

## Death 1291

Death... and me

Chapter 1291: Flying With You

"How come?" Tixa asked.

"Suppose they admit that they lied about the position of the enemy army's right wing. They could simply say that your orders won't change and that you have to deal with them on your own."

Tixa shook her head, refuting Roan's words as she said, "But if we do know, I can plead that my cultivators don't want their lives to be forfeited that easily. At the very least, they would be forced to select another group since it's obviously a mission without return. Don't forget that more than half of the army is filled with people who weren't part of the army to start with. They didn't come here to die but to make War Points."

Roan shrugged his shoulders, saying in response, "Following that train of thought, you will be accused of conspiring against the orders you were given. Because of you, the cultivators won't follow the orders anymore, which would eventually turn out to be the same as if they had died. You will lose all your cultivators." Roan then added, "Well, you can say something like you let it slip out by mistake. Your punishment would probably be smaller that way."

Tixa felt somewhat cornered and even thought why she joined the army in the first place. "Nevertheless, I won't just sit still and let them use me as a scapegoat. As much as I might not care about the lives of my division, I'm not wicked to the point of sending them to suicide either," Tixa told Roan, already preparing to leave.

Roan then mentioned something else, "If you don't go, they will choose some other Dark Element team to do it. What I'm saying is, someone has to do it, whether they like it or not. Otherwise, many, many more will die in the Vilgal Center Army. The headquarters aren't sending people out to die just because they find pleasure in it. They're doing it because that's their best chance at winning the battle and saving a lot more lives than they would without using this method. Of course, that doesn't mean they care about all of us. It's just that achieving victory with the least amount of casualties is the best way to win this war."

Tixa couldn't help but stop in her tracks. "I... then should I just leave it like that?" It was then that Tixa noticed something. "Wait! Since you know all of that, does that mean you won't go?"

Roan shook his head, asking her in response, "Won't go? Why would I not? Hidden attacks are the best way to gain War Points. Since I'm not the commander, it won't matter if the rest die anyway. I won't receive any blame."

Tixa was taken aback to hear that. "Didn't you say that everyone is most likely going to die? That includes you as well."

Roan snorted in response, clarifying, "Hmph! Don't put me at the same level as everyone else. I'm very confident in my abilities to escape that place."

Tixa narrowed her eyes, asking him, "So, does this mean you're simply letting me take all the blame?"

Roan asked something else in response, "And why should I not? We agreed that you would give me 10000 War Points to help you command. However, this is pretty much a lost cause. Since that's the case, I might as well kill as many enemies as I can before I retreat on my own. You're a Transition Realm cultivator, right? You can just fly and bring a few people along with you. At least you won't let everyone die."

Tixa was just about to burst out in a fit of rage when suddenly, she remembered that Roan liked to leave clues in his words to test her intelligence. "You said... 'pretty much' a lost cause, didn't you? Are you telling me there's a way out of this situation without defying the orders?"

Roan faintly smiled when he heard the question. "You almost gave in to your anger, didn't you?"

Tixa's face became slightly red as she averted Roan's eyes. "Shut up and answer my question."

Roan then continued, "Well, I'll give you 7 out of 10 points for noticing it. Anyway, there's indeed a way out. You know which one it is already."

"I know?" Tixa got puzzled.

Roan nodded. "Isn't that obvious? All we have to do is not die after accomplishing the objective."

Tixa's mouth twitched in response. "That's where the problem lies, idiot! How do you intend to escape the enemy army's right wing? You said it yourself. They definitely wouldn't let us off the hook once we try to escape."

"Who said anything about escaping?" Roan said in response. "We won't escape at all. We're going to pierce through their defense and come out inside our own army. That's what we're going to do."

Tixa almost fainted after hearing that. "Are you kidding me? How do you expect to pierce through their army with only our division? It's way too far!"

Roan didn't agree with her. "It seems like you're forgetting one thing here. We have the element of surprise on our side. As long as we use it well, we can make it at least halfway through the enemy's lines before they react to stop us. Besides, we'll have extra help."

"Extra help?" Tixa became confused once again.

Roan didn't say anything else about that, though. "You'll see."

Tixa could only go with that answer and ask something else. "Alright, let's say we make through half of the enemy line. How about the rest?"

Roan shrugged his shoulders in response, replying, "What else is there to do? I'll command everyone so that we force our way through the other half. Fortunately, it seems like the information about the Jesvo Alliance's central army is accurate. That's all I need."

As much as Tixa had her doubts, she didn't have much choice there. "Alright. However, if I see that we're reaching a dead-end, I'll take you and a few more with me through the skies."

Roan looked at Tixa in surprise. "You would save me even though I'm obviously doing it all for myself? I won't lie. I don't really care about what happens to you if this fails."

Tixa nodded, telling him, "At least, you're trying to find a way to escape this shitty situation. Just the fact that you saw through this goddamn merciless strategy is enough for me to not let you die there. I don't care about you, but I can make use of your mind in the future."

Roan nodded after hearing that, saying, "I could flee by myself if necessary, but I guess flying with a Peak Stage Transition Realm cultivator is quite safer. Alright, I accept your offer.. Though, not that I think we will need it anyway."

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Chapter 1292: Is There A Problem?

Hakzuax put everything in place so that Rean could heal batches of 200 cultivators with similar degrees of injuries every time. With that said, he went out and continued to heal more cultivators on his own since it would be meaningless to simply keep looking at Rean. However, he could still feel Rean's presence every time he used that Healing Aura of his.

However, it was then that Hakzuax noticed something. After Rean finished healing a batch, he would stop for a while to recover his Divine Energy. It's just that this time, he was taking way, way longer to restart his healing process than before. Because of that, Hakzuax went back to check on him... just to see that he had left.

Hakzuax looked at one of his subordinates before asking, "Where's Rean?"

The guy immediately answered, "He said that something came up and he had to leave to help his brother. He'll be back in a day or two."

"What?!" Hakzuax was taken aback. "Why the hell didn't you tell me?"

The soldier looked at Hakzuax in confusion, saying in response, "But we never held anyone by force before. It was you who said that if anyone wanted to leave, just let them go as we don't have time to care about every single person."

Hakzuax felt like punching himself after hearing that. Indeed, it was him who said that. Even though healing cultivators were the minority, there were still loads of them when taking the size of this war into

consideration. He and his subordinates obviously couldn't take care of each one of them. Otherwise, they would lose way too much time that could be used to heal more injured cultivators.

"Fuck! His brother is one of the cultivators who's fighting. I can't let him die on the frontlines! How long has it been since he left?"

"Three hours, more or less," the soldier replied.

Somewhere close to one of the teleport formations that led to the front line, Rean suddenly appeared by Roan's side. Obviously, he used the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm to get there straight away. It's just that Roan went to a corner where no one could see anything to let Rean come out.

When Roan returned to his division, Tixa obviously noticed Rean's presence. "This... are you brothers?" Anyone would be able to tell that due to their identical features. The only difference was their hair colors.

Roan nodded, saying, "He is."

Rean then greeted Tixa. "Hello! My ice block of a brother said that you guys needed some help during the next mission, so I came from the healing grounds to give all of you a hand."

Tixa was curious as to how Rean reached this place since everything was controlled by the army. However, she decided to not ask anything since their situation wasn't very good right now. It's just that she didn't know if an Initial Stage Saint could do much for their group, as Roan seemed to think. "Fine! I don't know how you got here, nor do I care. Let me ask, do you know what's about to happen?"

Rean nodded, saying in response, "Are we going to undertake a sui-"

"Shut up!" Tixa immediately closed Rean's mouth before he could finish his question. That obviously caught the attention of the other cultivators of their division. Seeing that, Tixa immediately came with a follow-up. "The missions' details are secret until we reach our striking point. That's to prevent spies inside our division from passing information to the enemy, so don't say anything else."

No one found it strange as that happened many times before. They wouldn't know anything until they finally got to the location of their objective. They were only curious as to why Rean would know that since he wasn't even part of their division. But then again, it was obvious that Rean and Roan were brothers, and Roan was second in command. Although it looked somewhat wrong, they didn't complain.

"Tixa, your teleport is ready," a soldier at the teleport grounds said sometime later. There was no lack of teleport formations capable of sending people to every possible place at the frontlines. They were just about to take one that would deliver them close to the canyon they would use.

"Alright, everyone. Let's go!" Tixa immediately stepped on the formation, and so did her 3500 or so members forming their division. Once everyone got on, the soldier activated the formation, and soon, everyone disappeared in a flash of silver light.

A few moments later, a man came flying to the teleport formations, hoping to find Rean there. Unfortunately, Hakzuax was too late. Rean was already gone. "Fuck! You better come back alive!" He wanted to go after him, but he had too many things to take care of. The worst part was that he couldn't really obligate Rean to do anything as Rean wasn't really part of the army but just a mere volunteer. He could only wait for him to come back.

Roan's division immediately heard the sounds of battle coming from far in the distance when they arrived on the other side of the teleport formation. A few hundred meters from them, they could also see the canyon that was mentioned in the orders, and there was a man waiting for them there.

Tixa recognized the guy and narrowed her eyes. "That's the central army's vice commander, Lui Tivon."

Lui knew the importance of this ambush through the canyon, so he had to make sure that Tixa's group was here to execute the mission. "You're just in time. Good! Here, take it." Lui then passed a jade slip to Tixa with a map of the canyon they were going to trek. "We marked down all the locations where the scouts were located. You will have to deal with them as you move forward. The central army and the other Dark Element division are ready to attack, waiting for your distraction. You better not fail this mission."

Tixa nodded and gave them an order. "Everyone, enter the canyon."

Without saying anything, everyone jumped inside, leaving only Tixa behind.. Tixa then looked at Lui with a dark expression. Lui obviously noticed that and asked, "Is there a problem?"

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Chapter 1293: Just Our Luck

Tixa shook her head after that, telling him, "Next time, don't lie about where the enemy forces are located. What really irritates me is that you also intend to make me the scapegoat for the death of my division after it. Well, someone already told me that sacrifices are necessary during war, so I won't say anything else. However, you better pay us well once this is over. Because this suicidal mission where you expect none of us to come back alive won't just end like that. We're definitely coming back, and in a way that you couldn't even believe would happen." After that, she flew down the canyon. She had already made her mind that she would see this mission till the bitter end.

Lui's eyes could not help but greatly widen as he saw Tixa going down. It was obvious that he knew what Tixa was talking about. "How did she find out?" However, he saw Tixa's division leave swiftly, so he could only shake his head. "I can only hope she will carry the mission out even though she knows the truth. If not, I can simply stop the central army from launching the attack anyway." Lui then let out a sigh before taking a flight to return to the central army.

Roan was at least satisfied with the scouts' map in the jade slip. This was an important mission that could bring a huge victory to this specific battlefield, so the Vigal Army was very thorough with this part of the information, at the very least.

Before Roan was second in command, Tixa was already good at moving her division silently. With her and Roan working together, as well as using the jade slip as a guide, it wasn't hard to take out the scouts before they could sound an alarm. Better than that, Rean was there to help with his Divine Sense bending skill. They made a small elite group that could eliminate any obstacle without the enemy ever noticing before they were already dead.

At some point, Tixa looked to her left and said, "Not too far from here, the enemy army's right wing is fighting our Vigal Army's left wing."

Roan nodded, saying, "In fact, they should be closer than you think. Then again, we're just halfway through, so our left wing is also close by, keeping them busy. It's just that since we're deep into the canyon, it's harder for the sound of battle to reach us."

Rean didn't seem to mind. "It's fine, it's fine. According to the plan, we simply have no need to care about the enemy's right wing anymore, right? Focus on taking the scouts out."

Everything was going quite well until suddenly, Roan ordered the elite group to stop with his Divine Sense. 'Halt!'

He looked at the map and could see that there wasn't supposed to be anyone in this place. Noticing Roan's words, Tixa immediately asked, 'Can you feel anyone's presence?' She already understood that the twins had some weird method of detecting the enemy's Divine Sense even though they weren't using their own. She and the others obviously couldn't use Divine Sense to see ahead since it would alarm the scouts if they felt it.

Roan nodded, saying, 'There's Divine Sense scanning our area up ahead, its owner somewhere around there. They're more or less at the same cultivation level as you, Tixa.'

Rean agreed with Roan, saying, 'Yes, definitely at the Transition Realm. That's weird. Was the canyon supposed to have someone at that level scouting it?'

Tixa and Roan immediately shook their heads. 'First of all, Transition Realm cultivators are prohibited from fighting. All they can do is command others,' Tixa explained. 'For example, you haven't seen me attack a single person until now, right? That's the agreement between both sides of the alliance. If high-level cultivators joined in on the fight, they could kill tens of thousands of people at once. Naturally, that wouldn't be beneficial for either side. That's why the war is waged between Elemental Transformation Realm cultivators and below. That's also why I wouldn't have any problem escaping the enemy's army, as no one would attack me once they see I'm a Transition Realm cultivator.'

That was the truth. Even when Tixa's division was attacked back when Roan had his first mission with her, she still didn't attack a single person. The enemy commanders at the Transition Realm and above also never joined in on the battle even after they pierced through their defense and opened a gap in their defensive line.

Rean nodded after hearing that. 'Well, whoever it may be, they're not breaking the rules. If all they're doing is using their Divine Sense to scout ahead of them, it's not a problem, right?'



Tixa confirmed Rean's words. 'Yes, it isn't a problem. However, it's weird for someone of that level to appear in a place like this.'

Rean then warned Roan and Tixa. 'We need to retreat. They're heading in our direction, and their Divine Sense is too strong. If they get too close, Rean and I won't be able to keep their Divine Sense away from our bodies.'

'They're coming in our direction?' Tixa asked.

Roan then asked Rean something else. 'Go back and tell our division to retreat further back. Otherwise, their Divine Sense will catch their presence.'

Rean didn't waste time and immediately left with a few of the elite group members. Meanwhile, Roan, Tixa, and a few others retreated as well. 'On our way here, there was a part of the canyon that continued in a straight line. That should be big enough for us to stay at one end and see who's coming from the other. It will be far enough so that I can still keep us hidden from the enemy's Divine Sense.'

Tixa and the others nodded and immediately retreated. Not too long after, they arrived at the part of the canyon Roan told them about and waited. It was then that they heard the sound of footsteps coming from the other side. Not only one or two, but many of them. Tixa and Roan narrowed their eyes when they saw the other party. It turns out that they weren't the only ones trying to use the canyon to strike the enemy's army. They just so happened to bump into an enemy division that was trying to do the same thing.

'Just our luck....'

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Chapter 1294: Let's See

After confirming what was coming for them, Roan and Tixa immediately decided to retreat before the enemy's Transition Realm cultivator's Divine Sense could see them.

'What do you want to do now?' Roan asked Tixa through a Divine Sense message. She was, after all, the one in charge of their group.

'It's hard to say,' Tixa replied. 'This canyon has many passages, so we can just retreat for a bit and take a different route from those guys. We would still be able to reach our striking point and launch the attack. However...'

Roan understood her concern. 'They will notice that their scouts ahead disappeared and notice that something is definitely off. If they come back from where they came, they might strike us from the rear. If that happens, our plan to pierce through the enemy's army to return to our own army would most likely fail.'

Tixa didn't know what to do. Should she retreat now?

Roan then gave her options. 'As I see it, this is an opportunity. You now have the perfect excuse to retreat. An ambush team from the opposing side took the same route as us. You can just say we had to go back to warn the central army. If they doubt our words, the Soul Biding Contract will be there to prove we aren't lying. No one will be punished as you had no choice in the matter. The Vigal Army can't condemn you for that even if they wanted to.'

Tixa had to admit Roan was right. She didn't want to take this mission to start with, so why shouldn't she take this opportunity to retreat? Nevertheless, she asked Roan's opinion. 'What do you think?'

'Me?' Roan faintly smiled as he told her, 'I'm here for the War Points. I would definitely take a different route and simply ignore those guys. I told you before, I'm confident I can flee even if I'm in the middle of the enemy army. During that time, I'll kill as many high-level enemies as possible to record their lives in my badge.'

Tixa couldn't help but ask, 'You don't care about what happens to us at all, do you?'

Roan looked back at Tixa as if he was looking at an idiot. 'Did I ever give the impression I cared?'

Tixa had to admit he was right. 'Fine. If we continue with the plan, how sure are you that we can accomplish it? For you to say that you would keep going, you obviously have a way to go back to our army after we divert their attention towards us, right?'

Roan nodded. 'I do. It's called negotiation.'

'What?!' Tixa was taken aback. 'Negotiation? You mean, negotiate with this division heading in our direction?'

'Yes,' Roan replied. 'Didn't you see? We aren't much different from this group. Strength-wise, neither side can say whether they would win or lose if we clashed. Then again, one thing's for sure. We would both receive huge losses, and neither of us would be able to continue with our mission.'

Tixa found the idea ridiculous. In any case, she still had to ask. 'What if they don't try to negotiate at all?'

Roan shrugged his shoulder. 'Then we fight, of course! Did you forget what I just said? It's not like we're weaker than them, judging by the size of both divisions. Whether we're forced to retreat or not, we will still have the perfect excuse to cancel the mission in the end.'

Tixa still found a problem with it, though. 'Even if the negotiations are successful, they can simply send someone back to warn the central army that we are co-'

It was then that Tixa put a hand on her face, feeling like she had been babbling like an idiot all this time. 'Oh, for fuck's sake, that's what we want to happen in the first place!'

Roan was surprised she noticed it that quickly. 'Not too bad. Indeed, isn't our mission to distract the central army? So what if the enemy tries to stop us? They obviously think we're coming to try to break their defensive line from behind. Whether those guys warn their central army about our presence or not, our objective will be concluded anyway. They will have to shift a part of their army to intercept us, and that will definitely be noticed by our own central army. Mission accomplished.'

Roan then increased his pace to return to where Rean and the others were waiting. 'In any case, the negotiation will be up to you. Their commander surely wouldn't take the words of someone at the Initial Stage Saint Realm, after all.'

Tixa nodded in response. 'No problem. I can't guarantee that a battle won't occur, but I can at least try.'

'That's enough for me. Just remember, you can't be seen negotiating with the guy. That's why I only used Divine Sense messages between the two of us. Just wait for us to open some distance from you

and then turn back and pretend that you're also scouting ahead. The enemy can't attack you due to your cultivation, after all,' Roan reminded her.

Tixa did as Roan said and left their group a moment later. Meanwhile, Roan brought their own cultivators ahead, ready to fight if it was necessary. However, Tixa returned a few minutes later before giving everyone an order. "The path ahead has too many enemies, so we're taking another route. Follow me."

The division could only do as she told while Roan asked her the outcome. 'How was it?'

Tixa nodded, telling him, 'The guy noticed my presence when I used my Divine Sense and came straight at me to check. I pretended to be surprised by his appearance. He also noticed that I had a division using the same path. Just as he was ready to tell his group to attack us, I told him to stop and listen first. With that, I offered to him that both our groups could ignore each other as our objectives were the same. At the very least, it wouldn't be worth a fight between teams of similar strength, the only conclusion being a pyrrhic victory. After that, we simply agreed that we would follow a different path. Of course, he most likely sent someone back to inform them about our presence.'

Roan was satisfied with that. 'Good.. Let's see how everything plays out.'

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Chapter 1295: Lose At All Costs

Tixa still couldn't help but ask, 'Don't you think they could make their way back and attack us from behind?'

Roan shook his head in response. 'Not gonna happen. That's because they're also thinking the same thing. What if the negotiation was a trap? They'll be far busier than us, making sure we aren't on their tracks.'

Tixa could only hope for that. Well, Roan also had people covering their track from behind, just in case. This canyon had hundreds of different passages, so it wasn't exactly easy to find a specific group in there. If the enemy's central army really dispatched groups to deal with them, that would mean they would face multiple groups. That was, once again, perfect for their plan.

Time passed, and several hours went by. Eventually, they arrived at the position where they would come out of the canyon before heading in the central army's direction. They were also lucky as there wasn't anyone close by at that time. It's not that the previous enemy division didn't send anyone to warn the central army. Instead, they couldn't exactly gauge where Roan's group would come out to start with. There were way too many spots, after all.

From there, they started to make their way to the central army. Once again, Rean and Roan took the lead with a few elite members so that they could get rid of any scouts without being noticed. When they finally got close to the central army's left side, Tixa, Roan, and Rean immediately noticed something. 'They moved some of their defense. They're probably waiting for us, just like we thought.'

Rean couldn't help but ask, 'Does that mean our mission is over already? After all, the idea was to force them to shift their forces away from the front line for the other Dark Element division to attack, right?'

Tixa narrowed her eyes and took a look far in the distance. She had to use Divine Energy on her eyes as the battlefield was just way too big. She was trying to pick up the junction between the Vigal and Jesvo Alliance's central armies. However, she couldn't see anything out of the norm. Both forces were in a stalemate in various areas, trying several tactics to break the other side.

Following that, Tixa took a Thoughts Transmission Talisman and used it to ask if their diversion was good enough. After all, it was a fact that the enemy forces did shift their own forces to cover their appearance. The talisman then burnt out before Tixa took another one from her spatial ring. This one would be the Thoughts Transmission Talisman which she would get her answer.

She then came down to wait. 'I sent them a message, so let's wait and see. However, I can't see any movement from the other Dark Element division there.'

Roan shrugged his shoulders after that. 'Don't forget that we did find another enemy group heading in the other direction. Maybe they're causing trouble to them.'

Tixa found it strange, though. 'But I used another Thoughts Transmission Talisman to tell them about that. They should have been prepared.'

Roan nodded in response. 'And to be prepared, they probably had to move the other Dark Element division away. Or maybe some other defense and assault teams were supposed to be used in the attack. Just wait for their answer.'

It didn't take long, though. Tixa felt the talisman in her hand react before putting it on her forehead. At first, the message congratulated Tixa for making the Jesvo Alliance's forces move several of their divisions away from the front line. That was a good opportunity for the other Vigal Army's Dark Element division to come out from hiding and attack them.

However, Tixa's eyes turned cold right after, saying, 'It seems you hit the bullseye, Roan. After I sent my report about having spotted an enemy division approaching from the canyon, they couldn't use the opportunity regarding the enemy shifting its forces.'

Rean and Roan could tell that it wasn't the reason for Tixa's dark expression. 'So, what are they exactly asking from us?'

Tixa then explained, 'Not only do they want us to attack, but they also want us to open a gap in the defense line.'

Rean immediately shook his head. 'That's too much! It would already be hard to simply shift their attention before trying to escape. Now the enemy moved their forces in response, expecting our attack. How exactly do they expect us to break through all their cultivators and reach the defense line? And on top of that, they want us to open a gap in it? This is ridiculous!'

Tixa agreed with Rean. In fact, even Roan narrowed his eyes. His idea was for the mission to be over as soon as he confirmed that the enemy forces had shifted because of them. That did indeed happen, but the commanders of their central army made a ridiculous request. 'That doesn't make sense. There's no way that the commander of our Central Army can't tell that his request is out of our scope.'

'Could it be that they want to see if we can make even more of the Jesvo Alliance's forces shift in our direction?' Rean asked.

Roan shook his head in response. 'That won't happen,' he said as he looked at the position of the enemy's central army divisions. 'Unless the commander of Jesvo's central army is an absolute idiot, he won't move even a single extra soldier away from his defense line. The movements he made because of

us are already his limit. It would be better to risk losing more soldiers from the rear than letting the main defense line collapse due to the lack of soldiers there. Simply put, we aren't worth that much.'

Roan then looked at Tixa and said, 'This is already out of the 'war sacrifices' that I told you about. Before, the sacrifice of our division made a lot of sense, and I accepted it.. However, having us dying there now wouldn't benefit our central army in any way as the enemy's defense line wouldn't change at all. With that said, why do I feel like they want you to lose at all costs?'

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Chapter 1296: Guess The Lottery

Roan continued, 'You know that you will be held responsible if your entire division dies. That's how things work. Nevertheless, you achieved your mission without losing anyone so far. Now, they sent this ridiculous request as if they're trying to make sure that everyone in your division would die.'

Tixa, however, didn't seem to be shocked. When Roan first talked to her about the sacrifice being normal for the sake of the victory, she already had her doubts. Nevertheless, she had to admit Roan was right back then. The sacrifice of her status as captain and her division's lives could truly lead the central army of this specific battlefield to win the battle. At that time, she simply accepted that.

Now that even Roan couldn't see a reason for the sacrifice, she was sure about what was happening. 'You're not wrong. I'm pretty sure that the objective of this next task is so that I will lose my status as captain. No, to be more specific, someone wants me to be expelled from the army.'

'Expelled?' Rean found it strange. 'Even if you lose your status as captain, you're still a Peak Transition Realm cultivator, no? Why would the army want to expel you? In these battlefields, cultivators at the Transition Realm and above can't be used. However, there are also battlefields where such high-level cultivators like yourself are the ones fighting each other. Shouldn't they send you there instead?'

Rean was right. In the Realm of Gods, the scales of regional wars were several times bigger than any war Rean and Roan saw in the past. There was no way the high-level cultivators wouldn't take part in it. It's just that both sides agreed that it wouldn't happen amidst the low-level cultivators. After all, it would generate huge losses that wouldn't help any side.

Tixa then answered Rean's question, 'That's because my full name is Tixa Croste.'

Rean and Roan looked at each other in confusion after that. 'So?'

Tixa was surprised to see the confusion in the twins' eyes. She guessed before that the twins were probably part of the Lanqueas Sect due to their far above average strength. If that was the case, they should have known about the Croste Clan. However, it was obvious that they had no idea who the Crostes were. She wondered if she was wrong about her assumption of the twins' identities. However, it wasn't time to talk about that now, so she quickly explained.

'The Croste Clan is a huge power of our Lanqueas Continent. It can't be compared to the Lanqueas Sect, but it would be wrong to say that it's within the top ten strongest powers of our continent.'

Roan looked at Tixa before saying, 'So? Does that mean your clan wants you to be expelled so that they can have you back?'

Tixa could only nod.

Hearing that, Roan snorted in response. 'I'm sorry, but this sounds way too fishy. Didn't you just say that your croissant clan or whatever name it has is one of the top ten strongest powers of Lanqueas Continent? They definitely have tens, if not hundreds of thousands of members. The Peak Stage of the Transition Realm is already a good level of cultivation in a place like this.'

He continued, 'However, such a level of cultivation is only equivalent to an ant for a power of that sheer scale. Now, they're intervening in the war of some corner of the continent just to have you pulled out? How idiotic would that be? The only good thing about you I can see is that you're very young for your cultivation level. However, a power like your clan definitely doesn't lack geniuses at the same level, perhaps even higher.'

Rean couldn't help but laugh in response. 'Hahaha! Indeed! You have to come up with some other reason. Are you sure you didn't offend some bigshot of the army? Who knows? Perhaps you rejected the advances of a marshal's son, and now he's planning to take revenge?'

Tixa's mouth twitched in response. 'Who the hell in their right mind would think like that? What kind of person do you think I am? I reached this position through sheer effort, alright? First of all, no one was supposed to know my real identity.'



Those last words made Rean laugh again. 'Hahaha! You talk like you're some princess of the Croste Clan. What? Could it be that you're the only daughter of the Croste Clan's strongest ancestor? Come on!'

Hearing that, Tixa looked at Rean with a shocked expression and said in response, 'H-How did you know?'

Rean's smile froze in place after that as he couldn't help but let out cold sweat, asking Roan something through their Soul Connection. 'How the hell do we get involved in this type of bullshit?'

Roan shook his head in response. 'How the hell would I know? If I were to guess, it has to be that Soul Gem guy.'

In any case, Tixa now looked at Rean and Roan with hostility. 'Now everything makes sense! You were sent by my father, weren't you? How did you find me?! I perfectly covered all my tracks. My appearance is different as well. No one was supposed to know where I am and what I was doing.'

With that, the twins saw the color of killing intent appear once more. Obviously, Tixa thought Rean said his words on purpose. However, Rean immediately intervened, 'Can't you realize when someone's making a joke?! I only said that because I thought it would be funny. How the hell would I know who you actually are? First of all, would I be here in this suicide mission if I knew that? You could have just pretended you didn't know what I was talking about, idiot!'

Tixa narrowed her eyes but didn't believe him straight away. 'Sign this Soul Binding Contract, then. Put a clause that you didn't lie about knowing my real background.'

Rean sighed in relief and immediately signed the contract. The contracts might not be exactly cheap, but they were nothing for the twins or Tixa. Not to mention that they were useless against the twins anyway. Well, Rean wasn't lying, so the contract would still be useless even if he didn't have the Soul Dummy to take them.

After Tixa saw that nothing had happened to Rean, she couldn't help but ask, 'I wonder if you can guess the lottery.'

Rean shrugged his shoulders, telling her, 'I think I'll try it next time.'

Death... and me

#### Chapter 1297: You Have Played Long Enough

Roan ignored their antics before returning back to the main topic. 'Let me see if I'm getting this correctly. This is a pretty shitty and very cliché version of a princess bored with her life in the palace. She wanted to live a normal life and escaped without anyone knowing. Naturally, no one would think that the princess, who had everything under the palm of her hand, would try such a thing. Because of that, you had quite an easy time escaping. However, your father found you here and is using this method to get you out of the army. Is that correct?'

Tixa didn't quite like how Roan put her journey in his mouth. However, she still replied. 'You could have done a better job with the tale, but I won't lie. That's basically it.'

Rean had to ask something else, though. 'I find it strange. If her father is someone that influential, does he really need to use such a method? With his power alone, he could have come here and taken Tixa away by force. Who would try to stop the strongest ancestor of the Croste Clan?'

Tixa scratched her head as she thought of a possibility. 'Well, the fact that I wasn't very happy with my life wasn't exactly a secret. Perhaps he's doing it in hopes that I would give up on my own and come back so that I won't try to leave again. It's just as Roan mentioned. Simply put, no one thought I would actually try to leave.'

Roan sighed before he turned around, making his way back to the canyon. 'Let's get over with this. We accomplished the mission, so they can't keep complaining even if we give up on this one. I'm not in the mood to throw myself in there anymore if everything is being manipulated by someone else.'

Rean was quick to agree with Roan. 'He is right. If things really go bad, someone related to your father might be within the enemy's forces, making sure that none of us, except you, would come back alive. Roan and I are very confident in our escaping skills, but that's only when no cultivators at the Transition Realm and above are involved. Sorry, but we won't continue this mission.'

But even though they said that, Tixa could not help but say, 'However, I don't know if this is really something related to my father or if it's just pure coincidence. Isn't it better to think about it for a bit?'

Roan looked behind in response but didn't stop walking. Instead, Tixa and the rest of the puzzled division, who couldn't hear their conversation since it was through Divine Sense, followed the twins. 'No can do. As remote as the possibility may be, we're definitely not taking it.'

However, just as the twins were about to enter the canyon, they instantly felt a ridiculously strong Divine Sense touching their Divine Sense bending skill. It broke through their bending ability in an instant. Well, they weren't covering everyone with their Divine Sense Bending Skill to start with. Over 3500 cultivators were just way too much for Rean and Roan to keep hidden. They kept their Divine Sense bending skill active just to know if someone much stronger than them had appeared or not.

The twins then looked at where the Divine Sense was coming from. Whoever the owner of the Divine Sense was, they were coming in their direction. At the moment, the twins' division was located right in between the right wing and the central army of the Jesvo Alliance's forces. However, the Divine Sense was coming from between those two armies. To be more precise, the Divine Sense was definitely coming from their side of the battlefield.

Rean and Roan looked at each other and nodded. Soon after, the two took out their weapons before they dashed in their division's direction. Everyone was taken aback, not understanding why the twins were coming for them. However, the twins passed by most of the cultivators in the division as if they didn't even exist.

Yes, it was just most of their division, not all of them. Rean's sword and Roan's scythe suddenly stopped right in front and at the back of one of their division's cultivators. The guy didn't even have the time to react when the twins appeared on both his sides.

"Hey, Tixa. It seems like your father has someone here who wants to talk to you," Rean said with a smile as he looked at the guy's face.

The man's expression was already shocked when the twins appeared. However, when they said those words, he went completely pale. Tixa saw all of that as well. She wasn't an idiot. Because of the twins' quick reaction and their sudden words, the guy's origin became obvious.

"You!" She took the twins' weapons out of the way and grabbed the guy by the neck. They put someone very inconspicuous in their midst. He was only at the Peak Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm, someone who had no chance of escaping Tixa's grasp.

Tixa then looked at the twins and asked, "How did you know he was part of my father's subordinates?"

Rean and Roan then pointed at a certain point on the ground, just a few tens of meters away from their group. "Perhaps the senior trying to hide there but is doing an extremely terrible job in that regard can answer that."

Everyone was shocked to hear that as they looked at the place that the twins pointed. However, it didn't matter how much they looked. They simply couldn't see anything out of the ordinary. It didn't continue for long, though. Just a few seconds after the twins spoke, the area around the location suddenly warped as if space itself was contorting. Eventually, the figure of an old woman came out as she stared at the twins with a cold expression.

Tixa, however, identified the old woman immediately. "Aunt Trika!"

The twins didn't even bother to stay on their guard. With that woman's cultivation alone, they had absolutely no chance of ever escaping. It all depended on Tixa now.

Trika then looked away from the twins and focused on Tixa instead. "Since you have found out already, there's no need to pretend anymore. Maeralya, it's time to leave.. You have played for long enough."

Death... and me

Chapter 1298: It Can't Be

Rean and Roan weren't the least bit surprised to hear Tixa's real name. Since she escaped from her clan, then the least she could do to not get caught was to change her name.

The other members of their division didn't know what was happening, so they went ahead and asked the twins. Rean shrugged his shoulders in response and just said it was some kind of family issue... and that they definitely shouldn't offend that old woman. 'Leave it to Ti- err... Maeralya to resolve.'

Tixa... or Maeralya, noticed all the curious eyes, of course. "Ahem... our mission is now over. We're heading back. As for this woman, you can just ignore her."

Maeralya then turned around, not wanting to hear anything from Trika at all. However, Trika wouldn't let it stay like that. She immediately used her powers and immobilized Maeralya. "Do you think I'll just let you leave like that? Girl, look at you! You have already been missing for over twenty years, and what did that do to your cultivation? You're already 87, but you are only at the Peak Stage of the Transition Realm. Do you know just how far behind you are compared to the others?"

Maeralya couldn't care less, saying, "I don't see any problems here. Unlike the other young core members of our clan, I achieved this level of cultivation with my own effort. All the resources I used after the Saint Realm was acquired by none other than myself. I'm not even using the clan's cultivation technique anymore. In such a situation, I'm doing extremely well! Just leave me alone, and I won't bother you guys at all."

Trika shook her head in response, saying, "Is that your problem? Just because you don't want the clan's help? You could have requested that, you know. We would prepare missions and other things for you so that you could earn your own resources. It would definitely be much more than you can ever make in such a remote place like this one. We would also have someone close to you to make sure you wouldn't die either."

"That's exactly what I'm talking about!" Maeralya didn't like Trika's words. "I don't want this kind of special treatment. That wouldn't be my effort at all, but the clan's instead."

Trika didn't seem to care. "That's enough. I won't allow you to indulge in your fantasies any longer."

Maeralya obviously got angry after hearing that. "So what? Will you kill me here because I don't want to go back with you? I left the clan for a reason. Why do you guys even care? It's not like my presence would make a difference anyway."

Trika narrowed her eyes in response, saying with a cold tone, "Girl, you should know how important you are to your parents. In their entire lives, you were the only kid they ever had."

Maeralya shrugged her shoulders, replying, "Just ask them to make a new one. It's not like mom or dad can't do it again."

"It's not that simple, and you know that," Trika immediately replied. "The higher one's cultivation, the harder it is to conceive. When two people of their level are put together, conceiving becomes half a miracle."

Maeralya snorted in response. "With how long their lifespans are, I'm sure they can make a few extra half miracles happen."

Trika finally lost her patience after that. "I'm done with you. We're going back whether you want to or not."

Maeralya didn't leave it at that, though. Before Trika could take her away, Maeralya warned her. "If you truly force me, I'll sever all my meridians and destroy my cultivation at the very first opportunity. Rather than going back, I would rather die. I'm definitely not going back to that dollhouse my parents prepared for me."

Trika, obviously, immediately stopped. "That's why I wanted to make you give up this life on your own." Trika then pointed at the twins before continuing, "If you don't come, I'll kill those two."

Rean and Roan felt like crying after hearing that. Why were they even getting involved in this shitty familial matter? First of all, Ti-... Maeralya never really cared much about their lives, so why should she restrain herself because of them? Chances are that Maeralya would say she couldn't care less about them. Also, what about the rest of the division? Why was this woman only targetting the two of them instead of everyone else?

Suddenly, a ridiculous idea popped into Rean's mind, and he quickly contacted Roan through their Soul Connection. 'Hey... I think we just got our free pass outside this war zone.'

Roan was taken aback after hearing that. Of course, he immediately understood Rean's plan. 'Go for it. Otherwise, we will probably die because of this bullshit.'

Rean nodded and talked back, "Ahem... Would you really kill your niece's lovers?"

The entire area went silent, and only the distant sound of battling could be heard. Lovers! Did that mean Maeralya was in a relationship with both of the twins? Not only that, but she even brought them together. How could that be true?

Even Maeralya herself almost vomited blood when she heard that! "Who the hell are my lovers?! I just met the two of you a few days ago!"

Roan's mouth could not help but twitch after hearing Rean's words. He knew Rean had a plan to use that old woman to bring them away. However, how the hell did he come up with the plan of making them Maeralya's lovers? Of course, he couldn't stop it anymore.

Trika's expression went dark when she heard Rean's words. Obviously, she never believed that Maeralya would start a male harem. It was ridiculous. In her eyes, Rean was just trying to humiliate her. "Brats, it seems like you don't want to live anymore."

Rean and Roan felt the same power as the Dimensional Realm enveloping them. It was obvious that the woman could control spatial powers, and she was about to use it to kill them with that. However, it was then that Rean took out a Soul Binding Contract and wrote the terms down.

-We state that Maeralya has been in a relationship with me and my brother, and it was her who procured us first. If this is a lie, our souls shall be destroyed by the backlash of the Soul Binding Contract.-

Trika's hands immediately stopped when she saw that. "It can't be...."

Death... and me

Chapter 1299: Happy Now?

Maeralya also looked at the Soul Binding Contract in surprise. Both Trika and her could tell with their Divine Senses that the contract was the real deal. If Rean and Roan signed it, it would absolutely take effect. What did that mean? It meant that the twins would die straight away. Maeralya had never had any relation with those two, that's for sure. She was a virgin, after all. One must remember that her actual age was still very young when her cultivation was considered. It was very normal for someone with her background to not have had a relationship yet.

However, as real as the Soul Binding Contract looked, Trika decided to stop Rean and Roan from signing it with their blood. "Stop. Use mine instead." She then took another contract and wrote the same things as Rean. She just wanted to be sure that the twins were using a real Soul Binding Contract.

Rean signed the contract with a smile as Roan wondered if it was even worth it. 'Your ideas sometimes impress even me. But not in a good way, though.'

Rean laughed in response. 'Hahaha! Come on! She was going to kill us anyway, so ain't this better than nothing? I had to pull out some shocking news, you know? Otherwise, it would be impossible to stop that old woman.'

Roan shook his head, saying, 'However, there's a flaw in your plan. If Maeralya decided to sign a contract as well, our ability to ignore Soul Binding Contracts would be discovered straight away. In fact, Maeralya will know for a fact that we can do it since she knows it's a lie.'

Rean shrugged his shoulders after hearing that. 'If you have a better idea, be my guest.'

Roan shook his head. He didn't have one, so it was better to bet in whatever Rean had planned for a change. 'Whatever. I also saw the trick behind the contract's words. It was written -We are in a relationship-, but the contract had never described what kind of relationship.'

Rean nodded with a happy expression. 'I knew you would notice that. Indeed. The -We are in a relationship- can pretty much be any relationship. In this case, we three are in a captain-subordinate relationship. I can totally use it in the future. The trick was what I previously said. I told Trika we are lovers with Maeralya, but those were just my own words. Because of that, she automatically attributed the -relationship- in the contract to be that between lovers.'

'Let's see how it plays out, then,' Roan said, ending the conversation.

Soon after, the Soul Binding Contract burnt out as its power entered the twins' foreheads. Of course, the Soul Dummy immediately acted and took the contract in their place instead.



Trika hoped that the twins would die. They had to! Otherwise, how would she explain Maeralya's actions to her parents later? Maeralya, of course, was simply waiting for the twins to drop dead on the ground. However...

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Nothing happened!

"What?!" Both Maeralya and Trika were shocked by that.

"This is a lie! Aunt Trika. I swear! I have nothing to do with those two!" Maeralya obviously denied everything.

"Shut up!" Unfortunately for her, Trika saw the contract taking effect. There was no 'doubt' that the twins were telling the truth. Maeralya really was in a relationship with both of them. Well, in a certain way, the twins weren't lying either... in the contract, that is.

Maeralya didn't give up. "Let me sign a Soul Binding Contract as well! I can prove I'm not lying!"

Unfortunately, Trika thought that to be a way for Maeralya to kill herself. If she signed a Soul Binding Contract stating that the twins were lying, she would die straight away. The twins already proved they weren't lying, so Maeralya must be wanting to die, just like she said a moment ago.

Trika then looked at the twins and asked, "Do you know what you have done? I should have all of you killed right now to cover the truth."

Rean shrugged his shoulders after hearing that. "Our beloved Maeralya is even willing to sign another Soul Binding Contract and die from it just to protect us. If you do so, do you think she won't try to

commit suicide in the future? The three of us promised we would rather die than be taken apart. We aren't afraid of you. At most, we'll just die."

Trika gritted her teeth when she heard that. However, looking at how much Maeralya wanted to sign that contract to 'prove' she wasn't lying, she could only accept that Rean was telling the truth. "You love them that much?"

Maeralya wanted to cry after that. Who loves who? She didn't love anyone at all! First of all, she was sure the twins didn't love her either! How the hell did this situation come to be? Unfortunately, Trika simply didn't want to hear any words from her anymore. She totally believed the twins were telling the truth after they signed the contract.

Trika then pulled the twins close to her with her spatial powers before saying, "Whatever. If bringing you two means she won't try and commit suicide, then I shall do that first. We'll discuss this bullshit again once we're back at the clan."

Rean shook his head, though. "Senior, Maeralya and us two have been together for many years already. We know her personality. If you truly do that, she'll still want to kill herself. You must understand that her difficulties in the clan did not stop at the boring life she had."

Trika looked at Maeralya for a bit and then at Rean. "You said you can convince her to not do that, right?"

Rean nodded, saying, "I can try. However, if I convince her, what will stop you from killing us after that?"

Trika pondered over it for a bit before taking another Soul Binding Contract. She then wrote down that as long as the twins succeeded, she wouldn't kill them. However, they had to keep the story about their relationship with Maeralya hidden. No one should know about that. Soon after, she signed it. "Happy now?"

The twins nodded in response.. "That's good enough."

Death... and me

Chapter 1300: A Ride

Roan then looked at one guy called Ival, a person in their division, and ordered him, "Ival, guide everyone back to our side through the canyon. You know the route already. We need to leave this place with this senior here, so it's up to you guys to get back safely."

Ival was taken aback to hear that. However, he didn't have time to say anything before Trika used her spatial powers to take Ran, Roan, and Maeralya away.

Space warped around the twins soon after. Before they knew it, they were already thousands of kilometers away from the previous battlefield. Now that everything was more silent, Trika decided to stop for a bit to contact the clan with a Thoughts Transmission Talisman.

Meanwhile, Rean talked with Maeralya through Divine Sense, 'Sorry for the lie just now. However, it was obvious she wanted to kill us to see if she could convince you to go back.'

Maeralya was curious about something else, though. 'How did you not die from the Soul Binding Contract? We definitely never had a relationship.'

Rean smiled in response, telling her, 'There is a small trick behind it. Maybe I'll tell you about it in the future.' He then changed the topic as he asked, 'Now then, it's obvious that Trika is adamant about bringing you back. What do you plan to do?'

Maeralya immediately complained, 'I wouldn't be dragged away if you hadn't intervened in the first place. My threat of suicide should at least have prevented aunt Trika from making her decision there. Now, she's already thinking about teleporting us back to the clan on her own. She believes that I won't kill myself because of you two.'

Rean narrowed his eyes in response. 'Are you blaming us? Don't forget that she wanted to kill Roan and me simply because we were together with you. Aren't you the reason that we were forced into this situation? Trika said it herself. She would kill us if you didn't obey. However, would you care about that? We're not friends or anything. We just got together because of the circumstances. Don't come at me, saying that you would do what she said to save us.'

'I...'

Maeralya had no words to answer Rean's accusations. It was the truth. It was her presence that forced Rean to come up with that shitty lie on the spot. Besides, Rean was right. Maeralya didn't consider Rean and Roan important enough to give up her own plans of staying away from her clan.

It was then that she remembered something. 'Oh, right! How did you find my aunt? Also, how did you know that there was a spy from my clan within our division?'

Rean and Roan shook their heads when they heard that. 'That's a secret.'

Well, the truth was very simple. When Rean and Roan noticed Trika's Divine Sense approaching, they knew it was too much of a coincidence. She only appeared after they decided to give up on that second mission. Naturally, someone told her that the mission wouldn't be carried off. Rean then immediately asked Sister Orb to scan if she could find any formation activated at that moment. Just using a Thoughts Transmission Talisman wouldn't be enough. There had to be some kind of tracking item in the midst of their group. Sure enough, Sister Orb immediately found it, and the twins acted on it straight away. It's just that they would never tell Maeralya about Sister Orb.

As for how Rean and Roan found the hiding location of Maeralya's aunt, that was pretty simple. The answer to that was none other than the Divine Sense bending skill. It couldn't hide her from them since her Divine Sense was just too strong. With that, she looked like a huge sun in the twins' senses while using it.

Maeralya didn't insist on that topic after their answer. In any case, she also wouldn't tell others if she was in Rean or Roan's shoes.

Roan then shrugged his shoulders after that. 'Well, Rean and I can escape by ourselves anytime we want, though.'

Roan wasn't lying. There was a reason why Rean and Roan couldn't escape before, the fact that Trika presented a danger to their life. The Soul Gem Dimensional Realm was blocked because of that, so they couldn't escape. Now that she gave up on killing them, they weren't in danger anymore. With that said, they could enter the Dimensional Realm and use the Circuitry Teleport Formation to go away. All that Trika would be able to tell was that they had some spatial item she wasn't aware of.

Maeralya's eyes lit up when she heard that, though. 'You can escape if you want? Bring me with you, then!'

'Why should we? We almost got killed because of you,' Roan said in response.

That wasn't the only reason. To use the same method, the twins would need to buy a pass from Soul Gem Reward List, which cost 10000 Destiny Points. At the same time, they would need to bring her into the Dimensional Realm, revealing its existence. There was no way they would do that.

'Why are you still here, then?' Maeralya found it strange. 'Since you could have escaped, you should have done so already.' Of course, she didn't know that the twins couldn't use the Dimensional Realm when there was danger. Only now did Trika not present any danger, at least for the moment. It was different during the negotiations.

Rean smiled before asking, 'Your clan is located closer to the center of the continent, right?'

Maeralya nodded in response. 'Obviously. That's where most of the resources gather, after all.'

'And there's your answer,' Rean replied. 'We need a ride to that place. That's why we were gathering War Points. We wanted to use the army's teleport formations and leave the conflict zone. If we traveled by foot, how many years would it take? Your aunt looks like a very fast ride.' He wasn't lying. The Lost Star Realm was located in the Galanmord Region, which was close to the center of the continent in a country called Trimazo. Using Trika as a ride was truly very good for them. How many years or Divine Stones could they save because of that?

Maeralya felt like crying after hearing that. What would her aunt think if she ever found out she was being used as transport? 'Aren't you afraid that I'll tell her your objective?'

'Would she believe you at the moment?' Rean asked her in response.

Sure enough, it would be hard.