

## Death 1721

Death... and me

### Chapter 1721: Kentucky's Arrival

"Let me see... the country where Ume came from was called Astonkay, in the Wesglo Region of this continent." As he muttered this to himself, Kentucky could not help but look in a certain direction as he saw a few experts were coming his way. Then again, that was the normal response when one forcefully opened a passage into another continent. It could be felt by the high-level experts of that continent, and they would quickly come to check. Kentucky had passed through this many times already on his way here.

"Who are you? Why did you enter our continent? Who opened the barrier for you?" asked an old woman, ready to kill Kentucky if the answer didn't satisfy her.

Kentucky then took his Jhiod Sect badge out as he replied, "I'm a disciple of the Jhiod Sect. I'm on a mission to check the area where a Minokawa appeared in the past. This is also an official visit." Philip told Kentucky to use those words as he imbued Kentucky's badge with his aura. The experts of the Vulrasic Continent would understand that it was the real deal.

The old woman was taken aback when she saw that badge. How could she not remember it? Back when that Minokawa appeared, she was here. The Jhiod Sect came to check the place but ultimately left empty-handed. The experts of her Vulrasic Continent couldn't really stop that since the level was just too different. Besides, the Jhiod Sect at that time kept their word and did not intervene in any of the affairs of the Vulrasic Continent, so it was quite a peaceful and short interaction. "The Jhiod Sect? Again? Why would they want to look at that place?"

Kentucky shook his head in response. "I don't know. I'm only here to check that. From what the Yume Clan Leader, Philip, said, I could use this Jhiod Sect badge to be granted passage in this continent."

The old woman then waved her hand before Kentucky's badge disappeared right in front of his eyes. He wasn't surprised by that, though. He knew she used her control over space to teleport the badge to her hand instead, even if he couldn't see it.

"Hmm... seems like the real thing..." The woman looked back at Kentucky again after that. "You seem to be a demon beast. Could you have some connection with that Minokawa? That's quite a rare race to find in a place like this."

Kentucky nodded, saying, "I'm a Minokawa myself." Kentucky wasn't worried about revealing his identity since the Jhiod Sect knew he came to this place. Obviously, the woman knew that as well. If something were to happen to a disciple of the Jhiod Sect when he was on an official visit to Vulrasic Continent, things would turn awry for them.

The old woman then threw the badge back to Kentucky before saying, "You can pass. However, remember that our agreement with Jhiod is that you will not meddle in the affairs of our Vulrasic Continent. If you break this rule, then you will be killed even if you're from the Jhiod Sect."

Kentucky put the badge away and nodded in response. "I wouldn't do such an idiotic action. Although the Jhiod Sect is strong, it's still a continent quite far away from this place. I would rather not stir up any trouble with the locals."

"That's good to hear," said the woman after that. "Everyone, you can head back." Soon after, the experts all left while using their own control over space. Only the old woman was left behind, together with Kentucky. "You will find a city around 2000 kilometers southeast of this place. Just head to the Formation Guild and take a teleport. Obviously, you will have to pay for it."

Kentucky smiled in response as he returned to his Minokawa form. After all, he could fly much faster that way. "Thank you, lady."

"Also..." However, after seeing Kentucky's real form,

the old woman couldn't help but stop him.

Kentucky looked at her expression and could tell what she wanted. "Hahaha! If you want to touch me, feel free to do so. I'm a friend of all females in existence, may they be young or old."

The old woman was taken aback for a moment but couldn't resist in the end. Sure enough, Kentucky was still a lady killer. The old woman hugged the huge Minokawa for quite a few minutes and seemed delighted in doing so. However, she finally recovered her demeanor after that. "Ahem... that's all for now. You can go."

Kentucky nodded and immediately flapped his wings, quickly disappearing in the distance.

As for the old woman, she didn't know what had happened to her. 'So weird... he looks very much like the Minokawa from all those years ago. However, why did I feel so attracted to him? The previous Minokawa didn't give me the same urge at all.'

She then looked at her hands and couldn't help but remember her actions just a minute ago. It really felt extremely good to hug Kentucky. 'Hehe! Perhaps when he decides to leave, he'll come this way. I guess I will stick around for some time, just in case.'

Kentucky didn't know what went on in the old woman's head. After all, he only wanted to get to the country where Ume first appeared. As the old woman mentioned, there really was a city 2000 kilometers later. Kentucky quickly entered it through the skies and reverted to his human form. This was a corner city of the continent, so demon beasts of his level were obviously treated with a lot of respect.

Kentucky then paid the Divine Stones necessary and used a long-distance teleport formation. He only had three years and a half remaining, after all. Well, that was the time Rean said he would wait. If Rean didn't hear from Kentucky until then, he would come here to check things himself.

Around two days later, Kentucky finally arrived in Wesglo Region, followed by Astonkay Country.

\*Tum-tump, tum-tump, tum-tump...\*

As soon as he left the teleport formation, Kentucky felt his heart hasten in beating. "This... what's happening here?"

Death... and me

Chapter 1722: Looking for the Source

Kentucky pretty much couldn't hold himself back and wanted to change into his Minokawa form right there and then. However, he was still inside the Formation Guild, so he didn't exactly fit there with his cultivation. He quickly headed out of the building and looked in a certain direction, thinking, 'Whatever it is, it's there. I'm sure about it!'

Kentucky then moved to a more open space and changed back into his Minokawa form. After that, he flapped his wings and shot to the skies, swiftly heading to the north of Astonkay Country. With his real speed, Kentucky was even faster than most Void Tempering Realm beings. Well, that was considering the average level of this side of the Realm of Gods, not the center.

At first, the area Kentucky was in had a few trees and huge plains. However, the further he went north of Astonkay Country, the colder the environment became. It didn't take long for Kentucky to cover several thousands of kilometers and for snow to start falling.

However... 'The only cold thing is the environment. As for me, I'm feeling hotter and hotter. My bloodline is simply raging inside my body.'

Eventually, Kentucky arrived at what seemed to be a mountain range. Obviously, everything there was covered in snow, and nothing looked out of the norm. A few demon beasts that lived in the area could be seen in Kentucky's Divine Sense, but that was all. 'Where is it?' Kentucky thought.

Kentucky then landed on top of one of the mountains around and took his time observing the place. At first, the feeling in his bloodline told him the direction. However, now that he had arrived, the feeling was still there, but he couldn't tell from what it was coming anymore. Well, to be more specific, it was everywhere around him.

Kentucky closed his eyes and concentrated even more. His Divine Sense couldn't pick up anything, let alone his Soul Power Scan. First of all, the Jhiod Sect already came to check the Astonkay Country in the past, so there was no way they wouldn't have used these methods already.

Kentucky tried to calm his bloodline as much as possible as he stayed there. Other than a few demon beasts appearing every now and then, the only thing happening was the snow falling. The demon beasts, obviously, could feel Kentucky's aura and instinctively got away from him. With that, Kentucky spent an entire day like a statue.

He had a plan, though. He was trying to get used to the feeling of his excited bloodline and get it under control. For some reason, he felt that if he fought Rean or Roan right now, he definitely wouldn't lose. That's how much it was affecting his body.

It wasn't until two days later that Kentucky's heart rate returned somewhat back to normal as his bloodline got used to the feeling.

Suddenly, Kentucky's eyes opened before looking in a certain direction. To be more specific, Kentucky was looking at another mountain not far away from there. 'Found you!'

He quickly flapped his wings once more and disappeared from the location he was at the moment. The mountain in Kentucky's eyes wasn't different from the others. Fully covered in snow and a few tracks of demon beasts who had passed by before. If anything, this mountain was quite small compared to the others around. There were still three more demon beasts in that mountain area, but they quickly scattered after feeling Kentucky's Divine Bloodline aura.

Kentucky didn't waste time and... shot up to the skies. Yes, his target was not on the mountain itself. Instead, it was far, far high up in the skies. So high that the barrier that separated the Realm of Gods from the Sea of Stars was also close by. One must know that this specific barrier was present on all continents, and it was also the reason why one couldn't see the stars from the Realm of Gods. Of course, there were a few exceptions, like the Lost Star Realm.

However, Kentucky wasn't interested in the barrier. Instead, his eyes were fixed in a single direction as he kept flying higher and higher. Little by little, the barrier began to apply pressure on Kentucky's body, forcing him down. It obviously made the ascension even harder.

Kentucky didn't give up, though. First, he tried to fly with the power of his wings alone as far as he could. Once that wasn't enough anymore, he imbued his Divine Energy on his wings, which increased the strength of his wings even more.

Yet, not even both of them were enough for Kentucky to reach the height. In the end, he gathered the power of Light and Dark Element as his body released black and white flames. Kentucky was really going all out now. If he failed to reach his destination with that, he would be forced to come down and think about another option.

Just as Kentucky was about to reach his limit, his eyes finally caught the presence of what seemed to be a floating island in the skies. 'No wonder even the Jhiod Sect hadn't found it. That thing doesn't appear inside one's Divine Sense or Soul Power Scan. It's also covered by the Realm of Gods' barrier, making it impossible to be seen from below. If not for the feeling in my bloodline, I would have never found that place.'

Unfortunately, Kentucky's eyes were too good. It meant that he could see things from very long distances. The barrier definitely made things worse, forcing Kentucky to get a lot closer to see that floating island. However, even though he got closer, it was still several kilometers higher, and he had really reached his limit already.

After some time, Kentucky's bones started to crack while a rare sight of sweat could be seen covering his feathers. 'Fuck!'

In the end, Kentucky was forced to give up and come down from the skies. If he insisted any further, his body truly wouldn't resist anymore, and that was already considering his ridiculously high defense.

Yet, before he could come down, something happened.

Death... and me

Chapter 1723: What A Terrible Story

'So, you've finally come, huh?'

Kentucky was taken aback as he heard that message. He could tell it was a Divine Sense message, but he couldn't feel the Divine Sense, which showed that the other party's cultivation was much higher than his. 'Right, the Divine Sense bending skill!'

With that, Kentucky immediately activated Rean's ability, and what he saw terrified him. As mentioned before, the stronger the Divine Sense, the more obvious it became once it touched Rean's skill. The Divine Sense Kentucky was feeling with the Divine Sense bending skill was by far the strongest he had ever seen. Even the experts of the Jhiod Sect couldn't hold a candle to it.

Unfortunately, Kentucky couldn't endure it anymore and began to fall... or so he expected that would happen. However, some force seemed to catch his body midair and pull it in the island's direction. Not only that, but the pressure that assaulted Kentucky's body also disappeared at the same time. "Who are you?!"

The voice immediately replied, 'You'll see once you get here.'

Eventually, Kentucky was pulled into the floating island, which wasn't affected by the pressure of the Realm of Gods' barrier.

The island, other than the fact it was floating in the sky, didn't have much difference from a normal one. Some trees here and there, rocks, things like that. However, there was an exception. At the very center, Kentucky could see what seemed to be a feather floating above the ground.

"A Minokawa's feather?" Kentucky murmured. It didn't matter how he looked at it. Other than its greater size, the feather was pretty much identical to his own.

'You're correct,' the Divine Sense voice talked again. 'Come closer. Let me take a look at you.'

Kentucky narrowed his eyes in response but approached the floating feather nonetheless. He could tell with Rean's Divine Sense bending skill that the Divine Sense was still there. Not only that, the Divine Sense was coming from the feather itself. "A sentient feather? Is that even possible?"

The feather couldn't help but laugh, saying, 'Hahaha! Of course not! The feather is from my original body. It's just that I imbued some of my own Divine Sense into it before leaving this place. I knew you would come here one day, so I thought it was better to leave some countermeasures.'

Kentucky was surprised to hear that. "Imbue Divine Sense? You can leave your own sentience behind through Divine Sense? That's crazy! No, wait! You said you've been waiting for me? I'm sorry to disappoint you, but I'm most likely not the Minokawa you were waiting for. I came from the Mortal Realm."

'Of course, you did! After all, that's where my wife and I sent our egg. If you weren't from there, then you definitely wouldn't be the right Minokawa. Besides, there's absolutely no way I can't feel the bloodline of my descendant. In fact, you should have been able to feel me as well. After all, there's some remnant of my original body's blood on the quill of this feather,' the feather explained.

"Ah!" Now Kentucky was truly shocked. "So that's why my bloodline seemed so excited. You and I are related. No, wait! Doesn't that mean you're my father?"

'That's pretty much the case,' the feather confirmed Kentucky's words. 'Still, what has happened to you? What's that feather crown on your head? It's as if you had gone through some mutation or sorts.'

Kentucky shook his head in response. "Don't you think you should be the one to answer my questions first? Let's leave aside how you got access to the Mortal Realm or anything like that. Instead, let's start with your reason for you and your wife abandoning me on Sunkan Planet. From what I heard, Minokawas were supposed to be very protective of their offspring. Does that sound familiar at all?"

The feather made a nodding motion... although it didn't have a head or anything. 'Sigh... I guess you're right. We do owe you an explanation. To cut it short, that was your only chance to survive.'

"Survive?" Kentucky narrowed his eyes as he found it absurd. "Survive what? If not for the two idiots who found me, I might have been dead already." Indeed, Kentucky still remembered the Sunkan Planet explosion, so he would have died there if the twins weren't the ones who took him. Well, the planet also exploded because of their presence...

'You don't understand. It's still a lot better than if you had stayed in the Realm of Gods. I had to go to great lengths to enter the Mortal Realm and leave you there. Not only that, I didn't even have the time to choose a planet. I just picked the first populated planet I found and left you there before someone noticed what I tried to do.'

"And why exactly would anyone want to kill me? No, wait, did they want to kill you or me?" Kentucky asked back.

'You,' the feather replied. 'That's because you were conceived with a Regal Minokawa Bloodline.'

"Regal Minokawa Bloodline?" Kentucky's eyes lit up after that. "I didn't know I was some kind of prince."

The feather's Divine Sense almost dissipated from that remark. 'Not that kind of regality, idiot!'

"Hahaha!" Kentucky nodded. "I'm joking, I'm joking. This Regal Minokawa Bloodline is probably some rank higher than normal Minokawas, I presume?"



'Sigh...' The feather couldn't really breathe, though. 'That's correct.'

Kentucky couldn't help but remember Rean and Roan's words. "This seems very cliché, no? Let me guess. One of you must be a Regal Minokawa, while the other is a normal Minokawa. The Minokawas probably have a very strong sense of hierarchy, so the Regal Minokawas couldn't accept the mixed blood of a normal Minokawa and a Regal Minokawa. Am I doing well so far?"

'Where did you get that bullshit from? That's no fun at all,' the feather answered. 'Also, you're wrong. I've never mentioned you have a mixed bloodline either.'

"Eh?! Was I wrong?!" Kentucky's confidence suffered a hit now. "Tch, and here I thought I was doing great. In any case... you now have my full attention."

Death... and me

Chapter 1724: Even More Sense

Kentucky inherited the twins' scorn for clichés, it seemed...

'First of all, we don't have a strong sense of hierarchy like you mentioned. In fact, where did you even think of that? Did you ever feel like being the boss or something similar?' the feather asked. 'When I ask that, I mean taking care of all the things related to being a leader. Resources, protection, subordinates, race members, negotiations, and so on.'

Kentucky rubbed the back of his head with his wing, replying, "Well... not really." The ones who usually took care of all that shit were Rean and Roan. Kentucky rarely intervened in them since he found it boring. "So... Minokawas, in general, aren't very fond of being leaders, huh?"

'Pretty much,' the feather confirmed. 'However, we do have something like leaders of our race, the really strong ones, of course, but they're very lax. Other than protecting our race when needed, those guys, me included, wouldn't move a single feather. Minokawas are all like that, or at least most of them are. With that being said, forget about your previous story about mixed bloodlines or whatever.'

"So..." Kentucky went back to the main topic. "Mister Feather, why was it that I was in danger?"

'The problem is that you're the only Minokawa with a Regal Bloodline. Neither your mother nor I have it. Perhaps this mutation that you got is related to exactly that since it has been a very, very long time since a Regal Minokawa appeared. I'm talking about this small crown of feathers on your head. I can also feel the difference in your bloodline compared to mine.'

Kentucky was taken aback for a moment as he thought, 'Didn't I hear a similar story just a while ago?' It was then that he remembered Erla. She was also the first Pristine Blue Carp after a very long time. However, that was only counting the Terces Continent and the Clendes Sea inside. Her case was different since Erla wasn't the only Pristine Blue Carp. Although a high-ranked Demon Beast, Erla now knew that there were other Pristine Blue Carps somewhere in the Realm of Gods. Kentucky, on the other hand, was the only one.

"Hmm... Usually, I would think that someone from our Minokawa race wouldn't want to have a Regal Bloodline Minokawa challenge their position. But you said that we don't really care much about leadership. If that's the case, why would someone want me dead?" Kentucky asked.

'You're correct. We don't care much about leadership.' The feather agreed with Kentucky on that. 'The problem here is what the birth of a Regal Minokawa means.'

"I'm listening," Kentucky nodded as he replied.

'To explain, you first have to understand that Minokawas aren't the only Divine Demon Beasts that can give birth to a Regal Bloodline. However, whichever Divine Demon Beast race it is, the appearance of a Regal Bloodline is extremely rare. As I mentioned, a Regal Bloodline hasn't appeared in a very, very long time.'

The feather continued, 'Regal Bloodlines are the cornerstone of the Divine Demon Beast races in the demon beast territories. A single one of them can grow to match the top experts of the Realm of Gods by relying on their bloodline alone. Let alone if they train to increase their power even more.'

Kentucky understood. "I see... so the information that a Regal Minokawa egg was laid escaped somehow, and then you and mommy had to flee with me. After all, if a Regal Divine Demon Beast could be eliminated before it grows, it would prevent a lot of problems for the other races."

'That's pretty much it,' the feather agreed with Kentucky. 'That's why we left you in the Mortal Realm. No one would ever believe we sent a future Regal Demon Beast to the Mortal Realm. After all, you would have to grow on your own and ascend to the Realm of Gods later. As you probably know, ascenders are very rare when compared to the number of Transition Realm beings in the Mortal Realm.'

Kentucky nodded, saying, "I know. I've seen a lot of Transition Realm beings back in the Mortal Realm, after all." It's just that a lot of them ascended through the demon beasts' portal on the Zafins' planet. However, Kentucky didn't mention that. He could guess that such a portal wasn't something one could find on every planet of the Mortal Realm.

Then again, Kentucky couldn't help but ask, "Well, I understand why you left me there at first. However, why didn't you come and look for me after that? Since you went there once already, you could do it twice, no?"

'No!' The feather answered. 'Entering the Mortal Realm is an extremely arduous task with a huge backlash to those who try it. I suffered terrible injuries to achieve that, almost dying even. As for your mother, it would be impossible for her to try something like that with her cultivation. Due to the extent of my injuries, I would take a very long time to recover since my own demon core was damaged in the process. You know how it works, right? The higher your cultivation, the harder it is to heal severe injuries, let alone an injury to the demon core or dantian.'

Kentucky nodded in response. Rean had mentioned the same thing many times when he healed others. Kentucky himself could use the Instant Recovery skill, so he was well aware of it. "You were in no condition to head back. Mommy couldn't do that because she was too weak. It isn't hard to guess you haven't told any other Minokawa about it since you didn't feel safe. In the end, I had to climb my way here on my own."

'Indeed. Of course, I'm very happy you did so. I've never expected you would ascend to the Realm of Gods so fast. Considering the lifespan of a Transition Realm demon beast, I thought my injuries would recover first. That I would have to go back there to bring you to the Realm of Gods. As expected of a Regal Minokawa, I guess? Not to mention you're my child, so it makes even more sense. Hahaha!'

Death... and me

Chapter 1725: Maybe Danger?

It was then that Kentucky thought about something. "Wait! I was trying to reach the Minokawas' territory. But after what you said, isn't it better for me to stay away from all of you?" Kentucky asked.

'Indeed,' The feather agreed with Kentucky. 'Or at least, we can't let others know that you're my child... I'm pretty sure your mother would be delighted to see you.'

However, the Divine Sense inside the feather continued, 'Well, both she and I would be happy to see you. However, I can't even tell whether we're still alive or not. Chances are that we're long gone now.'

"This..." Kentucky was taken aback. "The enemies would have killed you, trying to acquire the information. Is that what you're saying?"

'Exactly,' The feather confirmed his words. 'The Divine Sense I left in this feather is something separated from my original body. It has lost any connection with my real Divine Sense. With that said, I can't tell whether we're still around. I only left this thing here so that we would have a chance to talk.'

Kentucky couldn't help but ask after that, "That's something that has been bothering me. How come you knew I would come to this place? I mean... this is too random. You might not know this, but me coming to this region of the Realm of Gods was just pure coincidence."

Kentucky was right. When the twins passed by the portal that led them to the Realm of Gods, the Soul Gem System shifted their destination. They were supposed to appear in the demon beast territories instead. The reason the system did that was so the twins could recover the first fragment of the Universe's Foundation.

The feather then explained, 'I didn't know you would come here. This is all but a massive gamble. I had a fairy friend, who's already dead at this point, to check your karma. I wanted to see if he could find where your karma would connect you with the Realm of Gods. After a lot of trouble, he predicted that there was a good chance you would appear around this region of the Realm of Gods. Of course, it was only a chance. That's why it was a gamble.'

The feather continued, 'Obviously, I decided to come back to the Realm of Gods through this place. Unfortunately, the range of the prediction was enormous, covering many continents around this area. It was then that I came up with a plan. I would head to the nearest continent with the capability of teleporting me to the center of the Realm of Gods. Regardless of where you appeared in the future, as long as it was somewhere around this region, you would head to Jhiod in the end. Well, that was only if you decided to go to the Center of the Realm of Gods. Sure enough, you did.'

'I left a message to the higher-ups of the Jhiod Sect, saying that I came from Vulrasic Continent's Astonkay Country. I didn't explain why, though. After all, I didn't want them to find this island. They did come here to look around and see if I left something behind, but they would never find this island. However, as long as you appeared here one day, I was sure you would feel my feather's presence. No, to be more specific, the blood on my feather's quill.'

'And eventually, lo and behold, you got the same information from the Jhiod Sect, and here you are. Can you guess what the chances that everything would go this smooth were? Even I'm surprised that you truly appeared in the end.'

Kentucky nodded in agreement. "Indeed, you were very lucky there, and so was I." Kentucky continued to ask, "Now then, how exactly did others find the egg I was in? I can't picture you going around, telling everyone that you and your wife have a Regal Minokawa egg. At your level, I believe you know how risky it would be to announce it."

'Of course, we didn't say a single word,' The feather agreed with Kentucky. 'Unfortunately, it wasn't as simple as not telling anyone. The moment your egg was laid, the other Regal Divine Demon Beasts and the peak experts of the realm felt your presence. You might not know this, but the appearance of a Regal Divine Demon Beast generally causes a huge phenomenon. Your mother and I couldn't possibly predict that our kid would have a Regal Bloodline before your egg was laid either.'

"I see..." Kentucky understood. "Then there's no helping it. I'm glad you succeeded in escaping with me, even if you're both dead now."

'You don't seem to be affected by the fact your parents might be dead...' the feather mentioned with some displeasure.

Kentucky shrugged his shoulders as he replied, "What did you expect? I've never seen you before. I'm grateful for the effort you put into keeping me alive, but you can't possibly hope that I will be filled with emotions for my parents. As far as I'm concerned, you're nothing more than strangers that share the same bloodline as me. We have talked for what? Thirty minutes?"

Kentucky also added, "Besides, don't expect me to go around trying to take revenge for you if you're dead. That's not gonna happen."

Unexpectedly, the feather wasn't surprised to hear that. 'Tch... you sure are my and your mother's child. Even your behavior is just like ours.'

"That's something I have to thank you for," Kentucky joked.

"By the way," Kentucky still had questions. "Am I not in danger now? I mean... I'm back in the Realm of Gods, so won't the experts feel my presence?"

'Hehe!' The feather seemed very confident as he explained, 'That would be the case... normally speaking. However, your mother and I weren't idiots. Before I left the Realm of Gods with your egg, we used a certain technique to suppress your bloodline. At the moment, your bloodline is no different from any other Minokawa. Even another Regal Demon Beast wouldn't recognize you at all.'

Death... and me

Chapter 1726: Can't Last Long

"My bloodline is suppressed?" Kentucky was surprised to hear that.

'Obviously!' The feather said in response. 'You told me you met a phoenix before, right? Yet, the power of the phoenix's bloodline was pretty much similar to yours. Indeed, normal Minokawas are similar to normal Phoenixes. However, a Regal Phoenix or a Regal Minokawa's bloodline is several times stronger. Otherwise, do you think you would be this weak right now?'

"Weak?" Kentucky asked back. "I can fight other demon beasts and cultivators up to an entire realm above my own cultivation. No, on the second thought, Philip told me that's only considering the experts of this region of the Realm of Gods."

'Seems like you understand. Indeed, compared to those at the same cultivation as you in the center of the Realm of Gods, you're just average. Well, there's also the fact that the quality of Divine Energy there is much better, so it helps increase the average raw strength of the beings there by a lot. Just by being born and living there, I believe a cultivator at the Initial Stage of the Transition Realm would be as strong as someone at the Late Stage here. And that's considering both of them received the exact same training and have the exact same talent, affinity, and so on.'

"Just by living there?" Kentucky took a deep breath after hearing that. "That's too unfair..."

The feather didn't mind, telling him, 'Since when life has been fair? First of all, 'fairness' is something sentient beings invented. It isn't something that existed from the start.'

"Well, that's true..." Kentucky agreed with the feather. That was basically the same thing Roan always said, so Kentucky wasn't that affected.

'Don't be sad. It doesn't apply to you, as it seems,' the feather added.

"What do you mean?" Kentucky was obviously confused.

The feather explained, 'It seems like whoever helped you train so far did a real good job. The lower quality of Spiritual Energy and Divine Energy of the Mortal Realm and this region of the Realm of Gods didn't affect your body. It's as if you had been living there since the start, so you aren't two stages behind the average demon beasts from there. If not for that, you would be at least two stages weaker in raw strength.'

Kentucky felt a chill on his back after that. He truly didn't want to remember some of Roan's training methods. "Ahem... that's good to know."

"Anyways," Kentucky decided to go back to the main topic. "What about this suppressed bloodline of mine? Should I keep it like that? Won't it suppress my own development in the future?"

'That's not gonna happen. As long as you continue to cultivate, your bloodline will break away from its shackles on its own. Don't look down on a Regal Divine Demon Beast bloodline. It's truly a marvel to behold. I have met the Regal Golden Crow before. Even with my cultivation being a few stages higher than her, I felt like I would stand no chance.'

"Oh!" Kentucky was happy to hear that. "Wait! Doesn't that mean I'll eventually be found by those experts who are looking for the Regal Minokawa?"

'True... That's why you have to learn how to control it. Otherwise, the other Regal Demon Beasts would have died a long time ago, way before reaching their actual level.'

"Control it?" Kentucky was confused. "I can't even feel it, let alone control the thing."

'Don't worry. That's why I'm here. Use your Divine Energy to take the blood from this feather's quill and inject it into your body. My bloodline's power, due to my much higher cultivation, should awaken your Regal Bloodline. It's just that it will happen slightly, just enough for you to feel it, but far from enough to catch anyone's presence. Consider it your father's first gift in your life. That should allow your raw strength to increase by another stage or two. At the very least, you would be one or two stages stronger than Divine Demon Beasts at the same level in the center of the Realm of Gods.'

Kentucky narrowed his eyes, asking in response, "And why would I trust you?" Sure enough, Kentucky had heard a lot of things so far. However, there was nothing there to prove that the feather was talking the truth. As far as he knew, that feather might be something similar to the devil's altar. Once he put the feather's bloodline inside his body, he might also be putting another soul there. A soul much stronger than his own that might take over his body.

'This...' The feather wasn't expected such a question. 'I... don't know? I haven't really thought about a way to convince you that I'm telling the truth. I thought our bloodline connection would be enough to prove that.'

Kentucky pondered over it for a bit. It was then that he remembered one thing. His soul was protected by the Soul Gem System. It's just that it only worked while he's inside the system's connection range. If he brought the feather there and only then absorbed the blood, any attempt to affect his soul would be met with the system's merciless attack. Kentucky had already seen the system do that before, so he was certain it was safe.

"Alright, but you will have to stay in my spatial collar for a while. I first need to head back to Jhiod Sect before absorbing the blood in the quill."

The feather was the one confused now. 'And why is that?'

"Let's just say that I have a way to prevent unwanted side-effects in case something goes wrong," Kentucky explained.



The feather's Divine Sense pondered over it for a bit before replying, 'That's not a problem. However, I won't be there with you, so you should take this opportunity to ask what you can.'

"What do you mean by that?" Kentucky was taken aback.

'This island is what fuels my Divine Sense and the piece of sentience inside this feather. Once we leave, I won't be able to sustain it anymore. However, that's not much of a problem. I'll pass to you all of the steps you should take during the absorption of my blood. It'll take quite a bit of time, after all.'

Death... and me

Chapter 1727: Not Again!

"This..." Kentucky was expecting to have the Divine Sense in the feather come along with him. He could make good use of its knowledge, after all. For example, sharing some innate skills Minokawas would have and things like that. "So, as long as you stay on this island, you won't disappear, right?"

'No,' the feather answered. 'I will only continue existing for three more years at most. The reason I lasted this far was that the Divine Sense and the piece of sentience inside it were both dormant, waiting for you. Now that I've awakened, time started to move for me again. Don't worry. This is just a Divine Sense technique. There's no need to care about it disappearing. You might as well think of me and this feather as a puppet of sorts.'

Kentucky's next plan fell apart straight away. He was planning to bring the twins here instead. However, the sentience in the feather obviously wouldn't last long enough. But then again, Kentucky could simply listen to the instructions and head back with the feather to the Jhiod Continent, just like Ume mentioned.

However, Kentucky felt like he shouldn't do it. "Sigh... so annoying. I'm not supposed to have any feelings towards you and that mommy of mine. However, the feeling of you disappearing like that doesn't sit well with me. The fact you don't care about it bothers me even more."

'Meh.' Ume didn't seem to pay much attention to that. 'You'll get used to it. Besides, I might still be alive, remember? Anyway, let me pass you the method to absorb the blood in my quill.'

However, before he could do that, Kentucky used his Divine Soul Power to grab the blood in the feather's quill. "No need. You can explain everything to me while I start absorbing it."

'Eh? Weren't you the one who told me that you wouldn't believe me?' the feather asked back.

Kentucky shrugged his shoulders, saying, "Thanks to a certain demon, I'm quite confident in my ability to see through lies. For now, I believe that you aren't trying to deceive me."

'So you really miss daddy, don't you? Hahaha!' The feather couldn't help but laugh after hearing that.

"Fuck you! Who the hell misses anyone? This grandfather is doing pretty well alone, thank you. However, I'll try to take as much information from you as possible, so you better hold in there during these next few years." Kentucky would never admit such a thing. Well, it would be a lie if Kentucky said he was concerned about the feather. It just didn't feel right to have the Divine Sense and the sentience inside it be wiped as a side-effect of bringing the feather away. Kentucky's relationship with his father hasn't grown to that point yet, after all.

'Alright, alright.' Ume was obviously happy to hear that, as little as that move might mean in the grand scheme of things. 'Then let me help you.'

\*Swish!\*

Suddenly, Kentucky felt a huge pain come from his chest. Before he could do anything, an enormous cut, deep enough to reach the outside of his heart, appeared there.

\*Arrrgh!\*

"What are you doing?!"

'What are you screaming for? Aren't you a male? It's just a small cut.' The feather didn't seem too concerned. 'Now then, let's continue.'

The power of space gathered around Kentucky, not allowing him to move at all. Similar to what he saw Libraia doing, the space that the feather controlled was full of natural runes. It's just that Ume's ones were a lot brighter and seemed much more powerful. Following that, Kentucky saw how Light and Dark Elements took the form of a needle right in front of his open chest. 'I'm going to open a small hole in your heart and send my blood inside. It might be a little uncomfortable but hold in there.'

"Fuck!"

\*Puchi!\*

Blood began to fall like a fountain as Kentucky's heart tried to beat. 'Well, that's not very nice. In any case, it only took a second. The feather controlled the elements and space power to force all the blood that gushed out back inside. 'We can't waste your blood, right? Your mother would kill me if she found out.'

After that, the blood of the quill that was already floating in the air was sent into Kentucky's body through that hole in his heart.

The thing that impressed Kentucky the most was that Ume wasn't using even a hint of Divine Energy. No, it's not that he wasn't using Divine Energy. It's just that he couldn't. The feather only had enough Divine Energy in it to sustain the Divine Sense and the sentience inside. It couldn't use Divine Energy even if it wanted to.

Amidst his pain, Kentucky felt more reassured. 'Well, since he could have done it from the start, I guess he really wasn't lying. I'm basically defenseless in front of this power. But still... fuck, it hurts like hell!'

Ume finished sending all the blood inside Kentucky's heart. 'Alright, focus your Divine Energy on your injuries. Although I pierced your heart, it's just a small hole. At your cultivation level, it shouldn't be a fatal injury. I will hold your blood until you can close it.'

"There's no need. Just let me go," Kentucky answered.

'Oh! You can deal with it alone? Very well.' Immediately, the feather stopped using its powers to hold Kentucky in place. However, although it seemed nonchalant, the fact was that it was ready to intervene if Kentucky couldn't deal with the injury.

Yet, it was finally shocked for the first time once it saw what Kentucky did.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

In front of its Divine Sense, Kentucky's injury, both in his chest and his heart, began to close up at fast speeds. Ume had never seen Light Element be used like that. 'This... how did you do that?'

Seeing that the wound was closed up, Kentucky felt relieved. "A certain idiot created this skill, and I got used to using it. It's very convenient."

'Con...venient? That's overpowered as hell! What's the name of the person who created it?'

\*Dum-dum...\*

\*Arrgh!\*

However, Kentucky didn't have time to answer that. That's because his father's blood began to act up in his body. "Fuck, not again!"

Death... and me

Chapter 1728: Starting the Seal Breaking

'Oh, right!' Only then did Ume return to the main topic. 'Focus on my blood. With your Divine Sense, you should be able to distinguish between your own blood and mine. Don't use your Dark Element on it since you don't want it to be destroyed.'

Following that, Ume's feather approached Kentucky and landed inside Kentucky's feather crown. The moment he did that, the rampaging blood inside Kentucky's body calmed down a bit. 'I will help you as much as I can. Now, I prepared my blood so that it would target the seal that's suppressing your

bloodline. Your job is to not let your blood fight it back. Even though we're parent and child, your blood won't care. It will try to get rid of the intruder.'

Kentucky tried to calm down amidst the pain. "Alright... let me try."

Kentucky did what he could to let his father's blood spread throughout his entire body. As that happened, Kentucky's heart rate increased several times, making him feel like he would explode right there and then.

'Don't worry, a Minokawa's heart isn't that weak. It'll be painful, but it's not really a danger to you. Even if you receive any injury, you can use that healing skill of yours. Open your defenses and let my blood work.'

Kentucky nodded as he resisted the feeling. At first, it was really hard to do that. However, little by little, Kentucky's body began to get used to it. Not only that, he could now feel that so-called seal. It was as if it was present in every single cell of his body.

Compared to Kentucky's body, the feather's blood was almost nothing. With that being said, it had a lot of work to do to reach every single cell of Kentucky. It's just that every time it attacked the seals, it lost some of its own power. It was just like Ume mentioned. The blood he left behind would only be able to lift Kentucky's Bloodline Seal slightly. It would be over way before the seal could really break apart.

Time passed, and three days went by in a flash. By now, Kentucky had gotten used to the feeling of having his father's blood circulating in his own body. Well, that was greatly in part due to the feather helping him. "Phew... I can feel the blood working. I can even tell that my own strength is increasing. However, this process is very, very slow. How long will it take?"

'At this rate? I would say six years, at the very least. In the end, I left way too little blood behind, and its effectiveness has reduced thanks to the passage of time. Then again, it will take at least that amount of time before my blood's power finally disappears. However, you better not complain. Six years is basically nothing compared to the strength you'll get.'

Kentucky was taken aback to hear that. "Six years! That's way longer than the time given to me! Also, won't your Divine Sense disappear in two to three years?"

'It will, but there'll be no need for me to intervene anymore by then. In fact, there isn't a need for me to intervene even now. It's just that without my help, the process would have taken even longer due to a more difficult start. I'll let you know when my Divine Sense is close to being completely used up.' Ume then asked something else. 'Though, what do you mean by time given? Do you need to go somewhere else? I strongly recommend you give up on this idea. During the time your bloodline is awakening, you won't be able to use even a tenth of your strength. Your body is way too busy dealing with my blood and the seal removal.'

"Sigh..." Kentucky could tell that his father wasn't lying. "Fine... I guess Rean will have to come and pay a visit to this country sometime in the future."

'Rean?' Ume asked back. 'Oh, right! Now that we got the blood under control, how about you tell me more about this healing skill of yours? Was it this Rean who taught you that?'

Kentucky pondered over it for a bit and then talked more about the twins and Celis.

'Oh! You truly are a lucky Minokawa. To think you would find your own Divine Demon Tree and a World Swallowing Cedar at that. You might not know this, but the number of Divine Demon Birds compared to Divine Demon Trees is thousands of times higher. You might even get into a war between Divine Demon Birds for the right to make the pact with that Divine Demon Tree.'

Kentucky was surprised to hear that. "That bad?! Holy shit!"

'Don't worry,' Ume reassured Kentucky. 'Now that the pact is already made, no one can change it anymore. A Divine Demon Bird and a Demon Tree can only make this pact once in their lives. Even if one of you two dies, the other won't be able to replicate the pact with someone else. Since Celis is already in the pact with you, no other Divine Demon Bird will waste their time trying to separate the two of you. Well, they might attack you out of jealousy, but that's a completely different story.'

Ume continued, 'In any case, that Rean and Roan you've been traveling with are quite the figures. To think they're stronger than your actual self. I can tell that there are a lot of secrets you can't talk about. Regardless, for them to reach this level while originating from the Mortal Realm is truly remarkable. I can tell that they'll shine in the center of the Realm of Gods for sure. Well, that and probably get a lot of enemies in the process. Anyways, good luck with that.'

Kentucky narrowed his eyes, asking in response, "Won't you ask why I keep traveling with them?"

'For what?' Ume asked back. 'You and they have helped each other so much and obviously benefited from your relationship. I want nothing more than to see you become even stronger, and it'll be even better if your close friends become just as strong. They do seem worthy of being trusted, after all.'

"That's true..." Kentucky agreed on that point.

Death... and me

Chapter 1729: I Have An Idea

'The only thing that bothers me is that I can't transfer what I learned here to my real self. It's quite a shame,' Ume lamented.

Kentucky then remembered why he decided to stay. "Oh, right! We're planning to go to the center of the Realm of Gods in the future. Tell us more about the place. Where we can go to cultivate? Where are the demon beast territories, and which ones are they? Who I should be careful around in order to not be found?"

'Unfortunately, I can't tell you anything like that,' Ume answered.

"What?!" Kentucky was taken aback by that. "You better not come with that annoying excuse about disturbing my training or any bullshit like that. For these things, one Roan is enough."

'That's not it,' Ume's feather shook from side to side as he clarified, 'It's just that I don't have any of this information.'

"Oh, come on!" Kentucky didn't believe that. "It doesn't matter what happened in the past. I refuse to believe that everything has changed so much that you can't tell me anything anymore."

'Wait, what? No, that's not what I meant!' Ume quickly fixed the misunderstanding.

"Then, what's stopping you from telling me?" Naturally, Kentucky still wanted a reason.

Ume then explained his problem, telling him, 'All my real self left behind was a piece of my sentience. The information you're requesting from me is not contained in this feather. Simply put, the real Ume hasn't left any memory relevant to the questions you just asked.'

Kentucky didn't like that. "Why would he do such an idiotic thing? He could have left a lot more for me to learn, no?"

Ume's feather shook again. 'The problem is the length of time this piece of sentience has. The less amount of information I have, the longer I will last. If the real Ume left all his memories in this piece of sentience, I wouldn't last a single day, let alone two to three years.'

"This..." Kentucky was obviously sad to hear that. "I guess there's no helping it then."

'Sorry, leaving the information about what happened to you and the seal breaking was more important. My real self didn't want to risk letting this opportunity pass up, even if the chances of it happening were low. Fortunately, you ended up coming to this side of the Realm of Gods.' Ume apologized.

"It's fine. I'm already happy enough that I happened to hear the whole story. I wanted to learn more about the rest, but since there's no memory of it, then so be it." In the end, Kentucky could only accept that.

Ume then added, 'However, I did leave a few more things to teach you while you're here.'

"Oh! What is it?" Kentucky interest was picked.

'Minokawa skills,' Ume answered. 'I left behind three of them that are passed from Minokawa to Minokawa. Not only that, but these ones are also quite at a high level. Hehe! With this small set, you'll be one stage stronger compared to other demon beasts at the same level in the center of the Realm of Gods.'

"So you did have something else!" Kentucky was delighted to hear that. Didn't that mean they would become stronger than Rean or Roan when they fought alone? Perhaps the time when he could beat



Roan in a one vs. one fight would finally come! "Hehe... Hahahaha! Great! I'll make sure to learn them well."

However, Kentucky noticed a problem. "Wait, won't you have disappeared by the time I'm finally able to fight?"

'All I said is that you won't be able to use even a tenth of your strength during the breaking of the seal. That doesn't mean you can't do anything. Let's wait a year first so that your body gets more used to the lifting of the seal. Once the time comes, you should be able to try the skills out even if you're in a weakened state. Don't worry. I'll be with you to control my blood so that it won't affect you too much.'

Kentucky nodded after hearing that. "So, which ones are they?"

As mentioned before, Rean gave Kentucky five years to go to Astonkay Country and then come back. Otherwise, he would go there to check what was happening. Unfortunately, Kentucky's travel to Astonkay took one year and a half alone. Not to mention that the seal breaking of his bloodline would take another six.

Because of that, it had now been three years and a half since Kentucky started to free up a small part of his Regal Minokawa bloodline power. He still had another year and a half to go.

The problem was that Rean was still waiting in the Jhiod Sect, and Kentucky hadn't appeared in the end. "It seems like I'll need to pay a visit to Astonkay Country..." Rean thought.

Roan glanced at Rean and said, "Our connection with Kentucky is still strong, which means he's fine. There's no need to go after him just yet."

Rean shook his head, though. "I'm also bored of staying here for so long. In the end, Libraia and two more people were able to awaken their weapon intents. We have been watched by tens of people of the Yume Clan during these past five years, but the rest don't seem to be anywhere near comprehending their intents."

Roan glanced at Rean, telling him, "This isn't a very good idea. Don't forget that the news about our weapon intents has finally been found out by the other factions of the Jhiod Sect. No one will touch us

while we're in the Yume Clan. However, the story won't be the same if you leave. Not to mention I don't think Philip will risk letting you go before the Jamai Sect Selection."

Rean narrowed his eyes in response. "That's true... could it be that we can only wait in the end?"

Celis was also there, and he was obviously annoyed that Kentucky hasn't come back yet. "In that case, I have an idea."

Death... and me

Chapter 1730: Leave It To Me!

During these past five years, a lot happened to the twins and the others. The first thing was their cultivation. They had now entered the Late Stage of the Transition Realm. Then again, that was pretty obvious since five years had gone by.

Naturally, Celis and Kentucky also entered the Late Stage of the Transition Realm. In fact, it was quite risky for Kentucky since he had to control his father's blood breaking his bloodline seal and the breakthrough itself. However, he was lucky enough that during the breakthrough, his father's Divine Sense and the sentience inside were still around. It's just that the sentience was very, very close to disappearing.

Now that five years had gone, it meant that three and a half years had passed since Kentucky started to slightly lift the seal on his bloodline. Ume's sentience and Divine Sense in the feather have already disappeared.

With that said, the feather remained. Kentucky found out that his father's feather was many times more resistant than his own, so he decided to keep it. Perhaps Rean could create something good with that.

Another thing that happened during these five years was that Kentucky's feather crown disappeared. Well, to be more specific, Kentucky's feather crown had been cut. According to Ume, that feather crown might catch unnecessary attention. After all, Minokawas were not supposed to have them. Someone might relate it to Kentucky being a Regal Minokawa. Well, Kentucky knew it would simply grow back with time, so he would have to pay attention to cut it down regularly.

Back in the System Sect, the sect's cultivators got a lot stronger, especially the ones who succeeded in their Soul Transformation breakthrough. The main one was obviously Luan, who was now 21 years old. He continued with his method of not forcing speedy breakthroughs, and instead, he trained regularly with the strength he had. Because of that, Luan's cultivation only increased in two stages. Now, he was at the Peak Stage of the Saint Realm.

In any case, Luan's cultivation progress was definitely many times faster than the twins. It's just that it was mainly due to the twins' resources and the fact that he was in the Realm of Gods to start with. He never had to use Spiritual Energy or cultivate it in the Mortal Realm. Last but not least, his dantian didn't need as much Divine Energy as the twins did. It made sense for him to be this fast, even if he was holding back.

However, a good thing happened for him during this time. He finally gathered enough Starlight Energy to break through to the Second Grade Star Body. With that, Roan had to increase the strength he used during the spars, although he was obviously stronger at the same level.

As for the twins' Starlight Body cultivation, it was progressing smoothly. From what Sister Orb deducted, they only need another five or so years before they would accumulate enough Starlight Energy to have their fourth breakthrough, the Fourth Grade Star Body. One must remember that the twins already had the item necessary for the breakthrough, the Freezing Star Liquid.

It went without saying that the rest were also doing very well. Ophilia was only eight years old back then. Now, she was thirteen. With the careful management of the sect, her cultivation increased steadily. She almost cultivated an entire realm, now being in the Peak Stage of the Core and Soul Fusion Realm. In the case of her sword intent, she consolidated her Sword Ethereability, which was the second level. It's just that no one knew how long it would take for her to reach the third level, Call of the Weapons.

The rest who had weapon intents were doing just as great. Leonardo had already reached the Peak Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm. Foxin and Tatiana, who were both in the Initial Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm, made their way up to the Peak Stage as well. They just needed to find what their paths were. Of course, there was also their weapon intents. Unlike Luan and Ophilia, their weapon intents were still in the first stage. Fortunately, they were drawing even closer to the second stage.

There were a lot more things to be mentioned about the System Sect. However, since the twins wouldn't be leaving the Jhiod Sect until eleven years were up, the sect still had a lot to change. There were still six years before they took the teleport formation. Besides, it's not like Roan's army would stop growing even after that. If anything, there would be even more Divine Energy at the center of the Realm

of Gods. One must remember that the amount of Divine Energy in the Dimensional Realm was always around 50% higher than outside, thanks to Celis.

The last thing the twins acquired was another 32412 Destiny Points. In the end, even though they hadn't left the Jhiod Sect since they arrived, just sparring with the Yume Clan's people had changed a lot of things. Not to mention that the destiny of the people they recruited to the System Sect was also in constant change because of them. Well, that left the twins with 407395 Destiny Points, quite a ways from the 500000 they needed for the next Dimensional Realm Upgrade.

"So, Celis, what is it that you intend to do?" Returning to the present time, Rean asked Celis about his idea.

Celis, in his human form, shrugged his shoulders, saying, "It's very simple. We can have Philip or one of the high-level experts in his command bring me to Astonkay Country in the Vulrasic Continent. My own presence isn't really that necessary, so Philip and Libraia shouldn't have an issue with it. Besides, I can also feel Kentucky's presence through our connection."

Rean and Roan had to admit that was a very good idea. "I see... This expert would also help save you and Kentucky in case something happens."

"I heard your plight!" Suddenly, a woman entered the room with a smile on her face. "Leave it to me. I can bring your Demon Bird back." It was none other than Libraia, the first one to learn a weapon intent in the Yume Clan.