## Death 1021

Death... and me

Chapter 1021: First Battle

Ravio then pointed at the arenas as he explained the rules, telling everyone, "First, all of them have protection formations, so no one will be able to come out before the battle ends."

"Second, we don't have the perfect number to go all the way to the last battle without getting odd numbers. With that being said, these physical battles will be divided into two phases. The first phase will have to eliminate 3492 fighters. That way, we will have exactly 8192 cultivators remaining, which is the perfect number to reach the ultimate victor."

Naturally, everyone wanted to know how the first 3492 eliminations would happen. "The first elimination phase is very simple. 6984 cultivators will be randomly selected. Then we'll have 3492 battles happening at once. The winners of these battles will join the rest, giving us the exact 8192 participants that we need to find the owner of the Divine Vein."

Hearing that, someone couldn't help but ask, "But wouldn't these 3492 winners be at a disadvantage against the participants who didn't battle?" Sure enough, that was the question in everyone's minds.

Ravio nodded straight away, telling that person, "Exactly. Cultivators often like to say that luck is part of one's strength, don't they? Well, pray that you're lucky enough to not have to participate in the first elimination phase. Hahaha!"

Everyone was taken aback, but they couldn't say anything. Those were the rules, and they knew they wouldn't be able to change them.

Ravio then continued, "Anyways, everyone will have at least thirty minutes of rest before the next battle. You can use this time to recover however way you see fit. The same is valid during the second phase, so keep that in mind."

Rean's eyes lit up when he heard the last part. 'Oh! So I can heal myself during the resting times? Hehe! That's quite a nice thing to know.' This was another trump card Rean really didn't expect to come by. Of course, no one knew just how heaven-defying his healing abilities were either. After saying all of that, Ravio then told everyone, "Alright, I believe everyone understands that this is an elimination contest. You will always have only one chance. If you lose, you're out...or maybe dead. Let's now see who will be the cultivators taking part in the first phase."

Ravio used a very simple method to select the first 6984 participants. There were a few rows of boxes with holes cut on top. They were protected by formations that prevented one from seeing what was inside with Divine Sense and Soul Power. Inside, one could find red and blue orbs. Those who got red orbs would have to fight in the first phase. Naturally, those with the blue orbs would say bye to it.

Thanks to the number of boxes, everyone took their orbs in just a few minutes. Not only that, the red orbs had numbers on them, which stood for the person that would be one's opponent. Those who got red orbs with the same number would be the ones to fight against each other.

Rean looked at the red orb in his hand and the 1349 number written on it with a sigh, muttering inwardly, 'Guess luck wasn't on my side.'

He then looked at the arenas' map and quickly found the one he would fight on. There was already a cultivator there, surprisingly from the human race. Due to the huge number of races around, humans could just be considered another one in the midst, so it wasn't easy to fight another human straight away.

"Hello there! Let's have some fun, shall we?" Rean said with a smile.

The guy had an ugly expression when he saw Rean, though. There wasn't a single participant in the assembly that didn't know the twins by now. However, he quickly remembered Rean's participation in the strength test, so he was able to regain some confidence. "Yes, let's have some fun."

Physical strength was the only thing allowed, but that didn't mean they couldn't use Divine Sense to see each other's cultivation before the battle started. Rean, obviously, was in the Middle Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm. As for his opponent, he was surprisingly at the Soul Transformation Realm as well. It's just that he was at the Late Stage.

Rean nodded and took out his Black Star. The opponent also got his weapon out, which was a spear. Seeing that they were ready, the elder responsible for their arena raised his hand before dropping it down while announcing, "Start!"

## \*Zush!\*

Rean's opponent really wasn't lucky today. Rean's movement was way too fast for him to react. It was obviously much slower than when Rean could use all his and Roan's skills. However, everyone had the same issue. In the same way that Rean was slower to move, so was his opponent's reaction time without the support of Divine Energy and his own skills.

\*Swish!\*

\*Clang!\*

The opponent's weapon was cut into two, with one of them falling to the ground. The guy couldn't believe it since it was still a weapon at Silver Middle-level. Unfortunately for him, Rean's weapons had always been much better than their equivalents. What stopped Rean's sword from breaking them straight away was the Spiritual or Divine Energy that the enemy usually covered them with. Without that, other weapons at the Silver Middle-level simply couldn't hold a candle to Rean's Black Star!

With Rean's Black Star close to his throat, the guy could only raise his hand slowly and say, "I-I give up."

The elder nodded before announcing, "Winner, Rean Larks."

Rean laughed in response as he took his Black Star back and patted the guy's shoulder. "Hahaha! No need to feel too sad. I might be the cultivator with the strongest raw power. But when it comes to battling, raw power is simply too far from enough to beat me. You won't be the first one. Instead, you should be happy that I didn't take your head."

The guy bitterly smiled in response. However, he knew Rean was right. "Sigh...perhaps during the next battle test."

And just like that, Rean won his first fight and secured his position inside the 8192 cultivators that would fight till the end.

Death... and me

Chapter 1022: First True Challenge

There were no skills in the battles whatsoever. Everything was resolved through pure speed, strength, and fighting style. The elders also made sure that no Divine Energy or Soul Power was used during the fights. Because of that, the show of lights and explosions that would normally happen couldn't be seen in the arenas.

In any case, it still served to show who could still hold on their own without the support of the skills they were so used to using. One of them was obviously Rean. After all, Roan made sure to prepare him for all possible situations, including ones where he didn't have access to his Divine Soul Power abilities.

'Death Style, First Form, Stellar Piercer!'

Rean's body shot forward like an arrow, piercing through the defense of his opponent. Although Roan's Death Style used Divine Soul Power and Elements, that didn't mean they couldn't be used without them.

\*Bang!\*

Rean's first opponent, after the first phase, raised the shaft of his spear, wanting to block Rean's attack. Unfortunately, the fusion of speed and strength sent him flying like a cannonball. His body then hit the protection formation of the arena, breaking a few of the man's bones in the process.

"I give up..."

That was everything he could say before he passed out. Well, Rean wouldn't attack him anymore anyway.

"Winner, Rean Larks!"

Rean nodded before coming down from the arena. 'I was lucky in this second fight. To think I would fight a Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivator.'

Rean could have destroyed the guy's spear, but he chose not to do so since he knew how hard it was for disciples of small powers to get them. It wasn't like he took pleasure breaking things, let alone killing.

He then looked around and could see many participants giving up or being defeated. However...

\*Arrrgh!\*

He could also see some who died. Everyone was desperate to advance in the competition, so it wasn't hard to see both sides pushing too hard in battles where their strengths were similar. Neither one wanted to lose, so even though a victor was most likely decided at some point, they still continued until one side killed the other. 'There's only one Divine Vein. Is it really worth dying for it?' If it was Rean who was in danger of dying, he would definitely give up without even thinking twice.

Once all battles were over, the 8192 cultivators had reduced to 4096. As promised, Ravio gave everyone thirty minutes of rest after the last battle was over. However, it was easy to see that many cultivators wouldn't be able to recover with so little time.

Ravio couldn't care less, though. As soon as the thirty minutes were over, he started the next round of matches. "Alright, everyone has five minutes to enter the arenas. Those who aren't inside until then will be disqualified."

Rean was still fine, so he went straight to his arena. He quickly jumped on it, just to see that his opponent was there already. However, he also found out with his Divine Sense that his opponent this time wouldn't be easy. 'Initial Stage Saint Realm!'

Rean's opponent wasn't surprised, though. After all, he did check the brackets... which Rean didn't. "You're one of the famous twins, right? You can call me Galer. I'm sorry, but I have no intention of letting you take more Divine Veins."

Rean smiled in response as he said, "Well, that'll depend on whether you're stronger than me or not."

Of course, the judge didn't wait for their trash talk to continue. "Ready...start!"

'Death Style, First Form, Stellar Piercer!'

Rean reacted swiftly, aiming to end the battle as fast as possible, like always.

However, his opponent wasn't a weakling. He took out his saber and quickly brandished it exactly against the tip of Rean's Black Star.

'Overwhelming Push!'

\*Clang!\*

Both sword and saber hit each other, forcing Rean and Galer back from the sheer strength of their attacks. However, Galer was truly surprised by Rean's strength. After all, not only was his cultivation higher, he was part of the Truik Race, one of the races with innately higher strength.

Naturally, Rean was also surprised. However, not because of his opponent's strength, but because of his saber. 'Silver Peak-level! My Black Star is still at Silver Middle-level, so it could only match that saber's power. It couldn't damage it. Also...' Rean looked at the muscles of his opponent. 'Definitely quick reaction time for someone with a body like that.'

Rean knew that his advantage wasn't in raw strength. Instead, it was the combination of both strength and speed. With that being said, staying still was the worst thing he could do.

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

'Life Fire, Flame Emperor Slash!'

'Death Style, Second Form, Crescent Moon!'

Once again, Rean used his skills, but without the support of Divine Energy nor Soul Power. Only the movement and the raw force behind the skills were present. Nevertheless, he launched attacks nonstop from everywhere.

His opponent wasn't as fast as Rean, but he was used to his own shortcomings. He knew that speed wasn't the thing he excelled in the most, so he formed a very good self-defense form.

'Overbearing Field!'

His saber moved around his body, seemingly covering every corner that Rean could attack from. Galer's eyes also followed Rean's movements closely, making sure that the direction from where he defended would be correct.

Sure enough, without Divine Energy and Soul Power, it was much easier to follow the opponent's movements. That was very true for both sides.

The other battles in the surroundings quickly settled down as one would usually find stronger opponents against weaker ones. That's how the random selection of opponents worked. Because of that, Rean and Galer's battle quickly gathered quite a small audience.

Obviously, the illusory formation showing the happening of the test eventually settled on Rean's fight as well.

'Life Fire, Third Form, Flaming Blade Arc!'

Once again, another attack without Divine Energy, Soul Power, or Elements was sent.

'Gotcha!'

However, Galer saw an opening in Rean's attack pattern and used it to counterattack the moment Rean arrived!

'True Charge!'

Galer's Truik Race's leg muscles exploded with strength for a moment before he shot against Rean's attack like a mad bull. Rean's Flaming Blade Arc scratched Galer's shoulder, but that was all that happened. Meanwhile, Galer's sudden charge brought him and his saber right in front of Rean's face!

"Die!"

Death... and me

Chapter 1023: Successful Plan

However, instead of panicking, Rean was angry with the current situation. 'It's irritating how Roan is always right about these things. I just tried this feint once, and this guy already fell for it...'

Suddenly, Rean's body spun in an inconceivable manner, evading a fatal strike from Galer. At the same time, his Black Star, which seemed to have missed the target, closed in as Rean rotated his body.

\*Swish!\*

\*Arrrgh!\*

Immediately, the Black Star opened a huge cut on Galer's chest, exposing the bones and organs behind it. Since there was no Divine Energy to increase one's defense, the contact between flesh and weapon was a lot more terrifying.

Rean then stepped back as Galer fell on his knees while covering his chest with his hand. Unfortunately for him, he wouldn't be able to stop the bleeding unless he summoned his Divine Energy from his Dantian...unless he wanted to die of blood loss, of course.

Rean didn't attack either. How many people had Rean healed so far? He knew a human's body better than most. Even if the Truik Race wasn't identical, it was still human in shape. Rean knew very well how deep he had to cut without killing his opponent.

Roan, seeing the match through the illusory formation, immediately contact Rean through their Soul Connection, telling him, 'You're too soft for your own good. He was truly trying to kill you just a second ago. Besides, you didn't leave that exchange unscathed either.'

Rean then looked on his right shoulder and could see the deep cut left behind by Galer's True Charge. It wasn't as serious as Galer's injury, but it would definitely affect him during the fight if it continued. 'It's fine. We already have more than enough Divine Veins to thank for the help Cynthia gave us. If I get in a real dangerous situation, I'll give up straight away.'

Roan snorted in response after hearing that. 'That's considering you have the time to do that.'

'Hahaha!' Rean laughed after hearing that. 'Don't worry. If there's one thing I know, it's that I definitely have the time. Besides, you should know that I'm not going all out at all.'

Roan narrowed his eyes as he said in response, 'Is that so? Then, what about this injury on your shoulder?'

'It's part of my plan to destroy everyone's confidence,' Rean replied.

In the end, Galer couldn't endure anymore and used his Divine Energy to stabilize his injury. Naturally, the judge saw it with his Divine Sense. "Galer is disqualified by breaking the Anti-Divine Energy rules. Rean Larks wins!"

\*Wow!\*

Everyone was surprised by the outcome of that battle. Rean and Galer were battling at a similar level. Galer's defense was great, and so was Rean's constant assault by relying on his speed. They didn't expect it to end in a single exchange with the very first injury.

"Did you see how Rean's body moved in the very last moment?"

"Of course! Look at Galer. Rean's move was obviously a feint!"

"A feint?" Someone snorted in response. "Then, it was one of the worst feints ever! Look at Rean's shoulder. His injury isn't as impressive as Galer's, but it definitely isn't anything that easy to heal."

"He's right. Rean's battle was one of the last of this round. He only has thirty minutes to get his injury under control before the next battle."

"I see...now that you say that, it could be said to have been a worthy exchange."

Kayla's group sighed in relief, though. At the same time, they couldn't help but think, 'We don't want you to die, so please, just give up on the next battle, will you? It's not worth risking your life anymore.' Well, they were being honest and not being honest at the same time. That was just a way of them mentally begging for no more Divine Veins to come.

However, while Galer was helped out in coming down the arena, Rean looked at his bleeding shoulder and muttered, "It sure hurts a lot." Soon after, he removed the fabric around the injury and...

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

Divine Soul Power and Light Element gathered in and out of Rean's body, quickly activating his cells around the injury. In front of everyone's eyes, including the still transmitting illusory formations, Rean's shoulder began to heal at a ridiculously high speed. In just a few seconds, his shoulder injury was gone!

Rean then began to move his arm after that, testing if everything was okay. In fact, if not because of the blood around it, no one would be able to tell that there was such a deep injury present there before. "Alright, it's back to normal now. Guess I have to wait for the next round to start." Only then did Rean come down from the arena while he took new clothes from his Spatial Ring to change the ragged one.

The plan to destroy everyone's confidence! Only now did Roan understand why Rean was hit by Galer's saber so badly. He was planning to show everyone how fast he could heal himself! Except for a few, everyone would come out of these battles with a few injuries. The worst part was that thirty minutes probably wouldn't be enough to heal them unless they weren't anything serious.

However, Rean was definitely in the seriously injured cultivator's group... just to leave that group a moment later. How unfair did that feel? If he could heal himself like that after every battle, didn't that mean he could go all out in the next ones? He was basically the only one with that advantage while the rest played somewhat safer.

"Th-that should be prohibited!"

"Yes, yes! Look at him! He's completely fine while the others are suffering to get back in shape."

"He should be disqualified!"

Ravio, the elder responsible for this test, had to admit he felt the urge to kick Rean out of the competition. His advantage compared to others is simply too great. Sadly for the others, the rules said that everyone could heal themselves however they liked during the thirty-minute window between rounds.

Rean smiled at the complaints around him and thought to himself, 'A very successful plan.'

Death... and me

Chapter 1024: But Of Course!

The next round had 2048 participants...or so it was supposed to. However, a few of the previous round winners had truly grievous injuries. Once they saw who they should fight against in the next round, they understood that it would be tantamount to suicide if they went out. Because of that, 27 participants passed straight through this round without even fighting. Rean...wasn't one of them.

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

Well, there weren't three copies of his sword when Rean attacked his opponent. Only the arc that the blade followed was present, which was the move Rean needed at that moment.

Rean's opponent wasn't a Saint Realm cultivator this time. Nevertheless, he was in the Late Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm, one stage higher than Rean.

'Tempest of Fury!'

With both fighters using swords, several exchanges played out at very high speeds considering a battle without Divine Energy.

\*Clang, clang, clang...\*

Unfortunately, the image of Rean healing himself completely after the last battle still played in the mind of his opponent. Not to mention that Rean frantically attacked as if he didn't care about any possible injury at all. The only part Rean covered were the ones that could lead him to instant death.

And just like that, both Rean and his opponents began to accumulate injuries all over their bodies. The only difference was that Rean was definitely stronger than the guy, so his injuries were nothing to be worried about. That only helped everyone confirm that Rean didn't need to care about his own wounds.

\*Bang!\*

It didn't take long for Rean to find a flaw in the opponent's defenses before kicking his stomach. The guy was taken aback by that outcome since, in all the matches so far, Rean had never used another thing other than his sword to attack.

"You were focusing on my sword way too much," Rean said with a smile as his opponent vomited blood. However, his smile quickly disappeared as a thought appeared in his mind. 'Fuck! This was something the ice block would have said. Hey, dead man! Leave my head!'

Roan's mouth twitched outside after that. 'Fuck you! Do you think I would have smiled while saying those words? You're having too much fun, idiot.'

Sister Orb couldn't help but ask, [Does that mean Rean is turning into what a happy Roan should be?]

Rean and Roan felt a chill on their backs after hearing that. 'Let's just pretend we didn't say anything.'

Rean's opponent tried to return to the fight, but Rean was merciless with his kick, breaking quite a few bones with the attack. From there onward, it was more or less a scene of incessant bullying until Rean emerged victoriously.

"Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect wins!"

Rean was now part of the top 1024 participants. With that, he took a deep breath and quickly healed all the injuries caused by his opponent. This time, they disappeared even faster as none of them was as serious as the one on his shoulder previously. "Well, let's continue like this."

Only Roan knew that Rean could have won without getting a single scratch. He purposely selected the areas to get injured just to show that it didn't matter. Roan might not like it, but Roan had to admit that Rean's plan was very effective against his opponents. After all, if Rean could win against a Saint Realm cultivator, why would he lose to someone at the Soul Transformation Realm?

In the next round, a few battles were won without even happening again. However, they were few since no one wanted to give up at this point. Naturally, Rean had to fight once again. By now, most of the lowlevel cultivators had already said their goodbyes to the competition. The ones who got this far were basically the lucky ones.

Rean's opponent this time just so happened to be one of those. He was at the Middle Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm, something that didn't pose any threat to Rean. As one could expect, Rean finished the battle in just a moment.

There were 1024 cultivators remaining... and quite a few sorry appearances among them. At the same time, there were others who were jubilant, having gotten this far without receiving any significant injury, if any at all. Rean was basically the only exception to the rule, having been injured badly before but still gleaming with healthiness.

"Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect wins!"

512 cultivators...

"Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect wins!"

256 cultivators...

"Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect wins!"

128 cultivators...

"Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect wins!"

64 cultivators...

"Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect wins!"

Rean began to feel something was off by the time he got to the top 32, though. 'How come I haven't fought a single Saint Realm cultivator since the first one? Could I have been really this lucky?'

Rean was right. The battles were indeed randomly chosen...but not completely. Once Ravio found the cultivators who had the highest chances of reaching the finals, he separated them during the drawings. Their opponents were still randomly chosen, but they definitely wouldn't be people like Rean or the other Saint Realm candidates.

First of all, there weren't that many Saint Realm cultivators to start with. With that being said, it wasn't so simple to get one of them as an opponent in the initial rounds. Ravio's separation only made a hard thing to happen become impossible.

However, one must remember that this first battle-related competition had more cultivators than any of the previous tests. With that said, it also had more Saint Realm participants. Now that only 32 cultivators remained, almost all of them were in the Saint Realm, except for five people. Rean, of course, was one of them.

Rean then checked where his next arena was and made his way there. Well, it was easy to imagine the expression of Rean's opponent once he saw the young white-haired man. "Shit, why does it have to be you?"

Rean shrugged his shoulders, replying, "Well, it's not like I'm choosing my opponents either. By the way, you're called Luval, right? I saw one of your fights."

Luval nodded in response. "That's me. However, don't think I'm some pushover just like your previous opponents."

Rean agreed with him, saying, "But of course! Otherwise, how could you have made this far? Anyways, let's have fun!"

Death... and me

Chapter 1025: Worthy Opponent

The judge looked at the two before exclaiming, "Ready...start!"

Rean immediately darted in his opponent's direction, as always. However, Luval wasn't any slower as he did the same thing. "I was one of the cultivators fighting for the first position in the speed test. Do you think I will lose to you in speed?!"

With those words, Rean and Luval exchanged their first strikes.

\*Clang, clang, clang...!\*

Rean narrowed his eyes as he could tell that this guy was faster than anyone he had fought so far. "No wonder, no wonder!"

Luval and Rean ended up separating after the first few attacks. However, Luval didn't want to give Rean time to rest. He believed that with his higher cultivation, his resistance was higher, so he immediately struck at Rean once again!

'Sky Thrust!'

Luval's weapon of choice was a spear, which he used with high proficiency.

'Death Style, Fourth Form, Soaring Dragon!'

Rean, seeing Luval coming at him from the skies, immediately retaliated.

Neither side used a single iota of Divine Energy or Soul Power. Yet, when both spear and sword collided, they still caused a small shockwave.

"Great! Let's go again!" Rean couldn't help but feel excited as he was finally able to use more of his strength.

"Hmph! Come!" Luval wasn't as happy, seeing a Soul Transformation Realm matching his level of prowess. However, he had seen enough of the twins' unbelievable records to not feel surprised anymore. He wouldn't hold back because of Rean's cultivation for sure.

Rean then ran around the sides, trying to attack Luval at his flank when he fell on the ground. However, Luval used the full length of his spear to attack the exact point Rean was going to use, forcing Rean to deal with his spear first.

Rean quickly parried the spear, following the shaft with his Black Star before aiming to cut Luval's fingers that were holding the spear.

Unfortunately for Rean, Luval knew what would be the outcome of his action and moved accordingly. As soon as Rean used his Black Start to parry his spear, he retracted it at the same time, using the counterforce to rotate his body and hit the sword's side with his foot.

\*Bang!\*

Rean and Luval were once again separated by the force of their own attacks, both failing to deliver a single injury to the opponent. Seeing that, Rean pointed his sword at Luval and said, "Your level is far above anyone I fought so far. As expected of a Middle Stage Saint Realm cultivator."

Luval nodded in response. "You, on the other hand, have far exceeded what I could expect from a Middle Stage Soul Transformation cultivator. It makes me feel slightly ashamed to be at a similar battle level as yours, even when I'm at an advantage."

Rean had to admit he kind of liked Luval. He said whatever came in his head without a care for the world. "Hehe! That's because I don't rely solely on my cultivation to train. Anyway, don't tell me you're not liking it? Where else would you have the chance to exclusively test the power of your body to its limits? In any other situation, you wouldn't be able to tell if the other side would suddenly use their Divine Energy or not."

Luval's expression eased a little after that. "Well, I'll give you that." Soon after, he ended the conversation as he attacked one more.

'Fallen Stars!'

Luval's spear moved as fast as his body could allow without the help of Divine Energy, aiming to pierce Rean's body from everywhere.

Of course, Rean didn't hold back either.

'Death Style, First Defensive Form, Reversive Arcs!'

As much as the arcs created by the Black Star didn't leave behind the light and dark threads, the sword itself still moved in the right patterns to block Luval's furious assault.

\*Clang, clang, clang, clang, clang...\*

At some point, Luval reached the limit of his continuous attack, which Rean used to counterattack before Luval recovered.

'Life Fire, Third Form, Flaming Blade Arc!'

The arc once again moved like a snake, trying to take one of Luval's arms with it. However, Luval never put himself in a position where he would be completely vulnerable. The moment he finished his last thrust, his legs were already pressed against the ground to pull back.

Both Rean's Flaming Blade Arc and Luval's jump moved at the same speed, which Luval used to recover his spear to a position where he could defend the arc.

\*Clang... Puchi!\*

However, Luval was still hurt by Rean's Flaming Blade Arc in the end.

"What?!"

Luval didn't lose his arm as his jump to the back disrupted Rean's Flaming Blade Arc. However, he couldn't understand how that injury appeared there since he was sure he had stopped Rean's sword with his spear.

Rean and Luval ended up distancing themselves from each other once again after that last exchange. Luval then looked at his arm and sighed in relief after seeing that the cut wasn't anything serious. Nevertheless, he felt the danger in Rean's assault. He then looked at the judge before asking, "Did he use some Divine Energy ability?"

The judge shook his head, telling him, "I can guarantee it wasn't Divine Energy. As to what it was, that's your problem to find out."

He obviously wouldn't tell what Rean did as it would be akin to giving Luval help.

However, Rean didn't mind saying it himself. "You're the first one I tried to do it on. Simply put..." Rean then held his Black Star on both ends and...slightly bent it!

"So that's how it is..." He would need to be an idiot to not understand that it was the bending ability that injured his arm. "I don't know how your sword can be so sturdy and still bend at the same time. However, are you sure you want to show that to me?"

Rean nodded as he replied, "I am. It would be fun to see you try to figure it out in the heat of the battle, but I'm also curious to see how you'll deal with it as I don't think I can find more opponents at your level later."

Luval took a deep breath after hearing that. "It's a good thing you see me as a worthy opponent. I also feel the same about you even though your cultivation is lower."

The judge began to lose his patience with their conversation, though. "Enough bullshit! If you don't start fighting, I'll disqualify both of you."

Rean and Luval smiled in response to those words as they once again restarted their skirmish.

Death... and me

Chapter 1026: Frantic

The bending ability of Rean's Black Star was something he added in the Realm of Gods. He got the study material in the Blacksmith Hall back in the Lukimira Sect and soon found about this method. Yes, Roan's White Star also had the same ability. It's just that Roan hadn't used it yet.

Knowing that Rean's sword could bend and defend against were two different things, though. Luval was forced to position his spear further away from his body every time he used it to block a hit from Rean to make sure he wouldn't get hurt. But even then, there were times where he miscalculated and got a few cuts in various spots, thanks to it.

However, the fact still stands that he was a Middle Stage Saint Realm cultivator, an entire realm above Ream. With that being said, Rean's advantages could only bring him so far. Rean also received a few injuries on his body as a result of Luval changing his fighting style. Since Luval couldn't defend completely against Rean's Black Star, he used those changes where Rean cut him to also hit Rean whenever possible.

Both Rean and Luval were going all out. Rean used feints, but Luval didn't fall for them easily. Not to mention that Luval knew how to use feints as well. Because of that, Rean and Luval's fight turned into a battle of attrition. Who would be able to hold on the longest? Everyone watching the battle wished to know.

There was a reason for that. Luval finally gave up trying to play defensively to avoid injuries. He wasn't Rean, which meant he couldn't completely heal himself in just a few moments. Because of that, he had done his best to not get injured until he reached the final battle. Unfortunately, it was obviously impossible with Rean as his opponent. Since that's the case, Luval decided to not care about it.

Rean and Luval, however, didn't want to keep things like this. They didn't like the idea of leaving the decision up to fate. 'I have to finish this,' they thought almost at the same time.

Rean, who had always tried to attack from the blind spots, gave up on strategy and charged head-on!

Luval, on the other hand, decided to not parry Rean's attack anymore, focusing fully on the offensive!

\*Swish, swish, swish...\*

\*Clang, clang, clang...\*

Injuries accumulated as Luval and Rean fought for that one opening! The chance to end the battle. It was then that Luval's spear moved in a direction Rean failed to notice, piercing his right leg.

\*Puchi!\*

\*Argh!\*

Rean jumped back, ignoring the pain and the blood. However, how could Luval let that chance slip up? He immediately charged forward, increasing his assault even more.

'True Spear Rain!'

Even without Divine Energy, that attack used a lot of Luval's stamina as it was hard to control. The spear tips seemed to multiply due to the speed they moved, making Rean's life even worse.

'Death Style, First Defensive Form, Reversive Arcs!'

Rean then did what he could, using the rotation of the technique to fend off the spears he could catch in time.

\*Puchi, puchi, puchi...\*

Unfortunately, with his leg bleeding, Rean couldn't properly move the sword, allowing for more damage to be received by his body. Even his face had small pierce wounds on it.

Rean didn't give up, though. 'Almost there, almost there!'

The barrage of attacks continued until suddenly...

\*Argh!\*

Luval grunted in pain! It wasn't that he received some damage but that his body reached the limit of how long he could continue using his True Spear Rain.

'Now!' Not letting that chance pass up, Rean immediately shot forward, passing just a millimeter away from Luval's spear tip. The blood of the deep, piercing wound in his leg spurted out like a fountain, but Rean simply ignored it. Once again, Rean's knowledge about the human body played its part. Rean could tell through the battle and the wound that Luval had accrued that his assault had a time limit. That's why Luval hadn't used it until now.

In any case, the strain on Luval's body, combined with the wounds, made it impossible for him to move his spear anymore. He was paralyzed, even if just for a moment. Of course, Rean used that moment to the fullest!

'Death Style, First Form, Stellar Piercer!'

Luval was taken aback by Rean's sudden charge. It wasn't the fact that Rean could counterattack but that he knew exactly the moment he would be vulnerable. Not wanting to back down, he gritted his teeth and tried to pull his spear back as well as jump back at the same time.

The same way Luval took his chance, so did Rean. Luval tried to rotate his body at the last moment, seeing that he would be stabbed if he continued to retreat in the direction he initially chose. However, Rean's Black Star seemed to bend once more through the sheer force of the movement. No, it wasn't that. Rean knew that Luval would definitely have the energy to try one last dodge, and he aimed for that moment!

\*Swish!\*

Rean's Black Star then pierced through Luval's right abdomen. Because Luval tried to dodge at the last moment, his body's inertia ended up making things worse. The Black Star had already pierced through his abdomen before cutting through the rest of the right side. Luval vomited blood and used his spear to stabilize himself. As for Rean, he passed by Luval due to his own inertia as well.

Rean then used his still good leg to stop his movement while the blood continued to gush out of the other. Rean and Luval were hurt all over, with each having a serious injury. Rean's injury might have been on his leg, but he had been bleeding for longer than Luval. As for Luval, his serious injury was newer but much more serious. Of course, the rest of the injuries only made things more frantic for both parties.

The two of them looked at each other, seeing who would be the first to try to use Divine Energy to heal themselves. The one who did that first would be the loser of this fight as neither Rean nor Luval had the force to continue battling anymore.

Death... and me

Chapter 1027: Chances

However, something surprising happened right after.

\*Spurt!\*

Luval vomited another mouthful of blood before his eyes turned white...

## \*Thud!\*

Soon after, his body fell on the ground as the blood from his abdominal wound gushed out nonstop. Luval had passed out!

"Winner, Rean Larks from Lukimira Sect!"

Rean didn't even wait for the judge to finish his words, though. The moment the word winner came out, his body burst out with Divine Soul Power.

Everyone then looked closely at that. Rean was seriously injured by the saber of his first Saint Realm opponent. However, it wasn't near as terrible as his actual injuries at this moment. Not to mention the accumulation of all his other injuries.

Well, they were underestimating the power of Light Element way too much.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

What was a deep wound? What was blood loss? As long as Rean wasn't dead, all of that meant nothing if he had Divine Soul Power for his use! In front of everyone's eyes, Rean's injuries closed at high speeds once again. His active cells quickly generated more and more blood cells to replenish the lost ones as well. As for the nutrients necessary for that, obviously, it was the Divine Soul Power that Rean hadn't used during the entire battle.

Sure, Rean took longer to heal himself this time, but it was still a full recovery! Other than the bloodstains and ragged clothes, Rean was ready to battle once more. That only contributed to making everyone else think how unfair Rean's healing abilities were, though.

Luval's sect members quickly hopped on the arena to try and stop his bleeding. However, the wounds Rean inflicted were much worse than they thought. It would be something if Luval was awake and could use his own Divine Energy to stop the critical areas from worsening. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case. The elder on the arena didn't do anything, though. It was against the rules to help anyone in the competition, even if that someone had already lost. Everyone who entered the battle-related contests knew that from the very start. It could also be said to be one of the reasons why the best Divine Veins were rewarded for their winners.

It was then that Rean got close to Luval, much to his sect members' displeasure. "Are you here to cause a problem for him? He already lost, you know?"

Rean shook his head as he said in response, "Don't be ridiculous! I don't take delight in beating up a defeated opponent. Now, step aside. If this continues on for a few more minutes, he will be dead for sure."

Luval's sect mates were taken aback, but they knew Rean was right. Without much choice, they could only step away. However, the thing that caught their and everyone's attention was something else. 'Can he heal others the same way as himself?'

The answer came a moment later.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

Once again, everyone could see the injuries closing up at high speeds. Of course, it was also easy to see that the speed they recovered paled in comparison to when Rean used it on himself. It showed that Rean's healing skill wasn't as good on others as it was on himself. In any case, it was still heaven-defying enough.

Three minutes...that's how long Rean took to close all of Luval's injuries and replenish the blood he had lost.

\*Cough, cough...\*

Luval suddenly coughed a bit more blood as his eyes opened. It wasn't that he was still injured. Instead, that blood was accumulated waste that he was spilling out. Luval was puzzled at first as he looked around. "Wh-what happened?"

"Senior Luval!"

Luval's sect members immediately got close once again while Rean distanced himself. Rean began to make his way out while telling Luval, "Next time, try not to push yourself so hard. There might not be another me to bring you back from the half-dead world."

Luval was puzzled for a moment when finally, one of his sect members used a Divine Sense Message to explain everything. Only then did he understand that he had lost the battle and that he was supposed to be dead if not for Rean. What shocked Luval even more was how his body felt extremely light. Even before he came to the assembly, he didn't feel this nimble.

"This..."

Luval then looked at Rean in the distance and asked in a shout, "Wait! Why did you do that? You only spent your Divine Energy without any merit to be taken."

Rean stopped for a moment and looked back as he replied, "Isn't that obvious? We had a lot of fun today. It would leave a bitter taste in my mouth if our battle suddenly ended up with one of us dead. I'm pretty sure you would feel the same."

Luval was taken aback after hearing that. If he said that he wasn't trying to kill Rean, that would be a lie. If he didn't go all out, he wouldn't have dragged that battle for so long and almost won. However, it wasn't a lie that he also enjoyed fighting to the limit of his body's strength against Rean. "I owe you one." Luval refrained from saying that Rean's healing process also helped increase his own strength somehow. That's because Rean also cleaned all the impurities in his body while he healed him.

Rean nodded with a smile after that. "Let's have some tea another time. Hahaha!"

And just like that, the last battle of this round was finally over. Only 16 participants remained. There was one more surprising thing, though. Other than Rean, there was still one cultivator that wasn't in the Saint Realm. The only difference was that the guy really reached his position by sheer luck, having mostly caught seriously injured opponents up to this point. As everyone waited for the thirty minutes of rest to be over, the people outside had their own thoughts for the next round. It turns out that Rean's opponent was considered one of the favorites to take the title of winner for the physical one-on-one battles. It's just that Rean was now another one of those. Now that Luval was out, few of the remaining cultivators had a real chance against him.

Death... and me

Chapter 1028: No, Wait!

Rean's next battle was a lot easier as his opponent was only in the Initial Stage of the Saint Realm. Besides, he was injured due to his previous matches, so it was a no-brainer to see that Rean had the full advantage.

8 cultivators remained...

One more battle and another easy victory. Rean's opponent was better from a health point of view than the previous one. However, his cultivation was still way below Luval. Not to mention that this one wasn't so focused on speed, just like Luval.

4 cultivators remained...

It was then that Rean was caught by surprise when he saw his next opponent. "Initial Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm?"

Rean could be said to have reached this match through his strength alone. However, his opponent was different. His luck didn't end on the rounds of 16 as he matched up with a badly injured opponent yet again. Of course, he had a very bad expression when he saw that his opponent was Rean. "Sigh...I guess my luck can only bring me so far."

By now, there wasn't a single cultivator that didn't know of Rean's healing abilities, let alone his strength. This guy saw part of Rean and Luval's battle as well as his fight that time ended much earlier. Whether it was Rean or Luval, he knew he wouldn't have any chance against them whatsoever!

Rean scratched the back of his head, feeling somewhat bad for the guy. You had to compliment his luck for arriving this far by relying on external factors. "Well...think of it like this. The other two guys who are fighting in the arena over there aren't that injured either. I don't think you'd be able to beat either of

them the way you are now. In fact, you should be happy as the 4th position will give you a sizeable amount of Divine Stones. By the way, what's your name?"

The guy looked at Rean before answering, "Ludio Vistrue."

Rean nodded after that. "Alright." Rean then took out his Black Star before asking Ludio, "Should we start?"

Ludio sighed in response, but nodded nonetheless. He then took a pair of daggers out of his spatial ring and prepared to face Rean.

Seeing that, the elder finally gave his signal. "You two can start!"

Rean didn't want to waste much time on this, so he went straight at Ludio.

'Death Style, Second Form, Crescent Moon!'

Rean started with a wide attack, even though it didn't have any Divine Energy or Soul Power behind it. Still, considering their difference in cultivation, it should be more than enough to cause damage that forced Ludio to give up.

Ludio, of course, could clearly see the difference in speed and power between him and Rean. Without even thinking, he retreated while positioning his daggers in front of Rean's Black Star to try and mitigate the hit at least.

Rean smiled after seeing that. He could tell that Ludio's daggers were a pair of Silver Initial-level weapons. Rean's Black Star could cut through swords at the same level as his, let alone lower-level ones.

However, just as his Black Star was about to cut the daggers and injure Ludio behind them... Ludio tripped! He then fell with his back on the ground and almost hit his head.

However, that wasn't the problem. The problem was that Rean's Crescent Moon passed just a few millimeters above Ludio's head, not hitting anything.

"What?!"

It wasn't over, though. Because of that ridiculous event, Ludio ended up right below Rean's Black Star. Ludio then saw the chance and immediately tried to hit Rean with his daggers. At the very least, he wanted to make Rean lose his weapon.

Too bad for him, but Rean was still much faster than Ludio, so he rotated his body, getting away from Ludio's range. Nevertheless, Rean couldn't help but let out a bit of cold sweat from that. 'So close! If he had aimed to dodge like that, I wouldn't be so surprised and would have reacted much earlier. However, I can tell that he truly tripped. The fact he escaped my attack through such a situation made me hesitate for a moment there. If it was Luval, he definitely would have taken one of my arms.'

Ludio then quickly got up, obviously surprised that he survived the first strike.

Rean then took a deep breath and attacked again.

'Life Fire, First Form, Flame Emperor Sword!'

Once again, Rean attacked too fast for Ludio to be able to dodge. However, another ridiculous event took part just as Rean was about to win. One of the arena's tiles detached once Rean stepped on it, making Rean's leg move a little as the sword descended. Rean's Flame Emperor Sword, which didn't have any flames, changed direction slightly. Ludio, who had tried to dodge the attack, just so happened to dodge in the perfect direction to avoid the strike once again.

"This is bullshit!" Rean exclaimed as he quickly changed his stance.

'Death Style, First Form, Stellar Piercer!'

Rean missed the attack, but he was much closer now. By using the Stellar Piercer, which was mainly focused on a single thrust charge, someone with Ludio's cultivation couldn't possibly dodge in any possible manner. It was just too fast...or so Rean thought.

Unfortunately, the ridiculous things happening there seemed to want to test Rean's patience. This time, Ludio crossed his dagger in a very clumsy way to try to defend against the Stellar Piercer. It was so badly done that Roan would probably smack Ludio's head if he was his apprentice, feeling disgusted by that display. However, that terrible defense attempt just so happened to hit the tip of Rean's Black Star!

\*Pin!\*

\*Crash!\*

Rean's Black Star then moved between Ludio's two legs...almost cutting the third one before crashing against the ground. Ludio then looked at Rean with a pale expression, having almost lost his ability to procreate right there and then. "I-I give up. Please, I still want to have a family."

Rean's mouth twitched in response to those words. "Fuck you! It was your defense that forced this situation! No, wait! Did you just give up?"

Death... and me

Chapter 1029: Ludio's Luck

It didn't matter anymore as the judge clearly heard Ludio's words. "Winner, Rean Larks from the Lukimira Sect!"

Ludio then fell on his butt as he sighed in relief, muttering to himself, "It's finally over."

Rean felt like crying after hearing that. "Don't act as if I was the one aiming at your little brother there!"

However, he quickly put those thoughts behind as he asked Roan through their Soul Connection, 'Did you see all of that? Could someone really be this lucky, or do you think he did all of that on purpose?'

Roan narrowed his eyes after hearing that. Obviously, he had also seen it. 'I doubt it was on purpose. However, that chain of events...somehow, I feel like it's connected to the fact that Ludio had gotten this far.'

Rean nodded, replying, 'From what I know, he got this far because most of his opponents who were stronger than him were already seriously injured. They couldn't show any of their real strength and lost in the end.'

Roan also added, 'In fact, the same thing should have happened to you. Did you forget how you and Luval's condition was at the end of the fight? Without your Life Style, Second Form, Recovery, do you think you would be in shape to fight Ludio?'

Rean immediately shook his head. 'I would have given up this fight straight away if that was the case. When my battle against Luval was over, I could barely move, let alone fight anyone else.'

'Exactly.' Roan agreed with Rean before asking, 'Sister Orb, do you know anything about it?'

[Oh, so you finally remember that I exist, huh? Why can't you two talk to me more?]

Roan's mouth twitched in response. 'Stop the fucking drama! Tell us. Is there something different about Ludio?'

[Sigh... such an inconsiderate child. Very well, I'll tell you what I know. Ludio, as you can see, is part of another race, the Yote race. Of course, they're another humanoid race that could reproduce as most humanoid races are derivations of humans...or maybe the other way around.]

'Do you mean that his luck is related to his race?' Rean asked.

[Pretty much. In the Realm of Gods, there are many races that have evolved to be good at something specific. Naturally, it wouldn't be hard to tell that even luck is part of this evolution. You two are using a system that feeds on the changes of destiny, so you should know that it's very possible.]

Rean and Roan nodded after hearing that. They might not have believed in destiny in the past, but they would be denying reality if they said it now.

[However...] Sister Orb paused a moment as she thought about Rean's battle and all the other hurdles Ludio had to pass through to reach this semi-final round. [Ludio's Yote Race shouldn't be this heavendefying. You could say that races that have ties with luck are manipulating destiny itself. Destiny, as you know, isn't something easily used. Just think of how hard you had to work and how big the changes you had to make to gain Destiny Points. On top of that, you have the Soul Gem System to help you with it.]

'That's to say, Ludio is an exception among the Yotes,' Roan said.

[Well, he might have just been lucky himself, and it got added to the luck his race provides him...to an absurdly high extent. Nonetheless, I would recommend you to form some ties with him. Who knows? It might be of some use for you later.]

'Ties?' Rean asked with a bitter smile. 'He thinks I almost cut his penis out. I don't think he wants to have any ties with me.'

[Hahaha! That's true. Oh well, just forget it then.]

Roan then shook his head before telling Rean. 'Well, then it seems like you won the next battle and the title as well.'

Rean was taken aback. 'Why?'

Roan then looked at the illusory formation that showed the other battle of the semi-final. 'Ludio's luck made his next opponent become seriously injured before he advanced, right? That was supposed to be your case as well without your Instant Recovery skill. That being said, Ludio's next opponent after winning against you should...'

Rean immediately dashed out of the arena and went to see the battle of the other two semi-finalists.

\*Clang, clang, clang, clang...\*

\*Bang, bang, bang...\*

\*Swish, swish, swish...\*

Sure enough, Roan was right. Rean's next opponent would come out of this fight. However... both fighters were going all out, and both were injured quite badly. Nevertheless, they kept giving it their all, only worsening their situation.

Their battle continued for several minutes until finally... they ended up delivering a devastating hit against each other at the same time.

\*Thud, thud...\*

Both competitors fell to the ground, completely unconscious. This wasn't anything new in this first battle competition, so the judge simply announced. "Both contestants are out of battle. Neither will advance!"

\*Wow!\*

A few moments later, Ravio, the elder responsible for this competition, announced, "Rean Larks from the Lukimira Sect wins the physical one-on-one competition!"

Rean couldn't help but look back in Ludio's direction, who also came to watch the battle. For Ludio, the loser of this fight would be his opponent for third place, or so it was supposed to be. However, since there would be no one to fight Rean in the final, the three of them should decide who would be second instead. Obviously, Ludio got second place straight away as neither of his possible opponents was in any condition to fight at all!

Ludio was obviously surprised to see that, and he couldn't help but celebrate the prize of 1000 Divine Stones he would get for the second place.

Of course, the main attention was on Rean, as the twins got another Divine Vein.

It's just that Rean's attention wasn't on the outcome of this battle. Instead... 'What is that thing?'

It was faint, but Rean was sure he could see something floating around Ludio. It's just that no one else seemed to notice it. 'A... fairy?'

Death... and me Chapter 1030: The Fairy and the Spirits

[What are you talking about? I can't see anything.]

Roan was watching the illusory formation and agreed with Sister Orb, telling Rean, 'I can't see anything either.'

'Only I can see that thing?' Rean then immediately shared his memories of what he was seeing through the Soul Connection so that Roan and Sister Orb could see what he could. Only then did Sister Orb and Roan understand what Rean was talking about.

'This...' Roan was surprised to see that. 'It does look like a fairy...or, to be more specific, the tales about fairies from your Earth back in the other half of the universe.'

Rean nodded in response. 'Exactly!'

[Oh! So that's what you're talking about. No wonder Ludio's luck is so ridiculously high. Not only is he part of the Yote Race, but he also has the blessing of a Fairy Queen.] Sister Orb could not help but say. [Still, I'm surprised that Rean can see it at all.]

'Fairy Queen?' Rean and Roan had confused expressions on their faces after hearing that. 'Leaving the fact that you really call it Fairies aside, is it another humanoid race?'

[No. They would be part of the third type of existence, the spirits. So, we have the humanoid races, the demon beast races, and finally, the spirit races. Fairies are part of the third one.]

'I see...' Rean understood. 'Wait, doesn't that mean Roan was part of the third race back in the other half of the universe? After all, he was a Death Spirit.'

[Yep, that's basically it. It's just that it's too hard to find spirits. For example, before you died, you had never seen a Death Spirit, right? They were supposed to be invisible to the naked eye. Even Divine Sense and Soul Power Scans are useless against them.]

Roan agreed with Sister Orb. 'True. Unless I wanted to show my form by myself, no one could see me. Well, appearing in front of the living was against the rules and had huge implications, so Death Spirits never do that.'

Of course, Roan only knew about Death Spirits, nothing else. 'However, I didn't know that other Spirit Races existed. You mentioned 'A' Fairy Queen. That means there isn't just one, right?'

[Exactly! Fairies also have their own territories, and the owners of those territories are the Fairy Queens. They have an even stronger attachment to destiny than Yotes. When you put the two together, it makes sense why Ludio got this far.] Sister Orb then asked Rean, [Still, how come you can see that one?]

Rean pondered over the question for a bit before saying, 'I think it's because of the Light Element. It's not that I can see the fairy itself, but the Light Element that changes according to her presence as she moves around. That's why it's so faint.'

Sister Orb had to admit it made sense. [Well, all I can say is that Ludio is definitely very lucky. Spirits aren't a very approachable race. You might walk within an entire kingdom of them and not even notice due to their natural abilities.]

'Is that a good thing?' Rean asked, now understanding what he was seeing.

[Who knows? You can try to talk with that fairy following Ludio later. Maybe there's some use in being able to see them.]

Roan then asked something else. 'What about the humanoid and demon beast races? Do they have a method to see fairies if they need to? Or could it be that fairies can only be seen if they so desire?'

[Of course, there is! It's just that you would need to reach a pretty high level of cultivation to do that on your own. Otherwise, you'll need some very expensive detection treasures. Just so that you can have an idea, such a treasure is worth more than all the Divine Veins being rewarded in this assembly together.]

Rean and Roan nodded after that. 'No wonder that fairy is sticking to Ludio without care. It doesn't think anyone can detect it.'

[In any case, that's just about it. You can see that fairy...so what? You can see everyone else here, so there's nothing really special. After all, Fairies can make themselves visible if they wish to.]

Roan pondered over it a bit before asking, 'Are fairies strong?'

[Hmm...how can I put it... they're strong yet they're not at the same time.] Seeing Rean and Roan's puzzled expression, Sister Orb continued to explain. [They have this huge advantage where no one can see them without the proper treasures, right? Do you think that's a weak ability?]

Roan immediately understood after that. 'I see...if they decided to get rid of low-level cultivators and demon beasts, there's nothing they could do. But since you say they aren't strong either...' Roan pondered over a reason. 'Could it be that fairies are rare?'

[Bingo!] Sister Orb was happy that Roan caught the gist of it so quickly. [As expected of a Death Spirit. Fairies don't reproduce. Instead, they're born from the energy of the world. Such are the conditions necessary for a new one to appear. You can think of it as their birth rate being as low as a Divine Stream Lake appearing.]

Rean and Roan nodded in understanding. 'That makes sense. They have this huge advantage but are just way too far from the numbers necessary to cause a ruckus.'

[Yep. Most Spirit Races are similar. Demon beast and humanoid races often refrain from causing problems with the Spirits like fairies. They don't have the numbers to threaten them, but they sure would be extremely annoying to deal with if irritated. Well, in the fairies' case, they're a pretty peaceful race, so no one really feels danger from them.]

At some point, Rean saw the fairy around Ludio fly away before she sat in the distance. That also explained why he didn't see it during his fight against Ludio. 'Sister Orb, since fairies can help with your luck, shouldn't they be targeted more often?'

[That's a wrong way of thinking. You won't get lucky just because you have a fairy. First, you need a Fairy Queen's blessing, and the Fairy Queen is very strong herself. Second, it's impossible to force the issue. Luck isn't something you can gather. It isn't tangible. If a fairy doesn't really wish to, you will never get the advantages of having one.]

Rean understood after that. 'I see...well, I'll talk with Ludio outside once Roan starts his test.'