

## Death 1551

Death... and me

Chapter 1551: Another One

Of course, almost everyone knew what this organization was looking for. It's just that after so many years, they didn't achieve any results, so the majority stopped paying attention to them a long time ago.

Today, their organization members were doing their own things when suddenly, someone rushed into the main building in a storm. "Where is Giam? Call Giam, quickly!"

The members in the building were surprised to see that person. "Elder Rusfato, weren't you busy in the Fetis Territory? You said you owed them some favor, so you had to help them."

Rusfato didn't want to talk about it now, saying, "Stop wasting time and call Giam. Also, assemble the other elders."

Without any other choice, the guys could only assemble everyone Rusfato asked for. He was one of the elders, so he had this power at the very least.

In the meeting hall, everyone gathered, with the person called Giam in the very middle. It turned out that Giam was the actual leader of the organization. It's just that the Light Seekers didn't care about things like honorifics, so everyone just called the others by their names, even the new members. There were also a few old men and women who had been leaders or elders before who didn't expect to be called.

"Rusfato, what's the matter for you to call all of us on such short notice? You should know that we're quite busy with 'that' at the moment." Giam didn't seem very pleased, nor did the others.

However, Rusfato ignored their complaints before explaining, "It's bad. There are rumors that some power is about to try to escape Upside Down World."

"What?!"

Immediately, everyone's expressions changed.

"How did they find out?"

"Who opened their mouth?!"

"This was supposed to be a secret!"

Rusfato shook his head, saying, "I don't know. All I found out is that it has something to do with the purging organization. Maybe they were watching us all this time? In any case, this rumor is spreading like wildfire, and a lot of people and demon beasts are gathering at their tower."

No one could guess whether that was the truth or not.

"Wait! You said they're gathering at the purging organization's tower, not here?" Sure enough, one of them immediately noticed that point. Soon after, everyone looked at Rusfato.

"That's correct. However, I still felt it was the right thing to do to come back here and tell you the news," said Rusfato in response.

Giam obviously nodded. "You did well." Right after, he looked at all the elders and said, "We will need to advance our plans."

"Wait! What if it has nothing to do with us?" asked an elder called Husraba.

"Husraba's right. It's not a good idea to accelerate our plans if no one knows about it."

Giam then asked his elders, "What if this was a rumor spread by the purging organization, and they're actually gathering forces to come to our territory? Even though the Upside-Down World has rules, it won't matter if most of the powers join their strength for the same objective. Are you willing to risk seeing all those disbelievers take the fruit of our work?"

Giam continued, "I know it's possible that it has nothing to do with us, but I truly can't take the chances. Besides, we're just hastening the start of our escape in three months. Most of the arrangements were made anyway. Of course, if you all still wish to bet on the possibility that it has nothing to do with us, I won't say anything else, and we can continue with our preparations. It's just that I think it's too much of a coincidence that such a thing happened just when we were so close to finishing."

Everyone had to admit Giam was right. Just how many years have passed already? No such thing about escaping the Upside Down World had ever happened. Now that they were close to trying that out in secret, this rumor that was catching the attention of every power appeared.

Of course, little did they know that such a coincidence was truly taking place. Not only once, but twice. After all, Havek was also in the middle of creating a way out of the Upside Down World.

"I agree with Giam."

"I agree with Giam."

"I agree with Giam."

"I agree with..."

Sure enough, all of them didn't want to have their work wasted, so they decided to advance things forward.

Seeing that, Giam nodded, satisfied. "Good! There's no need to keep a facade anymore. We are all entering the secret chamber underground to work on it together. Forget about any energy hiding techniques or other bullshit like that. We'll finish it as fast as possible and immediately activate it!"

Following that, the members who were oblivious to the task were told to stand their ground outside while all the ones involved in that project disappeared into the so-called secret chamber. All those members who remained outside were simply told that their organization had just reached a critical point, and they would know more very, very soon.

Back at the purging organization, a few hours had passed since Clinbay appeared underground. Outside, Levid and the elders were forced to come out to talk with some leaders of other powers. For now, everything was being dealt with through conversation since not many people and demon beasts had gathered yet. It was just hard to say how long that would stay like that.

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Chapter 1552: They have finished

"Levid, I was part of the project, so there's no need for you and the others to keep saying the project doesn't exist," Liman said. Soon after, he looked at everyone else and yelled, "The formation they're trying to use to escape will only work once, and it cannot hold more than three hundred people or demon beasts in humanoid form. They're all intending to bring their own families and other relatives with them, so there'll be no space for the rest of you. If any of you want to have a shot at escaping, juse like me, then we better act right now."

Levid was fuming in anger at the sight of Liman, cursing, "You piece of shit! Is that how you treat the organization after so many years?"

Liman didn't care anymore. He had already made up his mind that if he didn't escape the Upside Down World, he would at least die trying. Everything else was of little concern compared to that. "You can save your words, Levid. I will escape this place by any means necessary."

With those words, the rest of the people and demon beasts were convinced that the purging organization really had come up with a method to try and escape. It was obvious that it was the formation Liman talked about.

"Levid, let's us in. We can talk about who'll use it or not."

"That's right. Don't forget that the purging organization is sustained by all the powers of the Upside Down World."

"If we don't give you support, the organization won't be of any use anymore."

"What about the blueprints of the formation? We also want it."

"You better bring us to the formation right now before we take matters into our own hands."

Levid and the other elders narrowed their eyes after that. At the moment, they still had a small advantage in numbers and strength. However, that was quickly disappearing. That was also the reason why everyone began to get fierce. Only Liman wouldn't be enough to trigger it.

Levid then sighed before he looked at one of his elders behind, asking, 'Is the formation ready?'

'Yes, we can activate it at any time. However, it won't hold them back for more than an hour or so. We simply don't have enough Divine Stones to keep the formation running,' the elder explained.

Levid nodded in response. 'That will have to be enough. Activate it!'

Suddenly, the white tower began to shine with a bright light, forcing quite a few of the beings outside to close their eyes. However, it didn't last long before everyone could see what was happening again.

"Not good!" Liman obviously knew what was happening. "They're activating the protection formation of the tower. Quick, to the tower!"

\*Boom!\*

Just as everyone was about to follow Liman's orders, several attacks began to rain down on everyone. Levid and the other elders of the purging organization used the tower's light to launch an assault. Of course, many of the guys there weren't weaker than Levid, so many of them were able to react in time and jump away from the area of effect.

\*Ahhhh!\*

However, there were also those who weren't as strong and were caught by Levid's group moves. Several bodies were sent flying, destroyed, incinerated, frozen, etc... It was obvious that no small amount of different types of attacks was used by Levid's group.

Of course, the chaos didn't last long either. Liman immediately took the lead of the elders as soon as he saw Levid's group attack. "Everyone, with me! Don't hold back!" Sure enough, all the cultivators and demon beasts launched themselves into the battle... or so they intended to.

\*Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang...\*

Suddenly, they all felt like they were hit by a wall as their bodies were forced back. At their level, it couldn't even be considered damage. Nevertheless, it was still a fact that they couldn't move forward.

"Fuck!"

"Look! The protection formation!"

"We're too late!"

Indeed. Levid's group wasn't really looking for a battle. Instead, they used that first attack to give the protection formation enough time to activate. Right after that, they retreated into the tower once more.

Seeing that, Liman immediately changed his plans, saying, "This is the protection formation of the tower. It covers its entirety, so there's no way around it. However, it needs a lot of Divine Energy to be kept working due to its size. Everyone, attack! I can guarantee that they don't have enough Divine Stones to keep it up for long!"

"Alright!" No one complained as they began to launch their own skills all over the tower's formation.

Inside, Levid looked at everyone and said, "Let's go back to the underground area. We need to hasten Vaz's group, or we'll be done for."

\*Zush, zush, zush...\*

Not long after, Levid's group began to appear in the teleport formation underground. Clinbay, obviously, didn't find it surprising at all. "Seems like things have already gone south, huh?"

Levid nodded. "Yes. Liman rallied everyone, so the powers gathered faster than we predicted. We were forced to activate the tower's protection formation."

Clinbay didn't mind. "It's fine. That's what the formation was for. Besides..." Clinbay then looked at Vaz's group and said, "They're already done."

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Chapter 1553: It didn't go anywhere

Following that, he looked at everyone and said, "Alright, as mentioned before, there is only space enough for 300 members or so. Fortunately, counting everyone here, we barely pass 70 people and demon beasts in human form. If you have family members you wish to bring and things like that, you better go back to the tower and bring them right now. I heard your conversation, and I know what the tower's protection formation is capable of. I'll give everyone 30 minutes to organize and enter the formation. We will depart without you if you're not here by then."

Of course, no one had to hear that twice. Several elders immediately stepped into the formation while others returned to the tower to get their own things or family members. The good thing was that they were all very old, so few really had any living relatives.

While they worked on that, Rean approached Vaz and said, "Senior Vaz, now that it's concluded, my work is done."

Vaz was taken aback to hear that. "Aren't you going to use it?"

"It's too risky," Rean replied. "We don't know where it'll shoot us. There's a really high chance of dying. Instead of doing it, I think I'll stay and work on something safer for my brother and me to use. As you know, from a cultivator's point of view, I'm still very, very young."

Vaz pondered over it a bit and nodded in the end. "Fine. I did say that anyone who didn't want to come would not be forced to. Here, take this." With that, he then passed Rean a small token with some formation inscriptions on it.

"Hmm? A teleport destination?" Rean obviously recognized the thing straight away.

Vaz confirmed Rean's words, telling him, "That's correct. This coordinator can teleport you and anyone in the tower's formation room to a place outside the tower. Few really know about your part in the project since you joined last. With that said, I doubt others will go look after you. Use it with your brother to not get caught up in the chaos outside."

Rean couldn't help but feel bad inside after that. He knew that the formation wouldn't work to start with. Of course, he didn't mention it. "Thank you, Elder Vaz."

Rean then began to make his way to the teleport formation building underground. Clinbay saw that but didn't mind it. He heard Rean's conversation with Vaz, so he agreed that Rean, with his knowledge, had a much better chance if he tried something else later. He wasn't like the other elders and himself, who were already very old and couldn't wait anymore. "Thanks for the help, boy. If we meet again in the future, let me brew some tea for you."

Rean smiled in response as he passed by Elder Clinbay.

Then again, Rean wasn't the only one to make that decision. Even though the majority there were very old, a few weren't. Those guys decided that they also didn't want to risk it and were happy enough to have learned so much about formations in this place. With that said, they also chose to leave.

\*Zush!\* Rean teleported away and reappeared in the white tower once more. Roan, of course, knew what was happening, so he was already waiting for him. 'So, should we wait or use the teleport formation?'

Rean shook his head as he replied, 'Let's wait. Fortunately, I was able to work on the runes so that they would destroy the formation but won't cause damage to the people in the shooting chamber. If I'm not wrong, they will start to come back in the next 30 minutes or so after they find out the formation failed.'

Roan narrowed his eyes in response. 'Will they be able to tell that the culprit was you?'

'No,' Rean answered. 'There will be no formation left to be analyzed after it breaks apart. First of all, this formation was already a mess, so they'll most likely blame it on the chaos that the formation itself was.'



Celis, who was also there, then said, 'In that case, let's wait here. There are still the cultivators and demon beasts outside attacking the tower. If things go south, we'll use that token Vaz gave you.'

Rean and Roan agreed with Celis on that point.

Time quickly passed as the sounds of explosions coming from outside increased. Obviously, more and more people and demon beasts were gathering and helping destroy the protection formation.

Eventually, the thirty minutes that Vaz talked about was finally gone, prompting him to activate the formation from inside the chamber that would be shot through the Upside Down World barrier. "Hold on tight! This trip won't be anything smooth!" He also warned everyone inside.

Soon, the formation activated as all the Divine Energy that had been stored for so long began to circulate all at once. The several stacked formations that filled the main formation then began to light up one after another as more and more energy passed through.

Seeing that, Vaz and the other Formation Masters were quite satisfied. After all, the formation had been working fine so far.

However, just when all the energy began to pass through the power control runes, the runes themselves started to crack one after another. It's just that Vaz's group could see it in the middle of all that energy.

\*Crack, crack, crack, crack, crack...\*

\*Shatter!\*

Eventually, the runes couldn't hold all that power and began to shatter without stopping. As a result, all the energy was released, destroying the formations around them.

\*Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom...\*

Explosions of Divine Energy wreaked havoc in the underground area, threatening to make everything fall down. Fortunately, the underground area was also protected by a protection formation, so it was able to hold on somehow.

The chamber where Vaz's group was located, of course, was not shot into the Upside Down World barrier. Instead, the explosions made it kick everywhere. If the members inside were not cultivators and demon beasts, they probably would have broken several bones already.

The explosions of Divine Energy continued for over a minute until everything finally settled down. As for the chamber where everyone was inside, it didn't go anywhere.

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Chapter 1554: It Blew Up

Clinbay then looked around and couldn't help but ask, "What happened? Why didn't we get shot into the barrier?"

Vaz, as well as the other Formation Masters, looked at each other. None of them seemed to know the answer at all. In any case, Vaz could think about a possibility. "As you know, this formation was a mess in itself. We finished building it, but there had never been a guarantee it would work. It seems like we failed."

Levid, on the other hand, was more concerned about something else. "Forget the formation for now. Since we weren't able to be shot away, then we'll have to stay. The problem is the people and demon beasts outside. We even attacked them before activating the protection formation to gain time."

Clinbay and the others bitterly smiled after that. Sure enough, now they would have to deal with the mess since their plan didn't work. However, Clinbay knew there was no point in waiting for it anymore. They had to face it. "Let's head out. It seems like the explosions didn't affect the teleport formation building."

Everyone quickly stepped into the formations and teleported back to the white tower. When they arrived there, they quickly noticed the other lower members of the organization, as well as the twins watching out through the window. Well, it wasn't like they didn't know what those members were looking at with the sounds of explosions resounding nonstop.

Rean noticed when Vaz and company appeared, saying in shock, "Senior Vaz? What are you doing here?" Of course, he pretended to be surprised by their presence.

Vaz felt quite bad since Rean had helped them a lot on this endeavor just for it to fail. "Sorry, the formation blew up. The entire formation is broken. There isn't a single intact rune to tell the story."

"What?!" Both Rean and Roan were surprised to hear that. They obviously knew that the formation wouldn't work. After all, Rean made sure of it. However, Vaz and the others were already back, and the shooting formation was gone. Even so, the quest to stop the Upside Down World beings from escaping was not counted as over.

Rean looked at Roan and said, 'If that's the case, the real objective of this quest must be Havek's formation.'

Roan nodded. 'We have no other choice. We have to make Havek give up on his formation. However, he said it'll take at least a year for him to finish, so we can deal with that later. Let's see what Clinbay and the others will do about this situation. The protection formation in the tower won't last long.'

Rean accepted the idea. 'Alright.'

Clinbay, who had also just stepped out of the formation, immediately began to give orders, saying, "Send your family members or relatives to their rooms. After that, gather at the entrance of the tower."

Everyone followed his words, and a few moments later, they all gathered in front of the tower while its protection formation was being bombarded. After some time, Clinbay said, "Turn off the formation."

Immediately, the formation of the purging organization's tower was deactivated. Then again, it wouldn't last much longer anyway.

"It's down!"

"We did it!"

"Quick, we need to find the teleport formation."

However, some noticed that something was wrong.

"Wait! We didn't destroy the formation."

"He's right. The formation was deactivated from inside."

"Look! It's Clinbay and the other grand elders of the purging organization!"

Liman, who was acting more or less like a leader, was shocked to see all of them there. Of course, he didn't give up and quickly approached the purging organization members. Many of the experts of the other powers did the same since they wanted to know what was happening.

"Head Clinbay, have you given up escaping already?" Liman asked.

However, Clinbay shook his head, telling him, "No. We've already tried. Unfortunately, the formation blew up, and we failed."

Before Liman could say anything, the Sect Master of a sect called Jumanvin stepped forward. "Clinbay, you've really done it now. Not only did your organization attack everyone, but you're even trying to cover up the escape formation."

Clinbay didn't seem too worried, though. It's just that he still had quite a bad appearance after the events in the underground formation. "Whether you believe me or not doesn't matter. If you wish, you can have Liman bring you to the location of the formation. You will see with your own eyes that I'm not lying."

The Kluka Clan's head, another power of the Upside Down World, then snorted after hearing that. "Is that so? However, do you think we will let you off the hook even if it's true? When you guys came up with an idea to escape, you should have informed all of us. It's us who sustain the purging organization, you know?"

The elder and grand elders of the purging organization couldn't help but become nervous after that. However, Clinbay kept his composure as he replied, "Is that so? In that case, let's fight! I won't lie. I tried to escape on my own with a few members of the organization because the formation couldn't be built again. Also, it could only be used once while no more than 300 or so beings could come. Come at me! I'm a Space Bending Realm cultivator and won't flee from this fight."

Clinbay then smiled as he continued, "However, do you really wish to start a fight against all the elders and me here? Sure, you have the advantage in numbers. But don't forget that with our strength, we're probably going to ruin at least a third of the entire Upside Down World before you guys can wipe us out."

Immediately, everyone went silent.

However, someone then looked at Liman and asked, "Is it true that the formation could only work once?"

Liman had a dark expression as he nodded in response. "Yes." After all, he was one of the few who knew about everything.

Now both sides were in a dilemma. They could kill Clinbay and everyone else, but would it really be worth it?

Unfortunately, they didn't have time to think about it...

\*Rumble!\*

That's because the entire Upside Down World began to tremble nonstop after that.

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Chapter 1555: Implosion

"Clinbay! You guys are doing it, right?"

Clinbay, who was as confused as everyone else, immediately shook his head, saying, "It's not us. Our formation has already exploded."

Vaz and the others confirmed Clinbay's words. "It's true. You can go and check our tower if you want. We're not the ones doing it. Have Liman bring you all to the formation site and check it for yourselves."

Some really wanted to do exactly that. However, the Upside Down World's earthquake only intensified even more. Anyone who couldn't fly even had trouble standing.

Rean and Roan obviously knew that it had nothing to do with the purging organization. "What the hell is happening?"

Celis, on their side, couldn't help but ask, "Could it be that Havek lied, and now he's trying to escape?"

However, Sister Orb's voice echoed in their minds at that moment. [It's not Havek. I can't tell exactly what's happening. Nevertheless, the epicenter of this earthquake is located opposite the location of Havek's sect. It's close to the south tail end of this tube-like world.]

Sister Orb wasn't the only one to notice that. The high-level experts outside the tower also noticed that the origin of the trembling was far away from the Purging Tower.

"It's coming from the south!"

"Indeed! I can tell that with my Earth Element Affinity."

"What do we do? Do we stay here?"

Clinbay was the first one to react, saying, "I have no clue what's happening, but I won't just stay here and do nothing. If you guys want, go ahead and enter our tower to check the broken formation with Liman. I don't care." Soon after, he looked at his organization members. "We're heading after this phenomenon. Something big must be happening south from here for it to be able to affect the entire Upside Down World."

Immediately, Clinbay took flight and flew south. Naturally, Levid, Vaz, and everyone else did the same, quickly flying after him.

As for the experts who were planning to enter the tower, they gave up on the idea almost instantly. Pretty much all the high-level cultivators and demon beasts of the purging organization left together. It might just be a trick to fool everyone else, but the chances were too low. "I'm going after them!"

"Me too!"

"I definitely won't stay still here."

Suddenly, a Demon Bird flew out of the white tower, flying in the direction of the epicenter as well. Naturally, that was the Demon Bird Rean and Roan used when they went to visit Havek. Since they knew the organization had nothing to do with the earthquake, they had to verify what was happening. Besides, the system's quest hasn't concluded yet, so the risk was still there.

In the end, only a few middle-level experts stayed behind, ordered by the other powers' leaders to enter the tower and investigate. As for the leaders themselves and other high-level cultivators and demon beasts, they all flew or ran south.

Liman, of course, was within the group that gave up checking the tower and flew south. Since Vaz was within the group that flew south, he was pretty sure that the shooting formation couldn't be activated even if its destruction was a lie. However, as he flew away, he noticed the twins and Celis on the back of the Demon Bird. 'Isn't that the kids Levid introduced to the project? I believe the white-haired one knew a lot of formations or something like that.'

He pondered over it for a bit, eventually deciding that, instead of flying past the twins, he landed on the back of their Demon Bird.

Celis, of course, noticed that. "What do you want?"

Rean and Roan looked behind as well. They obviously noticed Liman's presence with their Divine Sense bending skill. "Aren't you that elder that told everyone about the formation?"

Liman nodded in response. "That's me. Anyway, I'm bringing you with me to the south. If you go with this demon bird here, you will take too long to arrive compared to the others."

Rean's group was confused to hear that. "Why would you help us out of nowhere?"

Liman then pointed at Rean and replied, "He's the one who has the best knowledge about formations, right? Something to do with being part of the Sacred Undersea Kingdom. I don't know what's causing our world to shake like this, but I bet it has something to do with a formation. It'll be better to have you by my side in case I don't know what to do." In the end, Liman simply wanted to protect himself. Having Rean with him would add some guarantee to that.

Well, the twins also wanted to know what was happening. Not to mention that Roan couldn't feel that Liman was lying. "Fine, let's go."

Celis then grabbed the twins with his vines and allowed Liman to hold him with his Divine Energy. Liman didn't waste time and used his Spatial Powers to flash into the distance, quickly leaving the demon bird behind.

\*Crack, crack, crack...\*

As everyone flew south, the Upside Down World around them began to crack. One can't forget that they were inside a world that looked like a giant tube, so the cracks started to spread both up and down. However, what really caught the twins' attention was the geysers of Chaotic Divine Energy and Elements coming out of those cracks. The beings who were caught by them were killed almost instantly, leaving only those at the Elemental Transformation Realm and above to be able to resist it.

Rean immediately understood what was happening. "This world is imploding!"

"What?!" Celis, Roan, and Liman were taken aback. "How do you know?"

Rean then explained, "Look at the cracks where Divine Energy mixed with Elements are coming out. That's the barrier that prevents everyone from escaping. All the barrier's energy is flowing inside, which means the barrier or something outside the barrier is pressing against us."



Suddenly, they noticed the air itself beginning to press against their bodies. "The pressure is increasing because of it as well..."

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Chapter 1556: Better than dying

That light was piercing through the ground, and due to the huge cracks on the floor, the twins saw that it went far into the world's barrier. "This..."

Liman saw Clinbay and all the other leaders of the Upside Down World gathered in front of it, so he joined them as well. "Have you guys found anything?"

Clinbay glanced at Liman for a moment. However, he knew it was not time to think about Liman's betrayal. The surprising thing was that he was carrying the twins with him. With that, he asked, "Why are you four together?"

Rean simply sent a Divine Sense message explaining how it turned out like that. As for whether Clinbay and the others believed or not, he couldn't do anything about it at the moment.

Sure enough, Clinbay had his suspicions but ignored that for now. "Whatever. The fact is that none of us can tell what's happening. What we can say is that there's a huge power around that pillar of light. We tried to get close, but none of us are strong enough to approach it."

Liman then looked at Vaz and Rean and asked, "So, what kind of formation is this? Was it any of your doing?"

"We already asked that question." Another one of the leaders and experts there said. "We can't check it since we can't get close."

Vaz confirmed the guy's words, saying, "Indeed. I'm not the only Formation Master here, you know? None of us can tell if this is a formation or not. Of course, due to the power it shows, it's most likely a formation."

However, it was then that Vaz noticed Rean's shocked expression. "Rean, did you find something out?"

Rean looked at Vaz and the others before nodding in response. "Yes. This is definitely not a formation."

"What?!" Everyone was taken aback to hear that. "How do you know?"

Rean then pointed at the pillar and said, "We can't get close to check, but it's not hard to read the energy. Senior Vaz, can you see any pattern in it whatsoever?"

Only then did Vaz understand what Rean meant as he looked back at the formation. "I'm such an idiot. Of course, it's not a formation. If it was a formation, the energy being used in this pillar would have some characteristics due to the runes used. I can't say if there are formations in the Realm of Gods that can achieve this chaotic effect. However, I don't think someone in our Upside Down World would have the ability to do such a thing."

Rean nodded in agreement. "Exactly. That's why I'm shocked. Just what could cause such a huge pillar of light to appear if it's not a formation?"

Clinbay didn't seem to care about it, though. "Forget about who or what it is. Look around. Cracks are appearing everywhere. If things continue like this, our Upside Down World will be doomed."

The others agreed with Clinbay.

"He's right."

"Should we attack it?"

"Wouldn't attacking the pillar make it worse?"

"Do you have a better idea, then?"

While they were pondering on what to do next, Rean looked at the cracks around the pillar. Obviously, the cracks there were bigger than anywhere else since it was the epicenter of the phenomenon. The

cracks were so deep that Rean could see the barrier that impeded everyone from leaving. "Hey, look there."

Rean's words caught the attention of the people and demon beasts. They quickly approached the barrier and finally saw what Rean was pointing at. It's just that they couldn't see anything. "What is it?"

Rean sighed before explaining, "Can't you see? These cracks don't have those geysers of Divine Energy and Elements."

"Now that you say that..." That was true. The cracks from other places were all bursting with chaotic Divine Energy and the five main elements. However, these ones were pretty much empty up to the point where one could see the barrier of the world.

Roan couldn't help but talk with Rean through their Soul Connection, saying, 'Not Havek nor the purging organization. It's pretty obvious that this pillar of light is the real objective of the quest.'

Rean agreed with Roan. 'Maybe that's why the system gave us six months. The system knew it was going to happen. It wasn't an evil quest, after all. The system was trying to prevent everyone's death.'

Roan didn't know if the system cared about that or not, but it was true that the quest couldn't be considered bad anymore. 'However, it seems like we're too late. Whatever's causing it is already affecting the entire world. You finished your chamber with the teleport formation in the Dimensional Realm, right?'

Rean had mentioned before that he would create a very heavy chamber with a teleport formation inside. That formation would use that gap he found in the Divine Lakes to teleport the twins back to the Salt Canyon. 'Are you saying that we should run?'

Roan nodded in response. 'Yes. With the way things are going, I wouldn't be surprised if this world implodes in a day or two. Also, since we already found Havek, we don't need to use the Salt Canyon Lake. Instead, let's take the lake connected to the furthest point of the Pol Continent. It will save us many years of travel.' Roan obviously prioritized their own lives more than the people and demon beasts of this world. Since they couldn't be saved, then so be it. Sure, they would have to wait 70 years for their Nascent Soul to revive, but it was far better than dying.

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## Chapter 1557: Familiarity

Rean looked down the crack and then at the pillar of light ahead. Following that, he asked the seniors around, asking, "What was located in this place before? Was it an empty space?"

One of the experts that lived nearby answered the question, replying, "It's the Light Seekers organization. They have existed for a very long time and have always tried to find a way out."

One didn't need to be smart to understand that the Light Seekers were trying something new. "Then... where are they?"

The guy pointed at the light pillar and said, "Inside that thing. As to what's happening in there, I have no clue."

Rean narrowed his eyes when suddenly, his hair changed into a mix of black and white. Soon after, he began to walk in the pillar's direction.

'What are you doing?' Roan obviously noticed that.

Well, it was quite obvious. 'I want to see if I can get close while using your Dark Element as a shield. Perhaps I can do something in there to stop this.'

Surprisingly, Roan didn't try to stop him. Instead, he also began to walk beside Rean. 'Even if I try to stop you, you won't listen. Leave the Dark Element for me to control. You get ready to heal us if we receive some damage.'

At first, no one paid much attention to the twins. Even Liman thought the twins only wanted to get a closer look. However, as they moved forward, everyone noticed that they were getting quite far.

"Rean, Roan, where are you going? Come back now before the light pillar's energy kill you!" Clinbay and Vaz warned the twins. Unfortunately, neither of the twins paid much attention.

Celis, on the other hand, just snorted. 'Hmph! As if those two would listen to anything you guys have to say.' Of course, he didn't say that loud.

Seeing that Rean and Roan weren't turning back, Vaz decided to go and take them back by himself. Roan was one thing, but it would be too much of a loss if Rean died there. He quickly took flight and sped in the twins' direction. Yet, he wasn't able to move too far.

\*Bang!\*

\*Argh!\*

The energy of the light pillar suddenly struck Vaz's body, making him vomit a bit of blood before he was forced to retreat. That scene shocked everyone around them. Vaz was in the Void Tempering Realm, while the twins were only in the Core and Soul Fusion Realm. How come the twins could get that far if Vaz couldn't?

Immediately, a few other experts tried to get close as well, thinking that there was some secret to it. However, every single one of them was forced to retreat because of the pillar's energy.

"How are they doing that?"

"They seemed to be surrounded by Dark Element."

"I know. I used my Yin Energy to gather Dark Element, but I can't get anywhere as close as they are."

"Could they be involved in it?"

In fact, not even the twins were quite aware of what was happening.

'How come I don't feel any resistance whatsoever?' Rean asked. 'Is your Dark Element this potent?'

Roan shook his head, replying, 'What resistance? We aren't being affected by the light's pillar at all. It seems like the light pillar's energy is afraid of getting too close to my Dark Element.'

'That's weird,' Rean could not help but say. 'I saw the guys outside using Yin Energy to gather Dark Element. However, they were all injured when they got close. Due to their cultivation advantage, they were able to use even more Dark Element than you can at the moment.'

Roan obviously noticed that as well. He pondered for a moment when he finally understood, saying, 'It's the quality of the Dark Element, not the quantity. My Dark Element is as pure as anyone could possibly get in this Realm of Gods. It seems like this light pillar is also made of extremely pure energy, so they're canceling each other out. I just don't know why it would happen. Your Light Element would most likely get the same result.'

Rean couldn't help but feel that this situation was somewhat familiar. 'Did we pass through a similar situation before?'

Roan looked back at Rean and asked in response, 'We did? When?'

Rean shook his head after that. 'I can't remember. I just feel like it's very familiar.'

Roan obviously didn't know what to say. 'Forget it. Let's just keep moving forward.'

The surroundings gradually got brighter and brighter when suddenly, the twins seemed to pass through a wall. It was a division between the light pillar and what was inside. With that, they finally could see what was happening there.

\*Roar!\*

\*Zush, zush, zush...\*

However, they didn't have much time to think before several creatures pounced at them. "Shit!"

Without thinking twice, the twins turned around and retreated into the pillar. The creatures didn't stop there, though. They all jumped inside the light pillar, trying to get the twins.

As the twins ran, Rean finally understood why this place seemed familiar. "Fuck! It's those white powder creatures!"

Obviously, Roan made the connection as well. "This light pillar is made of the same energy as the white river. Inside is full of white powder."

Fortunately, it didn't take long for the twins to reach the other side.

"Hey, look!"

"Those twins are back!"

"They seem to be running, though."

"Wait! There's something behind them."

Sure enough, everyone outside saw the twins and the creatures following them. It's just that no one acted until Vaz understood the peril. "Quick, help them! Don't let those creatures catch the twins. If that happens, we will lose our only clue to what is happening in there!"

As soon as those words came out, all the experts felt a sense of urgency. In the next few seconds, countless ranged attacks came raining down on the creatures behind the twins. They might not be able to get close without getting injured, but that didn't mean they could send their skills there.

Eventually, the twins jumped out of the light pillar as the creatures were delayed by the attacks. Indeed, they weren't destroyed, only delayed!

Death... and me

Chapter 1558: I'll do the same

Fortunately, the creature stopped right before it left the light pillar. Seeing how they couldn't catch the twins anymore and kept receiving attacks from the cultivators, they immediately turned around and retreated. Otherwise, they would definitely be destroyed.

"Phew... that was close." Rean couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief.

Of course, it was far from over. Everyone immediately gathered around the twins to hear what they had to say.

"How did you get into the light pillar?"

"What were those creatures?"

"Was it you guys who summoned it?"

"Do you have anything to do with what's happening right now?"

Rean wasn't surprised by all that, though. He quickly raised his hand, signaling for everyone to stop talking. "Alright, let's keep it down, guys. I'll answer all those questions, so let me speak."

"First, about how we entered the light pillar. We weren't expecting that we would be able to do it in the first place. Only after we noticed that the light pillar's energy had no use against us did we understand why. It's the purity of our elements. If you can surround yourselves with elements as pure as ours, you should be able to do the same." Rean wasn't lying. He tried to do the same thing as Roan, and it turned out that it worked.

"How pure are your Elements, then?" Someone obviously asked.

Rean pondered over it for a bit before gathering a sphere of Light Element in his hand, responding, "Well, you can touch it and compare it to your own elements. See if you can make it as pure I do."



Quite a few experts stepped forward to check the element. They obviously knew what elemental purity meant since everyone had their own Elemental Affinities. It's just that it was the first time they saw someone with Light Element Affinity, so some were curious about it as well.

After a few minutes, everyone moved away from Rean with disappointed expressions. The purity of every cultivator or demon beasts' element varied. Some were purer, others not that much. However, no one was able to get close to Rean or Roan's elemental purity. As an excuse, Rean told everyone that they came from the Sacred Undersea Kingdom, just like before. Naturally, their techniques were much better.

Vaz, Clinbay, and even Liman confirmed Rean's story. They had already received information that the twins really came from the Sacred Undersea Kingdom... although that was all a lie...

"Alright, you guys have very high elemental purity. That's fine. However, how can it help us?" Liman asked.

The sphere of Light Element around Rean's hand then expanded, quickly covering an area of a few dozen meters around him. Naturally, Rean would be able to do much more than that. Unfortunately, he had lost his cultivation, so this was already close to his limit. "I can let everyone stay close to me, and so can my brother. We can enter together to see what's happening there."

"What about those creatures?" Sure enough, everyone was concerned about that as well.

Roan answered that, saying, "We don't know about them. However, the light pillar's energy only covers the outskirts of the Light Seekers' headquarters. The light pillar doesn't affect anyone inside. With that said, we can bring you there, but we'll have to deal with the creatures there. By the way, when we looked inside, we quickly found that the place was completely filled with white powder, the same powder that transformed everyone into statues. The creatures just so happen to be made of the same material as well."

Some had their doubts regarding the twins' words. Unfortunately, it wasn't like they had much time to inquire further. Every minute caused the Upside Down World's state to become worse.

Clinbay then gritted his teeth and said, "Enough. The twins can bring us inside, so we have to go. It's pretty obvious that the longer we wait, the worse it will get. We need to stop whatever's causing this calamity."

Everyone looked at each other. Even though a lot didn't want to do it, they knew Clinbay was right. Besides, who knows? There might be some reward for them in the end. Stay out and wait for the world to be destroyed, dying in the process. Or... enter and try to stop it, although it was definitely dangerous. In any case, the choice was obvious.

"Let's go!"

"Everyone, get prepared."

"We should depart straight away."

As everyone talked, more cultivators and demon beasts arrived at the scene. Not too long after, someone that the twins knew very well appeared. "Rean, Roan, so you're here as well."

Seeing the sphere of chilling energy, the twins immediately identified him. "Oh, Havek! To think you came as well."

Havek and quite a few of his sect's elders came after receiving the news. "How could we not come? Look at this shit! We're all going to die if we don't do anything."

Clinbay, who was near the twins, noticed Havek as well. "You're that spirit who became a sect leader, right? Do you guys know each other?"

Rean nodded, saying, "We were all taken away by the Salt Canyon phenomenon. We know each other from the other side."

"I see..." Clinbay had more questions, but he decided to leave it for now.

Instead, he looked at the other cultivators and demon beasts. “Lutik, Prom, Rikarf, Wallib, Cesar, you guys are the leaders of the other top powers here in our Upside Down World. Let’s join forces with my purging organization. We need to keep the twins protected at all costs in case we need to retreat. At the same time, we need to investigate and fight the creatures inside. Do you guys have any complaints with this idea?”

Although those guys didn’t like how Clinbay acted like they led them, they didn’t raise their voices. For now, they were more interested in what was happening inside. “We have no complaints. We will all designate some of our elders to help protect the twins on the back.”

Clinbay nodded in response. “I’ll do the same.”

With that, everyone prepared the best way they could before they looked at the twins and said, “Let’s go.”

Death... and me

Chapter 1559: Bringing Everyone

Havek denied the idea, replying, “Nope. At the moment, I would rather take a backseat. I’m definitely interested in the cause of this phenomenon, but it’s not at the point that I’d risk my life. Remember, I care about my life more than anything else. I will only join the fight if extremely necessary.” Well, Havek still told his sect elders to join the vanguard to help.

Eventually, everyone gathered in front of the light pillar before Rean and Roan used their Light and Dark Elements to create two bubbles. They weren’t enough to fit everyone, so only the experts at the Transition Realm and above could come with them. There were still a few hundred of them, though.

After that, they began to move forward, with Clinbay’s group at the very front as they were all in the Space Bending Realm. Of course, they were still nervous, afraid that the twins’ ability only worked for themselves.

However, they quickly noticed that the light pillar’s power was really avoiding the twins’ bubbles. It was as if it simply didn’t want to hurt such energy that was as pure as itself. Although that didn’t wipe out everyone’s worries, it definitely helped out, seeing that the bubbles worked just fine.

Not long after, Rean and Roan's group finally passed through the light wall separating the inside from the outside, and the light pillar's energy immediately disappeared. Sure enough, everything inside the light pillar was fully covered in white powder, just as Rean and Roan mentioned.

Immediately, Clinbay and the others took vials full of the lake's Divine Water and poured them on their bodies. Some even drank it straight away. As mentioned before, this water could cure the transformation, so it probably could stop it as well.

\*Roar!\*

They didn't have much time after that, though. The white powder creatures began to take form and pounced at the groups that entered the light pillar's insides.

"Everyone, attack!"

Clinbay, Lutik, Prom, Rikarf, Wallib, Cesar, and all the other experts immediately took out their weapons and launched a preventive strike. Now that they were closer, their attacks were a lot more powerful than when they tried to protect the twins.

\*Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom...\*

Surprisingly, creatures were destroyed one after another. However, their power was no joke, as they also succeeded in injuring the experts. Back when Rean and Roan fought them, they sacrificed their Nascent Souls, which made them almost as strong as high-level Void Tempering Realm cultivators. However, they still lost in the end. That just went to show how strong the creatures were, especially since their numbers seemed unlimited.

There was a good thing, though. Clinbay's group was able to destroy the creatures faster than they could take form. After a few minutes of battle, some space was opened for everyone to move forward.

"Lutik, Prom, tell your elders to keep this place free for us to retreat. I'll tell a few of mine to stay as well. The rest of us will move forward."

Rean and Roan now had the time to pay attention to the Light Seekers' building in the distance. "Senior Clinbay, we can feel that there's something like a core of elemental energy at the southwest building. It gives us the same feeling as the white powder's Divine Energy, which is probably the light pillar's energy as well."

Clinbay then stopped a little and focused on the energy of the surroundings. Of course, the others also heard the twins' words, so they did the same thing. "Indeed, we can feel that as well, albeit very slightly." That was quite impressive in their opinion since only those in the Void Tempering Realm could really feel that, but the twins did the same with their cultivation.

"Alright, let's move forward," Lutik wanted to go check it out right away since the creatures wouldn't stop appearing.

However, Rean and Roan immediately shook their heads, saying, "No, let us head back and bring more cultivators and demon beasts. We need numbers."

They had to admit the twins were right. This was only the first group, but the twins could enter and leave the light pillar anytime they wanted. Naturally, they could bring more fighters. It's just that some were afraid the twins wouldn't come back after that. "Only one of you go. The other will stay in case something goes wrong."

The twins could tell what those guys had in mind but didn't point it out. Rean then looked at Roan and said, "I'll go there, then. Or you can go if you want."

Roan shook his head, telling him in response, "It doesn't matter. Just go already."

Rean nodded and immediately jumped back into the light pillar's light, quickly disappearing inside. As for the cultivators and demon beasts inside, they increased the area of protection and used their own techniques to sweep the white powder away from there.

Around two minutes later, Rean returned, bringing another hundred or so cultivators and demon beasts with him. Those ones weren't as strong as the first batch, but they could definitely help. And just like that, Rean kept bringing more and more experts, although he had a limit. Anyone below the Elemental Transformation Realm wouldn't be of any use in this place, so he didn't bring them.

Eventually, there were around two thousand cultivators and demon beasts there at the Elemental Transformation Realm or similar in strength. “Phew... that’s about it. There will be more of them arriving outside as time passes, but this is basically all that we had there for now.”

Clinbay was more than happy with that as he thought he would have to make do with the first group. “That’s good for now. Anyways, should we bring the twins further inside or leave them here, being protected by the others?”

Rean and Roan answered that question before the other leaders said anything. “We want to go in. Our elemental purity might be of use there as well. We must do whatever it takes to stop the world’s collapse.”

Death... and me

Chapter 1560: Betting Everyone’s Lives

Putik and Cesar agreed as well. “Yes, I feel safer to have them within my vision.”

Naturally, Clinbay also wanted the same outcome. “Very well, let’s bring them over.”

Of course, the battle against the creatures never stopped. It’s just that there were so many experts, all of them with Divine Water in their spatial rings. Even if they got hit, the Divine Water from the lakes prevented them from transforming.

The twins’ group then started to march forward while they left around three hundred cultivators defending their entry point. The other one thousand and seven hundred moved further into the Light Seekers’ territory.

However, they quickly noticed a problem. The further they went in, the more white powder they had surrounding them. That means more creatures took form and attacked, forcing their group to leave cultivators and demon beasts behind to create safe points of return. By the time they arrived at the southwest side, only two hundred experts had remained.

The good thing was that they were the cream of the crop in the Upside Down World. Quite a few Space Bending Realm and loads of Void Tempering and Transition Realm cultivators and demon beasts were within them. Only the twins and Celis, who obviously followed the twins, were below that level there.

"It's here. Well, not here, but below us," Rean mentioned.

Clinbay and the other top experts nodded. "Yes, we can feel it as well."

Putik, Prom, and Cesar then looked at Clinbay and said, "You are the best Earth Element cultivator among us, so start excavating already." Wallib and Rikarf agreed with them. "They're right. We are counting on you."

Clinbay knew that those guys simply didn't want to waste more Divine Energy. In any case, he didn't mind and immediately used his Earth Element and Spatial Powers to open a huge hole into the ground. Surprisingly, he wasn't removing the earth. Instead, he was pressing it to the sides to create the passage. Following that, he took a few Divine Stones and held them in his hands before jumping inside. He obviously didn't intend to run out of Divine Energy in this place. "Let's go."

Levid and a few more elders of their powers once again stayed behind, saying, "We will protect the entrance. Get rid of whatever's causing this shit as fast as you can."

The distance between the surface and the barrier around the Upside Down World wasn't deep to start with. Now that Clinbay was the one opening the hole, it didn't take them more than a few minutes to arrive at their destination.

Suddenly, the earth below opened, showing an underground facility beneath the Light Seekers' headquarters.

However, what caught everyone's attention was the dome of energy at the very center. Inside, they could see all the elders, ex-leaders, and other top experts of the Light Seekers organization. They were channeling their energy inside what seemed to be an extremely old altar.

The altar itself was completely white, just like the white powder covering all the surroundings.

Giam, the actual leader of the Light Seekers, noticed their presence and was shocked to see them. "How's that possible? No one should be able to come to this place!"

The others immediately looked in the same direction and saw Clinbay's group. "How did they get here?"

Clinbay's group didn't hear what they said due to the distance. Instead, they were trying to make sense of the situation there.

Suddenly, Rean's expression changed, shouting, "Look! The streams!"

"Streams?" Everyone was confused before they paid closer attention to the dome of energy. Only then did they notice that very thin streams of energy seemed to be entering the dome before being absorbed by the altar. However, unlike the white energy of the pillar and the white powder, the streams of energy were unexpectedly colored. "What are those?"

Clinbay quickly recovered before saying, "We can ask them down there. Let's go!"

Immediately, they all began to fly down while a few of the elders stayed behind with the twins and Celis.

Inside the dome, Giam narrowed his eyes before turning to the other elders, saying, "There's no need to panic. Our protective barrier can't be destroyed by people and demon beasts at their level. Continue what you're doing. We need enough energy to open a passage out of here. I'll talk to them during that."

Everyone nodded in response, and they ignored Clinbay's group as they poured their energies inside the altar. The altar obviously answered as it continued to absorb that colored energy from the outside.

When Clinbay got close, he noticed that his Divine Sense couldn't pierce through the dome. Without much choice, he could only call Giam's attention. "Giam, I believe? What the hell is happening here? Open this barrier straight away and stop what you're doing. The entire Upside Down World is collapsing because of this shit."

Giam shook his head in response. "Are you sure you want me to stop? This could potentially open us a passage back to the Realm of Gods!"

"What?!" Clinbay and everyone else were taken aback. "Is that true?"



Gaim nodded in response. "Yes. Now, just stand aside and don't bother us. Once the passage opens, we will let everyone come with us."

Naturally, everyone had their own concerns about it. However, the main thing was obvious. "If such a good thing is possible, why didn't you tell us? There's no one here who wouldn't help you with it."

Hearing such words from Clinbay made the other experts roll their eyes at him. After all, Clinbay's purging organization also tried to escape alone.

Suddenly, Rean answered that question from afar, saying, "That's because the energy he needs is also the energy that keeps this Upside Down World intact. He's basically betting everyone's lives on this attempt to escape. Am I wrong?"

After hearing that, Giam's expression immediately turned dark.