

Death 2111

Death... and me

Chapter 2111: I Know

Vup! Vup!

Suddenly, the Silver Lights flashed above a Teleport Formation, revealing two figures from within. One of them was obviously Rean, who just arrived at Lisfialia's destination, intending to go to Arcadia. However, as soon as he looked around, he noticed that he couldn't see anything. The surroundings were completely dark.

"Hum? What is happening here?" Rean spread his Divine Sense, trying to see if he could find an answer. However, his Divine Sense Bending Skill, which he kept at a low output, immediately detects another Divine Sense hitting him. 'Space-Time! Also...'

That wasn't all. Lisfialia, who arrived with him, immediately attacked him from behind.

'Life Style, Enhancement!'

'Desth Style, Shadow Steps!'

Zush! Clang!

Some kind of needle pierced through Rean's head, passing through it and hitting a wall further back. That wasn't Rean, though. It was just an afterimage created by his fast movement.

'Life Style, Flash!'

A ball of White Light appeared above Rean's head, immediately exploding with Light Element. The next second, the entire room was illuminated. Lisfialia took a few steps back, but she was not affected by the sudden burst of light at all.

'Seems like I wasn't the only one suppressing my cultivation,' Rean thought for a moment. When she attacked him, her speed far surpassed anything a Transition Realm Cultivator could do. If not because he learned to be always on guard with Roan, perhaps his head would have a deep hole in it now.

[Rean, there is a Divine High-Level Formation in this room activated. It's a barrier type, so you will have a hard time breaking it through sheer force. I can hack it, but I will probably need an hour at least.] Sister Orb warned Rean from inside the Dimensional Realm.

'Can we teleport away with the Circuitry Teleport Formation?' Rean asked to be sure, although he was already expecting the next answer.

[No, this formation is messing with the fabric of space around us. If we try to teleport, chances are we will fall into the Spatial Storms. Even if we don't, there is no way to tell where in the Universe we will appear once we come out. It's too dangerous.]

Roan, too, was observing the developments from within the Dimensional Realm. However, he did not come out to help Rean straight away as he was sharing memories with Rean at the moment. 'A Space-Time Realm Divine Sense. It is not that female Angel, though.' Roan intended to use the element of surprise to attack the enemy as soon as he attacked Rean.

Rean then took a deep breath before talking to Lisfialia. "Friend, or maybe not... How did I offend you? I thought we had an agreement. Good job hiding your cultivation, by the way."

Lisfialia smiled in response. "You aren't the only one surprised here. I thought I would have killed you with that attack. Never did I expect you to dodge that attack. That speed definitely wasn't something a Transition Realm Angel could do."

"I can say the same for you," Rean answered with the same words. "So, what is it? Are you trying to rob me of my Heavenly Stones? I find it hard to believe since they are inside my Pocket Dimensional Realm. You are definitely above the Void Tempering Realm, so you should know you won't get access to it by killing me. That means your objective was to kill me from the get-go. Could it be you know something about me?"

Clap, clap, clap...

"Oh-ho... quite smart, aren't you?" It was then that a voice came from behind the corner. Rean's Light Element was still spread around the room, so it was clear to see. An Angel with five pairs of wings came walking from there, clapping his hand in compliment.

Obviously, Rean wasn't surprised since he felt that guy's Divine Sense. "And here I thought you were waiting to attack me by surprise."

The Angel shook his head. "Why would I do that? If I had moved, you would be dead already. That won't help me at all. Sure, you are quite strong with your late Stage Space Bending Realm. But you are just no match to me."

He then seemed to look through Rean before asking. "What about that friend of yours? Won't he come out already? You can't deceive me with that stench of Dark Element."

Roan narrowed his eyes before he looked at Sister Orb.

[Hey, don't look at me. The system is 100% secure. There is no way that guy can feel the presence of anyone inside the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. He must be bluffing.] Sister Orb immediately defended herself.

However, Roan had another idea. 'He isn't bluffing. He just knows exactly who he is talking to.'

Vup!

Immediately, Roan appeared outside, showing himself on Rean's side. "So, what is this about? Are you here because we invaded the Heavens?"

The Angel nodded. "That too. But that's not all." He analyzed the twins from top to bottom. "Say, you guys are neither Angels nor Devils, right? Could it be... Realm of Gods?"

Rean and Roan looked at each other before looking back at the guy. "So what? Can't you tell what you want from us already?"

At the same time, the twins talked to Sister Orb. 'Keep trying, Sister Orb. We will try to win you the time to hack into the formation.'

[I'm on it! But this is a Divine High-Level Formation. If it was one level lower, a few minutes would have been enough.]

"First, let me introduce myself. I'm Spiegel, obviously, an Angel at the Space-Time Realm. As for why I'm after you, that's because I need your help with something quite important," he explained.

"We are-" The twins were about to introduce themselves too.

Yet, Spiegel stopped them. "Rean and Roan, I know."

This time, the twins were truly shocked by his words. They were about to simply tell some random names while keeping their appearances changed. Never had they expected this Angel to know their real identities. "That's interesting..."

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Chapter 2112: Old... Friend?

"You seem to be surprised that I know your identities," Spiegel said. "However, you have met my daughter before."

"Your daughter?" Rean and Roan were puzzled. They slowly changed back to their human forms, as it was obvious Spiegel already knew it before continuing the talk. "We've never met any Angels before, at least not in our real form. The first one we ever talked to was just a few months ago."

Spiegel then patted Lisfalia's shoulder with a smile. "It's them, isn't it?"

Lisfalia sighed before she put her needle away. "Father, why must you spoil the fun? Fine... Yes, it is absolutely them, no doubt about that." Lisfalia then looked at the twins once again. "Long time no see, truly a very long time. I've never thought I would meet you here in the Heavens Realm."

The twins looked deeply at Lisfialia, but they still couldn't remember who she was at all. "Have we met before?"

"Oh, right!" Lisfialia's face then began to change right there and then. "You weren't the only ones using a fake appearance, you know?" Finally, it returned to her real appearance. She had long hair, a delicate face but somewhat childish, and three pairs of wings, showing that she was a Space Bending Realm Angel in truth.

Roan looked at her and couldn't help but comment. "Weird, I feel I did see you before, but at the same time, I didn't."

Rean nodded. "Indeed. I have a slight recollection of your appearance, but I just can't pinpoint where we have met before. To be more specific, you carry some semblance of someone I've seen in the past. Just who was it..."

The twins went through their memories, trying to remember her. For a moment, they thought she might have been another reincarnation from Sunkan Planet, but they didn't remember anyone like her from that planet. It was definitely not someone from the Mortal Realm.

Lisfialia laughed as she looked at the twins' faces in deep thought. "Hahaha! Sure enough, you can't remember. Well, that makes sense. After all, I was nothing more than a child when we met for the first time."

When the word child left Lisfialia's mouth, Rean immediately felt like he was struck by lightning. "Aelrie Holamenor!"

Roan's eyes opened wide when that name came out. "Right! You look like her. It's just that you are a lot bigger now."

Aelrie Holamenor has encountered the twins in the past indeed. However, it was truly a long time ago. Considering the time they spent in the Higher Realms so far, it was at the very beginning when they bumped into each other.

Aelrie Holamenor was none other than the little girl who saved the twins' lives all the way back to the Lost Star Realm hundreds of years ago.

When they were flying with Kentucky, they were attacked by an ancient beast called Star Raven. They were absolutely not the thing's match. However, they just so happened to bump into Aelrie, who made quick work of the raven.

She captured the Star Raven like one would capture an ant. She wasn't there to truly save the twins but to find the raven instead. It was nothing but a coincidence that she found the raven while the twins were in danger of being killed by it. She, as a child, wanted the raven as a pet. That simple.

Later, after she separated from the twins, her father came to fetch her, complaining that she shouldn't just disappear like that. Naturally, that father was none other than Spiegel. It's just that the twins didn't have the opportunity to see him before.

"Oh! So you do remember me. Hehe!" Aelrie then waved her hand, which immediately deactivated the protection formation in the room.

[What?!] Sister Orb found it instantly. [We are free to go! If you come inside right now and use the Circuitry Teleport Formation, we can leave this place.]

However, the twins didn't move. First of all, with Spiegel there, he could totally mess up the space around them with his power alone. Last but not least, going into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm meant leaving the entrance right in front of him. A Space-Time Angel probably can damage the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm if he truly puts in the effort. 'Not now, Sister Orb. Let's wait for a safer opportunity first. It doesn't seem like they intend to hurt us for now.'

[Alright, but I will leave the Circuitry Teleport Formation ready for use at any time.]

The twins nodded and focused back on Aelrie.

whistle...

Aelrie whistled in the door's direction, which was now clear to see. Right after, an enormous raven came flying inside, landing on her side obediently. "Are these the two you talked about, young lady?"

How could Rean not recognize this guy? "Hey, you are the Raven who tried to kill us back in the Lost Star Realm!"

The raven didn't seem to care, though. "So what? Back then, I didn't have sentience, so you can't blame me for acting on my instincts, alright? Now, show some respect. Also, I have a name. Call me Piro."

Roan just shook his head, not that interested in the raven other than the fact it served to confirm Aelrie's identity. "Whatever. So, what's up with this Lisfialia name?"

Aelrie patted Piro and looked at them. "What else would it be? It was just an alias. I have quite a sensitive identity, so it is not good for others to see me outside."

Spiegel also added. "Indeed, like the Realm of Gods, in a certain Lost Star Realm, which she wasn't supposed to be at a few hundreds of years ago."

"It's such nice weather today, don't you think...?" Aelrie pretended to not hear it. Back then, she was scolded by her father for being there. "Anyway, I don't have a reason to hide in here."

Rean and Roan still have many questions that they will surely ask. However, the most important one now... "So, can we know what is happening?"

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Chapter 2113: Ruins of the Stars

"No, don't answer that now. There is something more important. Can you tell me why do you know it was us there?" Roan first needed to know how they were found out. They haven't used their real identities ever since they left the Demon Beasts' Territory back in the Realm of Gods. Their entire staying in the Underworld was under fake identities and appearances with Rean's Devil Transformation. Even Elder Devils couldn't see through them.

Aelrie smiled before she flickered her hand. Right after, an extremely tiny spec of Light Element came out of Rean's body, flying straight into her body. "Does this answer your question?"

Rean and Roan narrowed. At the same time, they got angry. 'Sister Orb! Wasn't your supposed to tell if anything you didn't know entered the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm or our bodies? How come you didn't find this one?'

[Hey, don't blame me! Didn't you see that? Whatever that thing was, it was pretty much an agglomeration of Light Element centred in a very tiny spec. Rean's body is basically light itself. How could I see the difference between that small thing and Rean's Lighthouse of a body?] Sister Orb felt wronged. [If that helps, now I know exactly how it looks and feels like. If something similar enters your body from now on, I'll be able to tell straight away.]

Rean and Roan felt even worse. 'What's the point in doing that now? We are already in their hands...'

[Deal with it.] Sister Orb didn't care anymore.

'Well, can you at least tell if there is something similar in our bodies?' Rean asked back.

[Not that I can find. Definitely nothing similar to what Aelrie just took out.] Sister Orb finished.

Rean shook his head and paid attention to Aelrie once again. "Alright, what was that thing? Even I couldn't detect it until now."

Aelrie nodded. "That's because not everyone can use it. This is a special method from my race bloodline. And you have to have a very high concentration of this bloodline to be able to do that too." Just like the Realm of Gods and Underworld, the Heavens also had many different races of angels.

"Well, that's as far as I can tell you. Other than that, my father will probably close my mouth," she concluded.

Spiegel nodded. "It's good that you know it."

Roan nodded. "Alright, it was our mistake to not find that thing. So, it is pretty obvious that the previous attack on Rea was nothing but a test. Tell us, why did you bring us here? It's not like our contact with Aelrie back in the Lost Star Realm was something significant to start with. I don't know why you would need the help from some humans. Considering Spiegel's level, I find it difficult to do anything that he can't."

Rean also added. "Not to mention that it's not like we will help you just because you asked. We aren't exactly that close, you know?"

"Pretty brave for someone who can die in the next second if I wish so," Spiegel said with a cold smile.

Rean and Roan didn't seem that scared, though. "If that's the case, give it a try."

"Alright, alright. The babies can stop the bickering already." Aelrie saw herself forced to stop those three in the end. "Father, it is obvious that I was right about those two. It's just that we have never expected to see them here in Heavens. Are you truly going to start a fight now?"

Spiegel narrowed his eyes for a moment but gave up in the end. "Fine... I'm just a little angry that I spent so long looking for them in the Realm of Gods just to find them here. Wasn't all that for nothing?"

Rean and Roan were even more puzzled. "Could it be you looked for us in the last two decades or so?"

Spiegel nodded. "Indeed. Well, it was in the last ten years, to be more precise. Of course, now I know you came from the Underworld. No wonder Aelrie couldn't find you in the Realm of Gods."

What could possibly be so important that they needed their help? It felt more and more suspicious.

Finally, Aelrie entered the main topic. "Back when I first encountered you, Rean immediately caught my attention. As you can see, I'm an Angel, so I'm obviously aware that the humanoid races in the Realm of Gods should not have Light Element Affinity. But lo and behold, here he is. Not only that, but I could also feel the Dark Element in Roan's body, which I admit still makes me feel quite uncomfortable. For some reason, it is even more uncomfortable than when I meet the Devil Races."

Roan understood why. It was basically because his Dark Element was the purest there is. It naturally affects the Angel Races way more than the Devils.

"Of course, back then, it didn't matter much," Aelrie continued. "So what if a human had Light or Dark Element Affinity? Odd things happen all the time in the cultivation world. However, around thirteen years ago, something happened."

Rean and Roan could guess what it was. "The Angels decided to invade the Underworld, right? Although it only happened in the last two or three years."

"That's correct," Spiegel nodded. "Because of that, we got access to the Ruins of the Stars, which is always closed, even for Archangels."

"Ruins of the Stars?" Rean and Roan had never heard about it.

"What you need to know is that these ruins are the closest remnants to the ancient race precedent to the great calamity," Spiegel explained. "However, no one expected it to suddenly open. We have tried countless times, but none of the experts of all three higher realms were able to get inside until now."

Rean and Roan pondered a bit before they suggested. "Hum... The Invasion of the Underworld also got the Realm of Gods involved. Could it be that this sudden, unprecedented connection between the three higher realms was requisite for the Ruins to open?"

Spiegel looked at the twins with a surprised expression. "Smart! That's what we believe as well. However, it is not like we can enter it straight away. To do that, we will need your help."

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Chapter 2114: Fine...

That only puzzled the twins. "How come you need us for such a thing?"

"That's because of the barrier passage requirements," Spiegel continued. "The Ruins of the Stars is now open, but there is an ancient formation inside at the Divine Level. Our Formations Masters tried to break it, but they were unsuccessful. Yet, they found what is needed to enter the Ruins. The barrier works with

Light and Dark Elements working in unison. If you are able to inject these two elements in a balanced manner, it should be possible to harmonize with the barrier and pass through it."

Roan couldn't help but ask. "You Angels can use Light Element without a problem, then there are the Devils for Dark Element. Can't you just work together to open it? Even if you don't want to work with Devils, there are a few races in the Realm of Gods that have Dark Element Affinity as well." Of the humanoid races, none can use Light or Dark Element except Rean and Roan. However, that was not the case for the Demon Beasts. There were a few rare ones with Dark Element Affinity. Kentucky was a good example.

Rean added. "You definitely know about the Minokawas, don't you? They have exactly these two Elemental Affinities. They are perfect for the job."

Spiegel sighed in response. "Do you think we haven't thought about that? We aren't the only ones who know that the Ruins of the Stars are now open. All three Higher Realms have always kept an eye on the Ruins. As soon as it opened, everyone was warned about it."

"Do you remember when Father said that our formations masters failed to break the ancient formation?" Aelrie intervened. The twins just nodded and waited for her to continue. "We weren't the only ones there. The Realm of Gods and Devils' experts were obviously present. These Ruins' Importance is so big that even the Invasion of the Underworld and the Attack on the Underworld Territory in the Realm of Gods slowed down."

How could Rean and Roan not understand? "The Minokawas also have a member at the Divinity Realm. Let me guess, he was there as well and understood the importance his race would have in it. Now the very few existing Minokawas, which is a rare Divine Demon Beast Race, are out of reach of both Devils and Angels."

"Bingo!" Spiegel nodded. "That's why we needed to find another alternative. You mentioned us joining forces with the Devils to open the Ruins, didn't you? However, let alone the fact that we don't get along at all, there is a need for a perfect balance between Light and Dark to get the harmonization. Even between the Minokawas, there are probably no more than five or so who can achieve this perfect needed balance. Naturally, the Divinity Realm Minokawa is between these few."

Rean found it strange, though. "Alright, I understand that simply finding a Demon Beast with Dark Element Affinity to pair with an Angel is far from enough to get into the Ruins. However, what gave you the idea that Roan and I could do that?"

"That's because I saw it, remember?" Aelrie smiled as she answered. "When you were trying to escape Piro here, you two worked together to stay alive. I saw it all, especially how strong your Light and Dark Elements balance was. Of course, I was only a kid back then, so my memories couldn't be that reliable."

Spiegel sighed after hearing that. "Nonetheless, it is not like we had another choice. You see, my race doesn't have an Archangel, so my power is limited as I'm the strongest member. I might as well tell you this, I intend to find the necessary resources to reach the Divinity Realm during this exploration of the Ruins of the Stars." There wasn't a point in hiding it since he needed the twins' help to get said resources.

"In the end, I had to bet on my daughter's memory of when she was little. Any other method to acquire someone capable of achieving this balance is in the hands of the experts of each race. That's why there is no way we can get a Minokawa, especially one of the few capable of achieving the necessary balance. Just any Minokawa won't do."

"Hehehe!" Aelrie felt quite smug. "It was a good thing that I saw Rean's Light Element Affinity back in the Lost Star Realm. Even as a kid, I knew that humans were not supposed to have Light Element Affinity, so I got very curious. That's why I left my tracker on you. Even as a Kid, I was truly smart."

Spiegel's mouth twitched a little. Only Heaven knows just how many troubles this girl got into because of this mentality of hers. He had already lost count of how many times he had to apologize and pay to make things go away.

He quickly shook his head and put those thoughts behind him. "Forget what she said. The fact is that I still don't know whether you two can achieve this balance or not. She said that you should be capable, but those were her memories from when she was a kid. I need to see it myself."

He spread his Divine Sense and checked the twins very close. "Go ahead, show me."

"And why should we help you with that?" Roan asked without a care for the situation.

Before Spiegel could even give a reason, Aelrie laughed. "Hahaha! Isn't that obvious?" She got very close to the twins and laid forward. "You owe me your lives."

Rean bitterly smiled as he looked at Roan. After so long, he knew him quite well, even though he didn't feel good about it.

Sure enough, Roan eyes twitched quite a lot after hearing those words. He felt especially terrible since he absolutely hated owing anyone anything. Let alone a life debt. That's why he almost never asked anyone any favors. "Fine..."

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Chapter 2115: One Month

'Is it really fine?' Rean couldn't help but ask through their Soul Connection.

Roan had already decided, though. 'Don't get me wrong. I will help because I hate owing favors. However, that doesn't mean I wish to die. Besides... It's not like I'm uninterested in these Ruins. It is our chance to leave the three higher Realms for the first time, exploring the space.'

Rean nodded. 'If that was what you decided, then I won't say anything. It's not like our plans changed anyway. If push comes to shove, we will risk it all by using the Circuitry Formation in a messed space environment.'

'That's basically it," Roan agreed with him.

Of course, Rean still had another question. 'You know, we can still pretend to not be able to balance our elements. If he sees that we are not in harmony, he might give up.'

'But then again, he might try to kill us right here and now. Don't forget. Angels are only merciful when talking to other Angels. It is a completely different matter to any other race,' Roan discarded the idea straight away. 'We will have more chances if we can drag it as long as possible.'

'Alright, then, let's show what is a real balance of Dark and Light Elements.' Rean knew Roan was right and simply accepted it.

The twins then extended their hands close to each other and immediately used their Soul Connection to exchange elements. Right after, Light and Dark Elements emerged from their hands, quickly gathering together in a sphere of Light and Dark Light. Neither Element repealed the other, which was what usually happened.

In fact, both elements worked so well together in Spiegel's Divine Sense that they increased each other's power instead. "Impressive!" his eyes shined, knowing that he had found exactly what he needed. "To think that two humans could achieve such a balance of opposite elements. My daughter's crazy doings served some purpose for once."

"What do you mean for once?" Aelrie obviously didn't like her father's words. "They always have a purpose. I just haven't found one for most of them... yet."

The twins stopped their display of Elemental Ability after hearing that. "So it seems like we are going to this Ruins of the Stars with you, is that correct?"

Spiegel nodded. "That's correct. Fortunately, you reappeared just in time. All powers have been keeping an eye on each other to make sure none of them would try to enter the Ruins ahead of the other. They didn't want to fight in the great void either, so they agreed on a plan."

"What kind of plan?" The twins asked back.

"First one, no Archangel, Elder Devil, or Divinity Realm Being shall enter the Ruins. They have already reached the highest cultivation realm in the Universe, so the resources inside would have no value for them in this regard. Those entering are at most in the Space-Time Realm."

Roan snorted in response. "Hmph! Bullshit! There is no way these top experts of each Higher Realm would stay behind and just watch. Even if the resources aren't of any use to them, what about other treasures? Artifacts? Things like that? Perhaps even the secret of surpassing the Divinity Realm. There has to be another reason behind it."

Spiegel didn't try to hide now that Roan pointed it out. "You seem to understand the world way too well. In any case, you are correct. The main reason is, in fact, that the space inside is too unstable. It definitely won't be able to hold an existence at the Elder Devil, Archangel, or Divinity Realm. Simply put,

if they get inside, they are dooming the Ruin of Stars and perhaps dying in its collapse. How could they be willing to do that if the things you mentioned might exist inside?"

Roan was satisfied. "That's more like it."

Spiegel resumed his words. "Second, although they all understood what they needed to enter the Ruins, it is not easy to find beings capable of achieving a balance between Dark and Light Elements. That said, they agreed to wait ten years so that each one of them could find their own methods," Spiegel explained.

"So the Divinity Realm Minokawa will definitely not be within them," Roan understood what he meant. That was especially good since Kentucky was with them. It would be bad if the Minokawa Leader felt Kentucky's Regal Bloodline. That's why Kentucky's parents had to flee with him in the end.

"Exactly," Spiegel confirmed. "Even though Angels and Devils don't get along, once you take an Elder Devil and an Archangel, I believe it is still possible for them to achieve this balance. But nevertheless, they won't get in there, so it doesn't matter."

"Any other rules?" Rean wanted to know more.

"Why would there be one?" Aelrie was the one to answer. "It's already impressive enough that they agreed to wait and not send any of their top experts. Agreeing on anything else was simply impossible as neither side wished to be tricked by the other."

"Okay then. Now, what exactly do you expect us to do inside the Ruins of the Stars?" Roan continued. "From what you told me, it seems like we will need to harmonize and then enter the Ruins together with you. Also, something tells me that there is a limit to how many individuals can enter this place."

Spiegel knew they would ask that. "You guessed right. For each being responsible for passing through the barrier, one extra companion can be brought together. For example, you two will harmonize and pass through the barrier, which means you can bring another two companions with you. Dimensional Realms will be sealed inside, so it is meaningless to try to bring anyone together with you into the Ruins. You two are worth two slots."

"And before you ask, no, you can't get through the barrier and then come back to fetch more people. The Ruins of the Stars entrance is one-way only. It's not us who decided on this rule; that's just how the Ancient Formation in place works."

"How do we leave the Ruins then?" The twins obviously were concerned about this point.

However, Spiegel shrugged his shoulders. "Who knows? No one has been inside that place ever since way before the great calamity. It will be risky, but so is the life of cultivators."

The twins would rather not go there and simply move to the Realm of Gods. Unfortunately, that seemed their only choice at the moment. "Alright, how long until everyone gathers to enter?"

"One month," Spiegel answered straight away.

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Chapter 2116: Sounds Like a Plan

"That's quite on time indeed..." Roan pondered a bit about the issue. "Are there any preparations needed before going?"

"Not really," Spiegel answered. "As soon as the time comes, we will go there and wait our turn. There isn't any cap on how many can get inside. As long as one can get someone capable of achieving harmony with the barrier, they can get in. Of course, except the Elder Devils, Archangels, and Divinity Realm experts."

Roan thought about it. "Do you think someone will find a way to enter with huge numbers within the other powers?"

Spiegel immediately shook his head. "I have no idea. You can't really expect the other powers to tell their secrets, right? I can't even tell if our Angel Races can do something similar or not. How can I say... Our status within our Angel Races is quite special."

Roan didn't really care about that anyway. "Is that so? Anyway, what about the time when we get inside? What do you expect us to do when we are there with you? Above all, what guarantee do we have that you won't kill us as soon as we get you inside?"

Spiegel shrugged his shoulders. "Guarantees? There is none. You can only trust me, or I can simply deliver you to the Angels looking for the guys who got past the Temporal Gap. Perhaps I might kill right here and now if you refuse. All I know is that you are the ones owing a favor, not me."

Well, Rean and Roan weren't really thinking Spiegel would give them anything like that. It's just that it costs nothing to ask. "Alright, so what about my first question? What do we need to do once inside there?"

"For now, you only need to follow me," Spiegel explained. "Since the entrance already needs this harmonization of Dark and Light Elements, there is a good chance we will need it to get access or even escape some situations. Whether you believe it or not, you are worth more to me alive than dead. I will try to protect you as much as I can."

"Okay, that should be enough for now." Rean and Roan could only accept it.

Spiegel then looked at Aelrie. "Since you know them, take care of these two. I have other things to do before I leave."

"Leave it to me, Father." Aelrie also wanted to talk to the twins, so she didn't mind.

Spiegel then left the room, leaving the twins and Aelrie together. "Come with me, you two. We have a room prepared for you."

"A prison, to be more specific, right?" Rean answered with a bitter smile.

"Oh, come on! At least we will treat you cordially during your stay." Aelrie didn't deny it. "Or could it be you would rather be thrown into a real prison?"

Roan ignored that, though. "Aren't you afraid that we will attack you now that Spiegel has left? I'll be honest, you are definitely not our match, and we don't need the other's help to deal with you."

Aelrie smiled in response. "You can try. Sure, after seeing Rean's reaction, I don't think I can defeat you. However, I am very confident I can survive even if you attack at the same time. Besides, what guarantee do you have that you aren't being observed by the experts of my clan?"

Rean and Roan looked at each other. At the moment, the only Angel using Divine Sense with cultivation high enough to threaten them was Spiegel. There were indeed other Divine Senses, including some at the Elemental Space Realm. However, with the twins' real strength, even those Elemental Space Realm Angels didn't really matter. Of course, they wouldn't tell Aelrie about Rean's Divine Sense Bending Skill.

"Also, don't forget that I might have left another tracker on you. Hehe!" Aelrie completed, feeling very proud of herself.

[Nope, there is nothing.] Too bad Sister Orvb was there. [As long as she used the same method, I can guarantee that there is nothing attached to your bodies.]

"I see..." Rean smiled back at her. "Then we will be very careful."

A few minutes later, Rean and Roan were brought to an isolated room in the building. Aelrie followed them inside, showing the place while talking. "Okay, you can stay here. You have everything, a Heavenly Energy Gathering Formation, in case you can use this type of energy. Most cultivators at your level don't need food anymore, but some still like it, so we have it here too. If you need anything specific, you can ask the servants that we will leave here."

Aelrie then changed the topic. "Now, tell me more about you. We haven't seen each other for so long. What have you been up to?"

Rean felt quite strange hearing that. "We aren't that close for you to suddenly treat us as long-time friends, you know?"

"Sigh..." Aelrie didn't give up. "It's not that bad, right? I mean, I still saved your lives, so we are connected. It's just that every time I try to do something, someone comes out and brings me back. I need some fun."

Roan nodded. "Then how about you tell more about yourself instead? What are you doing in the Realm of Gods back then?"

"I told you, didn't I?" Aelrie answered. "I went there to capture the Star Raven. Piro is a great friend of mine now."

"Just that?" Rean and Roan asked back, not quite believing it.

Still, Aelrie nodded. "Yeap, just it. I was scolded quite a lot because of that trip."

Rean couldn't help but wonder. "But... how did you enter the Realm of Gods? The Devils were in control of the Temporal Path back then. Other than Archangels who can travel between the Three Higher Realms of their power alone, others shouldn't be able to do it."

Aelrie looked away, pretending she didn't hear the question.

However, Roan immediately understood. "Oh-ho... It's quite simple, isn't it? Heavens and the Underworld aren't the only ones with an alternative Temporal Gap, right?"

Aelrie sighed in response. "Sigh... I thought you would figure it out sooner or later. Yeap, there is one at the moment. If you help Father in the Ruins of the Stars, it is not impossible to let you use it. How about that?"

That's exactly what Rean and Roan wanted to hear. "Sounds like a plan."

Death... and me

Chapter 2117: Don't Show Yourself

Truth be told, the twins' could feel Spiegel's Divine Sense, but they could also tell he wasn't so close anymore. He definitely could close the distance between them in a second or two at most. Nonetheless, that would be more than enough to enter the Dimensional Realm and escape if the Space Around wasn't locked down.

However, now they decided that a random connection to the Realm of Gods would be a lot better to use other than the main Temporal Path. Taking a risk for another risk, the risk of using Aelrie's Temporal Connection Gap wouldn't be much different from trying to sneak into the real one. The advantage was that pretty much no one would know they had arrived in the Realm of Gods.

The twins then talked with Aelrie for a while before she finally left them alone. Following that, they entered their Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. Spiegel and the other angels watching the room with their Divine Senses didn't find it weird or concerning. They knew where the entrance was left behind, so they could force the twins out if necessary.

The only thing they kept on guard was in case there was someone else in the twins' Dimensional Realm. As long as someone else appeared, they would act straight away and capture the newcomer. It's just that they would not force it to happen.

Inside the Dimensional Realm, Rean was the first one to talk about the situation. "Kentucky, most likely, you can also harmonize with that barrier they talked about."

Kentucky knew that. "My Regal Bloodline and especially Roan's training made it really easy to achieve a near-perfect balance. I think I only lose to you two in this regard. However, I don't think it will be a good idea to come out and show myself. If I do, they will definitely ask me to help another one of their members to enter the Ruins of Stars. Not to mention the Minokawa Head would find me."

"Talking about staying here..." Roan picked from there. "Sister Orb, is it really possible to seal the Dimensional Realm?"

[Of course!] Sister Orb answered straight away. [It's just that it is very hard to do. Usually, it involves changing the laws of space regarding Dimensional Realms. After all, Dimensional Realms are nothing more than Space Power used in a certain way.]

"Then I guess we will have no access to the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm there," Rean ended with a complicated expression.

[Ha! That's not a problem at all.] Yet, Sister Orb disregarded this possibility. [The Soul Gem Dimensional Realm works in a completely unique way. After all, its core is the Control Orb. There is no way those Ancient Beings devised a way to seal the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm laws of construction. Of course, I'm not 100% sure about it, but that's at least 99% certain.]

Immediately, the twins' mood improved. Having access to the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm also meant access to extra help from Luan, Kentucky, and Celis, not to mention the last resort escape route through the Circuitry Teleport Formation. "That's great! Then you should all stay here and refrain from showing any clues of your existence."

"Sigh..." Kentucky wasn't that happy. "Another long wait."

Roan glanced at him. "Stop complaining. It's only a month ahead. After that, we will get you out to help us fly around. When it comes to flight speed, you are definitely the fastest among us. I wouldn't be surprised if you could match the speed of average Initial Stage Space-Time Realm cultivators. Make sure to stay in top condition."

The twins, as mentioned before, fused the three energies, and that also affected Kentucky. Since the twins could match a Late Elemental Space enemy, Kentucky, who was the fastest at flying around, should be even faster than then. That's especially because Minokawa Bloodline has a lot of affinity with Space Power.

"Next, it will be Luan. Be ready to come out at any time. We don't know what kind of things can happen, so your eyes might be our only way out," Roan mentioned.

Luan couldn't be happier. He finally reached the Void Tempering Realm under Roan's guidance during the time the twins were cultivating the Space Bending Realm. But even before that, he had been a great asset to the whole group. That meant he could continue to follow Roan around, different from others like Calina and Qia. "Leave it to me, Father."

Roan nodded, satisfied. After that, they discussed several other things. Rean and Roan had many plans in their heads for several situations, especially Roan. The twins finally exited the Dimensional Realm a

few hours later. From there on, they simply cultivated in their room while the servants attended to their needs. Well, it wasn't like they asked for much anyway. Just like that, a month went by in a flash.

Spiegel came to their room in the morning, followed by another man the twins had never seen before. Also, Aelrie was there too. "Alright, I hope your stay during this month was good enough."

The twins nodded before their bodies began to change. Not long after, Rean and Roan assumed completely different appearances. "I hope you don't mind these faces. Since there will be the top experts of the Realm of Gods at the Ruins' Entrance, chances are some of them will recognize us. You definitely did your investigation, so you should know why."

Spiegel obviously did it. "Of course! If you didn't, I would have asked you to do that myself. One of you is an Angel while the other is a Devil. I can only imagine the faces of both Angels and Devil Races when they see you two doing the harmonization with the barrier. Hahaha! Truly, your transformations are immaculate."

[Rean, Roan, they did it. I'm not sure if it was Aelrie, Spiegel or the other guy. However, they have placed the same tracker on Rean again.]

The twins just kept smiling. How could they not expect it? They just pretended to not know anything. "So, who is this new friend here?"

Spiegel patted the Angel's shoulder. "This is Waremis. He will be the other Angel from my clan that will go inside with us."

Death... and me

Chapter 2118: Facade

Waremis seemed a lot younger than Spiegel, although one couldn't rely on appearances in the cultivation world. Different from Spiegel, Waremis wasn't in the Space-Time Realm. He wasn't far, though. By feeling his Divine Sense with their Divine Sense Bending Skill, Rean and Roan could tell that he was at the Peak Stage of the Elemental Space Realm. "Hello there."

Waremis nodded at the twins. "There is no need for pleasantries. I'm not Spiegel. Aelrie already told us what you need. Once we leave the Ruins of the Stars, you want to use the Temporal Connection Gap that our clan has under its control. Considering the importance of the Ruins, we decided to accept."

Surprisingly, Waremis seemed to have higher authority in the conversation than Spiegel. The latter just kept smiling, not feeling the least bit bothered by Waremis's attitude. "Alright, then, I guess we are ready. Follow us."

Spiegel's group then left the room, followed by Rean and Roan right behind. The twins knew that path already. They were going back to the Teleportation Room where they arrived before.

Sure enough, the room was filled with angels of the clan, waiting for Spiegel, Waremis, and Aelrie. "Sir, all the Divine Stones are ready. You will look like any other teleported angel that arrives in Arcadia. Please be careful."

Spiegel then looked at Rean and Roan. "Can you send Roan into Rean's Dimensional Realm?" Obviously, they didn't know that the twins shared the same Dimensional Realm, so they thought each one of them had their own. "It will be better if Roan doesn't appear until we get to the entrance of the Ruins."

Roan didn't mind and quickly disappeared into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. Only Rean stayed behind, as he looked like an angel anyway. "Is that enough?"

Spiegel confirmed Roan was gone and that no clues of his Dark Element Affinity were left behind. "That's good. Let's go."

Waremis and Spiegel stepped on the teleport formation, followed by Rean. Aelrie, on the other hand, seemed quite annoyed. "I really wanted to go, you know."

Waremis immediately denied it. "You will stay here. If something happens to us, you will have to take care of everything. We can't risk our bloodline during this endeavor. You have always been reckless, but even you should understand the importance you carry now that we are going to the Ruins, right?"

Aelrie sighed in response. "Yea, yea... But you better make everything you can to come back. Father is strong, so he will protect you all."

Spiegel smiled at her. "Even I can't guarantee anything, little girl. There will be no lack of Space-Time experts entering this ruins with us. Nonetheless, I'll do my best to at least survive with everyone."

"That's enough," Waremis wasn't in the mood to continue that gloomy conversation. "Spiegel, you take the lead. Let's go."

Rean was still puzzled about all that bloodline conversation. Still, since it had nothing to do with him, he didn't ask. Not to mention they already said they wouldn't tell him anything.

Several Rank Five Heavenly Stones were put on the teleport formation, which shined in response. The angels around activated it right after. With a flash of silver light, Rean, Spiegel, and Waremis disappeared.

Arcadia City is the most important city in the Heavens. It was located at the very center of the Angel Realm and was also where one could find the real Temporal Path, the one that never expired. The city alone might even be called a country due to how big it was. It expanded over a thousand kilometers, holding more than a hundred billion Angels from several races.

Yet, even with such a size, it could be said to be one of the most organized cities in all three realms. The Angel System worked like well-lubricated gears, all doing what they were supposed to be.

In this same city, somewhere near the Temporal Path, there was a building with hundreds of different teleport formations. And this was only one of such buildings spread across the city. Today, one of those many teleport formations flashed with Silver Light, revealing three figures on top of it. Naturally, they were Spiegel, Waremis, and Rean.

Rean immediately spread his Divine Sense, which could now reach a distance of 140 kilometers. 'A Utopia indeed,' Rean thought after checking everything for a moment. In this breath moment, Rean looked for very specific things.

First, he wanted to see if there were any formations in place that would lock down his Divine Sense, but there were none. Everyone could use their Divine Senses as they pleased in the city. Even the buildings were no exception. Rean could see everything, which showed how much the Angels trusted each other. 'No, it is better to say that they simply don't expect anyone to do anything wrong,' he concluded.

The second thing he checked was one of the most common things when you check a huge city, infights. A city of this size was bound to have misunderstandings here and there. Some stealing too. As well as a lot of suspicious individuals covering their tracks. Yet, Rean couldn't find a single one of those things. There were only smiles and respectful conversations everywhere. Even when opinions diverged, they would be discussed in a calm manner until an agreement was reached. As for Stealing and shady guys, not a single one was in sight.

Rean smiled at Waremis and Spiegel after seeing all of that. "This is truly exemplary. Everyone seems to trust each other a lot. I can't see a single trouble occurring in the entirety of my Divine Sense. Should I say as expected of the Angel Race?"

However, Waremis's eyes narrowed when he heard that. "A ridiculous facade, that's all it is. That's not what we truly are."

Rean was taken aback by those words. "What do you mean?"

Yet, Waremis did not answer and simply exited the Teleport Formation. Spiegel, on the other hand, gave Rean a warning. "Don't ask more than you should."

Death... and me

Chapter 2119: Shall We Go Together?

Roan, who was watching from inside the Dimensional Realm, fell into deep thought. 'Have you noticed, everyone? These Angels from Aelrie's Clan don't seem as altruistic and selfless as the others I have interrogated.'

Luan nodded as his pupils looked at the world outside the Dimensional Realm as well. 'Indeed, Father. They don't give that weird sensation we got from the other Angels.'

Rean heard them but didn't comment. Instead, he followed Spiegel. "Say, Spiegel. If you had to go on a dangerous mission to save an Angel that you don't even know, would you go?"

"Uh?" Spiegel looked at Rean as if he was looking at an idiot. "Why the hell would I do something like that?"

Yet, Waremis stopped in his tracks and looked back at Rean. "You are quite perceptive."

Rean smiled and didn't say anything else.

At the same time, so did Roan and the others. 'Father, did you hear that?'

Roan nodded at Luan. 'I did. That's the difference between Aelrie's Holamenor Clan and the other Angels we have seen so far. They do not share the same self-righteous train of thought as the others. That's what you should expect when talking to anyone in the Realm of Gods or the Underworld. Yet, you can't find it here in the Heavens except for this clan of theirs.'

Rean obviously understood it since he was the one who asked Spiegel. 'Do you think this is what they meant by their clan being a special case in the Heavens?'

'Perhaps...' Roan could only consider it.

"We are almost there." Before Rean and the others could continue their conversation, Waremis called Rean's attention.

Rean noticed that the bright light that was present everywhere in the Heavens so far began to disappear. Even though the angels also counted the days, there was no such thing as night in the Heaven Realm, or Angel Realm, if you prefer. This was the first time the constant light seemed to change.

He noticed they were getting close to an isolated district of the city with almost no Angels around. Obviously, the entrance was restricted, which was quite rare in this place. The light gave space to more shadows while the sky dimmed down.

[There is a formation here... I don't know what type it is, though. It's just that it is connected to the skies.] Sister Orb warned Rean through the Soul Connection.

Yet, Rean didn't need Sister Orb to guess what it was. 'It's fine. This should be a formation capable of making our path to space possible. Don't forget the invisible barrier separating the Higher Realms and

their Great Void. Otherwise, there was no need to come to Arcadia. At Spiegel's level, he can use Spatial Gates. Why come here, of all places? We might as well go straight to the Ruins.'

'Ask Spiegel, just in case.' Roan still preferred to confirm it.

Rean didn't see a problem with it either. He simply used his Divine Sense and asked Spiegel directly.

'Only Archangels, Elder Devils, and Divinity Realm beings are capable of piercing through the barrier separating the three Higher Realms from the Great Void. If our clan had someone at that level, we wouldn't be here. But we don't, so we need that formation to exit the Angel Realm,' Spiegel explained.

[So that's how it is, uh...] She knew about the barrier but not the cultivation to get out of it.

'Thank you, senior Spiegel.' Rean was satisfied with the simple answer.

Near the center of that district, several angels at the Elemental Space Realm could be seen, all guarding the formation. When Spiegel approached, they came forward to receive him. "Hello, friend. If it is not a problem, could you tell us your identity? Unfortunately, this Great Void Formation is restricted to non-authorized Angels."

Spiegel nodded before taking a badge out of his Pocket Dimensional Realm. It was different from the badge Rean and Roan got from Hastian or Abdiel. Even the badge Rean got wasn't the same. It had a star shape at its center, shining with the silver light of space power. "Here you go, my friend. Thank you for all your effort guarding this place." The way Spiegel talked seemed quite weird, though. Rean had never seen him that polite.

The Angel smiled and quickly took Spiegel's Badge. Following that, he put it on a small altar near the center of the formation, which quickly absorbed it inside. Nothing went wrong with the verification. A few moments later, the Great Void Formation activated, shooting a ray of silver light to the skies.

Seeing that, the Angel in charge of the formation looked back at Spiegel. "It is done, friend. You just need to step on it, and you will be sent just past the Higher Realm Barrier. From there, you will have to travel on your own, though."

"That's not a problem," Spiegel said as he walked to the formation with Waremis and Rean.

However, just as they were about to enter, another group of Angels appeared on the other side of the formation. "Hey, it's Spiegel."

Spiegel looked at the origin of the voice, and his face saddened for a moment. It only lasted a moment, though. He quickly reverted to his old smiling self and complimented the other part. "Oh! Patris! Haven't seen you since the rules to enter the Ruins of Stars were decided."

Patris was the same as Spiegel, an Angel in the Space-Time Realm. "Indeed. My clan suffered quite a bit to find a way to harmonize with the barrier protecting the entrance of the Ruins."

Spiegel was surprised. "So you found a way to get inside? Could it be you got one of those Minokawas of the Realm of Gods?"

"As if," Patris shook his head. "The Realm of Gods put so much protection around those birds that even our entire Angel Realm's forces might not get past it."

Spiegel already expected that. Not that he cared anyway. "I see... Whatever, shall we go together?"

Death... and me

Chapter 2120: Spaceship

Patris then followed Spiegel's group to the teleportation formation after presenting his own badge to the guard. In any case, he could also guess what Spiegel was thinking. "Of course, before you ask, I can't tell you the method we found. You will have to wait and see it when it's time to enter. It pains my heart to be unable to provide it to all our fellow Angels, but we need to be selective."

Spiegel laughed in response. "Hahaha! That's the right choice. I also can't reveal my method yet. Nevertheless, we are doing this for the future of our Angel Race. One day, we will save all the souls in the entire Universe."

"One day, we will save all the souls in the entire Universe," Patris agreed with Spiegel. He seemed extremely determined in his words, to the point that Roan couldn't detect even a hint of pretense in his actions.

'I could clearly see that Spiegel didn't believe his own words, unlike Patris,' Roan mentioned. 'This Patris guy genuinely believes in the words they just spoke.'

Rean nodded. 'The Selfless Angels... I just don't understand why Spiegel is pretending to agree with everything. He's acting like all the other Angels.'

'Who knows?' Roan admitted his lack of knowledge. 'It's not our problem anyway.'

Rean simply shrugged his shoulders and entered the Great Void Formation with Spiegel and Patris' groups, disappearing from sight. The next time he opened his eyes, he found himself in the middle of the vastness of space.

"That's quite a view..." Rean marveled as he floated in space. Ahead of him was a sea of stars, while behind him stretched the nearly endless expanse of the Heavens Realm. It was impossible to see its end.

Spiegel, accustomed to the sight, didn't pay much attention. Instead, he retrieved an item from his Pocket Dimensional Realm that resembled a white crystal ball. After infusing it with his heavenly energy, holographic images appeared all around it.

Spiegel manipulated the images, zooming out to examine the path.

"That's quite a useful thing. Is it a map?" Rean couldn't help but ask, intrigued by the map and the various points displayed on it.

Spiegel had no reason to conceal it. "That's correct. Without this device, navigating the Great Void would be quite challenging. I once got lost here... It took me 55 years until I finally reached a location marked on my map and could find my way back home."

"That long?!" Rean was surprised to hear that.

Spiegel smiled bitterly as he reminisced about the past. "That's not the main problem. The issue was that I couldn't risk opening Spatial Gates that took me too far away."

"How come?" Rean asked.

Spiegel zoomed out the map once again before pointing at several dark-red dots. They were very bright, seemingly designed that way to ensure they wouldn't be missed. "These guys are all Great Void Devourers."

Rean had never heard of Great Void Devourers, but he understood exactly what Spiegel was referring to. "Do they resemble giant black holes? The kind that can devour even light?"

Spiegel looked at Rean. "Oh, you know about them? Well, considering the interactions you've had so far, it's not hard to imagine that you obtained this information from other sources. That's correct. They are giant black holes that consume everything. As far as I know, even Archangels would be in great danger if they were to fall into one. They are the Great Void Devourers, or at least, that's what we call them."

Spiegel continued, "If I were to open a Spatial Gate that passes near one of these things, we would be pulled out of the gate and fall straight into it. Believe me, if that happens, we are as good as dead. The gravitational and spatial power of those things is simply ridiculous."

Rean didn't doubt it for a moment. Back on Earth, scientists already understood the terror these entities possessed, even without ever witnessing one up close. "No wonder you couldn't use long-distance Spatial Gates when you were lost."

Spiegel nodded. "I did my best to only open short-distance ones. Nevertheless, I almost got caught three times by those things. I was truly lucky to have survived. I had to be constantly alert while searching for a way back."

Shaking his head, Spiegel put those thoughts behind him. He would rather not think about those moments any further as it would dump his mood. He quickly confirmed the route they needed to take to the Ruins before grabbing Rean's shoulder. "Alright, we can go now."

He tore space apart, creating a Spatial Gate. The three of them entered it, and a few seconds later, the Spatial Gate closed. Patris and his group did the same. Before long, there was no one left in that place.

This was by far the longest journey Rean had ever taken through a Spatial Gate. Almost an entire day had passed from the moment he entered until the moment he exited. Space-Time Angels traveled much slower through Spatial Gates compared to Archangels, for example. Nonetheless, the distance covered was undoubtedly the greatest Rean had ever experienced.

'It seems we have no choice but to rely on Spiegel,' said Roan.

Rean nodded. 'Without the power to open Spatial Gates, it would take us forever to fly back to Heaven. Well, the Underworld or the Realm of Gods might be closer. Nevertheless, it would still take a lifetime to reach those places anyway.'

Indeed, the Spatial Gates the twins had used in the past could cover multiple continents in just a few minutes. Since it took nearly an entire day to cross this one, one could only imagine how far the Ruins of the Stars were located.

Vup, vup, vup!

Rean, Spiegel, and Waremis emerged from the Spatial Gate, finding themselves right in front of the Ruins.

'Doesn't this thing look like a spaceship?' Rean couldn't help but think as he looked at the Delta Shaped Ruins in the distance.