

Death 2091

Death... and me

Chapter 2091: Wondering the Reasons

Roan and Sesame didn't have much trouble entering Flangiji. It was indeed a very big city considering the region they are in. However, in the great scale of things in the Underworld, it was still a pretty average city. The strongest expert there was only at the Elemental Space Realm, being at the Initial Stage. Even Roan could easily dispatch the guy.

However, the entire city seemed to be in a state of emergence. All the formations were activated while the gates were being checked every second. The reason for that? Sesame and Roan didn't need long to find out. "What?! The Angels are invading the Underworld?"

Even Sesame, with his rich experience, didn't expect that such a thing could happen. "That's not possible. Are you telling me the entire Underworld is being attacked?"

The Devil, who they were getting the information from, nodded. "Why would I lie about that to you, idiots? If you don't believe me, just go somewhere else and ask the same thing. Now, fuck off!" Naturally, he had no idea how strong Roan and Sesame were since those two were hiding their cultivations.

Roan shook his head. "There is no need for that. We believe you. So, how did the angels find their way into the Underworld? There is the Realm of Gods between the Underworld and Heavens. Besides, the Temporal Path was supposed to be under the control of Devils." Roan then took a few Devilish stones from his Spatial Ring before stuffing them into the Devil's hand. "I'm sure an information broker like you would have some extra details about the issue, right?"

The Devil's expression immediately improved before he put the Devilish Stones away. "Hmph! At least you have good eyes. Anyway, from what I heard, the Angels seemed to have received help from some other power. Don't ask me which one, as I'm not that well-informed. Nonetheless, it has to be some colossus to be able to get in the middle of the fight between these two Higher Realms."

Roan and Sesame looked at each other. The only organization they could think of that had such power was the Vruve Organization. The same one that was taken by the Lafrol Forces after the Extinction Sphere's events. "I see... And how come there is so much Light Element in the air? It makes me quite uncomfortable."

"Quite uncomfortable? Ha! That's because you are quite far away from its source. Since you know about the Temporal Path, you know that it is used to travel between the three higher Realms. The Angels somehow connected the Heavens to the Underworld and are pouring Light Element into this realm nonstop."

He continued. "The closer you get to the Temporal Path, the harder it is for lower-level Devils to even breathe. At the moment, you need to be at least at the Elemental Transformation Realm to go there. Otherwise, the high concentration of Light Element will cause some nasty side effects on your body."

Roan pretended to be surprised. "That bad?! What are the Elder Devils of our realm doing?! Shouldn't they have stopped it before it scaled to this point?"

The broker shook his head. "I don't know the details. However, I heard from some of the Devils who fled from that region that the moment the Angels appeared in the Underworld, some kind of impenetrable formation was activated. Not only that, but Light Element began to pour inside the Underworld straight away from the Temporal Path, causing the concentration of Light Element in the Temporal Path to overcome Dark Element. The Elder Devils seemed to not even have the time to intervene before the area became quite disadvantageous for them."

Sesame pondered a bit as he found it strange. "Even if the environment was worse for us Devils, sure we had the numbers advantage to fight back, no?"

The broker didn't have to answer it before Roan did in his place. "No. Don't forget that the Realm of Gods' experts are trying to take back our Devil Territory in the Realm of Gods. From what I heard, we sent quite a few of our Elder Devils there to help protect that place. After all, a source of living souls is too important for us."

The broker nodded after hearing Roan's words. "That's exactly the case. Half of the Underworld Elder Devils are in the Realm of Gods. I don't know the situation there. However, even an idiot can tell that the Elder Devils in the Realm of Gods are between a rock and a hard place at the moment. They have the Divinity Realm experts of the Realm of Gods on one side and definitely Archangels on the other. I wouldn't be surprised if they gave up defending the territory in the Realm of Gods and fled somewhere else due to disadvantages in numbers."

The broker wasn't completely right, but he wasn't far from the truth either. The Elder Devils were still trying to defend the Devils' Territory in the Realm of Gods. But the reason they haven't fled, as the broker mentioned, was because the Archangels defending the Temporal Path Entrance in the Realm of Gods did not leave their posts. Or, to be more specific, the Archangels couldn't leave their posts even if they wanted to.

If they left and tried to help the experts of the Realm of Gods to fight the Elder Devils, the Elder Devils could use that chance to sneak back into the Temporal Path and return to the Underworld, where they have a lot more advantage. The Archangels were more than happy to stay still as long as the Elder Devils didn't try to use the Temporal Path Entrance in the Realm of Gods. Needless to say, the experts of the Realm of Gods didn't mind it either now that they got the Continental barriers down.

However, Roan was sure about one thing. 'At the Elder Devil level, they don't need the Temporal Path to return to the Underworld. I wonder why they haven't used their own powers to come down and fight the angels yet.'

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Chapter 2092: Why Here?

Roan was right. Divinity Realm, Elder Devils, and Archangels don't need the Temporal Path to travel between the three Higher Realms. However, traveling through other methods requires high prices to be paid depending on how you will do it. No one would try to avoid the Temporal Path unless it was absolutely necessary.

'Even if it is too risky to come through other methods, sure they would try it out when they found the situation of the Underworld at the moment.' Roan completed.

Yet, Sesame shook his head at Roan. 'Sure, we can travel between the three realms after paying a higher price. But that's only if the realm is open for traveling.'

'Open for traveling?' Those words caught Roan's attention. 'What do you mean?'

Sesame then explained about the open-for-traveling thing. 'There is a way to prevent a realm from being visited without using the Temporal Path. It involves messing around with the great void between the three realms, which is a very hard thing to do. Nonetheless, considering the Vruve Organization is

probably involved in this invasion, It is safe to guess they did it. After all, if the ELder Devils of the Realm of Gods came back, things wouldn't be as easy.'

That was the first time Roan heard about such a thing. But then again, Roan is well aware that to someone of his level, this kind of information was pretty much useless. It made sense he didn't know about it. 'I see... Could it be we have no way to go back to the Realm of Gods?'

Sesame shrugged his shoulders. 'How do you expect me to know?'

Roan sighed and returned his attention to the information broker. "Sorry, we have been cultivating in seclusion for a very long time, so we are unaware of the changes in the Underworld. Now that the angels invaded, is there no way out of the Underworld? We had been selected in the past to work in the Realm of Gods, and the Living Souls there were truly good for our cultivation."

The guy showed a hint of jealousy after hearing that. "You were able to eat living souls before? Shit! I wish I could have had that opportunity. Too bad the selection to go to the Realm of Gods was so strict." He then shook his head and focused on Roan's question. "Anyway, as far as I know, it is not like the Temporal Path is closed. It's just that now that it is completely filled with Light Element and angels, no Devil will try to get past it. Otherwise, the Elder Devils stuck in the Realm of Gods would have returned already."

Immediately, Rean had a pretty obvious idea from inside the Dimensional Realm. 'Well, Angel it is, then.'

Roan agreed with him. 'Seems like the only way around. It's better than having to wait for a conclusion in this war. Considering that two of the three higher realms are involved, I wouldn't be surprised if it lasted hundreds or even thousands of years. Waiting for this much simply is not an option.'

Sesame understood what the twins wanted to do. Following that, he looked back at the broker. "Are there any teleport formations being used by the angels that are connected to the Temporal Path area?"

"There are," the guy quickly answered. "If you look around, you will see that we are in a very tense state. That's because one of the bases of the Angels was built near the Sparse Black Grass Land. We are waiting for attacks that might come at any moment. As for the base, it is located where you previously found Gufelin Cayoon. You can definitely find some of these teleport formations there."

Sesame nodded, satisfied. "Okay, that's all we need to know at the moment. We are leaving."

The Devil already got paid, so he couldn't care less. "Is that so? I'll be here if you need to know something else. Naturally, there will be a price as well."

Roan and Sesame left for the streets. 'Sesame, why ask about the teleport formations? It would be a lot easier if you simply brought us there with your Spatial Gate.'

Sesame immediately denied the idea. 'First of all, the effects of being too far from my home are starting to appear. It's getting hard to control Divine Energy and Space Power due to that. Second, I can still bring you there, but it is a very bad idea. I have no doubt that everywhere around the temporal path is being guarded extremely heavily. The Archangels there are definitely being even more careful regarding experts at my level. The moment I get anywhere near the region where Temporal Path is located will most likely be the moment I will be attacked by the Archangels. There is no way they won't feel the aperture of a Spatial Gate there.'

Roan had to admit Sesame's words made sense. 'Alright, then, forget about it. You reckon the fastest way is to use the Angels' Teleport Formations.'

'With your disguising skills, it shouldn't be a great issue. You look like a Devil to me, 100%,' Sesame confirmed. 'Something tells me that it wouldn't be different in case of an Angel Disguise.'

Roan had to check it with Rean, obviously. Hearing what Roan and Sesame said, Rean simply nodded. 'Yes, there should be no problem with copying the internal structure of an angel. If anything, it should be easier for me to create a method since they are primarily Light Element Affinity races. Definitely easier than a Devil.'

With that settled, they decided to leave the city. However, there was still one thing Roan couldn't understand. 'The Space Black Grass Land has very little Devilish Energy and resources. Considering that an invasion into another Realm is extremely expensive and difficult, the primary targets should hold some strategic advantages. Yet, the Space Black Grass Land has nothing like that. Why did the Angels build a base here?'

Sure enough, everyone in the twins' group got curious.

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Chapter 2093: Don't You Think?

Sesame thought about it. 'Probably the very fact of having a low concentration of Devilish Energy is the reason, right? That makes it easier to spread this Light Element around. How can I say it... Perhaps it is such an easy target that it is worth taking the initiative even if there isn't much to be earned.'

Roan's eyes narrowed as he felt like there was more to it than what meets the eye. 'Whatever... Let's get out of the city first. Sesame, how long until you need to go back to your home?'

'If I push it, I can stay several decades, maybe a hundred years. But that will definitely affect me negatively. It would be best if I could go back within a year, two at most,' Sesame explained.

Roan nodded. 'I understand. Let's make it the last time we get your assistance, then. After that, you should go back to your home in the Swamp of No Return.'

'Sure. What do you need from me?' Sesame was happy that they considered his side of the situation.

Roan and Sesame left the city, heading straight to the Gufelin Cayoon, where the Angels had their base in this region. Even one of the biggest cities in the Sparse Black Grass Land only had an Elemental Space Realm Devil as its leader, so the experts of the Angel Race sent here didn't have that high cultivation either. With Sesamen here, it was pretty easy to find an Angel and capture him.

Sesame flew around with Roan, keeping themselves hidden. Finally, they found a group of Angels with an Initial Stage Space Bending Realm member within it. It is natural that the higher the cultivation, the higher the position of cultivators is. Devils and Angels are no different. That's why the two aimed for a rather higher level Angel.

Without anyone in that group noticing, Roan and Sesame approached them before Sesame used his Spatial Abilities to lock their surroundings.

"Who's there?!" Naturally, once they were prevented from keeping flying, the Angels immediately took out their weapons, ready to fight. However, the Spatial Lock around them disappeared as fast as it appeared, leaving the Angels puzzled.

"Ah!" Suddenly, one of them exclaimed, which caught the attention of all the other Angels. "Senior Abdiel disappeared!"

"What?!" Everyone looked around, and sure enough, their leader was nowhere to be seen. "Keep your guards high! We need to go back and report it to the base!" The second in command immediately passed his orders as they took a combat formation positioning. Well, that was pretty much useless since Sesame could have killed them all. Even Roan could have made quick work of them alone.

However, killing them would definitely catch too much attention. Since there was no way to avoid suspicion, they might as well simply leave with their prisoner. By the time the angels began to move as a group, Roan and Sesame had already traveled thousands of kilometers away.

The Angel in Sesame's Spatial Grasp couldn't help but sweat cold as he looked at the cat in front of him. He couldn't feel Sesame's cultivation, but the speed and spatial ability Sesame displayed was proof enough that Sesame was several realms above his one.

After reaching a safer location, the Angel heard a Divine Sense Message from Roan. 'Don't resist if you know what is good for yourself.' Right after, Roan pulled Sesame and the Angel into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm.

As soon as they arrived, Sister Orb used her control of the Dimensional Realm to lock the Angels' Senses, making it impossible for him to probe the place he was. He couldn't even move more than a few meters in there. Well, at least Sesame released him, which was better than nothing. "W-Who are you? What do you want from me?"

Roan snorted in response. "Your Angel Races attack our Underworld, and you are asking what we want from you? Seems like we didn't get a very bright Angel this time." Of course, Roan was still disguised as a Devil. He had no intention of telling the Angel he was human.

As for Sesame, he was watching what was happening but was out of the Angel's field of vision. Rean and the others also looked from afar, leaving Roan to interrogate the guy. Well, Rean was doing another thing as well. This was the very first time he saw an Angel, so he was using his Divine Sense to analyze him from top to bottom. After all, he had to make his transformation skill work for the Angels as well. That was the main reason for the capture. Of course, Roan intended to get as much information as possible from the guy.

The Angel knew nothing about Rean's intentions as he tried to calm down. "Alright, it is only right that you can do that."

"It's good that you understand," Roan faintly smiled. "So, our forces in the Sparse Black Grass Land are not going to stay still and simply let you Angels take over our place. I want to know more about your forces. Also, tell me more about your base in the Gufelin Cayoon. Are there Teleport Formations available for use?"

"You can't expect me to just tell you everything, right?" The Angel wasn't going to talk that easily. "That's the same as bringing death to my friends and companions. We Angels would never do anything to harm each other, so you can simply kill me already."

Roan touched the Angel's forehead and kept smiling. "Friends and companions? That's not entirely correct, right? It's a lot more related to this Soul Restriction in your mind that you can't say anything."

It wasn't Roan who found that, but Sister Orb instead. Anything inside the Dimensional Realm can't escape her eyes, and that includes the Soul Restriction. She obviously told Roan as soon as the Angel entered the Dimensional Realm.

The Angel looked away, pretending to not have heard anything. Still, he was shocked that Roan found it straight away, considering the Angel who put it there.

Roan walked around the Angel as he got more and more certain of his suspicions. "A Soul Restriction in an Angel positioned in a middle of nowhere location. Your Angel races are going very far to prevent the group in this region from talking, don't you think?"

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Chapter 2094: Don't Say I Didn't Warn You

"Ahem..." Suddenly, Sesame appeared near Roan. 'This has nothing to do with us. Just ask about the Teleport Formations and the requirements to use them,' he said through a Divine Sense Message. 'I will leave as soon as you finish with him, so you shouldn't mess with something like that.'

Roan glanced at Sesame and nodded. 'Fine.'

Right after, he looked back at Abdiel. "Anyway, I am not going to ask about what this Soul Restriction is protecting in your head. What I want to know is how I can use the Teleport Formation inside the Gufelin Canyon."

Abdiel narrowed his eyes in response. Indeed, the Teleport Formation wasn't something blocked by the Soul Restriction in his mind. However, it is not like he wanted to talk about it. "Hmph! It's all the same. I won't say a single word. Just kill me already."

Roan shook his head. "No can do. You still have a lot of uses for us. Now then, let's make you a little more willing to talk." Knowing that Abdiel wouldn't talk that easily, Roan didn't waste time and grabbed the Angel's shoulder. Following that, his extremely pure Dark Element began to sip inside him.

Abdiel immediately felt that. However, he didn't seem worried. "Your poor Devil Souls think that just because our races have Light Element Affinity, we are weak against Dark Element. I'm sorry to inform you that both our races are similar in this regard. It means that your Dark Element will not be able to surpass my own natural defense against this eleme-"

Arrrrrghh!

Too bad Abdiel didn't have the chance to talk for much longer. He really underestimated Roan's Dark Element. There is only one living being that can match Roan's Dark Element Purity with Light Element, and that is Rean. As long as his cultivation is at the same level or above the target, he can definitely pierce through their defenses and make them feel a world of pain.

"Hum? Were you saying something? Sorry, but the only thing I can understand is information related to the Teleport Formation in the Canyon. Other than that, everything else just gets into one of my ears and leaves through the other." Roan said that with a happy expression.

Abdiel had never felt so much pain before. Not only was his body naturally Light Element not able to hold Roan's attack back, but it was also completely useless to reduce the effects. Abdiel felt like his Light Element was instead helping Roan to increase the pain in his body.

Rean sighed when he saw that, but he didn't stop Roan. 'Poor guy. Roan has lived with me ever since we were born. Thanks to the system, we can achieve a balance between Dark and Light Elements. Using

Light Element against his Dark Element is nothing but suicide.' That also explained why Rean's Light Element was so much more effective against the Devils.

"I talk! I talk!" Abdiel didn't last long against that excruciating pain. He felt it even stronger than anyone of Roan's previous prisoners just because of the race he came from.

Roan nodded as he removed his hand from Abdiel's shoulder. "That's more like it. So, what about the Teleport Formation in the Canyon? What do we need if we decide to use it."

Abdiel was sweating cold, trying to organize his thoughts after the torture. "Y-You can only use it if you are part of the Angel Races. You Devils will not be able to activate it. The formation blocks any source of Dark Element present, including Dark Element present in a pocket Dimensional Realm."

Sister Orb immediately tranquilized the twins. [Don't worry. No formation will be able to see through the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm.]

Roan already imagined that and continued. "That's our problem to resolve. What else do we need if we want to use it? Also, tell me if Angels can go back to the Realm of Gods through the Temporal Path."

Abdiel quickly nodded. He then pulled a badge attached to a necklace and passed it to Roan. "You can use one of the commanding badges to gain access to it. Here, take mine. However, I warned you. Devils will not be able to pass through this formation. It's Devil-proof. You will only bring yourself to your death if you step on it."

Roan could tell through the Angel's expression that he wasn't lying. It was a lot easier to judge when the other side wasn't a hexagonal talking cube. "Good! And what about the Temporal Path."

Abdiel dropped his head, afraid of saying anything. "I-I can't help you with that. I don't have the authority to use the Temporal Path on my own."

Roan wasn't surprised by that. An Initial Stage Space Bending Realm Angel is far from being considered important in the great scheme of things. Roan would find it a lot more suspicious if Abdiel told him he knew how to use it instead.

Following his questions, he looked at Rean in the distance and asked through their Soul Connection. 'So, how is the analysis of this guy's body?'

Rean nodded. 'I'll need to put him to sleep so he won't subconsciously block my work. However, from what I've seen so far, it shouldn't be hard to change our body structures to make us look like real angels. Don't put him to sleep now, though. I'm checking his Light Element wave length while awake and formulating a way to copy it later.'

Roan didn't mind. 'That's up to you. Since you will need a few hours, I'll take this chance to ask more about the part that interests me.'

"Alright, what's your name?"

"A-Abdiel..." The Angel answered truthfully.

"Okay, Abdiel. I want you to tell me more about the information that this Soul Restriction of yours is protecting." Finally, Roan entered this topic.

Sesame narrowed his eyes but didn't say anything. Roan had already got the most important information about the teleport formation, after all. 'Don't say I didn't warn you later.'

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Chapter 2095: Heavens?

Abdiel was taken aback. "Didn't you say you wouldn't talk about that?"

"I lied," Roan answered without batting an eye to his honor. "So, how is it?"

"Then just kill me. Compared to having my Soul wiped out, being killed is still better." Abdiel closed his eyes and waited for the worse. However...

Bzzzzzzzz...

Roan touched Abdiel's forehead before Dark Element poured inside. The difference was that Roan wasn't using it to harm Abdiel. Instead, he targeted the Restriction in his mind. Well, to be more specific, it was Rean that was doing the hard work of protecting Abdiel's body while Roan guided the Dark Element. It's just that Rean didn't show himself while doing it. "Got it!"

Arrrrghhhhh!

Well, even if they were trying to not harm Abdiel, things related to the Soul are a lot more complex than the body. Not to mention that they had to do it while not activating the Restriction. "Since the Restriction is attached to your Soul, I had to use my Dark Element to wipe out a very thin membrane between the Restriction and your Soul. It will not take long for you to heal after that, perhaps a few hundred years without any help of pills or the like, but it is still excruciating. Hand in there."

There wasn't much Abdiel could do since Sister Orb used her powers to lock Abdiel in place. She could have tried to eliminate the Restriction as well. As long as it is inside the Dimensional Realm, she has full control. However, there was a chance it could activate on its own before she could eliminate it. In that case, it was better to use Rean and Roan's method, which isolates the Restriction without touching it. After that, even if it activates, there will be no soul attached to it anymore to destroy.

Zup! Roan then pulled his hand away from Abdiel's forehead, which came back with a shining white light enveloped in a web-like cage of Dark and Light Elements. 'So this is the Restriction, uh? This is not something I can do. What about you, Rean?' Roan then flickered his hand, teleporting the Seal straight to Rean's Hand somewhere else.

Rean looked at the Restriction and nodded. 'This thing is great! Sister Orb, is it possible to preserve it?'

[Now that it is out of that guy's Soul, it shouldn't be a problem.] Immediately, Sister Orb locked the space around the Seal, wiping out all the Energy in its surroundings. Without an energy source, the Restriction couldn't activate anymore. [This thing was going to use that guy's Soul as Energy, but now it doesn't have access to it anymore. It should be fine.]

Rean smiled in response as he looked at the Seal. 'Thanks, Sister Orb. What an intricate Seal. Even as a Divine Middle-Level Formations Master, I have no confidence in creating something similar. This is definitely the work of a Divine Peak-Level Formations master or perhaps a Legendary Level one. I'll make sure to study it very close once we got enough time.'

Roan just nodded and returned his attention to Abdiel.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

He used Rean's skill, which quickly healed all the damaged parts of Abdiel's body affected by his Dark Element. Of course, that didn't include the Soul. Abdiel would have to work on it on his own.

Abdiel was shocked to feel the Light Element coming out from Roan at that moment. "T-This... How can you use Light Element? Aren't you a Devil?"

Roan coldly smiled. "I am a Devil, idiot. As for why I can use Light Element, that's not something you need to know." Roan wasn't even using his real form to start with, nor was anyone seen by Abdiel. He didn't care about showing a little of his and Rean's abilities.

"Alright, the Restriction in your Soul is gone. How about you start talking now?" Roan's smile disappeared and returned to the main topic.

"This..." Only now, Abdiel noticed that the Restriction was truly gone. "How's that possible... It was placed by Archangel Raphael in person..."

Roan glanced in Rean's direction in the distance.

Naturally, Rean knew what he was thinking about. 'Another Archangel with the same name as the Archangels from back on Earth. We seem to be finding both Angels and Devils that fill this requirement.'

Roan agreed with him. 'How could such a coincidence happen? The only explanation is that Earth's human history was influenced by someone from this side, but who? And Why?'

Rean shook his head. 'That's not something we can find an answer right now. Focus on your interrogation while I keep analyzing this guy's structure and Light Element.'

"Raphael, uh?" Roan returned his attention to Abdiel. "Does that mean there is an Archangel in this useless region? Why?"

Abdiel bitterly smiled in response. "I can't talk about it. I'm going to receive a punishment worse than death if someone finds out."

Roan could tell he wasn't lying, but he didn't care. "Well, I can definitely make you feel that dying is a very good option right now. Too bad that I won't let that happen." Dark Element floated above his hand while it got close to Abdiel's shoulder once again. "Remember, I can heal you as many times as I want. Let's see how long you can resist."

"Wait!" Abdiel quickly remembered how Roan's Dark Element acted in his body. Even the wrath of an Archangel didn't seem that unbearable compared to it. "I'll tell you what I know."

Roan took his hand back and nodded. "Go ahead."

"In fact, I don't know much. My position is just that low," Abdiel explained. "But what I can tell is that this Sparse Black Grass Land has some connection with the Heavens. What kind of connection, I don't know. It just does."

Everyone was taken aback. "A connection with the Heavens? You mean, like the Temporal Path?"

Abdiel shook his head. "I truly don't know, trust me. I was only instructed of the importance of this place due to this connection. Other than that, I wasn't told a single piece of information."

The others looked at Roan from afar, who nodded at them. 'He isn't lying.'

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Chapter 2096: Alternative Route

"Alright, I believe you." Roan thought it made sense and decided to end things there. He then waved his hand, and suddenly, Abdiel lost consciousness.

Sesame, who was by Roan's side, once again warned him. "Don't try to do anything about it. If there is really a connection between the Underworld and the Heavens in this place, you can be certain there is an Archangel here. Most likely, it is Raphael."

"Do you know him?" Roan asked back curiously.

Sesame then thought about the distant past when his home was still in the Realm of Gods. "Just for a short time. Raphael is one of the twelve main Archangels. Each one of them is older than even me. Raphael once came to where I lived with Gem during a visit to the Realm of Gods. We didn't talk much, though. Nonetheless, I felt like he was incredible. I was already at the Divinity Realm at that time, but I still felt like I wouldn't be his match."

Roan nodded. "Sure, he wouldn't be any weaker now. But now that I think about it, wouldn't it be possible to use this connection between you two to get us a passage to the Realm of Gods?"

"What?!" Sesame was taken aback. "Are you crazy?! Why would he help me with that? If anything, he will be extremely suspicious that I appeared in this place. First of all, I'm pretty sure the Angels know about the Swamp of No Return by now. Me coming out would be the same as saying that I got the Universe Fragment and have been running away until now."

Roan sighed. "That makes sense."

Sesame was happy that Roan understood. "Now that you know it, you should wait for Rean to finish his disguising skill and enter the telepor-"

Suddenly, Sesame stopped talking as an idea appeared in his mind. "Or perhaps... You should go to Heaven first..."

Immediately, everyone's attention was caught. "Go to Heavens?"

Sesame nodded. "If you think about it, it makes sense. The Temporal Path is heavily guarded, but this is here in the Underworld. I'm sure the entrance of Heavens is a lot easier to get past. Considering the chances of fooling the Angels to go back to the Realm of Gods, your best bet is to go through the Heavens instead of going from the Underworld."

Rean couldn't help but ask. "Alright, I can see where you are coming from. Perhaps even with my disguising skill, I will be found out if we approach the Temporal Path in the Underworld. But that is harder to happen in the Heavens. That said, how exactly do you expect us to go there? If you are thinking about using this connection in the Sparse Black Grass Land, does that mean you know where it is and how to use it?"

Sesame shook his head. "I don't know where it is, but I know how to use it. This is not the first time I heard about an alternative connection between the Three Realms. It's just that these alternative connections are very rare and only appear for a limited period of time. You never know where it will appear again, nor how long it will stay open. Nonetheless, they should work pretty much the same way as the Temporal Path."

"Simply put, we can enter it and use the Spatial Tunnel to go to Heavens. Is that correct?" Roan asked back.

Sesame nodded. "Think about it. Where do you think that the highest defenses are placed? At the Temporal Path Entrance or in this connection? It doesn't matter how I see it. You definitely have a higher chance of passing through unnoticed using this connection here than the Temporal Path Entrance. No doubt the Temporal Path has more than a single Archangel, but this one most likely has only Raphael. Perhaps it's not even Raphael, but an Archangel who isn't part of the Twelve Main Archangels, which is even better."

Rean and Roan looked at each other before looking at everyone else. "If our objective is still to reach the Realm of Gods, it does seem like the best option."

Sesame also added another piece of information. "That's not all. The reason the defenses here are lower is also due to the fact that the Alternative Connections can't handle anywhere near the same capacity that the Temporal Path can. As I said, they are temporary connections. They are unstable and very small. Who knows, it might simply disappear in the next second. Although once they appear, they usually stay open for quite a few hundred years."

"Okay, you convinced us," the twins' group had already made up their minds. "Do you know how we can find this connection?"

Sesame then looked at Rean. "You have a ridiculous high sensitivity to Light Element, don't you? Since this Alternative Passage is connected to the Heavens, I can guarantee that the Light Element Concentration at its entrance is very high. The same could be said about the other side in the Heavens. You would find a lot of Dark Element at its entrance. Do you think you can feel the flow of Light Element once we get near the Canyon?"

Rean nodded. "Should be possible. Of course, that is if they aren't using some formation to conceal the Alternative Connection's existence."

Sesame shook his head. "They are filling several regions of the Underworld with Light Element. However, the Sparse Black Grass Land is very far away from the Temporal Path, so it is very hard to channel the Light Element all the way here. That said, chances are that the Light Element filling this region is being sourced by this entrance. Of course, the Devils don't know that and probably think the Light Element is coming through the same methods as the other regions."

"That makes things easier, then." Rean was already eager to try. "As soon as I finish devising an Angel Body Change method, you and I can go out and head to the Canyon."

Death... and me

Chapter 2097: I Know What To Do

Rean spent the next few hours analyzing Abdiel's body. Now and then, his body would change and grow wings on his back. Because he was in the Space Bending Realm, three pairs of wings manifested. "The Angel Races are very easy to identify. The number of wings on their backs totally depends on their cultivation realm..."

Sesame confirmed Rean's words on the side. "Yes, that's basically how it works. Of course, the Angels can hide their wings if they want to. However, their pride as clean beings prevents most of them from doing so unless really necessary."

Sesame continued. "Archangels have six pairs of wings. Space-Time Realm Angels have five, Elemental Space Realm Angels have four, Space Bending Angels have three, like this guy here. Two pairs for Void Tempering Realm, and finally, one pair of wings for Transition Realm and below."

Rean continued to work on his skill while he asked Sesame about those traits. "Is it because you can only touch Space Power for the first time at the Transition Realm? Well, it will only happen when you get ready to enter the Void Tempering Realm, but it is still Transition Realm."

Sesame shook his head, though. "That I'm not sure. However, it is a valid theory. It's just that no one really cares about that since it makes no difference to anyone. Oh, by the way, you can also identify an Angel's Cultivation Realm through their wings, even if they are below the Transition Realm. They all have only one wing, but the development of their wings is different. A Foundation Establishment Angel's Wings is truly small, smaller than their shoulder blades, for example."

Rean smiled. "Well, I'm already at the Space Bending Realm, so Angels below this realm can't hide their cultivation from me anyway."

"That's true..." Sesame didn't care that much, either.

It was then that Rean noticed something. "Wait, does that mean that the highest cultivation realm, Divinity Realm, comes after the Space-Time Realm?"

Sesame looked at Rean with a puzzled expression. "That's correct. Why? Could it be you didn't know?"

Rean scratched the back of his head in response. "I've never thought too much into it since I'm just way too far from that."

Sesame smiled. "Hehe! That's just a time issue. With Master and the Soul Gem System on your side, your group will eventually reach the Divinity Realm, which is the same as the Elder Devils and Archangels in power. Of course, that is if you don't die on the way."

Rean nodded. "Let's hope it doesn't happen."

A few moments later, Roan arrived on Rean's side as well. "How is it? Is it working?"

Rean nodded once again. "I was just about to give it a try. By the way, call Luan here. I want him to see my Light Element with his eyes to make sure."

Luan didn't take long to arrive as well. "So, I just need to compare your Light Element wavelength with this Angel here, right?"

Rean nodded. "Yes. I can't use my own Light Element as normal since it is too pure. While Roan and I are in the form of Devils, our Dark Element isn't as pure as Roan's real abilities either. It's just that back then, we didn't need to be afraid of Elder Devils like we need to be aware of Archangels, so I didn't put that much effort into it until we had to meet Rui from the Light Devil Clan." Rean had met a lot of Devils before reaching the Light Devil Clan, after all.

Luan pondered a bit before asking. "It would be better if you allowed me to see a few more Angels then. Using just a single Angel as an example will make things complicated."

Sesame immediately volunteered. "I'll bring him around. It should be easy to find some Angel Patrols."

Roan nodded. "I'll go out with you to keep the Divine Sense Bending Skill active."

The group of three then left the Dimensional Realm and flew, with Sesame's help, around the region of the Canyon. At Sesame's speed, it didn't take long to find some of those groups, which Luan paid very close attention to while Roan kept them hidden. Around an hour later, Luan felt like he had an understanding of the Angels in this place. 'Alright, Father. This should be enough.'

Sesame then brought them away from the area, and they returned to the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. "Uncle Rean, give it a try."

Rean's body immediately shined with Light Element as the structure started to change. Angels weren't that much different from humans, but they had different body traits other than their wings. Their Meridian's path, the way their bodies released Divine Energy, or, to be more specific, Heavenly Energy. Yes, Devilish Energy and Divine Energy were variants of the same Divine Origin Energy. Naturally, the Heavens had its own variant as well, which was Heavenly Energy.

After completing his change, he released his power and let Luan take a good look. "How is it?"

Luan nodded with a smile. "It's as good as your Devil Change, Uncle Rean. I can't tell whether you are a human or Angel at all. I don't think those guys outside will notice the difference, including the Archangels."

Rean sighed in relief. "Good, good." Right after, Rean shared his memories of the Angel Transformation with Roan through their Soul Connection.

Roan focused on those memories and immediately started to change his body. It's just that he had to try quite a few times before he got it right. "How is it now?"

Luan once again nodded. "It is not as perfect as Uncle Rean, but that is good. There is no such thing as two identical beings, so the small difference between you should be considered normal."

Roan was satisfied with that. "That's enough then. Now, Sesame, give me help to capture two angels."

"For what?" Sesame asked back.

"What else? We can't just appear in the Canyon with unknown identities. I'll take Angels to interrogate so that Rean and I can pretend to be them." Roan then looked at the sleeping Abdiel. "Hehe! I know exactly what we will do."

Death... and me

Chapter 2098: Just So You Know

Around a day later, somewhere a few hundred kilometers away from the Gufelin Canyon, a patrol of Angels was watching the area. Suddenly, their leader's Divine Sense noticed something before quickly giving the order. "Follow me!"

A moment later, the group landed near the body of an Angel. However, that Angel wasn't dead. He was just unconscious or perhaps sleeping. Near him, two other Angels seemed to have just arrived and were trying to wake him up. When they saw this new group arriving, one of them quickly stepped forward. "Oh! It's senior Liduin."

Liduín, the leader of this patrol, also recognized the Angel there. "Franfa from the scouting teams, right? What is happening here? Isn't that Abdiel of the outer scouting groups?"

Franfa immediately nodded. "It's him indeed. We were on our way back to the Canyon when our Divine Senses detected his body. We don't know how long he has been here."

The other Angel near Franfa shook his head. "Senior Liduín, our cultivation is too low. There is nothing we can do to help senior Abdiel to wake up."

Liduín nodded and approached Abdiel. "Leave him to me. It seems like his soul is locked due to a Divine Energy Seal that prevents it from communicating with the rest of his body." This wasn't anything hard to accomplish. It's just that you would need the total cooperation of the target to make it work.

Liduín helped Abdiel and pressed his forehead. A stream of Divine Origin Energy and Light Elements entered his head, targetting the barrier there. The barrier wasn't that powerful to start with. Even if Liduín didn't do anything, Abdiel would eventually break free of it in a few hours on his own. He was just giving some extra help.

"Ouhhh... my head..." Abdiel finally began to recover his consciousness before he suddenly jolted. Immediately, he jumped back and flew several hundred steps away from Liduín and the other Angels. "T-this..." Of course, it didn't take long for him to recognize the Angels there.

Seeing that Abdiel recognized him, Liduín went straight to the point. "Abdiel, what happened to you? We received the report that your group was attacked, and you disappeared right after. Where have you been?"

Abdiel looked around and couldn't see the presence of Roan or Sesame. There were only Angels around, Angels he knew. "Liduín... was it you guys who saved me?"

Everyone looked at Abdiel in confusion. "Saved you? Not at all. We just found you lying down here," said Franfa with an awkward expression.

The other Angels also confirmed his words. "Indeed, we also just found you lying here. If someone saved you, that was definitely not us."

Abdiel then focused on his body, trying to find if Roan and Sesame had put anything strange there. However, what he saw there made his mind almost freeze. 'T-The Soul Restriction is back!!!'

That was correct. Abdiel was sure he saw Roan taking the Restriction out of his body. Not to mention that he talked about the connection between Heaven and the Underworld in this place. If the Restriction was there at that time, he should have been killed before saying anything. 'How did they put it back?' He couldn't help but think.

Liduín, who was in the same hierarchical position as Abdiel, asked once again. "Abdiel, is there something wrong with you? We need to know what happened."

Abdiel then calmed down before confirming that other than the Soul Restriction, his body didn't have anything else left behind. At the very least, it didn't have anything he could find with his Divine Sense. Following that, he checked his Spatial Ring, just to find out that his badge was still missing. Sure enough, the Roan and Sesame had kept that. "Not good! Everyone, we need to go back to Gufelin Canyon immediately. Some Devils are trying to use our Teleport Formation!"

"What?!" Liduín was taken aback. However, Abdiel didn't waste time and immediately took flight, speeding into the distance.

Liduín didn't have another choice and quickly followed Abdiel. Naturally, the other Angels did the same.

On the way, Abdiel used his Divine Sense to talk about what happened. However, there was one thing he couldn't talk about, and that was the Temporal Connection hidden in this place. Now that the Restriction was back, he was impeded from doing so unless he received authorization from the higher-ups in the Canyon.

Nonetheless, knowing that there were Devils who would try to enter the Canyon was important enough. Their group quickly followed the two Space Bending Realm Angels, flying straight to the Teleport Formations in the Canyon.

Arriving there, Abdiel went to see the Angel in charge, a female called Lara. Her five pairs of wings showed her Space-Time Realm cultivation.

"That's what happened! Have anyone used the teleport formation with my badge, Lady Lara?" Abdiel asked.

Lara shook her head. "Let alone use your badge. No one has used the Teleport Formation in the last two days. You know we have kept this place as conspicuous as possible due to that reason."

Franfa, who was also there with Abdiel and Liduin, found it strange. "Senior Abdiel, it shouldn't be possible, right? There is no way a Devil can enter this Canyon without being detected. Any presence of Dark Element would have been immediately detected by our several formations."

Abdiel didn't feel relieved, though. "Lady Lara, permission to talk about that thing."

Lara knew what Abdiel wanted and nodded. Everyone there knew about the connection, and this place was her own office. It was totally safe. "Go ahead."

Abdiel opened his mouth and was just about to explain when suddenly, the Soul Restriction in his soul activated, releasing a Divine Sense Message in his mind. 'Oh, just so you know, I modified this Soul Restriction a little before putting it back into your head. You can talk about meeting us, but you must not say that you revealed the existence of the Temporal Connection between the two realms to us. Otherwise, say goodbye to your soul.' The automatic message then disappeared, leaving only the Soul Restriction behind.

Abdiel's mouth then slowly closed... not being able to utter a single extra word.

Death... and me

Chapter 2099: Gone

Lara narrowed her eyes, waiting for Abdiel to talk. "So, what was it? I gave you permission, so you don't need to be afraid of the Soul Restriction activating."

Abdiel bitterly smiled on the inside before changing his words completely. "I was just worried. Could it be that the Devils found out about the Temporal Connection between our realms in this place? I don't know what it will be used for, but I know it is important, right?" Sure enough, just as he mentioned to Roan before, he was more afraid of having his Soul destroyed than dying itself.

Lara sighed in relief. "What? Was that it? Don't worry. Everyone in the Canyon is under the Soul Restriction from Archangel Raphael. There is absolutely no way the Devils found out about it. Some might be suspicious that we decided to make one of our bases in this place. However, the low concentration of Dark Element serves as an excuse, as it makes it easier to spread our Light Element."

Suddenly, Franfa raised his hand. "Lady Lara. Senior Abdiel wouldn't express his concerns without reason. Perhaps it should be good to take a look around the Temporal Connection, just in case."

Abdiel didn't feel better with Franfa's vote of confidence. Roan and Sesame knew about the Temporal Connection, which means the Devils will soon know about that as well. Nonetheless, it was better than nothing. If they could increase the guard around the Temporal Connection and find something wrong, the Angels would immediately act accordingly. 'Thanks, Franfa.'

Franfa smiled at him. 'Senior Abdiel, you helped me in the past, so it is only natural to reciprocate. We aren't like those Devils that don't know the meaning of goodness.'

Lara thought about it a little and decided to allow it. "Alright, take some extra patrols and go check the Temporal Connection Gap. However, before that, Abdiel, why did those Devils let you go?"

Abdiel shook his head. "I don't know, Lady Lara. I'm as puzzled as you are. Letting me escape also meant that I was going to warn our forces about their existence."

Another Angel on Franfa's side, the same one who found Abdiel with Franfa, thought about something. "Perhaps because it was meaningless. The moment Senior Abdiel was captured, we found out about it. There was no way to cover his disappearance."

"Joki, that's too naive. Think about what you said. It would be a lot better to get him killed as it would be one less Angel to deal with," Liduin found the Joki's words not convincing enough.

Joki lowered his head, seeming ashamed of his previous words.

Lara pondered a bit and could only think about one possibility. "Hmph! Isn't that obvious? The Devils have always been extremely arrogant. The way that they tortured Abdiel just proves that point. It's not

that they don't want to kill him. It's that they want to show us that they don't care if we are alerted about it. Pass down my orders. Increase the defenses around the valley. I believe the Devils will soon mount an attack, so we must be ready to entertain our guests."

Everyone felt like they were enlightened. Indeed, that was basically the view that all Angels had about the Devils. Little did they notice that they were being just as arrogant as the Devils, not considering other possibilities.

Abdiel didn't care, though. As long as more defenses were put in place, the harder it would be to reach the Temporal Connection. "Well then, Lady Lara, I'm going to check the Temporal Connection."

"We are going with you, Senior Abdiel." Franfa and Joki quickly followed. Not only him but so did Liduin and his group.

Abdiel had no reason to stop them. Instead, he went around and called a few extra Angels before they all headed to the Temporal Connection Gap.

Arriving there, the Higher Level Angels in the place asked the reason for their visit, which Abdiel quickly explained. They also received a Thoughts Transmission Talisman Message from Lara, confirming that Abdiel was telling the truth. "Well done, Abdiel. We will immediately mobilize everyone here to check the area. You can go ahead."

"Thank you, seniors." Abdiel didn't waste time and passed his orders to the lower-level angels.

Liduin and the other Angels in command did the same. It didn't take long before the entire area around the Temporal Connection Gap was filled with Angels flying all around. Not even a fly would be able to pass without being detected.

The Elemental Space and Space-Time Realm Angels also kept their Divine Senses fully spread, making sure everyone was doing what they were supposed to.

As one of the patrols near the Temporal Connection Gap, an Angel suddenly stopped. He narrowed his eyes and looked at a specific point at the Temporal Connection Entrance, which brimmed with Light Element coming out of it. This Angel was none other than Franfa.

"What is it, Franfa?" Abdiel, who was leading this same group, noticed Franfa's behavior and stopped as well.

Franfa pointed down from above. "Did you just feel an oscillation in the Space near that point just now?"

Abdiel sweated cold and immediately used his Divine Sense to check the area Franfa mentioned. However, he couldn't feel anything. "Are you sure?"

Yet, Franfa sighed and just shook his head. "Forget it. I'm probably just imagining things. Lady Lara said it, didn't she? There is no way the Devils know about the Temporal Connection Gap yet, so how could a Devil be there? Let's continue, Senior Abdiel."

Of course, Franfa didn't know that Abdiel did tell the Devils about the Temporal Connection Gap. "Even if that's the case, it is always worth verifying. Let's go." He truly didn't want to leave it to chance.

Everyone nodded, and they descended beside the Temporal Connection Gap to check. Abdiel received a few Divine Sense Messages, to which he replied by saying the same thing as he did to Franfa.

His group checked the entrance for a few minutes, but in the end, neither Abdiel nor anyone else found anything. Finally, Abdiel sighed in relief. "Alright, it seems to have been a false alarm." He and his group quickly took flight once again to continue their patrol.

However, it was at that moment that Abdiel noticed something. "Hum? Where is Franfa?"

Death... and me

Chapter 2100: The Plan

Abdiel looked around and couldn't find the man, so he quickly returned to the Temporal Connection Gap. Finally, he saw Franfa staring into the entrance as if he was thinking something. He put a hand on Franfa's shoulder, asking, "What is it? Is something wrong?"

"Ah!" Franfa jolted and jumped back.

Naturally, that caught everyone's attention. "Was there a need to be this distracted? What did you see there?"

Yet, Franfa seemed to be at a loss. "Patrol? What patrol?" He looked around, puzzled about the scene. "Are we on duty to patrol the Temporal Connection Gap?"

Abdiel narrowed his eyes. "What are you talking about? Of course, we are! We got permission from Lady Lara. Did you forget?"

Franfa rubbed his face, feeling some headache. The last thing he remembers was that he was patrolling outside when suddenly, everything went black. Now, out of nowhere, he is on patrol near the Temporal Connection Gap. "So-sorry, it's just too many things happening. I just can't seem to remember getting here at all."

"Could it be you were affected by the Temporal Connection Gap's unstable power?" Someone else asked. As Sesame mentioned before, these gaps are temporary and very unstable. One has to be very careful while going through it.

Abdiel then remembered how he felt a headache when he woke up. Above all, he remembered how he was taken into someone else's Dimensional Realm when he was captured. 'Could it be...' However, he immediately shook his head. 'This is ridiculous. There is no way a Devil could pass through all the Angels here without being detected, especially with the formations in place.'

Well, it wasn't a Devil...

At the moment, inside the Temporal Connection Gap, there was a figure being pulled by the powers of Space and Spatial Currents at a frightening speed. It surpassed even the speed that Divinity Realm beings achieved through Spatial Gates. The figure had white hair and pupils, using large amounts of Light Element to protect himself and heal any injuries caused by the Spatial Powers. Naturally, this figure was none other than Rean Larks.

"Holy shit! If my cultivation was still in the Void Tempering Realm, I would be dead for sure! Sesame could have given me a better explanation of this place." Rean couldn't help but complain as he kept being torn by the Spatial Powers around him.

As for Sesame, he couldn't get away from his home. The Pixiu Cat stayed outside the Canyon, hiding in a safe enough distance and waiting to see if the twins would need his help. Seeing that a lot of time passed and no changes had happened other than increased defenses, he sighed in relief. "Seems like Rean made it through..." Following that, he opened another Spatial Gate and left the area, returning to the Swamp of No Return.

It turns out that Roan never came out of the Dimensional Realm. After Rean had perfected his Angel Transformation, Roan decided to use Abdiel in his plan. They went out, captured an Angel, in that case, Franfa, and interrogated him while he was in an absent-minded state. That's why he couldn't remember anything, as he was never really awakened during the process.

Rean just pretended to find Abdiel first, which was followed by Joki and soon Lidiun's group. By the time Abdiel woke up, Rean had already meddled with the Angels as one of their own. For him, copying Franfa's Light Element output was extremely easy, so no one noticed anything wrong.

The rest of the story was simple. Roan left a message behind, saying that the Soul Restriction would activate if Abdiel said anything about telling the truth regarding the Temporal Connection Information. That was a blatant lie, though. Even Rean and Sister Orb couldn't figure out how that thing was made. It was too above their abilities at the moment. However... Abdiel didn't know that. He saw how Roan took the Restriction out of his Soul, so how could he doubt Roan couldn't modify it as well?

One thing led to another, Rean threw more wood into the fire during Lara's meeting, and they finally got to guard the Temporal Connection Gap. After they passed near the entrance, Franfa, or Rean, pretended to feel something. They quickly got down to check due to that.

Because of the Unstable Spatial Power of the Temporal Connection Gap, it wasn't possible to watch it with Divine Senses. The huge amount of Light Element coming out of it also made things hard to see. Rean went to a corner and brought Franfa out of the Dimensional Realm, leaving him in his Absent-Minded state, staring at the Gap. As for himself, he just had to jump inside.

Regardless of whether the Angels find out that Franfa was captured or not, just the time they will take to verify Franfa's state should be enough for Rean to travel most of the distance to the Heavens. He just had to survive the transfer, of course.

On the way to the Heavens, Rean's body began to change once again. He now had three pairs of Angel Wings, showing his cultivation as a Space Bending Realm Angel. He also took out an item from the Dimensional Realm. An item that would make the whole difference once he got on the other side.

Vup!

Finally, Rean arrived at the other side, being expelled from the Temporal Connection Gap like a bullet. Using his cultivation, he quickly stopped, stabilizing himself before looking around.

Immediately, several Angels surrounded him. 'Sure enough, the guard on this side is also quite high. Well, my Divine Sense Bending Skill doesn't show the presence of any Archangel, at least.'

"Who are you? The next transfer between Realm is only supposed to happen tomorrow. Why did you come now?" The Angel in charge there confirmed that Rean was Angel. Still, it wasn't time for that yet.

Rean smiled before pulling out a Badge. "I'm Abdiel, one of the patrolling guards of the Gufelin Canyon." Yes, the item Rean brought with him was Abdiel's badge. Not only that, but the form Rean took was simply identical to Abdiel himself!