

## Death 2011

Death... and me

Chapter 2011: Concealment Idea

Jumping between trees, rocks, and other surfaces, Rean, Roan, and Luan continued making their way forward. On multiple occasions during the journey, Rean and Roan felt like Luan asked them to go in completely different directions. But in the end, Luan told them that they had never deviated from the path even once. They were following the flow of expanding space perfectly as far as Luan's eyes could see.

Nevertheless, one thing was certain. Rean and Roan didn't end up seeing any familiar places on their way. That at least meant they were not moving in circles.

\*Roar!\*

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

Roan's three White Scythes fell down on the back of a monster that looked like an eight-legged lizard. Unfortunately, the lizard's eyes seemed to be able to see which one was real before it used its tail to block the main White Scythe.

\*Swish, Swish, Clang!\*

Though the lizard was able to block the most dangerous attack from Roan, the other two scythes still carried around 70 to 80% of the original's Power. With that, they penetrated into the lizard's back, causing the lizard to scream in pain due to the Light Element infused in the attack.

However, the lizard didn't suffer a fatal injury. It used its legs to latch on one of the many decaying trees in the surroundings before propelling itself into the air. Just like the first attack, this lizard also had good control over space, which helped it move even faster.

\*Bang!\*

As soon as the lizard jumped, a huge hole appeared in the tree, piercing through it and showing the other side. There, one could see Rean's surprised expression. "That's quite impressive. I was using my Light and Divine Sense bending skills to keep myself invisible. But even with that, this guy noticed my attack from behind the tree and dodged it."

However, Rean smiled right after. "Sadly, you aren't the only one expecting your enemy's next move."

The eight-legged lizard didn't understand Rean's words. Yet, seeing Rean's smile made it feel chills all over its body. Before it could react, Roan appeared above it as his scythe came straight at it.

'Death Style, Death Scythe!'

Because the lizard's attention was robbed by Rean's Stellar Piercer attack, it didn't notice Roan ahead of it. The worst part was that Roan knew exactly where it was going to dodge.

\*Roar!\*

It didn't have the time to defend this time, so all it could do was gather as much Dark Element and Space Power as possible, trying to increase the defense around its neck. That was its only choice, as Roan's scythe was already right in front of it.

Unfortunately for the lizard, that last-second measure only helped little against the outcome. After all, that was Roan's strongest attack. It carried a lot of Rean's Light Element, the strength of his Star Body, as well as his Space Power. Not to mention that the White Scythe could gather both Light Elements and Space Power on its own.

\*Swish!\*

\*Splash, splash!\*

The head of the eight-legged lizard was eventually separated from its body, with both of them falling into the dark swamp water. Yet, it was at that moment that Rean and Roan saw something quite different.

\*Shua...\*

The swamp itself seemed to come to life, and its water threw itself into the lizard's body through the injury after its head was cut off. For a moment, Rean and Roan could see the painful look in the lizard's eyes before they turned completely dark.

In Rean's eyes, it looked like the swamp was absorbing all of the lizard's blood and flesh. Not long after, its Demon Core broke apart as its skull and bones were the only things that remained.

Seeing that, Rean took a deep breath. "That was quite brutal. Not only was it sucked dry, but the lizard's soul was also taken by the swamp."

Roan landed on Rean's side with a dark expression. "The lizard was inside the swamp water when it attacked us. How come it didn't affect the lizard earlier?"

"They adapted to it," Rean answered. "That's why we can't tell when they're close to us. The creatures in this swamp somehow evolved so that they couldn't be seen by the swamp itself. That's also why we can't tell when these beasts are near us."

Luan, who was once again brought out of the Dimensional Realm, also added some information. "Their bodies can also conceal their spatial displacement. Our natural spatial perception should be able to see anyone near us who has reached a level where they can control space. But even then, we can't see shit. The demon beasts in this place, however, seem to still be able to feel ours. That's why it noticed when Uncle Rean attacked it from behind the tree."

Rean and Roan nodded after hearing that. "Seems plausible."

Rean then had an idea. "Perhaps I can use their skin to achieve a similar effect. That'll definitely help us out a lot in this place, especially since they're getting stronger the further we go inside. This lizard was already as strong as an average Late StageVoid Tempering Realm Demon Beast."

Roan had nothing against it. "Then, we'll capture the next beast before its body touches the swamp water." He then caught Luan's body with his Divine Soul Power and jumped away. Rean, too, did the same thing.

\*Crash!\*

"Seems like we'll get our hands on some skin earlier than we expected," Rean's smile grew large as he looked at the place they were standing a moment ago. There, another Eight-Legged Dark Lizard that was slightly larger than the one that attacked them tried to kill them.

Sure, it had concealed its presence perfectly until now. However, it wasn't as if it could move out of the swamp water without causing any disturbances whatsoever. Not to mention that the size of its body didn't help that much. For Rean and Roan, the lizard was far from sufficient to be considered a dangerous enemy.

"Let's go!"

Without wasting time, Rean and Roan launched themselves back into battle.

Death... and me

Chapter 2012: Trying new coats

\*Crack!\*

The Lizard's skull was hit by Rean Starlar Piercer, breaking apart while it was still in midair.

'Death Style, Shadow Bind!'

Several Dark Vines shot out of the shadows on the old trees, latching themselves around the Lizard's body. The tree made cracking sounds, but due to the number of vines, they were able to hold the enormous Eight-legged Lizard weigh. The Lizard stayed suspended there as the light in its eyes faded away.

"That's about it..." Rean looked at the Lizard from up close. His attention then turned to the dark swamp water below, but it was still as calm as ever. "Seems like the swamp won't act if the body doesn't touch it."

"Makes sense," Roan added. "Otherwise, we would have been attacked by it a long time ago."

Rean nodded before touching the Lizard's body.

\*Vup!\*

Sure enough, he was able to send the dead body into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. Right after, he entered it too. 'Roan, I'll try to work something out with this guy's materials. Perhaps the skin can really help conceal our presence.'

Roan didn't mind, as he had already brought Luan outside once again. 'No problem. I'll go ahead. Use my to come out when you are finished there.'

Inside the Dimensional Realm, Kentucky took a look at the Lizard and especially the hole in its head. "What a great smell..."

Before Rean could do anything, Kentucky's beak moved at lightning speed, piercing inside the creature's brain. Kentucky then pulled out a slightly large Demon Core that shined with Dark Element. "This thing is great! There is a lot of Dark Elements concentrated inside. I'll take it to use in my cultivation, okay?"

Rean shrugged his shoulder while he shook his head. "No can do. I don't know if I will need this core for the coats I'm planning to make. If you want a Demon Core, go outside with Roan and get your own."

"Tch, so be it." Kentucky could only throw the Demon Core to Rean before his body disappeared. Sure enough, he went straight out to move with Roan and Luan.

There, Roan took the chance to ask him. "By the way, can you fly in this place? It was the Space Laws that brought Rean and me down, so I believe it shouldn't work. Give it a try anyway."

Kentucky looked up and nodded before his wings flapped. Immediately, his body raised in the air... just to stop around 30 or so meters above the trees. Kentucky flapped his wings even faster, but that helped little with his altitude. Before long, he descended halfway to the trees' line while gasping for air. "Holy shit, this thing is truly hard. Even my own Space Power can't fight the space power in this place. My wings alone can't go up, either."

Roan looked at that and nodded. "As we expected. Still, you can fly a few meters, it seems."

"Yes," Kentucky answered. "If it is only 10 or so meters, I can keep myself in the air. The problem starts after 20 meters; 30 or so is the limit. If I go all out, I might be able to push myself to 40 meters, but I wouldn't last more than a few seconds at that altitude."

Roan then jumped on Kentucky's back with Luan. "10 Meters is already good enough. At least we can keep going while we fly."

Luan found it risky. "Is that a good idea, father? Without trees, rocks, and other things to use our legs, it would be quite complicated to dodge an attack since Kentucky can't move above this height."

"It's fine," Kentucky didn't seem to mind it. "I can't go up, but my speed isn't affected in lateral movements. Not to mention I do have the highest defense between us all."

Roan warned Kentucky. "Just make sure you don't get dragged into the Dark Swamp Water. I don't know if it will affect us, but I would rather not risk it."

Kentucky nodded and immediately flapped his wings, flying in the direction Luan pointed at.

Inside the Dimensional Realm, Rean used his blades to cut the Lizard's skin, separate its flesh from the bones, and things like that. "I'm not very good with leather work, to be honest. Perhaps I can use chain mail to attach the leather or something like that."

[Does it really conceal the beasts' presence. No, first of all, are they Demon Beasts? This Lizard did have a core, after all.]

"No idea," Rean could only say. "The core was indeed similar to a Demon Beast's one. However, I can also feel that it is different from the Demon Cores in the Realm of Gods. Perhaps they were Demon Beasts before and evolved into a new type. Perhaps they were like this from the start. Who knows?"

Rean worked on the leather for a few days following that. Now and then, he would see a new creature's body falling inside the Dimensional Realm, courtesy of Roan and Kentucky outside. None of them had their Cores anymore, though. Kentucky ate them all. Nonetheless, their skins and bones did help Rean with his work.

Finally, Rean worked out three coats that were able to cover his group's entire bodies. It's just that he could feel anything different from them, even after trying to keep their properties as intact as possible. "Hum... Is this thing really right?"

\*Vup!\*

Suddenly, Rean appeared outside, right on Kentucky's back, who was flying. "I finished the coats. Let's give it a try."

Roan and the others nodded. Kentucky quickly changed back into his humanoid form while Roan and Luan landed on a rock below. Rean threw the leather attire for them to wear. They didn't look very good, but they didn't hinder their movements while they did indeed cover their entire bodies.

Rean nodded in satisfaction. "Well, let's go. If we don't get attacked anymore, then they are working."

The answer came just a few minutes later.

\*Roar!\*

Another monster jumped out of the Swamp Water, attacking them straight away. If anything, it seemed to be very well aware of Rean's group location.

"Well, it seems like their skin isn't the only thing that keeps them hidden..."

Death... and me

Chapter 2013: Just How?

\*Roar, Roar, Roar...\*

Several more Roars began to sound from everyone, making it seem like a horde of creatures was coming after the twins' group instead of the normal one or two.

Rean looked at Roan and Luan for a moment and then at the new coats he made with the Eight-Legged Lizard's Skin. "Ahem... Perhaps using these monster's skins wasn't a good idea after all..."

"You think?" Roan glanced at Rean with a dark expression. Right after, he and Luan threw the coats away, and so did Rean before the three dashed away on Kentucky's back.

Sounds of fighting then echoed from far behind where the coats were left. The twins' group didn't see what had happened, but it was pretty obvious that a war between the beasts had started there.

"Still, I made those coats to have the same properties as the Lizard had. They were supposed to be emanated the same energies... How come that instead of hiding, they invited so many of those demon beasts?" Rean was still puzzled about it.

Luan was the first one to speak. "I think I know the answer. I've seen the Lizard with my eyes when it was alive before Dad and Uncle killed it. The space around the Lizard seemed to flow through without impedance." As mentioned before, the space in this Swamp keeps flowing out on its own, which doesn't happen normally. That said, Luan continued. "However, after Uncle Rean brought those coats out, not only did not the flow of space not pass through it, the coats seemed to greatly affect its surroundings."

"I see..." Rean understood what Luan was trying to say. "It acted just like our natural spatial perception. Void Tempering Realm and above beings can tell if others at the same level or above are close to them due to the Spatial interference they cause. That makes it impossible for them to hide from each other. When we wore the lizard skin coats I made, we caused the same interference in space."

Luan nodded. "We did that, indeed. Even worse, the interference those coats caused was several times higher than what Father, Uncle Rean, and Kentucky cultivations do."



Rean pondered for a moment. "Luan, are we interfering with the space flow at the moment?"

Luan immediately confirmed Rean's words. "Of course! We are always interfering with the space around us. Well, I wasn't supposed to be doing this because I'm not in the Void Tempering Realm yet. But because of my Space Affinity, I'm also causing it to a lesser extent. It's just that our interference is further highlighted because the space laws in this Swamp are constantly flowing outwards."

"But it is nowhere near the interference we caused when I brought those coats out, right?" Rean asked back.

Luan nodded once again. "Yes, it is definitely much lower."

Rean continued to think about the issue. "Somehow, the beasts in this place are all at the Void Tempering Realm and above, but we can't feel their presence, even with our natural spatial perceptions. We, on the other hand, are causing a higher interference than normal. The flowing of space in this place is passing through the beasts as if their cultivations or even their very existence aren't there."

Roan suddenly mentioned something. "Could it be they aren't interfering with the flow of space around? Maybe they learned how to match their own Spatial Power disruption to the flow of space around them."

Kentucky, who was flying with everyone on his back, added. "So they became part of the stream instead of a rock in the middle, right?"

Roan nodded. "That's what I think." He then looked at Luan. "We will continue our journey as we have been doing. Luan, next time you see Rean, Kentucky, and I fighting one of the Swamp Beasts, pay very close attention to it with your eyes. If they are really just matching the space flow around them, there is bound to be a few small errors during the heat of the battle."

Luan didn't mind at all. "Yes, father!"

Surprisingly, their group didn't find a single creature during the next several hours. From the looks of it, the coats Rean created caused all the creatures in the area to converge back there. It wasn't before half a day, if you can even tell the time in this place, passed that they finally battled another one.

\*Creeeee!\*

\*Swish, swish, swish!\*

Rean and Roan's attack hit its vital points before it fell into the Swamp like the others.

\*Shua!\*

Sure enough, the Swamp seemed to feel the presence of the dead body and immediately sucked the creature dry. The twins didn't try to stop it since they already had a few bodies inside the Dimensional Realm. They were more interested in Luan's insights. "How was it? Did you see anything?"

Luan couldn't help but feel a little excited. "Yes! It was just like father mentioned. During the battle, that spider-like creature failed to match the flow of space around itself very slightly a few times. If father didn't ask me to pay close attention, I wouldn't even have noticed it."

"So that's how it works..." Rean pondered a moment. "How about the moment it died? What happened to it?"

Luan thought about the dead creature before saying, "the interference immediately disappeared. Well, that's the normal thing. After all, the moment a Void Tempering Realm being or above dies, they can't interfere with anything."

Rean nodded. "At least that part is what you should expect."

Kentucky had to ask, though. "Rean, Roan, do you think we could do the same thing? I mean, match our spatial interferences with the space around us?"

"That would be extremely unlikely," Roan immediately denied the idea. "Even the top experts back in the Realm of Gods or even the Elder Devils in the Underworld couldn't hide from anyone's Natural Spatial Perception. If there was really a way to do it, they would have done it a long time ago. After all,

that would pretty much mean they could be invisible to other experts at their level. I'm sure there was no lack of attempts regarding this topic."

"Then... how can the beasts in this place do it?" Luan asked the question in everyone's mind.

"Indeed... just how...?"

Death... and me

Chapter 2014: Finally Enough

"Perhaps it is something that is only possible in this place," Roan mentioned. "They could match their Spatial disruption with the flow of Space because there is a flow to start with. Outside, there is no flow of Space. Space is static most of the time until experts at the Void Tempering Realm and above do battle or something like that."

Rean had to admit Roan had a point. "That makes sense... The flow of Space covering the disruption is a very likely possibility."

[Let's forget it for now. The creatures could jump off the Swamp at any time, so pay attention. We are very far away from our objective.]

Luan agreed with her. "Sister Orb is right. We've been moving for a few days already. Still, the Flow of Space barely changed at all. That means the source of this phenomenon is really, really far away."

Rean and Roan nodded. "Very well. Kentucky will keep flying low while the rest of us cultivate. We will keep an eye out too."

'That is very welcome,' Celis obviously approved any time cultivation was mentioned from within the Dimensional Realm.

Just like that, the twins' group journey continued. Before they knew it, two years had gone by in a flash! Not only that, Sister Orb and Luan were right about the time disruption. The further they went into the Swamp, the faster time moved. Two years in this place was only a single year outside. Of course, the disparate would only increase more and more.

The twins had already lost of how many times Luan asked them to change direction, to which Luan answered, saying that they didn't really. Even now, only Luan's eyes prevented their group from being affected by the Swamp's disruption in one's sense of direction. The good thing was that everyone could tell that the flow of Space was indeed getting faster. That meant they were getting closer to the source, albeit very slowly.

Other than cultivating, Rean, Roan, and Kentucky took the chance to fight the Demon Beasts of the Swamp. They got quite used to their ambushes, making it very hard to take them by surprise. Roan also took the opportunity to further train Luan in combat. Sometimes he even had Luan participate in the fights regardless of his much lower cultivation.

For Luan, that was great news nonetheless. There was no lack of Divine Stones in the Dimensional Realm. The Decaying Effect of the Dark Element in the Swamp didn't affect him since Rean and Roan were there to prevent it. If anything, that only helped his body get stronger.

Rean, Roan, and Kentucky were no exception. Celis never stopped cultivating, and when the four of them joined forces, it improved even faster. Another good point of this was that the battles served to hone all their skills.

By now, Luan had achieved another breakthrough in his cultivation. He had finally entered the Transition Realm Initial Stage. It goes without saying that his control over Space with his Space Affinity only got stronger. Rean and Roan only got to control Space at the Middle Stage of the Transition Realm, which was already ridiculously fast. Luan, on the other hand, was able to do it from far back due to his affinity. It wasn't as good as Rean and Roan's at the moment, but it was definitely better than when the twins first got to use it.

'Void Steps!'

'Void Style, Space Slashing Threads!'

Luan's sword suddenly let out several thin threads of space power behind as it moved against Roan's Scythe.

\*Clang!\*

Roan used his Scythe to block Luan's attack head-on. However, the Threads that were left behind didn't stop, causing several more cutting blades of Space Power to follow after the impact.

Roan didn't seem to care, though.

'Death Style, Shadow Bind!'

Several Dark Vines shot from the darkness, appearing right in front of the Spatial Threads left behind by Luan's Sword.

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

\*clak, clak, clak, clak...\*

Both attacks nullified each other without any damage to either side. However, little did Luan notice that Roan had summoned one extra Shadow Bind. It latched on Luan's leg, pulling him down.

"Shit!"

Luan immediately used his Space Power to cut the vine while his eyes kept 100% on Roan. He wouldn't let his father use that opportunity to attack him with his White Scythe.

Roan looked at that and mentally nodded. Regardless of the situation, never take your eyes away from your opponent. Too bad that it wasn't enough. Sure, Luan succeeded in keeping Roan's Scythe in check with his sword. Unfortunately...

\*Bang!\*

Luan was sent flying by a kick of Roan's leg.

\*Cough, cough, cough...\*

The poor guy coughed several mouthfuls of blood. Luan was also a Starlight Body Cultivator. Yet, his level wasn't anywhere near Rean and Roan's level. Well, he had to thank his Starlight Body Cultivation Technique, nonetheless, since the damage from Roan's kick would have been several times worse without it.

"A kick...? I didn't see that coming... cough, cough..." Luan felt like he would never be able to touch his father. Roan was fighting Luan while suppressing his cultivation to the Initial Stage of the Transition Realm. Simply put, they had the same strength in that regard.

Roan shook his head in response. "You did well. Most experts would have their attention robbed by that Shadow Bind of mine. You still made sure to keep my weapon in check, which forced me to use a much lesser deadly method, a simple kick. Between being slashed by my Scythe and receiving a kick, the kick was definitely a much better outcome. I have way more experience than you, so it is normal for me to have the upper hand. Reflect on today's training, and let's try again in a few days."

"Yes, father!" Luan immediately nodded.

\*Roar!\*

\*Splash!\*

Roan and Luan's attention was then taken by the death of another creature. While they trained, Rean fought another Swamp Demon Beast nearby with Kentucky. Obviously, that battle had just ended.

Right after, Rean came back with Kentucky and landed on a rock close to Roan and Luan.

Roan looked at that and narrowed his eyes. He could see that Rean had been hit by the creature at some point. "Even more?"

Rean shrugged his shoulder as his Light Element quickly got rid of the injury. "Yeap. That fish...crab...turtle thing was quite tough. I would put it somewhere around the Space Bending Realm Initial Stage. These Demon Beasts are getting stronger, just like we thought."

Roan nodded. "That's a good thing. Our cultivation is constantly improving while we do have the necessary combat environment to get used to it. It's been a long time since we truly stopped to focus on those two points. Since that's the case, we might as well make use of it."

[Another good thing is that you are gaining time. Don't forget time is getting faster the further we go.]

Rean, Roan, Kentucky, and Luan nodded.

It was then that Celis's voice echoed in their ears. 'Rean, Roan, Kentucky, I think this should be enough.'

The three of them focused on their cultivation and agreed with Celis. 'We finally have enough Divine Energy to Breakthrough.'

Death... and me

Chapter 2015: Now go

It made sense that they got enough since they hadn't had a breakthrough in quite a few years. During this time, Celis pretty much never stopped cultivating. Now, they can enter the Peak Stage of the Void Tempering Realm, just one step away from Space Bending.

Hearing that, Luan couldn't help but ask. "Are you going to have the breakthrough here?"

"Not here, but in the Dimensional Realm," Rean answered.

However, Sister Orb understood what Luan meant. [All creatures in this place are at the Void Tempering Realm of higher. If you two enter the Dimensional Realm and one of them is close by, it will attack the entrance to the Dimensional Realm you left behind.]

Rean knew they were right. "I see... Still, it shouldn't take long. It's just a stage breakthrough, not a Realm."

Roan agreed with him. "Indeed. Kentucky, Rean, and I can stay outside while Celis goes on with it inside the Dimensional Realm. If a creature appears, we can stop it midway. Also, Luan can keep on the lookout with his eyes."

"Leave it to me, Father!" Luan had no problem with it at all.

Kentucky continued to fly for a while until they found a place with a better view of the surroundings. Following that, Rean, Roan, Kentucky, and Celis immediately started their breakthrough. Naturally, Luan jumped to a higher point and watched the surroundings for anything out of the normal.

Several Divine Stones appeared outside, and the four guys started their process. Divine Energy increased several times as the stones turned to dust one after another. Although such a commotion had a higher chance of catching a swamp beast's attention, it was better than leaving the Dimensional Realm entrance wide open for attacks.

\*Bom!\*

After just a few minutes, a blast of Divine Energy spread out. At the same time, their cultivation began to increase nonstop. Finally, it stabilized in the Peak Stage of the Void Tempering Realm.

The twins' group quickly got up to their feet and looked around. If there were any swamp beasts nearby, they definitely felt the commotion. Yet, nothing appeared even after waiting for a moment. "Well... seems like we were lucky."

Kentucky quickly changed back into his Minokawa form. "I'm not in the mood to check if it is true. Let's take this chance that nothing happened and leave this place for now."

No one had anything against Kentucky's words. They all jumped on Kentucky's back, who left the area in a flash.



Little did they know, but the commotion of their breakthrough did catch someone's attention. A few hundred kilometers away, there was a stone building that seemed to have been abandoned for who knows how long. It was suspended by several of the old Swamp Trees, making it look like it was about to fall at any moment into the Swamp. Yet, it stayed sturdy in place.

Inside, there were three dark wood coffins. They looked to have been even older than the buildings, maybe even rotting. There were no signals of none of them being open in several years or perhaps even decades. But it changed today.

\*Crank, crank, crack...\*

The coffin lid on the left side began to move slowly, causing all the dust to rise in the air. Surprisingly though, what you had inside wasn't a corpse. If anything, the young man inside seemed very lively. Decaying Dark Elements from the surroundings entered his body continuously, but the young man seemed to enjoy that.

He looked in the direction where he felt the Divine Energy commotion a moment ago and began to think whether he should check it out or not.

'You shouldn't have broken your meditation state,' suddenly a Divine Sense Message spoke. It was coming from the coffin in the middle, and it didn't seem very pleased that the young man had opened his coffin.

'She is right. You are at a breakthrough juncture. You need more time to accumulate enough Dark Element.' Another Divine Sense, this time from the coffin on the right, added.

The young man looked at the two coffins and smiled. 'Mother, sister, you sensed that as well, didn't you? That wasn't a breakthrough of the demon beasts in this place. It was a living being breakthrough. Not only that, it was definitely from someone from outside the underworld. Most likely the Realm of Gods.'

The two coffins went silent for a moment, seeming to understand the meaning in the young man's words.

The young man continued from there. 'I can't let this chance escape. If I can get a living being's soul, my breakthrough will happen even faster. Not only that, it will have no flaws. It has been many years since all the living beings in mother's Dimensional Realm died. Sister is fine since she has already surpassed that juncture. But what about me? I need it!'

Finally, the coffin in the middle gave its approval. 'Very well. From what I could feel from here, the breakthrough was just at the Void Tempering Realm. That's nothing for someone at your level. Go quickly and return as soon as possible. Also, there wasn't just a single living being soul, but three. All the same.'

The young man's eyes shined in response. 'Great! A single Living Being Soul would have been hard. However, three souls will definitely give me a great chance. Thank you, mother!'

The mother in the coffin in the middle then turned her attention to the sister in the coffin on the right. 'Abelha, you go with your brother.'

'Ehhhh?' The sister didn't seem that pleased. 'They are just some ants.'

The mother was adamant, though. 'Shut up and just go. I couldn't feel any high-level expert's power, but it is better to be safe than sorry. Don't try to steal the souls for yourself. Your brother needs it.'

'Fine...' Abelha could only agree with it.

'Also, don't go too far away. Otherwise, you won't be able to find your way back here.' In the end, this coffin family is another victim of the Swamp who couldn't leave. 'Now go.'

Death... and me

Chapter 2016: First Contact

The twins' group continued their journey as usual. They fought one or another demon beast from the swamp now and then, but they never stopped in the same place for long. That's because they noticed that the longer they stayed still, the greater the chance of more demon beasts coming after them.

"Could it be that our sheer existence is what catches the swamp demon beasts' attention?" Luan couldn't help but ask after Kentucky finished the last creature.

Rean thought for a moment. "Maybe... But let's not forget that we are truly living beings. We are not devils or any other race from the underworld. That might be the reason for us to get highlighted in this place."

Suddenly, Kentucky's eyes noticed something different than the usual swamp-like landscape in the distance. His normal vision was better than the others, after all. He quickly landed on one higher tree swamp before speaking. "Hey, there are some constructions far ahead on the swamp trees."

Rean and Roan's attention turned ahead, but they were still too far to make it out with the naked eye. "Luan, can your eyes see anything?"

Luan narrowed his eyes for a moment but shook his head. "Not really. My eyes can see the elements and divine energy. However, their range is even shorter than my and everyone's normal vision. We will need to get closer for me to check that place."

Kentucky looked back at them. "Is that the center of the swamp of no return?"

"That's definitely not the case," Luan immediately denied the idea. "The space flow strength is increasing too slowly. If we were really close to the source of the space expansion power, the flow of space would have been many times faster."

[He is right,] Sister Orb supported Luan's words. [We are still very far from there.]

"Can you see anyone, Kentucky?" Rean took the chance to ask.

However, Kentucky shook his head. "I can only barely see the outline of the place. I'm also too far away to see anything in detail. We would need to get closer. Or, of course, we can just ignore it and try to go around. With Luan's eyes, it shouldn't be too hard if that is just some kind of settlement."

It was a hard decision to make. If there was anyone living there, then there would definitely be a lot of information to get. But then again, any devil living in this place where the swamp demons reside is bound to be even stronger. Perhaps not someone the twins' group can deal with at all. Not to mention that Kentucky could see several constructions, not only one, so there should be more devils or whatever race there.

"Let's go there." Roan didn't dwell on the thought for long, though. "I would rather know what to expect than to find out later on in a more disadvantageous situation."

Rean, Luan, and Kentucky nodded. Right after, Luan and Kentucky were sent into the Dimensional Realm since they couldn't disguise themselves as devils. Rean and Roan, on the other hand, could. Finally, Rean and Roan made their way there. Since they were close enough for Kentucky to see with his eyes, they wouldn't get lost without Luan's help.

However, before they made even half of the distance, Rean and Roan's natural spatial perception caught something. Their heads quickly turned around, just in time to see two other devils coming in their direction at full speed. They were the young man and woman from the coffin.

Roan brought out his White Scythe while Rean got his Black Star, ready to fight. Of course, they didn't know if a fight would break out, but it was better to be safe than sorry.

The young man landed on a tree near the twins with his sister while they looked at the twins intently. They were trying to judge Rean and Roan with their Divine Senses now that they were close enough. Rean and Roan, on the other hand, were able to immediately tell those two devils' cultivation level thanks to the Divine Bending Skill.

'The guy is at the Space Bending Late Stage, and the girl is at the Elemental Space Initial Stage...' they quickly thought.

However, the two devils didn't attack Rean and Roan straight away. That's because the twins didn't look like living beings at all to the siblings. If anything, Rean and Roan were just as devils as they were. They were not the living beings they were looking for. "You two, have you seen anyone different passing by?"

Rean and Roan looked at each other while they kept their guard up. "Different how? No, forget it. We haven't seen anyone other than ourselves for a while, so it doesn't really matter."

Abelha, the sister, looked at her brother. "Librao, there were supposed to be three of them, not two. Did we really come in the right direction?"

Librao nodded with certainty. "Definitely! I kept track of the residual breakthrough energy direction. I'm absolutely sure they came in this direction."

Abelha then looked past the twins and saw the swamp tree houses in the distance. It was still too far, but she could only reach a single conclusion. "They must have reached Frukis Village. We need to go quick before that crazy Luman eats them all."

Rean and Roan looked at the devils while they talked through their soul connection. 'From what they said, they definitely felt the moment we broke through a while ago.'

Roan nodded slightly. 'Yes. However, it seems like your Devil Transformation works just fine on them. They can't tell it was us.'

However, Librao shook his head. "That's not right, sister. The residual breakthrough energy ends just where we found these two. It is almost completely gone, but I can tell it hasn't reached Crazy Luman's village. Besides..." Librao coldly smiled. "You can sense that as well, can't you? They have a Dimensional Realm."

Abelha agreed with him. "So you think they captured the living beings, uh? Well, there is a quick way to find out. Just kill them already before Crazy Luman notices anything."

Death... and me

Chapter 2017: No Killing Intent

Librao used his space-bending cultivation to move fast as he raised his fists. They were covered in some gauntlets that emanated Dark Element, showing a rare body combatant.

At the same time, Abelha stayed still as she used her Elemental Space ability. At the Element Space Realm, you would start to fuse the elements you specialized in with Space itself, making it even stronger. Most devils had Dark Element Affinity, and from there, they would learn to control some others on the side. It is like how Rean learned how to use Fire Element or Roan used Water Element.

Still, Rean didn't quite believe in their attacks. Those with Dimensional realms can feel each other. That is normal. However, killing a Dimensional Realm's host wouldn't allow the enemy entrance to one's Dimensional Realm. If anything, the host's Dimensional Realm would collapse. That said, Rean immediately understood. 'Those two don't plan on killing us for real. Still, don't hold back.'

Roan nodded. 'Well, that's pretty obvious. After all, they aren't emanating the red color of killing intent.'

Rean faintly smiled. They could see killing intent when that existed. Since it wasn't there, it was pretty obvious that killing wasn't their main target.

'Stagnation!'

Space and Dark Element fused together with Abelha's control, causing the area around the twins to become hard to move in. Due to the difference in cultivation, Abelha didn't even bother moving, leaving it for her brother to knock Rean and Roan down.

'Unstable Hit!'

Sure enough, Librao quickly appeared on the twins' side. Dark and Water Element filled his fists, coming straight to Rean and Roan's heads. His idea wasn't to kill the twins but to knock them out. The Dark and Water elements behind the attack were also used in a manner to achieve that objective.

With Abelha's help and the difference in cultivation, Librao wasn't expecting any reaction from the twins. Her Stagnating Elemental Space should be more than enough to prevent the twins from doing anything. Instead, he kept his attention on the distant tree houses, and so did Abelha. They didn't want to alarm the so-called Luman.

Suddenly, a Divine Sense Message echoed in Librao's mind. 'Another idiot overestimating his power. Worst of all, this idiot isn't even paying attention to his opponents...'

Librao felt a chill on his back the moment Roan's words appeared.

'Life Style, Enhancement!'

'Death Style, Three Claws of the Dragon!'

Librao had appeared right in between the twins so that he could knock both of them out at once. Unfortunately for the siblings, they completely underestimated the twins. Abelha's Elemental Space couldn't hold Rean and Roan at all!

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

Librao's eyes opened wide as he found himself right in the middle of the twins' attacks. That wasn't all. Both Rean and Roan were extremely fast, even faster than he was with his Space Bending abilities. 'No! They are bending Space too! Still, it is too fast!'

Of course, they were. They were using Rean's Enhancement Skill. They can already bend Space, even if not at Librao's level. Not to mention that their Starlight Bodies benefit greatly from the enhancement skill. From the very start, they had been faster than Librao. They just didn't show it before the time was right. There was more.

Rean and Roan had purposely pretended to not be able to move. But the truth was that the Elemental Space used Dark Element as its main power of stagnation. It would have worked against other Devils, but it was a completely different story for Rean and Roan. Roan was the epitome of Darkness, and Rean could use it through their Soul Connection. From the very start, Abelha's Stagnation Elemental Space was pretty much useless. It would have been many times better if she had used the power of Space alone. Her cultivation would indeed have made a difference in that case.

\*Aaaaaarrggh!\*

Librao only had time to raise his fists and block the two blades that came for his head and heart. The other four claws of the dragon connected to other vital points on his body, piercing through without any resistance. Even worse, Rean's Light Element burst out of his Black Star, wrecking havoc inside Librao's body straight away.

"What?!"

Abelha was taken aback by the twins' actions. Her brother went instantly into a death-and-life situation that could get him killed at any moment. Immediately, Abelha stopped holding back, releasing her cultivation power all at once as she charged at the twins.

This time, her Elemental Space was at full power, causing the Space Part of the power to finally slow down the twins. She was still shocked that the twins could move, though, albeit slower. 'Who are these freaks?! They are just Void Tempering Realm Ants!'

Rean and Roan saw how Abelha approached them extremely fast. In the end, she was indeed over an entire realm above their own. Yet, they didn't panic.

'Death Style, Shadow Air!'

This entire Swamp of no Return was highly filled with Dark Element. That obviously made Roan's movement skill even faster!

\*Boom!\*

\*Zush, zush!\*

The trees where the twins stayed a moment ago were obliterated by Abelha's Space and Dark Element Powers. Yet, the twins were nowhere to be found. Fortunately for Abelha, her Natural Spatial Perception could tell where they had gone. 'How can they move so fast with such a low cultivation?!' In the end, Rean and Roan were just slightly slower than herself.

Yet, she ignored the twins and dashed in her brother's direction. After being hit by Rean and Roan's Claws of the Dragon, he used all his strength to kick the tree branch under his feet and open distance from the enemy. He knew that Abelha would definitely come to his rescue. Indeed, that's exactly what happened. It's just that Rean and Roan already expected that too.

The moment Abelha appeared on Librao's side, she noticed something strange. Countless What and Black Feathers floated around, seeming to create a dome around them. It was then that she noticed that



another Spatial Distortion appeared in her perception. She looked above her just in time to see an enormous Black and White bird.

'Kawa Blade Domain!'

Kentucky had waited for his chance to come out of the Dimensional Realm and attack!

Death... and me

Chapter 2018: Boy... Who are you?

Abelha was taken aback by Kentucky's sudden appearance. By the time she noticed it, all of Kentucky's blade feathers had come from all sides. All of them carried huge space power as well as Light and Dark Elements. Inside the Kawa Blade Domain, space became harder to control due to Kentucky's bloodline ability. Not to mention that his partially unlocked Regal Bloodline made it even stronger.

Abelha still reacted, though. Kentucky only made his move when she approached Librao. That was the moment she was most focused on the twins below. Yet, that meant she could at least defend herself and her brother at the same time, even if it was a hasty action.

'Spatial Water Lock!'

With her Elemental Space Realm cultivation, she fused water and space elements together, creating a small dome that slowed down anything that entered into contact. Anything that passed through it also lost some power to its effects.

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

\*Arrrrghhhhhhhh!!!\*

Unfortunately for her, there were two problems. First, as a devil, her main elemental affinity was obviously darkness. Water Element for her was the same for Roan, just a secondary one. It wasn't as strong as Dark Element. It's just that she saw that the twins' group could use Light Element when they attacked her brother. That said, using Dark Element in her Spatial Lock would have been much worse.

The second problem was that she was still at the Initial Stage of the Elemental Space Realm. Spatial Lock was different from using space to hinder the enemy's movements. Instead, it truly locked the space around the target. If you didn't have the cultivation necessary to fight against it, there would be no such thing as slowing down. You would truly be locked in space. The issue with Abelha's Spatial Lock was that it was too green. She had only become able to barely use it, so the spatial lock, even with her water element, could be easily broken. Let alone the fact she cast it in a hurry.

Several of Kentucky's Kawa Blade Feathers still passed through it without a problem, losing not much of their power. Immediately, both Abelha and Librao got slashed from all sides. The one to get the worst of the exchange was Abelha. That's because her brother had already suffered severe injuries, and anything extra could truly kill him. She used herself to defend him while sustaining the damage.

Kentucky kept his wings spread as he continued to control his Kawa Blade Domain. His feather shined with Light and Dark Elements as well as the power of space, making him look like a true Divine Bird. Well, he was a Divine Demon Beast. It's just that he didn't quite act like one.

"All kill you!"

Abelha got many injuries, but she was still more than an entire realm above the twins' group in cultivation. That wasn't something so easily countered. Her hastily conjured Spatial Lock grew stronger in just a few moments as Kentucky's Blade Feather started to struggle to get through her Spatial Water Lock.

Finally, Abelha gathered enough strength to defend against Kentucky's Blade Feather and counter-attacked. A pair of golden needles the size of an arm appeared on each of Abelha's hands. They brimmed with Space Power, showing that they were at the Divine Late Level. To hold a Void Tempering Realm Level of Space Power, a piece of equipment has to be at the Divine Low-Level at least. A Divine Middle Level was necessary for a Space Bending Realm level of power. As for Abelha's needles, they had to be at the Divine High-Level.

Even Rean couldn't forge something like that yet... Well, he could forge Middle-Level ones that would be even better than High-Level. It's just that he and Roan wouldn't be able to use it at the Void Tempering Realm yet.

'Divine Space Thruster!'

Abelha bent the space around her while holding her brother with her Divine Energy. Her level was obviously higher than Librao, so she was able to close in on Kentucky almost instantly. Both golden needles then shot out of her hands like arrows, aiming at Kentucky's Head and Chest at the same time.

Kentucky showed a panicked expression and immediately tried to get away from Abelha's attack. It didn't work, though. Abelha was still faster than him, even if not by much.

"Die, Void Tempering Ant!"

The needles were shot at an almost point-blank distance, making it almost impossible to avoid... It's just that Kentucky never planned to avoid them to start with. The panicked expression on his face suddenly disappeared as his body feathers shined with even more Dark and Light Elements.

'Dark and Light Divine Armor!'

Kentucky had the strongest defense of the twins' group by far. Even the Starlight Body Rean and Roan used couldn't be as resistant as Kentucky's natural defense. Let alone when he uses his Minokawa Bloodline Defense ability.

\*Clang, Clang!\*

Both Golden Needles hit Kentucky's body but couldn't go through his defense. No, to be more specific, they were making progress little by little, breaking through Kentucky's Feather Blades and Scales. It was an attack of a much higher-level cultivator, after all. Too bad it was too slow.

'Impossible! What kind of monstrous defense is that?!'

Abelha couldn't believe a Void Tempering Realm Demon Beast would be able to block her attack like that. Yet, she also noticed the situation she found herself in after her attack failed to take down Kentucky. 'Not good!'

It's not that she lost track of the twins. She used her Divine Sense as well as her Natural Spatial Detection to keep an eye on the twins' location. But the moment her needles were about to hit Kentucky, her attention was taken by that event. That was enough time for Rean and Roan to move.

'Death Style, Shadow Air!'

They moved behind Kentucky, using the Dark Element from his body to move unnoticed. When the two needles failed, both the twins shot out from Kentucky's back, and pincer attacked Abelha and Librao.

Sword and Scythe Intent Third Stage, Call of the Weapons! Rean and Roan kept their intents hidden until the last moment. Sure, they had Librao in their hands during the first attack, but Abelha was still the strongest enemy, even though Librao presented himself on a silver plate. They had to have something in hand for when the moment came to take her down.

'Death Style, Death Scythe!'

'Life Fire, Flame Emperor Slash!'

Abelha panicked for real this time. She could tell that Rean and Roan's attacks were much stronger than the ones used against her brother. Even at her Elemental Space level, she had no confidence whatsoever she could block them, let alone avoid them. All she could do was embrace her brother and release all her Divine Energy and Space Power at once, hoping to put up a defense strong enough to at least survive that surprise attack!

Too bad that it was too late. Rean and Roan's attack passed through her defenses like a hot knife through butter. Only death awaited her and her brother... or so everyone thought.

\*Bzzzzzz!\*

It was at that moment that a Spatial Lock was conjured around them. Immediately, Rean, Roan, Kentucky, Librao, and even Abelha, with her Elemental Space Realm cultivation, were completely frozen in place. The Spatial Lock Abelha had used in this battle couldn't even hold a candle to the one they were feeling now.

"Well, well, well... What do we have here?"

Several hundred meters up in the sky, a middle-aged man appeared as he struck his beard. What impressed Rean, Roan, and Kentucky the most was how high he was. At that level, the Space Laws would pressure you down completely. Even Kentucky couldn't go more than a few tens of meters, barely high enough to avoid the swamp trees below. That showed just how many times higher was that man's spatial power compared to the rest.

He slowly came down, not feeling the least bit uncomfortable with the space around him trying to push him down. It was as if he couldn't even feel it.

Abelha, being the one with the highest control over space power other than the man, could only barely utter a few words. "Crazy Old Luman..."

He was the man Abelha and Librao didn't want to see the most. But then again, Abelha couldn't be happier at the moment as she would probably have died if he didn't.

Luman looked at Abelha for a moment and fell into a pensive expression. "Hum... I feel like I've seen you before. Oh! It's Libina's toddler. Now, that's quite a pleasure. I wonder if your mother is still alive. I still remember how good-looking she was. Well, you have become quite a beauty yourself, so how about it? Would you be willing to bear this man's child?"

Abelha felt a chill on her back, looking at the perverted expression on the man in front of her.

Yet, his attention quickly shifted as he looked at Rean, Roan, and Kentucky. "Hum? A Living Soul? I can't believe I found a Living Being from the Realm of Gods here. Today is my lucky day!" Sure enough, he noticed that Kentucky was a real Demon Beast since he couldn't change his body like Rean and Roan.

Yet, it was Rean that felt the most surprised as he used all his strength to speak. "But... You are also a Living Being... even though you did a very good job of pretending to be a Devil."

Luman's smile immediately disappeared, and shock covered his face. No one had seen through his disguise before. "Boy... Who are you?"

Death... and me

Chapter 2019: Deal!

'A living being?' It wasn't only Luman who was shocked by Rean's words. The same could be said for Abelha and the barely awake Librao. It didn't matter how they looked at Luman. He was definitely a Devil... or so they thought.

Yet, Luman suddenly opened his mouth and started to laugh out loud. "Hahahahaha! Impressive! I've never thought someone would be able to see through my disguise. I even met an Elder Devil before, and he also couldn't see through it."

The reason Rean could see it was quite simple, Life Force. All living beings had Life Force in them, and that included the Devils. However, it was clear as day the difference between the Life Force of Devils and the Living Beings of the Realm of Gods. Even the Light Devils were no exception. It's just that Rean was the only one with a high enough Light Element Affinity to be able to see and feel that.

Luman then slightly released his Spatial Lock, allowing Rean to talk more freely. "Since you can see through me, you definitely aren't a Devil, or are you?"

Rean glanced at Roan, who nodded back at him before he began to speak. "That's correct. My brother here and I are also Living Beings, just like you."

Luman got close to them and scanned their bodies with his Divine Sense and Soul Power. Still, he absolutely couldn't see any trace of the Realm of Gods in them. "I thought my disguise was good, but yours truly surpasses my imagination. No, my is quite good too. I just don't know how you saw through it. First of all, are you really from the Realm of Gods? Or could it be you used your previous words to buy time? Show me."

Rean didn't mind it and immediately changed his body and soul back to their original forms. Roan, obviously, did the same thing. Now the two Devils, who looked very different from each other, returned to their original twin brothers' appearance where only their hair colors were different. Obviously, Abelha, Librao, and Luman could see straight away that Rean and Roan were truly Living Beings.

'So it was them all along!' Abelha and Librao obviously understood that Rean's group was the Living Being Souls they were looking for from the start. There was no such thing as Devils imprisoning Living Beings in their Dimensional Realm.

Luman was just as surprised by Rean and Roan's transformation. "Impressive, impressive. So... How did three Living Beings from the Realm of Gods end in this Swamp of no Return. Were you thrown here against your will or something like that?"

"Before that..." Rean looked at Abelha and Librao, "What do you intend to do with them? I mean, you were trying to hide the fact that you were a Living Being, right? Is it really okay to allow them to know your true identity?"

Luman shrugged his shoulder in response. "Wasn't it you who used plain words to say that I'm also a Living Being from the Realm of Gods in front of them? If not, you could have just used a simple Divine Sense Message. They wouldn't have heard anything at all. It is obvious that you wanted them to hear it too."

Touche!

Rean scratched the back of his head helplessly. "Fine, I just thought that it would have been better if others heard about it. If I had used a Divine Sense message, you might have killed us straight away to prevent us from telling others the truth. From what I could see, it seemed like their mother... errrr... Labina, was it? Anyway, it seemed like she was pretty much someone that could give you trouble. You could say that I was just betting that it would increase my group's chances of survival."

Luman nodded, not surprised at all by Rean's words. "In the face of overwhelming odds, any extra advantage has to be taken. Indeed, their mother would be quite an issue to deal with. She lives in the old ruins not too far away from here. It's just that we haven't seen each other for quite some time."

Luman then looked at Abelha and Librao. "Still, I would rather feel your mother's wrath than let you go back and tell her that I'm a Living Being from the Realm of Gods. I wonder if I should just get rid of you two straight away. But then again, Little Abelha here developed into a quite fine lady. Even if you are a Devil and I'm not, I do think we can have a lot of fun together. Too bad that you wouldn't really be able to bear more children for me."

Abelha didn't know what to do. She obviously didn't have to 'serve' Luman, but she didn't want to die here either. Especially since her brother was also here. "Y-You could always ask mother for compensation. Be-besides, this is the Swamp of No Return. What difference would it make even if my

mother knew your true identity? You two have similar strengths, so no one can do anything to you anyway. I'm sure you have something you would love to get from her."

Luman nodded excitedly. "True, true! If we were outside the Swamp of no Return, all of you would be dead already. Too bad no one can leave this place once inside. Even that Elder Devil from the past could not do so. Very well, I shall request some compensation from her."

It was then that Rean raised his hand. "If reproduction is your problem, I can help with it. This Devil Transformation that I used isn't just a facade. We truly become almost perfect Devils. That means if you use it, you can definitely have a few descendants with her. How about that? I'll teach you my Devil Transformation, and you let me and my brother leave. Does it sound good?" Rean wasn't lying. He could truly make it possible.

Abelha felt a chill on her back while Luman's eyes shined with excitement. "Deal!"

Death... and me

Chapter 2020: A Lakure Race Member

"Go to hell!" Abelha immediately screamed. "Old Luman, my mother will definitely notice that we are taking too long and come after us to see what is happening. Are you sure you want to make enemies with her?"

Luman then looked at the tree houses in the distance. He wasn't the only one living here. Instead, he was responsible for a whole settlement. Well, it is better to say that he dictates it. But who is asking? "Hum... That would be troublesome. But then again, I would love to see what kind of face your mother would make when she sees her grandchild. Especially one between you and me. Oh, that would be truly exciting!"

"She... would definitely stake her life to fight you to death!" Librao was finally able to say a few words.

Luman pondered a bit and shrugged his shoulders. "Oh well, you can't win all."

\*Vup...\*



Suddenly, the Spatial Lock that Luman was using on Librao disappeared. "You go back to your mommy and tell her I have her daughter here. I'm sure we can strike a nice deal for her life."

Librao was taken aback. But then he saw his sister nodding at him. As long as they could have their mother come out of her coffin, they would have things settled. Librao then sat down and focused on his injuries for a few moments. He was far from being healed up, but that would at least be enough for him to move relatively safely. Finally, he took flight and started to make his way back.

After he disappeared, Luman released Rean, Roan, Kentucky, and Abelha. "Come with me. And you better not try any funny movements. Although... I would very much like you did so that I can also try a few funny movements of my own. Hahaha!"

None of them dared to do so. Luman's strength was just too much for the twins' group or Abelha to do anything against. Escape wasn't an option... for Abelha. The twins, however, had a way to escape. It's just that Roan decided that it was better to try to get some information from Luman first.

The twins' group saw that there were at least a few thousand residents in the many tree houses above the Swamp. All of them were at the Void Tempering Realm or above. "How did you get this many Devils here?"

Luman smiled as he explained. "They are all Devils who got lost in the Swamp of no Return or their descendants. At first, this settlement didn't have more than a few Devils who coincidentally ended up together. But as time went on, more Devils who got lost found their way here. Of course, compared to the number of Devils who entered the Swamp, these few thousand aren't worth even mentioning. Just a drop of water in the ocean."

Roan couldn't help but ask. "Don't they know you are not really a Devil?"

"They do," Luman didn't mind telling the truth. "But there is no reason for me to care. I'm the strongest, and in this Swamp, strength is all that matters. For them, it is good enough that they have someone that can prevent more of those Swamp Monsters from killing everyone. I even got a few female devils who are quite beauties to serve me. It's really nice."

'Alright, he is basically a pervert old geezer... with a fetich for Devils,' Rean mentioned with his Divine Sense to his group.

"Ahem..." Rean continued. "So, is our deal still up?"

Luman nodded. "But of course! I might not use it to have children with little Abelha here, but I definitely can use it on the other female Devils, can't I?"

"That's true," Rean had to admit he was right.

Roan decided to leave that deal on the side for the moment and ask what he really cared about. "What do you know about this Swamp? Have you really not found a way out even with your cultivation?"

Luman took a bracelet from Rean as he heard Roan's question. That bracelet was one of Rean's pieces of equipment that could gather Light Element. Luman would need that if he wanted to use the Devil Transformation. "That's the point. I came in here expecting to find something good. But I haven't left since. I have a very good directional ability which I believe I could use to find my way through this place. But in the end, it was completely useless. After many years of meaningless travel, I decided to settle in one place and focus on my cultivation... and have some fun, if you know what I mean. Hehehe!"

"What about you two?" Naturally, Luman was curious about the twins. "You are also Living Beings from the Realm of Gods. How did you end up in the Underworld?"

Rean just used the same reason as an excuse. "Pretty much the same reason. We came to the Swamp of no Return to look for treasures. I believe anyone who enters this place is confident in their abilities to guide themselves, and so are we. But... It should go as no surprise that it didn't go as well as we planned.

Luman didn't doubt that since that was common. Abelha's mother was the same thing, and so were most of the Devils in this settlement, except for their descendants.

Suddenly, Luman's appearance began to change. He was using his own technique to look like a Devil, but since everyone here knew that he wasn't a Devil, there wasn't much of a point in keeping it. He quickly returned to his real form, a member of the Lakure Race, which surprised the twins and Kentucky. "A Lakure?"

The twins met the Lakure Race back on the Sunkan Planet, the same planet they were born in this half of the Universe.

"What did you say?" Luman's expression completely changed when he heard that name. After all, Lakures were only present on Sunkan Planet. Or they were until it exploded. "How do you know my race?"