since I know it better than anyone else. You could have definitely held on for at least another twenty minutes.'

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he told Roan, 'I didn't feel like destroying that girl's pride. We're basically cheating here because of my Light Element Affinity.'

Roan wasn't surprised by Rean's words. 'Soft as always.'

Rean didn't feel like it was an insult. He was him, and Roan was Roan. 'As long as I win, what's the problem?'

'If you win, right?' Roan asked.

Rean kept recovering his Soul Power before saying, 'Don't worry. I'll win. Besides...you're probably going to take second place, and you know that.'

Roan didn't say anything else in response.

Everyone then looked at the scoreboard.

-1st: Rean Larks, Lukimira Sect - 6355 Points.-

-2nd: Sansa Sil, Soul Guild - 6053 Points.-

-3rd: Roan Larks, Lukimira Sect - 5637 Points.-

-4th: Vermont Wafols, Wafols Clan - 4967 Points.-

-5th: Hudi Hadrin, Soul Guild - 4858

-6th: Cloud Sahagin, Sahagin Clan - 4612 Points.-

-7th: Fingpi Tuan, Distro Sect - 4358 Points.-

-8th: Ancel Yubao, Polivas Sect - 3551 Points.-

-9th: Oglico, Vintchi Sect - 3339 Points.-

-10th: Samu Kip, Kip Clan - 3165 Points.-

-11th...

Sure enough, because Difran and the others fell too early, they fell behind in score compared to Cloud, Vermont, and Fingpi. After all, those three kept up in the competition for at least two more hours. That was the same as at least 1200 extra points compared to them.

Many elders watching it were happy with the results. Others were fuming in anger because of their member's display. As one could expect, Difran, Oglico, and Ancel's elders were obviously the latter.

However, there was nothing they could do about it as they knew they would have tried a similar thing in their positions.

Fabio and Erfalis didn't care about any of that. Once thirty minutes were up, Erfalis immediately called everyone. "Alright, the Soul Power and Divine Energy Synergy Test will start now."

Death... and me

Chapter 1008: Last Ones

Erfalis continued, "As you know, we use our Soul Power mostly to support our techniques that use Divine Energy. It makes Divine Energy easier to control and makes it more effective since Soul Power is directly connected to our soul. This next test will check exactly this. Come with me."

Erfalis then brought everyone to another side of the testing room. There, everyone could see a big formation with a black and blue orb inside it. However, the orb was not attached to the formation. Surprisingly, it could be moved around.

"This test is very simple. The orb inside the formation can be manipulated with Divine Energy. However, the formation beneath it will try to block your flow of Divine Energy into the orb. To protect against the formation's power, you will have to 'mix' your Soul Power with Divine Energy. That way, the formation will find it more difficult to intervene in your manipulation," Erfalis explained the mechanics. "Simply put, the higher your synergy between your Soul Power and Divine Energy, the easier it will become to control the orb."

"However, what you need to do with the orb is the key of this test." Erfalis then activated the formation. Soon after, many rings began to float around the formation, seemingly having some kind of barrier that prevented anything from passing through them. "Your objective is to make the orb pass through those rings."

Everyone could already imagine what the barrier inside the rings meant. Nevertheless, Erfalis explained, "As you probably expect, the barriers inside the ring can only be overcome when the orb is filled with both Divine Energy and Soul Power. The more perfect the synergy between these two energies, the easier it is to make your orb go through them."

"Last but not least, the score is determined by how many rings you can pass through. As you can see, the rings are flying at different altitudes and speeds. We have a total of 100 rings that are worth 100 points each! Yes, that means everyone still has a chance of winning this challenge if their synergy is high enough."

Of course, no one was idiotic enough to think that they would be able to pass through all rings. Even if there were 10000 points up for grabs, would they really be that easy to take? Not a chance! Otherwise, what would be the point of this test? Sure enough, the reason for that appeared after that.

Erfalis smiled before concluding, "Now then. You will only have one minute to go through this trial! No more, no less. Once time is up, we will calculate the number of rings you cleared and add it to your final score."

Everyone immediately understood. One minute meant that you had to go through each ring in less than a second. Naturally, they made it impossible to reach all 100 of them. Even Rean knew that he wouldn't be able to achieve such a perfect score. 'Well, if it wasn't like that, it wouldn't be fun. I wonder how many I can pass through.'

"Oh, right! Before I forget, you must stay in the center of the formation at all times. Anyone who takes as much as a single step outside will be immediately disqualified," Erfalis added. "Also, anyone who tries to intervene in the test will be pulled out of the assembly altogether. Not to mention it would be useless since we will allow the candidate that was disturbed to try it again from the start."

Erfalis then took the list of participants before calling the first one. "Lafei Susunari, come forward."

Lafei came out of the crowd and stepped into the center of the formation.

"Ready...start!"

Lafei immediately used his Divine Energy and Soul Power to grab the orb. Obviously, the formation below him tried to disrupt his flow of Divine Energy, which he had to cover up with Soul Power. Only then did Lafei understand how hard it was as he took almost ten seconds just to succeed in levitating the orb.

Eventually, he got a hold of it and sent it through the first ring...just for it to block the passage of his orb. Everyone understood that Lafei's synergy of both energies was too lacking for this test. It wasn't before twenty seconds had passed that Lafei finally passed through the first ring.

The next ring was obviously somewhere else, moving at a different speed. Lafei controlled the orb while trying to maintain the balance to pass through it. As one could expect, the distance and speed difference made Lafei's life even more difficult. Nevertheless, the test continued.

"Time is up!"

As soon as Erfalis's voice echoed throughout the room, Lafei's orb returned by itself to the center of the formation. Erfalis nodded, seeing that before announcing, "Lafei Susunari, four rings. He gets four hundred extra points."

Lafei couldn't help but sigh as he came out of the formation. He knew why he was called first. Erfalis's list was basically following the ranks from bottom to top. He had the worst score among all participants, so he was the first one to try.

"Next, Frosk Yizimole, come forward." Sure enough, the second to last was called right after.

"Start!"

Frosk did quite better than Lafei, though. He got his orb to pass through six rings before his time was up.

As always, Erfalis announced. "Frosk Yizimole, six rings. He gets six hundred extra points."

"Next..."

And just like that, the competition continued. Because the last ones in the rank had both Soul Power Strength and Control issues, most of them didn't go through more than 8 rings. Of course, there were exceptions, but those didn't go much further, with the highest getting twelve rings.

Although each competitor only had a single minute in the test, one must remember that there were over 4400 of them. Naturally, this last test took a lot of time until it finally reached the higher rankings. It wasn't before the top 100 started that people decided to pay real attention to the test. It was time to determine who would take the Silver Low-level Divine Vein for themselves.

Death... and me

Chapter 1009: Roan goes first

Of course, the difference between the one at 101st place and the one at 100th place wasn't anything big. If anything, the 101st candidate still got two rings more than the other. In any case, it was from this point onward that big jumps started to appear.

In the 76th place, a female cultivator called Eliyen Enfina was able to pass through a surprising 36 rings. It was far above the previous record of this group, which was only 29. That showed her synergy with both energies was much better than most.

However, her record didn't last long as the 47th candidate, a cultivator of the Devask race called Filarion Wynran, achieved 39 rings. That obviously meant 3900 extra points for him. Just like Eliyen, Filarion shot up through the ranks, gaining tens of positions due to his level of synergy.

By the time they reached the top 10, the record was a total of 44 rings. Erfalis was quite satisfied with that number as it was above what he expected. The last time this kind of test was used with an age restriction, the record was only 48 rings. 44 was still lower than 48, but he was sure that the top 10 would go higher than the previous 48 from the other assembly.

"Next, Samu Kip. Come forward."

The order was still backward, so Samu, the 10th place, was the first to enter the formation. On the center, he used his Soul Power and Divine Energy to lift the orb before immediately shooting it through the first ring. Usually, the first ring would be one of the harder ones. After all, one needed to get used to the formation's disruptive power and learn how to achieve the best synergy to pass through the rings.

Bang!

Shatter!

However, Samu immediately showed why he was in the top ten. In fact, if he hadn't thought about attacking Rean and Roan together with his group, he would be much higher in rank. He passed through the first ring in less than two seconds, shooting the orb in the second ring's direction.

Bang, bang, bang, bang...

Shatter, shatter, shatter, shatter...

One barrier after another was destroyed. Of course, like everyone else, Samu could feel the resistance of those barriers inside the rings. It's just that his synergy with both powers was very high, so he could still pierce through them with relative ease.

"Time's up!"

Eventually, one minute was up, and the orb returned to the formation once again. As for Samu's result...

"Samu Kip, Kip Clan, 59 rings. He gets an extra 5900 points!"

Sure enough, he broke the previous record straight away. He already had 3165 points to start with. With those 5900 extra points, he now had 9065 points.

Samu took a deep breath as he came out of the formation. He was feeling quite pleased with his result until he remembered that he was over 3000 points behind Rean before, who had 6355 points. 'There's no way I can get first place like this.' There was nothing he could do, though. After all, intervening in the others' results meant instant banishment from the assembly.

"Next! Oglico, Vintchi Sect, come forward!"

Oglico immediately stepped on the formation, ready to do all he could. He might not take first place, but the Soul Power competition also rewarded Divine Stones for those within the top 10. He definitely wanted to at least get a high amount of them. After all, Divine Stones were very rare in this place, even for someone like him.

Bang, bang, bang, bang...

Shatter, shatter, shatter, shatter...

Oglico proved why he should have been in the top five before. He immediately broke Samu's record, taking two extra rings in the end. He was the first candidate to get more than one ring per second on average, passing through 61 in total.

"Oglico, Vintchi Sect. He gets 6100 points."

Ancel, Fingpi, Cloud, and Hudi ended up doing worse than Oglico. In fact, Kamu did better than them as well. Ancel got 52 rings, Fingpi 54, while Cloud was the worst, with only 46 rings. Last but not least, Hudi achieved 51 rings.

Vermont, however...

Shatter...

Wow!

"Very good!" Erfalis said with a nod before continuing, "Vermont Wafols, Wafols Clan, 67 rings!" Erfalis was happy to see how the quality of Soul Power cultivators had improved this time around.

A few moments later, the room went silent again. It was time for the top three.

"Next! Roan Larks, Lukimira Sect, come forward!"

Rean shrugged his shoulders when he heard that, telling him, "Well, make sure you bring the second place prize home with us."

Roan slightly nodded and moved in the formation's direction. He ignored all the eyes and quickly set into position.

"Sta-!"

Shatter!

Roan's reaction was faster than Erfalis's signal. Roan was able to tell when the formation activated, which truly symbolized the start of the one-minute test, not Erfalis's voice. Roan found no issues controlling the orb at all. With the system's fusion of Soul Power and Divine Energy, synergy was the least of their problems. It couldn't be said to be perfect, but it definitely wasn't far away from it.

This time, Roan really felt like cheating. After all, he didn't have to put much effort to get a great result. All he had to do was make sure his output of Divine Energy and Soul Power was similar so that the merged energy would be good enough to pass through the rings while ignoring the formation's disruption.

30 seconds into the test, and Roan already passed through 40 rings.

45 seconds, 62 rings.

One minute later... and Roan ended up with a total of 79 rings. Sure enough, his synergy smashed the previous best result of 67 rings. Sadly, he couldn't try it again, though. If he could, he was sure he would do better.

Nevertheless, everyone was shocked by that disparity between 3rd and 4th place. Roan and the rest of the cultivators were on completely different levels. That disparity affected even Sansa, who had no confidence of reaching Roan's result. Besides, everyone thought in their heads. 'If he already got this much, how much better can his twin do?' That included Fabio, the candidates outside the Soul Power Test, and all the elders who were watching.

"Roan Larks, Lukimira Sect. He gets an extra 7900 points!"

Death... and me

Chapter 1010: Display

As impressed as everyone might be, the contest had to go forward.

"Next! Sansa Sil, Soul Guild, come forward!"

Hearing her name being called, Sansa took a deep breath and moved to the formation. Lukimira Sect had two members in the top three, and one of them was already guaranteed the third position at the very least. She was basically the only one other than the Lukimira Sect that could get the Divine Vein.

In the elders' room, both the Cosec City Soul Guild Branch Leader and Kayla felt nervous. Kayla needed the Divine Vein for her sect. Naturally, she didn't expect it to come from a side-occupation competition. Then again, that was because humans weren't known for having talent in Soul Power. As for the Guild Leader, that had a lot more to do with the Soul Guild's pride. His guild hadn't lost the Soul Power competition in the last ten assemblies.

Back in the contest...

"Start!"

Shatter!

Sansa started as strongly as Roan, not being late in reaction time at all. She had watched every single competitor until now, trying to obtain the best start possible for this one chance. The effort paid out in the end since Sansa did seem to be faster than everyone else...except Roan. She looked like she was at a similar level to him.

Until 30 seconds had passed, she truly seemed to be able to keep up with Roan's pace. However, it was from that point onwards that things started to get harder. As mentioned before, the rings got further away while moving at different speeds. Although the rings' movement was exactly the same for everyone, it didn't change the difficulty of reaching a longer distance with one's abilities.

That's where the main difference between the Divine Soul Power's fusion and the normal synergy between Divine Energy and Soul Power could be felt. For Roan, the distance could be said to be harder. But since he didn't have to think much about the synergy, he could focus on the distance alone. Sansa...couldn't do such a thing.

Roan then looked at Rean as he thought, 'Without the Soul Power and Divine Energy Fusion, probably only Rean would be able to match Sansa in this test.' He shook his head right after that. 'Oh well, I'm still lacking in cultivation compared to her, so I can't tell how it would be if the cultivation difference didn't exist. In any case, Rean is still better at this.'

Roan was right. Although Roan and Sansa's displays were impressive, Rean kept smiling during their entire tests. It was as if their performances didn't bother him at all.

Sure enough, Sansa's pace fell slightly the longer the test took and the further the rings got. In the end, she did surpass everyone... except for Roan. Her result was 73 rings, 6 fewer rings than him.

Sansa left the formation with a dark expression. In the end, she couldn't help but ask Roan, "How did you train your synergy of Soul Power and Divine Energy? I know I'm not the best in the Yukirrom Region, let alone the Realm of Gods, but I still thought myself to be the best in Cosec City and the surroundings. Obviously, that's not the case. Just what kind of methods did you and your brother use to be this good even though you have lower cultivations?"

Roan closed his eyes for a moment before saying, "There's no need for you to feel like that. Rean and I aren't from this place. Just like many of the powers participating in this assembly, we have an agreement with them. Once we're gone, you will still be the best Soul Power user in Cosec City."

"That doesn't answer my question," Sansa rebuked. "Of course, everyone has their secrets. I also wouldn't reveal the methods used by the Soul Guild to bring me to this level. So, if you don't wish to talk about it, I won't force you."

Roan nodded after hearing that. "I can tell that your Soul Power training is indeed as rigorous as mine, even if I haven't seen it with my eyes. However, Rean and I do have an advantage. That's all I can say." Usually, Roan wouldn't go that far. But as someone who appreciated effort above everything else, he felt that he owed the girl at least that much.

Sansa believed Roan, muttering to herself, "I see...it's my Soul Guild's job to figure out what we're missing. I will have to try harder in the future." Sansa then looked at Rean, who seemed oblivious to what was happening. "I'm looking forward to seeing how well you'll do."

Erfalis had allowed a rare moment of conversation between those three. Nevertheless, he called their attention after Sansa finished her words. "Alright, that's enough."

"Sansa Sil, Soul Guild. She gets an extra 7300 points!"

Sansa fell short 184 points behind Roan, falling to third place.

"Next! Rean Larks, Lukimira Sect, come forward."

Rean calmly entered the formation to start the test. By now, it didn't matter anymore. Roan was already ahead of Sansa on the scoreboard, so he was just fulfilling his duty. Not that he would hold back, of course. If there was one person he hated to lose to, that person was definitely Roan, especially when it came to a field where he was supposed to dominate.

"Start!"

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang...

Shatter, shatter, shatter, shatter, shatter...

Sure enough, Rean showed why he was the only Light Affinity Cultivator in existence, especially how it greatly influenced his Soul Power's overall strength. It wasn't a competition anymore, but a solo exhibition of his capabilities.

"Time's up!"

The orb returned to the center of the formation while Rean stepped out with an expression that said he didn't do anything more than normal.

"Rean Larks, Lukimira Sect. He gets an extra 8600 points!"

However, after stepping out of the formation, Rean couldn't help but think to himself, 'As I thought, it's impossible for me to get 100 rings at my current level. I didn't hold back at all, but I could only get 7 more rings than Roan. The last 14 rings might not look that daunting. However, those 14 are truly hard to achieve in the time given. I doubt I would get all 100 even after I enter the Saint Realm. Perhaps even reaching the Elemental Transformation Realm would not be enough.'

Obviously, with such a result, Rean got first place!